



VIMASATHI

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EDITORIAL

62ND REPUBLIC DAY

Editorial Board

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- 1) India has in reality, surfaced as a multi-ethnic, multi-lingual, multi-religious continental nation. The Indian Union (Union of India) is asserting itself as Indian Federation. During the last six decades the democratic impulse has become much stronger all across the country.
- 2) Corruption is so rampant and widespread, tainting every segment of society. India's illegal money dumped in foreign Banks exceeds that of any other nation. The highest judiciary in the country. The Supreme Court of India, lashed out against the government on the issue. The Government has not moved in the matter to expose the culprits or to recover the money. There is complaint that the judiciary is tainted.
- 3) Disparity in the real standard of living between the microscopic rich and the groaning mass has been widening. The prices of essential commodities have gone beyond the reach of the common man. There is no tax worse than inflation. The Government failed to contain inflation, which affects the poor people worse.
- 4) India has the largest number of Doctors, Engineers, Technicians and we are exporting this wealth. The economy is showing a spectacular percentage of growth with a growing market. The number of trillioners has increased, the big corporate houses have amassed wealth while the number of people with no food and shelter are in the increase. Large number of our villages are devoid of clean drinking water.
- 5) The trend of adopting Chinese model will not suit India as China has artificially maintain a low exchange rate, pay low wages and there is absence of workers rights, which attract large investment from foreign multi-national companies.
- 6) Reforms that prioritize increasing rural peoples incomes will be a major step towards improving social fairness and building a harmonious society. An equitable and reasonable national income distribution pattern should be established to bridge the income divide between urban and rural areas. Deng Xiaoping once said "We

AITUC GENERAL COUNCIL CALLS FOR "MASSIVE MARCH TO PARLIAMENT" ON 23RD FEBRUARY 2011

AITUC general council meeting was held at pink city Jaipur on 4th to 6th January 2011. Com. M. S. Upadhyay participated in the meeting. The General Secretary in his report reviewing economic and political scenario stated that the only way to give respite to the common man is to have broadest unity of the working class.

The Trade Union moment had taken a new turn having reached a takeoff point. A historic opportunity has opened up as never in the last 63 years of independent India. The induction of INTUC the joint forum of the Trade Unions and the involvement of a large number of unaffiliated unions have really created an unprecedented opportunity for advancing to a new height.

Two issues are important in the national focus. Unbridled price rise and menacing corruption. The liberalized market economy has made it exactly free for all. The Government has totally failed in controlling sky rocketing price rise of food and essential commodities. The unprecedented inflation in the country could not protect the unorganized and agricultural workers of the country. The speculation hoarding and forward trading has played havoc with the society. The freedom of the market, economy has recklessly been abused by the traders and the corporate while the Government a silent spectator. That is why the Government has failed to curb inflation and hold the price line. The Government, in fact, has mismanaged the whole economy, failed to promote agriculture, provide easy bank credit to the farmers to ensure reasonable prices.

The Government is taking one after another steps to ignite the prices. In the recent period repeated increase in the prices of petroleum products has ultimately resulted in overall price rise. It has made life of a common people, working class both organized and unorganized, peasantry is made miserable. The majority of the population has become the merciless victim of greed for super profit. Intolerable situation needs for HIT BACK.

Corruption has been established to be all pervading. It is the political nexus between the corporate, politicians and bureaucrats have pushed the country to the brink of disaster. The country has

suffered in the spectrum scam, a loss of One Lakh Seventy thousand crores of rupees. Similar loot by organized gangs of so called sport officials in Commonwealth Games to the extent of more than Forty five Thousand crores of rupees. Apart from this Housing Loan Bribery scandal, Housing Scam Adarsh Society, Satyam scandal and what not? There is a White Day Robbery looting the common man of the country. Capitalist economy under the grab of free play of market forces automatically allows this loot. The political leadership of the country has patronized the gamble for money in exchange of hefty benefits. This has made the country poor.

The condition of the working people, both organized and unorganized, peasantry and toiling masse has been dangerously affected with aggressive growth of capitalism. The general strategy of the capitalist is to reduce the labor cost as low as possible, force them to work them for longer hours, compel them to accept less than the minimum wages, devoid of any statutory benefits to earn super-profit. Labor laws are being violated and ignored under the shelter of ruling authority. While profit has gone up, most shamelessly, wages have gone down and jobs decreased. The sky high inflation has further depressed the real wages.

The Central Trade Unions INTUC, AITUC, HMS, CITU, AIUTUC, TUCC, AICCTU and UTUC and independent federation, have organize A MASSIVE MORCHA TO PARLIAMENT ON 23RD FEBRUARY, 2011. On this day the parliament budget session will commence. The coming together of Trade Unions and broadening of the unity had opened the doors for developing the vanguard action of the working people against the ruthless economic policies. The participation of the working people in the struggle is on the rise. The General Strike on 7th September 2010, was the biggest ever. All sectors of the economy were involved. The General strike of 7th September 2010, having its massive character had inspired local actions in different parts of the country. The unity of the Trade Unions and success of prolonged trade Union Action during the last one year have stimulated the mood of the workers to put up resistance.

The program of Delhi Chalo is to demonstrate the show of strength to compel the Government to change its policies and also to inspire other sections of the people to move into the action in the national upsurge against price rise and corruption.

In General Insurance Industry several unilateral moves of the management / government are of serious concern to the General insurance. We are facing an extreme bounce of that onslaught by this time. Employees of General Insurance industry become the victims of disastrous discrimination and curtailment. The recruitment is not taking place since last 15 years. The management is keen to outsource the jobs of the employees. We need to focus on all these issues and fight back the policies of the Government.

Once again we repeat HISTORY HAS GIVEN US THE UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT TO A NEW HEIGHTS. IT HAS BECOME POSSIBLE BECAUSE IF BROADENING OF THE UNITY. THE BROADEST UNITY IS THE SINGLE BIGGEST WEAPON THAT CAN GIVE A NEW LIFE TO THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT.

Com. M. S. Upadhyay while participating in the discussion assured the house that GIEAIA will CONTRIBUTE ITS MIGHT TO THE MASSIVE SUCCESS OF MARCH TO PARLIAMENT. WE SHALL HIT BACK THE ANTI PEOPLE AND ANTI LABOUR POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT. He briefed the house about the issues confronting General Insurance Employees. He emphasized the full support for the constitution of ONE SINGLE MONOLITHIC CORPORATION merging four public sector General Insurance companies. He insisted to include this demand of general insurance employees in the campaign in the mass organizations and Central trade unions.

Taking advantage of AITUC General Council Meeting at Jaipur, Com. M. S. Upadhyay could meet the Comrades of Jaipur and surrounding area. He addressed the General body Meeting on 6th January 2011, at Oriental RO, Jaipur during lunch recess.

The present political situation and impending dangers on general Insurance Companies were explained. The Government is trying to make the Trade Unions irrelevant. There are calculating attempts to violate labor laws. The job and job securities are endanger the outsourcing has become a order of the day. In the name of cost cutting the benefits of the

employees are snatched away. The achievements after sustained struggle are being wiped out.

He explained in detail the efforts of the GIEAIA to achieve the better and hassle free charter. In the course of such efforts the important events the representative team of GIEAIA was explained. He appealed the House to strengthen the unity and make GIEAIA a strong union so as to protect and promote the interest of the General insurance Employees. We are duty bound to vanguard the Public Sector General Insurance Companies to overcome the recent setback. We should ensure to bring back the glory of Public Sector General Insurance Companies. We are required to play a dominant role in national economy to build strong, modern India.

GIEAIA fought many battles against management and Government. That tradition should be continued with firm determination and strong conviction. GIEAIA is committed to defend Public Sector insurance Companies and we shall see to it that four Public Sector General insurance Companies are merged into ONE CORPORATION.

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Editorial Contd. from ... 1

should allow some people to get rich first, and the rest will follow." This has not worked, as in China also the divide between the rich and the poor are widening. The experience of the former Soviet Union, where there was no financial meltdown or speculation in the stock market. Yet citizen was assured of adequate housing, electricity, water, gas, heating and other basic needs. The Anglo-American model, which depends on the private market and the whims of the financial speculators cannot provide adequate housing or education or employment.

- 7) It is high time that India should adopt a policy, backed by strong political will, to end corruption, ensure equal distribution of the natural wealth, provide food, shelter and the minimum, necessities of life to all its citizen across the Country and guarantee security of life, which are enshrined in the Constitution which we have adopted six decades ago on the 26th January, 1950.

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Reaction to PM's call in the ILC for "The Need to Revisit Labour Laws"

Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh's remarks at Indian Labour Conference that "some rigid Labour Laws are hindering employment growth" came under the trade union fire with senior leaders describing his view as unacceptable formulation. The INTUC has said that the workers had a right to be protected against exploitation by profit-hungry businessmen.

"There should be no violation of Labour Laws, they have to be implemented," Dr. G. Sanjeeva Reddy, MP and INTUC President has said. Taking a critical view of the PM's remarks at the 43rd Session of Indian Labour Conference, he said, "Labour Laws have never been an obstacle",

Pointing to the rush of capital into India from abroad, Dr. Reddy said, **"Nobody is coming here for charity but for business. India is one of the biggest markets today."**

The INTUC President said that the workers had a right to **"share the massive profit being made by the foreign investors"**

Dr. Reddy said that the Labour Laws should be more friendly to the workers working in the small and medium scale industries.

AITUC General Secretary Gurudas Dasgupta termed the PM's proposal to revisit the obsolete Labour Laws 'dangerous' and demanded that steps be taken to strengthen the Labour Laws. "In the name of growth whatever Labour Laws are there must not be diluted only to give the corporate more opportunities to exploit the workers," he said.

The CITU also took a strong position deploring the PM's view pointing out that this was contrary to the government's stated position. **"To talk of inclusive growth and complain of rigid Labour Laws cannot go hand in hand," CITU leader Tapan Sen said. "As it is, 99% of the Labour Laws are violated and the government does nothing about it," he said.**

(Extracts from "Indian Worker")

Blue-chip companies have evaded Rs. 27,000 cr. in taxes

Pradeep Thakur

In one of the biggest tax recoveries to be made from blue-chip companies, the finance ministry has asked Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) to reopen income-tax returns of entities found to have allegedly evaded taxes estimated at over Rs 27,000 crore by wrongly claiming derivative losses. Sources said the huge tax liability has been estimated just for the two years of financial meltdown during 2008 and 2009. Derivative losses claimed by these entities were to the tune of Rs 50,000 crore. Derivative trading is hedging of foreign exchange against any future risk.

ICICI Bank, Reliance Communications, HCL Technologies, Wipro and Ranbaxy are some of the companies against which highest tax liabilities have been estimated, ranging between Rs 125 crore to Rs 600 crore. During the financial meltdown, these companies had hedged their foreign exchange losses fearing major devaluation of currencies due to volatility in the money market, particularly in dollars. Reassessment of tax returns of these companies has already begun and all wrongful claims for 2007-08 assessment year would be completed by December. Returns for 2008-09 will be reassessed by next year. These companies will be asked to deposit the remaining taxes with immediate effect, sources said. CBDT had asked the Directorate General of Income Tax Intelligence to investigate these companies as to how much they had projected derivative losses and claimed benefits even against normal business profits. According to existing rules, any speculative loss, such as those accrued from derivative trading, can be adjusted against profits within four years as against eight years in normal business profits. The speculative loss can only be adjusted against speculative profits and not against normal business profits.

Indian companies started reporting derivative losses after the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) issued instructions in 2008 to report all derivative losses. This forced companies to declare derivative losses in their profit and loss accounts at the end of the financial year. Till the ICAI instructions, companies declared their losses only when actual realization happened. The ICAI advisory had sought that company auditors must make such declarations in their P&L account and also in the report made for shareholders. As part of the new accounting norms AS 30, all companies must mark-to-market all derivative outstanding at the close of the financial year.

LEVY COLLECTION ON WAGE RIVISION 2007

GIEAIA Secretariat in its meeting on 6th and 7th October 2010, at Mumbai has decided to collect a levy at 5% on revised basic salary for the month of October 2010, from the members. It is further directed to all units and every center to ensure FULL COLLECTION OF LEVY and it's remittance to Zonal Head Quarters.

However we find that some units have not sent their levy to their respective Zonal Head Quarters. Obviously there is default to send the share of levy by Zonal head Quarters to GIEAIA. We regret so far no Zonal organization has sent their share of levy to GIEAIA.

Payment of levy is mandatory and obligatory on the part of all members and units and default in this important task should not be tolerated. It has also been brought to our notice that there is either short collection from members or short payments by unions. Such weaknesses do not go well for organization of our reputation and financial discipline.

- 1) ALL OUR GROUP SECRETARIES, BRANCH SECRETERIES AND UNITS SHOULD COLLECT FULL LEVY AND REMITT THE SAME RESPECTIVE ZONAL HEAD QUARTERS ALONGWITH DETAILED REPORT OF COLLECTIONS OFFICE / CENTERWISE. IF ANY UNIT HAS NOT PAID LEVY SAME SHOULD BE FOLLOW UP AND EXPIDITED.
- 2) ALL ZONAL HEAD QUARTERS ARE REQUESTED TO SEND THEIR SHARE OF LEVY TO GIEAIA ALONGWITH DETAILED REPORT OF COLLECTIONS CENTERWISE.
- 3) COLLECTION SHOULD BE IN TOTO.
- 4) THERE SHOULD NOT ANY DELAY AND OR LAPSE OF ANY PART OF ANY UNIT.
- 5) TAKE THIS TASK ON TOP PRIORITY TO COLLECT FULL LEVY AND REMITT THE SHARE OF GIEAIA FORTHWITH.

RENEWAL OF MEDICLAIM POLICY

You are well aware that mediclaim policy is due for renewal in the month of April 2011. The company has to deduct the premium from the existing employees from the salary of March 2011. In absence of any social security it is absolutely necessary to take adequate medical cover for eligible dependents. The medical treatment is becoming more and more costly affair. In the circumstances, the employees can opt for change the medical cover to the extent of his eligibility, at the time of renewal of the policy. The employees are advised to take maximum cover as per their eligibility to secure against the unforeseen, unfortunate eventualities.

However, the retired employees and pensioners have to pay their premium in the month of February 2011. Failing which they will not get renewal and deprived of the medical cover for this year and future also. Hence they are requested to ensure the payment of medical premium at the earliest during the month of February itself. The retirees are not allowed to change their option for Higher Mediclaim Cover.

GIEAIA WORKING COMMITTEE MEETS AT NEW DELHI ON 24th & 25th FEB. 2011

The 51st working committee of GIEAIA will meet on 24th & 25th February 2011, at New Delhi. This working committee is connected with the historical March to Parliament on 23rd February 2011.

The working committee will review the wage settlement and the implication of new Promotion Policy and TMP. The working committee will also discuss other various pending issues and status of non core benefits confronting the General insurance Employees. The working committee will complete its routine work of passing the accounts and other formalities. The working committee will decide the future course of actions after taking stock of latest situations and developments taking place.

ALL INDIA CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

2009	BASE YEAR		M
	2001=100	1960=100	
2010			
JANUARY	172	3926.05	
FEBRUARY	170	3880.40	
MARCH	170	3880.40	
AVERAGE = 3894.61			391
APRIL	170	3880.40	
MAY	172	3926.05	
JUNE	174	3971.70	
AVERAGE = 3926.05			399
JULY	178	4063.01	
AUGUST	178	4063.01	
SEPTEMBER	179	4085.83	
AVERAGE = 4070.61			435
OCTOBER	181	4131.48	
NOVEMBER	182	4154.31	

The new series of the Consumer Price Index Nos. for industrial workers on base 2001 = 100 has been released with effect from January 2006 by the labour bureau. The linking factor for the conversion of new series index to previous series of 1982=100 is 4.63. Further the linking factor for conversion from 1982=100 to previous series of 1960=100 is 4.93.

They increased by 25 slab w.e. from 1* February 2011.

Yes we can. Can we?

The New Year is a time for hope. But hope isn't enough. Five things eternal India must do to truly transform into emerging India

Roughly a century after Christ, a Greek philosopher named Apollonius of Tyana, a disciple of Pythagoras - yes, the same guy who forces school students to study right-angled triangles - travelled to India. He said: "In India, I found a race of mortals living upon the Earth, but not adhering to it, inhabiting cities, but not being fixed to them, possessing everything, but possessed by nothing."

Of all the praise heaped on eternal India, I've found this the 5 most endearing because it captures our vast contradictions and our penchant for being ephemeral, unpredictable and permanent, all at the same time.

But emerging India is less tolerant of whimsy and eternity. As our politicians are learning, their voters want widespread change, and they want it yesterday. Five national priorities for 2011:

■ **FEED OUR CHILDREN** : An ancient land with a yearning for new status cannot be taken seriously if one in two children under five cannot get adequate, nourishing food. India has more malnourished children and adults than any other country on earth, more than all of Africa. In Mumbai, the national financial capital, more than 25,000 children die every year of malnutrition, according to government figures.

New attention has been focused on hunger and malnutrition. A group of young MPs studies it closely. Aamir Khan shows up outside Parliament to talk about it. The government will pass a bill on a new fundamental right to food. And there's been widening response to this newspaper's year-old attempt to make these unsexy issues part of the national discourse (www.hindustan-times.com/trackinghunger).

It's now time for targets and report cards. The prime minister heads a national council on malnutrition. For starters, it would help if he finds the time to convene it and put it to work. As for you and I and the rest of our callous nation, we could start showing some empathy.

■ **RESCUE THE FARMER** : The population of farmers is declining, but 72% of India still lives in rural areas. As their children join the new economy, farmers find their lands diverted for factories, highways and cities. In growing numbers, they kill themselves.

More than 17,360 farmers committed suicide in

2009, more than in any of the previous six years, says journalist and unrelenting conscience keeper P Sainath, quoting statistics from the National Crime Records Bureau. In the last five years, terrorism and the Maoist insurgency put together haven't claimed as many lives.

India needs a second green revolution to raise farm productivity and feed its 1.2 billion people. Its State-run agricultural support system is coming apart, and without modern granaries and cold storage, farming will continue to recede. As the farm crisis grows, it feeds malnutrition and urban migration.

Nitish Kumar showed if you build it, they will come. If states urgently build new roads, bridges, warehouses and other infrastructure instead of blindly handing out cash doles, rural India can be rescued.

■ **PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT** : One reason for the farm crisis, hunger and a growing disease burden is the poisoning of lands, rivers and people. India has some of the world's best environmental laws but they have been ignored or undermined for commercial and personal profit. As tigers and elephants fight for survival, so do entire ecosystems that sustain lives and livelihoods.

For the first time in decades, the Union environment ministry led by Jairam Ramesh - whether it served his party's political purposes or not - is showing firm commitment, balancing the preservation of India's ecological wealth with the growing need to find minerals and build the infrastructure needed for the new India. This is not an inherent contradiction. The nation cannot be recreated and sustain its growing economy in a time of climate change if it fails to preserve its natural treasury.

■ **REFORM THE GOVERNMENT** : In faltering Greece, dramatic reforms include a new system of governance under which no decision is legal unless it is put on the web. The cash-rich Indian treasury will not collapse, but at some point, India's finances could come under great strain if the government refuses to reform and reinvent itself.

Over 2010-11, in its effort to build an inclusive India, the government will spend ₹1.36 lakh crore on social-security programmes; a fourth will be stolen or wasted, never reaching the people it is meant for.

Corruption may be on the national agenda like never before. But what you heard of in 2010's great blaze of publicity is only a hint of the endemic, entrenched nationwide culture of corruption. Without a cut to officials and politicians, buildings cannot be constructed, policemen cannot be appointed, no government contract can be finalised, no school can be cleared.

The war against corruption, waste and inefficiency has to move from television screens into the corridors of power. Our national ambitions depend on this: whether overhauling the crumbling education system, now threatening our demographic dividend, or building new infrastructure to sustain the 9% growth needed to create millions of new jobs and keep the treasuries full.

■ **SAVE OUR CITIES** : India is urbanising faster than any other country. It took nearly 40 years (between 1971 and 2008) for India's urban population to rise by 230 million. In half that time, the number of Indians in cities could reach 500 million. China has planned and managed its urban explosion; India is still debating whether this is good or bad. No surprise that Indian cities are some of the emerging world's most ramshackle places.

With urban voters becoming more important than ever before, change — as Surat's and Rajkot's clean-up and Delhi's Metro system indicate — is possible. Yes, we can. But will we?

nsamar@hindustantimes.com

OBSERVANCE OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 8TH MARCH

The observance International Women's day provides the opportunity to remember the struggle of women throughout the world. However, the situation is changed from 8th March, 1857, still lot is required to be done. Today half of the world population of women is doing 2/3rd of the total works.

Last year 2010, the centenary of the International Women's day has been marked with the introduction of Women's Reservation bill for 33% in Rajyasabha. India Parliament begins a historic process and crossed the first biggest hurdle successfully on 9th march by passing The Women's Reservation Bill in the Rajyasabha. It is indeed historic but at the same time challenging too.

Despite all sorts of political maneuvering manipulation and deceit the Rajyasabha has started the real process of enacting the legislation for providing 33% reservation to women in Loksabha and State legislatures.

In any case the passing of bill in Rajyasabha is not an end of all; still we have to go a long way, meeting the several challenges. It is just a beginning to provide a space for women for their comprehensive development. Political empowerment, social empowerment, cultural empowerment and gender equality must be the objective of the entire nation.

With strong political will the struggle for the passes of the bill should continue that can only ensure women's voice in decision making process. It will

be a great leap forward for a positive, social change.

We in General insurance Industry are better placed and GIEAIA is determined to maintain the dignity of women in industry and the society. In our country, as on today also women are subjected to physical and sexual abuse. Even after the Domestic Violence Act came into the force, the frequency of increasing Dowry demands, Dowry deaths and physical harassments after many years of marriage with the mental torturing has not declined as expected.

Women are the first victim of the globalization. They are underpaid or not at all paid. They have lost job or given a part time or contractual jobs. There is no social security or any other right. Trade unions have greater responsibility to end exploitation in whatever form. The organized women have a greater responsibility to enlighten unorganized women force. We have to play very important role for fighting for human rights.

GIEAIA directs General Insurance Employees to observe International Women's day on Tuesday, 8th March 2011, in befitting manner. The units are advised to organize meetings or mass rallies as per local convenience. If there is joint observation, our units should whole heartedly participate. The units should take proper initiative, so that Women's Day is observed appropriately through mass involvement of women employees. The male employees also should participate in this observance.

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Setback for FDI hike in insurance

Parliamentary Committee Against Raising Ceiling to 49% from 26%

New Delhi : In a move that could dent investor sentiment, the parliamentary standing committee on finance is set to reject government's move to further open up the insurance sector.

The Insurance Amendment Bill, tabled in Parliament, had proposed to raise the foreign investment limit in the key financial sector to 49% from 26% fixed a decade ago. A majority of committee members felt that a higher foreign investment ceiling could affect domestic players. The panel, headed by senior BJP leader Yashwant Sinha, concluded its discussions on the bill which the government had been trying to push since 2008. During his stint as finance minister, Sinha had piloted the bill that opened the insurance sector to private players and allowed 26% foreign investment.

In its previous term, the government had faced stiff resistance from the Left that was propping up UPA-1. Now, the bill seems to have run into a roadblock from a resurgent Opposition. Though the government is not bound to accept the standing committee's recommendations, the suggestions will make its task daunting and force it to cut deals with small groups in the Lok Sabha to muster support for the passage of the bill. The task will be tougher in the upper House where it is outnumbered by the Opposition. The government could hardly conduct any business in the recently-concluded winter session of Parliament due to an

**COM. GURUDAS DASGUPTA, PRESIDENT
GIEAIA is a Member of Parliamentary
Standing Committee on Finance**

Opposition blockade over three major "seams"-Commonwealth Games, Adarsh housing society and 2G spectrum.

While 49% foreign investment will still mean that firms will remain in Indian hands, non-UPA MPs felt that it would not be beneficial for the domestic

sector. They were also unconvinced that the quantum of domestic capital flowing into the sector was insufficient for its growth and development. UPA-1 had introduced the Insurance Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2008, in Rajya Sabha and the Life Insurance Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2008, in Lok Sabha. The Insurance Bill is seen as an omnibus legislation to change three Acts: Insurance Act, 1938; Insurance Regulatory and Development (Irda) Act, 1999, and General Insurance Business Nationalisation Act.

A delay in increase in the foreign investment ceiling from the present level will also force life insurance firms to list. Under the present dispensation, players such as ICICI Prudential and HDFC Standard Life, which have completed 10 years of operations, are required to list in a way that the domestic partners shed stake in favour of the public.

Several companies are eagerly awaiting the passage of the bill to postpone listing. In addition, there are some players such as Reliance Life that are awaiting clarity on the guidelines before going for sale of stake to a strategic partner.

Courtesy : Times of India

DONATION

VIMASATHI acknowledge the following donations received by GIEU (SZ) Karnataka Branch with thanks. We take due note of love and affection of the comrades for GIEAIA. The donations will go long way to serve the cause of General Insurance Employees and the working class (List continues from January 2011 issue from 1 to 40)

SR.No.	NAME	COMPANY	AMT. (Rs.)
41	Com. K. Nagendra Prasad	OIC DAB-2 Bangluru	750
42	Com. Sathish Benegal	OIC BO Cantt. Bangluru	750
43	Sri. G. Thangamani	UII RO Bangluru	500
44	Sri. G. Mahadevan	UII RO Bangluru	500
45	Sri. M. Muralidhar	UII RO Bangluru	500
46	Com. Ramesh Kumar R	UII RO Bangluru	500
47	Com. Shanmugam E	UII RO Bangluru	500
48	Smt. C. N. Sheela	UII DO 6 Bangluru	500
49	Com. C. B. Nagesh	UII DO 9 Bangluru	500
50	Com. Vasanthamma E	UII DO 9 Bangluru	300
51	Com. Shyla V. Babu	UII DO 12 Bangluru	500

(Remaning Names will be Published in March 2011 Issue)

दिल्ली चलो

23 फरवरी 2011

सरकार की श्रमिक विरोधी और जन-विरोधी नीतियों के विरुद्ध

देश गहरे संकट में है। पूरी राजनीतिक व्यवस्था भ्रष्टाचार में लिप्त है। खुलकर सामने आये पिछले 2G घोटाले से यह पता चलता है कि भारत जैसे गरीब देश में एक लाख करोड़ से अधिक की लूट की गयी जबकि यहां मानव विकास की न्यूनतम जरूरतों की भी धन की कमी के कारण गारंटी नहीं की जा सकती है।

आर्थिक स्थिति के बद से बहतर हो गयी है। वर्षों से कीमतों में वृद्धि जारी है, खाद्यान्न की कीमतें आसमान छू रहीं हैं। सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली गरीबों और हाशिए पर पड़े लोगों को न्यूनतम आवश्यकता की चीजें भी रियासती कीमतों पर उपलब्ध कराने में विफल रही है।

शहरी एवं ग्रामीण मेहनतकश लोगों की स्थिति समझ से बाहर है। मूल्य वृद्धि ने उन पर जबर्दस्त चोट की है और उनके वास्तविक वेतन को और दयनीय बना दिया है। संयुक्त राष्ट्र (यूएनडीपी) की ताजा रिपोर्ट ने खुलासा किया है कि भारत के आठ राज्य अफ्रीका के सबसे गरीब देशों से भी ज्यादा निर्धन हैं।

बेरोजगारी चरम पर है। जो रोजगार उपलब्ध हैं उनमें वेतन इतना कम है कि दो वक्त की रोटी का भी जुगाड़ नहीं हो पाता। लाखों आंगनबाड़ी कार्यकर्ता मध्याह्न भोजन कार्यकर्ता और 'आशा' कर्मी 8 घंटे काम करने के बाद लगभग एक से दो हजार रुपये पाते हैं जो कानून द्वारा तय न्यूनतम वेतन के आधे से भी कम है। असंगठित क्षेत्र में काम करने वाले श्रमिक प्रतिदिन 12 से अधिक घंटे काम करने को मजबूर हैं। श्रम लागत घटाने के लिए दिहाड़ी और ठेके पर काम पर रखा जाना और आउटसोर्सिंग की प्रथा तेजी से बढ़ रही है।

ट्रेड यूनियनों बनने नहीं दी जा रही। वैध ट्रेड यूनियन गतिविधियों पर रोक लगाने के लिए पुलिस का सहारा लिया जा रहा है। भारत को विदेशी निवेश की उपजाऊ भूमि बनाने के लिए सरकार बड़े घरानों से हाथ मिला रही है और यह गारंटी दे रही है कि श्रम कानूनों में कठोरता हटाई जाएगी तथा श्रम लागत न्यूनतम रहेगी। आक्रामक पूंजीवादी विकास राज्यतंत्र के साथ मिलकर भारी विपत्ती खड़ी कर रहा है।

किसान संकट में है, कृषि उत्पादन लड़खड़ा रहा है, और अस्थिर है। कृषि लागत की कीमतें बढ़ रहा है। सरकारी सब्सिडी कम हो रही है। राष्ट्रीय बैंक व्यवस्था से ऋण उपलब्ध नहीं है इसलिए किसानों को ऊँच ब्याज दर पर निजी सूदखोरो से कर्ज लेना पड़ता है। हाल में आंध्र प्रदेश में बहुत से किसानों ने आत्महत्या की है। खेतिहर मजदूरों को उचित मजदूरी नहीं मिलती और उनके काम के दिन कम होते जा रहे हैं। बेहद गरीबी में जीवनयापन करते हैं।

यहां नव-उदारवादी आर्थिक नीति ही है जिसने देश के जीवन को तबाह कर दिया है। सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र को कमजोर बनाया जा रहा है और विनिवेश की प्रक्रिया उन्हें संयुक्त क्षेत्र बना देगी।

63 वर्षों में पहली बार इंटक की शिरकत के साथ, समस्त यूनियनों की भागीदारी से एकताबद्ध ट्रेड यूनियन कार्रवाई, दृढ़ होते संकल्प के साथ आगे बढ़ रही है और गरीबी और बेरोजगारी को पनपाने वाली नीतियों के खिलाफ संघर्षरत है। सरकार, नौकरशाहों और बड़े घरानों की मिली भगत से भ्रष्टाचार और राष्ट्रीय संसाधनों की लूट अनियमित उदारकरण का स्वाभाविक परिणाम है। सम्पदा की बढ़ती खाई - ऊपर के स्तरों पर सम्पदा का संचय और नीचे के स्तर पर गरीबी का बढ़ना - असहनीय सामाजिक अराजकता के विरुद्ध संयुक्त प्रतिरोध की आवश्यकता है।

विश्व भर में पूंजीवादीयों द्वारा किये जा रहे अत्याचारों के विरुद्ध मेहनतकश वर्ग के प्रतिरोध में तेजी आयी है। श्रमिकों, किसानों और छात्रों की हड़ताल ने फ्रांस में जीवन ठप्प कर दिया। विश्व के 30 से अधिक देशों में मजदूर वर्ग आगे आ रहा है। कठोर पूंजीवादी शोषण से व्यापकतम एकता के जरिये लड़ा जाना चाहिए, लोग इस तथ्य को समझ रहे हैं और इसके साथ भारत में आज एक नयी सोच देखने में आ रही है। 7 सितंबर की आम हड़ताल हाल के वर्षों की सबसे बड़ी हड़ताल थी। 'जेल भरो' अभियान भी सफल रहा जिसमें 10 लाख से अधिक लोगों ने गिरफ्तारी दी।

केन्द्रीय ट्रेड यूनियनों ने - इंटक, एटक, एचएमएस, सीटू, एआईटीयूसी, टीयूसीसी, एआईसीसीटीयू और यूटीवीसी तथा स्वतंत्र मजदूर एवं कर्मचारी फेडरेशनों ने - मिलकर 23 फरवरी 2011 के दिल्ली चलो कार्यक्रम का आह्वान किया है।

23 फरवरी 2011 को दिल्ली चलो के आह्वान को अधिकतम सफलता दिलाने के लिए हमें अधिक जुझारूपन के साथ आगे बढ़ना होगा, और देश की ट्रेड यूनियन आन्दोलन को नयी ऊंचाई की ओर ले जाना होगा।

GIEAIA ने अपने सभी युनीट, सभी सक्रिय कार्यकर्ताओं, समितियों से अपील करती है कि वे कमर कस लें और मूल्य वृद्धि, भ्रष्टाचार, सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के विनिवेश के खिलाफ, असंगठित श्रमिकों एवं किसानों के लिए बड़े सामाजिक सुरक्षा फंड के लिए, ठेकेदारी व्यवस्था और बेरोजगारी के खिलाफ, राजनीतिक आन्दोलन छेड़े।

आइए, हम सब ट्रेड यूनियन अधिकारों की रक्षा के लिए कार्रवाई में उतरें। सरकारी नीतियों को बदलने की मांग को जबर्दस्त विरोध प्रदर्शन के साथ अभूतपूर्व लामबंदी देश की राजधानी में की जानी चाहिए। हम सरकार को अहसास कराएँ मूल्यवृद्धि, श्रम कानूनों का उल्लंघन और भ्रष्टाचार का जारी रहना जब और नहीं सहा जायगा।

ट्रेड यूनियन आन्दोलन की एकता मजदूर वर्ग की सबसे बड़ी शक्ति है। इसने देश को लूटने वालों को, भ्रष्टाचार करने वालों और मेहनतकश जनता पर अत्याचार करने वालों पर प्रहार करने का एक सुनहरा अवसर दिया है।



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