

Seminar on the Occasion of bi-centenary Year of Karl Marx's Birth

On March 14, 2019, the Odisha State Committee of CPI (ML) has organized a Seminar at Lohia Academy in Bhubaneswar. Topic was: **"Marxism is the only Alternative in the Present World"**.

The CPI (ML) is engaged in a state wide campaign to explain the salient features of Marxism and its achievements and its continued significance. It held several meetings of activists and sympathizers. The Bhubaneswar Seminar was a culmination and conclusion of this ideological campaign. It was attended by a good number of intellectuals like com.Kishor Chandra Samar, com. Vamshidhar, Com.Golak Bihari Nath, Com.Biren Nayak, Com.Swadhin Patnaik, Com.Vishwapriya Kanungo, Com. Srimanth Mahanthy, Com. Neelamani.. and Com. Sudhir Patnaik. Nearly 150 people from different districts have participated in the Seminar.

Com.Golak Bihari Nath, Com.Biren Nayak, Com.Vamsidhar, Com.Swadhin Patnaik, Com.Nilamani..., Com. Srimanth Mohanthy spoke. Com. Srikanth Mohanthy, the state secretary of CPI(ML) spoke on behalf of the CPI(ML).

The speakers dismissed the claim of bourgeois that capitalism is the end of history as false and baseless. They have explained that capitalism, which is driven by the insatiable thirst to earn profit by robbing the surplus value of wage labor and other toiling people had solved no basic problem of the people. It is inherently plagued by all weaknesses, crises, contradictions and it cannot overcome them. Imperialism – the highest stage of capitalism- claims to protect and lead the entire world capitalist system. But it too is crisis – ridden. The crisis, contradictions and intensified competition among the imperialists to dominate the world had driven them to two disastrous World Wars. The First World War had resulted in the victory of 1917 October Revolution; The Second World War had resulted in a devastating defeat of Fascism, a great weakening of imperialism in the world and victory or advance of revolutions in Europe, China and many other countries. Where ever the imperialists had resorted to armed invasions in the last 70 years including in Iraq and Afghanistan they encountered opposition and resistance from people. Imperialism today stands as biggest exploiter, oppressor, destroyer of nature and road block in the way of peace, independence and freedom of nations and human progress.

Marxism is of less than two hundred years old. Yet, it fundamentally changed the entire idea and practice of social change. The philosophers so far had interpreted the society as it existed. They saw the social change as nothing but one form of exploiting system changing into another form of exploiting system. Marx had interpreted the development of human society from a dialectical materialist view point. He proposed a fundamentally different perspective of social change. He called for an end of all forms of exploiting systems and ushering in a new world through socialism and Communism free from exploitation, oppression, inequalities and War. "workers of the World Unite" – the call of Manifesto of Communist Party" is still valid and revolutionary to realize this dream in the world. Ever since Marxism had come on the world scene, it continues to guide the working class and oppressed people in their struggle against the various forms of exploiting systems in the world. In India too, guided by Marxism, the Communists had led many a significant struggles and peasant revolutionary movements like Telangana.

Since its inception, Marxism is under attack by the bourgeois and its ideologues. This attack had further intensified in the wake of setbacks suffered by socialism and the disintegration of Soviet Union. Marxism is sought to be dismissed as dead. The confusions are sought to be sown. The attempts are being made to weaken the convictions in the ideology of Marxism and socialism. But they cannot wipe out the great achievements of Marxism and Socialism from the pages of history and the people's memories. Socialism had solved the basic problems of people like, hunger, shelter, illiteracy, ill health. It freed the people from exploitation, oppression and lent them necessary consciousness and strength to fight capitalism, imperialism and fascism. It gave great impetus to the struggle of working class, oppressed nations and people. It alone can guide their struggle along a correct and victorious path.

The Seminar has reflected a strong urge and resolve among the participants that Marxism must be defended from the attacks of the enemy; It must be studied well and applied to the concrete conditions and concrete practice of class struggle and revolution.

Seminar concluded with a brief note of thanks by Com.Basu Dev Dash on behalf of the Odisha State Committee of CPI (ML). He thanked the participants as well as comrades and friends who extended their help and co-operation for the success of Seminar. At the outset of the Seminar, the AAGUAN the Odia Organ of CPI (ML) was released and distributed.
