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Red Flag News

Volume-3, Issue - 17, 24 April -2002

View point

Globalisation breeds fascism.

That the extreme right wing candidate Le Pen who eulogises Hitler and Nazi achievements could score 17.2% votes in the French presidential elections and got second position just 2% votes behind present Gaullist president, Jacques Chirac, in the first round of French Presidential election has stunned the left and democratic sections who are in a profound shock. Earlier when the fascist Freedom Party of Austria scored more than 10% votes and joined the government there public opinion in France violently opposed it and compelled the govt to impose diplomatic sanctions against Austria. Recently, when Silvio Berlusconi formed govt in Italy including former Italian fascist party, now called Alliance Nazionale and the anti-foreigner Northern League it was also condemned in France. Though in the final round Le Pen will be overwhelmingly defeated, he could stand second in the first round shows that fascists are on the rise under globalisation

All welfare measures and hard earned rights are taken away under globalisation making millions of workers unemployed and pauperising the masses. Consumerism and market values are dehumanising the society. Devastation of third world countries have led to large scale migration posing threat to local workers. Set back to socialist forces and degeneration of most of the earlier communist parties to social democratic positions have weakened class consciousness and spirit of proletarian internationalism. In such a situation, alienation, frustration and chauvinism are leading many to embrace fascist positions. The degeneration of liberal democratic institutions also leads to fascination for fascist values. The continuing economic recession like the *great depression* of 1930 s provide the economic base for the extreme rightists to come up. In both developed and undeveloped countries alike religious fundamentalism, racism and chauvinism provide boost to fascist forces. So it will not be exaggeration or incorrect to say that globalisation breeds fascism. French case is not different.

The struggle against growing threat of fascism in numerous forms can be effectively waged only if it is linked to struggle against globalisation and for the overthrow of imperialist system.

Gujarat is still erupting

The latest flare ups in Gujarat, arson , looting, riots and killings show that the Hindutua laboratory is far from normalcy, irrespective of repeated false claims by Vajpayee, Advani, Modi and company. Two months after Godhra carnage nothing is done to book the culprits and put an end to so called 'retaliatory' actions massacring thousands , arson, loot, repeated communal carnages, pogroms - all with the convenience of state and central governments led by BJP. The minorities are 'taught a lesson' to terrorise them, to compel them to depend on the magnanimity of the majority. The Hindutua forces are spreading the hate agenda.

By defending Modi and asking him to led BJP in election playing Hindutua card BJP under directives from RSS has planned to maintain the state in perennial communal turbulence. So no change can happen unless Modi is removed and the communalised bureaucrats are sent out. Unless speedy and conscious efforts are made to change the situation worse developments can be expected there. But Vajpayee govt. is not ready for them. In this way it wants to spread *communal cleansing* to other states also.

Though secular democratic forces played a significant role to expose the Hindutua forces and to condemn their *communal cleansing* during last two months, it is not sufficient. The opposition parties from Congress to CPI- CPI(M) forces have failed to build up a sufficiently powerful mass movements so far to oust Modi. Or that is not there line. They have confined fight against BJP and its accomplices to Parliament alone while the Hindutua forces are working hard to divide the people and to impose communal fascism.

Present situation can be changed only by mobilising the masses, at least a section of those who overwhelmingly voted against BJP in recent elections, against the pseudo – patriots who have enslaved the country to US - led imperialists and help them to *balkanise* the country. RSS parivar and Vajpayee government are enemies of the people and the country. A visible, vocal and sustained struggle is needed to defeat their treason, and to overthrow them from power, from social and political life.

International Scene

Coup in Venezuela

The coup in Venezuela organised by sections of military making common cause with big business interests and big farm owners and supported by Bush administration against president Hugo Chavez elected in 1999 shows that the imperialists and their lackeys are not ready to tolerate even slight deviation from their IMF-WB-WTO script

of globalisation by anyone. The crime Chavez committed was that even while accepting *there is no alternative* (TINA) to globalisation and implementing many aspects of the reforms, he dared to vigorously pursue a radical land reform which hurt the rich land owners, persisted with many welfare policies and befriended Fidel Castro. He did not enslave his country to US led imperialists as fast as other rulers in Latin America. So he was thrown out in a coup stage- managed by Bush administration. Street demonstrations were stage - managed by US backed military sections for this. Under this pretext Chavez was taken away and kept in detention.

But with massive opposition to the coup breaking out with millions demonstrating, the coup leaders had to make a hasty retreat. Chavez dramatically returned to power with people's support. For the first time US overlords have failed to impose their dictates.

Powel did not want to act

US secretary of states Colin Powel wound up his West Asia trip by advising Arafat to 'behave'. He gave the Zionist regime in Israel the right to hegemonise the West Asia with US support. So Arafat is still a prisoner and Palestine Authority realised through to decades of discussions is in shambles. It is the support of US which is emboldening Israel to throw away with content all Security Council resolutions and to continue its aggression. UN and Security Council are once again proved impotent, as mere tools of US imperialists to be utilised or rejected as it likes . Palestinian people have no other way out but to continue their struggle for national liberation with the support of world people.

Berlusconi's reforms challenged

Italy was totally paralysed on 16th April with general strike against Berlusconi government's move to drop the article in Labour Law which opposes 'hire and fire' system and ensures job security. With the support of powerful employers' federation government wanted to impose changes in Labour Law to suit globalisation and market system. But the biggest and most spectacular workers strike in 20 years closing even banks, airways, railways, schools and post offices with 13 million workers participating challenged the government order compelling its withdrawal.

Demonstration against IMF meet

Tens of thousands of anti-globalisation protesters marched through streets of Washington against the IMF meet there on April 21. More than one lakh people participated in the demonstration against IMF policies which are devastating the lives of increasing number of people around the world and against US backed Israeli aggression against Palestine.

Argentina again in revolt

As the salvation measures to save Argentinian economy have failed and the finance minister resigned after IMF refusing to rescue the sinking economy, millions of workers and oppressed masses have started revolts all over the country.

Indian Scene

TUCI All India Conference

The Third All India Conference of TUCI was successfully held at Bangalore on 19-21 April . Hundreds of workers participated in the inspiring rally on 19th April followed by a well attended public meeting. The Conference adopted a new programme providing a revolutionary orientation to working class movements the new Central Committee and General Council were elected with com. M.M. Somasekharan as president and com. Sanjay Singhvi as general secretary

What happened to president

Under Article 78 of Constitution president has the right to call for reports and examine issues to advice, encourage, and warn his own adviser, the prime minister. But even after Gujarat state government refusing to take any action on recommendations of National Human Rights Commission and Minority Commission, both statutory bodies, and even when Gujarat is burning still, president K.R. Narayanan has maintained silence. Most probably days of his presidential activism are over as his retirement dates are approaching. Probably he wants to depart without controversy. What if thousands are killed, minorities are terrorised and the country is facing threats of disintegration ?

State Terror in Jammu and Kashmir

Three BSF personnel attached to 58th battalion in Pahalgam in J&K gang- raped a 17 year old girl in front of her relatives on 24 April. Hundreds of such savage acts were reported during last decade. But the culprits are often condoned in spite of people's protests and clear proof. Though the accused in this case are identified by the girl still no action is taken. This is the way state terrorism is practised and intensified.

TUCI struggle in Kerala

More than hundred workers barged in to Kerala State Cashew Development Corporation (KSCDC) head quarters at Kollam on 22nd April demanding the opening of cashew factories and against their privatisation. Police resorted to lathi charge and arrested many workers.

Party day observed

April 22nd the formation day of CPI(ML) in 1969 was observed by party committees everywhere reaffirming the resolve to continue struggle for the completion of New Democratic Revolution.

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Red Flag News

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5 December -2001

View Point

US Strategic Alliance

These are days of monopoly media intensifying attempts at conditioning of people to meekly surrender to even extremely grave developments severely affecting their lives and future of the national polity. These are also days when *in worst forms of post-modernist deconstruction* reactionary philosophies of, and social actions under sway of, religious fundamentalism, racism, casteism etc are put forward effectively diverting people from confronting the monstrous spectre haunting them now with a comprehensive world outlook. Otherwise how could the incident of a US navy helicopter from the US destroyer, *USS John Gray* docked at Chennai port doing reconnaissance over the city and nearby nuclear plant without permission could get reduced to nominal protests in parliament and a few media headlines? Why there is no uproar even when the 'defence' minister absolved the US forces for this blatant provocative act ? Do these foretell that the ruling system has succeeded in creating conditions for signing the *strategic defence agreements* with US ? The appreciative coverage given by the media to present discussions by the US and Indian *Defence Policy Group* (DGP) point towards this extreme danger.

Through these talks Vajpayee government is rushing through the acts of signing strategic agreements in defence sector with US. This process started during the last years of Indira regime, then by Rajiv governemnt and by the bilateral DPG set up instituted during Narasimha Rao government is taken to its culmination hastily by NDA government as a member of US-led *coalition against terrorism*, surrendering what is left of the national sovereignty also. The understanding arrived at Washington last month during Vajpayee's talks with Bush is now pushed through to sign a *strategic* agreements in defence sector.

The talks held at Delhi by senior officials of Defence Ministry with Pentagon during 3-4 December was aimed at joint exercises, training and operations by US and Indian armed forces including making Indian defence facilities available to US forces. It ensures secrecy of military information shared between the two establishments under a '*General Security of Military Information Agreement*'. It ensures India governemnt's convergence with US political interests in Indian Ocean and Asia-Pacific Region. It includes transfer of military equipments and technology leading to increase in purchase of US arms and equipments many times. A *Joint Technical Group* will ensure this. In short Pentagon will dominate Indian defence establishment in all respects. No wonder why George Fernandes stated that these in no impropriety in US navy helicopters doing survey of sensitive areas without permission.

In continuation to the increasingly servile policy of Congress governments towards US imperialism from early 1980s, the *'nationalist'* Vajpayee government controlled by RSS Parivar is engaged in reducing India to a puppet of US imperialism. This act of treason calls for uncompromising opposition from all patriotic forces.

Enron's Collapse

The mighty colossus called Enron, the US energy giant, which could make the Congress govt. in Maharashtra, the 15 day Vajpayee govt. at centre, the Shiv Sena-BJP govt. in Maharashtra later, and till a few days back, the central and Maharashtra govt. to sign on dotted lines and dance to its tunes, which boasted of 'educating' the political leaders and bureaucrats in whichever way it wanted, is in a mess today. To be precise, as an entity it does not exist. It is facing liquidation. Its shares valued at more than \$38 six weeks back were valued at \$0.26 on November 29 ! It is still falling.

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Red Flag News

Volume-3, Issue - 22, 29 May -2002

Press Statement

Stop War - Mongering

Prime minister Vajpayee's call to the armed forces for a 'decisive war' to stop 'cross-border terrorism' following the terrorist attack in Jammu on May 14 is a conscious effort to whip up national chauvinism and war hysteria in order to shift attention from Gujarat where Sangh Parivar with the connivance of Narendra Modi government is pursuing a policy of communal cleansing based on its *Hindu Rashtra* agenda.

The intensification of war preparations by both India and Pakistan, the war of words going on, the possibility of border skirmishes escalating to full scale war and even nuclear attacks with many millions of casualties are against the interests of the people of both the countries. A war will further intensify the economic crisis already faced by both, devastating the people's lives further. It will only intensify the communal division whipped up by the religious fundamentalists behind the seats of power on both sides.

The experience of last five decades has proved that solution to Kashmir question cannot be found through a war. It calls for political solutions through negotiations involving Kashmiri people, consciously resisting all forms of foreign interference. Instead of it, the policy pursued by Vajpayee government only serves US imperialists who have already established military base in Pakistan to further extend their domination over South Asia, and even to establish military bases in India. Under the cover of national chauvinism and war hysteria the Sangh Parivar is working for the sell out of national interests.

The war-mongering by Sangh Parivar is a great challenge to Indian people. It has further intensified the economic crisis, deepened communal divisions and increased the fascist threats. The war hysteria should be opposed and the

demand to find solution to Kashmir question through negotiations involving Kashmiri people without foreign interference should be strongly raised. The increasing danger of fascism posed by Sangh Parivar through national chauvinism and communal hatred should be resisted. We appeal to all democratic forces to vigorously campaign against the war hysteria, against the communal cleansing by Sangh Parivar started from Gujarat and against the fascist threats. Join the week long nation - wide campaign from 18 to 25 June to oppose war hysteria and communal fascism.

29th May CPI (ML) Red Flag

View Point

Organise All India Campaign from 18 to 25 June

Oppose War Hysteria and growing fascist threats

The crisis our country is facing has further deepened with the war - mongering by Vajpayee government escalating Indo-Pak conflict to dangerous levels. There is a method behind the chauvinist madness and war hysteria spread by Sangh Parivar and the NDA government working under its dictates. It is a continuation of the communal cleansing pogroms continued in Gujarat by Sangh Parivar for weeks with the open connivance of Narendra Modi government. If Godhra was a pretext to launch them, May 14 terrorist attack in Jammu became handy for the call for the 'decisive war' by Vajpayee. Including Kashmir every issue is communalised and the communal division is intensified in order to realise the Sangh Parivar's dream of a fascist Hindu Rashtra.

In the mad pursuit of this agenda the fact that even the mobilisation of armed forces on border after December 13 and present war preparations themselves are deepening the already serious economic crisis is covered up. That the outbreak of a war even for few days will intensify this crisis to unprecedented levels and devastate the life of the masses more are also concealed. What will be the consequences of a nuclear war to the subcontinent are also conveniently kept secret. The Sangh Parivar and Vajpayee government working for it are ready to go to any extent, including creating a nuclear catastrophe in order to realise their fascist dreams.

Already a decade and more of globalisation policies have inflicted the economy and life of the masses terrifically. The anti-insurgency drive in Jammu and Kashmir during this period imposing worst forms of state terrorism has only worsened the situation there. During the last four years through speeding up of globalisation and communalisation of all walks of life going to the extent of communal cleansing in Gujarat, Vajpayee government has depended the crisis faced by the country and the people. All welfare policies

and secular democratic values are systematically destroyed. The state machinery is being systematically communalised and fascicised.

The war threats and policies pursued by governments of India and Pakistan, instead of solving the Kashmir question are only worsening it and intensifying the crisis faced by both countries and people. They are only further intensifying the communal divide. They are only speeding up the fascisation taking place in the region and all over the world in continuation to globalisation. These war - efforts are only serving the US-led imperialist forces. If the aggression on Afghanistan in the name of 'war on terrorism' helped US to establish military bases in Central Asian countries and extend its military presence to Pakistan, another Indo-Pak conflict will further increase US domination over South Asia. It may even lead to establishment of US military bases on Indian soil with the connivance of Vajpayee government which is enslaving the country fast to imperialism even while whipping up pseudo-nationalist frenzy.

This dangerous situation urgently demands countrywide massive opposition to globalisation, growing threats of fascism including its savage manifestation in Gujarat through communal cleansing pogroms and war hysteria. Though the working class and the secular democratic and patriotic forces could mobilise the masses and oppose globalisation and communal fascism to a great extent at all India level, these efforts have not taken the shape of mass upheavals so far. The main reason for this is that while many of the so-called secular parties are still continuing within NDA for crumbs of power in most opportunistic manner, Congress and most of the opposition parties are also staunchest supporters of globalisation policies. Congress has a record of compromising with the communal forces also. Thus the line of demarcation between the communal fascist forces and the opposition is merely cosmetic. The emergence of a countrywide and effective anti-globalisation, anti-fascist alternative with a democratic programme has become an urgent necessity to serve as a catalyst for mighty mass upsurges against the forces of globalisation and fascism.

It is in this context CPI (ML) Red Flag is calling for a countrywide initiative to launch continuous movements against globalisation, growing threats of fascism and the war hysteria. This campaign achieves significance in the context of the 27th anniversary of the declaration of the internal emergency by the Congress government in 1975, the first attempt by the ruling classes to impose formal fascist measures against the people. Let us mobilise an effective All India campaign for a week from 18 to 25 June against the manifestation of growing fascist threats from the Sangh Parivar including the savage communal cleansing in Gujarat and against the war hysteria spread by the Vajpayee government. Let us utilise it as an opportunity to bring together the left forces who consistently oppose globalisation and fascism and to mobilise all patriotic democratic forces in the struggle against the forces of reaction and fascism and their war - mongering.

International Scene

Russia in NATO

During post -World War II years NATO was formed as an instrument of the ***Cold War*** by US - led imperialist camp to contain and annihilate Soviet Union. If the imperialist camp could not do it from outside the revisionist degeneration within helped them to realise their dream. The disintegration of Soviet Union more than a decade ago has created a new world situation helping US - led imperialism to impose its hegemony over world people in more barbaric forms. The ***Cold War*** is reshaped in different ways including the latest 'War on terrorism' by US imperialism, while it is the most savage terrorist the world has ever seen. NATO is reshaped to serve globalisation and to hegemonise the world in the name of 'War on terrorism'. And now Russia has formally joined NATO as a junior partner of US making common cause with it in the fight against world people, betraying the interests of Russian people. Thus Vladimir Putin has carried forward the mission started by Yeltsin to its most shameful culmination.

Colombia : New President with a rightist agenda.

In the elections with a very low turnout Alvaro Uribe, a US favourite with a rightist agenda is elected President of Colombia. Uribe see the cause of Colombian crisis as the people's movement against imperialist dictated economic policies and the insurgency in many areas. He refuse to see the US domination and globalisation policies as the root cause for the crisis. Or, he wants to run Colombia under US dictates. His agenda includes beefing up the military with counter - insurgency aid from US and arming one million civilians to put down anti-state struggles. This rightist agenda is only going to intensify Colombian crisis.

Israel continues aggression.

In the name of destroying 'suicide - attackers' the Zionist regime in Israel is continuing attacks on West Bank occupying Palestinian areas at will using tanks and armoured vehicles. Neither the US - led imperialist camp nor its lackeys ruling most of the West Asian countries nor the UN or Security Council nor the third world governments are showing any concern to help the Palestinians to reestablish their sovereign homeland. Palestinians are left with the only option of resisting Israeli aggression using any form of counter - attacks including desperate suicide - attacks.

It is hightime international solidarity with Palestinian people is built up by the anti - imperialist forces around the world.

National Scene

Children against war

Thousands of children from different schools of Kolkata demonstrated on May 29 against war and demanding peace between Indian and Pakistan.

16 Ministers walk out of NCERT meet

Vajpayee government is not only saffronising the field of education and changing the school curriculum as it wishes but also is distorting the stand of state governments opposed to it. The National Curriculum Framework for Secondary Education (NCFSE) was not only changed but the Parliament and Supreme Court were misled about it. Protesting against this, majority of the education ministers walked out of the 38th annual general meeting of NCERT.

GIM at Kochi : Red Flag to oppose

CPI(ML) Red Flag will organise popular resistance against the Global Investors Meet going to be organised in Kerala on 23, 24 November. Kerala, popularly called 'God's own land', is being sold out to MNCs and opened for domination of international finance capital and market system at a very fast pace by the Congress-led UDF government. The GIM meet is being organised with much fanfare in order to destroy the welfare policies implemented as a result of mighty people's movements and to reduce it to a neocolonial backyard in all respects. Thus GIM is a challenge to the people. Red Flag has decided to launch a political campaign and oppose GIM meet, highlighting the consequences of globalisation.

Kerala : People's Trial of Doctor

A lady doctor, notorious for taking bribes and ill treating the patients was put on *people's trial* by large number of volunteers of *Yuvajanavedi* and *Democratic Women's Organisation* on 29th May at the Hospital premises at Kochi. The charge sheet was read out and a garland of shoes was put around her neck. Thousands of people gathered to witness the *people's trial*. It was a symbolic action as part of the movement against increasing corruption in all walks of life.

Gujarat still riot-torn

The withdrawal of army contingents from the streets of Ahamedabad and other towns has led to break out of communal attacks and killings in many places. Tens of thousands still suffering in refugee camps are afraid to go back to their destroyed houses as they fear renewed attacks and have no faith in the state machinery. Arrest of few of the VHP- Bajrang Dal- BJP leaders who are accused of direct involvement in many pogroms has led to bomb explosion and more riots. As the BJP government is bent upon perpetuating the 'total Hindu-Muslim polarisation' in order to win the elections and to achieve the

Hindu Rashtra, and as the state machinery is communalised there is very little scope of return of even normalcy so long as Narendra Modi government continues in power. The diversion of media attention from Gujarat to the Pakistan border has provided opportunity for Sangh Parivar to continue with its agenda of communal division.

Maruthi's control goes to Suzuki

The total control of Maruthi Udyog Limited is captured by the MNC, Suzuki Motor Corporation. Vajpayee government has sold out one more PSU to MNCs.

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Red Flag News

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View Point

Give Earth a Chance

The *World Environment Day* is observed on June 5 this year with the theme *Give earth a chance*. From the first *Conference on Human Environment* organised on June 5-6 1972 at Stockholm attended by 113 countries, UN General Assembly endorsing June 5 as *World Environment Day* and adoption of *UN Environment Programme* the awareness about protecting environment has definitely increased. *Global Warming* and other factors have made the need to protect environment a matter of top priority.

The *Kyoto Protocol* was formulated asking industrialised nations to cut down greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels by a minimum average of 5.2% between 2008 and 2012, recognising the fact that industrialisation without environmental protection is the key factor for present pollution and environmental destruction. With the signing of this *protocol* by both European Union and Japan almost all the countries except US and Israel have signed it.

But US which is producing maximum green house gases and is causing maximum environmental destruction around the world in all fields has refused to sign it. On the contrary its approach is allowing greenhouse gas emissions to grow sharply. Thus US imperialism is proving that it is most barbaric and the number one enemy of world people. So struggle to protect environment today is integrally linked with struggle against imperialism and its dominant concept of production for profit and market, including promotion of wanton consumerism.

As we observe World Environment Day this year let us pledge to wipe out the barbaric capitalist-imperialist system in order to *give earth a chance* and the world people a chance to live a life worthy of living.

Decontrol means price hike

Petrol, Diesel prices up

Vajpayee government has announced a steep hike of Rs. 2.50 per litre for petrol and Rs. 1.50 per litre for diesel from June 3 as the first 'gift' under *decontrol* in the name of adjusting prices to international prices. Under globalisation, starting with the privatisation of oil sector, almost stopping efforts to develop indigeneous oil sources and linking price mechanism with international market this vital sector is brought totally under MNCs, making life more miserable for people. This price hike will adversely affect industries, transport and agriculture and the whole burden will be imposed over the masses.

The price hike of petrol and diesel calls for severest condemnation and opposition.

Stop War-moves, Start negotiations.

The behavior of prime minister Vajpayee at Almaty was most irresponsible. He alongwith Musharaf cut sorry figures at Almaty where the Asian govt. leaders had assembled to talk an end to terrorism, to talk peace. They were more concerned about avoiding each other assiduously even refusing to make eye contact.

But the days of talks about waging 'decisive war' or about launching 'nuclear storm' are over. Both these leaders projected by the religious fundamentalists of their own countries and assisted by military establishment are now preparing for stepping back under orders from the only superpower. Meanwhile both are indulging in arms - buying spree spending most of the revenue incomes, making both countries more devastated and indebted.

That war is not a solution to Kashmir question is proved by the experience of last 50 years. We demand immediate end to war-mongering, cessation of hostile acts on the border and begining of bilateral discussions involving Kashmiri people. US-led imperialists' efforts to interfere and to impose their military hegemony over South Asia should be resisted. Vajpayee government should not be allowed to enslave the country to US imperialists under the cover of psuedo-nationalism.

International Scene

The Almaty Meet

The 16-nation *Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia* (CISA) at Almaty and its two page *Declaration on Eliminating Terrorism and Promoting Dialogue Among Civilizations* was a totally diversionary

exercise to confuse people and help US-led imperialist moves to hegemonise the world scene. While signing the agreement about promoting dialogue two of the signatories and their aides were trying hard to avoid even eye contact. The meeting refused to condemn the atrocities perpetuated in Afghanistan by US and allies in the name of 'war on terrorism'. It refused to condemn Israel, one of the participants, for its aggression on Palestinian people. It turned a blind eye to US military bases being established in more countries in the region. It also refused to address the consequences of globalisation in Asia. In short while declaring about eliminating terrorism the meeting refused to condemn the most barbaric terrorist of the world, US imperialism and the basic reasons for the upsurge of terrorism and terrorist outfits around the world. After the entry of Russia in to NATO, Almaty meet was an attempt by Putin to serve the extension of US and NATO domination over Asia with even Jiang Zemin, Chinese president, and others surrendering to US pressures. The Shanghai grouping and such other efforts are written off, atleast for the time being.

EU ratify Kyoto Protocol

All 15 members of European Union ratified *Kyoto Protocol* and urged US also to sign it.

Nuclear War at what cost ?

On May 24, researchers at Princeton University, where Einstein once worked, came out with statistics on the deaths and injuries that would ensue were India and Pakistan to unleash their nuclear weapons upon each other. The scenario visualised was that were India to bomb Karachi, Lahore, Rawalpindi-Islamabad, and Faisalabad, and in turn Pakistan were to bomb Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Bangalore and Chennai, the estimated number of deaths in India would be 1.7 million with 9,00,000 wounded, and in Pakistan 1.2 million deaths and 6,00,000 injured.

These figures are grossly underestimated as they only represent immediate casualties from blasts, fire and radiation. An unknown number of deaths would occur over the future years from cancer. Those immediately killed would be blessed, for the injured and affected would linger on in pain and suffer horribly.

-Ardeshir Cowasjee in *Dawn* -

National Scene

Camps in Gujarat and Camps for border migrants

Gujarat and Punjab are dotted with camps for refugees of different types. In Gujarat with monsoon expected to reach at any time the more than one lakh refugees who are prevented from returning to their homes by the Sangh

Parivar terrorists are leading a miserable life. Even after universal condemnation of the ethnic cleansing resorted to by VHP, Bajrang Dal like Sangh Parivar forces the central and state governments have not taken action to restore confidence among the minorities or to punish the culprits. The main accused are protected by the Modi government. So these refugees are facing an uncertain future.

As India and Pakistan has mobilised their entire army across the border and shelling has started killing even many civilians lakhs of people on both sides of border are compelled to migrate to distant camps leaving their cultivation and houses behind. In December also there was a wave of migration for some time. They had hardly gone back and started agricultural work when this exodus is started. The camps are already over flowing and more are reaching everyday. Shortage of food and water besides shelter are creating serious problems. Most of them are forced to flee after leaving their cattle also behind. These refugees do not know when their leaders will stop war mongering and start talking so that they can return to their villages.

For 2359 cops one lakh queue up

For 2359 vacancies in Delhi Police one lakh is in queue, many of whom with degrees and even post-graduate degree.

Privatisation helps monopolies

The privatisation of VSNL which had vast reserve funds has helped Tatas who purchased its majority of shares, immensely. Tatas have transferred Rs. 1200 crores from the reserves of VSNL to an ailing Tata Teleservices. Privatisation is becoming a bonanza for the monopolies-both national and international as proved in all cases including the sell-off of BALCO and Modern Foods.

Stop War Jingoism

On June 1 people from different walks of life joined hands and appealed to both India and Pakistan not to engage in war rhetoric. A *meeting against war and peace vigil* was organised at India Gate. The speakers pointed out that irrespective of all assurances given by representatives of US, Britain like nations what is inevitable is that any war irrespective of its dimension will lead to a nuclear holocaust. They also warned against growing US presence in the sub-continent.

Haryana farmer's struggle continues

Inspite of police firing killing five struggling farmers and wide-spread repression the BKU - led farmers struggle opposing hike in electricity charges and other anti-farmer policies of Chautala govt is continuing.

Censor stop 'War and Peace'

Anand Patwardhans' three hour long documentary focusing on the dangers of the nuclear war in the subcontinent 'War and Peace' was prevented from screening by Vajpayee government in the name of technicalities of censorship. The Sangh Parivar's shadow is becoming threatening in the cultural field also as the war hysteria is spread very fast.

Gujarat Carnage planned much before Godhra.

The fact-finding report by *People's Union of Democratic Rights* (PUDR) has revealed that the ground work for the Gujarat carnage was made much before Godhra. The report : "*Maaro ! Kaapo ! Baaro! : State, Society and Communalism in Gujarat*" states that organisers of the carnage tapped on a seem of hatred, based on anti-Muslim propaganda, which had been carefully cultivated over many years.

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Owned, Edited, Printed and Published by

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Red Flag News

Volume-3, Issue - 24, 12 June -2002

Join Statement

**Join the All India Convention
Against Imperialist Globalisation,
Communalisation and Gujarat
Genocide,
War Jingoism and Subservience to
imperialism
particularly US - imperialism**

At Mumbai on 20th July 2002

Dear Comrades and Friends,

The BJP-led NDA Government has taken our country to unprecedented crisis. The intensification of globalisation policies through IMF-World Bank-WTO dictates has ruined the economy, devastating people's life. The Sangh Parivar's communal drive has led to creation of hatred and divisions among the people, threatening the very unity among them. It has led to carnages and ethnic cleansing in Gujarat. When Sangh Parivar was getting exposed increasingly, Vajpayee government diverted attention of the people utilising the attack in Jammu on May 14 on innocent people by whipping up war jingoism and leading

the subcontinent to the brink of a nuclear holocaust.

Vajpayee government's opposition to settling of Kashmir question through bilateral discussions involving the people of J&K and fulfilling their democratic aspirations and its policy of war jingoism are serving the hegemonic strategy of US imperialism and its allies who are intervening in the sub-continent on a much larger scale. Though the war threat has receded apparently under imperialist manoeuvres, they continue to flood the subcontinent with arms and ruin the economy of both India and Pakistan further. The danger of US-UK military presence in Kashmir has increased. With the military bases of US and allies already in Afghanistan and Pakistan, the war moves on the border has provided opportunity for the aggravation of imperialist intervention in the region as part of the global policing by US. The economic self reliance and whatever national sovereignty was existing are also getting destroyed, intensifying our country's subservience to imperialism particularly to US imperialism. This is an open and flagrant betrayal of people's interests by Vajpayee government.

The people are already coming out against globalisation, communal frenzy, genocide in Gujarat, war jingoism and subservience to imperialism through protest demonstrations, strikes etc. all over the country. Congress and other major parliamentary parties in opposition including those who are engaged in phrase mongering against globalisation but implementing the very same policies wherever they are in power, have fallen prey to the war jingoist frenzy whipped up by Sangh Parivar.

It is in this context the **Six Organisations** are taking initiative for this **All India Convention** to mobilise the masses against the growing threats to their day to day life and against the grave challenges faced by the country.

We appeal to all sections of the people, democrats, patriots and all struggling forces to join this **All India Convention** to express their resolve to oppose globalisation and the fascist oriented drive by the saffron forces, and to build a massive broad based movement to fight imperialist offensive against our country and to safeguard the unity of the people.

CPI (ML) Liberation

CPI (ML) New Democracy

CPI (ML) Red Flag

CPI (ML) Unity Initiative

COI (ML)

MCPI

Press Statement

Join the campaign against

globalisation and growing fascist threats

The war jingoism whipped up by Vajpayee government even raising the threat of a nuclear holocaust over the subcontinent alongwith the ethnic cleansing unleashed in Gujarat are integral parts of the communal fascist agenda of Sangh Parivar. These saffron drives are calculated moves to cover up the intensification of globalisation which has devastated the lives of people, to divide them communally, to maim them through national chauvinism, and to influence coming elections. The Sangh Parivar is prepared to go to any extent to continue in power and to realise its goal of fascist Hindu Rashtra. In pursuit of this treacherous line it is dangerously enslaving the country to US imperialists and paving the way for US military presence in Kashmir.

This situation calls for resolute struggle against globalisation, communal fascist danger, Gujarat like communal cleansing, war jingoism and subservience to US imperialism. But Congress and other bourgeois parties in opposition are only playing one-upmanship with the BJP-led alliance regarding globalisation and Kashmir like questions. Even CPI (M) like forces have reduced these grave dangers faced by the people to a communalism versus secularism question. The challenge of organising anti-imperialist, anti-fascist offensive by the genuine left forces has achieved paramount importance as a result.

It is in this context CPI (ML) Red Flag is organising an all India campaign for a week from 19 to 26 June culminating on the 27th anniversary of the declaration of internal emergency by Congress government in 1975, anniversary of the first attempt to impose fascist oppression all over the country. At a time when globalisation has created conditions for growth of fascist danger everywhere and when Sangh Parivar is intensifying communalisation and spreading war hysteria this campaign has much significance. We appeal to the working class, all other toiling sections and the patriotic secular democratic forces to join this campaign and make it a big success.

CPI (ML) Red Flag

11-06-2002

New Delhi

View Point

Fight US imperialists' intervention

The war threats are apparently over for the time being. The shrill cries of Sangh Parivar that the 'cross-border terrorism' shall be ended once for ever are not repeated now. Some of the parliamentary opposition leaders including those of Congress and SP are not repeating demands for 'action' in their one-upmanship games with BJP. For the lakhs of border people who had to flee from their villages leaving behind everything for a second time during six months it is a temporary relief. The people of the sub-continent are relieved that they are saved from bitter consequences of another war and even a possible nuclear holocaust.

As far as Vajpayee government and Sangh Parivar behind it are concerned whipping up war jingoism was absolutely necessary. They wanted to divert attention of people and media from the growing condemnation of the ethnic cleansing going on in Gujarat presided over by Narendra Modi. Through spreading national chauvinism alongwith Hindutua-based polarization they wanted to reverse the electoral verdicts against them. Besides in an

atmosphere of war frenzy they wanted to put somebody nominated by them in the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

But, the master players behind the war moves that started utilising the proxy of May 14 attack in Jammu were not Vajpayee and company but the US imperialists behind them. They decided the war agenda. First, they could utilise Vajpayee government's war-jingoism to put more pressure on Musharraf govt in Pakistan and consolidate their military base in Pakistan including total freedom to conduct raids for their enemies, Al-Queida. The subcontinent could be flooded with more arms and huge sums could be earned. And when it looked like a clash is inevitable with heavy shelling started on the border, US and allies could exert pressure and postpone the war.

Through these manoeuvres US could achieve many things. US-UK has proposed patrolling of the LoC by their forces. They are pressing for deploying their airborne monitors. Pakistan has accepted it. Arm twisting to get India government also to accept it is going on. Meanwhile, thanks to Vajpayee and company the Kashmir question is internationalized. By refusing to settle it through talks with Pakistan involving people of J&K and without foreign interference, they have provided opportunity for US imperialists to intervene in J&K and in India as whole militarily. The upgrading of joint military exercises to stationing of US military in atleast J&K may take place at any time as even Congress and other major parliamentary opposition are also not opposing it. The frequent visits of US-UK envoys to Delhi and Islamabad are for further strengthening imperialist domination even in military field over the subcontinent.

This is a dangerous development. We should oppose all forms of imperialist intervention in India unequivocally. Vajpayee government's treacherous acts should be severely condemned and resisted. Mobilisation of people's opposition to US imperialist intervention is the paramount need of the hour.

Peace Demonstration against

war jingoism in India and Pakistan

Four progressive political parties of Pakistan have decided to organize a joint peace demonstration on 13th June. The parties are National Workers Party, Labour Party Pakistan, Communist Mazdoor Kissan Party and Peoples Party Shaheed Bhotto group. Several trade unions and social organization will join this first unity demonstration of the parties of the left in Pakistan.

Similar actions will be taken in other cities of of Pakistan. The left parties have appealed to the Indian left parties, trade unions and social organizations to take up the question of peace and demonstrate the majority wish of the masses on Indian sub continent as a peaceful region.

Demonstration for Peace

Thursday, 13th June 2002 at 5 pm at Lahore Press Club Shimla Pehari Lahore with the slogans :

Anti War - Pro-Peace - Dialogue - Disarmament

Kashmir Solution as Kishmiris want

Anti Religious Extremism

Exit of Foreign Troops

Anti Nuclear Weapons

CPI(ML) Red Flag , CPI(ML) Liberation, CPI(ML) Unity Initiative and SUCI

To Hold 'Anti-War- Anti- Imperialist Intervention Protests on June 13

CPI (ML) Red Flag, CPI(ML) Liberation, CPI(ML) Unity Initiative and SUCI have called upon the Government of India to resume direct bilateral dialogue with Pakistan with a view to de-escalating tension and keeping the imperialist powers at bay. These Parties will hold 'anti-war-anti-imperialist intervention protests' on June 13 in Delhi and several other centres.

Though India Government is mouthing against third party intervention, in Indo-Pak affairs in reality both the governments are rushing to the US-UK imperialist combination and asking for their intervention in South Asia. The parties are expressing their opposition against these interventionist activities of both of Bush-Blair combinations and also the role of India and Pakistan Governments. The parties also condemned the role of Indian Government which is actively collaborating with these imperialist powers in their war design and also opening defence sector for the investment of private capital both native and multinationals.

They said that common people in both India and Pakistan want peace and prosperity in these countries, but the rulers of India and Pakistan are busy whipping up war hysteria and are only inviting greater external interference.

International Scene

Spanish Workers' Struggle

The Spanish trade union federations have called a one-day general strike for June 20, in response to the ruling right-wing Popular Party's proposed new law which will make it easier for workers to be laid off, and introduces restrictions on unemployment benefits.

First May Day rally in Bahrain

May Day was observed first time in the history of Bahrain this year. The May Day rally organised by *Menbar Democratic Association* demanded implementation of minimum wages for all sections of workers and declaration of May Day as a holiday.

Karzai Sole Candidate

The stage-managed *loya jirga* in Afghanistan under US dictates may elect Karzai as the head of state unanimously. US imperialism and its trusted allies have succeeded in strengthening their puppet regime in Kabul.

Sharon wants expulsion of Arafat

Zionist Sharon has tasted blood. He wants to wipe out all Palestinian settlements and Palestinian resistance, even the token *Palestinian Authority* with Arafat as its head. He has demanded expulsion of Arafat and his military is bull-doing more settlements and attacking Palestinians at free will. It is jungle law with US imperialism supporting the fascist Sharon.

Al-Quaeda Operating Along Loc in J&K

US defence secretary Donald Rumsfeld has 'informed' Vajpayee, Indian prime minister, that there are indications about Al-Queda operating near the LoC in J&K. Though both sides are claiming that deploying of US-led military and infiltration monitoring forces along LoC was not discussed between the two, it is clear as day light that once Al-Queda is 'detected' in J&K, Bush administration has already appropriated the right to chase them everywhere and anywhere under 'war on terrorism'. The danger of US military deployment in J&K has increased.

National Scene

Presidential race

Abdul Kalam, the defence scientist, is nominated by NDA as its candidate for presidentship. In the race for putting its nominee in Rashtrapati Bhavan NDA has succeeded as even Congress and opposition are finding difficulty even to field a candidate. It became almost a walk-over for NDA, raising the important question once again : is there an opposition to Vajpayee government ?

Violence continues in Ahmedabad

Communal violence against the minorities are continuing in Ahmedabad. The state is far from even the 'normalcy' that had existed before Godhra. The refugees are still in the camps as the state government is not ready to protect them if they go back to their homes. During last week five people died and many got injured in the violence and police firing. Unless Narendra Modi is removed, a vigorous campaign against Sangh Parivar's hate campaign is launched, those newspapers spreading communal venom are not controlled and state machinery is ready to act in secular manner even nominal normalcy cannot return to the state.

Pressure to accept International patrolling

There is growing US-UK pressure on Vajpayee government to accept international patrolling of LoC in Kashmir, which virtually amounts to stationing of US-led military forces as in Afghanistan.

Ayaram Gayaram Games in Maharashtra

What once happened in 'backward' states like Haryana has started happening in the 'advanced' states also. Ruling Congress-NCP Combine has taken their MLAs to other states to save them from poaching by Shiv Sena - BJP. With the 'loyalty' of many MLAs doubted and the ministry losing public support, SS-BJP combine in utilising all means to stage a come back. The degeneration of ruling class politics has taken worse forms.

People's Front dissolved

The much trumpeted People's Front is dissolved as the Samajvadi Party led by Mulayam Singh has different priorities contradicting those of the CPI (M) led forces. When it came to election of president, Mulayam Singh opted fast to support the NDA nominee. Peeved by this CPI (M) secretary has announced that the 'People's Front is no more'. CPI (M) led forces are thinking of putting a candidate to oppose NDA nominee.

Distorting Shahid Bhagat Singh

The one billion project of bringing out five films on Shahid Bhagat Singh has turned out as a calculated effort by the Hindutua forces and their imperialist masters to distort and even vulgarise his revolutionary image. Like earlier attempts to rewrite history in saffron interests, through these films the secular democratic, anti-imperialist and socialist goals for which Bhagat Singh fought are distorted. It is the task of all left forces to vigorously oppose this heinous effort and to educate the masses about the true legacy of martyrs like comrade Bhagat Singh.

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Red Flag News

Volume-3, Issue - 25, 19 June -2002

View Point

Bush deploys CIA against Saddam Hussein

The deployment of CIA by Bush administration to destroy Saddam Hussein by any means and release of vast funds for it once again prove how dangerous this imperialist bully has become for world people. Through this action it is more convincingly exposed that what Bush is waging is not a 'war on terrorism' but war to promote US imperialism. History proves that most of the terrorist organisations like Al Qaeda, Taliban etc. around the world came into existence and got strengthened through CIA involvement. By deciding to train, arm and finance anti-Saddam forces more terrorist organisations will come into existence.

UN is totally sidelined and sovereignty of countries are openly attacked by Bush administration. The US imperialists are proving that they are the worst enemies the world people ever faced.

NDA Nominee at Rashtrapati Bhavan

Through subterfuges and manoeuvres never witnessed in earlier presidential elections Sangh Parivar and its political front, BJP have succeeded in ensuring the election of their nominee as next president. Some of the prominent BJP leaders have already claimed that "Kalam is a Muslim with a Hindu soul." While only the future can prove this claim, the presidential candidate's militarist views are already famous. Some hail him as the "Father of the Indian bomb." His views about elevating India to a country like the G-7 ones, that is in military terms, are also known. Thus his views are in harmony with the views of the Sangh Parivar which wants to increase Indian military strength to make it a bully in this part of the world, loyally serving imperialist interests. While Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam's qualifications and achievements in the field of science and technology are not going to compensate for his distance from the Constitution and the necessity to uphold secular democratic

values, the similarity of his militaristic views with the Sangh Parivar and that he is a NDA nominee are against the very interests of the masses. Even when the president in normal conditions is only a titular head, that his discretionary powers in abnormal situation can become decisive and dangerous makes the election of a NDA nominee like Abdul Kalam dangerous for Indian polity as the Sangh Parivar is ready to go to any extent to realise their fascist Hindu Rashtra. The way state machinery was nakedly utilised to assist the VHP, Bajrang Dal like forces to execute their agenda of pogroms and to save the culprits in Gujarath already prove this.

The continuation of Narendra Modi as chief minister and of Vajpayee government which is protecting Modi shows that the NDA partners of BJP as well as TDP, BSP like forces who support this government are least concerned about the consequences of the *Sangh Parivar raj* to the country. They are only interested in protecting their seats of power in any opportunistic manner. Like the degeneration of one-time socialists and Lohiaites to stooges of Hindu-fundamentalist forces, this degeneration of provincial parties, advocates of dalits etc. are despicable acts taking place for some time. But many did not imagine that Congress, the main opposition party, waiting to replace BJP led rule on a so called 'secular plank' will support the BJP-nominee. Or that SP whose leader was the convenor of People's Front will so hurriedly rush to support the NDA-nominee. Still it will be too much to hope that the CPI(M), CPI like forces who were trying to present this People's Front as the third alternative and who had talked about and worked hard to forge alliance with such forces against 'communal fascism' will pause for a moment and think about the latest events that compelled them to dissolve this front and to put up a candidate at least for a token contest against the BJP-nominee.

The latest development prove that neither in the case of speeding up globalisation, nor in whipping up war jingoism, nor in making the country subservient to US imperialism and its allies, nor in elevating an individual who is a BJP-nominee and has militarist views to presidency not only the allies of BJP in NDA and those who support it from outside, but also Congress, SP like forces have no basic contradiction with Sangh Parivar. All of them are more or less united presently under the ruling ideas of the ruling classes.

Only the left forces with an anti-globalisation democratic agenda can constitute the alternative to the ruling system and fight for people's interests. The need of the hour is to build unity of such left forces around whom the masses can be mobilized for the struggle against the ruling systems.

Observe 27th Anniversary of Emergency Raj

June 26 marks the 27th anniversary of the emergency raj imposed by Indira Gandhi led Congress government in 1975. It was the first attempt by the ruling class party to fascicise the ruling system. Whatever democratic rights including 'the right to live' existed was suppressed. Lakhs were jailed and

hundreds were killed in fake encounters, police firings and under torture. The 20 months old nightmare could be partially overcome and emergency was revoked only because of massive opposition to it from the toiling people and all those who stand for democratic values.

The 27th anniversary of emergency declaration is observed this year when the Sangh Parivar has experimented ethnic cleansing like pogroms in Gujarat and war jingoism is utilised to whip up chauvinism in order to pursue its fascist goal of Hindu Rashtra. It is also a time when, in spite of Gujarat, the parliamentary opposition parties including Congress and SP have joined hands with BJP-led forces to elevate a militarist NDA-nominee as the next president, further diluting their differences.

When around the world and in India globalisation and hegemony of market system are leading to emergence of fascist danger utilizing the most reactionary ideologies like religious fundamentalism, when the economic and democratic rights so far won by the toiling masses are increasingly threatened by the ruling system, struggle against globalisation and fascism, for democracy and socialism have become the primary task. Let us observe the anniversary of emergency declaration as an opportunity to get educated and mobilised for this struggle.

International Scene

Spain: 300,000 Andalusian workers march in Seville

This weekend in Spain was marked by mass anti-government demonstrations in Extremadura and Andalusia. The mood of anger is particularly noticeable among the peasants and agricultural workers in these regions who are threatened by the new legislation of the right-wing Aznar government. In Badajoz, according to the newspapers, there was a demonstration of 30,000 - a record figure for that region, and undoubtedly an underestimate - but in Seville there was a massive demonstration of 300,000 people. Report by Raquel Estevez. (June 10, 2002)

Mass opposition to privatization in Peru

Mass protests rocked Arequipa, Peru after the government announced the sale of two state electric utilities to a Belgian firm. The demonstrations began on June 15 and intensified the following day. Thousands of demonstrators rallied in Arequipa's main square, chanting slogans against Peruvian President Alejandro Toledo. During the recent campaign for president, Toledo had promised in writing not to privatize the electric utilities in Arequipa and in Tacna, a city on the border with Chile. Protesters blocked access to government buildings and occupied the airport in an attempt to prevent the landing of special government

Troops being sent to quell the protests.

Over 250 demonstrators set fire to tires on the runways and stood on the runway to block airplanes from landing. On Saturday the National Police forced an end to the airport occupation. Stranded tourists reported a brutal confrontation between the police and protesters, who were attacked with intensive tear gas barrages.

One-day national strike in Uruguay

On June 12 Uruguay was paralyzed by a 24-hour general strike organized by the national trade union federation (PIT-CUT) to protest austerity measures imposed by President Jorge Batlle under orders from the International Monetary Fund.

Chinese auto workers protest

Several hundred workers employed by a state-owned vehicle repair factory in Chengdu, the capital of the western province of Sichuan, demonstrated last weekend over unpaid wages and corrupt practices by management and local officials. Five workers were injured and three arrested in a clash with police after the demonstration blocked city traffic. The Chengdu protest coincides with the widespread demonstrations since March against mass layoffs and corruption in China's northeastern provinces.

Bangladesh ferry workers strike over safety

Operators of 4,000 private Bangladesh river ferries and their crews struck for three days on June 8 in protest over the rising number of criminal attacks on boats. According to the Bangladesh Noujan (river vessels) Workers' Federation, pirates have assaulted and robbed crew and passengers on at least a dozen occasions in the past three months.

New Zealand teachers reject union-brokered deal

Stopwork meetings across New Zealand last week attended by 14,000 secondary school teachers overwhelmingly rejected a deal struck between the Post Primary Teachers Association (PPTA) and the Labour-Alliance government on pay and conditions.

Indian Scene

Join the All India Convention

Against imperialist globalisation,

communalisation, War Jingoism

At Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Bhavan, Dadar (East), Mumbai

On 20th July 2002

Organised by CPI(MI) Red Flag, CPI(ML) New Democracy,

CPI(ML) Unity Initiative, CPI(ML) Liberation, COI(ML), and MCPI.

All India Campaign progressing well

The All India Campaign against globalisation, communal fascism and war mongering organised by CPI(ML) Red Flag from 19 to 26 June, culminating on the 27th anniversary of the declaration of emergency raj has kicked off well in all areas the party is active. Besides postering, distribution of handbills and other propaganda works, seminars, conventions and public meetings are organised at many places. Karnataka SC has organised a jeep jatha in areas where party is active. At Delhi the campaign is started and public meeting is held on 23 June. At Mumbai also meeting is organised at Phule Hall at Chinchpokli on 23rd June in which besides leaders of Red Flag, leading comrades from Lal Nishan Party(Leninvasi) and CPI(ML) New Democracy are participating.

Communal riots in Jamner in Maharashtra.

The methods are the same. First a dead pig was found in the Shahi Masjid. A week later the eyes of a Hanuman idol were found damaged. Suspects Padmakar Joshi and Dilip Sable were arrested for these heinous acts. Police handles the situation in an inept or communally influenced manner. It leads to communal flare ups, death of five, injury to many and large scale destruction in a town of 40,000 population. Not satisfied with what they caused already the VHP and Shiv Sena has called for bandhs in neighboring Jalgaon in order to escalate the communal division. The fundamentalist are working according to well thought out plan. These are conscious efforts not only to prolong and intensify communal division in Gujarath but also to spread it to other states.

Indian municipal workers protest against contracting

Madras Municipal Corporation workers demonstrated on June 11 against the Tamil Nadu state government's decision to outsource all fourth-grade rated work to private contractors. The move will affect over 6,000 casual workers, some of whom have worked for the city for nine years. The decision to contract out the fourth-grade work is part of a broader privatisation agenda being implemented by the state government.

Outsees on hunger strike on verge of death

Four of the Narmada Valley projects outsees are on hunger strike for 28 days and are on verge of death. MP government of Digvijay Singh which organised a Dalit convention to adopt a dalit liberation charter and convention to promote secularism during last six months spending crores cannot find Rs.40,183 each for 1226 families to provide alternate lands for the outsees in place of their lands submerged by the dam waters. So they are allowed to die, neglecting their struggles, shamelessly flouting earlier promises. Like the misery of Bhopal gas disaster victims, Narmada outsees are forced to suffer for no fault of theirs. When they protest they are suppressed. It is state terror in one of its worst forms. It calls for severe condemnation. All democratic forces should support the demand for rehabilitating the outsees by providing alternate lands to them.

Time weekly and Vajpayee

The *swyamsevaks* and BJP heroes are protesting across the country and burning copies of US news weekly, *Time*, for publishing a report on the health conditions and food and 'drinking' habits of Vajpayee. That Vajpayee is in a very poor health condition like Yeltsin of Russia once is a known fact for all. By coming out to protest against the weekly for telling a truth which the media here is afraid to tell is a big joke.

When the country is being sold out to the Americans, when everything including deployment and withdrawal of armed forces on border including the 'war agenda' is finally decided by American big brother, when the danger of US military getting stationed in J & K under the pretext of chasing Al Qaeda or monitoring the LoC is increasing we do not see these Sangh Parivar forces protesting against them. But when Americans start kite flying to find whether this 'half-dead' comprador can be replaced by one like Musharraf on this side of the border also, they got offended. These communal fascists and 'US patriots' forget that the beggars cannot be the choosers also.

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Red Flag News

Volume-3, Issue - 26, 26 June -2002

Joint Statement

Join All India Convention

**Against Imperialist Globalisation,
Communalisation and Gujarat Genocide,
War Jingoism and Subservience to Imperialism
Particularly US - Imperialism**

20th July 2002

Dr. Ambedkar Bhawan, Dadar (East), Mumbai

Dear Comrades and Friends,

The BJP-led NDA Government has taken our country to unprecedented crisis. The intensification of globalisation policies through IMF-World Bank-WTO dictates has ruined the economy, devastating people's life. The Sangh Parivar's communal drive has led to creation of hatred and divisions among the people, threatening the very unity among them. It has led to carnages and ethnic cleansing in Gujarat. When Sangh Parivar was getting exposed increasingly, Vajpayee government diverted attention of the people utilising the attack in Jammu on May 14 on innocent people by whipping up war jingoism and leading the subcontinent to the brink of a nuclear holocaust.

Vajpayee government's opposition to settling of Kashmir question according to

the wishes of the people of J&K and its policy of war jingoism are serving the hegemonic strategy of US imperialism and its allies who are intervening in the sub-continent on a much larger scale. Though the war threat has receded apparently under imperialist manoeuvres, they continue to flood the subcontinent with arms and ruin the economy of both India and Pakistan further. The danger of US-UK military presence in Kashmir has increased. With the military bases of US and allies already in Afghanistan and Pakistan, the war moves on the border has provided opportunity for the aggravation of imperialist intervention in the region as part of the global policing by US. The economic and political decisions taken are becoming more and more subservient to imperialism particularly to US imperialism.

Through POTA, proposed reforms in labour laws and other draconian measures central and state governments are trying to snatch away whatever democratic rights of the people in general, and of workers and peasants in particular. This is an open and flagrant betrayal of people's interests by Vajpayee government.

The people are already coming out against globalisation, communal frenzy and genocide in Gujarat, war jingoism and subservience to imperialism through protest demonstrations, strikes etc. all over the country. Congress and other major parliamentary parties in opposition including those who are engaged in phrase mongering against globalisation but implementing the very same policies wherever they are in power, have fallen prey to the war jingoist frenzy whipped up by Sangh Parivar.

It is in this context the **Six Organisations** are taking initiative for this **All India Convention** to mobilise the masses against the growing threats to their day to day life and against the grave challenges faced by the country.

We appeal to all sections of the people, democrats, patriots and all struggling forces to join this **All India Convention** to express their resolve to oppose globalisation and the fascist oriented drive by the saffron forces, and to build a massive broad based movement to fight imperialist offensive against our country and to safeguard the democratic rights and the unity of the people.

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| CPI (ML) Democracy | Liberation CPI (ML) Red Flag | CPI (ML) New |
| CPI (ML) Unity MCPI | Initiative | COI (ML) |

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View Point

Fight Surrender of Print Media to MNCs

The latest decision by Vajpayee Government to open print media for 26 % FDI investment is yet another severe attack on whatever little sovereignty existing in this country. It leads to control of print media by foreign media moghuls like Rupert Murdoch. This sellout of print media field also to foreign interests should be fought by all democratic forces.

Stop Rathayatra in Gujarat

The proposed Rathayatra by Sangh Parivar in Gujarat is yet another attempt to intensify the ethnic cleansing being pursued there by them utilising the services of Narendra Modi government. This move will only vitiate the atmosphere in the state further. We appeal to all democratic secular forces to raise their voice against this heinous move. Pressure should be built up to compel Vajpayee government to intervene and stop this Hindutua move.

Israeli Aggression Continues

Imperialist spokespersons and media have intensified the dis-information campaign against Palestinian Liberation struggle. It is imperialist machinations, intensifying Israeli aggression and occupation of Palestine more savagely, violation of all UN decisions and the negative approach of the comprador regimes in West Asia which have led the Palestinian people to desperate acts like suicide bombing to resist aggression and occupation by the Zionist fascists. In the main what is taking place is massive people's resistance involving millions. This fact and colonisation of Palestine is concealed, and isolated suicide bombings are projected as the central issue in order to provide license for the Zionist aggressors to continue their savage acts. The apologetic approach of Arafat like leaders and their compromising positions have also helped the imperialists and Zionists to continue their aggression in this manner.

Suicide bombings like isolated desperate acts will come to an end only when a broad based and working class led national liberation movement emerges to lead the Palestinians to achieve their sovereign nation and Zionist aggressions come to an end. As UN is made totally impotent, Security Council has become by and large a tool in the hands of US imperialism and the comprador regimes in West Asia and in other regions remain silent witnesses to the US assisted Zionist aggression, methods to mobilise world public opinion in support of the national liberation struggle of Palestinian people should be found. This has become an internationalist duty of the working class and all progressive democratic forces around the world.

Autonomy for J&K

The demand for autonomy for J&K at the convention of National Conference is a repetition of the demand adopted by J&K assembly two years ago. Autonomy and strict implementation of the special status for J&K under Article 357 of the Constitution shall provide the conditions for resolving J&K question fulfilling the aspirations of the people. But like Congress earlier, or more than Congress, BJP and Vajpayee government are subverting this demand and talking about 'devolution of powers' to confuse the issue. They are waiting for an opportunity to remove Article 357 from the Constitution.

It is repeatedly proved that National Conference is opportunist and has played their own role in worsening the situation in J&K. It is also true that it has raised the autonomy issue only for winning the coming elections. It is the task of the democratic forces to support the autonomy demand, defeat BJP moves to eliminate Article 357, oppose the latest VHP demand to divide the state communally and demand to create conditions for Kashmiri people to realise their democratic aspirations. Only in this way Kashmir question can be settled and Indo-Pakistan relations can be improved, putting an end to present war-mongering and economic ruin of the people of both India and Pakistan.

BJP on more hawkish hindutua path

Two latest developments indicate that BJP prodded by Sangh Parivar is on more hawkish hindutua path. At Hardwar VHP announced that it will not abide by court verdict on Ayodhya. Besides Vinay Katiyar, former Bajrang Dal chief and one of the accused in Babri Masjid demolition case is appointed as BJP chief in UP. At Goa convention itself by rallying behind Narendra Modi, BJP had shown that it will be led by RSS and its parivar in all respects. Sangh Parivar is making it clearer day by day that there is no going back from its fascist agenda including the Gujarat model communal cleansing and whipping up of war jingoism. The agenda is not at all hidden now.

25 years of LF rule in West Bengal

As CPI (M) leadership has called for celebrating 25 years of continuous left front rule in West Bengal, Budhadeb Bhattacharjee's government is busy in implementing the recommendations on economic reforms from the corporate consultative firm, McKinsay, to dovetail the economy of the state with international market system and MNCs. LF government is planning to turn the state in to a 'zero labour trouble' state to attract FDIs and FIIs alongwith MNCs. A fortnight of blockade led by CITU against closure of a mine was broken up by police. Hawkers and slum dwellers are thrown out to beautify the

city.

As all traditional industries are perishing making millions jobless, the MNCs are allowed to invest with best of terms to reap profit. Existing labour laws are being removed. Contract farming by MNCs like Kargil and Pepsi is introduced. Agriculture is re-structured based on the advice of McKinsay which will soon convert this rice surplus state in to a deficient one soon. CPI (M) is proving that it is not better than any social democratic party in Europe in toeing the line of neo-liberal economic policies.

International Scene

Stray Plane frighten white house

A small Cessna aircraft which inadvertently strayed over the skies of Washington created panic leading to military jets scrambling and white house being evacuated on 19 June.

Plot attempts again in Venezuela

Undeterred by the collapse of their coup attempt against radical Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez in March, once again US-sponsored retired officers and vested interests are regrouping for another coup soon, it is reported.

US pulls out of ABM treaty

Bush administration formally withdrew from Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty and called for aggressive push to build missile defences against its 'enemies'. Bush claims that US "now face new threats from terrorists who seek to destroy our (i.e., US imperialist) civilisation". As US formally withdrew from this treaty on 13 June all nuclear arms reduction pacts including 1993 Start II Treaty have become redundant. 'Star Wars' and other projects will be speeded up.

World Food Summit

The World Food Summit which concluded on June 13 buried people's food rights and peasants' right to land. It was a total failure in addressing the hunger issue. At the same time it became a launching pad for biotechnological industry. The hunger for food was neglected. The hunger for profit was fully attended to. It was used to put stamp of approval on genetically engineered seeds and crops which have been at the centre of controversy during last decade.

Struggle against pollution

Presently 85% of all man-made CHG emissions are made by the developed countries. If the undeveloped countries wants to increase levels of economic

development their emission levels also may increase. The developed countries especially US do not want to cut down their emission levels, but want to preach to undeveloped countries to cut down their already very low emission levels further, perpetuating their poverty. This is the manifestation of the contradiction between imperialism and third world in the field of ecology.

Peru - Mass uprising defeats privatisation plans

After a week of protests and virtual uprising in the south of Peru, the government has backed down on its plans to privatise the water and electricity in the region. (June 24, 2002)

The general strike in Spain

The general strike in Peru has been a resounding success. It was followed by more than 90% of industrial workers in all parts of the country and all sections of industry. The success of the strike is shown in the mass participation in demonstrations, in many places the biggest for 20 years.

General Strike in Greece

On Tuesday a general strike took place in Greece - following on from the two massive general strikes that shook the country in the spring of 2001, and forced the government to back down on its proposed attacks on social spending. As we said at the time, these strikes marked a watershed, a turning point. Now the new mood of militancy has been shown once again.

National Scene

Hike in FDI

Vajpayee government is in a real hurry to sell everything to MNCs and to allow hegemony of foreign investment in all areas. It is reported that FDI cap in telecom will be hiked to 74% soon. Soon in more areas also it will be made applicable.

Nepal king in India

King Gyanendra of Nepal who has virtually got dictatorial powers back as a result of declaration of emergency, dissolution of parliament and deployment of army which is under his direct control is visiting India to seek Indian help to suppress the people's revolt there. That it is the barbaric feudal rule of kings and their courtesians which have left Nepal one of the poorest countries in the world is concealed and arms and equipments are sought to suppress people's revolt. True to its reactionary character Vajpayee government is eager to assist the 'last Hindu king' to safeguard his throne. It is a plot against Nepalese people. It should be condemned and opposed.

Modi at it again

Modi government has disallowed on flimsy grounds the attempt to rebuild the tomb of noted Gujarati poet, Wali Gujarati, vandalised and destroyed by Sangh Parivar. Gujarat Minorities Association and all democratic forces have severely condemned this fascist act of Modi government.

Anti-globalisation, anti-fascist, anti-war jingoism campaign

The campaign against globalisation, communal fascism and war jingoism launched by CPI (ML) Red Flag successfully concluded with many meetings, seminars, conventions etc. At Delhi a public meeting was organised at Uttam Nagar addressed by Com. Rajeev kumar on 21 June as part of the campaign. At Mumbai a well attended meeting was organised in Phule Hall, Chinch Pokli on 23 June as part of the campaign.

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Red Flag News

Volume-3, Issue - 27, 3 July -2002

Resolution on National Situation

(The CC of CPI(ML) Red Flag adopted the following resolution on national situation in its meeting at Bangalore from 28 to 30 June.)

These are days when very fast development are taking place at national level. The appointment of L.K.Advani as deputy prime minister, Benoy Katiyar as the president of BJP in U.P, declaration of VHP that it shall not abide by the Supreme Court verdict, the demand of VHP and now RSS to communally divide J&K, the continuing ethnic cleansing in Gujarat and persisting with Narendra Modi government there- all these indicate that the Sangh Parivar has decided to openly pursue its Hindutva agenda and fight future elections based on it. There is a well laid planning and method behind Sangh Parivar moves.

The ethnic cleansing in Gujarat was launched following a series of election reverses. NDA was in trouble. Godhra was only an excuse. All findings show that the genocides were planned well before Godhra. By communalising the state machinery VHP, Bajrang Dal like forces were allowed to pursue savage massacres, assault on women and arson driving out Muslims from many areas, economically ruining them and making more than 1.5 lakhs refugees. Still conditions for return of many of these families are not created. Those who led the genocides are not booked. In spite of countrywide demands from all democratic forces, opposition parties and even some of the apologetic NDA allies Narendra Modi is allowed to continue. Goa conclave of BJP repeated RSS resolution at Bangalore to vigorously pursue the Hindutva agenda.

It is at this time the May 14th incident in Jammu involving the killing of innocents in bomb blast was utilised to whip up war jingoism and creating the danger of another war with Pakistan and a nuclear holocaust in the subcontinent. It was also a subtle move to divert attention from its communal fascist drive in Gujarat and to win support through the incitement of chauvinistic fervour. The war moves was utilised to worsen J&K situation to oppose the democratic aspirations of people in pursuit of Sangh Parivar's communal agenda.

Through war mongering and concentration of armed forces on Pak border Vajpayee government was going ahead with its policy of serving the hegemonistic strategy of US imperialism in the subcontinent. While acting like 'peace- brokers ', Bush and Tony Blair were worsening Indo-Pak relations, flooding both sides with more arms and are creating conditions for direct deployment of their forces in J&K. Subverting all progressive aspects of the policies so far pursued Vajpayee government is enslaving the country fast to

subservience to imperialism in all respects. It is a heinous act of treason.

We cannot bifurcated these development from the intensification of the enslavement of the country by further speeding up of 'second generation of reforms' under globalisation. WTO conditions are imposed hastily. Genetically activated Bt.Cotton like seeds are permitted without any field trials. Patent laws are implemented fast. All these are further attacks on the day to day lives of the people and making their life more miserable and betrayal of the national interests.

For BJP the search for a presidential candidate was a part of master plan of Sangh Parivar to impose its Hindu Rashtra concept by communalizing all arms of state machinery and putting its nominees in all positions of power. They decided to put forward Abdul Kalam as NDA nominee through Kautilya tactics and subterfuges. On the one hand his militarist views and advocacy of nuclear armament were in conformity with Sangh Parivar on views on these issues. His 'apoliticism' is handy for them to undermine the secular democratic values in the Constitution. On the other hand it is a cover for their ethnic cleansing in Gujarat and communal fascist drives. By putting forward Abdul Kalam BJP has succeeded in trapping Congress and other ruling class parties besides the NDA parties behind their nominee. It is a major gain for Sangha Parivar

In present Indian situation when globalisation is imposed at hectic pace, communal fascist drives are taking place in most savage forms, war jingoism is whipped up in frenzied manner and when conditions for intensification of imperialist domination are created more speedily, any talk of national consensus in presidential election is nonsense. The talk of the consensus candidate was a ploy by Sangh Parivar.

In the beginning the CPI (M) led front vacillated and could not see through the manouvers of Sangh Parivar. In effect, this failure helped the Sangh Parivar to polarize all the ruling class parties around its nominee. In present critical situation it was the duty of the left forces to put forward a candidate who stands for secular democratic values in the beginning itself and work for a polarization against Sangh Parivar. In this context though late the candidature of Dr.Lakshmi Sehgal a heroic fighter in the independence struggle and staunch advocate of secular democratic values for the presidential election is a positive step. The task of left forces today has increased to protect the national and people's interests and to save the country from globalisation and communal fascism.

Press Statement

Oppose the NDA nominee for presidential election.

Through Kautilya tactics and subterfuges Vajpayee government has succeeded in putting forward Abdul Kalam as the NDA nominee for Presidential election. It has succeeded in trapping Congress and other ruling class parties in the opposition to support the NDA nominee in the name of ' consensus '. At a time when the SanghaParivar is intensifying its Hindutva offensive through ethnic cleansing in Gujarat and open measures to push through with its agenda, whipping up war jingoism, aggravating Kashmir question by demanding the communal division of J&K and increasing fascist threats, the election of Abdul Kalam with his declared advocacy of militarism and nuclear armament on the one hand, and apolitical positions which may go against secular democratic values in the Constitution shall pose a threat to Indian polity. This move to project Abdul Kalam as a NDA nominee by Vajpayee government also becomes more serious as it is a dubious attempt to divert attention of the people from Gujarat genocide and Hindutva offensive.

It is in this context the candidature of Dr.Lakshmi Sehgal, a staunch advocate of secular

democratic values for the presidential elections assumes significance. It is the responsibility of the all democratic forces to support Dr.Lakshmi Sehgal and register their opposition to the heinous moves of Vajpayee government and Sangha Parivar behind it.

CPI (ML) Red flag

On July 20 All India Convention at Mumbai

The CC of CPI(ML) Red Flag has called for active campaign and organisational work in order to make the All India Convention at Mumbai against Globalisation -Communalisation and Gujarat Genocide -War Jingoism organised by CPI(ML) Red Flag and other five parties and supported by Lal Nishan party (Leninvadi) a big success.

Oppose opening of print media for foreign investment

The CC of CPI(ML) Red Flag has condemned the opening of print media also for foreign investment. It marks a further intensification of globalisation destroying even the remnants of national sovereignty and right to express existing in the country. Through this decision Vajpayee government has exposed itself as a government of treason, making the country subservient to imperialist interests in all respects. The CC noted that more and more sections have come out to oppose this decision. It appealed to all democratic forces to intensify the campaign against this decision on print media and try for its repeal.

Interntional scene

Hegemonistic Overdrive by US

The 'War on terrorism' by US is proved more and more an act of terrorising the world by it. When it finds the International Criminal Court can take legal action against the US peace keepers also, claiming unique status in global politics and immunity for its armed forces wherever they are deployed and whatever may be their actions, Bush administration has vetoed the extension of UN peace keeping mission in Bosnia. It shows that US wants to be a law unto itself as the sole superpower on the global stage. Whether its refusal to sign Kyoto Protocol or withdrawal from ABM treaty, it is pursuing 'unilateralist overdrive' as even its European allies have started murmuring. Even when its B-52 bombers drop bombs on a house in Afghanistan where a marriage ceremony was going on frightened by the fireworks and kills more than 50 people including a large number of children and women, as happened on 1 July, it wants immunity from any legal actions. 'War on terrorism' means appropriating license to bomb, to kill, to torture, to rape or do any savage act in the name of serving US interests, tramping over interests of world people.

Hawkish acts to launch aggression on North Korea

DPRK has accused that US spy planes were violating its air space many times every day through out June. It is aimed to perfect the combat skills of the flying corps of US for starting a 'Second Korean War', DRPK alleged. There hawkish manoeuvres are aimed at stifling DRPK with a surprise pre-emptive attack as was done against Iraq twice already. This US action calls for severe condemnation.

Chinese Workers protest

Protesting against retrenchment of 10,000 railway workers as part of 'down-sizing' hundreds of them staged week long protest demonstration in Beijing.

Italian museum workers protest against privatisation plans

On June 29, museums throughout Italy were hit by industrial action as staff struck for 24 hours. Museum and heritage workers held a demonstration outside the Colosseum and held up banners with slogans such as "Colosseum for Sale," and "No to privatisation, yes to full-time employment". In April the government of Silvio Berlusconi passed a decree proposing to place state property into private hands, either through concessions or sales. Consequently some of Italy's most important historic and cultural sites, such as the Colosseum, face privatisation.

Nigerian teachers set to restart strike

Teachers in the Nigerian state of Anambra are to go on indefinite strike again, only three months after the end of a previous five-month strike, due to the state government's failure to pay salaries. Austin Nwosu, Nigerian Union of Teachers (NUT) state chairman, told a news conference in Awka that since the previous strike was suspended in March the state government had not paid teachers' salaries and allowed six months of arrears to build up. It had also failed to release N8.8 million (\$73,000) to clear the salary arrears from May 2001 or to pay the N30.7 million owed to the union as check-off dues.

At the same time, large numbers of secondary school pupils in Anambra State have taken to the streets in protest at the introduction of N3,000 school fees. Education in the state secondary schools was made free in 2000, but the state government now insists it must charge fees to pay salaries and avoid a collapse of its education system. The state government claims to have reduced the fees to N1,950 since the start of the demonstrations but this has not caused the students to stop their protests.

Worker killed in Peruvian lumber workers strike

A worker was shot and killed by police June 26 during a protest by striking lumber workers in the Department of Madre de Dios, located in the southeastern Peruvian jungle on the border between Brazil and Bolivia. Several other workers were wounded in the confrontation. After the shooting furious workers set fire to wood deposits in Puerto Maldonado. The main demand of the strike, which began June 19, is to end the privatization of native forests.

Bangladesh jute mill workers oppose government closure

Thousands of workers at the state-owned Adamjee Jute Mills in Narayanganj, Bangladesh began mass protests on June 25, in opposition to the government's decision to shut the factory. Fearful of mounting opposition by workers, the government immediately deployed army, police and fire service personnel inside the mills. One of the world's largest jute mill, the factory employs 17,162 permanent and 6,252 temporary workers. A "Save Adamjee Jute Mill" committee with the representatives from 14 trade unions has been formed to fight the closure.

Strike continues at South Korean engineering plant

Workers at Doosan Heavy Industries, the largest heavy engineering firm in South Korea, are continuing strike action begun on May 23 for a new work contract and improved pay and working conditions. The prolonged strike has stopped production at the company and prevented the shipment of heavy equipment produced for various overseas projects, including a desalination plant for the United Arab Emirates and parts for General Electric in the US. About 100 in-house suppliers and subcontractors have also been forced to

suspend operations due to the strike and 1,600 outside suppliers have also been affected. The government has targeted 20 Doosan union leaders for arrest, including Korean Metal Workers Union President Kim Chang Keun.

National Scene

Gaurav yatras of BJP abandoned

The Gaurav Yatras of BJP in Gujarat supposed to have been flagged off by L.K.Advani on 4 July from Ambaji is abandoned because of strong opposition by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and democratic forces. When the whole country is put to shame by the ethnic cleansing in Gujarat compelling tens of thousands to depend on refugee camps still, only communal fascists can see any 'Gaurav' in such actions and campaign. It was certain to provoke more disturbances. Modi and company was launching these yatras to create more carnages and to perpetuate communal division. That this barbaric move could be stopped is a positive thing. But the traditional Jagannath yatra of 12 July can still create troubles if stringent preventive actions are not taken.

More organisations banned

Vajpayee government has banned three more organisations under POTA 2002. With this 32 organisations are made illegal under POTA. Even while admitting that activities of many of these organisations are terroristic, banning them is not the solution to put down their activities. It is in the absence of political solutions to burning issues and often with assistance from foreign agencies and native reaction these organisations get strengthened. And if banning is the answer to put down terrorism Vajpayee government should have banned first VHP, Bajrang Dal, Shiv Sena like organisations who openly ridicule Constitution, declare that court verdicts will not be respected and indulge in large scale massacres and even ethnic cleansing. Through selective banning of large number of organisations it dislikes Vajpayee govt is implementing the fascist agenda of Sangh Parivar.

Police fire at protesting tea workers

A worker was killed and at least five others injured when police opened fire on a protest at a state-owned tea plantation in West Bengal. The workers were demonstrating against the government's decision to privatise part of the Chandmoni estate. Police began the attack after workers erected roadblocks to prevent the new owners entering the property.

Campaign Against Global Investors Meet

Kerala State Committee of CPI(ML) Red Flag has decided to launch vigorous campaign and democratic action against the proposed Global Investors' Meet at Kovalam in Kerala in November. It is an attempt by UDF government to further speed up globalisation policies in Kerala. As part of this state wide campaign, a Convention is organised on 27 July at Town Hall, Ernakulam with the participation of a large number of prominent democrats, educationists, ecologists, cultural activists, prominent leaders of women's and Dalit movements etc., besides leaders of Red Flag and the class/mass organisations.

PDP leaders arrested under POTA

As election to J&K assembly is getting nearer Vajpayee government at centre and the National Conference government in J&K are colluding to put down all democratic dissent by arresting leaders and activities of all opposition parties with mass support in J&K. The latest example is the arrest of Mehbooba Math and a large number of activists of People's

Democratic Party when they organised protest demonstrations against custodial killings in the state and against POTA. Day by day state terror is intensified to put down dissent.

ADB loan and down sizing in MP

The state governments under Congress leadership are competing with Vajpayee government in speeding up 'second generation of reforms'. Like the Congress led governments in Kerala, Maharashtra and Karnataka, MP government has decided to take huge loans from Asian Development Bank and to imitate down-sizing of government and closing down of PSUs in the state under ADB dictates.

Against FDI in print media

Vajpayee government's decision to allow entry of FDI in the print media is opposed by more and more forces, even from among NDA partners. Even BJP affiliated BMS has flayed the move. Meanwhile all democratic forces, many newspapers and journalists' organisations have condemned this decision as foreign interests inimical to Indian interests will find legal ways to influence public opinion, jeopardising whatever sovereignty is existing in the country.

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Red Flag News

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View Point

Defeat Sangh Parivar's Subterfuges in Gujarat

The resignation of Narendra Modi government in Gujarat, dissolution of the assembly by the RSS man in Raj Bhavan, Bhandari, and Vajpayee governments moves to get the Election Commission agree to an early poll in that state are sinister moves to capitalise on the 'Hindu Polarisation' following the savage communal cleansing post Godhra. Left to himself Modi would have preferred on elections immediately following BJP's Goa conclave where his black deeds were upheld. But the arithmetic of the electoral college for presidential election and the strong condemnation of the carnage from even statutory bodies like NHRC prevented BJP to go for an early plunge as Modi wished. Once the president election is over and conduct of a 'peaceful Jagannath Yatra' is claimed, Modi has resigned to hold elections as early as possible.

All those except the Sangh Parivar forces who have gone to Gujarat and studied the situation there will unanimously agree that normalcy has not returned to that state. That is why almost all newspapers all over India except BJP or Sangh Parivar mouthpieces have condemned Modi's move and demanded that president's rule should be declared and normalcy should be achieved removing the sense of fear from minorities before election is held. All opposition parties also have raised the same demand. All secular democratic forces, civil rights groups etc. are also of the same opinion.

It is an established fact that even in 'normal' conditions elections in India are not 'free and fair', with money-power, mafia groups and whipping up of communal-casteist-ethnic-parochial feelings playing important role. The present condition in Gujarat is quite far from even this 'normalcy'. Even after coercive and intimidatory ways employed to make the riot victims leave the relief camps, according to press reports even now more than 13,000 refugees still live in these camps. The Jagannath Yatra passed off 'peacefully' because the frightened minorities observed a 'janatha curfew' and remained indoors or fled from areas near the route of the yatra. There is pervasive sense of insecurity prevailing among minorities. In many areas they are terrified to return home. The 'social boycott' enforced by Sangh Parivar against them is still in force.

Besides, the state government has not got those responsible for large scale killings, rapes,

arson and other savage acts arrested or legal proceeding started. The state machinery is communalised to a great extent and is functioning under Sangh Parivar's dictates. When known culprits who perpetuated the mayhem are roaming freely, how can normalcy return? Even after the Forensic Report exposing Advani's and Modi's claims on Godhra came out, instead of an impartial enquiry and legal proceedings, the Godhra charge sheet is manipulated to serve the interests of Sangh Parivar.

The intentions of Narendra Modi & Co are clear. They want to manipulate the elections utilising the communal polarisation following the communal cleansing and return to power using all nefarious means. Whipping up of Ayodhya issue once again and Gujarat carnage followed by BJP's decision under RSS prodding to openly come out with Hindutva agenda has happened after continuous electoral reverses suffered by it. In Gujarat lacklustre Keshubhai Patel was replaced by Modi after a number of electoral reverses. If elections are held in normal conditions, the anti-people consequences of globalisation will lead to rout of BJP. So it wants to reverse the trend by utilising open Hindutva agenda, before the anger and hatred aroused by the riots fade from memory.

This barbarous game plan of BJP should not be allowed to succeed. Narendra Modi government should be relieved of caretaker tasks, presidential rule should be declared, culprits in the carnage should be brought to book, communal elements in the state machinery should be weeded out and atleast a semblance of normalcy should be established before elections are held in Gujarat. All democratic forces should raise their voice to defeat Sangh Parivar's subterfuges in Gujarat.

All India Convention Against Globalisation, Communalisation, War Jingoism

The All India Convention against globalisation, communalisation and war jingoism on 20 July at Dr. Ambedkar Bhavan, Dadar (E), Mumbai, organised by Six Parties with the co-operation of Lal Nishan Party (Leninvadi) turned out as a big success inspiring the nearly 1500 participants who jam packed the sprawling venue to depart with the clear message of the need for unity of all revolutionary left forces to lead a sustained struggle against globalisation, growing threat of fascism from the Sangh Parivar forces and increasing domination of US imperialism in the subcontinent.

The organising committee consisting of representatives of CPI (ML) Red Flag, New Democracy and Unity Initiative had worked hard for a month for extensive propaganda campaign inspite of numerous restrictions imposed by the state. All left and democratic organisations, progressive trade unions and democrats were invited. Postering and leaf letting was done extensively in important areas. The press conference on 17th July also contributed towards propagating the message of the Convention.

Comrades mobilised from AP, Karnataka, Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, MP etc. besides comrades from different parts of Maharashtra filled the venue before 10 a.m. itself. There was a continuous stream of secular democratic forces from the metropolis of Mumbai. The programme started at 10 a.m. with cultural programme. At 10.30 the Convention started.

The presidium consisted of comrades P.K. Murthy (Unity Initiative), Sanjay Singhvi (Red Flag) and Pravin Nadkar (New Democracy). Com Pravin welcomed the large number of delegates and the secular democratic forces who were attending the Convention. Com. Sanjay Singhvi presented the Resolution explaining the significance of the Convention, its

demands and its resolve to mobilise the masses for a countrywide movement (Resolution published on p-6)

Then com. K.N. Ramachandran, All India Secretary of CPI (ML) Red Flag addressed the Convention. He pointed out that Convention is held on the day when news of resignation of Modi government in Gujarat has come out and Sangh Parivar is trying to utilise the communal division in its favour through terror tactics in an early election. This is part of the growing challenge from the communal fascist forces. Today communalism or religious fundamentalism is utilised alongwith racism, ethnicity etc. as instruments for fascicisation of the state in order to impose globalisation, the latest form capitalist-imperialist onslaught. The fast developments after inauguration of globalisation in 1991 and especially after BJP led NDA government coming to power prove this. As the country is getting devastated, people pauperised, communal cleansing is resorted to as in Gujarat by Sangh Parivar and as the inter relation of globalisation, fascicisation of the state and communalisation, alongwith escalating militarily dominance of US imperialism in the subcontinent is also clear, and as the ruling class parties in the opposition are also compromising with Vajpayee government on basic issues, only the revolutionary left forces by forging their unity can provide leadership to working class and other toiling masses to fight globalisation and growing threat of fascism. In this context this Convention is of great significance. We should strive hard to carry forward the message of the Resolution and build up massive all India movement which shall open the way to a left alternative.

Com. Sardara Singh Mahal representing CPI (ML) New Democracy, who spoke next appealed to intensify struggle against globalisation. The religious cleansing pursued in Gujarat and growing fascist danger from Sangh Parivar should be seen in the context of globalisation. The message of Resolution should be put in to practice. Com. Sapan Mukherjee representing CPI (ML) Liberation congratulated the organising committee for successfully holding this Convention. Against globalisation and communal fascism more and more sections are coming to the field of struggle. Working class is planning more struggles. Peasantry is on struggle as in Hariyana and elsewhere. Alongwith struggles by individual organisations, joint struggles are needed. The presidential election exposed that even the parties in opposition are not serious in their struggle against the communal fascist danger from Sangh Parivar forces. All of them support globalisation. Unity of the left forces is the need of the hour.

Com. Ashok Manohar, general secretary of Lal Nishan Party (Leninivadi) extended full support to the Resolution and pledged his organisation's participation in joint struggles. He pointed out that the growth of fundamentalism and threat of fascism should be seen in the context of growing imperialist crisis. As objective situation is becoming favourable for launching all India movement against the ruling system, the revolutionary left forces should come forward to provide leadership and build left alternative.

Retd. Justice Dawood said this Convention is very timely and the massive participation indicate possibilities for organising countrywide movement against the fascist threat from the Sangh Parivar forces. He exposed the manoeuvres of BJP in putting forward Abdul Kalam as presidential candidate. It is to divert attention from Gujarat genocide and to strengthen the ideology of militarism and nuclear armament. Left forces should provide leadership to the fight against globalisation and communal fascism.

After lunch break and cultural programmes, addressing the convention noted democrat Asghar Ali Engineer said that slowly and steadily the NDA has knelt before the agenda of the BJP. Today they are openly declaring their agenda. They have shown their agenda in Gujarat. The next place they want to show it is in Rajasthan. In their Goa meeting they made a hero of Narendra Modi. The communal forces are becoming stronger because the

struggles of the people are becoming weaker. The RSS is running 32,000 Shishu Vihars through which they brainwash the children in the communal philosophy. Arun Shourie who was an employee of the World Bank is following their orders and selling profit making PSUs at throw away prices. Dr.Engineer called upon the participants to strengthen the struggle of the people against the communal agenda of the NDA government.

Com. Aravind Sinha, representing CPI (ML) Unity Initiative said that the VHP is openly stating that it will not accept the court verdicts on the temple issue. According to their philosophy only those who support the BJP is a patriot. In the coming days the struggle is going to be between the socialist forces and the communal forces. He called upon the people not to underestimate the strength of the communal forces.

The appeal of Com. P.K. Murthy from presidium to the delegates who had filled the big auditorium to support the Resolution was responded enthusiastically with raising of hands. The announcement that the Resolution is approved and we shall advance towards state conventions and mobilisation at Delhi was received with loud applause. Following this the presidium presented resolutions demanding the implementation of Sree Krishna Commission Report, condemning the dissolution of Gujarat assembly in order to arrange immediate elections to utilise the 'fruits' of communal cleansing by Sangh Parivar, in support of the workers and peasants struggles, condemning the censor board for preventing the release of Anand Patwardhan's *war and peace* and condemning the police repression in West Bengal were also adopted by the Convention with loud applause. Com. Murthy expressed vote of thanks to all who made the Convention a big success. The Convention came to an end with the call to strengthen left unity and build up countrywide people's movements against globalisation, growing threat of fascism and US intervention, and with all assembled joining in the enthusiastic singing of 'International' in different languages. |

Resolution adopted by the All India Convention

Against Imperialist Globalisation, Communalisation and Gujarat Genocide, War Jingoism and Subservience to imperialism, particularly US Imperialism

Held on 20 July 2002 at Dr. Ambedkar Bhavan, Dadar (E), Mumbai

1. This Convention notes with concern that the BJP led NDA government has taken our country to unprecedented crisis. It has intensified the imperialist dictated economic policies, deepened communal polarisation in the society and implemented communal cleansing through genocide of Muslims in Gujarat, created war hysteria directed against Pakistan and enacted draconian measures to crush the democratic rights of the people and their struggles against the anti-national, anti-people policies of the government.

2. This Convention severely condemn the whole gamut of economic policies, i.e. policies of globalisation, liberalisation and privatisation implemented at the behest of imperialist dominated IMF-World Bank-WTO. Over a decade of the implementation of these economic policies and over seven years of WTO have intensified the economic crisis increasing the economic burden on the common people. Imperialist stranglehold has tightened over different sectors of economy and all walks of life. Even profit making PSUs are being sold for pittance and others are sought to be closed destroying even the semblance of self-reliance through disinvestment policy. Medium, small and traditional industries are

destroyed or are facing increasing attacks with increasing number of sectors de-reserved or thrown out of metropolitan cities under the pretext of pollution control etc. While unemployment has reached enormous proportions, even the employees and workers are thrown out of jobs in millions, through VRS, retrenchment, downsizing etc. The promise of new job opportunities, through IT etc. has been exposed. Eight hour work, job security and other workers' rights are snatched away. Contract labour system with 'hire and fire' has become the rule of the day.

3. This Convention strongly denounces the globalisation policies in the agricultural sector and land reforms being formally reversed and the peasantry facing ruin and disaster due to free import of agricultural produces, rising cost of inputs, unremunerative prices and abandoning of procurement policy. Penetration of MNCs is increasing in agricultural sector also. Agricultural land is given to MNCs and big business houses for corporate agriculture, including the land which was meant for distribution among tribals and rural poor. The whole agricultural sector is in severe crisis with many sectors facing the threat of extinction. With destitution reaching severe levels lakhs of impoverished peasants and agricultural workers are compelled to migrate. Thousands of peasants are compelled to commit suicide.

4. This Convention express serious concern about the abandoning of all social welfare policies including free education, healthcare and public distribution system (PDS) under globalisation. Women have come under more serious exploitation. Oppressed sections are adversely affected. Even reservation like democratic rights have become meaningless under privatisation.

5. This Convention severely condemn the BJP-led government for intensifying repression on people's struggles and for enacting draconian laws to curb democratic rights of the people, the right to organise and to struggle. It has enacted POTA and banned several organisations under it. Through change in labour laws the central and state governments are trying to snatch away whatever democratic rights people have, particularly workers and peasants. Imposition of Section 144, prohibition and attacks on meetings and processions, outlawing of bandhs, fake encounters, arbitrary arrests, attack on journalists etc. have become routine. Even the media is thrown open to foreign capital.

6. This Convention severely denounces the intensification of the saffronisation by the Sangh Parivar. Education, history, culture, fields of research etc. are saffronised using state power. Through censorship and harassment progressive artists are attacked. Sangh Parivar is utilising issues like Ram Temple for communal division. Its Hindu Rashtra is a fascist concept, an amalgam of subservience to imperialism, glorification of feudal, obscurantist values and treating minorities and left and democratic forces as enemies. The recent genocide of Muslims in Gujarat was an exercise in religious cleansing. It was no communal riot but a well-planned and meticulously executed attack to push Muslims out of the socio-economic and political life of Gujarat. The support extended by the central BJP leadership to the Narendra Modi government, shows that what happened in Gujarat is a part of the Sangh Parivar's strategy.

7. This Convention notes with concern that in order to divert attention from the devastation and pauperisation of the masses due to globalisation and communalisation policies, the BJP led government has been utilising the situation in J&K, including the killing of innocent people in terrorist attacks to fan national chauvinism and build war hysteria against Pakistan. The Vajpayee government has been opposing the solution of the Kashmir issue according to the wishes of the people of J&K. They are painting the whole struggle of the Kashmiri people as terrorism in order to crush it. The RSS has advocated the communal trifurcation of J&K in line with its obnoxious concept of religion as a nation. In pursuit of these policies militarisation is intensified, war jingoism is whipped up, the whole army is

mobilised on the border.

8. This Convention notes with concern that though the threat of Indo-Pak war has apparently receded, the intention of the imperialist powers, particularly US, is to maintain tension and perpetuate conflict in the sub-continent. These merchants of death are continuing to escalate the sale of arms and ruin the economy of both the countries. The governments of both India and Pakistan will again take recourse to whipping up of hysteria against each other to suit their narrow political ends. This Convention calls upon people of both countries to oppose war jingoism of their governments and struggle for creating conditions to establish fraternal relations and friendship between the two peoples.

9. This Convention severely condemns the BJP led government for abandoning hitherto policies and for forging closer links with US imperialism even in military and strategic fields. It has jumped into the band wagon of the US led "global war against terrorism" as a junior partner of US imperialism in policing the region. The Indian navy is jointly patrolling the straits of Malacca alongwith US navy while US ships are given facilities at the Indian ports. Joint military exercises with US forces have increased including joint exercises of the ground troops. With US army stationed in Afghanistan and Pakistan on an extended mission, the danger of increasing military presence of US imperialism and its allies has increased manifold. US imperialism is supporting the reactionary regimes in the subcontinent and extending all forms of support to suppress the people's movements like in Nepal. The US and UK also want to station their troops in J&K in the name of monitoring cross-border infiltration. The whole of South Asia is seeing increasing military presence of US imperialism. The BJP led NDA government has surrendered to these imperialist designs. This Convention condemns the shameless surrender to imperialism by the Vajpayee government and calls for struggle to put an end to all forms of subservience to imperialism, led by US imperialism.

10. This Convention condemns the intensification of the Sangh Parivar threat by selecting the missile man Abdul Kalam as president and by the attempts BJP-led govt. to whitewash its crimes in Gujarat and to whip up national chauvinism. The latest developments including the elevation of L.K. Advani to the post of deputy prime minister, the appointment of more diehard advocates of Hindutva to leading positions in BJP, the declaration of the VHP that it will not abide by court verdicts on the temple issue etc alongwith Gujarat shows that Sangh Parivar has decided to come out openly with its Hindutva agenda. These developments have further intensified the communal fascist threat from RSS to Indian polity.

11. This Convention note with concern that inspite of this unprecedented serious development, Congress and other major opposition parties are, in practice, supporting the chauvinist and globalisation policies of Vajpayee government. They are supporting war hysteria fanned by Sangh Parivar. They have even unanimously supported the candidature of NDA candidate for the presidential post. All these opportunist exercises will only strengthen the Sangh Parivar.

12. This Convention, at the same time, notes that the working class, the peasantry and the masses of the people in the country are coming out against globalisation, communalisation and Gujarat genocide, war jingoism, subservience to imperialism and against attacks on their rights. They are resorting to different forms of struggles against the anti-people policies of central and state governments.

13. It is in this background the six parties have taken the initiative for this All India Convention with the support of various left and democratic forces to mobilise the masses based on the following slogans.

- i Reject globalisation and saffronisation**
- i Quit WTO, Kick out IMF-World Bank**
- i Punish Narendra Modi and all responsible for atrocities in Gujarat**
- i Stop saffronisation of education and cultural life**
- i Oppose War Jingoism, Demobilise forces from Indo-Pak border, Start Indo-Pak negotiations without outside interference, Establish friendly relations with all neighbouring countries.**
- i Settle Kashmir Question according to wishes of J&K people through negotiations. Withdraw armed forces from J&K and stop repression. Release all political prisoners**
- i Scrap POTA and all other draconian laws**
- i Scrap changes in labour laws to serve globalisation**
- i Scrap all peasant debts, reduce input prices, ensure remunerative prices of agricultural produces, scrap new import policy.**
- i Formulate and implement legislation for rights of agricultural labourers**
- i Stop dismantling of PDS. Ensure employment, education, healthcare and housing for all as fundamental rights**
- i Stop repression of, and discrimination against dalits, adivasis, women, minorities and other backward sections**

14. This Convention appeals to all sections of people, to democrats, patriots and all struggling forces to express their resolve to oppose globalisation and the fascist drive by the saffron forces. The need of the hour is to build a massive broad based movement to fight imperialist offensive against our country, safeguard the democratic rights and to strengthen the unity of the people.

15. This Convention, organised by Six Parties with the active co-operation and participation of left and democratic forces, resolves to organise similar conventions at state level, to go ahead with mass mobilisation at all India level, to proceed towards uniting all left and democratic forces in this process and to prepare the ground for an all India movement against globalisation and communal fascist policies and for democracy and socialism.

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