

Workers of All Countries shall Pledge to Fight out Imperialism, on the Occasion of 138th May Day!

- *Viraji*

The Workers of all countries throughout the world are celebrating 138th May Day. On this occasion they are reviewing the world situation and the living and working conditions of the workers and are redefining their tasks according to the international situation of the 21st century, and of their national situation.

For the past four decades the entire world is under the rule of imperialist globalisation. The imperialist, international capital in the name of neo-liberal economic policies has been directing its rule in economic, political and social fields of the entire world. It has been cunningly on one hand pillaging the entire globe of its natural resources and on the other hand exploiting the human resources in the form of ruthless and inhuman exploitation of the labour power of the entire workforce of the world. Unprecedented exploitation of surplus value produced by the workers is being amassed in the form of super-profits by the imperialist, giant transnational corporations. To attain this appropriation of wealth and surplus capital created by the working-class, de-regulation and de-control of capital and markets by the governments is being propagated in the name of free markets and as a pre-condition for the development of the world and betterment of the lives and conditions of people throughout the world. With such deceptive claims and false propaganda the imperialism in the guise of neo-liberalism is ruling the roost of the entire globe.

In USA, the highly developed industrial country, the living conditions of the workers have been deteriorating day by day. Even in the highly developed sector of information technology industry the employees and workers are hardly hit. Immigrant employees/workers from other countries are being engaged in all types of employment from highly skilled jobs to skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled jobs and thus minimizing the scope of employment for the Native Americans forcing them to accept jobs with lesser wages, entitlements and bargaining rights. Wage cuts and pension cuts have become the norm of the day. Due to the accelerating and uncontrolled inflation, the real-value of wages is diminishing. Real weekly wages for American workers are \$ 40 lower today than they were 50 years ago. The workers are suffering from inadequate wages; inadequate benefits, worsening working conditions and increased working hours. Most of the workers are forced to work in two or more jobs in a day to make both ends meet. Massive cut-backs to retirement benefits are leaving the workers without adequate protection and safety to their lives after retirement. Working people all over USA are sick and tired of being exploited by the corporations making record-breaking profits. Busting unionization of workers has become the main policy of the big and giant corporations. There is a considerable decline

in the union movement. Union membership has fallen from 20.1 percent in 1983 to a meager 10.5 percent in 2018, and further fell down in recent years. The giant corporation Amazon, owned by Jeff Bezos, the second wealthiest person in America, spent over \$4 million in trying to defeat the unionization of the workers, shows how badly the workers are being treated in a so-called country of large democracy and freedom. Due to the implementation of imperialist neo-liberal economic policies, inequality – wealth inequality, gender inequality, racial inequality, health inequality, social inequality and divisions have considerably increased in USA, inevitably leading to social and class awareness among workers, to unite, organise and fight. Workers struggles of epic proportions are brewing in USA against the abnormally increased unemployment, joblessness and insufficient jobs.

In the European Union, the industrially developed countries; at the behest of IMF & World Bank – the imperialist financial organisations, with their policies of so-called austerity implemented in Germany, Britain, France, Greece, Italy and other countries, the living and working conditions of the workers have deteriorated considerably. Wage cuts, pension cuts, cuts in health benefits, job cuts, labour flexibility laws have become the bane of the workers in European Union countries. The world had witnessed many protests, agitations and strikes throughout European Union member countries particularly in Greece, Italy, Germany, Britain and France against these neo-liberal policies of austerity and labour flexibility reforms. We are witnessing massive protest being continued against pension reform law aimed to curtail the pension benefits to the workers in various forms. The president of France Macron had to admit that he was forced by the international finance organisations, to take up and pass such a bill despite the massive opposition to such pension reform law!

The policy of out-sourcing and arbitrage of production from different countries adopted and implemented by imperialist corporations, for cutting costs and earning super-profits has considerably worsened the living and working conditions of the workers of the developed world including USA. It reduced them into protection-less workers of their welfare, safety and dignity, inevitably making them to take-up the path to struggle and fight against the conditions of their plight and its causes.

The same has been the condition of workers in developing countries of Asia including the workers in China. Their legal rights and entitlements have been removed. Contractualisation and informalisation of the workers has been almost completed. Imperialist corporations that started their production chains have been exploiting ruthlessly the labour power of workers with impunity, with the willing cooperation of the governments. Workers in garment industry in China, India, Bangladesh, Vietnam etc are forced to work under sweat-shop working conditions for the earning of super-profits of the imperialist transnational corporations. The workers working for giant corporations like Apple, Maruti Suzuki and other automobile corporations are being inhumanly exploited. Job-cuts, wage cuts and denial of union organising rights have become the order of the day. Modern slavery of 21st century is imposed on the workers. These deteriorated living and working conditions are inevitably making them to unite, resist those conditions and fight against those deplorable conditions for existence and survival.

The workers in the African and Latin American countries are the worst affected and exploited, due to the imposition of imperialist policies of neo-liberalism and rule. There is the greater level of exploitation and oppression of the working masses and peoples' in these countries.

The people and workers of all these countries are suffering due to the living and working conditions imposed by the capitalist-imperialist system, from extreme poverty, low wages, unemployment, lack of access to public education and health, forced emigration, patriarchal violence, racism, discrimination and oppression. In most of these countries social protests are spreading. These protests and struggles are developing into anti-imperialist struggles with the objective of social change.

In a nut-shell the entire working class of all-countries of the world is being exploited of its labour power ruthlessly and inhumanly by the imperialism through its so-called policies of neo-liberalism imposed on the globe; at the behest and dictates of international capital in the direction of imperialist corporations. Imperialism is thriving on expropriation and pauperization of the workers, who are creating the wealth. The labour has been under the attack of imperialism all over the world. The failure of world revolution resulted in counter revolution gaining the upper hand and the attacks on the working-class and other toilers worldwide; and on the other hand it caused the climate change that has been plaguing the present day world.

Imperialism even reneged the standard working day established through achieving legal enactment by the working-class Chicago workers in 1885. Imperialism stood as a deadly enemy to the workers of the entire world.

It is crystal clear that unless the workers of the world eliminate the imperialism from the world without any trace, there is no guarantee to the wellbeing of workers, toilers and people of the entire world of their well-being and survival with dignity and real freedom. Imperialism has to be defeated once for all. This can be done only by the working-class; under its leadership by uniting all the other exploited and oppressed classes.

Fighting against imperialism is the unavoidable and immediate necessity and task of the workers of all countries throughout the world; to emancipate themselves from its exploitation and oppression.

On this May Day the workers of all countries of the world shall take a pledge, to unite and fight against imperialism till it is defeated completely and erased totally from the face of the earth once for all!

WORKERS OF ALL COUNTRIES – UNITE! UNITE!!

YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT YOUR SHACKLES!