

# A JUST STRUGGLE CANNOT BE CRUSHED

Just and peaceful protest movement of peasants is continuing gathering strength and momentum withstanding the conspiracies, slander campaign, divisive and disruptive moves, dialogue drama and repressive moves on the part of BJP rulers.

The Tractor Parade of peasants on 26<sup>th</sup> January Republic Day in Delhi was a move to loudly reassert the unity and demands of peasants for the repeal of three Farm Laws and legal guarantee for MSP. That a handful of disruptors have temporarily succeeded in deviating a small section of protesters from the scheduled programme and in enacting the Red Fort incident was indeed disturbing. But, it took no time for the BJP rulers to get exposed as the real conspirators behind the incident. The Parade program concluded successfully in a disciplined and orderly manner. It proved to be an inspiring and unprecedented mass protest action.

Once the parade was over, on one side, the leadership of the movement took stock of the situation, decided to expose and isolate the disruptors and conspirators and carry the movement forward in a more disciplined and organized manner. On the other side, the BJP Central Govt., police administration, Media and BJP-RSS forces have intensified their multi-pronged attacks on the movement. They unleashed the propaganda that the movement was anarchic and it has dishonored the national flag. The police have filed cases against many leaders under UAPA and sedition sections of IPC. They seized the VISAS and issued 'Look out' orders against some. Para-military forces were deployed massively in Ghazipur, Singhu and Tikri borders. The electricity, water and internet services were cut off. The UP Govt. has sent buses to Ghazipur border to transport the forcibly evicted protesters to distant areas. Through all these moves, the rulers wanted to create an atmosphere of terror and fear among the protesters. Along with this, small groups of BJP-RSS men claiming themselves as "local people" resorted to physical attacks on the protesters and their centres. They, in reality, wished to provoke tensions and physical clashes and provide an alibi for a police action against the protesting people. The people and the leaders refused to fall prey to this conspiracy and have dealt the situation with patience and restraint. All these moves have subjected the protesters to much pressure and made them to seriously think: Should they succumb to the conspiracies and suppressive policies of the rulers or stand undaunted and united in the struggle? An emotional call of Rakesh Tikait at this moment has had an electrifying impact on the peasants. It reflected the urge and feelings of lakhs of peasants in UP and other places to defy the difficulties and continue the struggle. Much against the wishes and attempts of Indian rulers, thousands of peasants flooded the centers of protest in Ghazipur, Singhu and Tikri borders from Western UP, Haryana, Punjab Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and other states. It is a never ending stream of people. The people denounced the conspiracies, attacks and suppressive moves of the rulers. They declared their resolve to continue the struggle till their demands are achieved. This is indeed a most welcome and commendable development.

But the BJP rulers refuse to learn. They grew more vindictive. On one side, they told that the Government is still open for talks. On the other side, they took recourse to more brutal and inhuman methods of suppression. The Delhi police erected concrete multi-layer barricades, spread concertina wire and hammered long spikes, iron rods between the cemented barriers and trenches across the approach roads to the protest sites. It massively deployed the security forces. All this made the protesting people feel that they are treated like "foreign invaders". They said, "forget humans, nobody keeps even animals in this manner". The internet services continue to be suspended; Twitter accounts of many have been blocked. According to Samyukta Kisan Morcha, 112 protesters are in jails and 29 are still missing after Republic Day. So far, 170 farmers have lost their lives in the protest movement. Journalists who are reporting about the protest movement are faced with threats, harassment and arrests on cooked up charges.

Yet, it is heartening to see the people's morale continues to be high. Support and solidarity from all sections of people, democrats and intellectuals are growing every day to the protest movement. Much against the wishes of BJP rulers, enormous support and help are pouring in various forms from the local people and they are playing a crucial role in tiding over the present difficulties.

Here we must be clear that the three laws are a part of ever intensifying onslaught of the imperialists and subservient Indian ruling classes on our economy and people. Here is a well articulated attack on the rights of our people to land, their produce, their right to a reasonable assured price for their produce and the right of people to get all essential things at fair and reasonable rates. It is a part of a concerted drive to destroy agriculture – the basis of our economy-, pauperise our peasantry and people by opening up the doors wide in rural areas for an unrestrained and rapacious loot and control of imperialists and Indian Corporate Houses. The present protest movement, likewise, is a part and continuation of a long drawn struggle of our people to break our country free from the clutches of imperialism and for a New Democratic India.

Let the working class-advanced class in modern society- rise in solidarity and forge unity with the peasants in the present movement and add strength and momentum to the struggle of exploited and oppressed Indian people for a better future.

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