

# Proletarian Era

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## Only socialism can save us from the present economic-political-social crises

— Comrade Provash Ghosh at 5th August meeting in Kolkata

(This is the text of the speech of Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), on the occasion of 37th Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Memorial Day meeting in Kolkata on 5th August. Responsibility of translation error or inadequate expression, if any, lies with the Editorial Board of Proletarian Era.)

Comrade President, Comrades and Friends,

On this day, we are holding meetings in 22 states of India, to remember Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the finest representative of the revolutionary trend of the Renaissance and freedom movement of the country, the

with his love and affection, this day is of profound pain. We all gather on this day to recollect his revolutionary teachings which provide beacon to our journey. Observance of this Day is no ritual to us. Even when we shall not be living, hundreds of thousands of exploited people, both in the country and abroad, seeking emancipation, shall remember this great leader on this Day with all reverence and due solemnity.

At the outset, I would like to refer to one of his historic sayings. Forty five years back he observed that during the eighteen and nineteenth centuries when the bourgeoisie was organizing bourgeois democratic revolution against feudalism; gave clarion call of equality-liberty-fraternity; established parliamentary democracy; raised slogans of individual liberty, liberty of women—that was the era of rising capitalism, of accomplishing national democratic revolution. The bourgeoisie as a class was then progressive. It had a revolutionary role in social progress. Elaborating

further, he showed that after the emergence of monopoly capital in place of small and medium industrial capital, after birth of finance capital and advent of imperialism, the same very bourgeoisie threw off the flags of liberty and democracy into the mire, gagged the voice of individual freedom and women's liberty. It is at this stage that the bourgeoisie as a class and capitalism as a system assumed reactionary character. The bourgeois parliamentary democracy

that once swore 'democracy — by the people, for the people and of the people' turned at this stage of imperialism albeit in the name of people, into a 'democracy — by the capitalist, for the capitalist, and of the capitalist'. As a result, all the pro-people characteristics that bourgeois democracy once possessed were thrown into the dust. You have had a glimpse of this decadence of bourgeois parliamentary democracy

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Comrade Provash Ghosh addressing

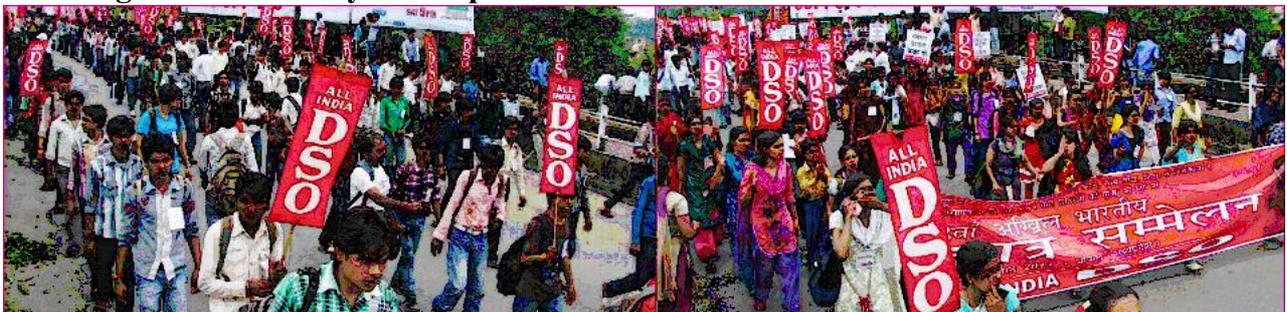
worthy continuer of great Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin-Mao Zedong, one of the foremost Marxist philosophers and thinkers of the era, a front-ranking leader of the world communist movement and the guide and teacher of the proletarian revolutionary movement of India. For those of us who got the rare opportunity to come in close contact with this great leader, to be reared

### SUCI(C) strongly condemns heinous attempt of US imperialists to attack sovereign Syria on fraudulent pretext and calls upon peace-loving world people to thwart this sinister move

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C) has issued the following statement on 29 August, 2013 :—

We strongly condemn the most despot and brigandish move on the part of the notorious US imperialists and its other imperialist allies to attack Syria on the pretext of its alleged use of chemical weapons against its opponents — the same pretext they fraudulently advanced before launching fierce military aggression on Iraq — and bring about immense devastation and destruction to that country also like Iraq. We call upon all anti-war peace-loving people of the world to rise in arms against this imminent heinous attempt of the US imperialists to overrun another sovereign country and thwart their sinister ploy to escalate armed hostilities in West Asia and push the mankind once again towards holocaust of war. We strongly believe that the people of Syria must be left completely free to decide their future as they like and appeal to all patriotic people of the world to stand by the people of Syria on this just right of theirs, frustrate the ulterior design of the US imperialists to overrun Syria and establish their hegemony over the world.

### Huge students' rally at Bhopal on All India Students' Conference of the AIDS0



8th All India Students' Conference organized by the AIDS0 was held from 26 to 29 August, 2013 in Bhopal, MP, with students participating from different states of India. Above is a part of the rally on the opening day. Detailed coverage of the programme will be published later.

Comrade Provash Ghosh's speech

# There is no such thing as free and fair election in parliamentary democracy today

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in the last panchayat elections in West Bengal. Bourgeois democracy has all along raised the slogan of 'free and fair elections'. What a grisly form of that 'free and fair' you have witnessed in the said election! From ghastly murder, arson, loot and plunder, outraging modesty of women, not hesitating to kill even the father for the 'crime' of his son being a candidate, forcible prevention of candidates from drawing their nomination papers, resisting their submission of the nomination papers, preventing people from casting votes, booth capturing – everything has been seen in this 'democratic' elections that has made you shudder in fright. Not that this was something new in this state in the Trinamul Congress (TMC) regime. This very path of terror and intimidation was adopted and virtually systematized by the CPI (M) during thirty-four years of its misrule. This time TMC has followed the same path.

## Political murders began in 1969 with CPI (M) as architect

Let me go a little back in history. Present generations are not aware of many incidents of that time. Political murders, organized political killing were not experienced in this state of West Bengal in the 1950s and '60s, not even during the elections. All these began in 1969-70, towards the end of the second United Front government. There was then a united front of 14 left and democratic parties including our party in West Bengal. A government of that United Front, after resounding victory in the elections, was then continuing. At that point of time, the CPI (M) leaders gave the call of class-based front signifying that the 'class struggle' under their leadership had advanced so much as to have exhausted the very need of any united front or combination of different parties in this state. In other words, the objective condition was ripe for the working class to build its own class-front. And as a means to build up this 'class-based front', the CPI (M) started 'class struggle' against our Party and other partners of the United Front. And this 'class struggle' of theirs meant murdering our Party activists as well as workers of other UF constituents and the Naxalites who had broken away from CPI(M). It was from then on that political murders began to take place in this state. In 1972, Congress captured power through

massive terrorization and rigging in election. Siddhartha Shankar Ray took over as the chief minister. He also followed the same path of killing our party workers as well as cadres of other left parties including the Naxalites. Then the CPI (M) started saying "political opponents are terrorized", "democracy is subverted" etc. etc.. In 1977 assembly election, the CPI(M) came to power with the promise of restoration of democracy as against Indira Gandhi's Emergency and terror rule. And you all have been witness to how the CPI (M) 'restored democracy and fought terror' over the 34 years of its rule! They killed 152 leaders and workers of our party, falsely implicated Comrade Probodh Purkait and 49 other leading activists and leaders of our party in false cases and got them sentenced to life-term. The CPI (M) resorted to massive terror, threat and intimidation, rigging in the elections, forcibly prevented others from filing nomination, orchestrated mass killing of political opponents and indulged in all kinds of crimes, foul deeds and vicious acts. The TMC rode to power by raising slogan against this reign of terror and malpractices of the CPI (M) and promising to restore democracy. Now, you are having a taste of how the TMC is 'restoring democracy'. In fact, the TMC has begun from where the CPI (M) ended. In avid pursuance of the path shown by the CPI (M), the TMC has also brought the police and administration under party control, has been slapping punishment transfer on those officials who want to remain relatively neutral, has clamped party dominance on the governing bodies of the schools and colleges, has been forcibly capturing students' unions making a mockery of election, has been unleashing all-out terror by using the same very anti-socials propped up and steered hitherto by the CPI (M), has been allowing culpable murder, snatching, kidnapping, rape, embezzlement of public fund and rampant corruption to go unabated.

Why is it happening in politics? Surely all these parties and their leaders are responsible for this. There is no doubt about it. But, there are many honest people who have not bartered their conscience yet. This section of sensible people is gravely concerned at this sordid state of affairs and aberrations. They wonder why is all this occurring? How could there be an end to it? How is it that those

whom they vote with lot of expectation change colour as soon as being saddled in power? The more power is alternating between this or that party, more aggravated is the crisis. Why? The answer can be provided only by Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought.

## There is no more democracy, freedom, fair elections in parliamentary democracy

Basing on science, Marxism has shown that our society is class-divided between labour and capital, between the exploiting and the exploited. It is so not on one's sweet will, but following the inexorable law of history. In this class divided society, politics is of two kinds. One subserves the interest of capitalism – the politics of protecting capitalism – the politics that conduces to unbridled exploitation and plunder by the capitalist rulers. Another is the revolutionary politics of the working class based on Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought. No matter what is the hue or the colour of the flag, the name printed on the festoon or the slogans raised – all the parties be that Congress, BJP, TMC, or CPI (M)— are pursuing the politics of the oppressive bourgeoisie. As a petty bourgeois outfit, CPI (M) is also practising the same bourgeois politics. Different hues notwithstanding, the political object, work method, conduct, culture all are the same. One can hardly make any distinction among them except the colour of the flags. All these parties have the characteristics of bourgeois outfits in this age of reactionary capitalism. The motive of the bourgeoisie class, that is, the owners is to reap maximum profit in any way, be that through retrenchment, slashing wages, pushing the people to die in starvation, going without any medical care. It does not matter if the suffering masses are doomed to total ruin in this mad pursuit of profit maximization. In any way capitalists must earn profit. It is this profit-based individual ownership system, this very exploitative capitalist economic system on which stands the bourgeois political system as the superstructure of capitalist economic base. As the capitalists are desperate in anyhow earning maximum profit, so the parties subserving bourgeois class interest are also desperate in anyhow grabbing power. Issues of democracy, democratic values,

conduction of free and fair peaceful elections have no value to them. Humanity, human feelings, human life, ethics, morality are of no consideration to them. The only motto, whole and sole objective is to anyhow capture power in panchayat, corporation, municipality, assembly or parliament. Power they must have at any cost. For that, committing murder, spreading terror, orchestrating bloodbath, engineering riot, precipitating chaos and disorder are not at all of any concern to them.

## Bourgeois parliamentary democracy stoked fire of two world wars, perpetrating genocides and rampage round the world today

At the sight of all this, if one simply heaves a sigh of grief or sinks into frustration, things won't change. So long as capitalism exists, such problems will not only persist but will go on increasing. Spilling of blood would continue in the frenzied bid to capture power. Look at the capitalist countries in the west. The concept of parliamentary democracy grew in those countries. How miserable now is the condition of democracy in traditional bourgeois democratic countries like England, France, Germany and above all America which once organized democratic revolution, espoused individual freedom, upheld the lofty principles of equality, liberty and fraternity and affirmed democratic rights. On his 80<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary, the great poet Rabindranath with deep pain had said in my early life, in boyhood, we were moved having looked at Europe. I expected a lot from the European civilization. Today, at the fag end of life, I find the same Europe, as an imperialist war-monger, as a serious danger to human civilization. Many years have passed since Rabindranath. However, well before Rabindranath, great Lenn in 1916 had exposed the imperialist character of Europe and America. The bourgeois rulers of the same very countries who once uttered the message of liberty had themselves later occupied and plundered the countries of Asia-Africa-Latin America and with the flag of parliamentary democracy in their hands ruthlessly destroyed the freedom movements of these countries. It is the ruling bourgeoisie of European countries and USA who had stoked the fire of both first and second world wars. It

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Comrade Provash Ghosh's speech**Obsolete corrupt capitalism is breeding all crises***Contd. from page 2*

is these votaries of parliamentary democracy who gave birth to fascism. One of the chieftains of this parliamentary democracy, the USA, had dropped atom bombs on Hiroshima-Nagasaki of Japan killing hundreds of thousands of people and crippling many more for life. In order to crush the liberation struggle of Vietnam, the US imperialist rulers razed that country into rubbles. Just a few years back, the US rulers imputing an utterly false allegation that Iraq possessed 'weapons of mass destruction', brutally and indiscriminately killed hundreds of thousands of common innocent Iraqi people. Today, Iraq is virtually a mass of ruins. Every day 10 to 50 people are murdered in Iraq. This is the character of bourgeois parliamentary democracy today. In these 'sentinels' of parliamentary democracies, 'free and fair' elections have been reduced to 'free and peaceful' choice of the incumbents to power by the corporate sector. Money power, muscle power, media power and bureaucracy determine the result of the elections. Multi-party democracy is only in words. In reality, what exists is 'two-party democracy', the clever ploy to grab power alternately by two parties.

**Tragic conditions of individual liberty in parliamentary democracy today**

I shall now refer an incident to you. Recently an article has been published in The Guardian of England. Bradley Manning, an employee of the intelligence department, has been court martialled for leaking secret documents. He would be sentenced to 36 years of imprisonment. What was his crime? While in service in the military intelligence department, he watched a video footage. During his deposition in the court, Manning said, 'The video footage I saw, showed the US soldiers barbarously killing several innocent people in Iraq. After the killing, the soldiers were rejoicing in bestial ecstasy. They were exulted at this savage killing.' He said: 'This is highly menacing to me. They are dehumanized. They have no human sense. They have no human qualities. They were calling the murdered victims bastards, dead bastards, and congratulating each other for having perpetrated such a ghastly act'. This is the real face of the US imperialist army. The imperialist state has dehumanized them; otherwise, such cruel wars and atrocities cannot be carried out

by them. Manning also said, 'I have divulged this document with the belief that if it comes to light, the US people will wake up. They will debate on our foreign policy and about how that policy is applied in Iraq and Afghanistan. People will become conscious. Storm of criticism will sweep across.' For committing this 'crime', he will be sentenced to 36 years of imprisonment. And through whom he has leaked this news to the world is Julien Assange of Wikileaks, an Australian citizen, a well-known name to many now. Assange has made public many a secret document of crimes and gangsterism of the US rulers before the world. He is in hiding, cannot come out in the open now. If he is caught, the US rulers will kill him. He has been forced to *live incognito* at the embassy of Ecuador in London.

Let me tell you another incident which might be known to many of you. Another US citizen named Edward Snowden has revealed that the US National Security Agency has installed 700 servers in 150 places of the world, through which it could know who is speaking to whom over phone and through internet, e-mail etc. This is the bared face of the self-proclaimed champions of 'individual liberty' in the bourgeois world. Snowden has exposed this secret spying over individual's privacy. The US rulers have got a court warrant issued against Snowden. He is in asylum in a Russian airport. Bradley Manning, Edward Snowden of America and Julien Assange of Australia have all exposed the grim, aggressive and felonious faces of the US rulers and uncovered their anti-democratic activities. So, this trio, in the judgement of these rulers, has no right to live freely. One is sentenced to imprisonment; other two are obliged to live in exile as virtual-prisoners. The reporter of The Guardian has commented, those who unraveled the truth have no freedom, but those who had planned wars, committed horrific war crimes, and such unlawful espionage are walking free. This is what bourgeois freedom is! This is the condition of the present-day America, the land of Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson, the great protagonists of democracy. This is how the rulers of 'democratic' USA today are trampling individual liberty under foot.

It is this parliamentary democracy that we have in our country has. All the vote-based parties of our country are carrying

the banner of this parliamentary democracy, of this bourgeois democracy. Obviously, in such a democracy, murders and killings, terror, threat, intimidation will continue, rather would increase more and more. 'Democratic elections' of the land would be a saga of more and more bloodshed, rigging, booth capturing and such other manipulations. Is there no way of getting rid of all this? There is, and that lies only in ending the bourgeois class rule, smashing the bourgeois state machine by accomplishing anti-capitalist socialist revolution. People of this country would have to decide, if they would allow this capitalism to linger on, if they would like to carry this stinking, horrible, decomposed corpse of parliamentary democracy. If they allow it, they will see such grim and sordid happenings more and with days passing. But if they don't accept it, then this mutilated corpse of capitalism has to be consigned to burial and the new social order, socialism, has to be established. One of these options has to be chosen.

Does the danger lie here only? Just think to what low the country has been made to stoop in this capitalist system by the nasty politics and polluted culture pursued by the Congress, TMC, BJP and pseudo-Marxists like CPI (M). Only yesterday in Katwa of Bardhaman district, one brother had to pay with his life while trying to save his two sisters from the miscreants. Such incidents have become a daily affair. The situation has worsened so much that the parents do not dare to allow their daughters to go out of home fearing if they would return safe from schools and colleges. Husband becomes worried if wife is late in returning from office. He is tormented by the apprehension whether she is safe and secure. Such horrific is the situation. What a country we are living in! Is it the country where once Rammohan, Vidyasagar, Vivekananda, Bankimchandra, Rabindranath, Saratchandra, Nazrul, Deshbandhu Chittaranjan, Bipin Chandra Pal, Subhas Chandra Bose and others were born? Is this the motherland of the legends like Bhagat Singh, Chandrasekhar Azad, Jotiba Phule, Tilak, Lala Lajpat Rai, Premchand, Subramaniam Bharati, and others? Is there even any trace of the legacy of these great persons? The youths of the day who are indulging in all kinds of immoral acts were not born with such vices and vile character. Why are they degenerated? Which socio-political ambience is then

leading them to this alley? Liquor shops are mushrooming. Drinking wine has become as simple as taking a glass of water. Civility, decency, honouring the dignity of women – all these human values have been thrown to the winds. Who is responsible for polluting the youth, killing everything humane in them? It is the capitalist rule that is solely responsible for this glut of depravity in them. On this Comrade Shibdas Ghosh said in a speech in 1974: "...a nation going without food, suffering the worst kind of oppression and exploitation, and half-fed and half-clad for days together can also stand up, fight, acquire the power to combat, organize itself and rise up holding its head high, provided its moral strength remains intact and the people have a correct ideology before them. ...The ruling class in India is engaged in a conspiracy to totally destroy that very moral character of the nation. They are shrewd to the bone; they know that even by extreme oppression and repression, and by keeping starved, a nation or people cannot for long be kept under the boot by police and military alone. The history of oppression and tyranny of the despotic rulers of all ages tells but one thing – that no amount of brutal and coercive forces of the police and the military can ultimately defend the rule of injustice, or put down the organized power of the people. People's power asserts itself and stands up if the masses can keep their moral strength intact and find the correct revolutionary ideology. ...Greed, avarice and meanness, which make a man inhuman and spoil fortitude and self-respect in him, are now being encouraged. The cadres of political parties are being engaged in exchange of money to do regular party or union activities and even election work. And all these have been going on in the name of 'practical politics'. The whole of the country teems with millions of unemployed, people are left with no means to fill their empty stomach. Taking advantage of this misery of the people, political parties are using them, providing them with this kind of so-called employment...'

**In this polluted atmosphere, guardians cannot save their children only with pious wishes**

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh said this in 1974. Look at the country. Does not this note of warning come

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Comrade Provash Ghosh's speech**Bourgeois parties and pseudo-Marxists practising rotten vote-bank politics***Contd. from page 3*

true to the letter and spirit today? What character do the workers of these parties exhibit? There was a word 'swadeshi' (patriot) during the British rule. Those who were engaged in a life and death struggle for the country's freedom were known as 'swadeshi'. The moment the word 'swadeshi' could be heard, people from the villages and towns thronged around the person with deep reverence, as if saints and sages had appeared before them. Even the eyes of our illiterate mothers, I noted, would brighten with profound respect at the look of the 'swadeshis'. Kshudiram, Benoy-Badal-Dinesh, militia led by Masterda Surya Sen, Pritilata, Bhagat Singh, Chandrasekhar Azad, Asfaqulla Khans were known as 'swadeshis'. Paying deep respect to these swadeshi leaders, Saratchandra had written, 'Patriotism is not a mere word only, it is the noblest mission of human life. On one side is the country, on the other side the patriot; nothing in between. There is no aspiration for name and fame, no desire for post and money. One who can sacrifice life for the sake of the country can only be called a patriot.' Such was the standard of politics in those days. Defying all repressions, gallows, bullets and bayonets of British rulers, the flowering youth of Bengal had blossomed raising their head high and roused the entire country. Netaji Subhas Chandra was the glowing embodiment of that fervent revolutionism. Where is that Bengal today? Large section of the youth is deeply addicted to liquor-gamble-satta-drug; involved in extortion-robbery-snatching, used to obscene discourse about women's body, indulging in eve-teasing, committing rape and murder of rape victims. Another section is engrossed in degree and careerism spree. Who is plunging the youth in the dungeon? None else but ruling capitalism. Capitalism smells danger if the youth possess conscience and human values. So it is arraying its entire arsenal to degenerate the youth, emasculate them from within. That is why, all the election-oriented parties subserving class interest of ruling capitalism are pushing the youth to the abyss of degeneration, turning them into anti-socials, putting them on their pay-rolls and then using them for winning elections and capturing power. Given such polluted and vicious atmosphere it is hardly possible for any teacher or

guardian to save their wards no matter how much pious wish they have. To save the youth, to save the women from the sexual assault and violence, it is imperative to have surge of anti-capitalist revolutionary movement, cultivation of revolutionary politics and revolutionary culture.

**Where have gone the hundreds of thousands of CPI (M) workers?**

All these parties have hundreds of thousands of workers. CPI (M) state secretary has recently said that their party has 4 lakh 30 thousand members. They claim to be Marxist; they claim to be leftist. Where have gone those 4 lakh 30 thousand odd members in the face of threat from Trinamool Congress (TMC)? They have all shrunk in fear. Such is the kind of revolutionaries they are! So brave! When they are in the government, they are great revolutionaries! They have demonstrated such 'revolution' during the 34 years of their rule when they had the police administration and the anti-socials under their control. Now TMC controls police administration and the anti-socials. So the 'revolutionary' heroes of the CPI (M) have slipped into holes. The TMC, one would recall, used to shout against the terror of the CPI (M) during the latter's rule; did not dare raising their heads. Today, what great heroes the TMC persons are with police in hand and the CPI (M)-trained anti-socials in their fold! This is the politics of these parties. The anti-socials are the main force of their politics. Please bear in mind that these parties do not have any cadre imbued with higher culture, ideology or principles. This cannot happen. Their party workers work for money-license-permit. They want unhindered scope of extortion, snatching and robbery. They want that they get a free hand to kidnap, smuggle and rape at their sweet will. Police will not touch them. This gang of anti-socials, in fact, is the main strength of the aforesaid parties in elections. On the one hand, capitalism is demolishing human qualities. On the other hand, the parties protecting this capitalism are also shattering everything that is humane. Hence liquor dens are sprawling. Freedom movement began with boycott of intoxicants. Those who participated in the picketing before liquor shops faced torture and assault by the British

police. When the CPI (M) during its rule allowed innumerable liquor shops to open, we had protested. Now, after coming to power, the TMC government has given more licences on the plea of augmenting revenue earning by the government. Drink to the brim, get inebriated, behave wantonly, do whatever you want — only carry the party flag! Hence, the more strength these parties acquire, more are the incidents of rape, kidnapping, eve-teasing, robbery, theft, snatching, extortion and all other anti-social activities. This is the reality. So, we hold the view that merely enacting laws or knocking at the door of the police will not save the women. To be honest, no action on the part of police is noticed these days in containing such crimes and wrongdoings. In fact, the criminals and anti-socials bask in the shelter of those who control the police. Hence the need is the fast development of the anti-capitalist revolutionary movement based on higher culture, ethics and morality, the movement which Comrade Shibdas Ghosh long ago had given call for. Without this movement taking a firm root on the soil, we cannot get rid of this menacing crisis.

**Fifteen lakh workers retrenched in a week only**

The economy is also in serious crisis. You as sufferers know it very well. Prices of essential commodities are increasing daily; millions are unemployed; villages are almost deserted; rural poor are rushing from this state to that, from this city to that as migrant labours; they are even going out of the country to work as casual or contract labour. Rural life is shattered. This is the scenario. Thousands of factories and companies have closed down; industrial production has plummeted to as low as 1.8 per cent. Production in the core or key industries has gone down to 0.3 per cent. These are the estimates of the government itself. Europe says that it is eclipsed by recession. Indian rulers do not like the word recession, for it sounds bad. So they call it economic slowdown. They want to hide the hard reality by coining new a term. Let me inform you of another fact pertaining to our country. You should know it. Only over the last week, as many as 15 lakh workers have been retrenched — 10 lakh in the mining industry and 5 lakh in the gold industry. Just

pause and think. If such has been the figure of just one week, how many lakhs are being thrown out of job in every month, in every year! The budget deficit in our country stands at Rs. 5,20,925 crores (5209 billion) of rupees. When such precarious is the situation, the government has waived loans of the industrialists and doled out a fiscal package to the tune of Rs. 5,70,000 crore to them. Just compare! Whereas the budget deficit is Rs. 5,20,000 crore, the government has deprived the exchequer of Rs. 5,70,000 crore by granting relief to the capitalists in the name of 'fiscal stimulus'. Incredibly, the government after showing so much of kindness and sympathy to the industrial houses is crying that the exchequer is running short of funds. In order to meet the shortfall, the government has opted to slash down subsidies of over Rs. 1,64,824 crore on food, fertilizer, fuel. But the military budget has been raised to as high as Rs. 2,03,632 crore. Education and healthcare are handed over to the private businessmen. On the other, the government has raised an internal loan of Rs.5,69, 000 crore in the current year. Next year, it proposes Rs.6 lakh crore of market borrowing. Foreign debt has mounted to Rs.24 lakh crore. Who will repay it? Undoubtedly the brunt is to be borne by the people. They will have to pay back the loan with interest. So, there will be further hike in the retail price of petrol-diesel-gas, further rise in the prices of essential items of daily use.

You will be startled to know another figure. It is revealed that Rs 75, 00, 000 crore of black money, just a fraction of the total in circulation, has been stashed away overseas through dubious means and lying in the personal accounts maintained abroad by Indian industrialists, politicians and bureaucrats for netting further illegal gains. Just think of the amount! Mind boggling indeed! This huge sum of money has been smuggled out overseas and the government is remaining an indulgent onlooker. This is the condition of the country, the spectacle of 'growth and development' so pompously highlighted by the ruling dispensation. While the children of Ambanis-Tatas-Birlas-Jindals-Goenkas are born in palatial mansions, the progenies of the poor

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## Comrade Provash Ghosh's speech

# Secular humanism denotes non-recognition of any super natural power or entity

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see the light of the earth on tattered rags in the slums or on footpaths. The rich have their breakfast in five-star hotels, whereas millions of people die of starvation, perish without any medical care, commit suicide being unable to pay back debt. This is the kind of 'development' the country is witnessing. This is the condition of crisis-ridden capitalist economy throughout the world. The traditional imperialist countries are drowning in all-pervasive recession, making desperate attempt to survive by catching a straw. No way can one get rid of this strangulating situation by keeping capitalism intact. That is why, the imperative need is to accomplish anti-capitalist socialist revolution everywhere.

### **BJP is pseudo-Hindutvabadi and Congress is pseudo-secular**

Only in next few months, another fight is in the offing – the parliament elections. On the one side is pseudo-Hindu BJP while on the other side is pseudo-secular Congress. Both sides are ready with all their armies and artilleries, swords and guns. Mud-slinging has already started. The separatist passion whipped up once again centring the demand for Telangana through bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh has been clearly purported to buttress the most heinous agenda of reaping electoral mileage in the coming parliamentary election based on revised electoral arithmetic. Flame of separatism has been raked up in Darjeeling, Assam, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra. Violence has erupted in many places over this demand. Working behind all is nothing else but narrow sectarian electoral arithmetic. The vote-merchants are splitting the country into pieces only for securing a few more parliamentary seats.

Once again slogan of Ram Mandir has been raised by the pseudo-Hindutvabadi *Sangh Parivar* of RSS—BJP. I call them hypocrite flouters of Hindutva. You may ask, why? We are Marxists, we are atheists. We have an altogether different approach and outlook towards religion and religious issues. But looking at the brand of Hindutva of RSS—BJP, it raises doubt if Chaitanya, Ramakrishna and Vivekananda were at all Hindus. The historic Babri Masjid was in existence during their lifetime. But none of these Hindu religious leaders ever asked to

destroy it and build up Rama Mandir in its place. Ramakrishna himself offered *namaz* in a mosque near Dakshineswar temple. Was he not a Hindu? I read out to you from Vivekananda in the last mass meeting at Kolkata Maidan on 24<sup>th</sup> April to show what his approach was on this question. Condemning those who were committing excess over construction of temples, Vivekananda said, 'you are constructing Mandir, installing deity, adorning the deities with ornaments, but the real gods, the poor, are dying of starvation on the streets'. He asked what was the necessity of knowing whether Krishna was born in Kashi or Mathura, what was necessary, he observed, was the realization of the preaching of the Gita. Was Vivekananda a Hindu? What did the RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat say at the rape and death of 'Nirbhaya' in Delhi? When the whole country was aflame in protest against this ghastly incident, Bhagwat commented, 'since the girls in the city cross the *Lakshman Rekha* while going out of home, such incidents are bound to occur.' It implies, as if, rapes and tortures on women do not take place in the villages. Where did the event of Katwa, I referred to earlier, occur? In a city or in a village? Hindutva-vendors of RSS are giving sermons that the women should not venture out of home. Would Vivekananda, if alive, say this, or, he would have asked to lock up the temples and take up cudgels against these Hindutvabadis? He would have protected the Babari Masjid at the cost of his life. That is why I call these *Sangh Parivar* members as the hypocrite Hindutvabadis. They raise the jingo of Hindutva only for securing votes through artificial polarization on religious line.

The Congress too is not secular. What is secularism? The word 'secularism' came in Europe during the time of bourgeois democratic revolution. Secular humanism denotes non-recognition of any super natural power or entity. In Monarchy, the King was considered the representative of god and his rule as the rule of god. Maxim of god was the key-word in administering the monarchial kingdom. Renaissance came in Europe in course of fight against the monarchial rule. Many bourgeois philosophers including Bacon, Spinoza, Hume, Kant, Feuerbach, Didero hammered against the thought of god. It was the time when came the call of secular

humanism which meant that politics, education and society were to be freed from the tentacles of religion.

### **Who were the true secular humanists in our country?**

Great Vidyasagar was such a secular humanist in our country. You will be surprised to know what Vidyasagar said. He declared 'The Vedanta and the Sankhya are false systems of philosophy. There is no truth in it. We teach it under compulsion. To counter its influence, it is necessary to teach scientific philosophy, materialist philosophy of Europe. Only by reading those, people of this country can be freed from the influence of the ideas of the Vedanta.' How many of our countrymen know this Vidyasagar? Vidyasagar wrote *Bodhodaya*, a text book for primary students. There was no discussion on god in it. This evoked opposition. The British rulers set up a commission. The chief of that commission John Murdock stated in his report that Vidyasagar was not merely a social reformer, he was a rank materialist. He was a secularist. He wrote the book to propagate secularism. Vidyasagar was like Saint-Simon or Robert Owen of Europe. He stood for secularism, gave a call to uphold secularism. Great litterateur Saratchandra was also a secular humanist. Once he said, 'The ardent devotees to god are handling politics in this country. Those who should have led the lives of sanyasis (monks) have become politicians. That is why, India is so poor in politics.' He further said, 'All the religions are false, nothing but prejudices of the primitive age, there is no greater enemy of humanity has than this'. He said, 'Always take up the truth. If that truth proves the *Vedas* to be false, let it be. *The Vedas* is no greater than truth. No religious scripture is infallible. *The Vedas* is a religious scripture, so there is no dearth of lies in it too.' This was Saratchandra. They were secular humanists. Subhashchandra said, 'Religion should be completely expunged from politics. Religion should be a personal affair. A man as an individual should have the complete freedom to pursue a religion he likes. But politics should not be guided by religious or metaphysical thoughts. It should be guided only by economic and scientific judgement'. Kazi Nazrul Islam, the poet of blazing lyre, also possessed the same opinion. And

Bhagat Singh himself penned a book titled "Why I am an atheist". These great persons were the true secular humanists. They cultivated humanism free from religious influence.

I would like to dwell on another point here. Many think that Subhashchandra was all along a believer in the *Vedanta*. It is true that in his early life, he was a believer of this philosophy. All of you know that, before he fled abroad by throwing dust in the eyes of the British government, Subhashchandra was interned in his own house. Earlier, when he was in jail, he went for a hunger-strike unto death. He thought, like martyr Jatin Das, his life might also come to an end in course of this indefinite hunger-strike. So before the hunger-strike, he had written two speeches—one to the workers of his party and another to the youth and students of the country. In his address to the students and youth of the country, he appealed: On the question of understanding the nature of the visible world, in view of what we have got from science till today, we should keep our mind open. What he meant was that in so far as deriving proper knowledge about this objective world is concerned, we should, in view of what science has revealed so far, keep an open mind and ought not to suffer from blindness. Then he said: With further advancement of science, more and more truth is bound to be unravelled. Meanwhile we should keep in mind that our earlier understanding about materialism has become totally obsolete. Scientific studies on the one side, philosophical reasoning-inference on the other—have shattered that earlier view. That means, his erstwhile view based on opposition to materialism had been defeated by the new scientific discoveries and logic. So, he called upon the students and youth to accept science in quest of truth and shun blind faith in religion. This is the proper approach of the secular humanists.

### **Present day spate of communalism-casteism in India is the fallout of Gandhiji's religion based politics**

What is the character of secularism of the Congress? Gandhiji was honest in his belief, but he did not believe in secularism. Having been unconsciously guided by the anti-science and anti-revolution bourgeois class thought,

*Contd. on page 6*

### Comrade Provash Ghosh's speech

## Cause of degeneration of CPI (M) lies in its policy-programme

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his call for national unity was based on religion, he talked of national unity through *Sarba Dharma Samannaya*, i.e. through harmonization of all religions. As a consequence, although he sought harmony among all religions, the domination of Hindu religion and more so of the higher caste Hindus remained at the core of the Congress. Because of that, the broader Muslim masses kept themselves away from the national freedom movement and from the process of nation building. Even the so-called lower caste Hindus did not join the movement spearheaded by the National Congress. I say 'so-called' because we do not consider them as 'low'. The spate of communalism-casteism that is swamping India today is the fallout of the religion-based politics of the Congress led by Gandhiji. So when Saratchandra talked of *sanyasis* dominating in politics, he meant Gandhiji and lamented about the ignominious condition of politics in the country. And how menacing that ignominy has become over all these years is distinctly present before our eyes. The Congress leaders of today do not have even an iota of the honesty that Gandhiji had. They are all corrupt, utterly degenerated, totally dishonest. They have only greed for power. The BJP and all other parties also belong to the same genre.

The BJP's hands are stained with blood of communal riots. This party is fanning Hindu sentiments to garner Hindu votes. The Congress knows, whatever the situation may be, it would get a portion of the Hindu votes. So, the Congress speaks of 'secularism' simply to garner Muslim votes, and nothing else. Did not the Congress perpetrate communal riots? Did it not organize communal carnage at Rourkela of Odisha in the 1960s, engineer riots at Bhagalpur of Bihar and orchestrate anti-Sikh massacre in Delhi after assassination of Indira Gandhi in 1984? Now they are trying to befriend the Muslim masses, pretending to be their friend and saviour on the eve of elections. The Congress, Mulayam and Mayawati are quarrelling with each other to prove who is the friend of the Muslim masses in UP. Casteist politics, backward caste politics are rampant. Previously there were four castes in Hindu religion. Now those four castes have been split into 8 to 10 sub-castes. These are all vote bank politics – politics of extreme opportunism. One needs to ponder over the deleterious outcome of this

divisiveness of varied nature. People of this country have experienced the Congress rule. They have seen the rule of the BJP as well. They have witnessed CPI (M)-supported United Front rule at the Centre in the late 1990s and the rule of the Congress-led CPI (M)-backed UPA-I. Where are they leading the country to? In fact, they had all worked in servitude of capitalism and are still doing so.

### CPI (M)'s policy document supports alliance with the national bourgeoisie

Now the question that haunts many is that how could the CPI (M) degenerate so much? It is not correct that the CPI (M) has degraded itself after being saddled in power. Actually, the party's very policy-programmes including characterization of the Indian state as well as formulation of the stage of revolution are flawed. Let me show that. The Indian capitalists have invested \$8,000 crore (80 billion) in different countries of Asia, Africa, Latin America. They are buying mines and lands in these countries; purchasing giant steel plants and other industries in Europe-America. They have invested \$1300 crore even in various joint ventures in these countries. What does it connote? It means that the Indian capitalists are exploiting the labour force and raw materials of these countries by exporting capital. So, as per Leninism, they have acquired imperialist character. A few days back, some of the big industrialists of the country, in reply to a question, boasted that they had provided 1 lakh jobs in America. This means, the Indian industrialists are running industries in America where 1 lakh American labourers have found employment. This is the muscle of the Indian capitalists. When are the Indian capitalists investing such a huge capital overseas? They are making this investment when India is perilously running with massive fiscal deficit to the tune of Rs.5,28,000 crore. No new industry is set up. Industrial production is rapidly dwindling. In all the countries, whether America or India, interest of capital is sovereign. Neither the interest of the country nor that of the people is of any concern to the profit-greedy industrial houses and business tycoons. The state too is subservient to the interest of sovereign capital. The word 'freedom' here means freedom of unbridled exploitation and plunder. People are the human incarnation of raw materials.

Wherever a scope of profit is seen, capital flights there. When this is the character of the Indian capitalist class, the CPI (M), in its thesis, calls it progressive and finds in it an ally of their 'People's Democratic Revolution' theory. This very Indian capitalist class which has already acquired imperialist character is said to be an ally of the working class. According to the CPI (M), the character of the Indian state is of a 'bourgeois landlord state headed by big bourgeoisie'. Who else is this big bourgeoisie except the monopolists? And in the words of Lenin, monopoly capitalism is the highest stage of national capitalism. And who are these 'landlords' the CPI (M) talks of in characterization of the Indian state? Are they feudal lords or they are the rural kulaks or rural bourgeoisie? As per the teachings of Marxism-Leninism, a country, if it is in a stage of people's democratic revolution, will have foreign imperialism and native feudalism as main enemies. Does India belong to that category? Monopoly capitalists and corporate houses have been ruling India. They are exporting capital abroad, and have themselves attained imperialist character. The Indian monopolists have commercial ties with the monopolists of the powerful imperialist-capitalist countries. Not even an iota of anti-imperialism can be found in them. The conflicts they have with the imperialist powers are over share of market. And where is feudalism in India today except in the grave of Nawab Siraj-ud-daula? Actually, under cover of this imaginary theory of revolution, the CPI (M) leaders have established close ties with the ruling Indian national bourgeoisie so as to ride to power or at least hover around the corridors of power with its blessings. Based on this theory, they supported the Congress many a times in the name of resisting 'communalism'. At the same time, on the plea of opposing 'autocracy of Congress,' they had sided with the BJP also. Now, they are again going for an understanding with the Congress, not overtly but covertly. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh had long back exposed this inevitable consequence of the CPI (M)'s 'revolution'.

### Let the honest workers of CPI (M) ponder over

Let the CPI (M) leaders say, why their politics has come to such a pass after staying in government for over 34 years? The CPI (M) leaders now admit that they had

committed some mistakes. But do they admit that while in power, they too had unleashed a reign of terror, captured booths during elections, teamed up with the anti-socials who merrily indulged in extortion and riotous violence; they did not allow any opposition to contest in college union elections and bagged 99.9% seats uncontested? Did not their government with a leftist signboard open fire and kill jute mill workers, port workers, protesting peasants in Nandigram, poor farmers in Nadia district? In whose interest did they do all this? Which class did they serve by killing workers and peasants? Was it not in the interest of foreign and native capital? Is this Leftism? Is this Marxism? So I would appeal to the honest workers of the CPI (M) to appreciate that their party has altogether turned into an outfit similar to British Labour Party. Labour in name, but working in the interest of the British imperialists. We know, in the lower rank of the CPI (M) and among its supporters, there are still some persons who believe in leftism. We reckon them as friends. They have to decide; if they are genuinely impassioned for Marxism and leftism, the sooner they leave the association of the sham Marxist party, the better. They must seriously ponder over this. The leadership of the CPI(M) is extremely degenerated, but all the blame is squarely put on the workers, as if the workers had run the party in the last 34 years. Did the leaders admit for once the wrongs they have committed, the immense harm they did to the image of Marxism and leftism? Do they have the guts and character to admit that? As regards funds at their command, the CPI (M) ranks only after the Congress, BJP and Mayawati's BSP. Who has provided them with hundreds of crores of rupees? Is it the peasants and workers? Obviously not. This huge fund comes from the corporate sector, big business houses and the black-marketers. It is these forces who run all these parties.

### Why all are combined against SUCI(C)

Perhaps you do not know that money has flown in streams in last panchayat elections of the state. Rs.2 to 5 lakh has been spent to win one single village panchayat seat. To capture a particular village panchayat, spending has been to the tune of Rs 6 to 7 crores. All this one can know if one visits the villages. In many places, the TMC did not

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Comrade Provash Ghosh's speech**Strengthen and consolidate SUCI (C)***Contd. from page 6*

allow others to contest. Wherever there was a contest, the TMC spent huge amount of money to purchase votes. The CPI (M) also did not lag behind. It did the same thing wherever it could. You will be stunned to hear another fact. The TMC and the CPI (M) are fighting each other in the elections for capturing power. But, wherever SUCI(C) candidates had the possibility of victory, these two parties did not hesitate to combine against SUCI(C). Not to speak of Kultali, Joynagar, even at Jhargram of West Midnapur or a village in Nadia district, where prospects were bright for our candidates to win, the CPI (M) and the TMC got united to defeat us. If the CPI (M) appeared to be our main contestant, the TMC cast their votes in favour of the CPI (M) and vice versa. The sole objective was to prevent SUCI(C) from winning any seat. They want to wipe out SUCI(C) from the arena of elections. This unity forged between them was in the interest of the bourgeoisie – a unity of all who are subserving bourgeois class interest against the working class, the revolutionary party of the working class. They are determined not to allow us to win in the panchayat, assembly or parliament elections. But does our Party stand on the strength of members in assembly, parliament or panchayat? We do not have numbers of panchayat members, MLAs or MPs. Even if we had so, we would not have cited those numbers as our strength, nor as the criterion for the people to rally behind us. Our Party is based on the revolutionary teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. Armed with these teachings, our Party is growing steadily and would continue to grow. The capitalist class is alarmed at this. The CPI (M) leaders are well aware of this. So are the Congress, BJP and TMC leaderships. This is why, all are united against SUCI(C). At the call of our Party a huge rally of more than 1 lakh people from almost all the states of the country was organized on 14 March last year in Delhi. Discipline of the rally, its thunderous slogans, its every firm step left a deep impression in the minds of the Delhi residents. They never witnessed such a vast procession, such an august gathering, such bold slogans, such solemn character of any rally or programme of any other party. Our Delhi Party unit along with Delhi units of AIDS, AIDYO, AIMSS jumped in the spontaneous movement that surged forth against the barbaric rape and murder of a girl

known now as 'Nirbhaya'. Did we conduct these movements based on the strength of MP, MLA, or panchayat members? From 2 to 4th January this year, we held an all-India conference of workers coming from all over the country and organized a massive gathering in Bangalore, capital of Karnataka. From 29 to 31 January, we held a large women's conference in Trivandrum, capital of Kerala. The conference did cast a deep impression on the people of Kerala. Again, from 26 to 29 August, all-India students' conference is going to be held in Bhopal, capital of Madhya Pradesh. Recently, a disastrous natural calamity descended on the people of Uttarakhand. It is only our Party that collected relief materials and plunged for relief work there. The medical unit of our Party organized hundreds of medical camps in various parts of the state. Common people and intellectuals there respectfully have commended our Party for that. Have we been organizing all these movements and social work on our strength in the legislature? How many members did Lenin have in Russian parliament while accomplishing revolution in Russia? Is it not a fact that Bolshevik party led by Lenin had a minuscule representation in Russian parliament (DUMA) then? How many legislators did Mao Zedong have to achieve revolution in China? With how many parliamentarians did Ho Chi Minh have while conducting successful revolution in Vietnam? Where did they all derive strength from? They all accomplished revolution armed with revolutionary ideology of Marxism-Leninism and on the strength of valiant forces of youth imbued with higher culture and morality. It is on this basis our Party is growing and will grow. Those older people who are honest, conscientious, are all blessing this Party as the only ray of hope. The courageous spirited young boys and girls who have the grit to stand and fight against injustice, those who do not suffer from frustration are joining this Party in numbers imbued with the thoughts of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh started his journey with only six revolutionary compatriots. There was no money, no followers, no publicity. They had lived on the footpath, in the parks. Undivided CPI, RSP, Forward Bloc used to jeer at them by saying 'If a bat is a bird, then SUCI (C) too is a party.' They used to say that 'SUCI(C) is not a party but a club'. Underdetermined and unperturbed, Comrade Shibdas

Ghosh, as a great Marxist, struggled with firm determination. Many a day he passed in starvation. We ourselves witnessed this in our early years of Party life. Nowadays, wherever we go, comrades take care of us. The Party has grown. When I sit to take food, memories of those struggling days of Shibdas Ghosh come down my memory lane, give me pain and I ask my conscience – could I discharge my role as a student of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh? We want to hand down the great revolutionary teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh to the present generation.

**We vow to carry forward the glorious legacy of the legendary revolutionaries**

Never before has India come across such a grave crisis. If Vidyasagar were alive today, what would he have said? What would have Rabindranath, Saratchandra, Nazrul, Kshudiram, Bhagat Singh, Chandrasekhar, Asfaquallah, Subhashchandra, Pritilata and others. It is only to evoke the forgotten memories of these luminaries, the values of life they upheld. We tell the youth, you have to be like Kshudiram, Bhagat Singh, Pritilata. But, the ideology would be new. Those were the days of nationalist ideology, call of national unity against imperialism, broadest national unity of the rich and the poor, owners and the workers against imperialism. But after transfer of power, the same national bourgeoisie today is the repressive exploiters. Now our fight is against domestic capitalism. In the fight against capitalism, ideology of nationalism cannot guide us. What is needed today is the revolutionary ideology of the working class, the ideology of Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought. This alone can bring about the desired emancipation. We shall reach out to the people with this message. We shall remember the great men of the past, we shall gather inspiration from the life struggle of the great revolutionaries and on the basis of that we shall develop the movements to arouse nobler feelings and human essence among the people and elevate their standard further to become proletarian revolutionary on the basis of concept of proletarian culture propounded by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. With these words I conclude today.

Did Rabindranath, Saratchandra, Premchand see this? Can such things be traced in their works? Is it this free India for which innumerable martyrs gave away their lives? The brave sang the glory of life at the gallows? Is it freedom at all? Now is time to seriously ponder over this. With the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh at heart, we shall have to take oath on this day of 5th August

that we shall leave no stone unturned to strengthen the Party more and more, consolidate it further. Spurred on by his invaluable teachings, we shall organize the working class, the poor peasants and agricultural workers, the youth and students, the women to build up powerful sustained democratic mass movements on the burning problems of life. Alongside building up class and mass struggles, we shall carry revolutionary politics, higher revolutionary culture to the people. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh had said that we have become rootless. We are estranged from the high cultural tune and standard attained during the days of our freedom movement. This decadent moribund capitalism has alienated us from that. It is for this reason, we observe the memorial days of Vidyasagar, Rabindranath, Saratchandra, Nazrul, Kshudiram, Bhagat Singh, Chandrasekhar, Asfaquallah, Subhashchandra, Pritilata and others. It is only to evoke the forgotten memories of these luminaries, the values of life they upheld. We tell the youth, you have to be like Kshudiram, Bhagat Singh, Pritilata. But, the ideology would be new. Those were the days of nationalist ideology, call of national unity against imperialism, broadest national unity of the rich and the poor, owners and the workers against imperialism. But after transfer of power, the same national bourgeoisie today is the repressive exploiters. Now our fight is against domestic capitalism. In the fight against capitalism, ideology of nationalism cannot guide us. What is needed today is the revolutionary ideology of the working class, the ideology of Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought. This alone can bring about the desired emancipation. We shall reach out to the people with this message. We shall remember the great men of the past, we shall gather inspiration from the life struggle of the great revolutionaries and on the basis of that we shall develop the movements to arouse nobler feelings and human essence among the people and elevate their standard further to become proletarian revolutionary on the basis of concept of proletarian culture propounded by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. With these words I conclude today.

Long Live Revolution!  
Long Live SUCI (Communist)!  
Long Live Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought!  
Red Salute to  
Comrade Shibdas Ghosh!

## Countrywide observance of 37th Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Memorial Day

The 37th Memorial Day of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the great Proletarian leader and the Founder General Secretary of SUCI (C), the revolutionary Party of India was observed on 5 August 2013 by the Party comrades, supporters, sympathisers and vast masses of toiling people across the country. On that occasion various programmes were organized. A number of reports of those observances were published in the last issue of the *Proletarian Era*. We include in this issue few remaining reports that reached us later. Besides as committed, we include here the complete texts of the speeches by Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary of the Party made in Kolkata, by Comrade Ranjit Dhar, member Polit Bureau delivered in Ghatshila at the Study Centre of Marxism- Leninism- Shibdas Ghosh Thought and by Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya, member Polit Bureau in Guwahati, Assam.

In keeping with the schedule, the observances started with song on the great leader of the Proletariat Comrade Shibdas Ghosh and ended with the song *The Internationale*.

### Guwahati, Assam

To commemorate the 37th death anniversary of the great leader Comrade Shibdas Ghosh a meeting was held on 5 August in Guwahati at Lakshiram Barua Sadan. The memorial meeting was held at a time when separatist movement had given rise to an inflammable situation while continuous bandh had created an extremely difficult situation. The meeting was presided over by Comrade Bhupendra Nath Kakati, member State Committee of the Party and was addressed by Comrade Chandralekha Das, Assam State Secretary. In his presidential speech, Comrade BN Kakati called for strengthening SUCI (C), while Comrade Chandralekha Das called upon people of Assam to develop united left and democratic movement centring round the basic problems of people's life.

The main speaker of the occasion Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya, member, Polit Bureau and noted mass leader presented an elaborate address on different relevant issues. His speech will be published in the next issue.

### Delhi

In observance of the Memorial Day of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, along with other local programmes to observe the occasion, a central public meeting was held under the auspices of the Delhi Organising Committee SUCI(C) at the Hindi Bhawan ITO on 7 August. Comrade Pran Sharma, member, Delhi State Organising Committee presided over the meeting and Comrade Pratap Samal, Delhi State Secretary also spoke at the meeting.

Addressing the meeting as the main speaker Comrade C K Lukose, Member, Central Committee and Kerala State Secretary, pointed out that paying respect to Comrade Shibdas Ghosh has only one meaning for us, his

followers, i.e. to assimilate in our life the lessons he taught and emulate the noble and arduous life-struggles he conducted, facing all odds. Not only did Comrade Shibdas Ghosh concretized Marxism-Leninism on the Indian soil but in the process he enriched and elaborated it to meet the advanced need of the present days.

### Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

The 37th Memorial Day of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, was observed in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh on 11 August 2013 through a meeting at the Press Club. Comrade S Govindarajulu, member, state organising committee SUCI(C) presided and Comrade K Radhakrishna, Member, Central Committee, and Karnataka State Secretary addressed the meeting as the main speaker. He emphasized that though immediate triggering points for these movements may be different, but the root cause for the miseries of all these people of almost all the countries of the world is capitalism-imperialism. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh repeatedly warned that time and again movements will surge forth out of discontent of people but they will recede too. This will happen till a revolutionary party with sufficient strength emerges. Revolution will have to wait and the basic problems of the people cannot be solved till that time.



Comrade K. Radhakrishna addressing

Comrade Radhakrishna added that Comrade Shibdas Ghosh had founded and reared SUCI(C) as the revolutionary Party of India to take up that leadership. Today in many countries of the world people are attracted towards the thoughts of Comrade Ghosh. He called upon comrades and people to read and re-read, learn and re-learn and assimilate the thoughts of Comrade Ghosh and hasten the process of revolution in our country.

Comrade K. Sridhar, Andhra State Secretary, in the course of his speech, presented a brief analysis of the present political situation in the state of Andhra.

### Cuttack, Odisha

In Odisha, the memorial meeting was held on August 7, at Saheed Bhawan, Cuttack, with Comrade Dhurjati Das, Secretary, Odisha State Committee presiding over and Comrade Soumen Basu, Member, Central Committee and West Bengal State Secretary, addressing as the main speaker.

In his speech, Comrade Soumen Bose pointed out that since Marxian



Comrade Soumen Basu addressing at Cuttack

philosophy has science as its premise, it has to be upgraded in compliance with the advancement of science and it was Comrade Shibdas Ghosh – the great leader who enriched and elaborated it in the best possible way in the recent days. Comrade Soumen Basu went on to say that today's struggle for the Marxist is to assimilate and exhaust humanist philosophy and in the process to get rid of private property mental complex. He further asserted that the crisis-ridden decadent capitalism-imperialism. Hence, capitalists today resort to divisive policies and fan up communal passions. So, Comrade Soumen Basu said, equipped with the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, based on Marxist ideology, working people have to develop democratic movements conducive to the revolutionary struggle

which our party is endeavouring to develop.

### Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

Memorial meeting was held at Gangadas memorial hall, Lucknow, on 8 August. Comrade V. N. Singh, UP State Secretary, presided over. In his presidential address, Comrade V. N. Singh recalled how Comrade Shibdas Ghosh through an all-embracing painstaking struggle and overcoming all obstacles built up SUCI(C) as a genuine communist party. In his speech as the main speaker, Comrade Arun Singh, Staff Member of the Party and senior member, Bihar State Committee, dwelt upon the present national and international scenarios and showed how the analyses and prognosis of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh are vindicated. He pointed out that in order to disrupt unity of the toiling masses, the ruling capitalist class and its servitor parties are precipitating casteist-communal-ethnic-regional divides, fanning up separatism-parochialism and even orchestrating fratricidal bloodbath. He warned against the resurgent

attempt of the *Sangh Parivar* to create communal frenzy. It is only the scientific philosophy of Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought which can protect people from the

rising capitalist onslaught and show them path of emancipation.

### Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

The 37th Memorial Day of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, was observed at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh on 9 August 2013 in a meeting presided over by Comrade Ramavtar Sharma, member State Organizing Committee, MP. The main speaker Comrade Shankar Dasgupta, Staff member of the Party, and member, Odisha state Secretariat, highlighted the significance of observing the Memorial Day and the life struggle of the great leader Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. He outlined the present crisis the world capitalist system is bogged into today and gave call for strengthening the SUCI(C) to build up the revolutionary struggle in the country. Comrade Uma Prasad, secretary, SOC, MP also addressed the meeting and Comrade JC Barai conducted the proceedings.

# Identify with Class, Revolution and Party, go and stay with the masses and release individual initiative to fulfil the task Comrade Shibdas Ghosh has bequeathed to us

— Comrade Ranjit Dhar

(This is the abridged version of the speech delivered by Comrade Ranjit Dhar, veteran member of the Polit Bureau of the Party at the 37th Memorial Day meeting of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh on 5th August 2013 at Ghatshila, Jharkhand.)

37 years have rolled by since Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, our leader, teacher and guide. While observing his Memorial Day, we ask ourselves how far have we been able to assimilate his invaluable teachings, apply those teachings covering all aspects of life and equip ourselves for shouldering the task of accomplishing anti-capitalist socialist revolution—the task he bequeathed to us. If you look at our country and for that matter, the entire imperialist-capitalist world, you will find people restive for emancipation from the gruelling capitalist exploitation shredding them into pieces. Rising unemployment, job loss, price rise, hunger, starvation, outbreak of famine, absence of proper healthcare, withdrawal of one after another public welfare and social security schemes are shredding people into pieces. All hard-earned civil and democratic rights including the right to protest and dissent and freedom of expression are snatched away. Rampant corruption has pervaded the polity and administration. An all-out degeneration is devouring the socio-cultural life. Family life is breaking. Relationships are turning sour. Individualism and self-seeking attitude have assumed menacing proportion. Hankering after money and nurturing narrow self-centeredness has become sole objective of life. Love, affection, tender feeling, finer sensibilities are fast disappearing. Thinking about others' well-being and discharging social obligation have become alien propositions. Incessant promotion and spread of obscenity, vulgarism and sex-slavery are stoking up base instincts of the youth to lure them off to a world of perverse pursuit, and, in the end, abort themselves in the morass of animal-existence. In one word, it is a spectacle of horrific crisis in every walk of life.

Now, the question is, why this crisis? Is it clutched out of the thin air or handiwork of all-mighty god? As students of Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought, we know that this crisis is of capitalism, of the capitalist system. Following inexorable law of capitalism which is based on exploitation of man by

man, economics of generation of maximum profit for the handful of capitalist rulers by way of usurpation of labour power of the multitude of working people and division of the society into two classes—exploiting capital and exploited labour, an insoluble crisis has gripped capitalist economy. Since, politico-social structure and culture are superstructures of a given capitalist base, crisis has engulfed all these spheres. The ruling capitalist class is squarely passing on the burden of its economic crisis onto the suffering people in the form of raising prices of essential commodities, savage fiscal measures, privatizing and



*Comrade Ranjit Dhar addressing, seated beside him Comrade Rabin Samajpati, Secretary, Jharkhand State Organising Committee*

commercializing every area of basic needs. So, even the last drop of blood of the toiling masses is squeezed out to fill the swelling coffer of the ruling capitalists. And lest the people should rise up against the obsolete rotten capitalist system, the ruling class is trying to break the very moral backbone of the nation by perpetrating socio-cultural degradation and concentrating all political power in its hands. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, based on the science of Marxism-Leninism, has elaborately explained all these aspects in course of his penetrating analysis of the concrete situation of our country as well as the entire world in the post-Second World War period and provided the guide to action for those spurred on to bring revolutionary change of the society and thereby emancipate the toiling people from the tentacles of capitalist rule.

It is true that back to the wall, people are bursting forth in massive agitations throughout the world including the advanced western

imperialist-capitalist countries like France, Germany, Portugal, Greece and even UK and the USA. From the "Occupy Wall Street" movement that shook the US imperialist rulers, slogans were raised against capitalism and demand voiced for abolition of capitalism. The people of Egypt, Brazil and Turkey are conducting heroic battles against their respective autocratic regimes. Even in our country, you have seen how people spontaneously responded to the call of fighting corruption by Anna Hazare. Six months back, the brave people of Delhi particularly the hundreds of young boys and girls put up a heroic and historic battle for so many days braving the biting winter and defying the batons, tear gas, rubber bullets and water cannons of the rulers. But, all these

movements are gradually fizzing out because, the flame and ferment of these sporadic movements are not emboldened with the correct revolutionary ideology and developed as an organized protracted struggle under correct revolutionary leadership. People are ready to fight but they are not having the right direction to lead their

struggles to logical culmination because their struggles are not developing under correct leftist-communist leadership. This is the crux of the problem. People are slowly coming to know, as we saw in Occupy Wall Street movement, that capitalism is their enemy. "We are the 99% that will no longer tolerate the greed and corruption of the 1%"—this was the slogan. But, their understanding of capitalism, capitalist exploitation, the nature of various attacks of capitalism is very perfunctory. It is the duty of the genuine communists, genuine communist leadership to educate and guide them. Where is that leadership? That leadership can grow and develop only on the basis of Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought. As worthy disciple and continuator of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin-Mao Zedong, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh in course of his historic arduous revolutionary struggle to fulfil the historic necessity of building up a correct communist revolutionary

party on the Indian soil based on Leninist model, he elaborated, developed, enriched the treasurehouse of Marxian science and brought its understanding to a new height. It is not possible to have a proper grasp of Marxism-Leninism today without being acquainted with and assimilation of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Thought.

You all are aware that after Second World War, following defeat of fascism at the hands of the Soviet Red Army, one third of the world turning socialist with successful Chinese Revolution, we were virtually on the threshold of world proletarian revolution. Liberation struggles of the exploited masses round the globe appeared to be marching towards ultimate victory. The communist movement was posing serious challenge to the capitalists-imperialists world over. But then, as pointed out by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, we were lost in a maze because of various wrong practices, theoretical muddles, confusions and trickeries. The insidious growth of revisionism in the leadership of international communist movement turned the bright prospect of world revolution into an agonizing setback. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh while presenting a genesis of modern revisionism showed that weakness of ideological struggles and lower standard of consciousness in the communist movement caused this calamity. It was Comrade Shibdas Ghosh who, way back in 1948, first sounded note of caution against mechanical thought process as against dialectical thought process gripping international communist movement. Blind allegiance and obedience without conducting due ideological struggle and polemics among the various communist parties would lower the standard of leadership, not developing dialectical process of thinking even within a communist party, would create newer cracks and rifts in the firm solidarity of the communist parties, foster confrontation even warfare among the socialist countries and thus spell danger to international communist movement. History has vindicated the truth of his analysis. Likewise, he later showed how the phenomenon of individualism in this phase of dying capitalism is obstructing growth and

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Comrade Ranjit Dhar's speech**All bourgeois and social democratic parties are pursuing nasty rotten vote-bank politics by adopting every foul means***Contd. from page 9*

development of not only revolutionary working class movement but even democratic mass movements. It was Comrade Shibdas Ghosh who pointed out that as the phenomenon of individualism and typical individualistic and opportunistic trend among the workers which remained as hangover of bourgeois thought in the realm of mind could not be fought out in socialist Soviet Union, its pernicious effect in the form of a new type of 'economism' and hankering for 'material incentive' obstructed the working people being conscious of their responsibility as cadres of international proletarian revolution, hindered their sense of obligation to the society and dampened the urge for acquiring higher communist character by complete identification of the self-interest with the cause of revolution and the society. This also helped revisionism to take a firmer root, degenerate the party and the state and ultimately paved way for counter-revolution to triumph and restore capitalism.

So, Comrade Ghosh, till he breathed his last, gave immense importance on ceaselessly fighting individualism both inside the Party as well as in the society. He taught us that just to want revolution, thinking about the working class is no reflection of revolutionary consciousness. The correct revolutionary consciousness is the correct proletarian class consciousness, and the correct proletarian class consciousness is the correct proletarian party consciousness as the correct proletarian party, in the words of Lenin, is the vanguard, the advanced post of the proletariat, through all the phases of revolutionary class struggle and during the subsequent transition period towards the realization of Socialism, i.e., the first stage of the communist society. So, recognizing the correct communist party, being associated with it and then conducting struggle for identification with the party, class and revolution is the only way one could develop himself as true communist revolutionary and discharge effective role in building people's movement against the rising capitalist oppression and gradually elevate that movement into struggle for revolutionary overthrow of capitalism.

Today the multitude of toiling Indian masses are turning into beggars. Their plight and penury is beyond endurance. On the other hand, the wealth of the monopolists like Tata, Ambani, Birla, Jindal and others are multiplying in geometric progression. Even the latest government survey has admitted that in last two decades, the gap between the rich and poor is widening at rapid pace. Who would fight against this pauperization, deprivations and deceptions? Can the mainstream bourgeois parties like the Congress, BJP, SP, BSP or the social democrats like the CPI, CPI (M) fight against the capitalist system? How can they because they all are wedded to defend the class interest of the ruling bourgeoisie and funded by it. These parties including regional bourgeois outfits like JMM, TMC, DMK or ADMK are all vote-merchants. Their sole objective is to ride to power or remain afloat in the corridor of power by currying favour with the ruling class and subserve its class interest. As I had said earlier, the ruling bourgeoisie, suffering from, what Comrade Shibdas Ghosh said, fear complex of anti-capitalist revolution, is arraying its entire arsenal to disunite people by fanning up all kinds of divisive policies centring on class, creed, religion, region or ethnicity so the oppressed people are distracted from developing class and mass struggles rising above all differences and being driven by common interest. All these parties are acting as surrogates to this vile bourgeois design by indulging in casteist-communal-parochial-chauvinistic politics and brighten their electoral prospects by setting up vote banks. The social

democrats have also joined the bandwagon of bourgeois vote politics and hence have not only abandoned the path of movement but even did not hesitate to brutally crush democratic struggle as we have seen in Singur-Nandigram.

The only exception is the SUCI(C), founded, reared and steered by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh as the genuine communist party on this soil. This is the party which the ruling capitalists could not purchase. You go to any part of the country and you will hear people saying this party is honest, struggling against injustice, trying to develop mass movements against all anti-people policies of the governments. They all repose immense faith in us. To all of them, we are the only hope, only sparkle in the pervading darkness. It is also a fact that our Party is growing. This is the power of truth. But, though our growth is perceptible throughout the country yet we are not that big to confront the bourgeois state machine. We have not been able to develop that strong and extensive organizational base. What is coming in the way? We have in our hand the invincible weapon of Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought. We enjoy respect, affection, admiration and confidence of the people. Still, where are we lacking?

We are lacking in three major areas. First of all, we are not having mass life as is needed of a true revolutionary. Leading mass life means to go to the masses, stay with them, learn from them, share their woes and joy and in the process become their near and dear ones so much so that they find in us most trusted and dependable friends and empathizers. Once we

are able to develop such fellow feeling and intimate relationship with them, we shall be able to win over them and gradually bring them in the fold of revolution. Instead, if our mixing with the masses is programme-based which means if we contact the masses only when there is a definite programme, carry out propaganda work among them, try to involve them in the programme but leave their association once the programme is over and come back among our own comrades, the masses might like us, respect us, may also support our call for movement but would not accept as one of them, maintain a distance from us. We must learn and cultivate this art of leading mass life, organize them for conducting protracted movement fearlessly, braving all odds and rising above all petty self-interest. Then only we shall be able to build up powerful organizational base conducive to developing revolutionary mass and class struggle.

The second area we need to concentrate upon is to acquire true communist character by identifying individual interest with the interest of class and party, as taught by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, through all-embracing uncompromising relentless life struggle. We cannot give any lax to this. Because, if there is any slack in this struggle for identification, we shall not only lag behind in developing ourselves as true communist revolutionaries but also allow the vices of the rotten bourgeois society to creep in us and if not detected and fought out right at the outset, might even pollute us. Students and youths may think—let me find a job, build up a career first and be settled in life. Thereafter, we shall think of politics and revolution. In other words, they feel scared of food and shelter, security of life. Those who think so must recall that Bhagat Singh, Netaji Subhas, Kshudiram, Chandrasekhar Azad, Asfaquillah and other legendary characters of Indian freedom struggle never thought of their career, individual life, family and other personal gains. They left everything to respond to the call of their motherland. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh has shown that no revolutionary anywhere has ever died of hunger because the people provide them food, shelter; protect them from all adversities. In his

**Memorial Day at Alipore Central Jail**

As in the past, this year too SUCI (C) leaders and cadres who, for their joining or leading mass movements in West Bengal, have been thrust behind the bars on fabricated cases observed Memorial Day of their leader, teacher and guide Comrade Shibdas Ghosh inside the Alipore Central Jail in Kolkata on 5 August along with other inmates. Comrade Prafulla Mandal presided over the meeting. Comrades rendered the song on Comrade Ghosh to start the meeting; thereafter the leaders garlanded the portrait of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. Comrade Probodh Purkait, the main speaker, pointed out that since independence governments have changed through vote, but the capitalist system, the root of all evils of people's life, is left unscratched. So, the plight and penury of people is soaring. The road to emancipation of people from this capitalist rule and exploitation will be smoothened only by strengthening this Party SUCI (C), which Comrade Shibdas Ghosh has founded as the genuine communist party concretely applying Marxism-Leninism on the soil of this country.

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## Comrade Manik Mukherjee Attended the Programme to Celebrate 60th Anniversary of Historic Victory of the Fatherland Liberation War

On invitation from the Korean Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity a delegation from the International Anti-imperialist Coordinating Committee (IACC) consisting of its President, Mr. Ramsay Clark and its General Secretary, Comrade Manik Mukherjee visited Pyongyang recently to take part in the week-long programme during July 22-28 to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Victory of the Fatherland Liberation War.

To recall in brief, the Korean people with a rich and distinctive ancient culture, language and national identity had to suffer from savage Japanese imperial occupation for 40 years since 1905. Kim Hyong Jik, father of Kim Il Sung, founded in 1917 the Korean National Association, an Anti-Japanese underground revolutionary organization, to convert the Anti-

to be followed by the founding of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army (KPRA). Kim Il Sung worked in close coordination with the guerilla army led by the Communist Party of China and commanded a division of the united army. Anti-Japanese armed struggle was intensified in course of these.

On 15th August 1945 Japan surrendered and Korea was liberated. Temporarily as a prelude to the establishment of a free all-Korean government through elections supervised by the United Nations, two parts of the country north and south of the 38th parallel came under the control of the Soviet Union and the United States respectively. Kim Il Sung was the Head of the Provisional People's Committee in the North to run the administration which ultimately lead to a socialist state, the Democratic People's Republic of

party or with important personages from South Korea. At his initiative the North-South Joint Statement was signed on July 4, 1972, outlining the basic principles of reunification without foreign interference and reliance on peaceful means. But at the instigation of USA the reactionary puppet Government of South Korea spurned these proposals. Rather DPRK has been slanderously labeled by USA as the Axis of Evil. In 1993 President Kim Il Sung published the 10-point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation for the peaceful reunification of the country. President Kim Il Sung's policies were reiterated and reinforced by his successor Comrade Kim Jong Il. At least two declarations were made in 2000 and 2007 towards reunification and peace between the two countries. But in 2008 the fascist regime of

and Congress. The celebrations were spectacular, colourful and massively participated by happy smiling people including women and children. Those included a Grand International Peace March on July 24, demanding peaceful reunification of Korea along with demands that the USA sign an official peace treaty, end the war, cease all hostility towards DPRK, and withdraw all troops and conventional and nuclear weapons from South Korea. Ramsay Clark and Manik Mukherjee participated in the March. On the same day an International Solidarity Meeting was also held at a site of an important joint economic project of the two Koreas. On July 25, an international meeting denouncing U.S. atrocities in the Korean War was held which was addressed by Ramsay Clark. He spoke about the imperialist aggression of USA against DPRK and a host of other countries and growing people's resistance against these. He expressed solidarity of justice- and peace-loving people of the world with the determined struggle of the people of DPRK to protect their fatherland from external aggression.

On July 25 Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un inaugurated the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs' Cemetery and War Museum. On July 26 a National Mass Meeting was held at the May Day Stadium in Pyongyang with Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un as the president and senior officials of the Workers Party of Korea (WPK), the state and the army including Kim Yong Nam, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK and President of the Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly also present. On July 26 there was also a massive and spectacular military parade and people's march. On the review stand at the main Kim Il Sung Square were Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, top leaders of the WPK, and of the State and the Army and the Vice-President of China and other foreign dignitaries. The Vice-President of the People's Assembly invited the delegates to a banquet. Manik Mukherjee had the honour to sit at the Main Table with the dignitaries from DPRK and foreign countries. Manik Mukherjee along with other delegates visited the Mausoleum of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, other gigantic monuments and statues which abound in the city of Pyongyang, and places of scenic beauty. The delegates returned with an unforgettable memory of the celebrations, of the country and the people.



*Ramsay Clark (left) and Manik Mukherjee (3rd from left) at Pyongyang in celebration of victory of liberation war*

Japanese National Liberation Struggle to proletarian revolution. In 1926 with the demise of Kim Hyong Jik, Kim Il Sung took up the rein and founded DIU (Down with Imperialism Union) to give a new spurt to the revolutionary movement. In 1929 he was arrested by the Chinese reactionary warlords at the instigation of the Japanese imperialists. On his release from prison in 1930 at a meeting of the Communist Youth League and the Anti-imperialist Youth League he clarified the principles of the concept of Juche-oriented Korean socialist revolution he had framed in prison, defined the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic character of the Korean revolution and outlined its strategic and tactical issues in a historic Report, "The Path of Korean Revolution". He further declared that the revolution should be continued even after the completion of democratic revolution so as to build socialist and communist society and carry forward the world revolution. He laid down the importance of forming a united Anti-Japanese National Front and a revolutionary party. In 1930 the first Party organization was formed, soon

Korea under his leadership. But in the South the US occupation forces suppressed the Provisional People's committees and in 1948 an anti-communist capitalist dictatorial system was established in South Korea, betraying the aspirations of the national liberation struggle. With their aggressive manoeuvres they even lead to a war against DPRK in 1950. DPRK retained a dominant position till signing of an Armistice on 27 July, 1953 with a demilitarized zone along the 38th parallel separating the two Koreas. However, no Peace Treaty has yet been signed, which has long been a DPRK demand. DPRK observes 27th July as the day of Victory of the Fatherland Liberation War. While the Russian troops left the North in 1948, US army is even today stationed in South Korea maintaining imperialist hegemony.

The great leader Kim Il Sung always advocated anti-imperialist alliance throughout Korea encompassing the revolutionary forces in the north and progressive and patriotic forces in the south. As early as 1971 the great leader Kim Il Sung declared DPRK's readiness to have dialogues with the ruling

Lee Myong Bak came to power in the South with US backing and nullified whatever little progress had been made towards national reunification. North-South tensions heightened. The United States imposed a near-total economic embargo on DPRK in 1950. After the underground nuclear test by DPRK in February 2013, the United States and the South Korean Government threatened retaliatory military action against DPRK and went on with joint military drills. But DPRK under the leadership of Kim Jong Un did not yield to US threats, and South Korea was forced to sit in dialogue with DPRK.

With this backdrop DPRK organized an elaborate programme to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Victory of the Fatherland Liberation War. Ramsay Clark, President of IACC and Manik Mukherjee, General Secretary of IACC and member, Polit Bureau, SUCI(C) were among foreign delegates and invitees from different countries, which also included the Vice-President of the People's Republic of China and an official delegation from India comprising representatives from CPI(M), BJP

# “Comrade Ratan Mukherjee did advance much in the struggle of identification with the Party”

— Comrade Provash Ghosh

*(In a scheduled meeting of select Party members at Mahajati Sadan, Kolkata on 6<sup>th</sup> August last, comrades present observed a minute's silence in memory of Comrade Ratan Mukherjee. It set an environment of profound grief which deeply moved Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary of the Party. So, before entering into the main discussion, he, in a brief reminiscence, drew attention of all towards the high revolutionary standard Comrade Ratan Mukherjee had attained through struggle. Since this is very educative for all comrades, we are publishing that reminiscence. Responsibility of translation error or inadequate expression, if any, lies with the Editorial Board of Proletarian Era.)*

The memorial meeting of Comrade Ratan Mukherjee will be held on 13<sup>th</sup> August where Comrade Manik Mukherjee would speak. Since this very meeting is taking place immediately after the sad and sudden demise of Comrade Ratan, I need to say something about him. All of us have been profoundly shocked at his passing away. The comrade we have lost is among the very few extremely valued comrades. I know him from his childhood. I am acquainted as well as associated with the course of his development as a revolutionary. The way petals blossom one after one from a bud, Comrade Ratan was developing in the same manner. His leaders, compatriots and comrades must be acquainted with some of his exemplary qualities. I have never heard that right from his early teens, he had ever refused any work Party had assigned to him by raising questions about any difficulty or inability. Whatever responsibility was given to him, he not just accepted but accepted with a smile. This he maintained till he breathed his last.

I would draw your attention to another quality of his. His mind was totally open to the leadership. He had nothing exclusively personal—not that he shared something with the leadership but held back certain other things. He was above all this. He was extremely truthful and plain-speaking. If he had committed any mistake, no matter whether we were aware of it or not, he himself informed us of the same and sought guidance as to how he could prevent any repetition of any of such mistakes. In one word, he was grossly engaged in the struggle for applying the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh in every walk of life. At least I have not seen any gap or compromise on his part in this regard. Many of our leaders and workers have the habit of taking personal impression or reading. But if he had thought anything about anybody, he used to come to the leadership to ascertain if his understanding was correct or not. He was completely free from taking personal reading or drawing personal impression. He always struggled to follow the teachings of Comrade

Shibdas Ghosh in every sphere of life. I have meticulously watched all his qualities with a great expectation. I have never heard him complaining against any comrade for any personal reason. He had come to the leadership with criticism, but that was for having correct understanding and seeking advice about what he should do. Party had given him more and more responsibility. After Comrade Protiva Mukherjee, he was in charge of Birbhum district. Thereafter, he was assigned responsibility of Bankura district as well. We have to sometimes change and redistribute the responsibilities of looking after the districts. Sometimes, comrades are withdrawn from the responsibilities of a district and given other responsibility. I have noticed that some comrades have happily accepted the new responsibilities while some others could not. Those who could not, no doubt have obeyed Party decision. But they could not accept the decision happily either because of such



**SUC(C) General Secretary Comrade Provash Ghosh paying floral tribute to departed Comrade Ratan Mukherjee in Kolkata on 1 August**

attachment to the district he was secretary of or asked to look after, or because of his own contemplations about that district. It could also be on account of a subtle tendency to exercise authority. But Comrade Ratan had accepted such decisions with ease and happiness. I have noticed that. It is our responsibility to see how the comrades are tackling such things. We try our best to see that to the extent possible. We also notice how the comrades accept such change of responsibilities with a view to helping them. I have never seen Comrade Ratan saying that he would better work under this leader and would not be comfortable in working under another leader. He had the mentality to work under even a comrade junior to him. This is a rare quality. Of late, he was working very hard, virtually round the clock, to discharge two very important responsibilities.

Wherever Comrade Ratan went, to whichever district, he could become intimate with the Party workers there. These days, I find a trend with some state or district leaders: they hold meetings with the members of lower Party bodies or they place their views in a general body meeting and

**Comrade Ratan Mukherjee, Member, West Bengal State Secretariat, passed away on 31 July following a sudden massive cerebral attack. Giving due respect to his revolutionary life struggle, the Central Committee of our Party, in its meeting on 18 August in Kolkata decided to confer Staff Membership on him posthumously.**

then come back. But Comrade Ratan did not do that. He always tried to get close with the comrades of even the lowest levels. This was his quality. He used to put up with the comrades, tried to know their mind. Towards the end of his days, he was looking after Murshidabad district. Comrades of that district will bear it out how more than once he moved around that huge district even upto the village level. Comrades of that district must have felt it from the core of their heart: what an impression he had left there in them. In the last Lok Sabha election he was in charge of Gosaba in South 24 Parganas. Later he was given the charge of five assembly constituencies and then additionally of the Mograhat assembly area of that district. He toiled day and night to perform his duties. Even on the day he died, he was getting ready for going to Mograhat after taking his lunch. Suddenly death took him over. Whatever he did he used to do it with pleasure. Many comrades certainly do enough work; but there are often mark of likes and dislikes, hesitation and qualms writ large on their faces. With Comrade Ratan there was no inkling of these things. Rather always his work bore mark of

creativity. I never found any trace of ego or pride in him. I must submit it unhesitatingly that never did I find him saying “I have done this, I have done that, comrades are talking so high about me.” He was closely in touch with me. Comrade Ratan used to look after Birbhum district; later Comrade Madan Ghatak became the district secretary. One day I told him jokingly: Madan is doing better than you. Instantaneously he replied: You yourself have taught us that if juniors work in a better way than their seniors, the seniors should take it happily. All the while he was smiling, as he said this. He had a profound cult of ideology. He studied minutely. Whenever he felt some doubt or had some question, he came down to us, tried to get it cleared. If necessary, he was ready to go up to the highest leadership. It was he, who once raised the question: Comrade Shibdas Ghosh is the concrete expression of our collective leadership. Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, the next General Secretary succeeds him. Can we not call him then the next concrete expression of collective leadership? He submitted this question to the Central Committee. If he had any question

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## Comrade Provash Ghosh on Comrade Ratan Mukherjee

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on any leader's views or if he had found some mistakes or lapses in any leader, he used to come down to us. But when he spoke of those, he placed it with due respect to the leader concerned. Be it a leader of the former Central Committee or the present Polit Bureau, if there was any question about anyone of them, Comrade Ratan did not hesitate to place it before appropriate authority. In his younger days, he was rather meek. He got over it strikingly after a discussion with me; those who have seen him in later years must have found him vocal.

I would add another point here. On any lapse or mistake at his end, I did not have to point it out twice. A single pointer was enough. And whatever he had done or was going to do or would be doing, he checked it from us if he was right or what else should he have done. This is a trait absent in many leaders of the recent time. They work with an average intelligence and reading. Neither do they exchange among themselves, nor come to higher leadership. How will they develop, if there is no contradiction of thinking between them and the higher leadership? Comrade Ratan did not have to be reminded of this. In case he could not come, he would make necessary reports over phone. He used to submit: this was the issue, such was my point, and now I am thinking this way. Is it all right? He drove his point in this manner. His was an all-embracing comprehensive struggle, what could be called a struggle for all-out development. His style of talking was rather rough. Some comrades misunderstood it. But that was just his way of talking. Even that he could overcome to a considerable extent. Once he asked me: What do you think; do I still bear that way of talking? On the other hand, on ideological issues also, he

maintained serious and in-depth cult. On organizational affairs too he was showing more and more efficiency. Undeniably he held a very high standard of culture; in what we designate as the struggle for identifying with the Party without having anything personal. In that struggle he was advancing fast.

I shall now narrate another incident – a rare one. Comrade Ratan was married to Comrade Ira who came from an ordinary family. First, they developed a relationship and then got married. They lived in the Suri Party centre. You are aware that our centres are not all alike. Outwardly, it might appear that in a Party centre life is very beautiful, with no paleness or problem. This is not exactly so. There occurs conflicts and contradictions amongst the comrades; standards of all comrades, their manners and behaviours are not the same also. In such an ambience, we are engaged in the struggle to advance with the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. His wife came from normal family life. She came to stay in the centre with a great expectation and dream; party centre was an ideal place to her. After they began to live there, she was immensely shocked. She herself committed some mistakes too owing to inexperience. Those who criticized her also committed some excess. Sometimes, there were some injustices also with her. She was hurt. Ira came to me complaining 'everything occurred in front of Ratanda but Ratanda did not say anything, kept mum.' I understood what she was trying to convey. I told Ratan that she was accusing him of inaction. He said, 'What should I do? Those who are criticizing are all my seniors. Besides, can I say anything in regard to my wife?' After a few days, he himself decided to take his wife out of centre. Without

even asking us, he shifted her from the centre. His wife went to her parents with their daughter. She fended for herself on tuition, and got her daughter educated too in school. His wife also was a good element. In such cases, generally there are accusations against the spouse. But wife never came to Party with any allegation. She is doing the Party work regularly. Her daughter too is a Party worker. Can all this be forgotten? It did not happen at our instruction. Comrade Ratan carried out this struggle for attaining the quality of an able student of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh.

Of late, he sought an appointment with me. Only a few days before his demise, he met me. He confessed to have committed an offence. I asked him what his offence was. He said that he fulfilled all of the ten points barring one of the activities the Party wanted. 'I have not yet started writing', he said. He promised to begin that after the Panchayat elections. He said that as he felt it necessary to confess to me, so he did. I granted this and asked him to write not only in Bengali but in English as well. Next, having heard over telephone that I was running temperature, he wanted to visit me. I assured him that it was a minor indisposition, so he needed not visit me immediately. As soon as I come round, the meeting would take place. He said that he felt refreshed by talking to us. And that meeting of mine with him did take place while I placed floral wreaths on his mortal remains. Whereas he was to have garlanded my dead body, it was me who was garlanding his body (*sobbing choked the voice*). I place these words before you. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh is our teacher, and we all are his students. It is to be learnt how his students at different levels are struggling. This has prompted me to say these words before you.

## Comrade Ranjit Dhar's speech

*Contd. from page 10*

own words, "when we started building up the Party — there were very few people to support us; we could not even arrange a room as shelter and, day after day, in our fierce battle to build up a new party in the midst of severe obstacles and a completely adverse situation, we had to strive hard even without food, but we had no grievance for all this. For years together we shared a grass-mat only, and so many winters we passed like that." But, gradually people understood him, his revolutionary mission of life and extended all possible help and assistance to enable him to steadfastly pursue his mission. So, if you think of others, others will think of you. We carry these teachings at the innermost recess of our heart.

The third area that needs our attention is that we must take individual initiative alongside raising level of our political consciousness. We must not forget that we are revolutionary workers. We cannot just remain confined to routine activities, wait for instructions or be tutored for every act. We must use our brain, use our prudence to creatively discharge our responsibility with a view to deriving maximum ideological, political and organizational

benefits. But releasing individual initiatives does not mean doing anything in any manner as per one's exclusive likes and dislikes without keeping appropriate Party leadership informed. Such initiatives ought to be in keeping with the principle of democratic centralism operative within the Party and from the purpose of strengthening collective and body functioning.

So, give up self-centric thoughts. Shun individualistic thinking. Dedicate yourselves to uphold the cause of the masses, the cause of revolution, the cause of freeing the society from all exploitation, oppression and repression. Release an all-out struggle to acquire higher proletarian culture, ethics and morality. If we can conduct ourselves in the aforesaid manner, continuously elevate our standard, build up Party organization, spread the thoughts of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh to each and every household of the country, Indian Revolution will not be a far cry. This is what Comrade Shibdas Ghosh wanted all of us to do to be worthy of calling ourselves MAN. And this is the only way to pay our heart-felt respect to this great revolutionary leader of world communist movement on his Memorial Day.

## National Convention of TUs congratulates workers for February strike and calls for further movement

By unanimously adopting a Declaration from a National Convention held on 6 August, 2013 at Mavankar Hall, New Delhi, the united platform of 11 Central Trade Union Organizations namely AIUTUC, BMS, INTUC, AITUC, HMS, CITU, TUCC, SEWA, AICCTU, UTUC, LPF and Independent Federations congratulated the workers for historic success of the two-day strike of 20-21 February 2013. The Declaration made it clear that the strikes and struggles during the last three years strengthened and widened the unity of the Indian working class. The Convention also conveyed its anger and anxiety at the utter disdain towards settling the Ten-Point Charter of Demands (CoD) which contains, *inter alia*, (1) Minimum Wage not less than of Rs10,000, (2) Universal Social Security Cover for all workers, (3) Assured Pension for the entire working population, (4) same wage and benefits for contract workers as regular workers for same and similar work etc., jointly formulated by the Central Trade Unions, despite categorical assurance. Hence, the Convention called upon the working people of the country for executing the next phase of movement.

Comrade R.K. Sharma, Secretariat Member, AIUTUC was in the Presidium of the Convention and Comrade Satyawan, Secretariat Member, AIUTUC addressed the Convention supporting the Declaration and stressing on need for prolonged and protracted movement including continuous strike.

## IACC denounces the war threat against Syria

*Comrade Manik Mukherjee, General Secretary, International Anti-Imperialist Coordinating Committee (IACC), expressing deep concern over the US plan to attack Syria and ignite war has issued the following statement on 29 August 2013*

No word is strong enough to denounce the sinister move of the US imperialist to attack Syria in order to topple President Assad government and to bring stooges of imperialists in power.

It is now well known that there is no evidence that the Assad government carried out the chemical attack as alleged by the imperialist powers. Syrian government itself requested United Nations to send inspection team to prove that Syrian Government did not use any chemical gas. And now the UN inspectors are in Syria and the chemical gas was used at a place ten miles away from the inspection team on the very day they arrived in Syria.

One of the investigators Carle Del Ponte has stated that the Syrian government has not used the chemical gas, the rebels have used.

We cannot forget that USA's unprovoked attack and invasion on many countries were completely on false pretexts which were later proved as blatant lies and manufactured propaganda. Two

most recent examples are Iraq and Libya.

The US invasion on Iraq in 2003 was based on "reports of weapons of mass destruction" and "chemical and biological weapons". After the invasion and killing of hundreds of thousands of Iraqi people and destruction of the country it has been proved that the so-called reports were absolutely false and Iraq never had such weapons.

The US intervention on Libya was justified on the claims of mass killings, rape, mayhem etc. Now after Gaddafi was overthrown, none of the claims proved correct, rather all are discredited.

Now the target is Syria. The motive is clear. Actually US and its allies want to establish control over the Middle East and to arrange profits for the war merchants of their countries. Imperialism cannot survive without war and invasion.

IACC calls upon the anti-war peace-loving people of the world to raise their voice against imperialist war mongers.

## AIMSS, Keonjhar demands immediate arrest of culprits of Paganparamita's murder

AIMSS, Keonjhar Unit, Odisha, staged a Women's demonstration before Turumunga Police station on 16th August 2013 demanding immediate arrest of culprits of Paganparamita's murder. The main

by her husband, mother-in-law, father-in-law and brother-in-law. Her husband and mother-in-law were arrested but still now police has not arrested the other two accused. So AIMSS demanded



culprits both father-in-law and brother-in-law (younger brother of Prgyan's husband) have not been arrested still now. It is noted that Prgyan was continuously tortured for more dowry and being murdered

immediate arrest of other two accused and also raised voice against growing atrocities on women. The Demonstration was laid by Comrade Binapani Das, President AIMSS Odisha state committee.

## SUCI (C) strongly protests Congress-led UPA government's audacity to state that Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh was no martyr

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), issued the following statement on 17 August, 2013:

While the whole country right from the days our country was in ferment of independence movement as well as the freedom-loving people of the whole world bow their heads in heart-felt respect before Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh who shook the entire fabric of the nation with valour, earnest and fervent patriotism, whose smiling embrace of epoch-making martyrdom resurged the struggle to free the motherland from foreign imperialist rule to a new height and continues to inspire people in conducting their just struggle against all kinds of oppression and injustice, it is not only highly audacious but unpardonable an act on the part of the Congress-led government to state that Bhagat Singh was not a martyr. To the millions of countrymen, this atrocious statement has no meaning and significance at all and hence it deserves to be thrown in the waste paper basket as a trash.

It reveals once more beyond doubt how much the ruling Indian national bourgeoisie representing the compromising trend of Indian national independence movement is afraid of and disdainful towards the valiant fighters of the uncompromising trend of Indian freedom struggle, bent upon to obfuscate the glorious legacy of the glowing uncompromising fighting characters of rare mettle like Bhagat Singh and also surreptitiously portraying a distorted picture of our historic freedom movement so that people of the country particularly youth of today remain unacquainted with the tremendous impact, the legends of the blazing age like Shaheed-e-Azam and others had on the patriotic people of the land.

The grateful countrymen strongly condemn this most reprehensible and utterly filthy statement of the bourgeois rulers who could dare to betray such a disparaging attitude to those great national heroes standing immortal as the epitome of youthful vigour, indomitable spirit and undying patriotism.

We, therefore, call upon the people of the country to rise in revolt against such impudence of the Congress and all other bourgeois parties possessing similar audacious attitude and outlook to denigrate the great national heroes so brazenly.

## SUCI (C) condemns massacre of people by pro-US Egyptian Army and calls upon Egyptian people to thwart comeback of both Muslim Brotherhood and Army and facilitate restoration of democracy

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), issued the following statement on 19 August, 2013: —

We strongly condemn the massacre of hundreds of Egyptian people and inflicting of grievous injury on many more thousands by the US-backed Egyptian Army since 14th August, 2013. It may be recalled that the 41-year long tyrannical and dictatorial rule of Egyptian Army came to an end just a year back when autocratic Hosni Mubarak was forced to relinquish power under pressure of the countrywide spontaneous militant mass uprising greeted throughout the world as "Arab spring". But now, taking full advantage of the absence of a firm and powerful secular democratic leadership over the ongoing people's powerful movement against the oppressive fundamentalist regime of the Muslim Brotherhood under Mohamed Morsi, which has almost assumed the character of a spontaneous people's uprising, the Egyptian Army is once again making frantic efforts to stage a comeback. While this is clearly intended to halt the onward march of the people's upsurge against reactionary fundamentalist Morsi government and in demand for restoration of democracy, this latest brutal crackdown on the agitating masses is sure to help the fundamentalist Muslim Brotherhood to bounce back and once again try to grab power which will be inimical to the interest and democratic aspiration of the fighting common people there.

We, therefore, call upon the progressive democratic minded people of Egypt to close their rank and do everything possible to thwart the sinister attempt of the authoritarian fascist pro-US imperialism Muslim Brotherhood to regain power, seal all the paths of its growth and consolidation and at the same time compel the Army to immediately stop this killing spree, restore democracy and hand over power to the people forthwith.

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