

1/B/E/24

# RESIGNATION WHOSE & WHY?

**WHY SHOULD A MINISTER RESIGN AND WHY SHOULD ONE DEMAND HIS RESIGNATION? AND WHY SHOULD THE PARTY IN POWER OR THE LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT AGREE TO REMOVE A MINISTER? WHAT ARE THE PRINCIPLES AND STANDARDS IN THIS? QUESTIONS ARE BEING ASKED AND ARGUED.**

**L**AL Bahadur Shastri, one-time Railway Minister resigned because there was a serious railway disaster and many died. The people were angry and he resigned. Then he came back.

**T. T. Krishnamachari**, one-time Finance Minister, resigned because the LIC under his department was involved in the Mundhra corruption. There was a public uproar and he resigned. Then he came back almost in the same sphere if not the same ministry.

Following the reverses of Indian army on the NEFA border, Defence Minister **Krishna Menon** resigned. But he is not coming back. So there is a difference here.

Minister **K. D. Malaviya** of the oil fame was found to have asked the Serajuddin company to give some money for elections. He was blamed and he resigned. But he is not coming back. So there is a difference here.

Why did the man for the railway accident and the man for the Mundhra scandal come back? And why is the man for the military accident and the man for the election fund scandal so vehemently hounded out?

Because behind these resignations and returns, a

battle between the various factions of the bourgeoisie is fought out, because a battle in a way for policies also is being fought out; because not only Indian finance but international imperialist finance is also concerned with some of these resignations.

by **S. A. Dange**

The Railway Minister's resignation was a shrewd manoeuvre to stop the storm of public indignation by showing remorse and "sacrifice" of a portfolio. But accidents continued as before.

TTK's resignation appeared to be a piece of "bourgeois chivalry", taking over responsibility for the lapse of his secretary. The press of Birla finance was pleased to see him out. It is not now displeased to see him in again. The "shopping list" and the shops

and the shoppers are now agreed, at least for the time being.

**Krishna Menon's** and **Malaviya's** is a different story. Though parts of the same bourgeois class machine, the two had been firm in stalling the advance of American finance and American neo-colonial profitable armaments manufacture to private capital and especially to Anglo-American capital.

**Malaviya** insisted on building India's own oil industry and did it. Anglo-American oil finance and politics hated him for it.

Indian Rightwing reaction from inside the Congress and outside, aided by Anglo-American strings of "aid" wanted their heads and got it.

**Imperialist Demand** APR-6 1964

Does international imperialist finance really make such demands? It does. Not that it crudely goes and asks the Prime Minister to remove this or that minister. Their wishes are not conveyed that open way.

The London Economist, discussing the prospect of American "aid" to India wrote the following on 6 July:

"India is more popular with (USA) Congress this year than it was last year, when it had a narrow escape from a cut in its economic aid. The much-disliked **Krishna Menon** is no longer in office and with the Chinese attack on the northern frontier, neutralism has been at least diluted even if not abandoned; but to be truly forgiven by Congress India would have to reach an agreement with Pakistan in the dispute over Kashmir." (Emphasis added).

Thus, some more resignations or removals are necessary for India to be "truly forgiven".

Thus can be seen what policy was served objectively by resignations and removals so far, whatever their ostensible cause.

The Right reaction is demanding the reversal of India's very basic policies of

nonalignment, anti-colonialism, independent development, state sector, in fact all that hurt the monopolists here and abroad.

It is time that the masses intervene in this situation and demand the resignation and removal of some other ministers.

It is time that some ministers are removed for their policies and not only for accidents and scandals.

It is time that the people demand the removal of those ministers who have played a havoc with people's lives and knowingly and purposefully followed policies for the benefit of the big rich monopolists.

Who are these ministers?

princes before taking away their "employment" of robbing the people. But the government had no plan for the goldsmiths, when they thought of abolishing their trade by gold-control.

The taxes that the minister imposes every year cut the wages and incomes of the toiling poor and the consequent high prices enrich the millionaires.

He puts thirty-five crores every year of people's savings in stock exchange for the gain of the speculators, but attacks the wages of the workers to get money for the CDS.

He has failed to realise crores from tax-evaders or stop the theft of foreign exchange, but he attacks the peasant with surcharges.

The Finance Minister's policies ruin the people and enrich a small class of exploiters. It that not a crime against the national and the people?

And yet no one demands his resignation.

Same is the case of Food Minister, **Patil**. The sugar scandal is well-known. The



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There are two key ministries of Finance and Food, one of **Morarji Desai** and the other of **S. K. Patil**.

They may not be involved in any known "affair" to merit censure. But the disaster that they have wrought on millions of people, the vast gains they have conferred on the biggest financial sharks of India's economy demand that they be removed in the interest of the country and the people.

Railway accident killed a few people only. TTK's failure enriched only one **Mundhra**; **Menon** may be held responsible for the loss of a division, not expected or foreseen by anybody; **Malaviya's** ten thousand rupees for his party man's election is merely a drop in the crores garnered by the Congress Party from the profits of the companies.

**Morarji's Record**

But compare these to the exploits and disasters of the Finance Ministry.

Five lakh goldsmiths have been starved and thrown out of employment. The government formerly gave and continues to give crores to the

food deficit is well-known. His total failures are well-known.

He is the favourite of the grain dealers. In Bombay, he is elected with their finance and their support and in the very area where they and other bourgeois gentry have their big hold.

**Patil's Performance**

To their conference the other day, he boasted that in order to protect their interests, he even defied "the pressure of the Parliament and the Planning Commission." And yet these sharks of the Food World and Food Finance "betrayed" him—their "best friend"—by continuously raising prices and causing scarcity.

What is the punishment that **Patil** proposed for this betrayal? More subsidies and tax concessions to these swindlers of people's food.

Failure in prices, failure in production and distribution, failure in abiding by accepted policies and collusion with

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# SOARING PRICES

Despite the assurances given to the people, government has failed to hold the price-line. Prices of almost all commodities have shot up, particularly that of food articles and other necessities of life.

**E**VEN during emergency, when government took for itself immense powers to deal with all possible situations in the country, it failed to use those powers against hoarders and profiteers, for averting the capitalist-made crises that made inroads to the earnings of fixed-income or low-income groups of people.

Enthusied by the desire to meet the defence needs of the country, workers produc-

by **Sadban Mukherjee**

The Gold Control Order of Finance Minister failed to stop smuggling and unearth the hoarded gold; it only resulted in the unemployment and misery of several lakhs of goldsmiths—some of whom committed suicide.

Instead of retracing the wrong steps taken by him, **MORARJI DESAI** brazenly told the people on 9 July over All-India Radio that "... any attempt to exaggerate the problem or to tell the goldsmiths that all that they need do is to agitate will merely confuse the issue, delay the resettlement, and help nobody at all."

He further said: "Ours is a large country and numerous opportunities are either available or can be created." What **Morarji** deliberately tried to hide was the fact that his government has failed to provide employment opportunities to the already existing army of unemployed. Instead of reducing the number of

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# Morarji and Patil must go



\*By ROMESH CHANDRA

# THE IMAGE OF INDIA

The message sent by Prime Minister NEHRU on the occasion of the first anniversary of Algeria's independence, is in the best traditions of anti-imperialist India.

CLEAR and categorical is the declaration that: "The continued existence of colonialism and racialism in parts of Africa is not merely an insult to the dignity of man, but also a threat to the peace of the world."

"Full support" is promised in the letter to the liberation struggles of the African peoples. Of the martyrs of the anti-imperialist battles, Nehru says:

"The struggle has had its martyrs; countless men and women have suffered for their cause. We join you today in saluting them. Their sufferings have not been in vain and they have added a rich chapter to the history of the movement for freedom."

Fulsome is the Prime Minister's tribute to the Addis Ababa Conference: "The nations of Africa have given a lead to other nations which we value."

If only the government's representatives and spokesmen everywhere and always acted and spoke on the lines of this message to Algeria, there would be no need to talk of the necessity to restore the image of anti-imperialist India in the eyes of the Afro-Asian peoples.

Unfortunately, this is not so. In the last few days, the open controversy regarding the stand taken by the Indian delegates at the ILO Conference on the question of the boycott of South Africa, has brought to light the fact that our role, to say the least, was not consistent and did not help to win friends for India among the African delegates.

Part of the errors were certainly due to the confusing and often contradictory instructions given from time to time—a reflection also of the total incompetence and rudeness of the powers-that-be in New Delhi.

Let it also be remembered that India's message to Addis Ababa was formal and abrupt. It lacked warmth and said nothing about the African Heads of States Conference of the kind the Prime Minister has now said in his message to Algeria.

It was amusing—and a little horrifying too—to read in the Hindu (July 3), in the course of a long despatch from its Delhi correspondent, the suggestion that the image which had been distorted by our action to liberate Goa has been restored in USA.

The liberation of Goa was a high point in India's glorious history. And it was at that moment that anti-imperialist India's true image emerged before all mankind. The imperialists fretted and fumed; they threatened dire consequences. Thanks to the vote of the Soviet Union, their nefarious plans to act against India through the UN, were foiled.

The Indian people do not consider the image of India liberating Goa from the clutches of the Salazar dictatorship as a distortion, which has to be corrected, to win the plaudits of the US-British imperialists.

## WANTED TANGIBLE PROOF

PRIME Minister JOMO KENYATTA of Kenya has welcomed the Prime Minister's assurance of support to the African States in any action they may take to liberate South Africa, Angola and other enslaved parts of Africa.

Kenyatta has said that Nehru's statement is "in line with the anti-colonial policy which he has consistently followed", and that "by promising active support he has given further tangible proof of his desire to live up to his professions."

This is high tribute from a great African leader. It gives the lie to the anti-Indian propaganda carried out by interested quarters in all parts of the world, which seeks to paint India as already aligned with the West and as having forsaken the anti-colonial struggle.

It is necessary to live up to India's professions. This requires concrete material help to the African peoples fighting for their freedom. The centre for African liberation opened by the Addis Ababa Conference at Dar-es-Salaam needs every sort of material assistance for the freedom fighters.

India must place all that it can at the disposal of the freedom movements of Africa.

The vacillations in India's foreign policy led to the woeful delays in the recognition of the Algerian Provisional Government, which cost us so heavily in African goodwill and which have not been forgiven us even to this day. The delay in Algeria's setting up its dip-

## WE REGRET

We publish below a letter of 6 July 1963 from the Public Relations Officer, Rashtrapati Bhawan. We regret the error in the report published in last week's NEW AGE, and are glad that the President has contradicted the news. —Editor

### TEXT OF THE LETTER

WITH reference to the comments by Vijayan in the Whispering Gallery in the issue of the New Age of 7th of July, I am directed to say that, the President has no knowledge at all of the reported opposition to the proposal of the Ministry of Mines and Fuel regarding the oil exploration in Iran. It is the first time the President hears about it.

sd. A. M. Abdul Hamid  
Public Relations Officer

omatic mission in New Delhi is seen clearly all over Africa as a reply to India's prevarications over Algerian recognition in the past.

Let us not be content with the sending of messages, however good. What is wanted of us at this time is concrete material assistance to the fight for freedom in Africa, the real tangible proof that India is living up to its traditions, its basic policies.

## TRUE FRIENDSHIP AND ASSISTANCE

THE Indian exhibition which opens next week in Moscow is a symbol of the growing friendship between India and the Soviet Union. At the same time, an Indian defence mission will be in the Soviet Union.

President Radhakrishnan has accepted an invitation from President Brezhnev to visit the Soviet Union. And though the dates are still to be settled, it is hoped the visit will take place this year.

The doors of friendship of the Soviet Union are always open to India. The relations which the land of socialism, of the building of communism, seeks are relations of equality, of brothers and comrades in humanity's quest for peace and happiness.

Mark the contrast with the attitude which the US-British imperialists adopt towards India.

Our delegations will receive friendship and willing assistance and cooperation—all that the Soviet Union can offer. There will be no conditions attached, no umbrellas, no blackmail, no prisoners—as with US "aid".

To our exhibition in Moscow will come hundreds of thousands of happy and gay Soviet citizens, who will study with fraternal interest, everything we have to show them. And each pair of Soviet eyes that looks on Indian products will be the eyes of a friend.

After the humiliation of Washington and London, the despicable fawning and kowtowing to the dollar and the pound by our begging missions—we shall be able at last to lift up our eyes and our heads and be proud that we have the friendship of the Soviet Union and its cooperation on the firm basis of equality. (9 July)

# WHISPERING GALLERY

## Pimping For Voice Of America

THE Indian Government has taken to pimping for the notorious Voice of America.

We have acquired a powerful transmitter for a crore of rupees from the Yankees in return for relaying the Voice of America broadcasts from Calcutta at least for three hours a day.

Only recently a self-respecting country like Ceylon stopped such touting. We seem to be prepared to take on any one and do his bidding provided he has a pocketful of dollars.

Hereafter we will compete with Manila in putting across in India and the whole of Southeast Asia how wonderful the American way of life is and how nicely, for instance, the Negroes are treated there.

## UMBRELLA REVAMPED

AND now this is not the only thing one is ashamed of these days. Take the question of our Foreign Secretary, M. J. DESAI.

Before he went to Japan the Marwadi press had been regaling us with stories that he was going to get us some sorely-needed radar equipment for our Himalayan defence.

But all these were just baloney. Desai, to the utter shame of India, had a free ride. He had a free ticket from the Japan Airlines.

When he got the free passage the obliging newsmen made up the rest for him. His jaunt was made into a mission. Anything can be written up in the jute press for a couple of beers these days.

## GENERAL'S BRIEFING

LET us leave Desai alone. Army Chief of Staff, Lt.-Gen. J. N. CHAUDHURI, briefed pressmen on Tuesday about his visit to the United States. A good thing, indeed!

But he met the pressmen in two batches: Indian and American.

We were told that the "natives" were asked not to report what he said but the Yankees were permitted to write what he said provided they did not attribute it to himself. Is this true General Saheb?

Again, General, did you tell the Americans exclusively that India committed a mistake in protesting against the establishment of a post by the Chinese at Depsang-la.

Readers will recall that the External Affairs Ministry strongly protested—and rightly—the establishment

of a Chinese checkpost at Depsang-la blocking our route to Daulat Beg Oldi which lies in the northern extremity of Ladakh.

According to our report, Chaudhuri Saheb told American newsmen that the Chinese did establish a post there, but on a fuller consideration of the map it was found that the location was on the Chinese side.

Now the Americans have written home about this faux-pas but why were the Indian counterparts kept in the dark about it?

We can get any amount of American aid for specific purposes but certainly we need not be so vulgarly servile to the Americans on our own soil!

## THE air-umbrella

wallahs are up to their tricks again. Top American diplomats in Delhi are going about saying that India was going to yield by this week end.

Indian correspondents in Washington are once again pressed into service to pressurise public opinion in this country to seek its protection.

VOHRA of the TIMES OF INDIA says that the joint exercise is going to begin in September. Mark the word "joint."

It is well known that the exercise, as suggested by the West, is to be undertaken by supersonic planes. And it is equally well known that India has none; it has only sub-sonic planes.

What then is the meaning of joint air exercise in India? Such a thing can be understood if the West provides India with supersonic planes and Indian pilots fly by the side of their Western counterparts. But they are not doing that.

Nehru has made clear more than once that India was not going to accept this proposal. The Indian people certainly are not going to mortgage their hard-won freedom for this military clap-trap.

Pressuring India once again in spite of its known position seems to have a deeper motivation. The timing is significant.

It is another round of blackmail that is started now. The Yankees are upset about the proposed arms mission to Moscow. Anything to stop it is worth the effort. With the umbrella, so much the cheaper!

—Vijayan

# Sign the Great Petition

## 90,000 Signatures Already Collected

### Wide Response To Petition Movement

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

BOMBAY, 7 July: Immediately after the meeting of the Maharashtra State Council of the CPI, the district, taluk and local units of the Party have held their meetings and chalked out a programme for the collection of signatures to the Great Petition to Parliament. The response among all sections of people has been tremendous.

THE Kolhapur District Council of the Party, which met recently, decided to collect one lakh signatures to the Great Petition and planned to send over a hundred volunteers to participate in the March to Delhi. The Singli District Council has planned a round of campaign meetings throughout the districts which will be addressed among others by Nana Patil and S. G. Sardesai. In Karhad Taluka, the Party Committee had taken a quota of 25,000 signatures and in three days, thousands of signatures were collected. The Party unit in Achalpur

In this, of course, the working class areas are in the lead. Comrades in the Sewri area have taken a quota of 50,000 signatures. While comrades in Lalbaug will be collecting a minimum of 30,000 signatures on the petition, Chorupden unit will secure over 30,000 signatures. Notable among the other areas are Dellele Road—25,000, Chembur—25,000, Bandra Khar—10,000 etc.

The response among the middle class and other sections of the people also is not lacking. The Girgaum comrades have taken a quota of 4,000. In Kalbadevi area—a predominantly business locality inhabited by the members of the Gujerati community, a few Party comrades who went round on 5 July, were able to collect over 700 signatures within a short time.

Of the signatures collected so far, over 25,000 have been collected by the Bombay Girni Kamgar Union. Signatures are being collected at the various mill-gates and in the chawls inhabited by the mill workers. So enthusiastic has been the response of the workers that in the Swan Mills which has a complement of 2,000 workers, 1200 signed the Petition within two days.



Similarly in the China Mills 1,000 out of a total of 1,800 workers signed the petition form in no time.

In Worli-Koliwada, Party workers have opened a booth for collecting signatures and always people are found queuing up to sign the great Petition.

The campaign is not restricted only to Party workers and sympathisers. In Chembur, a meeting was held on 30 June which was attended by over 100 prominent people of the area belonging to almost all political parties. They set up an organising committee which will collect signatures for the Great Petition and also arrange to send volunteers to Delhi to participate in the March.

In the midst of this Petition campaign the announcement came that government has withdrawn the "A" form which workers were asked to sign, giving their consent to the CDS-ents from their salary.

Workers took it as their first victory in the campaign for withdrawal of the CDS.

S. G. Pather, general secretary of the Workers' Action Committee in a statement has called upon the workers to intensify their campaign so that the government is ultimately compelled to withdraw the scheme altogether.

And in spite of the demand of the HMS for withdrawal of CDS, a few leading workers of the Tram Mazdoor Panchayat affiliated to HMS did their worst to dissuade the workers to ignore the AITUC-affiliated Tramway Workers' Union's call for one day pay boycott. But they found themselves completely isolated, even their own members disobeying their mandate.

In the coming week the entire body of 10,000 tram workers, including the pay clerks themselves, will follow the Nonapukur example.

## W. Bengal Party Units Move Into Action

CALCUTTA, 9 July: Work has begun on the Great Petition to Parliament. The West Bengal POC has issued a circular explaining the call of the Central Secretariat of the CPI.

DIFFERENT DCs have met to discuss it. In Calcutta already nearly a thousand forms have been distributed and signature collection has begun. Local committee and local general body meetings have started to discuss the political aspect of the petition and to work out details of the campaign.

The Khidderpur local committee in Calcutta has taken a quota of 18,000 signatures at a general body meeting of the members of the area.

Regional general body meetings to cover the whole of Calcutta have been planned upto 15 July. A meeting of the members of the state council, district secretariats and the editorial board of Swadhinata has been convened by POC on 14 July to work out the details of the campaign.

On the same day and the day next, the pay days in Calcutta Chemical Company, nearly a thousand workers refused to accept the reduced pay packet for the day. 1,400 workers of the Nonapukur Workshop of the Calcutta Tramways boycotted pay for a day on 6 July in accordance to a decision of a general body meeting of the workers held on 4 July. The Pay Clerks of the company arrived at the workshop as usual from the Head Office, but not a single worker approached them for payment.

## WEST BENGAL INTUC OPPOSES CDS

CALCUTTA, 8 July: The West Bengal unit of the INTUC, in contravention of the stand of its all-India body has come out openly against the Compulsory Deposits Scheme, reports INDIA-PRESS AGENCY.

REPRESENTATIVES of the INTUC, AITUC, HMS and UTUC in West Bengal met Bejoy Singh Nahar, the State Labour Minister, on 5 July and are understood to have told him that after the taxes that had been imposed on the people and with the spiralling prices, the workers were not prepared to put up with the Compulsory Deposits Scheme.

While the AITUC has urged the total withdrawal of the scheme, others have suggested that alternatives to the scheme should be worked out. One such alternative proposed is that contribution to the Provident Fund both by workers and employers be enhanced which would help to swell savings considerably.

The change in the INTUC's attitude is attributed to the strong sentiment among the workers against the scheme. Active resistance to the scheme from sections of the workers is reported to have started already.



—Courtesy Shankar's Weekly

# Join the March to Delhi



# NATION *By Vigilante*

## CAPITAL CRIME

THE Capital's crimes and thefts with a capital C. The increase in crimes in Delhi over the year is alarming to its citizens but not to the authorities directly concerned with it.

To them it would appear the crime figures in the Capital have lost all significance. Otherwise there is no reason why the police should now claim that it has checked the incidence of crime in the Capital.

The Inspector-General of Police is stated to have said in a report that cases of heinous crimes in Delhi have shown a downward trend. Naturally credit is claimed for the police which have been taking special measures to check crime.

But figures given by him have a different story to tell. During the period May 1962 to April 1963 there has been an increase in reports of robberies, kidnapping, burglaries and thefts. There were 53 murders in the same period. The number of undetected thefts and burglaries had gone up to 6,513 and 1,113 respectively.

The record of the Delhi police in the detection and checking of crime has been anything but good. Now and then the deteriorating law and order situation in the Capital is brought up by a member in Parliament or newspapers focus attention on it when some particularly gruesome tale of murder or kidnapping or theft breaks out. Authority then makes some admissions and promises for better performance but then relapses into the same old apathy and inefficiency.

About a year ago, on 21 August 1962 the late E. N. Datar told the Lok Sabha in answer to a question: "There has been some increase in the number of murders and in total cognizable crime in the present year as compared with the corresponding period of last year".

And he gave these figures—155 murders and 100 attempts to murder and murderous assaults in a period of two and half years, from January 1960 to August 1962, in Delhi.

Some more figures he gave to Parliament the same day in reply to another question contained even more revealing facts. During the first seven and half months of 1961 there were 5,982 crimes in the Capital including 3,556 thefts, 633 burglaries, 59 kidnappings and 31 murders. During the same period in 1962 there were 7,866 crimes including 4,733 thefts, 937 burglaries, 82 kidnappings and 42 murders.

Now the Inspector-General's report says that there were 39 robberies, 143 kid-

nappings, 1,503 burglaries and 8,297 thefts in the Capital during May 1962 to April 1963. Some of these figures may overlap, but the pattern is quite clear. We have to count Delhi's crimes in thousands and before long it may hit six digits.

The citizen has no choice except to trust his fate and hope for the best. The latest reports show that even the dead are not left alone; stealing of tombstones has become a big business in Delhi's underworld. And what of the many unreported—nevertheless existent—vice, smuggling and sex scandals in the more fashionable life of New Delhi? Of course, these have patrons to protect.

The dark spots of Delhi are fast becoming comparable to any in the worst of world's cities. The maladjustments in society, the influx of teddy-boy culture from the West and a corrupt, inefficient police machinery combine to produce the crime complex of this Capital city.

## BIRD & CO'S NEW HAND

THE practice of retirement officials taking up jobs in private firms having dealings with government has been commented upon in these columns previously. The blatant manner in which this system works to corrupt the administration is further highlighted by a report from West Bengal.

One A. M. Joshi who was the Regional Labour Commissioner (Implementation), Dhanbad, has resigned his job under the Central Government and joined Messrs Bird & Co. as their Senior Labour Advisor. He is understood to be getting Rs. 3,000 per month plus other allowances.

The British firm of Bird & Co. is at present under a cloud and the police had searched its premises and seized records. There have been reports to the effect that charges might be brought against the company for underinvoicing and indulging in foreign exchange violations.

That at such a time this Regional Labour Commissioner should give up his government job and join Bird & Co. is itself significant. But that apart, what is more serious is the fact that Bird & Co. has earned notoriety in labour circles for violation of labour laws and particularly the workers in the collieries owned by the company had their bitter experience in the matter.

Now the officer who was responsible for enforcing the labour laws himself has gone and joined the management. Naturally,

there is apprehension among colliery workers that he will use his influence in the Labour Department against the interests of workers.

And what is the past record of this man Joshi? Suffice to quote here a paragraph from a statement issued by the Organising Secretary of the Colliery Mazdoor Sabha, Asansol on the incident.

"In the past few years there have been many complaints about Shri Joshi from the unions and allegations were made about his pro-employer bias and intimate connections with the colliery owners. The government ignored these complaints and he was even tipped for a high post in the National Coal Development Corporation".

Could there be a worse comment on the personnel and working of the Labour Department?

## S.K. DEY AND PANCHAYATS

ONLY a fortnight ago I commented on the sad plight of panchayats in the country, the anti-path of officialdom to this local self-government at village level. Then the news was about police obstructing the work of panchayats in Bihar.

Now the Union Minister of Community Development, S. K. Dey himself has stated that official agencies are acting against panchayati raj. He is reported to have said in Chandigarh on Monday that the police and revenue officials who used to rule the countryside in Punjab have not taken kindly to panchayats.

According to the correspondent of HINDUSTAN TIMES, Dey said: "I am unhappy to see that quite a number of agencies did not share the enthusiasm which this progressive measure of democracy had ushered in at the will of Parliament".

The Minister's admission comes at a time when the Diwaker Committee is reported to have submitted its recommendations on giving more powers to panchayats, after a year's labour and much touring of the country.

With the Minister himself admitting bureaucracy's opposition to panchayats and a lot of taxpayer's money spent on committee investigations, one would at least expect that the government would take a more serious view of the problem.

But the way the Congress bosses and ministers in the states are using local bodies for political purposes and group fights, there is little room for hope that any serious attempt will be made to give panchayats the necessary independence and powers.

The UP row over Zila Parishads should illustrate the point.

# E. M. C. Workers' Strike Continues

★ From Naren Guha

CALCUTTA, 8 July: Since 10 June the workers of Electrical Manufacturing Company, Dum Dum, are on strike. Attempts to induce the management to settle the dispute have so far failed.

THE adamant attitude of the management to settle the dispute is hampering defence efforts because the factory supplies materials needed for defence purposes.

Taking into account the attitude of the management and the inability of the West Bengal Labour Directorate to resolve the situation, the EMC Mazdoor Union has called upon the Government of India to take over the company.

It may be mentioned that the Government of West Bengal so far has not agreed to a suggestion of using Defence of India Rules to force the recalcitrant management to accept the demands of the workers as was done by the Punjab Government a few days back in the strike of textile workers at Bhiwani.

It is worth noting that the EMC Workers Union, before going on strike wrote to the Director-General of Ordnance Factories that though the workers would be resorting to strike, they would be always available for defence work under the direct control and supervision of the Ministry of Defence.

## Meeting Defence Needs

The union emphasised the fact that the machineries of the factory can be utilised wholly for defence purposes, particularly for manufacturing aircraft parts and frames.

A few days ago, the workers of EMC responded to the call of the union for helping the Ordnance Depot by supplying some materials, as requested by the Director-General of Ordnance.

Workers of various engi-

neering factories in West Bengal have expressed their solidarity with the EMC strikers. A trade union convention in Calcutta on 22 June, attended by representatives of more than 50 trade unions assured the EMC workers of their support.

## Appeal To Prime Minister

Md. Elias MP, on behalf of the union solicited an interview with Prime Minister Nehru during his recent visit to Calcutta. The Prime Minister could not meet the deputations personally due to pressing engagements and hence a memorandum was sent to him. Earlier, the Prime Minister had written to Md. Elias that the representation which he had made on behalf of the EMC workers, has been forwarded by him to the Defence Ministry for their consideration.

The dispute of the workers with the management is an old one over questions of proper scales, dearness allowance, house rents etc. Negotiations were going on for a long time and just before signing of the agreed decisions, fixed for 19 September 1962, the management declined to sit for the final meeting.

The union decided to take the course of a strike action but deferred it in view of the tense situation that developed following the Chinese attack and dedicated themselves fully for defence production and contributions of money and blood.

After the situation eased, the union again sought the help of the West Bengal Labour Directorate to settle the issue but no positive result could be had.

## AJOY GHOSH MEMORIAL FUND

A young man came to the office a few days ago and asked: "When will the building be ready?" and contributed Rs. 20. As I said before, it will take some time for the construction of the building to be taken up. The architects have the matter in hand and when the Municipal Corporation approves of the plan, the construction will begin.



Among the other contributions received this week are the following: C. N. Rao from Bombay Rs. 10; Ugrappa of the Mysore Party Committee has collected and sent Rs. 15; G. H. Rama Rao Rs. 10 and Thimagaowda Rs. 5.

Have you sent your collection with your own contribution? If not, send it immediately to: S. V. Ghate, Ajoy Ghosh Memorial Fund, 7/4 Asaf Ali Road, New Delhi-1, 10 July.

The call of the CPI for the Great Petition campaign to Parliament against high prices, heavy tax burdens and for cancellation of compulsory deposit scheme, and nationalisation of banks, foreign trade, oil etc., is not only correct but timely.

IT serves not only economic interests of the masses but also the political aspiration of the country as a whole, as it hits at the very basis of interest, and outlook that guide the government to the above mentioned anti-peoples policy.

The same interest and outlook that leads the government to taxation measure also compels it to run to various capitals of capitalist countries with begging bowls in hand. The number of taxation measures perhaps quite tallies with the missions we have sent abroad specially to USA for aid.

By high prices and heavy taxation it is dooming the masses to utter privation and misery and on the other hand by seeking foreign aid at a high price it is pledging the basic interest of the country to both economic and political, —the monopolist creditors.

By planning and development it puts forth a lofty objective to make our people contented and happy, and to make the country free from the stranglehold of the monopolists. But at present just the opposite is happening.

Instead of contentment discontent is growing, instead of independence we are more and more entering the trap of the monopolists. If this development is not checked here and now, the consequence would be disastrous for the country. This campaign is also a fight against that trend.

The Right reactionaries, both inside and outside the government, do not allow the government to nationalise strategic industries and to bring out hoarded gold and money for national defence and development, and on the other hand openly campaign for free enterprise in economic field, and increasingly campaign against the policy of nonalignment and for Western alliance.

The growth of Right reaction, no doubt, besides the Chinese aggression, is the result of the economic policy pursued by the Congress in tackling the basic problems. This affects the life of the people—food, prices, production, taxation etc., not contrary to the fundamental interests of the monopolists and feudalists. How these problems have been manifested and how the present policy of government hits the people and to what extent, can be seen from the concrete example of Orissa.

## Taxable Capacity

As regards the taxable capacity of Orissa, the government is not sure of its ground. The Orissa Taxation Enquiry Committee headed by an eminent economist, Lokanathan, could not give a categorical answer to this question. It tried to confuse the issue as it could not establish by facts the capacity of the people to bear further tax burden. The report given in 1960 says:

"We have no precise information about people's income in Orissa as well as other facts. It is difficult to determine the relative taxable capacity of the people in the state vis-a-vis, those of other states. It is also difficult to compute the

effect of public expenditure on individuals or a class of people in precise manner so as to identify the increase in taxable capacity of individuals or a group in question. Determination of either relative or absolute taxable capacity in precise terms is thus a difficult proposition in present state of our knowledge."

Though the "present state of knowledge" does not provide any fact in favour of enhancing the tax burden yet as the main purpose is to further the taxation so it "lameyly concludes"—"the scope of additional taxation does not seem to have exhausted."

The reason given for this enhancement is the "low level of taxation, compared to other states and rising tempo of the public expenditure devoted to economic development."

Thus it fails to substantiate its suggestion with any concrete facts that necessitate the increase such as—rise in income, more production, and better standard of living and people's capacity to pay etc. Though it fails to mention the amount of benefits that accrue to each economic group and its extent and how far people are able to bear a further load of taxation, it pleads for enhancement of taxes without fixing any limit.

## Taxation Unequal And Unjust

Secondly, how the present taxation measures are unequal and unjust can be seen from the following table:

Expenditure Group	Tax as per-Average percentage of consumption		Prosperity to save		Tax percentage of Income.	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
1-50	1.9	3.6	—	—	1.9	3.6
51-100	2.2	4.1	—	—	2.2	4.1
101-150	2.7	4.3	—	—	2.7	4.3
151-300	3.3	4.7	7	7	3.1	4.3
301-500	3.0	5.7	12	10	2.7	3.2
501-1000	2.8	8.2	25	20	2.3	6.8
1000-and above	2.6	14.6	35	25	1.9	11.7
All groups.	2.6	5.8	5	11	2.5	5.2

(Source: Orissa Family Budget Survey and National Council of Applied Economics and Research)

Though the above chart is of 1960 and the present high price and heavy taxes are not reflected in it, still it clearly shows the trend of development.

The above table is self-explanatory. Orissa is an agricultural state. Majority consists of such people and major income comes from rural sector. The rural expenditure group, earning more than Rs. 500 a month, pay less tax in comparison to the group with an income of Rs. 150-Rs. 300. This means tax burden on middle class is more than on the rich. Secondly, a family having an income of Re. 1 to Rs. 80 pay 1.9 per cent as tax which is equal to the group with an income of Rs. 1000 and more.

That means, that the rate of taxation on agricultural labour is equal to that of Rajas and zamindars. It proves beyond doubt that it is the poor and middle classes, who sacrifice more and bear the main burden of development and defence, in comparison to peo-

# CAN ORISSA BEAR MORE TAX BURDEN?

ple with ample resources and capacity to pay.

## Capacity To Save

The above table also gives an idea about people's capacity to save. It shows that the first three income groups could not save at all. Besides, for the next two income groups, the capacity to save is very meagre, that also is likely to be wiped out in case of natural calamity, drought and flood. In this background, with present high prices and taxation how far and to what extent saving would be possible is a matter to be considered.

The questions of price, tax and saving are interlinked. Heavier the tax, more is the price, and both of these lead to less saving or no saving at all, rather it becomes an unbearable burden and hardship. But at present the government has employed all these weapons against the people simultaneously. Let us see how the compulsory saving affects the people and with what result.

Saving becomes capital when invested. In economy, most of the agriculturists invest their savings in land and in most cases lack of capital investment is the main drawback for the agricultural development. Below we give data on capital formation in the rural sector, from the

Size of Holding	Actual cost		Visible Payment		Yield in Cash in kind	
	Rs.	pF.	Rs.	pF.	Rs.	pF.
Less than an acre	99.73	62.03	33.11	75.49	11.57	
1-1.99	75.90	48.32	24.07	63.41	10.57	
2-2.99	69.31	46.84	22.63	62.03	9.90	
3-3.99	62.52	42.65	21.77	58.13	9.26	
4-4.99	54.65	37.13	18.40	52.40	8.89	
5-9.99	51.55	38.04	21.50	49.60	8.50	
10-14.99	49.79	41.48	26.51	49.15	8.09	
15-24.99	47.63	41.80	28.35	49.03	8.56	
25-49.99	34.34	30.21	18.73	43.55	7.37	
50 and above	35.06	32.13	22.38	50.41	—	
Total	53.12	40.19	23.28	52.03	8.75	

(Source: Economic Survey of Orissa, by Dr. S. Mishra)

In this period of high prices and taxation, if one has to pay for compulsory saving, he has to cut down his investment or incur a further loan if he can. The very people who have invested in production would be forced to

Size of Holding	Income		Investment		Disinvestment		Loan per family
	Rs.	pF.	Rs.	pF.	Rs.	pF.	
Less than one acre	271.02	2.21	2.29	—	3	47.10	
1-1.99	266.06	4.87	4.36	—	57	38.37	
2-2.99	288.69	8.08	7.64	—	44	45.97	
3-3.99	336.44	5.64	5.67	—	57	51.57	
4-4.99	362.94	8.17	11.64	—	3.47	54.93	
5-9.99	446.19	12.00	9.43	—	3.43	65.73	
10-14.99	629.07	19.99	23.94	—	3.95	134.12	
15-24.99	939.74	16.83	14.04	—	2.79	122.39	
25-49.99	1221.45	49.65	12.70	—	36.95	92.70	
50 and above	1792.95	18.00	19.28	—	1.28	75.97	

(Only the loan per holding as given by the same survey has been put here and the rest has been worked out)

The compulsory saving exempts people paying land revenue upto Rs. 5. In Orissa the

average rate of land revenue is Rs. 3 per acre. Hence, the second holding group, 1-1.99 is exempted; others have to pay bulk of their land revenue as compulsory saving.

The facts clearly show that in most of the cases, capital formation is nil or negligible. For whole of Orissa, capital formation in land by an agriculturist family amounts to 2.11 per cent of annual earnings 0.8 per cent of their earnings is utilised in other investments. Therefore total investment is 2.91 per cent. It would be seen that poor and lower middle class peasants are unable to invest. It

production itself? Secondly, income from agriculture depends more on nature than on man. A slight natural calamity is enough to shake the peasant and to ruin him, and such calamities are regular visitors to the holy land of Orissa.

## ★ BY GURUCHARAN PATNAIK

from high food prices. The poorer section has to sell the food grains at cheap prices as soon as harvest is over and again they purchase the same at higher prices afterwards. Hence, they do not gain, they are rather cheated.

Along with that if one looks to the loan that each holding group incurs, the matter would be astounding. Of course, some upper class rich peasants incur loans for some other purposes, besides agricultural investment. While in cases of other income groups most of the loans are for production and consumption.

If one looks into the rate of production per acre according to the size of holdings, it is proved beyond doubt, that the poor and middle peasants are the main producers. They produce more and live on the verge of ruin.

Before looking into the matter, let us quote the conclusion of the above table as analysed by the Economic Survey.

"It will be noticed from the above table that the actual cost per acre of land under rice goes on diminishing as the size of unit of cultivation increases. This is very significant finding. The petty farmer struggling with a tiny bit of land less than one acre in size bears a cost of production about Rs. 100.00, whereas farmers with 50 acres and above in size bear a cost of Rs. 35.00. The ratio is about three to one. It is true the average small farmer cultivating less than one acre gets a yield worth Rs. 75.00 as against a large farmer owning 50 acres or more whose yield is worth Rs. 50.00. The relative difference in respect of yield is one and half to one. This clearly demonstrates that the small tiller struggles with his economic holding. It will be noted from the table that a farm does not pay its

hand over their capital to the government for saving. Will not that effect the

★ OVERLEAF



## Nomination Of U.P. Zila Parishad Chairmen

# HIGH COURT CRITICISES HIGH-HANDED MOVE

★ FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

In his order admitting the writ petitions against the U.P. government's nomination of the Chairmen of the Zila Parishads, JUSTICE SAHAI of the Allahabad High Court said that no party was entitled to take advantage of its own laches (negligence).

THE clear implication was that the dominant Congress group which controls the government in Uttar Pradesh was trying to utilise its own failure to issue the necessary notification creating the Zila Parishads for installing its own henchmen as bosses of the Parishads.

What the Gupta group had attempted to pull off had no parallel in its utter shamelessness. It was reducing to a hoar

the so-called decentralisation of democracy that was supposed to be achieved by the coming into being of the Zila Parishads. The entire process of election was sought to be bypassed, just because the government itself had failed to issue the notification it was obliged to issue under law.

Simultaneously with the issue of an extraordinary gazette on a Sunday nominating its own group

people as chairmen of the Zila Parishads, the Gupta group's spokesman, Chief Whip of the Congress Legislature Party Banarsi Das declared that the government had made the nominations on the basis of merits of persons, who "commanded an absolute majority and carried out the wishes of the electorate." A petty Huler in his own way, the Chief Whip knew without an election having taken place as to who "commanded an absolute majority."

### No Obligation To Consult PCC

Banarsi Das further declared that the ministerial wing was under no obligation to consult the organisational wing of the party. He said, "the government does not take orders from the party

in its day-to-day matters of administration."

The appointment of Chairmen of Zila Parishads by a government fiat is a matter of day-to-day administration according to this wise man. The nominations, according to him, had been made on the basis of consultations among three people: the Chief Minister, the Minister for Community Development (Sucheta Kripalani) and himself (the Chief Whip).

By now the High Court has suspended most of the nominees of the government and restrained them from functioning as Zila Parishad chairmen, asking the District Magistrates to take over their functions for the time being.

Hearing the first writ petition on a Sunday (30 June) at his residence Justice Sahai said that normally he was reluctant to enter-

tain a writ petition during the vacation. He said he was all the more reluctant to entertain such a writ petition on his residence on Sunday, but in the circumstances and on the basis of allegations made and affidavits filed he declared that he was satisfied that he should depart from the rule.

### Neither Just Nor Fair

To do otherwise, he said, would be to allow the state government to create a situation which was neither just nor fair and which would result in gross injustice being done to the petitioners and in giving undue advantage to the nominees of the Congress Parliamentary Board specially of the Gupta group.

In course of his order the learned judge said *inter alia*, that as he saw the undertaking (given by the U.P. Government to the High Court on 28 June) the idea clearly was to maintain the status quo and not to fill in the posts of the chairmen by the Congress candidates even without contesting the election. Under the circumstances, in his opinion, a *prima facie* case had been made out for the admission of the petitions and they were accordingly admitted.

12 July has been fixed for the final disposal of the case.

## ORISSA'S ECONOMIC SITUATION

★ FROM OVERLEAF

way until it reached the size of 15 acres. Exceedingly small farms of less than three acres are so uneconomic that the cultivator sticks to it only because he has scarcely anything else to turn to and he has adopted it as a way of life.

"So far as farms varying from 4 to 15 acres are concerned, the yield may be taken as just covering the cost of cultivation leaving no margin for supervision or profits. It has been shown earlier that 36 per cent of the total holdings covering 7.3 per cent of the area under cultivation are divided into farms of less than two acres in size. On the basis of the information given in the table above all this area constitutes a highly uneconomic portion of the area under cultivation in the state.

"It has also been shown that 94 per cent of holdings constituting 69 per cent of total cultivated area come under farms of less than 15 acres in size. It is clear, therefore, that only 4 per cent of the holdings forming 31 per cent of the area under cultivation yield some profit to the farmer. Since such large farms in the state are few and far between, agricultural farming is in chronic state of inefficiency where the calculus of cost and return scarcely operates."

Thus there is little to add on to the above conclusions. It is the poor and middle peasants on whose sacrifice and production Orissa feeds itself and its neighbouring state. As most of the holdings are uneconomic, it is fair to exempt land tax on these holdings for social justice and more production. This was an age old demand of the people from 1936. It also debunks the theory propagated by the enemies of land reform that the distribution of surplus land will hamper production. Rather it doubly proves the urgency and necessity of a radical land reform in view of the chronic food crisis in

India. It also shows that if there would have been real land reform, even without spending crores of rupees as now being spent on agricultural development whose result is most insignificant, there would have been a tremendous increase in food production; as a consequence there would have been little necessity for Patil to pray for PL 480 before USA and force India to pay Rs. 140 crores annually and at the same time allow American monopolists to intrude into our economic and political life.

The same outlook and interest that does not touch the landed aristocracy at home, leads government to Washington for food. This and appeasement of vested interests and monopolists are only two sides of the same coin.

So in these conditions, any further burden on peasants would be the last straw on the camel's back.

Even the rice production in Orissa does not justify any further burden, on any plea. According to the government statistics the rice production in Orissa is falling:

Years	Tons
1960-1961	36,71,000
1961-1962	36,39,000
1962-1963	35,61,000*

(\*Estimate. But revenue department says 33,00,000 tons only.)

Thus considering from the point of view of taxable capacity, saving and capital formation, uneconomic holdings, falling production, and lastly unequal and unjust taxation measures, any further tax burden, compulsory saving and high prices are not only unjustified but will adversely affect production itself.

The fight against it and for the nationalisation of strategic industries and trade etc. is the only way out for our national development, defence, and for strengthening our independence—the supreme need of the hour.

## Spotlight

BY GARUDA

# POOR APOLOGISTS

IT was purely accidental that the exploits of the Soviet heroine VALENTINA TERESHKOVA and the British Nayika CHRISTINE KEELER hit the headlines at about the same time.

But it impelled people to compare the two social systems whose respective products Tereshkova and Keeler are. This has irked those whose profession is to pipe anti-Socialist tunes. FAIZBAZAR THOUGHT has felt hurt by the inevitable comparison. It has complained that its "garden of roses for Tereshkova got withered in its hands due to this canker."

Another of the company, RSS-Jan Sangh mouthpiece ORGANISER is also offended. It has tried to throw stones at Soviet women alleging that they move about in parties "in various states of undress."

Both, however, have proved poor apologists of degenerate capitalism. One can only pity their predicament. Tereshkova's feat has so well proved the superiority of socialist society that defenders of the so-called "free world" are left with no alternative except either to complain or curse.

I can present them with a couple of facts if that will soothe their shattered nerves. The "Free World" has not trained a single woman cosmonaut so far while it cultivates Keelers by the thousands.

Secondly—the RSS does not admit women in its ranks.

**CAUGHT RED-HANDED TALKING** of the THOUGHT, it claims to be very well informed

about "inside doings" in CPL. It has produced a report on the Party's National Council meeting which concluded on 3 July in its issue dated 6 July. In this report one finds such delectable material as the following:

"Dange refused to accept the suggestion of Messrs. A. K. Gopalan and E. M. S. to launch popular agitation against the Nehru government."

"During the discussion on the political resolution, Gopalan and E. M. S. are believed to have asked the National Council to urge the government to accept the Chinese suggestion of direct negotiation."

"The joint report of Messrs. Bhupesh Gupta and Yogindra Sharma was hotly contested by Messrs. Gopalan, E. M. S. and Dinkar Mehta."

And so on.

The dictionary has a very fine phrase for this kind of reporting—concocting cock and bull stories.

That is what THOUGHT has been doing. It has been telling "downright lies to its readers."

Unfortunately for it, it has been caught in the act.

E.M.S., as was correctly reported in the daily press, could not attend this meeting of the National Council.

**MONEY FOR CALUMNY** COMMUNIATING the Communist Party can be good business. The disreputable Bombay weekly CURRENT seems

to be minting money on it. Foreign and Indian profit-sharks are throwing silver coins into its coffers for carrying out this business.

This business seems to have one particular advantage. It fattens the purse as well as thickens the skin. So the CURRENT brazenly disclosed some weeks back that a bumper anti-Communist issue of it had been "sponsored by some advertisers."

And this week it has announced that a foreign firm, headquartered in Bombay, whose name is on the lips of many million Indians, sent us Rs. 3,600 extra for its advertising for the campaign against communism.

I think the Indian people, and the government, if its authorities be interested, have the right to know the name of the foreign firm which dabbles in Indian politics in this manner.

As for the CURRENT's journalistic ethics, (the less said about it the better), the appropriate body to deal with it was a strong Press Council if one ever came into existence.

Meanwhile, dear CURRENT editor, kindly give us more such information about your deals. The people will be most grateful.

### TAILPIECE

A headline in the RSS-Jan Sangh press—*Vinoba visits Nakoda Moscow but declines to visit Dakhneswar.*

Deserves the same fate as his master, eh?

# THESE FLOWERS OF IRAQ . . .

★ BY THE EDITOR

MY pen is dipped in the angry tears of the hate and horror which grips my soul. . . Three weeks ago, I wrote of the sentence of death which hangs over the heads of three brave Iraqi women. . . languishing in the hell-holes which are Iraq's prisons today.

I said then: Learn these beautiful names by heart . . . for we have to fight to see that these remain the names of the living and not of the dead.

And I spelt out their names. . . Safira Jamil Hafez, Laila Ruhi, Zakiya Shakir. . .

And now there is one more name. . . Nargis El Saffar.

It is only now that I have heard the grim tale of the tortures to which these flowers of the working people of Iraq are subjected. . . And the tale is not yet complete. . .

But it is enough, enough to make the blood of every honest decent man and woman in any part of the world, boil with a wrath, which shall know no end, till Iraq's heroines have been rescued and their tormentors punished. . . Punished? No punishment can meet the ends of justice, so terrible are their crimes. . .

Listen, and if you are human and not beast, cry out aloud. . . don't be afraid of your tears, don't be ashamed of the pain in your heart. . .

Three times have the three heroines Safira, Laila and Zakiya been taken to the gallows and three times have the ropes been put round their necks. . . Oh! what fun it is for devils in human shape to play graves with the lives of their prisoners. . .

And each time, the courageous daughters of the Communist Party have not wavered,

have not flinched. . . though the tortures are driving them slowly mad. . .

This is not all. . . Into the cell of Safira, the brutes put the corpse of her executed, murdered husband, with his eyes gouged out and his body in pieces. . . And alone she was left locked with her dead husband, while the swines in uniform laughed outside. . .

Let our tears not dry on our cheeks. Let them become a flood of anger, which will tear down the bestial prison walls, which will nourish the flowers and keep them alive.

Let the world know that the conscience of Mother India is aroused. The nightmare in Iraq must be brought to an end. Storm the Iraqi Embassy in Delhi with your protest letters and resolutions. . .

# REGIME OF TERROR IN IRAQ

★ By Renu Chakravarty

On morning of 8 February 1963 it was known from an announcement made by Baghdad Radio that a number of army units supported by airforce and some armed gangs have successfully staged a coup d'etat.

THE black terror that has since accompanied the coup is however as yet little known. The gruesome atrocities were reported with tremendous emotion and force by TEHMINA ADIL, widow of the national hero of Iraq, SALAM ADIL (whose eyes were gouged out and who was tortured to death) to the huge gathering of women delegates assembled for the world Congress of Women held recently in Moscow.

It was stated, according to Western news agencies, that 5000 to 10000 people including women and children lost their lives. Armed groups of teenagers with green arm bands were, it is reported, roaming the streets of Baghdad and other leading cities of Iraq shooting and murdering people, and hacking death in every house.

### Attack Against Democracy

New laws have been rushed through providing for punishments right upto death sentences for membership in or support for, the Communist Party, the democratic youth or women's organisations, or for activities in the peace movement.

Starting from anti-communism, the campaign of persecution has been launched against all democratic national forces who oppose the authoritarian regime. Those victimised during the first week include a number of intellectual, university professors, liberal figures such as the industrialist leader of the National Progressive Party, MOHAMMAD HABIB.

Rihab Palace, the official headquarters of the overthrown Royal family has become a centre for the vilest crimes. Scores of women with their children are being tortured in the rooms of this palace.

It is here that outstanding leaders like Salam Adil, secretary of the Iraqi Communist Party and his two comrades, MOHAMMAD HUSSEIN ABO EL ISS and HASSAN VWAEIN were tortured to death without any open trial or legal help being made available to them by HAZEN JAWAD, a present minister of state of Baathist party. A few days prior to this crime, the prominent teacher and trade unionist METHI EL SHIEKH was killed in the presence of his fellow prisoners.

PEOPLE'S PUBLISHING HOUSE  
Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi 1.

There are at present hundreds of leaders of the national movement, prominent men of thought in fascist concentration camps and their fate is unknown. Even during the last week Baghdad Radio has announced the execution of more than 30 people.

What however shocks beyond description is the news of the inhuman treatment, sexual abuses, rape and killings of girls, women and children.

● NARGIS EL SAFFAR saw the young son of fifteen FADAL AL SAFFAR, tortured to death before her own eyes. Her backbone was broken as a result of torture.

● SAFIRA JAMIL HAFEZ, secretary of the Iraqi women's league was only a bride of four months when the coup took place and she was imprisoned. The body of her assassinated husband, with eyes torn out was thrown into her cell and left there for three days. She herself is condemned to death.

● ZAKIYA SHAKIR is one of the founders of the women's movement. She is mother of two children. She is being brutally tortured. And there is LAILA RUHI, a medical student also condemned to death.

Safira, Zakiya and Laila, it is reported, have been taken thrice to the gallows, the noose put round their neck and then brought back to their cells.

How much longer can sanity remain after such excruciating torture?

On 10 June, Baghdad Radio, announced a declaration of war against the Kurdish people in Iraqi Kurdistan. Two thirds of the Iraqi army has been thrown into this war in the hope of achieving quick victory with the help of British Hunter planes, tanks and heavy artillery, wiping out numberless villages with its inhabitants and murdering thousands of people including women and children.

In this background of mass annihilation contrary to all concepts of human rights, a resolution to stop genocide in Kurdistan is being brought by the Mongolian Peoples Republic before the United Nations General Assembly — India and all countries that stand for democracy and subscribe to the Declaration of Human Rights must support this move.



Top: Left—Safira Jamil Hafez, Right—Zakiya Shakir  
Below: Left—Nargis El Saffar, Right—Fadil Al Saffar

The International Red Cross has not been permitted to enter Iraq to investigate these charges. All delegations on a fact finding missions have been refused entry.

How can any one accept that the unleashing of this terror is motivated by self-defence? What is the crime committed by women and children, which warrants raping, or having the body of their dear ones disfigured and tortured, thrown into their cells?

Which international law permits committing such abominable crimes known only in the Dark Ages.

**Stop These Acts**

Men and women—all who have a human heart—must rise to stop these abominable acts. A signed picture postcard campaign saying "An end to tortures in Iraq: Freedom for Iraqi women" is being run by the

National Federation of Indian Women, protesting to the present Iraqi government. It should be supported in a big way. Let the stream of postcards become a deluge.

Our Prime Minister JAWAHARLAL NEHRU should use all his influence to cry halt to these inhuman tortures. President NASSER has already condemned the happenings in Kurdistan. Let our people request our Prime Minister also to move in the matter.

● Let the conscience of Mankind rise up to cry halt.

● Let the women of Iraq be freed, let there be an end to the tortures.

● Let an international commission enter Iraq to find out the truth. We cannot forget the tears of Tehmina Adil, and her sobbing echo in the hearts of every woman—We will not rest till our Iraqi sisters, their sons and husbands are freed and their sufferings are ended.



# PETITION MOVEMENT GATHERS MOMENTUM

## PATNA : MAMMOTH DEMONSTRATION

As the Compulsory Deposit Scheme came into effect on 1 July, Patna saw one of the biggest protest demonstrations in recent times making it quite clear to the authorities that the scheme was intensely disliked by the people and would be opposed.

ORGANISED by the Patna district executive committee of the Communist Party, the 1 July demonstration surpassed expectations. For the first time since emergency was declared, the streets of Patna were lined with hundreds of red flags. As the procession wound its way through the town, people lined up on both sides of the route and on house tops to cheer and encourage the demonstration.

Earlier small processions had come from different parts of the district to the city and converged in the big demonstration. The demonstration led by Gouri Shankar, secretary of the Patna district council of the Party went to the office of the District Magistrate and presented to him a memorandum for forwarding to the Central Government. Afterwards a public meeting was also held. Over five thousand people were present before the District Magistrate's office.

The decision to have a demonstration against the CDS on 1 July was taken at the meeting of the district executive of the Party held a fortnight earlier. The executive endorsed the quota of 50,000 signatures on the Great Petition and

to send volunteers to join the March to Delhi as fixed by the state secretariat. The entire Party machinery in the district has been geared for fulfilling the quota.

The annual general meetings of trade unions being held currently are all adopting resolutions against CDS and additional tax burdens. The Phulwari Sherif Suti Mill Mazdoor Union and Life Insurance Employees Association in their annual general meetings took decisions to collect signatures on the Great Petition. They demanded the withdrawal of banks, oil, foreign trade.

### VILLAGE MEETINGS

The local Party unit of Phulwari thana decided to organise village meetings to collect signatures on the Great Petition. Accordingly, Ram Narain Sinha, secretary of the local unit has already covered ten villages to explain the purpose of the campaign to the people. The response from the villagers has been very good.

Squads have also been organised to address street corner

meetings. These meetings have proved effective in the signature collection. In Patna town dozens of such meetings were held during a week.

General mass meetings are also being held to explain the significance of the Great Petition. On 29 June a meeting attended by over one thousand people was held in Chitkohara in the western part of Patna. Never has such enthusiasm been seen in that place before as on that day when people came eagerly to hear the speakers at the meeting. The meeting was addressed by Krishna Chandra, member of the state secretariat of the CPI, Taqi Raheem, Hazari Lal and Ram Narain Sinha. A similar meeting took place in the eastern part of the town also.

Following a decision by the district executive of the Party, booths for the collection of signatures have been set up in the town and elsewhere. Booths have been set up in all the courts in the district. In Patna, comrades have set up a booth in the district court and signatures are being collected from lawyers, mokhtars, clerks and peasants etc. who come to the court. On 2 July alone within two hours 300 signatures were collected in this booth.

At a meeting of the Dehri Thana Committee (Shahabad) of the CPI, on 29 June, decision was taken to collect 5,000 signatures on the Great Petition. Also it was decided to hold a series of village and town meetings and to organise a demonstration on 13 July before the office of the Block Development Officer. A jatha of minimum 25 demonstrators was also planned.

The Union government to withdraw the Compulsory Deposit Scheme as it will cause much hardship to workers who do not even earn enough to maintain their families in the present conditions of increasing cost of living.

The general secretary of the union, K. Seshagiri, has in a statement issued to the press pointed out that railway workers are not against saving. "But the point is—and it is unanswered—that even with fixed income and soaring prices, borrowing becomes necessary every month and with indebtedness growing, where is the question of saving?"

"In the majority of cases, this is true. If the idea is to 'save' a certain amount and then to add to that extent indebtedness, what is the point? It is for the government to answer this question."

The statement recalls the suggestions for alternative sources of revenue made by the annual conference of the Dakshin Railway Employees' Union held in Mysore in last May. The conference had suggested among others, the nationalisation of banks, oil and foreign trade.

## ANDHRA : WORKERS OPPOSE TAX BURDEN

Hotel workers of Secunderabd staged a huge demonstration on 4 July to demand the withdrawal of the Compulsory Deposit Scheme and additional tax burdens on the common people. The demonstration was led by the leaders of Hotel Kamgar Union.

THE hotel workers pledged support to the call of the AITUC to sign the Great Petition to Parliament and they demanded nationalisation of banks, oil and foreign trade. Addressing a meeting after the demonstration, Salam Shahidi general secretary of the union called for ending emergency in view of the changed situation in the country.

The meeting also adopted resolutions urging the government to release all political, trade union and kisan leaders detained under the DIR.

### Hyderabad

The Hyderabad Hotel Kamgar Union organised a

### Maharashtra

#### AMBAJOGAI TALUK TO COLLECT 10,000 SIGNATURES

THE Ambajogai taluk committee of the Communist Party has decided to collect 10,000 signatures on the Great Petition. For this, three centres at Ambajogai, Renapur and Parli-Vajinath will be opened.

The committee has also planned to organise group meetings and public meetings and to distribute handbills etc. for the mobilisation of people in the campaign.

#### JODHPUR : 20,000 SIGNATURES

The Jodhpur city committee of the Communist Party has set itself a target of 20,000 signatures on the Great Petition. Also volunteers will be sent to join the March to Delhi.

THE committee has worked out the plans for the preliminary stages of the campaign. The announcements about the targets for signature collection etc. were made recently at a largely attended workers meeting.

#### IMWF AGAINST CDS SCHEME

The Indian Mine Workers Federation has strongly protested against the Compulsory Deposit Scheme. In a letter to the Prime Minister, Kalyan Ray, general secretary of the Federation has said, "The Scheme will aggravate the extreme poverty among illiterate and backward miners, eighty per cent of whom today are heavily indebted to money lenders. This scheme will be disastrous to miners all over India." On the other hand, the letter points out, the scheme will open new ways to colliery owners to exploit miners and

### Hirakud

#### 500 WORKERS SIGN

THE annual conference of the Indian Aluminium Co. (Hirakud) Workers Union which was held on 30 June condemned the Compulsory Deposit Scheme and demanded its withdrawal.

The conference enthusiastically supported the proposal to present a Great Petition to Parliament and 500 workers signed the Petition on the spot.

The conference demanded nationalisation of banks, oil and foreign trade.

## ORISSA : SIGNATURE CAMPAIGN GROWING

CUTTACK, 1 July: The signature campaign for the Great Petition to Parliament has gained momentum in Orissa. Enthusiastic response to the call is evident from the fact that district committees and councils spontaneously met to take decision without even waiting for the directives of the state executive.

THE state executive met on 27 June to consider the call and take plans for the success of the campaign.

The executive committee welcomed the lead given by the central secretariat of the CPI in launching the signature campaign and preparing for a mass demonstration before Parliament against the rise of prices, increase in taxes and for demanding the nationalisation of banks, oil and foreign trade.

This is all the more necessary for Orissa since it is the

poorest state in India and the most tax-ridden state and the prices here are very high. The executive committee appealed to the people of Orissa to make the campaign a success irrespective of party views.

It decided to fulfil the quota of one lakh decided upon by the central secretariat. From the reports given at the meeting it was clear that the target will be overfulfilled.

The executive committee resolved that all Party members including the leadership would take part in the campaign. Records of all activities of Party units and individual members will be maintained so as to help select members to join the all-India march. No member will be represented in the all-India delegation if he does not himself collect at least 250 signatures and actively participate in the campaign.

Hectic activities have started in districts and leading centres. District secretaries and leading members are already moving in the districts.

The secretariat members have gone into districts and attending workers' meetings and conducting the drive.

Gurucharan Patnaik, the state secretary, has already addressed a gathering of 150 party workers in Ganjam where a decision was taken to collect one lakh signatures. He also attended a meeting of Party cadres in Kujang (Cuttack) near the Paradip Port where decisions were taken to approach all the villages of the area.

Ramkrishna Pati, member of the CEC of the Party addressed the meeting of Puri district council where it was decided to collect 46,000 signatures.

## BUS FARE AGITATION GROWS IN KERALA

TRIVANDRUM, 6 July: The agitation against increase in bus fare has become more intense and widespread during the week, with students and women joining the satyagraha and picketing the bus stands. People belonging to all parties, including Congress, and even pro-Congress newspapers, have come out urging government to re-examine the measure.



Satyagraha in front of Trivandrum bus stand on 5 July

## AMRITSAR TO COLLECT 1.5 LAKH SIGNATURES

The Amritsar district council of the Communist Party of India met on 30 June and decided to collect 1,50,000 signatures on the Great Petition to Parliament. The council wholeheartedly welcomed the call given by the national secretariat of the Petition and March to Delhi.

THE council decided to send five hundred people from Amritsar district to participate in the demonstration before Parliament. The council also chalked out a comprehensive programme to hold

meetings in each village in the district and at least ten conferences to popularise the Party's campaign against unjust tax burdens on the common people and to approach people for signatures on the Great Petition.

The council appealed to all workers, peasants, middle class people, mass organisations and public bodies in the district to come forward and join the campaign for the redressal of the immediate grievances of the people putting aside all other differences.

The Amritsar city committee of the Party held a meeting of Party members and sympathisers on the same day to launch the campaign for signatures. Over 250 activists from different walks of life turned up at the meeting.

Satyapal Dang, secretary of the city committee reported on the significance of the campaign and stressed the need to approach everyone like in an election campaign.

The People's Petition has ushered in a new life and regeneration in the Party and people.

As in all India sphere, so here also some cannot see eye to eye with this Petition drive. A daily paper the Matrubhumi, so called Independent opposition paper, has panicked at this campaign and editorially condemned the Party for this movement.

Despite the vile and intimidating campaign of the reactionaries, communalists and their newspapers as well as the inclement weather, the campaign is in full swing.

THE peaceful protest satyagraha initiated by the Communist Party on 1 July continued and gathered increasing support and encouragement from all sections of people. It has become the starting point in a widespread protest movement against the bus fare increase throughout the state. On the fifth day of the satyagraha, a batch of women volunteers picketed the State Transport Bus stand in Trivandrum.

Students had got their old concessional rates restored in the government transport system but the private bus operators in places like Trichur, Ernakulam and Kottayam refused to fall in line for the first four days and they had to face spontaneous mass picketing by students. In certain centres, the district officials intervened and attempted to persuade private bus operators also to grant 50 per cent concessions to students.

The students' demand is that private bus operators be directed by government to treat students in the same manner as in the government-owned transport. Students by their united and effective protest demonstrations were able to compel these operators either to fall in line with the government transport or to take off their vehicles from the roads. In these areas the movement has spread into the interior and taken on a mass character.

Hundreds of meetings are being held to protest against the bus fare increase. All the political parties of the opposition, the mass organisation of the trade unions, kisan sabhas and the student and youth bodies in the state, the Kisan Panchayat, the Peasant and Labour Party, many panchayat bodies and some municipal councils have protested against the fare increases and demanded reconsideration.

Prominent personalities of the ruling party like K. G. Karunakar Menon, MLA and P. C. Chertan have opined that the burden is unbearable for the common man and the question needs reconsideration. Congressmen dare not come out in justification of the increase after 1 July.

## BATANAGAR WORKERS OPPOSE CDS

A large gathering of Bata workers in a general meeting of Bata Mazdoor Union held on 23 June demanded immediate withdrawal of the Compulsory Deposit Scheme and the recently imposed additional tax burdens on the working people.

The meeting unanimously passed a resolution on the subject and declared firm support of workers to any programme the Union may decide to resist the CDS.

Aurobinda Ghosh, vice-president of the Union who presided over the meeting

Attempts of certain anti-Communist Congress leaders like the secretary of the Trichur DCC to portray the students picketing as violent proved a damp squib. None took any notice of it. But the student organisations have appealed to the students to remain peaceful and continue their protest till they get the concessions.

Kumbalath Sanku Pillai, veteran leader of the State Congress of old days and now an independent came out of his retirement to condemn the fare increase in strongest terms. He characterised this act as the most foolish of the present government inviting the wrath and curse of the common people. Money should be found for defence but not in this way by squeezing the poor people. The Congress should not play with fire and should withdraw the increase, he said.

Even a daily like MALAYALA RAJYAM—a supporter of the state government—has editorially stated that the burdens on the short distance travellers and the passengers who go by shuttle and ordinary buses were very heavy in the light of a weeks experience.

from  
**S. SHARMA**

The Chief Minister and the Minister of Transport have reiterated that they do not consider it necessary to effect any changes in the revised fares. They went back on their solemn word they gave to the conference of party leaders on 29 June, that they will reconsider the question.

Meanwhile, preparations are afoot to get together people belonging to all parties to demand that the government revise the increased fares. In the capital city already leaders of the PSP, RSP Communist Party and a number of prominent citizens have come together for this purpose.

Trade union organisations are also considering how best the working class could help to strengthen the movement. One-day protest strike in all industrial centres is being planned. In Trivandrum all student bodies except those under Congress influence have set up a joint action committee and decided to stage one-day strike on 9 July and peaceful mass satyagraha to demand uniform concession in buses, reduction of fee increase etc.

He pointed out that the Bata workers had been in the forefront of defence efforts and have contributed over a lakh of rupees to the Defence Fund. Therefore their demand for the withdrawal of CDS and other tax burdens does in no way reflect on their willingness to sacrifice for defence.



# No Reason for Chinese Flare Up in Women's Congress

By their behaviour and dogmatic approach, the Chinese delegation found itself in isolation at the Moscow Congress of Women. One subject that touched their most vulnerable point was the reference to India-China border conflict by the Indian delegation.

The speeches of the members of the Indian delegation were most sober, carefully worded avoiding all source of irritation and aimed at emphasising the need for strengthening peace in Asia. There was nothing in them that could provoke the Chinese. And yet the Chinese delegation indulged in unnecessary vituperation against India and the countries which supported India.

## Aruna Asaf Ali's Sober Appraisal of Events

We speak of this unfortunate conflict to you more in sorrow than anger. It is indeed one of the greatest tragedies of our time that two great countries, like India and China, who initiated the famous "Five Principles" of peaceful co-existence in their Agreement of 1954 and who never in history have engaged in war against each other, should have been involved in a violent conflict.

It is not our intention to discuss the merits of the border dispute because that would take a long time. We do not wish to provoke an unnecessary controversy nor do we wish to criticise anybody. But it is our duty as representatives of the women of India, and a sacred task for all the women of the world, to suggest ways and means of restoring that age-old friendship between India and China.

It is in this helpful and constructive spirit of averting war and consolidating peace that the Parliament of India, under the leadership of Prime Minister NEHRU, accepted the non-aligned Afro-Asian powers' proposals, which were initiated by that great lady Mrs. Bandaranaike, the first woman Prime Minister in any country of the world, to find a peaceful solution to the India-China conflict in the larger interests of peace between these two countries, peace in Asia and peace in the whole world.

Their proposals are not an arbitration of the border dispute, nor do they claim to be so. All that the Colombo proposals aim at is the consolidation of the ceasefire and the creation of an atmosphere for initiating peaceful negotiations for a final settlement of the border dispute between India and China.

Our leaders have proclaimed more than once, that if China is prepared to accept fully the Afro-Asian proposals we shall be glad to meet the Chinese side across the table.

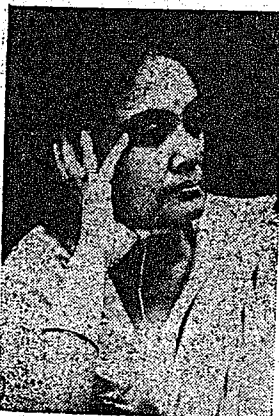
Dear friends, I can assure you, on behalf of the women of India that India has no territorial designs on China or any other country. India wants to live in peace and friendship with all her neighbours. It was in this spirit that

India recognised Tibet as an integral part of China, and has been constantly championing the right of China to be seated in the UN.

Please note that the present state of tension and uncertainty in the relations between India and China benefits only the enemies of peace and progress. Imperialist

## Renu Chakravarty's Patient Pleadings

We do not wish to be provoked by the harsh language used and the slanderous charges made by the Chinese delegation and we



Renu Chakravarty attending the Congress

do not wish to reciprocate in the same language. That is not the spirit of the Congress.

We request you to look through our speech. We, as women, took special care to see it contained no anti-Chinese sentiment in it. It was written in the spirit of trying to find ways of restoring the age-old friendship between the two countries. We wanted friendship between the women of our two great countries.

What did we say? We wanted

powers are intriguing feverishly to take advantage of this unfortunate situation, while reactionary circles are trying to stampede India into compromising its policy of nonalignment and peaceful co-existence.

In spite of these difficulties, Prime Minister Nehru and the people of India have stood by their policy of nonalignment and peaceful co-existence. For, to give up the policy of nonalignment in our conditions specially in Asia and Africa is to give up freedom itself.

We would like this representative gathering of women to know that in our resolve to maintain our policy of nonalignment and peaceful co-existence, we have been greatly encouraged by the support and sympathy we have received from all progressive countries, especially the great Soviet Union.

Nevertheless, unless the present uncertain situation on the border is ended, unless the conflict between these two great countries of Asia is resolved peacefully, our activities in defence of all we hold dear will be seriously jeopardized.

It is in this spirit that we appeal to all enlightened womanhood who are disturbed by this conflict and want to help India and China, to find a mutually agreed solution to strengthen peace in Asia and world.

## Subhadra Joshi's Reply To Chinese Attack

It is in sorrow and with regret that we have come again to plead with our Chinese friends. It has pained us to see that they have not taken our proposals in the spirit in which they were made.

We, Madam, did not wish to hurt their feelings or to criticise them nor to offend them. We openly wished to draw their attention and that of the Congress to the dangers flowing from the tension between our two great countries.

We still would not like to use harsh words as our Chinese friends have done because harsh words do not bring us nearer peaceful solutions. We do not wish to go into the details and merits of our border question nor do we wish to describe the Chinese action in India as aggression nor because we do not feel strongly about it, but because this is no place to go into the details. All that we

wish the Congress to consider are the following points:

Firstly, we have been a non-aligned country. The world has seen that inspite of the pressure of reactionaries from within and without, we have rejected entry into any military pact nor have we agreed to allow a foreign base on our soil.

Second is the question of arms: Did we ever want arms? We fought against British imperialism without arms. We have still not built what the years of foreign domination had destroyed. We are mothers, Madam, our children want food, clothes, shelter, schools, hospitals, we want to develop our agriculture and industries. Imagine our shock and pain when we were forced to proceed towards a new social order.

I request the Chinese friends to consider how painful for us it is to divert our resources to seek arms. Arms are neither socialist nor capitalist, but they may and will have strings. We have not accepted those strings and are determined not to bow to pressures. Still we say that unless a peaceful solution is found, political pressures which may affect our independent policies will increase and it will only be the imperialists who will gain.

Dear Chinese friends, it is not enough to talk about fighting imperialism. Imperialism has to be fought in many ways and on many fronts. It is because we knew the dangers inherent in the situation that we pleaded for immediate steps towards peaceful solution.

Please accept the first step for peace—the proposals of non-aligned Afro-Asian countries—China, Ceylon, Cambodia, UAR, Burma, Indonesia, for consolidation of ceasefire. The Chinese troops have unilaterally withdrawn. Good, but our troops are frozen far from where they were.

ON FACING PAGE

We say: Let us work for peace; we believe every small step is one step nearer the big goal of peace and disarmament for the whole world. In that spirit we supported and do support the Afro-Asian proposals which will open the way to direct talks between the two countries.

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# WHY THE CHINESE VOTED AGAINST CONGRESS APPEAL

The Chinese delegation to the World Congress of Women in Moscow voted against the Appeal adopted by the Congress.

THE Chinese delegation in a statement explained why it voted against the Appeal. The statement, among others, argues:

★ "The Appeal to women of the world has bypassed the fundamental question of opposing imperialism."

★ "This document does not point to the path of genuine peace, nor to the path of happiness for women and children."

★ "The document merely indulges in empty talks about disarmament and spreads unrealistic illusions."

★ "Those who attempt to impose the erroneous line on others are deliberately creating a split and disrupting unity of women of the world."

★ "We are firmly against adopting this document which does not conform to the fundamental interests of the people and women of the world."

New Age readers can judge for themselves how far these remarks are tenable by reading the text of the Appeal published on this page.



## VALENTINA MEETS LITTO

FROM MASOOD ALI KHAN

MOSCOW, 5 July: VALENTINA TERESHKOVA has a soft corner for India. She has a long standing desire to see our "wonderful country". "That has been my dream", she said and added that she had been reading a lot about India.

THE first spacewoman and world's heroine were to study for the next four or five years. Valentina asked five-year old Arun what would he like to become when he grew up? "I will become a Communist", he said proudly, and was very much admired for his answer.

## Subhadra Joshi's Reply To Chinese Attack

★ From Facing Page

Acceptance of the proposals of these nonaligned countries will facilitate opening of the way to discussing all outstanding disputes and claims.

Dear friends in the Congress, we would request you to judge, was there anything wrong in this humble request? Was it an example of anti-China propaganda, behaviour of an expansionist country? I will request you, sisters, to read again what our delegation had said.

We want friendship between all countries, we want peace. We, Madam, do not choose between peace and independence. For us they go together. We want both. It was only in this spirit that we made our proposals and we would again request our friends to consider them.

# APPEAL TO WOMEN OF THE WORLD

## Adoped At The World Congress Of Women, Moscow

WOMEN, MOTHERS OF ALL COUNTRIES, OF ALL CONTINENTS, DEAR SISTERS, DEAR FRIENDS

IT is to you all that we, the participants of the World Congress of Women, address ourselves.

As the representatives of hundreds of millions of women from 110 countries, we have come to Moscow from all points of the globe—from Europe, Africa, Australia, from all countries of the American continent—to share our experiences, our fears and our hopes and to examine together ways of putting an end to our sufferings and of realising our hopes.

Common aspirations for a lasting peace for all peoples of the world bring us together, despite the fact that the evolution of our countries is at different levels, that we are of diverse social origins, of different political and religious convictions.

We are unanimous in our wish to win for the women workers, women peasants, housewives and women intellectuals, a worthy and just position in society and in the family, with equal rights and responsibilities which will assure them the opportunity to develop their aptitudes to the full and to collaborate in all spheres for the progress of humanity.

Millions of women take part in the construction of a new society on completely equal terms with men. The exploit of Valentina Tereshkova and Valery Bykovskiy is a glorious proof that our dreams can become reality.

We are unanimous in our wish to win happiness for our children, to give to all the children of the world a healthy, happy and useful life.

Woman is the mother of all children. We cannot accept that, in the century of scientific and social progress in which we live, millions of children are without happiness, are starving, illiterate, exploited, disinherited, doomed to a premature death.

We cannot allow the propagation of animosity and hatred between races and peoples, nor that the forces of reaction and war should poison the mind and corrupt the soul of the young generation.

We appeal to you: 1 to act without respect and without respite to bring about the cessation of nuclear tests. 2 to support the creation of atom-free zones, 3 to struggle for the removal of all bases and the withdrawal of military troops on foreign soil; 4 to support the action of personalities, organisations and governments and of all those who act in this spirit. 5 to multiply the number of women's campaigns.

We wish to work for the establishment of peaceful co-existence between states with different systems all over the world, for the achievement of total and general disarmament and the rigorous control of thermo-nuclear disarmament in particular.

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for peace, peaceful co-existence and disarmament.

Disarmament will be one of the greatest victories of peace aspiring humanity. It will contribute to peace in the world, create conditions for true equality between the peoples, liberate immense material and human resources for peaceful work and put science in the service of humanity.

The cause of disarmament and peace is inseparable from the cause of the peoples' struggles for their national independence.

It is inadmissible and shameful for humanity that millions of men, women and children are still suffering under colonial enslavement, that many countries of Africa, Latin America and Asia are still economically dependent on imperialist States, that there are still fascist dictatorships 18 years after the defeat of Hitler. All peoples should be able to live freely and independently, choose their own way of living and their own social system.

We support the women and peoples who struggle against all kinds of imperialist oppression and all forms of colonialism, for their liberty and national independence. We support the women who struggle and suffer under the hard conditions of fascism. And we struggle so that there will no longer be one single woman left in prison for having defended her children, freedom and peace.

Immense resources are swallowed up in the maw of the production of the means of destruction and extermination. Conscious of our responsibilities for the future of our children and the destiny of the world, we are firmly resolved to make an increasingly important contribution to the struggle against the menace of war.

We wish to contribute to the building of a lasting peace. We do not want war to be a means of deciding conflicts between States; we are convinced that conflicts should be settled by negotiations.

We wish to work for the establishment of peaceful co-existence between states with different systems all over the world, for the achievement of total and general disarmament and the rigorous control of thermo-nuclear disarmament in particular.

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On us lies the great responsibilities of defending our rights, the happiness of our children, of defending peace and the rights of the nations to independence, but we have great faith in our strength.

We represent the greater part of mankind. Our strength is our unity, which has so far enabled us to avoid the horrors of a third world war.

The things which unite us constitute a tremendous force: love for our children, friendship and solidarity among women and peoples of the world, our striving for peace, justice, progress and happiness of mankind.

We agree to unite and work with all our strength against danger of war, to ensure a lasting peace on earth.

If We Will It Life Will Triumph.



## VENEZUELA

# BACKGROUND TO REPRESSION

★ By LAJPAT RAI

On 13 June this year, ROMULO BETANCOURT, President of Venezuela declared the Communist Party in that country illegal and ordered the arrest of all its 40,000 members. Later, this order was changed to the arrest of all "Communist activists in the main cities and towns of the country".

VENEZUELA is known to be the "most ill-governed country in Latin America". From 1821 to 1930 she was a part of Colombia, but when the alliance with Colombia and Ecuador fell apart, she was left to her own devices. At the beginning of the century she was ruled by a conservative troika of landlords, army and the Church. This government could satisfy no one except the landlord aristocracy and the clergy and soon the country was in complete chaos.

Out of the chaos emerged the great dictator ANTONIO GUZMAN BLANCO who, taking advantage of disturbed conditions, took over power by force in 1870 and suspended the constitution. He crushed the powers of the clergy and undertook some large public works—railways, roads, telegraph lines etc. For the rest, he endeavoured for his personal enrichment.

### Concessions For U.S.

After his death in 1888, he was succeeded by another CAUDILLO JUAN VINCENT GOMEZ, an illiterate cowboy, son of a Spanish immigrant.

When he died in 1935, he left Venezuela with as many problems as he had inherited. His rule was marked only by the grant of large oil concessions or of old concessions to the oil companies of USA, Netherlands and England.

Gomez was followed by another soldier, General ELEAZER LOPEZ CONTRERAS. A new constitution was adopted by the congress in 1936 and civil liberties were restored. A new party of the left ORVE (organisation Venezuela) was organised which managed to capture 30 seats in Parliament.

### Communists Outlawed

Frightened by this portent the government banned the Communist Party and the president declared 47 of his well-known political opponents as communists and prosecuted the ORVE.

Meanwhile oil companies operating in Venezuela began to play an active part in the country's politics from behind the scenes. They wanted a peaceful condition in the country for the sake of their own business as well as a government which will not

jeopardise their interests in the exploitation of the country's oil resources. Their choice fell on FOMULO BETANCOURT, a socialist, but known to be a firm anti-communist who had organised his party known as Accion Democratica.

In the meantime, after Lopez, his henchman MEDMIN was installed in the presidential palace through a fraudulent election as Lopez could not be elected a second time according to the law.

Again there followed a short period of chaos. The younger army officers now tired of political instability staged a coup d'etat as a result of which an interim government was formed under social democrat Betancourt. At the 1948 election Accion Democratica won a resounding victory with 137 seats, leaving the 14 others for two other parties including two for communists.

## LONDON LETTER

# THE TORY SLUMP

★ From Our Correspondent

The Tory Party of tottering British Premier MACMILLAN continues to suffer electoral debacles, a phenomenon which manifested itself in all the by-elections since 1962.

IN two by-election results, on 4 July both in West Bromwich and Deptford, Conservatives' share of votes was halved and Labour won both the seats. Both results indicate the tremendous unpopularity of the Macmillan government which has further increased following the Christine Keeler affair.

Conservative votes fell from 43 per cent in 1959 to 24 per cent in this by-election in West Bromwich. In Deptford, it fell from 38 to 19 per cent. If a general election is held today in Britain, which is the main slogan of Communist and Labour Party now, the Tory government will no doubt be thrown out.

### For Abolition Of Lords'

For the first time in history British House of Lords heard a Communist Peer speak on 4 July. He is WOGAN PHILLIPS a member of the British Communist Party who became Lord Milford when his father died.

In his maiden speech, the "Communist lord" called for the very abolition of House of Lords which is "a reactionary bulwark against progress of British people." "No second chamber is necessary here to revise findings and proceed-

ings of the Commons", said the Communist Peer. "He assailed



"Of course we Americans have always admired your old English homes with their fine lawns and shady ways..." — Eccles in Daily Worker

In the presidential elections, Romulo Gallego was elected president by a large majority. In 1953 once again Venezuela reverted to dictatorship when Col. Marcos Perez Jimenez took over power as head of a military Junta.

Jimenez antagonised every one in the country except the oil companies, whose stake in the Venezuelan economy especially in oil was enlarging rapidly. In 1958, a popular revolt ended the dictatorship of Jimenez and in the election Romulo Betancourt was elected president.

### Popular Upsurge

Betancourt was now faced with the popular upsurge against the exploitation by foreign companies as well as the impatience of the people for urgently-needed reforms. The government dependent on oil revenues could take no immediate action and the unrest began to spread.

The Cuban revolution of 1959 introduced another feature in the Venezuelan politics. If Cuba could nationalise foreign plantations and oil refineries, why not Venezuela, people argued. Betancourt

under pressure from oil companies broke off relations with Cuba and raised the bogey that Castro wanted to overthrow his government by export of revolution through his agents—the Fidelists and communists.

In the meantime the grip of oil companies on Venezuelan economy tightened. Petroleum industry which accounts for one third of the gross national product and 60 per cent of the national revenue comes under the control of three oil companies, the largest being the American Standard Oil Company of New Jersey.

The three oil companies (the other two are Royal Dutch, of Netherlands and Shell Company of UK) between themselves produce and control 80 per cent of the Venezuelan oil. Similarly the second national product, the iron ore, is mined and exported by US Steel Corporation Ltd., which also extracts 72 per cent of the Venezuelan iron ore.

No wonder in order to oblige the oil interests and to get their help to protect himself, Betancourt had to outlaw the Communist Party and the pro-Castro political groups, which for him are one and the same thing.

## AGAINST E. C. M. SQUEEZE

# French Farmers Protest

★ From Our Correspondent

PARIS: The European Common Market has hit French farmers below the belt. And the French farmers now are hitting back at DE GAULLE's dictatorship.

WHEN President de Gaulle was leaving for Bonn in a wooing competition on the heels

of KENNEDY's visit, Southern France was engulfed in a mighty agrarian agitation. From 1 July, French farmers are battling with the police in the southern city of Avignon and surrounding rural districts in angry protest against falling prices of agricultural produce and competition from abroad constantly accelerated by Common Market dumping.

When the peasant demonstrators in several thousands tried on 1 July to force through the police cordon around a central government building in Avignon, 12 persons were injured.

Farmers living in villages came to see their government in this city when they did not know what to do about rotting potatoes, tomatoes, apricots, grapes and other vegetables produced by their hard toil.

For several days French farmers' unions have been holding meetings, marching to towns, blocking roads and picketing traffic to prevent the onward movement of vehicles loaded with Common Market farm products from Italy and other countries and attacking warehouses filled with imported products.

### High Level

This agrarian struggle against imperialist integration of Europe had reached a very high level when President Kennedy was sojourning in Europe, canvassing support for NATO and EEC.

At the same time a renewed conflict between de Gaulle dictatorship and French industrial labour is brewing as legislations are being prepared to outlaw surprise strikes in nationalised public utility services.

Agrarian struggles, coupled with industrial strikes, would be a formidable movement which DE GAULLE has to face at home when he returns from his parleys with Chancellor ADENAUER.

HYDERABAD, 8 July: The working class of Andhra Pradesh has begun to act. A big campaign is now unfolding for the mass mobilisation behind the Great Petition to Parliament.

THE call to action to the workers of Andhra came from the recently-concluded conference of the Andhra Pradesh Trade Union Congress.

More calls to action are not the order of the day here. The workers have already begun moving.

In Vijayawada several unions, including those of the Railways, Post and Telegraph, Banks,

Insurance etc., held a joint meeting of their executive committees and decided to commence the signature campaign from 7 July, with a minimum target of 25,000.

In Visakhapatnam 9 trade unions including those of the harbour, shipyard, port and dock (only two of these are affiliated to AITUC) took out a joint procession a few days ago and have

## HORROWING CONDITIONS IN HAZARIBAGH JAIL

★ From Ajoy Das Gupta

CALCUTTA, 8 July: Twentytwo detenues from Tripura, who were lodged in the Hazaribagh Central Jail in Bihar were released on 6 July.

IN an interview with NEW AGE, Aghore Dev Burman, M.P.A, secretary member, Tripura State Committee of the Party, who is one among the released, told that there are still 31 prisoners in Hazaribagh jail kept there in deplorable conditions.

Those 31 include the two members of Parliament and eight members of the State Assembly including the leader and deputy leader of the opposition. The 53 prisoners including the released were divided into two groups:—X—"more dangerous" and Y—"dangerous", and kept segregated from each other.

Only 3 prisoners were given Division II, the rest were in Division III. Medical arrangements were most inadequate.

Right forearm bone of Hura Aung Mong M.L.A. was fractured and for more than a month practically no care was taken. Only after petition to the Civil Surgeon and when he visited the jail, fifteen days after the petition was made, order for X-ray was given and it took another 15 days to take the X-ray. But the fractured bone had in the meantime improperly set and he is still suffering because of this.

Promode Das Gupta is suffering from piles and there is regular blood letting, but no arrangement for operation has been made as yet. Only 11 persons have been granted family allowance and that too at Rs. 50 per month on a flat rate.

## Book Review

PROBLEMS OF NATIONAL INTEGRATION by Jolly Mohan Kaul (People's Publishing House—Price: Rs. 5/50).

QUITE some of the problems that afflict the Indian Nation have eluded solution not because of any imprecise understanding of the problems themselves or of possible solutions. For instance, the national question, now acquiring new dimensions as problems of national integration, did merit serious attention of the freedom movement in pre-independence day.

Like many of the noble aspirations which fell asunder under the impact of the politics of compromise and, at times, even of downright betrayal, the democratic solutions, to the problems of emerging nationhood were held over, if not altogether rejected as impractical by the men who rose to the helm of affairs in independent India.

The nation had to pay a heavy price for these unforgivable lapses and if disruptive forces threatening Indian unity have grown to menacing proportions, the blame has to be squarely placed on those who sacrificed their principles at the altar of political expediency.

J. M. KAUL has done a signal service to students of the Indian political scene by the forthright analysis of the failures of the ruling political leadership which led to the accentuation of the problems of national integration.

In the book under review, the author has, at the same time, outlined how popular struggle and the martyrdom of scores of our brethren were successful in enforcing some of the democratic solutions of the national question, as the establishment of Linguistic States. What is attempted by an author is not, however, an "exposure," so to say, of the policies and practices of the ruling party. As he says in his introductory note, "if we are not able

to see clearly the sources of conflict and disruption and approach the problem of integration scientifically, not just emotionally, then the very goal we seek to reach may elude us." (emphasis added)

The work on this short volume, as the introductory note states, was begun about two years ago and completed in the middle of 1962, i.e., much before the emergency arising out of Chinese aggression. The changed conditions following the emergency notwithstanding, the problems posed in the volume are however, fully valid in the present circumstances.

National unity was built quite remarkably well in the wake of the Chinese aggression but as recent developments have shown, the communal and disruptive elements of extreme reaction are trying their utmost to rally their forces taking advantage of the new situation.

Therefore, the need for a scientific understanding of the problems of national unity has become no less important. J. M. Kaul's volume on this subject is therefore most topical. The main facets of the problem of emerging nationhood are discussed in this volume in some detail. The unity in diversity which is manifest in the political make-up of the Indian Union, the threats to national unity from such phenomena as the "communal cleavage", the "caste com-

plex", "regionalism", etc., are dealt with in the volume in an objective and unprejudiced manner. The chapter on integration of tribes quotes eminent authorities on the subject and is immensely enlightening. The author has also discussed in the volume the "foreign models", particularly the Soviet experience on the successful resolution of the national question.

The conclusions which are stated at the end of the volume logically follow from the factual presentation of the problems. The author has however, modestly classified the conclusions as tentative and with the sole intention of the discussion on the subject, rather than with the feeling of offering a final solution to the controversy.

It would have been, however, appropriate if the author had also traced, at least in broad outlines, the positive gains of the struggle for national integration which the democratic forces have made.

Particularly in the field of foiling attempts of communal reaction and even in preventing rivalries between people hailing from different States, the organised trade union movement and other mass organisations have played quite a significant role.

The sure guarantee against communal and separatist disruption can be only the effective, conscious action of the working people's organisations. By their very class nature, they are most fitted to hold aloft the banner of national unity, as against regional or communal loyalties.

Without, of course, wishing to sound sectarian, it may perhaps be worth recalling that the national question has been most successfully resolved only in countries of socialism, where the working class wields State power.

## ANDHRA PRADESH WORKERS'

# Big Strides In Petition Movement

★ From Satyanarayana Reddy

worked out a joint plan of action for signature collection.

★ In Nagarnagar all the three AITUC unions held a joint meeting of their councils and decided upon a house to house signature campaign with a minimum target of 22,000.

★ In Guntur the 33,000 members of the APTUC are planning the biggest campaign in the history of the town. Over a lakh of signatures are expected.

★ The secretary of the Road Transport Corporation Employees' Union, not affiliated to the AITUC, has unanimously decided to ask its members (11,000 strong) to sign the Petition.

★ The six P&T conferences held in the state so far have passed resolutions protesting against the CDS, increased taxes and prices as well as called for the nationalisation of banks, foreign trade and the oil industry and scrapping of prohibition. They have called upon all their branches to intensify the campaign and urged their central federation to take appropriate steps in this connection.

★ The annual conference of the Singareni Collieries Workers Union has called upon the 27,000 employees in the mines of Andhra to participate in the mass signature campaign.

★ The 30,000 employees of the ILTD Co. affiliated to the AITUC, have taken a similar decision at their annual conference.

★ In Hyderabad various unions have adopted resolutions supporting the signature campaign. Posters in Telugu and Urdu have been put up throughout the city asking the workers and people to make the Great Petition their own. Leaflets have been widely distributed. The city Trade Union Council has convened a meeting of trade union activists to chalk out the campaign. Among the many unions which are in the forefront of this campaign is the Jay Engineering Workers' Union. Their minimum target is 25,000 signatures.

★ The APTUC has directed all its affiliated unions to observe a one-day pay protest strike in August. Following this call only last week 7 unions have already adopted it in formal resolutions. A feature of the campaign among the workers in this state is that after the end of the shift all

the workers assemble at the factory gate and shout slogans and hold short impromptu meetings. In many places this is followed up by joint rallies and demonstrations of workers of different factories.

Another heartening sign is that the general population are now-a-days attracted to rallies called by the trade unions. Examples of this are the recent rallies initiated by the trade unions of the Macherla Cement workers and of the Nadiakudi mines, where over 5,000 peasants and agricultural labourers were among the audience.

The INTUC has reacted in a panicky and desperate manner. Both its wings, busy breaking each other's heads, unite to denounce the AITUC and to draw up memos and petitions to the central and state ministers to take action against the AITUC leaders, i.e., to arrest them. Its tactics have however, backfired and further isolated it from the workers, who are determined to fulfil their role as the path-finders for Andhra at this critical juncture.

## BSP Mine Workers Significant Victory

(FROM RAMESH YAGNIK)

The Nominal Muster Rolls workers and Work-charged staff of Rajhara, Nandini and Hirri mines, under Bhilai steel project have won the benefit of production bonus with retrospective effect from 1 December, 1961 following an award given by Bombay Industrial Tribunal.

THESE workers were denied production bonus when the management of the Bhilai steel project introduced the scheme for such a bonus under an agreement with the INTUC union at Bhilai.

The Samyukta Khadan Mazdoor Sangh (AITUC) opposed this agreement and demanded production bonus for workers of mechanised, manual and prospective divisions as well as ministerial staff. Conciliation proceedings on this demand failed to bring about a settlement and the issue was referred to adjudication.

In its award, the tribunal has held that the NMR and work-charged staff should also be given benefit of production bonus with retrospective effect, within two months from the date of the judgment.

The tribunal has further held that, in fact, the workers of manual mining division also should be given the benefit of production bonus, but, since this work is being done through contractors, no norm could be

fixed by the tribunal and both the management and the union have been advised to sit together and mutually decide a scheme whereby these workers are also benefited.

The tribunal further asked the management to pay Rs. 500 to the workers as costs for the adjudication proceedings.

In another dispute concerning wages scales of Burnt Drill operators of Nandini mines, the Bombay Industrial Tribunal has held that the management "has acted arbitrarily" by putting three drillers on a lower scale of wages than was originally fixed for them.

The tribunal held that the action of the management "is against the provisions of Section 9(A) of the Industrial Disputes Act." The wage has been restored and the management has been directed to the pay up their dues within a month with effect from 1 April 1961. The workers were further awarded a sum of Rs. 100 as costs.

### NOW AVAILABLE

QUESTIONS OF IDEOLOGY IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

## No. 8

★ Statement of CPSU Central Committee on the CPC Central Committee Letter of 14 June 1963

★ A Proposal Concerning the General Line of the International Communist Movement (CPC Central Committee letter of 14 June 1963) 50 nP.

PEOPLES PUBLISHING HOUSE  
Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi 1.



## FOR TEST BAN AND NON-AGGRESSION PACT

# KHRUSHCHOV'S PROPOSALS WIDELY HAILED

★ From Kunhanandan

BERLIN, 5 July: Both Communist and bourgeois press in European capitals gave a wide-scale publicity and commented on KHRUSHCHOV's Berlin speech of 4 July, in which he called for a simultaneous signing of an East-West Non-Aggression Pact and an agreement to ban nuclear tests in sea, air and space.

THE new move by Khrushchov is welcomed by all peace-loving Europeans who live in constant fear of a war threatened by West German rearmaments. In Washington, immediately on his return from Europe, where he made a number of typical cold-war speeches, President KENNEDY conferred with his aides to study Khrushchov's Berlin proposals. Khrushchov said in Berlin:

"An agreement on halting nuclear-tests, linked with simultaneous signing of a non-aggression pact between the two groups of states (NATO and Warsaw Pact countries) would create a new international atmosphere favourable to the solution of other problems, including disarmament."

### American Press Comment

The NEW YORK TIMES which said on 3 July that this non-aggression pact demand would cast a shadow on Moscow high level meetings, (on 15 July representatives of USSR, USA and Britain are meeting again in Moscow to seek test-ban sabotaged by US imperialists in Geneva Disarmament Conference), reported yesterday that Kennedy, aides

consider Khrushchov's proposals to be important and interesting, and cautioned against "premature scepticism." After giving new hopes for test-ban, in a big rally in Frankfurt-on-the-Oder, Khrushchov said that "only lunatics would think of war" and added, "any one who unleashes a war today would be annihilated at once in the war."

## Brotherhood of Socialism

The Polish-GDR frontier demonstrated touching scenes of brotherhood between two peoples living under socialism. The rally in which 70,000 Germans and a few thousand Poles, who came from the other side of the Oder river, took part was a clear demonstration that for peace-loving socialist states, borders are no headaches: between socialist states borders are just a demarcation line and not a hotbed of tension.

Poles and Germans, who were enemies under HITLER, today joined hands to cheer KHRUSHCHOV, Polish Premier CYRANKIEWICZ and WALTER UL-

BRIGHT and in one voice sang the Internationale. These three leaders declared that "the Oder-Neisse line is a true frontier." Ulbricht added that this frontier between Germany and Poland is final and no longer a negotiable issue. "We are today protecting this frontier of peace against revenge-seekers and militarists in West Germany and elsewhere."

Khrushchov said: "First and foremost, we must be Commun-

ists and only in the second place, we are Germans, Poles or Russians."

In an obvious reply to the Chinese dogmatists, Khrushchov said: "It would be impossible for us to declare war against capitalist countries in order to triumph in this way over capitalism. Then we must destroy one million workers to every one capitalist. Only mad men can hatch such a plan. We will not interfere with the internal affairs of foreign countries. Interfering in the internal affairs of foreign states means war and we are against war. There are people who see things differently. Many think what they like. History will teach them."

Replying to the dogmatist critics of the COMECON, Polish Premier Cyrankiewicz said that mutual economic assistance of socialist states has been a great success. "Within the framework of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, the path had been paved for coordinating economic plans for a many-sided operation in the field of scientific research and designing work. This is the path on which it will be possible for all cooperating countries to reach a speedier, cheaper and more rational development of their economic potential."

## U THANT VISITS HUNGARY

### End of Estrangement Under Imperialist Behest

From Our Correspondent

BUDAPEST: The arrival of UN Secretary-General U THANT in Budapest on 1 July on an official visit formally marked the end of the estrangement forced on UNY by imperialist powers since the dismal failure of HORTHY counter-revolution inspired by the United States in 1956.

THE imperialists, who were down and out when the counter-revolution was crushed, then took retaliatory measures against the Hungarian People's Republic, organising and pulling strings to raise their puppet votes against Hungary.

### Plot That Failed

Thus in 1957 an imperialist agency of observers was appointed by the UN, which infringed the sovereignty of the Hungarian Republic. But these observers could never set their foot on Hungarian soil, for the socialist government, determined to preserve their national freedom from imperialist encroachment, barred the observers and the former Secretary-General HAMMERKJÖLD, who openly sided with the Hungarian counter-revolution, from entering Hungary.

Since then, imperialist powers lost much ground in UN and now they are, not sure of commanding the voting strength against Hungary. The new Secretary-General took several measures to normalise the relations with Hungary.

Hungarian Premier Kadar, sped back to Budapest from Berlin where he was with Khrushchov on 30 June, toasting for peace and Ulbricht's long life on the 70th birthday celebrations, to confer with the visiting Secretary-General.

Ever since 1957, he Kadar Government was trying its best to

re-establish better relations with the United Nations. But US imperialists always prevented it. Now imperialist resistance has considerably weakened.

The Secretary-General was welcomed by Deputy Premier Kallai in Budapest, who underlined that the Hungarian foreign policy was based on peaceful co-existence. He told U Thant that in securing world peace, the United Nations and its Secretary-General particularly, bear a great responsibility. Answering the jute press propaganda that Hungary was against the UN, he reminded Secretary-General U Thant "Our Government support UNO and see,

to draw the international attention to the machinations of the forces which add to international tension and sharpen the cold war, which intensify the arms race and add to the dangers of a nuclear war." The documentation was to help in multiplying the impact of all peace fighters so that a particularly dangerous conflagration centre could be removed through negotiations in the interest of world peace and of all peoples.

## WPC Documentation : GFR's Policy Against Peace

VIENNA: Headquarters of the World Peace Council has published a documentation entitled "Peace Endangering Policy in the German Federal Republic."

WITH this documentation issued in five languages and designed for distribution in all continents, the World Peace Council wants to emphasise the importance of a peaceful solution of the German issue.

The preface of the brochure which contains mainly quotations from the speeches of West German and West Berlin politicians and papers, underlines that the World Peace Council deems it its

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## Test Ban Talks in Moscow

# SUCCESS OR FAILURE WOULD DEPEND ON THE WEST

★ by Yuri Zhukov

The high-level three-power talks in Moscow are at hand: high-ranking representatives of the governments of the Soviet Union, the United States and Britain are entrusted at long last with the mission of finding a solution to the highly important question of ending nuclear weapon tests.

ACCORDING to Western press reports, the United States and Britain will be represented at the coming talks by Averell Harriman and Lord Hailsham, respectively.

I have lost count of the Western diplomats who have taken turns at nuclear test ban negotiations. Five years ago it seemed as though it was only a step away from an agreement. But years have been wasted, with the question remaining unsolved as before. "What is lacking today? The desire of the Western powers to reach an agreement and to stop playing at negotiations", said Nikita S. Khrushchov thoughtfully, when asked recently by the Editors-in-Chief of Pravda and Izvestia as to how he assessed the prospects of the conclusion of a test ban agreement.

As regards the Soviet Union, we are ready to sign an agreement on the discontinuance of all nuclear tests even today. It is up to the West now.

The high-ranking diplomats, preparing for the journey to Moscow, have, of course, carefully studied the comments made by the head of the Soviet Government. They should realise that the success of the approaching meeting will depend on the luggage they bring along with them to Moscow.

They should also clearly understand that this highly responsible "effort to drive the nuclear jinn into a bottle", as the US press puts it, can only be successful if their instructions will be drawn up in a business-like spirit and not in the style of Mr. Murrow's propaganda agency. The matter concerns far too serious things to turn the talks into another cold war forum.

A year-and-a-half back the Soviet Union exposed the adherents

of such a "control" who asserted that there was no disposing of inspection as it was allegedly impossible to keep tabs on underground explosions at a distance.

"We resorted to a well-known popular method to check how certain people feign deafness", N. S. Khrushchov told his electorate on 16 March 1962. "This method sometimes consists in the following. A man is told: 'Ivan, give something to me!' He pretends he does not hear. And when he is told, 'Here Ivan, take this!' he hears it all right. Well, we decided to use this popular method, and it worked."

"Recently, an underground explosion was carried out in the Soviet Union for the first time ever. And you know what? Almost on the very same day the US Atomic Energy Commission announced that the United States had detected an underground nuclear explosion in the Soviet Union."

### Awkward Position

The defenders of the "indispensable" and "absolutely vital" inspection found themselves in a terribly awkward position. Their next invention was that an underground explosion may remain undetected if carried out in soft volcanic rock. But even Dr. Jack Ruina, Director of Advanced Research Projects Agency under the US War Department, declared on 5 March 1963, at a Senate Commission that even the tests of two kilo ton bombs (an equivalent of 2,000 tons of TNT) may quite reliably be detected thousands of miles away if the explosion is carried out in volcanic tuff.

The indefatigable adherents of "inspection" insisted that if an explosion is carried out in dry alluvium (large-grain sand on the bottom of dried-up lakes), the resulting seismic signals may be weakened several times. But the same Dr. Ruina denied that.

"First", he said, "alluvium has been found in relatively few desert land, with only one such desert obtaining in the Soviet Union" and second—the most important thing—"alluvium deposits are usually lying not deep enough to keep the radioactive by-products of a nuclear explosion away from the atmosphere. Once in the atmosphere, these by-products make it possible to detect the explosion."

Finally, on 12 April, American Professor David Willis made an extremely important report at a session of the US Seismological Society: the scientists of the Michigan University ascertained a substantial difference between the seismic waves produced by an earthquake and those produced by a nuclear explosion. This important discovery was made in the unique moment when their mobile unit registered an underground nuclear explosion and an earthquake simultaneously.

And the result? The anonymous "well-informed persons" hastened to circulate a statement, through the United Press International Agency, saying that "it will take more than one such coincidence to prove that such observation stations are capable of ascertaining the difference between underground nuclear explosion and earthquake in considerable amount of cases."

Such an ugly fuss of politicians and spy apologists over the vital

## Chinese Provocations : Moscow is Shocked

★ FROM MASOOD ALI KHAN

MOSCOW, 9 July: The much awaited talks between the delegations of CPSU and CPC began here on Friday. The Soviet side met the Chinese delegation with due respect. Mikhail Suslov and other party leaders welcomed the Chinese representatives at the airport. A dinner was given in their honour the day after arrival.

Everything has been done here to create a proper atmosphere for the talks and the CPSU is fully determined to do all that is possible to avoid deepening the rift and to overcome the difficulties which have arisen between the two parties.

But people here have been shocked to see that the Chinese side has been carrying on a deliberate, and, it seems, desperate campaign of provocations and slander before and during the talks. Not only meetings are being held in Peking and statements attacking the CPSU are being issued every other day, here in Moscow the staff of the Chinese Embassy and Chinese students and others are behaving in an arrogant and provocative manner disregarding the laws and rules of the country where they happen to be as guests and fraternal comrades.

They are carrying on an open organised slander campaign against the CPSU here in the Soviet Union, and continue to do so in spite of friendly representations made by the Soviet comrades. It seems they are acting in a planned manner on orders to create as many incidents and as much unpleasantness as possible so that the talks do not succeed and the relations between the Soviet Union and China take a turn for the worse, whereas here in the Soviet Union people and the leaders are acting with utmost restraint and very effort is being made to see that the talks lead to some positive results.

problem of discontinuing nuclear tests disgusts and shames American atomic scientists who are demanding ever more insistently that these unseemly manoeuvres be stopped and an agreement signed.

### Scientists Protest

On 10 April ten leading American nuclear scientists including Dr. Hanz Bethe, scientific adviser to the US Administration, sharply rebuffed these politicians in the Washington Post and advocated an agreement with the guarantee that it would be effective. In passing they said: "The opponents of the treaty now allege... that in 1961 the Russians violated the test ban agreement. For this reason they warn against any new agreement with them. But it is often forgotten that in 1961 there was no test ban agreement, or all the more treaty, at all, while on 29 December 1959, President Eisenhower terminated the unofficial moratorium declared for one year by announcing that the 'voluntary test moratorium will expire on December 31'."

That is why I hoped Mr. Harriman would pack into his valise also these important documents reflecting the aspirations of his compatriots and together with them new concrete proposals of the US Administration that would make it possible to terminate with no further delay all nuclear weapon tests without exception.

### Time Running Out

President Kennedy justly noted not so long ago that the time for signing such an agreement is "rapidly running out" and if the treaty is not signed this year, the atomic "jinn may never go back into the bottle."

His compatriots would never forgive those shaping their destiny should they refuse an agreement for the sake of the shady interests of the combined American and British spy service which is interested only in espionage disguised as "inspections."

National means of control combined with the installation of a limited number of robot control stations in the territories of the contracting parties—as has been proposed by British scientists—ensures in the consensus of specialist opinion, reliable guarantees of observance of an agreement. This is what should be taken as the point of departure.

The matter now rests only with the West.

## BRIDGES OF AMITY

### Indo-GDR Exchange of Agricultural Experience

The president of Farmers' Forum of India, former minister for Agriculture, DR. P. S. DESHMUKH, who is now touring GDR to study agricultural situation has highly praised the agrarian systems in the German Democratic Republic.

AFTER visiting several co-operatives and farms, fishing centres and plant breeding institutes, he visited an agricultural exhibition in Leipzig where GDR's farm machines and agrarian technology are impressively displayed.

Dr. Deshmukh said in Rostock: "We have cast off many prejudices which we had harboured before coming to your country. We are deeply impressed by your successful

efforts to facilitate labour. We have gathered new ideas for our work. Contacts of friendship, that we have established are valuable."

Arrangements are being made for closer cooperation between Indian Farmers Forum and their GDR counterparts, notably the Peasants' Mutual Aid Organisation, which includes exchange of farmers delegations and study groups.

### Indian Ship in Riga

THE port of Riga has received the first Indian ship, "VISHVA PREM", which reached there with a cargo of high quality cotton.

"We are happy to call at a Soviet port," the ship's Captain KARNAIL SINGH BAVEJA said in a Tass interview. "This was a great wish of ours. The warm welcome

in Riga, the friendly faces of Soviet dockers are the best proof of the growing friendship between the USSR and India," the Captain added.

# WAR CRIMINAL GLOBKE'S TRIAL OPENS IN BERLIN

★ By Telephone from Kunhanandan

BERLIN 8 July: The trial of HANS GLOBKE, West German State Secretary and chief aide of CHANCELLOR ADENAUER, on the charges of war crimes and mass murder, collaborating with EICHMANN for the extermination of Jews, began today in the Supreme Court of German Democratic Republic.

MINENT jurists, such as, D. N. Pritt of UK, Burton Hall of USA, Harmschkin, member, Academy of Sciences of USSR etc., and 500 journalists from all over the continent and several other foreign correspondents are attending the trial. The case is being heard

that he was co-author of the Nuremberg racial laws drawn up during the Nazi regime, particularly the bases for "final solution of German question".

Despite the warrant of arrest issued against Globke, he did not attend the trial. The prosecuting counsel informed the Court that Globke was hiding in Bonn and being protected by the state power of the Federal Republic of Germany. (See New Age 16 June 1963, for details of charges against Globke.)





# RESIGNATION : WHOSE & WHY ?

\* FROM FRONT PAGE

the swindlers' policies is all that Minister Patil is. And to crown it all, he mortgages the country every year to the rotten wheat bankers of America and their PL 480 loans.

Yet no one demands his resignation or removal.

The criterion of resignation seems to be: never mind, if you starve the toiling millions, but if you enrich the millionaires, you can continue, provided you are not caught in a personal affair.

Yet, these are the people who shout most about the Emergency and the danger to the nation. As if by creating discontent of the masses in the rear and selling the country to monopolists, they can defend it better!

The masses must intervene in such a situation and demand not merely the removal of these two key ministers who have failed miserably in the nation's finance and people's food. The big gentlemen of the bourgeoisie, the Right monopoly press are on their side. They are the men whom Anglo-American finance does not dislike like the "much-disliked" Menon and Malaviya. They are the men who are the future hope of re-propose to bend Nehru and even provide an "alternative" to him.

## 'NEHRU MUST RESIGN?'

So, the logical culmination and true essence of these developments has appeared in the demand "Nehru must resign."

And why not?

It may well be argued that

after all, the Prime Minister, the leader of the ruling party is always held responsible for all the failures of his government. The reverses on the military front or the finance and food fronts are not the doings only of the ministers concerned but of the whole government and the Prime Minister is its responsible head.

The Prime Minister's sanctions to the new tax burdens on the poor, his failure to control and check up the doings of the Finance and Food Ministers, his weaknesses before the pressure of the Anglo-American colonialists, in the matter of Kashmir mediation and such other things, give the impression that his policies, which in principle are good, get vitiated, under the pressure of the Right-wingers in his own Cabinet. The so-called "strong men" dictate and get away with it. There is some truth in this complaint.

Some may argue—why should we demand the removal of this or that minister, when we know the whole is a government of the bourgeoisie and opposed to the masses? The task is to remove all of them: lock, stock and barrel.

In the ultimate this is true. But that cannot be on the immediate practical agenda. A handful of theoreticians however, brave cannot change the rule of a class. The masses have to get convinced and ready for it. Today they are not. One cannot altogether forget the election indicators.

While on the one hand, the Indian reactionaries have made some advance, on the other, the masses also are becoming conscious of the danger. Sections of the Congress

party have also begun to think of the dangers of the situation.

The Prime Minister, in spite of his vacillations, does intend to stand by the accepted basic policies of the nation, of which he is the main architect. In spite of illness and old age, he retains the capacity to react to the voice of the people and represents the unity of the nation. Hence we do not ask for his resignation.

But one cannot leave it all to him and to the developing internal contradictions of the bourgeoisie and their parties. The working people, while searching for friends and allies in the ruling party, must organise

and act on their own, act on their day-to-day demand and also intervene in the national political sphere, by demanding changes in the government in favour of the people.

## WHAT ABOUT THE REST ?

When we demand resignation of the Finance and Food Ministers, it does not mean, we consider the rest of them as clean angels and champions of the working class. But a good national bourgeoisie, working in favour of nonalignment, peace, anti-colonialism and independent, though capitalist, economy is better than a hardened vic-

ously anti-people defender of the monopolists and speculators.

Hence, along with struggles for defence of people's interests, the progressive forces must participate in this battle of resignations. Nationalisation of banks, oil, export-import trade, reduction of taxes and prices would be easier without Morarji Desai and Patil than with them.

The Rightwing will not rejoice in their exit, as it did with Menon's or Malaviya's. Nor will the Aid India Club and their swimming pools.

The masses must realise this and act, in defence of the nation and the people.

(10 July)

# SOARING PRICES

\* FROM FRONT PAGE

unemployed persons, he has only swelled their number: that is his achievement.

On 3 November 1963 when the Industrial Truce Resolution was adopted at the Twentieth Indian Labour Conference, government undertook to ensure that the price line would be held and that the real wages of the toiling people would not fall. But what has been the result?

Instead of a fall or at least a status quo in the indices of wholesale prices and consumer prices, there have been substantial increases in these indices.

According to official figures, the average index of wholesale prices for the fiscal year 1962-63 worked out to 127.9 depicting a rise of 2.8 points over the average of 125.1 for the year 1961-62. Index of food articles went up from 120.1 to 126.1.

The index numbers of wholesale prices in the following months also went up steadily: April 1963 129.7; May—132.1 and June (up to 15th)—133.7 (provisional).

Same is the picture of consumer price indices: from an average of 126 points in 1961 (1949=100), the index shot up to 130 in 1962 and reached the peak of 134 in October 1962. The index stood at 131 in April 1963.

Despite the repeated changes in the base year calculation—1939, 1947, 1948, 1951, 1952-53 and so on the indices of real earnings of the workers show only a downward trend.

## FALL IN REAL EARNINGS

In 1957, index of real earnings of factory workers stood at 133.5 (1947=100) and the provisional index for 1961 shows that the index of real earnings has fallen to 127.5.

And all the time the toiling people of our country had been increasing output of products. Take, for example, the crude index of industrial production (covering 200 industries) (1956=100) released by the government. The index of industrial production in July 1962 was 148.2 and in January 1963 (the latest figure

available), the index had shot up to 164.4.

What is the result of increased production? The profits of the industrialists reach new marks of prosperity. In 1956, the index of gross profits including depreciation, (1955=100), stood at 101.7 and in 1960, it reached 166.1. With further rise in industrial production it is only inevitable that in the year 1961 and 1962, for which the indices are still not available, profits must have ascended further.

This is the picture of fulfilment of government's promise to hold the price line, of the plethora of its pious hopes that the big business will listen to its 'appeal' and this is how in practice expectations of a rising standard of living of peoples has been belied.

There are measures, like nationalisation of banks, oil, foreign trade, stopping of speculative markets, arresting evasion of taxes by the capitalists, exemplary punishment for profiteers and hoarders etc., which can effectively stem the rising prices and help find adequate resources for meeting the needs of the country. But these are not being done.

No longer can people tolerate their falling standards of living; no longer can they bear the brunt of economic depressions and attacks on their livelihood. Policies which are responsible for heaping such miseries on the common people must be abandoned. Persons who are responsible for the tardy implementation of the assurances of the government must be sacked.

## IRON ORE MINERS

# AITUC Demands Rs. 30 As Interim Relief

The All-India Trade Union Congress has demanded a flat-rate increase of Rs. 30 per month in the wages of iron ore miners as an interim measure. The Central Wage Board for Iron Ore Mining Industry has been requested to accept this demand and submit its recommendations to the Government of India expeditiously.

IN its memorandum to the Wage Board for interim wage increase of the miners, submitted on 8 July, the AITUC has pointed out that there has not been any rational wage regulation in iron ore mining industry, although the industry as such has grown by leaps and bounds during the last decade. While wage rates in mines worked manually are scandalously depressed, the more modern mechanised mines also do not pay a wage to the worker even on par with other organised industries.

"This can be seen from the fact that wages of lowest-paid workers in the Bihar-Orissa iron ore mines belt come down even less than a rupee a day. The payment related to quantity of ore raised also works out to Re. 1 to Rs. 1.25 in the Rajhara iron ore mines under the Bhilai Steel Project, where the raising contractors have effected severe rate-

cuts.

Steel Ltd., the skilled workers and technical staff of Rajhara iron ore mines are mostly working on daily wage of Rs. 1.75 (male) and Rs. 1.50 (female). They get no mining allowance or D.A. or any other facilities."

The AITUC has stated that the Government of India themselves, it seems, are unable to provide any reliable all-India picture of the wage situation in this industry. The main difficulty in this respect is the widely differing rates between mine to mine, not to speak of region to region. But one feature is common to all mines, i.e., the wages are extremely low as compared to the coal mining or other industries. The memorandum further adds:

An aspect which is worth noting in the context of the wage demands of the iron ore miners is that although the Government of India had agreed three years ago to extend the Minimum Wages Act to this industry, practical steps to fix wages are yet to be taken.



—Courtesy: Free Press Journal