

PRESENT POLITICAL SITUATION IN WEST BENGAL AND OUR CALL TO THE PEOPLE

The general political situation in West Bengal is complex. The TMC for the last ten years was carrying out an undemocratic rule where no one was allowed to participate in the movement against oppression. Violence was rampant. The corruption level was very high and it has gone to the cadre level. There was a reign of terror by the police and the people were most insecure and the democratic organisations and democratic forces were forced to surrender. At the time of two Panchayat elections, the goons of TMC did not allow the candidates of Opposition Parties in almost 70% of the constituencies in the district of South Bengal to file the nominations. Single-handedly, they declared themselves elected. There was no democratic space. On the economic field, there is no growth in the industrial sector. Factories remained closed. The workers lost jobs and the unemployment was massive. There was no scope for employment in West Bengal. Whatever the limited scope seemed to exist in schools and colleges, they had no money to pay the salaries. They talk many things about the rural sector and the agrarian sector, but here too the Govt. had no sustained agrarian policy. The rulers followed the policy of liberalisation. There is no scope for any employment in the rural areas. Consequently, there is massive migration from the rural areas to distant areas and states in search of work and livelihood. Today, we find no youth in rural areas. Big scams like Sharada and Rose valley and several Chit Funds were groomed and developed under the protective umbrella of TMC. Crores of rupees were looted from the people. In the last ten years, Bengal became most insecure, unstable, economically weak and socially unstable. Never ending attacks on women, rapes, gang rapes and murders made the situation in West Bengal most insecure. Every protest was sought to be suppressed with the help of hooligans, and State police. The people of West Bengal, particularly the rural poor and middle classes cannot protest or raise their voice.

On the other hand, the Left forces led by the CPIM were voted out outright in two elections – first ousted by the TMC and then the TMC had won. Till today, the CPIM leadership refuse to self critically review what they had done in Singur and Nandigram. They failed to resist the TMC's atrocities. They did not build up any movement against the anti-people and anti-democratic policies of the TMC Govt. Only now when the elections were declared, they became active and began forming the alliances with Congress and some Islamic Organisation. During the last elections, the CPIM cadre in West Bengal voted BJP. The CPIM cadre now talk that CPIM is sure to win the next elections if the BJP happens to win the present elections. We know that some of the important leaders and MLAs of CPIM have already joined the BJP. Left-Congress and ISF alliance in West Bengal is an opportunist alliance. it can expect no future in the present electoral battle. At best, it can divide some votes. The role of CPIM in the ongoing farmers' movement in the North India for the repeal of three Central Acts is in the nature of sabotaging rather than strengthening it. Because of this kind of weak and opportunist CPIM leadership, they have also failed in developing a viable alternative movement in West Bengal against the issues like CAA and NRC and the Three Acts. The TMC Govt. has done everything to crush the protest organised by the Communist Revolutionaries, democratic organisations against the BJP-RSS led Central Government and their anti-people, anti-farmer and anti-national Acts. No movement was allowed to develop in West Bengal against the BJP led Central Govt.

That is why, the BJP and TMC –both are the enemies of the people. Whatever the slogans the TMC is raising against BJP is only a lip service. Both parties- TMC and BJP – are playing a communal card to divide the people. By finally aligning itself with the ISF, the CPIM led left front too adopted an opportunist stand and is not able to capture the imagination of the people.

The Communist Revolutionaries are in the state of disarray and disunited. Some CR Groups, as earlier, support the TMC. This time, they do it in the name of fighting and defeating the fascist BJP in West Bengal. They raise the slogan, 'no vote to BJP', but silently support the TMC. Others are putting up their Candidates. There is no united move on the part of CRs in the elections because of divergent views and approaches. That is why the CRs so far have failed to create an effective presence. Yet, the situation demands the CRS to adopt a united approach and stand to meet the present complex situation.

Our Organisation- CPI(ML) in West Bengal, take the stand to oppose and reject BJP led NDA and defeat the TMC; We oppose and expose the opportunist stand of CPIM-Congress and ISF alliance; We extend our support to the Candidates of CR Organisations, real democratic, anti-imperialist and left candidates. We suggest NOTA to the people where there are no such candidates. We also earnestly feel that the CRs must unite on the basis of common stand in the interests of our future movement.

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