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### **For Whom the Bell Tolls in UP?**

The media is celebrating the elections in UP, the *semi finals* before the Lok Sabha elections, according to them, an election de-politicized to the maximum extent by the 'main players', the BSP, SP, Congress and BJP. While the top leaders of these parties from Sonia Gandhi and her siblings to leaders of BSP, SP and BJP are given full exposure to market their caste, communal, money based mudslinging of each other to win maximum seats at any cost, burning problems like price rise, corruption, unemployment and under employment, land grabbing for neo-liberal projects, atrocities against oppressed sections including dalits and women etc are made non-issues. Large number of criminals and leaders who have amassed crores of rupees using elected posts are contesting under the banner of all parties and the whole election is de-politicized, reducing it to mere vote-bank exercise. Whoever forms the new ministry or if president rule is imposed with every likely hood of a hung assembly, the very same reactionary neo-liberal policies will be followed with the corrupt bureaucracy in full charge. Whatever democratic content the parliamentary electoral system had is turned in to a mockery by these comprador parties representing vested interests.

What is required in this situation is an alternative to the ruling system. A revolutionary alternative which stands for anti-imperialist policies, revolutionary land reforms based on 'land to the tiller', an alternative 'development' perspective to the wretched imperialist dictated model which pauperizes the masses and devastate the nature, an alternative which stands for a caste-less and secular democratic society. But in spite of their left labels neither the CPI(M) led Left Front, nor the CPI(ML) Liberation nor other pseudo-left forces contesting the elections in a large number of seats have any left alternative policies to project. It is in this context, based on a revolutionary election manifesto which calls for rejecting the neo-liberal policies and a revolutionary alternative to the ruling system, the CPI (ML) is organizing a vigorous campaign exposing the ruling corrupt system and the ruling class parties, contesting eight seats and supporting 28 others including independents and candidates of *Dalit Liberation Front* and *New Democratic Party of India* who have agreed to uphold the Party Manifesto.

It is absolutely clear that immediately after the election results are announced, when the new central budget is presented, it is going to further enslave the country to neo-colonial slavery and all the miseries confronting the people now are going to intensify manifold. Whoever forms the next government in UP, people will have to face more difficulties and the only possible alternative is to intensify the struggle against the central and state governments who are selling the people's interests to US-led imperialist bosses and agencies. It is by explaining this the CPI(ML) is contesting the election as a channel to mobilize the masses for class struggles in all fields at a turning point when the bourgeois parliamentary system under comprador bourgeois-big landlord rule serving imperialism has become least representing people's will and more moribund than ever. The way in which all the political parties serving the ruling class policies by intensifying the imposition of the neo-liberal policies joined hands to undermine even a reformist movement like the one led by Anna Hazare against corruption has exposed the extent of the corruption and degeneration of the present ruling system. So, as the election manifesto of the CPI (ML) points out, even if it is a *semi final* for the ruling class parties before the next Lok Sabha elections, for the revolutionary and left forces and the left masses the UP elections emphasize the urgent need to forge a revolutionary alternative to the ruling system.

### **\$500 Billion Stashed Away in Swiss Banks by Indian Rich**

Based on a report prepared by the Supreme Court appointed committee, the chief of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has stated that US \$500 billion (nearly Rs. 24.5 lakh crores) is stashed away in Swiss Banks and other tax havens abroad by the Indian black money holders. The largest depositors in Swiss

banks are reported to be Indian tax evaders. The Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) which came in to force on 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2011, instead of avoiding tax fraud and tax evasion has benefitted the tax evaders and MNCs as happened in the case of recent Supreme Court verdict on the Vodafone case. These developments show the importance of launching countrywide movement to end the stashing away of such huge sums in foreign banks and other hideouts using the opportunity provided by tax havens like Mauritius, Lichtenstein, Switzerland and British Virgin island. According to the CBI chief: "the development of new methods of financial flows and communication technology have made it easier for the corrupt to conceal and stash away stolen wealth. On the other hand differences in legal systems high cost in coordinating investigations, inadequate international cooperation and bank secrecy have made the task difficult anti-corruption agencies. Criminals are using the territorial and jurisdictional limitations of the investigating agencies to their advantage by spreading crimes to at least two countries and investing in a third."

### **Another Draconian Measure in the Name of Combating Terrorism**

Like Bush-Obama, the UPA government is also haunted by 'terrorism' and cries 'wolf', seeing it behind every bush. Whether it is the Yankee masters or their junior partners in India, both utilize this as a cover to militarize, fascisize the state and to hoodwink the masses, while they themselves are the breeders of state terrorism, as history has proved. The blue print put forward by the UPA government in an order issued on 3<sup>rd</sup> February to organize a National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC) is a good example of how it is cleverly utilizing 'terrorism' and 'Maoists' as covers for imposing its reactionary policies to suppress the people's struggles and to infringe on what is left of the federal principles in the Constitution. A government which is reluctant to write off the debt of poor peasants, which has abandoned all welfare policies for the people which is taxing petroleum products and other essential services causing sky-rocketing price rise is spending billions of rupees for such draconian measures like NCTC. It should be opposed tooth and nail by all progressive forces.

### **Asian Agricultural Conference: 1-3 April 2012**

**THE VAST MAJORITY** of landless and poor peasants, agricultural workers and marginalized sections, the real tillers of soil whose only or main sustenance is based on the income from agriculture, constitute the peasantry in most of the countries of Asia. In spite of the vastness, uneven development and extreme diversities of this largest continent, agriculture still continues to be the major source of livelihood for majority. With the transformation of colonialism into neocolonialism during post-Second World War decades, feudal and semi-feudal land relations serving as the social base for colonial domination are transforming very fast. Under Green Revolution and 'land reforms from above', along with intensified penetration of finance capital, market forces and technology, the capitalist land relations have become the increasing trend. These new forms of imperialist onslaught on agricultural sector led by corporate forces and MNCs, has made it an appendage of imperialist market. It has also intensified the landlessness and pauperization of the peasantry and sharpened the contradictions in the agrarian sector.

Under 'neoliberal' globalization and consequent shift in the imperialist policies from 'import substitution' to 'export promotion', food agriculture is increasingly replaced by cash crops. As a result, both food security and agricultural employment are in peril. Along with corporatization of agriculture, large scale land grabbing for plundering mineral and natural resources and in the name of neo-liberal 'development' projects such as SEZs, construction of new townships, tourist resorts, etc. by speculative giants have led to displacement of millions of aboriginals and tribal people from their habitats. It has led to ecological crises and unprecedented land concentration in the hands of the super rich classes and land mafias. To facilitate land concentration in the hands of parasitic classes, the governments in these countries are repealing even erstwhile land ceiling acts. Agriculture itself is becoming captive of finance capital and market forces with 'contract farming' led by agribusiness companies flourishing. Imperialist and corporate market control over agricultural inputs and outputs through various price and export-import policies is also threatening the peasantry. World Bank dictated agricultural policies and 'market access' provisions of WTO including anti-peasant seed, fertilizer, power and credit policies coupled with the curtailment of state subsidies and public procurements under neo-liberalism are reasons for the devastation of the agrarian sector under neo liberal domination. It has led to mass suicides of peasants in many countries like India.

In this context, mobilizing the tens of millions of landless poor peasants and agricultural workers on the basis of a revolutionary agrarian program according to concrete conditions in each country or region under based on worker-peasant alliance is one of the basic tasks for leading the people's democratic

revolution in Asian countries to victory. Such a revolutionary agrarian program should aim at the capture of all lands belonging to landlords, feudal remnants and all parasitic sections and distribution among the real peasantry based on the principle, land to the tiller. Liberating the agrarian sector from the grip of imperialist finance capital and market system is an integral part of this program. The productive forces in agrarian sector can be unleashed only through revolutionizing the agrarian relations.

During the period of colonization, guided by the Communist International, the communist parties were pursuing anti-imperialist, anti-feudal struggles with agrarian revolution as the central component of the PDR. By pursuing this line under concrete conditions of each country, the communist parties in China, North Korea and Indo-Chinese countries could lead the revolution to victory and in many countries like India and Indonesia they were leading people's struggles. By 1950s one third of the world population was living in the socialist countries. But after the Second World War the imperialist powers led by US transformed its policies and initiated new forms of plunder utilizing capital-market forces and new technological advances. To facilitate this and to prevent *red revolutions* from taking place they resorted to 'de-colonization' and transferred power to comprador classes. In order to facilitate the penetration of the capital-market forces, 'agrarian reforms from above' and *green revolution* like policies were initiated.

The 'mode of production' debate that took place in the 1960s and the almost absence of any such debates later reflect the confusion and sharp differences that prevail among the communist parties in analyzing these changes. Some of them analyze that these countries have become basically capitalist in character and as a result reject the importance of the agrarian revolution. They give importance only to the rural working class in their program. The second trend does not recognize that any qualitative changes have taken place in the agrarian relations. They continue to uphold the old analysis that these countries are in the main like pre-revolutionary China and semi-feudal relations still dominate. The reformist trend takes up peasant question only to serve its parliamentary line. The fourth trend recognizes the transformation of imperialist plunder from colonial to neo-colonial forms after the Second World War and consequent changes in the agrarian sector, under the capital-market forces and technological advances. Along with these what is happening to the agrarian sector in China after the breaking up of the People's Communes, what is the character of the agrarian sector in Japan, in North Korea, in Vietnam, Laos etc are also of great importance. Analyses of the agrarian condition in these countries shall help the mode of production debate and help to evolve the approach towards development of class struggle in the agrarian sector in uneven conditions.

Advancing the revolutionary movement calls for a correct agrarian program according to concrete conditions of each country and based on the specificities of the present international situation. In order to achieve it, initiation of a debate on the present concrete conditions, on analysis of the agrarian relations and on the agrarian program put forward in each country by different trends is urgently called for. It will help to develop a broad debate involving the representatives of the different peasant organizations, agricultural scientists, economists and activists of the Asian countries. Empirical studies and analyses shall create conditions for a better understanding of the approaches followed by different trends based on "seeking truth from facts". The initiative taken to convene the Asian Agricultural Conference should be seen in this context.

### **Agenda of Asian Agricultural Conference**

**1<sup>ST</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2012 at Indian Social Institute (ISI) Auditorium,**

**10, Institutional Area, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003**

**Agenda: 1<sup>st</sup> April-Sunday**

10 am to 1 pm-Inaugural Session: **Perspective of Asian Agricultural Conference**

2 to 6 pm - Second Session: **Presentation of Position Papers on Agrarian Question.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> April, Monday**

9 am to 1pm – Third Session: **Transformation in the Asian Agricultural Situation during the Post-Second World War period.**

2 to 6 pm – Fourth Session: **Impact of Imperialist policies on the Agricultural Sector.**

**3<sup>rd</sup> April, Tuesday**

9 am to 1 pm-Fifth Session – **Impact of Ecological changes, Technological intervention and WTO policies on the Agricultural Sector.**

2 to 6 pm – Concluding Session: **Approach to Agrarian Revolution.**

The Convening Committee has requested all those who are interested to send papers to the Conference to send them latest by 15<sup>th</sup> March. All those interested to participate are requested to register their names by 15<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Preparatory Committee for Launching Anti-Caste Movement Formed**

A meeting of the leading comrades of the CPI(ML), Anti-Caste Organization, New Democratic Party of India (NDPI) and Mulpravah(All India Nepali Unity Society) has adopted the following resolution and formed a Preparatory Committee for organizing two day seminar and All India Convention on 20, 21 and 22 April at New Delhi with the perspective of launching an Anti-Caste Movement. The Resolution states:

The caste system is an inhuman feature of Indian society. The Congress and later all other ruling class parties including the caste based parties, going against the growing necessity for launching a powerful movement against the caste system raised during the renaissance movement followed by the anti colonial movement, went on promoting the caste system, utilizing it for the caste based vote bank politics. Instead of implementing the reservation policies, the ruling class parties, inspired by the neo-liberal policies, are going for perpetuation of the caste system. The *Mandal Commission Report* provided new enthusiasm for the backward sections to demand their rights. But to divert attention from its central recommendations like land reforms and ensuring social justice, the dominant casteist forces came with different vicious mechanisms such as ‘creamy layer’, ‘reservation based on economic backwardness’ etc. Under privatization-liberalization policies existing democratic rights like reservation are also diluted and are being snatched away.

The caste system which is the main feature of the Hindu religion intensified its hold on the whole society in new forms, with many specific characteristics in different areas. It has increased its hold on different religions also to varying extent. Every day atrocities against dalits and other oppressed castes are taking place. Since caste and patriarchy has an endemic relationship, women of the oppressed castes are specially targeted. Though caste based parties like BSP, Republican Party etc are/were leading state ministries or sharing power in the states or at centre, the atrocities against dalits and other oppressed castes have not diminished. In the present neo-liberal phase, the caste divide is further exploited by the imperialist camp in the form of “Ambedkarism”. Most of them have lost sight of even the basic questions raised by Dr. Ambedkar, namely his question of annihilation of the caste system, the nationalization of land and industries. They are willing consorts of imperialism in “globalization”, are raising merely the demand of reservation and using caste as a vote bank. The “subaltern” theories of caste, where caste is counter posed to class, are giving rise to many pseudo-intellectual theories, which are naught but a part of the post-modern ideological onslaught on Marxism. Such subaltern theories, including those based on “neo-tribalism”, “identity politics” or “post-Marxism” are also the basis of numerous caste based NGOs which idealize caste and make caste in to a private fiefdom.

It is the need of the hour to launch a revolutionary anti caste people’s movement for the annihilation of caste. Land relations are at the base of caste violence. So there is a serious need for the revolutionary land reforms based on equal distribution of the land. It can be done by launching a revolutionary platform for caste abolition. With this basic approach, the following organizations appeal all the progressive sections to join and launch a revolutionary platform to achieve the goal of annihilation of the caste system from the soil of this country.

### **Preparations for Observing Fukushima Day Progress**

At all India level the preparations for observing the first anniversary of the meltdown at Fukushima are progressing fast. The Karnataka state committee of the CPI (ML) has decided to organize a march to Kaiga nuclear power plant on 11March demanding the shutdown of the plant and in support of the struggle of the people living in nearby villages against the nuclear radiation hazards they are facing. The Yadagiri district committee of the party is organizing a march to Gogi uranium mine on 11<sup>th</sup> March demanding the closure of the mining which is causing nuclear radiation hazards near the mine area.

In spite of the efforts by the central and TN state government to suppress the anti-Koodangulam movement, it is gaining strength with more mass support. CPI (ML) state committee has called for strengthening the movement. On 11<sup>th</sup> March the party comrades are organizing a march to Kalpakkam



nuclear power plant demanding its shut down and to stop its expansion plans. The Anti-Koodangulam power plant committee in Kerala has decided to organize 11<sup>th</sup> March as a protest day demanding that the plant should not be commissioned.

In Maharashtra the Konkan Bachao Committee is organizing rally at Jaitapur on 11<sup>th</sup> March calling for intensifying the struggle for the scrapping of the plans for the nuclear power plant there. CPI(ML) state committee and TUCI are planning a march to Tarapore nuclear power plant demanding its closure. At Udaipur and Kota in south Rajasthan, CPI(ML) committees have decided to organize postering and protest marches demanding the closure of nuclear power plants. In Delhi the Anti-Nuclear Power Committee is organizing a programme at Gandhi Peace Foundation Hall on 12<sup>th</sup> March evening demanding scrapping plans of all new nuclear power plants, shutting down of all existing nuclear plants and universal nuclear disarmament.

### **Anti-Liquor Movement Gains Strength in Karnataka**

Following the success of the anti-liquor movement in Daruguni panchayat of Chikmangalur district and declaration of the whole panchayat as a liquor free one under the leadership of the AIRWO local committee, a large number of women and democratic forces have supported the movement. In Mudageri taluk, a women's organization, *Streesakthi*, and other women activists joined the AIRWO committee. Demanding banning of liquor trade in the rural and urban areas a militant rally was organized in Chikmangalur town with more than 300 women participating. A district level Anti-Liquor Struggle Committee is formed to intensify the struggle.

### **RYFI Organize Anti-Price Rise, Anti-Corruption Campaign**

As part of the all India program, the RYFI organized vigorous campaign in a number of district headquarters against price rise and rampant corruption. Rallies and public meetings were organized as part of it.

### **Resist Commoditization of Education**

The call of the All India Forum for Right to Education (AIFRTE) to observe 16<sup>th</sup> February as a day of resistance against the imposition of laws that will commercialize education led to mobilization of students, teachers and other progressive sections in large numbers in various forms of struggle at a large number of centres. In a poster published by the AIRSO Delhi University committee it was stated: "The government has introduced six new bills on higher education in the parliament to push for further privatization of higher education. This is continuation to a series of steps taken in the last two decades to systematically sabotage the public higher education system. According to the Arjun Senupta Committee report when 77% of the population earns only Rs. 20 per day, almost all of them are excluded from any access to higher education. Do we need privatization which goes against them?"

### **'Save Higher Education - Save India' Campaign, Bhopal from 5 to 16 February**

'Save Higher Education - Save India Campaign' started in Bhopal on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2012 with a public meeting on 'Assault by Corporate Capital on Higher Education and Our Alternative'. The campaign is a joint action of All India Revolutionary Students Organization (AIRSO), Revolutionary Youth Federation of India (RYFI) and Shiksha Adhikaar Manch, Bhopal. The meeting was initiated by the welcome address by Jyotsna Milan, a noted Hindi writer and President, Shiksha Adhikaar Manch, Bhopal.

Addressing the meeting, Dr. Anil Sadgopal, educationist, former Dean of Faculty of Education, Delhi University and member-Presidium, All India Forum for Right to Education outlined the colonial roots of educational policy of India which is aimed at serving the interest of the ruling elite and global corporate capital. He brought to notice the fact that the present drive of welcoming private investment in education is in fact a part of WTO-GATS agenda of opening up services including education, water and health for private profiteering. Already in India only 18% of the students who get admission in schools reach the stage of higher education. Introducing market reforms would make it even dearer for the common people especially the scheduled castes, tribes and women. He emphasised that only by public funding such an education system can be build that makes possible a society based on the constitutional values of democracy, equality, justice, scientific temper and which is free of gender discrimination. Thus, by not providing sufficient funds and by promoting private corporate investment (including foreign capital) the government is violating the constitutional mandate clearly expressed in the Preamble and the Directive Principles of State Policy of the Constitution.

Prof. H. S. Yadav, Dept. of Regional Planning and Economic Growth, Barkatullah University, Bhopal said that private capital in education at present is not working in the interest of the common people of the country. He also said that the plea of inadequate availability of funds by the government is contrary to facts. The government provides crores of rupees to private educational houses in form of tax rebates and other subsidies. He explained that due to globalization, which an era of financialization of capital, the capacity of governments to control global capital has been considerably reduced putting in jeopardy political sovereignty of the country.

Vivek Kumar, president, AIRSO, reminded the audience about the revolutionary role played by youth and students from the time of anti-colonial movement. He called for a conscious resistance against all reactionary forces active against the people of India. Deepak Bunde, State Convenor, RYFI and coordinator, Save Higher Education-Save India Campaign said that after the 'transfer of power' in 1947 the comprador ruling classes of India are serving the interests of American imperialism. After the economic reforms of 1991 basic services like education, water and health are fast getting beyond the reach of common people of India. A radical change in education system of this country is possible only when youth and students get organised to destroy this neo-colonial system and to uproot the comprador ruling classes. The meeting was chaired Prof. Shree Ramesh Dave, educationist and chairman, Madhya Pradesh Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti and the proceedings were conducted by Khumendra Kumar, of AIRSO. This campaign continued till 16<sup>th</sup> February when the militant protest action was organized.

### **Nurses' Struggle in Kerala Hospitals**

There are a large number of major hospitals in Kerala which are mostly private run, mostly run by the Christian and other religious and caste organizations. In not paying adequate wages to the nurses working in them they are united. As the cost of completing a three year diploma course in nursing has shot up in recent times, most of them complete studies in the nursing institutions, mostly outside Kerala, taking huge bank loans. But, in spite of charging the patients huge sums, these hospitals do not pay enough to the nurses so that they can repay the loans. Like the debt-ridden peasants who are committing suicide, the nurses are also threatened with a bleak future. In this situation they have resorted to struggles in a number of hospitals for proper wages. Increasing threats from the banks has played its role in the outbreak of these struggles. The church authorities and other managements resorted to threats and intimidations to suppress these struggles. Though they have succeeded in this for the time being, the widespread struggles by the nursing staff has brought their plight to the foreground. The task of organizing this largely unorganized section whose number is increasing fast has become important before the revolutionary left forces.

### **Anti-BOT Struggle in Kerala**

Kerala is witnessing a strange situation. CPI(M) organized the party state conference at Thiruvananthapuram with about 25,000 strong red volunteer march and more than a lakh rally. Next day, as if in a competition, the CPI also organized tens of thousands in a rally to mark the conclusion of their state conference. But when these shows of strength were taking place, at Thrissur a large police force deployed by the Congress led UDF government beat up and chased away few hundreds of people who were resisting the imposition of the collection of toll gate on a NH-47 stretch constructed under BOT scheme, with the leaderships of both these parties who are now in the opposition not bothering to intervene on the people's side. So what is the use of these red volunteers and hundreds of thousand mobilization? Facts are clear. Like the leaders of the UDF, the LDF leaders are also on the side of the contractor's firm who constructed and operate the expressway, as it pay handsome amounts to both.

In spite of it, CPI (ML) and other forces engaged in the struggle to resist the toll collection are continuing it even when many are still arrested and harassed. In support of it the AIRWO is organizing a march to the toll gate on 20<sup>th</sup> February. A Convention is organized at Thrissur on 26<sup>th</sup> February to coordinate the struggle at state level against collection of toll at all BOT projects. A countrywide movement has to be developed to stop this day light robbery by corporate houses and contract firms around the country as a part of the struggle against the neo-liberal policies.

### **Loomtex Workers' strike called off : Preparation for a new phase of the movement**

After ten days strike, Loomtex Sangrami Mazdoor Union (Affiliated to TUCI) has withdrawn it. Evaluating the result of tripartite meeting, convened by the labour minister, Sangrami Union decided to call of the strike to prepare for a more vigorous phase of the movement. Earlier this struggle was against employer. After the tripartite meeting, as the labour minister Purnendu Basu openly took the side of the

employer, the workers have to orient their struggle against both the government and the employer. For this, Sangrami Mazdoor Union has called a meeting of all like minded unions, democratic forces and struggling workers of various mills on 23<sup>rd</sup> February at Rammohan Hall in Kolkata.

### **Maldives: Democratic Prospects Bartered Away**

What is happening in Maldives is not due to the mistakes or despondency of a few Indian diplomats. The Indian foreign policy played a significant role in the dumping of the democratically elected president there. It was after 25 years of dictatorial rule of Abdul Gayoom, in 2008 elections Mohammed Nasheed was elected president. After the coup by the security forces backed by Gayoom's friends and Islamic forces what has emerged is new edition of the old regime. If India and other external forces did not help the brief democratic resurgence, in reverting to the old reactionary days, India intervention along with the role of US, UK and other forces played a role. But the latest reports show that in spite of these foreign and Islamic interventions the democratic forces in this small island nation are not going to allow an easy reversal to dictatorial days. In this situation it is the task of the communist forces to oppose all foreign interventions including the intervention of India and support the emerging secular democratic forces there.

### **Syria: Inter Imperialist Contradictions Plays Havoc**

When the *Arab Spring* was blossoming during last winter, there was uprising by the popular forces in Syria also for democracy and social justice. They were anti-imperialist, especially anti-US also to a great extent. But two factors have played havoc there; firstly the intervention of the US and its allies to bring the new generation leading players also under their control as is happening everywhere from Tunisia and Egypt, and which took barbaric aerial destruction and massacres in Libya in the name of regime change, provoking inter imperialist clash of interests at least in Syria; and secondly the role of the Islamic forces which in the main helped the US led forces, in spite of their pretensions about anti-US positions.

The US imperialists, their allies and lackeys are determined to continue their hegemony even by utilizing the new uprisings in their own way. Especially in the context of the present meltdown of finance capital system, they are ready to go to any extent as proved in Libya to continue their hold in the region. But after losing much in Libya, the Russian and Chinese imperialists are not ready to lose their interests in Syria also, as they are afraid that the present US led manoeuvres will lead to a US led offensive against present regime in Iran also. So both are ready to veto any moves by US and allies for an aggression under UN label in Syria.

The communist forces are weak in the region and are not in a position to play any significant role yet. And in Syria, in spite of the presence of a communist organization, it has proved incapable of playing any significant role so far as it is influenced by rightist deviations. In this situation, the people's uprising in Syria, which is still continuing in spite of brutal massacres, is at a cross road.

### **Greece: Riots Against Austerity Vote**

As the government was getting the austerity measures demanded by the European Union and IMF were being voted in the parliament, further cutting down the hard earned rights of workers and other sections of toiling masses, riots broke out in the streets of Athens on 12<sup>th</sup> night, with hundreds of thousands fighting in the streets against these IMF- World Bank- European banks' dictates echoed by the parliament. But there is still distrust on the part of Eurozone experts as advised by EU-IMF whether the Greek government is capable of implementing the austerity measures. So the Eurozone ministerial meeting refused to decide on a 130 billion Euro loan to bail out the sinking economy of Greece. So the crisis is deepening with more people joining the riots in the streets. The objective situation is prepared for a revolutionary seizure of power by the working class.

But disproving the fond hopes still kept by large number of supporters of the CPI(M) led Left Front in India that in an objective situation like this these leaderships will lead them to revolutionary change, the counter parts of CPI-CPI(M) in Greece are proving repeatedly that in spite of excellent situation they will not abandon their social democratic positions and provide leaderships to the people. Similarly the Maoist fringe influence are proving themselves as obstacles for a mass uprising to seize power. In this situation, unless the genuine communist forces like KOE becomes capable of mobilizing and leading the working class for a revolutionary seizure of power it is going to be difficult to utilize the present situation for revolutionary change. It is high time lessons are taken from what happened in the latter part of 1940s

when a similar situation emerged which for different reasons could not be utilized by the revolutionary forces.

### **Greece: Statement by KOE on Latest Riots**

- Down with the coup of the Bailout Agreement, down with the illegal Papadimos' government
- Overthrow the whole rotten political system
- Democracy, Independence, Productive Reconstruction, Emancipation

The Communist Organization of Greece salutes the hundreds of thousands of people who swamped Athens yesterday and protested throughout Greece, resolutely opposing the new bonds that the IMF-EU-ECB troika imposes. The Greek people proved their advanced readiness for combat, and showed increased endurance and courage facing the ruthless attacks of the "special police" forces. Despite the state terrorism and the blackmails of the establishment, the fighting spirit of the people against the new occupation and the tyranny is raging.

The new Bailout Agreement is imposed entirely as in a coup, by an illegal government, and "approved" by a parliament that has lost any legitimacy. The Papadimos' puppet government, the three bourgeois pro-Agreement parties and the politicians who voted for and supported the new disastrous Bailout Agreement are continuously violating their own Constitution and the country's sovereignty. Their whole political system is hence entirely illegitimate. They have definitively taken a divorce from the people, and must leave immediately.

Since the appointed "prime minister"-banker Papadimos and his entourage didn't manage to terrorize the people with the default threat (besides, the Bailout Agreement leads to default with mathematical accuracy), they found as sole refuge the ruthless police violence and terror. They unpretentiously suffocated Athens with chemicals, not hesitating to use their "weapons" in the most ferocious way even against two emblematic figures, like our National Resistance hero Manolis Glezos and the internationally famous composer Mikis Theodorakis.

The illegal and completely illegitimate government, with the full support of most mainstream Media, resorted to violence and invested in terror. The "journalists"-parrots of the system and the apologists of the troika talked systematically only about the damages provoked in buildings. They "forgot" to mention the hundreds of thousands of people who, despite the barbarous police attacks and the chemicals, remained in Syntagma square and the rest of Athens' centre during 5 hours. For what happened yesterday, as well as for what's coming, the sole responsible is non other than the illegal government, which in full contrast to the will of the people and with repeated coups is delivering the country, the life and the future of its people, to its patrons.

The political system that robbed and destroyed Greece, that leads it to default and is now delivering it as a colony to foreign commissioners and foreign "courts of justice", is crumbling in front of our eyes. They cannot even convince themselves any longer: 45 MPs from the bourgeois parties, under the popular pressure, voted against the Bailout Agreement and were immediately expelled from their respective parties. For the first time since the fall of the dictatorship in 1974, fewer than 200 MPs voted "yes" at a decision that had the support of both the two big bourgeois parties.

The intensified crisis of the political system is an opportunity for the promotion of a social and political front that will put a stop to this illegal regime and set the country in a different course, materializing what the people want and claim for. A social and political front which will pave the way for the salvation of the people and the country: Real Democracy, Independence, Productive Reconstruction. Stop the payments NOW – Not one more euro to the loan sharks. We can break the chains, the fight continues! Forward, to a radical political change led by the people!