

## A Republic that Betrayed the People

As we enters 68<sup>th</sup> year of the Republic, the country is facing an all-round crisis. In every sphere of activity, the performance of Indian economy is showing deepening economic malaise. Any conceivable growth in one sector is only achieved at the expense of other sectors. The crisis has engulfed both the agricultural and industrial sectors. It has permeated to trade and financial activities. The continuing economic crisis is fueling political as well as social crisis.

The ruling classes that came to the power with the transfer of power, have failed to resolves the basic problems faced by the people. Despite the tall claims of emerging as an world power, India could not achieve industrialization that could sustain independent growth of its economy. The major stumbling block still remains is the existing feudal relation that deprive 70 per cent of population – peasant masses – their rightful share in the wealth they had created. Every step taken by the ruling classes in the name of rural development are only meant to prop up the feudal forces both economically and politically. The forced eviction of peasant from their lands – both through economic levers and by forceful acquisition of land – is only meant to facilitate penetration of imperialist capital into the agricultural sector. The growing suicides and pauperisation of peasants, the growing atrocities on the rural poor particularly dalits reflects the intensified contradictions in the rural India.

The second impediment to the independent development of Indian society is the domination of imperialism over India. During the last 70 years, the penetration of imperialist capital has assumed gigantic proportions and now it occupies commanding heights in the economy deciding every policy of the government. We are witnessing now the results of such a subservience to the imperialism - ever growing unemployment and poverty, closure of small and medium industries, growing burden of foreign debt that is sucking the economy white, wasting of national resources to quench the thirst of imperialist sharks but not to meet the basic needs of the people.

For the last seven decades, we have witnessed many peoples struggles demanding improvement in the conditions of life. We have also witnessed the response of the ruling classes only in the form of unleashing brutal repression or dividing people on the lines of caste, religion and regional feelings. We also witnessed the a spate of fake reforms and populist schemes to direct the peoples attention from their failure to resolve the basic contradictions of Indian society. A republic that promised an egalitarian society has failed on all counted to achieve its proclaimed ai.

A republic that proclaimed a federal political structure has failed to develop in that direction, Moreover, over the years it concentrated more powers in the centre. We have witnessed many instances of liquidating the federal nature right from the toppling of communist party led government in Kerala to the latest “co-operative federalism” of NDA type, which is threatening the state governments by using central police and military forces to arrest even MPs and Chief secretaries of the states. The republic is using the repressive machinery to suppress the national and democratic aspirations and demands of the people, more particularly in the case of Kashmir and North eastern states.

A republic that promised a secular state has failed in protecting the secular values that people have been practicing for generations together by promoting massacre of minority communities and atrocities on dalits and women.

The failure of the republic is not a simple failure, it is designed to be so. This is the hard and bitter experience of its implementation for the last 67 years. Contrary to the claims, it is designed to sustain and protect the rule of exploiting classes, that is, big bourgeoisie and bog landlords. The lofty ideals it proclaimed are only smoke screens to conceal its real class nature.

Until and unless the predominance of feudal relations and hegemony of imperialism are wiped out, the Indian people cannot have the real democracy, freedom for various nation alities to develop and an independent economy that caters the needs of the people. To achieve such a goal, it is imperative to overthrow the present ruling system through New Democratic Revolution.

\*\*\*\*\*