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Victory of R G Kar movement

State govt. concedes some demands under pressure of movement

Once again it is proved that only united, organized, disciplined and sustained powerful movement can achieve legitimate demands. In protest against the gruesome rape and murder of a Post Graduate Trainee doctor in the R G Kar Medical College and Hospital, only one slogan reverberated throughout West Bengal and even the whole country as well as 130 places in 26

countries—"We Want Justice For R G Kar." Under pressure of such an unprecedented protest movement that the junior doctors spearheaded rising above all the differences and continued for over a month unwaveringly, the TMC-led state government has been forced to concede some of their legitimate demands. The Police Commissioner of Kolkata, Deputy Police

Commissioner (North Kolkata) and two top level officials of the health department—the director of medical education and the director of health services—have been removed. The principal of R G Kar medical college, reported to be the prime accused and Officer-in-charge of local police station have been arrested by the CBI. But the investigation is stated to be still not complete. The BJP-led

central government cannot deny their responsibility for such procrastination on the part of the CBI. On the other hand, it is also true that though some of the demands have been yielded to, all the culprits have not yet been arrested nor the unholy nexus and the rule of corrupt syndicates in various government hospitals have been reined. For that,

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SUCI(C) strongly condemns BJP government's disdainful attitude towards strife-torn Manipur, demands immediate step to stop violence there

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), issued the following statement on 17-09-24:

One year has rolled by since Manipur has been burning because of continued armed ethnic violence that has already taken away over 250 precious lives. Over 1500 have been grievously injured, 6000 people displaced from their home and hearth and 28 missing as per official report. Many women have been raped. A harrowing

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'One country one election' will further squeeze people's right to vote fairly—SUCI (Communist)

Strongly denouncing the move of the BJP-led Central Government to introduce so called 'one country one election' system throughout the country, Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI (Communist) issued the following statement on 20-09-24:

"This deceptive move is clearly intended to rob the country of whatever little vestiges of democratic practice are still prevalent in country's election system and establish a highly centralized election system with a view to further squeezing the people whatever miniscule scope they still have in expressing their fair opinion in election.

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Clarion call of AIKKMS at Kisan Mahapanchayat at Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi on 23 September

Delhi witnessed once again a mammoth rally of thousands of struggling peasants and agricultural workers at Talkatora Stadium on 23 September 2024 to attend a Mahapanchayat convened by the AIKKMS. Braving all odds, thousands of peasants from 22 states marched to the venue to take pledge to build up mighty peasant movement in the days to come. Peasants and the friends of peasants' movement of Delhi and Delhi Dehat turned up in large number, voluntarily installed and manned the seven camps where the delegates stayed and immensely helped to make the programme a grand success.

The Mahapanchayat was chaired by Comrade Raghunath Das, veteran leader of AIKKMS. He along with four other members constituted the Presidium. Invited SKM leaders like Sardar Balbir Singh Rajewal, Sardar Joginder

Singh Ugrahan and Shri Prem Singh Gehlawat were present along with Comrades Satyawan and Shankar Ghosh, President and General Secretary respectively of the AIKKMS.

In his inaugural speech, Comrade Sankar Ghosh said that peasantry of our country are not hapless or helpless people. They are feeding the nation. They are not unorganized. They had been struggling courageously for years. He appealed to the assembly to recollect the heroic peasant struggles led by Sidhu-Kanu, Birsa Munda, Tilka Manjhi, and others. After independence, monopolist and multinational houses and their henchmen are trying to tighten their grip over land, agricultural inputs and produce. But nothing went unprotested. He cited the examples of Singur-Nandigram movement, heroic fight against

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R G Kar

Culprits must immediately be rounded up and meted out stringent punishment

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the movement has to be further intensified.

Spontaneous participation of people

This movement has really been a spark that caused a prairie fire. Not only the doctors, nurses paramedics and health workers, people from all walks of life—the thousands of students of almost all universities, colleges and schools along with their teachers and guardians spontaneously joined the movement. Lawyers, litterateurs, well-known sports personalities, housewives from rural and urban areas, film and stage artistes, visual artists, workers, peasants and professionals from all other fields, came forward, actively participated in the movement, observed all programmes like "Reclaim the night", "Lights off", "Trials in People's Court" etc. They all came out of volition, identifying themselves with the cause. Our heart-felt congratulations to the junior doctors who initiated the movement on the early hours of the very next day of the horrific incident (10 August), by resisting removal of the mortal remains of the victim from the seminar room (the suspected place of occurrence of the ghastly crime) and sticking on the demand for post-mortem in presence of a judicial magistrate and then steered the movement for so many days with grit, determination and exemplary fighting spirit.

Government forced to concede some demands

The hospital authorities then under the command of the later arrested principal and his lackeys, made every possible attempt to hush up the crime by destroying as well as tampering with the evidences, not informing police on time and passing on the murder as suicide. But the junior doctors foiled the attempt from the time they came to know of the crime. When the authorities failed to succeed in materializing their efforts, they opted for a violent external intervention. So, on the night of 14 August, a big gang of armed miscreants stormed the venue of protest in the compound of the hospital, damaged it totally and then went inside the hospital to vandalize the emergency department, destroyed costly medical equipment and medicines and before leaving, made indecent gestures to the nurses present there. They also warned the nursing personnels that they would come back to teach them a lesson. A big contingent police and RAF led by the DC (North Kolkata) stood like indulgent onlookers. This seemingly engineered vandalism by the quarters

of vested interest added fuel to the fire and the movement escalated to a new height.

Latest situation of R G Kar case

Following the state government's yielding to many of the demands and assurance of fulfilling the rest expediently, the junior doctors have withdrawn their stay-in demonstration before the state health department headquarters and resumed duties in emergency wards. But the cease work in other areas would continue until the victim gets justice. The Supreme Court which suo motu took cognizance of the case had two hearings so far. In the second hearing, the state government got a thrashing for non-compliance with many tasks and unable to furnish concrete data on many allied issues. Indira Jaisingh, the veteran lawyer, stood on behalf of the junior doctors and many of her submissions were acknowledged by the honourable Court. The junior doctors have urged upon the Supreme Court to ensure that the culprits are immediately rounded up and stringently punished at the earliest. They have also demanded that the key persons spreading a threat culture in the hospitals and thereby calling the shots should immediately be arrested pending which the safety of the health personnel and restoration of democratic environment in the hospitals cannot be guaranteed. The government is yet to adopt concrete steps in this regard for which partial cease work by the junior doctors is continuing.

Our Party was in the movement since beginning

Right from the moment the dastardly crime came to light, doctor comrades of AIDS O of R G Kar college unit rushed to the spot on 9 August morning, stopped the dead body from being covertly shifted out and demanded post-mortem in the presence of a judicial magistrate. Our AIMSS, AIDYO and other AIDS O activists also began demonstrating at the R G Kar college gate. Then our Party gave a call of observing 10 August as a statewide protest day. After the incident of vandalism on 14 August, we observed 15 August as reproachment day and gave a call for observing general strike on 16 August. The state TMC chief minister had long declared that bandhs or general strikes would not be tolerated. But disdainful her red eyes, the strike called on a day's notice was a total success indicating how common people were enraged at this harrowing incident and reposed confidence on our Party.

It bears recall that in 2001 also

when the CPI (M)-led government was in power, a third year student of R G Kar College was murdered as he protested against some anti-social activities including running of sex racket inside the college premises. It was alleged that the SFI satraps who were involved in such vile activities were behind the murder. That time also, we had organized a mighty protest movement and our the then AIDS O comrades of the college were victimized for that. During the CPI (M) rule, there were many incidents of rape and murder including that of 1990 Bantala (a suburb adjacent to Kolkata) case where three female medical officers were brutally gangraped by CPIM workers near the local CPI (M) office. One doctor died in the assault, and their driver also died while trying to protect them, as the attackers smashed his genitals. When the media wanted the response of the then chief minister, Jyoti Basu, he had shocked everybody by brushing it aside, saying: "Such things keep happening". The silence of the night of 18 February 2011 was broken by the frantic shrieks of a woman attacked by some inebriated youths, who teased and molested her while she was returning home with her brother. When her brother objected, they pounced upon him and ultimately killed him. The victim girl knocked the gate of a senior police officer's quarter nearby, pleading with sentries to save her brother's life. But no policeman comes to their rescue. And everyone is aware how gang-rapes by CPI (M) goons and police personnel were used as a tool to suppress peasants' movements in Singur and Nandigram. In each and every case, our Party was at the forefront of the protest movements.

Every day, news of four to five rape or gang-rape incidents in the country are reported in the media. With the brutal rape and murder cases of Unnao, Hathras, Varanasi and such others, the BJP-led UP is at the top. 2583 rape cases were reported in the BJP-led Madhya Pradesh in 2023. Rajasthan, another BJP-run state, reported 5399 rape cases in 2023. Kerala registered over 7,500 rape cases over last three years. Everywhere, our Party is making all possible efforts to build up people's movement against such barbarity. Notably, the ruling bourgeois parties like the BJP, Congress, TMC or even pseudo-Marxists like CPI (M) keep mum when such atrocities against women take place in the states ruled by them. But they become vocal when such vicious incidents occur in the states ruled by other parties. For example, both the BJP and the CPI (M) are demanding resignation of the TMC chief minister citing the R G Kar incident. But is the BJP protesting in UP or the CPI (M) in Kerala? No. Because they want to stage a show of movement keeping narrow sectarian electoral interest in mind. Pertinent to mention that a junior doctors' movement surged forth in West Bengal in 1983. The then CPI (M) government wanted to break that just movement with police but failed. We were the main force in that movement which was victorious.

No one is born as a rapist

Official data say that in the BJP's *Amritkal*, 86 rape or gang-rape cases are reported every day. Crime against women has increased manifold. But why? Is it that any male child is born as a rapist? No. This decrepit society makes him a

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SUCI(C) condemns BJP government's attitude towards Manipur

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incident of two women being forcibly stripped, abused and paraded naked on the streets. Both military and state security forces are alleged to have been committing serious human rights abuses. Yet, the Prime minister who has been touring round the world and of late expressed desire to mediate to end Russia-Ukraine war did not find any time to visit strife-torn Manipur, let alone resolving the problem, as if it is not a part of India. Even Union

Home Minister did not make any effort to stop this bloodshed. Rather, the ruling BJP government is reportedly fuelling the clash between the two warring communities. Nothing could be more cruel and inhuman than such a disdainful attitude of the BJP government towards a province in fire.

We strongly condemn this most atrocious neglect on the part of the BJP government to quell the ethnic flare-up and demand immediate step to stop this fratricidal bloodbath.

SUCI (C) on 'one country one election'

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This step is contemplated in order to serve the interest of the ruling monopolist class seeking to firm up fascist rule which in its wake will reduce the entire electoral exercise into a total farce.

We therefore call upon the countrymen to come out and stoutly oppose this heinous move and force the central BJP Government to withdraw it forthwith.

In order to free the country from all out crisis, it is imperative to understand revolutionary politics

Comrade Provash Ghosh at 5 August meeting

[The first instalment of the speech delivered by Comrade Provash Ghosh, our beloved General Secretary, at the public meeting held in Kolkata on 5 August, the 48th Memorial Day of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the great leader of the proletariat, was published in the Proletarian Era dated 15 September 2024. This is the second and final instalment. Responsibility of translation error and inadequacy of expression, if any, lies with the Editorial Board of Proletarian Era]

In the name of Marxism, CPI (M) misled its workers and confused people

Now I am on another topic. You have seen in the newspapers that the CPI (M) leaders are gravely concerned over steep fall in their votes. They are reportedly seeking public opinion to ascertain reason for poor show in the election. What is the need for securing public opinion for this? Are they not aware that by maligning leftism, what kind of rule they conducted during 34 long years in West Bengal? West Bengal had a glorious tradition of being the citadel of left movement. It was here that Netaji Subhas had started his political life, revolutionary organizations like Anushilon Samity and Jugantar had developed. Inspired by the Soviet Revolution, leftism had flourished here. By usurping the credit of leftism, first the undivided CPI and then the CPI (M) had gained strength and based on that had governed West Bengal uninterruptedly for 34 years. What kind of governance was that? They opened fire on the workers and peasants and established notorious rule of syndicates, real estate promoters, contractors, extortion and cut money. Benoy Chowdhury, one of the veteran leaders of the CPI (M), was a member of the Jyoti Basu's cabinet. Disgusted with the sordid state of affairs, he once remarked that the CPI (M)'s was a regime of realty promoters and contractors. Being enraged, Jyoti Basu asked him why was then he continuing in such a government and why was he not resigning? Benoy Chowdhury had to resign after that. At that time the police used to work under the dictates of the CPI (M) leaders. The CPI (M) leaders used to decide who would be the vice-chancellor of a university, who would become principal of a college, who would be appointed as a teacher in which school, even who would buy or sell house in a locality, who would marry whom and so forth. People were severely aggrieved over such overlordism and capitalizing on that mounting discontent, the TMC had come to the forefront. At that time, the media hailed the TMC supremo as a lady with fire incarnate in her. We do not know what is the view of those

media now.

Have the CPI (M) leaders admitted anywhere that they had committed mistakes during their 34 yearlong rule? Instead, they are passing on the entire blame on their workers. Great Lenin had said that real communists openly admit their mistakes, ascertain the reason behind committing those mistakes and deriving lessons from that, rectify themselves. Do the CPI(M) leaders have that courage? No. Because they have never cultivated Marxism or Communism. Under the garb of Marxism, they misled their workers and confused the masses. In the parliament election of 2019, they covertly campaigned saying that 'first would come Rama, and then would come Bam meaning Leftists' (*age Rama, pore Bam*). Incredible indeed! As a result of this strategy, many of the CPI(M) leaders and workers had switched to the BJP. A good section of those turncoats are still with the BJP. That is the reason behind their present quandary. Just for somehow getting one or two seats, they are doing tailism of the Congress and other regional bourgeois parties. But the very undivided CPI was once the main opposition in parliament.

Marxists never practise blindness

If there is any worker or sympathizer of the CPI (M) present in this meeting, I would request them to deeply ponder over this question. We have no hatred against them. But let them be free from blind obedience. The Marxists never practise blindness. Based on Marxist methodology, they judge whether their leaders are right or wrong, whether a policy is correct or incorrect. Both Plekhanov and Kautsky were teachers of Lenin. Lenin learnt Marxism from them. But when they had deviated from Marxism, Lenin stood against them, formed Bolshevik party, based on correct Marxist principles, by breaking away from the RSDLP and built up the Third International.

Let me say once more that we do not nurture any hatred against the CPI (M). We want the CPI (M) leadership to correct their mistakes. Let them admit before the masses that they had committed mistakes. They not only orchestrated genocide

in Nandigram, they even did not hesitate to engage police and anti-socials to commit gang-rapes to suppress the mass movement. People cannot forget these crimes so easily. So my submission is you should not blindly follow any party. Once you had joined the CPI (M) being attracted by the ideology of communism. Will you not examine which path your party leaders are treading along?

Even do not blindly follow our Party also. Many of our Party workers, supporters and common people have assembled here. I call upon all of them to examine whether we are on the right track in accordance with the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, whether our conduct, style of work, character are in consonance with Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Thought. Otherwise, our Party may also be in crisis. I reiterate once more that if the common people cultivate politics and derive political consciousness, they will be able to prevent being deceived. Please develop people's committees involving common masses in every locality, every village, in the workers' barracks and cultivate politics. Analyze which party is right and which one is wrong. When there will be a need to build up mass movement on a pressing issue, you can, based on these preparatory steps, jump into that struggle under the leadership of these people's committees and setting up volunteer corps. Our neighbouring Bangladesh is in ferment. There is a mass upsurge. Even today, lakhs of people have come down to the streets. Just now we have come to know that Sheikh Hasina, the prime minister of Bangladesh, has been forced to resign. Military wanted to take over. People have opposed saying that there ought to be an interim government till next election. Deliberations are going on over that. Bangladesh has shown what the power of mass movement can do. We all have to take lesson from this as well.

Capitalism is destroying moral backbone of the youths and students

Let me dwell on another aspect, the aspect of destroying the moral backbone of the students and

youths by the ruling bourgeoisie. Our country is faced with a serious moral-cultural crisis. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh had said long back that the ruling class and its subservient parties are annihilating sense of ethics, morality and human essence of the students and youths. A large section of the younger generation is plunged in the dungeon of liquor consumption, gambling, sex-perversion and drug addiction. Obscene films, vulgar TV shows, flood of rotten content on the mobile phones are degenerating the youths and students morally and culturally, emasculating them from within. Rammohan, Vidyasagar, Rabindranath, Sartchandra, Nazrul did not see the spurt in rapes and gang rapes. The leaders of the freedom movement also did not witness incitement of base instincts with so much of rapidity. Right now, scream of raped women is renting the air. Can you think that a teen-aged brother after seeing a blue film is raping his tiny sister and then killing her by strangulation? Father is raping daughter. A teen aged boy and girl in so called love wanted to stay together at night. When mother of the boy did not agree to that, she was killed by the son. All these incidents happened in this very state of West Bengal. Why are such debased incidents rising in number? Are these marks of country's development and progress? What explanation can the rulers of both at the Centre and in the state provide for such speedy moral-cultural degradation? Where are they taking the country to? Even a mother has complained of having been raped by her son. Is it a civilized society? Evidently, capitalism is the bitterest enemy of people. It is destroying conscience, values, morality, everything. Family life is breaking. Suspicion and disbelief are demolishing the very edifice of mutual love and affection which bind the spouses in marital life. All other kinds of finer human feelings and relations are perishing. Children are deserting old parents, leaving them alone on the streets. They are also killing the parents for property. Capitalism is squeezing the blood of oppressed millions to amass fabulous wealth. It is least bothered

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Comrade Provash Ghosh

Ruling bourgeoisie is destroying moral backbone of the youths

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whether the common people are dead or somehow holding on to their life. This capitalism has no scruple, no ethics, no morality, no finer sense. At the same time, it is destroying the conscience and the human quality of the people.

Capitalism is also destroying nature

On the other side, you have seen how landslides on massive scale, glacier bursts and heavy rains have wreaked havoc in Kerala, Himachal, Uttarakhand and Sikkim. So many people have lost their life. Why are all these calamities occurring? Ignoring the repeated warnings of the scientists, the industrial barons and big business are building lodges, hotels, other kinds of entertainment parks to promote tourism. Reckless urbanization and deforestation is going on to promote real estate business, construction of hydel projects and mining minerals. So, these natural disasters are taking place. In fact, the monopoly houses and multi-nationals are doing the same thing throughout the world. So a serious climate crisis has ensued. Global warming has now become global burning. You have witnessed what high the temperature had soared and heat waves had been prolonged in last summer. The next summer will be yet more dangerous. Besides melting of glaciers in the polar regions and the Himalayas, sea level as well as temperature of sea water is rising alarmingly. So, at one point of time, the big rivers will be dried up. The seas are expanding and devouring the embankments. Why is it so? Because, increased emission level of carbon dioxide, a toxic gas, owing to burning of fossil fuels like coal, petrol and diesel is warming the global atmosphere. Time and again the scientists are sounding caution but the capitalists and their pliant governments are turning a deaf ear to that. because they want maximization of profit at any cost. For that, if the world is ruined, they care a fig. This is capitalism, the root of all evils and arch enemy of the people.

Socialism built a new civilization

Great Marx and Engels gave call to overthrow this very capitalism. And following their footsteps appeared Lenin-Stalin-Mao Zedong-Shibdas Ghosh as giant Marxist authorities. As you know, by correctly applying Marxism, great Lenin had built up

socialism, a new civilization in the history of mankind, in Soviet Union. There was no unemployment in Soviet Union. Rather the Soviet government declared that unless one worked, one would not get food. Everybody had to give labour to strengthen socialism. Education and Healthcare were totally free in Soviet socialism. Fuel and water were also free. People used to get essential items at a very low affordable price from the government-run stores. Working hours were reduced from 8 to 7 hours. It was being contemplated to bring it down further to 6 hours. Workers could spend 15 days of paid holidays at a hill station or seashore. People did not need to pay anything for availing of the services of doctors, lawyers, scientists, teachers or professors. The socialist state used to bear all expenses. Soviet Union registered tremendous progress in both natural and medical sciences. 16 Soviet scientists received Nobel prize from the bourgeois world. Soviet athletes and sportspersons used to be at the top of medal winners in the Olympics. Soviet Union was first to send man in the space. Such was the progress of Soviet socialism within 29-30 years. After visiting Soviet Union in 1930, Rabindranath wrote that his life's pilgrimage would have been incomplete if he had not gone there at his old age. It would have been an unpardonable offence. A historic oblation of mankind was taking place there. It was signalling dawn of a new civilization. He said that the message of liberty, equality and fraternity was carried by French Revolution. But it did not endure. Now that is being implemented in Soviet Union. In a letter to poet Amiya Chakraborty, Rabindranath wrote: *"I would see the shape of a new era for mankind in that hermitage and so I became full of joy and hope. Nowhere else in the history of mankind did I observe such a permanent cause of joy and hope....This new Russia is engrossed in an arduous practice of removing a death missile from the ribs of human civilization—that which is known as 'greed'."* He thus was fascinated see establishment of a society free from greed. When the Second World War was going on, Rabindranath was critically ill and was to be operated upon. Even at point of time, he was seeking information how far had the Red Army had advanced. The day the operation was scheduled, he

came to know that Red Army was making bold strides ahead. His face lit up and he said *"such was sure to happen, only they can do this and they would succeed."* Fact is that the Red Army under the stewardship of Stalin had defeated German and Italian fascism and saved the mankind and civilization.

Soviet socialism was also hailed by Netaji Subhas. To quote his language: *"...Russia has enriched the culture and civilization of the world through her achievement in proletarian revolution, proletarian Government and proletarian culture."* He also said: *"The currents and cross-currents in the present situation of the world may be classified into two principal groups, that is, the current of imperialist power and the counter-current of communist power. Therefore, the termination of Hitlerism would be establishment of socialism."* When Indian National Army (INA) established by him was facing defeat at the hands of British imperial force, he remarked: *"If there is one man in Europe today who holds in his hands the destinies of the European nations for the next few decades, that man is Marshall Stalin. The whole world, and above all, Europe will, therefore, follow with breathless anxiety the moves of Soviet Union in the days to come."* Saratchandra, Premchand, Subramania Bharati had all stood in support for Soviet Union. Revered luminaries of the West like Romain Rolland, Bernard Shaw and Einstein had heartily welcomed socialism as a new civilization. This was how all great men of that time gave a standing ovation to Soviet socialism. What would the intellectuals who are now denigrating socialism say about this ovation of the then leading lights? Were such men of eminence confounded in any way?

Setback of socialism is temporary

After Soviet Revolution, Chinese revolution achieved victory. Then revolution occurred in the Eastern European countries and Vietnam. Thus, a new socialist civilization had developed. But imperialism-capitalism destroyed this new civilization through intrigue. Marx had said long back that there is no guarantee about sustainability of socialism after revolution. Marx further said that either socialism would march forward to communism or be reverted to capitalism. To lead socialism to communism, what is needed is dictatorship of the proletariat. So long communism is not established, the concept of

bourgeois ownership and private property will not be abolished and hence the bourgeois mindset will prevail howsoever minutest may be the form. And Comrade Shibdas Ghosh explained that individualism based on the concept of bourgeois individual property right would be the main feature. We have been seeing that in our country in the form of self-centrism and selfishness. Because of this self-centrism, children are not looking after their parents, brother is not taking care of sister. 'Self-preservation is the law of nature—this proverbial saying become central focal point of life. During the period of freedom movement, individualism had a relatively progressive role. The interest of the individual was considered to be subordinate to the interest of the country. But afterwards, when capitalism has become totally reactionary, individualism has been reduced to self-centrism. In Russian and Chinese revolutions and also in the freedom struggle of our country, concept of individualism had played a relatively positive role. Despite appreciable progress of socialism in Russia and China, this very individualism later raised its ugly head in the form of socialist individualism. This inhibited growth of socialism. This phenomenon of socialist individualism had not been fought both in Russia and China. So, notwithstanding establishment of socialist system at the base by overthrowing individual ownership, individualism or private property mental complex had stayed in the superstructure. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh had cautioned that unless this new phenomenon of socialist individualism was fought and defeated, it would attack socialism from within and pave the way for its collapse. Exactly, that has happened.

But is it that this temporary setback implies no future of socialism? In that event, will the tenure of ruthlessly oppressive capitalism be prolonged? Would crises multiply and would civilization be destroyed? Earlier, religious movement had also gone through the cycle of victory and defeat. The religious preachers claimed that they were descendants of god. But whether it was Hinduism, or Islam or Christianity or Buddhism— all had once went a step ahead and then had come to a step back. It took several hundred years for a religion to get an anchor. Bourgeois democratic revolution spanning from emergence of renaissance to establishment of parliamentary democracy had taken over 350

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SEBI chief and her husband involved in Adani's stock manipulation scam

There is a unprecedented rise in the stock (share) market index over the past few months which section of economists and analysts seek to project as mark of rising economic growth of the country. But we have shown on umpteen occasions in the Proletarian Era, this is no sign of health but of ailment. Idle capital of the monopoly houses, finding no avenue for productive investment because of progressive shrinkage of normal market, endemic of the capitalist system, is being pumped by the domestic and foreign monopolists and multinationals in speculative stock market. If increasing sum of money chases a fixed number of listed shares (BSE Sensex is a basket of 30 select shares), price of the shares or stocks will bounce. But slump in productive investment indicates that economy is in serious crisis.

Now, over and above this, the shift of large amount of capital to speculation has opened up a new vista for various manipulations, dubious methods and questionable channels of funneling investment in stock market. One of such ploys is to route fund deployment in shares by way of opening shell companies in tax havens (like Mauritius, Garsney island etc. (where corporate tax rates are miniscule) to circumvent destination country of investment market regulations and evade tax. At the same time, using this conduit, any Indian company could divert its surplus capital in a round-about way to Indian stock market for investment in its own stocks and thereby create an artificial demand for its stocks which in turn jack up the share price of that company. If the share prices soar, the company's wealth rises in value and the company becomes eligible for taking more loans from banks and financial institutions and spruce up its image as a global corporate with sound financial health.

Exactly that is what the Adani group, stated to be very close to PM Modi, has done to raise its share value and mop up more debts. Hindenburg, an investigative

research agency, had in its report published on 24 January 2023 accused Adani group of committing fraud and "brazen" stock price manipulation. The report said that Adani Group's chairman Gautam Adani had added more than \$100 billion in the past three years, largely through "stock price appreciation in the group's 7 key listed companies, which have spiked an average of 819% in that period." "Key listed Adani firms then have taken on "substantial debt, including pledging shares of their inflated stock for loans, putting the entire group on precarious financial footing," the report said. Thus, the Adani group used offshore shell entities to siphon and launder money from the Indian public and went on committing accounting frauds scheme over the course of decades. This revelation had created a huge commotion and came to be known about the 'Largest Con' in corporate history. One wondered how could such a scam evade the notice of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) which is entrusted with the responsibility of overseeing and supervising Indian capital market. SEBI, it is pertinent to mention, was constituted as a non-statutory body in April 1988 through a resolution of the government of India. It became a statutory body in January 1992 after Parliament passed an Act. The preamble to the Act describes SEBI's basic function as a body "...to protect the interests of investors in securities and to promote the development of, and to regulate the securities market and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto." The SEBI chief is appointed by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet that is headed by PM Modi and includes his right-hand man Home Minister Amit Shah. The top honchos in the government and in the Finance Ministry have so far chosen to remain silent about the controversies surrounding SEBI chief. Does this mean they knew about all her financial dealings and

found nothing wrong or questionable about her earnings? Did the obvious conflict of interest revealed by the association of past SEBI chairpersons with the Adani Group play a role in SEBI's inability to properly investigate these shell companies? Why did SEBI fail to disclose to the Supreme Court that the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) had carried out investigations against the Adani Group in 2014, that were then closed by the Modi government in 2017?

In response to a PIL lodged in February 2023, the Supreme Court asked SEBI on March 2, 2023, to probe the allegations made in the report and determine whether stock price manipulation and other financial irregularities had taken place. The apex court also set up a six-member panel of experts to investigate the matter and report to the court. Within six days, on 8 March 2023, the panel submitted its initial report before the Supreme Court in a sealed cover. The report said, there was "no evident pattern of manipulation" in Adani's group of companies and there was also no regulatory failure. In its final report, submitted in May 2023, the panel reiterated its initial remark.

And now it has come light why the SEBI was virtually a silent spectator to such a mega-financial scam. On 10 August 2024, Hindenburg Research raised new allegations that Madhabi Puri Buch, the SEBI Chairman, and her husband Dhabal Buch had huge stake in Adani's companies which inflated its share price. This price boom helped the Adani group to get huge loans from different agencies. The very act of Madhabi Puri Buch and her husband of investing in Adani Group is a glaring breach of law and has obviously triggered a conflict of interest in the matter. Never in the history of the Securities and Exchange Board of India, the regulator of the country's financial markets, has its chairperson's credibility been questioned in such a dramatic manner.

One would recall that in March 2018, Chanda Kochhar, MD and CEO of ICICI Bank was accused of complex business transactions carried out between her family members and the Videocon Group. Chanda Kochhar had faced a conflict of interest when the bank gave a whopping Rs 32.5 billion loan to Videocon Group in 2012. Surprisingly, in 2017, the bank declared Rs 28.1 billion loans as

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A note from the comrades of BASAD (Marxist) of Bangladesh on anti-India slogans raised from a few quarters

During the recent people's upheaval in Bangladesh, some anti-India slogans were raised. The toiling Indian people who wholeheartedly supported the movement are a bit disappointed at and worried about this. First of all, it is necessary to understand that the interests of the state of India and the interests of the common oppressed Indians are not the same. Rather, they are diametrically opposite. The slogans raised during the movement were against the imperialist Indian state, not against the toiling masses of India. We believe that the hardworking people of India are our friends. They are our fighting partners, and in fact, the progressive people of this country, who are for democracy, have actively and courageously stood behind this people's uprising. We would like to thank them for their support and remember this historic role. But our objection lies in the manner in which the Indian imperialism state seeks to establish the 'Policy of Subsidiary Alliance' with its neighbours in the Indian subcontinent in pursuit of its imperialist interests. The plunder of the wealth of Bangladesh by the Indian monopolists, the interference of the Indian state in the internal political affairs of the country, etc., could never be accepted by the patriotic and workingclass people of our country. For example, the patriotic people of India have never accepted the imperialist intervention in other countries.

'Everything is getting lost'—an uproar is audible after the coup. One group of self-seeking people is raising this voice purposefully. But another section who is honest is misguidedly falling prey to this propaganda. Attacks on minorities, vandalism of architecture, looting of libraries, attacks on places of worship, etc., have deeply saddened the supporters of this mass uprising.

We need to remember that no police administration worked across the country immediately after the mass uprising. Although Sheikh Hasina has fled the country, the Awami League organization, from the union level to the state level, has made a last-ditch effort to smear this mass uprising. Attacks on minorities are not new in Bangladesh as communalism and communal politics are a big curse in India and the whole of South Asia. It is

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Demonstration in Delhi on 4 September against unemployment, price rise, crime against women and smart metre installation

Clarion call of AIKKMS

Contd. from page 1

Mittal Company in Odisha, struggle of Mandasaur in Madhya Pradesh, and finally the historic 13 month-

peasant movement.

A resolution was passed on 'Brahmaputra Soil erosion'. Land grabbing by corporate houses at Delhi



Comrade Satyawan addressing

long Delhi movement. He further said that from the integrated experience of these movements, one can imagine what powerful a movement has to be launched in the days to come. He said the AIKKMS is guided by the illuminating thoughts of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the

speaker dwelt at length on the present perilous condition of the common people. He said this wretchedness of the toiling millions including peasants is due to the ruthless exploitation of the ruling monopolists and the multinationals. The BJP like the erstwhile governments is also nakedly

Dehat area also was discussed. SKM leaders also addressed the gathering, Kishan leader, Ashok Dhawle of AIKS, sent a message which Comrade Manish Srivastava read out before the audience.

Comrade Satyawan, president, AIKKMS, in his speech as the main



Comrade Shankar Ghosh delivering inaugural speech

great leader of the proletariat. That is our biggest strength. We must prove ourselves equal to the task history has enjoined us.

The main resolution placed and adopted unanimously detailed the need of the hour and the demands like guaranteed law for government procurement of all crops at MSP prices at one and half times the cost of production that is under the C2 +50% formula, waiver of loans, repeal of electricity bill 2023, withdrawal of smart electricity meter scheme, providing agricultural inputs available in sufficient quantity in time at cheap prices, providing monthly pension to the peasants and agricultural workers, ensuring work and adequate wage for the agricultural workers throughout the year and building Kishan Shaheed Memorial at Singhu and Tikri border in memory of the martyrs of Delhi

serving the class interest of the ruling class. They are trying to divide the people on caste and communal basis and spewing venom of mutual hatred. We along with our SKM friends are fighting this heinous design. He appealed to the people to come forward to foil the sinister conspiracy of the monopolist barons, multi nationals and their servitors. At the end, Comrade Shankar Ghosh announced the future course of movement. On November 17, the Memorial Day of Lala Lajpat Rai, the great freedom fighter, AIKKMS will organize country-wide peasants' demonstration at district level. In February 2025, it will organize a massive peasants Dharna before Rajbhavan in every state Capital. The peasants' mahapanchayat created tremendous enthusiasm among the peasants and agricultural workers throughout the country.

A children's Day was organized by AIDSO Sampillai Thottam district, Puducherry,

on 1 September 2024. Seen in the photo is Shri Kaliyaperumal, Director, Art and Culture, Puducherry



R G Kar

A counter-ideological-cultural movement should be launched to save the youths, students and children from degeneration

Contd. from page 2

rapist. Similarly, one acquires one's human qualities and values from the society only. So, unless one is conscious, one will be devoured by the rots of the putrefied society. On the other hand, one can through struggle be able to dignify one's life by harnessing the higher qualities, ethics, morality and values germinating in the society as antithesis or social urge.

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, Founder General Secretary of the SUCI(C) and an outstanding Marxist thinker of the era, had said way back in 1974 that "...a nation going without food, suffering the worst kind of oppression and exploitation, and half-fed and half-clad for days together can also stand up, fight, acquire the power to combat, organize itself and rise up holding its head high, provided its moral strength remains intact and the people have a correct ideology before them.... The ruling class in India is engaged in a conspiracy to totally destroy that very moral character of the nation. They are shrewd to the bone; they know that even by extreme oppression and repression, and by keeping starved, a nation or people cannot for long be kept under the boot by police and military alone....The Indian bourgeoisie, the ruling clique, has not learnt the good part of the lesson of history. Devils as they are, being the exploiting ruler, they have not failed to take that part of it which serves their need—that is to destroy the moral-ethical strength and ruin the very character of the nation. In that event, people, being starved, will only whine like dogs even when oppressed hundred times and more, they will only vent their grievances, and may even, at times, burst into sporadic revolts but will fail to give birth to the organized revolutionary movement—they will fail to organize revolution."

(SW Vol. III)

During the days of freedom movement the then luminaries like Rabindranath, Saratchandra, Premchand, Nazrul, Subramania Bharati, Jyotiprosad, Phule, Gopabandhu Das, Netaji Subhas, Bhagat Singh, Chandrasekhar Azad, Deshbandhu Chittaranjan, Surya Sen, Lala Lajpat imbued the students and youths with higher ethical and morality, inspired them

to attain higher culture. But now the ruling monopolists and their subservient bourgeois parties have been working overtime to consign these great men to the abyss of oblivion. Instead, they are emasculating the youths from within by instigating their base instincts, inciting them to become alcoholic, drug addicts, gamblers and sex-perverts. These backboneless, conscienceless youths devoid of human essence are used by the vested interest to kill without remorse, countermand election by flexing muscle power and spread terror in exchange for money. The police do not raise slightest of objection. These degenerated youth brigade is creation as well as protector of decadent moribund utterly corrupt capitalism. So long as capitalism will exist, these rapists, vandals, assassins, spineless creatures will also exist. But is it that we have to silently acquiesce in their criminal acts?

Appeal to all people irrespective of their individual opinions or political affiliations

Movements like R G Kar protest agitation will surge forth again and again. We also need to develop people's movements on various burning problems of life. Alongside, we are to launch a counter, ideological, cultural movement to save the youths, students and even children from being swayed away by this venom being spewed by the ruling dispensation. We can organize local programmes to involve the children and the early teenagers in sports, music, dramas, discussions on the life and struggle of the legendary figures of both our country as well as of other countries etc. These will create a positive impact on them and instill in them courage as well as determination to fight against the conspiracy of capitalism to break their moral backbone and lead them towards a degraded life.

Alongside we are to mobilize the honest and brave men and women on a platform of people's struggle committees and develop volunteer corps who would jump into protest, if not resistance, against any injustice, any attempt to outrage the modesty of women. Pending this, there is no guarantee that women of our families would not be targeted in future or the male members would not plunge into the dungeon of an unethical livelihood.

Comrade Provas Ghosh

Soviet socialism heralded dawn of a new era

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years to be victorious. This struggle also went through the vicissitudes during its journey. Compared to all these, existence of socialism for 70 years to start with, is nothing. Socialism has sought to uproot the system of private ownership of property persisting over thousands of years through slave-master society, feudalism and capitalism. Private property mental complex is a very powerful force. Though socialism overthrew capitalism in the sphere of economy, capitalism has stayed in the superstructure, in the realm of mind, in the thought process. That has attacked socialism from within with the help of the imperialists. Socialist revolution in the days to come would draw appropriate lesson from this, as Soviet Revolution derived education from the fall of Paris commune, the first upheaval of the working class, in France.

It also warrants mentioning that citing the setback of socialism, the elated bourgeois politicians and confused intellectuals are propagating that Marxism has been proved to be a failure. This is completely wrong. The correctness of Marxism is not contingent upon victory or defeat of revolution in a particular country. Marxism is a philosophy based on science. Like any other branch of science, its success depends on its correct application.

So long as it was correctly applied, socialism was advancing. But later, as Marxian science was not developed in the light of new discoveries in the various branches of modern science and applied accordingly, and conduction of intense class struggle in superstructure despite bringing out change in the structure, was not

taken up in right earnest, socialism has been dismantled by counter-revolution. We are to take necessary lesson from this.

Plight and wretchedness of the myriads of poor in India

At the end, I would like to point out that 15 August, the independence day, is approaching fast. As part of grandiose celebration, lavish feasts will be arranged in lighted Rashtrapati Bhavan and governor houses. The wastes will be thrown in the dustbins from where children dwelling on the footpaths would scramble for a bite. Lakhs of pavement-dwellers have no home or hearth. So many children are born on the pavement and die there. They do not know who are their parents, where they have come from. This is the spectacle of independent India.

Lakhs of people are committing suicide. Parents are selling their children. Father is selling his daughter. Women trafficking has become a roaring trade. The BJP-led UP is at the top of rape incidents. The TMC-led West Bengal has the record of maximum women-trafficking. Do not the governments know who are the culprits? They know everything. But they are in connivance with the rapists and traffickers. Those who trade in women trafficking give lump-sum contribution to the ruling parties. So the administration remains a mute spectator to all such crimes. When darkness descends, you will find at some select spots of the city as well as rural pockets that hapless penury-stricken women are waiting in rows for customers. Just behind the governor's house, you will find such piteous women. They sell themselves to run their families. Girls now come from the villages, entertain their customers for two or



AIDYO organized an impressive rally in Kolkata on 12 September in demand for immediately filling up vacancies in the Railways, ensure safety of train journey, increasing second class general compartments, running special trains for migrant workers and justice for the gruelling rape and murder victim of R G Kar hospital doctor

Official Website of the SUCI (Communist) : sucic.org

Comrade Provas Ghosh condoles demise of Comrade Sitaram Yechury

To

The members of the Central Committee
Communist Party of India (Marxist)
AKG Bhawan, New Delhi

12-09-24

Dear Comrades,

I, on behalf of my Party, the Socialist Unity Centre of India (Communist), express profound grief at the untimely demise of Comrade Sitaram Yechury, General Secretary of the Communist party of India (Marxist). His passing away is a great loss to the CPI(M) as well as to the left-democratic movement also.

My heart-felt condolences to the bereaved family and the leaders and workers of the CPI(M).

With revolutionary greetings

Provas Ghosh
General Secretary
SUCI(Communist)

three days in hotel rooms and then go back with some money. So acute is poverty that parents do not even enquire where the money is coming from.

On the other hand, millions of unemployed youths are forced to work temporarily under contractors at a paltry wage. Their daily working hours have no upper limit. They are bonded labourers or migrant labourers at home or overseas. Such migrants are even recruited in Russian Army and dying in war with Ukraine. On the one side is the sumptuous dinner of 15 August while on the other side is this all-pervading darkness. This is indeed very tragic as well as ominous. Where is our country going?

Join revolutionary movement to free the country from this direful situation

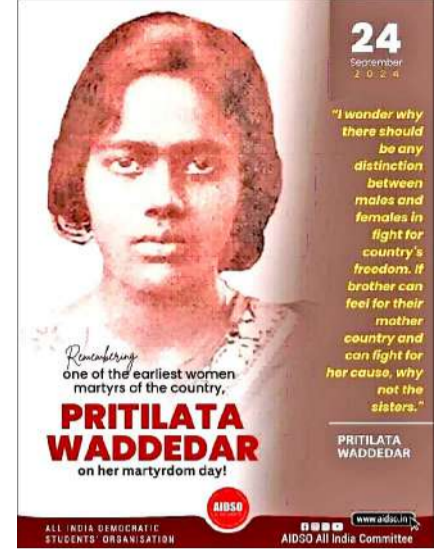
Comrade Shibdas Ghosh had shown that only proletarian revolution can save the country from the tightening noose of imperialism-capitalism. To accomplish this revolution, people need to be politically conscious, develop people's struggle committees in each and every corner of the country and build up mass movements. In order to free the country from this all-out crisis, class and mass struggles have to be spearheaded based on Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought. Please keep in mind that ours is not a vote-oriented party. We have never run after this or that party just for the sake of a few seats in the assembly or parliament or ministership. We have contested the last election also with our revolutionary line and the people have extended their support. We were the only left party to field candidates in 151 seats in last

parliamentary election throwing challenge to ruling capitalism, for widely disseminating our revolutionary political line and ideology and establishing mass contacts on a large scale.

Our sincere appeal to you all is to save the children from being polluted in this rotten socio-political environment. In order to ensure that they acquire higher character and finer human qualities, involve them in sports, cultivation of the life and struggle of the men of genius and revolutionaries. 11 August, the day martyr Kshudiram had embraced the gallows, is approaching. One day, the whole of India was awakened centring Kshudiram's martyrdom. Observe martyr Kshudiram day in every household, every locality with due humility. 17 September is the birth anniversary of Saratchandra who penned literature to realize the dream of Vidyasagar as well as in support of revolution. 26 September is the birth anniversary of Vidyasagar. Observe these days also in a befitting manner to acquaint the children, teenagers and youths with their illustrious life struggle and valuable contributions so that they could be inspired by that.

I shall once again call upon you to help our Party. Our Party is growing not because of any media backing but based on your moral and financial support. In the interest of struggle and revolution as well as to ensure faster growth of our Party, we need to have much more support from each nook and corner of the country. In these bad days of the country, let the honest valorous youths come forward to aloft the banner of revolutionary movement. With this appeal, I conclude my speech today. (Concluded)

All Assam Electricity Consumers' Association gheraoed Bidyut Bhavan in Guwahati on 11 September in demand of withdrawal of smart metre installation



24 September 'Pritilata Waddedar Day' observed throughout the country in a befitting manner

'Laddu' controversy

Tirupati Tirumala Devasthanam is the richest religious shrine in India. Lakhs of devotees visit that shrine throughout the year. Those who offer puja are given 'Laddu', a kind of sweet, as Prasadam (divine food). Apart from that, Laddu can also be bought at a steep price. Around 12 to 13 lakhs Laddus are sold everyday. This Laddu is also patented and prepared in a special way with ghee. This shrine is managed by the Andhra Pradesh government. But who knew that this very Laddu would create a controversy which would encroach upon state political stage?

Right now, Andhra Pradesh is ruled by TDP led by Chandrababu Naidu, an ally of the BJP-led NDA. He has accused that during the regime of the previous state government of YSR Congress, another regional outfit, Tirupati Laddu was adulterated and the ghee used contained animal fat (beef tallow and lard). A TDP spokesperson claimed that a laboratory test has confirmed the adulteration. But this Laddu has already been consumed by many people including PM Modi.

This has obviously created a chilly flutter as consumption of such animal oil is stated to be prohibited in Hindu religion. But despite such an allegation and political slugfest between TDP and YSR Congress, sale or consumption of Laddu has not been affected. Rather the Tirupati authorities have assured that the Prasad Laddus have been restored through a purification process thereby confirming the allegation. Of course, the nature of the purification process has not been disclosed.

Earlier, this Laddu was reportedly prepared with Nirmala ghee of Karnataka. It is not known whether ingredient is used now. But the Andhra government has issued a show cause notice to a Tamil Nadu-based A R Dairy Food Private Limited for allegedly supplying sub-standard ghee. But the obvious question is how such adulteration could escape the notice of the concerned authorities for so much time. Is it that some vested interest was in operation? If that be so, it is to be believed that commercialization of religion is no taboo. Already some of the Hindutva leaders have sensed a conspiracy behind this. They have named this episode as 'Laddu Jihad' implying that some Muslim terrorist organizations are involved in it. But 'how and in what away' is remains a big question.

If this version is proliferated widely, who knows whether another Pulwama would be witnessed or not. Point is that these religious shrines are also not free from corruption or commercial intent. The hair of the devotees who become bold-headed as a ritual before visiting Tirupati are collected by the temple authorities, preserved and then sold for manufacturing wigs.

Likewise, there is gradation of offering puja. Those who pay less need to wait for more time in a cage-like entrance for having 'darshan' (glimpse of the deity for a second). But for VIPs, there is separate arrangement. So is for the rich devotees. This discrimination is in practice in many other religious temples as well. 'Laddu' scam has revealed many such secrets.

Adani's stock manipulation scam

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NPAs, raising the eyebrows of many watchers. Chanda Kochhar reportedly had informally pushed the loan to the Videocon Group because of benefits received by her family members from the promoters of the company. Chanda was removed from the post of ICICI Bank chief, but the case is still not settled. Obvious question is, is it possible to get a clean chit from the authorities without tacit approval of the top brass of the government? PM Modi who once boasted of 'na khayunga na khane dunga' (neither shall I embezzle funds nor allow anyone to do that), owes an answer to the people of the country after so any skeletons are tumbling out of the desk.

A note from BASAD (Marxist)

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true that sporadic communal clashes are taking place in our country. But the achievement of this mass uprising is that the students of colleges and universities, and even the students of madrassas, have unitedly stood up to protect the minority areas, their religious places. This is new in Bangladesh.

Just as the vested interests have destroyed the sculptures to tarnish the people's uprising, pro-coup pro-democracy people and artists have actively come forward to repair the sculptures. We have witnessed many such incidents.



Chhattisgarh State level demonstration on 11 September in Raipur on a 16-point charter of demand.

Left : Comrade Vishwajeet Hadode, Chhattisgarh State Secretary, addressing



Mass law violation by ABECA in Kolkata on 19 September against Fixed charge, minimum charge and smart meter

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