

Towards Socialism

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MAKE SUCCESS THE LEFT PARTIES RALLY AGAINST PRICE RISE

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The four left parties i.e; CPI (M), CPI, RSP and All India Forward Bloc have decided to organise a mass rally on 12th March at Ram Leela Maidan against price rise and for food security. The left parties have already started their preparations to make the rally a grand success. The rally will be a befitting reply to the rented writers who attacks the left parties regularly and their sponsors. This mass rally will raise the slogans of employment for all and to put an end to all prevailing anomalies in the process of implementation of the much propagated National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS). The rally will also focus on the sorry plight of farmers and workers who became the victims of the neo-liberal economic policies and the global melt down.

Against Price Rise

The Central government has become mere spectator when the prices of all essential commodities are spiralling day by day. The prices of rice, edible oils, cereals, vegetables, fruits and other consumer goods are sky rocketing and the union government is simply accusing the state governments and issuing contradictory statements on daily basis. The prices of different types of dals and sugar become out of reach by the poor people. The price sugar has reached an unprecedented Rs. 50 per kilo in different parts of the country. The prices of dals also vary from Rs 80 to 110 per Kilogram. It is better not to say the prices of edible oils which are beyond the reach of even middle class. All the season vegetables are selling in the market at very high prices, which is really burning. Why this unprecedented and inexorable rise in the prices of all essential commodities? Is there any major natural calamity or any crop epidemic happened in our country, which ruined all our agricultural crops? The answer is NO. Then why this price rise? The answer is that it is due to the food policy of the Central government, which allows large scale forward trading and hoarding.

The entry of MNCs and corporate business houses into the retail trade opened the doors for contract farming and provides opportunity to fix the prices of agricultural products before the harvest. The private traders are purchasing all the agricultural products direct from the farmers' right from the field and storing in their godowns and warehouses. Then gradually they release the materials at the prices fixed by them. If anybody wants to purchase from other source it will not be possible as all the goods are in the warehouses of the corporate houses. Even if the government wants to purchase, it has to pay the high price fixed by the traders. It is an irony. The government agencies and the state trading corporations cannot compete with the corporate houses therefore they withdraw themselves from the market and from the process of procurement.

The government has failed evaluate the situation and did nothing to keep buffer stock to face such situation. It is a quirk of fate that the country successfully conducted the green revolution is now importing all essential commodities including rice and wheat! The government is busy with showing all figures of food inflation and state government's reluctance to lift the food items from the Central pool. But the fact is that whatever may be the figure of inflation the people have nothing to do with it. They are concerned with only getting food items at low prices. It is imperative to mention here that the Central government has increased the issue price of food items from the central pool without any logic and justification. After increasing the price, the state governments are asked to lift the items immediately. The state governments which are under tremendous pressure are unable to bear the extra cost even after extending large subsidies from the state exchequer.

It is also a paradox that the farmers are not getting any benefit from this unprecedented price rise. Thus the corporate houses and the middlemen are exploiting not only the consumers but also the farmers who produce all these crops. The government is not taking any initiative to increase the productivity of agriculture and to extend low interest rate loans for the farmers as suggested by Dr. Swaminathan Committee report. The failure of government agencies to procure the farm goods from the farmers is to be enquired. These failures of the government have become benefit to the importers. They government should stop all export of food articles henceforth. The time tested public distribution system must be revived and all essential commodities must be issued through PDS.

Ensure the Food Security Act

The proposed Food Security Act is another weapon to dismantle the remaining structures of the Public Distribution System. The proposed Act suggests keeping PDS to the BPL category people only. Moreover it provides

25 Kg of rice or wheat at the price of Rs.3/- per Kg. But already many state governments are issuing 35 Kg rice and wheat to the BPL category at the rate of Rs. 2/- per Kg. It means the proposed Act will reduce the quantum of food and will increase the price! It is very difficult for many states to cater to the BPL and APL categories without any complaints. It was reported that the Planning Commission and other government agencies are having difference of opinions in defining the criteria of poverty. It is also a fact that the food requirements of the states from Nagaland to Maharashtra and Kerala to Kashmir are different. Therefore the Government of India should conduct vast level debate before adopting the Act. Instead of categorising the people, the government should universalise the PDS and to take all efficient measures to interfere the market to ensure the supply of food items.

For Employment

The NREGS was the flagship programme of the UPA I government. The scheme was adopted by the government when the left parties mounted its pressure to do so. But the reports pouring from different states are showing that large scale anomalies and cheatings are happening in all states while implementing the scheme. The issuance of job cards, allotment of works, ensuring minimum wages, nature of works, gender equality etc are not doing properly and the bureaucrats and the contractors are cheating the job seekers and the government. Many studies and the public audit reports are revealing that the money earmarked for NREGS are being siphoned off by the officers in connivance with local politicians and contractors in many states. Political rivalry and murders have been taken place in many places due to this situation and the struggle against exploitation. The government should monitor the implementation of NREGS and to encourage the public auditing with utmost transparency. The Government should also take sufficient initiatives to expand the Scheme throughout the country and to increase the days of works. While expanding the NREGS, it is the duty of the government to plan more schemes to ensure job opportunities for the educated unemployed young people of our country. At the same time the government should think seriously about the job loss of millions of workers all over the country due to global meltdown. Many companies are resorting to retrenchment and lockouts to take benefits from the government through stimulus packages. The government has announced several bailout packages to the corporate and the companies but no plan and scheme for the rehabilitation of the retrenched workers and to ensure the jobs of remaining workers. The government should think announce special packages for the workers and the bailout packages must be channelized for ensuring the increased productivity.

Hold High the Legacy of the Left

After the 15th Lok Sabha elections, the attacks against the left parties have been manifold at various levels. The religious fundamental forces, the reactionary groups and the left extremists are attacking the left parties in one voice and united themselves to malign the image of the left. The imperialist forces and their Indian agents are pumping money and other facilities to all these anti left campaign. There are concerted efforts to unpopulise the left front governments of West Bengal, Kerala and Tripura. Therefore it is challenge to the left parties to hold high its legacy struggle against imperialism, capitalism, communalism, religious fundamentalism, left extremism and all sorts of exploitations. Therefore the proposed mass rally on 12th March 2010 has its own political importance in the given situation. Not only the parties but the mass organisations should make all possible efforts to make the rally a grand success.

UPA GOVERNMENT MEEKLY SUBMITS TO POLITICAL PRESSURE FROM ITS ALLY

Before the President's address at the joint session of Parliament on 22 February 2010, it appeared in newspapers on 18 February 2010 that the Railway Minister Mamata Banerjee had forced the Union Cabinet to drop from the draft Presidential address a condemnation of the Maoist attack on the EFR camp at Silda in West Midnapur district, West Bengal on 15 February 2010, which left 24 jawans dead and several others injured. When the President actually delivered her address on 22 February 2010, it was proved that the news circulated earlier was correct. It is an all time shameful record both for the Union Cabinet and the Railway Minister. Manmohan Singh government did not dare to oppose an unjustified demand of one of its ally TMC leader Mamta Banerjee only because of political gains in the forthcoming elections in West Bengal. It is shameful indeed that the government has thus diluted its stand on terror simply on an outrageous insistence of its ill motivated ally Trinamool Congress leader Mamata Banerjee. Ms. Banerjee's record in this respect is also equally shameful as she was pleading to avoid condemnation of a heinous act of killing 24 jawans by Maoists with whom she is alleged to have secret understanding.

The president in her address expressed 'heartful condolences to the families of those who have lost their lives in the recent terrorist act in Pune'. But unfortunately she failed to express her condolences to the families of those 24 jawans who were killed by Maoists at Silda. In her speech she just made a generalised statement like 'Left wing extremists continue to indulge in senseless violence, as in their

recent attacks in West Bengal, where a large number of innocent lives have been lost.'

It is unfortunate that the government could mention the 'Pune' incident, but not the 'Silda' incident. By this act of omission on the part of the government, the jawans are likely to be demoralised. Moreover, for this omission both the UPA government and the TMC leader Mamata Banerjee will be accountable to the whole nation. This act of omission will further weaken the law and order machinery, and on the other hand it exposes the political character of the TMC leader who did not hesitate to make persistent efforts in the cabinet meeting to come to the defence of the Maoists simply to run down West Bengal ruling Left Front regime. If such incident of succumbing to political pressure from its ally TMC continues for narrow political purpose, the Union Government's expressed stand of combating maoist violence will become self - contradictory and ridiculous. In a bid to capture power in West Bengal, the Congress - TMC alliance will prove itself an unholy alliance, to which the final verdict will be given by the people.

Historic Fraternity March from Kolkata (Netaji Bhawan) to Dhaka (Bangabandhu Bhawan)

At the leadership of Bangladesh-Bharat-Pakistan people's Forum (BBPPF), a historic fraternity march was organised starting from Netaji Bhawan at Kolkata and ending at Benga Bandhu Bhavan (Sk. Mujibur Rehman Residence) at Dhaka from 19 February to 22 February 2010. Both Netaji and Mujibur are two national heroes who valiantly fought against imperialism and communalism. It is hightime that we should revive no this spirit of continuous fight against these two menaces. This revival would be possible if we again follow sincerely Netaji and Mujib. The BBPPF organised this march with the object of uniting the people of both the countries who would once more resolve to fight unitedly against imperialists and their local agents.

While reaching Dhaka the marchers who joined the greatest function there and celebrated the International Mother Language Day on 21 February 2010.

Hundreds of members of BBPPF coming from different states like Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi, Punjab, Maharashtra (Pune), Tripura and obviously, West Bengal joined this historic march. At a meeting held in Kolkata, in front of Netaji Bhawan, on 18 February 2010, Com. Debabrata Biswas, President of BBPPF greeted the marchers and wished them all success in their great mission. Com. Dr. Barun Mukherjee, MP, Com. Manik Samajdar, Secretary of BBPPF, Com. Partha Bose and others also addressed the meeting.

RACIAL HISTERIA IN AUSTRALIA AGAINST INDIANS

Kaipuzha N. Velappan Nair, Chairman, All India Forward Bloc

In recent years racial attacks on Indians have become rampant in Australia. Within the last two years a series of gruesome murders and horrible attacks had taken place and it is still continuing in different places in Australia against students, employees, and workers from India. It is pertinent to note these series of attacks are targeted against Indians only. From the very beginning they were flayed as racial attacks against Indians. But the Govt: of Australia and their officials were denying the complaints and they were depicting these attacks as only urban violences or opportunistic violences or stray individual attacks.

As per authoritative reports more than 1,20,000 Indian Students are studying in various educational institutions in Australia. 70% of the taxi drivers and a like percentage of autorickshaw drivers are Indian immigrants there. Further substantial number of Indian employees are working there in different establishments. The victims of these continuing concerted racial attacks are from these groups. The economic contributions of their Indian residents by different ways are obviously benefiting the Govt. of Australia is another factor. It is quite natural that the guardians of these students and the relatives of these victims are very much anguish about the safety of their Kith and Kin. This have raised anger and frustration in India over what is happening in Australia.

Attacks are racially motivated

While the Australian turmoil is moving this way and even after having clear, clinching cogent and convincing evidences to show that these continuous attacks against Indians are racial, the Govt: of Australia or any of the Govt. officials were not prepared to admit or acknowledge racism is the root cause of these attacks. They were denying the involvement of racism and had down played racism as a motive for the attacks against Indians. But those black out of realities and government's denials and the chorus of its official's denials were bottom - knocked off finally as the Australian Govt: was compelled to admit and acknowledge in the parliament that many of these attacks are racially motivated. This acknowledgement was made only after sharp attack against the Australian Govt: by the opposition in the Australian parliament. On 09.02.2010 intervening in the discussion in the parliament over this issue, the Foreign Minister of Victorian Govt: Steven Smith acknowledged, (though a much delayed acknowledgement) that "some of the attacks on Indians had clearly been racially motivated and vowed to punish the culprits with full force of law".

Describing the attacks as 'Contemplible' Smith said "These attacks had considerably damaged the nation's reputation and that these had cast a long shadow over relationships and ties with India and said these

were an affront to our values and are anathema to a views of moderns Australia. We need to accept that it has considerably damaged Australia's reputation in India and among the Indian people. Indeed it has widely been noticed beyond India and South India".

On 26th January 2010, the Australian National Day, Van Thanh Rudd, the nephew of Australian Prime Minister and the Leader of the Revolutionary Socialist Party toeing a different line than the Prime Minister in this issue created a stir from the Melbourne Park protesting the attacks on Indians. He said "These attacks on Indians are racially motivated. I have no doubt in my mind about that. Australians are Racist". Anyhow the Govt: of Australia and their officials and leaders now realize the gravity of the situation and that the attacks on Indians are clearly racially motivated.

Eventhough such racial attacks on Indians in Australia continued on frequent intervals the response of the Indian Government has been week - kneed and lukewarm attitude. Now it is crystal clear that Education in Australia for Indian students is not looking rosy at this moment as the O.Z racists are even now uncontrolled in spite of the Australian Govt's repeated promises to Indian authorities to avoid the menace of racial attacks, which situation is disturbing the people of India as a nightmare.

Hence it is imperative on the part of the Australian Govt: to prevent such racial attacks on Indians by strict and effective actions and keep up their promises, to Indian Authorities. If Australian Govt: is not fulfilling their promises essentially it is the duty of the Government of India to adopt tougher measures, if necessary, even to the extent of suspending bilateral ties with Australia, which won't be out of place.

UPA GOVERNMENT MISERABLY FAIL TO COMBAT PRICE RISE

Dr. Barun Mukherji, M.P.

For more than two years, the prices of essential commodities are steadily rising and the union government appears to be a mute spectator to this precarious situation affecting crores of aam admi. Of late, the President of India has admitted in her address to the joint session of Parliament on 22 February 2010 that 'there has been an unhappy pressure on the prices of food grains and food products.' By such a soft statement the government has tried to underestimate the gravity of the price situation, when inflation rate of food articles has reached near 20. The government explains the reasons for 'higher prices' as 'shortfall in domestic production' and 'prevailing high prices of rice, cereals and edible oils globally.' If that be the fact, where lies the remedy? It appears that there is no remedy, higher prices are 'inevitable'. In view of such attitude of the government, whether the common people are destined to die of hunger? The answer lies elsewhere. When there is sufficient public investment in agriculture, when thousands of farmers are forced to commit suicide, when there is no proper planning of timely import to get rid of shortfall in production, when there is no punitive measure against hoarding, when there is no restraint on forward trading in food articles, the price rise of food articles are inevitable. The government must be blamed for that situation. The other interesting point may also be noted. When the prices of food articles are steadily rising, the prices of luxury goods, motor cars etc. are not rising to that extent. This needs proper explanation.

The basic fact is this, that the government's reforms measures are causing higher inflation. The newly revised fertiliser policy of the UPA government will definitely go a long way in increasing the prices of food grains. As a reform measure, the UPA government is making a hike in price of and reducing the subsidy on fertiliser, which is detrimental to the interests of the poor farmers. Moreover, it is apprehended that immediately after the Budget, the prices of petroleum products will be enhanced. And that will definitely cause further rise in prices of essential commodities. Until and unless the PDS is universalised and strengthened and food items are supplied at cheaper rates, the aam admi can not get relief of distress. The situation has been further aggravated with growing unemployment. Under the dual pressure of price rise and unemployment, along with wide scale retrenchment, the miseries of the common people have reached the peak. But at the same time, the corporate houses are flourishing with more and more profits. The rich are becoming richer, while the poor are becoming poorer. To get rid of this situation, the common people must unite to hit hard against the destructive anti-people policy of the UPA government. With this objective in mind, the united Left have called for a massive rally at Delhi on 12th March. That would be the beginning of a continuous fight against the anti-people policy of the UPA government - against price rise, unemployment and retrenchment and above all, for food security for the aam admi.

CALL OF CENTRAL TU'S SATYAGRAHA/JAIL BHARO ON 5TH MARCH 2010

Nine Central Trade Union organisations including TUCC, BMS, INTUC, AITUC, HMS, CITU, AIUTUC, AICCTU and UTUC staged a massive Dharna before Parliament on 16th December 2009 as a protest against Government's inaction to control price rise, check labour law violations, non-creation of National Fund for Unorganised Workers Social Security, loss of jobs in the name of recession and disinvestment of profit making Public Sector Undertakings. Similar joint Dharnas were staged all over the country in State Capitals and Industrial Centres.

The Trade Unions being unhappy with the attitude of the Government in not taking any appropriate steps

to solve the five demands, have given a call for Satyagraha/Jail Bharo all over the country 5th March, 2010.

The Central Committee of Trade Union Co-ordination Centre (TUCC) has exhorted its affiliates all over the country to start preparations so as to ensure that at least ten lakh workers, men and women, court arrest and force the Government to wake up from its slumber and solve their grievances.

CALL OF LEFT PARTIES : DELHI CHALO - MARCH 12, 2010

The Left Parties, namely the CPI, the CPI(M), the Forward Bloc and the RSP call upon you to join the massive rally in Ram Lila maidan Delhi on March 12 to raise your voice against the Central Government's policies which are looting the budgets of the poor through price rise. The rally is for the demand for cheap rations to all, the right to work and jobs, and land for the landless. The rally is also to express strong condemnation of the Trinamool-Maoist violence against Left party activists in Bengal.

Against Price Rise and for Cheap Rations

People throughout the country and particularly women are the victims of the unprecedented rise in the prices of food items essential for our daily lives. Rice, atta, dal, sugar, edible oil, milk, vegetables everything we need to survive has now become too expensive to buy. The Government itself admits that the prices of food items have risen by 20 per cent compared to last year but in fact some items like sugar and some types of dals have increased by 100 per cent and more. The Congress led UPA Government's policies are responsible. The Congress came into power on the slogan of aam aadmi but the Government it leads has followed policies which have only helped the khaas aadmi.

For example:

- It paid 12 to 14 rupees per kilo to big traders for imported wheat but in the same year gave only 9.50 rupees to Indian farmers.
- In spite of expensive imports it still cut wheat supplies to the ration shops.
- The price of wheat remained high in the open market.
- Who benefited? Neither the farmer nor the consumer-only big companies.

In sugar it is the same story

Sugarcane farmers who produced a bumper crop two years ago were punished by not giving them adequate prices for their produce. Many burnt their crops in the field. Government should have ensured a buffer stock of sugar at that time. Instead Government not only allowed big sugar companies to export the sugar but paid them incentives to do so. The following year farmers did not sow sugarcane but since there was no buffer stock it resulted in a shortage. Then the Government allowed the big companies to import sugar and that also without any taxes.

Who benefited? Big sugar companies have made huge profits. 33 companies increased their profits from 30 crores to over 900 crores in just one year, that is by 2900 per cent! Farmers suffered and the consumer had to pay 40 rupees a kilo for sugar.

Another policy of the Government which has led to price rise is the permission granted to speculative capital in future trading in food items. Why should profiteering be allowed in essential food items? The earlier ban on future trade in wheat was also removed by the Central Government. In this sphere also huge profits have been made by private companies. We demand a ban on all future trading in food items.

The Central Government has virtually destroyed the public distribution system by depriving lakhs of people ration cards. The bogus definition of poverty line of just 11 rupees a day for an adult in rural India has meant that large numbers of the poor are denied BPL cards and all the rest of the poor are termed as above poverty line. Is a man or a woman who earns 15 rupees a day not poor? Why are they deprived of BPL cards? This is a cruel instrument to divide the poor and deny them their rights. In the last five years 75 per cent of rice and wheat meant for the rationing system in different States has been cut. Shamefully today when the Government has a big buffer stock of around 20 million tonnes instead of restoring the cut allocations at the subsidised, it is offering the States some amount of foodgrains at double the price. This is the same Government which gives 4 lakh crore rupees as tax concessions to the rich but when it comes to giving cheap rations to the working people it says it has no money.

We demand that all sections of the unorganized workers which come to almost 80 per cent of the adult working population should be given BPL cards. We demand at least 35 kilos of foodgrains to each family at two rupees a kilo through the immediate enactment of a law.

Jobs for All

After a big struggle by Left parties the earlier UPA Government enacted a law for guaranteed employment for 100 days in rural India. But only one person in a family can get work under this law. Why should this be so? Does not every adult who can work have a right to be included in the law? Those who get work under NREGA are not guaranteed a minimum wage. Piece rate wages are linked to impossibly high productivity norms as a result of which in large parts of the country workers do not get the full wage. We demand an expansion in the work guarantee and payment of minimum wages. At the same time what crime have the urban people committed that they should be deprived of such a right? The urban areas have been totally left out. Crores of young men and

women are looking for work. It is essential that the Government should enact a law to ensure employment guarantee in urban areas.

Till now the Government itself has been the biggest employer but as part of its liberalization economic policies the Central Government has placed a virtual ban on recruitment. This has badly affected employment and especially the SC and ST youth since the number of jobs available for them has been cut down. Minority communities are also deprived of jobs and the central Government has made no move to ensure any action to give them jobs. Even disabled citizens who have a right to 3 per cent of reservations in identified jobs are being denied their rights.

Government figures show that in the total organized sector employment which was 267.33 lakhs in 1991 remained at 269.93 lakhs in 2006-an increase of only 2.6 lakh jobs in 15 years! This is the economic policy of successive pro-capitalist Governments.

At the same time the current recession has worsened the situation for the working class. Leave alone getting jobs, they have lost jobs. In 2008-2009 11 lakh workers lost their jobs and in 2009-2010 13 lakh workers lost their jobs. But what did the central Government do? It gave money to help the companies but did not put any conditions to ensure that the workers jobs were saved. We demand protection for the workers, we demand that the Government lift the ban on recruitment in Government jobs; we demand that the backlog in SC/St vacancies and vacancies for disabled be filled; we demand that socially and backward communities including minorities be given employment guarantees.

Land reforms and Land pattas to the landless and homeless

The vast numbers of our people live in the villages and among them are the landless agricultural workers and those without even homestead land. The importance of land reform in such a situation needs to be emphasized. How can India develop if the large masses of our rural people have no assets and very low purchasing power? Land reform and distribution of surplus land to the landless will help not only those who get the land but also by increasing their earnings increase demand for other goods thus leading to an expansion of the domestic market and have a positive impact on expansion of production and job creation. But instead of stressing on giving land to the landless the successive Governments at the Centre are practicing policies in reverse-allowing corporate companies to take over land or to lease land out from small farmers. Huge tracts of so-called wastelands are being handed over to corporates by different Governments.

At the national level according to one estimate over 500 lakh acres is surplus land in India. But how much has been taken over? Just 73 lakh acres. How much has been distributed? Only 53 lakh acres. That is after 62 years of India's independence just 10.6 per cent of surplus land has been distributed to the landless. This is a shameful record. In contrast in West Bengal for example the Left front Government which has only 3 per cent of the agricultural land in the whole country had taken over land to the extent of 13 lakh acres and ensured its distribution to the landless which is 20 per cent of all land distributed in the country. Even today the West Bengal Government holds the best record in the country on land distribution. We demand that the Central Government change its agricultural policies with its emphasis on corporatisation of land and agroiculture and frame policies for takeover and distribute surplus land as well as develop wasteland and distribute it to the landless.

Millions of people in India are without homes. The Indira Awaas Yojana is highly inadequate. What is required is a proper policy to ensure homestead land and houses as for example in Kerala where successive LDF Governments have ensured homestead land with a small plot where families can grow their own vegetables and other requirements.

At the same time the Central Government continues to use the draconian and outdated 1894 Land Acquisition Act to takeover land of the peasantry coercively. The two Bills for amendments and relief and rehabilitation for landlosers is still not brought before parliament. We demand that the 1894 Act be scrapped that displacement is minimized and that laws are enacted to ensure full compensation, profit share and livelihood security to those affected.

FARMERS ARE DYING, PRICES ARE SOARING NEW POORS ARE INCREASING

G. Devarajan

The single most important issue the whole nation is confronting is the galloping food prices. The family budgets of not only the BPL families but also the middle class families have been shattered due to price rise. Many essential commodities are almost beyond the reach of the common people. The latest data shows that the food inflation reached at nearly 18% in the week ending 6th February 2010. Sugar is up by nearly 60%, pulses by 46% and potatoes by 53% over a year. But instead of addressing the real issue of price rise and to take immediate steps to check it, the government is projecting the economic growth figures and doing jugglery of statistics. The people will not be happy with figures. They need essential commodities at moderate prices.

One section of the Congress leaders and economists are saying that as the economy grows, the food consumption increases that is why the current price rise. But they are suppressing the fact that our

country is suffering from chronic malnutrition and low incomes. As per the third National Family and Health Survey, over 50% of children in India are underweight and nearly 75% of women are anaemic. It is also revealed that the amount of cereals and pulses available per person has been steadily declining from 186 Kg per annum in 1991 to 166 Kg in 2000 and further down to 160 Kg per annum in 2007. More over 34 million more Indians remained poor or joined their ranks in 2008-09 due to economic meltdown. The Central government says that price rise is an international phenomenon. But the fact is that India has the highest annual consumer price inflation compare to G-20 group of countries. Therefore the reasons for the price rise are not global but domestic.

It is now clear that forward trading, large scale hoarding, and crisis in agriculture sector are the main reasons for the price rise. All these are happening due to the policies of the government. See the crisis in the agriculture sector. Even after the much propagated agri-loan waiver, the suicidal saga of farmers are continues. According to the National Crime Records Bureau 1,99,132 farmers have committed suicide since 1997. The shocking factor is in 2008 alone 16,196 farmers have taken their lives. It means the loan waiver didn't prevent the farmers to end their lives. Related study reports shows that about 8 million cultivators quit agriculture between 1991 and 2001, which means an average of 2000 per day. The nation is waiting for the next census in this regarding. It will be another shocking report because the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council has revealed that in 2009-10, the agriculture growth was -0.2% (Minus 0.2 percent. It was 1.6% in 2008-09). Why the government failed to save the farmers and to bring back their self-confidence?

The unbridled import of agricultural products, which our country can produce plenty in the name of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and Agreements on Agriculture of WTO made the domestic agriculture a loss making activity. The cost of agriculture inputs are increasing day by day. The prices of seed, fertilizers, power, diesel etc have been increased several times during the last 5-10 years. This is basically due to the entry of Multi National Corporations in the agri-business such as seed and fertilizers. Even after 63 years of our independence and decades after the green revolution, only 40% of our cultivable land has some sort of irrigation facilities. The farmers are cultivating at the mercy of Rain Gods. Recently the government has decided to increase the price of Urea by 10% and given the private fertilizer industry a free hand to fix the retail price for other fertilizers. It is nothing but an act equal to put salt on the wounds and it will further aggravate the agriculture crisis. It is an irony that the farmers are not getting adequate remunerative prices for their product but the consumers are forced pays high prices. Due to lack of post harvest infrastructure like cold chains, storage facilities and transportation close to Rs.58000 Crores of harvested food items are wasted in India, according to a Report made by Rabo India.

The government has ignored the suggestions made by the Swaminathan Committee about providing agriculture loan at the interest rate of 4%. The farmers are still in the debt trap of private moneylenders. All these bitter truths are forcing the farmers to quit the agriculture activities.

The government always harping on the huge amount earmarked for food subsidy. One of the main reasons of the non-starter of the food security scheme is the non-availability of fund for food subsidy. But the fact is something different. In 2009-10, the food subsidy given by the central government was Rs. 52,490 Cr. (It means the government has given Rs.52,490 Cr. to the FCI to compensate the difference between the cost FCI incurs in buying from farmers, storing and transporting and the lower prices at which it sells to Public Distribution System). A recent study done by the Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability (CBGA) shows that only an additional expenditure of Rs.84,339 Cr. is needed for providing 35 Kg rice or wheat to the 'estimated' 24Cr. BPL household in India at the rate of Rs.3/Kg. The total amount needed for food subsidy for the BPL families is Rs. 1,36,829 Cr. At present the government is spending Rs. 52,490Cr. Therefore the extra money needed is Rs. 84,339 Cr. The current subsidy is less than 1% of the country's GDP. This amount is less than a fifth of the revenue foregone by the government through tax exemptions in 2008-09, which stood at a whopping Rs. 4,18,096 Cr.! Can anybody say that this government is for Aam Aadmi?

Futures trading and hording are the main reasons for the current price rise. Commodities futures trading registered a 34.9% growth in 2009. The total value of trade from January to November 2009 was Rs.62.94 lakh crore against Rs. 46.65 lakh crore in the last year. The government policy papers show that it will encourage the futures trade by extending the system to nearly 900 mandis apart from existing four national exchanges. While prices are soaring the government is allowing the Mill owners and the other agencies to export the food items without considering the domestic buffer

stock. For example, in 2009 March, the government has announced that it has enough buffer stock of sugar. Our country needs 220 lakh tonnes sugar per year last year we have produced 240 lakh tonnes. Therefore we have exported 48 lakh tonnes of sugar at the rate of Rs.12 per Kg. But after six month we are forced to import 70 lakh tonnes of sugar at the rate of Rs. 70 per kg! By this way the private sugar mill owners have mounted huge profit. A rough estimate shows that the profit of the 33 sugar companies of the country recorded a huge increase of 2900% , i.e, from Rs.30 Cr in 2008 to over Rs. 900 Cr in 2009! If it is the story of sugar price rise, we can easily imagine the stories behind the price rise of Arhar Dal, edible oils, cereals and pulses.

Hardly two years left for the closure of current five year plan. The entry of MNCs in agriculture, retail trade, and uncontrolled forward trading of essential commodities, dismantling of Public Distribution System, rampant hoarding and blackmarketing, etc are the by-products of the liberalised economic policy. This policy brought more poverty to the majority of the people and prosperity to a few. A joint report by the UN and the Asian Development bank shows that in India more than 400 million people are in 'extreme poverty', subsisting on less than 1.25 US Dollar a day. We must read this report along with the latest ILO report, which says that more than 36 lakhs of workers have lost their jobs due to the recent global crisis. The UNESCAP has assessed that more than 13.6 million more people became poor in 2009. It means, the global crisis has created a large section of 'New Poor'.

'DESH PREM DIVAS' CELEBRATED ACROSS THE COUNTRY POMPOUSLY

23rd January 2010, the 114th birthday of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was celebrated throughout the country by the activists of All India Forward Bloc and the followers of Netaji. Rallies, public meetings, exhibitions, seminars, debates, arts and sports events etc. have been organised across the country in befitting manner. Special programmes were organised to honour the freedom fighters and the INA personals. Authorities of Schools and Colleges have conducted special functions to recall the contributions of Netaji in the liberation movement of our motherland.

It was a long pending demand of the followers of Netaji to declare 23rd January as 'Desh Prem Divas'. In fact the Committee constituted under the leadership of the Prime Minister in 1996 to celebrate the birth centenary of Netaji had recommended to the government to declare Netaji's Birthday as 'Desh Prem Divas' as an opportunity to inculcate patriotism among the younger generation. But all the successive government have taken least interest to do so. The All India Forward Bloc, the party founded by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose is all along demanding the declaration of 'Desh Prem Divas'. The party had conducted several campaigns on this demand. It is a matter of great satisfaction that the government of Bihar has declared 23rd January as 'Desh Prem Divas' as per the demand of All India Forward Bloc from this year.

But the reluctance of union government did not stop the enthusiasm of the people to celebrate the day as 'Desh Prem Divas'. They came forward and made 'public declaration' of 'Desh Prem Divas' by mobilising thousands of people all over India. Along with this demand the people urged upon the government to accept the Report of Netaji Enquiry Commission and to include Netaji's life history in the School, College and University syllabus.

The Forward Bloc urged upon the Central Government to declare 23rd January, the birthday of Netaji as 'Desh Prem Divas' and observe special functions at all educational institutes. It was a suggestion of the Netaji Birth Centenary Celebration Committee headed by the Prime Minister in 1997. The All India Forward Bloc is of the opinion that the proposed declaration is very much necessary to inculcate patriotism among the younger generation. The life history and the contributions of Netaji in the freedom struggle should be included in the syllabus. The Forward Bloc will launch a nationwide movement on this demand.

Special function was organised at Forward Bloc headquarter, New Delhi, G. Devarajan, National Secretary of the party garlanded the statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Delhi:

In Delhi a clourful rally was organised by the party from Bhagat Singh Park, near ITO to Netaji Subhas Park, Daryaganj. The public meeting was addressed by G. Devarajan, National Secretary of All India Forward Bloc, at Netaji Subhas Park.

Com. G. Devarajan, while addressing the public meeting stated that, the Congress(I) led UPA government has dishonoured Netaji by not giving any publicity or advertisement in the print and electronic media through DAVP on the occasion of Netaji's birthday. Even for the inauguration of a small culvert, the government is spending lakhs of rupees for advertisements. He further said that the Congress(I) always hatched conspiracy to suppress the ideals and contribution of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. He demanded that the birthday of Netaji Should be declared as 'Desh Press Divas' and the Mukherjee Commission Report on

Netaji's disappearance should be accepted. He further opined that, when the young people are falling into the trap of anti-national forces, the government has to launch a special programme to inculcate patriotism among the younger generation by including the life history of Netaji in the Curriculum and syllabus.

The meeting was presided over by D.N. Jha, Chairman of All India Forward Bloc, Delhi State Committee. The meeting was addressed by Dharmendra Kumar Verma, General Secretary of AIFB Delhi State Committee, P.N. Dwivedi, Rajesh, Awadhesh Kumar, Prof. Chandra Lal Sharma and Manoj Paswan.

The rally was led by K.D. Srivastav, Mahadev Gupta, Ram Surat Pandey, Dharmendra Kumar, Nazrul, Dr. Goswamy, Sorab Ali, Ram Parvesh, Balraj Gupta, Ratilal Sharma, Babban Singh, Pappu Kumar, Sesh Kumar, Murukan, Abdul Wahab and Anuj Bose.

Jharkhand

The activists of All India Forward Bloc have organised numerous programmes to celebrate the 114th birthday of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in several parts of the state. In Ranchi, the capital of Jharkhand, Com. Janardhan Pandey, State General Secretary of the party garlanded the statue near the Court and addressed the public meeting held there. In Nirsha, Dhanbad, under the leadership of Com. Aparna Sengupta, State Chairperson of the party celebrated 'Desh Prem Divas'. In Godda, the District Judge Shri Anil Kumar Choudhary and other judicia and administrative authorities have offered floral tributes to Netaji. Several programmes were organised at Deoghar, Giridih, Govindpur, Dhanbad, Pakudiya, Jamtara and other places. Comrade Sushil Pandey, Shanu Choudhury, Somnath Mukherjee, Bimal Chandra Dey, Arup Mondal, and other state and district leaders have conducted the programmes at different places.

Bihar

In Bihar, the 'Desh Prem Divas' was celebrated at different places. In Patna at Ramkrishna Nagar under the leadership of AIFB State General Secretary Com. Azad hundreds of party workers garlanded the statue of Netaji. In Muzzaffarpur, AIFB and All India Agragami Kisan Sabha have jointly organised 'Desh Prem Divas' celebrations. Com. Rajeshwar Pandey, Convenor of AIAKS hoisted the party flag. AISB General Secretary Com. Amresh Kumar and AIFB Central Committee Member Com. Vakil Takur and other senior leaders of the party and mass organisations addressed the public meeting. In Purnia, under the leadership Com. Nand Kumar Singh and Chandrashekhar Mishra, the 'Desh Prem Divas' observed with all pompousness. Special programmes were organised at Navada, Arah, Shivhar and other district headquarters of the state on the occasion of 'Desh Prem Divas'.

Haryana

In Haryana, the state unit of All India Forward Bloc has organised spectacular programmes to celebrate the 114th birthday of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. In Karnal, under the leadership of Com. D.K. Sharma, the State Chairman of the party hundreds of followers of Netaji garlanded the statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Special functions were organised at Sonipat, panipat and Jajjar. Com. Harpal Singh, Lalit Sardana, Lajwinder Singh, Balbir Singh, Navin Antil and others have addressed the public meetings.

Maharashtra

The All India Forward Bloc Maharashtra State Committee has organised several programmes at different places to celebrate 'Desh Prem Divas'. In Nagpur, hundreds of people garlanded the statue of Netaji at Manas Chowk. Com. Balwant Rai Mehta, Dharmaraj Dubey, Arun Wankar, Mukund Mule and CPM leader Sanjay Raut and other leaders addressed the public meeting organised on the occasion of 'Desh Prem Divas'. Programmes were organised at Latur, Yeotmal, Chandrapur, Pune etc. Com. Indu Praksh Menon, Rameshwar Chounda, Gunwant Nagpure, Srikant Dhotte and other leaders have given leadership to the celebrations.

Uttar Pradesh

In Uttar Pradesh, the All India Forward Bloc has organised numerous programmes to celebrate the 'Desh Prem Divas'. A Netaji Chetna Yatra was organised under the leadership of Com. S.N. Singh Chouhan, the state General Secretary of the party. The Yatra has visited Gajrola, Puranpur, Dughchihai, Bhandra, Vilsanda, Visalpur and Barkhera. Com. Narayan Lal Mourya, Manoj Pandey etc led the Netaji Chetna Yatra and spoke at several corner meetings. Several programmes were organised on the occasion of the 'Desh Prem Divas' at Lucknow, Kanpur, Meerut, Barabanki, Eta, Gajipur, Ettava and other places in the state.

Madhya Pradesh

The 114th birthday of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was celebrated in several places of Madhya Pradesh under the auspices of All India Forward Bloc. In Harda, the leaders of AIFB garlanded the statue of Netaji. Com. Shyam Sunder Bishnoi, Chairman of the AIFB State Committee conducted the whole programme. The gathering has taken an oath to Rebuild India in Netaji's Way. In Bhopal, under the leadership of Com. Ram Avatar Pachoury, the activists of AIFB garlanded the statue of Netaji and held a public meeting. Com. S.P. Tiwari, General Secretary of TUCC Central Committee was the chief Guest.

Special programmes were organised at Satna, Katni, Riwa, Umariya, Ujjain, Dewas etc. Com. Sanjay Yadav, Kailesh Dabi, Salma Soudagar, Nisha Singh, Arup Goutam, Jagdish Chawda, Ramchandra Parmar and Kamaleshwar Parmar etc addressed the public meetings at different places.

Orissa

The activists of All India Forward Bloc Orissa State unit has organised several programmes to celebrate the 114th birthday of Desh Gourav Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at different places in the state. Under the leadership Com. Saratman Singh and Santhosh Mitra hundreds of activists garlanded the statue of Netaji at Bhubaneshwar. After the public meeting, the leaders have submitted a memorandum to the government to declare 23rd January as 'Desh Prem Divas' and to include Netaji's life history in the school, college and University syllabus. Special programmes were organised at Ganjam, Behrampur, Balasore, Cuttack and Khurda Road. Com. Mir Salamat Ali, Manorama Padhi etc also addressed the gatherings.

Tamilnadu

The All India Forward Bloc Tamilnadu Unit has organised several programmes to celebrate the 'Desh Prem Divas' in a traditional way of Tamil style. Special programme was organised at Chennai in which Com. Debabrata Biswas, General Secretary of AIFB was the Chief Guest. Hundreds of party activists and followers of Netaji garlanded the statue of Netaji. While addressing the gathering, Com. Biswas urged upon the Central government to declare immediately the birth day of Netaji as 'Desh Prem Divas'. He also demanded that the life history of Netaji must be included in the syllabus from KG to PG in order to inculcate patriotism among the new generations. Com. P.V. Kathiravan and Com. V.S. Navamani have conducted the whole programme. Several functions were organised at Madurai, Dindugal, Tiruchi, Virudhu Nagar, Nellai, etc. Com. P.S. Jayaraman, Subburaj, S. Thanikodi, A. Joseph Sagayaraj, Kasimayan and other leaders have conducted and spoke the public meetings and celebrations. Sweet distribution, honouring the INA personals and Freedom fighters, arts and sports competitions have been organised at several places. The 'Desh Prem Divas' was celebrated as a festival in Tamilnadu by the followers of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Several Ministers of the state Government, MLAs, MPs and administrative authorities have garlanded the statues of Netaji at different places.

Pondichery.

The Pondicherry State Committee of All India Forward Bloc has organised special programmes to celebrate the 114th birthday of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Hundreds of activists of AIFB garlanded the statue and portrait of Netaji near, Old Bus Stand, Puducherry. Com. Muthu, AIFB Pondicherry State General Secretary garlanded the statue at first and addressed the gathering. Com. Venkitesh Perumal, State Chairman of the party, Com. Sukumar, Mohan, Jayakumar, Ravichandran, Rangan etc spoke. The leaders of the mass organisation of the party also addressed the gathering. The All India Youth League, Pondicherry State Committee has organised a Blood Donation camp on the occasion of the 'Desh Prem Divas'. 40 young comrades have donated blood to the Blood Bank.

Kerala

The Kerala State Committee of All India Forward Bloc has organised several programmes to celebrate 'Desh Prem Divas' in all the 14 districts of Kerala. Oath taking ceremony was also organised at all places. In Thiruvananthapuram, Com. V. Ram Mohan, State General Secretary of the party garlanded the statue of Netaji situated in front of State Assembly and addressed the gathering. Com. Arun Sasi, Com. Rajit Rajendran and Com. Rajan Ambury also addressed the gathering. In other districts following leaders have led the oath taking ceremony after garlanding the portraits of Netaji. Com. Thampy Punnathala (Kollam), Com. Kalathil Vijayan (Alappuzha), Com. Abdul Khader Vazhakala (Ernakulam), Com. P.A. Roy (Thrissur), Com. Sadiq (Kozhikode) Com. Sudhakaran (Vayanad), Com. Rajan Koodali (Kannur) Com. Vijayan (Kasargode), Com. Velladurai Pandiyan (Idukki), Com. Sivan (Kottayam). Com. N. Velappan Nair, Com. K.R. Brahmanandan and Com. Thankachan Varghese, Com. Humayun also addressed the public meetings at different places.

Karnataka

The Karnataka units of All India Forward Bloc and TUCC have jointly organised the 114th Birthday of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at a befitting manner. Special programme was organised at Bangalore in which along with the leaders of AIFB and TUCC Shri Yediurappa, Chief Minister of Karnataka also attended and garlanded the statue of Netaji in front of Vidhana Soudha. Hundreds of people including large number women comrades were attended and paid floral tributes to Netaji. Shri Yediuraap recalled the contributions of Netaji and urged the younger generation to take inspiration from the life of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. While addressing gathering, Com. G.R. Shivashankar, Chairman of TUCC Central Committee and the Secretary of AIFB demanded that the 23rd January, the birthday of Netaji

must be declared as 'Desh Prem Divas'. He also demanded that the union government should accept the Mukherjee Commission Report, which probed about the disappearance of Netaji. He also announced that the All India Forward Bloc and TUCS will launch a movement to pressurise the government to accept the demands. Com. Siddaramayya and Com. Amrutesh and other leaders of AIFB and TUCS also spoke.

Andhra Pradesh

The organising Committee of All India Forward Bloc Andhra Pradesh has celebrated 'Desh Prem Divas' at different places. Under the leadership of Com. Murlidhar Deshpande, hundreds of activists of AIFB garlanded the statue of Netaji in Hyderabad. Programmes were organised at Thirupathi, Kurnool, Medak, Adilabad, Ranga Reddy, Khammam etc. Public meetings and seminars were organised at different places. The leaders of AIFB have submitted a memorandum to the government demanding immediate declaration of Netaji's Birthday as 'Desh Prem Divas' and to accept the Mukherjee Commission Report. A Seminar was organised at Basheerbagh Press Club and special programme was organised near Secunderabad Railway Station.

Punjab

All India Forward Bloc, in collaboration with Netaji Subhas Kranti Manch and Netaji Model School, Ropar organized 2nd Netaji Subhas Memorial All India Hockey Gold Cup for boys and girls. Twelve teams, eight of boys and four of girls, from U.P., Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Chandigarh and Punjab participated in this tournament which lasted for four days. Mrs Harinder Kaur Brar, Assistant Excise and Taxation Commissioner inaugurated this tournament and Sh. L.K.Yadav I.P.S., S.S.P., Ropar presided the concluding programmes. Cash prizes of Rs.5100/- and Rs.3100 were given respectively to the winners and Runners Up teams. Through this tournament a large number of students were involved in Netaji Birthday Celebrations. In the concluding programme it was resolved to build an India of Netaji's dreams. A pledge was taken to celebrate Netaji's birthday as Desh Prem Divas and organize various types of programmes to revive nationalism in the country.

Uttarakhand

The All India Forward Bloc Uttarakhand state unit has organised number of programmes to celebrate the 114th birth day of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at Kasipur, Bazpur, and Haridwar. Com. Surendra Khambhoj, Peer Baksh, Dr. Das, Rajkumar and Pramod Sharma etc have addressed the gatherings at different places. Portraits and Statues of Netaji were garlanded at different places and sweets were distributed to the students. The leaders who addressed the gathering elaborated the life history and contributions of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Jammu & Kashmir

The All India Forward Bloc Jammu and Kashmir Unit has organised numerous programmes at different place in spite of heavy snowfall in the valley. Comrades of AIFB garlanded the portraits of Netaji at Srinagar, Budgam, Baramulla, Handwara, Ganderbal, Jammu, Katua and Rajoury. Com. Rajan Padrie, Ghulam Mohiuddin Sheikh, Dr. Kharoo, Malik Nurul Amin, Shahid Mansoor, Ameer geelani, Reez Geelani, G.M. Malla, Ashraf, Vikram Chand, P.L.Bhat etc led the programmes at different places. It was a different experience for the people of Lal Chowk, the nerve centre of Srinagar, when hundreds of young people gathered and raised the slogan of 'Jai Hind' in front of the photograph of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. In Budgam the AIFB activists have distributed sweets to the school children and general public.

West Bengal : Netaji's 114th Birthday was celebrated with great enthusiasm throughout West Bengal. It was not that the Netaji Jayanti celebration was organised by the Forward Bloc workers only, it was rather celebrated by the people, clubs and youth & student organisations themselves spontaneously. Netaji is the greatest national hero to the people of Bengal and India as a whole.

The biggest function was held, like all previous years, at the foot of Netaji's statue near Red Road of Kolkata on 23 January 2010. As usual, this function was organised jointly by the Central Netaji Jayanti Committee led by the Bengal Committee, All India Forward Bloc and the Government of West Bengal. Com. Subrata Bose presided over the meeting and the distinguished speakers included Com. Asok Ghosh, General Secretary of West Bengal, AIFB, Com. Biman Bose, Chairman of the Left front, West Bengal, Com. Buddhadeb Bhattacharya, Chief Minister, West Bengal and leaders of other Left Front partners along with Com. Motilal Maitra, General Secretary Central Netaji Jayanti Committee. Com. Asok Ghosh in his speech said that it was an exceptional year when the National General Secretaries of all the four left parties, viz. CPI(M), CPI, Forward Bloc and RSP joined hands together and issued a joint letter addressed to the Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, demanding that 23 January be declared as the 'day of patriotism'. When the downtrodden people are oppressed by the pressure of hunger, poverty and unemployment, they have forgotten to love and serve their motherland. It is only by remembering Netaji's life and struggle, the spirit of patriotism can be inculcated among the people.

Com. Biman Bose said that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was the only national hero who could lead the country to freedom and prosperity.

Com. Buddhadeb Bhattacharya frankly admitted in his speech that the communists were once wrong in their

assessment of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. he further said that Netaji was the greatest patriot and whatever he had done, he had done for the freedom and welfare of the country.

AIYL ORGANISES NATIONWIDE WORKSHOPS

The Central Committee of All India Youth League (AIYL) met at Varanasi on 9th and 10th February 2010. com. Moinuddin Shams, Chairman of AIYL presided over the meeting.

It has been resolved that 21st National Conference of All India Youth League will be held on 20, 21 and 22 November 2010 at Dhanbad, Jharkhand.

All the State Conference will be completed by September and October 2010.

All the district conferences will be completed by July and August 2010

It has been also resolved that state wise workshop will organise with extended meeting of All India Youth League State Committee following dates are finalise.

Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly	21 February 2010
Bihar	Patna	22 February 2010
Uttarakhand	Haridwar	25 February 2010
Tripura	Agartala	27 February 2010
Karnataka	Bangalore	27 February 2010
Tamilnadu		28 February 2010
Jharkhand	Dhanbad	2 March 2010
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	2 March 2010
Assam	Guwahati	3 March 2010
J & K	Jammu	3 March 2010
Punjab	Roop Nagar	4 March 2010
Haryana		5 March 2010
Delhi	Delhi	7 March 2010
Puducherry		7 March 2010
Orissa		10 March 2010
Kerala	Kozhikode	20 March 2010

It has been also resolved that on 23rd March on the eve of "Shaheed Diwas" of Shaheed-E-Azam Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru, All India Youth League will organise a state wise Dharna and Court Arrest to demand of "Job", "Education" and "Health" for all.

The next central committee of All India Youth League will be held on 17 and 18 April 2010 at Dhanbad.

TUCC OBSERVED PROTEST WEEK

In order to sensitize its informal and most vulnerable section of poor workers for their Capacity Building and create enthusiasm in coming days struggle at grassroots level and also to support the initiative taken by 9 Central Trade Union Organisation of the country including TUCC for gradual but steep by step strengthening working class unity in their continuous movement which expect to be a massive Satyagraha/Dharna before parliament on 5th March 2010, TUCC unitedly launched its programme to observe observe week from 15th February 2010 to 22nd February 2010 around the country against the anti workers policies of Central and State Governments with a set of memorandum to be submitted before administrative head of the offices at the Dharna places:

We demand:-

- Stop sky rocketing prices of essential commodities and strengthen public distribution system for supplying all daily needs to poor people of the country.
- Stop rampant labour law violations happening every moment in the country and enforce the laws strictly without any biasedness.
- Withdraw order to allow private Banks to manage the accumulated funds of EPF and Pension schemes and invest them in turbulent share market.
- Stop creating Public Private Partnership medical colleges from the corpus of hard earn money of Subscribers in ESI fund.
- Suitably amend the Unorganised Sector Social Security Act 2007 to accommodate the views of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour and create a National Unorganised Social Security fund to the upliftment of 94.5% vulnerable persons in world of work in our country.

The state units were requested to this programme at grassroots. Till printing of this report, Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi and Tamilnadu had initiated programmes at different venues:

Bihar: On 16th February 2010, hundreds of Rickshaw pullers, Construction workers and transport workers assembeled at the office of District Magistrate, Nawada for the 3 hours dharna started at 11:30 a.m. to raise the national demands as well as few of their local demands. The gathering was enthusiastic to see that their National Leaders Com. S.P. Tiwari came along to address the meeting and lead the delegation to the administration office, The Dharna was also addressed by Com. Wakil Thakur, Com. Anil Sharma, Com. Satyendra Singh and others.

On 19th February 2010, people from aggregation economy, Construction Workers, Beedi Workers thronged the streets of Muzaffarpur amid cheering slogans and raising their demands. Com Habib Ansari, Com. Wakil Thakur lead the procession and delegation before the District Magistrate, Muzaffarpur.

Jharkhand: Com. Somnath Mukherjee and Com. Basanta Tanti lead the procession of daily wage earners, unorganised workers of Mica Industry and moved around the street of Giridih, while footpath venders and hawkers join them at Dy. Commissioner's gate, Giridih, meeting was continued for 2 hours after after which memorandum was submitted. Hearing the local issues, DC assured them to address the grievances within 15 days and call them for the meeting again.

Uttar Pradesh : Com. S.P. Tiwari attended the gathering at Mirzapur on 17th February 2010 and addressed the procession lead by Com. Hansraj Akela, Com. Shamsuddin Mansoorie, Com. Narayan Singh Kushwaha, speaking on the occasion he camblasted the Dt. Administration for allowing manipulation in NREGA Scheme and exploitation of Beedi Workers by their employers and also the Doctors posted at Beedi Hospital.

Delhi : Under the banner of Delhi Bhavan va Anya Nirman Asangathit Mazdoor Sanghtan, hundreds of workers have demonstrated before the parliament on 22nd February, 2010 against price rise and for social security schemes for unorganised sector workers. Com. G. Devarajan, Secretary, AIFB addressed the gathering at Jantar Mantar. Shri Subhas Bhatnagar, P.N. Dwivedi, D.N. Jha, Dharmendra Kumar Verma, H.R. Tiwari, Jagram Sharma, T.R. Chauhan, Manoj Paswan and Raj Laxmi also addressed the demonstrators. Later a memorandum was submitted to the Prime Minister under the leadership of P.N. Dwivedi.

CAMPAIGN OF AIAKS : KISAN BACHAO - DESH BACHAO

The Central Secretariat of All India Agragami Kisan Sabha met at New Delhi on 14th February 2010. Com. (Dr.) Harish Gupta Presided ove the meeting. The Secretariat has decided to launch a nationwide campaign and Jail Bharo Programme in April 2010.

It has been also decided that state wise extended meeting will be organised to revamp the organisation from the grassroot level, to identify the issues of the local and states and action programme by March on behalf of AIAKS.

The programme which has been already finalised:

Uttarakhand	Bazpur	26 February 2010
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	4 March 2010
Uttar Pradesh	Sambal	6 March 2010
Uttar Pradesh	Bara Banki	7 March 2010
Bihar	Muzaffarpur	19 March 2010
Jharkhand	Dhanbad	20 March 2010
Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur	21 March 2010
Tamilnadu		28 March 2010
Tripura	Agartala	3 April 2010
Assam		4 - 5 April 2010

National Conference of AIAKS

The National Conference of All India Agragami Kisan Sabha will be held in Bihar in the first week of December 2010.

The following schedule have been fixed for confences of AIAKS:

Gram Panchayat conferences by June and July.

Block/Taluka/Local conferences by August.

District conferences by September - October.

State Conferences by November.