



ALL INDIA FORWARD BLOC

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

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अखिल हिन्द फारवर्ड ब्लाक

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PRESS RELEASE

5th April 2010, New Delhi

The Central Committee of All India Forward Bloc met at New Delhi on 2, 3 & 4 April 2010. Com. N. Velappan Nair, Chairman of the party presided over the meeting. The meeting reviewed the current political developments of the country and discussed the organisational activities after the 16th Party Congress.

Women Reservation Bill: Only Reservation will not Ensure the Empowerment of Women.

The All India Forward Bloc welcomes the passage of Women Reservation Bill in the Rajya Sabha on 9th March 2010. The party considers it as a golden event in the history of Indian Parliamentary Democracy. The Congress (I) was always bypassing the issue on the plea of reaching a consensus. The relentless fight and continuing demand of the left parties and the progressive women organizations went a long way to pressurize the government to move the Bill in the Rajya Sabha. The demand for OBC reservation within the women reservation does not justify the complete rejection of the Bill as demanded by the parties opposing the Bill. However, we are of the opinion that only reservation of seats in the Assemblies and the Parliament will not ensure their adequate empowerment socially and economically. Empowerment is the essence of reservation therefore many other channels to be opened for the empowerment of women in true sense.

No To Discriminative Nuclear Liability Bill.

The UPA II government is pushing a Nuclear Liability Bill under the pressure of the United States of America. This Civil Liability for Nuclear Damages Bill (CLND Bill) seeks to cap the liability of nuclear plant operators and the equipment suppliers in case there is an accident involving a nuclear plant. The US administration has made this condition to operationalise the Indo-US Nuclear Deal. The CLND Bill allows the foreign reactor suppliers to make unlimited profits with limited liability even if they supply faulty and substandard equipments. This Bill minimizes the financial liability to Rs. 2142.85 Cr. in case of a nuclear accident. The affected people will not get any compensation for either loss of life, health or property damages beyond this cap. Another astonishing factor is that the liability of the Indian operator of nuclear plant will be limited to only Rs. 500Cr. The central government can reduce it to a minimum of Rs. 100Cr ! The government of India means the people of India has to bear the rest of the liability of Rs 1642.85Cr. i.e; the difference between Rs. 2142.85 Cr and Rs. 500Cr.

This CLND Bill is an instrument to promote private nuclear power plants and to facilitate the US based nuclear companies to make maximum profit with less expenditure and risk. It is detrimental to the interest of the nation if we adopt this Bill in its current form. Therefore public opinion must be raised against the proposed Bill.

Alliance with RJD and LJP will hamper the prospects of Left Unity.

The All India Forward Bloc is of the opinion that the left parties should develop more coherent relation in order to develop left unity in the state of Bihar before the Assembly Election. Any sort of electoral alliance or

understanding with RJD and LJP in the state will hamper the real prospects of the left parties and will send a wrong signal to the rank and file of the left parties across the country. The All India Forward Bloc all along favoured the formation of a people's alternative against the Congress (I) and the BJP. But it should not be a mere understanding or coming together for electoral purposes. Therefore, the AIFB earnestly requests the left parties to launch popular movements jointly to strengthen the left unity first.

UPA's Stand on "Desh Prem Diwas" is a National Shame.

The patriotic people of India are demanding since to declare the 23rd January, the birthday of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose as 'Desh Prem Diwas'. In fact the Netaji Centenary Celebration Committee (1997) constituted by the government of India unanimously recommended for its declaration. But the delayed reply given by the government on this issue reveal the true colour of the Congress (I) led government. If the government can observe Nehru's birthday as 'Children's Day' and Dr. Radhakrishnan's birthday as 'Teacher's Day', etc. what is the big issue to observe the birth day of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, the patriot of the patriots as 'Desh Prem Divas'?

The All India Forward Bloc will organize a citizen convention on 4th May 2010 at New Delhi to mobilize the public opinion on our demand. The party will conduct a nationwide protest programme from 22nd June to 28th June. The activists of AIFB and the followers of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose will march to the Raj Bhavans across the country on 28th June 2010 to pressurize the government to change its decision.

Jail Bharo Movement on 8th April 2010

The Central Committee of All India Forward Bloc has directed to all of its lower units to prepare for the Picketing of Central Government offices and Court Arrest on 8th April 2010 against price rise, unemployment, land reforms and attack against the left as per the call given by the mass rally of four left parties held before the Parliament on 12th March 2010.



DEBABRATA BISWAS
General Secretary