

Baring the Fascist Fangs

Narendra Modi's Government at the centre is baring its fascist fangs with every passing day while preaching 'development' and promoting communal divide. He used the same strategy back in 2002 with anti-Muslim carnage and Gujarat Model. With Uttar Pradesh in its pocket, the BJP government became much more arrogant in pursuing this policy.

It passed the Goods and Services Tax Bill which is aimed at creating an unitary market for the Multi National Corporations and Indian big bourgeoisie, while at the same time millions of small traders are subjected to unfair and uneven competition.

It is now envisaging creating an unitary market for agricultural produce so that agri- corporation will have a fertile ground to exploit to the hilt. Hitherto, agricultural marketing comes under the purview of state governments. The Central government is now taking steps to take away this subject from the states by enacting All India agricultural produce marketing law that nullifies all the existing states' laws.

Opening up the agricultural markets to the MNCs will further aggravate the crisis in the agricultural sector. The BJP government is using palliative measures, like farm loan waiver, as a solution to the crisis to divert the attention of the peasant masses from the real cause of the crisis. The state government of UP already announced the waiver of farm loans, which will be followed soon by the state governments of Punjab, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

The BJP government at the centre made a mockery of the parliamentary democracy that is said to exist in India. It amended about 40 central statutes as a part of the Finance Bill 2017 to bypass the Rajya Sabha, where it has no majority. For example, it amended Section 182 of Companies Act 2013 so that the private companies could contribute to the political parties unlimited monies without disclosing the name of beneficiary party. It also amended the definition of foreign entity so that any foreign company can contribute to political parties in India. It made amendments so that many tribunals could be merged and the government will have more powers in the recruitment, terms of service and termination of members of tribunals aiming to undermine the independence of these quasi-judicial bodies. It also amended the Income Tax Act expanding the powers of income tax officials who now under the garb of "reason to believe" can conduct search and seizure of property. They need not disclose the reason even to the appellate tribunal. These arbitrary powers will only be used to selectively harass and intimidate those who oppose the government.

The BJP government allowed 100% FDI in dairy farming permitting foreign dairy and meat companies to start their activities in India. It destroys livelihoods of millions of peasants who supplement their family incomes by rising two or three dairy animals. It also diverts the fertile lands from the crops of food grains and cereals to green fodder crops as these factory farms needs large amounts of fodder; thus creates the scarcity of food grains for Indian people.

The government of BJP at the centre is reducing the tax rates by fifty per cent on the services rendered by the foreign companies to their subsidiary companies in India, which is being called as safe harbor rules. Given that the foreign companies are draining India's financial resources in the name of royalties as was clearly shown in the cases of Nokia, Vodafone and Cairn India, It is now planning to allow them to take away the capital from India in the form of services.

In order to divert the peoples attention from the measures it is taking to serve the interests of imperialist capital and Indian big bourgeoisie, it is resorting to divide the people by unfolding hate campaign against the religious minorities and raking up Hindu chauvinist feelings. The BJP leaders are crowing that Ram mandir should be build on the site of demolished Babri Masjid The Supreme Court towed this line. Instead of deciding the case of Babri masjid on the basis of legal merits, it advised the parties to the litigation to have an out-of-the court settlement. It seems that the Chief Justice if India considers what the Hindu fundamentalists believed as a fact. This almost allows the construction of Ram mandir at the site of Babri Masjid.

In the first week of April, a swarm of cow vigilantes killed a Muslim because he had purchased cow in the market and transporting it to his home. The minister of state for Parliamentary affairs flatly denied the whole thing on the floor of the Lok Sabha and tried to blackmail the MPs by saying that the Parliament should not give an impression that it was in favour of Gau Hatya. This is preposterous argument. For the past two years, these vigilantes took the law into their hands and attacked Muslims and dalits over the cow issue. The has not done anything to deter them Now the central minister justified the murder without offering any explanation except empty slogan of cow protection.

The ruling classes had been using nefarious divide and rule policy as a method to divide and oppress the people. They are using religious differences among the people to rake up hatred as to divide the people and liquidate their unity. The BJP is using nefarious campaign with naked methods of raking up communal chauvinism, the Congress used concealed and soft methods. The aim of the ruling classes is to conceal their subservient measure in safeguarding the interests of imperialist finance capital and its stooges the Indian big bourgeoisie.

It is the task of the revolutionaries and democrats to expose the nefarious acts of the ruling classes, particularly the raking up communal hatreds by the BJP, RSS and its cohorts.

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