



ALL INDIA FORWARD BLOC

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

28, Gurudwara Rakabganj Road, New Delhi-110 001
Phone: +91-11-23714131, 23352273, Telefax : 23714131
E-mail: forwardbloc@forwardbloc.org
Website : www.forwardbloc.org



अखिल हिन्द फारवर्ड ब्लाक

آل انڈیا فارورڈ بلاک

PRESS COMMUNIQUE
1st July 2009, New Delhi

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 for West Bengal, 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.

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

The party will do detailed analysis later on.

(Debabrata Biswas)
General Secretary



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State of the Economy revealed through economic survey 2008-09 shows that all is not well in the economic sector of the nation.

The move to disinvest the equities of profit making 'Navratna' PSUs and to increase FDI in Insurance, Banking and Pension are detrimental to the interests of the nation. It indicates that the Government of India is not ready to learn lessons from the global economic recession.

The unprecedented slowdown in growth in all sectors including agriculture and industry will certainly manifold the menace of unemployment and poverty.

(Debabrata Biswas)
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PRESS COMMUNIQUE

1st July 2009, New Delhi

(G. Devarajan, National Secretary of the All India Forward Bloc has issued the following statement on Petrol Price hike.)

PETROL PRICE HIKE MUST BE WITHDRAWN

The government's decision to increase the prices of petrol and diesel must be withdrawn immediately. It will have cascading effect.

The hike has no justification when the oil companies are making profits.

The decision is cruel when the people are suffering due to price rise of essential commodities.

It proves once again that the Congress (I) will talk about the Aam Aadmi only during elections. After elections they forget about the Aam Aadmi.

(G. Devarajan)
Secretary



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PRESS COMMUNIQUE

27th June 2009, New Delhi

EDUCATION REFORMS: GOVT. SHOULD CONVENE STATE MINISTERS' MEET

- FORWARD BLOC

The unilateral announcement of Mr. Kapil Sibal, Union Minister of HRD regarding educational reforms is a clear violation of the federal character of the constitution of India.

The Union government should have consulted with the state education ministers before making such announcements as education is a concurrent subject. Considering the diversity and requirements of different states, the architects of constitution have included education in the state list. During the black days emergency, Mrs. Indira Gandhi brought education from state list to the concurrent list. The new announcement may be a part government's move to put education in the central list, which has far-reaching implications.

Broad based discussions at academic level with all concerned are necessary before finalising the reforms.

The All India Forward Bloc urges upon the government to convene a meeting of the state education ministers immediately to discuss this matter.

INDIA SHOULD NOT SUCCUMB TO THE PRESSURE OF THE USA

India should not succumb to the pressure of America on their demand of 'on-site verifications' of sensitive military equipments and other defence apparatus purchased from the USA.

Giving access to the foreign inspectors to our defence bases will pose major threat to the security of our country and it will be an act tantamount to questioning the sovereignty of India.

In the name of US law, which allows the state department to conduct 'on-site verification' that the equipment was being used for the purpose it was procured, the USA is trying to encroach the sovereign rights of other countries. It is imperative to remember the Hyde Act provisions, which are applicable to the Indo-US Nuclear Deals a Sword of Democles when we negotiate with USA in sensitive military procurements.

(G. Devarajan)
Secretary



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PRESS COMMUNIQUE

22nd June 2009, New Delhi

MAOIST MOVEMENT IS NOT A LAW AND ORDER PROBLEM: FORWARD BLOC

Left extremism or maoist movement can not be considered as mere law & order problem. The All India Forward Bloc (AIFB) is of the opinion that it should be considered as a socio-economic problem. It should be addressed politically.

Banning the maoist movement will not solve the issues being raised by the adiwasis and the down trodden people. The main stream left parties should take measures to bring back the misguided people to the main stream of the society and to organise people's movement to solve the issues.

The Central Committee of the AIFB will meet on 11, 12, 13 July 2009 at Kolkata and will discuss the issue with related to banning the maoist as suggested by P. Chidambaram, Home Minister of India along with other political and organisational issues.

(DEBABRATA BISWAS)
General Secretary



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PRESS COMMUNIQUE

20th June 2009, New Delhi

(Com. Debabrata Biswas, General Secretary of AIFB has issued the following statement on Rajya Sabha Election in Jharkhand)

AIFB WILL ABSTAIN FROM RAJYA SABHA ELECTION

The elected Legislature members of All India Forward Bloc will abstain from the house during the voting for the election of Rajya Sabha members from Jharkhand. The Central Secretariat came to this conclusion in consultation with the members of AIFB Jharkhand State Committee and a thorough evaluation of the existing political situation of the state.

The Central Secretariat further reviewed that the party has to strengthen its political struggle to form a people's alternative against the Congress(I) led UPA and the BJP led NDA at national level and to carried forward our battle for the rights of Jal, Jungle, Jameen and devolution of power to local self governments.

The secretariat hope that this decision will facilitate our party to keep its political identity in the state.

(DEBABRATA BISWAS)
General Secretary



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PRESS COMMUNIQUE

4th June 2009, New Delhi

AIFB COMMENTS ABOUT PRESIDENT OF INDIA'S SPEECH

- | President's address disappoints millions of poor unemployed people
- | Government fails to give concrete plans for its much publicized inclusive growth.
- | Government's Economic Reforms will only help the rich

The President of India in her address to Parliament on 4th June 2009 has put forward the government's ten priorities, which fail to include specific plans for eradication of unemployment and poverty and combating price rise which seriously affect the lives of the poor and common people.

The address does not indicate the government's plans to further waive loans of poor farmers who took loans from private banks and money lenders. The government vows to further increase FDI and go further with reforms by recapitalization in public sector banking, insurance and pension. These will weaken our economy and hard hit the common people. In spite of public demand the government declines to increase ceiling of 100 days' work under the NREGS.

Malnutrition continues to be a major health challenge. Government's Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has miserably failed to increase female literacy. The government fails to guarantee expenditure of 6% of GDP for education. No correct plans have yet emerged in this respect. The Government fails to ensure strengthening and universalisation of PDS in true sense.

Although the government is talking highly about inclusive growth, it has failed to outline concrete plans for its implementation.

It will be interesting to note how far the Government can implement its promise to pass Women Reservation Bill within next 100 days.

The Government vows to take forward its partnership with the U.S. This has been a matter of much public criticism, but the Government continues to insist on it. It will affect our independent foreign policy.

(DEBABRATA BISWAS)
General Secretary