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UPA GOVT. MOVES FOR DRASTIC REFORMS IN EDUCATION

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It's a matter of serious concern that the Union HRD Minister Kapil Sibal on the plea of 100 day's agenda, immediately after assuming charge, has started making such pronouncements which appear to be ill-conceived and arbitrary posing a serious threat to our whole education system. It appears that he has no mindset to feel the necessity of consulting experts and the state governments, particularly when education is in the concurrent list, before announcing his so called innovative schemes which are nothing but to damage the existing system and the prospects of millions of poor students. To cite an example, the HRD minister announces his plan to abolish the Class X or the Madhyamik examination, which is the first public examination, and instead advises the students to go straight for the class XII examination. But the minister simply forgets that majority of the poor students can not afford to go up to class XII. They remain contend with a Madhyamik certificate and try hard for openings in various areas. The HRD minister's absurd plan would simply deprive the poor students of this opportunity to go for any sort of opening in their future carrier. People at large have outright condemned all such absurd innovative schemes.

The absurdity of the UPA government's education plans is further exposed when they make loud pronouncements about the 'Right to Education', but very shockingly make poor budgetary allocation for primary education. A meagre increase of less than Rs. 200 crore for elementary education in Budget 2009-10 is inadequate for implementation of Right to Education. The UPA government is yet to reach its commitment in the NCMP to allocate 6% of GDP for education. Universalisation of education and right to education for all is the cry of the day, which needs to be implemented, not in words, but in action. We must not forget that more than 30% of our population is still kept away from the light of literacy.

But the Congress Government's intention is confined elsewhere. All their efforts in education sector are concentrated in creating an elite society and thus creating a distinct divide between the 'haves' and have-nots' in education. The UPA government's elitist agenda in education, as has been explicitly advocated by the Human Resource Development Minister, is aiming at providing sophisticated education of world class standard, but unfortunately it becomes so costly that only a very limited rich people of our country can afford to 'buy' it. The rest of our vast population can not even dream of reaching such high standard of expensive education. The discriminating facilities for different types of education for different groups of young people are creating only rich and poor divide in our society. This type of approach to education can never achieve 'inclusive growth' which the UPA government is publicizing so highly.

The more dangerous aspect of the whole issue has been exposed as the government has, of late, made drastic moves to make ties with the US in the education sector. While the government is proudly announcing their intention to introduce the Foreign University Bill shortly, they have already reached agreements with the top US officials to allow American Universities to open their campuses in India. Once such campuses start operating, they will produce a handful of young students who will develop a new type of mindset contrary to our national heritage and tradition. We may recall Netaji Subhas Chandra's ideology of education which basically aimed at developing a spirit of patriotism among the young generation. As because, he said, this will go a long way to create a stronger nation. During the post-second world war situation, the Japanese have had a bitter experience of American imposed education which caused alienation of their entire young generation from the nationalistic spirit and thoughts. Japan found a new generation coming out of the US - controlled campuses who neither know, nor love their own motherland. Of late, Japan realized the danger confronting them and has started reversing the whole system of Americanized education. What Japan now realizing, India's HRD minister can not realize. He rather fails to appreciate the apprehensions of the people about the danger lying ahead by opening floodgate for US university campuses in India. He rather advises the people to change the mindset and welcome US campuses in India.

The HRD Minister has thus amply exposed the UPA government's education policy which encourages privatization and foreign investment in our education. We strongly oppose this drastic reforms in education and urge upon the students community to unitedly fight against it.

PRICE HIKE OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS : FIRST GIFT TO THE NATION BY 2ND UPA GOVERNMENT

The UPA government beginning its second term with Manmohan Singh as its Prime Minister has increased the price of petrol by Rs. 4 a litre and diesel by Rs. 2 a litre with effect from midnight of 1st July 2009. After assuming power from early June 2009, this price hike appears to be a major gift to the nation, which will be adversely affecting the transportation costs and consequently prices of a large number of essential commodities, including vegetables, fish, eggs etc. of the daily market. And this price hike will ultimately hit the 'aam admi' and the government's much publicised 'inclusive growth'.

Moreover, the timing of the price hike is very shrewdly planned. When the newly formed parliament was due to meet on the next day, this unilateral announcement at the Ministry level hits the parliamentary democratic fabric. On the other hand, the UPA government, of which the Trinamool-Congress is a major constituent, has consciously selected its day of price hike announcement after the day of civic poll (28th June) in West Bengal where they are having a major stake. They took care to see that the price hike impact may not affect their vote-bank.

The last time autofuel prices were increased was on June 4, 2008, which was followed by two quick rounds of price reduction in December 2008 and January 2009 well before the Lok Sabha election was announced. This reduction was due to sharp fall of global crude prices. As a result, petrol prices became cheaper by Rs. 10 a litre, diesel Rs. 4 a litre.

While announcing the present hike the Petroleum Secretary R. S. Pandey said that the price increase was "ad-hoc" and "partial". He further reminded that the public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) were losing Rs. 6 on every litre of petrol and Rs. 3.60 a litre on diesel. He said that at the current crude oil price of Indian basket (\$70.29 a barrel), the total revenue loss of OMCs is estimated at Rs. 30,000 crore for 2009-10. Hence, this pre-budget increase of autofuels' price may be aimed to keep the present expanding fiscal deficit down by reducing the amount of subsidy on retail fuels.

But all these figures presented along with the government's pre-hike announcement lead to apprehensions that further price-hike may not be ruled out. But a pertinent question is being asked from the public corner as to what steps the oil ministry and the OMCs are taking for better oil management aiming at reducing the cost of production.

Moreover, a subtle hint is there that the government is contemplating deregulation of fuel prices. An official (unnamed) is reported to have commented that "the fuel price deregulation was very much on the agenda and could happen any time". All this speculation is really a matter of concern. When OMCs will be free to fix the prices, the impact may be far reaching so far the overall consumer market is concerned. In view of the interest of the common people, the government should initiate public debate before taking the course of deregulation of fuel prices.

ROLE OF PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT STRIVING FOR PEACE AND COMMON DEVELOPMENT *

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Once the war-time British Prime Minister Winston Churchill said that the atomic weapons were surest guarantee of peace. But this type of view is not tenable, as it is based on war-psychosis. We believe, and we have firm conviction, too, that only the peace-loving people with their continuous conscious campaign against war and all other regional conflicts and terrorist activities, along with their active participation in peace movements, can guarantee peace and prosperity. A sustainable peace and development can be further strengthened when the respective governments of different countries, or region-based group of countries, come forward to make mutual agreement and understanding to jointly work for peace and common development.

There are a quite few such country-to-country mutual agreements or a common mutual understanding among a group of countries for cooperation, which are working well. A few names may be cited, such as Panchasheel or five principles of peaceful coexistence agreed upon by India-China, realization of objective set for SAARC countries as an economically integrated region at peace with itself and engaged with the world, ASEAN agreement for progress in several areas of common interest, Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation

(BIMSTEC), regional groupings like G-20 for furthering mutual interests in international areas, Russia-India-China understanding for promoting sustainable development, Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) of a group of countries with a common policy, etc. All these mutual agreements and understanding help promoting sustainable developments on government - to - government basis.

But apart from these government - to - government initiatives, there still remains a big role to play by the people themselves. When the government is unwilling to join mutual peace and development initiatives, the people of the respective countries may initiate joint efforts for sustainable development, peace and solidarity in the region. This is much more important having a strong common mass base in the two neighboring countries. India-Pakistan or India-Pakistan-Bangladesh Peoples Forum may be one such example where people's role appears to be much more important. This type of movement for peace and solidarity by the people themselves appears to be more difficult, particularly when the respective government's attitude towards such peace movements is not favourable. But people's solidarity for years together has withstood all sorts of opposition and adverse situation in different countries and has firmly established its vital role in promoting peace and regional security and striving for common development.

Peace movement has always an important aspect which is, in one sense, negative in nature, as it strives for highlighting the hazards and damaging effects of war and conflicts on the life of common people - their security, peace and development prospects. It is argued, once the people are convinced of apprehended hazards of conflict situation, they will have commitments to prevent and oppose such anti-people conflict developments.

The other aspects of peace movements, of course, are of immense positive value benefiting individual and social life, as well as the participating country as a whole. People, irrespective of political colours or religious barriers, can join hands together to promote and organize peace movements. Our faith in democracy and commitment to social welfare can act as a linkage between people of people to different countries and regions for promotion of peace movement.

This peace movement generally has two important role to play. One, for promoting regional peace and security and the other, for promoting sustainable developments. We may suggest some important channels through which such peace movements can be organized. As for example, the following channels may be promoted to strengthen peace movements : (i) Exchange of delegations, (ii) Bilateral seminars for exchange of views and identification of new and innovative measures, (iii) Developing friendship through encouraging tourism, (iv) Studying and understanding historical and cultural background of each of the participating countries of the region, (v) Utilising high-level interactions at the sidelines of international meets, (vi) Translating and publicizing each others' literary works, (vii) Presentation of peace awards to distinguished personalities of the region, (viii) Promoting bi-lingual documentary films depicting life and culture of the regional people.

Besides the aforesaid peace promoting channels, some other steps may be considered for sustainable development of the participating countries of the region. As for example, the following measures can be taken : (i) Sharing of resources for benefits of the participating countries, (ii) Exchange of expertise for each others' benefit, (iii) Setting up of power plants, (iv) Constructing dams, highways and such other public utility services, etc. All these channels if properly utilized can promote a congenial atmosphere for promotion of peace, security and sustainable developments in participating countries.

Thus the role of people's peace movement is basically to promote an environment of peace and stability in our respective regions and in the world as a whole and it enables as well the participating countries to accelerate their socio-economic development and to safeguard their national security.

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** Paper presented at the China-India-Russia Peace Forum meet held at Beijing, China in July 2009.*

THREE NATION PEACE FORUM MEET AT BEIJING : 7-MEMBER INDIAN DELEGATION JOINS THE SEMINAR

China-India-Russia People's Peace Forum for Peace, Development, stability and quest for a Multi-Polar World recently held its seminar at Beijing, China from July 10-11, 2009. The Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament (CPAPD), All India Peace & Solidarity Organisation (AIPSO) and Russian Society of Afro-Asian People's Solidarity & Cooperation (RSAAPSC) were the co-organisers of this seminar.

7 member delegation from India and 3-member delegation from Russia joined the 12-member delegation from China to actively participate in the deliberations. The Indian delegation included Dr. Barun Mukherji, Central Secretariat Member of AIFB and Vice-President of AIPSO. The other members of the delegation were Pallab Sengupta, Nilotpal Basu, Robin Deb, K. Jadava Reddy (Andhra Pradesh), M. Nara Singh (Manipur) and J. Kurup (Kerala).

The papers presented by the delegates covered issues like: 'A multi-polar world and global & regional peace and security', 'Roles of China, India and Russia in promoting development of a multi-polar world', 'Global economic recession and the way out', 'Enhancing cooperation among China, India and Russia in times of global financial crisis', 'Role of people's peace movement in promoting sustainable development', etc.

At the end of the seminar, the delegates had an useful one-day visit to Tianjin, along with the adjoining Eco-city and the special economic zones. The delegates were also taken round the Beijing city covering the Great Wall, Olympic Village and the Forbidden City.

The next year's session of the Forum will be held at Russia.

AIFB Central Committee Resolution, Adopted in its meeting held at Kolkata on 11-13 July 2009

15TH LOK SABHA ELECTION REVIEW

The Central Committee of All India Forward Bloc met today and reviewed the results of 15th Lok Sabha Elections.

While accepting the mandate of the people, with all modesty, the party is of the opinion that, the confusion about the stability, credibility and programme of the combination of the non-Congress (I) and non-BJP parties helped the Congress (I) to retain the power. BJP's anti minority role and the directionless and negative campaign and emphasizing some non-issues antagonized the people and was rejected by them. This also favoured the Congress (I) to come back to power.

The move for making a third front with all non-Congress (I) and non-BJP parties was right. But the Left parties and other parties of the front have failed to give a proper structure for this combination. The front partners also failed to provide an alternative national programme of governance. The leaders of the front also didn't make any nation-wide joint campaign. All these lacunae have created confusion among the people about the credibility and viability of the third front. The willful campaign of Congress (I) and the BJP with the support of a section of the media against the third front also damaged the move to make the non-BJP, non-Congress (I) front.

It is a fact that there was no popular trend in favour of the Congress (I) throughout India in the elections. The Congress (I) has lost number of seats and percentage of votes in Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand, Assam, Gujarat, Chattisgarh and Karnataka. At the same time they have gained much in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Kerala and Uttarakhand. The Congress (I) has retained their supremacy in Andhra Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi. In certain states including West Bengal they have maintained the status quo. It reveals that there was no all-India trend in favour of the Congress (I). Some of the schemes, which were implemented by the UPA government due to the pressure of left parties like NREGA, RTI, Adivasi rights, agri-loan waiver etc. largely benefited the congress though they were initially reluctant to implement the same by raising financial liabilities.

The left parties have extended outside support to the Congress (I) led UPA government after the 14th Lok Sabha elections on the basis of a mutually agreed Common Minimum Programme. Whenever the government tried to dither from its commitments, the left parties put pressure on it and tried to bring it back to the track. In the case of PSU disinvestments, WTO negotiations, soft attitude towards communal forces, Packages for agriculture, employment guarantee scheme, rural development as announced as Bharat Nirman etc the left parties have forced the government to take proactive roles.

But when the government was adamant to cement the strategic partnership with the USA by signing the Indo-US Nuclear deal, the left parties have left with no other option but to withdraw the support. The left parties have taken this decision after a long debate of about one year with the UPA. It is imperative to mention here that the left parties have done a tactical mistake by allowing the UPA government scope for negotiations with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for India Specific Safeguards. It was a gambit of the Congress (I) to drag the whole discussion to develop an apposite political atmosphere to break the pact with the left. The AIFB realized it as a trap and timely clued-up to the other left parties. But they did not realize the game plan of the Congress (I) and kept faith on Congress (I) and their promise of 'honourable exit' from the whole deal.

The AIFB still believes that the Indo-US nuclear deal is detrimental to the interests of our motherland and it compromises our sovereignty with the USA. But the left parties have failed to make it as an election issue. Nowhere in the country this issue has been discussed during election. The Congress (I) also very meticulously avoided a debate on nuclear deal during its campaign.

The available statistics show that the Congress (I) got 28.52% of votes in this election, which is about 2% more than the 2004 votes i.e., 26.53. The Congress (I) has won 206 seats, which is 61 seats more than last election. It is

also a fact that though the Congress party ruled our country for more than fifty years but they never enjoyed 50% of total polled votes. The highest percentage of votes they got in 1984 after the assassination of Smt. Indira Gandhi, which was 49.10%. But the BJP, the principal opposition party has lost about 3.33% of votes from its kitty. The BJP got only 18.83% of votes in 2009 though they had 22.16% votes in 2004. The BJP has won only 116 seats, which is less than 22 seats compared to last election. It indicates that the Congress (I) didn't have the entire votes lost by the BJP. It has another meaning that the Congress (I) and the BJP together got 47.35% of votes (28.52 + 18.83) only. In 2004 elections both the parties have gained 48.69% of votes (26.53 + 22.16). Which means, the non-Congress (I) and non- BJP parties and independents got 52.65% of votes in 2009 elections. The 'Third Front' parties altogether got more than 21% of votes in 2009. It is worthwhile to mention here that whatever may be the percentage of votes secured by the political parties; only 58% of eligible voters used their franchise in the election, which means a whopping 42% of voters have declined to go to polling booths. It is an alarming signal for our democracy.

The Congress (I) succeeded in mobilizing the minority votes infavour of them by manipulating the related facts. Although the Congress (I) deprived the minority community in many ways during their decades long regime. The initiative to enquire the Malegaon communal violence and the arrest of VHP and Sangh Parivar people have helped the Congress (I) to garner back the faith of the Muslim community. The revelation of Sachar Committee Report and its action programme including the 15-point programme also facilitated the Congress to emerge as a champion of minority welfare. Thus the Congress (I) has increased its seats from 12 to 42 in 121 Muslim dominated districts of the country. But the 15th Lok Sabha witnesses a decline in the number of Muslim MPs from 36 last time to just 28 in the new Lok Sabha.

Meanwhile the BJP has lost 22 seats this time. It's seats came down from 138 to 116. The election result clearly indicates that the BJP is a sinking ship and its number of seats and percentage of votes are sharply declining. It had 182 seats and got 25.59% of votes in 1998. In 1999 also they got 182 seats and 23.75% votes. But it reduced to 138 seats and 22.16% votes in 2004 and 116 seats and only 18.80% votes in 2009. The main reason for this decline is that the BJP has nothing to offer to the people except its communal hatred politics. In almost all economic issues related to globalisation, disinvestment of public assets, curtailing the labour rights, the BJP always stood along with the Congress (I). So far as the subservient attitude towards the US imperialism, the BJP always sailed along with the Congress (I). Thus it has proved that there is no difference between the Congress (I) and the BJP. During the entire election campaign the BJP raised and emphasized only non-issues like 'strong' and 'weak' Prime Minister, division in UPA, groupism in the Congress (I), construction of Ram Mandir etc. Along with that the highly communal and venomous speeches of Varun Gandhi, the representative of new brand BJP leadership and the projection of Narendra Modi as the Prime Ministerial candidate after L.K. Advani completed the epitaph of BJP.

The massive failure of caste based centrist parties like SP, BSP, RJD, LJP, etc are another feature of the election results. These parties have emerged as an alternative to the Congress (I) in the Hindi heartland of India by launching the movement for social justice. Many of the first rank leaders of these parties are the followers of Ram Manohar Lohia and Jayprakash Narayan. In the beginning, by raising the slogan of complete socialism, they have attracted even the members and followers of the left parties too. But once they got the power in their respective states, they totally neglected the people who supported them. In order to remain in power they became highly opportunistic. These parties are not really interested to make the non-Congress (I) and the non-BJP people's alternative as envisaged by the left parties. They always searched the opportunity to remain in power. The people have rejected them this time.

The role of the corporate houses, capitalists and the imperialist forces in the elections is also to be reviewed. The left parties have put up barricades in the hasty implementation of the liberalized economic policy of the Congress (I) led UPA government. It is a reality that during the course of liberalisation the gap between the poor and the rich is widening alarmingly. In 2004 when the UPA came in to power only 8 people have been identified as billionaires in dollar terms. But this number has increased to 54 during the UPA dispensation. It is also an irony that 77% of Indian people are earning less than Rs.20/- per day as per the Arjun Sengupta Committee Report. The left parties have vehemently opposed this inequality and the exploitation of the capitalist under the pretext of liberalisation. The left parties have opposed the increasing imperialist intrigues in our domestic and foreign policy matters. On the issues of Indo-US nuclear deal, FDI in retail and other social sectors and financial liberalisation the left had unleashed a relentless struggle against the imperialism. Therefore the Capitalist and imperialist forces have played very active role with all powerful maneuverings including money to ensure the defeat of the left and the victory of their Indian agents.

The left parties got a serious set back in the elections. In 2004 election it had 60 members in the Parliament. But in 2009 elections it got only 24 seats, a reduction of 36 seats. The left parties have lost 20 seats in West Bengal and 15 seats in Kerala. Along with the national issues, certain state factors also played very important role in this huge defeat.

Kerala

The inner differences between the Left Democratic Front parties are the main reason for the defeat of Left

Front in Kerala. The Kerala government and the LDF failed to propagate among the people about the achievements and the welfare schemes of LDF Government due to its lack of coordination. The differences of opinion between the LDF partners just before the election has proved that there is no difference between the LDF and UDF at least on seat sharing issue. The consolidation of different communities against the LDF is also one of the reasons for its defeat. The issues of SNC Lavalin case, relation with the PDP of Madani and internal bickering between the CPI (M) leaders have forced the LDF to resort to a defensive campaign.

In 2004 election the LDF had won 18 seats out of 20 seats in Kerala. It came down to mere 4 seats in the present elections. The percentage of vote secured by the LDF declined from 46.08% in 2004 to 41.69% in 2009. In number of votes, it is only a fall of two lakh votes.

Kerala is known for alternating between LDF and UDF from election to election but the scale of defeat this time shows a change of voter preference that went beyond customs. The LDF of Kerala should examine this fact seriously.

West Bengal

The confusion about industrialization, land acquisition and high handedness and over dependence on bureaucracy of the Left Leaders are the reasons for the Left Front defeat in West Bengal. The unfortunate happenings in Nandigram also affected the image of the Left Front and its government. The coming together of TMC, Congress (I), Maoists, separatists and other anti-left forces in the state with the help of national and international anti-left forces and a section of the media have unleashed a strong vilification campaign against the Left Front Government and the Left Front in the state. This gave an edge to the anti-left forces against the Left Parties.

In 2004 elections the LF secured 50.72% votes and 35 seats out of total 42 seats. But in 2009 elections, it has come down to 43.30% and only 15 seats, which is a reduction of 7.42% votes and 20 seats. It is a matter of serious concern that the left front is trailing behind in 195 Assembly segments out of 294.

The lethargic attitude of West Bengal administration and the incapability of Left Front to provide innovative programmes and welfare schemes for the poor and the rural people created serious doubts among the people about the commitments of the left front government. The people all over India appreciate West Bengal government for keeping free from communal violence. But the Nandigram incident caused serious alienation of one section of the Muslim peasantry from the left. The revelations of Sachar Committee Report about the social, educational and economic conditions of the Muslim community, which constitute 23.6% of state population according to 1991 census in the state, under-representation of Muslims in public services and educational institutions have also contributed much for this alienation. The sorry plight of SC and ST that constitutes 30.6% (SC - 23.6% and ST - 7%) in the state is also one of the serious issues for the debacle of the left.

The underdevelopments in the rural areas, flaws in educational, health and employment sectors are raising serious questions about the governance of the left front in West Bengal. The 32-year-old Left Front government of West Bengal has failed to emerge as a role model for the rest of India. Pro-capitalist policies, dual approaches on different policy matters, ignorance of human resource developments, forceful acquisition of cultivable land for industrial purpose etc. are generating anti-left feeling among the general public. The behavior, megalomaniac attitude, character and morality of the leaders of the left parties created a new class of leadership, which is totally anti-left in nature and hence the people are keeping away from these brand of leaders gradually. The vertical division of the powerful intelligentsia of West Bengal created an anti left trend among the middle class. It is to be acknowledged that the entire progressive intelligentsia was with the left front since its inception. The programme, policies and the attitude of the leaders of left parties have forced them to go against the left. This change in class character of the leaders is applicable for the leaders of the left parties in Kerala also. This anti-left virus among the left leaders must be removed immediately.

The LDF of Kerala and the Left Front of West Bengal should learn lesson from this setback. Sincere and open efforts must be taken for making proper course corrections. The party cadres and leaders should keep regular and intimate relation with the people. The lethargy due to power should be avoided. The partners of the fronts should maintain proper communications and respect to each other's sentiments and opinions.

While trying to bring more regional secular and democratic parties together to form an alternative political platform against the Congress (I) and the BJP, the left parties have failed to keep its unity in many states. In Bihar, Jharkhand, Tamilnadu, Maharashtra, and Andhra Pradesh the CPI (M) and the CPI have ignored other left parties including AIFB when they made electoral alliances with regional parties. In Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi, Punjab and Haryana the left parties have contested the elections independently. This disunity at the crucial time of election sent a wrong message and the people didn't take our slogan of left, democratic and secular unity. The left parties have raised so many issues during this period and mounted pressure on the government to implement the same. But there were many issues like price rise, farmer's suicide, unemployment, commercialisation of education and health, rural electrification and irrigation etc. in relation of which the government did'nt accept the suggestions of the left parties. But the left parties have failed to launch a vigorous, powerful and nationwide movement against the government to force it to accept these suggestions. The left parties should correct these mistakes and to launch people's movement and to contest the coming elections

unitedly whatever may be the result.

The All India Forward Bloc (AIFB) is of the opinion that this defeat is a temporary setback, which gives an opportunity to all of us for self-introspection. This verdict is not against the leftism, it is against the left front. But the important thing is, merely introspection and self-introspection will not help the left parties to regain its lost ground. A sincere, broad minded and transparent action from the left parties particularly from the CPI (M), which is the leading party in the left front, is very much necessary to bring back the legacy of the left. The All India Forward Bloc will do more microanalysis in the coming days about the election results.

The AIFB strongly believe that better coordinated Left Front throughout the country is the only alternative to the current Left coordination. The party will explore all the possibilities for developing a stable and politically oriented people's alternative against the Congress (I) and the BJP.

The Central Committee of AIFB expresses its happiness at the spectacular success of the Left Front candidates in Tripura.

LIBERHAN COMMISSION REPORT : NATION-WIDE MOVEMENT

The Liberhan Commission, which probed the demolition of Babri Masjid on 6th December 1992, has submitted its final report to the government. The Commission took long 17 years and got 48 extensions to finalize its report. It was revealed that the government has spent about Rs.8 crores for the procedure of the Commission.

Demolition of Babri Masjid was a heinous act done by the Hindu fundamentalists under the instigation of top BJP leaders. The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh extended all supports to the Karsevaks who marched towards Ayodhya with an intention to demolish the old structure, which was an epitome of India secular traditions. The then Prime Minister of India P.V. Narasimha Rao took a soft attitude towards the Sangh Parivar, which indirectly encouraged the religious fundamentalists to do the heinous act. Many leaders of BJP, Bajrang Dal, RSS, Shiv Sena and other Sangh Parivar such as L.K Advani, Murli Manohar Joshi, Uma Bharti, Ashok Singhal, Vinay Katyar, Sadhwi Ritambara were directly or indirectly involved in this crime. The Commission while submitting its final reports revealed that the BJP led NDA government never cooperated with the Commission and several important documents were missed from Lucknow Secretariat. It indicates that the same force was active to sabotage the enquiry. Therefore any delay to accept the report and take action against the culprit will provide opportunity to the Sangh Parivar to ignite communal passion again.

The All India Forward Bloc urges upon the government to place the Liberhan Commission report before the Parliament without any delay.

The All India Forward bloc will launch a mass movement across the country to pressurize the country to table the Liberhan Commission Report, which probed the demolition of Babri Masjid on 6th December 1992. The Commission took 17 years, 48 extensions and spent Rs.8.25 crores to complete the enquiry. The culprits of this crime should be punished.

(AIFB Central Committee Resolution, Adopted in its meeting held at Kolkata on 11-13 July 2009)

BUDGET AIMS LARGE SCALE DISINVESTMENT & PRIVATISATION

The General Budget for the year 2009-10 aims large scale disinvestment of profit making Public Sector Undertaking to meet the fiscal deficit. It is not a prudent economic science to sell off national assets to meet governments expenditures. The government also proposes large scale private investment in different infrastructure projects.

Total expenditure has been increased by 2% of the GDP. The fact is that, the increased allotment for interest payments, defense expenditure, sixth pay commission requirements and other non-plan expenditures need more than this 2% of GDP. Therefore, the government has to depend on private borrowings to meet the targets of developmental works.

The AIFB welcomes the initiative for developing infrastructure facilities. But the macro reading reveals that it will be an integrated programme of several existing schemes. The proposed allocation of one lakh crore Rupees for this purpose is a good gesture in the given circumstances. But the initiative for introducing more PPP (Private - Public - Participation) way of investment will put more burden on the common men.

The allocation for NREGA, the flagship programme of the UPA government which is implemented due to the pressure of the Left parties, is meagre. The demand to extend this scheme to the urban area has been ignored. The allocation for NREGA for the year 2009-10 is Rs. 39,100 crore. It is imperative to mention here

that it was 56,500 crore in 2006-07, when the left parties extended its outside support to the UPA government.

The Budget is not clearly dealing with the National Food Security Scheme. Many states in the country are already running such schemes for BPL families with more rice and wheat by more cheaper prices. The Budget is silent on how to eradicate these anomalies. The budget has no concrete measure to check the price rise of essential commodities, particularly when the country is recording negative inflation.

The Allocation for the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) is only half of its requirements. The hon'ble Supreme Court asked the government to universalize the ICDS and issued several deadlines during the last government. To implement this properly would require at least around Rs. 12000 crores. But the allocation for the year 2009-10 for ICDS is only Rs. 6000 Crore.

Allocation for agriculture is not sufficient. The demand to provide farm loan at rate of 4% interest is also been ignored. The demand to waive farmers loan taken from private banks and moneylenders has not been accepted straightway. The increase in proposed spending on agriculture is only Rs. 1588 crores. Agriculture, which provides more than 60% employment in the country is getting a shabby treatment from the government. According to economic survey 2008-09, Agriculture (including allied activities) accounted for 17.8% of the GDP in 2007-08 as compared to 21.7% in 2003-04. It reveals that the share of this sector in GDP has been declining over the years. This is mainly due to the public investment in Agriculture. In 2001-02 the Union government spent 10.3% of the GDP for agriculture. Now it is declined to 2.62% in 2008-09. This announcement for giving fertilizer subsidy directly to the farmers as a welcome step. But the Finance Minister kept silence on the procedure about its implementation.

The allocation for education and health is also vary meager particularly, when a bill for Right to Education is pending before the Parliament. This tendency of not allowing adequate fund for education will facilitate the private players to make huge earnings.

The Budget is also silent on the rehabilitation of the NRIs who lost their jobs due to global economic crisis. The economic survey 2008-09 shows that the deceleration of growth in 2008-09 was spread across all sectors except mining and quarrying and community, social and personal services. The budget did not spell out any concrete plan to confront the effects of global meltdown. Ablition of Fringe Benefit Tax (FBT) may be beneficial to the employers not to the employees.

The finance minister tried to satiate the interests of the corporate houses by not touching the tax relaxation extended to them through interim budget.

The Finance Minister did not spell out any scheme for the rehabilitation of the displaced people. The Budget ignored totally the SSI sectors, indigeneous and traditional industries.

The AIFB welcomes the proposal to start a campus of Aligarh Muslim University at Murshidabad (West Bengal) and Malappuram (Kerala) and the allocation of Rs. 1000 crore for Aila victims of West Bengal.

In General, it is a continuous budget pursuing by the Congress (I) on the basis of liberalised economic policies.

AIFB Central Committee Resolution, Adopted in its meeting held at Kolkata on 11-13 July 2009

INCREASING LEFT ADVENTURISM :

The recent development in Lalgarh, West Midnapore District of West Bengal is unfortunate and could have been avoided. The police action to re-establish the government's authority in the region led to police firing and counter firing and brought to day light the political conspiracy behind the happenings. Lalgarh is in the western region of West Bengal bordering Jharkhand and Orissa.

Lalgarh is a part of Pashimanchal Unnayan Parishad (PUP) (Western Region Development Council) constituted in 2000, which consists of 74 blocks. Adivasis and Santhals dominate the region. The majority of the people are forest dwellers and small farmers. The state government has allotted Rs.50 crores to the PUP for the overall development of the region so far. Politically it was a strong citadel of the left parties, particularly the CPI (M). They always feel proud about the legacy of Birsa Munda, Sidho-Kanu and Tilka Manji, the heroes of Santhal Rebellion during the British period. The people always reposed their faith on the left parties and did not allow the anti left forces to inroad their ground.

But even after the formation of PUP and 32 year uninterrupted rule of the left parties, the region remain one of the most backward regions of the state. The people were suffering from unemployment, poverty and Lack of, health facilities, education, roads, transportation, and other necessary infrastructure facilities. The local authorities with the help of local leaders conspicuously did not implement many central government's schemes meant for the welfare of the tribal people of this region. The Public Distribution System fail to deliver any solace to this poor people as it was under the control of contractors and hoarders. The tribals are even deprived from getting employment under NREGA. This administrative failures and lack of transparent and sincere political interferences, a social unrest was erupted against the government. This social unrest

was further fomented by the interventions of opposition parties, Jharkhand Parties, and the CPI (Maoists).

This strife has taken a dreadful turn, when a failed assassination attempt on Chief Minister and the Union Steel Minister at Kaliachand near Lalgarh on 2nd November 2008. The police started investigations and arrested a number of tribal people in connection with the assassination bid. The local people, at the instigation of Maoists, unleashed a violent agitation against the police. They attacked the local police station and set afire. They did not allow the government officers to enter the offices and blocked the roads in the borders. The Maoists have worked under the cover of the Police Santhraash Birodhi Janashadharaner Committee (People's Committee Against Police Atrocities - PCAPA). The PCAPA got tacit support from the Trinamool Congress. The PCAPA declared Lalgarh as 'liberated zone' and ask the people to defy the government's orders at any manner. The PCAPA and the TMC tried to make a second 'Nandigram' and started to dig the roads and cut the trees to block the roads for preventing the entry of the police and the administrative officials. The State government sought Union government's assistance and paramilitary forces to contain the Maoists challenge. The State government, with the help of the police and the paramilitary forces has established its authority in Lalgarh after a campaign of more than 20 days.

The pertinent question arises on this development is why a strong citadel of the left parties have been turned as a 'liberated zone' of the Maoists? Why the government failed to address the grievances of the tribal people? How the people of the region have lost faith on the left parties, particularly CPI (M) and its government? Why the PUP failed to deliver the goods for the tribals? Where the money allotted for the welfare of the region has gone? The All India Forward Bloc is of the opinion that the state government has a collective responsibility to answer all these questions.

It is imperative to mention here that no democracy can allow the Maoist model violence and 'liberations' of administered zones. The AIFB is deadly against the modus operandi of the Maoist to find solutions for the people's grievances. The democracy allows lot of avenues to redress the grievances of the public. The AIFB is of the view that the Maoist, Naxalite and other extreme left movements are not merely a law and order issue. These forces are scrupulously using the people's unrest for their political expansion. We are of the opinion that banning such organisations will not serve any tangible purpose. It should be dealt as a socio-economic problem. The governments concerned should address these issues with welfare missions and administrative assistance.

It is true that due to liberalised economic policies of the successive governments, the gap between the haves and the have-nots are increasing day by day. The poor people have been marginalised and deprived of all democratic rights. This disparity encourages the restless people to revolt against the system and to resort the path of violence. According to the Union government's records out of 604 districts of the country 165 districts are being identified as Naxal-Maoists prone areas. The expert group of Planning Commission itself said that this movement is a political movement and the people who associated with it are poor and landless peasantry, dalit and adivasis. The huge gap between the policy and the performances of the state governments are the main reasons for these types of uprisings. Though the Maoist movement is professing a long political ideology but it raises selected current issues like local development, administrative lacunae, political repression, equality and justice. Thus they get local people's support temporarily. The Opposition parties who are badly engaged in destabilizing the state government will support such type of movements as a part of their political agenda. The 'Salwa Judum' model of Chattisgarh and excess police action are not the solution of this problem. This must be combated politically. After all the misguided poor tribals are not our class enemy. Their discontent and revolt should be dealt with politically as well.

The All India Forward Bloc is all along fighting for the rights of the poor and the adivasis. The Forward Bloc along with the Agragami Adivasi Organisation and the Dalit Adivasi Sangharsh Samity have organised several movements for the rights of the adivasis and the dalits. We have to strengthen such movements.

(AIFB Central Committee Resolution, Adopted in its meeting held at Kolkata on 11-13 July 2009)

RAILWAY BUDGET : A PRELUDE FOR PRIVATISATION

The Railway Budget 2009-10, placed by Ms. Mamata Banerjee, the Railway Minister is a strong prelude for large scale privatisation of Indian Railways, which is the largest public sector establishment in the country.

The AIFB, while welcoming the new trains, projects, extensions urges upon the Minister these announcements should not remain as mere dream in future. The passengers will not be benefitted by unrealistic approaches and announcements. Some of the announcement such a double decker trains, non stop trains, etc. are seen to be unrealistic in the existing infrastructure of Indian Railways. These targets cannot be achieved until and unless, the Railways take massive gauge conversions, new routes, new lines, electrifications, over bridges etc.

The AIFB welcomes the decision of not to hike the passenger fare and creating the Railway Land Bank.

The AIFB welcomes the announcement of the Railway Minister to bring a white paper on the economic

condition of Indian Railways. It is an alarming revelation that the Indian Railways is seeking financial assistance from the Government of India despite of its tall claims making profit during 2004-08.

(AIFB Central Committee Resolution, Adopted in its meeting held at Kolkata on 11-13 July 2009)

'BETRAYAL OF AAM ADMI

'The Congress leadership promised to ameliorate the conditions of the aam admi - the common people. After four years of the UPA government, the people are groaning under an unprecedented price rise. The prices of rice, wheat, edible oil, dal, vegetables and other essential commodities have all shot up. For example, between 2004 and 2008, the retail price of rice has increased by over 46 per cent, wheat by 62 per cent, mustard oil by 42 per cent, chana dal by 47 per cent and even salt by 42 per cent.

'The government has increased the prices of petrol and diesel seven times in the last four years. Petrol has gone up between 2004 and 2008 by 50 per cent, diesel by 60 per cent and LPG by 58 per cent.

'The government has refused the Left parties' demands to:

- universalize the Public Distribution System, so that everyone has a ration card
- stop forward trading on essential commodities
- curb hoarding and speculators.
- reduce the tax burden on petroleum products
- impose windfall taxes on private refineries.

Mass Movement Against Price Rise 25th to 31st July 2009.

The All India Forward Bloc will organise a week-long mass action programme from 25th to 31st July 2009 throughout the country against the sky rocketing price rise of essential commodities. It is an irony that even after the nation is recording negative inflation, the prices of all essential commodities are increasing day by day. The government is keeping silence on this issue and doing nothing to check the price rise. Hoarders, black marketers and middle men are exploiting the people due to the non-interference of the government in the market. Strong, immediate and effective measures have to be taken by the government to bring down the price rise.

FREE AND QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL

The Union government has announced massive reforms in the educational sector as 100 days agenda of the HRD Ministry. The proposed reforms announced by Shri Kapil Sibal, the HRD minister is not only encourage the ongoing privatization, commercialization and blackmarketisation of education but also will destabilize the existing education system. Education is a subject in the concurrent list of the Constitution of India. But without consulting the state education ministers the Union minister unilaterally announced the reforms. the government should consult the state education ministers, Parliamentarians, academic society, historians etc. before finalizing any reforms in the education sector.

The AIFB Central Committee has decided to organise a convention on educational reforms on 12th August 2009 at New Delhi. Political personalities, academicians, historians and student representatives will attend the convention.

All the State Committees of AIFB will organise state level conventions involving teachers, students, guardians and a mass platform will be formed with the demand implement "Common Education System".

FILL THE VACANCIES IN PSUs AND RAILWAYS.

The central Committee of the Party has decided to organise mass movement to pressurize the government to fill up the vacancies in the PSUs and the Indian railways immediately. It was reported that thousands of posts are lying vacant in all the Central PSUs and the Railways, which is seriously affecting the performance of these public institutions. An undeclared ban on recruitment has been imposed on Central PSUs and the Railways. The Union government should take immediate steps to fill these vacancies.

ALL INDIA FORWARD BLOC 16TH PARTY CONGRESS

The Central Committee expressed its satisfaction over the ongoing preparations for the 16th Party Congress, which scheduled to be held on 17th to 21st December 2009 at Kolkata. The Delegate Session of the Party Congress will be held at the historic 'Mahajati Sadan' (The Great National Auditorium) founded by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and Rabindranath Tagore.

The following decisions have been taken in connection with the Party Congress:-

1. The membership enrolment and renewal process of the party should be completed by 31st July 2009. All the State units of the party are requested to send the final list of members and its fee to the Central office immediately.
2. All the State Units are requested to send a scanning report about the details of members. The report should explain about the backgrounds, connection to mass organisations and their social activities.
3. The final list of Membership will be published on 1st August 2009.
4. All the lower units are requested to follow the time table for the conferences as circulated earlier, which is as follows:-

Branch Conferences	- August 2009
Local Conferences	- September 2009
District Conferences	- October 2009
State Conferences	- November 2009
5. The following organizational principles also re-emphasised ie;
At least three branch Conferences have to completed before Local Conference
At least three local Conferences have to completed before District Conference
At least three district Conferences have to completed before state Conference.
6. All the Party units are requested to verify the capacity, political understanding and social status of the members while electing them as office bearers.
7. The party Congress will dedicate one session for the fraternal delegates from abroad and one session for the national left leaders.
8. The draft resolutions on national and international issues will be published by 31st August 2009.
9. The state committees are requested to prepare separate documents on the current socio-political-economic situations of the state and it should be discussed along with the Party Congress resolutions.
10. All the lower units are requested to collect fund for the Congress and send to the Central Office. All the members of the party should also donate for the Party Congress Fund.
11. The Delegate fee for the Congress will be Rs. 50-
12. All the lower units are requested to start the publicity for the Party Congress. All are requested to start wall writings, posters, press statements, banners to propagate the message of the Party Congress.
13. All The state units are requested to organize study classes immediately for the members and cadres about how to prepare the documents, how to organise the conference and how to make the committees etc.
14. All are requested to send the dates and venues for the conferences to the central office as and when it finalized.

SAVE AGRICULTURE, SAVE INDIA SOCIAL SECURITY FOR UNORGANISED WORKERS

The Central Committee has decided to launch a nation-wide movement of the farmers and unorganized sector workers against the callous attitude of the government towards these sectors. The Union government is doing only lip services about these sectors and curtailing budget allocation for agriculture and social security facilities for the unorganized sector workers though they are providing lion Share of the country's GDP. The government should increase public investment in agriculture and to provide farm loans at the rate of 4% interest. The government should wave the farmers loan from the private money lenders and to allot more funds for completing the irrigation projects. The social security bill for the unorganised sector workers should amended and adopted immediately. The slogan for this movement will be Save Agriculture, Save India, Provide Social Security for Unorganized Workers.

COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAMME ON SHAHID KHUDIRAM BOSE.

The All India forward Bloc will organise a mass programme to commemorate the 101st birth anniversary of Shahid khudiram Bose. A special programme will be organised on 11th August 2009 at Muzzaffarpur, Bihar. The All India Youth league and All India Students Bloc should take special efforts to make this commemorative programme a grand success by organizing different programmes throughout the country.

98TH SESSION OF INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO) HELD IN GENEVA

International Labor Organisation's 98th Session was held from 2nd June 2009 to 19th June 2009 at Geneva, Switzerland. Indian Tripartite Delegation Consist of workers, employers and government representatives had participated in the conference. Central Trade Union Organisations of the country TUCC, AITUC, CITU, AIUTUC, BMS, HMS, INTUC sent their representatives, employers were represented by FICCI, ASSOCHAM, AIEO, IEO, AIMO, whereas Govt. of India was represented by Shri Mallikarjun Khadge, Hon'ble Minister of Labour and Employment, Mrs. Sudha Pillai, Secretary (L & E), Shri S. Krishnan, Special Secretary (L & E), Shri S.K. Srivastava, Additional Secretary (L&E) and others.

It was unforgettable moment in the history of TUCC, as it was invited to represent ILO for the first time since its inception, Com. S.P. Tiwari, General Secretary TUCC represented the organization in the conference.

The conference was attended by 2599 Tripartite delegates from 167 Countries and graced by 17 Head of the states including Mr. Nicholas Sarkozy, H.E. President of France, Mrs. Gonzalves Karchenar, H.E. President of Argentina, Mr. Lula De Silva, H.E. President of Brazil. Mr. Ban Ki Moon, Secretary General of United Nations had also addressed the conference. The conference was presided over by Shri Khandekar Hossain, Minister of Labour & Employment, Social Security of People's Republic of Bangladesh. Mr. Juan Somavia, Secretary General of ILO placed his report in the plenary session on 3rd June 2009 and the subject paper was discussed in four committees constituted for thread bare discussion. All the suggestions and amendments placed in the concluding session for adoption. The four committees were (1) application of standards, (2) crisis on whole, (3) HIV/AIDS & world of work and (4) Gender equality at the heart of decent work. The TUCC General Secretary Com. S.P. Tiwari played an important role in the committee of HIV/AIDS & World of Work as a member. During these ILO conference he met different trade union leaders and distributed TUCC's history and activities among the delegates. The reports were adopted and Governing body of ILO in its next meeting will discuss the means to execute the same.

TUCC ORGANISES CENTRAL WORKSHOP AT NEW DELHI

TUCC Central Secretariate met at Bangalore on 2nd July 2009 followed by TUCC Central Committee Meeting of TUCC on 13th July 2009 at Kolkata to discuss the issues of global crisis, activation and strengthening of existing Units, Registration and enrollment of membership for the Unions in informal sector, Organising Conferences of various federations, Holding of 2 day skill Development Seminar / Workshop, Publication of materials etc. in length.

The prevailing circumstances under which working class globally facing wage loss, job cuts, reduction in working hours was elaborately discussed and its effect on Indian working people particularly in construction, Garment, Jewellery, Diamond and other organized Sectors were considered greatest set back for the so called growth of Indian's financial market. The Developed states announced stimulus packages to bail out their financial institutions and capital starved corporates, subsequently The Indian Govt. pumped public finance to fill up the vacuum created by melt down just to reach the MNC's Corporates and Indian Industrial houses in the crisis hour. But these packages were endorsed for those who had created the crisis, not for them who really suffered from the crisis.

NSSO reported that 30 / 32 lacs of workers already lost their jobs, which may go upto 50 lacs by this year end and Globally, the affected working people already lost their jobs are 65 million and expected to cross the figure to 100 million by this year end. All eyes from hoping working class was on sight to hear some good music coming out of dream budget of our most Hon'ble Finance Minister Shri Pranab Mookherjee but all hopes shattered down, as no proposal of Compensation for affected working people was in theme, even the most vulnerable class of unorganized sector was totally ignored - no concrete proposal for their welfare activities or social protection come up.

Unhealthy environment and living conditions provokes the working class people and their representatives, to launch relentless and aggressive movement against the policies of the Govt. till the target of decent life is achieved for all who sweated enormously to enrich the capital of the exploiting employers.

The meeting has decided to organise a two days workshop for Central / State leadership in the month of October, 2009 in New Delhi in collaboration with Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India. The Central Committee will publish the history of TUCC by this year end. The Central Committee of TUCC will publish a book on workers in informal sector in India etc. in the coming days.

The meeting was presided over by Com. G.R. Shivashankar, Chairman of TUCC, Central Committee.

REPORT OF 23RD JUNE AND 3RD JULY FROM BANGLADESH BHARAT PAKISTAN PEOPLE'S FORUM

From the Palassy battlefield - Was it a battle? No!

Loudly announced the 3000 odd audiences in the observation of 252nd 'black day' the so-called battle of Palassy in the year 1757. It was a conspiracy set by the East India Company in connivance with the traitors in the Nawab Palace.

Cultural program:

A strong and unique cultural program was held during the session without our prior preparation as a whole. To start up the meeting as opening song folksongs were presented by Shri Paresh Biswas on behalf of Bharatya Lok Sanskriti Sangsad. Peoples in the meeting were enthused by the song of Sri Nanak Chattopadhyay from Kolkata. He presented his selected 4 Pieces of songs related with mass struggle and anti imperialist patriotic struggle of our country. It is to be recorded that 3 strong cultural workers came from audience. Two of them performed remarkable solo recitation and one Sri Abani Kumar Banerjee came from Lalgola (Murshidabad) to attend the meeting but placed a unique solo drama on request with thrice in claps.

Beside Manik Samajdar forum's General Secretary and Dr. Murtaja Hossain Minister of Govt. of West Bengal and the Member patron of the forum, Com. Debabra Biswas as Chairman of Bharat Chapter and tri-national co ordination deliver the main points to the meeting.

Comrade Shovan Ghatak from Shyam Nagar 24 Parganas conducted entire program.

In this eve of 252 years of 'battle of Palasy' Debabrata Biswas as main speaker of the mass meeting of 2-3 thousand gathering categorically pointed out that

1] There was not any actual battle at Palasy on 23rd June 1757. It was a complete conspiracy by the East India Company and some crooked power hunger within and outside of the palace and those who were afraid of seeing Stamina of Siraj Ud Doullah of youth of 23 years. And it was that Britishers Mr. Marsh man who continuously tried to malign Siraj Ud Doulla a Nawab of only 14-month period.

2] To malign Siraj Ud Doullah 'Lord Carzon erected the black Holwell Monument which is now in history what the revolutionary people of the Bengal under Netaji Subhas Chandra Basu organized Satyagraha continuously to dislodge the Hallowell Monument. It was Janab Mujibar Reman Father of Bangladesh nation was the last Student leader from Moulana Azad College led the Satyagraha after arrest of Netaji and lastly won the Movement. Occupier British Government was forced to dislodge the Monument from its earlier site. Debabrata Biswas re uttered the information near Seikh Hasina daughter of Bangabandhu Mujibar Rehman when he was in Dhaka.

He boldly place the theory of new Indian revolution a path of socialist India carrying the line of Siraj ud Doullah, Bhagat Singh, Bahadur Sha Jaffar and Netaji. The socialism in Indian Style the pride of old India.

People of some corner educated and cultured in western and colonial manner are generally questioned about the class contradiction during the Nawab period particularly in the time of Siraj ud Doullah. Com Buswas assured those people not to make any hindrance towards Indian Society. Then at the time of Nawab Alibardi and Siraj there were the Unity among the people to fight the Marathas and Burgees under the Leadership of Nawab. There was sufficient wealth to Bengal peasant or citizen of that time were happy in all meaning so searching class contradiction between Nawab and peasantry was futile and Nawab of Bengal was independent.

Other than historical apart Biswas requested the people want to tribute to the Bengal's soldier not to garland in the monument erected by lord Curzon presently installed in Palasy ground but to show respect to the separately erected bust of Siraj Ud Doullah and the pillar erected newly by Bangladesh Bharat Pakistan People's Forum on the eve of 250 years of 'battle' of Palasy.

The peoples and listeners in the meeting became so emotional they sat till the meeting end.

In this year it is remarkable to be noted that the Local people gather in numbers with their by cycle. Thanks to the organizer of the program with developing maturity.

3] In the present context com. Biswas spoke on the issue of terrorism and imperialism of the day and called the people to fight imperialism jointly and independently without hobnobbing with any foreign advisers because there are lot of rich philosophy, politics, scientific and cultural mines had have with us Indian, exploiting and looting those treasure world capitalism grew to imperialism and now also keeping their position exploiting Indian human and natural resources.

On 3rd July 252nd martyr's day of last independent Nawab of then Bengal Bihar and Orissa, the Siraj diwas was observed. After garlanding towards make shift wooden martyr's monument by Manik Samajdar Gen. Secy. of B.B.P.P.F, Ali Hussein Gen. Secy. Agragami Kissan Sabha, Samar Das, Zonal Secretary of A.I. Forward bloc, Abrar Hossain from Hindu Muslim Friendship Association, Local Secretary of All India Youth League a condolence meeting was held near Nimak Haram Deuri where Siraj Ud Doullah was murdered by the forces of Mir Zafar Ali Khan.

In this meeting Manik Samajdar Gen. Secretary reiterate the historical event how Indian intellectuals translated the history of Palasy from Marshman an Advocate of East India Company and portrait Siraj Ud Doullah a lunatic, barbaric element of then history. Before the time of Partition of Bengal after 45 years of so called battle of Palasy Lord Curzon revived the wrong history of Palasy and erected the monument at Palasy field and Hallowell monument at Kolkata.

Our patriot historians like Akhsay Kumar Motreya, Rishi Arobonda Ghose, Rabindra Nath Thakur, and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose discover the correct history and announced Siraj Ud Doullah not only a great patriot but also first martyr of the Indian history against aggression of British banyans.

A procession was started from Nimak Haram Deuri to reach Siraj's graveyard at khose bag opposite Bhagirathi Rivar. It was at least 7 K.M. Garlanding the martyrs grave the procession leads to Motijheel garden where a full statue was installed privately.

A mass meeting was held where Gene. Secy. of B.B.P.P.F. announced the Tri national peoples conference to be held on August 2009 at Kolkata, Lucknow and Pune on the occasion of common historical August Kristi and propose to install a full statue of Siraj Ud Doullah at Kolkata.

Beside the speaker from 'JALARK' a progressive Magazine the owner of the Motijhil Garden Mr. Sarfaraj Ali, President of Sankhalaghu Swadhikar Manch and host of the meeting gave thanks to the movement and assured to donate a Statue as

like as the garden if it is install anywhere in Kolkata.

THREE NATION-ONE VISION : BBPPF

The Bangladesh-Bharat-Pakistan People's Forum is organising various programme from 9th to 21st August 2009 to commemorate the August Kranti Andolan in different places throughout the country.

Delegates from Bangladesh and Pakistan will attend the whole programme. On 9th August, a citizen convention and reception to the Pakistani and Bangladeshi delegates will take place at Jawahar Foundation Aminabad, Lucknow, UP. The delegates will have an interactive session with the students of Lucknow University and Islamia College on 10th August 2009. On 12th August the delegates will be received by the activists of All India Youth League and Jatiotabadi Yuva Parishad at Kolkata.

On 13th August a mass programme will be organised at Kabitirtha, Kidderpore Freedom Fighters, Senior Citizens, Youth Activists, intellectuals, cultural activists etc. will attend. The citizen forum of Kabitirtha will organise citizen convention also. On 14th a tri-national meeting will be organised at ICMARD, Ultadanga, Kolkata. The delegates will conduct a road show in different places of Kolkata, such as Gariahat, Hazra, Chowranghee, Dharmatala, Subodh Mullick Square, Rajabazar and Syambazar on 15th August. A flag hoisting function will be organised on 16th August at 2 p.m. at Sadhana Smriti Udyan Rajabazar in memory of 1st Independent flag.

A cultural Programme will be conducted at Indian Association Hall on 16th at 4 p.m. with the theme of 'Three nation-one vision'.

Leaders of BBPPF from India, Bangladesh and Pakistan will attend all the Programmes.

HISTORY OF FORWARD BLOC IN 5 VOLUMES

The Central Committee of AIFB has decided to publish a complete history of All India Forward Bloc in five volumes on the occasion of the 16th Party Congress. This historic document will throw more lights about the role of Forward Bloc and its leaders in the pre and post independent India in achieving and protecting the freedom of our motherland.

A Special Centre has been opened for collecting, compiling and coordinating the documents at Com. Chitta Basu research Foundation, Kolkata. Com. Ashok Ghosh, Senior leader of the party will look after the whole process. An expert team of historians, academicians and research scholars will work for this mission.

The All India Forward Bloc requests the people from all walks of life in general and the family members of Ex INA personalities, former leaders of All India Forward Bloc, freedom fighter, historians, librarians, research schools and the followers of Netaji to co-operate with this mission.

All are requested to collect as much as old documents related to the party and its former leaders and send to the following address at the earliest:-

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Ph: 033- 2237 3956**