

# The Ongoing Agitation of the Poor in Bihar

## A Movement Led by AIKMKS Demanding Handover of Land to the Pattadars and Action against Encroachers



For the past several months, All India Khet Mazdoor Kisan Sabha is organising various agitations in Rohtas and 4 other districts of Bihar against attacks on the poor.

On November 12, 2022, AIKMKS Rohtas, district committee led a public demonstration with hundreds of people, organised a Rastarokho for 5 hours and held a public meeting. They warned that the dictatorial policies of Nitish Kumar government will not be tolerated anymore and demanded that the land issue should be resolved immediately.

“Government Officials! We shall not tolerate any more of your cooperation to the landsharks in encroaching our patta lands, your lacklustre attitude towards their goondas will not be tolerated”; “Down with the police colluding and supporting them”; “Shame on the bureaucrats selling the legal system and making money”. These are some of the slogans that charged the agitation.

The demands put forward through this huge public meeting and demonstration include:

- « All landless families should be given 6 cents of residential land.

- « Stop axing the poor in the name of encroachments.
- « Waive-off electricity bills of the poor.

This meeting organised in front of Rohtas District Collector's office, Bihar is presided over by All India Khet Mazdoor Kisan Sabha (AIKMKS) district president Nathuni Ram. AIKMKS leader Comrade Ashok Baitha, District Secretary Comrade Surendra Paswan and others addressed the meeting.

They said that the Amir Das Commission report is yet to be made public; and the report of D.Bandyopahyaya Commission has not been implemented even today. They said that the lives of the people are being destroyed due to the dictatorship and bureaucracy of the Nitish government in Bihar. They criticized that no work was being done for the people and that a system of commissions had been created in various departments.

They said that the mafias are grabbing the land of the weak and the goons are encroaching on the land of the pattadars and that all this is going on with the help of the police. They told that no land is given to the poor anywhere but officials in all the mandals are taking possession of Bhudan lands in large quantities by creating fake documents under the auspices of the state government. These occupiers do not have 'zama-bandi' receipts. Land records of every village is available as per the 1970 survey Khatian. The land mafias and officials have converted this Bhudan land into their name and now selling it to the innocent poor.

The speakers said that Consolidation Department and Bhudan Department has been allowing this game for years and grabbing the rights of the poor. The leaders declared that the struggle will not stop until the lands are in the hands of the people.