

Proletarian Era

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Bihar Assembly Election : Key Insights

The landslide victory of BJP-led NDA in Bihar assembly election has raised many eyebrows. Because there were reports that grievances against the misrule of the BJP-JD (U) government had piled up so much so that it might reflect in the form of anti-incumbency mandate in the polls.

But those who are aware that elections in the country are no more held in the desired democratic manner but shrewdly manipulated by money, muscle, media, administrative powers, such a wash-out of the opposition has not caused much surprise. Because the ruling monopolists have been standing solidly behind the BJP, which is excellently serving their vested class interest and hence adopting all necessary trickeries, manoeuvres, devices and deceptive measures to

ensure smooth passage of the BJP to power.

Sans people's issue, Bihar election was a saga of manipulative exercises

Most notably, not a single people's issue like spiralling prices, spurt in unemployment, rise of migration of the poor to other states, drastic fall in the standard of life of the toiling millions, 36% poverty, severely underdeveloped healthcare infrastructure characterized by significant shortages of doctors and staff, a lack of basic amenities and functional equipment in hospitals, and inadequate provisions for diagnostic services and essential medicines, high school drop-outs etc., featured during electoral campaign. Instead, not only the ruling BJP-JD(U), even the opposition alliance (Mahagatbandhan) also worked their

electoral arithmetic based on caste composition thereby providing fillip to sustaining the casteist divides, a bane of feudal backwardness. A Union Minister, who swears an oath under the Indian Constitution when he takes office, has, in a controversial speech declared from a public forum he does not want the votes of the "namak haram," or the ungrateful, in a remark that appears to be aimed at the Muslim community, weeks before the Bihar assembly elections.

Hawk's eye on Bihar election

One would recall that in the last union budget, a slew of packages were announced for Bihar. In fact, only the name of Bihar was pronounced several times in the budget speech. That means, the BJP knew that unless the hoodwinking of the people of Bihar was not

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SUCI(C) vehemently opposes BJP government's decision to allow 100% FDI in Insurance

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), has issued the following statement on 14.12.2025: In pursuit of its privatization spree, the BJP-led central government has now opened avenue for total privatization of Indian insurance companies by taking up a decision to allow 100% FDI in insurance including LIC having fund of more than Rs 34 lakh crore. Not only that. It has also approved a lower paid-up capital requirements (portion of authorized capital actually paid for) as well as a composite licensing system (one permit for making forays into both General and Life insurances implying regulations and reducing costs). The government claims that

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Trump's tariff Assault

After returning to power as US President for the second term, Donald Trump began to take certain measures to, what he said, "Make America great again". And we saw how he initiated operationalizing that agenda by helping Zionist Israeli rulers—his frontal brigade in the

Middle East—to pulverize Gaza and virtually turn that land into a US colony and a tourist hub. Then he has moved US Naval fleet towards Venezuela to bully that country into submission and occupy its huge oil resources. And thereafter he

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Draconian Labour Codes must be thwarted

When the Union government notified the rules for the Labour Codes in November 2025—six years after their parliamentary passage—it marked the most sweeping overhaul of labour legal architecture in post-independence India.

The four codes—Wages (2019), Industrial Relations (2020), Social Security (2020), and Occupational Safety and Working Conditions (2020)—consolidate 29 laws into a leaner, investor-friendly framework. But beneath the talk of "simplicity" and "compliance ease" lies a deep capitalist conspiracy: remove whatever little vestiges of hard-earned rights including trade union rights.

Passage of wantonly anti-labour codes passed in parliament without debate

The passage itself was opportunistic—not debated, not consulted, and certainly not consented to. The three bills, Industrial Relations (IR) code bill, 2020, the Occupational Safety, Health and Working conditions code bill, 2020, and the Code on Social Security bill, 2020 were hurriedly

passed in the midst of rising covid-19 pandemic and at a time when the opposition had boycotted Parliament to oppose anti-peasant farm Bills. One more legislation that is 'Code on wages' was passed in 2019 which makes it four Labour Codes. It was then argued by the BJP government that the erstwhile central labour laws including some of the laws of the colonial period were consolidated and simplified into 4 Labour codes to enhance workers' welfare and align the labour ecosystem.

The government also claimed that "with the evolving world of work, this landmark move lays the foundation for a future-ready workforce and stronger, resilient industries driving labour reforms for Aatmanirbhar Bharat (Self-reliant India)." But in actuality the new labour codes far from being just a simplified versions actually include several new provisions utterly detrimental to, if not virtual ruination of, the cause of the working class.

Why the "Codes"?

The naming shift

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SKM and AIKKMS movement against Jindal-Posco Project in Odisha



Comrade Satyawan, President of AIKKMS addressing at Mass gathering at Jamunaposi village, Keonjhar, Odisha, Immediately after that he alongwith other leaders were abducted and detained in Police Station. (Report on p-6)

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undertaken well in advance, returning to power might not be smooth. Secondly, the BJP has also been pursuing its crass communal Hindutva agenda in full swing. And the prime theme of that agenda is to make a string of hate speeches against the Muslim minorities, harassing as well as persecuting the Bengali-speaking Muslim citizens by terming them illegal migrants from neighbouring Bangladesh and thereby polarize the voters along religious lines and consolidate Hindu vote bank. In Bihar election also, this scheme was in full operation. Alongside, it cunningly invoked the issue of illegal infiltration of Muslim people from neighbouring Bangladesh. The BJP leaders and their alliance partners raised this hue full throttle as if identifying and deleting the names of “lakhs” of intruders unlawfully residing in this country was the prime issue. Fact-checkers, however, assert that claims about Muslims being “infiltrators” have no factual basis and that data shows fertility rates among Muslims have dropped significantly, faster than other communities.

SIR a hoax

Hence a drive known as Special Intensive Revision(SIR) of the voter list was undertaken with unusual hurry to “cleanse the electoral roll”, an exercise that requires at least several months was completed in just 30 days. As we discussed in Proletarian Era dated 15-11-25, the real objective was to spread terror of being disenfranchised in case one failed to comply with the fiats of the Election Commission of India (ECI), which has virtually turned an appendage to the ruling dispensation. Moreover, on the pretext of identifying illegal migrants, the Muslim minorities were under the radar for being deleted from the electoral roll under this or that pretext. Moreover, the aim was to remove the voters who are presumed to be opposed to the ruling combination.

What had been the outcome of SIR? The electorate shrank from 7.89 crore in June 2025 to about 7.42 crore in September 2025 – a net drop of roughly 47 lakh voters. According to ECI’s own bulletin, about 65 lakh names were struck from the draft roll, another 3.66 lakh removed in the final list and only 21.5 lakh additions made, thus, the number of electorate ended up at about 7.42 crore. According to the ECI’s own handbooks, voter verification during intensive revisions relies heavily on name-matching and proof-of-residence procedures.

Anomalies galore

Despite all claims of purifying

Farce of SIR laid bare

the voter list, anomalies were galore in the list published after SIR. “Reporters’ Collective”, an internationally known organization found out over 34,392 cases where the same person had been provided two unique identities to vote twice in the same assembly constituency. In each of these cases, the voter had been registered twice on the draft voter list with the same name, relative’s name and the age either matching or ranging between 1-5 years. In another 13,898 cases across these 15 constituencies, persons have been given two voter identities with the same name and relative’s name, but the age differs on the two voter identities by 5-10 years. The ECI was required to identify double voters (terms as ‘demographic similar entries’ in its jargon) using sophisticated computer programmes and ground verification, before the draft list of voters was prepared. But without doing that, the ECI claimed to have removed 7 lakh duplicate voters, suggesting that there was no more cleaning needed to do on this count. For example, in the Laukaha assembly constituency, 19-year-old Ankit Kumar has been registered to vote twice. His father’s name, Anil Mahto, and even booth number are the same – 371. But he has been registered with two voter identity numbers, ZQQ3191681 and ZQQ3217643.

In 39 assembly constituencies in Bihar, there exist 1,87,643 cases where people with the exact same name and relative’s name have been registered twice within the same Bihar assembly constituency. Of these, in 1.02 lakh cases, the two voter IDs carry the same names and record an age difference of only up to 5 years. In 25,862 cases, people have been registered to vote twice, with all their credentials matching – names, names of relatives, and ages. The total votes of these dubious cases in the 39 constituencies add up to 3.76 lakhs.

More than 5,000 voters were found to have been simultaneously enrolled in neighbouring UP’s voter list and Bihar’s bordering constituency, Valmikinagar draft electoral roll as well. What was significant was that breaching its own guidelines and previous practices, the ECI did not deploy the specialized software programmes at its disposal to identify potential fraud, duplicates, and incorrect entries in the finalized Bihar voter list. Thus, the final Bihar voter roll for all 243 assembly constituencies held 14.35 lakh suspect duplicate entries. Of these, 3.4 lakh entries were exact matches on all three

demographic parameters: name, relative’s name, and age. These fraudulent or duplicate voters did have the potential to impact election results. And last but not the least, while the ECI had said on 24 June that one of the reasons for the conduct of the SIR so close to the elections was the presence of ‘foreigners’ on the voter rolls, the poll body did not provide any figures of the number of such foreigners found at the end of the exercise. Of the just 313 infiltrators detected in Bihar, only 78 were Muslims which proved that the major theme in the BJP’s electoral campaign about the presence of thousands upon thousands of ‘illegal Bangladeshi Muslim immigrants’ was nothing but a hoax.

Further, more than 1.32 crore voters of different families, castes, and communities were bundled and registered in groups of 20 or more at dubious and fictitious addresses in the final Bihar list. There are at least 20 households where more than 650 people have been clubbed and registered wrongly. The draft electoral lists for 39 assembly constituencies contained 16,375 cases where individuals with the exact same voter ID details were registered twice at the same address or in proximate polling booths.

And then days after the first phase of the Bihar assembly elections, media reporters uncovered the case of voters — all associated with the BJP — who voted in Bihar as well as in some other state. After the second phase, at least four more such cases where the name of a voter was listed in more than one state and they had voted in two or more states, were detected. One of them voted in three states: Bihar, Delhi, and Haryana.

Ajit Jha, an editor with the Right-wing propaganda outlet OpIndia, posted a photo of himself on social media after voting in the Bihar assembly elections on 11 November 2025. He voted in the Benipatti assembly constituency. Previously, he shared a photo on social media after voting in the Haryana assembly elections on October 5, 2024. He also posted a photo on social media after voting in the Delhi Municipal Corporation elections on 4 December 2022.

Sanjay Jha, co-convenor of the BJP Delhi hawker cell, posted a photo of himself on social media on 6 November 2025, stating that he had voted in the Darbhanga Rural assembly constituency, Bihar. Previously, he had posted a photo of himself on 6 February 2025, stating that he had voted in the Delhi

assembly elections. Furthermore, he shared a photo on social media after voting in the Lok Sabha elections in Delhi on 26 May 2024.

A person named Uday Kumar posted a photo of himself on social media after voting in the Bihar assembly elections on 11 November 2025. The image showed Upgraded Middle School, Nawada, in the background. On enquiry, it was found that he had two active EPIC numbers: one in Bihar (EPIC No. UAO0928291) and the other in Karnataka (EPIC No. SOH4526935). A review of Uday Kumar’s profile reveals that he lives in Bangalore and has posted photos with several BJP leaders. (source: Alt News 15 and 16 November 2025)

‘Legalized’ bribing

Speaking at the inauguration of Bundelkhand Expressway in Jalaun in Uttar Pradesh on 16 July 2022, Mr. Modi said the “*revri culture*” of distributing freebies for votes would take the new India towards darkness. Targeting the opposition, he held that “*People of revri culture feel that by distributing such doles to people, they could buy them. Together we need to defeat this thinking. Revri culture needs to be removed from the country’s politics.*” But the same PM Modi launched Bihar’s ‘Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana’ on 26 September 2025 wherein transfer Rs. 10,000 was promised to be credited to the bank accounts of each of the 1.25 crore women across Bihar. The total expenditure on this account was estimated to be Rs 7,500 crore. It was also stated that after 6 months, Rs 2 lakhs would be given to each of them for starting small business. Section 123(1) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (RPA) specifically designates providing any money or gratification to voters to influence their vote as a corrupt practice. The Model Code of Conduct (MCC) came into force in Bihar on 6 October 2025, the same day the ECI announced the schedule for the Bihar Legislative Assembly elections. The MCC was effective from that date until the election results were announced, and it also applied to the central government regarding any policy decisions for Bihar. MCC stipulates that “*announcement of new projects or programme or concessions or financial grants in any form or promises thereof, or laying of foundation stones, etc., which have the effect of influencing the voters in favour of the party in power is prohibited*”. Even People’s Representation Act 1951 clearly stipulated it.

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Higher education is on the verge of annihilation

The Octopus, a marine creature, tightly holds its prey with eight arms. The National Education Policy-2020 (NEP 20) can be compared to this mollusk metaphorically, as this policy is unleashing attacks across all spheres of education to convert education into a marketable commodity. In the previous issues of the *Proletarian Era*, we have dealt with its dire consequences at the school level and also with the ominous effect of vocationalization of education. After striking the hardest blow at the elementary level, the architects of the NEP-2020 didn't spare higher education either. Rather, they invented newer methods to annihilate it. Let's begin with the National Credit Framework (NCrF).

What is NCrF?

The National Credit Framework (NCrF) is proposed by the NEP-2020, which will encompass all elementary, secondary, higher, and vocational education & training institutions. All central and state school boards, central and state open school boards, universities, and autonomous colleges have to follow this NCrF. It will completely change the time-tested scientific method of education. Previously, there were academic learning and vocational learning (in a limited sphere). Again, there was no way to combine these two types of education, nor is it scientific to exist. But according to the NCrF, the students can earn credit points from academic, vocational, and experiential courses. The Vocational Education System will provide long-term and short-term professional or vocational courses. The students can earn extra credit points from these vocational courses. A student can easily transfer her credits to academic courses without any previous knowledge in those subjects. Even if a student completes a two-year ITI course and earns 80 credit points (40+40), she can get direct admission to the UG-2, bypassing the UG-1. This is nothing but admixing of academic and vocational education, and a boost for vocationalization of education. The NCrF has also introduced an Experiential Education System. The Framework has said that a student can earn credit points from her experience and ability at four levels (Trained, Proficient, Expert, and Master) working in a commercial company. The educational institutions collaborating with such companies will provide the credit points. For example, a motor mechanic can earn credit points after completing the four levels working in a workshop. A student can achieve credit points from experiential learning through informal learning, non-formal learning, and even NGO activities. Those credit

points can be transferred to academic or vocational streams also. Hence, it is easily understandable that the aim of education will be totally replaced by the target to train up a generation who will serve the corporates.

Academic Bank of Credit

According to the NEP-2020, the credits achieved by a student from the school level to the PhD level will be preserved in the 'Academic Bank of Credit' (ABC) and will be valid throughout her career. Every student in this country will have to open this account. It will be like a bank account. The difference is that no credit will be deleted or withdrawn from the ABC. A student can change her stream or discipline as well as her institution at any time in her educational career. The credits achieved there will be deposited in the ABC. The advanced capitalist countries like the USA or the European countries have already introduced this credit-bank system. It's complementary to the market economy, which treats education as a profitable commodity. The credits earned by a student can be used at any 'education market' just like a customer uses her credit card at a departmental store anywhere in the world. So, this ABC is to help with the sale and purchase of education. A student can transfer her credit points to any foreign institution, paying millions of rupees.

When this method has not been completely introduced yet in a country like the USA, how is it possible to apply it in a big country like India, where there are numerous boards, inconsistent schedules, delays in the publication of results, overlapping semesters, and in many cases, corrupted administrations? How can we expect that the credits of crores of students will be properly recorded in the ABC decades after decades?

Secondly, according to the NEP-2020, the sole objective of a student will be to earn credits. Our ancestors taught us that education is the means to acquire knowledge. The Renaissance upheld that man-making, character-building should be the aim of education. But capitalism, like all other human creativities, degraded it to a method of achieving some credits.

Thirdly, we have all forgotten our school results. In some examinations, we performed well. In some others, we couldn't score satisfactorily. But the ABC will record every detail of our performance from the elementary to the highest tier of education. How many of us desired such an engraving of our entire educational career?

Credit based on teaching hours

The new policy is entirely based

on a credit system. But what is the definition of 'credit'? How will it be evaluated? The credit points will not be determined by the theoretical and practical knowledge of a student acquired in a certain time period. Rather, it will be calculated depending on the educational hours a student spent at different levels of education. For example, a student from pre-primary level to Class II (a total of 5 years) has to complete 800 learning hours/year and get 27 credits in each. Similarly, from Class III to Class V, 1000 learning hours/year and will get 33 credits, and from Class VI to PhD level, 40 credits/year for completing 1200 learning hours every year.

So, it's a tale of learning hours. Go to the institutions, join classes, do some laboratory work, participate in field surveys, attend seminars, and sit in the examinations, you will get credit points. Your performance has no value. The credit points are equivalent to learning hours, and not an evaluation of the student's knowledge.

Multiple Entry and Exit Gate

The NEP-2020 has suggested as well as introduced a 'multiple entry and exit system' in all levels of education. It means that a student can change her institution at any level of education. In the existing system, there is a provision for migration if required. Then what is the purpose of such multiple entry and exit gates? Its purpose is to make the student a customer of multiple education sellers. The system encourages the students to change their institutions. This approach may flourish the education business, but destroy the age-old teacher-student relationship, replacing it with a customer-provider relation. Is it at all desirable?

Multi-disciplinary CBCS

Long before the introduction of the NEP-2020, the education ministry had been advocating the Choice-Based Credit System (CBCS). It is a multi-disciplinary system. When the modern education system developed after the Renaissance, both in Europe and in India, certain disciplines or streams were followed. These are: Science, Commerce, Humanities, Visual Arts, Engineering & technical education, Law, and medical sciences. A particular discipline is made up of a combination of a few correlating subjects. They are not only interdependent, but also provide a comprehensive knowledge. For example, the discipline of science is formed with physics, chemistry, mathematics, etc. Humanities are made up of history, political science, philosophy, etc. If the multi-disciplinary system is introduced, a student can earn credit points by taking subjects from any discipline. But what is its necessity? Will the

knowledge in political science help a student of physics? Or, will the study of chemistry help a student of history? Certainly not. An educational institution is not a grocer's shop.

Online or

Blending mode encouraged

The NEP-2020 has given the option to change the mode of education. A student who is presently studying in Offline Mode (classroom education) can continue her studies in Online Mode or ODL (Open & Distance Learning), or Blending Mode (both Offline and Online Mode) next year. It's detrimental for proper understanding of a subject.

Four-year Undergraduate Programme (FYUGP)

The NEP-2020 has introduced the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUGP), replacing the traditional three-year degree course. But neither the NEP-2020 nor the education ministry has clarified the necessity of the four-year degree course. This policy is implemented hurriedly throughout the country without any infrastructural development. The colleges and universities are already suffering from a shortage of regular teachers, insufficient classrooms, inadequate libraries and laboratory facilities. Therefore, an additional year at the undergraduate level has become an overburden in most institutions.

From UG-1 to UG-4, a student has to complete 40 credits (plus 4 credits from vocational courses) each year. If a student leaves after UG-1, she will get an *Undergraduate Certificate*. After UG-2, an *Undergraduate Diploma* will be given. If the student leaves education after this level, she can take readmission within 3 years at any college/institution, and she has to complete the four-year degree course within a maximum span of 7 years. Similarly, after UG-3 a student will get the '*Bachelor's Degree*'. And finally, after UG-4, the '*Bachelor's Degree with Hons./Research*' will be awarded if a student achieves 160-176 credits in total. If a student performs research work at UG-4, she will get 12 credit points. But Honours students not undertaking research will do 3 courses for 12 credits in lieu of a research project / dissertation. Therefore, a student taking a research project will skip those theory papers. So, it's evident that a student receiving a *Bachelor's Degree with Honours/Research* will be provided less theoretical knowledge! What a system!

Moreover, if a student gets the Bachelor's degree with Honours/Research and scores 75% marks, she

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Bypassing people's issues, bourgeois parties fought based on casteist-communal dispositions

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It bears recall that in 2011 assembly polls, the DMK government in Tamil Nadu was ordered by the ECI to stop the distribution of free colour TV sets during the period when election model codes of conduct were in force. ECI barred the state government from disbursing approximately 14,000 crore under six welfare schemes, including farmer aid, just before the May 2024 polling dates. But the BJP-JD (U) alliance flagrantly violated these codes and credited the accounts of the women voters by Rs 10, 000 even 6 days and 4 days respectively ahead of the two polling dates. Not only that. 1.80 lakh women who received Rs 10,000 each were recruited as volunteers (Jibika Devi) in election duty so that they could influence the voters to support the BJP-JD(U) alliance. Moreover, by dangling the carrot of providing Rs 2 lakhs more to each woman after six months, female electorates were coaxed to vote in favour of the ruling alliance.

Not just that. Four special trains were arranged to transport people from Haryana to Bihar for casting votes. The entire cost of not only transportation but food and lodging was borne by the BJP. The "voters" so transported themselves said this in camera when asked by the correspondents of ABP News. Once again we refer to the 'Representation of People's Act 1961' which specifically states that "The hiring or procuring, whether on payment or otherwise, of any vehicle or vessel by a candidate or his agent or by any other person ...or the use of such vehicle or vessel for the free conveyance of any elector (other than the candidate himself, the members of his family or his agent) to or from any polling station" shall be deemed to be a corrupt practice.

Non-access to CCTV footage of polling booths

Rule 93(2) (a) of the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961, allowed public access to certain election-related documents. The Punjab and Haryana High Court in a verdict directed the ECI to share all election-related documents, including CCTV footage from Haryana Assembly elections. To prevent such access, the BJP-led central government had amended Rule 93 to restrict public access to certain election-related

documents including CCTV footage of polling centres. There is no doubt that the amendment did compromise transparency and accountability in the electoral process. Moreover, as we had shown earlier, though India's Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) are touted as tamper-proof, But each contains a microcontroller chip that stores votes in "burnt memory." A Supreme Court directive in April 2024 had ordered random verification of 5 per cent of these chips. The ECI quietly ignored it. Further, there has been a persistent demand that all Form 17Cs (which contains number of eligible voters of the polling station, identification number of EVM and total number of votes recorded per EVM; etc.) be made public, EVM chips audited, and the vote-tabulation software subjected to third-party review. So far, none of these steps has been taken. Why should the government in league with the pliant ECI do so unless it wants to hide something?

A subservient Election Commission

That the ECI is subservient to the ruling BJP is proved on three counts. First, the selection procedure of the Election Commissioner has been changed. Now a panel of the Prime Minister, another Cabinet Minister of PM's choice and the leader of the Opposition constitutes the selection board. Replacement of Chief Justice of India by a Cabinet Minister in the panel indicates that the government only wants to nominate its chosen person as Election Commissioner. Accordingly, the ruling party is handpicking persons who would remain loyal to it. The present Chief Election Commissioner served as Joint Secretary to the BJP Government in the Ministry of Home Affairs from 2016 to 2018 and is stated to be very close to Home Minister Amit Shah. He later served as Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs, where he played a role in managing internal security and policy coordination. Secondly, the BJP government passed a Bill in 2023 which states that no court anywhere in India can take any case against Election Commissioners for any civil or criminal offense that they committed during their tenure. Even the President of India does not have such criminal immunity. And thirdly, since the postings of government officials during election time are within the jurisdiction of the Election Commission, possibility of

preferential treatment or nepotism cannot be ruled out.

Other factors which affected election

As already stated at the outset, elections in India are no more rigging-free. Rigging does not only mean booth capturing or forced stamping. Rigging includes biasing voters with freebies, reckless spending of money in the form of cash doles, organizing feasts and distribution of liquor, continuous propaganda in favour of this or that bourgeois party or combination in the monopoly-controlled media, using administrative machinery to influence voters or tampering electoral process, thumping around of armed criminals and miscreants aided and abetted by the ruling party or relatively strong bourgeois opponents, giving tickets to mafias and dons to scare people of voting against them and so forth. Alongside, anti-Muslim tirade by the BJP was on the peak. BJP leader Pragya Singh Thakur also saying that if a daughter goes to a 'non-believer's house', her 'legs should be broken'. Giriraj Singh, the BJP's MP from Begusarai, who told a poll rally in Arwal district on Saturday that "citizens who accept government welfare have a moral obligation to vote for the ruling party." PM Modi chose to play the "Ghuspaithiya" (infiltrator) card ahead of elections. He also intensified his rhetoric against the opposition by using communal references, including coining the acronym "MMC" (Muslim League-Maoist Congress) to ridicule the opposition. But no action was taken against them for violating election guideline.

Secondly, the ruling circle and its pliant media had virtually painted the election as a duel between the BJP-JD(U) alliance and Mahagatbandhan (Grand Alliance) of Congress, RJD, CPI (ML), CPI (M), CPI and few others. As indicated above, caste-based politics dominates in Bihar. All the power-monger bourgeois parties, both national and regional, base their electoral battle on the caste composition-based demographics of the constituencies. While the social necessity is to free people from the casteist mindset and imbue them with democratic thoughts, casteist exclusion only gets sustained. RJD functions on Y-M (Yadav-Muslim) equation while Nitish Kumar who belongs to Kurmi community is after nurturing the OBC vote bank. The

BJP besides cajoling its traditional vote bank, the upper caste Hindus, also sought to woo a section of the backward castes and so called *dalits* with lure of lucre. Moreover, while the BJP with the active support of the RSS and the government machinery controlled by JD(U), its alliance partner, neatly operationalized its voting machinery, the Mahagatbandhan could not show a united face with bargaining over seats continuing till last moment. In some of the constituencies, the Mahagatbandhan allies fought against each other. Also Rahu Gandhi, who organized a Vote Adhikar Yatra (Right to vote rally) two months ahead of election suddenly vanished from the scene and went to Latin America for his personal work. So, the people could not rely on the Mahagatbandhan and the women in particular who received Rs 10,000 on the eve of election tilted towards the BJP. Combination of all these factors worked behind massive victory of the BJP alliance.

What was the need of the hour

While the need of the hour was to spearhead a united mass movement under the combined leftist leadership involving the suffering masses rising above all divides, it is regrettable that the self-styled Marxists like the CPI (ML), CPI (M) and CPI too took no initiative towards that end despite our repeated requests. They simply paid no heed to that. Instead, they preferred to be partners of casteist sectarian bourgeois vote politics and joined hands with the Congress, another trusted representative of the ruling monopolists and the corruption-tainted RJD just for the sake of a few seats. It is reported that many of their supporters-sympathizers also did not like their pure vote-based politics and abandonment of the path of movement. Had the desired struggling left alternative being materialized, people could have found a left alternative to the rightist bourgeois vote merchants and could fight election as a part of the ongoing mass movement. Our Party fought alone on its organizational strength and highlighting our revolutionary leftist line in 39 constituencies and secured support from the saner section and left-minded people. We once again appeal to the other left parties to shun the company of the Congress and other casteist-communal outfits and come forward to develop the desired united organized sustained mass movement on the burning problems of life. That and that only can thwart the victory march and rule of the arch reactionary bourgeois vote merchants.

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suddenly announced to have brokered ceasefire between India and Pakistan after Indian PM Modi launched "Operation Sindoor" in stated retaliation to Pahalgam terrorist violence. While claiming to have imposed that truce, Trump described his use of tariffs as a measure to stop the Indo-Pak war and said it was "very effective".

Tariff game

Trump administration first imposed a 25% tariff on Indian goods on 1 August 2025. Trump was aware that the US is India's largest export market and third-largest trading partner, with a total trade volume of \$130 billion. Indian exports to US comprises goods, services, especially IT and business-process outsourcing. In 2024, US goods imports from India totaled about \$87.3 billion. On the contrary, US exports to India amounted to \$42 billion, in the same year. So, US ran a trade deficit of \$45.8 billion. Hence, raising the tariff was evidently intended to pressurize India to open up Indian market for American agricultural and dairy products. Accordingly, President Trump on 6 August signed an executive order imposing an additional 25% tariff on imports from India. US is also bent upon reducing India's heavy dependence on Russia for oil and military hardware procurement. Total oil imports from Russia in the financial year ending March 2025 was 87.54 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) while that from US was 5.45 MMT. Value of arms procured by India from US was of \$ 1.67 billion while Russia exported arms amounting to \$67.15 billion to India. Even the Brahmos missiles Indian rulers boast of and have started exporting to other countries is a result of joint development between India and Russia. Addressing this mismatch and in order to force India to reduce oil imports from Russia, Trump imposed additional 25% duty on Indian exports to that country on 6 August despite a US federal appeals court invalidating Trump's use of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act to impose the 50% levy on select Indian exports.

Impact of this

huge tariff hike on India

The impact has been immediate on Indian textile and clothing exporters, for whom the US accounts for around a third of their sales. Roughly 70% of shipments to America are now at risk. Between May and October 2025, India's exports to the US reportedly fell by nearly 29%, with labour-intensive sectors such as textiles. To keep the industry afloat, the Indian government has scrambled to soften

Tariff used as tool to bully to submission

input costs. One of the most controversial steps was the temporary removal—and then extension—of the 11% import duty on cotton, allowing duty-free imports through to the end of 2025. Obviously, this has been detrimental to the interest of the cotton farmers in India as they feared cheap imports arriving just before the domestic harvest would crush prices and livelihoods. On the other hand, the garment manufacturing corporates have been elated since they would be able to have cheaper input costs and scope for multiplying profit.

The buck does not stop here. US demands of India to allow evergreening of patents of herbal resources (the controversial practice of extending exclusive rights or market dominance over a known herbal product through minor modifications, without offering significant new therapeutic benefits, which are used for manufacturing medicines). In the context of the intellectual property rights, evergreening is a strategy, especially prevalent in the pharmaceutical industry, where companies obtain secondary patents on minor variations of a drug that is about to come off patent. If that demand of US is conceded, it would not only dismantle India's world-renowned generic drug ecosystem but push up medicine prices further. The US also seeks preferential access to India's vast public procurement market, abandonment of digital service taxes, permitting unfettered cross-border data flows, and even sharing public data with US tech firms—undermining data localization efforts and national security of India. The Trump administration continues to push destabilizing cryptocurrency (a digital currency, which is an alternative form of payment created using encryption algorithms which need no banks or any other third party to regulate them—a new device of online speculation endowed by crisis-ridden capitalism) agenda, seeking regulatory leniency that could compromise India's financial stability—all under the banner of "free trade." It is a clear attempt on the part of US imperialist regime to weaponize trade for geopolitical leverage.

India already began showing leniency to US in regard to bilateral trade

But it is not that so far US imperialists were inactive in

penetrating deep into Indian market through various routes. And the Indian government was also allowing that. In the financial sector, openings are being created for American corporate interests under the guise of liberalization. The latest acquisition of Bengaluru-based fintech firm Axio by Amazon – granting the e-commerce giant a direct lending license – is more than a business deal. In this way, India's financial gateways are being pried open, even in areas critical to economic sovereignty.

Anticipating the aggressive posture of US government, India already began a graded compliance with US fiats. Union Budget 2025-26 lowered import duties on high-capacity motorcycles for American brands like Harley-Davidson. On 13 February PM Modi-led BJP government slashed tariffs on American bourbon whiskey to 100% from 150%. Government of India has also reduced import duties on Washington apples, from 50% to 15%. There are also negotiations going on reducing tariffs on horticulture products like walnuts, cranberries and dairy. A recent study has found that "After accounting for PLI incentives and other concessions, the real earnings from India's exports of iPhones to the US are close to zero."

To dilute the covert threat of possible tariff aggression plan, PM Modi had also dashed to Washington in early February last with a proposal of granting a slew of concessions to the US on trade, some already announced in the budget. But PM Modi's much boasted "friendship" with President Trump did not scuttle the profit maximization move of the US monopoly houses and multi-nationals by making cheaper and increased forays into Indian market through pressure tactics implemented by Trump, their political manager.

India's further posture of inking closer ties with US was evident when just 24 hours before Trump's announcement of tariff hike, reports appeared that the Indian Air Force had recommended to the government a preferred option for US F-35 stealth fighter jets as an interim platform until India could produce a fifth-generation Multi-Role Combat Aircraft. The timing of the news report containing such Top Secret information was manifestly orchestrated to bring the seductive proposition to Trump's notice before 1 August in a gentle reminder that

it was he who personally offered F-35 stealth fighter to PM Modi during the latter's February visit.

But all such overtures went in vain. Besides imposing steep import tariff, President Trump has also embarked upon visa rule as a part of a broader crackdown on legal immigration and implemented stricter vetting for H-1B skilled worker visas. Indian IT majors, such as TCS, Infosys, and Wipro, are deeply embedded in US-centric contracts and supply chains. The prospect of a hiring slowdown or even a hiring freeze from American clients has direct consequences. In fact, shortly after the visa restriction announcement, TCS laid off 12,000 employees, citing project delays and uncertainty in global demand. While no official link was drawn to Trump's remarks, the timing is hardly coincidental. For thousands of young Indian engineers, particularly those emerging from non-elite institutions in smaller towns, the promise of a stable job in the IT sector is already under threat. And a steep hurdle is the US's insistence on opening up India's agriculture sector to it. Especially, US wants export of its genetically modified crops to India. In that event, it would have a serious bearing on 700 million Indian people engaged in agriculture.

List of US demands is a long one

Thus, though President Trump has literally made India's arms purchases and oil imports from Russia the central planks of his India policy, his list of demands includes many more liberalizations by India. He seems confident he will be able to have his way with Modi-led BJP government. By threatening to punish India with high tariff, Trump is actually exerting pressure on it to incentivize US. Once the Indian government is coming along, he might, graciously hand out a few minor concessions, but that would be for the optics. And it would not be surprising if the BJP-led Indian government were to hail it as success for Indian diplomacy.

India's response to US tariff hike is conspicuously muted

Yet the response of the Indian government to such tariff threats is curiously muted. There was no national address by the PM or any of his cabinet colleagues, no white paper, not even a press conference by the Prime Minister. Instead, the Indian citizens heard about India's trade policy largely through Trump's own proclamations and scattered off-the-record briefings from Indian officials. And then began hectic parleys. PM Modi hitherto pretended that his bonhomie with

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from Acts to Codes signals something structural: a move away from stable legislative rights toward flexible regulatory power concentrated in the Executive hands. Unlike Acts, which state specific standards, Codes outline general frameworks—leaving critical details to be defined later through “Rules.” These Rules can be rewritten by government notification, bypassing the parliament.

Moreover, this ‘Code architecture’ also nullifies federalism as enshrined in the Constitution. Because labour sits on the Concurrent List and hence states are authorized to draft their own rules. Facts would bear eloquent testimony to that.

The Industrial Relations Code Bill, 2020

The Industrial Relations code, 2020, has given absolute right for industries hiring up to 300 workers to unilaterally terminate services of any worker without any need of government’s approval. Earlier, following an amendment in 1982, industries hiring more than 100 workers were barred from unilaterally terminating any worker or declaring layoff. This offered some protection for the workers from the whimsical decisions of the owners. But the new enactment has done away with this safeguard and thrown the workers at the mercy of the management. This is applicable to more than 90% of the total work force who will be left without protection. According to Annual Survey of Industries 2014-15, if one looked at the organized sector, the number of industries appointing 100 or more workers was just 7.2%. The number of industries appointing 300 or more workers was only 1.2%. With the promulgation of new Industrial Relations Bill, the applicability of Industrial Disputes Act is drastically reduced.

Further the new Code has totally freed the managements from furnishing a standing order. The earlier existing Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, made it mandatory for the employers of an industrial establishment where 100 or more workers are employed to clearly define the conditions of employment and rules of conduct for the workmen and make them known to the workmen employed. Now it has been abandoned. Standing order was enacted in 1946 in order to standardize the terms and conditions of service across various occupations so that the employer cannot arbitrarily change or determine the terms and conditions of service. It also provides for employment security against

New labour Codes are out and out anti-worker, pro-capitalist

arbitrary dismissal by the employers by framing any kinds of allegations. It is to be noted that upto now the existing legal norm has been that no standing orders signed between the management and the workers’ representative could violate the model standing orders put out by the labour ministry. This acted as a great protection against unbridled exploitation by the owners. Now the standing order which mandates strict adherence to all these provisions are totally removed. So in this new situation what will be the fate of employees is anybody’s guess.

The Biggest Onslaught on the Right to Strike

The right to association and the right to strike which is an inalienable right of the working class has been restricted and diluted. More serious is the condition imposed on carrying out strikes. The time period of arbitration proceedings has been included in the conditions for workers before going on a strike as against only the time for conciliation at present. This means if the conciliation is on they cannot go on strike. After 7 days of conclusion of conciliation, they cannot go on strike.

Then the dispute will go to the industrial tribunal which takes still more time during which time they cannot go on strike. Only after 60 days of completion of all proceedings is legal strike allowed. Therefore by imposing such conditions the Code attempts to muzzle the voice of dissent of the workers and the unions.

Fixed term employment has been introduced under which the employers are given the absolute right to hire workers for a fixed term by denying them continued service even when the job is perennial in nature. Further under this Act the managements are not mandated to provide any social security benefits. This is nothing but legalization of hire and fire regime! Hitherto, the percentage of number of contract workers in organized sector was 35%. Moreover, appointment of contract workers for performing basic activities in the organized sector was banned. But now, any industry with 300 or more workers would be able to engage workers on contract for doing basic jobs and thereby keeping them out of the purview of Industrial Disputes Act. Moreover, in 2014-15, the average wage paid to a worker on contract in organized sector was Rs 8,500 was only 70% of what was paid to a regular worker. The new Code would empower the employers to

appoint more and more workers on contract, thereby widening the gap between wage and labour.

Wage Code

By redefining what constitutes an industry the new Code simply excludes all institutions owned or managed by organizations substantially engaged in any “charitable, social or philanthropic service”, and such other services thereby denies protection and benefits to huge number of workers working in these establishments. Even “wage” has been redefined to deny wages to a worker as per the earlier provisions. It excludes a large proportion of the emoluments paid to a worker under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 like house rent allowance, the value of any house-accommodation, travelling allowance, overtime allowance and remuneration among others.

The Wage Code’s promise—uniformity, transparency, reduced fragmentation—masks its core flaw: the floor wage has no statutory link to living costs. A wage floor without inflation-proofing or nutrition benchmarks becomes a policy tool to institutionalize poverty wages.

The Code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions

Certain existing provisions offering protection to the workers have been removed and new specifications are prescribed. The legal workday remains eight hours—but the introduction of “spread-over” enables twelve-hour shifts. The Code has also proposed employing women in all establishments for all types of works between 7 PM and 6 AM, brushing aside the widespread concern for women’s safety.

Further the protections for contract workers have been removed in establishments hiring more than 20 workers by increasing the threshold limit to 50 workers, which means two-thirds of the industrial establishments which hire more than 20 workers, but less than 50, will be left out of the purview of any legal benefits.

In a country where heatwaves kill workers on construction sites and industrial accidents are routine, longer workdays are not productivity reforms. They are a death sentence written into law.

Code on Social Security Bill, 2020

Under Social Security Code only organized workers are taken into consideration. Unorganized

sector workers working in establishments having 10 or less workers are considered as a separate category. This means the new Code provides two types of social security for two categories of workers, organized workers and unorganized workers. Further the new Code has recommended constitution of a National Social Security Board which in turn will recommend to the central government suitable social security schemes for different sectors of organized workers. For GIG workers (workers engaged in non-traditional works consisting of income-earning activities outside the traditional, long-term employer-employee relationships), social security fund will be raised by both the aggregators and GIG workers. GIG workers will have to shell out up to 5% of their salary amount while the aggregators will contribute just 1-2 % of their turnover.

The replacement of labour inspectors with “Inspector-cum-Facilitators” represents another ideological shift: from enforcement to persuasion. Employers can “compound” wage violations—paying fines instead of facing prosecution. Wage theft becomes a business expense—not a crime.

Great Marx’s analysis Vindicated

Thus it can be seen that these legislations give a free hand for hiring and firing workers, snatch away existing labour protections and infringe upon their right to strike. On the other hand it rolls out red carpet to the profit-hungry corporate sharks under the garb of ‘ease of doing business’. Great Marx had shown that the labour contract under capitalism is never neutral: it is a formal legal fiction that hides an economic reality—workers must sell their labour to survive, while capital buys labour to dominate.

The newly notified Labour Codes deepen this contradiction by:

- Weakening collective bargaining.
- Expanding employer prerogative.
- Increasing the reserve army of precarious workers.
- Legalizing flexibility as the organizing principle of production.

Fascist Autocratic Onslaught Must be Thwarted

As we know, more crisis-ridden is imperialism-capitalism because of its inherent law of operation, more fascistic becomes its rule with a view to saving the crisis-ridden, chaos-discredited capitalist order from collapse in the face of mounting dissatisfaction of the people against the existing system, as well as to stave off

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Trump is above diplomatic relation. But that bubble has burst with Trump unilaterally raising tariff. So, PM Modi opted for avoiding meeting Trump in person. He even consented to attend G-20 conference in South Africa only after Trump declared his non-availability for that conclave. Hence, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal was sent to Washington for trade talks with the US, following which Trump claimed that India had agreed to lower tariffs. But the Indian government refrained from responding to, let alone confirming, any such claim. Then Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agarwal was assigned the job of negotiating deals with US in Washington. And then it was heard that India and the United States were scheduled to hold another round of trade talks in New Delhi. Noticeably, India's stated ongoing trade negotiations with US are unfolding behind a veil of secrecy – sparking alarm over transparency, national interest, and the long-term cost of short-term concessions. While Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal has acknowledged a "dialogue" with US, he has offered no clarity on its scope or substance. On the other hand, the US commerce secretary, Howard Lutnick, argued that India needed to pursue a broad-based rather than sector-specific reduction in tariffs on American imports. When told that rolling back tariffs on agricultural products would be a political setback for the Indian government, Lutnick responded that India's agricultural market "has to open up, it can't just stay closed." So, US seems to continue its aggressive mode.

Augury of the process of capitulation

And meanwhile, the Indian government has rolled out its plan to slowly capitulate to US terms. The first tangible sign of capitulation came when India offered to buy an additional \$10 billion of LNG/oil from the US. India has also diluted its nuclear liability law to let US companies set up nuclear power plants here. The decision to slash cotton import duties from 11% to zero has already been stated earlier.

As per media report, in case India capitulates to US dictates, India's MSMEs which contribute to over 45% of India's exports will suffer, Indian agriculture will face challenges at three levels – country-level, product-level competitiveness loss, and increased non-tariff barriers. India's GDP may take a massive hit upto 10 basis points. Trade Deficit may rise monumentally, and the Rupee will further weaken. If the US raises

Balloon of PM Modi's claimed bonhomie with Trump has burst

product tariffs further, it could severely impact India's processed food exports (ready to eat meals, snacks), shrimps, cereal and dairy products which have been growing as part of India's shift toward value-added agricultural exports. And higher US tariffs could push cheap Chinese goods into India, harming local manufacturers. Textiles, pharmaceuticals, and auto components, medical devices face costlier realignments and supply chain disruptions.

Putin's hurried visit to India

In the midst of Trump's threatening posture that if India does not join its camp full-fledged, it might have to pay a heavy price including sanctions, Russian Prime Minister Putin arrived for a two-day visit to India for business negotiations. Because sale of oil and military equipment to India constitute major exports of Russia, which is hit by a labour shortage, it also sees India as a valuable source of skilled workers. So, Putin wanted to ensure that business tie-ups with India are not jeopardized because of US threat, particularly when, because of his war against Ukraine, Russia is now to a great extent isolated from the global economy.

On the other hand, though PM Modi in his usual populist gesture and projecting himself as a powerful global leader, embraced PM Putin on his arrival, he was expected to walk the proverbial diplomatic tightrope and show the Indians at home and in the wider world that he still counts Putin as his ally and has not given in to pressure from President Trump. Also, the ruling Indian monopolists have been judging his performance on the diplomatic front in so far as ensuring their business interests are concerned. In this context, PM Putin's visit assumed more significance for PM Modi and his government than ever before because it was poised to test India's geopolitical autonomy in view of the tariff policy of the US. PM Modi also was under compulsion to demonstrate that strengthening of India-Russia ties has not been overshadowing ongoing trade talks with the US and his partnership with Europe. With Indian oil companies already reducing oil purchases from Russia to avoid sanctions from US, India needed to explore other avenues to boost trade with Russia. In a word, for India, the challenge was to strike a strategic balance - protecting autonomy while navigating pressure from US and dependence on Moscow.

obviously set to pursue the policy of extracting extra economic benefits from India by playing the tariff card.

On the other hand, PM Modi and his BJP government, the trusted servitors of the ruling Indian monopolists and multi-nationals, is trying to somehow come out of the tangle by frantic negotiations. The future would only tell where does the ball roll to. But what is apparent is the intensification of imperialist-imperialist contradiction over market. One would recollect that when capitalist globalization was rolled out, it was claimed that there would be no tariff wall and the whole world would be like a global village.

But now Trump as the present spokesman of the US imperialists who alone mooted the concept of globalization, now says that "globalization does not exist"; rather, he is a prominent critic of the ideology of globalism. To keep it short, enmeshed in insolvable market crisis, world imperialism-capitalism, despite all attempts, is unable to stave off the growing crisis. This tug of war between US and India over import tariff is a manifestation of that. By negotiating behind closed doors and releasing only vague statements about "mutual interests and sensitivities", the Indian government is buying time—at the cost of transparency. Common toiling Indians need to imbibe this truth and realize that imperialism-capitalism is breeding all miseries and predicaments of their life and bourgeois leaders like PM Modi, whatever their personal or party agenda may be, are, ultimately articulating the vested class interest of ruling Indian bourgeoisie.

But then it was seen that nothing tangible emanated from the bilateral talks save and except both India and Russia reaffirming their customary commitment to strengthen bilateral and multilateral cooperation to combat terrorism, extremism, transnational organized crime, money laundering, terrorist financing, and illicit drug trafficking. Both the Prime Ministers ended their talks stressing on continuing to strive for global peace and stability in a multipolar world and a multipolar Asia.

India is tilted towards US

As it is revealed, imperialist India, aspiring to be a global superpower, can hardly antagonize US. This aspiration of the ruling Indian monopolists cannot be fulfilled without the backing of US. India can by no means fulfil its aspiration by either ranking higher or the same as China, that is now a formidable imperialist power after counter-revolution, posing serious challenge to US supremacy. US knows that the Indian ruling class is frantically looking for a cemented global partnership with it. They also know that the publicized effusiveness of PM Modi, tasked to materialize the class need of the Indian monopolists for friendship with President Trump, the political representative of US imperialism, is aimed at that. Aware of this ambition of the Indian bourgeoisie and its desperation to hold hands with US, President Trump, as is ordained by the ruling US monopolists and multinationals, is

Draconian Labour Laws

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revolution by an anticipatory move. This analysis was provided by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, founder General Secretary, SUCI(C) and an outstanding Marxist thinker of the era way back in 1962. And the brunt of the capitalist crisis is squarely passed on to the toiling masses the oppressed working class included. And if the labour movement is not conducted along the right track under correct revolutionary leadership, the intensity of oppression mounts.

These labour Code Bills, it must be understood, are a part of anti-people capitalist globalization and liberalization policies which have cast dark shadows on all the category of the workers, whether organized, or unorganized, whether contract workers or construction

workers or GIG workers.

So, at the first opportune moment, particularly if the labour movement is not in its desired ferment and the social democrats, the compromising force between labour and capital, whom great Lenin called labour-aristocrats, have their sway on the working class movement—the capitalist rulers seizing that opportunity, seek to nullify in one stroke the hard won rights and protections of the workers won over decades of struggle. But the capitalist rulers and their servitors like the BJP, Congress etc., forget the inherent irreconcilable contradiction: when workers are stripped of rights, they gain something more dangerous—clarity which spurs them on to launch higher forms of struggle to protect their rights.

Peasants' Rally in Chennai

A huge rally by the peasants and agricultural workers organized by AIKKMS, Tamil Nadu, in Chennai on 9 December to voice their demands

Mass Demonstration in Raipur

Mass demonstration by SUCI(C), Chhattisgarh, in Raipur on 10 December on various burning problems of the state

Student-Youth Rally in Bhopal

Students and youths rally in Bhopal on 2 December against the closure of 94,000 government schools in MP

NEP 20 smashing every sphere of education

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will be directly eligible for her PhD. The one-year master's course will not be needed for him/her. Unless he/she has to complete the one-year master's course to be eligible for PhD.

What a peculiar policy! So, a student is eligible for the PhD course without doing a master's! The advocates of NEP-2020 will say: They are qualified. They have done research projects during UG-4. But, how many colleges have proper infrastructure, research guides, and other necessary arrangements to conduct research work in all subjects? Certainly, very few. And the private institutions are waiting for this grand opportunity. They will welcome the students with a grand fee structure.

Truth of semester system

Following the guidelines of NEP-2020, the education department has introduced a 90-day semester system. An educational year is divided into two semesters. Hence, there will be a total of 8 semesters in the four-year degree course. But, instead of 180 days, each semester will get only 90 days! It is very tough to complete the syllabus in such a short time. Besides this, there will be a compulsory eight-week (around two months) internship or vocational education or training during summer vacation.

So, the total education period is shortened from 12 months to only 8 months (among which there is a two-month compulsory vocational education)! Naturally, it raises the question: what is the plan for the rest four months? The semester system was projected as a new method of pedagogy.

Dividing the syllabus into short modules may initially be helpful for a student, but it is often noticed that the student in the fifth semester has forgotten the topics of the first semester. The semester system has practically become a 'study and forget' method. The semester system

has increased fees, reduced educational hours, complicated the examination process, and hindered the process of acquiring comprehensive knowledge.

NEP-2020—a blueprint for privatization and commercialization of education

The NEP-2020 is a blueprint for the privatization and commercialization of education. What the NEP-1986 started four decades ago, NEP-2020 is completing the task on a wide scale. The BJP-led central government, an obedient servant of the Indian capitalist class, is making all changes to ease its implementation. The heads of the UGC, AICTE, NEET, NCrF, CBSE, NCERT, and other governing bodies are their stooges. All chancellors, vice-chancellors must either follow the policies; otherwise, their institutions will not get the grant or government funding. The government-aided colleges are now vacant. The government will soon argue why people's money will be wasted by paying salaries to teachers and professors in colleges and universities that are without students. As a result, they will be closed. Teachers will be removed. Those posts will be obliterated forever. And the private education business will boom.

What is to be done?

The question is, will we accept it? Or will we resist this onslaught? There are protests all over the country. Students, teachers, intellectuals, educationists, and social activists are on the streets. The parliamentary political parties are silent. However, the Save Education Movement is developing in the country.

The All India Save Education Committee has prepared a draft of 'People's Alternative Education Policy-2025'. Opinions are being collected across the country. With these views, the People's Parliament will be held in Bangalore on January 24, 2026. This movement is a ray of hope. This is a silver-line in darkness.

SKM and AIKKMS leaders abducted and detained in Keonjhar

Comrade Sankar Ghosh, General secretary, AIKKMS, in a statement issued on 9 December 2025 said:

National leader of "Sanjukta Kisan Morcha (SKM) and President of our organization AIKKMS, Comrade Satyawan and Comrade Sadashiv Das, Odisha state president, AIKKMS along with other Comrades were abducted today by Jindal-Posco company goons and detained at Turumunga police station of Keonjhar District, Odisha. (Photo: Page-1) The incident took place when they were returning from

a meeting organized by 'Jindal Posco Protirodh Manch' (Forum for resisting Jindal Posco project) at Jamunaposi village, Keonjhar District, Odisha. We are of the firm opinion and belief that this action of the local police administration has been to help the multinational companies like Jindal and Posco in forcibly grabbing the agricultural land from the poor peasants. We strongly condemn this anti people, anti-peasant move of the ruling clique and demand immediate release of Comrade Satyawan and other leaders of the organization.

Victory movement of mining workers at Sandur in Karnataka

NMDC (National Mining Development Corporation), a central government enterprise mining corporation, situated at Sandur, Ballari and engaged in iron ore mining, removed around 450 contract workers from work on 18 November. Enraged by that, hundreds of workers, led by Samyuktha Gani Karmikara Sangha, affiliated to AIUTUC, launched a powerful movement against the retrenchment. An impressive protest demonstration was held on 24 November which was addressed among others by Comrade K. Somashekar, AIUTUC state President.

On 27 November, the workers blocked the main gate, lorry movement, and goods trains, creating heavy pressure on NMDC. Under pressure of continuous agitation for 13 days, NMDC and contractors agreed to reinstate all the workers in a phased manner. This marked a significant victory of workers' struggle under the leadership of AIUTUC.

SUCI(C) opposes to allow 100% FDI in Insurance

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this would facilitate faster claim settlement, wider product choices, better digital services, more competition-driven pricing and stronger regulatory protections without elaborating how would such benefits accrue to the insured. Rather, the decision would push up premium as private companies are driven by profit maximization motive, would concentrate on more profitable urban sector, may strenuously deny claims, which can indirectly impact the overall cost of coverage and contrary to government claim, whole hog privatization would lead to market consolidation entailing only a few dominant players and thus a lack of healthy competition would result in increased premiums. It is evident that such a measure has been adopted to woo the foreign giant multi-nationals mostly with an origin in US, Germany

and UK.

It bears mentioning that countries like US where competition is rife in the insurance industry, have been characterized by a large number of failures because of being engaged in dirty tricks and unethical behaviour of denying claims, delaying payments to boost profit. Dozens of private insurance companies in the large imperialist countries are being declared bankrupt every year, because of speculative investments and unethical practices.

So, we vehemently oppose such an out and out anti-people, pro-multinational policy of the BJP government and urge upon the working people irrespective of the industries they are in to foster a struggling unity and unleash a sustained organized powerful movement to thwart this ruinous design of reckless privatization.

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