

# RELEASE ALL COMMUNIST DETENUS



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MAY 12, 1963 WILL GO DOWN IN THE HISTORY OF OUR PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE AS A DAY OF MIGHTY DEMONSTRATIONS AND MEETINGS, HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY, IN EVERY PART OF THE COUNTRY ON THE VITAL DEMOCRATIC DEMAND FOR THE RELEASE OF ALL COMMUNIST DETENUS IMPRISONED UNDER THE NOTORIOUS DEFENCE OF INDIA RULES.

AS WE GO TO PRESS, WE HAVE IN HAND ONLY THE PARTIAL PICTURE OF THE OBSERVANCE OF THE RELEASE DETENUS DAY BUT EVEN THIS PARTIAL REPORT AMPLY INDICATES THE SWEEP OF THE POPULAR SUPPORT BEHIND THE DEMAND OF THE RELEASE OF THE DETENUS.

## West Bengal

THOUSANDS of voices joined the Communist leaders demanding withdrawal of the unconstitutional Defence of India Act and Rules and immediate release of all persons arrested thereunder, at a big rally in Calcutta maidan on May 13 to observe the all-India Release Detenus Day, the call for which was given by the Central Executive Committee of the CPI.

A. K. Gopalan, MP, P. C.

Joshi and an Advocate of the Supreme Court R. K. Garg addressed the meeting which was presided over by Bhupesh Gupta, member of the Central Secretariat of the CPI.

The meeting demanded the release of detenus and called upon the people to take up the cause and build up a mighty movement.

P. C. Joshi said that government justifies the detention of Communists. The Jurists say, the Defence of India Act is unconstitutional. Yet the detenus are not released. If it is the Communists today, tomorrow there

# NOW

will be others thrown in prison if such act goes unchallenged.

Garg explained the jurists'

opinion that the Defence of India Act and Rules are unconstitutional and invalid. He said, this Act brings back the worst features of British repression and reminds us of pre-independence days. Garg said that freedom of the country is the basis of freedom of the individual and the

he said that hundreds of Congressmen fought for abolishing classification in British jails.

But today the Congress perpetuates it. Gopalan declared that the Communists outside jails would not remain onlookers if prisoners were not released.

Bhupesh Gupta said that history teaches that anti-communism leads to burial

## APPEAL

IN the Calcutta maidan rally, A. K. Gopalan, MP gave the call for collection of two lakh signatures on an appeal within next two weeks. The call was seconded by Bhupesh Gupta. The appeal, inter alia, states:

Jurists have held that the Defence of India Act and Rules authorising detention are unconstitutional and invalid. Therefore, detentions under them are illegal.

We demand that these unconstitutional provisions be revoked and the detenus be released.

freedom of the individual is the foundation of the freedom of the country.

A. K. Gopalan pointed to the rise in prices, taxes, food crisis, eviction of peasants, and said, the people would agitate and struggle. And to stop this, government keeps Communists in jail.

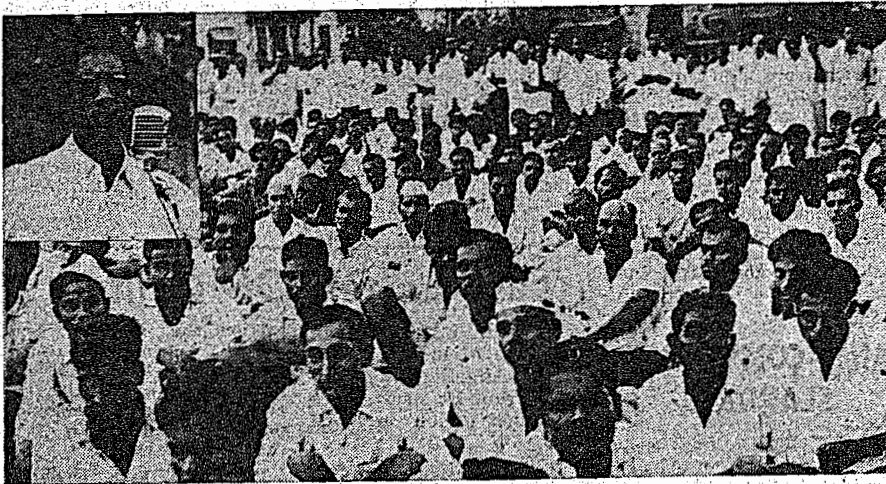
He criticised the Congress ministers' role during the recent bye-elections and pointed out how Congress was indulging in coercion and misuse of emergency. Detention without trial of opposition leaders was a mockery of Parliamentary democracy, he said.

Gopalan said, that the real traitors were the hoarders, profiteers and tax-dodgers. Referring to jail conditions,

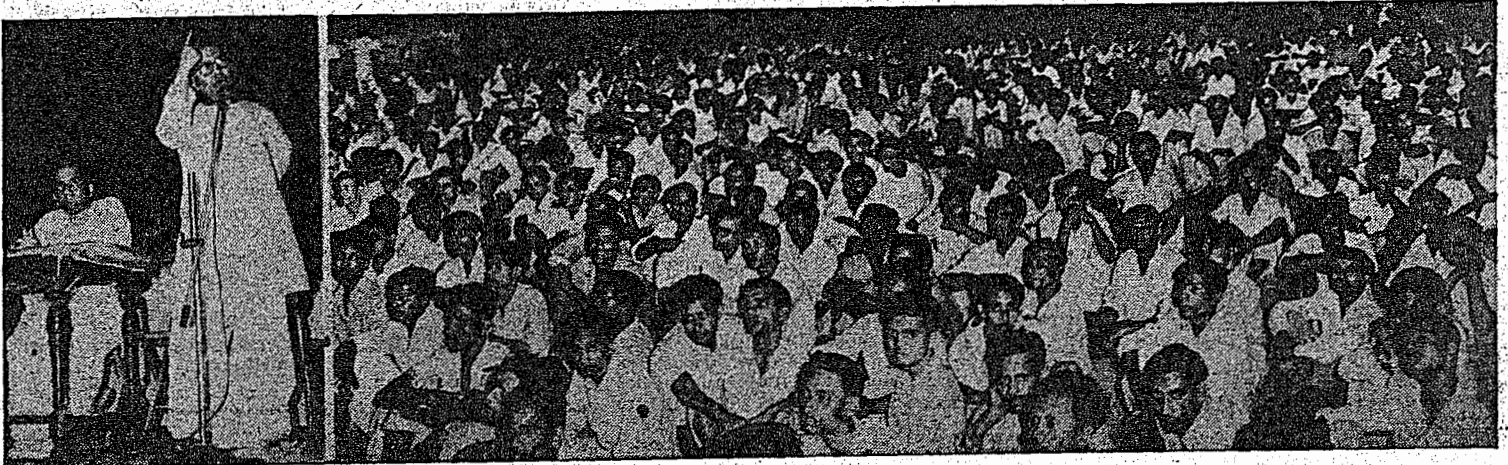
of democracy. He called upon the people to fight for the release and defence of democracy.

Resolutions demanding the release of all arrested, revoking of the Defence of India Act and Rules and adequate family allowances for all detenus and lending support to the struggle of

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Top: A section of the Bombay rally. Inset: S. G. Sardesai  
Below: A view of the Calcutta rally. P. C. Joshi at the mike.



















# Release Communist DETENUS NOW

## \*FROM FRONT PAGE

the goldsmiths were unanimously passed.

The resolution on release of detenus, among others, stated:

"This continued arrest and detention of the Communists, other progressive political workers and leaders and workers of mass movements is not only a blow against the Communist Party but also against the very struture of democratic life and this meeting therefore appeals to all the citizens of Calcutta to raise a mighty voice for the release and restoration of fundamental democratic rights."

On May 12, a big meeting was held at Howrah Maidan, attended by more than ten thousand people and addressed among others by A. K. Gopalan MP.

In Hoogli district a meeting was held at Serampore and then a big procession marched from the meeting of Konnagar a distance of five miles.

## Punjab

FROM the incomplete reports that have so far come, it transpires that over a hundred public meetings and demonstrations were held throughout the Punjab on May 12 and 13. More meetings were organised on May 14 and 15. Mass meetings have been held in such towns as Ludhiana, Moga, Amritsar, Kotkapura, Ferozepore Cant and Phagwara.

On May 13, mass demonstrations were held in Sangrur, Amritsar, Karnal, Rajpura, Kheral, Jamuna Nagar, Phillaur, etc.

Despite the harvesting season, peasants came from far off villages in Sangrur in large numbers. The demonstration was led by Avtar Singh Malhotra, Baba Dulle Singh, Partap Singh Dhanaula and others. It marched through the streets of the city and ended in front of the district courts where a memorandum was handed over to the district authorities.

At Amritsar a big rally was held in the Gol Bagh in the afternoon and at the end of the rally a procession marched to the district courts.

The demand for immediate release of detenus was voiced in all the meetings and demonstrations.

## Maharashtra

SPeAKING at a mass meeting on the occasion of the Release Detenus Day held at the Nare Park, S. G. Sardesai, Secretary of the Maharashtra State Council of the CPI demanded the immediate release of all Communist and trade union leaders detained under the Defence of India Rules.

A number of processions were taken out in the working

class areas of the city and they all converged in the rally, which was presided over by Prabhakar Vaidya, Secretary of the Bombay Committee of the CPI.

Advocate K. T. Sule in his speech criticised the policy of the government keeping the Communist and trade union leaders in continued detention in the name of emergency.

The high-handed and undemocratic manner in which the government behaved could be seen from the fact that for a long time copies of the Defence of India Rules were not made available to the lawyers even though these copies were lying with the government. S. S. Mirajkar, President of the AITUC and G. Sundaram, General Secretary of the Petroleum Workers' Union also addressed the gathering.

MORE than three thousand citizens of Nagpur in a memorandum submitted on May 12, demanded the immediate release of all Communist detenus.

The memorandum, among others, pointed out that the continued detention of Communists, was contrary to the basic Precepts of democracy.

Among the signatories to the memorandum are a number of doctors, professors, small businessmen etc.

## Delhi

I M MEDIATE release of all Communists, trade union and kishan sabha leaders detained under the D.I.R. was demanded in two mass rallies organised by the Delhi Provincial Council of the CPI in connection with the Release Detenus day. The rallies were held in Subzimandi and Sewanagar.

The resolution in the main rally, held in Subzimandi, was moved by M. Farooqi, Secretary, Delhi Provincial Council of the Party. The resolution deplored the misuse of Emergency powers by the Government and proceeded to say:

"It is regrettable that the Emergency powers, instead of being used against black-marketeers, profiteers, and other anti-national elements, have been applied against those who defended the interests of workers, other toiling sections of the people".

The resolution demanded better class treatment for detenus and deplored the "political vindictiveness" of certain State governments in this respect.

Speakers at these rallies included Teja Singh Swatantar, veteran Communist leader, Romesh Chandra, Editor of New Age, trade union leaders B. D. Joshi, Ram Chandra Sharma, Shakil Ahmed and Baldeo Singh.

The speakers described the work of the Communist Party for national defence and for the defence of accepted national policies of nonalignment, democracy and socialism. They emphasised that the

Party as a whole was committed to these policies. They ridiculed the attempts of the Government and the anti-Communists to create artificial divisions in the Party on national policies.

Earlier in the day, Communist Party Branches in various parts of Delhi organised prabhat pheris, demonstrations, mill-gate meetings to explain to the people the significance of the demand for detenus' release.

The trade unions have actively taken up the demand for the release of trade union leaders and others. Following the decision of the Delhi State Committee of the AITUC on April 8 a number of unions adopted resolutions on release.

During the preparations for May Day, this was an important task which the trade unions undertook. In the May Day rally itself a resolution demanding release was adopted.

Subsequently, a number of unions have adopted resolutions to this effect. Recently the Voltas and Volkart Employees' Union (an independent union) and Delhi Municipal Workers' Union, in their annual Conference, have adopted resolutions demanding release of trade union leaders and others.

## Andhra Pradesh

THE Hyderabad City Council of the Communist Party of India organised a cycle procession on the evening of May 12 to demand the release of the Communist leaders, detained under the Defence of India Act.

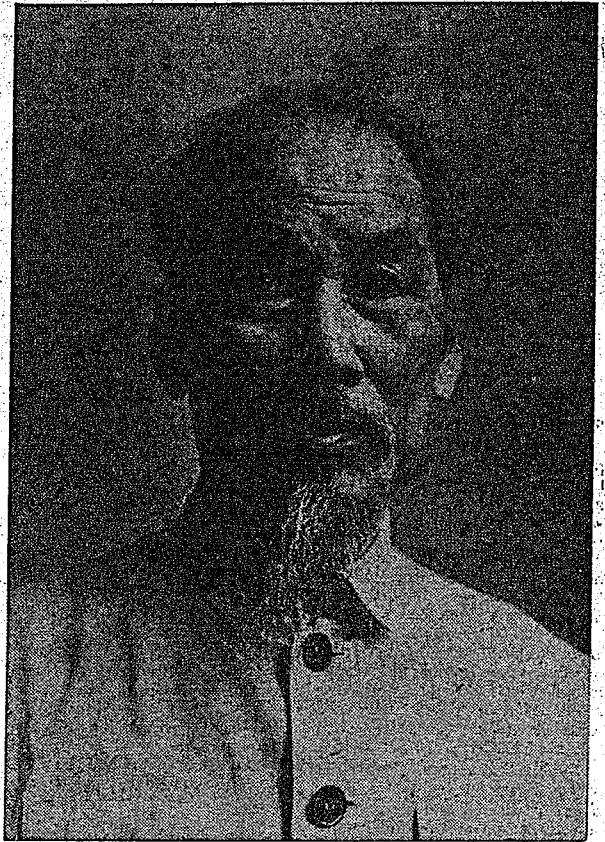
Earlier the City council had put up thousands of posters in Urdu and Telugu throughout the twin cities calling upon the people to raise their voice against the affront to democracy and the Constitution represented by the continued imprisonment of the Communist leaders.

The impressive cycle procession winded its way through the main thoroughfares of the city lustily shouting slogans. Thousands lined the streets and came out on the balconies to witness the procession. The general comment was that the government was being thoroughly unreasonable in the matter.

The procession, which was headed by City Communist Party Secretary Raj Bahadur Gaur, ended at the historic Charminar. It was addressed by Maqdoom Mohiuddin, who said that not only was the release of the Communist leaders essential for India's democracy but more specifically to fight Right reaction, which the Congress President had characterised as the main danger to the nation.

## Karnatak

WORKERS of Karnatak raised their powerful



## President Ho Chi Minh

NEW AGE sends affectionate greetings to President Ho Chi Minh on his 73rd birthday, which falls on May 19.

Beloved of the Vietnamese people, Comrade Ho is today one of the most respected figures in the world Communist movement. His fifty years of revolutionary activities are an example of dedication, sacrifice and devotion to the people, which few have surpassed.

For the entire Indian people, and above all, for the Indian Communists, President Ho represents the finest traditions of the struggle for peace and national independence, democracy and socialism.

NEW AGE wishes Comrade Ho Chi Minh many, many more years of service to the Vietnamese people and to the world Communist movement.

Long live Comrade Ho Chi Minh!

Long live the friendship between the Vietnamese and Indian peoples!

Long live the solidarity of the world Communist movement!

## A Poem By Ho Chi Minh

The clouds embrace the peaks, the peaks embrace the clouds,  
The river below shines like a mirror, spotless and clean.  
On the crest of the Western Mountains, my heart stirs  
as I wander  
Looking towards the Southern sky and dreaming of old friends.

*Ho Chi Minh*

voice in support of the demand for the release of Communist and trade union leaders detained under the Defence of India Rules.

In the numerous meetings and processions held to celebrate this year's May Day in the various working class centres throughout the state, resolutions were passed demanding immediate release of the leaders wrongfully kept under detention.

Notable among these rallies was the one held at Sirsi which was jointly organised by Congressmen, Communists, and PSPers. The May Day Committee specially formed for the observance of this day had on it, besides representatives of the various trade unions and kisan organisations, prominent Congressmen, Communists and PSPers. A veteran citizen of the place, Hegde

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