

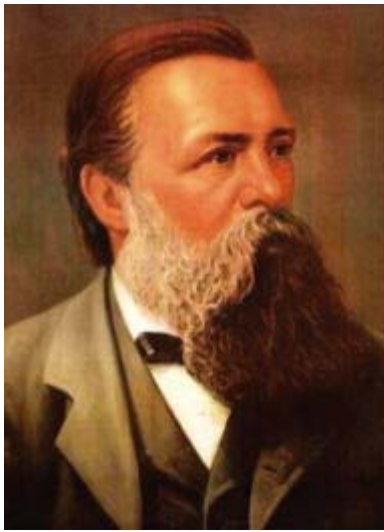
Proletarian Era

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Remembering Frederik Engels



28 November, 1820 — 5 August, 1895

“...The products now produced socially were not appropriated by those who had actually set in motion the means of production and actually produced the commodities, but by the capitalists. ... This contradiction, which gives to the new mode of production its capitalistic character, contains the germ of the whole of the social antagonisms of today. The greater the mastery obtained by the new mode of production over all important fields of production and in all manufacturing countries, ...the more clearly was brought out the incompatibility of socialized production with capitalistic appropriation. ...The contradiction between socialized production and capitalistic appropriation manifested itself as the antagonism of proletariat and bourgeoisie. ...solution can only consist in the practical recognition of the social nature of the modern forces of production, and therefore in the harmonizing of the modes of production, appropriation, and exchange with the socialized character of the means of production. And this can only come about by society openly and directly taking possession of the productive forces which have outgrown all control except that of society as a whole. ...The proletariat seizes political power and turns the means of production into state property.”

(Socialism : Utopian and Scientific)

Intensify worldwide anti-Global Warming movement to stem catastrophic climate change

After the recent G-8 Summit of developed countries consisting of the US, UK, Japan, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Russia held in Heiligendamm, Germany, last June, the member countries alongwith the Outreach Five (O5) states of China, India, Brazil, Mexico and South Africa were supposed to meet and focus on a number of issues with Global Warming as the major one. One of the goals of this after-summit meeting was to finalize a document that would likely be the expression of responsibility and commitment of the above superpowers to address the all-pervading problems of Global Warming and reduce the emission of greenhouse gases (GHG). The countries during the said meet hardly agreed to implement anything tangible to reduce GHG emissions causing immense harm to environment. Instead, they ended by adopting, what they called, some long-term abatement programmes. In a joint statement

issued by them on 7 June, they agreed to stabilize, then reduce, GHG emissions, and ‘seriously considered’ plans to cut emissions by half by 2050. Thus a serious threat is posed to the entire human race as this phenomenon of Global Warming is assuming alarming proportions and could well lead to multiple natural disasters. Hence it has become imperative to look into the various aspects of this most serious environmental problem ever to confront humanity and see what is coming in the way of adopting appropriate remedial measures to stall the impending catastrophe.

What is Global Warming?

Global Warming is the term used to describe a gradual increase in the average temperature of the Earth’s atmosphere and its oceans that is causing a significant change in the Earth’s climate. Though this term

Contd. on page 2

SUCI to abstain from voting in the Presidential poll

On the ensuing 14th Presidential election, Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, General Secretary, SUCI, has issued the following statement on 15 July, 2007 :

Election to the office of the 14th President of India is being held at a time when the people of the whole country are engulfed in an all-pervading socio-economic-political crisis. The vast multitude of the toiling masses comprising around 90% of the total populace is confronted with a situation where they find their life to be in a stage of total deprivation and despair. There is no hope, nothing to fall back upon in seeking amelioration of the increasing plight and penury— sure and silent death staring at them. Despite constant drum-beating of significant economic growth on a sustained basis, more than 75% of the

country’s population groaning under the yoke of ruthless capitalist exploitation is, for practical purpose, doomed to a below-poverty line life condition. The vote-based political parties of all hues who are always found to be hyper-active during any kind of elections are all indulgent onlookers to this grim tragedy and are in fact acting as agents of the ruling class for pelf and power. Elections after elections held at regular intervals are yielding nothing but increased hunger, wrenching poverty and amplified destitution. In the given situation, two things are of utmost importance — continuous exposure of the back-breaking exploitation of the ruling capitalist class and conduction of countrywide powerful united democratic movements one after another

Contd. on page 8

Rampant greenhouse gas emission is causing unusual rise in global temperature

Contd. from page 1

generally denotes any sustained trend of change in average surface temperature (including global cooling), in the present context it implies the trend of increasing temperature caused by human influence. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) signifies the term 'climate change' as caused by human intervention and 'climate variability' for other changes.

The Greenhouse Effect

Global Warming is also known as the "Greenhouse Effect". The term "Greenhouse Effect" was coined in relation to the mechanism of trapping heat using a glass cover, commonly used in cold climates. Glass has the property that it allows visible light to pass through (that is why it is transparent), but blocks infrared radiation. The latter is the invisible electromagnetic radiation that carries heat. Thus, if something is covered by glass, it can absorb the visible component of the radiation from the sun. It then becomes hot and emits infrared radiation. This infrared radiation cannot pass through the glass, and so the space inside the glass cover traps the energy from the sun. Any object has a stable temperature if the energy absorbed is equal to the energy emitted. In a greenhouse, this balance is achieved only when the bodies inside the greenhouse are significantly hotter than those outside.

The "Greenhouse Earth" is surrounded by a shield of atmospheric gases, rather than a glass or a plastic cover. The air that makes up our atmosphere consists primarily of Nitrogen and Oxygen molecules (N₂ at 78% and O₂ at 21%). A large number of "trace gases" make up the remainder of air's composition. Many of these, including carbon dioxide (CO₂) and methane (CH₄) are called "greenhouse" gases. We feel piercing cold on a clear winter night sky. But on a cloudy winter night, we feel warmer because we experience the atmospheric greenhouse effect firsthand. Physics tells us that any object warmer than absolute zero (i.e. a temperature of minus 273 degrees centigrade) will radiate energy. Cooler objects emit longer waves (in the infrared

region) while hotter ones radiate shorter wavelengths.

Our sun, powered by its hot, nuclear fusion reaction, produces radiant energy in the visible and ultraviolet regions with relatively short wavelengths. Of the sunlight that strikes the earth, about 70% is absorbed by the planet and its atmosphere, while the other 30% is immediately reflected. If the earth did not re-radiate most of this newly absorbed energy back into space the world would continue to get warmer. Hence an energy balance is maintained in the nature. The earth is about 60 degrees Fahrenheit (33 degrees Celsius) warmer than it would be if it did not have the atmospheric blanket of greenhouse gases and clouds around it. In that event, it would have been uninhabitable. Clouds and greenhouse gases keep the earth warm. Once warmed, their molecules then radiate a portion of this heat energy back to earth, creating more warming on the surface of our planet. It is this radiation which causes atmospheric gases to move back to earth that scientists call the "Greenhouse Effect".

Why is the Earth's temperature rising?

Scientists round the world are of firm opinion that the rise in global temperature detected over the past two decades can not be blamed on the sun. Studying a cycle in which solar radiation goes through peaks and troughs of activity over a period of about 11 years, British and Swiss researchers in an article published of late in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society* have stated that the sun has been less active since 1985 even though global temperatures have continued to rise. The increased volumes of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases released by the burning of fossil fuels, land clearing, agriculture, and other human activities, are believed to be the primary sources of the Global Warming. Thus the overwhelming consensus among the scientists is that human activity is to be blamed for the unusual spurt in global temperature. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) gas generated by man's burning of fossil fuels and the forests is responsible for about half the greenhouse gas warming. Other gases (CFCs, methane, nitrous

oxide, tropospheric ozone) are responsible for the rest. Increases in all these gases are stated to be due to indiscriminate industrial expansion without caring for preserving ecological balance and mindless toxic emission. Approximately 80% of atmospheric CO₂ increases are due to man's use of fossil fuels: oil, coal, and gas. These energy sources first came into use with the burning of coal. Since 1945 petroleum consumption has increased dramatically due to increased usage of automobiles worldwide, and the substitution of mechanized farm machinery for animal power. "Mankind is in the process of conducting a major, unintentional experiment that of feeding back into the atmosphere in a short space of geological time the fossil fuels that have slowly accumulated over the past 500 million years.", observed one expert. According to an estimate, the concentration of CO₂ in the earth's atmosphere was about 280 parts per million by volume (ppmv) in 1750, before the Industrial Revolution began. By 1994 it was 358 ppmv and rising by about 1.5 ppmv per year. If emissions continue at the 1994 rate, the concentration will be around 500 ppmv, nearly double the pre-industrial revolution level, by the end of the 21st century. The concentrations of other greenhouse gases such as methane and nitrous oxide have also been rising at a fairly rapid rate. The effect is that the atmosphere retains more of the sun's heat, warming the earth's surface.

Devastating consequence

There is now overwhelming evidence that climate change is being driven by greenhouse gases produced by factories, power stations, transport, and other sectors of the economy. In the past few years, glaciers have melted, snow and ice covers have fallen back sharply in alpine regions, the edges of the Greenland icesheet and on the Antarctic Peninsula have shrunk. Arctic summer sea ice has thinned and Canadian permafrost has shown signs of thaw and fallback. While many people view the effects of Global Warming to be more substantial and more rapidly occurring than others do, the scientific consensus on climatic

changes related to Global Warming is that the mean temperature of the Earth since 1900 has risen between 0.4 and 0.8 °C and the sea level by 10 to 20 centimeters. 11 of the past 12 years rank among the dozen warmest years on record. Global temperatures could rise by as much as 6 degrees by the end of the century, with almost incalculable results: melting of the polar ice-caps, vast floods, droughts, famines, water scarcity, increasing deaths, displacements and a frightening possibility of 'feedback' mechanisms which could lead to an unstoppable spiral of catastrophe. Other effects may include changes in agricultural yields, glacier retreat, reduced summer streamflows, species extinctions and increases in the ranges of changes in rainfall patterns, increased intensity and frequency of extreme weather events.

The costs of extreme weather, including floods, droughts and storms, are already rising, including in the rich imperialist countries. A follow up IPCC report in April demonstrated that we are already seeing the impact of Global Warming on weather patterns even on the immediate level, and warned that nearly 30 percent of earth's species faced the threat of extinction due to the climate changes associated with excess warming of the earth. The World Health Organization has also warned that global policy makers must act quickly to address the problem of Global Warming, or face serious adverse health and economic consequences.

What is the remedy?

Put in simple terms, remedy lies in immediate arrest of rapid emission of greenhouse gases. According to the various expert bodies including the widely discussed Stern report, emissions can be cut through increased energy efficiency, changes in demand, and through adoption of clean power, heat and transport technologies. The power sector around the world would need to be at least 60% decarbonized by 2050 for atmospheric concentration to stabilize at or below 550 ppm CO₂ and deep emission cuts will also be required in the transport sector.

As has been seen, maximum

Contd. on page 4

CBI arrests CPI(M) leader for Tapasi Malik Murder

Move exposes planned CPI(M) plot to crush peasants' movement

Renewed CBI investigation of rape and murder of Tapasi Malik, a village teenager hailing from a poor peasant's family of Singur and an activist of the heroic peasants' movement there, has led to taking Suhrid Datta and Debu Malik into custody as prime suspects; Datta, a veteran leader and Hooghly District Committee member of CPI(M), has been identified as the mastermind of the whole operation who had hatched the plan and had hired goons to get the job done, while the latter, a local strongman serving as the security of CPI(M) leaders and wielding power and control over the local youths, has been held as one who was directly involved in both rape and murder. In addition, on the strength of interrogation of the two accused and other evidences, such as the sim card of the mobile phone used by the accused etc., CBI has brought out the drawings of faces of four killers and announced rewards against any information on them, who, it thinks, were hired from neighbouring states. It has further cast its eyes on a number of important CPI(M) leaders of the Singur Zonal Committee, or executives of the district Krishak Sabha and a host of their front-ranking activists and locally ill-reputed strongmen and goons, as well as sympathizers and supporters of CPI(M) now to be found in the business magnets, civil or other contractors and such others, of the area and around, many of whom are black-listed to the people for their corruption and high-handedness. CBI has also confirmed the motive behind this dastardly crime, that our party, in consonance with the opinions and feelings of people of Singur, pointed out right at the time of the incident. The crime was perpetrated at a time when the resistance movement against the government's move to forcibly grab nearly thousand acres of the peasants' very fertile farmland for the proposed motor car factory of the Tatas at Singur was reaching its peak. It was driving its roots into the soil, even the womenfolk of the villages were coming out in masses to join the resistance movement. It may be recalled here that the recent heroic peasants' struggle that has rocked the state and has sent its impact all over the country, originated from Singur itself and strengthened later and further to its present shape in Nandigram. In any case, when that resistance movement was mounting at Singur and was sending its message to the whole of the state, and even the country, taking it as the opportune moment the plan was hatched as a means to reach the end of crushing the movement, with the ulterior motive of perpetrating some such act that would break the moral backbone of the farmers determined to resist. Naturally it involved a huge network, never without the knowledge of the highest level of the party.

However, the latest CBI exposure of their design and implication of their leaders, have made CPI(M) leadership, right from the topmost level of the state, totally unnerved to react sharply and helter-skelter. Using their common parlance, they have termed it a political conspiracy against their party and raised question about the legality of the CBI move and methods used by it, such as the using of lie-detector without consent etc. They decided to launch a public campaign on this issue in the state. But none of these moves could distract people of the state from their firm belief that these reactions are hollow and are simply and merely meant to keep the CBI under pressure.

Before going into a few more vital points in connection with this incident, we may recall the

happenings of that dreadful crime only to bring about the brutality involved in it. As it came out of the confessions of Debu Malik, in the cool, quiet deserted village in the small hours of the morning on December 18 last year, when, usual to her practice, Tapasi was out for morning chores, she was eloped, hit on the head, raped while unconscious, dragged into a pit, a kiln in fact and, still alive, was soaked with diesel in the lower portion of her body to be burnt. Before that morning, she had been watched for some days and was found to be a soft target for her practice of rising early while the village was asleep. But the brutality involved, assumes still dangerous dimensions, for her only fault being her taking active and leading part in the resistance movement in her village. Only the previous morning,

Tapasi had taken part in the token mass hunger strike by the local teenagers, all coming from the families of poor and middle class common people, including the farmers of the village. The whole incident of rape and murder took place in and around the enclosure of the Tatas' proposed factory, which was walled and heavily guarded, on one hand, by a big contingent of the Police of the CPI(M)-led West Bengal government at the heavy cost of public exchequer, as well as by the security guards and night watchmen of the Tatas recruited from the local goons and activists of CPI(M).

Immediately after the incident, the local leaders and influential activists of CPI(M) came out vociferously with the claim that the death was a suicide, it had family feuds behind it or some love affairs. Tapasi's parents vehemently protested and called it a palpable murder. Debu Malik, all on his own introduced himself as the grandfather of Tapasi in his appearance in a TV channel; he quoted a neighbour to have seen Tapasi carrying a Kerosene-jar to the field and concluded that it proved, she committed suicide. Tapasi's parents categorically told that Debu Malik was never a grandfather of Tapasi nor was related to their family in any way. The quoted neighbour also denied to have seen or said anything of the sort. When Tapasi's father went to the local police station to lodge complain, the officer asked him why he was against the Tatas' factory. In face of strong resentment of people and mounting pressure of movement, the government agreed on a CBI enquiry, but at the same time, gave CID, charge of investigating the incident. CID, as well as even the highest state leaders of CPI(M) took a dig at so-called outsiders committing the crime. They even hinted at SUCI and other parties which were taking lead in organizing the villagers in their resistance movement. While given the charge to investigate, the state CID tried every means to cover up the incident and thus save the culprits. They had rushed to the spot before the CBI could reach there and removed evidences that

were still there. From inside the kiln, they collected body parts of Tapasi, and soils of that spot and from ground around, her hair and some buttons. Violating all norms and methods, they put these vital evidences casually and carelessly into a yellow plastic bag lying over there. When their sniffer dog rushed towards the spot, they took it away on the plea it was thirsty. Neither did they make any enquiry with the local people. Finally, they stopped their activities just after 18 days, on the plea that the CBI was investigating.

But it was palpably clear to the people of West Bengal, reiterated emphatically by our party SUCI, that the crime was planned and perpetrated by the ruling party CPI(M) and executed by their strongmen, in overt or covert connivance with the night watchmen and security guards of the Tatas and the Police. How could one conceive somebody committing the crime and then dragging and dumping the body into the walled enclosure so well guarded and particularly with a watchtower lying nearby? Why did the night watchmen fled the spot immediately after the incident? As it came out, why did Debu Malik, the prime suspect or other CPI(M) leaders, hurry with their concocted stories and blatant lies? All these circumstantial evidences and subsequent developments attested to CPI(M)-designed and engineered conspiracy behind the cool-headed murder. Strong indignation and condemnation was mounting all through the state; the peasants themselves were further furious and determined in their resistance. Under pressure of such people's movement, the government was forced to ask for CBI enquiry. But the latter reached the spot two days after the incident, while, as mentioned before, the state CID had removed the vital evidences from the scene. CBI even officially started their investigation still later, after a long month, on January 19, 2007. Then too, they progressed at a snail's pace. However, against the CPI(M)-led government's policy of grabbing peasants' farmlands for capitalists of the land and abroad in

Contd. on page 7

Overriding business interest prompting imperialist powers to scupper any tangible remedy

Contd. from page 2

emission of GHG is caused by the power sector. Power is normally generated from Thermal Electricity, Hydro-electricity and nuclear Electricity. Conventional sources of energy are fossil fuels like coal, underground oil and natural gas, tidal rivers and radioactive elements like Uranium, Thorium etc. Non-conventional energy includes solar energy, wind power, organic sources etc. Thermal or coal-fired electricity is what is used most, because coal is cheap and abundant. But coal combustion creates the largest amount of CO₂ per energy unit (almost 40%) of any fossil fuel. Coal produces 50% of US's electricity, 70% of India's and 80% of China's. Capitalist China has already overtaken the US as the world's largest greenhouse gas emitter, years ahead of early forecasts. India is world's fifth largest emitter and will soon overtake No.3 and No. 4, Japan and Russia. India's emissions per absolute dollar of GDP are four times higher than America's. India's highly carbon-inefficient economy ranks 85th among 141 countries. India is more carbon-inefficient than even Bangladesh or Brazil or Indonesia.

Hence, unless serious attention is given on how to reduce if not arrest such large scale CO₂ emission during generation of thermal electricity, there could hardly be any progress in the desired direction. A great deal of attention has to be paid to the technologies used to generate power and to produce and transport goods. It is recognized that these technologies are unacceptably profligate in the production of greenhouse gases and that new technologies must be found. Already, some technologies have appeared in the world that can, as the report says, effectively tackle the problem. Sleipner T, a gas rig in the middle of the North Sea owned by Norway's state-owned oil company, Statoil has come out with a unique device in which CO₂ which has to be extracted before the gas can be sold does not contribute to Global Warming. Instead of being pumped into the atmosphere it is re-injected into the ground, 1000 meters below the seabed. Statoil started capturing and storing its CO₂ in 1997 and there is no sign of the stuff bubbling up again. Now Statoil

gets a stream of visitors because carbon capture and storage (CCS), also known as carbon sequestration is widely seen as a possible quick fix for Global Warming. It is the abundance, cheapness and dirtiness of coal that makes CCS so appealing. CCS is being done in two other places—at In Salah in Algeria and Weyburn oilfield in Saskatchewan in Canada (where CO₂ produced by a coal gasification plant in North Dakota is piped across the border and used to increase the pressure in a partly depleted oil field. This process is known as enhanced oil recovery process (EOR), is in use in 70 oilfields around the world, but at Weyburn, unusually, some of the CO₂ remains underground. Another device is to turn coal into gas before using it to generate electricity. The resulting CO₂ and Hydrogen are then separated, the Hydrogen used to generate electricity and the CO₂ stored. A few such integrated gasification combined cycle (IGCC) plants have already been built. If CCS type of technology can be made to work, the carbon extracted from the earth as fossil fuel shall return unto the earth as whence it came.

The second attempt could be tapping alternate source of energy wherever possible. However, there is hardly any serious endeavour in that direction on the part of the rich imperialist-capitalist countries. Some stray initiatives are observed, but viability of the technology in terms of economy and effectiveness, as well as all other requisite scientific parameters are yet to be established. About 20% of Denmark's electricity comes from wind and about 80% of China's hot water from solar energy. But worldwide those two energy sources barely register. Now wind turbine produces upto 2.5 MW each at a cost of 5 to 8 cents per kwh, depending on location (coal-fired electricity depending on the plant, costs 2 to 4 cents per kwh). Much the same has happened to solar photovoltaic cells. The efficiency with which they convert sunlight to electricity has increased from 6% when they were first developed to 15% now. Their cost has dropped from around \$20 per watt of production capacity in the 1970s to \$2.70 in 2004 (though a silicon shortage has pushed prices up

since). Wind and solar energy have both grown fast in Germany. Hydrogen combustion is another source as the byproduct will be water only. Hydrogen-run cars have already come in the market.

Nuclear power also figures as an alternate source of energy. In fact, nuclear energy contributes a sizeable chunk of electricity in the rich world—18% in Britain, 19% in US and 80% in France. US has 104 of the world's 443 nuclear power plants. In fact, authorities of some of the big imperialist powers like Britain and Germany are pitching for it once again. Notwithstanding the fact that there is no GHG emission from nuclear power stations, yet the people throughout the world are totally opposed and rightly so to harnessing nuclear sources for power generation because of extreme health hazard associated with the extraction process and waste disposal mechanism. There are several instances of the people having contracted deadly radioactivity-borne diseases or departed life because of exposure to radiations from nuclear power generation plants operating without any preventive device. The Chernobyl disaster and the massive accident at Three Mills Island in Pennsylvania in 1979 (when radioactive gas escaped from a nuclear power plant) are some of such examples. Of late, some of the quarters are claiming that some such devices like safe storage of waste in dry casks surrounded by inert gas etc. has been found out. However, there is no conclusive evidence till date to establish without any shade of doubt that such systems are indeed full-proof and hence implementable. Under the circumstances, till appropriate safety devices are found out, nuclear source can not be considered as any alternative means of power generation.

International initiatives to stop greenhouse gas emission

No doubt, any solution to the gigantic environmental problems facing humanity will involve fundamental changes at the level of technology. But the problems, at root, are not to be found in technology itself. They are to be found in the very structure of

present day society, in the basic motivation of economic activity. To make the point clear we need to look at the international initiatives taken in this regard and the attitude expressed by the governments of various countries.

How has the world tried to respond to climate change? Negotiations began in 1991 under United Nations auspices to formulate an international treaty on global climate protection. Those negotiations resulted in the completion by May 1992 of a Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC). The Convention was opened for signature at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992, and it entered into force in March 1994.

The Convention had few binding requirements. It called for nations to limit carbon dioxide and other greenhouse emissions, by 'addressing anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals through sinks of greenhouse gases....' It did not set out specific targets or timetables for reducing emissions. It only required the developed country signatories to formulate and adopt policies that aim at stabilizing GHG emissions at 1990 emission levels, recognizing that 'the return by the end of the present decade to earlier levels of anthropogenic emissions... would contribute to... modifying longer term trends in anthropogenic emissions consistent with the objective of the Convention... to achieve... stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.'

In 1995, the Parties to the Framework Convention at their first meeting in Berlin, declared that commitments made in 1992 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions were inadequate to meet the objective of the Convention. So-called 'next steps' were needed to confront the potential of global warming in the post-2000 time frame. Consequently, the parties agreed to a process, set forth in their 'Berlin Mandate', of analysis and assessment of just what next steps might be taken to limit greenhouse gas emissions.

This process resulted in the

Contd. on page 5

Largest environment pollutants dodging the issue of Global Warming on one or other pretext

Contd. from page 4

negotiation of a protocol, the final details of which were completed at the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention held 1-12 December 1997, in Kyoto, Japan. Negotiated in December 1997 in Kyoto, Japan, opened for signature on March 16, 1998, and closed on March 15 1999, it is the international agreement involving 169 countries for combating global warming and it came out as an amendment to the United Nations Framework on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It assigned mandatory limitations on the emission of GHG to the signatory countries. It aimed at the "stabilization of greenhouse gas concentration in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate change". The agreement came into force in February 2005, after its ratification by Russia on November 18, 2004.

According to a press statement released by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), "The Kyoto protocol is an agreement under which industrialized countries will reduce their collective emissions of greenhouse gases by 5.2% compared to the year 1990 (but note that compared to the emission levels that would be expected by 2010 without the Protocol, this limitation represents 29% cut). The goal is to lower overall emissions of six greenhouse gases – carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, sulfur hexafluoride, hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and perfluorinated compounds (PFCs) – calculated as an average over the five-year period of 2008-12. National limitations range from 8% reductions for the European Union and some others to 7% for the US, 6% for Japan, 0% for Russia and permitted increases of 8% for Australia and 10% for Iceland".

What is impeding implementation

US, the world's largest emitter of GHG, and Australia, another major emitter, have refused to ratify and sign the treaty. The two rich developed countries, which have also large contributions to GHG emission, have ratified the treaty but have been exempted from its provisions. The treaty expires in

2012 and fresh international talks started in May 2007 in Germany to converge on a future treaty that would be a sequel to the previous one. A host of 55 countries are required to slash down at least 50% carbon dioxide emission compared to the 1990 level. The countries that ratify this protocol are committed to reduce their carbon dioxide and five other GHG emissions and to engage in "emissions trading" if they maintain or increase emissions of these gases. The Kyoto protocol now covers more than 160 countries of the world and over 55% of global greenhouse gas emissions.

It may be added that right from day one, the imperialist US regime has been trying to dodge the issue under one pretext or the other. Notwithstanding providing lip service to the all important questions of reversing the trend of increased Global Warming, the Pentagon rulers as chieftain of world imperialism-capitalism thriving on the hunger and ruination of the global people ensured that any tangible proposal to effectively combat the menace of climate change did not materialize. For six years the Bush administration doggedly refused to acknowledge growing scientific evidence about the dangers of Global Warming and climate change. Scientists at the Environmental Protection Agency (EA) and at NASA complained that administration political appointees, with no scientific background or expertise, edited their research reports and findings to downplay the dangers of climate change and serve the propaganda needs of corporate interests allied to the government. In fact Bush had been slashing environmental standards and protections at the behest of the powerful oil industry lobby barons like Exxon Mobil and some think tanks such as the Competitive Enterprise Institute and the Cato Institute that have with clear motive been campaigning to downplay the risks of climate change. Though under pressure of people's movements and fierce protest from within his own country powered by conclusive scientific evidence, Bush is pronouncing his acceptance that Global Warming exists, that it is caused by "man," and that something has to be done about, now champions the development of

alternative fuels and an end to the American addiction to oil, yet there is no reason to believe that US imperialism and its cohorts have changed their stand in favour of adopting appropriate measures to stop GHG emission and other activities like mindless urbanization contributing to environmental pollution. For example, Bush administration has not stopped from arguing before the Supreme Court against a law suit that would compel the EPA to take action against greenhouse gas pollutants, which had it steadfastly refused to do for the past six years. Hence there is no reason to believe that the US regime is serious about it and is not guided by any manoeuvring intentions.

Notably, there is a stark contrast between the gravity of this concern and the promise made at Heiligendamm to negotiate a multilateral pact on Global Warming, beyond the Kyoto Protocol's expiry. India, China and Brazil bluntly refused even to discuss capping their emissions, leave alone cut them. India said, "growth...prospects in the developing world" must in no circumstances be "constrained"; higher GDP growth "is the best way for developing countries to address... the issue of... protecting the climate." India emphasized on the "principle of common but differential responsibility".

By far the majority of greenhouse gases are emitted by sources in industrial and transportation sectors (especially automobiles) that are concentrated in developed countries. These countries have shown concern not only about their own emissions, but about increased emissions from poorer countries as they expand their economies. Friction has been evident in the debates over which actions by developed and developing countries should be undertaken, on what schedules, and which parties should pay incremental costs for mitigation measures. Developing countries generally have argued that the financial burden of change should be borne by developed countries, which are mainly responsible for current atmospheric change due to human activity. True primary responsibility for reversing the climate change lies on the rich G-8

and other Western countries because they are historically responsible for causing this menace. However it is also imperative that growing Eastern countries including India undertake obligations to cut their ballooning emissions. The average Indian and Chinese contribute respectively one-twentieth and one-sixth as much to Global Warming as the average American. India's overall emissions are growing almost four times faster than the global average. They are expected to rise two-and-a-half times by 2030. Vehicular emissions are projected to rise about six-fold. Even if Western world reduces its emission by 80% by 2050, India will still need to cut theirs by about 60%. Indian government like Pentagon rulers admit that there is a universal obligation to mitigate climatic change. But they are in no mood to pursue anything that intrinsically begets something good to the global people if that comes in the way of their business interest or scope for earning maximum profit.

One ought not to be oblivious of the fact that despite being classified as developed and developing countries based on the level of economic power they wield in relative term, both the camps are inseparable part of the crisis-ridden world imperialism-capitalism, now gasping in the moribund decadent stage. Hence, their differences and debates are not purported towards eradicating the menace of Global Warming but are mere bargaining exercises stemming from the respective class aspiration to secure some concession over market. India as a nascent imperialist power alongwith capitalist China (after falloff its socialist system through completion of counter-revolution masterminded by the revisionist capitalist roaders led by Deng Xiaoping) and other relatively weaker but aspirant capitalist powers like Brazil have been trying to elicit some concessions and favour from the traditional imperialist countries led by US centering round the sensitive issue of Global Warming.

Capitalist conspiracy

The problem of the environment is indeed a problem for mankind – for the very survival of the human

Contd. on page 6

So long as capitalism exists, there can be no lasting solution to Global Warming

Contd. from page 5

species. But it cannot be seen in isolation from the present social system. Why has the world been led to the precipice of such devastation? As we have seen earlier, despite the harmful effects being well-known, the imperialists-capitalists did not care to stop going with projects be it in the power sector, or chemicals or in any other manufacturing area lest it mars the prospect of earning maximum profit. To grab market by displacing the rivals, it is a must for the capitalists to cut production costs as much as possible so that they could reap maximum profit. Hence they need to invest in the type of technology that does the job as quickly and as cheaply as possible, regardless of the damaging consequences for the generations of the future. The bourgeoisie use technology for minting profit caring a fib for the greater necessities of the people. Even today, they are arguing that thrust on environmental factors would impede growth since such safeguards would make industries non-viable for operation. Cunningly, they have been counterposing the all important question of Global Warming and consequent health hazard against the issue of bringing about economic growth as if the poor and have-nots, the exploited millions are benefited out of this growth which is nothing but an euphemism for swelling fortune of a handful of rich by depriving the impoverished and destitute. It is world imperialism-capitalism which caused and aggravated the problem in the first place. Over and above toxic emission beyond limit, reckless deforestation, mindless urbanization, frenzied use of weapons of mass destruction in wars of aggression and occupation are all contributing to environmental pollution. The dire consequences of Global Warming led some people to grasp at the false hope that capitalist society can actually do something about salvaging the environment. The highly touted Kyoto Treaty which the imperialist-capitalist world in absence of the socialist camp held out as the solution has already proved to be a hoax since it would instead of mitigating the problem would only bring greenhouse pollution back to levels equivalent to what they were in the early

nineties – still a disastrous level of pollution.

Scientific approach to the problem

So it is clear that it will be height of mistake to expect anything from these profit-seeking imperialist-capitalists whose attempt to downplay the threat of Global Warming or feigning support for the necessity to take remedial measures are all driven by profit motive in one form or other. So long as capitalism exists, there can not be any lasting solution to the problem as it is the greed for profit, super profit which would guide policies, decisions and actions and not any human consideration.

Anyone approaching the problems of nature scientifically will recognize that man himself is a product of nature, product of the long long course of evolution. So, Marx said, "History itself is a real part of natural history—of nature developing into man" (Economic and Philosophic manuscripts of 1844). In nature, nothing takes place in isolation. Everything affects and is affected by every other thing. Nature exists dialectically and acts dialectically. So man like all animals by his existence and activities affects natural environment and is dialectically affected by it. But while the animals affect the environment unintentionally, man can and does it with "premeditated, planned action directed towards definite preconceived goal." Yet man can not do it at his sweet will. Man can not rule over nature like an emperor or conqueror. Man can not create natural laws. He can only with the help of science discover the natural laws. He can only restrain the harmful effects of one natural law by using and acting in the process of another natural process and thereby use it to his benefit. Likewise, we are with the passage of time coming to know about various laws operative behind shaping and patterning the environment. Everyday, we are acquiring better understanding of these laws which is enabling us to perceive both the immediate as well as long term consequences of various production activities we have been undertaking as well as how they are interfering with the course of the nature. "The Greenhouse Effect" related to

environmental science, is, as we have discussed earlier, is a multifactored natural phenomenon. Our concern is with the "enhanced Greenhouse Effect" caused due to the various production activities that is leading to "Global Warming".

We have already mentioned that this is a global menace and hence demands an appropriate solution by global participation. The wastes causing emission of GHG spread horizontally at a relatively faster pace reaching all longitudes of the world in about a week and all latitudes within months so that even the US waste can cause immense harm to Indian environment and vice versa. We as students of political economy know that though science or technology does not have any class character and hence can serve both rich and poor alike, yet in a class-divided society, it is the class-motive of the ruling class which determines how the policies on science and technology will be formulated and what norms will be governing the various production activities. Naturally in a capitalist society like ours, the application of science and technology will be limited to the extent of securing maximum profit of the capitalists with no concern whatsoever for the people at large groaning under the yoke of ruthless capitalist exploitation. Poor people who are not responsible for causing environmental pollution however bear the brunt of the adverse effect of it. So when Nicholas Stern, Head of the government economic services (UK) in his report says: "All countries will be affected. The most vulnerable – the poorest countries and population – will suffer earliest and the most even though they have contributed least to the causes of climate change."— he only confirms the naked truth.

It will be extremely relevant to quote one of the invaluable comments of Engels who propounded the theory of social transformation based on Marxist philosophy. In course of his discussion on the "Part played by labour in transition from ape to Man", he observed, "in this sphere, too, by long ... cruel experience and by collecting and analyzing historical material, we are gradually learning to get a clear view of the indirect, more remote, social effects of our production activity, and so

are afforded an opportunity to control and regulate these effects as well. This regulation, however, requires something more than mere knowledge. It requires a complete revolution in our hitherto existing mode of production, and simultaneously a revolution in our whole contemporary social order. All hitherto existing modes of production have aimed merely at achieving the most immediately and directly useful effect of labour. The further consequences ... were totally neglected.... The individual capitalists, who dominate production and exchange, are able to concern themselves only with the most immediate useful effect of their actions. Indeed, even this useful effect... retreats far into the background, and the sole incentive becomes the profit to be made on selling... In relation to nature, as to society, the present mode of production is predominantly concerned only about the immediate, the most tangible result; and then surprise is expressed that the more remote effects of actions... are mostly quite the opposite in character."

Build up worldwide movement to stem the rot

Thus it is clear that it is this sole motive of earning maximum profit which drives a capitalist system, controls all scientific activities and technological use regardless of the human and ecological consequences. Even application of science and development of technology are in the thrall of the ruling bourgeoisie. Crisis-ridden reactionary stinking capitalism is incapable of producing for human need, of adjusting production to what is humanly and ecologically viable. To truly solve the problem of Global Warming, to make sure that technology serves the social needs of humanity and not the profit drive of big corporates and monopolists, requires a revolutionary transformation of the capitalist society by successfully bringing about anti-capitalist revolution under the leadership of the working class. It is yet one more reason why the fate of humanity lies in the hands of the working class, the harbinger of social progress.

But till the time the society undergoes revolutionary

Contd. on page 8

CPI(M)'s degeneration is inevitable outcome of its politics without higher morals and cultural standard

Contd. from page 3

the name of industrialization, protests burst out beyond the limit of peasants' movement and spread out among different sections of common people of the state, even its impact being felt everywhere throughout the country. This surge of mass-movement picked up further momentum at the initiative of the Forum of Artistes, Intellectuals and Cultural Activists, formed to protest the crimes at Singur and Nandigram. Under such circumstances, CBI was again forced to open up the case with fresh initiative. We have already mentioned how in these investigation, CPI(M) activists and important leaders were found involved in the plot and the crime, it was nothing beyond what was anticipated.

However, the way CPI(M) is frantically trying to raise a concerted and well-calibrated campaign against the CBI investigation, a vital question seems to be haunting people's mind. And that is : How far will CBI be successful in revealing the whole plot? With the Congress-led UPA government at the Centre, an avowedly friendly government for the CPI(M) led state government of West Bengal, will not the latter try to use its intimacy with the Union government and exert its political pressure on the CBI to thwart the latter from further delving into the case, thus making it more difficult for the party, particularly in the wake of the forthcoming Panchayat elections in the state? Already there are signs of such pressures being built. We have mentioned a few above. Names of two more important district leaders of CPI(M) that came out in CBI's findings a few days back, have vanished into thin air. Besides, the MP of the area, a prominent CPI(M) leader of the region, has reportedly assured Suhril Datta of party's being on his side. So the doubt is not dispelled, rather deepened. At this point, we should not miss one vital aspect. In this age of moribund capitalism, when democratic movements are being brutally suppressed, hard-earned democratic rights of people are being curtailed one after another, justice is fast becoming a thing of bygone days. The judiciary or the quasi-judiciary bodies are gradually succumbing to more and more

political control, so much so that their initial independent role is almost vanishing. CBI, an integral part of the state machinery, is nowhere near the status of judiciary; it works, as does police or other wings, under the Union government. Thus the chance of its facing and yielding to political pressure always looms large. In fact, there has been a number of instances, for example the Bofors case, the Tehelka scam, or still earlier the Hawala scam, the massacre at Chhota Angaria in West Bengal, or even very recently in the case of Nandigram genocide, etc. where in each case the CBI was found to backtrack under political pressure, even in face of palpable evidences to continue the probe. The present trend with the Tapasi murder case thus stands evidently ominous.

Be that as it may, truth revealed corroborates what our party has said about CPI(M) once and often in the past and what people of the state have experienced at much cost. Long since in power, CPI(M) has shunned the path of democratic movements. But leaving apart that veritable truth, the CPI(M) leadership is now frantic in crushing any protest or resentment against their policies of nakedly serving the ruling capitalists. To begin with, they practice the opportunist politics

AIDSO's promptness solve admission problem in Sikkim

Acute crisis in admission was created in three government colleges in Sikkim after the authorities fixed 55% as cut-off marks. Led by Comrade Indrabahadur Subba, member, AIDSO Sikkim Organizing Committee and President of the Adong Government College Students' Union a meeting was held with the representatives of the three colleges to organize movement and deputation to the Education Minister. This move of the AIDSO prompted the Education Minister to discuss with the students and announced reduction of cut-off marks to 40% to facilitate admission of all the students passed. Comrade Ramesh Sharma, Secretary, AIDSO Sikkim Organizing Committee congratulated the students on this victory.

of dangling carrots, that is the privileges of power and pelf to allure people into their fold. Whenever that becomes impossible, they unleash all kinds of threat and terror. Even their veteran front-ranking state leaders, including the ministers, from the highest to lower ranks, openly use direct threats or challenges to anybody opposing them. To turn words into action, they wield their administration, the police and even the branded criminals to intimidate and even annihilate the opponents and protestors. The dastardly attack they brought down upon peasants of Singur and, later, of Nandigram tells us of recent examples of the bottomline they have reached. And in this act of theirs, they are taking recourse to newer and newer methods and devices.

In the history of democratic movement of the country, we have often witnessed the police and the army of the capitalist state machinery bringing down brute suppression and assault on the activists and demonstrators. It has also been found that in many cases the ruthless oppressors belonging to the forces of police, different paramilitary wings or the army, have even taken to committing rapes on women, be it in Manipur or in Kashmir or elsewhere, as a means to intimidate the womenfolk. There have been cases of mass rapes during communal riots too. But use of this dastardly act of rape of woman by the party activists with a view to intimidating womenfolk and stopping them from joining democratic movements and thereby

Contd. on page 8

All India Bank Employees' Unity Forum Calls for March to Parliament on July 27

In a statement on 20.6.07 Comrade Jagannath Ray Mandal, General Secretary, All India Bank Employees' Unity Forum has given a call for March to Parliament on 27th July 2007 on the demand of pension for all, conversion of part-time workers engaged in banks to full-time staff, recruitment on compassionate grounds, general recruitment of staff to fill up vacancies, speedy realization of bad debts under Non-Performing Assets (NPA), and to oppose 'outsourcing' of jobs, privatization etc. Comrade Ray Mondal, in his appeal highlighted certain aspects affecting the interest of the bank employees of the country.

Banking industry, particularly the PSU bank are at present plagued with an NPA amounting to about Rs.2,50,000 crore. Bank managements as well as the government of the country are neither taking any effective step for recovery of the loans turned bad nor taking stern measures against the defaulters who are mostly big corporates, simply on class motives.

In order to ensure maximum profit, banks are moving in a well-planned manner towards rationalization of workforce to

reduce cost through high-tech automation and application of information technology (IT) adversely affecting the employees, who not to speak of getting the share of benefit of modern technology, are being thrown out of job. Outsourcing of regular work has posed another great menace to the bank employees.

Bank employees' demand for pension as the third superannuation benefit has been neglected for decades. Moreover, those who demanded another scope for opting for pension as a second benefit are also being grossly deprived.

Regularization of the sizeable number of part-time employees is a major demand. Other demands include like absorption of canteen staff as regular employees, promotion of class IV employees, conversion of sweepers to substaff after they complete 5 years of service, absorption of casual workers and appointment on compassionate ground, etc.

The statement fervently called upon the bank employees to come forward for developing united and strong protracted movement on the above demands and make the Parliament March of 27th July a grand success.

CBI arrests CPI(M) leader for Tapasi Malik Murder

Contd. from page 7

to crushing people's resentment and resistance was never witnessed in the history of mass movements in the country; nor even during the rules of bourgeois parties like Congress or BJP. It is the CPI(M) which has come out to encourage, plan and thus use this cowardly heinous act perpetrated by none other than their own activists, in their attempt to crush democratic movements. They want to shatter the moral backbone of the fighting womenfolk with the help of this ghastly act. Such an act by a party which still goes with a Marxist tag in their signboard, has shocked many right-thinking people. We are fully aware, and by this time people of West Bengal are also becoming aware of the fact, that the Marxist tag of CPI(M) is a mere camouflage to hide their social democratic character. They do not have an iota of Marxism left in their character and doings. And their present trend of using rapes on women as a weapon, amply demonstrates what depth they have descended to. Even the horrid mass rape at Nandigram by the CPI(M) goons and the police, may not be the end for these demons. They may dare to commit still graver crimes. However, to those who are aware of their politics, it is nothing unusual for them, neither unexpected too. Decades back, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the founder General Secretary of SUCI and a leading Marxist thinker of the post- Lenin

days, indicated that a political party cannot be and should not be judged merely by its pronouncements and slogans. He said that the living soul, the kernel of any noble ideal like Marxism –Leninism is ingrained in the moral strength, character and in the cultural standard of the people who accept this ideal as their philosophy of life. If a political ideology is devoid of higher morals and noble culture, if its practice does not infuse moral strength and reflect a higher cultural standard, whatever lofty words it may pronounce, the ideology turns out to be a lifeless body, a stinking corpse inevitably to be disposed; it is surely harmful. The present downfall and degeneration of CPI(M) vindicates the veracity of this warning by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. Had there been the least of conscience left in the leaders and activists of CPI(M), they would not have perpetrated such an act that can only be termed as barbarous

crime. In the craze for power and pelf, in their frenzy to serve the ruling capitalists and earn their blessings and thrown-aways, they have shed apart all remains of moral and ethical sense of values, all remains of human conscience to assume the role of a fascistic demon.

In such a situation, we appeal to those inside CPI(M) who still bear even the minimum of a feeling for Marxism- Leninism, a feeling for the toiling people, we appeal to each and every right thinking person to realize the bitter fact, that CPI(M) has become a force that uses its leftist cloak and jargons only to cover up their demonic lust and hunger for power and pelf. Their acts bear footsteps of fascism in their wake. If they are not thwarted with all might and at right time, it will only help the moribund exploitative capitalist system attain a further lease of life and bring further miseries to people.

SUCI to abstain from voting in the Presidential poll

Contd. from page 1

seeking fulfillment of people's urgent demands. All parliamentary activities ought therefore to be strictly conducive to this crucial guiding political line. The growth and development of the genuine left and democratic forces to steer gear this guiding political line demanded putting up for the Presidential seat a true leftist candidate of proven-track record of participation and organization in the people's struggles while conducting the electioneering activities in such a way as to strengthen the cause of the legitimate democratic movement of the oppressed masses. Evidently, this task has been rendered impossible because of abject betrayal of the CPI(M) and its allies who are now found to be rolling at the feet of the ruling capitalist class to curry favour for making parliamentary fortunes.

Under the circumstances, the Central Committee of the SUCI considers it an unflinching duty to highlight the whole state of affairs before the people and as a task arising out of that, decides to abstain from this Presidential poll and thereby register its strong protest against the farcical manner in which the election is being held with the two candidates floated by two trusted combinations of the ruling bourgeoisie having no basic differences amongst themselves being engaged in mudslinging and verbal duels to score over each other and the people of the country having no stake at all in it.

Global Warming

Contd. from page 6

transformation, it is imperative that the people of the capitalist-imperialist countries are dawned upon the consciousness that unless they rise up, close their ranks and build up intense anti-Global Warming movement in their respective countries to force the governments to desist from any move to increase emission of GHG and instead take immediate necessary steps to prevent the Earth from being excessively heated, the very survival of human species may be in jeopardy. All such movements must also be properly co-ordinated. It is only on break up of such a worldwide organized movement that the ruinous Global Warming could be stemmed.



AIDSO organized movement against steep hike in students' bus fare in Karnataka and compelled the government to partially cut the hike. Above a portion of protest demonstration on July 7



SUCI Orissa State Committee and its mass organisations held a massive demonstration in front of State Assembly on July 5 against sex education. A portion of the gathering is seen above

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF : NIHAR MUKHERJEE