

## REPRESSION IN TRIPURA

The Seventh Congress of the CPI views with deep concern the widespread repression of Communist Party workers and hundreds of ordinary peasants, specially in tribal areas in Tripura state.

Large-scale evictions are taking place from land which the peasants were cultivating for a long time and in the majority of cases the persons thus evicted belonged to the tribal community. Evictions are taking place even from areas which were held to be protected for tribals in the time of the Maharajah. In schemes where "shifting" cultivators are being given lands by government itself, even here there are large-scale evictions and encroachments.

In many cases the evicted persons are subsequently implicated in police cases involving them in long periods of detention. In all cases which have been decided up-to-date by the courts all the allegations have been proved to be false. It is significant that the persons so involved are invariably those who have opposed the ruling party in elections including those who were elected to panchayats and legislatures defeating them.

Since 1962 over 70 persons have been kept in jail under DIR, emergency powers, including both the MPs who represent Tripura in Parliament and all the communist members of the Territorial Council (Assembly) in a state where in the parliamentary elections the Communist Party polled 51% of the total votes polled. Apart from arrests under DIR innumerable cases were started on various pretexts from cattle-lifting to murder and over 2000 Party members, sympathisers and those who in any way protested against injustices practised, were also implicated.

Although many of those detained were recently released, hundreds of cases are still pending in the courts and even today fresh harassments are constantly taking place.

The Seventh Congress of the CPI demands that these vindictive harassments be stopped, all cases be withdrawn, those detained be forthwith released and the lands of those evicted be restored.

This Congress assures the people of Tripura its solidarity and support in their brave struggle for protecting and furthering the interests of their people.

It calls upon the Indian people to protest against this repression, to demand that full civil liberties be immediately restored and to support the rightful struggle of the people of Tripura—for land to the peasants, for protection of the interests of the tribals, for industrialisation of the state and for the betterment of the life of the entire people.

## REPUBLICAN PARTY OF INDIA'S STRUGGLE FOR LAND

The Seventh Congress of the Communist Party of India offers its warm support to the struggle launched by the Republican Party of India for the demands of the landless people and other backward classes, such as distribution of waste lands to the landless, provision of housing sites and cheap housing, education and other just rights. Such struggles have been repeatedly launched in the past, on occasions in cooperation with other left and democratic parties. Assurances have been given by state governments, and as often broken or only partially honoured.

This Congress of the CPI records its strong protest against the repressive measures taken by the government against the movement including the use of DIR against some of its leaders, the arrest and conviction of hundreds of satyagrahis and the ill treatment given to them in the jails. It demands that government should immediately open negotiations with the leaders of the movement to bring about a satisfactory settlement of their demands.

## SITUATION AT MARMAGOA PORT

This Seventh Congress of the Communist Party of India views with grave concern the deteriorating situation in the port of Marmagaoa harbour where the use of DIR against the leadership of the Marmagaoa Port, Dock & Transport Workers' Union and the arrest of hundreds of workers has led to a provocative situation.