

Struggle for Land in Odisha

On Feb 1st, 2019, more than 1000 people from the Sipasa-rubali Mouza of Puri district, Odisha led by Upakulia Jami-o-Jangal Suraksha Samithi (UJJSS) took out a rally in Puri town in support of their right over the land. People from 20 villages have participated in the rally. A three hour long meeting was held in front of the District Collector's office. The people have declared their resolve not to part with the land under their possession for the last nine years. They urged the Govt. to scrap forthwith the Multinational Corporate spon-sored Shamuka Hotel project and accept the just right of local people on the said land. Com. Batakrishna Swain the Convenor of UJJSS has presided over the meeting. Com. Srikant Mohanty, Secretary, CMS, Odisha, Com. Brahmananda Mallik, Com. Bhimsen, Com. Sharat Rayguru, Com. Tapan Upadhyaya, Com. Krushna Rout, Com. Mohan Naidu, Com. Surendra Tapasy, Com. Pratap Chinar, Lodnath Nayak and others spoke. They demanded that the govt. must accept the just and democratic rights of the people instead of making the people to helplessly wait for doles from the rulers. They criticized the govt. for hanging on to the idea of giving away the people's land to a Hotel project despite a decade long struggle of the local people and even after knowing well how its proposed move to install a project in this coastal area can destroy the jangal and thus dismantle the natural protection from cyclones and high tides and spells havoc in the people lives and livelihoods.

The Organizers of the peoples' movement urged all the parties to continue to extend their support and solidarity to the just struggle of the Sipasarubali people for land.
