

Spontaneous Response

Police firing and fascist attack by Congress hoodlums

Despite threats, intimidation, terror, physical violence and false propaganda by the Congress and its Government, the democratically conscious people of West Bengal frustrated the designs of the Congress and spontaneously responded to the call of Bangla Bandh on 17th November to register protest against the anti-people, pro-capitalist and pro-blackmarketeer food policy of the Congress Government and the continuously spiralling of prices. Nine left and democratic parties lent support to the bandh call given by the different left Central Trade Unions to set pressure on the Congress Government to change its anti-people policies which are framed to serve the interests of the vested interests and the capitalist class.

Sri Sidhartha Sankar Ray, the Congress Chief Minister of West Bengal said that the challenge of the bandh would be met politically and democratically. But what was the real picture? The Congress and its Government took recourse to fascist tactics to gag the voice of democratic opposition and to break the bandh. The Congress Government geared the entire administration to crush the popular movement. Meetings by the leftist parties were banned by promulgating section 144 Cr PC and quite a large number of meetings by the leftist parties were attacked by the Congress hoodlums with police standing by as silent spectators.

The various posters and wall writings of our party and other left democratic parties were erased by the Congressite anti-socials and large scale arrests of the volunteers of our party and other parties were made. The police raided the houses of our workers in various places from 14th to 16th November and all the anti-social elements of West Bengal were organised and used to break the bandh. The Congressite anti-socials issued threats to the shopkeepers and asked them to keep the shop open on the day of the bandh and the workers in the industrial belt were asked to attend to their work on that day. In Calcutta and other mofussil towns it was seen that the Congress gangsters were

moving in jeeps on the day of the bandh and trying to open the closed shops forcibly. It is also reported from some places in Calcutta and other mofussil towns that the police took the unusual step of forcing open the closed shops. Moreover police resorted to lathi charging, teargas-shelling and even firing and two youngmen laid their lives as a result of police firing and a number of people sustained serious injuries. The police firing and the bomb charging by the Congress-gangsters at Kankulia in Basudebpur in the district of Murshidabad clearly demonstrate that the Congress and its Government being infuriated by their total failure to break the bandh, were behaving recklessly and unleashing a reign of terror to subdue them. At Kankulia, a band of armed Congress gangsters obstructed a pro-bandh rally and when this act of the Congress gangsters was resented, they hurled bombs on the peaceful rally and the police, instead of arresting the armed Congressite gangsters, lathi-charged and teargassed the peaceful procession. This news of unprovoked attack by the police and the Congressites spread and thousands of people in the adjoining areas congregated there when police opened fire on the crowd without any provocation when Arjun Sarker and Adarat Sheikh died as

(Contd. to page 2)

To Bangla Bandh Call

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Rush to Villages-Stand by The Side Of Poor Peasants.

BE members of K K M F in tens of thousands

The full-fledged harvesting is going to be started throughout the country. The party urges upon all district committees and members to go to the villages immediately and stand by the side of the poor and lower middle peasants, sharecroppers and Khet Mazdoors in their just struggle for the realisation of their legitimate share of the crop and protect them against any on-slaught by the jotedars, mahajans, ruling party and the police and help them to develop their organisation in a well knit and iron strong fashion and stay with them till the harvesting is over.

The party urges upon all members in the rural districts and district committees to follow strictly the programme of organising mass meetings, street corner meetings, meetings at market places and explain to the peasant masses the true character of the anti-people pro-vested interest policies of the Congress Government and the urgent need of developing a mighty organisation of their own. It must be patiently and with perseverance explained to the peasant masses that if the vested interest, Congress, its hooligans and the police are to be resisted, they have no other alternative but to develop their own organisation and stand courageously shoulder to shoulder.

Poor and lower middle peasants, share-croppers and Khet Mazdoors of the remotest corners of the

country must be approached and persuaded for enrolment in millions as members of the KKMF and earnest and all out effort must be made to realise the membership subscription and donation.

It should be borne in mind by each and every member that the party is giving utmost importance to this programme and all the district committees and members in rural districts must make all out efforts to make this drive a complete success.

Remember to-day's clarion slogan. All to the villages, enrol poor and lower middle peasants, share croppers and Khet Mazdoors as members of the KKMF in tens of thousands and help them to develop an iron-strong organisation and stay with the peasant masses until the harvesting is over.

The term "Politically motivated" is also a brand of politics—the politics of the exploiting class

(Contd. From Page 1)

martyrs. These were the tactics adopted by the Congress and its Government everywhere to crush the popular movement and break the bandh. This was the way how the Congress and its Government met the challenge of the bandh and this was according to Sri Roy, the Congress Chief Minister, the "political and democratic way" of meeting the challenge of the bandh. It is nothing astonishing from a Congress Chief Minister; but the paradox of the whole episode is that the CPI who claims itself to be a leftist party has certified the Congress and its Government that they, in this bandh on 17th November acted democratically in spite of the fact that Sri Biswanath Mukherjee of the CPI condemned the police firing at Kankulia. We however understand the reason for such behaviour of the CPI which, in spite of its best effort to detract and disrupt the anti-Congress movement failed to confuse the people this time and in order to maintain the alliance with Congress in pursuance of its all India policy the CPI was prompt to certify the Congress, in spite of fascist tactics adopted by the Congress. We understand the isolation of the CPI and know where the pin pricks.

The anti-people character of the Congress is clear to the people in spite of all tall claims and palpable falsehood practised by the Congress leaders. The Congress leaders failed to influence the people with all their falsities and hoaxes and all the fascist measures adopted by the Congress Government failed to break the bandh. The heroic and struggling people of West Bengal came forward to give defeat to the Congress design and make the bandh a success. The success of the bandh on 17th November has broken

the stalemate in the left democratic movement in the country and opened the way for developing bigger movements.

The Congress and the bourgeois propaganda machine tried to confuse the people by saying that the bandh was politically motivated. Here the politics of the ruling class to brand any movement as politically motivated must be understood. No issue facing the life of the people is divorced from politics. By the term politics here it is not, of course, meant petty sectarian party politics. Our society is class divided and on one side there exist the exploited masses of the people and on the other side there exist the capitalists the jotedars and other vested interests. This is the stark reality in our society. And the class struggle between the exploited and the exploiting class is constantly going on within our social life. The exploiting class is trying to crush the movement of the exploited class and to consolidate their position and the exploited class is waging struggle to end the oppression and for emancipation from the yoke of exploiting capitalist class. The politics of the Congress which represents the Indian bourgeoisie is oriented to serve the interests of the capitalists, the jotedars and the vested interests. So while the Congress leaders cry hoarse that the bandh call was politically motivated, the underlying politics in such cries is to confuse the people and shield the base and nefarious politics pursued by them. While the Congress is pursuing the politics of protecting the interest of the capitalists, the rice mill owners, black marketeers and the jotedars and when they are eulogising this politics as beneficial to the nation, we are pursuing the politics of defeating this anti-people

politics of the Congress in the interest of the vast majority of the people of our country. So it must be understood that Sri Ray's remark that the bandh is politically motivated is also a brand of politics. Sri Ray's politics is to protect the interest of the vested interests and the capitalist.

The Congress leaders and the bourgeois propaganda machine charged that the bandh call was designed to create chaos and disorder in the society. This motivated propaganda of the Congress leaders and the bourgeois press is totally false. However the concept of order and disorder of the bourgeoisie is diametrically opposed to that of the broad masses of the toiling people. The unhindered right of the capitalist class to fleece the people is according to the Congress leaders who are the mouth-piece of the Indian capitalist class, sacred and the law and order within the society is maintained even if the fleecing of the vast masses of the people continues, black marketing, hoarding and profiteering thrive. The law and order of the country will be alright according to the Congress leaders if the people silently die of starvation without any protest against the existing unjust, inhuman and suffocating social order; but if these starving people try to raise a voice of protest against this gross social injustice, the Congress leaders raise a hue and cry and charge the leftist parties of creating chaos and disorder. To the Congress leaders we like to state categorically that when order is injustice, disorder is the beginning of justice. Our endeavour is to end the present unjust social order responsible for all the disorder in society and establish real order in society where the exploitation of man by man will end.

Next Sri Sidhartha Sankar Roy, the Congress Chief

Minister of West Bengal said that the bandh would affect the procurement of the food grains. This is not at all true. Firstly the procurement operation does not start from the time when the bandh was observed. Secondly who wants to obstruct the procurement of food grains? Who had been frustrating the procurement during the last 26 years of Congress rule? The Congress has been pursuing pro-capitalist, pro-black marketeer, pro jotedar and pro-rice mill-owner food policy during the last 26 years of the Congress rule and this year also the Congress Government will almost totally depend on the rice mill owners for the procurement of food grains. These Congress leaders said the other day that the rice mill owners had frustrated the procurement of food-grains last year; but instead of taking drastic actions against these enemies of the society, the Congress Government is depending on these very people for the procurement of food grains. We have categorically ventilated our view point that only by introducing all out state trading covering both wholesale and retail trade in food grains that the present chaotic state of affair in the food front can be checked. But the Congress rejected this idea and announced with much publicity that only wholesale trade would be taken over. We have categorically stated that the take-over of wholesale trade is a wholesale hoax by the Congress. and the take over of wholesale trade will not eliminate the big grain traders from the market as these wholesalers will overnight turn into innumerable retailers and frustrate the procurement of food grains.

We said then that on the plea of difficulties which we predicted would invariably crop up for not taking over the retail trade, the Congress

(Contd. to page 5)

National Industrial Relation Seminar On Labour-Management Relation In Ranchi

Ranchi, November 16—The ILO—N O R A D National Industrial Relation Seminar on Labour—Management Relation For productivity was held here on 12th and 13th November last. Besides the Regional Director of the ILO, some foreign 'experts' government officials, employers' representatives and leaders of the INTUC, AITUC, CITU, HMS, UTUC (BowBazar Street) and the UTUC (Lenin Sarani) took part in the seminar. Com. Pritish Chanda, Secretary of the UTUC (Lenin Sarani), represented the organisation.

The subjects before the seminar for discussion were (1) effective industrial relation for productivity and (2) management development and workers' education in Labour-management relation for productivity. The first item of discussion included five specific points, namely, (i) multiplicity of unions (ii) if there should be a sole bargaining agent and if so, how to select it, (iii) if wages should be linked up with productivity and if any agreement should be made on productivity, (iv) if Government should intervene in the industrial dispute and (v) machinery for conciliation and adjudication.

In course of his speech Com. Pritish Chanda pointed out that multiplicity of unions had been the result of bitter squabbles between different factions in the ruling Congress party vying with one another in establishing their respective leadership in the trade union field as also of the moves by the employers and, in some cases, by the Governments to encourage the formation of paper unions and to pamper them with a view to creating disruption in the unity of the working class and trade union movement. He cited concrete instances to substantiate it. He said that the problem of multiplicity of unions could not be solved overnight by one stroke of any magic word. To try to solve it by legislation prohibiting registration of any union that would have its membership strength less than 25 per cent of the total number of the workers in the concerned industry or establishment, as the case might be, in the line of the recent move by the Government,

was a worse proposition, in as much as it would deprive the workers of their right to form a union of their own choice and might, in the long run, establish complete control of the ruling party and its Governments over and regimentation in the trade union movement in our country. The remedy to the problem of multiplicity of unions must be sought not in arming the Government with more powers to intervene and even interfere in the trade union field but in developing more political consciousness and organisational sense and sharpening class consciousness of the working class. When the ruling party and its Governments had been increasingly manifesting fascistic tendencies, it would be suicidal for working class and the trade unions to vest that Government with more powers—Com. Chanda emphasised.

About recognition of trade union by the management and the question of bargaining agent Com. Chanda declared that the question as to which of the unions was the most representative and should be recognised by the management had to be settled through vote by the secret ballot of all the workers in the concerned establishment of industry, as the case might be, on the basis of simple majority. The present method of verification of membership for this purpose must be done away with, as it had become a definite instrument in the hand of the ruling party and its Governments to foist on the workers unrepresentative unions, sometimes, sponsored

by the authorities or the employers, as recognised unions. When verification of membership, even after manipulation by the authorities, went against the ruling party, the Government would sit tight over the matter. As instance of this partisan attitude, Com. Chanda cited the case of the Bihar Coal Miners' Union affiliated to the UTUC (Lenin Sarani). This union was a majority union in a group of collieries even according to the membership verification conducted by the Union Labour Directorate but nevertheless the BCCL, a Government of India undertaking, had been refusing to recognise it. And as regards bargaining agent, Com. Chanda was positively against any move to make the recognised union the sole bargaining agent. For, he said that if the recognised union was given the status of the sole bargaining agent then trade union democracy would be jeopardised. Recognised unions should certainly have some special rights but in no case could it usurp all powers and functions for collective bargaining, negotiations etc. In this respect unless there was unanimity of opinions among all the different Central Trade Union Organisations no matter whether all of them were recognised by the Government or not, there should not be any imposition of any decision or law from the Government's side.

Com. Chanda then said that it had now become almost a fashion to hold the workers responsible for fall in production and low productivity. In a closely argumentative analysis supported by relevant statistics called from official sources he showed conclusively that it was not the workers who were responsible for fall in production and low productivity but the present capitalist economy of the country was fundamentally responsible for economic stagnation, very

low rate of growth, steep fall in production, substantial portion of the installed capacities in various branches of industries remaining unutilised and closure of industrial establishments in hundreds in our country. Besides this basic cause, there were various other problems like power failure, shortage of fuel and raw materials, paucity of fund, inefficient management, quarrel among the partners and the directors of the firms, unworkable outdated plants and machinery, etc, which also accounted for steep decline in production and low productivity. This being the reality, Com. Chanda said, it would be mischievous to talk of freezing wage on the plea of fighting inflation or of linking wages with productivity. When more than 40 per cent of our people lived below starvation level; when let alone getting living wages, bulk of the workers did not get even the minimum wages; when, in spite of rising profits, real wages were declining even according to official figures; the trade unions and the organised labour could not but resist any move to slash down wages under the smoke-screen of linking wages with productivity.

Com. Chanda then drew the attention of the participants to recent steps by the Central Government and the different State Governments invoking the DIR and banning strikes. In this connection he also referred to some of the provisions of the proposed Labour Relations Bill which had sought to virtually ban strikes. Com. Chanda severely condemned these steps as dark fascist steps and declared that in a capitalist state, now obtaining in our country, the workers under no circumstances, could forego their inalienable right to strike. He also deprecated the tendency to place strike

(Contd. to page-6)

Big demonstration by SUC before FCI Office in Calcutta

Calcutta, Nov 23—A big demonstration, organised by the Calcutta District SUCI was held before the FCI office here today in protest against the deliberate spoiling of huge quantities of rice, sugar, pulses and wheat in FCI godowns at Cossipore and other places. It may be mentioned here that more than 3,00,000 tonnes of sugar worth Rs 6 lakhs have been deliberately spoiled by FCI bureaucrats in Cossipore FCI godown while ration shops under statutory rationing areas had no sugar stock for three consecutive weeks. Pulses worth Rs 1.5 lakhs, and thousands of tonnes of rice and wheat have been completely spoiled in Cossipore, Shalimar and other godowns. The picture can be easily imagined if we take the report about only 3 sheds in Cossipore godowns. 6,000 kg of rice, stacked in shed No 16 for the past 3 years, are completely spoiled. So also 10,000 Kg of rice and 8000 kg of wheat in Shed No 19 and 50,000 kg of pulses in Shed No 15. It is reported in the Press that such wastage is a regular affair with the FCI and some of its officials make huge money every year from auctioning of these "waste goods"

To protest against such deliberate wastage of food grains and sugar, a massive rally was held today at Subodh Mallik Square under the auspices of the Calcutta District Committee of the SUCI.

The meeting unanimously adopted a memorandum, addressed to the Governor of West Bengal, Mr A. L. Dias, which demanded, among others, a thorough probe into the matter, exemplary punishment of the guilty officers and proper arrangements for preservation of food grains, etc.

After the meeting, a big demonstration went to the FCI office at Free School Street. Hundreds of FCI and Food Department employees greeted the protest demonstration at the FCI compound. Addressing the gathering, Com. Ranjit Dhar, a member of the State Secretariat of the party and a former Councillor, Calcutta Corporation strongly criticised the administration for its anti-people policies and acts, the corrupt practices by bureaucrats and the reckless negligence of the FCI officials. The demand for all out State-trading in all essential commodities met with high applause from the gathering including the ordinary employees of the FCI and the Food Department.

The demonstrators thereafter went in a procession to Raj Bhaban where, in absence of the Governor, his Secretary received the memorandum and assured the deputation leaders that the Governor's reply on the points raised in memorandum would be made known by Thursday, Nov, 29

The demonstration was led by Comrades Ashutosh Banerjee, Fatik Ghosh, Ranjit Dhar, Sitesh Das Gupta, Gayatri Das Gupta and others.

DSO Victory In Ravenshaw College

Cuttack, November 25—In this year's election to the Ravenshaw College Students' Union, candidates from the DSO have scored big victories defeating the candidates of the students' wings of the ruling Congress and the Pragati Party, the CPI-led AISF and the CPI(M)-led SFI. The DSO leader, Chitta Behara, has been elected President of the Union.

Sensing the mood of the

CISF firing on colliery workers 8 killed and 50 injured

Dhanbad, Nov. 16: Com. Hem Chakrabarty, Secretary, Dhanbad District SUC has strongly condemned the unwarranted and indiscriminate firing by CISF personnel on peaceful colliery workers at Sijua on November 15 in which at last 8 persons were killed and more than 50 injured.

It is reported that CISF personnel fired as many as 50 rounds when Angarpathera colliery workers went to Sijua to place their grievances before the Area General Manager.

Com. Chakraborty said the concerned officials have deliberately concocted the story of 18 CISF men being missing in order to justify the firing and the deliberate and wanton killing of colliery workers.

It should be mentioned here that it is the second time that the police and the CISF opened fire on the local people without provocation in the recent past, the first being at Digwadih on 15. 10. 73.

In his statement Com. Chakraborty has said such firing on and killing of workers and ordinary people on trifling issues have become the order of the day, especially in the so called socialist reign of the ruling Congress headed by Indira Gandhi, the best defender and protector of the aggregate interest of the monopoly

capitalists in our country. Also, there has not been a little improvement in the condition of colliery workers after nationalisation. Exploitation and oppression are going on in the same manner and at the same rate. Rather it has been increased. The Bharat coking coal (BCCL) management is much more ruthless and bureaucratic in many affairs. The legitimate democratic rights of the workers and the people in general are constantly being curtailed under the reign of the Congress Government and the fascist rule of terror and oppression. In this connection he urged upon those unions and mass organisations who take much pains in finding progressiveness in the ruling Congress to take lessons from these barbarous firing on and killing of workers.

Condemning the actions of the CISF and the BCCL management Com. Chakrabarty, demanded immediate judicial enquiry into the matter, proper compensation to the families of the deceased and the wounded workers and immediate release of all persons arrested in this connection.

students in a mass deputation but strangely enough, no action was taken against the miscreants. Encouraged by this inaction on the part of the administration and the police, these rowdies further mounted their attacks and after the election, when they sensed that the general students had voted against them, they tried to snatch away the ballot boxes and destroy them. But in the face of resistance by the students they could not succeed in doing it.

Other DSO candidates, who have been elected, include Coms. Fakir Charan Mahanti (Asst. General Secretary), Kailash Chandra Mahapatra (Asst. Drama Secretary) and Jnana Sahu.

Build up united front and establish real revolutionary leadership over united movement

(Contd. from Page 2)

would back out even from the half hearted and partial measure of the take over of the wholesale trade in food grains. In West Bengal, the Congress gave a good bye to its announced policy of take over of whole sale trade in rice trade and announced the black anti-people food policy in the interest of the capitalists, jotedars, black-marketeers and rice-mill owners. The Congress leaders who are day in and day out dishing out palpable falsehood and declaring about a bumper crop knew before hand that the procurement drive in this year might end in failure because of their pro-capitalist, pro-jotedar, pro-black-marketeer food policy and so they are searching for an alibi to cover up their failures. Sri Sidhartha Sankar Ray the Congress Chief Minister discovered a ready plea to shirk off responsibility and so the crocodile tear shed by Sri Ray for the obstruction in procurement drive due to bandh is primarily meant to shift the entire responsibility of the failure in procurement on the left movement, which is in reality, aimed at setting pressure on the Congress Government to change its anti-people food policy and thus to help in the procurement by forcing the Government to adopt pro-people policies.

In the last bandh and in the civil disobedience movements in districts and also in Calcutta, the SUC took a leading role in organising these movements and mobilising public opinion in support of these movements. As a matter of fact, the programme of mass civil disobedience was adopted in the meeting of the nine left parties at the initiative of our party. But it is seen that there is a concerted attempt in interested quarter to minimise our role. For example when several hundred volunteers of our party

courted arrest in the mass civil disobedience movement in Calcutta, a report to the effect that only 23 persons of SUC volunteers were arrested, was circulated from interested quarter. Similarly the news of massive participation of the SUC volunteers in moffussil towas in the civil disobedience movement as also in the last bandh is not motivatedly flashed and a distorted picture has been presented to minimise our role. All these attempts have failed and the people have come to know the truth. We like to remind them that by camouflaging truth people can not be kept in the dark about our due share in the left movement.

Now we like to point out the marked and fundamental difference between the character of bandh on 27th July with that on 17th November last. The motive behind the CPI's call of Bangla bandh on 27th July last was to frustrate the possibilities of developing a mighty sustained mass movement. Even according to the leaders of the CPI, their objective of the movement was not directed against the Congress; on the contrary its aim, as stated by the CPI was to lead the ruling Congress and the PDA ministry in the right track, to assist the Congress in maintaining its rule and consolidating the leadership of the PDA that is the Congress-CPI alliance over the people. Unfortunately the CPI was able to drag the CPI (M) into the fold of this movement and so the bandh on 27th July last created confusion about its aim and objective.

Unlike the bandh on 27th July, the bandh on 17th November was free from such confusion, though at the initial stage there was a possibility of such a confusion due to the change of date of bandh from 19th November as earlier announced to 17th at the insistence of the CPI (M)

in its bid to synchronise with the so-called industrial action programme of the Congress CPI alliance. The CPI (M) failed to differentiate between the character of their movement and that launched by the leftist parties. The main-trend of the movement of the left democratic forces must be directed against the Congress with the main objective of establishing the leadership of the left democratic forces over the masses against the Congress. What is the utility of struggle? What is the utility of the unity of the left democratic forces? The utility of the unity of the left democratic forces is to launch united struggle with the ultimate objective of freeing the people from capitalist exploitation. What is the purpose of unity and of struggle if these are divorced from these main objectives? We are not opposed to launch united movement with the CPI if the main objective of the movement is kept intact. So it is important to judge who is converging with whom. By changing the date from 19th to 17th on the plea of unity of the toiling people, the CPI (M) tried to converge the left movement with that of the CPI, having fundamentally different political objective and by doing so the CPI (M) undermined the primary political objective of anti-Congressism and it was the CPI's political purpose which was in reality helped by the CPI (M).

The bandh on 17th November clearly proves that the people are ready to fight back and launch mighty movements against the capitalists, the Congress and its Governments serving capitalism in our country. But to guide these movements and lead them in the correct path, the urgent necessity is to build up a united front of all the left and democratic forces in our country. In explaining the urgent necessity of the united front it has

been stated in an article 'on the latest stand of CPI (M) Central committee' published in Proletarian Era dated 1st October 1973: "In the present stage of the development of democratic movement in our country, more so when no left party can singly provide a viable alternative to the Congress, unite the masses and effectively lead them in their struggles against the ruling bourgeoisie, the ruling Congress, its Governments and anti-people policies for the realisation of their democratic demands, the necessity and importance of the united front of the left and democratic parties can hardly be over emphasised. In fact it is the only instrument of struggle in the hands of the people to conduct united struggles against the ruling bourgeoisie and other reactionary forces and vested interests and their political representatives, skip over the present democratic phase step by step and create conditions for revolutionary overthrow of the present exploitative capitalist order and establishment of a socialist society. It is for this reason that a revolutionary party of the working class must now strive not only for the formation of a united front of the left and democratic parties but also to preserve and further cement its unity and make it function as the instrument of united struggles by the masses against their common enemy." But the CPI (M) in its Central Committee resolution in July last rejected the idea of the formation of the united front as unrealistic and instead advocated joint struggle on specific issues. This stand of the CPI (M) is a hindrance in the path of the formation of the united front of all the democratic parties and forces and the toiling masses are thus denied the only instrument of struggle in their hand for united mass struggle and united mass movement. We appeal to the CPI (M) to shun this Trotskyite line and come forward to build up this

(Contd. to page 6)

Bangla Bandh

(Contd. from page 5)

united front without delay.

Lastly we want to deal the question of leadership of the united front. The people of this country witnessed many mighty movements in the past, but as the leadership of these movements was not in the hands of a real revolutionary party, no movement can ultimately succeed in spite of many struggles and sacrifices and people are landed into the present plight. So on any movement and class struggle the question of leadership is important. This leadership of a real revolutionary party will be established if while conducting united movement against the main enemy, a relentless ideological struggle is carried on, in a spirit of criticism and self criticism without disturbing the united struggle against the main enemy. It is only through such struggle that the crystallisation of the correct political line becomes possible and the leadership of the real working class party is established over the united mass movement and the emancipation of the people will be possible only when this leadership of the real working class party is established over the united movement. So while striving for building up united movement people must place the real working class party at the helm of the united mass movement. This is very important.

The bandh on 17th is but a part of a bigger movement. The movement must be continued and raised to a greater and still higher pitch. In spite of the excellent success of the bandh, it also shows serious organisational weaknesses and so all out effort must be made to remove those weaknesses and spread the organisation to the remotest places for effectively launching movements on various issues, like the raising of crops and protecting the rights of the poor and lower middle peasants, share croppers and khet-majdoors, resisting the

bus-fare increase, spiralling of prices, scarcity of food articles and many other issues. To launch movement on these issues and to set up effective pressure on the Government, necessary preparation like the formation of people's committees upto the remotest corner of the country, mobilisation of public opinion against the anti-people policies of the Congress Government, organising innumerable meetings etc. are to be made to prepare the necessary ground work for launching far bigger movements. The people's committees must be truly representative committees and not committees of the members and supporters of left parties. If these tasks are done, effective participation of the broad masses of the people can be ensured in a bigger movement.

Seminar in Ranchi

(Contd. from page-3)

and lock-out on the same footing. Com. Chanda pleaded that collective bargaining should be accepted as the method of settling industrial disputes and the Government should not intervene in any industrial dispute unless the workers wanted an intervention. He demanded a thorough re-orientation of the machinery for conciliation, adjudication, etc, simplification of the procedure and rationalisation of the system in such a way as to correspond to the increasing needs of democratic development of the trade union movement and speedy disposal of industrial disputes, referred to it.

Along with some other trade union leaders Com. Chanda claimed that the question of workers' education was a matter which concerned the trade unions and must be left to them and them alone.

Haryana State Conference of D S O

As a preparatory programme of the ensuing All India Conference of the A.I.D.S.O. in January '74 at Cuttack in Orissa, Haryana State Conference of D.S.O. was held at Rewari on 11. 11. 73 with great enthusiasm.

The conference was presided over by Com. Gyan Singh Chowdhury, Secretary SUCI Haryana State Committee and addressed by Com. Provas Ghosh, General Secretary, A. I. D. S. O. In this illuminating speech Com. Ghosh dealt various problems of education in our country in the light of Marxism-Leninism

A strong state organising committee was also formed in this conference with Lal Singh as the Secretary and Bhusan Kumar, Vijoy Kumar, Ram Avatar, Sharud Kumar, Khuman Singh, R. Vargava and Anil Yadav as members. In the accepted resolu-

tion demands for abolition of seat restriction scheme and three year-degree course, withdrawal of 12-years-school course, introduction of two-language (English & mother tongue) formula etc. were made.

In Delhi also, a preparatory meeting of the Delhi D. S. O was held at the presence of Com. Pravas Ghosh, G. S, A. I. D. S. O. on the 7th November '73 from which seven delegates to the All India Conference were elected and it was decided there that the Delhi State Conference would be held in Febuary '74 with Deep Chand as the Convenor.

Strike in Dhanbad

Dhanbad, November 21— As a protest against firing by the CISF on the workers at Sijua on 15th November last, as a result of which 8 workers were killed, one day's strike was observed today by the workers in the coal mines in the Dhanban-Jharia area. The strike was a complete success and the call for it was given by the UTUC (Lenin Sarani), Bihar State

Committee, the Bihar Coal Miners' Union and some other Central Trade Union Organisations. Com. Prithish Chanda, Secretary, UTUC (Lenin Sarani), had in a statement congratulated the workers on their wholehearted support to the strike and urged upon them to prepare for a bigger struggle against the Police Raj in the state.

WB State DSO Conference

The West Bengal State Committee of the All India DSO will hold its Second Conference at Berhampur, Murshidabad, on December 15 & 16, 1973.

Comrade Subodh Banerjee the prominent public leader and a former Minister of the UF Government in West Bengal will be the main speaker at the open session Comrade Protiva Mukherjee, a former UF Minister, will be the Chief Guest.

Com Provas Ghosh, General Secretary, All India DSO and Com. Chhaya Mukherjee, Secretary, West Bengal State Committee will also address the conference.

Demonstration at Jharia

Jharia, November 26;— UTUC (Lenin Sarani), Dhanbad and its affiliated Trade unions in the collieries, washeries and Ropeways organised today a massive demonstration of 5000 strong in front of the Bhagatdih Buildings, Jharia, the head office of the BCCL on certain legitimate demands of the workers. The demands were opening of ration shops and distribution of food grains and other essential commodities at controlled rate by the management, need based minimum wage of Rs 350/ per month and interim relief of Rs 2.50 per day for each worker from 1. 8. 73.