

CPI (ML): Cadre Convention in Patna

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A state level cadre convention was organised by Bihar state unit of the Party on 5 Feb. in Patna which concluded with a resolve to make the forthcoming Inquilab Rally to be held in Delhi on 23 March, the martyrdom day of Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru, a historic event. More than a thousand party leaders and activists, up to block level, took part in the convention. The convention began after paying homage to the departed leader Comrade Ajanta Lohit and others.

Comrade Dipankar was the main speaker in the Convention. He said that the Inquilab Rally is being organised on the historic occasion of 150th anniversary of the first war of independence of 1857, the birth centenary of Shahid-e-Azam Bhagat Singh and 40th anniversary of great heroic struggle of Naxalbari and we must pour in every effort to make this event a great success. He reminded the participants of current political scenario where, at international scene, people in Iraq are waging a struggle despite the heavy presence of American occupation army in that country and even after Saddam Hussain has been hanged. Our rally must reflect the sentiment that the people of India are at the fore front of the struggle against the US imperialism, he added. Speaking on the ten-points people's charter that will be presented to the Govt. of India through the 23 March Rally, he said that this charter is basically a programme of people's struggle against the UPA Govt.'s anti-people policies and its manipulation of the Common Minimum programme. We have to organise and intensify the struggles for withdrawal of SEZ policy and to see that the agricultural land remains with the peasants. We have to struggle to stop the farmers' suicides and starvation deaths, to fully implement the NREGA, and to ensure a legal and constitutional right to education, health and employment for every citizen. We will also have to wage a militant struggle for the rehabilitation of project displaced people and against the displacement of tribals and rural poor, to stop the violent attacks on dalits, adivasis, women and minorities, to demand the scrapping of draconian laws and of Indo-US Nuclear Deal among other issues.

He deplored the fact that parties like CPI and CPI(M) have not opposed the SEZ Act inside the Parliament when it was brought into force in 2005, and said that, when people are raising their voices against the Special Economic Zones from every corner of the country and valiant resistance struggles have forced the government to temporarily halt its implementation, Narendra Modi and Buddhadeb Bhattacharya both are looking equally perturbed. The pseudo-left now stands exposed in Nandigram of Bengal.

The question of land, whether its land reform or grabbing land from peasants, has become an important issue today. It is an irony that government takes permission before seizing lands from the landlords but it snatches land of poor peasants without their consent and does not feel any need to properly rehabilitate them. He said that the time is over for the Mandal-Kamandal era and the basic issues of the people are coming to the fore. The people are desperately looking for an alternative and the ruling classes are trying hard to divert them from their quest and making every effort to limit the ongoing struggles encompassing a wider spectrum into a limited sphere. He cautioned against this conspiracy and called upon to intensify and broaden the people's movement on basic issues.

Condemning the tendencies among some streams of dalit and minority politicians of seeking places in ministries and starving for getting accommodated into the existing power structure, he said that it

is the time we should strengthen the struggles of these sections for land, dignity and rights and hailed the fact that Indian muslims are waging a relentless struggle against US imperialism in a country where they faced tragedies like Babri Masjid and Gurajat carnage. He also cautioned against the pseudo-leftists and pseudo-socialists who are following the footsteps of Congress and the BJP respectively and called upon to hold high the flag of socialism against such forces.

Bihar State Secretary of the Party Comrade Nand Kishore Prasad, while addressing the convention, declared to hold a massive rally of agricultural workers and peasants before the State Assembly on 23 February and said that various movemental initiatives will be undertaken at grassroots as part of the preparations for the 'Inquilab Rally'. Convention was also addressed by Polit Bureau member Ramjatan Sharma, AIALA National President Rameshwar Prasad, AIALA General Secretary Dharendra Jha, and others. District Secretaries of Samastipur, Madhubani, Darbhanga, Mujaffarpur, West Champaran, Gopalganj, Siwan, Vaishali, Jahanabad, Arwal, Gaya, Aurangabad, Buxar, Rohtas, Kaimur, Bhojpur, Purnea, Katihar, Bhagalpur, Begusarai, Patna rural and Patna city also addressed the Convention. Comrade Ramji Rai conducted the proceedings.

The Convention concluded after passing the resolutions demanding scrapping of Indo-US Nuclear deal and SEZ Act 2005, to stop land acquisitions, to rehabilitate all displaced people, and to implement NREGA, etc. The Convention condemned the Nitish Kumar Govt. for its criminal neglect in implementation of NREGA and continuing starvation deaths in Bihar and for neglecting the real issues of the people. The convention vehemently condemned the RSS and BJP for terming the people's movements going on under the red flag as terrorist and reminded of their betrayal of the freedom movement and their imperialist leanings. The convention pledged to take the message of 'Our country, Our history, Our freedom, Our rights' campaign to every corner of the country and termed the ruling classes' attempts of forgetting the legacy of 1857 and birth centenary of Bhagat Singh as an act of betrayal with the people of the country.

CPI(ML) to Intensify Countrywide Resistance against Corporate Land-Grab Campaign

(handout issued by CPI(ML) General Secretary DipnakarBhattacharya and Orissa State Secretary Khitish Biswal at press conference held at Nagbhushan Bhawan, Bhubaneswar, on 31 January, 2007)

CPI(ML) congratulates the people of Kalinganagar for continuing their resistance and reiterates its full support for the just struggle of Kalinganagar. In the last twelve months the Naveen Patnaik government of Orissa has done absolutely nothing to address the burning demands of the Kalinganagar people. There can be no settlement of the Kalinganagar agitation till the key demands like "land for land" and punitive action against killer officials and ministers are met.

It is deplorable that instead of restraining the government from the ongoing pro-corporate land-grab campaign, the Orissa High Court is egging the government to uphold the interest of the Tatas at the expense of the just demands and rights of the aggrieved people of Kalinganagar. The judiciary has never taken the government to task for non-fulfilment of land reforms and continuing shame of starvation in the KBK region. But the same judiciary is now directing the government to go all out to serve corporate interests.

Kalinganagar has ignited a national debate and it has inspired the people in other parts of the

country to stand up in favour of their land rights. From Dadri in Uttar Pradesh to Singur and Nandigram in West Bengal, people have everywhere shown great courage and spirit to defend their land and democratic rights in the face of brutal state repression. CPI(ML) is determined to intensify this movement and press for complete repeal of the Land Acquisition Act of 1894 and SEZ Act, 2005.

A massive Inquilab rally will be held in Delhi on 23 March, the martyrdom day of Bhagat Singh, to assert the people's inalienable right to land and liberty. The rally will also press for immediate extension of the Employment Guarantee Act to the whole of India to cover both rural and urban unemployment.

In Orissa, the CPI(ML) has also resolved to intensify the ongoing movement for land redistribution, effective rehabilitation of all displaced people, strict implementation of the Employment Guarantee Act and against corruption and violation of democratic rights. Party activists are contesting the February panchayat elections with the purpose of using the panchayats as a platform for intensification of the movement in this direction.

P.S.

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