

# Proletarian Era

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## LATEST UPRISING IN NEPAL

### Lessons left for fighting people of soil and the world

For 19 days since April 6 last, the Himalayan country of Nepal witnessed surges of events that shook it wildly. It all started with the countrywide four-day strike from the sixth itself, called by an alliance of seven political parties, to protest against the tyrannical rule of King Gyanendra and demanding restoration of democracy. The Seven Party Alliance, the SPA, included Nepali Congress, Nepali Congress (Democratic), Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist) or CPN(UML), Jan Morcha Nepal(JM-N), United Left Front (ULF), Nepal Mazdoor Kisan Party (NMKP) and Nepal Sadbhavana Party-Anandi Devi (NSP-A), representing different classes and sections of the Nepalese society, viz., the aspirant bourgeoisie, the petty bourgeoisie, the workers, the peasants or the forces going by the Marxist-Leninist banner but appearing nothing more than social democrats by their deeds.

Right from the start of this movement, there was also the party, CPN-Maoists (hitherto referred as CPN-M), actively participating in it, though not from within the alliance. In fact, whatever we could gather about them, after emerging in 1996, the CPN-M has carried on continuous struggle, often and in the main an armed struggle, with the long term objective of people's democratic revolution and as the immediate short-term goal with demands, among others, of total abolition of the monarchy and establishment of full democracy with republican constitution to be framed by a new Constituent Assembly. By virtue of that it has already established its control and influence over a large part of the country's rural hinterland. On a few earlier occasions they even foiled

the King's attempt to hold semblance of parliamentary election to obtain a stamp of democracy on his autocratic rule and get forces of his choice into power. On the present occasion too, the CPN-M waged intensive struggle over the country, in course of the movement forged unity with the SPA on the basis of a 12 point agreement and remained all through in it as one of the major forces to play a decisive role.

In Nepal, there are quite a few forces going by the name of Communist Party of Nepal. The CPN-M is one of them which holds a major organizational strength and influence over people. We are not in a position to judge the respective precise ideological stands of these

different forces; there may be revisionist-reformist social democrats among them as also the real revolutionary force. Obviously, only the people of Nepal can be the best judge and have the ultimate say. However, recognizing and hailing the importance and decisive role of the CPN-M in the present movement of Nepal, we must also say, as we have on earlier occasions, that their use of the terms 'Maoists' and 'Maoism' is not correct. Genuine Marxists-Leninists will all agree that Leninism is "the Marxism of the era of imperialism and proletarian revolution" as Stalin put it. Even during Comrade Mao's lifetime, the Chinese Communist Party (CPC) in their report to the

Tenth Congress, reiterated that it was the era of imperialism and proletarian revolution and thus Marxism-Leninism was still the guiding philosophy. Also, while recognizing their Chairman Mao's great contribution to the Chinese revolution by way of concretization of Marxist-Leninist theories and understanding, they described it as Mao Zedong's thoughts. Obviously it does not mean giving birth to anything like Maoism.

#### **With repression mounting, people stepped up their resistance**

To comprehend the character and importance of the present

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### Why public opinion could not get reflected in the election results?

#### **Observance of the West Bengal State Committee of SUCI**

Dear Friends,

The CPI(M) has been reinstated in power in West Bengal for the seventh consecutive term after having won three-fourths of the seats in the fourteenth assembly election. Whatever may be the extent of elation of the CPI(M) leaders, receiving ovation and eclat from the native and foreign monopolists for this landslide victory and however over-jubilant might be the CPI(M) cadres, the people are dumbstruck, flabbergasted. Poll outcome has been totally incompatible with their expectations. Driven to the tethers under the prolonged misrule of the CPI(M), the people had been longing for a change of the government. How could the verdict be otherwise?

The reasons are manifold. First of all, the monopoly-controlled media and the leaders of the parties of the establishment might work overtime to create delusions about parliamentary democracy. But the fact is that "government by the people, for the people, of the people" is only in the pages of the book. In reality, it is "government by, for and of the bourgeois class." The bourgeoisie, by virtue of its control over economy, also exercises control over the state, the government, the spheres of politics, culture, education everything. The way the capitalist class appoints industrial managers on merit, similarly it engages its political managers by selecting appropriate political parties and getting them through in the hustings. And it is

the ruling capitalist class which also decides who should don the colour of opposition. After necessary appraisal of the quality of service rendered to it, the ruling class makes up its mind as to what should be the tenure of a particular party or combination in the government. As per its class-need, it alternates the seats of power and opposition between the parties or alliances of its choice — shifting the one in the opposition today to the chair of power tomorrow and vice versa. But the bourgeoisie does not pull the strings openly. The likely choice of the bourgeoisie is to be gauged from several factors — the extent of backing a party or alliance receives in terms of money-power, active support of the police-bureaucracy

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## Dauntless people of Nepal overrode brute King and his army

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movement of Nepal, we may recall a brief outline of the political scene of the country for the last decade or so. In 1990, the country was swept by another massive movement for abolition of the monarchy and establishment of full democracy. On that occasion too, the King could not contain the movement, even by resorting to all sorts of repressive measures. Coming down to negotiation, he was, however, successful in retaining the control of the Army, amounting to control over the state, under the cover of 'constitutional monarchy', parallel to the 'multi-party democracy'. As in the present case, that time too, the same parties like the Nepali Congress or the CPN (UML) sat on the other side of the table to share the booty of power and pelf. With them in the lead, the movement which could have attained the cherished goal of total abolition of the monarchy and establishment of full democracy right then and there, and the Nepalese people would have been freed of at least the chains of the monarchy, ended in the leaders' backstabbing people's aspiration and dream. The dual rule of the 'constitutional monarchy' and 'multi-party democracy', the 'twin pillars of stability and peace' as dished out by the ruling class of Nepal, as also the Indian capitalists, carried on the rule of exploitation and oppression in Nepal, with people's aspiration for real democracy vanishing into thin air. Resentment among the poor, illiterate masses stricken by acute unemployment, lack of industry and all such evils of the dual rule of the feudal monarch and the aspirant bourgeoisie, went on mounting; it only received brute suppression of democratic movements added by infamous cruelty of the Royal Nepal Army. The more there were oppression and suffering, the stronger became people's urge for democracy and abolition of the monarchy. CPN-M emerged in this ambience in 1996.

In any case, the recent movement of Nepal, much more strikingly than any movement of the past and right from its start, beamed with militancy and determination and divided the country sharply into two camps: the overwhelming majority of common people, including professionals, educationists and students on one side, and the King and the army

under his control, along with a handful of his henchmen and a section of the administration on the other. In fact, it was a movement that once again proved, and this time more convincingly, the courage and fighting zeal of the toiling people of Nepal. It was not just they joined the movements in thousands, they proved at one and all stages of the movement the main driving force battling with strong determination and ebullient aspiration.

King Gyanendra responded with his usual highhandedness with which he had been ruling since he had usurped the monarchical power in 2001 following the in-house conspiracy and killing spree among the members of the Palace, dissolved the parliament in 2002, dismissed in early 2005 the government of his own choice to take full control of the affairs. In a massive crackdown on the capital and on districts, the King arrested hundreds of opposition leaders, professionals, students and common innocent people. He imposed curfew for days in and out, banned mass meetings, shut off mobile services with a view to muzzling the voice of protest that rose with every day. The King, enraged and unnerved, violated each and every democratic norm denying struggling people the minimum basic civil and democratic rights. Even in an unprecedented violation of the Vienna Convention, his government refused to issue curfew passes to the diplomat community and the UN human rights officials.

The police and particularly the infamous Royal Nepal Army, notorious for its cruelty and arrogance, perpetrated unthinkable atrocities. They baton-charged and kicked unarmed protesters, tear-gassed demonstrations, opened fire to kill, shooting at head. At the same time, the trigger-happy forces inflicted bullet injuries on hundreds, including women and children bystanders (on a single day in one event they injured at least fifty with bullet injuries on April, 11). They raided medical students' hostels at the Teaching Hospital in Kathmandu, the capital itself, assaulting students in protest of which doctors had to close outpatient department.

Notwithstanding the highhandedness of the King and brutal oppression unleashed by his army, police and such other security

forces, the movement did not wane. On the contrary, it rose step by step, day by day, albeit fast and firm. Starting from demands of restoring multi-party democracy with constitutional monarchy still in its place, demands for total abolition of monarchy and establishment of a republican constitution gained ground within the short span of virtually a fortnight. All over the country, from the remote districts to the capital, people in thousands defied ban. They marched out on to the streets, greeted and encouraged the demonstrators from the roadside. Students clashed with the police, attacked government vehicles, even the security vehicles of the US embassy, which latter was standing out all through as the ardent well wisher of the monarch, not to speak of the liberal and incessant military and financial aids the US imperialists had provided the royal government with for decades. People stormed the headquarters and other government buildings in districts; they drove out police personnel from there, set fire to government offices, destroyed statue of Prithvi Narayan Singh, the founder of the present dynasty, in the Tribhuvan University campus and elsewhere, attacked offices of the royalist parties, took control of highways, made road blockades with burning tyres, rocks and logs. As the movement gained momentum and was extended indefinitely, the leaders issued calls to stop payment of taxes and other government dues, electricity, water, and telephone bills, to boycott all products and services of the businesses and industries belonging to the royal family and its relatives and urged Nepalese working abroad not to send remittances during the protest period. Strikes called by the seven party alliance paralyzed the capital and other cities completely; transports were entirely dislocated; educational institutions, offices and markets were closed; yet people accepted the hazards ungrudgingly. Rather the masses were emboldened; they gathered more and more strength in number, spread and determination. Thus the movement tended to develop into a mass uprising in demand of total abolition of monarchy and establishment of real democracy and a republic for people.

Unable to suppress the movement, the King tried tricks. On the eve of the Nepal's new year on

April 14, he lifted curfew and did not reclaim emergency. The King insisted on withdrawing the movement promising to hold election by April 2007. Both the seven party opposition and the CPN-M rejected the King's offer as moves to legitimize his coup using election as a ploy. Invigorated, the movement continued further.

### Monarchy found friends in hated US imperialism and Indian expansionism

The hated enemy of the people of Nepal, the monarchy, did earn supports and lifelines. And it was from none other than the dreaded enemy of mankind today, the war-monger US imperialism and its present ally in South Asia, the Indian capitalist rulers with imperialist aspirations and expansionist attitude for which it is apprehended by their neighbours around. Other imperialists of Europe and elsewhere and the reactionary Chinese capitalist rulers masquerading as communists, also did not fall back. Both the US Imperialism and the Indian rulers, since long, have nakedly interfered into Nepal politics. While it was the matter of the Nepalese people to decide about their monarchy or what system they would have instead, the Indian government, behind the rhetoric of 'the twin pillars of stability and peace for the country', viz., 'the constitutional monarchy' and 'multiparty democracy', made clear its inclination towards retaining the monarchy. Both the US and the Indian rulers have branded the CPN-M as 'terrorists' and have liberally provided arms and ammunitions to the Royal Nepal Army and training to their personnel, both on the plea of combating 'terrorism'. India announced a ban against CPN-M in July 2001, two months before even the monarchical Nepal outlawed them. This time too, when the entire country was condemning the monarchy and fighting against it, the Indian rulers paid a lip-service to democracy and peace, sitting tight-lipped at the atrocious oppression of the King and the Army meted out to the peaceful demonstrators. Both the US and the Indian rulers waited in the lurch, rather accusing the King for not being able to handle the situation effectively and tackle the 'terrorists' successfully. When the fate of the

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# People of Nepal fight tooth and nail against leaders' compromise with monarchy

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King was writ large, the Indian rulers, abetted and instigated by the US imperialists, hurriedly sent an envoy, Karan Singh, to persuade the King to make a compromise with the parliamentary politicians, so that the movement does not go out of the hands of the bourgeois or petty bourgeois parties of the SPA and the monarchy be saved. Even amidst countrywide hatred against the king, Karan Singh took pains to meet Rastriya Prajatantra Party (RPP) and Rastriya Janasakti Party (RJP), both supporters of the monarchy and cast-offs by the people. The royalist government greeted Karan Singh with a curfew clamped on Kathmandu to thwart an opposition rally. The opposition called strike, any way, that made the capital stand still.

Even then, immediately after Karan Singh's visit, India jumped gleefully upon the King's pronouncement of his 'intention' to transfer executive powers to the 7-party alliance, meaning a ministry under the King himself. But the mood of the people was otherwise; they were firm in their goal of total abolition of the monarchy and the moment of full take over appeared to have drawn by. The SPA leaders did not dare accept the King's offer, apprehensive, it may cost them control over the movement.

When people's wrath went stronger, the King came down further for a compromise. Minutes before midnight on April 24, the King announced his decision to restore the parliament, that he had dissolved in May 2002. The Indian government, too, sensing the popular mood, made a U-turn forthright. The seven-party alliance accepted the King's offer lest the movement goes out of their hands and came out to form the ministry with GP Koirala, the octogenarian veteran as the Prime Minister assuming the chair for the fourth time in his life. Even the CPN-M which was critical of the move at the outset, ultimately called truce had a peace talk with the government and has come to terms with the latter on maintaining and stopping armed struggle on the basis of a mutually agreed 25-point code of conduct.

In the whole drama, the Congress-led UPA government of India and the Indian capitalists had much more to play-act, given

license from the US imperialists behind the curtain. They went on with the same age-old tactics of parliamentary politics. This time they picked up the CPI(M), an ally of the Indian government in the domestic scene and a political force going by the Marxist signboard, yet serving the capitalists- monopolists of the country and abroad unhesitatingly to earn unstinted certificates from them from within the country as also from all over the world, from Indonesia to even the US imperialists. At the instance of the Indian Union government as also the compromising bourgeois-petty bourgeois-social democratic forces of the SPA of Nepal, a CPI(M) leader was called upon for brokering for peace among the different sections, particularly the SPA and the CPN-M to ensure and preserve the interests of the emerging capitalist class of that country and the imperialists, in general and the US imperialism and the Indian expansionism in particular, as well. Eventually CPI(M) and its leader were was found to be playing a key role in hastening up this treacherous deal for the Nepalese people to retain the monarchy, in the same way as the Indian government itself did play.

These events from within the country and without, led to the SPA assume the governmental power. The real character of these parties of the alliance, particularly the major ones, was soon exposed, when they fumbled with the question of total abolition of monarchy. However, people instead of complying with the SPA's compromising attitude towards the monarchy, made it clear that after all their determined struggle for over several weeks, they were not going to accept their leaders betraying them. In face of tremendous pressure, the SPA government was compelled to take certain steps against the monarchy. Thus the King's constitutional control over the 90000 strong RNA and 4000 strong royal guard was taken away and was handed over to the parliament. Army deployment and recruitment were entrusted with the parliament. In addition, the King's right to make final decisions on major issues was also nullified; the Raj Parishad, the King's advisory council with more than 100 of his supporters was scrapped; the National Security Council

regulating the security forces was dismantled, a new body was formed with the Prime Minister in the chair; the tradition of senior officials like the Chief Justice and Prime Minister being sworn in by the King was scrapped, with the charge passed over to the House. Nepal was declared a secular state instead of a Hindu kingdom with the King dethroned from his status of the "Vishnu Avatar" or incarnation of the Hindu god Vishnu. Instead, the King was declared amenable to pay taxes; his immunity from prosecution was removed; the National anthem extolling the King was decided to be replaced and the parliament was empowered to decide the royal family's allowances and privileges.

All said and done, in spite of these vital steps against the monarchical system and power, the monarchy was left to exist, though as a titular head, much of the type persisting in the United Kingdom or the Japan, two prominent powers of the world imperialist-capitalist system among others. Visibly, it was a compromise with the monarchy and a betrayal to people's aspiration for total abolition of monarchy and establishment of a people's republic. It was a compromise in which the power of the monarchy and feudalism is curbed, yet the monarchy is left to survive as an institution. In lieu of that, in the name of multi-party democracy the emerging capitalist class is installed with full power. Thus, it was a compromise in which with the SPA consisting largely of the parties of aspirant bourgeoisie reined in front, the capitalists gain power, a bourgeois democracy of the capitalists is consolidated, obviously at the cost of people's bloodshed and sufferings, at the cost of people's aspiration for a real people's democracy. So not only the monarchy is not yet abolished in Nepal; rather the dictatorship of the capitalist class is being consolidated behind the smokescreen of multi-party parliamentary democracy. US imperialism, Indian expansionism and its designful Union government, the revisionist CPI(M) and aspirant Nepalese bourgeoisie and their servitors all have worked in tandem to strike this shameful deal with the monarchy. Even the CPN-M is now looking ahead for the election of the new Constituent

Assembly, without raising their demand for total abolition of the monarchy any further.

In any case, after successfully carrying through this deal, the SPA government, in their bid to curtail the power of the monarchy has brought the charge of the Royal Nepal Army under the parliament. But they have not disbanded the army, whose loyalty to the monarchy persists. In this situation, there is a question floating in the air, inviting discussions and comments in this or that circle. What will be the consequences, if this army plays a different tune in future and come into confrontation with the parliament at the instruction or instigation of the king, who remains dormant as a persisting institution? Presently, people are in fighting vigilant mood. If, and when, this mood dies down, cannot the army react otherwise and revolt to nullify the steps taken by the government?

## Immensely potential uprising of the Nepalese people ended in tragic compromise

The fact that stands out after all these stormy days is that had there been a real revolutionary leadership to lead it, this historic movement in Nepal, so massive an uprising bore all the potentialities of not only abolishing the monarchy and setting up a people's republic, but even of heading towards struggles to end completely with all sorts of exploitation, including the capitalist exploitation. Instead, the exploitative system continues to prevail just as before, making it sure that people can expect no relief from it; rather they may have to face more ruthless exploitation of their capitalism, intimately linked with the utterly moribund world capitalism-imperialism. We are not aware if there is any real revolutionary leadership in that soil. Even if it were there, it has been proved by now that they did not have the sufficient organizational hold over all sections of exploited masses to lead the movement to its desired goal. Rather the political situation in Nepal has revealed that not only the pro-monarchy, pro-feudal forces, even the pro-capitalist forces of the aspirant bourgeoisie of the country, such as the Nepali Congress or the Nepali Congress (Democratic) or the social

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## Instance of fighting people of Nepal enthuse toiling masses of the world

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democratic parties like CPN (UML) exist with considerable hold over the masses.

Now, under such circumstances, with the struggle of the Nepalese people having been betrayed by the bourgeois-petty bourgeois- social democratic leadership and thus reaching a new phase, once more the situation has brought to the fore the brilliant analysis and invaluable teachings of Comrade Lenin, the great proletarian leader, on questions like overthrow of monarchy and establishment of democracy as also overthrow of feudalism and colonialism. They are so very fundamental that people of each and every country will have to realize their its significance.

Succinctly summarizing Lenin's teachings, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh made the following observations :

"Lenin showed ... in the present era of moribund capitalism, when world capitalism has entered the stage of imperialism and turned out and out reactionary, .... the bourgeoisie ceased to have a revolutionary character which they had as a class during the eighteenth or nineteenth centuries.

So, although the national bourgeoisie will participate in many cases in the anti-imperialist liberation movements, they will make compromises with imperialism-feudalism at the same time out of fear complex of revolution.

... in order to lead these bourgeois democratic revolutions to their logical culmination in the present era, what is essential is that they must be conducted under the leadership of the working class." (November Day Speech, 1974, Published in SW, vol-3)

It was for this reason that Lenin categorically concluded that the movement for democracy overthrowing monarchy and feudalism, or the national liberation struggle from the clutches of imperialism, none of these can reach their goal today under the bourgeois leadership. These can only be attained by the real revolutionary leadership of these days, the Marxist-Leninist leadership. It is under that leadership that the tasks of bourgeois democratic reforms are to be incorporated as the first steps of socialist reconstruction.

The events of Nepal attests to

this truth. The massive uprising of people that could have tended towards the fight to end with all exploitation, has ended with the rule of capitalism consolidating itself under the aegis of the combination of bourgeois- petty bourgeois-social democratic parties of different names and banners. With this the struggling people of Nepal enter into the new phase with their task set at overthrowing of capitalism. And confronting this task they must carefully delineate and realize their responsibilities in this changed context.

Events of Nepal have, however, attested to how incisive and decisive can people's power be, even in the question of overthrowing powerful state machinery and reactionary regimes. In the not-very distant past, people of the Phillippines, Indonesia or Bangladesh could also overthrow their respective tyrants from power through their militant struggles culminating in mass upheavals. Thus in the Philippines, the tyrannical dictator Marcos and a successor of him were ousted from power through popular mass uprising; Suharto, the dictator, was overthrown in Indonesia; Ershad, the military dictator had to bow down to people in Bangladesh. There may be more cases; but what is notable is that in all the cases the reactionary regimes crumbled down like pack of cards in face of invincible power of fighting people. But again, in all these cases, since the leadership was not in the hands of any real revolutionary party and since the social democratic or other bourgeois-petty bourgeois forces had taken control of the movements, the oppressed struggling people of those countries simply witnessed installation of one oppressive regime in spite of removal of another, belying all their expectations and dreams and vindicating the invaluable teachings of Comrade Lenin, the great proletarian leader.

All these cases, including that of Nepal, thus prove how irrefutably important the question of the leadership of real revolutionary party is, of what paramount importance is the task of its building up uncontested organizational strength over the toiling masses on the basis of correct revolutionary theory and

lofty revolutionary culture and ethics.

As Lenin taught, there can be no revolution without a revolutionary party and there can be no revolutionary party without a revolutionary theory. Now a revolutionary party of the working class, cannot be formed merely by intention or by adopting any and every means. It must be realized in exaction and concretized correctly in scientific ways. The revolutionary party of the working class, that is, the genuine communist party can only be formed following the Leninist method which is also the scientific method for the purpose. We must add here that Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, one of the eminent Marxist thinkers of the present days, have further enriched and elaborated this concept through his unique contributions. Thus, it must now be understood that the communist party develops on the foundation of an ideological centralism, attained through continuous ideological struggle covering all aspects of life, and characterized by one process of thinking, uniformity of thinking, oneness in approach and singleness of purpose. This ideological centralism lies at the root of the democratic centralism, that serves as the foundation of the collective leadership and gives rise to the concrete conception and personified expression of it through the emergence of the leader of leaders of revolution. These, in reality, distinguish a proletarian revolutionary party from the individual leaderships and groups of bourgeois parties. Besides, through relentless and painstaking struggle, it gives birth to a band of professional revolutionaries, the core of the party.

It is this revolutionary party that must determine the stage of the revolution and its correct strategy, which means which class is in power and which are the classes the revolutionary working class must align with as allied forces of revolution, that is, which class the working class must overthrow from power, and must reinforce its strength through alliance with which classes.

Further, on its basis the revolutionary party must concretely evolve the base political line of struggle, of which Comrade Mao Zedong spoke in his language as

"The correctness or incorrectness of the ideological and political line decides everything". The CPC, too, in their Report of the Tenth Congress added in elaboration "If one's line is incorrect, one's downfall is inevitable....If one's line is correct and even if one has not a single soldier at first, there will be soldiers, and even if there is no political power, political power will be gained."

The secondmost significant requirement for revolution to become successful, that all great Marxist leaders from Marx to Mao Zedong and Shibdas Ghosh, emphasized is the question of mobilizing the widest public opinion in favour of revolution covering all sections of exploited people of the country. The revolutionary party must carry on sustained ideological struggle on Marxism- Leninism, with a view to, as Lenin put it, 'Advancing a revolution' that may 'come to a standstill' 'not because of external obstacles, not because of the violence of the bourgeoisie ... , but because of the unreasoning trust of the people' on the petty-bourgeois social-democratic parties. "Only by overcoming this unreasoning trust ... ideologically, by comradesly persuasion, by pointing to the lessons of experience " can the revolutionary party bring the masses into the surge of revolutionary struggles. ( Quotes are from *The Tasks of the Proletariat in our Revolution*, April 1917).

Thus side by side with conducting movements on various demands of their life and living, that is the democratic mass movements with the content of class struggle being directed against the ruling capitalist class, the toiling people must see to it that 'a revolutionary party along with its mass fronts gains enough strength to coordinate and lead all the mass movements single-handedly towards their historical goal' of accomplishing revolution. Till that stage is reached the united front of the revolutionary party is "a historical and objective necessity to free the mass mind from the ideological and organizational influence that the bourgeois and petty bourgeois parties still have over the people..."; it "acts as an instrument of struggle to organize and mobilize in the

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## Ruling class pre-determined election verdict with the help of administration, moneybag and media

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and plethora of publicity given by the monopoly-controlled media. No matter how aggrieved they are against the ruling party, being politically unconscious, scattered and perplexed, disconnected from the democratic mass movement, the people in general cannot upset the game-plan of the bourgeoisie in the election. Only when the people attain necessary political consciousness in the process of conducting sustained class and mass struggles organized right from the grass root level under the leadership of a correct revolutionary party and take part in the election battle as a part and parcel of that ongoing struggle, they can sometimes succeed in foiling the conspiracy of the bourgeoisie in some places and have genuine verdict of the people vindicated in the results.

The CPI(M)-led government in West Bengal has been throughout the period of its 29 year rule of the state mercilessly crushing legitimate working class struggles and democratic movements, muzzling voice of protest, killing rational mind, demolishing human essence, destroying moral courage. Neither the British imperialists nor the erstwhile Congress government is proved to be of any match to it in this regard. The CPI(M) chief minister is holding the workers' movements responsible for closure of industries, pitching for "harmony between labour and capital" to ensure "industrial peace". Claiming himself to be "investment-friendly" or "investor-friendly", he has announced that he would usher in a spate of "development" by strengthening capitalism. Thus he has left far behind the leaders of the degenerated Second International reproached and reprimanded by great Lenin as outright renegades, revisionists and traitors. Lenin had shown that these revisionists masquerading as Marxists and as agents of the bourgeoisie backstabbed the cause of the working class and toiling people. Following the footsteps of the most hated and condemned revisionist treacherous leaders of the Second International, the CPI(M) leadership has gained total confidence of the native and foreign monopoly capital who, sensing the mounting discontent of the people, had desperately made every attempt to secure another term of the CPI(M) in the state

government by hook or by crook.

Generally speaking, people associate rigging with forcible capture of booths, random stamping on ballot and indiscriminate button-pressing in case of use of Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) since all these happen in front of their eyes. But there are other forms of rigging as well. Repeated experience of unlimited terror and rampant booth capture marking the polls in West Bengal firmly entrenched a belief in the minds of the people that "the CPI(M) wins the elections through rigging". So it was imperative for the ruling class to show that "the CPI(M) could notch up victory without rigging or for that matter without unleashing a reign of terror or resorting to booth capture." The people are also thoroughly disgusted with the sordid state of affairs within the legislatures, rampant corruption of the MPs and MLAs, illegal immoral acts and corrupt practices indulged in by the police-administration to serve class interest of the ruling bourgeoisie. Of late, the chief justice of the Supreme Court while commenting upon the infamous Jessica Lal case, has remarked with grave concern that pressure of money and "other influences" is working even on judiciary. Such being the situation, another round of conventional rigging might have made the people lose entire confidence in the poll process. Hence, too much noise was made this time over certain steps and measures adopted by the Election Commission (EC) to create an impression that "the CPI(M) was winning elections without rigging". This was done in connivance with both the central and state governments. Both the Congress and the Trinamul Congress highly acclaimed E.C.'s apparent initiatives and the CPI(M) also, as per the script of the mock fight, hurled some invectives against the E.C. Seeing all these, many of the electorates thought that the elections were going to be free and fair this time. But what did happen in reality?

Chief Election Commissioner in the state was a state government appointee. So were those having prepared the voters' list. Such lists compiled by the local panchayats, municipalities and CPI(M) workers were obviously prone to large scale manipulations. The central E.C. observers toured the districts with

much fanfare under media glare but could do little in rectifying the lists within such a short period. Names of lakhs of false voters did figure in the lists. In the name of correcting the lists till the last date of filing nomination, names of lakhs of genuine voters inclined towards the opposition were struck out. Many of these voters had voter identity cards with photos. And in the same process, several lakhs of ghost voters were incorporated in the lists. All these fictitious voters including the "dead" did "exercise their franchise". In a planned manner, voter identity cards were not supplied to a few lakhs of genuine voters. Instead Epics were issued in their names and these Epics were pilfered at will to cast votes through the party election machinery.

Above all, much before the elections, bulk of the monopoly-controlled media, both print and electronic, was pressed into action to repeatedly hold out before the people how many seats the CPI(M) was going to win. Even after each phase of election in the 5-phase electioneering, this high-pitched propaganda showing out the huge number of seats the CPI(M) was poised to bag district-wise was carried out full-throttle. Thus it was a calculated ploy to communicate to the people that whatever might be desired or aspired by them, the CPI(M) was destined to return to power with a thumping majority. And the CPI(M) made full use of this orchestrated media campaign to generate confusion among the people, distributed bountiful of money to purchase votes and even openly issued threat that since it was slated to come back to power, anyone voting against would be taught a lesson. The people of West Bengal did have a good measure of how terrible this "lesson" could be. On the other hand, the people received no effective support or assurance from the so-called big opposition parties in countering the threat. The leaders of these media-propelled opposition parties only kept themselves busy in speech-mongering. Besides, the presiding officers and the polling staff in most of the booths were allegiant to the CPI(M). So they also played a significant role in confusing and influencing the voters. It goes without saying that all these amounted to rigging or forgery in the electioneering process. Much

before publication of the results, just after conclusion of the first phase of polling, we had brought out all these aspects in a press statement.

Apart from these, many people harbour a wrong notion that rigging is possible when voting is through paper ballot. EVMs are immune to any such manipulations. But the fact is that the EVMs could be programmed in such a way that even if the electorates press the button in favour of their respective choice of candidates, a pre-determined number of votes would automatically get registered in the name of the candidate decided by the authority. In the US presidential election in 2000, such manipulation of EVM was undertaken in Florida in favour of Bush. Clint Curtis, the software specialist who was engaged for the purpose, himself confessed this in an affidavit submitted to the House Judiciary Committee of US in 2004. It is for this reason that in many technologically advanced Western countries, the old method of conducting elections with paper ballot has been retained. In view of the foregoing, one can hardly dismiss any apprehension that such has been the case in this state election also. Anomalies indeed have been noticed in the EVMs. There was mismatch between number of votes cast and the number of votes counted. If this kind of manipulation could be carried out in just 25 to 30 identified booths, the results could be tampered with. So it is clear that except booth capture, all other kinds of administrative as well as ruling party machinery sponsored rigging are amply indicated.

Secondly, the people have been coached to judge the strength of a party on the basis of the number of MPs and MLAs it has and the extent of media-publicity it receives. In West Bengal, the ruling bourgeoisie, in its class interest gives enough media backing to the Trinamul Congress and the Congress to project them as the opposition of reckoning. In absence of adequate political consciousness, the people also get carried by that. So in spite of the fact that the people have enough affection for and confidence in the SUCI as an honest, struggling left party, majority of them feel that to inflict defeat on the CPI(M), they need to vote either the Congress or

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## Invaluable teachings of Marxism-Leninism on revolutionary preparedness remain for Nepalese people to pay heed to

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the united movement that section of the people who suffer from illusion about the petty bourgeois social democratic parties and are still under their spell". This was how Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the founder General Secretary of our party put it, in his brilliant concretization of Leninist teaching on ideological struggle, particularly in connection with united front as an instrument of democratic struggle, perfectly in keeping with the warning of Comrade Stalin that we cannot 'put an end to capitalism without putting an end to social democracy'. Comrade Mao was equally explicit in his views on mobilizing public opinion. Thus he said : "Some people want to increase our political influence only by means of roving guerrilla actions, but are unwilling to increase it by undertaking the arduous tasks of building up of base areas and establishing red political power." (On correcting mistaken ideas in the party: SW, v.1, p.104) And in regard to the latter, that is the 'base areas' and 'red political power', he emphatically submitted: "The fundamental condition... the indispensable condition for establishing base area is.. to arouse the masses for struggle... We must organize the workers, peasants, youth, women, children, merchants and professional people according to the degree of their political consciousness and fighting enthusiasm into the various mass organizations necessary for the struggle." (Problems of Strategy in Guerrilla Warfare; SW, v. II, p.98) . Even when the question is judged in the background of armed struggle, Comrade Mao did not refrain from indicating that "Weapons are an important factor in war, but not the decisive factor; it is people, not things that are decisive. The contest of strength is not only a military and economic power, but also a contest of human power and morale." (On Protracted War, SW, v., III, p.143)

A revolutionary party engaged in preparing for the revolution in a country cannot also forget another great teaching of Lenin that 'cultural revolution precedes technical revolution'. Thus, the intense ideological struggle strengthened by a high ethical-moral-cultural standard of Marxism- Leninism, undertaken by the revolutionary force should be directed also to

bring about radical changes in the cultural standard of the fighting exploited people, in their consciousness and proximity to the revolutionary politics and culture. This will be a prerequisite in the preparation for revolution.

As fundamental requirement for successful accomplishment of the revolution, another Marxist-Leninist teaching is that revolution cannot be carried out to success in a country through carbon-copy of the revolution of another country. Each country has its particularities; each situation has its own characteristics. Those must be studied and analyzed carefully by the revolutionary party while drawing out the revolutionary strategy and tactics of its country. In fact, how correctly the revolutionary preparation is being made, a deciding factor of that is how successfully the revolutionary party is making the concrete analysis of the concrete situation. In quite a few cases in the international communist movement, this tendency of carbon-copying tended to raise its head. In result, the revolutionary preparation suffered setback and delay in some cases; in some others there were even failures. The tendency may still be noted occasionally; Comrade Mao too did not fail to note it and raise caution against.

In fact, on this and many other related questions, the vast and in-depth experience of the CPC under the leadership of Comrade Mao Zedong, the architect of the Chinese revolution, may be illuminating for revolutionaries of different countries. But one can never afford to accept them mechanically without his own analysis and conclusions. We can hear from none other than Comrade Mao Zedong in this regard from his words to the representatives of some Latin American communist parties : "The experience of the Chinese revolution, that is, building rural base areas, encircling the cities from the countryside and finally seizing the cities, may not be wholly applicable to many of your countries, though it can serve for your reference. I beg to advise you not to transplant Chinese experience mechanically." (SW, v. 5, p.326)

In support of his arguments, he categorized the concrete conditions of China with his analysis: "...the characteristics of China are that she is not independent and democratic,

but semi-colonial and semi-feudal ... we have no parliament to make use of and no legal right to organize the workers to strike. Basically the task of the communist party here is not to go through a long period of legal struggles before launching insurrection and war, and not to seize big cities first and then occupy the countryside, but the reverse ..." (Problems of War and Strategy).

Guerrilla warfare and Mao Zedong appear inseparably linked. Here again, though Comrade Mao considered guerrilla warfare as indispensable and 'therefore the best form of struggle for the people's armed forces to employ over a long period in a backward country.' (Introducing 'The Communist', SW, v. II, p.291), he highlighted that there were certain preconditions too. Thus he said: "It will be impossible to sustain guerrilla warfare behind the enemy lines without base areas. What then are these base areas? They are the strategic bases on which the guerrilla forces rely on performing their strategic tasks and achieving the object of preserving and expanding themselves." (Problems and Strategy in the Guerrilla Warfare, SW v. II, p.93)

Roving-rebels or base areas , while many put these two ideas in contest and supported the roving-rebel idea for some reason or other, Mao warned : "In the present age of advanced communications and technology, it will be all the more groundless to imagine that one can win victory by fighting in the manner of roving rebels. However the roving-rebel ideas still exist .... Therefore, ridding the minds of guerrilla commanders of this idea is a pre-requisite for deciding on a policy of establishing base-areas." (ibid, p.94) We should remember that Mao was writing this in the earlier parts of the last century. By this time, have not the 'communications and technology' advanced much further, making Mao's words even more relevant?

The question that would come up naturally at this stage is that what then is the fundamental condition of setting up of base areas? We may reiterate Mao's words "The fundamental condition ... the indispensable condition for establishing base area is.. to arouse the masses for struggle... We must organize the workers, peasants, youth, women, children, merchants and professional people according

to the degree of their political consciousness and fighting enthusiasm into the various mass organizations necessary for the struggle." (Problems of Strategy in Guerrilla Warfare; SW, v. II, p.98).

Obviously, the revolutionary party can carry out these tasks more easily in a democratic ambience, working over ground. The more there are democratic rights prevailing, to whatever extent they be, the faster it becomes for the revolutionary party to work. So it remains the task of such a party to try to maintain the condition which facilitates freest activity of the revolutionary party. It does not help create any situation, unwarranted and unwise, that may help the reactionary ruling class to use it and proscribe revolutionary activities. Under such circumstances, with the masses still under the influence of social democratic and bourgeois parties, it becomes easier for the ruling class to confuse people and thereby isolate the revolutionary forces from the masses. This is a vital consideration that a revolutionary force must make, before resorting to an ultimate method, such as the armed struggle. For, unless the armed struggle is undertaken as the last phase when the influence of compromising social-democratic and other forces on the masses have been totally exhausted and the latter is overwhelmingly in support of the revolutionary politics and methods of the revolutionary force, the rulers taking advantage of the low level of political consciousness of the toiling people and using the state machinery, almost invariably with the support of the world reaction, imperialist-capitalist powers without the country, will find it no problem to crush the struggle and nip it in the bud. The toiling masses for which the revolutionary force may be fighting, will then be left at the mercy of the ruling class on one hand, and of the pernicious influence of all sorts of reactionary politics, including that of social democrats.

Here we should recall Mao's own words on armed struggle , where he says : "the so-called theory that 'weapons decide everything'... constitutes a mechanical approach to the question of war and a subjective and one-sided view. Our view is opposed to this; we see not only

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## Nepalese people must rise up to their changed situation

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weapons, but also people. Weapons are an important factor in war, but not the decisive factor; it is people, not things that are decisive. The contest of strength is not only a military and economic power, but also a contest of human power and morale.” (On Protracted War, SW, v., III, p.143)

Now that the Nepalese people have entered a new phase of their struggle, when they will have to restart their preparation for the fight to end with all sorts of exploitation, that is preparation for revolution, we would expect them to pay attention to and carefully judge these significant issues confronting revolutionary preparedness and invaluable teaching of the great Marxist authorities in this regard.

### **People of Nepal have recorded a win; they must also win the last battle**

Summing up, it must be added that the militant movement, the

fighting people of Nepal launched with a view to totally abolishing the reactionary monarchy and thus to ushering in a situation in which they could dream of ending with all kinds of exploitation, has ended in yet retaining the monarchy as an institution, and to that extent, in a compromise. Yet everything is not lost for the exploited people of Nepal. They have repeatedly recorded their rejection of their leaders' compromising attitude. And the militant uncompromising movement they did put up, stands out glaringly to earn admiration from the struggling toiling masses all over the world. The world today is marked by people's voice being raised in one corner after another; yet at the same time, the revisionist, social democratic compromising forces of different countries are also at work at the behest of none other than the imperialists-capitalists to calm down people's unrest, to lead them astray to economism-reformism-parliamentary mock-

ing and even to quench the fire of movement totally. In such an ambience, the instance of Nepal is particularly significant, refreshing and inspiring to the world of patriotic, struggling masses of different countries. It will definitely work as a great booster to them.

As Marxists-Leninists, we firmly believe that struggle generates consciousness, consciousness further educates people in their struggles. The fighting people of Nepal have also shown that through their long struggles they are learning their ways and means and thus setting their goals ahead of them. We are sure the present historic juncture will also leave vital lessons for them to learn.

As members of the fighting fraternity, the democratic-minded people of the world will always expect that the exploited masses of Nepal will soon rise to meet up the wants and will overcome the gaps in their revolutionary preparations. We are sure, to that end they will

see to it that the militant democratic movement demanding fulfillment of the unaccomplished demands of the people, namely total abolition of the monarchy and emergence of people's republic, eventually leading to conditions for final emancipation from all sorts of exploitation and establishment of socialism, does not wane down. Rather to step up these continuously, they must carry on their intense ideological struggle conducive to fulfilling the main aim of theirs, must launch and continue their democratic mass struggles and class struggles and in course of that develop from within those struggles, people's committees and volunteer forces extensively throughout the country to conduct and spread the struggle to wider and wider reaches and develop people's power and instruments of struggle and with the help of them develop and strengthen their revolutionary leadership for the final battle. Ultimate victory is theirs!

## Observance of May Day in various states

The 120th anniversary of historic May Day was observed in different states of the country by the UTUC-Lenin Sarani in solemn and dignified manner.

In Kolkata, West Bengal, a meeting organized on May 1 by the UTUC-LS was addressed by Comrade Provas Ghosh, Member, Central Committee, SUCI and Secretary West Bengal State Committee and presided over by Comrade A.L. Gupta, State President of UTUC-LS. Veteran TU leaders Comrade Sanat Datta and UTUC-LS All India General Secretary Comrade Shankar Saha were also present.

Comrade Provas Ghosh reminded that the great leader Lenin had long ago said that it was easier to identify the branded bourgeois parties. But those who under the verbiage of Marxism and clamouring slogan of revolution and working class unity act as agents of the capitalists within working class movement, are much more dangerous. The term 'social democracy' was coined at that time. In Lenin's language, social democracy means 'socialism in words, but serving and defending bourgeois democracy in deeds'. Pointing to the degenerated

communist parties of the Second International Lenin called them revisionists because they parroted Marxism, but in reality destroyed from within the revolutionary struggle of the working class against capitalism, frustrated the process of combining working class with the revolutionary ideology of Marxism with the ultimate goal of overthrowing capitalist rule through socialist revolution. Thus they, in order to enjoy the privileges of ministerial power and pelf in bourgeois parliamentary system sought to annihilate the very essence of Marxism. Lenin fought these agents of capitalism-imperialism, formed the Third International and successfully organized the socialist revolution in Russia. The hated terms like 'social democrat', 'revisionism', 'revisionists' were added to the lexicon of Marxism at that time.

Comrade Provas Ghosh referred to the recent utterances of the CPI(M) Chief Minister that he was 'working for none other than capitalism and not for socialism. Socialism is not possible'. The CPI(M) Chief Minister even admitted that he was a socialist when in the opposition. Now he says, 'I have the responsibility of

inviting capital; I am now practicing capitalism'. His words have raised questions in various quarters. In defence, the State Secretary of his party tried to plead that by these words the Chief Minister had in fact referred to the constraints of capitalism, in which he has to work. Marxists clearly know the limitations of capitalism. Even then, why does the proletarian revolutionary party take part in bourgeois parliament? What are the teachings of Marxism-Leninism in this regard? Elaborating further on this teaching, our teacher, the great leader of the proletariat Comrade Shibdas Ghosh raised the question: What will be the correct approach of the genuine leftists and revolutionaries, if they ever form a government in a bourgeois state singly or as a constituent of a front? With what outlook will they run the government? He said: whatever minimum reform they could carry out from the seat of power, they must do on the basis of mass movement. Bourgeois governments also in the past used to undertake some public welfare measures, only to impress that there was no need to develop any mass movement or class struggle to solve problems. But the outlook of the revolutionaries

regarding reforms is quite different. Saddled in governmental power they might try to bring reforms but not by abandoning class and mass struggles outside the parliament. Demands ought to evolve from these struggles only. All sections of common people should participate in these movements. A genuine Marxist party if in the government will never suppress these legitimate democratic movements with police and administration, as any bourgeois government would do. When the first UF government in West Bengal was formed in 1967, CPI(M), CPI and other parties declined to accept this principle upheld by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. Our party stressed that we would not join the government if it was not accepted. At that time they needed our support badly. Also, CPI(M) was then just formed as a new party branding CPI as right revisionist and mouthing slogans of revolution. This difference with our party would have exposed their leaders to their ranks and put them in a most awkward position. So they had to swallow our proposal. Thus from the UF government, Comrade Subodh Banerjee, the then Labour Minister, announced that henceforth

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## West Bengal Election Results

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the Trinamul Congress. Thus an artificial polarization has been created with the CPI(M) and the Congress or Trinamul Congress as the two opposite camps. Since the ruling bourgeoisie wanted the CPI(M) to return to power, neither the Congress nor the Trinamul Congress, as bourgeois oppositions, could dare to go against its wishes. Hence, the Congress in tacit understanding with the CPI(M) and the Trinamul Congress by tying up with the BJP vied with each other to secure the second place though they posed before the people that they were slated to gain majority. According to the CPI(M) state secretary, as many as 80 seats were thus gifted to his party by the Congress and the Trinamul Congress through division of opposition votes.

The Congress and the Trinamul Congress thus glaringly betrayed the people who voted them to defeat the CPI(M). Of course, there is not even an iota of doubt that had these bourgeois oppositions to the CPI(M) managed to gain majority, they would have similarly served the class interest of the bourgeoisie entailing further distress and misery of the people. But even if there was no split of opposition votes between the Congress and the Trinamul Congress, the CPI(M) could still manage to scrape through with a slender margin. It is up to the people of West Bengal to decide if they would still prefer to vote for the Congress or the Trinamul Congress only to be cheated likewise.

As all of you are aware, the SUCI, armed with the thoughts and teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the great leader of the proletariat and one of the foremost Marxist thinkers of the era and led by Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, our beloved General Secretary and compatriot of Comrade Ghosh, has been without relent organizing the democratic movement of the toiling people against the mounting onslaught of the ruling bourgeoisie as well as the anti-people policies of both central and state governments and could force them under pressure of movement to concede to some of the vital demands. Neither the Trinamul Congress nor the Congress despite having sizeable number of MLAs and MPs, took any such

initiative. We are thus discharging the role of genuine opposition with due responsibility. Enraged and infuriated, the CPI(M) leadership has murdered 149 comrades of ours, hatched conspiracy to thrust life term on 28 of our leaders and cadres and implicated 50 more of our workers in false cases to mete out the same fate. Yet the CPI(M) leadership could not rest assured and took recourse to all kinds of reprehensible steps, stooped to all levels to snatch from us the two assembly seats of Jaynagar and Kultali, and bastions of democratic mass movements our traditional base created over a period of time through intense protracted class and mass struggles. But overcoming all machinations of the CPI(M), disdaining all threats and intimidation, the poor and middle class people of these two constituencies have once again made our candidates victorious. In fact, we have been able to substantially increase the number of votes in almost all the constituencies we fought this time. Last time, we secured 3,01,786 votes in the 85 seats we fielded our candidates. This time, despite polarization, we have received 5,14,001 votes in the 126 seats we contested. We congratulate the people of West Bengal for reposing such abiding confidence in us.

Please remember that the CPI(M), after being saddled in power once more, would bring about much more ruthless oppression and suppression on all segments of the toiling people to buttress the agenda of faithful servility to the native and foreign capital and big business. The ruling class will intensify its exploitation and plunder. Life of the common people will become yet more unbearable. The only course to combat this impending assault is to accentuate the class and mass struggles. For that, it is imperative to build up people's committees as instruments of struggle, create volunteer corps with honest, courageous youths. We appeal to the people to shed all grief, pain and frustration and embrace the path of movement.

With revolutionary greetings,  
Provas Ghosh  
Secretary  
West Bengal State Committee  
15 May, 2006 SUCI

## May Day in various states

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police would not interfere in legitimate democratic movements. People also in one voice raised the slogan : UF government, the weapon of struggle. But now the CPI(M)-led Front government has proved itself to be a weapon of destruction of mass and working class movements. Comrade Provas Ghosh reminded that in 1977, Jyoti Basu, CPI(M) leader, in his second radio speech on the eve of forming the government had said, "You need not fear this time. If the Left Front comes to power there will not be any movement. Those were things of past during the last UF government. SUCI was responsible for that." CPI(M) leadership thus promised to the bourgeoisie that mass movement would be banished from this state. They have kept their words. The flame of mass struggle that had been a nightmare to the British imperialists, the fire which the Congress governments could not quell, it is the CPI(M) which has shouldered the responsibility to put it off. They are already busy with it. The US multinationals, foreign capital and Indian monopolists are openly certifying the CPI(M) Chief Minister as the number one in the country. Certificates galore from BJP, Congress also. And this very same chief minister is asking the workers, and see with what criminal audacity, "don't organize movement in your industry. That will cause closure." He even said : "I am aware that Marx said that the contradiction between capitalists and working class was irreconcilable. I advocate cooperation between owners and workers." Gandhiji used to say this; the bourgeoisie does the same. Personally Gandhiji was an honest man though he failed to grasp the scientific view of society. He refused to accept that historically the society is class divided between the exploited and the exploiters. He was guided by unscientific idealistic view. Thus in spite of being personally honest, he actually helped strengthen the bourgeoisie all through his life. Such was the theory of class collaboration of Gandhism with the help of which the capitalist class tries to destroy class struggle. CPI(M) has taken it up. Gandhiji was an honest victim of false system of philosophy; the CPI(M) leaders with all their criminal dishonesty is

using the same theory, being fully aware of its implication. Now there is none in the entire CPI(M) to raise a question. The whole party is now in the clutch of corporate sector. Most of the activists are now paid workers. The honest ones are in the grip of frustration. The party on its way to degeneration has gone down even below the standard of social democrat leaders of the Second International who were lambasted by Lenin. Even those revisionist leaders did not dare say that industries close down due to trade union movement; they did not openly urge for 'peace in industry' and cooperation between owners and workers. Referring to them Stalin once said: 'you cannot put an end to capitalism without putting an end to social democracy.' We must not forget this great historic teaching. Working class of West Bengal has to stand firmly against this evil force of social democracy, strengthening themselves with Marxism-Leninism-Comrade Shibdas Ghosh's Thought — urged Comrade Provas Ghosh in conclusion.

### Jabalpur

At Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh the different central trade unions held a joint programme. Among speakers of different organizations, Comrade Vinod Khare spoke from UTUC-LS, highlighting the need to step up workers' movement in the face of the current virulent attack on democratic and trade union rights. Comrade Bhabani Ghosh of UTUC-LS was in the Presidium.

### Nagpur

At Nagpur in Maharashtra, a meeting was held in the morning at Variety Chowk. It was addressed by Comrade Madhab Bhonde of UTUC-LS. Speakers from other trade unions and organizations also spoke on the occasion.

### Bhiwandi

A meeting was held at Bhiwandi in Maharashtra in observance of the May Day. It was presided over by Comrade Naseem Ahmed and conducted by Comrade K. Kulshrestha. Comrade Satyavan, All India Council member and Haryana State President, UTUC-LS, was the main speaker. Comrade A. K. Tyagi, Advocate Shamim Ahmad Azami also spoke in the meeting.

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