

RED STAR

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REVOLUTIONARY MONTHLY IN ENGLISH
RED STAR

Joint Statement on Kargil Conflict

The present Kargil conflict is raising the danger of a devastating full-scale war between India and Pakistan. What was started by the Vajpayee government with the Pokhran blasts last year has today led to this dangerous situation. Even the use of nuclear arms is being threatened by some war-mongering forces. All the ruling class parties are competing with each other in raising jingoistic and chauvinistic slogans whipping up war hysteria, while they are one in selling the country's interests to imperialist plunder. This is causing besides heavy loss of human lives an intensified economic devastation, the burden of which is bound to be transferred to the people pauperising them further.

Utilising the conflict the G-8 powers led by US im-

perialists are trying to intervene in a big way to establish their own hegemony in this region.

In this grave situation we call upon all patriotic and democratic forces to launch a countrywide movement calling for de-escalation of the present situation and opposing imperialist intervention, and to guard against the attempts of anti-people forces to whip up communal hatred to divide the people utilising Kargil conflict.

1. C.O.I (M. L)
 2. C.P.I (M. L) C.O.C. Janashakthi
 3. C.P.I (M. L) Liberation
 4. C.P.I (M. L) New Democracy
 5. C.P.I (M. L) Red Flag
- New Delhi, 1 July, 1999

Resolutions Adopted by the Central Committee of TUCI

ON KARGIL

The Kargil Conflict is leading India to the danger of a declared war with Pakistan. The Sangh Parivarist organisations throughout India are openly shouting slogans for a war with Pakistan and are indulging in creating a war hysteria among the Indian masses. Almost all the ruling class parties are also in tune with this.

The BJP's accession to power, the Pokhran bomb test, its jingoistic statements and approach to the neighbouring countries and its undemocratic and autocratic approach towards the people of Kashmir through demanding the abrogation of Article 370 in its election programme, etc. have all played an important role in leading the present situation to this extent.

Both India and Pakistan, already facing severe economic crises under the dictates of neocolonial slavery, are heading for a further collapse of their economies through these developments. All the attempts at war by both the ruling classes of India and Pakistan are really targeted against the toiling masses of both the nations. Imperialist powers are finding the situation a good opportunity to further tighten their hold on these countries affairs.

We appeal to the democratic nationalist forces of the country to oppose any attempt by the imperialist powers to interfere in this issue, and to demand of both the governments to immediately find a peaceful, political solution to the matter.

ON THE ELECTIONS TO THE 13TH LOK SABHA

TUCI resolves to utilise the forthcoming elections to build up an Anti-Imperialist Democratic Alternative on the basis of the call given by the CPI(ML) Red Flag. It will support selected candidates on the basis of the following slogans.

- * Rally for Anti-Imperialist Democratic Alternative;
- * Communal fascism serves imperialism,
Fight against communalism and imperialism;
- * Scrap new economic policies;
- * Unite to realise the dreams of freedom struggle,
Rally behind CPI(ML) Red Flag.

TUCI will take special care to work hard for the campaign of those of its own members who have undertaken to contest the elections on the basis of this stand.

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EDITORIAL**Rally for Anti- Imperialist Democratic Alternative**

The coming Lok Sabha elections are taking place at a critical time when the dreams of an independent India cherished during the freedom movement is being shattered even after 50 years of formal independence.

Vajpayee government which has come to power utilising the anti-congress feelings among the people is hastily implementing the globalisation-liberalisation policies as a result of which hegemony of MNCs, imperialist capital and market system is getting established in all spheres.

Vajpayee government's jingoistic and contradictory policies worsened Kashmir situation and led to Kargil conflict. Even the present truce arrived at is only temporary. It is increasing imperialist domination in this region.

Through heinous Hinduthua agenda of communalisation BJP-led government has become a threat to minorities, dalits and other oppressed sections. Using 'Swadeshi' as a cover it is bartering away the country's interests. The growth of communal, casteist like divisive forces cannot be delinked from imperialist dictated economic policies.

At the same time, the Congress (I), newly formed Nationalist Congress and the regional and other parties like Janatha Dal, DMK, ADMK, TMC, Telugu Desam etc. are also implementing the very same economic agenda. They have no consistent stand against communal forces and are also appeasing the communal, casteist forces. They cannot become an alternative to BJP or its alli-

ance. All these parties readily got together with BJP in passing this year's budget in ten minutes, a budget hailed by imperialists and the ruling classes as the introduction to second generation reforms.

The CPI(M) and CPI have degenerated to social democratic positions and implement the very same economic policies wherever they are in power. Even when more and more workers and other toiling masses are participating in the anti- government agitations, and the IMF-World Bank-WTO dictated policies are opposed by all progressive democratic forces, and when the very communalisation and fascicisation is linked to intensification of neocolonial slavery, CPI(M)-CPI leaderships are tailing behind Congress(I) in the name of opposing communal fascist forces.

In this grave situation CPI (ML) Red Flag is putting forward an anti-imperialist democratic programme and trying to unite revolutionary left and democratic forces to build up an Anti-Imperialist Democratic Alternative as the immediate task.

CPI(ML) Red Flag is contesting selected seats in coming elections in Kerala, Tamilnadu, Karnataka, Delhi, Orissa and few other areas with the objective of building up Anti-imperialist democratic alternative and to intensify people's movements in coming days. We appeal to all progressive democratic secular forces to rally for this anti-imperialist democratic alternative and support the revolutionary left forces in the coming elections. ○

Com: Souren Bose

Com: Souren Bose, the veteran Communist Revolutionary who passed away on 17th August two years ago was a great link connecting the heroic late sixties and early seventies with the present. He has played a very important role in building up the party, CPI (ML) after the glorious Naxalbari struggle alongwith comrades Charu Mazumdar and others. It was a period when the Communist Revolutionaries all over India came forward to fight revisionism uncompromisingly and to bring back revolution into the agenda of communist movement of the country and launch fierce struggles to overthrow the reactionary Indian state in order to build up a New Democratic India.

Eventhough he refused to the part of any CPI (ML) groups for a long time after coming out of long term of imprisonment he never subscribed to the non-party thinking prevalent among many of the CPI (ML) lead-



ers of early period and many petty-bourgeois elements. He searched relentlessly the answers for many of the questions since he raised criticising the influence of sectarianism within the movement. It was the discussions held with the Chinese Communist Party leaders in 1970 that helped him to raise these questions and to find answers to them.

It was only in 1994 that Com: Souran Bose came into contact with CPI (ML) Red Flag and started discussions with the leading cadres of it. When he found that his positions were basically in agreement with the positions of CPI (ML) Red Flag he decided to join it without any delay. He was very much aware of the fact that genuine communist revolutionaries are to be united and maximum effort in to be taken to reorganise CPI

(ML) into a real proletarian vanguard party through rectification of all sectarian deviations. Since his joining of CPI (ML) Red Flag he was very much engaged in the

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13th Lok Sabha Elections: The Challenge and the Response

The newly elected president of Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) Rahul Bajaj had stressed few weeks back that they (means Indian ruling classes-RS) want Indian political scene to get polarised between the two leading parties BJP and Congress. From early 1960s when Congress started loosing electoral support as a result of its anti-people policies the ruling classes and the imperialist interests behind them had started planning for a western style two party system here. They even launched 'Swatanthra Party' for this purpose. But it could not survive long. Still the plan was not abandoned.

With the further degeneration of Congress, ruling classes redoubled their efforts for a viable two party system or even advocate presidential system occasionally in order to establish 'political stability'. Even when the coalition governments led by V.P. Singh, Dewa Gowda and I.K. Gujral faithfully served the ruling classes, the search for a two party system, or atleast rule by 'stable' coalitions led by BJP and Congress, taking India's complex situation in to consideration, continued. Rahul Bajaj only expressed this desire loud.

With BJP's credentials tested during its 15 months long tenure, what the ruling classes desire today is stable coalition governments or one party rule by either BJP or Congress. They want to polarise the bourgeois political scene around these parties. Though one more split in Congress and formation of Nationalist Congress of Sharad Pawar was a temporary setback to this game plan, this idea and efforts to realise it are not abandoned by the ruling classes whose comprador credentials are repeatedly proved now following the introduction of the 'New Economic Policy'. Coordinating with these efforts Sharad Pawar has announced that though his party and its friends shall keep equi-distance to Congress and BJP during the election, in the post election scene he will take 'realistic' approach. It means that once the elections are over he can cover the distance now he keeps with these two parties in no time and can ally with either of them.

This bi-polarisation of bourgeois political scene is

speeded up by another development also. The 'Third Alternative' mooted by the CPI(M) for long is now vanishing. It suffered a severe blow in 1998 itself when constituents of this Third Alternative or United front like TDP, Akali Dal, National Conference (Kashmir) supported the formation of a BJP-led government. Once the election dates to the 13th Lok Sabha is drawing nearer the rest of UF parties are also abandoning the Third Alternative concept of CPI(M). Even CPI(M) itself has abandoned their Third Alternative concept adopted by its 16th Party Congress.

Janatha Dal has splitted once again and major section has opted for aligning with the NDA of BJP. When AIADMK ditched BJP alliance and joined hands with Congress, DMK has gone to BJP side. Convulsions have started within the 'Left Front' also. CPI(M) has abandoned its 16th Congress position that the growth of communalism cannot be seen isolated from the 'New Economic Policy'. That is, while their latest Congress called for building up unity of forces opposed to both communalism and 'New Economic Policy', contrary to it, the Polit Bureau and later Central Committee have voted for and are working for 'aligning with Congress against communal fascist BJP'. Thus the theoretical basis for Third Alternative is abandoned. So in the name of 'building a broad united front against fascism' it is firmly standing behind Congress. It has aligned with such 'secular' parties like AIADMK, Indian Union League of TN, Tohra's Akali Dal in Punjab, Laloo Prasad's RJD, etc. besides Congress. It has no explanation why parties like TMC, SP, etc. which it had earlier defined as 'secular' are not in this adjustment with Congress. Because of its partisanship to Sonia led Congress, it has even shunted relation with Sharad Pawar's Congress in Maharashtra.

But CPI, RSP and Forward Bloc are joining hands with Nationalist Congress also wherever possible. While CPI(M) is maintaining chastity of joining hands with only those parties who are ready to support Sonia's Congress even after election, its partners in LF (RSP and Forward Bloc) are keeping equi-distance to Congress and BJP, or following Khansi

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active political work of reorganisation of the party. He was aware of the gravity of the situation when the imperialist global system is intensifying the plunder of the world people through the pernicious neocolonial methods and was conscious of the necessity of continuing the struggle against all shades of right opportunism and that of developing the basic orientation of the party in the concrete conditions of today.

As a part of the party work he travelled everywhere in the country even without paying attention to his physical drawbacks. It was while in such a trip to Mumbai where he had to attend some programs organised by Maharashtra committee of CPI (ML) Red Flag. He died

in Mumbai on 17th August 1997.

As a person or as a communist revolutionary he was an inspiring example of communist culture. He was a man of uncompromising principles and was loved and respected by all.

At this juncture while the country and people are facing acute neocolonial plunder and threat from the forces of communalism in power and while our party is shouldering new responsibilities to resist the reactionary state and its politics we think that the warm and revolutionary memories of Com: Souran Bose will inspire and help us to traverse all the path to New Democratic India.

— Red Star

Election Manifesto of CPI (ML) Red Flag

The elections to 13th Lok Sabha is taking place at a critical time when the dreams of the freedom struggle, the vision of a new India cherished by the martyrs are being shattered.

During the anti-British independence struggle the people had the vision of an India free of imperialist yoke; a federal democratic republic which is self-reliant and secular; a new society which settles accounts with the colonial past and feudal relations; an India where democratic values and social equality shall flourish for all sections in all spheres.

But today, five decades after formal independence the nationalist approach developed through anti-imperialist struggle is abandoned, vast majority of people are getting increasingly pauperised, and the country is getting devastated under the policies pursued by the ruling classes and their political representatives in power.

CONSEQUENCES OF THE GLOBALISATION-LIBERALISATION POLICIES

These are the consequences of the globalisation-liberalisation-privatisation policies implemented under the dictates of the IMF-World Bank-WTO trio from 1991 in continuation to the earlier reactionary policies. As a result of them the hegemony of imperialist capital and market system is established in all fields. What is implemented in the name of development policy is one which integrates the country to international market system in all sense. As a result a de-industrialisation is taking place in new forms. Under import liberalisation, free entry of MNCs to all fields, Patents Amendments Act under WTO conditions, Insurance Regulatory Act etc. indigenous industries are closing down in large numbers and millions of workers are thrown out. Recession is spreading to core industries also.

The agricultural sector is also getting integrated to international market system like industrial and service sectors. Even existing land ceiling acts are reversed. All hitherto land reforms measures are also abandoned. Along with semi-feudal relations still continuing to exist in many areas, the growing number of kulaks or agricultural bourgeoisie serving imperialist capital interests are fattening. The MNCs are reaping increasing profits by monopolising production of agricultural inputs from fertilizers, pesticides, and agromachineries to seeds. Production of food grains and food self-sufficiency are consciously sabotaged.

One of the major casualties of liberalisation is the conscious abandoning of all social welfare policies.

The Public Distribution System is systematically cut down. As a result cost of essential commodities are rising sharply. The state is absolving itself from all social security obligations. It is withdrawing from education sector by substituting formal education with literacy campaigns and DPEP like World Bank schemes, or promoting self-financing, unaided, capitation-fee institutions, leading to privatisation and marketisation of education. Health care, housing, essential transport services and postal-telecom facilities are made costly, or privatised. With the 'second generation reforms' introduced through this years' budget, further export-import liberalisation, patents amendments and other globalisation measures cost of all essential services and commodities are going up, pauperising the masses further.

Contrary to repeated promises, under liberalisation unemployment is rising. During last 8 years many millions of workers were thrown out of employment. More than 2 lakhs small, medium and heavy production units are closed down. 'Hire and fire' and contract labour systems are promoted everywhere, in all fields.

Even all existing democratic rights are cut down. TADA is replaced by new black laws. Fake encounter killings are on the increase. All workers struggles and peoples' movements are brutally suppressed. Existing trade union rights are also snatched away.

Under market system, consumerism and degenerated imperialist value system corruption is getting increasingly institutionalised. In this decade there is a quantum jump in corruption cases along with increasing criminalisation.

The 'development' policies under globalisation are devastating the environment and causing increasing ecological problems. No pollution control measures are implemented. The Bhopal gas disaster, Narmada Dam like projects etc. are devastating millions, uprooting the adivasis and other inhabitants, and depriving the livelihood to many millions including fish workers.

Under New Economic Policy the condition of dalits, adivasis, and other oppressed castes and sections have further worsened. Under liberalisation their unemployment is increasing, they are thrown below poverty line, and atrocities are perpetuated against them. Even existing reservation facilities are disappearing as privatisation is speeded up. In the rural areas, as they are getting united and raise demands for land and need based wages, they are attacked by Ranbir Sena like forces promoted by kulaks and feudal forces, with the connivance of BJP like forces.

Globalisation-liberalisation regime has intensified

atrocities and exploitation against *women and children*. Working women and child labourers have to bear brunt of these policies. All human rights are denied in 'free trade zone' like areas. Under imperialist culture as women are reduced to a mere commodity, tourism industry is exploiting them increasingly for sex industry. Even number of child prostitutes are increasing phenomenally.

GROWTH OF COMMUNAL FASCIST DANGER

The strengthening of BJP, the political front of Sangh Parivar, especially during last one decade, and its coming to power following 1998 elections utilising growing anti-Congress sentiments among people have, on the one hand, intensified the implementation of the globalisation-liberalisation policies, and, on the other hand, led to rabid communalisation. Once in power, it has abandoned all 'Swadeshi' pretensions. All economic measures under IMF-World Bank-WTO dictates are speeded up with this year's budget, Patent Amendment, Insurance privatisation etc. under the cover of Hindutua agenda.

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Ram's ideology of 'opportunism' to align or not align with anybody in order to get maximum seats. So in the bargain to align with Congress against BJP in a most opportunist way even abandoning its latest Party Congress decisions, CPI(M) has lost not only its Third Alternative partners but even weakened its LF. In this way CPI(M) has substantially contributed to the realisation of the plans of the ruling classes to polarise the bourgeois political scene between BJP and Congress. Simultaneously, by joining hands with BJP and Congress along with other parties in bourgeois political spectrum to pass this year's budget presented by Yashwant Sinha and hailed as introduction to second generation of reforms as recommended by IMF-WB-WTO trio, and implementing the 'New Economic Policy' faithfully in the three states it is ruling CPI(M) and its LF allies have proved that they have fully shifted their allegiance to the comprador bourgeois economic policies.

As a result of these developments, by succeeding to integrate the pseudo LF also to ruling class positions, barring very few exceptions, in the main in all states the coming elections are fought between two fronts or alliances or adjustments led by, or with the participation of, BJP or Congress. In the post election scene, irrespective of the number of seats won by these combinations, the imperialists and the ruling classes here will try to bring to power a combination led by BJP or Congress. Rahul Bajaj and co. are working hard to put into practice what they advocate so that the 'reforms' as desired by the imperialist chieftains and MNCs can be effectively carried forward. When the imperialist camp led by US imperialism has succeeded in establishing its hegemony over the world, they want a similar polarisation of all parties in different countries around the globalisation-liberalisation policies, and if possible a bourgeois democratic arrange-

ment in which two comprador parties or alliances shall run the ruling system alternating whenever necessary, to provide a safety valve against the imperialist domination and comprador rule.

Along with the intensification of imperialist dictated economic policies, the Sangh Parivarists are working hard to penetrate and dominate all areas of state machinery. In the fields of history institutions, education and culture Hindutua agenda are imposed. Attacks on cultural activists and democratic forces are increasing. Simultaneously they are hell-bent to destroy even the existing federal values in Indian polity. They are trying to remove Article 370 from constitution.

Under Hindutua offensive communal fascism is aggressively spread. Minorities have come under criminal attacks. Dalits and adivasis are also under attack. In the outbreak of Kargil conflict the role played by the Pokhran nuclear blasts conducted by BJP government last year and the jingoistic utterances of BJP leaders following it played a major role. All the chauvinistic slogans they are raising and war-hysteria being whipped up cannot conceal the responsibility of BJP government in creating a situation when such large scale incursion to Indian side of Line of Control could take place, and in the heavy losses to the armed

The task of the revolutionary left and democratic forces is to frustrate these moves by the ruling system. Utilising the parliamentary forms of struggle and developing people's movements to higher levels wherever possible, they should redouble their efforts for it, building organised working class movement and all other democratic people's struggles.

It is with this perspective CPI(ML) Red Flag has launched a political campaign calling for building up Anti-Imperialist Democratic Alternative. For the first time it is putting forward few candidates in some states also to effectively carry forward this campaign, trying to unite all revolutionary left and democratic forces around this alternative. CPI(ML) Red Flag advocate utilisation of parliamentary struggles and building up of such an alternative as part of the overall struggle for building up New Democratic India.

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forces and for the huge expenditure involved in pushing them back. These events have exposed that BJP-led government has played in the hands of imperialists who have utilised this situation to increase their influence in South Asia in a big way.

In short, the four decades long Congress raj and now the 15 months of Vajpayee government which has intensified neocolonial slavery and communal fascist threats to unprecedented levels have led the country to the very verge of a great danger.

RELEVANCE OF ANTI-IMPERIALIST DEMOCRATIC ALTERNATIVE

These developments reveal that with the coming to power of Vajpayee government the great heritage of our independence struggle and of anti-imperialist nationalist traditions are getting completely wiped out. In their place the communal fascist forces are consciously whipping up pseudo nationalism, and serving the hegemony of imperialist powers led by US imperialism.

Its in this critical situation an Anti-Imperialist Democratic Alternative uniting all progressive democratic patriotic and secular forces and led by working classes becomes most relevant. The growing communal fascist threat to Indian polity and neocolonial slavery can be effectively combatted only by advancing and developing the great anti-imperialist national traditions, rejecting the 'New Economic Policy' pursued by the ruling classes, and putting forward an anti-imperialist democratic programme. The building up this alternative and developing and widening the movements of the working class, peasantry and all other masses in the coming days have become the immediate tasks before all revolutionary left and democratic forces.

THE DIFFERENT POLITICAL PARTIES: WHOM DO THEY SERVE?

The class character and the orientation of the different political parties should be seen in this background.

i. BJP

The BJP, the political front of RSS and its parivar, has exposed its true colours already. Its real agenda is to turn India in to a Hindu Rashtra, a fascist state implementing the imperialist dictated economic policies. Within 15 months it has established a record in implementing globalisation-liberalisation. For the ruling classes communalism is a convenient tool to cover up their servitude to imperialist system. In the present situation the communal agenda, cultural intolerance, national chauvinism, negation of secular democratic values besides criminal attacks on minorities and democratic forces are posing grave threats to people's unity and national security. The

'National Democratic Alliance' under its leadership is a tool for implementing its Hindutva agenda.

In present situation it is the cardinal task of the working class and all progressive democratic patriotic forces to firmly stand against BJP and the Sangh Parivarist forces it represents, to thoroughly expose it, and put an end to its anti-national and communal raj. It is nothing but a leading party of the ruling comprador classes who serve imperialist interests.

ii. Congress

Through decades of autocratic and corrupt rule, through the introduction of globalisation-liberalisation policies, and through appeasement of all communal and casteist forces, this party of the comprador classes 'had led the country to acute economic crisis and the people to unprecedented pauperisation. It is the rule of this dynastic party which has led to the ascendance of BJP like forces to power and present grave situation.

It was Indira Gandhi government which had opened the country to IMF dictates in early 1980's by taking a big loan from it. Later Rajiv government accelerated subservience to IMF and World Bank.

It was followed by open introduction of globalisation - liberalisation by Rao government in 1991. These anti-national economic policies and communal and casteist appeasement of Congress regimes had led the country to present predicament. By promoting Bhindaranvale like forces by Indira Gandhi government the communal appeasement policies came to the foreground. This heinous policy reached a new stage under Rajiv government when Babari Masjid was opened for Hindutva forces and "Shilanyas" was allowed. And later Rao government did not take any action to protect the Babari Masjid from the Hindutva forces.

So this Congress cannot become an alternative to BJP. All the claims of the Sonia Gandhi leadership to the contrary are a travesty of truth and cunning move to cheat the masses. The stability plank and the championship of national security claimed by its leadership are clever moves to divert attention from the imperialist dictated economic policies.

iii. Nationalist Congress

The newly split - away Nationalist Congress led by Sharad Pawar or the Third Alternative it is putting forward, in spite of its claim of equi-distant policy from BJP and Congress, cannot in any way become an alternative to them. It is also pursuing the very same new economic policies pursued by BJP and Congress. While in Congress Sharad Pawar was upholding Sonia Gandhi to skies. And he was one of the Congress leaders who implemented the new economic policies and

communal appeasement policies in the most shameless way while he was Chief Minister of Maharashtra. By coming out of Congress now in the name of opposing Sonia Gandhi he has fully exposed himself further. Like BJP and Congress, the Nationalist Congress is also a political establishment of the ruling classes. So like the dynastic Congress, the Nationalist Congress is also an enemy of the people and cannot become alternative to BJP or Congress.

iv. Regional Parties

The consequences of the anti-people policies pursued by Congress, the uneven development of different regions, and the weakening of Congress hold led to emergence of numerous regional parties. In spite of their earlier positions, now they are also faithfully executing the very same imperialist dictated liberalisation policies. Like Congress or BJP, they are also serving imperialist interests, and opening the states where they are in power to imperialist capital and MNCs. Side by side they have no consistent stand against communal or casteist forces. They are neither anti-imperialist, nor secular-democratic.

v. Parties Claiming to Advocate Social Justice

It was by utilising the intensifying social contradictions and increasing social oppression caused by the economic crisis created by the reactionary economic policies pursued by the ruling classes, and utilising the growing awareness created by Mandal like movements, the many caste based parties advocating social justice came up. They are led by the elite sections in different dalit and backward castes and they rely on casteist vote banks. Reservation was one of their main planks.

When privatisation is challenging reservation and liberalisation is wiping out even existing social security benefits, instead of fighting against them they have become faithful disciples of these policies. They have not tried to implement the land reforms wherever they have come to power. Or opposed the devastation of agricultural workers and poor peasants under globalisation-liberalisation. Wherever these parties come to power they do not bother to implement even namesake land reforms. They opportunistically join hands with Congress or BJP in the name of anti-communalism or anti-Congressism. All of them are also reduced to appendages of ruling class parties or implement ruling class policies where they wield influence. The latest split in Janatha Dal underline the opportunist character of these parties.

vi. CPI (M)-CPI Positions

The present stand of CPI (M)-CPI leaderships to support Congress in the name of defeating BJP, or their

numerous exercises in recent past to form United Front or Third Alternative without any basic policy shift from, the ruling class parties expose their degeneration from genuine left positions. In the last three decades or more they have acted opportunistically serving the ruling system.

The CPIM) leadership soon abandoned the basic reasons for the 1964 split and also degenerated to CPI-like positions. When the great Naxalbari movement created a new upsurge and led to the formation of CPI (ML) in 1969, and great peasant movements started coming up, the leaderships of CPI-CPI(M) went for saving the Indira Gandhi faction of Congress. While CPI tailed behind Congress during 1970s including its Emergency Raj, later both of them adopted opportunist policies and embraced opportunistic alliances in the name of opposing Congress. Now they are tailing behind Congress in the name of opposing communal fascism. History proves that these opportunistic policies of them have only helped the very same communal forces they claim to oppose.

Today communalism cannot be combated by bifurcating it from its economic and political content. By claiming to oppose communalism through supporting Congress, these pseudo-left forces are concealing the class base and economic agenda of the communal forces. In this way they are themselves serving this economic agenda implemented by the communal forces. It is done consciously as they themselves are advocating that presently socialism means market socialism, and are implementing it wherever they are in power, even while betraying the general members of the class/mass organizations and the masses they lead by mouthing anti-globalisation slogans. So these leaderships are irrevocably out of the left camp. Today the CPI-CPI(M) leaderships are pursuing the very same capitulationist policies pursued by the present Chinese leadership under the banner of market socialism. It was this very capitulationist policies which had led Soviet Union and East European countries earlier to degeneration and disintegration. It is these very same policies the CPI-CPI(M) leaderships are implementing in the states they are in power in accordance to the new economic policies. They have become an obstacle to the development of the genuine left forces. So it has become the historic task of the revolutionary left forces to take up and carry forward this historic task

RALLY FOR ANTI-IMPERIALIST DEMOCRATIC ALTERNATIVE

It is repeatedly proved in the course of this decade that even while all these ruling class parties and degenerates from left camp are contending for seats of power, they are colluding with each other to implement the globalisation-liberalisation policies. At the

same time, against these 'New Economic Policies' numerous spontaneous and organised movements with large participation of working class and other toiling masses took place during this period. Crores of people participated in them. Even the elections to Lok Sabha and State Assemblies during this period reflected people's growing disenchantment with those in power. They voted them out.

In spite of this people's anger against these IMF-World Bank-WTO dictated economic policies, all these different shades of ruling class parties and CPI-CPI(M) like forces got together to pass this years' budget moved by Vajpayee government, which is hailed by imperialists and the ruling classes as the introduction to second generation reforms, within just ten minutes.

Thus the polarisation of all these ruling class parties around the globalisation policies, and toiling masses against them is taking place fast. What is required today is an anti-imperialist democratic alternative capable of mobilising all these toiling classes and democratic forces who have started opposing and agitating against the ruling class policies around an anti-imperialist democratic programme.

Such a mobilisation will be in the true tradition of the upholding of the great heritage of the two centuries of anti-British freedom struggle and more than five decades of class struggle against the ruling classes and the imperialist forces behind them. The great heritage of the anti-imperialist anti-feudal struggles of the masses under the leadership of the working class spanning more than five decades after transfer of power in which tens of millions of people participated heroically and tens of thousands of people sacrificed their lives should be up held and carried forward.

We appeal to all left masses to rally for this anti-imperialist democratic alternative in the coming elections based on the following programme.

ANTI-IMPERIALIST DEMOCRATIC PROGRAMME

The CPI(ML) Red Flag is putting forward the following programme as a struggle platform of the Anti-Imperialist Democratic Alternative in the coming 13th Lok Sabha elections. It appeals to the left masses of workers, peasantry, youth, students, women and other democratic sections and forces to get mobilised around this programme for coming struggles. This programme constitute the platform for present political campaign and coming people's struggles.

a. Economic Scene

1. Scrap the imperialist dictated new economic policies of globalisation-liberalisation-privatisation forthwith, and implement a self-reliant, national

development policy.

2. The intellectual property rights and their trade related regulations under WTO are aimed at opening the countries like ours for uncontrolled entry of foreign capital, MNCs and their patent regulations. So India should quit WTO.
3. The IMF and World Bank are converting India in to an appendage of global imperialist system. MNCs are imposing their hegemony destroying indigenous industries or subordinating them. All unequal agreements with them should be scrapped. IMF-World Bank-MNCs should be thrown out of the country.
4. The Imperialist debt has already reached about Rs. 4 lakh crores. Major share of yearly revenue income is utilised for debt-servicing. More loans are taken to maintain debt-servicing. Write off all imperialist debt.
5. The disinvestment of all PSUs, Insurance Regulatory Act, Patents Amendments Act, etc. should be scrapped.

b. Agricultural Sector

Implement radical land reforms according to concrete conditions in different areas ensuring basic rights of tillers. Wipe out all remnants of feudalism. Stop reversal of existing land ceiling acts. Distribute all surplus, government and benami lands forthwith. Issue pattas to the land distributed to/confiscated by landless and poor peasants. Nationalise plantations and the farms. Cancel all debts of peasantry and other toiling masses. Implement comprehensive agricultural workers act providing need based minimum wages and all social welfare measures including education-hospital-housing facilities.

Weed out foreign agencies and MNCs from agricultural sector. Lower the cost of all agricultural inputs, and provide adequate procurement prices to all agricultural products. Provide all facilities to ensure all-around development of agriculture.

c. Trade Union and Other Democratic Rights of Working Class

Struggle for six hour day, five day week in all sectors. Provide need based wages and all essential commodities at controlled prices. Stop VRS and other measures utilised to throw out workers. Institute unemployment relief and social insurance for all. Abolish contract labour system. Remove all inequalities, based on equal pay for equal work.

Ensure Trade Union rights. Abolish all forms of bonded labour and child labour systems. Rehabilitate all bonded and child labourers.

d. Public Distribution System and Social Welfare Measures

Stop cutting down PDS and all social welfare measures. Expand PDS and implement statutory rationing of all essential commodities. Provide social welfare measures all over the country. Ensure education and employment as fundamental rights, and implement allowance for all unemployed. Stop marketisation and elitisation of education which create two types of citizens. Implement anti-imperialist, scientific, democratic education policy, and national employment policy.

e. Federalism

Resist all attacks on federal character of India, including the efforts to scrap Article 370. Ensure unity of peoples of all nationalities based on federal principles. Implement decentralisation of power up to panchayat level. Provide more power to states by redefining center-state relations. Implement development policies rationally to resolve unequal development.

Grant autonomy to all tribal areas. Protect land, culture and language of tribal people.

f. Ensure Secularism

Abolish all discrimination based on religious grounds. Ensure genuine secular principles in all fields. Fight uncompromisingly against all religious fundamentalisms. Unite people against all communal forces.

g. Abolish Casteist Oppression

Abolish all forms of casteist oppression, untouchability, and casteist inequalities and discriminations. Remove all forms of social inequalities based on caste system. Effectively implement reservation facilities to dalits and adivasis, and caste based reservation to all OBCs. Take effective steps to stop all forms of attacks on dalits, adivasis and all other backward sections.

h. Ensure Equality for women

Guarantee equality of women in all fields and eliminate all types of male chauvinism leading to gender inequalities. Abolish sex tourism and prostitution in general including child prostitution. Rehabilitate the affected women and children. Implement a progressive marriage act abolishing dowry and all oppression of women.

Implement equal right to property, land ownership to women, and joint pattas of ownership to women with men. Implement reservation up to 33% to women in all legislative assemblies and Lok Sabha.

i. Struggle to protect and expand democratic rights.

Stop all attacks on existing democratic rights. Protect and expand all democratic rights. Resist all efforts to undermine even existing bourgeois democratic institutions. Resist all threats of fascisation posed by communal fascist forces. Reform the judicial system democratically. Resist criminalisation of politics.

j. Against Corruption

Punish all scamsters. Confiscate all foreign bank deposits and property of the scamsters.

k. For a National Development Policy that Serves People and Protect Ecology

Implement national development policy ensuring self-reliance in all fields, and adequate livelihoods for all people. Ensure ecological protection. Stop all projects causing ecological destruction and depriving livelihood to traditional inhabitants and traditional workers.

l. Protection and Expansion of People's Culture

Stop attacks on all democratic cultural values and institutions. Resist attack on all democratic cultural activists and institutions by communal fascist forces. Oppose imposition of Hindu Rashtra concept through educational and cultural institutions. Oppose imperialist cultural values, and efforts to turn culture in to an industry, oppose cultural invasion promoted by opening all fields of education and culture to MNCs. Launch a decisive struggle against the reactionary forces, and struggle for anti-feudal anti-imperialist democratic cultural values.

m. Science and Technology

Struggle for a national policy for science and technology suitable for the concrete conditions of our country and progressive requirements of the people.

n. Foreign Policy

Struggle for a progressive foreign policy firmly opposed to imperialism and ensuring friendly relations with all neighbouring countries in particular and all oppressed countries in general. Settle all outstanding issues like Kashmir through peaceful and political means, develop relations with Pakistan and other neighbouring countries. Stop all chauvinistic policies and nuclear weaponisation.

Cancel all military treaties with US and stop all joint exercises of army, navy and air-force with armed forces of imperialist countries. Resist imperialist pressure tactics to compel India to sign CTBT without linking it with nuclear disarmament. Work for complete and universal nuclear disarmament. Stop sending Indian armed forces contingents under UN forces to foreign countries.

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K. N. Ramachandran

Vajpayee Government and the Kargil War

The Kargil War raises many important questions especially when Vajpayee government and the Sangh Parivar forces behind it are utilising this as a major propaganda weapon in the build up for coming Lok Sabha elections. The government spokesperson and Sangh Parivarists are creating an euphoria and disinformation campaign around it. National sentiments are whipped up. The possibilities for even the out break of a full scale Indo-Pak war are also looming large.

Meanwhile Indian Air Force and Indian Army are engaged in a very difficult task of pushing back the Pakistan intruders who have crossed the Line of Control in Kashmir from the strategic positions they have occupied and fortified at very high altitudes. Because of the advantageous positions occupied by the intruders, Indian Army is loosing many men. The expenditure involved in the operation is also quite heavy. Besides the threat of outbreak of a full scale war is forcing lakhs of people from border areas from Kashmir to Gujarat to vacate homes and flee. This 45 day long Kargil war and portends of a full-scale war invariably poses the threats of major economic crisis and further misery and impoverisation of the masses in coming days. The whipping up of chauvinistic sentiments and calls for 'patriotism' by the Sangh Parivarists can be no answer to these great losses. When the Indian Army is loosing so many men in pushing back the intruders and when we support these action to defend the LoC, the question how these well equipped intruders could occupy such strategic heights on Indian side of LoC calls for correct analysis.

The government spokespersons and Sangh Parivarists are propagating that Pakistan betrayed the spirit of Vajpayee's Lahore Bus trip and planned this large scale intrusion. How far this argument is correct? Or is it the only truth? Can that acts of irresponsibility from the government can be explained away in this manner? That Indian and Pakistani governments are in conflict for last fifty years are not a secret. Three wars have already taken place between them. Kashmir still remains the central issue of conflict is also not a secret. And it is also a fact that the Vajpayee government did not do any thing either to find a political solution to the Kashmir question or to ease the Indo-Pak relations. On the contrary it went ahead with Pokhran II nuclear blasts and missile tests followed by belligerent statements. Then government leaders and Sangh Parivar launched jingoistic and chauvinistic propaganda even threatening to wipe out Pakistan from world map. Irresponsible statements of its Defence Minister further worsened relations with China and all other neighbouring countries.

As can be expected Pakistan retaliated with its own nuclear and missile tests. There were reports last year itself that Pakistan may try for large scale intrusion to Kashmir to internationalise these issues. When the Sangh Parivarists are ideologically and politically against even in accepting the reality of Pakistan, how can Vajpayee's bus trip alone reverse the situation. If Vajpayee government thought so, then it is the most irresponsible government this country has seen. Relation between countries cannot be developed based on platitudes, they get developed based on hard political solutions to bilateral issues.

The development leading to Kargil war show that Vajpayee government dangerously compromised on questions of defending the LoC in Kashmir. All military experts are unanimous that the Pakistan intruders could occupy such strategic position on Indian side of LoC only after months of advancing and atleast through a year of preparation. It shows that Vajpayee government was sleeping during this entire period. The reports that it was the shepherds in Kargil who reported Pakistani occupation of Indian bunkers show the real 'efficiency' of this government. Through its communalisation moves it had already created a situation in the government machinery had failed to collect vital intelligence. So Vajpayee government is wholly and fully responsible for Kargil War and all its grave consequences on our country and people. On another point also it is betraying the people's interests. It always repeats that it shall not allow a third power to interfere in Kashmir question. But already US officers had talks with Vajpayee and others. Besides the Prime Minister has written to Clinton appealing to him to ask Pakistan government to withdraw its forces. This is a dangerous game of playing in the hands of US imperialists and serving their interests.

It is no secret that British imperialism played a major role in dividing the subcontinent on communal lines, in creating Kashmir question and in sowing the seeds of Indo-Pak conflict. In later years US imperialism and other imperialists fomented this conflict, engaged in large scale arms trade to both India and Pakistan and sought methods for destabilising the whole region. When US imperialists and other G-8 powers are utilising Kargil question to push forward their interests and seeking ways to utilise the Kashmir question like Kosovo question to establish their hegemony in the region, involving US in the resolution of this conflict amounts to surrendering to their game-plan.

By speeding up the globalisation-liberalisation

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OUR APPEAL

It was at an important juncture in the history of our country when the CPI and CPI(M) leadership had degenerated to reformist, opportunist positions, and when the contradictions between the ruling system and people had intensified the Naxalbari struggle broke out and CPI(ML) was formed to carry forward the tasks of building a New Democratic India.

Even though it was influenced by sectarian tendencies from the beginning, it played a historic role from that time in radicalising the social political scene fighting against all reformist positions. In spite of the convulsions within the CPI(ML) movement, and its later splits, it went on playing a significant role in Indian political scene. It has a consistent legacy of thousands of heroic martyr comrades who fought for realising New Democratic India inspiring the toiling millions throughout the country.

From its very beginning CPI (ML) Red Flag has played an important role in uniting the Communist forces and mobilising the progressive democratic patriotic sections to launch numerous anti-imperialist democratic struggles. Right from the time the globalisation-liberalisation policies were imposed in 1991 the party started mobilising the patriotic forces against these imperialist dictates, within our limitations, calling for their scrapping and kicking out IMF-World Bank-MNCs, along with writing off of all imperialist debts.

From the time Dunkel proposals were put forward we had campaigned against their grave consequences. It was followed up by observing Black Day at all India level and bandh in Kerala, and parts of Karnataka and AP, on 15 April 1994 when Rao government signed the GATT Treaty neglecting mounting opposition from people. Then Mumbai march was organised against Dunkel's visit to India. Protest day was organised on 1 January 1995 when Rao government made India a member of WTO against people's wishes. CPI(ML) Red Flag has persisted in these anti-imperialist struggles to this day

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policies under IMF-WB-WTO dictates and serving MNCs and imperialist capital to establish their hegemony the Vajpayee government has already proved that its 'Swadeshi' cover and communalisation moves are for serving the imperialist interests in economic sector. Now by involving US imperialists in Kargil question it is intensifying the neocolonial slavery in all fields.

So the propaganda of Vajpayee government and Sangh Parivarists should be fully exposed. It is government which is fully responsible for further worsening of India's relation with Pakistan, for sleeping while Pakistani intruders were crossing the LoC in large numbers, and for compromising the national security. It should be exposed uncompromisingly. ○

uniting with revolutionary left and democratic forces.

In Karnataka, Kerala and other states our party has launched many movements for confiscation of land, for getting legal protection to the land held by poor peasants, for minimum wages of agricultural workers, for protection of adivasi land etc. Similarly movements for bringing down prices of agricultural inputs, for adequate procurement prices of agricultural products, against incursion of MNCs in to agricultural field including sale of seeds with Terminator genes were also organised. Against Prawn Mafia gangs converting lakes and agricultural fields for aqua culture many struggles were launched in some states uniting with progressive forces.

In the working class front, uniting with like-minded forces and under the banner of TUCI many struggles were launched against closures, against globalisation-liberalisation policies and against other anti-working class measures. Against the cutting down of all welfare measures including Public Distribution System and education-health care-service sector facilities also struggles were launched. Against ecological destruction, against nuclear power plants, against Enron like projects also movements were organised calling for a self-reliant national development policy. Against women's oppression and suppression of dalits and adivasis also movements were organised. Uniting with five other organizations our party organised a massive parliament march on 15 July last year against the Vajpayee government condemning its servitude to imperialist interests. In the struggle for defending reservation rights and the movement against communal fascist forces our comrades were in the forefront wherever they are functioning. In short CPI(ML) Red Flag has played an important role in the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic struggles uncompromisingly struggling against all opportunist positions and upholding the principle that people's interest is the party's interest. It is duty bound to carry forward these struggles in the coming days uniting all progressive democratic forces, joining hands with like minded organizations, and mobilising the masses.

CPI(ML) Red Flag is contesting in this election based on this manifesto with the objective of building up countrywide Anti-Imperialist Democratic Alternative against all the ruling class alternatives. At a time when the neocolonial slavery and communal fascist threats are intensifying day by day, and when the imperialists led by US imperialism are engaged in accelerating their domination in all fields, the struggle for this people's alternative is cardinal.

CPI (ML) Red Flag appeals to the working class, the peasantry and all other toiling masses, and the progressive democratic patriotic and secular forces to rally for building up this anti-imperialist democratic alternative and vote for the candidates put forward by our party and the revolutionary democratic forces who are basically supporting this Anti-Imperialist Democratic Programme. ○

On the Question of Fascism and Communalism

For people like Prabhat Patnaik whose analysis very often transcends that of traditional left who have already degenerated to social democratic positions, yet likes to remain within the fold of this section, what CPI(M) organ *People's Democracy* did to his article originally published in *Frontline* (2 July) may become an eye-opener.

While analysing the mute opposition of the traditional left parties in Europe towards NATO's bombing of Yugoslavia in the name of resolving Kosovo question he rightly criticises their definition of fascism. They dub any repressive regime fascist. So the regime of Milosevic is fascist. They justify NATO's bombing of Yugoslavia as an attack on a fascist regime. Their only objection is that it should have been conducted under UN. In their analysis of fascism they abandon class analysis. Patnaik writes: "Classical fascism was defined by the 7th Congress of Communist International not in terms of the prosecution of the Jewish people and the concentration camps, all of which of course were the horrendous symptoms of it, but as " the open terrorist dictatorship of the most reactionary sections of finance capital". This definition, precisely because it is not humanist but approaches the issue in class terms, emphasises the link between imperialism and fascism.

Continuing on this line he writes: "If the matter is looked at in class terms, however, then an important criterion for a Third World regime to qualify as fascist

would be its relationship with imperialism, not its own imperialism but that of the imperialist countries." (Emphasis added). Here Patnaik adds in bracket: "(And in this context, what would qualify the Hindutva forces in India to be called "fascist" is not their communalism *per se*, but the fact that they use communalism to advance imperialist interests here)." Here Patnaik's position is almost identical with the position explained in the article " on Genesis of Fascism in India" in the May issue of *Red Star*. It will be suicidal for the left to isolate the struggle against communalism from the struggle against imperialism. It is in this context we had condemned CPI(M)'s latest line of uniting with Congress to defeat communal fascism as opportunist, and which will only eventually serve the imperialist interests and help the communal forces to increase their strength.

Naturally, for CPI(M) Patnaik's analysis of the European situation and criticism of social democrats there are OK. But when Patnaik links his analysis of European developments to Indian reality it goes directly against CPI (M) line. So while giving the very same article in *People's Democracy* dated 30 May, the sentence within the bracket was omitted (the article is published using a pen-name Karthik Rai). This is how CPI(M) adjusts its line.

Let us hope intellectual like Patnaik recognises the gravity of this censorship by *People's Democracy*. ○

Aggressors can't be Peace Keepers

Statement By the New Communist Party of Yugoslavia

New Communist Party of Yugoslavia does not accept the imposed "agreement" which was in Belgrade by the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Victor Chernomidrin and the President of Finland Martti Ahtissari.

The "agreement" represents insignificant modification of NATO's ultimatum to Yugoslavia. It demands legislation of the occupation of Kosovo and Metohija by the NATO troops. It is to be carried out by United Nations, which is the tool of USA and NATO. United Nations still didn't condemn NATO aggression on sovereign Yugoslavia. In spite of that, they took part, both directly and indirectly in a criminal conspiracy and aggression against our country.

Yeltsin's envoy, Victor Chernomidrin prolonged the negotiations on purpose for two months (in a deal with USA) until NATO destroyed most of the Yugoslavian infrastructure, until NATO devastated our cities and villages, murdered thousands of our people. And then, he brought the ultimatum knowing that our governments lacked ammunition and other resources necessary for

our defence. He is a well known fact that Yugoslavia didn't import any weaponry in the last 8 years due to the blockade imposed on us by US/NATO bloc.

Ahtissari is nothing but the envoy of the military block, while Victor Chernomidrin and his sponsors betrayed not only Yugoslavia, but Russia as well. Occupation of Kosovo and Metohija is a step towards dismembering of Yugoslavia and preparations for aggressions against Russia. However, in military aspects, US/NATO didn't succeed to defeat Yugoslavia. NATO's air force sustained great losses in aggression against our country.

New Communist Party of Yugoslavia will treat NATO's occupations troops as enemies and criminals. NKPY will soon publish a declaration about this matter. The declaration will consider the goals and the character of aggression against Yugoslavia, and on the NATO's plans to dismember our country, and on the struggle for expelling NATO troops from Yugoslavia and the Balkans.

High treason which was carried out by Victor

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REPORTS FROM STATES

KERALA

Anti-DPEP Agitation

Against the imposition of World Bank-sponsored DPEP by the LDF government State-wide *dharna* was organised in front of education offices on 7 June by the 'Education Protection Committee'. For the last one year agitation is continuing against liquidation of government and aided schools which are providing education to children from low income families. Through DPEP the progressive education policy launched by the Communist party ministry in 1957-59 period is reversed thus scuttling this progressive step. Apart from volunteers of Yuvajanavedi and KVS, large number of students, teachers and democratic forces participated in the *dharna*. The surrender of LDF government to imperialist dictated policies is exposed and opposed by growing number of people. The *dharna* at various centres was a big success involving large number of protestors.

Agitation Against Introduction of Self-reliant Colleges

The collectorate picketing on 1st July called by Yuvajanavedi and KVS against introduction of self-reliant colleges in all districts attracted tens of thousands of protestors. At Vadagara, Thrissur and Ernakulam police lathes charged the picketing youths and students in which large number were injured. Hundreds were arrested.

CPI(M) led LDF government resorted to this brutal charge and at places directed CPI(M) activists to attack those protesting against self-reliant colleges re-

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Chernomidrin and his sponsors, the NKPYP doesn't link this with the Russian people or Russian communist, who did everything possible to defend Yugoslavia and Russia from attacks by the New World Order.

NKPYP calls upon all communist, all progressive forces in Yugoslavia and abroad to stand up against the aggressive and criminal politics of the New World Order led by the USA, to stand up in protection of Yugoslavia and the Balkans, to help our country in protecting its sovereignty and independence till the final expulsion of the blood-hungry hordes of NATO from Kosovo and Metohija.

There is no freedom, independence and integrity under occupation of NATO criminals. The leaders of NATO countries have to be put on trial by the International Tribunal for war crimes against the Yugoslav people. ○

**Branko Kitanovic, Secretary General,
New Communist Party of Yugoslavia**

versing its own stand before coming to power. Five DYFI volunteers were killed in 1995 in police-firing while they along with thousands were protesting against this very same issue. Now LDF has reversed earlier positions and has started privatisation-marketisation of higher education fast.

Struggle Against Cutting Down PDS

Contrary to earlier assurances the LDF government in line with central government's policies is cutting down PDS facilities even in tribal areas. Against this in the tribal area of Attappadi CPI(ML) Red Flag area committee organised a people's march to Civil Supplies Office. This agitation is continuing.

LDF Government Goes back on its Promise to Give Back Land to Adivasis

One year back LDF government was compelled to take back its Adivasi Bill which in effect was intended to serve the interests of big settlers due to increasing people's agitation led by CPI(ML) Red Flag and other progressive forces. The new bill introduced now is also basically not different. So when chief minister E.K. Nayanar went to Attappadi to inaugurate distribution of land to Adivasis, protests campaign was organised by Adivasi Land Protection Committee and CPI(ML) Red Flag against denying Adivasi's their basic rights to their land. Leading activists of party were arrested in advance to prevent the people's march in front of the chief minister for refusing to take back and distribute the adivasi land occupied by the rich land lords and plantation managements.

KVS Victory in School Parliament Election

In the elections held for the school parliaments all over the state Kerala Vidyarthi Sanghata scored significant victory in many schools. The KVS members campaign launched in schools and colleges was successful as the total membership increased significantly compared to last year.

ORRISA

Fish workers struggles continue

Chilka fish workers struggle is continuing. Chilka Matsyajeevi Mahasangh has declared that struggle will continue till the prawn Mafia is fully thrown out and the rights of traditional fish workers are secured. This struggle is going to be a protracted one as the state government is violating even court orders and siding with the Mafia. Leaderships of Congress and similar parties are also

supporting them.

Besides prawn farming is being spread to more areas in the coastal districts. In this situation, the progressive forces have started realising that the traditional fish workers, agricultural workers, and the poor peasants should be organised at state-level to defeat the prawn Maffia.

Central Committee of TUCI has called for uniting the forces working for fish workers demands all over the country to fight against the consequences of the globalisation-liberalisation policies in their life, against aqua farming, against trawling by foreign ships, and for protection of the basic demands of traditional fish workers plus the fish workers in general, and for the protection of the ecology.

KARNATAKA

CLINTON BURNED IN EFFIGY

CPI(ML) Red Flag organised a rally against war in Mysore, Karnataka on 12th of July'99 under the leadership of party district committee. Hundreds of party workers and people took part in the rally started from Townhall area and ended at district collectorate premises. The anti-war memorandum addressed to the President of Indian Union was handed over to Deputy Commissioner by the leaders.

Inaugurating the rally Com: Ayyappa Hugar, State Secretary of TUCI said that the rally was of true patriots who love the country and people. The pseudo-patriotic and jingoistic Sangh Parivar loves neither the country nor the people. They are acting according to the interests and dictates of imperialist forces headed by U.S. imperialism as is done by Nawaz Sherif and the ruling classes of Pakistan. The Kargil conflict is the outcome of an imperialist conspiracy to create a Kosovo like situation in Kashmir. Sangh Parivar and its political front BJP, traitors by their very basic nature are using this situation to communalise and divide the people. All the parties in Parliament irrespective of their status as that belonging to ruling front or to opposition are in a consensus to intensify the war hysteria as they joined hands to implement the neo-colonial economic policies. In such a situation it is the duty of all truly patriotic and democratic forces to expose the imperialist intentions behind the Kargil war and to oppose the jingoism and war hysteria which led to the death of hundreds of Indian soldiers and countless people. Com. Ayyappa said.

As a part of the campaign against war hysteria and the imperialist intervention Bill Clinton, the U.S. President was burnt in effigy at K. R. circle one of the main traffic circles in Mysore City.

The rally raised the slogans like "Prevent intervention of world terrorist America in Kargil Crisis, Kashmir demands peaceful political solution."

A public meeting was held at the DC office premises where the rally ended. Com: R. Manasayya, Karnataka State Secretary of CPI (ML) Red Flag, Com: R. Raghu,

Mysore District Secretary of CPI (ML) Liberation, Dr: P. D. Kumar of Karnataka Rajya Rytha Sangha addressed the meeting. All the speakers condemned the Vajpayee government for pushing the country into the Kargil war and called upon the true patriotic and democratic forces to come forward against the pseudo patriotic rulers and their imperialist masters.

MUMBAI

Seminar on Kargil Crisis

Participants at the seminar organised by the TUCI Mumbai committee on Kargil war on 26 th June at Chabbildaws School at Dadar called upon the govt. to solve Indo-Pak problems through diplomacy and not through war.

Com. Lajpat Rai columnist speaking at the seminar said, "This is not a war of India or Pakistan. This war is a proxy war fought on behalf of the America."

"This is their tactics to put pressure on both the countries to open up the economy further for the MNCs." He added.

"Arms traders are taking advantage of the local conflicts to sell their arms," said Advocate Jayant Gadkari. "The people of Pakistan do not want war with us, but it is the ruling elite who is doing it," he added. "Kashmiris are not anti-Indians. The future of Kashmir should be decided by the Kashmiris. "The BJP has started this war in order to divert the attention of the people from the sufferings caused by the New Economic policies," said Com. Chandrasekhar, Secretary of the Maharashtra unit of CPI(ML) Red Flag. "All over the world imperialism is using racism and religion in order to divide and control the people. It is only the unity of the suffering people of Pakistan and India that can stop globalisation and its fall out the war," he added.

"War is a business. It is the highest stage of conducting business. Through united movement of the trade unions we should oppose it," said Com Sanjay Singhvi, joint secretary, TUCI.

"Today patriotism itself is run by the MNCs. There is also a big anti-Muslim war going on inside the country," said Sambhaji Bhagat.

"The real patriots are the workers, who create the wealth of the country," he added. ○

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Scene from agitation against marketisation of education held in Kerala