

Election—Manoeuvre to Bring Alternative of Bourgeois Choice to Power

Elections to the assemblies of three states—West Bengal, Kerala and Jammu and Kashmir excluding Haryana previously announced to be included in the bunch are scheduled to be held on March 23. The bourgeoisie and all the defenders of bourgeois rule make the boastful claim that this periodic electoral exercise is the best proof of people's democratic right and of a democratic rule. How fake the claim becomes when the Election Commission proves to be a mere rubber stamp of the convenience and wishes of the ruling party at the centre and states. That is why when it is due, elections are not held in Haryana as the Congress(I), the ruling party at the centre finds the time not suitable. But in Jammu and Kashmir, where the elected government of Dr. Farooq Abdullah was toppled causing defection of MLAs through a conspiracy in which Mr. Rajiv Gandhi had a big hand, elections are being held simply because Mr. Rajiv Gandhi and his close circle consider the time most suitable after roping in Dr. Abdullah's National Congress in an electoral alliance with Congress(I). While they thus boast of democracy the much vaunted democratic process of elections is reduced to a mere formality of giving so-called legality to bring either of the parties or combinations, chosen by the ruling class, to governmental power. It has been corrupted through and through starting from manipulation of voters' list to centrally administered rigging by filling the duplicate ballot boxes with duplicate ballots. A smokescreen is required to cover up this fraud and this is done by the monopolist press and the government media by the constant propaganda of the so-called 'polarisation of votes' between the bourgeois alternatives negating thereby the role of real people's opposition and of their representation. This sinister device is carried on till the day before elections reducing the minimum democratic norms and principles of a fair election to a mockery.

Besides, the ruling party or combination and

the principal contenders all of bourgeois choice spend crores of rupees, extracted from the exploited either by the government or by the capitalists, though corrupt practices of administration and otherwise to purchase the votes of the poor and helpless taking advantage of their dire poverty and lack of adequate class consciousness.

ALL-INDIA PERSPECTIVE

The elections though being held in three states have therefore the all-India perspective in all the relevant aspects—the fundamental problems in people's life including that of sending people's real representatives to the bourgeois parlia-

mentary forum and integrating it with extra-parliamentary battles outside are the same, same is the bourgeois design of forcing the choice restricted to their chosen alternatives on the model of two-party parliamentary system as an anticipatory measure against the danger of militant democratic mass struggles transforming into class battles to pull down the exploitative and corrupt capitalist rule under the real revolutionary leadership. The class motive is to channelise growing wrath and discontent of the exploited and humiliated to the blind alley of parliamentarism. And for implementing this class design of the ruling class, the whole electoral system which they advertise as the so-called 'democratic options' has

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Make the U L D F Candidates Victorious

(In order to providing the people of West Bengal with an alternative united platform of left and democratic parties wedded to wage united mass struggles against the misrules of both the Congress(I) at the Centre and CPI(M)-led 'Left Front' Government in West Bengal, the five parties—the SUCI, MCPI, RSP, DSP and RCPI have forged the United Left Democratic Front and fielded in all 76 candidates in the ensuing assembly elections in West Bengal. We publish below the ULDF's policy statement. —Ed. P. Era)

POLICY STATEMENT OF UNITED LEFT DEMOCRATIC FRONT (ULDF)

On March 23 next, the people of West Bengal will be taking part in the tenth Assembly elections of the state along with two other states. These elections have been called at a time when the condition of the people and the country is extremely grave, defying description. Parliamentary parties of all hues, whether at the Centre or in the states always raise high sounding slogans and hold out rosy promises at the time of elections only to hoodwink the people taking advantage of their low level of consciousness, economic destitution, helplessness, ignorance and above all absence of any countrywide mighty united democratic mass movement. In fact, whatever the government statistics, the common people have long been groaning under the grinding wheel of the present oppressive, exploitative and corrupt system, aggravated further by the nefarious activities of blackmarketeers, hoarders, price manipulators, etc. In addition to large scale operation of blackmoney and imposition of unprecedented and unheard of taxation resulting in the constant erosion of the purchasing power of the people. The placing of budgets by the Central Government has now become a ceremonial farce, owing to the practice of pre-budgetary and post-budgetary taxation on and price rise of essential articles of daily use through administrative fiat throwing to the winds all democratic norms and even parliamentary principles.

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Com. Nihar Mukherjee sharply criticises Union Budget

Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, General Secretary, SUCI, has issued the following statement on union budget, 1987.

1st. March, 1987

"The union budget presented by the Prime Minister is a fascist blue print. Apart from the purpose of hoodwinking the people before elections it tries in vain to conceal the depth of crisis. Increase in defence budget i.e., militarisation of the economy at such rapid pace to inject artificial stimulation, alarming rise in deficit fuelling, higher rate of inflation, increasing dependence on foreign loans and borrowings prove the intensity of crisis, the entire burden of which is shifted on to the people.

"The imposition of fresh taxes on consumer articles is just the beginning of more such to come through budgets by instalments adopted by the rulers as fascist device. The so-called concession on the salaried middle class by not taxing those retrenched and retired prematurely is an encouragement to employers to resort to those. The so-called increase on education is similarly not to spread education but to restrict it further for achieving the same fascist design.

"We urge the people to rise up in united democratic resistance movement against savage fiscal onslaughts resorted to by the rulers both at the centre and states to give a lease of life to crisis ridden moribund capitalism."

On the eve of elections Cong (I) adopts terror tactics and murder

Severely condemning the brutal murder of Com. Ilius Purkait by the Congress(I) miscreants, Com. Sukomal Dasgupta, Secretary, West Bengal State Committee, SUCI issued the following statement:

4th. March, 1987

"On the 3rd March, 1987 evening while Com. Ilius Purkait along with twelve other Party workers were returning from the Dhola SUCI Office, under Kulpi P.S., on their way to election campaign a gang of Congress(I) anti-socials all on a sudden pounced upon them with lethal weapons, charged bombs and fired upon them.

"After charging bomb on Com. Purkait they brutally chopped off his head and shoulder on the spot. Besides, the goondas seriously injured six others with bombs and bullets of whom two have been hospitalized in serious conditions.

"We strongly protest against this preplanned attack and dastardly murder perpetrated by the Congress(I) to create terror just on the eve of elections and draw serious notice of the Election Commission. We also demand immediate arrest of and proper punishment to the culprits."

Apparently many but actually two forces—revolutionary and anti-revolutionary

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been corrupted thus. All these are at work uniformly and evident in every part of the country.

TWO PARTY SYSTEM—FASCIST DEVICE

The bourgeoisie from this class motive have been trying for long for a two-party parliamentary system. After the emergency rule when Mrs. Indira Gandhi and her party suffered severe loss in their image, the bourgeoisie tried for an alternative at the national level by inducting the Janata party, a combination of disparate parties and groups of conservative section of the bourgeoisie. But the trial was not successful as the Janata party's stay in government was short lived. This does not mean the bourgeoisie have abandoned their plan. They have since then introduced the two-party system at the state level with the help and active cooperation of all the parliamentary parties—Congress (I), Janata, CPI (M) and the various regional parties.

UNBEARABLE BURDEN OF CAPITALIST EXPLOITATION

The common people are groaning under the grinding wheel of capitalist exploitation and the ruthless fiscal onslaughts of the governments both at the centre and states. As an inevitable outcome of the law of capitalism, at its moribund state at that, unemployment soars to incredible proportions not only because of stagnant industrial growth but also due to the severity of the crisis a lakh or more industrial units have gone 'sick'. Closure, lockout, lay-off, retrenchment throw the working people in lakhs to the streets as beggars. All told some ten to fifteen crores of working people are totally unemployed; more is the number of semi-employed or 'disguised unemployed' in economic term. Proving lie to the government's claim to the contrary, the value of rupee has suffered erosion from 53 paise in 1971 to 16 paise or less in 1985-86. Proving lie again

the government's claim of bringing down the percentage of people below the poverty line, the updated figures for the minimum annual money incomes of Rs. 6,400 and Rs. 7,300 for the rural and urban families (in place of so long accepted figures of Rs. 3,600 and Rs. 4,200) show that more than 70 p.c. of the country's people are now below the poverty line.

The governments not only of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi at the centre but also of Mr. Jyoti Basu in West Bengal make boastful claim of ameliorating the lot of the poor by the IRDP (Integrated Rural Development Programme) commonly known as 'Food for Work' programme. But all the independent studies whether by the ILO's Director General, the National Institute of Labour, Reserve Bank of India, NABARD, the Auditor-General—all governmental and semi-governmental agencies point out that the scheme reduces itself to doles treating the 64 million agricultural workers as also the poor peasants not as human labour but as 'debtites' denying them thus even the minimum wages. Besides, bulk of the money under the scheme goes to the rural rich who use it as instrument of exploitation to push the people further down the poverty line. The fond illusion of causing structural changes for the exploited keeping intact the exploitative capitalist order therefore mocks those who believe and spread it among the people by bare facts and raw experiences.

Common people while denied of human existence without the provision for the minimum like food and drinking water, clothing and shelter, education and employment, medical care and public health, a transport system to carry human beings and not dumb beasts, roads for all seasons are being bled white by fiscal savageries. Taxes of the central government, not to speak of those of the state governments, was increased by Rs. 2000 crore last year

and the projected increase in the next financial year is Rs. 3,000 crore to raise the total tax revenue of the Central Government to the staggering figure of Rs. 25,250 crore!

The Government exceeds in expenditure over the 7th plan allocation on military buildup to an astronomical figure for a poor country like ours to Rs. 55,000 crore or more, on subsidies which now reach Rs. 5000 crore and on interest payment on foreign borrowings and loans from the rich within the country reaching about Rs. 9,000 crore in the coming financial year from a meagre Rs. 600 crore and odd in 1970-71. These non-developmental spendings take away 70 p.c. of the total expenditures of the Central Government leaving very little for people's welfare. As the government exceeds in spending over the plan allocations for the non-developmental purposes so does it also on deficit financing, mostly printing notes, having crossed the limit of Rs. 14,000 crore in the very third year of five year planning. Spendings on heads vital for people's welfare and social progress, for example on medical care, education, constitute just 8 and 9 days respectively of spending on military buildup.

As a cumulative effect of unemployment, price inflation, backbreaking burden of taxes, erosion in real wages, etc. the working class families are fast losing the minimum nutrition requirement and their indebtedness is rising menacingly. Even the Central Government's Labour Bureau conducted Working Class Family Income and Expenditure Survey (1981-82) cannot conceal the facts that ever increasing percentage of their income goes now to pay taxes as also to repay debts. Calculated on the basis of its 2 p.c. samples, 17 lakh of total working class families are having an increase in their indebtedness by Rs. 280 crore, per year. The bourgeoisie are not only passing the entire burden of crisis on to the shoulder of working people but in order to break the organised

resistance to savage exploitation are snatching one by one, the minimum democratic and trade union rights won through long and hard struggles.

The class compulsion of the ruling class leads them to resort to utterly reactionary and anti-people policies and opt for all-out fascism, as the last prop of defence of the system and for its lease of life. Militarisation of the economy at a fast pace has been going on not only for injecting artificial stimulation in the sagging economy but also to arm to the teeth the state machinery with all kinds of sophisticated weapons. Introduction of capital intensive sophisticated electronic devices like automation-computerisation encouraged as government policy both by the Rajiv Government and the CPI (M)-led government in West Bengal in the name of technological advancement is to serve monopoly capital. This brings drastic reduction in the working force either by retrenchment or by premature retirement, maximisation of profit and polarisation of capital by further concentration and centralisation of capital and products.

Linked with this bourgeois strategy of meeting the crisis is the policy of invitation to the multinationals or imperialist capital to loot and plunder the people and resources whether in collaboration with private monopoly capital or with state capital in joint venture. The governments led by both Congress (I) and CPI(M) resort more and more to borrowings from the World Bank and the IMF, the international agencies in the service of imperialist capital and obey faithfully their terms, conditions and dictates which hit the people very much. The increase at regular interval of bus and tram fares and power tariffs in West Bengal and rise of administered prices of food grains, sugar, coal, oil and oil products, railway freights and fares, postal tariffs etc. by the Central Government prove this fact.

FOREIGN POLICY REFLECTION OF INTERNAL POLICY

It should be the common knowledge that the foreign policy of a country cannot but be the reflection of the internal policy. Consistent with the internal policy of the Indian aspirant bourgeoisie, the Central Government at its service has been exploiting the contention for extension of sphere of influence between the two super powers to the advantage of Indian monopoly capital so that it may grow and develop into a powerful imperialist power. The distinct characteristic features of imperialism like birth of monopoly finance capital, financial oligarchy and export of capital to outside markets for exploitation of cheap labour and natural resources are already very much noticeable in Indian capital and the Indian bourgeois state has already emerged not only as a regional power but also as a big power in the third world countries.

The talk of peace and the cover of non-alignment movement cannot therefore conceal the class motive of the Indian ruling class to have a 'peaceful condition' for the rapid capitalist development, possible at this historical phase, and for making the best use of the situation not only for the extension of market of commodities but also of "surplus capital" squeezed out of the blood and sweat of the teeming millions of our country.

PRIVATISATION OF PUBLIC SECTOR—WHY?

With the crisis of market deepening, private monopoly capital is venturing lesser and lesser in newer and newer fields. The public sector undertakings built up with peoples money are therefore being opened up either by the governments joining in "joint venture" with monopoly capital or outright sell of those on some plea as in West Bengal under CPI (M) led 'left front' rule in line with the Rajiv Government's policy.

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Bourgeois money bags, press-media, rigging machinery of administration concentrate attacks on struggling forces

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True, the form whether public or private, does not matter in capitalist economy as the law of capitalism equally applies to both but the motive here is to help private monopoly capital's outlet to relatively safer areas of giant state units without the least bother of having any social commitment. The political implication is fusion of state monopoly capitalism with private monopoly capital, giving thereby the rock bottom foundation of fascist economy—pointed out and cautioned long years back by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, one of the foremost Marxist thinkers of the era, when social democratic parties like the united CPI was lauding the building of public sector as if 'socialist measure' in itself.

The same very social democratic parties like CPI(M), CPI while keeping the show of verbal opposition are themselves implementing the 'privatisation' of public sector, are giving open support to retrenchment of workers on the plea of 'modernisation' from their position in government as in West Bengal.

ALL PARLIAMENTARY PARTIES IN DEFENCE OF BOURGEOIS CLASS POLICIES

This is bound to be. For, whoever stands in defence of the moribund capitalist order, earns the trust and confidence of the ruling capitalist class to be and stay in government to enjoy parliamentary pelf and privileges will have to defend the ruling class policies and design and take upon its shoulder the task of keeping away the exploited and oppressed from the mass and class struggles. But these struggles is the only scientific instrument—only scientific method testified by history for the growth and development of people's own instruments of struggle and emergence of alternate people's political power opposed to prevailing bourgeois power which alone can bring

change in the situation and pave the way for people's emancipation. The social democratic parties serve better than the marked bourgeois parties in this heinous job and the bourgeoisie are therefore relying more and more on these forces of compromise between labour and capital as the last prop of defence of the system for its lease of life.

GRAVE ASSAULTS ON MORALS, ETHICS, DEMOCRATIC NORMS AND PRINCIPLES

The unprecedented crisis of capitalism has brought in its train grave onslaughts on morals, ethics, democratic value and norms once cherished dear to heart and regarded essential for a civilised life by the bourgeois thinkers even. These have now become matter of cynical contempt in social and political life.

This degradation and decay in social life has come out of dark conspiracy and deliberate class policy of the ruling class to prepare the ground for all-out fascism to ascend to power. The bourgeoisie are no longer able to rule in the old way by observing minimum administrative neutrality, freedom and relative independence of judiciary and allowing the due role and importance of legislatures as social forum. The cry is, therefore, now for committed administration, judiciary and unlimited powers at the hands of a person in high office under the deceptive slogan of a 'strong centre'. CPI(M) and other social democratic parties ask for 'more power to the state' but they are all for a 'strong centre' which actually means unbridled powers for the centre. Powers—administrative, financial, political all are being concentrated at a rapid pace with a formidable array of draconian legal measures all for the use against the people. In the process people's hard earned minimum democratic and trade union rights have been robbed.

The ruling class is

however well aware that by mere oppressions and repressions they cannot sustain this bankrupt and rotten to the core moribund capitalist order. They therefore work to pervert social and political morality essential for a civil society.

For, as Com. Shibdas Ghosh, the founder General Secretary of our Party, explained long back giving a thorough exposure to the fascist design and devices actually put into practice by the parliamentary parties at their service that : a nation, even if it starves can stand up against oppression and injustice provided its moral fibres are not entirely lost and still retains at least an average standard or moral and ethical values, democratic conscience.

In reality, for any progressive idea and thoughts to gain ground and people's progressive movement to spread, these work as the very base. Therefore the attack of the bourgeoisie and their defenders is right on this base.

In the name of so-called new education policy of both the bourgeois and social democratic governments, education has been devalued and the people have been denied the right to have formal education.' Model School one in each district has been devised to bring out the personnels deemed enough for the bourgeois rule and its administration keeping the overwhelming number of people in the darkness of illiteracy and ignorance only to serve as dumb slaves to this savage exploitative society. Regimentation of thoughts and ideas, fusion of the technical, aspects of science with spiritualism, permissive culture with sex and violence, growing alcoholism and use of drugs and narcotics, pornographic magazines and literatures, unethical means of livelihood—all these are being encouraged to eat into the very vitals of social morality. The youth who like the spine of a society, have always played a glorious

role in all progressive movements in history like the freedom movement of our country and education, have become the victim of a sinister conspiracy. They, deprived of food and education, employment and healthy recreation, a life with dignity and a future of hope are sought to be turned to beasts of burden of the moribund capitalist system that rob them all and to mercenaries of the parties that stand in its defence. Along with all these come criminalisation in politics and social field.

COMMUNALISM, SECESSIONISM DIVISIVE TRENDS— CONGRESS(I) THE MAIN ARCHITECT

Not content with all these various measures to dehumanise, the bourgeoisie through their political agents—the ruling parties are encouraging and fanning up secessionism, communalism, casteism—all sorts of divisive trends and tendencies among the exploited and oppressed with the sole motive of wrecking the unity of the working people to obstruct the growth and development of their class consciousness and their democratic movement on its basis.

The Congress (I) the oldest and most trusted agent of the Indian ruling class has been working as the main architect in all these nefarious acts. Mr. Rajiv Gandhi is playing with the regional parties and forces, bringing them to governmental power as he did in Assam and Mizoram by bringing down elected governments led even by his own party from the same sordid object. Following his footsteps, Mr. Jyoti Basu, his party and government incite Bengali chauvinism against the Nepalese speaking poor people of Darjeeling hill districts to exploit it in the narrow parliamentary interest. CPI(M) leadership does by this immense harm not only to the traditional bond of brotherhood between the Bengalis and the Nepalese, creates the favour-

able ground for the Congress (I) and the separatist GNLFL leaderships to fish in troubled water and invites a situation for similar forces within the state to rear their ugly heads.

DISINTEGRATION IN PARLIAMENTARY PARTIES

The perpetuating recession in the economy brings inevitably a mad scramble for government finances and privileges between various sections of the bourgeoisie. Pulls and counter-pulls, groups and sub-groups repressing different pressure lobbies along with clashes in parliamentary ambition between the leaders causing disintegration of these parties are coming to surface. The splinter groups of these parties are coming to newer and queer combinations as do the ruling parties at the centre and states. Disintegration for unity and that unity for further disintegration are the features now in bourgeois parliamentary politics. All sorts of permutation and combination, ludicrous at that, go on to stay put in parliamentary politics by these parties and indicate the depth of crisis the bourgeois parties face now. Not only they, even the social democratic parties serving this corrupt and exploitative system do no longer remain unaffected.

Against this background of serious crisis in bourgeois parliamentary party system suggestion is afloat for a directly elected prime minister on the plea of giving him security against pressures within the party and for ensuring his full tenure. In Indira Gandhi's rule both at the time of emergency or before her sudden death similar suggestion for an all powerful elected president was sounded. This time the suggestion for an all-powerful prime minister has come when the present incumbent enjoys unprecedented majority in Parliament manoeuvred through the slogan of 'nation in danger' and wholesale rigging and

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Build up people's own instruments of struggles precursor to people's alternative political power

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hastily protected by the legal measure of Anti-defection Act. Concentration of economic, political and administrative powers in a small coterie at the top has been going on over the decades in the country bidding good bye to minimum administrative neutrality, relative independence of even the judiciary, autonomy of educational, social, cultural institutions. This small coterie at the top represents the military industrial bureaucratic complex seeking a burial of civil society. Therefore the present suggestion for a Prime Minister with unlimited powers indicates that the bourgeoisie are finding severe difficulty even to maintain the show of parliamentary system and that the crisis is fast coming to a head with some form of "constitutional dictatorship" in the political set-up.

THE PARTIES AND FORCES — WHOM TO CHOOSE AND WHY

Generally, but more so during the elections, common people find so many parliamentary parties or combinations all soliciting their support showering promises and money at random. People have ample experiences about these parties and their leaders either as their oppressors from governmental power or shying away always from the solemn duty of standing by their cause and organising their legitimate democratic movements against exploitation, oppression and denial of justice. They cannot but admit the fact that it is the SUCI that is the only struggling force taking up through democratic movement every issue that vitally affects people's cause and interest. It is this party that stands for democratic norms and values and is seriously committed to principles. To all others, over head and ears in parliamentarism, the talk of democracy norm and values is just to deceive the people, their sole concern being any how to garb

seats in assemblies and parliament and governmental power where possible.

That these parties care little for minimum political ethics is clearly evident by the "free to all" policy they adopt in choosing their electoral combination from state to state. In West Bengal the CPI(M), has no electoral alliance with the Janata Party and Lokdal while these two parties are the constituents of the Left Democratic Front led by CPI(M) in Kerala. CPI(M) is with the Janata party in Karnataka, with Telegu Desham in Andhra, in alliance with Janata Party in Jammu and Kashmir and will find no difficulty to be in electoral alliance with both Janata and Lokdal in the incoming elections in Haryana. These parties, no matter the difference in their flags and vocabularies stand for the same—defence to this moribund capitalist order. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh alerted the Indian people against this politics of deception by pointing out the truth: apparently there may be so many parties and sides but in politics there can in reality be only two political forces, two sides. Those who stand for radical transformation of the society by revolution and all others who are anti-revolutionary forces, opposed to revolution. Our party holds high the banner of anti-capitalist Socialist Revolution and towards that end mass and class struggles.

WHAT IS THE SCENE IN ELECTORAL COMBINATIONS IN WEST BENGAL AND KERALA ?

In West Bengal, besides the ruling CPI(M) led left-front there are fronts like Jatiya Gana Front led by the Rashtriya Samajbadi Congress led by former number two in Indira Cabinet, Mr. Pronab Mukherjee. It proudly defends all the misdeeds and rabid anti-people policies of Indira Gandhi and her

regime and claims to be the most loyal followers of her and what she stood for. It kept open its door for those who failed to secure ticket from Mrs. Gandhi's son and his outfit. It is therefore in every sense the 'B' team of the ruling Congress (I). Similarly there is another opportunist front—the Democratic Front led by the Muslim League having a queer combination from Jharkhand Mukti Morcha to a faction of CPI(ML).

As opposed to all these parties of the Establishment and of opportunist alliances has emerged a united platform of democratic movement to uphold people's genuine cause. Our party SUCI is a constituent of this front. This front of struggles is under the name and style—United Left Democratic Front (ULDF). The policy statement of the ULDF given separately in this issue is sure to distinguish it from all others to all those who are not biased. This is not merely an electoral alliance but represents the struggling forces to build up democratic mass and class struggles.

Naturally, this Front will be the target of concentrated attack of all the parliamentary parties who avouedly take part in the politics of deception, and propagate to the exploited and oppressed the lie that their lot can be changed either by supporting or changing the present government keeping in tact this exploitative, oppressive and corrupt social system.

The monopoly press will insinuate and black-out its news trampling minimum journalistic norm. They will on the other hand work overtime to advertise the bourgeois alternatives to pattern the mind of the voters so that their choice remains restricted in favour of either of the bourgeois alternatives on the so-called plea of 'polarisation of votes! A cover

is needed to hide the crime of centrally administered rigging so that the results of the rigged election can have an air of plausibility.

And the news about electoral prospect in individual constituencies will come at the final stage in the name of so-called 'investigative reports', a sinister device introduced in recent times by the monopoly press, as complementary to rigging of elections. The whole purpose will be to misguide the voters by telling that the candidates of this Front have no chance of return in West Bengal and the same about SUCI candidates elsewhere.

In Kerala, our party is contesting in three constituencies singlehandedly against the twin opportunist fronts of the establishment—the UDF led by Congress (I) and CPI(M)-led Left Democratic Front and other communal and opportunist forces. Regarding the former, even a bourgeois daily, (The State-man, Calcutta Edition, February 23) could not but comment as nothing other than 'exclusive confederation of caste and community based parties under the Congress (I) tutelage'. While this is true, why did not this daily report that both Hindu and Muslim communalism and other nasty divisive feelings are being fanned up by both these combinations for petty parliamentary interests? This daily of 'top monopoly house shows where lies its preference by not telling the whole truth.

We responded to the call of MCPI for jointly fighting the elections in Kerala by explaining that if the alliance is not restricted to electoral purpose only but made a united platform of democratic mass struggles on agreed minimum programme and code of conduct and if Mr. Namboodiripad's old line of combination with the communal parties and forces to anyhow grab seat or governmental power is abandoned then there will be no difficulty for us to combine with them. We told them about our readiness to concede on seat but not on principles which we never compromise.

We are also contesting the bye-election in the constituency of Patti under Pratappgarh district in U.P., singlehandedly to carry to the people the mass political line of anti-capitalist Socialist Revolution against the ruling and other bourgeois parties.

CALL TO THE PEOPLE

We urge the people to grasp the truth that elections will come and go but their position can only change for the worse despite very many promises to the contrary and filthy money that the parties and forces stand in defence of this savage exploitative rule will spend to purchase votes exploiting their helpless condition.

Our party, SUCI, participates in elections as incidental and conducive to democratic mass and class struggles on the revolutionary line of anti-capitalist Socialist Revolution. We call upon the people to take up this only scientific approach for a change to come in their life, testified by history.

We urge them to recall the invaluable guidance left for the working class and all men of conscience by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh as to how they are to approach the elections: Elections are to be fought pulling all our strength and efforts to win so that the people's real representatives can be returned to the bourgeois parliamentary forum. These real representatives of the people are to perform threefold tasks of fighting the parliamentary illusion untiringly to carry the voice of extra-parliamentary battles outside, giving exposure and opposition outside and thus playing the role of a link to integrate both the parliamentary and extra-parliamentary battles. The more the real representatives of the people are returned to parliamentary forums, more strident becomes the voice of the people and of their struggles.

They must realise that it goes against their very vital interest to fall prey to the bourgeois trap of choosing either of the

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Crisis-ridden bourgeoisie bring allout attacks preparing the ground of allout fascism

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In short, ever soaring prices of essential commodities, sharp increase in railway fares and freights, ever increasing problem of unemployment, absence of any land reform worth the name, shrinking employment potential of the very crisis-ridden system, mounting taxation of the common people and the taking away of even the minimum of democratic rights and enactment of black Acts, the fact of the vast majority of the people living below the poverty line, child mortality being the highest in the world, unprecedented incidence of death among the expectant mothers, child labour being highest in Asia, more than 70 p.c. people remaining illiterate undoing the promises given in the Constitution, and floods, droughts, cyclones and other calamities of nature being the constant companion of the millions of the common people who have no remedy other than falling prey to the cult of fatalism, health and hygiene being the last concern of the powers that be—all this has been the picture of the people's life in our country even after about forty years since the independence. In the name of modernisation the craze of computerisation of the Indian ruling class, in the present crisis-ridden system is throwing millions of the people out of employment, adding to the number of the unemployed to raise it to astronomical figures beyond imagination. Despite this stark reality the people will again be hearing pathetic parodies of false promises given by both the Congress(I) and the CPI(M)-led Left Front in West Bengal before this elections too. We are sure that shedding of crocodile tears by the leaders of these ruling parties for the people will also not be wanting.

One may recall how Shri Rajiv Gandhi most unabashedly claimed before the Lok Sabha elections of 1984 that it was only the Congress(I) which stood for the national unity and

how the entire opposition was most uncourtously branded as the forces of disintegration, how he pledged to introduce a 'clean' administration if voted to power so on and so forth. The people's experience, as was correctly apprehended by many, proved just the reverse. Separatism, parochialism, regionalism, casteism and communalism of any brand have become the stock in trade of the Central Government with a calculated and nefarious design to drive a wedge in the unity of the people in order to extend the lease of life of this exploitative system, and for nothing else. There is no wonder that this Government does this heinous crime while vociferously raising the slogan of national integration.

The National Policy on Education 1986 is yet another example of inculcating the cult of blind faith and obscurantism in the name of value-oriented education making a synthesis with the changing technology, so to say, or rather a peculiar admixture of science and spiritualism creating the mould of fascist culture and pushing the people more and more to outmoded ideas, while drumbeating at the same time for a so-called onward march to the 21st century. The National Policy on Education is aimed at more and more Governmental control over education and regimentation of thought which is, indeed very dangerous. The CPI(M) Government has basic identity of outlook with the Congress(I) regarding this NPE but has some points to oppose on the question of whether or not education should be on the state or on the concurrent list and also on the question of the medium of instruction in the model schools etc. These not so important points vis-a-vis the basic outlook are being propagated so loudly that one may think that the CPI(M) is completely opposed to the NPE itself—which is not a fact. Besides,

the CPI(M) itself admitted at the Srinagar Conclave a few years back that its slogan for more power to the States was mainly meant to be more money for the States which is now practically controlled by the Central Government. Naturally, it becomes obvious that the CPI(M)-led Left Front Government is not as such opposed to the plundering of the people but its fight against the Central Government boils down, in the ultimate analysis, to sharing booty and nothing else. Moreover, the Government led by it has announced categorically that despite their opposition here and there to the NPE the Left Front Government will not oppose its implementation in West Bengal. It seems difficult on the part of the Left Front Government, whatever the points of opposition, to withstand the lure of 34 crores of rupees which they will get for the proposed 17 model schools in the districts in addition to other privileges. It may be mentioned, in this connection, that as the Central Government is creating two types of citizens by its education policy—one as the product of model schools and the other as the product of general schools—the Left Front Government, in its turn, is virtually doing the same thing through its language policy. It is everybody's experience that after abolition of English at the primary stage by the Left Front Government, the sons and daughters of the ministers, and, in fact, the wards of the guardians belonging to upper strata of the society are getting education in English medium schools for building a good career in future while the majority of the students are advised on the ills of English education at the primary level. This is queer indeed!

The problem of Punjab, Assam etc. are, in a way, the creation of the Congress(I) Government which is preserving these problems for petty parliamentary interest and is fishing in troubled waters of narrow power politics,

even playing with fire so much so that hated politics of extremism has reared its ugly head beyond all limits and is threatening to become a serious crisis in the body-politic as well as in the life of the people of this country.

In place of clean administration, a clear sense of suspicion is writ large on the ruling party and the Government at the Centre consequent upon tremendous group squabbles inside the Congress(I) despite its enjoying unprecedented majority in the parliament, expressing as it does through arbitrary and frequent changes in the party leadership at different levels and re-huffing of the Central Cabinet already done ninth time during the last two years. It is a clear symptom of a coterie rule of the worst kind, manifesting the design of the ruling class in putting its trust on the man of its choice at this particular moment. Such has been the brand of value-based politics of the youthful Prime Minister which, in fact, has been reduced to criminalisation of politics. The veneer of the much vaunted Anti-Defection Act has been shattered into pieces through encouragement of certain measures by the Government itself, contrary not only to the declared spirit but even to the letter of this law. The more the crisis in the economy, the more the tendency of its militarisation with a view to creating some sort of artificial stimulation—a fact which the ruling class is no more able to hide before the people. The ruling class is therefore bent upon diverting the people's attention by creating a kind of war psychosis under the smokescreen and the 'bogey' of "nation in danger". The recent developments on the Pakistan border have exposed the entire game of the ruling class so much that this act has been seriously criticized in almost all the leading dailies controlled by the monopolists. In all this game the ruling class is trying to use the patriotic feelings of the people in the name of country's defence for which it has been spending fabulous amounts in the defence

budget to defend those interest best known to those who are at the helm of affairs. The main issue before the ruling class is to extend the lease of life of this moribund system and a severe competition is already afoot in this state as to who can serve best the interest of the ruling class whether the Congress(I) or the CPI(M). One method to extend the lease of life of this crisis-ridden system is to take recourse to a change of Government at the behest of the ruling class, which cannot bring about any change in this system—only worsening further the condition of the people more and more. The uninterrupted Congress rule at the Centre had a break after the 1977 Lok-Sabha polls bringing in the Janata Party rule at the Centre which could not continue for more than thirty months for so many reasons. The attempt of the ruling class to introduce a two-party system, therefore, suffered a severe jolt at the Centre although this scheme is still being experimented at whatever possible levels. The design of the ruling class to place either the Congress(I) or the CPI(M)-led Left Front in power in this State is part of the same game in West Bengal. This two-party system is a measure to arrest the people in the blind alley of parliamentarism - reformism-legalism and nothing else. Today's elections are mostly inter-linked with this kind of politics—a design found most suited to the ruling class.

It is everybody's experience that the parties of the vested interest raise the question, as their main slogan, at the elections—"which party will come to power"? By this the ruling class frantically tries to place before the people the protectors of this exploitative system as the friend of the people. It is an attempt to project these parties of the *status quo* as the acceptable friends of the people. In this dark design these parties are backed mostly by the monopoly press, the money-bags, the mass-media—private or Government controlled—to project them as the saviour capable of 'delivering' goods. For this, the ruling class also resorts

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to an all-out rigging, including administrative rigging, to bring the party of its choice to power and not to take any risk. In fact, the ruling class attempts to vertically divide almost the whole of the people at the behest of this artificial polarisation and is engaged in making the people swing like a pendulum from this to that ruling party in this or that election depending on the situation and their immediate experience. The people should be conscious of the fact that the real representatives of the people are those who are engaged in democratic mass movements conducive to the radical transformation of the society. In fact, they are the real alternative before the people, the only alternative of the people contrary to the typical parliamentary alternatives who are the alternatives before the ruling class. There should be no illusion on this score. Here comes the necessity of choosing those forces who stand for building legitimate democratic mass movements on the burning problems of the people's life which alone can resist and check both the Central and State Governments, to compel them to change their anti-people policies—and leading these movements to their logical culmination given correct leadership and favourable situation.

It is very unfortunate that one cannot find today any role of opposition which once was very much discernible, let alone Left opposition having a glorious record in the past particularly in West Bengal. To be more precise—the role of the CPI(M)-led Left Front Government in a Left-oriented state like West Bengal has been eating into the very vitals of Leftism—to say the least. Usurping the glory of the martyrs who laid their lives in the stormy period of united Left movement against the most hated and despicable rule of the then Congress—the Left Front held the reins of governmental power in this state. Now at their hands not only the left democratic movement has been threatened to be ruined — the Left Front Government in West Bengal has already created a shameful record

Congress (I) Left Front and other bourgeois and opportunist forces not people's alternative

taking lives and making martyrs by brutal police force in today's democratic movements against rise in bus-tram-railway fares or on any other demands. They have objectively abandoned their stance of Leftism even and do not hesitate to pounce upon any mass movement most brutally with coercive apparatus of the state machine, faithfully following the line shown by its predecessors. The latest example is the just movement of the Junior Doctors and the Engineers, among so many others, about which the less said the better. Open and naked assurance to the monopolists for retrenchment of the workers in the name of modernisation is an example of the worst kind of platitude by Shri Jyoti Basu, a politbureau member of the CPI(M), to the monopolists for which he has earned an ingnomious certificate of being the best salesman "when the question of selling West Bengal", meaning the interest of the people, comes in.

The Central Government has long been making all sorts of contracts with the World Bank, the I.M.F.—or in short with the multinationals in secret to the detriment of the people's interest one after another. Although the Central Congress (I) Government maintains an anti-imperialist stance—it does not hesitate to appease with the imperialist countries in its bid to consolidate the class rule. The CPI(M)-led Left Front is quite vociferous against the attitude of the Central Government towards the multinationals but is itself following the footprints of the Congress (I) Government with impunity. The domestic and foreign policies of the Cong. (I) and the CPI(M)-led Left Front have been aimed at proving who can serve the interest of the ruling class best. It is, therefore, clear that the fight between the Congress(I) and the CPI(M) is a mock-fight to befool the people in the game of the ballot-box. Re-

cords of this Front have proved beyond doubt that the Left Front has left Leftism at the lurch.

Besides, it is difficult to overlook the degree of decadence gripping the country today, coming as it does as a design of the ruling class. The ruling parties at the Centre and the States are aiding and abetting all sorts of unethical means of livelihood among the people. Addiction to drug, alcoholism, underworld activities have become very much rampant today.

The serious decline of cultural standard in the Congress(I) had been decidedly demonstrate on the occasion of Congress Centenary Celebrations as also on so many other occasions. Coming to West Bengal one cannot overlook the degree of decadence in culture under the aegis of the 'Left Front' Government with pornographic literature, blue films etc. flooding the market in Calcutta, as a part of the calculated game to plunge the students and youths in particular in cultural depravity, emasculating them to the point of dumb spectators in the face of injustice and oppression. In the name of earning excise duty the 'Left Front' Government has dangerously resorted to encouraging alcoholism beyond any limit. The fanfare of Hope'86 patronised by the 'Left Front' Government has been aimed at fanning up a kind of vulgar culture among the people,—vulgar both in form and content. It is high time that people come out in the open in a more organised way not to allow the plunging of the society into the abyss of perversion and permissiveness by the ruling parties at the Centre and in the States. Any body can also witness a kind of in-built corruption of high magnitude polluting the entire administration as an appendage of the ruling party. Moreover, this politics of subservience to the Indian monopoly capitalists has been pursued to ensure the ruling party's staging a come-back to power for

another term with the blessings of the ruling class.

The Congress (I) is no doubt the main enemy of the people. We also strongly feel the urgent necessity to build up countrywide united democratic mass movements against the anti-people price, taxation policies of both the Central and the State Governments on a common minimum programme and a code of conduct both from the parliamentary and extra-parliamentary platforms. It is becoming clear that the CPI(M) has been playing the role of compromise and a second fiddle to the Congress(I) to serve the ruling class and thereby posing a great danger before the democratic mass movements. We are, therefore, pledge-bound to build up mass movements not only against the authoritarian Congress rule at the Centre but also against the anti-people non-Left policies of the so-called 'Left Front' Government in this State.

We cannot but note with serious concern that taking advantage of various weaknesses of the Left movement and the absence of powerful democratic mass movements in the state—the forces of separatism, parochialism, casteism, communalism have been raising their ugly heads. Various demands to divide the state are very much in the air—not only the demand of Gorkhaland but also that of Uttarkhand, Jharkhand and the like working against the erstwhile left tradition of this state. About the question of Gorkhaland—the least which can be said is that both the contending parliamentary parties that is the CPI(M) and the Congress (I) have not cared to probe deeply into the genuine accumulated grievances of the Nepali speaking Indian people helping, thereby, objectively creating a situation in which the Nepali people are falling prey to the separatist leaders of the GNLF. Not only that; the way the entire situation has been allowed to be drifted has spelt disaster in wrecking the unity of the people.

Although apparently taking opposite position—both the Congress (I) and the CPI(M) in this State have virtually added fuel to the flame of Bengali fanaticism in particular to cash on it in the game of ballot-box. After all this, it is futile to suggest that the "Gorkhaland will not be made an issue at the elections" which has already been persistently and calculatedly made a serious issue in the election and cannot be salvaged or wished away by such so-called pious declarations of these leaders. Our sole concern and deep anguish is that this foul game of these parties, whatever the pretension, has practically undermined the glorious heritage of united Left movement in West Bengal. We cannot also shut our eyes to the separatist demands of Uttarkhand, Jharkhand etc. which are ominous indeed in the context of unity of the people.

The Jatiya Gana Front led by the erstwhile "Number Two Minister" in the Indira Cabinet is likely to get a good patronage and platitude of the monopoly pres. A section of the monopolists is found to lend its all-out support behind this Front in a futile attempt to project it before the people-taking advantage of the misuse of the "Left Front" Government in the State and the hated Congress regime at the Centre—as if it is a new force to be backed by the people. The breakway faction of the Congress(I) has taken an ambivalent attitude towards Indira loyalism, reminding one of the hated rule of Emergency and Subhasist Socialism—only to befool the people of West Bengal. In order to prove its credibility, true to its high sounding claim or at least as a dependable force in the opposition—this Front will have to traverse a long way. One cannot dispel the apprehension, while noting its opposition to so many policies of Rajiv Gandhi Government at present—whether the party floated by the previous Congress(I) Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee will flock again to the dirt and filth of the Congress(I) politics if personal ambition of the leader gets anyhow fulfilled. Moreover it has already been found that the parties of this Front have opportu-

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Tripura Save Education Committee formed

History is replete with tyranny on education. The rulers and exploiters of all ages, being afraid of education and power of knowledge, always tried to trample it. In this path of onslaught on education, the Rajiv Government has come up with National Education Policy—a policy of all-out fascisation in the sphere of education. When almost all the political parties—left or right willynilly extend support to this disastrous policy, it is only the SUCI, the revolutionary party of the Indian proletariat, who out of its sense of urgency has come out singlehandedly to raise its voice of protest. In preparation for a vast countrywide resistance movement against it, Regional Save Education Committees with the country's distinguished educationists and cross sections of intellectuals are formed to mobilise public opinion throughout the country against the disastrous Education Policy framed by the Union Government. With this end in view, Tripura Preparatory Save Education Convention Committee

with distinguished educationists, intellectuals and eminent persons of diverse sections of the state was formed to focus attention of the people of the state to the worst disaster posed by the newly enacted National Education Policy. Expressing deep concern at a time when the cultural, moral and ethical standards in our country are fast deteriorating, the Preparatory Committee, echoing the voice of all right-thinking people and particularly those in the fields of education, science and culture all over the country, urged the countrymen to build up protest and resistance movements. As a part of it, seminars, conventions are being held in every nook and corner of the country quite in large numbers under the auspices of different Regional Save Education Committees.

Tripura State-level Save Education Convention was held on 14th February last at Music College Hall, Agartala attended by educationists, teachers and students from different parts of the state.

The Convention started with Dr. Sushil Kumar Mukherjee, ex-Vice Chancellor of Calcutta University, a scientist of international repute and the President of the Eastern Regional Save Education Committee, in the Chair. He was also the main speaker in the august gathering. In his thought provoking address, Dr. Mukherjee described the 'New Education Policy' as no education policy at all. He laid bare the seemingly suave facets of anti-people character of the Policy on National Education and concluded with a belief that it was possible to resist this disastrous Education Policy through organised mass movement with the students and youths taking the lead. The other noted personalities who took part in the convention were Sri Manimoy Dev Verma, formerly Vice-Chairman, Agartala Municipality, Sri Bimal Kar, Principal, C T T I, Agartala, Sri Subal Kumar Dey, Secretary, Agartala Press Club and Editor of an esteemed daily etc.

Defeat Congress(I) the main enemy and CPI(M) the main danger in Left movement

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bourgeois alternatives. No doubt the Congress (I) is their main enemy. The CPI(M) led 'Left Front' be it in West Bengal or in Tripura and Kerala is guilty of pursuing non-left and anti-people policies, showing scant regard for minimum sense of values, submerged as it is in wretched parliamentary opportunism. Where it is in government it shows its active interest in implementing the bourgeois class design and class policies and the terms and dictates of the imperialist agencies like the World Bank and IMF. It not only brings down savage repression on any legitimate democratic

movement, dictates as the precondition for sitting in negotiation withdrawal of the movement like in an autocratic rule. Crowning it all, sets party rowdies and plain clothed police against those in legitimate movement. They are serving the monopoly capital better than the marked bourgeois parties. That is why whichever among the alternatives of bourgeois choice comes to power will not bring any change for the better in people's life. This change can really come if people's real representatives who are people's alternative to bourgeois alternatives are returned more in number to build up a strong opposition within the bourgeois

parliamentary forum.

The working people and all men of conscience will have to bear in mind that so long as people's own instruments of struggle do not grow and develop in strength in different walks of life through the democratic phase of mass and class struggles and the alternate people's political power parallel to prevailing bourgeois power skipping the phase, the path for a real change in their life cannot be paved. For the emancipation of the people, society, and civilisation this is the historically determined course, the scientific course and the only course.

Treat Elections as an integral part of democratic movement

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nist alliance in different states following no principle at all.

We note with concern that a systematic Hindu Communalism is being fanned up by different branded Hindu Communal Organisations like Viswa Hindu Parishad, Shiva Sena, Hindu Sena, etc. at the behest of even the Congress (I) other than the BJP and RSS whose main plank of politics has again been nothing other than Hindu Communalism. As a reaction to it, Muslim Communal forces have been helped to gain in more strength and any filthy incident is now prone to and capable of flaring up communal riot in this or that part of the country. It is the bounden duty of all democratic and progressive forces and guard against the communal, casteist, obscurantist forces and guard against all fratricidal blood bath in order to maintain people's unity at any cost.

In this background, the following parties have agreed to form the United Left Democratic Front (ULDF) as an instrument of struggle with the object of ameliorating the genuine grievances of the people and to strongly fight against the Congress (I) at the Centre and non-left, anti-people policies of the CPI(M)-led Left Front Government in this State. Our task shall also be to unmask, the dubious force dubbed as the Jatiya Gana Front under the aegis of the Rastriya Socialist Congress led by Shri Pranab Mukherjee being backed by a section of the foreign and Indian monopolists. We declare unequivocally that ULDF is not just an election alliance to earn some petty dividend but it will remain pledged to develop and strengthen legitimate democratic mass movements throughout the state of West Bengal. We consider election as part and parcel and incidental to democratic mass movements and not a means to manoeuvre in parliamentary power politics. We are dead against holding out false promises before and hoaxing the people. We assure the

people that we will strengthen the voice of mass movements both outside and inside the legislature. The ULDF will fight consistently to get the principle of "right to recall" introduced by the Government to call back those representatives including the ministers who prove themselves corrupt and engaged in anti-people activities, from their membership of the legislature. We accept a 24-point charter of demands (not mentioned here) as the demands of people's life as our common minimum demands of mass movements. We hope, people of West Bengal, true to their Left tradition will make the candidates of the ULDF victorious with this clear understanding that it is the only force of movement which alone can protect their real interest, tearing the mask of parliamentary politics of the Congress (I)—which is the hated enemy of the people—as also of the CPI(M)-led "Left Front" which is playing no less a dangerous role than the Congress(I) today. We appeal to the people to vote for such candidates at constituencies where the ULDF is not going to contest, who are honest, men of integrity having left, democratic and secular outlook and are ready to stand by the side of mass movements rising above personal ambition, power and privilege. All of us take this pledge that our representatives in the Assembly will remain firm to this programme and principle and will not cross the floor for lure of power and pelf. This is the motto to be protected at any cost. Sd|

Sukomal Dasgupta

— S. U. C. I.

Sudhir Bhattacharya

— M. C. P. I.

Snehamay Chowdhury

— R. S. P.

Abdul Qudus — D. S. P.

Anadi Das — R. C. P. I.

In the ensuing assembly elections in West Bengal the constituents of the ULDF have fielded 76 candidates in all as detailed below :

SUCI—46, MCPI—15 (with two supported) RSP—10 (with one supported) and DSP—5.

Make the SUCI Candidates Victorious

WEST BENGAL

Name of the Constituency	Candidate
COOCH-BIHAR	
1. Mekhligunj (SC)	Abhiram Roy
JALPAIGURI	
2. Jalpaiguri	Dilip Bhattacharjee
3. Rajgunj (SC)	Kalicharan Roy
DARJEELING	
4. Siliguri	Rabindra Nath Ghosh
WEST DINAJPUR	
5. Kumarganj	Pranabesh Ch. Choudhury
MURSHIDABAD	
6. Suti	Bijoy Kumar Das
7. Jangipur	Achinta Singha
8. Bhagabangola	Sadhan Roy
9. Murshidabad	Sajem Ali
10. Jalangi	Md. Ehiya
11. Domkal	Mosaraff Hossain
12. Hariharpara	Madan Sarkar
NADIA	
13. Palasipara	Sk. Khoda Box
14. Nakashipara	Sk. Korban Ali
15. Kaligunj	Sk. Haroj Ali
16. Haringhata	Niranjan Paul
24-PARGANAS	
17. Habra	Shankar Ghosh
18. Gosaba (SC)	Tapas Sarkar
19. Basanti (SC)	Nimai Mandal
20. Kultali (SC)	Probodh Purkait
21. Joynagar	Debaprosad Sarkar
22. Canning West (SC)	Ranjit Bayen
23. Magrahat West	Abdur Rauf Baidya
24. Mandirbazar (SC)	Renupada Halder
25. Mathurapur	Pritish Kar
26. Kulpi (SC)	Samir Naiya
27. Patharprotima	Robin Mandal
28. Sagar	Amal Pani
MIDNAPUR	
29. Panskura East	Smt. Kalpana Das
30. Tamluk	Prof. Ashutosh Samanta
31. Mayna	Nakul Jana
32. Nandigram	Pijush Bhuniya
33. Bhagabanpur	Netradas Mahapatra
34. Sabang	Bhusan Mandal
35. Narayangarh	Panchanan Proadhan
PURULIA	
36. Arsa	Subarna Kumar
37. Para (SC)	Bibhisan Bauri
38. Raghunathpur (SC)	Bijoy Bauri
39. Kashipur (ST)	Judhistir Majhi
40. Hura	Parikshit Mahato
BANKURA	
41. Chhatna	Kanaj Mandal
42. Onda	Gouranga Goswami
BURDWAN	
43. Durgapur-1	Md. Badruddoja
BIRBHUM	
44. Suri	Brojogopal Saha
45. Hansan (SC)	Baidyanath Mal
46. Murarai	Ziad Boxi
KERALA	
QUILON DISTRICT	
1. Eravipuram	C. K. Lukose
ALLEPPY DISTRICT	
2. Ambalapuzha	Rajeevan
CALICUT DISTRICT	
3. Calicut-1	Sadanandan
U.P.	
PRATAPGARH DIST.	
1. Patty	Ramkedar Verma

Protest Day observed against Baliapal Missile Base

At Orissa Protest Day against construction of Missile Base at Baliapal was observed on 11th February in different places of Sunkinda, AIDS, KKMS, Mahila Sanskritik Sangha (M S S) and Democratic Youth Organisation (DYO) actively participated in holding mass meetings, street corner meetings in Danagadi and Sunkinda Blocks. Earlier, Comrade Tapas Datta, Secretary Orissa State Committee, SUCI, in a statement called upon the people of Orissa to observe 11th February as Protest Day throughout the State of Orissa. For the purpose, the State Committee of SUCI advanced a month-long programme calling upon all other left, democratic and opposition parties to develop an united sustained movement throughout the state.

On 11th February the participants wore black badges and hoisted black flags and resolved to stand united with the struggling people of the state to fight against the proposed construction of Baliapal Missile Base. In the afternoon, state level mass rally was held at Balasore. Thousands of workers, peasants, youths and students, in a word, people from all walks of life thronged in the meeting. Comrade Tapas Datta, State Secretary of the SUCI was the main speaker in the meeting. Comrade Datta while dealing with the national situation emphasized the impending danger of foisting fascism in the country by the Congress (I) led by Sri Rajiv Gandhi. Condemning the Rajiv Government's move to build a missile launching centre at Baliapal in Orissa, Comrade Datta called upon the people to resist this move with all might as a part and parcel of resistance movement to forestall fascist onslaught in the country.

Red Salute Comrade J. Md. Ansar

The Karnataka State Unit of Socialist Unity Centre of India (SUCI) deeply mourns the sudden demise of Comrade J. Md. Ansar on January 10th last. Being attracted and inspired by the thoughts of our beloved departed leader and teacher Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, Comrade Ansar came forward in 1985 to hold high the banner of revolution in the Bellary district of Karnataka. It was Comrade Ansar who showed revolutionary audacity and took pains to initiate the movement to build up the SUCI, the only genuine revolutionary party in the soil of Bellary in Karnataka State.

Comrade Ansar, in his brief but glowing revolutionary life organised and led many a movements of students and common people alike in Bellary district. With untiring efforts, he built up the movements against the much hated social evil of donation and capitation fee system, unjust railway fare hike, extreme water scarcity on account of utter neglect of the government and local municipal authorities as well as burning problems in peasants' life.

Condolence meetings were held both at Bellary and at the state headquarters in Bangalore and the red flag was flown at half mast to pay revolutionary homage to Comrade Ansar.

RED SALUTE COMRADE ANSAR

Statement about ownership and other particulars about newspaper PROLETARIAN ERA to be published in the first issue after 1st day of February.

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Sd/- Sukomal Dasgupta
Signature of Publisher

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