

# Red Revolutionary Area in India Shines Like a Beacon

— The revolutionary armed struggle in Srikakulam under the leadership of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) is expanding

**L**IKE a beacon light, the red revolutionary area which has come into being in Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh, is shining brightly on the woe-stricken land of India. The oppressed people in that country hail and praise it as "the most advanced bulwark of India."

Srikakulam District is a mountainous area covered with thick forests in the northeastern part of Andhra Pradesh. For generations the peasants here have been kept in subjection, and now they are taking up arms under the leadership of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) against their oppressors. They have smashed the feudal yoke and overthrown the crushing tyranny. The greater part of Srikakulam has been turned into a red revolutionary area with yesterday's oppressed becoming masters of the land. Today, everywhere in this area is a scene of revolutionary vigour and the people sing with revolutionary gusto:

*Rise up, oh, ye Adivasi heroes,  
And flex the muscles  
Of your taut and sinewy body,  
And plunge with the force of a hurricane  
Into battle against your class enemies.*

The red revolutionary area in Srikakulam District was created by the Indian revolutionaries with the blood they shed in battle.

## Take the Road of Armed Struggle

Every family of the poverty-stricken peasants in Srikakulam has a history written with blood and tears.

Ruthlessly exploited and oppressed for generations by the landlord class, they eke out a miserable existence like beasts of burden. The life of the Girijans is even worse, for the fertile land arduously reclaimed by them on the plains was seized by the landlords and usurers with the help of police brutality. Dispossessed, they are driven to live in the mountain areas.

Oppression begets resistance. The peasants of Srikakulam began waging an unrelenting struggle against their feudal oppressors. But the revisionists in the state tried their best to undermine the revolutionary struggle of the Srikakulam peasants, using all kinds of despicable means to lure them on to the so-called "parliamentary road." Aided and abetted by the revisionists, the counter-revolutionary armed forces repeatedly carried out sanguinary suppression of the peasant revolution in the district.

Lessons written in blood have prompted the suffering peasants of Srikakulam to seek more eagerly the truth for liberation. They finally found the correct road of struggle from great Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought disseminated there by the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist). A report of the Srikakulam District Committee of the C.P.I. (M-L) has put it well: "Since the victory of people's war in China, people in the backward countries firmly believe that it is only people's war that is to be adopted in these countries for their liberation." "People's war is inevitable in this country." "We can raise the consciousness of the peasants only by intensifying the armed class struggle in villages and thereby annihilate

the class enemies." The district committee decided thoroughly to rebel against the revisionist leadership in the state and resolutely take the road of armed struggle, which is the correct one. From November 25, 1968, the district committee began to mobilize the masses of the peasantry to take up arms and fight.

Charu Mazumdar, leader of the C.P.I. (M-L), personally kindled the flames of the armed struggle in Srikakulam. Arriving there in March 1969, he instructed the district committee to "build up guerrilla squads and start struggle immediately." He conveyed to it the correct thesis made by Comrade Lin Piao in his work *Long Live the Victory of People's War!*: "Guerrilla warfare is the only way to mobilize and apply the whole strength of the people against the enemy."

Members of the Srikakulam District Committee of the C.P.I. (M-L) went deep into the countryside, established guerrilla units and propagated the truth pointed out by Chairman Mao that "political power grows out of the barrel of a gun." They aroused the masses, organized them and armed them. As the peasant movement swept through the land like a storm, the revolutionary armed forces developed speedily. The C.P.I. (M-L) has now more than 100 guerrilla squads under its leadership and the areas of armed struggle have rapidly extended from the mountains to the plains and coasts. The revolutionary armed forces have turned 300 villages into a red area and set up preliminary organs of people's political power called "Councils for the People's Uprising" to take charge of administration and production and lay the groundwork for land distribution. "People's Courts" have been set up in all villages to try the enemies and pass judgment on them. The broad masses of the peasants heartily hail the birth of the red area.

### **"Whether We Live or Die, It Must Be for the People"**

The above is the slogan adopted with pride in their hearts by the revolutionaries of Srikakulam District. Courageous in battle against the enemy, they have accomplished many a heroic and moving feat.

Srikakulam's revolutionary peasants scorn the ferocious enemy. Fighting with home-made guns, hand-grenades, swords, spears, and bows and arrows, they have badly battered the "Central Police Reserve Corps" and the state police forces equipped with modern weapons. In 1969, they fought 65 engagements with the police and smashed the reactionaries' armed "encirclement and suppression" operations one after another. The peasant masses and the guerrilla squads fought side by side, raiding landlords' estates, seizing enemy weapons, suppressing local despots, burning land and loan contracts and distributing the landlords' grain and land. Overwhelmed with joy, the masses shouted: "Long live the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist)!"

"Long live the armed revolution!" and "Long live Chairman Mao!" They look upon the guerrillas as their own kinsfolk and enthusiastically provide them with grain, vegetables and shelter.

In May last year, the reactionaries barbarously killed Krishnamurthy, one of the leaders of the Srikakulam guerrilla units, and six guerrilla fighters. Upright and dauntless, hero Krishnamurthy sternly denounced the reactionary police officers: "You cannot stop the advance of the revolution by murdering us. No power on earth can suppress the armed revolution of our people which has just started. The present regime of exploitation and oppression is doomed."

When one hero falls, tens of thousands of others rise to step into the void. Sampurna, a woman fighter of the Srikakulam central guerrilla squad, is one such heroine. Sampurna, the mother of three children, was arrested by the enemy in June last year, and the reactionaries viciously threatened and cajoled her. One reactionary police officer tried to soften her up: "You have your children, your parents and your husband's parents. Why then should you get yourself involved in all this trouble? Wouldn't it be better for you to recant your mistake and return to your home and also to persuade your husband to give up all this and return to the path of sanity?" Neither threats nor blandishments by the enemy could shake Sampurna's revolutionary resolve. She replied with firmness: "I did not seek this trouble, far from it. But I found that the solution of the problem of starvation and that of bringing up my children are inseparably connected with the solution of the problem facing the peasantry. And the way to solve this problem has been pointed out by Mao Tsetung Thought. So I have taken this path illuminated by Mao Tsetung Thought, in order to make not only my own children but also those of millions of the poor toiling people happy."

Suppression by the Indian reactionaries can never put out the flames of armed struggle of the revolutionary Srikakulam people who are determined to carry the armed struggle through to the end. They will not rest till victory is won.

Initiated in Srikakulam, the flames of armed struggle have now spread to 19 localities in 10 nearby districts, and its impact is spreading to other parts of the country.

Charu Mazumdar, leader of the C.P.I. (M-L), pointed out recently: "Srikakulam is fighting valiantly, tomorrow the whole of Andhra will join the fight." With infinite confidence, the Indian revolutionaries have raised the solemn, militant slogan: "Let us build Srikakulams in other parts of the country."

More and more red revolutionary areas like Srikakulam are indeed coming into existence in the vast land of India. Under the leadership of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist), the revolutionary struggle of the Indian people is bound to score victory after victory.