

RED STAR

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Foreign Commandos in Kashmir

The presence of foreign commandos belonging to US army's Delta Force, British army's Special Air Service and the German Border Police CSG-9 in Jammu and Kashmir for organising the release of four foreign tourists held hostages for the last two months by Al-Faran group is nothing short of surrendering to imperialist powers and inviting their interference in an issue which is repeatedly declared as an internal one by the Indian government.

Once before, in 1962 Nehru government had invited the direct interference of US forces when India's China war had broken out. The border conflict worsened, war broke out, and US forces landed in India since Indian government had become a pawn in the imperialist conspiracy to encircle the then socialist China. Instead of resolving the border conflict, a legacy of the colonial past, in a peaceful manner and developing relations with neighbouring China, Nehru government shamelessly went for direct presence of foreign forces. It had exposed the comprador character of Indian ruling classes and their political representatives including Nehru very well then.

Whenever Kashmir issue is mentioned Rao government like its predecessors vehemently repeat that it is an internal issue and no outside interference will be tolerated. At the best it accepts the issue as a bilateral one to be resolved with Pakistan as Kashmir is presently divided

between the two countries. As a result it has closed all options to settle this issue politically involving Kashmiri people. Its own brand of 'political solution' like the repeated fake elections earlier, and the military solution of brutal suppression have only aggravated the issue and alienated the Kashmiri people increasingly. It is this situation which has led to intensifying militancy and even emergence of Al-Faran like groups with Pakistani support. It is quite natural like Indian government's support to the anti government revolt in Sindh province of Pakistan, with comprador governments in these countries serving as an integral part of the 'divide, destabilise, and control' policies of imperialist forces.

In such a situation deploying foreign commandos in Kashmir exposes well the traitors ruling our country. They have become so vulnerable to imperialist pressure that in addition to economic, political and cultural fields, they surrender in the military field also even to resolve a revolt within. Rather than taking political measures to resolve people's issues, they invite the imperialists to arbitrate. It is a clear manifestation of the neocolonial slavery.

This traitorous act of bringing foreign commandos to Kashmir calls for unequivocal condemnation by all patriotic, democratic forces.

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Imperialism has prepared the conditions for its own doom. These conditions are the awakening of the great masses of the people in the colonies and semi-colonies and in the imperialist countries themselves. Imperialism has pushed the great masses of people throughout the world in to the historical epoch of the great struggle to abolish imperialism.

—Mao Tsetung

along the path of great october and chinese revolutions

This year once again the revolutionary masses all over the world are remembering the great October and Chinese revolutions at a time when the imperialist camp and its propagandists are untiringly persisting in their anti-communist tirades repeating that capitalist path is the only alternative before the world people. The reactionaries are uncompromising in their efforts to erase even the memory of these great revolutions and the socialist transformation tried in these countries. Not only the Marxist-Leninist classics, but hundreds of thousands of studies made appreciating the creation of a new world in the countries where toiling masses had captured political power are also disappearing from book stalls everywhere. It is part of the disinformation campaign by the enemy camp. The degeneration of the erstwhile socialist countries and communist parties are utilised to frustrate the masses and to black-out all possibilities for the emergence of socialist alternative once again. What is being done is an allround counter revolutionary offensive against Marxist theoretical positions in order to perpetuate an imperialist world order.

In this situation ritualistic observations of historic days will not help to reestablish the glorious lessons of past revolutionary experience. On the contrary, such rituals will be quoted once again by the enemy to drive his point home. What is required is a vibrant ideological offensive to defend and develop the Marxist-Leninist understanding based on past experience and according to concrete conditions today. This is the best way to remember historic occasions in a revolutionary way.

Presently, within our country and at international level imperialist think-tanks are manufacturing ideologies like 'empowerment' and numerous other reformist thoughts to counterpose the revolutionary seizure of political power under the leadership of the proletariat. They repeat that October and Chinese revolutions have become obsolete. They present

(contd. P. 24)

On Imperialist Order and Socialist Alternative

In the modern day world, especially after the so-called demise of the socialist alternative as the propagandists of the ruling classes in both the imperialist and neocolonial countries make us believe through repeated assertions, modernisation, liberalisation, privatisation, globalisation and market system have become *the* words that really matter. With the assistance of revisionist scholars they are raised even to the pedestal of non-class categories applicable to all societies. All these modern day pundits negate the historical specificity of the relations of production which provides a criterion for historical classification of societies. They negate the social analysis which transforms general categories into historical categories. This modern technocratic view of economics suggest that theory is based only on general concepts and assumptions like so-called economic rationality which are relevant to all societies. It is an ahistorical view which ignores the historical specificity of the production relations.

The technocratic views of economic analysis starts from one individual *in isolation* making his economic decisions and proceeds to assume society simply as a collection of isolated individuals. Actually this concept which serves as the intellectual foundation of capitalism is nothing new. It started from Thomas Hobbes, Max Weber and Frederick Taylor who provided at theory of human nature, a description of social development and a blue-print for industrial-technological organisation. For them the state and governments had the sole purpose to provide a civilised arena within which the pursuit and maintenance of property could take place safely.

Hobbes's descendants and later political practitioners though disagreed with his optimism concerning kings, however upheld his views about human nature, rationality and community. If Hobbes had no concept of a common good or public interest, no concept of rationality that was not based on human possessiveness, and if he held that "equality was solely a former equality before the law whose very purpose was to maintain actual social inequality," Adam Smith, John Locke and the US founding fathers

like their European counterparts incorporated these basic Hobbesian views in to a full-blown theory and structure of capitalist political economy.

But Adam Smith who deeply mistrusted government which tried to intervene against "the natural working of human nature" took the central institution in society as the *market-place*. "There the natural inclinations of human nature would find the greatest liberty, and provide the greatest economic efficiency and production as well. Since the market reflected human nature, it was both an excellent motivator and an automatic allocator of labour and resources."

In the nineteenth century as the beliefs and institutions of capitalism further developed the concept of self interest and private property played central role in politics and economics. In economics via marketplace it was translated in to the notion of profit. Equality meant equality of opportunity to compete. It was interpreted as a legal and procedural matter not linked to social relations. Equality meant a means to achieve a natural order of inequality. Success or failure in capitalist civilization was not evaluated by one's individual contribution to the community but in terms of one's individual performance in the market place. Thus capitalist production entailed production of commodities by means of commodities when labour service like any other commodity could be bought and sold in the market. And as far as the state in the capitalist system is concerned, its non-interference in the working of the market mechanism does not in anyway implied a neutral state, but a state which defends and ensures the rule of private property in the market.

But contrary to the expectations of capitalist theoreticians of the nineteenth century, competition in the market place tended to be self-destructive rather than self-regulating. As a logical result of the underlying dynamic of the market place monopolies and oligopolies developed soon leading to capitalism developing in to its imperialist stage. Increasing centralisation and interdependence of the whole economic

system was accompanied by growing control for owners and managers over the pace, quality and quantity of production in order to realise maximum profit, and minimum cost through efficiency. Soon management began taking power away from workers who had till then exercised considerable direct and indirect control over production because of their skills and knowledge. Frederick Taylor developed theories of "scientific management" which sought to organise the production process by strictly controlling every step in a tightly supervised and minute division of labour.

Soon, further developing the concept of "scientific management" linking with technological development Max Weber put forward concepts of *modernisation* linking technology and economic interdependence for maximum production yielding maximum profit. The *bureaucratic system* which gave duties and responsibilities to offices and not to people, and which was to function like a well-oiled machine with interchangeable parts was also conceived and developed to help 'modernisation'. Competitive capitalist bureaucratic system with a few leading bureaucratic policy makers at the top with functionaries, clerks and workers to carry out orders whose purpose they were not supposed to understand or could understand only partially at best was conceived as the ideal model for regulating production and market system and to wield administration to reap maximum profit and to maintain law and order.

The market place in essence operates like an 'undemocratic voting system' with the rich having a captive vast majority of votes because of their purchasing power in the market. Rich decide the composition of the commodities that are produced. Because of the fact that the efficiency criterion of this capitalist-imperialist system overrules income distribution, any talk of making this system more democratic, the market more friendly, are meaningless. So long as market system and commodity production with the bureaucratic state to supervise them exists, it is bound to become more and more undemocratic and authoritarian in order to fulfill its basic functions with more efficiency. Any idea about the state in this situation as the impartial mediator among the classes or among the oppressor and oppressed is nothing but reformist or utopian. Adam Smith has candidly admitted this role of the state and governments as the defender of the privileges of the private property as follows: "Civil government, as far as it is constituted for the security of property,

is in reality instituted for the defence of the rich against the poor, or of those who have some property against those who have none at all." He was even quoted Locke's view "the government has no other end but the preservation of property". With such a historical backing it is no wonder if modern day advocates of modernisation and market-worshippers become intolerably impatient even against the mere mention of welfare state, state-subsidies to poorer sections, populism etc., leave alone socialism.

But history did not move in the way Hobbes, Smith and Locke predicted. Even Taylorism and Weber's ideas could not save imperialist system from the great depression of the 1930s. So Keynesian policies of 'demand management' with capitalist state to function as a mediator among classes had to be adopted to get over this crisis. It was realised that in conditions of economic depression a higher level of public investment providing more jobs to workers creating a higher wage-bill helps the capitalists to realise a higher level of profit in an expanded market. Thus for a time Keynesian policies were widely accepted for its ability to temporarily reconcile the economic interests of major contending classes while inevitably serving the interests of capital. But this could be applicable only for special and passing historical circumstances like that of great depression. But as Kalecki emphasised "demand management through redistribution" have an obvious bias against the capitalists which no capitalist state is likely to pursue for long. Kalecki and others like him argued that continuous full employment would destroy the discipline of the market place as workers get out of hand demanding higher wages. In order to discipline the workers unemployment with a vast reserve force of labour is necessary. Thus they openly say that "though the capitalist state may act in the interest of both the classes in a slump, it will side with and serve the capitalists as the economic boom continues for some time."

During the post-Second World War years not only the economic boom which continue for more than two years, but the welfare state concepts adopted to combat socialist challenge created an atmosphere in which the capitalist-imperialist state and the neocolonial states on their toe looked like neutral states pursuing economic policies to the advantage of both the contending classes. But soon the capitalist-imperialist states openly acted in the interests of the monopoly capitalist classes to meet the *stagflation* threatening them as well as to suppress the organised po-

wer of the trade unions. "The intellectual apology for this was provided by a plethora of new economic theories—'monetarism' which justified a 'natural rate' of unemployment, 'supply-side economics' which argued for reduced public investment in the hope of stimulating private investment through incentives such as tax reduction and finally the artificial construction of 'rational expectation' models that wanted us to return to Adam Smith's economic 'individualism'..... Thus at the level of policy prescription, monetarist discipline usually means restriction on public sector borrowing. Public investment is opposed as it is supposed to 'crowd out' private investment. Emphasising the 'supply side' usually means restricting taxes and government revenue as it blunts incentives to thwart the initiatives of private business. Even unemployment benefits and other social securities are supposed to have only detrimental effects on the 'supply side,' because they are financed through higher taxes which reduce profit-incentives of private business, while providing wrong incentives to workers to stay away from work. And finally by virtue of the assumption of the 'rational expectations,' some members of the new orthodoxy found any economic role of the government unjustified in their world inhabited by such 'rational individuals'....The state maintains a 'neutral' posture of non-interference with the market outcome. The new orthodoxy in economic theory justifies it as the natural outcome of the market" (Amit Bhaduri, *Macro Economics*).

The whole concept of modernisation, liberalisation, privatisation, globalisation and market system today imposed in the neocolonies under IMF-WB dictated 'Structural Adjustment Policies' are nothing but an extension of these policies implemented in the imperialist countries for a total domination of corporate and monopoly capital in all fields. The consequence of these policies with their whole dehumanisation aspects are already visible in both the imperialist countries as well as the neocolonies. Even then, there are monotonously repeated efforts to either eulogise them or to present them as the only alternative before humanity. As the state bureaucratic capitalism practised in the degenerated socialist countries are repeatedly projected as the 'socialist god that failed,' these imperialist propagandists as well as their revisionist apologists certify market system as the only alternative. It is in this context the theories of Marx to Mao in search of a basically different, socialist alternative should be approached.

II

For Marx and Engels, like all other civilisations before it, capitalism was a new but still imperfect and partial attempt to conquer fear, scarcity, ignorance and alienation. It was transitory. They were much impressed with the technological and productive capacities gained under capitalism, and viewed large-scale industrialisation as laying the material foundation for a further qualitative leap in the development of human civilization. But capitalism by its very nature would soon be unable to utilize technology and industry in a way which served truly human needs. They clearly understood that the institutions, human relationships and values of capitalism were not universal, but that they would lead to what was universal: socialist transformation to a Communist society within which human potential could be fully realized.

Marx's concept of non-bureaucratic political power extended beyond the confines of the industrial enterprise itself. In writing about Paris Commune (The Civil War in France) he stressed that the power would not entail economic privilege and social inequality. Power was to be subject to the control of the people over whom it was exercised. Marx viewed work as a continuous, primary focus of all human activity. He did not envision a growing body of technical and administrative specialists to rule or manage the masses. With machines performing the necessary drudgery, Marx saw the possibility of combining mental and manual work in a new form of self and collective rule, one that would make use of creative imagination. He dreamed of a classless egalitarian society, one that would be a cooperative community with all power to the people with appropriate decentralised forms of organisations at all levels.

Like Marx, Lenin had a vision of a non-bureaucratic state where workers and peasants controlled the means of production and where equality and abundance ultimately progressed together through the process of revolutionary transformation in to a classless society. Soviet development strategy aimed at building giant economic enterprises, to build heavy industrial capacity in urban centres, and to extract as much surplus from agriculture with as little investment as possible atleast until the task of heavy industrialisation was underway. But the continuous overt and covert aggressive attempts by imperialist camp, the tasks of leading economic construction at a break-neck speed, the life and death struggle against fascism and similar

tasks made it difficult to allow the revolutionary experiment to take precedence over short-term maximisation of production. Also Soviet Union had no precedents to follow. When increased production in heavy industry and later in armaments became the primary goal, Lenin's theory of exercising revolutionary leadership could not be implemented in all spheres. Even then, till the Krushchovian revisionists usurped power and transformed Soviet Union into a bureaucratic state, under Stalin's leadership Soviet Union could remain as a positive example, in spite of all its limitations and weaknesses, before world people.

Under the leadership of Mao, after the successful completion of the NDR, China started in 1949 on the path of socialist transformation assimilating both positive and negative lessons of Soviet experiment. After Krushchovian revisionist usurpation of power and degeneration of Soviet Union to capitalist path, from the time of *great leap forward* CPC put politics in command in all fields; it was made the basis of socialist construction. Developing the concept of leading class struggle under the dictatorship of proletariat as during the GPCR Mao called for taking class-struggle as the key link and for 'grasping revolution for promoting production.' A system of total employment and state subsidised education, food, clothing, housing and healthcare to all were ensured. There were continuous efforts to resolve the contradiction, between mental and manual labour, between urban and rural areas, between industry and agriculture etc. as explained by Mao 'On Ten Major Relationships.' Power was decentralised at all levels with communes and municipalities as basic units. The socialist state was serving the interests of people or limiting and combating the tendencies of theory of productive forces, bureaucratisation, private property, market, and commodity production. Technology and industrialisation were for serving the people. An integrated socialist development policy protecting environment and eliminating all forms of exploitation and oppression was continuously implemented. China's revolutionary advance under Mao's leadership became a beacon for world people. It showed how a revolutionary alternative could be built up according to the concrete conditions in a country, even in a very backward country like China, once the political power is captured by the masses. The usurpation of power by the capitalist roaders in China basically deviating it from the socialist path, and once again integrating it like all other former

socialist countries to the imperialist global system do not in anyway minimise the historic importance of the revolutionary alternative tried in China and its universal relevance, like the experience of Soviet Socialist construction earlier.

When the imperialist ideologues and the comprador intellectuals are trying to put forward that "capitalism is the end of history" and there is no alternative to it, and creating utopian illusions of possible reform models within it, it is the responsibility of the revolutionary forces to project the revolutionary alternative put forward from Marx to Mao through the experience from Paris Commune to the GPCR in China, as the only people's alternative. The modernisation, liberalisation, privatisation, globalisation and market system model of capitalist-imperialist system is proved totally anti-people and dehumanised. In whatever form it is presented these theories justifying private property and a state which protects private property can only lead to alienation, authoritarianism, and frightening pauperisation of the masses. People all over the world have no other alternative but to overthrow this rotten system and to strive for the revolutionary socialist alternative.

Beant Singh's End

The explosion that blew Beant Singh, chief minister of Punjab, to pieces has exploded the myths propagated by the ruling classes and their spokespersons about the state of this country. Contrary to what they reach it is proved that this country is not different from any other neocolony anywhere, especially not different from the neocolonies in Latin America or Africa. The blast proved that in this much trumpeted 'biggest democracy in the world' state terrorism pursued by the ruling elite has created a situation that in spite of 'Z plus' or any plus category security arrangements, from Indira Gandhi to Beant Singh, all perpetrators of state terrorism, could not escape from the attack of the very same forces they helped to create.

more on us imperialism in decline

Nowadays an unprecedentedly large number of studies are coming out from authors belonging to various schools of thought about the allround decline faced by US imperialism which is presently leading the imperialist camp. The only exception to it are the comprador rulers and comprador intellectuals in the neocolonies who go on eulogising the imperialist system alongwith its market economy and globalisation as the only panacea for the problems faced by these countries. So it has become all the more important especially in these countries to bring out details of the crisis of the imperialist system in general and US imperialism in particular in order to make the people vigilant about the necessity for intensifying anti imperialist struggles in all fields. The following note is prepared taking the data provided by *Chronis Polychroniou* in his article "Rise and Fall of US imperialism" (EPW, July 29). Ofcourse the evaluation of such authors about the reasons for the setback suffered by international Communist movement basically vary from that of the Marxist-Leninists. They do not recognise the emergence of revisionism within the socialist countries degenerating them to capitalist path which eventually led to their re-assimilation within the world system dominated by imperialism. Even then their analysis of the development within the imperialist system are well documented and more scientific.

All these authors point out that contrary to what is propagated by Rao Manmohan clique and leaderships of various other ruling class parties "let the market have its way" has not produced "economic miracles", but on the contrary has led to worldwide declining living standards, massive unemployment, environmental destruction, and miseries which prompted some of them to call it an "empire of chaos". It is pointed out that though the cold war is over and while US can intervene abroad without having to worry about a Soviet response, its economic power has eroded to the point that military interventions now depend increasingly upon the willingness of its allies/competitors like Germany and Japan in particular. "The US economy has been in a state of deep structural crisis for over two decades and its problems are mounting: plant closings, industrial decay, astronomical deficits, stagnated incomes,

crumbling infrastructure, decaying cities, moribund banking, disintegrated education, health care, and social security threaten to reduce the US economy to a third world status while crime, drugs, economic alienation and racism are tearing the social fabric apart". Thus extending the police operations of the imperial state to domestic realm as well like increasing the size of the police force and building more prisons are the only remedies the capitalist class is capable of prescribing to the structural crisis of the US economy.

From the beginning, from the massacres of the Indians in the early colonising days to the gruesome slaughtering of over 250,000 Iraqis during the 1991 Gulf War US power has always functioned as an instrument of imperial rule and subjugation and violence has been the norm rather than the exception. US political culture has been "possessive individualism" which glorifies private property, competition and self aggrandisement which regard "might is right" as something natural. As John D Rockefeller declared: "The growth of a large business is merely a survival of the fittest..... The American beauty rose can be produced in the splendour and fragrance which brings cheers to its beholder only by sacrificing the early buds which grew up around it. This is not an evil tendency in business. It is merely the working out of a law of nature and a law of God". For US imperialists the expansion of American empire was the 'natural order' of things and God was always on America's side' It went on to declare that "war is prosperity" substantiating what Lenin said: "imperialism means plunder and war".

It was the First World War which catapulted US as the leading economic force in the world capitalist economy. Similarly it was the Second World War which helped US to recover from the "great depression" and become the leading imperialist power in all fields in the post-war years. US imperialism proceeded to impose globalisation and market economy under its hegemony armed with the mightiest military power and driven by the needs of the corporate and financial capital, with anti-Communism as its banner. IMF, World Bank and GATT were its tools for monetary, trade control

on US terms. Marshal Plan and aids both economic and military to lesser imperialist countries as well as to neocolonies opened them for penetration of US capital and as US market. *Truman Doctrine* invoked in 1947 declared that US had the right to intervene in order to protect 'free peoples' from 'communist subversion'. For this purpose alongwith its mighty military machine, military alliances like NATO were built up. Thus a period of three post-war decades till mid-seventies were the "golden age" of US imperialism.

But since then US economy alongwith the imperialist global system its leading have entered a period of major economic crisis. In many of its features this crisis resembles the great depression of the pre-war years when the contradiction of production and consumption in the capitalist system exploded with the till-then biggest bang in the history of the capitalist-imperialist system.

From the 1960s itself the productivity growth of US was going down compared to other imperialist countries. As a result compared to 1950 the US share of world production in 1970 fell from 51 to 21 percent for petroleum, 46 to 20 percent for steel, 35 to 26 percent for coal, and 17 to 12 percent for wheat. US share of world exports also fell from 17 to 12 percent. With the decline of exports which was accompanied by a sharp rise in imports US balance of payments reached a record deficit of \$ 30 billion in 1971. Following this which produced disequilibrium in world payments US announced suspension of the convertibility of the dollar in to gold from August 15, 1971. With the oil crisis that erupted from October 1973 and as a consequence of Vietnam war all imperialist countries fell under the grip of *stagflation* with high levels of inflation, stagnation of production and increasing unemployment. In US unemployment reached 7.4 percent and consumer price-index rose by 11 percent.

At this time private international banking with US banks playing the leading role considerably increased. In 1960 if there were 8 US banks with 131 branches and \$ 3.5 billion in assets overseas in 1974 they rose to 129, 137 and \$ 155 billion. While domestic assets grew 3.5 times, foreign assets increased 42 times. As stagflation intensified in US capital flight got worse and factories were closing down. With non-productive and financial sector gaining upper hand over industrial capital US

economy was getting converted in to predominantly service-oriented. With internationalisation of capital a process of capital disinvestment in the domestic economy and capital flights to areas of the globe where the rate of profit was greater had become the operating framework of US capitalism.

Then to respond militarily to so-called challenges to US imperialism throughout the world and to stimulate the battered US economy, the defence outlays more than doubled in the 1980s from \$ 134 billion in 1980 to \$ 300 billion in 1988. Military aid also increased from \$ 2.1 to \$ 4.8 billion during this period. Including increased defence expenditure the *Reaganomics* within a period of four years converted US from world's largest creditor to world's largest debtor country. A further indication of the decline in competitiveness of US economy under Reaganomics is that its share of US-issued patents dropped from 73 to 52 percent between 1970 and 1987 as Japanese inventors increased their share of patents five-fold.

On the one hand in 1980s US foreign assets more than doubled. But on the other hand foreign investments in US soon exceeded its own overseas investments by \$ 2 trillion. Even after Reagan administrations, massive and unprecedented attacks on working class interests it could not reverse this trend.

The essence of the new economic framework revolves around the non-productive, speculative and financial component of capital. By the end of 1988 net capital stock of financial, real estate and insurance firms was larger than that of all manufacturing industries combined. Again by 1988 speculator capitalists replaced industrial and petroleum capitalists as the most dominant factor in US economy. The base of operation of this class are the stock markets, international currency markets, and investments and pension funds.

So today whether Democrats or Republicans are in power they have to serve the interests of this finance capital. That is why Clinton very soon backed away from his election promises to cut defence spending and to spent money on projects that would create more jobs. Now US economy is coming under greater pressure as even its domestic resources have to be spent to finance global expansion in the interest of finance capital. As a result today while US imperialism flexes its military muscle abroad

Khalid Bagdash and Communist Movement in West Asia

Khalid Bagdash who played the main role in building up Communist Party of Syria (CPS) and who was its founder-leader died on July 25. During the three decades from 1930s to 1960s under his leadership CPS challenged the hegemony of old and new imperialisms and their compradors, the Arab feudal rulers. His life consists of two stages, of revolution and then of revisionism.

Syrian people first fought against Ottoman empire and then against French colonialists. Through these struggles progressive forces later led by CPS achieved significant popular support.

and expands the interests of corporate and finance capital thereby making the top 20 percent immensely richer, 20 percent of children in general and 45 percent of the black children live in poverty. The number of homeless people in 1987 have swollen to more than 3 million. According to 1989 data while the wealthiest 1 percent in US own nearly 40 percent, the top 20 percent more than 80 percent of total wealth, bottom 20 percent own less than 5 percent.

US imperialism maintains superiority only in the military field and technology. In the post-cold war years it has become the cornerstone of US foreign policy. It is based on this military superiority US is able to lead the imperialist camp presently and exercise hegemony over the world. This is hardly sufficient to maintain this hegemony. As in the case of worsening US-Japan trade relations economic and political interests will gradually create cleavages and tensions and conflicts among the major imperialist powers.

One of the main features of the present globalisation, as a result, is that world economy has started splitting in to regional economic blocs headed by dominant imperialist power in the region like US in the Americas, Germany in Europe and Japan in the Pacific. All these developments have intensified all the contradictions at the global level including the contradictions between imperialist system as a whole and the oppressed nations and people, contradiction between monopoly bourgeoisie and the proletariat and oppressed people in the imperialist countries, and among the imperialist countries in general and the regional blocs in particular

In the beginning by leading people's movements in Syria and Lebanon, both colonies of French imperialism, Communist Party of Syria and Lebanon was formed in the early 1920s. It led many militant people's rallies on May Day and saluting October Revolution. In the formation of CP of Syria and Lebanon Faud Al-Shamali who was exiled by British imperialism from Egypt for trying to form a Communist party there played a leading role. During those days Joseph Berger, a representative of Communist Party of Palestine (CPP), was trying to organise Communist parties in West Asian

In this situation the US imperialism which is in decline is not going to go down without a fight. The past history shows that it may become more bellicose in coming years when the danger of power slipping from its hand become real. In such a situation the danger of allround militarisation by all the major imperialist powers is going to pose a real threat. In this situation whether the Democrats or Republicans are in power in US or similar conditions in other imperialist countries do not make any basic change. Whoever is in power, all these imperialist countries are going to go through a period of militarisation, authoritarianism, intensified plunder of the world people, and oppression of native people.

As immiseration and polarisation have started rising in US and other imperialist countries, inspite of all sinister moves by the ruling classes, popular struggles for social changes led by the proletariat, especially among the huge reservoir of economically, politically, socially, racially and culturally oppressed people have started reappearing in various forms. The revolutionary left in these countries have to realise the growing crisis in these countries and the growing decline of US imperialism and should take up the responsibility of leading this great rebellion of the toiling masses in a more assertive and organised way than compared to the movement of the days of anti-Vietnam war protests and other upsurges in the 1960s and seventies.

The toiling masses as a whole at global level have to get prepared to resist and to give crushing blows against US imperialism and its allies and compradors everywhere.

countries as a representative of Comintern. Under the initiative of Joseph Berger, Faud Al-Shamali and a young revolutionary journalist Yusuf Yashbak who was working in the newspaper Al-Marad of Lebanon, a meeting of Communist supporters was held and Lebanese People's Party was formed on 30th April, 1925. In the same year joining with 'Spartacus', the Armenian Communist group CP Sand L was formed. Though the movement suffered a setback in 1926 after the arrest of some leading members, with their release in 1928 the movement soon spread to Tripoli, Damascus and other areas.

It was in 1930 Khalid Bagdash, a Kurdish law student in Damascus joined the party at the age of 18. Through his excellent Communist qualities he soon rose to the leadership of the movement. He was expelled from the university before he could complete education as he was detected as a Communist. For the next 25 years he was the foremost Communist leader in West Asia. Along with his organisational capabilities he contributed theoretically also applying Marxism-Leninism to the concrete conditions of West Asia. He initiated formation of popular fronts for combatting both imperialism and native reaction.

French colonialists imprisoned him in 1931-32. Coming out he went underground. In 1935 he led the delegation of CPS to 7th Congress of Comintern. In 1936 when People's Front came to power in France the CPS got more freedom to develop its activities. 1936-39 marked a big leap in the activities of CPS. Party membership increased by tentimes in both Syria and Lebanon. Once again in 1939 party was banned and leaders were arrested. During this period, especially from 1942 remaining underground Bagdash gave leadership to anti-fascist movements fighting against both fascism and imperialism. While fighting against Hitlerite forces CPS called for intensifying struggle against French imperialism for national liberation.

During the transfer of power to comprador forces in 1943 in Syria and in 1944 in Lebanon CP S and L was transformed to Communist parties in respective countries with their own central committees. Following transfer of power as the comprador rulers intensified attack on the party it had to work in total underground conditions. The suppression further intensified in 1949 accusing Communists for the attem-

pted military coup that year. But bringing out 'Nidal Al-Shaaz' (people's struggle) secretly and launching anti-imperialist, anti feudal struggles CPS made its strong presence felt. Syrian Partisan Front was formed and a big campaign for world-peace and against imperialism, which is threat to world peace was organised. But during this period itself right deviation advocating joining hands with the so called national bourgeoisie had started surfacing within the party. Till com. Stalin's death these forces could be held in check. But slowly petty bourgeois and professional sections were taking over the leadership of the movement neglecting the interests of the nascent working class, poor peasants and other oppressed sections. It may look strange that women who were suppressed by Islamic fundamentalist clergy was joining the Communist movement in large numbers and were in leadership positions in Syria. But with the strengthening of rightist tendencies this trend also started getting reversed.

In 1954 general election under the slogan patriots and progressive forces unite against imperialism and feudal reactionary forces' one section of CPS joined hands with People's Party and Baath Party and formed a national front. But while right deviation was getting strengthened within the Communist movement in this way, from the time direct French colonial rule ended the imperialist powers under US imperialism had started initiating neocolonial tactics. Initially though there was a conflict of interest between Britain which formed *Baghdad Pact* and US which formed *Middle East Defence Pact* all the imperialists were joining hands against the so-called threat of Communism. In 1950 US, Britain, France and Turkey joined hands to strengthen Middle-East Defence Pact. The pseudo-progressive Abdul Nassar regime in Egypt also joined this anti-Communist pact. As the unquestionable anti-Communist centre of West Asia, Turkey had started getting US aid from 1947 itself. With *Turkish Democratic Party* coming to power in 1950, joining US war against Korean people and making Turkey a member of NATO this trend became stronger. During this period US established hegemonic control over Iranian oil and brought Pakistan also to its fold to develop a broad anti-Communist military and political bulwork extending from South Asia to West Asia.

Though imperialist intentions for a new type of global domination and a crusade against

proletarian revolution were abundantly clear through these moves along with the planting of Zionist Israel in West Asia and open support to Islamic fundamentalist forces, leaderships of the established West Asian Communist parties as in other areas could not correctly evaluate them and strengthen their proletarian class positions due to two important factors: one, the weakness of the ICM in the post Second World War period to develop its understanding about imperialism which had launched a neocolonial offensive; and two, the coming to power of Krushchovian revisionism in Soviet Union advocating peaceful co-existence with imperialism and peaceful transition to socialism as its strategy.

Very soon Khalid Bagdash and other prominent leaders of the Communist movement in West Asia became strong advocates of Krushchovian revisionism degenerating CPS and other parties to the path of class collaboration. Thus if Khalid Bagdash played the most significant role in building up revolutionary Communist movement in West Asia in general and in Syria in particular, he degenerated to the rank of the foremost leader of Krushchovian revisionism. Though he started his political life as a great revolutionary, he died as an apologist and accomplice of the global imperialist system.

But it does not mean that everything is lost due to these surrenders by one-time revolutionaries to class-collaboration. On the contrary in the sixties itself inspired by Mao Tse tung Thought efforts to reorganise the Communist movement in a revolutionary way was initiated. Palestinian Marxist Leninist leaders like George Habash and Naif Havatma gave leadership to these efforts. In Syria itself activists of CSP like Nagim Ilahi took initiative in forming a Marxist-Leninist organisation. But after Mao's death it got splintered amidst ideological confusion. But efforts for reorganisation are going on in all West Asian countries and Marxist-Leninist groups with a clearer understanding of theoretical, political and organisational questions are emerging in many of them. Syria is no exception.

Khalid Bagdash must have died as a very disillusioned man with his revisionist dream land in shambles and his own brand of revisionist outfits in West Asia as elsewhere mortally weakened or disappeared. He has also died at a time when West Asia is once again entering a period of turmoil. With the disintegration of Soviet Union and brutal aggression against Iraq, US imperialists had thought of establishing unquestioned hegemony in West Asia extending from Pakistan to Turkey with their ideological tools Zionism and Islamic fundamentalism actively

engaged in dividing and maiming the people. But in different forms people's resistance is coming up in more and more areas. Progressive forces are regrouping. Imperialist hegemony is being questioned. Yassar Arafat like forces who have made compromise with imperialism and Zionism betraying people's interests are challenged. All these developments have compelled US imperialism and its allies to chalk out new plans of oppression.

Under the guise of so-called Iraqi military threat imperialists are arming Jordan. Saudi Arabia and the gulf-countries are wholeheartedly supporting US insistence on stringent sanctions against Iraq as they fear that lifting of sanctions and Iraqi oil entering international market will decrease demand of their oil and lowering of its prices. The rape of Afghanistan and destruction of Kabul is allowed to continue unabated. The love-hate relation with Iranian Shiite fundamentalists are continued in such a way that they never challenge imperialist hegemony. One after another its neighbouring countries are compelled to sign agreements with Zionist Israel. Neocolonial plunder in all fields is intensified. The whole West Asia is made a vulgar scene where neocolonial cultural offensive is made with active collaboration of Zionists and Islamic fundamentalists alike. In spite of internal conflicts and clash of interests all imperialists, comprador's regimes, religious fundamentalists and all other reactionary and reformist sections have joined hands here against even imaginary Communist threat. Then it is not difficult to understand how intense will be the oppression against any possible emergence of genuine revolutionary forces.

Marxist-Leninist will have to regroup in West Asia confronting these mountains as Mao depicted them. As the foolish old men who moved mountains, the Communist revolutionaries in West Asia will have to take up the great challenge of reorganising their forces and launching the class struggle for New Democracy. ●

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Indonesia: State Terror Continues

It is said that history is written by the victors. US imperialism is proving this time, and again through their vulgarisation of history. The Yankees claim that they are leading the 'free world'. They claim that they have worked hard to put an end to so-called 'communist tyranny'. Now they are leading a 'New World Order' which is the 'end of history'. To prove this they distort history in the way they like. Utilising media control and information technology they impose these distorted versions over people.

For example see how they repeat the so-called 'massacre' of 2 millions in Kampuchea by *Khmer Rouge*. Even after this lie is nailed by numerous studies they and their Pen—pusher journalists and columnists go on repeating it. But they never talk about the napalm bombing, carpet-bombing and use of poison-gas by the Yankees in Kampuchea from 1971 to 1975 which killed more than a million. Or they do not talk about many millions they butchered during a decade of Vietnam war. What happened in Indonesia from 1965 is one of the most glaring examples of their vulgarisation of history.

Sukarno who had led the anti-Dutch independent struggle with the co-operation of communist party (PKI) and who took over power in 1945 after Japan's defeat had acted against the US and British economic interests. In his own reformist way he had even declined US aid and took his country out of UN in 1965.

For US imperialists it was too much. They raised the bogey of communist threat. CIA hatched a plot with the help of arch reactionary army general Suharto and Islamic fundamentalists. A 'secret plan' of PKI with the help of sympathetic generals and Sukarno was 'unearthed'. Thus began one of the most heinous massacres of communists and all progressive, anti-imperialist forces in history led by Suharto and aided-abetted by US imperialists.

Even pro-imperialist writers admit that more than 5 lakhs Indonesians were butchered by army and the night-wing *vigilante* groups. But most of the writers put the figure as more than 10 lakhs. Including those who were killed in following years many say that more than 15 lakhs were massacred. Now when 30 years of Suhar-

to's fascist rule is over, while celebrating it few of the prisoners from among the survivors including Sukarno's foreign minister who organised Bandung Conference, Sabandrio were released. Many more are still rotting in prisons.

In 1965 during months-long killing of communists and all shades of democratic forces, many more lakhs were rounded up, tortured, and evacuated to the remote island of Buru. under inhuman conditions there many lakhs more perished. Those who survived and those who were detained in other places including even those who were not formally charged of any crime were given identity cards with 'ET' stamped, meaning they are suspected to have supported communists. They were denied voting rights. They were not given jobs. And the suppression still continues. Now while celebrating 50th anniversary of Indonesia's 'independence day' ET stamps were removed from the identity cards of some, a few prisoners were released after 30 years. But the terror in this country called one of the four 'Asian Tigers' still continues.

At what price this 'Asian Tiger' could become a darling of IMF and WB? Minimum wage for all sectors is abysmally low. These wages are frozen for a decade. Even academicians have to hold two or three jobs to make a living. No trade union rights are allowed. State is militarised and all welfare measures are abandoned. Wealth is concentrated in the hands of few families close to Suharto. The middle constitute hardly 14 percent. After the few wealthy and middle class, all others are living in miserable conditions. The communist massacres, human rights violations, and economic misery of vast majority are kept secrets. Even now communist bogey is used to perpetuate this brutal ruling system.

One of Indonesia's best known writers, Pramoedya Ananta Toer, who had to spend 10 years in the remote Buru island for being a member of a cultural organisation called Lekkra, which was close to PKI has given a brilliant exposure of this situation in his 'Silent Song of the Mute'. Naturally Suharto and his cronies are afraid of a people's outburst against their crimes. So they continue the witch hunt for communists and go on warning against a communist 'coup'. This is for continuing their rule by terror for the benefit of imperialists and compradors.

may 1st in the philippines

During the first week of May, delegates representing militant trade-unions and organizations in solidarity with the national liberation struggle of the Filipino people gathered from more than a dozen countries and met for a week-long conference near Manila, Philippines.

The 12th International Solidarity Affair was sponsored by the Kilusang Mayo Uno Labor Center (KMU), a militant federation of industrial trade-unions which is in the forefront of a fight in the Philippines to limit the economic devastation wrought through unequal trade agreements, such as Global Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) and its enfeebled child, Philippines 2000. The latter is a structural adjustment plan to further underdevelop the local economy and increase repatriatable super-profits.

Delegates visited many areas of the country, integrating with the masses of industrial and agricultural workers, at the sites of their strikes against monopoly corporations and in their homes. Delegates also visited export-processing zones, sweat-shops, refugee camps, and mega-plantations, and were treated to intense political discussions with workers and the leaders of their organizations.

The bad news is that the minimum daily wage in the Philippines ranges from 60 pesos (dollar 2.40), for women, to 135 pesos (dollar 5.40), for men. This rate was calculated by the fascist U.S.-Ramos regime at one-half of the cost of daily subsistence—and wages can be much lower than the minimum.

The industrial development of the country was systematically retarded during the terroristic reigns of Ferdinand Marcos and Cory Aquino. Under the bureaucrat-capitalist group headed by Fidel Ramos, which takes its orders directly from the U.S. ruling class, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank (WB), and GATT's new World Trade Organization (WTO), the country's infrastructure and industrial base are decaying at a rate inconceivable to couch-potatoes in the First World.

Land-grabbing, tax increases, and the government bombing of villages have driven millions of unemployed people into the cities: where

they starve in cardboard and tin shacks as raw sewage runs down the streets and their children die from medieval diseases. Due to ever-increasing imperialist control of technology, and GATT's transnational lock on ownership of capital-goods industries, Filipino-owned factories have the capability of producing nails, but not screws.

The government entices foreign capital investment and strangling loans with the boast that it will provide cheap and docile labor—even as it sells off the manufacturing and agricultural assets of the people for a song to the transnationals and foreign banks. Privatization (Philippines 2000) in the Philippines is the equivalent of a deluge of neutron bombs: leaving antiquated machines standing to await the next wave of hungry workers as the current wave expires from the effects of super-exploitation.

All manufacture is oriented towards cheap export goods, such as garments, telephones, wind-chimes, and the country remains dependent on the imperialist blocs for expensive imports of food, soaps, and basic necessities. The vast natural resources and raw materials of the Philippines are being stripped away by a hurricane of foreign investors, who leave only desert behind.

Foreign-owned blast furnaces are vintage nineteenth-century; health and safety regulations are non-existent; surplus diesel engines from Japan, Europe and the United States drive the transportation system and have smothered the islands in a choking, black fog of exhaust. Deforestation of the islands by multi-nationals has stripped the biosphere of its lungs.

Children poisoned by carbon monoxide play in blue pools of cyanide next to mine tailings polluting tiny farms plowed by iron implements pulled by water-buffalo—or people. Agriculture is dedicated to producing locally useless cash-crops. Semi-feudal relations of production dominate the countryside in which 70% of the 65 million population groans under the weight of imperialism, feudalism and patriarchy.

Meanwhile, according to bourgeois statistics, the Philippines ranks 92 out of 173 countries in "human quality of life." The gap between rich and poor is a global phenomenon. If one

sees through Ramos' lies that the Philippines is on the road to become a "newly-industrialized country" by the year 2000; what hells exist in the "bottom" 81 nations today?

If imperialism were to have its way, 80 percent of the world's people would labor uniformly—punching United Nations time-clocks—while creating that most precious portion of commodities: extractable surplus value. Precious commodities: that the creators are forbidden to use.

Capitalism does not work

It is the proud history and current state of the Filipino people's fierce resistance to colonial and neo colonial depredations that distinguish the Philippines from other wracked and oppressed nations in the world who have not yet picked up the ideological and organizational tools of Maoism.

The good news is that the Filipino people have created three weapons for their own salvation: the National Democratic Front and its New People's Army, led by the Communist Party of the Philippines, which has summed up errors, rectified itself, and is in the process of re-fueling the mass movement and the armed struggle on the basis of People's War, communist education, and integrating with the masses. Numerous mass organizations follow the red flag. Workers everywhere discuss international issues, and the root cause of their oppression and exploitation: imperialism.

While only 12 percent of the country's 27.65 million member workforce is unionized, the KMU is the most militant union organization, the union most bonded with people, and the union movement most feared by the U. S.-Ramos regime—which slaughters union organizers as it desperately attempts to impose no-strike sanctions on workers whose response is to strike, strike, strike.

The KMU-sponsored international conference focused on the issues of the internationalization of production, privatization, and the related effects of GATT/IMF/WB economic restrictions. In a paper presented to the con-

ference, KMU states:

"The KMU's position on GATT is clear. GATT will only expose the country further to cut-throat global competition that will adversely affect the workers and peasants. Engaging in free trade with technologically advanced countries that put demands on underdeveloped countries to open up, while they are protecting their own economies, will only hasten the demise of the Philippine economy which is perpetually in crisis".

The KMU is part of a newly-formed progressive bloc of militant trade unions, Koalisyon ng Progresibo at Makabayang Manggagawa (KPMM), which opposes the imperialist imposition on the country. Mainly led by the KMU, it stands on the principle that trade unions must not limit themselves to rice and fish unionism, but must assert the worker's leadership in the forefront of the people's struggle for national liberation.

On May 1, the International Solidarity Affair delegates joined the KMU rank and file in a 40,000 person demonstration in Manila. The disciplined masses marched to the KMU slogan May 1st 1995:

WORKERS UNITE! STRENGTHEN OUR RANKS. FIGHT ATTACKS ON JOBS, WAGES AND WORKER'S RIGHTS.

PEOPLE UNITE! FIGHT AGAINST FEUDAL AND IMPERIALIST EXPLOITATION

ADVANCE THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC STRUGGLE WITH A SOCIALIST PERSPECTIVE!

At the rally's conclusion, a contingent of revolutionary women staged a dance, flourishing huge red flags. The crowd proudly raised fists and the Internationale filled the skies.

(MIM Notes, July 1995)



Political Scene After Chandigarh Explosion

One after another serious political developments are taking place at all India level eroding the foundations of the Congress (I) led by Narasimha Rao, and his government's credibility at all levels. The explosion that blasted Beant Singh to pieces also exploded the propaganda made by Rao government and Punjab administration that the days of Khalistan militancy are over. As a matter of fact the state terrorism unleashed by the Beant Singh-KPS Gill team in Punjab including wanton detention of thousands of youth under flimsy excuses, exhorting huge amounts threatening distortion, brutal ion tortures, fake-encounters and lock-up killings, continued detention of tens of thousands under TADA even after it has lapsed, mid-night knockings, press-censorships etc. without the least efforts to resolve the political questions which led to Khalistan demand had only aggravated the conditions for surfacing of the militancy once again. Even after a decade there are no efforts to implement even the Rajiv-Longoval accord. With all relevant political issues including Chandigarh, river-water distribution and boundary settlement unresolved and Beant Singh government intensifying its dictatorial onslaughts on dissent have naturally led to attack on one of the prime targets. With Beant Singh's disappearance, the credibility of Rao's Congress also suffered a severe blow.

In Kashmir Rao was repeating that election is going to be held there soon and normal conditions are achieved. But the burning down of Charar was a bitter blow to these false claims. With the foreign hostage issue still unresolved, and permission given to US, British and French Commandos to enter Kashmir with a free hand to search for the hostages have exposed Rao more as a traitor before larger sections of people. There is no possibility of even nominal normalcy in Kashmir so long as the basic political issues are untouched. Putting the blame for the Punjab and Kashmir turmoils on Pakistan and ISI is only exposing Rao government even before many of his followers as a weakling incapable of defending the country's borders.

Though Arjun-Tiwari split did not take away major sections of parliament-assembly members, it had already weakened the Rao's Congress. Alongwith this Sonia Gandhi's outburst at Amethi about the inordinate delay in

bringing to book Rajiv's killers has aggravated the uncertainty within it. It is in this situation Rao tried to retrieve the condition through a cabinet reshuffle. But already the cabinet ministers whom Rao wanted to ease out in the name of drafting them for organisational work had refused to oblige. Now the removal of four and induction of 19 junior ministers have only created more problems.

Besides Rajesh Pilot's timing of the order to arrest Chandraswami is proved very troublesome now. Babloo Srivastava's disclosures were known for few days. As in the case of ISRO's spy-case CBI was making a salvage operation to destroy this evidence as any charge sheeting of Chandraswami will naturally lead to Rao himself. So knowing well CBI's moves, and his imminent ouster from home-ministry, Pilot ordered for Chandraswami's arrest. Though Pilot is now removed to another ministry, his order has led to many whisperings and exposures in press. Like Rajiv with Bofors, Rao besides many other underhand dealings is now loaded with Chandraswami affair also. One after another the chickens are coming home to roost. Rao is in real trouble, so also is his party and government.

It is at this juncture the Rupee is grievously falling against dollar continuously for last two weeks. Now dollar costs more than Rs. 35 that is a fall of more than 10 percent in a week. Manmohan as usual is ready with his statement, there is nothing to worry. But what is happening in India to Rupee is nothing different from what started the Mexico-syndrome. It does not mean that this time it can happen in India. But Manmohan's statement is most irresponsible to the people, and responsible only to imperialists and compradors. The Rupee down fall is really serious and if it is not coming to a halt soon, the crisis can be serious including a possible flight of capital

Thus, when both his government and party is in crisis, Rao in his characteristic Kautilya-style is engaged in manipulative politics. In UP he manoeuvred alongwith BJP to ease-out Mulayam and to put Mayavathi in power. Besides once again in Babri Masjid style he helped VHP-BJP to bring Kashi Mathura to focus defying earlier court-orders. Though BJP is the principal gainer, why Rao colluded with BJP in this way

in UP can be understood only when developments in other states are also evaluated.

In TN, while keeping Jayalalitha still amused and not dropping the idea of a link-up with her ADMK totally, Rao has manipulated Rajanikant to enter politics. The Madurai rally of Congress and Rajanikant's moves are parts of a tactical move to hoist a viable non-ADMK, non-DMK coalition led by Rao's Congress and to gain power in coming election using widespread opposition to Jayalalitha's rule.

Rao's manipulative skills were at its best in utilising the opportunity created by the revolt within TDP in AP. Even Rajanikant was used as a trouble-shooter. Finally RamaRao is out and his son-in-law is made chief minister. Thus like in UP, in AP also the NF-LF plans are frustrated. Thus the game-plan is becoming clear. The first target is NF-LF combine. In pulling it down even before the election Rao's Congress as well as BJP are colluding. Naturally one can expect foreign power's hands also in this. Though NF-LF leaders are hurriedly trying to prove themselves as reliable custodians before the elections to imperialists, their populist game and revolutionary phrase mongering are irritants for the imperialist masters. When the imperialist camp is getting ready for a final kill, a final neocolonial assault after next year's election, it wants 'political stability' and 'reliable leadership' at Delhi. For them the alternatives are Congress or BJP or a possible link-up between the two, if necessary, in the post-election period. Though NF-LF is also proved comprador enough, now-a-days the masters are not interested in double-talks. Masters are at more comfort even now with Latin-American or African type compradors.

In spite of all these calculations, the imperialist camp, though there are many clashes of interests within it, is presently in general agreement that Congress of any brand is still the most reliable customer. So it is interested in Rao's manipulations. The TN and AP developments have given hope to Rao's camp in spite of many serious clashes of interests within it.

But this apperant can overturn if Rao's collusion with BJP, or Rao's indulgence with Chandraswami or similar developments lead to a further split in Congress and if these split-away groups join hands with the dilapidated NF-LF combine in the tradition of 1977 and 1989.

II

But BJP has its own plans. In UP it has changed its fortunes from a desperate one to some what bright condition. In Bihar it wants to link up with Samta of George Fernandes. Along with the 'Swadeshi' plank of Gurumurthy and the political mileage grafted through Enron affair, BJP feels George's 'Socialist' and Lohia-ist utterances will help it in a situation when discontentment against Rao's policies is aggravating.

BJP has worked out an agreement with AGP in Assam based on common approach towards 'foreigners' from Bangladesh. In Punjab it is engaged in discussions with Akalidial for a possible election adjustment giving leadership in state politics to it. And with AP developments BJP has hastily organised a leader's camp at Hyderabad. It is going to make an all out effort to win over Rama Rao to its side. Congress planning to go it alone and corner glory in the changed situation, and NF-LF planning to unite with Chandrababu Naidu's TDP, BJP hopes NTR will join hands with it. Besides BJP has not abandoned hops to join hands with Jayalalitha in TN giving her the absolute say in state politics. Combining these manipulations with another bout of Kashi-Mathura and national chauvinist outbursts it plans to get a majority of its own.

III

In such a scenario NF-LF is becoming a more and more divided house without even a semblance of an alternate political agenda. Rao has gone to Calcutta and declared that his economic policies stand vindicated with Jyothi Basu vouchsafing its continuity even after elections during his US trip, and Laloo of Bihar singing its praise at Singapore. As EMS has already started teaching his followers through his columns LF has abandoned the anti-globalisation-market system platform. The non-cooperation campaign of 1994 is no more talked about. For NF even Mandal card is no more a monopoly as it is hijacked by many. The division in TDP in AP was another jolt. The chaos created with the initiative of Dewa Gowda and Biju Patnaik to bring in Jayalalitha has created serious confusion adding to its already serious weaknesses. Leadership question is also really serious.

In this situation even if another split takes place in Rao's Congress and all these Congress factions veer round to a possible coalition with the already truncated NF-LF, the possibilities

Kozhikode Convention Calls For Release Of TADA Detenues

The convention against continued detention of more than 77,000 TADA detenues even after this black act has lapsed, held at Kozhikode on September 16 and organised by Yuvajanavedi called for immediate release of all TADA detenues. The convention was inaugurated by Anand Patwardhan, progressive film maker and social activist at 10.30 AM. He explained that continued detention of those detenues is against all democratic principles. Linking the fascicisation of the state with increasing imperialist plunder he called for a broad democratic front to fight injustice at all levels. Welcoming the hundreds of democratic people who had filled up the big town-hall and the premises, and the speakers, K. T. Kunhikannan, secretary of Vedi explained the glorious democratic struggles waged by Communist revolutionaries and revolutionary mass organisations in Kerela from the time of 75-77 emergency and linked the campaigns, conventions, seminars etc. including the recent signature campaign by KVS for the release of TADA detenues with these. Following the

for it to gain dominance looks bleak at present because of it political bankruptcy and organisational weaknesses.

IV

Thus we are approaching the election months when whoever wins majority or whichever combination takes over the IMF-WB dictated policies are going to get very easy acceptance. Enron like deals and Bailadila like sell-outs will become administratively easier for them. Though renegotiations is necessary all these sell outs will become the orders of the day. All the three major contestants will see to it that no clinching debate on globalisation—market system takes place.

This is a serious challenge before the revolutionary left. They will have to chalk out plans to bring forward anti-imperialist anti-feudal agenda during elections and should start getting prepared now itself for launching countrywide movements against the sell-out of country's interests and for achieving people's demands. ●

inaugural speech K.A. Mohan Das, president, Janakeeya Kala Sahitya Vedi called for intensified efforts to pressurise the government for the release of these detenues.

Dr. NA. Karim explained the authoritarian dark contents of TADA. Its replacement with proposed Criminal Law Amendment will be another step for further fascicisation. These sinister moves should be opposed. The detenues should be released immediately. Koothattukulam Mary, freedom fighter and member of the early communist movement who herself was brutally tortured in late forties for her involvement in revolutionary peoples struggles explained increasing oppression in all fields and called for united activities for the release of TADA detenues and for democratic rights. P. T. Kunhumammad MLA, progressive film maker and cultural activist decried the increasing oppressive situation in the country. There should be intensified movements for democratic rights.

After the lunch-break when the convention continued from 3.00 PM, P. K. Venugopalan, secretary, Janakeeya Kala Sahitya Vedi read out messages of greetings send by Justice V. R. Krishna Iyer, Justice Chandrasekhara Menon, Sunil Dutt M. P, Manakkalath (freedom fighter), Kovilan (a foremost novelist and progressive thinker) and Prof. M. N. Karassery (progressive writer) who could not come to the convention due to ill-health or other sudden inconveniences. All of them who had participated on many occasions earlier in the democratic conventions against TADA and other black laws called for immediate release of the detenues. Following this K. P. Muhammad, freedom-fighter and senior socialist leader, called on the youth to carry forward the struggle for democracy and demanded the release of all TADA detenues. Then Pavanan, president, of Kerala Rationalist Forum also spoke raising the same demand. After this Karamana Janardanan Nair, film artist, in his characteristic style criticised the undemocratic criminal leaders who are degenerating the country. We have to resist this heinous trend. Progressive forces should struggle against exploitation and increasing oppression.

K. N. Ramachandran explained the historical roots of authoritarianism. Like emergency

Should We Go For Privatisation?

Privatisation is the catchword today in India. It is presented alongwith inviting foreign capital and MNCs as the panacea for the evils here. When the so-called *New Economic Policy* was launched by Rao government it was stated that only those public sector undertakings (PSUs) running in loss will be privatised, and that only in areas where public sector cannot effectively function privatisation will be resorted to. But today Rao government has arrived at the slavish conviction that it has to

in the seventies present undeclared emergency and fascicisation are natural consequence of the intensification of neocolonial plunder dragging the country to crisis after crisis. As a part of globalisation US imperialism is utilising CIA and other agencies to spread terror as a tactics against all progressive movements, and against any ruler like Saddam in Iraq who dares to question US hegemony. As a part of this imperialist terror tactics all neocolonial governments are unleashing *state terror* against toiling masses, and to suppress all types of movements coming up as a result of present anti-people policies. Declared or undeclared emergency, and black-laws are parts of this state terror. So from the anti imperialist, anti-state perspective struggles for democratic rights and against state-terror should be launched. There should be an all out effort for the release of TADA detenués as well as to block Criminal Law Amendment move.

Following that P. J. Baby, president, Vedi, moved two resolutions one calling for immediate release of all TADA detenués, and the other calling to resist the move to impose a Criminal Law Amendment. The resolutions which called for sustained united movements by democratic forces against state-terror was accepted by the well over thousand people gathered in and around town-hall with thunderous applause. The convention concluded with the call of the president to carry forward the campaign for the release of all detenués, and with vote of thanks by C. Soman, north-zone secretary of Vedi.

Immediately following this at 7 PM Anand Patwardhan presented his 16 mm film *Father, Son and Holy War* to a packed audience.

Vedi and KVS have chalked out plans to carry forward the state-wide campaign for the release of all TADA detenués. ●

accept whatever foreign investments and MNCs coming its way and resort to privatisation at a break-neck speed. Or foreign investment and privatisation are elevated to national goals.

In the power sector, government statistics projected a demand of 1,42,000 MW by 2007 AD and private sector's participation for providing projects for 80,000 MW was called for, that is an investment of Rs. 250 to 300 billions in 10-15 years in this sector alone. There was rushing through discussions for 190 projects including 7 'fast-track' projects like Enron's DPP in Maharashtra without giving consideration to so-called *transparency*. Even after Enron is suspended due to mounting people's opposition, central and state governments are going to enter into deals with MNCs and their Indian collaborators with some cosmetic modifications in a hurry. Even privatisation of existing power plants and of the state electricity boards are in the anvil.

National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) is one of the PSUs making continuous huge projects. Even then Bailadila mines providing one of the richest or the richest iron ore in the world is privatised in a hurry inspite of continuous opposition and struggle by NMDC workers/employees and local people. NMDC's equity participation will be only 11 percent. Though it has already spent to the tune of Rs. 120 crore to develop the mines to present level it is sold out for Rs. 16 crore. Similarly including the much profitable diamond mines in MP, many for mineral sources are privatised through nakedly corrupt deals.

Now central government has compelled ONGC to enter in to an agreement with the very same Enron and Reliance Industries (India) for handing over Mukta/Panna offshore oil-fields in AP coast with only 40 percent equity share for ONGC. The whole investigation and infrastructural developments so far was made by ONGC. According to this deal in which ONGC will hold only 40 percent shares, Enron will recover its cost through the mechanism of 'cost oil', that is a share of the whole production till whole cost is recovered. ONGC will get no compensation for the exploration and developmental work it has done so far. Enron is also given a considerable amount of freedom

INTERNATIONAL SCENE

A Communist in Prison for 44 Years

Kim Sun-myung was arrested 44 years ago during the Korean War by the US imperialists' lackey government in South Korea for his commitment for Communist cause. Kim's 44 years in prison is a world record for political prisoners. During this very long period he was denied newspapers and books, and all other facilities entitled to political prisoners according to international laws. He was tortured and everything possible short of killing was done to him to destroy his commitment to Communism which he cherished and maintained all these years. Now the authoritarian state was compelled to release him. Kim after coming out has reiterated that he will continue to be a Communist. ●

Philippines: 33 political prisoners Released

Some 300 political prisoners of National Democratic Front led by Communist Party of Philippines lifted their 41 day hunger strike

in handling this ONGC site. It will decide when the commercial production should start, whether or not associated gas is to be recovered or flared etc. These transfers of ONGC oil-sites to MNCs and their collaborators are taking place besides huge disinvestments of PSUs in petroleum sector.

Thus privatisation is posing a grave danger to vital national wealth and interests on the one hand, and is estimated to have made already more than 5 million workers jobless through various measures under exit policy. Along with this privatisation is making contract labours system to proliferate. Already 91.5 percent of total work force in India are contract labour. They are denied all trade union rights. Even existing minimum wages, which is quite inadequate considering the price index, are not provided. In short privatisation is making the society more and more dehumanised and corrupt making the rich richer, and the poor poorer.

A countrywide movement, mobilising the working class and all patriotic democratic forces, is urgently needed to resist the privatisation measures and the ideology behind it.

on February 12 after the release of 33 prisoners and admission by the Ramos regime that there are political prisoners in Philippines. The hunger strike was held in various detention centres all over the country from January 3 for the immediate release of all political prisoners. ●

Afganistan Turmoil

The September 7 attack on Pakistani embassy in Kabul forcing its evacuation by thousands of agitators followed the criticism by Afghan president Rabbani that Pakistan is behind the Taliban advances in western provinces. Though Rabbani's Jamiat Party is in control of Kabul, three more Islamic forces led by Gen. Rashid Dostum, Hizbe-i-Islami party led by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, and Taliban are fighting for hegemony intensifying the civil-war day by day. In this process not only Kabul but most other urban centres and even many villages are already devastated and tens of thousands are getting killed or injured every month.

Afgan people are suffering under strategic pursuits of US imperialism through Pakistan, of Russia and Uzbekistan through Rashid Dostum and of Iran through Rabbani. What is at stake is not only the control of Afganistan but also adjoining Central Asian region. Like former Yugoslavia, Afganistan is turned in to a killing field with numerous forces with direct and indirect support by various imperialist powers fighting it out to establish hegemony. ●

Peace Talks in Philippines Broken Off

As the comprador government of Ramos backed by US imperialism violated the joint agreement on safety and immunity guarantees (JASIG) and arrested com. Sotero Llamas, a member of the negotiating team of National Democratic Front led by CPP, the NDF has broken off negotiations. As the military backed by Yankees is against the negotiations it is instigating 'totalwar' and resorting to bombing and 'relocation' of entire villages. NDF has declared that an end to the 'totalwar policy' of comprador government is crucial and necessary for promoting peace negotiations. ●

Nepal: Revisionists in Disarray

The revisionist CPN (UML) in Nepal is in total disarray. Succumbing to parliamentary illusions it had hoped to head the caretaker government till November and to come back to power in the proposed elections. All these calculations were based on the dissolution of the parliament by the King under recommendation of the UML ministry led by Manmohan Adhikari. But now the Supreme Court has thought otherwise. It has ruled out King's orders. Following this Adhikari ministry is voted out and a Nepali Congress ministry supported by Rashtriya Prajatantra Party is being sworn in.

After coming to power the UML leadership had faithfully followed all rules of the parliamentary game of the comprador classes and the royal family. It also followed the very same economic policies of comprador classes surrendering Nepal to neocolonial slavery further. And when the opposition parties got together and moved a no confidence motion to vote out the minority ministry, UML leadership adopted the very same policy followed by Nepali Congress in almost similar situation earlier by recommending dissolution of parliament and new elections. It shows how fast UML graduated to the comprador politics. After numerous bitter experiences of revisionist renegades during the last four decades the developments in Nepal at the best looks comic, nothing more. It is yet another lesson for the revolutionaries. ●

Yugoslavia: will the imposed accord hold?

With US assistant secretary of state Richard Holbroke presiding, an accord is signed by foreign ministers of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia-led Yugoslavia according to which the three factions in the civilwar agreed to divide Bosnia into a Muslim-Croat Federation with 51 percent area and to a Serbs Republic with 49 percent area, maintaining Bosnia's identity formally. Though Clinton has declared it as an important milestone, including formal recognition of such a Bosnia, by Yugoslavia and Bosnian Serbs accepting the formula in practice there are many serious obstacles to its implementation. So US and its NATO allies have decided to continue the bombing of the Bosnian Serbs to submission and to continue the

sanctions against Yugoslavia till this accord is implemented by them.

When US imperialists and their German, British and French counterparts who are mainly responsible for instigating and paving the way for disintegration of former Yugoslavia, they are now worried whether the continuing civil war in Balkans will spoil the new equilibrium they want to impose over the world and in Europe in the name of *New World Order*. Especially because Russian leadership has started extending open support to the Serbs. Before Russia can reorganise its economic scene and interfere in European politics effectively including extending military and economic support to Serbs and Yugoslavia, they want to impose a settlement there. That is the hurry behind present moves. Now US is gambling that the Russians are too weak to wreck its plans.

But it is not going to be so easy for US and EU leaders. Their policy of 'divide, destabilise and control' in order to impose their imperialist hegemony over people everywhere may not succeed so soon especially when dissensions are coming up one after another among the imperialist forces themselves. ●

Bangladesh: Streetfights continues

The opposition parties led by Awami League and comprising Jatiya Party of former president Gen. Ershad and fundamentalist Jamaat-e-Islami have unleashed their 'last weapon'—the mass hartal—for their 'final offensive' to bring down Begum Khaleda Zia's government of Bangladesh Nationalist Party and election under a caretaker government led by chief justice of supreme court. The agitation has taken the form of street fighting and is becoming more and more violent. Following the successful 32 hour hartal from September 3 and other programmes of agitation for three days, a non stop 72 hour hartal is called from September for a show down.

Meanwhile US assistant secretary of state Robin Raphael had long discussions with the government as well as opposition to find a solution to this crisis aggravated by resignation of all the 145 opposition members of parliament. Imperialists are helping the compradors to find out a solution to their conflict within the system.

There are reasons for anxiety in imperi-

INDIAN SCENE

Fascist Postal Bill Again

Once when a former Prime Minister Rajiv-Gandhi's regime wanted to impose a *postal bill* empowering the postal and police departments to open and censor all postal articles, and if necessary to destroy them it was returned, without signing by the then President Zail Singh. Though the bill was returned, police authorities were using high handed methods for illegal censorship and destruction of postal articles. Many such cases are reported from different states in the country. Now once again Rao government is going to move such a draconian fascist bill before the Parliament. It shows the extent of fascistisation of this country. It calls for immediate and strong resistance by all democratic forces. ●

Enron prepares ground for renegotiation

As was expected Enron has started calculated moves for renegotiating the DPP deal along with its PPA. Enron chief executive Rebecca

alist capitals about the possibility for the agitation developing in to a street fighting involving basic problems affecting people which have kept Bangladesh as one of the most backward among all neocolonies. It is a challenge before the Communist Revolutionaries whether they can utilise the present opportunity to turn this agitation from one between two sections of comprador ruling classes in to a people's struggle against their tormentors, the imperialists and their lackeys of all shades. ●

Income gap gallops in UK

Inequality in Britain is at its greatest since Second World War. It is growing faster than in other imperialist countries all of which are increasingly affected by this. Recent studies show that between 1979 and 1992 real wages for poorest 10 percent fell by 17 percent while for those in the highest 10 percent rose by 55 percent. Inequality is growing for the pensioners also. Lowest 20 to 30 percent are not at all benefitted by whatever economic growth takes place. ●

Mark met Maharashtra Chief Minister and BJP-SS leaders including Bal Thackeray. Chief Minister Joshi told after the meeting that his government is ready to renegotiate on the power tariffs, project cost and environmental issues. Since Congress (I) leaders including Sharad-Pawar is already campaigning for renegotiation and return of Enron, it can be expected that necessary conditions for it will be prepared by BJP-SS government once its face saving devices are arranged and once it has succeeded in reaping all political benefits from its much publicised suspension of the project work. As the traitors are getting ready to receive back Enron the patriotic forces should get ready to continue the agitation for scrapping the move to surrender the power sector to MNCs. ●

Another Enron in Orissa

As the waves of anti-Enron movement in Maharashtra reached Orissa, the present Congress (I) government there was compelled to ask another US MNC, AES Transpower, with whom former Janatha Dal government had signed an Enron like power deal for 2x210 MW thermal power plants to bring down the capital cost and make major modifications in the PPA. But it is not difficult to understand that the Congress (I) government is only creating an illusion before the people. It has already initiated moves to renegotiate the PPA and to start the project. Only a determined agitation by patriotic forces can drive-out this MNC from the power sector. ●

Jyothi Basu's Retreat

In West Bengal faced by sustained opposition from workers and all progressive forces and criticism from the LF partners as well as from within CPI (M) itself Jyothi Basu government was compelled to drop the plan for privatisation of the state controlled Great Eastern Hotel in collaboration with Accor SA of France. On August 21 Basu announced that "we have reconsidered our earlier decision on privatisation because the trade unions active in the hotel are against it". Though the union leadership of CITU and INTUC had diluted their opposition recently, after 18 months of privatisation efforts this announcement has come mainly due to the fear of fall outs of the deal through

which this sprawling hotel complex valued at about Rs. 200 crores was going to be gifted to Accor for a paltry amount of Rs. 16 crores in the coming assembly elections. Especially due to the setbacks suffered by the LF in the municipal as well as Calcutta corporation elections, there were criticisms from within itself against Basu's hasty privatisation moves. Revolutionary forces had mounted attack on the LF for toeing the reactionary policies of Rao Man Mohan government. In this context though Jyothi Basu has retreated a bit the struggle against implementation of IMF WB-WTO dictates and against surrendering to MNCs and foreign capital will have to be continued more intensely as the LF like its Chinese and Vietnamese friends have accepted a so-called "market-friendly" stand irrespective of their anti imperialist pretensions.

Agriculture as Industry

In the Agricultural Policy Statement of Rao government it is proposed that agriculture will be soon declared as an industry. The MNCs engaged in food processing operations like Pepsi and Cargil, the comprador sections as well as the rich peasant lobby have welcomed this move. As a part of this move the land ceiling will be removed and rich peasants, farm owners and estate managements will be provided all facilities for land accumulation and all financial aids as available to industries. Efforts to convert agricultural land for aquaculture, for cash crops and for any other profitable ventures are being promoted. All restrictions for export of food grains and other agrarian products irrespective of their local demands are removed. This commercialisation and industrialisation of agriculture will make tens of millions of agricultural workers unemployed, alienate poor and even middle peasants from their land, the social aspect of agriculture including provision of food to the people by achieving food self sufficiency will be abandoned, and make the country a victim of imperialist manipulations of using 'food as a political weapon'. As a result prices of essential agricultural products will continuously increase even in PDS stores as witnessed now pauperising the masses more and more.

Now a high level Reserve Bank working group has recommended removal of all restrictions on investment by non-resident Indians (NRIs) and overseas corporate bodies (OCBs) and

opening up of agriculture and plantation sectors to them. These frantic industrialisation of agriculture is leading to the growth of comprador agricultural bourgeoisie and increasing penetration of MNCs to agrarian sector. Along with anti-feudal struggles, struggle against growing comprador landlord system has entered the agenda of agrarian struggles in our country.

NCAER flays neglect of public sector

The National Council of Applied Economic Research has criticised Manmohan's budget proposals for neglect of public sector. Investments in public sector has reached lowest levels. In spite of tall claims, generous concessions and tax holidays since the large private investments are not reaching anywhere near expected levels in the basic infrastructural or core sectors, this neglect of PSUs are going to seriously affect infrastructural development as a whole in coming years, it said. Besides, contrary to what is said in public, once again the budget for 95-96 has further eroded competitiveness of PSUs, denying a 'level playing field' to them. They are grossly discriminated against in comparison to foreign and native private investors. All these are "source of anxiety" according to the study.

NCAER study on poverty alleviation programmes

On the "poverty alleviation programmes" the NCAER study shows that though there are many additional programmes money for them has not been paid for. "Many of the schemes are not costed, and we have to wonder whether they are mere talking points, or serious programmes".

For example the study cites the mid-day meals programme. In TN where it is implemented Rs. 345.3 crore was budgeted by the state government for 94-95. That is any meaningful implementation of this scheme at all India level calls for a minimum Rs. 3000 crore assistance by centre. Without mentioning the source for such a big amount Manmohan Singh in his budget speech merely mentioned that the costs can be easily borne without affecting the deficit. Instead of addressing the

Tamilnadu: DYL Picketing

Protesting against the assault on a dalit youth by an AIADMK local leader DYL mobilised the local people and picketed the highway at Tambaram Guduvanchery area in Madras. More than 1000 people participated.

DYL has intensified the campaign in Madras city propagating the slogan. "Patriots Unite, Kick out IMF-WB-WTO-MNCs".

TUCI organising committee, at Coimbatore has started preparations for the All India Workers Convention to be organised on December 17 focussing the central issues faced by working class.

Delhi: Protest March to Peru Embassy

Ten revolutionary mass organisations including Janavadi Yuva Sanghatan (JYS) held a meeting on 30 August at Delhi University campus and formed a 'Joint Committee in Support of Peru Revolution'. Including IFTU, AIFTU, DSU, PSU, and AIRSF 10 organisations participated. A protest march was organised in front of Peru embassy on 16 September with the slogans; "Stop repressive acts against Peruvian Revolution, Release all revolutionary political prisoners including com. Gonzalo".

Kerala: Panchayath Raj a force in the name of decentralisation

The long-delayed Panchayat-Municipal elections were held in Kerala on 23,25 September. CPI(ML) Red Flag Kerala state committee organised a statewide campaign from September beginning exposing this drama organised in the name of decentralisation of power. As a part of globalisation presently even powers of state

poverty-alleviation programmes directly and allotting provisions for them in the budget it is merely stated that "they can be implemented involving banks and NABARD, SC-ST Corporations, and by providing guarantees from state and union governments to these corporations". Rao-Manmohan team is creating in this way new examples for jugglery with budget proposals and for betraying the masses.

governments are limited and central government is becoming more and more centralised and powerful. Instead of decentralising powers, a global centralisation of economic-political policies are taking place under imperialist dictates. WTO is another step in this centralisation. So Panchayati Raj is nothing but a farce. The state committee statement exposed this farce and called on the people to struggle for genuine people's political power.

Following the completion of Vizhinjam people's enquiry, Yuvajanavedi organised a march to state secretariat at Thiruvananthapuram on August 31 demanding a comprehensive enquiry in to vested interests behind these communal revolts by concerned agencies, create normal conditions for the fisherfolk to go to sea for fishing, take immediate action to create normal conditions in the area, stop government's negligence towards the serious situation at Vizhinjam. If government is not taking necessary action VEDI has stated that it will launch an agitation for realising these demands. Meanwhile VEDI has decided to send volunteers to affected area.

During the elections to college union in all the three universities on August 31 and September 1, KVS organised a campaign and contested elections to six college unions with anti-imperialist slogans and opposing privatisation of education, KVS and VEDI has extended full support to the agitation organised by Medical Students all over the state against privatisation of medical education. They have supported the agitation by Cochin University students against starting 'capitation-fee' engineering and medical colleges in the name of 'self-reliant colleges'.

Bombay-Diamond workers demand Bonus

In Bombay-Surat area nearly 3-4 lakhs of workers are employed on contract basis in the diamond sector. While the employers reap huge profits every year workers are denied all economic and democratic rights. In this situation Diamond Workers Association has decided to launch a movement for worker's rights. As a part of this DWA has decided to campaign this year for bonus to all diamond workers.

Maharashtra Yuva Aghadi has taken initiative to organise a campaign for the release of all TADA detainees. As a part of this it is proposed to organise a convention uniting other revolutionary mass organisations also.

demand release of tada detainees

Narasimha Rao government hesitated to ratify TADA with BJP support and was forced to allow it to lapse because of the mounting opposition from democratic forces. But even after this jungle-act has lapsed more than 77,000 TADA detainees are still rotting in jails. The government is not taking any action to put them on trial or release them. Instead the criminal law is going to be changed to perpetuate the ever

intensifying fascicisation of the state.

We call upon all democratic forces to get together and demand the immediate release of all TADA detainees. Let us unite to build up a countrywide movement for this purpose.

16-9-1995

Secretary
CPI (ML) Red Flag

Oppose French Nuclear Tests

France conducted first of its new series of nuclear tests near Mururoa in its South Pacific testing site on 5th September inspite of world-wide protests against it. While protestors clashed violently with police in Tahiti, there were demonstrations against these nuclear tests in many countries. Even then French imperialists chief Chirac has arrogantly stated that the remaining five more tests will be conducted.

After the disintegration of Soviet Union and so-called end to the cold-war, the imperialists led by US imperialism had declared that before long a nuclear-free world will be created. But the hollowness of this declaration was proved before long. The nuclear powers were not ready even to put an end to the nuclear tests leave alone disbanding of nuclear devices. Soon all of them resumed nuclear tests and piling of more nuclear weapons.

At the same time they were interested only in imposing a Nuclear Non proliferation Treaty over the remaining countries in order to maintain their nuclear hegemony. Through their actions the nuclear powers-US, Russia, Britain, France and China—have proved that they are not for nuclear disarmament.

In this situation, the progressive forces all over the world should demand an immediate halt to all types of nuclear tests. More and more forces should join the world wide protest movement. It should be developed in to a powerful movement for total and unconditional nuclear disarmament. The nuclear bombing of Hirosh-

ima and Nagasaki had proved that imperialists will not hesitate to go to any extent to maintain their hegemony and to perpetuate their exploitative system. Imperialism means plunder and wars for plunder. So it is against disarmament and word peace.

Today the movement for disarmament in general and nuclear disarmament in particular, and for world peace should be developed as a part of the worldwide anti-imperialist movement. We call upon all progressive forces to develop the protest movement against French nuclear tests further as part of anti-imperialist movement.

25.9.'95

Secretary
CPI (ML) Red Flag

(From P. 2)

degenerated Soviet Union and present China with dictatorship of the proletariat changed to bureaucratic state monopoly as the models of socialism blacking out the socialist decades there under the leadership of Lenin and Stalin, and of Mao Tsetung. It is a very sinister and heinous effort to vulgarise history.

In such a Context, the Marxist-Leninists all over the world have to develop their theoretical understanding in all fields and initiate an allround revolutionary offensive, both in theory and practice, against the capitalist-imperialist system and its lackeys and compradors everywhere.