What is in a Name? - Aloke Mukherjee

Some may say what is in a name. But looking at the way some name is being thrown up without rhyme and reason and accepted by all others brings the question to the fore. INDIA instead of being a great country has turned out to be the name of an alliance of self-seeking leaders who do not feel ashamed to put the name of our beloved country at the altar of their parliamentary ambitions. They are trying to make people believe that the idea behind this typical alliance is to fight Modi's fascist regime. Where do this alliance differ from Modi politically? They had little time to discuss it, rather had enough time to discuss how to avoid it. But the name itself proves that it represent the same class ideology as Modi -Shah combine led NDA.

Had it any real opposition to Modi it would have been reflected in the name. In that case what would have been discussed first was the programme of the alliance. But they have put the horse before the cart. All of them are calling Modi regime as either fascist or autocratic. Then what should have been the opposite of autocracy or fascism? Any political being worth her/his salt knows it is democracy. "D" is there, but not for democracy, but 'Developmental', the watchword of Neoliberal policy dictated by Washington Consensus in the interest of imperialism. This development budge word is also being chanted by Modi &Co as its mantra. This and "N" for National are the crux of the idea presented by Mamata the autocrat of West Bengal and accepted by all.

Does the word National mean something other than what Modi has been using it. Once you accept development instead of self-reliance National also mean the same as Modi is peddling—chauvinism and war hysteria. Had the alliance meant any other thing i.e. as opposed to imperialism, then that must have been spelt out.

Mamata has inserted another ambiguous word, Inclusive. One must be clear that it has been used as adjective of the so-called alliance, not the word 'Developmental'. Then it would have meant the 'Developmental' activity would be inclusive. However that is also a term borrowed from the IMF-World Bank-WTO troika which often use words like holistic, inclusive as the terms to hoodwink the people and to serve the interests of monopolies. However here Inclusive as adjective of Alliance mean to include Adani-Ambani etc as well others not as class groups but as identities represented by political parties. True, interests of oppressed identities are very important but not as opposed to oppressed classes. This has been done deliberately and cleverly, because it would be a laughing stock if it meant Adani Ambani etc and workers poor peasants together. Actually "Inclusive" means to include the interests of Adani -Ambani and their ilk.

As a whole this is an alliance formed not in the interest of the people of India but based on the greed for power of some opportunistic leaders utilising the grievances and rage of the people against the fascistic/autocratic Modi Raj .Where do the alliance INDIA stand on the question of neo- liberalism, where do they stand on fighting Hindutva, where do they stand on new labour code, where do they stand on the policy of peaceful coexistence with neighbouring states as opposed to the war hysteria developed by chauvinistic nationalism? There would be questions and questions. Modi is effectively enforcing his programme of action. And most of the leaders also follow the same opinion as Modi regime on development, on nationalism on foreign policy, on allowing the most fierce elements of big capital to rule the roost.

In a word so-called alliance called INDIA has betrayed the trust of the people.