

MY RESIGNATION IN PROTEST AGAINST THE ATROCIOUS RULE

- Comrade Tarimela Nagi Reddy

[Letter to the Speaker of A.P. State Assembly explaining the reasons for his resignation to the Membership of State Assembly.]

Here I submit my resignation to my membership of the State Assembly with effect from this day, ie., 18.11.1966 as a mark of my strong protest to the unprece-dented reign of terror let loose by the State Government in an attempt to suppress the state-wide people's movement in Andhra for steel plant in Vishakhapatnam as promised by the leaders of Central Govt. on many a times and for the industrialization of our State. The peaceful demonstrators were unwarrantedly fired upon. As a consequence, more than 30 people lost their lives. Thousands of people were wounded because of indiscriminate firing and lath charge. They arrested hundreds of leaders of political parties, mass organizations and Associations. They tortured several people in police lockup and the methods used for this purpose make us recollect the memories of Nizam's brutalities and the methods of Razakars. Even the educational institutions, the educationists and thousands of students also came under this onslaught.

This is nothing but a continuation of anti-people and anti-democratic policies being pursued by the Congress-Govern-ments ever since they assumed power after independence. Three and half crore people of Andhra (then the united AP) had developed hopes that, with independence, they would prosper socially, economically and culturally along with other parts of the country. But 19 years'of Congress rule has belied and dashed their hopes to pieces. Our people had to wage a serious battle for a separate state.

The Governments in the State and Centre sought to drown these movements in blood. They sought to disrupt even the movements for economic development. The development remained stunted only because of Congress Governments in Centre and the State. In this context, I wish to remind you how Nandikonda project was opposed; how the Dry Dock Factory and the Marine Diesel Engine Factory were first included in the Second Five Year Plan and later were shelved. As a consequence, our state is at the lowest level as compared to other states in our Country. The Central and State Congress Governments must take responsibility for this state of affairs.

The Andhra Pradesh Government has astonishingly failed in achieving the economic development even in the sectors where it could take decisions on its own. It did not enact Land Reform Laws in the interests of peasants and tenants. It did not distribute even the cultivable banjar land among the landless and poor peasants. It failed in controlling prices that had risen to limitless heights. On the contrary, it introduced the food Corporations through the system of intermediaries. Thereby, it became directly responsible for the hike in prices of food grains. It failed to take suitable steps to provide relief to the drought affected people.

Not only this; It has become a shelter for corruption, nepotism and vested interests. This Government has nurtured and encouraged the anti-social forces like the black marketers, profit mongers and the tax evaders. It has thrown the democratic traditions to winds. It is trampling the civil rights under the foot. It is using the DIR, PDA and other draconian laws to suppress the democratic oppo-sition, mainly the CPI.

The landlord class, which is having its influence and exercising its dominance over the Government, is resorting to murderous attacks on the peasants and the agri-cultural Labour in several districts. They are using all their energies, weapons and forces fully, freely, deliberately and with no fear what so ever that they may be booked for their crimes. I had repeatedly mentioned in this house about the attacks by the gangs of landlords in Maheshwaram, Chandrukonda, Narakkapet, Katsala, Nelamarri, Solipet, Hussenabad, Thonda and Timmapet villages. Unfortunately, those who were charged with the crimes were not those who committed the crimes. All of them were the rural masses who were victims of sufferings and attacks. From this, it is clear that it is none but the landlords themselves who are dominating, running and controlling this Government.

Any Government with a sense of democracy must have immediately resigned after the recent bloodshed in the State. The hands of this Government are red with blood. Its heart is full of darkness that surpasses the wretched world. It is refusing to resign. It is trying to continue its atrocious rule. Therefore, I am resigning to express my strong protest against the continuation of this Government.

[SARADHI, Progressive, Telugu Weekly from Anantapur, 18 -11 -1966.]

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