

Call to the People by CPI (ML)
Reject BJP and Its' Allies! Expose Other Ruling Class Parties!
Struggle for the Resolution of Basic Problems!
Support the Communist Revolutionary, Left and Democratic Forces!

The Elections to Lok Sabha are going to be held in a month. The political atmosphere has already been surcharged with no holds bar campaign and permutations of alliances. The ruling classes are leaving no stone unturned to side line the basic problems faced by the people and to divert their attention to secondary issues and promises of palliative measures.

These elections are going to be conducted after the BJP is in power for a full term. The demonetisation followed by imposition of GST had devastated the peasant economy and manufacturing sector. Consequently the agrarian crisis has deepened further. The economy failed to create enough employment opportunities. The much hyped "Make in India" scheme, claimed to be rejuvenating the programme for manufacturing, had not taken off. The landless peasants who toil as tenant farmers and agricultural labour are facing bankruptcy. The living and working conditions of workers had deteriorated. With fixed term contract they lost their job security and are being thrown into unorganised sector. Their real wages are falling continuously. As the inflation and price rise continue unabated, the middle classes are increasingly finding it difficult to make both ends meet. The privatisation of education and health services has been breaking the backs of people. There is no hope for the people as the demon of unemployment is haunting them. Adivasi people are being thrown out of their habitat and their livelihoods are being destroyed in the name of development. Dalits and women are facing discrimination and oppression which intensified with the growing economic, political and social crisis. The dawn of "*Achhe din*" turned to be a mirage.

On the other side, the BJP government continued the siphoning of budgetary resources to fatten the big bourgeoisie through various tax concessions and write offs. It has opened up the remaining sectors of economy including defence to the entry of foreign capital. The running of the government, including the policy making, is placed under the surveillance of imperialist financial institutions. Thus the financial and natural resources of the country are being drained by the imperialist countries with full force.

As the lives of people are mired in poverty and misery, discontent and unrest has grown among the people. They are coming on to the streets protesting the anti-people policies of the government. The ruling classes are resorting to fascist methods of repression and oppression.

For the BJP and its mentor RSS, Hindutva has become a pet slogan to push through the divide and rule policy by raking up communal, caste and regional hatreds among the people. They are attempting to lull the anger of people with palliative measures. Yet the fact of the matter is that they are committed to protect and continue the present socio-political system.

The BJP after assuming power at the centre continued unabashedly the raking up of communal hatreds. It resorted to attacks on Muslims and Christians using the cow protection, love jihad, beef eating, religious conversion as pretexts. Hindu communal chauvinism is being raked up against Muslims and more than a hundred were killed on the plea of cow protection. It is using every regressive argument to whip up communal and national chauvinism, to equate nationalism to communal chauvinism and to revive obscurantist practices. In the name National Register of Citizenship, the BJP government has thrown the lives of millions of people in North East India into turmoil and created a gulf and hatred between various nationalities of North east region.

The BJP government usurped the power of surveillance on every citizen of India recording their every phone call and movement. It foisted more number of sedition cases than any of previous governments to muffle the voices of dissent. It used mercenaries to murder many democrats who are opposing the communal agenda of RSS and BJP. Gowri Lankesh, Govind Pasare, Kulburgi are some of them. The RSS through its front organisations unleashed attacks on literary and cultural personalities to impose what they call as Hindu culture. It continued the virtual military rule in the states of North east

and Kashmir by imposing Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act. It resorted to brutal repression with lathi charges and firings on various classes of people – peasants, workers, students, dalits and adivasis – agitating for the resolution of problems faced by them.

The BJP government continued the policy of concentrating powers in the hands of Central government at the expense of states. By replacing the Planning Commission with NITI Ayog, the Centre took the disbursement of funds to states into its direct control. With GST it crippled the revenue raising capacity of states. It used its powers to brow beat those state governments which are not dancing to its tune. Even the judiciary is made to fall in line with the wishes of powers that be at the Centre.

Simultaneously, the government of Narendra Modi announced a series of palliative measures to sow illusions among the people. It proposed a pension scheme for the workers and employees of unorganised sector. When there is no certainty of continuation of jobs, how can they deposit monthly contributions to the Scheme? It's a big hoax.

It also announced a subsidy of Rs.6000 a year to all farmers cultivating two hectares. If implemented, the amount reaches only to those who had clear titles for their land. All owners are not actual cultivators. The poor peasants who work as tenant farmers and agricultural labour and constitute nearly 60 per cent of all farmers are left out of this scheme. It is not only a vote catching gimmick on the eve of elections, but also aimed at diverting the peasants attention from the real causes of agrarian crisis –growing landlessness, extraction of surplus from agriculture by input producer MNCs and cartels formed by big business. Under the guise, on the long run, the ruling classes are determined to alienate the peasants from their land by using economic levers. It also resorted to forceful eviction of peasants from their lands to present them in a golden platter to the big businesses.

The BJP led alliance is using all these fascist methods only to serve the interests of imperialist capital and exploitation of Indian people. Hence it should be defeated in the coming Lok Sabha elections.

The defeat of BJP in recent elections has kindled hopes in the Congress party to regain the power. During the last five years, the Congress claimed that every pro-imperialist and pro-big bourgeois measure taken by the BJP was initiated by it. When the Manmohan Singh government introduced GST bill, BJP opposed it vociferously. The same bill was introduced by the BJP and this time Congress opposed it but helped to enact it. The same was true in the case of allowing foreign direct investment into retail trading and defence. It is so because the Congress is not different from the BJP in serving the interests of big bourgeoisie and imperialist powers. It has taken up the issue of corruption during BJP rule, mainly Rafale deal as its main plank of campaign. Instead of fighting the communal agenda of BJP and opposing its onslaught on democratic values, it resorted to appeasing Hindu sentiments to show itself as no less Hindu than the BJP and thus harmed the secular traditions prevailed in Indian cultural life. It is vying with BJP in doling out populist schemes such as farm loan waiver, input subsidy, Universal Basic Income and so on. It is banking mainly on the 'misrule' of BJP and on its own muscle and money power to win the elections. It gave the call to defeat the communal fascism of BJP to rally forces in opposition around it.

At present the regional parties are playing an important role in the formation of government at the Centre. Coalition governments became order of the day. The regional parties are joining hands with BJP or Congress to form NDA or UPA. These alliances are only marriages of political convenience as they are not based on any democratic principles though they claim to have a common minimum programme for name sake. Many of the regional parties like BJD, JO(U), THC, AIDMK, DMK are in power in their respective states for decades. Yet they failed to solve any basic problem faced by the people. They are doling out populist schemes treating the people as beggars waiting always to receive alms from the rulers, which the Congress and BJP are mimicking. These parties are one with the Congress and BJP in implementing globalisation, privatisation and liberalisation policies which fatten the big bourgeoisie and foreign capital and rob the poor. These parties are dividing people on caste and regional lines to gain their votes and divert the people from the path of struggle. Once came to the power, they prostrate before the imperialist capital and big bourgeoisie. Chandrababu Naidu who is placating himself as the king pin in forging the anti-BJP alliance, once described himself as the CEO of the World Bank. The regimes of regional parties are in forefront in forcefully evicting the peasants from their land and in handing over the same to monopoly capitalists. Hence they are thoroughly anti-people in nature.

The Congress and its allies along with the regional parties are one in serving the interests of imperialist capital and big bourgeoisie. They make loud noises when in opposition, but once in power, they show

consensus among themselves in implementing all the anti-people policies. Hence the people must have no illusion whatsoever in them and continue their struggle against them.

The political crisis as a consequence of economic crisis is intensifying the contradictions among the various sections of the ruling classes. In order to gain power, they are mouthing loud slogans to attract the peoples attention. One section of the ruling classes already floated the slogan of oppose to the communalism or communal fascism. The democratic and left forces should not fall prey to this slogan. They should be conscious of the fact that these slogans are only a part of divide and rule policy adopted by the Indian ruling classes. While the BJP is using naked methods to rouse communalism and communal hatred in the name of Hindutva, the Congress is using disguised methods to realise its aims. Even the peoples aspirations and demands for the betterment of living conditions are being manipulated by the ruling classes to whip up regional, caste and religious hatreds among the people.

The Indian parliamentary system made a mockery of the democracy. Various so-called reforms made to the election process, made it more difficult to the common man to take part in the elections with democratic spirit. Only those who had money bags are able to contest in the elections. Using the media to focus the non-issues and avoiding burning problems and thus diverting the people's attention from the basic issues, luring the voters with one or other sop is the ploy the ruling class parties employ.

The Parliament and its members find no time to discuss the basic issues faced by the people and even if raised by some MPs, they would be brushed aside as inconsequential matters. On the other side the parliament is powerless when law of the land is violated by the exploiting classes as in the case of wanton defaulters of bank loans. Everyone in the high places of government knows that these defaulters are none other than big bourgeoisie. Beyond this, the Indian parliament is acting as a tool in the hands of imperialist finance capital by vesting all powers and freedoms to the regimes of the day to sign on the dotted lines as dictated by the imperialist financial institutions and making them as laws of the country. Thus the legislative bodies in India continue as mere talking shops as Comrade T. Nagi Reddy observed.

To meet this situation, the vast masses of people must unite and organise themselves in the struggle against the ruling classes and their policies. They must oppose the treacherous crime of the Indian ruling classes who are selling out the country's interests to imperialism and take the struggle against imperialism forward. The masses of peasants must advance their struggle against feudalism and for the revolutionary redistribution of land. The people must dare to fight back communal onslaught in the course of organising themselves in class struggles on basic problems. They should unite with patriotic and democratic forces.

We, the Communist Revolutionaries, are with the people in this most essential battle. We are committed to earnestly strive to forge unity among the Communist ranks to build a proletarian party based on Marxism-Leninism.

In the present context of elections to the Parliament, we call upon the people to:

- **Reject the BJP and its allies!**
- **Expose the Congress and other ruling class parties!**
- **Support and vote for the communist revolutionary, left and democratic forces!**
- **Workers,peasants and down trodden people unitedly struggle against the policies of ruling classes!**

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With revolutionary greetings

Viswam
General Secretary
Central Committee
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