

Restore the people after restoration of judges

Wednesday 18 March 2009, by [LPP](#), [TARIO Farooq](#) (Date first published: 18 March 2009).

Dear all,

Today on 18 March, I addressed a press conference in company of Ammar Ali Jan, youth secretary LPP Lahore, Imtiaz Choudry, secretary LPP Punjab, Rana Ashraf, member Lahore LPP committee, Niaz Khan secretary carpet workers union and Kashif Aslam progressive Youth Front Lahore. Over two dozen activists of LPP were also present during the press conference.

Here is the text of the statement distributed at the time.

*** Restore people after restoration of the judges**

*** Labour Party Pakistan has emerged fourth largest party of pakistan in terms of arrests during long march**

*** LPP activists in forefront during the battle of GPO Chouck,**

*** Rehman Malik must resign immediately**

The purpose of this press conference is to present and introduce those heroes of GPO Chouck who played a decisive role in pushing the police backward. There are not many examples of the bravery that these heroes had shown on the day. If the demonstrators at GPO Chouck would have been defeated the course of events occurring afterwards might have been different.

The activists of LPP played a decisive role in this battle. They fought with police again and again forcing police to retreat facing hundreds of tear gas shells. Some of them fainted but returned soon after gaining consciousness. These heroes include Ammar Ali Jan, Kashif Aslam, Rana Ashraf, Sajid Naveed, Niaz Khan and others. While the LPP women also showed tremendous act of bravery during the event.

Three political parties were in the fore front during this time, Jamat Islami, Pakistan Muslim League and Labour Party Pakistan.

During long march of the lawyers movement. LPP emerged as the fourth largest political parties on terms of arrests. Analyzing the arrest of the activists, it becomes clear that after PMLN, Jamat Islami and Tehreek Insaaf, LPP activists were in the line. Over 40 activists were arrested during 5 days of long march. These arrests were mainly in Karachi, Hyderabad, Faisalabad and Charsada. While police raided the houses of LPP activists in Qasur, Toba Tek Singh, Sheikhpura, Layya, Islamabad, Lahore and Faisalabad.

On the instructions of LPP leadership, no activist was arrested from their homes. All the arrests were made during demonstrations and rallies. LPP activists resisted the arrests every where. In Karachi, LPP leadership was brutally beaten up and women arrested. These arrests made headlines across Pakistan.

Against the arrests, LPP demonstrated in Karachi and Lahore on 13 March despite the threats of arrests. While in Hyderabad, 7 LPP activists were arrested from a demonstration. Dozens of LPP activists were able to enter Islamabad despite all the blockades. They would have demonstrated in Islamabad if the long march would have reached in Islamabad.

We are bringing all this into the notice of people of Pakistan through media because an impression is being given that only three political parties took part in the lawyers movement. LPP has proved in action that LPP has taken part in the lawyers movement with all its power. LPP is organizing a special celebrations in honor of GPO Chouck heroes.

LPP believe that PMLN has changed its attitude towards PPP. Till Yesterday, they were using very provocative language against PPP leadership, now an absolute conciliatory tone is being used.

LPP demands that the secret talks and deal between the two parties be made public. Governor rule in Punjab must be lifted immediately.

We demand that Rehman Malik must resign. He is responsible for all the state repression against political activists. He has destroyed the whole economy by blockades for several days. He must be accountable for all the state atrocities and arrests. Those killed, tortured and arrested during the two years of lawyers movement must be recognized by the state and accordingly compensated.

LPP demands to investigate of 12 May 2007 incidents of Karachi. Also state must take notice of Sahiwal burning of lawyers and other such brutalities. Those responsible must be brought to justice.

We also demand to investigate all the arrests, blockades, raids and torture of political activists by PPP government. We fail to understand how PPP is celebrating the reinstatement of Iftikhar Choudry. They are distributing sweets. Till 15 March, whole PPP leadership was claiming that the chief justice is been politicised, it is an issue of one person, that Benazir Bhutto never promised to reinstate the judges, that the judges can not be reinstated without constitutional amendments. PPP leadership was claiming the most of the judges have been reinstated. Now, the PPP leadership is celebrating and want every one to forget what they said and did before 16 March. This is sheer hypocrisy. PPP leadership thinks that masses are fool, but they will be proven wrong with the events unfolding in future.

On 16 March, it was an expression of a real mass power. A new Pakistan emerging, where the center of power will be people of Pakistan. We demand the removal of all PCO judges. The privatization process must be cancelled, the land of Military Farms be given to the tenants. A minimum wage of 6000 Rupees must be implemented everywhere. All the restrictions on trade unions must be lifted. LPP will send appeals of public interests to chief justice of Pakistan. He must start to take sue motto notices of human rights violations. All the missing persons must be produced. No actions be taken against any person unlawfully.

The working class of Pakistan has played an important role in the reinstatement of the judges. It is time for the restoration of the people of Pakistan. There must be free services of transport, health, education and a decent wage. All the remnants of Musharaf dictatorship must be removed from everywhere. LPP will continue to struggle for emancipation of the working class.