

India's Distinction in Modern Slavery Confirms the Semi-Feudal and Semi-Colonial Nature of the System!

Walk Free Foundation released The Global slavery index-2016 after conducting research for the report after conducting over 42,000 interviews in 53 languages across 25 countries including 15 state-level surveys in India.

It revealed that India topped the global list when it came to the maximum number of people victimized by inhumane forms of modern slavery-visible and invisible. It estimated that 18-35 million men, women and children in India are trapped in modern slavery.

This report also reveals that the number of victims of modern slavery has jumped up to 18.35 million in 2016 from 14.3 million in 2014. This is the progress record of our social and economic development for the past 2 years and the essence of the claims of progress of India being rhetorically propagated by the NDA rulers of Modi's government.

Modern slavery is existing in India in many forms from criminal human trafficking for sex and forced labour to socio-economic and cultural practices such as bonded labour, debt bondage and forced marriages.

In our country, due to the intense crises forced on agriculture and the attendant rural crises, rural working masses are forced to become bonded labour in brick kilns, mechanical boats, and construction and manufacturing sectors. Rural indebtedness led family members of indebted-wives and children to work as bonded and child labourers for generations, rural pauperization led to sale of girls either in to prostitution or slave labourers in the agricultural farms. Rural misery made girls and women vulnerable to be illegally trafficked and sold by sex-mafia rackets. Even in the modern corporate sector employment, the feudalistic practices of inhuman bonded and forced labour are practiced as is evident from the experiences of women workers in export-oriented garment industrial sector. Domestic servants and house maids are languishing in untold forms of modern slavery.

In essence, it is the people trapped in situations from which they can not escape, being their freedom curtailed severely by individuals, criminal gangs, family units, commercial establishments, rural and urban tyrants, corporate unfair labour practices through violence, threats or coercion, deception and power.

Modern slavery in India points-out the anti-people political governance and the persistence of regressive socio-cultural and economic feudal practices. It also points out the total failure of economic reforms, particularly their failure and inability in curbing the feudal practices in labour, economic and cultural fields.

In other words the neo-liberal economic polices of capitalism, being implemented in India with much gusto and zeal by our ruling-classes and rulers at the prescription of their imperialist masters, have not at all changed the fundamental nature of the semi-feudal and semi-colonial system of India but on the contrary have strengthened and enhanced this fundamental nature of the system from the time of the transfer of power in 1947.

The prevalence and persistence of modern slavery of illiberal and regressive socio-cultural and economic practices once again confirms the fundamental semi-feudal and semi-colonial nature of our system in India, emphasizing the much more imminent need of a vigorous new democratic people's revolution!
