

Women have to take Part in Organized Movements

A Call by Comrade Jhansi in the State Convention of Stree Vimukti Sanghatana

State Convention of Stree Vimukti Sanghatana was conducted at Vemuri Kalyana Mandapam in Ongole on 24-12-2023 on 'The Problems of Women and their Tasks'. 200 delegates from different parts of the state attended the convention. The delegates took a procession in the town before the convention. They gave slogans against the attacks and atrocities on women, demanded abolition of sale of liquor and to solve immediately the just demands of anganwadi and ashra workers.

The convention was presided over by Dr. C.Vijaya, the State President of Stree Vimukti Sanghatana. Comrade Jhansi, the State president of Rythu Coolie Sangham in her inaugural address said that at present the drinking habit of men is the main problem that women are facing. The alcohol is destroying the health of the drinkers. But the rulers are considering its sale as a source of income. In order to deceive the people they introduce several welfare measures like Amma Vodi etc. The government earns more money through sale of alcohols than the amount allotted to welfare measures. The rulers made agriculture as non profitable. The income of a farmer with 10 acres of land is less than the fourth class employee of the government. So the farmers are leaving the cultivation and migrating to towns. There is no scope to women to live with self respect. Through TV serials a propoganda is launched against women. The government is turning a deaf ear towards the problems of anganwadi and ashra workers though they are doing great service. In spite of the women wrestlers' demand to arrest their head who sexually harassed them, in the elections again the candidate supported by the previous head was elected. Our natural resources are being exploited by the imperialists. Our environment is being destroyed. The exploitation is increasing day by day. All these problems are related to women. By understanding the society around us, we can understand the problems of women. Only by joining in organized movements women can achieve their self respect. Then only women can be self reliant and self dependent.

The other speakers, Chennupati Manjula (State President, APTF), OVVS Ramakrishna (State Joint Secretary, Janasahithi), Dr. Neerada (Retired Additional Director of Medicine and Hygiene), V.Hanumantha Rao (State General Secretary, OPDR), Comrade Lakshmi (State General Secretary, Stree Vimukti Sanghatana), Comrade N.Bhaskar (State President, PDSO) and S. Lalitha Kumari (State Joint Secretary, Rythu Coolie Sangham, A.P.) in their speeches touched the following points.

The cases of sexual harassment on women are increasing day by day. Even lady judges at high positions also are being harassed. Women in general are doing domestic drudgery just to feed their families. They are being exploited as they are in unorganized sector. All the rights achieved through struggles are being negated now. The payment of equal pay to equal work is

limited only to papers. All the media, cinema, television, and web series –all are presenting programmes with man at the centre. The media is representing drinking alcohol, harassing the girls as heroic activities. It is a shameful thing that innumerable child marriages are taking place even now. Wherever the wars burst in the world their effect falls mainly on women and children. At present Israel in its war with Hamas is bombing the hospitals depriving medical help and treatment even to pregnant women. Israel is aiming at destroying the future generation as a whole and its atrocities are to be condemned. In order to handover the wealth to corporates in Manipur the government is supporting the ethnic cleansing of certain tribals. Its aim is to grant permission to corporate and imperialist companies to do mining there. The atrocities on girijans and parading publicly two girijan women naked, show the real nature of the rulers. In Gujarat riots also the same kind of attacking and shaming the women took place. It has become common in the country to attack women in communal riots.

Moreover migrations are increasing as a result of agricultural and industrial crises. Most of the women are forced to work with less than minimum wages. We find them on the pavements and roads living without any minimum facility. The speakers found fault with the government which is cheating the people in general and particularly women by showing welfare plans or free distribution of essentials. The government is considering them as mere vote banks. They in their speeches advised the women to enhance their awareness and understand the depths of their problems. They have to consolidate and take part in the struggles.

At the end of the convention the state General Secretary Comrade M. Lakshmi proposed resolutions demanding a ban on the production of liquors and their sale, immediate solving of the problems of anganwadi and asha workers and condemned the election of an associate of notorious Brijbhushan as the president of wrestling federation of India. The resolutions were adopted unanimously.