

# Note on “Challenges faced by Forces Struggling to Change Present System in India”

Paper by CPI

- **Suravaram Sudhakara Reddy**, Former MP  
General Secretary, CPI

**Dear Comrades,**

Let me greet you all on this occasion who has assembled in this August house. My special thanks on behalf of CPI to the organizers of the Seminar on this subject “CHALLENGES FACED BY FORCES STRUGGLING TO CHANGE SYSTEM IN INDIA”.

The economic crisis the world is facing is not the cyclic crisis of capitalism. It is the specific crisis of finance capital can go to any low to maximize its profit. Wars and clashes within the countries among the neighbours and within the regions are being shamelessly promoted. To push through its agenda of neo-liberalism country after country is being forced to surrender to the dictates of tools of finance capital like the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and World Trade Organization.

Under the impact of Globalization and liberalization changes are taking place in the employment profile in the country. Outsourcing, downsizing, contracting out, home working, casualization etc. have seriously cut into regular employment at work places. In addition there are workers in the organized sector and informal sector within the formal sector, only seven percent of the work force, is in the organized sector, the rest is in unorganized sector. The present policies are only adding to the latter number. The share of self employment is also shrinking. The country is in the grip of jobless growth. Even government health facilities are being privatized. Scheme workers are also launching struggles throughout the country. Urban youth have been taking part in struggles against rape and atrocities on Dalits, women and minorities. Students' community is up in arms and campuses are in turmoil in order to defend fundamental right of freedom of expression.

### **Agrarian Scene :**

In trying to grab farmers land, the bourgeois government has used the Land Acquisition Act of colonial era and justified indiscriminate use of force against peasantry by insisting that it is necessary step for development. In the process, several lakh acres of land have been acquired and millions of peasants and other dependent on land have been evicted and deprived of their livelihood. It is calculated that between 1992-93 and 2002-03, as much as 18 million hectares of arable land has got transferred to non agricultural uses. During the decade between 1991 and 2001, over 70 lakhs people i.e. nearly 2000 people a day for whom cultivation was the main source of livelihood, quit farming. This is a crude and brutal offensive of the bourgeois state led by the corporate houses and big business. The development of capitalism in Indian agriculture is based on a compromise with feudal remnants on the one hand, and collusion with foreign capital on the other. While semi feudal relations still dominate many parts in rural India. The door has been opened for the multinational corporations to enter the field and assume cardinal positions in certain areas. The government has signed Indo-US Agricultural initiative where representatives of Monsanto, Cargill and other multinational companies participate in joint committees to take important decisions on research and new initiatives in Indian agriculture. In 2004-05 around 43 percent of rural households had no land to cultivate. In addition 22% households cultivated less than 1 acre of land, which is insufficient to meet basic needs. More than two lakh farmers have committed suicides. The number increases everyday. Agriculture growth has stagnated. The share of agricultural in National income has come down to 12% whereas its share in work force still remains as high as 58%.

### **Crony Capitalism:**

The relentless pursuit of neo liberal economic reforms has propped up strata of powerful corporate within bourgeois class. Helped by the government policies of pampering this section the corporate houses have accumulated unprecedented wealth and come to wield tremendous economic power. Under Modi they have emerged as private monopolies in several vital sectors, such as power, oil, telecommunication and even retail and pose serious challenges to the public sector units in these spheres. Narendra Modi government furthers the interests of this tiny group of capitalists. It has already started to hand over the PSUs and their reserves like oil and gas of ONGC to Ambanis. With their economic and financial clout they are able to influence policies not only in the economic but also in political matters. Corporate capitalism in league with MNCs has created conditions for large scale

corruption and the play of money power in National life. The Panama leaks, Wiki leaks and Paradise papers have clearly shown the extent the corruption in all walks of life in the country. NITI Aayog began with identifying 15 PSUs, almost all of them profit making to be privatized. Adanis and Ambanis have been favored with huge loans from nationalized banks. According to Reserve Bank of India the bad loans of public sector banks stood at Rs.7.34 laks crore. While the banks and government take very harsh steps to recover the loans of few thousands or Lakhs from farmers and small traders forcing them to commit suicide. They have not taken any action to recover the NPAs from corporate and their companies. Government is taking very cruel anti-people decision to refinance these pauperized banks. The norms of Foreign Direct Investment have been totally altered. Almost all crucial sectors including defense production, telecommunciations, and nuclear energy have been opened for FDI. According to official sources 29.9% of Indian people live below the poverty line. One percent of rich corner 73% of annual income of the country. While GST has been imposed terming it one nation, one tax, the net result is that prices of all commodities have got drastically increased. Demonetization was the crudest attack on the people. All claims were made of it being war against black money, fake currency and funding of terrorism. Ultimately it was proved that the move to provide a chance to black money holders to whiten their hoarded black money and 99% of demonetized money has come back to the banks. The biggest beneficiary of the move is BJP, its leaders and supporters. Earlier the haves used purchase of lands all over the country as a means to whiten their black money.

### **Communists Want An Alternate Strategy:**

A strategy should undertake steps and policies for poverty reduction as a matter of priority. This is the real strategy "INCLUSIVE GROWTH". The industrial growth should base itself on available financial and natural resources and must be employment oriented. FDI should be restricted to the extent developed technology and knowhow is required. Expanding the domestic market through radical land reforms, developing infrastructures in education and healthcare system are needed. Steps to control price rise of essential commodities, introduction of universal public distribution system cutting down of imports which cater for elitist consumption, crack down on corruption, restructuring the tax structure so that the burden falls on the corporate houses and big business and affluent section of the country, unearthing black money, bring back black money and confiscate the black money stashed away in foreign banks. With these above steps communists want to have better society.

### **Fundamentalists Want To Take Country To Medieval Period:**

RSS controlled BJP was known for practicing worst form of communalism and casteism and now, with absolute power at the center, it is leaving no stone unturned to use this power to polarize the country on caste and communal lines. Crimes like mob lynching, attacks on minorities and Dalits in the garb of Gau Rakshak, Love jihad, forcing its own brand of Nationalism and caste division with full protection and patronage of state power has become rampant. Such emotional issues are sparked in calculated manner and used as weapon to divert the people's attention from the real socio politico economic issues.

Simultaneously it is using the opportunity to penetrate all segments of administration, particularly the educational institutions, to suppress the freedom of expression, suppress student movement, re-orient reshape cultural and social to make them sub ordinate to the ideology of RSS. With the help of corporate ownership, Media has been converted into tools of government and RSS Parivar almost all democratic constitutional institutions including parliament are being downgraded. To destroy basic ethos of constitution and our secular democratic polity, worst form of authoritarianism is being practiced. It is obvious that Narendra Modi government is bent upon paving the way for straight takeover of power by fascist forces. The takeover of BJP from Congress is not the normal transfer of power from one bourgeois party to another. Power has been taken over by a combination of corporate capital, rightist ideology and rabid communalism which is steadily making India a full-fledged strategic power of US imperialism. It is paving way for fascist take over.

After victory in Utter Pradesh and Uttarakhand and formation of governments in Goa and Manipur through manipulation, the RSS has virtually taken over the power. Even judiciary is packed with RSS minded lawyers and others. The judges who bow to the wishes of RSS are adequately rewarded. The judge who acquitted Amit shah in fake encounter case was made governor. The recent unprecedented developments in Supreme Court reflect their penetration in judiciary. It is using offices of Governors to impose its rule in states. With RSS personnel as vice chancellors and heads of different educational

institutions. Dalits too are under attack. With Manusmriti and Chaturvarna as their guide, the RSS outfits are targeting Dalits in different parts of the country.

The constitution provides for a parliamentary democracy based on universal adult franchise. It provides for certain fundamental rights for the people and Directive principles for the state. However to sub-serve interests of the bourgeois and other exploiting classes many of these rights are often misrepresented, distorted and even violated by the authorities of the state. Even with these limitations the existence of these rights in the constitution can be made platform and instrument for the struggle of the peoples as is often done for defending their democratic and civil rights.

At the moment, defending secularism, democracy, constitution with all their limitations is the need of the hour. The core values of the democracy should be defended. The RSS controlled BJP should be removed from power to defend them. Secular, democratic left forces, civil society, intellectuals, mass organizations, have to join together to defeat the communal BJP from power in India.

**CPI Program Emphasizes:**

The party will strive to utilize parliamentary democracy to bring about the required changes in order to carry forward and complete the tasks of the Democratic Revolution. And move forward for its revolutionary transformation to the next stage. By developing a powerful mass movement and broadening left unity and democratic forces, and by winning stable majority in parliament backed by such mass movements, the working class its allies will strive their utmost to overcome the resistance of forces of reaction and transform the parliament into a genuine instrument of the people's will for effecting fundamental transformations in society.

CPI will strive for a peaceful path of revolutionary transformation. It will explore all the possibilities of such path. This also depends on the ruling bourgeois circles which increasingly tend to use more and more repressive measures. Therefore it is necessary for the revolutionary forces to so orient themselves and their work that they can face up to all contingencies to any twists and turns in the political life of the country.

*Presented in the Seminar by  
Com. V.Ramanarasimha Rao  
on behalf of Com. S.Sudhakar Reddy*

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