

Farmers' Agitation took the BJP

Bull by Horns

The yearlong farmers' agitation along the borders of Delhi, the Punjab, Haryana and UP has forced the BJP bull to subdue by taking it by the horns. The unity of the people irrespective of differing ideologies is itself a wonderful act that took place after several decades.

Farmers in the movement demanded repeal of the three anti-people black laws serving the interests of imperialists and big bourgeoisie:

- 1.The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020.
- 2.The Farmers' (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020 and
- 3.Essential Commodities Act, 2020 along with Amendment of Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

They also demanded statutory guarantee of remunerative prices for all agricultural produces for all farmers, at least guarantee of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for all agricultural produces and withdrawal of Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2020.

The agitation groups with differing ideologies got united keeping their differences aside to march forward under the banner of Coordination Committee. Samyukt Kisan Morcha has been acting with utmost diligence and flexibility to keep all the forces united for more than a year and leading the movement united focusing the target at the face of all odds. Farmers dedicated their lives for the cause in hundreds. This itself is a victory.

Though the problems of the farmers of the Punjab, Haryana and Western UP came into the focus, but farmers, even the toiling masses, of other states found their own interests in the movement and participated in the agitation adding their own issues like irrigation facilities. Within the framework of the Central Coordination Committee (AIKSCC) farmers' unions fought in their respective states, e.g.: Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan etc.

The AIKSCC was successful in rallying people of different nationalities, religions, castes and tribes against the evil designs of the BJP in the interest of

imperialists and big capital. Hindutva had to take a back seat, at least for the time being. The fascist slogan of Hindu state could be drowned under the reverberating call for unity against all fascist designs.

The movement teaches us a lot of things. First, the answer to any fascist machination and to any anti-people draconian Act passed with brute majority is to stand firm and steadfast and focus on the issues to fight against them. The rock-solid unity of the people against all draconian anti-people acts of the ruling classes is guarantee for victory.

It has brought before the people the hollowness of the exploiting classes and contradiction amongst them.

It has also taught about flexible but principled struggles among differing ideologies, flaws in practice to be removed, exposed some people who joined the agitation for name and fame, awareness about traitors who tried to sabotage the movement.

The farmers' movement was supported and encouraged by the working class, howsoever small it may seem was the most reliable ally of the movement. Some ruling class governments of different states for their own reasons supported the movement. Many NRIs, Sikh Gurudwaras, well known NGOs, traditional farmer unions and their leaders also came in support.

Already it has achieved a glorious victory, but there are some more to be achieved. The AIKSCC has been rightly standing its ground to achieve them.

Moreover, certain other demands for which the struggles are on are to be carried on continually. They are The Industrial Code, 2020 against which trade unions are on the streets, the New Education Policy against which students all over the country are on the move.

Above all, basic demands of the people which is out of scope for such movements are to be raised. While addressing and fighting against plight of the agricultural laborers, for the demands of the tenant farmers, for the cause of the Dalits, against oppression on the women, against discrimination of minorities, the people should be mobilised for achieving economic, social, cultural and political equality, for food for all, work for all, education for all. This must be understood that these cannot be the aim of a farmer movement. Most of them cannot be achieved without a radical change of the system. That duty rests upon the progressive and democratic forces and revolutionary communists.

Already groups and parties have started mobilisation for forthcoming assembly elections and next parliamentary elections. The BJP is trying to hoodwink the people by partial retreat. The leaders of the movement are trying to make the victory total. Fight is going on. In the wake of mobilisations for the

elections, how long shall the agitation be continued or take new form will be clear sooner or later. But the greatest challenge is to keep the agitating forces united. This challenge should be met by true democratic and progressive force. During the run of elections the BJP will try to divide people using all sorts of evil designs, even invoking Ayodhya's Rama, Mathura's Krishna or Kashi's Vishwanath, but the unity of the people created by the farmers' movement is ready to dare it.

Central Committee, CPI (ML)