

ALL INDIA KISAN SABHA

DOCUMENTS

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Condolence Resolution

Comrade Mangaleshwari Devi

The AIKC pays homage to the memory of Com Mangaleshwari Devi, who was one of the first women hailing from the tribal community to join the Left movement in the state of Tripura. Com Devi was the wife of former Chief Minister and eminent leader of the CPI(M), Comrade Dasarath Deb. The AIKS dips its red banner in memory of Com Mangaleshwari Devi and sends heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Comrade Nirupam Sen

The AIKC pays homage to the memory of Com Nirupam Sen, former member of the Polit Bureau, CPI(M). The AIKC dips its red banner in memory of Com Nirupam Sen and sends heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Comrade Mohar Singh

The AIKC pays homage to the memory of Com Mohar Singh, former member of the Central Committee and former secretary of the Himachal Pradesh state committee of the CPI(M). He was life long committed to the cause of toiling masses and the working class. The AIKC sends its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Comrade Subodh Das

The AIKC pays homage to the memory of Com Subodh Das, former member of the CPI(M) Tripura state committee and former minister, Government of Tripura, who passed away on February 24, 2019. The AIKC sends heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Comrade Twlakapalii Narasimhaiah

The AIKC pays homage to the memory of Com Twlakapalii Narasimhaiah, a veteran communist leader of Andhra Pradesh, life long fighter for the cause of workers and peasants, who died on January 18, 2019. The AIKC sends heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Comrade Nandyayala Srinivasa Reddy

The AIKC pays homage to the memory of Com Reddy former MLA, a veteran courageous commander in the epic Telangana peasants armed struggle, who died on February 19, 2019. The AIKC sends heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Comrade N Venkateswarlu

The AIKC pays homage to the memory of Com N Venkateswarlu, former General Secretary of UEEU, a veteran leader of the electricity employees union and member of the CITU General council, who passed away on May 7, 2019. The AIKC sends heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Comrade Namvar Singh

The AIKC pays homage to the former president of All India Progressive Writers Association, who died on February 29 at the age of 92. The AIKC sends heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Comrade Ramanika Gupta

The AIKC condoles the death of Com Ramanika Gupta, former member of Janwadi Lekhak Sangh. She was a former MLA of united Bihar, who worked among tribals and workers in Jharkhand region. She was also associated with CITU and Adivasi Adhikar Manch. She passed away on March 26, 2019 at the age of 90. The AIKC sends its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Comrade Giridhari Ram

The AIKC condoles the death of Com Giridhari Ram, former MLA, a veteran leader of the Bihar unit of AIAWU and member of Bihar State Committee of CPI (M), who passed away on February 15, 2019. The AIKC sends its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Comrade Simon Britto

The AIKC pays its respectful homage to the memory of Com Simon Britto, former vice president of SFI and former MLA from Kerala, who passed away on December 31, 2018. He was a symbol of survival, a source of immeasurable inspiration and courage, who worked for the cause of society especially for children, despite being paralyzed in the lower portion of his body due to the brutal attack by KSU goons on October 4 1981. The AIKC sends heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

ON MARTYRS

The AIKC salutes the martyrdom of all those who lost their lives fighting against class enemies in various parts of the country and against TMC and BJP goons in West Bengal, RSS hoodlooms in Kerala and BJP-IPFT murderers in Tripura and against communalists, casteists, and other divisive elements at different places.

This meeting of the AIKC expresses its strong protest at the killings of persons from Muslim and Dalit communities lynched by Hindutva hooligans and cow vigilantes in UP, Rajasthan, Jharkhand and in some other states. The AIKC is committed to stand by the affected families and sends its heartfelt condolences to their families.

The AIKC expresses deep grief at growing suicides of farmers, workers, students, unemployed and others due to the anti-people policies of the Government and sends heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families. The AIKC expresses its determination to stand by their demands and resolves to fight for their redressal.

Presidential Address

Dr Ashok Dhawale
President

Respected Comrades S R Pillai and Hannan Mollah, and my dear comrades and friends,

I warmly welcome you to the second meeting of our All India Kisan Council (AIKC) since our Hisar Conference. We had met a year ago at Virudhunagar in Tamilnadu. Today we are meeting at Hyderabad in the state of Telangana, which has the glorious legacy of the greatest peasant struggle ever fought in the history of modern India – the Telangana people's armed uprising against feudalism, carried out under the red banner of the All India Kisan Sabha.

It is also a matter of pride that we are meeting in the Centre named after the legendary leader of that struggle, Comrade P Sundarayya. I begin by paying homage to the revolutionary memory of Comrade P Sundarayya, all other leaders of that epic struggle and the thousands of martyrs, women and men, who shed their blood for our aim of moving towards an agrarian revolution and attain a new vision of a socialist India – free from all forms of economic exploitation and social oppression.

We are meeting at a time of unprecedented challenges unleashed by the victory of the BJP-led NDA for the second consecutive time with an increased majority. But before coming to that, let us take a brief look at the complicated international situation that we face today.

International Challenges

The international scene is marked by four features: the aggressiveness of the USA under the Trump presidency; the inability of the capitalist world to surmount its systemic economic problems; the rightward shift in several countries resulting from these; and the resistance being mounted by the working class and the peasantry against neoliberal policies.

US Aggressiveness: The aggressiveness of the USA is seen most blatantly in its threats to Iran, Cuba, Venezuela and Palestine and also in the global trade wars that it has unleashed. In the last two decades, US imperialism has devastated large parts of Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria and Libya and is now looking for new pastures where its all-consuming greed can be fed.

The nuclear deal with Iran, signed by the United States, Britain, France, Russia, China and Germany was illegally abandoned by Trump and then unilateral economic sanctions were slapped on Iran alleging that it had not observed its end of the bargain. Pressure was put on the other signatories also to withdraw from the nuclear deal. China and Russia have flatly refused to abide by the sanctions while the European powers too have found ways of going round them without directly defying the US diktat. Trump followed up these provocative actions by sending to the Middle East an aircraft carrier strike group and bomber task force on the flimsy excuse of unconfirmed rumours of Iran planning an attack on US troops and

fraudulently declared Iran's Revolutionary Guard to be a terrorist outfit. Even then Iran has shown great restraint and it has at last declared that it would stop holding to some aspects of the nuclear deal to save its economy, but will still not opt out of it. But even after that, false allegations of Iranian attacks on two oil tankers at the mouth of the Gulf have been made and there can be no doubt that peace in this already devastated region is being endangered by these conspiracies of imperialism to enhance its own territorial hegemony.

Trump has sought to unravel the painstaking and lengthy process by which the Cuban government and Trump's predecessor Obama had tried to ease tensions between the two countries and start diplomatic dialogue. Now he is vociferously invoking the notorious Helms-Burton Act which Cuba has always rejected as being applicable within the US only. Basically it purports to 'compensate' potential claimants of US property nationalised in Cuba after the Revolution and through such a process to reduce Cuba to colonial dependence again.

For the last several months, the Trump administration has also been trying in every way to dislodge Nicholas Maduro, the democratically elected president of Venezuela. Having succeeded in displacing many of the left-wing popular governments that had worked for the betterment of their people and resisted the imposition of neo-liberal 'austerity' measures on them, they now have their eye on Venezuela and without the slightest respect for the sovereignty of that state, use measures to subvert it using internal and external agents. Sanctions are imposed so they cannot sell their only export, oil. The US is trying to starve the people into revolt by preventing food and basic commodities from crossing the borders.

The US has unleashed a poisonous media campaign against Maduro with fake news and hate news. Moreover they have been trying to stir up a revolt in the army, which still stands firm with Maduro, through their stooge Juan Guaido who has illegally proclaimed himself 'president' of Venezuela. In spite of all these provocations, however, till date the working people are in strong support of Maduro although they are suffering from unimaginable deprivations in their daily life. The huge pro-government rally on May Day was an indication that for the time being Trump and his henchman Guaido have had to beat a retreat. But the situation would have been grimmer for Maduro without the support offered to him at the international level by China and Russia.

Trump has always given full support to Israel's occupation of the West Bank, invasions into Palestinian territory and blockade of Gaza. This has created a financial and humanitarian crisis for the two million population of Gaza. They suffer from poverty, unemployment, lack of potable water and electricity and also chronic shortage of drugs and medical equipment in public hospitals. The inhuman approach of Israel is demonstrated by numerous recent incidents. It is this Israeli Government that Trump goes out of his way to support unashamedly. Thus in March, with Netanyahu at his side he signed a document declaring the Golan Heights, which was a part of Syria until 1967 and which Israel forcibly occupied against all international laws, as 'Israeli territory', a move which has been condemned by the UN and many other countries. It is a strategically important point, the occupation of which by Israel together with Trump's statement is going to increase tensions in that sensitive region.

In April-May, when the blockaded Palestinians in Gaza organized protest movements with the demand for return to their homeland on the West Bank, the Israeli army killed and injured many of them and launched 'massive strikes' on the civilian population with sophisticated weapons and still continues with its incursions into Palestinian land on the West Bank. Even with so much innocent blood on its hands and condemnations from the international community, Israel is continuing with its cannibalistic policy vis-à-vis Palestine largely because the Arab countries are disunited and because the Trump administration still continues to declare that Israel has the right to annex 'parts' of the West Bank. However, thousands of Palestinians have defied the Israeli army to mark the anniversary of 'March of Return'.

Systemic Capitalist Crisis: The capitalist world continues to suffer from the systemic economic crisis that began with the global meltdown in 2008. Rising unemployment and austerity measures have become a regular feature. There have been occasional signs of a mild recovery, but as soon as these signs appear, the world economy again plunges into crisis. Neo-liberalism has led to the stark increase in both income inequality and wealth inequality. Neo-liberal policies and the depredations of global finance capital are at the root of this crisis.

It is a sign of the chaotic situation that has been unleashed all over Europe due to the failure of neo-liberal policies that the time-tested and stable parliamentary system in Britain faced its starkest crisis over the results of last year's referendum for 'Brexit'. 'Brexit' is not just about racism and Right-wing politics, but research has linked deprivation and government-induced 'austerity' programmes with the way in which people voted in the referendum. The workers and professionals from Britain and from different parts of the European Union who have been a major support of the British system do not know yet how 'Brexit' is going to hit them.

Global Rightward Shift: There is a world-wide trend of resurgence of right-wing politics. Economists have pointed out that this general trend is the fall-out of the continuing crisis in the world economy since 2008. Followers of neo-liberal policies have not only failed to stem the distress caused by growing unemployment all over the world, but they have refused even to recognise it and gone on trashing basic rights of the people to welfare services.

Taking advantage of the weakness of the Left in many countries, the political right-wing has stepped into this gap, but instead of seeing unemployment as a systemic evil has blamed it on the immigrants in their countries and is promoting racial and ethnic hatred so that the real solution recedes further and further. The re-elections of Netanyahu in Israel and of Erdogan in Turkey are instances of this. The Conservative Government has come back to power in Australia against all predictions to the contrary.

The 'pink tide' seems to have receded in various countries of Latin America like Argentina, Ecuador and Brazil in spite of the strides in favour of the labouring poor taken by earlier popular left-wing governments in these countries. The worst case is Brazil where a notorious fascistic president Jair Bolsonaro has been elected. In the European Union elections which took place recently, this trend has been predominant with Marie Le Pen's far-Right party moving ahead of Macron's centrist alliance in France, Italian deputy PM Matteo Salvini's far-Right party threatening to become the biggest party in the EU and with Alternative for Germany, the German far-Right party increasing its vote-share to 10.5%.

The grave terrorist bomb blasts in New Zealand and Sri Lanka, by Christian and Islamic fanatics respectively, and the growing attacks on Muslim and Asian immigrants in Europe and the US, are cause for grave concern. They further fuel the growth of right wing forces.

Resistance to Neo-Liberalism: At the same time, resistance to neo-liberalism is also manifested by numerous strikes by workers and students in Europe and elsewhere against austerity measures, increase in fees and scuttling of scholarships. The widespread Yellow Shirt movement in France succeeded in forcing the government to retract some of its unpopular measures. However, it must be accepted that these movements are as yet defensive in nature and have not been able to make a political impact in a Left political advance.

The resistance to US imperialist aggressiveness is manifested by China and Russia working together on world issues in the United Nations Organisation (UNO) and outside, the efforts of the Shanghai Co-operation Organisation (SCO) and China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Conclusion: It will be seen from the above that US imperialism continues with its aggressive policies in all spheres and that the impact of neo-liberal policies results in a reactionary rightward shift in several countries. Popular Left-led resistance is the only way forward.

The AIKS, with its strong anti-imperialist traditions since its formation in 1936, shall always be an integral part of this resistance and shall extend its solidarity to all such anti-imperialist and anti-neoliberal struggles around the world.

National Challenges

Lok Sabha Elections, 2019

This period has been a very challenging time for all the progressive, democratic and secular forces in our country. The results of the 17th Lok Sabha elections have been a severe setback. The BJP increased its tally from 282 to 303 seats, and from 31 per cent votes to 37.4 per cent votes from 2014 to 2019. The NDA correspondingly increased from 336 to 353 seats, and from 37.3 to 43.9 per cent. The Congress and most other opposition parties have faced a big setback. The strength of the Left has substantially decreased with only 5 members in the Lok Sabha now. The erosion of our strength coupled with continuing attacks in West Bengal and Tripura are a cause for serious concern. In Kerala also, we have faced a big setback.

The anti-people and neo-liberal policies of the BJP government that led to demonetisation, GST, agrarian distress, peasant suicides, unemployment, price hikes, cuts in social sector expenditures, communal and casteist attacks, etc – all took a back seat after the Pulwama terrorist attack and the Balakot airstrikes. The BJP used this to arouse nationalist jingoism, shifting the poll narrative away from the burning issues of the people. The consolidation of the Hindutva vote bank through communally charged campaigns and violent attacks around ghar wapasi, love jihad, gau raksha strengthened communal polarisation and helped the BJP.

Narendra Modi's larger than life image was systematically projected as that of the only leader capable of protecting and leading the country. The corporate-owned print and electronic media helped the BJP to the hilt. Corporate funding on a massive scale was used by the BJP.

The funds that the BJP received through electoral bonds have been of staggering proportions. Nearly 95 per cent of these funds were received by the BJP alone. This does not include the unaccounted money that it must have received. The Centre for Media Studies has estimated that the BJP spent a whopping Rs 27,000 crores, i.e. 45 per cent of the total expenditure in these elections. The BJP effectively used social media platforms to influence voters, especially the first timers.

Large sections of the corporates supported Narendra Modi and the BJP in these elections. Crony capitalism of the BJP government has led to a massive rise in the wealth of big corporate giants. The wealth of Mukesh Ambani's industrial empire more than doubled from 23 billion dollars to 55 billion dollars between 2014 and 2018. This means that Mukesh Ambani accumulated more wealth in five years of BJP rule than all the wealth he made and inherited in the entire 58 years of his life before Modi became the Prime Minister. Gautam Adani's assets increased by 5000 per cent in Gujarat when Modi was the Chief Minister. Between 2014 and 2018, Adani's net worth has more than quadrupled from 2.6 billion dollars to 11.9 billion dollars. Baba Ramdev's Patanjali rose to become a billion dollar company with a net worth of more than 6 billion dollars in 2018. Baba Ramdev is now one among the 20 richest people in India.

One more reason for the BJP victory was its propaganda about various central government schemes and its outreach to their beneficiaries. Some of these have been the Kisan Samman Yojana, Ujjwala Gas, Swachh Bharat, housing, health etc. These also made some impact.

The opposition lacked both unity and focus. A glaring instance of this was Congress president Rahul Gandhi contesting a seat from Wayanad in Kerala not against the BJP, but against the Left. In several states, effective pooling of votes against the BJP could not be achieved. Where it was achieved, like in Tamilnadu, the BJP and its allies were trounced. The bourgeois opposition refused to take on the Modi-Shah brigade around issues of nationalism and secularism.

The Election Commission's role during these Lok Sabha elections was extremely biased and partisan. This is a dangerous signal for Indian democracy. There have also been innumerable complaints about the EVMs which need to be thoroughly investigated.

New Economic Offensives

With this victory, the offensives by the Modi-Shah-led BJP-RSS government will increase sharply. Economic assaults, communal targeting of backward sections and minorities, attacks on democratic rights, civil liberties and constitutional institutions have already begun.

The immediate declaration after the elections by Modi's hand-picked Niti Aayog of closing down or privatising 46 public sector units, major retrograde changes in labour laws and the drive for land pooling; the announcement of the lowest increase in MSP for kharif crops in several years; the proposed draconian amendments to the Indian Forests Act of 1927 which are aimed at displacing tribals and helping corporates; these are the dress rehearsal for the attacks that will be launched on the people in the years to come.

The Union Budget placed last week takes no account of the grave ills that afflict the Indian economy like economic slowdown, agrarian distress, widespread drought, industrial stagnation and unemployment. There is not even a single relief measure for workers and peasants like minimum wage, loan waiver or remunerative prices. But there is a bonanza for the corporate sector, both Indian and foreign, in construction of highways, railways, metro development and even in social welfare. Disinvestment of the public sector to the tune of Rs 1.05 lakh crore is being planned which will again help the corporates. On the other hand, additional excise duties of Rs 2 per litre on diesel and petrol have been heaped on the people. Allocation for MNREGA has been further cut by Rs 1000 crore. Allocation for the Umbrella Scheme for Scheduled Castes has been cut by Rs 2000 crore. Expenditure on women has been cut from 5.1 per cent to 4.9 per cent by a woman finance minister. Only 2.9 per cent of the total expenditure is for Scheduled Castes and 1.9 per cent for Scheduled Tribes – much less than their share in the population.

Grave Drought Situation

Large parts of India have been reeling under severe drought conditions. According to Skymet (private weather monitoring agency) this is the second driest pre-monsoon season in the last 65 years. In 2012 cumulative rainfall deficiency had risen to 31 per cent. This year it is reported that there is a lag of 25 per cent in the pre-monsoon rains.

According to reliable early warning systems, it is estimated that more than 40 per cent of the country's population or 500 million people are severely affected. Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Bihar, Jharkhand and adjacent districts in West Bengal, are the worst hit.

The water storage in dams has dropped to a critical level and the Centre has issued a drought advisory to some of these states. The State governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan have declared many of their districts as drought-hit. The Central Government led by BJP is not forthcoming in providing relief to states. The Drought Manual of the BJP regime has greatly worsened the problem.

Peasant suicides and starvation deaths are increasing due to drought. Severe scarcity of drinking water and fodder for livestock has created extreme distress and crop cultivation has been severely hit. Large-scale distress migration is taking place. The situation is going to further deteriorate with the weak monsoon that has been reported this year in several states. The current extraordinary drought situation must be declared a national calamity and relief measures must be taken up on a war footing.

Massive Unemployment

The latest CMIE data shows that the unemployment rate in India was 8.6 per cent in the first week of February 2019. This is the highest level since September 2016. In February, a report prepared by the NSSO showed that the unemployment rate in 2017-18 had hit a 45-year high of 6.1 per cent. Last year, CMIE had reported that youth unemployment was at a staggering 32 per cent while women's unemployment rate was 14 per cent.

The unemployed rate among educated women, those who have completed the secondary level, has also shot up. According to the NSSO, it almost doubled from 9.7 per cent in 2011-12 to 17.3 per cent in 2017-18 among rural women and shot up fivefold for urban women from 4.0 per cent in 2011-12 to 19.8 per cent in 2017-18. This shortage of jobs is compounded by low wages, with 82 per cent of men and 92 per cent of women earning less than Rs 10,000 per month.

At the same time, MNREGA has been sabotaged by the Modi government through a squeeze in funding. Last year, MNREGA workers, most of whom are women who had performed manual labour on MNREGA sites, were denied payments to the tune of Rs 5,000 crore.

New Offensives on Democracy and Secularism

The lynchings and attacks on Dalits and Muslims have been renewed after the return of Modi to power. The horrific cases of Tabrez Ansari in Jharkhand who was beaten and lynched by a mob for over 12 hours, and Haresh Solanki in Gujarat who was butchered in a case of honour killing, are the two latest examples. In several places people are being attacked under the slogan of 'Jai Shri Ram'. This is being systematically carried out to intensify communal and caste polarisation.

The police officer Sanjiv Bhatt, who had testified against Modi about his dubious role in the Gujarat riots before the Supreme Court, has been recently sentenced to life imprisonment by a Jamnagar Court for a so-called custodial death that took place 30 years ago. He had been suspended and then removed from the police service earlier.

Just yesterday, the offices of two senior and progressive lawyers of the Supreme Court – Indira Jaising and Anand Grover of the Lawyers Collective – were raided and sealed.

In Uttar Pradesh, journalists who criticised the chief minister Yogi Adityanath were arrested.

All these actions speak of political vendetta of the lowest order.

The relentless attack on the Left by the RSS-BJP in Tripura and by the TMC in West Bengal continues unabated. The polarisation created by the TMC on one hand and the RSS-BJP on the other in West Bengal has led to a serious situation. The RSS-BJP and the Congress made common cause against the Left in Kerala on Sabarimala and other issues.

The shameless poaching and purchase of MPs and MLAs of the bourgeois parties by the BJP in Karnataka, Goa, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal shows to what extent it will go to crush all opposition to it and subvert parliamentary democracy in our country.

The acquittal of Aseemanand and three others in the Samjhauta train blast case is a shameful reminder that the criminal justice system in India is incapable of bringing terrorists of the extremist Hindutva variety to justice for their crimes.

Between 2006 and 2008, there were six terrorist incidents perpetrated by a network of extreme Hindutva groups. Aseemanand, Pragya Thakur and Lt. Colonel Shrikant Purohit were the prominent conspirators amongst them.

Aseemanand, an RSS-VHP activist who was earlier acquitted in the Mecca Masjid Ajmer Dargah blast cases is considered to be the main organizer of the terrorist attacks which targeted Muslim places of worship. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has the dubious record of undermining all the terrorism cases related to the Hindutva extremist groups. In the Mecca Masjid blast all the accused including Aseemanand were acquitted.

The Ajmer Dargah blast case was the only case where two RSS pracharaks were convicted and sentenced to life. However, their sentences were stayed by the High Court.

The NIA dropped charges against Pragya Thakur under the MCOCA in the Malegaon blast case of 2008. But the special court reinstated the case against her under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA). The NIA was trying to exonerate both Pragya Thakur and Srikant Purohit in this case. The public prosecutor Rohini Salian complained that the NIA was pressurising her to go soft on the case. The NIA did not oppose bail being granted to Pragya Thakur and Purohit.

The pattern in all these cases is the same - shoddy prosecution, witnesses turning hostile and a lack of conviction on the part of the NIA in pursuing the cases. The NIA did not go in appeal against the court verdict acquitting Aseemanand in Mecca Masjid or the Ajmer Dargah case.

What the Samjhauta, Malegaon, Mecca Masjid and Ajmer Sherif blast cases acquittals have reveal is that terrorist attacks planned and executed by extremist Hindu elements will go unpunished. The criminal justice system is being subverted to convey this chilling message.

With the BJP giving the Lok Sabha ticket to terrorist Pragya Thakur from Bhopal and with her being elected to Parliament, it is clear which way the wind will blow in coming days.

Surrender to US Imperialism

The Modi government began its second term with a reinforcement of its role as a junior partner of the United States. Trump has demanded that India lower tariffs and import more American goods. He has raised tariffs on Indian aluminium and steel imports to US. This has been followed up with the decision to end preferential trade treatment by which India could export various items without tariffs. By scrapping this system, 1,900 items of export from India will now be subject to customs duties. This announcement was made in March by the US and was to take effect after 60 days. Yet the Modi regime took no counter-measures. Even after Trump snubbed India publicly on its trade policy, Modi remained silent.

The US ordered India to stop purchasing oil from Iran. It has complied. After that, the US in its economic warfare against Venezuela demanded that India stop buying Venezuelan oil. The Modi government has hastened to comply with this also. India has been pleading with the United States not to impose sanctions for buying the Russian Triumf S-400 missile system. But the United States continues to threaten to invoke sanctions against India. Immense pressure is being mounted on our country to make India buy the Lockheed manufactured F-21 fighter planes.

Conclusion

Comrades and friends,

The situation today is grim. Let us make no mistake about that. We must be prepared to face and combat in every possible manner the neo-liberal onslaughts and the fascistic attacks of the RSS-BJP combine on democracy and secularism, with the return to power of the Modi government. This must be the main thrust of the All India Kisan Sabha (AIKS) and of all the Left and democratic forces in the days and years ahead.

Big struggles of workers and peasants have been organised in the recent past. But we must accept that they have evidently not been enough. Vastly increasing the sweep and intensity of struggles, especially at the local levels, linking them with convincing and effective political and ideological campaigns and greatly strengthening our organisation at all levels is the need of the hour. To achieve this, there must be a radical improvement in the functioning of our organisation at all levels and in each one of us.

Our principal aim and task in the future must be not only the winning of demands, but winning the minds and the hearts of our people.

There is a famous phrase that says, “When the going gets tough, the tough get going.” That is exactly what thousands of activists and leaders and lakhs of our members of the AIKS must, and will, do. There is no doubt at all that we shall fight, and we shall win!

All India Kisan Sabha Zindabad!

Worker-Peasant Unity Zindabad!

Inquilab Zindabad!

General Secretary’s Report

Hannan Mollah

General Secretary

Dear Comrades,

This AIKC Meeting is being held about seven months after the last Central Kisan Committee Meeting held at New Delhi in December 2018 and a year after the AIKC held at Virudhunagar in July 2018. In the last one year there have been far-reaching developments like increasing agrarian distress, farm suicides and massive struggles against the anti-peasant policies of the BJP led NDA Government. Most importantly, it also saw the re-election of the BJP led NDA Government with a bigger margin despite the massive struggles by the peasantry and toiling masses. This happened through rabid, communal polarisation and ultra nationalist campaign along with false promises to the electorate.

Five Years of BJP Misrule, United Struggles and Election Results

The five years of the BJP led NDA Government from 2014-2019 has witnessed the greatest betrayal of the peasantry and fast-paced implementation of Neo-Liberal economic policies promoting corporate loot at the expense of the peasantry and the toiling masses. The BJP aggressively pursued policies that ensured withdrawal of State from investment in agriculture, accelerated trade and financial liberalisation, pursued faulty import policies as well as the disastrous demonetisation decision. These policies have depressed farm incomes and pushed farmers into extreme indebtedness. The biggest betrayal was its refusal to implement the promised remunerative price at least 50 per cent more than the cost of production. The last five years also saw the systematic decontrol of agricultural inputs and agribusinesses were given a free hand to fix farm-gate prices. Agricultural insurance has been totally handed over to few corporate companies which have raked in super profits at the expense of the peasantry. Indiscriminate acquisition of land and promotion of corporate takeover of land, water, forest and mineral resources saw dispossession of millions of peasants, traditional forest dwellers and Adivasis.

The response of the Kisan Sabha was on different planes. One was through independent struggles under the AIKS banner in the Centre and under the banner of its affiliates in States. Massive struggles in Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and elsewhere and the historic Kisan Long March in Maharashtra which caught the imagination of the peasantry were all under the AIKS banner. Another was by building broad issue-based unity with various organisations. The Bhumi Adhikar Andolan which was conceived as a movement for land rights, forest rights and against indiscriminate land acquisition was the first effort to build an issue-based unity. Continuous struggles and Parliament Marches played a significant role in forcing the BJP Government to withdraw the Land Acquisition Ordinance. This was largely seen as the first defeat for the BJP Government and helped build confidence of the peasantry and other forces on the struggle path. Yet another unity of the peasantry was built after the Mandsaur firing involving 210 organisations of the peasantry from across India on the two demands of assured remunerative prices and freedom from debt. Nation-wide Kisan Mukti Yatra and Kisan Parliament from which two Bills were made and later presented as Private Member Bills in the Parliament were significant. A class unity between the AIKS, AIAWU

and CITU in line with the concept of Worker-Peasant unity and struggles on the demands of the basic classes were launched with a never-before-kind of solidarity actions. While AIKS and AIAWU actively supported the General Strikes by united trade unions, the CITU actively joined in the Jail Bharo on the anniversary of Quit India Movement on 9th August. The Mazdoor-Kisan Sangharsh Rally on 5th September 2018 as well as the CITU's active participation in the Kisan Mukti March on 29th and 30th November 2018, were all interventions that have a bearing on the future of united movement. An effort to build a more political issue-based unity against Neo-Liberal Economic Policies and communal forces in the name of Jan Ekta Jan Adhikar Andolan was made and protests exposing the BJP Government under its banner made good impact. A united struggle with retired Jawans was also carried out which is a new effort and opens scope for greater coordinated action.

As a result of the consistent struggles, the issues of the peasantry and the agrarian crisis could be brought to the centre stage. The Assembly elections in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and elsewhere where sitting BJP Governments were defeated also were seen largely as a result of the peasant struggles. Overall an atmosphere could be created where it was largely felt that the anti-peasant BJP could be defeated. It also forced every political party to come up with measures purportedly to mitigate the suffering of the distressed peasantry. However, the fast-paced developments post the Pulwama incident and Balakot airstrike changed the scenario. An ultra-nationalist jingoist campaign was launched by the BJP and the Sangh Parivar which had a big impact in many States. In addition to turning the tide against the ruling BJP it also turned out to be the single-most important factor determining election results in many States. The high-pitched campaign with advertisements propagating so-called benefits of BJP Government's policies, massive use of money-power also helped BJP overcome the anti-incumbency. The announcement of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi which assured Rs.6,000 a year for farmers holding up to two hectares and its first instalment coming into the accounts of the peasantry even on polling day also played to the advantage of the BJP as there was not enough time to expose the farcical nature of the scheme. The fact that the main opposition party, the Congress also adopted a soft Hindutva approach and argued for more aggressive implementation of Neo-Liberal Economic policies did not help matter either. BJP managed to win the elections securing 303 seats bettering its 2014 tally of 282. Along with its NDA partners it has won 353 seats with a vote share of 43.86 per cent. The BJP secured more than 50 per cent of the votes polled in over 200 constituencies across the country. It crossed the half way mark in all the 26 constituencies of Gujarat, 25 constituencies of Madhya Pradesh, 23 in Rajasthan, 20 in Karnataka, all 7 in Delhi and in 9 out of 10 in Haryana.

Such an emphatic electoral victory and decimation of the opposition, especially the Left forces has almost immediately seen a more arrogant and aggressive approach from them. The next five years are likely to see increase attacks on the peasantry and toiling masses as well as on democratic rights; policies promoting corporate profiteering are likely to be pursued more aggressively. Few indications in that direction are already visible. We will have to brace up for intensifying united struggles in coming days.

Pre-Budget Consultations, Niti Aayog and Economic Survey

The pre-budget consultation meeting on agriculture held by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on 11th June 2019 has exposed the anti-peasant nature of the BJP led NDA-2 Government. No organisation of the peasantry, farmers and agricultural workers who constitute vast majority of the rural community and the toiling sections who produce food for the people were invited for the meeting. Apart from an array of bureaucrats, only two organisations representing large plantation owners and rich peasantry were invited and attended the meeting. This approach indicates its apathy to problems of the peasantry and points to its continued pursuit of Neo-Liberal Economic policies that promote corporate profiteering. Niti Aayog Member Ramesh Chand in an interview claims that Indian agriculture has reached a stage where “more the government intervenes, lower will be the growth” emphatically calling for withdrawal of the State from investment in agriculture. He argues that the time has come to free farm sector from controls, shift from input subsidies and procurement to income support and deficiency payments, and create an “enabling environment for greater corporate investments in agriculture.” The prescriptions like contract farming, allowing big retailers to buy directly from farmers and removal of controls are being put forward as solution for the agrarian sector.

The Economic Survey also echoed this view point. The BJP Manifesto in 2014 had stated “Agriculture is the engine of economic growth and the largest employer, and BJP commits highest priority to agricultural growth, increase in farmers’ income and rural development. BJP will increase public investment in agriculture and rural development.” Now the Economic Survey also talks of private investment as the “key driver of growth”. Though there is continued talk of doubling farmers’ incomes it claims that a major boost has come because the Government has approved the increase in the Minimum Support Price (MSPs) for all Kharif & Rabi crops for 2018-19 season at a level of “at least one and half times of the cost of production.” This claim has been exposed by AIKS many times and the Government has clearly shifted the emphasis from C2+50% and fix MSP based on deflated costs which the latest announcement also follows as shown below.

BJP led NDA Government Betrays Farmers: Kharif Prices Far Below C2+50%

The BJP led Central Government has announced the Minimum Support Prices for the Kharif Marketing Season 2019-20. In a situation when farmers across the country are in acute distress due to severe drought, the prices announced only add salt to injury. It has announced a meagre 3.7 per cent hike in the prices of paddy despite the fact that costs of production over the year have drastically increased. This will only mean an increase of Rs.65 per Quintal. It is notable here that the CACP cost calculations are questionable and the weighted average costs are arrived at by making drastic undervaluation and are nowhere near the actual costs. For instance the projected cost for Kharif Marketing Season, 2018-19 for Paddy by the State Government of Punjab was Rs.2490/Qtl while the CACP calculation was only Rs.1174/Qtl; not even 50 per cent of the projected costs put forward by the State Agricultural Department. The C2 costs as per BJP and JD-U ruled Bihar for paddy is Rs.1605/Qtl but CACP considers

it as Rs.1398/Qtl only. Odisha State projection is Rs.2344/Qtl while CACP considers it as only Rs.1713/Qtl. This is the case in most crops. Even taking the C2 costs as arrived by the CACP that is Rs.1,560/Qtl the C2+50% would come to Rs.2,340/Qtl. But the MSP announced is only Rs.1,815/Quintal. It is also worth noting that Kerala procures paddy at Rs.2,650/Qtl.

In the case of Arhar/Tur the weighted average C2 costs projected for 2018-19 was Rs.4981/Qtl. This also is arrived by similarly deflating the actual costs arrived at by State Agriculture Departments. The MSP announced is way below C2+50% as that would have been at least Rs.7,471.5/Qtl as per 2018-19 projected costs. The MSP announced now is Rs.5,675/Qtl only. This also is below the C2 costs in Karnataka, which is one of the main producers of Arhar/Tur.

It is also notable that the Niti Ayog is talking of freeing farm sector from controls. This would lead to further increase in input prices. The Government is planning to shift from procurement to the deficiency payments and pushing for greater corporate investments in agriculture. AIKS had warned that the Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan and Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi were tailored to shirk responsibility from public procurement and would lead to collapse of the support system. This is coming true now.

In 2014 while the BJP government took charge, the Minimum Support Price for most crops exceeded actual paid out cost plus imputed value of family labour (A2+FL), but despite that, farmers were in debt. Modi's promise was certainly 50% more than cost of production that is sum of paid-out costs, imputed value of family labour, interest on the value of owned capital assets, rent paid for leased-in land and the rental value of owned land (C2). While now they claim that the announced MSP is 50% more than cost of production which was A2+FL, it turns out to be 30 to 60% lower than C2+50% for most crops. In most cases the farmers are not even getting 80% of their cost of production. The absence of procurement for most crops makes MSP announced only notional as it is unrealisable in most parts of the country.

Alarming Drought Situation and Failed Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana

Large parts of India have been reeling under severe drought conditions. India has witnessed the second driest pre-monsoon season in last 65 years, with the lowest being recorded in 2012 when cumulative rainfall deficiency had risen to 31 percent. It is reported that there is a lag of 25 percent in the pre-Monsoon rains. More than 44 per cent of India's areas were under various degrees of drought conditions (abnormally dry to exceptionally dry) as of June 10, 2019. It is estimated that more than 40 percent of country's population or 500 million people are severely affected. Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Bihar, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu are worst hit. Notably, 'severe to exceptionally dry conditions' prevailed in 17.33 per cent area and 'exceptionally dry' conditions prevail in 5.87 per cent area.

Low rainfall has also contributed to a downward trend in water levels in at least 71 of 91 reservoirs across India according to recent bulletin by the Central Water Commission (CWC).

The water storage in dams have dropped to a critical level and the Centre has issued a drought advisory to Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Tamil Nadu. This is issued usually when water level in reservoirs is 20 percent less than the average of live water storage figures of the past 10 years. However, the central government has not declared drought anywhere so far. The State governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan have declared many of their districts as drought-hit.

Karnataka government had declared 156 out of 176 taluks as drought-hit in December 2018. Of these, 95 taluks are 'severely hit' and 61 are 'moderately hit.' More than 80 percent of the Districts are hit by drought. The deficit northeast and southwest monsoons in the state are the main reason for the drought. It is the fourth consecutive drought in the State. In Maharashtra 26 of the 36 districts have been declared drought hit. The situation is similar in most States. Severe scarcity of drinking water and fodder for livestock has created extreme distress and crop cultivation has been severely hit.

Unfortunately, the Central Government led by BJP in times of any natural calamity is not forthcoming in providing relief to States. According to RTI data the much advertised flagship programme of the BJP Government namely the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana has miserably failed in times of extreme drought adding to the distress of the peasantry. According to RTI data obtained by The Wire for 2018 Kharif season while the total premium collected by companies amounted to Rs. 20,747 crore the claims paid to farmers was merely Rs. 7,966 crore, implying that more than Rs. 13,000 crore was pocketed by the insurance companies. Pending insurance claims certified by State Governments that have not been approved by companies for the Kharif season that ended in December, 2018 is Rs. 5,171 crore. This is despite the PMFBY guidelines stipulating clearance of dues within two months of the end of harvest or by February 2019 at least. Nearly 40 per cent of the Rs. 12,867 crore estimated claims remained unpaid as of May 10 2019. In drought situation such apathy is criminal and needs to be rectified.

Performance of Crop Insurance Schemes in Drought-affected States

State	Gross premium (in Rs. Crore)	Estimated claims (in Rs. Crore)	Approved claims (in Rs. Crore)	Claims paid (in Rs. Crore)	Claims pending (in Rs. Crore)	Claims pending as percentage of approved claims (in percentage)	Surplus (Gross premium – Claims paid) (in Rs. Crore)
Maharashtra	4,591	3,894	2,727	2,477	1,417	36	2,113
Rajasthan	2,264	1,358	679	458	900	66	1,805
Madhya Pradesh	3,892	656	56	0	656	100	3,892
Karnataka	1,409	679	29	29	650	96	1,380
Odisha	1,114	565	237	31	535	95	1,083
Andhra Pradesh	1,052	1,082	859	575	507	47	477
Jharkhand	389	150	0	0	150	100	389
Telangana	438	102	2	0	102	100	438
Gujarat	3,024	2,176	2,176	2,152	24	1	872

Source: Obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare through RTI.

The extraordinary drought situation must be declared a national calamity and relief measures must be taken up on a war footing. We demand that the Central Government must announce a moratorium on repayment of crop loans, provide employment under MGNREGA for at least 200 days, assist States address food security concerns and malnutrition, make arrangements to provide drinking water and fodder to States, provide interest free loans and subsidised inputs for next season and free ration for 3 months. Crop losses have to be properly assessed and compensation must be provided to farmers as per present cost of cultivation and yield. The present compensation rate for disasters at present is too low and should be done away with. Actual cultivators should benefit from such measures. Disbursal of Old age pensions

and widow pensions must not be delayed. Clampdown on water traders who are fleecing people also should be ensured.

Intimidation of Peasants by Pepsi and Resistance

Predatory agribusiness PepsiCo filed a lawsuit against 11 farmers in Gujarat to the tune of more than a crore each for cultivating a variety of potato claimed by PepsiCo as patented by them. The issue brought to fore the manner in which predatory agribusinesses driven by the sole motive of profit maximization and aiming to take-over agriculture have least respect for the laws of the land or for farmers' seed rights and freedoms. AIKS and numerous other organisations as well as individuals have been pointing out to such eventualities under a paradigm of seed laws and intellectual property norms that aid monopolies and corporate profiteering.

The **Protection of Plant Variety and Farmers Right Act, 2001 (PPVFR Act)** Section 39(1)(iv) clearly states *“Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act – a farmer shall be deemed to be entitled to save, use, sow, resow, exchange, share or sell his farm produce including seed of a variety protected under this Act in the same manner as he was entitled before the coming into the force of this Act, provided that the farmer shall not be entitled to sell branded seed of a variety protected under this Act”*. The different State Governments and the Central Government should adhere to this in any matter concerning seed rights and freedoms of farmers. Clear fool-proof mechanism to ensure that the registration accorded to varieties are compliant with the principles enshrined in Section 39 (1) (iv).

Few other questions also need to be addressed in the light of this episode. There is the need to ensure price control, address illegal seed trade, monitoring of contract farming, State Governments and agricultural departments should strengthen mechanism for seed traceability and monitoring of agribusinesses and traders. Gujarat State Government should ensure that there should be no repetition of this kind of an episode with exemplary action against PepsiCo and all discussions with the Company should be transparent.

Farmers, individuals and organisations need to remain vigilant and continue resistance to predatory agribusinesses and the Neoliberal paradigm that allows such freedom to monopolies. AIKS in coordination with other organisations and individuals will take steps to ensure that State Governments and Agricultural Departments comply with the broad framework of Section 39 (1) (iv) of PPVFR Act. AIKS responded in a timely manner against the blatant violation of farmers' seed freedoms and the boycott call against Lays sent a strong message that no Company can dare to question the seed rights and freedoms of farmers.

Fertiliser Policy Detrimental to Farmers and Promotes Corporates

The Nutrient Based Subsidy Scheme covering all fertilisers other than urea was introduced by the Government of India in the year 2010. Through this scheme, Government decontrolled the prices of fertilisers other than urea and allowed the fertiliser manufacturers complete

freedom to set the retail prices of the fertilisers. In other words, under NBS, fertiliser manufacturers are allowed to sell fertilisers at the profit-maximising prices and there is no mechanism to ensure that the substantial subsidy that is given to fertiliser manufacturers is passed on to farmers.

Implementation of this scheme resulted in a surge in prices of fertilisers other than urea. The price of MoP increased from Rs. 4,455 per tonne in 2009-10 to Rs 12,040 per tonne in 2011-12 (December), and has remained round that level since then. The price of DAP more than doubled from Rs. 9,350 per tonne in 2009-10 to Rs. 20,297 per tonne in 2011-12 (December), and Rs. 28000 per tonne in 2017-18. Since 2010, Indian prices of DAP have been at the same level as the international prices and have closely followed the international trends. While government gives subsidy to the tune of 40 per cent of the value of fertilisers, this is not passed on to farmers by the fertiliser companies.

Over the last five years, the NDA government has introduced many anti-farmer changes in fertiliser policies. The most important change that merits attention is the rolling out of a Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme for fertiliser subsidies. In March 2018, the scheme was rolled out in the entire country. At present, the Direct Benefit Transfer scheme for fertiliser sector does not involve transfer of fertiliser subsidies directly to farmers. While the subsidy continues to be given to fertiliser companies, under the DBT scheme, Government has made it mandatory that all sales take place through the use of point-of-sale machines, which are to be authenticated using land records, Aadhaar and soil-health cards will be covered under fertiliser subsidies.

The main purpose of the DBT scheme is to target fertiliser subsidies and eventually limit the fertiliser entitlements of farmers. According to the scheme, the sales through PoS machines are supposed to be linked with Aadhaar and land records, and only buyers who have Aadhaar registration, land records and soil health cards would be entitled to buy subsidised fertilisers under the DBT scheme. Although as of now there are no restrictions on the amount of fertiliser that can be sold to a farmer, this proposal is being considered.

With implementation of the Direct Benefit Transfer scheme, the government has put in place a framework that can be used for targeting fertiliser subsidies. It is only a matter of time before this is introduced in some form. Government is already preparing a roadmap for eliminating fertiliser subsidies and shifting to targeted cash transfers in lieu of fertiliser subsidies through PM-KISAN. The share croppers, tenants and lease - in farmers will not get fertilizer and subside as they have no land right pattas. If implemented, this would result in further deepening of the agrarian crisis that is already a cause of massive rural distress across the country. Prices of all fertilisers must be regulated to ensure that the benefit of fertiliser subsidies is passed on to farmers. Immediate roll back of the DBT scheme must be ensured and any attempts to restrict access of farmers to fertilisers must be stopped.

Trade Liberalisation and Free Trade Agreements

The BJP Government has also shown a clear indication that it will go ahead more aggressively with trade liberalisation. The USA took a series of unilateral actions against India's exports starting from 2018 and India retaliated by increasing tariffs on 28 products imported from USA which is our largest trading partner. The Secretary of State of USA Mike Pompeo in New Delhi made a statement seeking greater market access and removal of trade barriers and this was echoed by Trump who claimed that India put very high tariffs against the United States. Never before has such a brazen interference been done. Fast paced steps are on to complete the Mega-FTA RCEP. India's 150 million small dairy farmers, local cooperatives and networks of small-scale vendors would be drastically affected by the RCEP. It is also notable that India registers trade deficit with 11 RCEP members in 2018-19. Niti Aayog is also proposing that there should be no restrictions over trade. Trade liberalisation will lead to dumping of cheaper produce from other countries and especially States cultivating spices and commercial crops will be worst affected.

Attractively Packaged Election-Time Announcements and the Reality

The Narendra Modi-led BJP Government at the Centre was forced to announce Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PMKSN) wherein it is promised that all farmers with landholding of up to 2 hectares would be given Rs. 6,000 a year. As per the last Agricultural Census, there are about 12 crore households having land holdings below 2 hectares. It is, however, noteworthy that not only is Agricultural Census fraught with many problems, the definition of households used in Agricultural Censuses is not the same as the definition of family being used in PMKSN. In reality, the number of families operating less than 2 hectares is likely to be considerably more than 12 crores. Further, since land records are being used to identify families having less than 2 hectares of land, this Scheme excludes a vast majority of cultivators who are tenant farmers and are not registered in land records. Similarly, a vast majority of adivasi cultivators who do not have land pattas will be excluded from the scheme. Also, the amount promised to be given to each farmer family is too meagre as it amounts to Rs. 500 a month or less than Rs.17 a day. In States that do not have computerized land records, challenges to ensure that the benefits reach the intended are even more. Panchayats must also be involved to identify tenant farmers and extend the Scheme to them.

The hollowness of such Schemes will be clear when we note the difference between this Scheme and the Price Support. The Government is no longer talking about C2+50% and is going to try to wash its hands off public procurement by giving this cash pittance. A farmer cultivating paddy on 2 hectares of land in West Bengal produces up to 9 tonnes at the rate of 4.5 tonnes per hectare. If MSP of Rs.1750/Qtl was assured, the farmer would have received Rs. 1,57,500 for the total yield. In most parts of India including West Bengal, farmers are forced to make distress sales at as low as Rs.1000/Qtl because of lack of procurement by government. In such circumstances, the farmer would get only around Rs.90,000 for the total yield which is a loss of Rs.67,500 every year. The loss incurred by farmers is even greater if one compares their revenue with the C2+50% price that they should be getting. While on the one hand farmers do not get remunerative prices for their produce, on the other hand, input

prices have risen sharply in the recent years as pricing of many inputs such as phosphatic fertilisers and plant protection chemicals has been deregulated and agribusiness companies use their monopoly power to maximise profits. The same day that the PMKSN was announced, government also announced a cut in the subsidies for fertilisers. So instead of providing remunerative prices and subsidised inputs, Government policies are leading to increased costs of production and stagnation or fall in crop prices. In such circumstances, schemes that promise transfer of amount to farmers have to be seen in light of government decisions that result in much greater losses to farmers.

It is here that the efforts of the LDF Government in Kerala are receiving attention. The move to procure paddy at Rs.2650/Qtl, in last season would fetch the farmer Rs.2,11,500 while a farmer selling the crop in distress at the prevailing market prices of Rs. 1000/qtl gets only Rs.90,000 and a farmer who is able to sell the crop at the MSP announced by the Central Government will get Rs.1,57,500. In other words, the MSP by Kerala government will fetch a farmer with 2 hectares Rs 54,000 more than what the MSP by Central government will fetch. It must also be noted that, in Kerala, the State Government and the Panchayats provide various subsidies. For example, the Karivellur Peralam Panchayat is providing for Rs.17,000/ hectare as an incentive for promoting paddy cultivation.

Another example is the case of garlic farmers in Madhya Pradesh. The cost of production is Rs.27/Kg according to the State Government while farmers claim it is ranging between Rs.33-35/Kg. The farmers are getting as low as Rs.1/Kg in the Neemuch market. In a hectare the production is around 5600 Kg. The MSP announced is Rs.36/Kg but farmers are not getting any benefit of such announcement. The cost of production even according to conservative Government figures per hectare is Rs.1,51,200. If the MSP was given farmers should have got Rs.2,01,600. While this is the nature of losses suffered by farmers every season, one can understand the farcical nature of the PM-KISAN.

The Government has also decided to implement a new Central Sector Scheme for providing old age pension of Rs.3000/- to the eligible small and marginal farmers, subject to certain exclusion clauses, on attaining the age of 60 years. The scheme called PM Kisan Pension Yojana aims to cover around 5 crore beneficiaries in the first three years. It would be a voluntary and contributory pension scheme, with entry age of 18 to 40 years but requires them to contribute Rs.1200/- every year till the age of 60 years. The need is to ensure a pension for farmers above 60 years from now on and the Government should take the entire responsibility.

Empty Rhetoric for Farmers and Agricultural Workers in the Budget

The Budget has nothing concrete for farmers and is merely empty rhetoric. It does not address the issue remunerative prices for farmers' produce or suggest any steps to free them from indebtedness. Rather, the Government adds to the burden of the peasantry by proposing Rs. 2 cess on diesel which will increase the cost of production significantly. The Government is moving in the direction of greater deregulation. This has led to increasing agricultural costs as

opposed to savings in cost of production. A major cause of the crisis in agriculture is the huge increase in prices of inputs that has taken place as a result. With a huge rise in the cost of seeds, fertilisers, diesel and electricity as a result of decontrolling of prices of these inputs and imposition of GST, government needed to restore price regulation and bring prices of input costs under control. Not only has the Finance Minister done nothing about it, to add insult to the injury, she has declared that farmers should not buy any inputs and instead practice Zero Budget Farming. In an extraordinary drought situation more was expected in the direction of rural employment generation. The allocation for MGNREGA has been cut by Rs. 1000 crores as compared to the revised estimates for last year.

The allocation for Market Intervention Scheme and Price Support is grossly inadequate for meeting the requirements of procurement. Also, since the government has introduced schemes such as Price Differential Payment the benefit of which goes to traders rather than to farmers, it is not clear how much of the Rs.1000 crore additional allocation will be used for procurement. This is particularly important in the context that very little increase in MSP has been announced two days back for Kharif 2019. It also talks of promoting Israeli model in irrigation which is also a vehicle into Indian countryside for Israeli companies like Netafim with dubious records on Palestinian rights.

The Budget speech claims that the government will invest widely in agriculture infrastructure, support private entrepreneurship for value addition in farm sector and Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana to address critical infrastructure gap in fisheries sector. In the name of modernization, the sector would be opened up for corporate fishing companies. While there is talk of promoting dairy sector, the Government is also fast tracking the Mega FTA RCEP which will be the death knell of Dairy farmers. The mention of starting 10,000 Farmer Producer Organisations and support for private entrepreneurship does not talk of peasant cooperatives. There is talk of increased emphasis on contract farming. The move is to facilitate direct procurement by big retailers and promote FDI in all sectors including retail.

What lies in store for the distressed peasantry in the Budget 2019-20 was clear from the tone and tenor of the Economic Survey, Niti Ayog and the announcement of Minimum Support Prices of Kharif crops a day before the presentation of the Budget. It has come as a big disappointment to the peasantry and is tailor-made to boost corporate profits at the expense of the cultivators. According to the Economic Survey the Inter-Ministerial Committee to examine issues relating to Doubling of Farmers' Income (DFI) and recommend strategies identified seven sources of income to double farmers' income by 2022 namely improvement in crop productivity; improvement in livestock productivity; resource use efficiency or savings in the cost of production; increase in the cropping intensity; diversification towards high value crops; improvement in real prices received by farmers; and shift from farm to non-farm occupations. No new programme was given to increase the income of farmers from these seven identified sources except listing the initiatives which are already in place.

Lower growth in agriculture and allied sectors has also been noted in the Economic Survey. It also noted that total food grain production during 2018-19 fell to 283.4 million tonnes from

285 million tonnes in 2017-18. Nothing has been done turnaround the situation. The BJP Manifesto in 2014 had stated “Agriculture is the engine of India’s economic growth and the largest employer and the BJP commits highest priority to agricultural growth, increase in farmers’ income and rural development.” The Economic Survey however, talks of private investment as the key driver of growth. The policy prescriptions are in the direction of withdrawal of State from investment in agriculture and rural development coupled with deregulation and opening up of the economy.

The Budget is a continuation of the aggressive pursuit of Neo-Liberal Economic policies and the days ahead will require building intensive struggles against its anti-peasant thrust.

Gauraksha Killings and Recent Developments

The AIKS had consistently taken up the issue of attacks on the peasantry, especially belonging to Muslim and Dalit community in the name of Gauraksha. In recent times we have seen even the Congress-led Government in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan following a position similar to the communal BJP. In Madhya Pradesh cattle traders were charged with smuggling and they were arrested. In Rajasthan, the Congress Government has framed chargesheet against sons of Pehlu Khan, a dairy farmer who had been lynched near Alwar in April 2017 by so called Gaurakshaks. After Narendra Modi got re-elected as Prime Minister, inhuman acts of lynching and mob crimes against Muslims have been reported from different parts of the country. A Muslim youth was killed in Jharkhand. Instead of fighting these anti-national crimes by fanatic communal elements backed by RSS-BJP, the Congress is also trying to appease communal forces by taking unlawful manoeuvring as in Pehlu Khan's case, which will surely boomerang on it.

Supreme Court Order on Eviction of Adivasis and Later Developments

The Supreme Court verdict on Forest Rights Act ordering the eviction of over a million Adivasis and traditional forest dwellers is unfortunately giving legal sanction to the historic oppression they have been subject to and will perpetuate the deprivation they have faced for time immemorial. The orders came on the petition of Wild Life First Vs Ministry of Forest and Environment challenging the Forest Rights Act itself. According to the latest figures available (December 2018) of the 42.19 lakh claims made only 18.89 lakh claims have been accepted. This order could render 23.30 lakh people vulnerable to eviction from their land and forests. Evicting over 2 million people as their claims under FRA has been rejected only points to the farcical implementation the Act which we have been all the while highlighting. It is tantamount to declaring war on the livelihoods of the most oppressed sections. The Supreme Court unfortunately has not looked into how the Adivasis and traditional forest dwellers will continue to live without forest and land rights. It has left them with only one option- to fight or perish. It is the BJP led Central Government which deliberately created a situation to kill the Forest Rights Act as its counsel was absent on crucial dates. Clearly, there seems to have been connivance with the lobbies promoting predatory tourism and the officials of the Forest Department who have always been against the FRA from the very

beginning. The fact that neither was the Ministry of Tribal Affairs which is the nodal agency for implementation of FRA given responsibility of the case nor did they feel the necessity to intervene in the matter also points to the callous attitude of the BJP Government.

The AIKS along with the Adivasi Adhikar Rashtriya Manch, Bhumi Adhikar Andolan and like-minded organisations will appeal against this order as the rights guaranteed by the Indian Constitution as set out in Article 21 and under the Schedules V and VI which reaffirm their autonomy and assure a life of dignity for them. Further the Samata Judgement of 1997 that had defended the rights of Adivasi communities to their homelands will also be overturned by this order. The Adivasis' unhindered access to land and forests, Minor Forest Produce and commons guaranteed by the FRA is indispensable for their livelihood security. A major legislation which protected their rights in the wake of predatory tourism, mining, wild life conservation lobby as well as corporate plunder is being nullified. In the last five years the BJP Government has passed several laws which dilute and eliminate the protections given by the Forest Rights Act like the amendments passed to the Mining Act, the Compensatory Afforestation Act and several notifications from the MOEF which dilute the FRA. State Governments under the NDA have also adopted amendments which dilute the provisions of the LARR Act 2013 and the efforts to rob the rights guaranteed by the Chhotanagpur Tenancy Act (CNTA) and Santhal Pargana Tenancy Act (SPTA) in Jharkhand are also well-known.

AIKS calls upon all its units to rise up in protest, unite all forces willing to fight against this injustice on 22nd July 2019 before the next hearing in Supreme Court on the matter on 24th July 2019.

Report on Organisation

Comrades,

During the last one year period, intensive activities both qualitative as well as quantitative were undertaken at All India level. The most important aspect was the qualitative impact of strengthening the peasant and worker alliance and the huge mobilizations undertaken during this period at Delhi as well as across the country. Equally important was the massive, protracted, issue based united movement especially of the peasantry and rural workers that influenced the political process across the country including the election to state assemblies in which the BJP got defeated in three states of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh.

We were unable to draw on the full potential of the united massive movement all over the country as per the possibilities and that hindered us from taking benefit of the mass struggles on economic demands translated into political as well as organizational progress. There were gross imbalances in creating common understanding and vigilance within the united movement and within the organization of Kisan Sabha at different levels. Essentially one of the major concerns is that though the mass struggles brought Kisan Sabha into the mainstream political process at All India level, the membership of the Kisan Sabha witnessed

steady decline during these period ranging forthe last five-six years. This meeting of the AIKC has to discuss this aspect with due seriousness and this tendency needs to be reversed at any cost.

United Movement

Other than the platform of Jan Ekta Jan Adhikar Andolan (JEJAA), there are two united platforms – Bhoomi Adhikar Andolan (BAA) and All India Kisan Sangharsh Coordination Committee (AIKSCC) in which Kisan Sabha has played a significant and leadership role. The JEJAA was formed in an All India convention held on 18th September 2017. Though JEJAA campaigns and joint meetings were undertaken in most of the states, there are no JEJAA units in many states including where we have strong units. JEJAA units are not working at district and lower levels as decided by the All India Coordination Committee. In the context of the sweep of right wing communal forces in the General Elections 2019, we have to discuss the lack of vigilance among our activists regarding the crucial task of building unity of toiling people at the ground and importance in activating the JEJAA.

BAA was formed in the context of the ordinance passed by the NDA government amending the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act, 2013. There are state level coordination committees of BAA in nine states. There is more cohesion among the member organizations of BAA and almost all are part of AIKSCC and JEJAA.

AIKSCC was formed in the background of Mandsaur firing in Madhya Pradesh by the BJP led state government in which six farmers were killed. This platform is taking up issues of loan waiver and MSP. Many rich peasant organisations are also part of this platform.

The office bearers meeting of AIKS held on 8th October 2018 noted that there are weaknesses in carrying out our propaganda work among the masses of other peasant organisations rallied in these united platforms. The meeting also decided to take appropriate steps to strengthen our work among the masses behind the organisations rallied in these three platforms. The state units have to undertake review of the situation and the role we have played at the ground level.

The Kisan Mukti March and Rally by the AIKSCC on 29-30th November 2018 at Delhi was attended by thousands of farmers from different parts of the country. This joint rally was a difficult task for AIKS just after organizing the huge mobilisation of the first ever Mazdoor–Kisan Sangharsh Rally at Delhi on 5th September 2018. However, The Maharashtra unit mobilized well in this struggle along with Hindi State units. The Kisan Mukti Yatra was organised from four corners of Delhi and the participation of AIKS was notable due to its large mobilisation, along with plenty of red flags, placards, banners and tea-shirts and caps. The CITU leaders including its General Secretary Tapan Sen walked the entire stretch of the yatra from Anand Vihar and hundreds of trade union cadres also joined. This mobilization was manifold larger than the rally called by the Sangh Parivar on 24th November 2018 at Ayodhya to rake up the Ram Temple construction issue with the malignant interest of

communal polarization ahead of the General Election. Leaders of around 20 political parties attended our rally and expressed solidarity on the demands of the peasantry. A Manifesto of Indian Farmers was unanimously adopted in the rally. This was significant since it went well beyond the two demands of loan waiver and fair prices.

After the November 2018 struggle, in the remaining crucial four months ahead of the General Elections 2019, there was no initiative by the AIKSCC and JEJAA for further advancing the struggle and to sustain the momentum created out of protracted struggles by peasant and working class masses. This lacuna affected in influencing the general political response of the peasantry in the electoral battle across the country.

In this context we have to discuss the importance of JEJAA in order to develop clarity on composition and role of it in the contemporary political situation to reach out to maximum people who are not under our political influence. We have to further decide to form state and district level platforms also within a time frame.

Two Days All India Strike by Workers

The two day All India strike action on 8th and 9th January 2019 on the genuine demands of the working class and also of the peasantry was observed well with huge participation of the workers and rural masses. Around six crore workers participated in this historic action. AIKS had along with member organizations of BAA, AIKSCC and JEJAA actively undertaken campaigns in support of the strike action and called for Rail and Road picketing and Village Harthal.

On Building Worker-Peasant Alliance

In the last one year period, the AIKS, AIAWU and CITU tried to work together and a series of meetings and campaigns were undertaken. On the basis of the common demand charter, Jail Bharo struggle on 9th August 2018 was organized in which above five lakh peasants and workers participated and a worker peasant rally was organized on 5th September 2018 in which around 1.8 lakh people attended. 19th January 2018 was observed across the country as the day of worker peasant unity and district level meetings and demonstrations were held.

The office bearers meeting held on 8th October at New Delhi had concluded the following points as part of the review of 9th August and 5th September events.

The call for a massive signature campaign was given to reach out to the mass of the peasantry but leadership in some of the states did not take it up seriously and there was considerable organizational weakness in the primary units. Although it was so decided, the AIKS could not publish adequate campaign material in the form of pamphlets on burning agrarian issues that could have been taken to the peasantry in a big way in their own national languages. Our rally slogan of “Change the Policies, or People shall Change the Government” was not adequately popularized.

The total mobilization figure of the AIKS in the September 5 rally could easily have crossed 50,000, had it not been for the unsatisfactory mobilization from many states. All states, except Maharashtra and Punjab, fell short of their own mobilization quotas.

Although the Delhi rally on 5th September was undoubtedly an unprecedented success as a result of the joint effort of all three class organizations at the central and state levels, better coordination between these class organizations is necessary in the future.

The Political Significance of All India Struggles

In the context of the intensifying issue based independent as well as united struggles of workers, peasants and other social sections under various platforms, we have been successful in establishing beyond doubt the leadership role of AIKS based on our mobilization capacity across the country, striking power and political clarity. The Kisan Long March organized twice by the Maharashtra Unit in March 2018 and February 2019 has become historic and has caught the imagination of not only the peasantry but the entire toiling people. Due to all these efforts the AIKS has emerged as the pioneering organization of the peasantry against both the neo-liberal and communal menace.

The worker-peasant united action marks a qualitative change in the united movement of mass and class actions and will help to consolidate the radical forces under the leadership of Left and democratic forces. Class politics will influence the political polarization and the united class movement of workers and peasants - to fulfill its leadership role - needs to stand by every social resistance movement including that of dalits, adivasis, minorities and women considering that they are no longer merely social issues but are class issues too.

Significance of Local Struggles on Achievable Demands

One of the major trends that facilitated the building of peasant resistance at the All India level was the effort by our state units to rally the peasantry on local struggles by concentrating on burning issues as well as achievable local demands along with the demands in common. In this regard the efforts by the state units of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Karnataka and West Bengal need special mention. Among them the Kisan Long March in Maharashtra and day and night mass sit-in struggle of 14 days in Rajasthan needs special mention. These struggles based on different issues helped to rally thousands of peasants and rural workers on the streets continuously and contributed to make an impact on the All India political process.

These struggles and consequent political response they received from other social sections actually resembles the great tradition of massive peasant struggles in the pre-independence period with the slogan of land to the tiller which was actually the backbone of the anti-feudal anti-imperialist uprising of that period of history. This experience provides confidence to the entire organization that AIKS is on the correct path and we can work as the mainstay of the emerging unity of the Left and democratic forces as the alternative at the All India level. In the post-Lok Sabha election circumstances, the two issues of minimum wage and minimum support price apart from the land and credit issues need to be brought to light, since these are two major modes of exploitation of both the large social class sections of workers and

peasantry. These slogans will help to differentiate and focus on the anti-corporate edge of the forthcoming struggles of the worker-peasant alliance against the RSS-BJP-led Modi Government and will expose the pro-imperialist nature of the ruling dispensation.

One significant aspect to be noted here is that though there was joint call by CITU, AIAWU and AIKS, in spite of repeated directions from the AIKS centre, joint activities and even joint meetings were not organized in many states. In some states including strong states, even joint meetings at the state level were not held. Although the joint call for worker peasant united action has created new enthusiasm among the leadership and the rank and file, we cannot ignore the fact that there was also reluctance at various levels. This is to be urgently rectified. Joint meeting of the CITU, AIAWU and AIKS needs to be called at state and district level and proper plan may be made for consolidation and expansion of these organizations and to intensify class struggles in the countryside.

The process of worker-peasant united action will work as the bulwark in the future joint mass struggles under the banner of JEJAA as well as other sector wise platforms. Hence this AIKC meeting has to concretely fix priority and ensure early formation of state and district chapters of JEJAA and provide efficient topmost cadres to lead them so that JEJAA can mobilize the people on the basis of issues of various social sections and advance the class struggle. Only through this process of united struggles the Left and democratic platform can be built at All India level and also in various states to effectively advance the struggles and bring about political polarization in order to transform the political order in favour of the peasantry and the working class.

Hence all the state units have to explore the possibility of linking their movement with the All India struggles, both independent as well as united, and also rake up local struggles to unleash massive mobilization of the peasantry and rural workers. The state units have to consciously develop and inculcate All India consciousness among the activists and help them to come out of the influence of federal tendencies that is limiting their political consciousness around the socio-political situation at state, regional and local level.

On Combating Communal Polarization

The communal elements especially under the leadership of Sangh Parivar systematically ruin the secular character of society and reap big electoral gains out of the consequent communal polarization. The religious and caste based movements and their leadership have been increasingly lined up with this process and have become tools for destroying the secular and democratic foundations of the Constitution and the society. This is happening even in societies like Kerala where the social reform movement has deep roots. The Congress which is the so called secular party in the opposition actually surrenders to this communal design and helps the process by following soft communal positions on issues of cow slaughter vs protection, construction of Ram temple, and entry of women in Sabarimala Temple etc. The state government of Rajasthan led by Congress has recently framed charges in the Court against the kin of Pehlu Khan, the dairy farmer lynched by RSS group of organizations in April 2017.

Political parties alone cannot address this challenge. The progressive and democratic sections within religious communities, among believers have to come forward to confront the communal elements. The science of change is that it originates out of the conflict and struggle between the internal forces and the external forces can only aid and influence that process from outside. Hence, the contemporary political situation requires progressive movements and class and mass organizations to adopt a different treatment altogether in order to develop and expand the secular space within the religious movements to counter and isolate communal, fanatic and divisive elements within various religions and communities.

There need to be determined and motivated joint efforts from the united mass and class organizations by joining hands with all progressive sections and individuals representing various religions and communities in building progressive cultural and social reform movement both at the rural and urban level to resist communal and divisive elements. The reluctance in taking up social issues at different levels should be reviewed and rectified. There should be continuous campaign against the communal forces consistently working to divide the peasantry on communal and caste lines.

Political Schooling for Hindi Belt Units

A three day political school was organized for main leaders from Hindi belt state units from 12-14 February 2019 at Agra. The school was well attended and fruitful. Comrades from Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, J & K, Uttarakhand, HP, MP, UP, Jharkhand, Bihar and Chhattisgarh attended the school. Classes on various topics were taken by Hannan Mollah, Ashok Dhawale, N K Shukla, Vijoo Krishnan, Badal Saroj and P Krishnaprasad. The last Central School for the Hindi Belt region was organized eight years ago in 2011 at New Delhi.

Membership

Though the activities of AIKS have intensified at the All India as well as state level and many weak states has improved their functioning in the recent period, this is not reflected in our membership enrolment. The membership enrolled during the last five consecutive years proves that. During the period 2012-13 to 2017-18 our membership declined from 2,01,81,586 to 1,38,46,252. A loss of over 63 lakh members within five years is a matter of serious concern. The shifting of around 17 lakh membership to Agricultural Workers Union in West Bengal is one factor for this decline. Even then this much decline denotes an extraordinary situation of crisis which warrants an extraordinary plan to rise above it.

The maximum drop in membership has happened in West Bengal where high intensity of attacks on democratic rights of the people are still going on under the rule of TMC. AIKS activists are unable to work freely in many parts of the state. The formation of separate union of agriculture workers is another major reason for decline in membership there. In Tripura also, after the defeat of Left Front in the last assembly election, similar situation has been developing and ruthless attack is taking place on the democratic movement. We have to resist

this tooth and nail in order to protect the democratic peasant movement there. However it is a fact that we could have further advanced our position in membership enrolment, if there was scientific and systematic enrolment in other parts of the country.

The 33rd AIKS conference in 2013 had decided to ensure proper scrutiny of the membership with a format covering district wise break up and year wise comparison instead of year long enrolment of membership without scientific plan of campaign and scrutiny. However, we have not got satisfactory results so far and the seriousness of membership is not yet reflected in the general consciousness of the activists at the ground level. Absence of protracted, systematic political schooling at All India and state level was a major lacuna in achieving it.

The last AIKC meeting had decided to stop the practice of accepting reported numeral and levy amount alone to approve membership from the year 2018-19 onwards. Membership will be accepted only after receiving scrutiny report in prescribed format with statement of scientific break up and comparison data duly submitted by the state committee. The last AIKC meeting also decided that membership from those states who have not given break up and scrutiny report will be approved only provisionally and they have to submit proper scrutiny report before final approval. However, for the year 2018-19, so far only five states have submitted scrutiny report along with levy amount. Due to General Elections, membership enrolment has been affected and we have to finalise it in this AIKC meeting.

We have to take a strict decision that the same policy must be adopted by all the lower level units also and ensure annual comprehensive review after which that report needs to be submitted to higher committees and maintain proper records.

As per the constitution of AIKS, a kisan includes a peasant, an agricultural labourer, any other rural labourer and also a member of the tribal community. The population of the peasantry in India including small and marginal farmers is 12.3 crore. That of agricultural workers is 14.9 crore. Both the sections together add up to 27.2 crore, as per the census data in 2015 and by multiplying with average family members of 4, then the total population that depends on agriculture and rural economy will be around 108 crore out of 125.6 crore. Then, as per rough estimate, AIKS membership, which is family membership, as of today represents only 1.27% of the targeted population.

Each state unit has to evaluate its membership on similar lines and has to **evolve a strategy and workable plan to ensure on an average at least 10% of the population of the peasantry in the respective state be covered with AIKS membership within the next ten years.** If we can cross 10 % that is above 10 crore memberships, then our peasant movement can decisively influence the political process across the country and consolidate the worker-peasant alliance as the axis of struggles to realise the rights of the peasantry and rural workers.

In this direction, along with the help and support of the organized working class movement, AIKS can expand and intensify struggles to demand reorganizing relationship in production and ownership pattern on means of production in agrarian sector based on alternative policies and thus to comprehensively address the contemporary agrarian crisis. All the state units have to rectify the deficiencies in committee functioning at all levels and concentrate on activating

primary units in order to enhance and attain targeted membership which will complement each other.

Significance of Massive Resistance

The growing systematic and ruthless attack on the democratic peasant movement is a matter of serious concern. Many of the AIKS activists especially in West Bengal and Tripura have become victims of extreme violence aided by the ruling dispensation belonging to TMC and BJP respectively and the police and administration working in tandem with them. AIKS units and activists have been denied freedom of expression and association under the authoritarian regimes. This negatively affects the membership, campaigns and struggles to attain peasant rights. This situation cannot be allowed to continue any longer.

AIKS has the great, heroic, fearless tradition of fighting and overpowering military and criminal regime controlled by British imperialists and feudal-landlord rulers. In the present situation we have to adopt befitting strategy of going to the people and rallying the masses especially women and elderly people in building resistance against violence. This needs to be linked to the efforts of building widespread movement of struggle to attain the rights of peasantry and rural workers. The All India movement has to be prepared to reach out to the ordinary people facing such attacks and isolate oppressive and authoritarian elements.

Long Term Plan for Expansion

The last AIKC meeting had discussed a special review report on organization and proposed to develop a 10 year plan of expansion of the organization. Since the 33rd conference at Cuddalore in 2013, the significance of systematically building the organization has been discussed and resolved to give focus on registering and activating primary units. However there is less progress on this count and that is being reflected in the regular decline of membership in recent years. On the contrary, the major achievement during this period is the success in organizing series of massive struggles in certain states and also at All India level based on the issues of the peasantry. It is a result of conscious intervention by the leadership at the All India level as well as the respective state levels independently and along with like minded peasant organizations and trade unions. This shows that the peasantry across the country is ready to come on the path of struggle but weakness of our organization disrupts this process. This contradiction needs to be addressed at all levels with due seriousness.

In this regard we have to convene two day meetings of the extended state committees (including district secretariat members) based on a detailed analytical report to conduct review of the recent struggles and all other major organizational activities including cadre development and deployment, political schooling, membership, primary units, committee functioning, fund collection, crop wise mobilization, independent and democratic character of the organisation etc immediately after the AIKC meeting and minimum of two AIKS central functionaries along with other office bearers must attend the respective state committees. The findings of the review need to be reported to the lower level committees and necessary concrete decisions need to be taken for rectification. Later its timely and effective implementation may be reviewed within a span of six months. Since we have to undertake

conference proceedings in the next year, special effort must be made for recruiting youth and women cadres in order to make the respective committees to function effectively.

As part of the consolidation and expansion especially in weak states, the committees at all levels have to rework the present whole timer wage which is highly inadequate. More cadres should be identified and deployed as whole timers and whole time cadres must concentrate more on organization building. The CKC has to select and assist certain weak state units as per their potential and possibilities and make the state centre active. It should work regularly in order to build the peasant movement taking the benefit of the overall atmosphere of struggles and resistance against the neo-liberal and communal forces and advancing worker-peasant alliance across the country.

We have to organize meetings of whole time cadres at the All India level and also at state level regularly as part of the effort for consolidation and expansion of the peasant movement. All the state units have to make a 10 year plan as directed by the last AIKC meeting at Virudhu Nagar. We have to identify and recruit more capable cadres especially from the Hindi region to work at the state centre as well as at the All India centre.

Another important area of intervention is widening solidarity with the CITU and AIAWU at district and local level in consolidating and expanding the peasant movement and workers movement wherever there are possibilities. The collective efforts with the help of activists from scheme workers movement like Anganwadi, Mid-day meal, ASHA, trade unions in various strategic sectors like transport, banking, insurance, electricity etc will be useful to gather larger mass base and political influence. Likewise the AIKS units have to consider the possibilities of reciprocally helping the mass movements of women, youth and students to expand and consolidate further in villages and rural regions.

P Sundarayya Trust

The functioning of P Sundarayya Trust needs to be strengthened and expanded at All India as well as state level. State units have to form state chapters of PS Trust wherever there are possibilities. That will be useful in facilitating research and development activities on state specific and region specific issues, developing and monitoring village level functioning and in promoting worker-peasant social cooperatives to support livelihood projects along with advancing struggles against the existing exploitative socio-economic order.

A separate office will be started and qualified and committed research persons may be attached to the PS Trust to initiate and intensify its work from the year 2019-20 onwards. The earlier decision to provide financial assistance to PS Trust for day to day functioning will be executed and sub committees will be formed to promote research and development activities with the support of people's science movement and academic experts.

Crop wise Mobilization and Building Worker-Peasant Social Cooperatives

As per the decision of the last AIKC meeting, a successful workshop on Agrarian Crisis and Worker-Peasant Social Co-operatives was organized on 11-12th July 2019 at Hyderabad. The conclusions arrived at will be discussed further at Office Bearer and CKC level to chalk out a

concrete plan of action. Special emphasis will be given on crop wise mobilization and connected intervention to develop struggles on concrete demands as well as developing Agro Processing and Marketing network in order to make use of the scale of growth in the interest of the peasantry and rural workers especially those belonging to dalits, tribal, minority and women masses.

Seminar on World Capitalist Crisis and Indian Agriculture

The last AIKC meeting had decided to organize a seminar in association with AIAWU, CITU on World Capitalist Crisis and Agrarian Situation in India - Exploration of Alternative Policies. It did not materialize in the context of the last general election. We have to further undertake steps to organize the same in the near future.

Subcommittee work

All India Coffee Growers' Convention was held at Bangalore on 22nd October 2018 which was attended by 60 delegates against the quota of 105. (Quota in bracket) Karnataka -19 (30), Kerala - 14 (30), Tamil Nadu - 10 (10), AP - 0 (10), KGF (Karnataka Growers Federation) - 7 (20), Fraternal Delegates 7, AIKS Centre- 3, Total- 60

Com Hannan Mollah inaugurated the convention and Dr Basavaraj, director quality control of coffee board attended a seminar on value addition, processing and marketing under cooperative plan. The demand charter adopted by the convention is attached. A subcommittee has been formed with the following members. P Krishnaprasad (Convenor), Theerth Mallesh (KGF Karnataka), Naveen Kumar (KPRS, Karnataka) and P K Suresh (Kerala) (Joint convenors), Vijoo Krishnan, Jayaram (KGF Karnataka), Durga Prasad (KPRS, Karnataka), Chandran KP (Kerala), Sethu Ramalingam (Tamil Nadu). A memorandum was submitted to the secretary of Commerce Ministry, Government of India. The subcommittee held its first meeting on 5th June 2019 at Bangalore and further decided to organize two regional conventions at Sakleshpur and Kalpeta before 30th September 2019. The state units of Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have to take up concrete measures in this regard.

The AIKC had decided to observe 23rd August 2018 as Dairy Farmers demands day. There was no report received from state units regarding its observation.

Rubber subcommittee – The proposal was placed in the last AIKC meeting to organize a meeting in the context of the continuing crisis in the rubber sector. The rubber growing states have to take initiative to organize the meeting and undertake further campaign and struggles.

Sugarcane growers' committee and campaign - The Coordination Committee of Cane Farmers convened in Delhi on 06-09-2018. Office bearers from UP, Bihar, Haryana, Uttarakhand, A.P., Karnataka and Tamil Nadu participated. The meeting resolved to conduct mass struggle in front of sugar mills across the country on 29th and 30th October 2018 and it was observed in many parts of the country. Also the committee proposed that sugarcane growing state units may convene conventions and form state subcommittees and first All India conference can be convened as per concrete schedule. Further concrete initiatives are

required in this regard. The Tamil Nadu unit is actively monitoring the state federation with independent membership and subscription.

The AIKC has to consider the proposal of independent membership subscription for the various crop wise federations affiliated to AIKS and a concrete plan may be prepared for the consideration of the forthcoming AIKS conference. At the same time this step needs to be undertaken without enfeebling the organisation and committee functioning at different levels.

Financial Situation of AIKS

The AIKS Centre is facing severe financial constraints and is forced to bear enormous expenses in the context of intensified activities of struggles and campaigns, independent as well as united across the country, throughout the last five to six years and also for assisting weak state units. We were forced to suspend the inadequate subsidy being given as assistance to whole time cadres working in comparatively weaker regions for the last 15 months.

The arrears pending against such state units amounts to Rs 4,80,000 with the following break up: Himachal Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand – Rs. 60000 each, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka – Rs 45000 each, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh – Rs 30000 each and Uttarakhand and Manipur – Rs 15000 each. The inability of the CKC to maintain financially the whole time cadres and their families in the weak state units is a serious matter of concern.

A comparative analysis of the income and expenditure for the last five years has been done which illustrates the actual financial state of the organization. The range of annual expenditure has increased to around Rs 45 lakh in the year 2018-19 from Rs 17 lakh in 2012-13. During this period our income has not increased. Instead due to the steady decline of membership it has reduced.

The issue of enhancing the income by enhancing the affiliation fee was discussed in the last two consecutive conferences and finally it was decided to increase from 10 paise to 20 paise per member in the last conference in October 2017 at Hisar. As per that the AIKS Centre has started receiving the enhanced income from the last year 2017-18 only. The decision of all the state units to provide 5% of their annual working fund collection to the AIKS centre was also not effectively followed by all the units.

We have been maintaining Rs 1.32 crore as fixed deposit including the building fund. Due to the emergency situation two fixed deposits were dismantled and currently we are maintaining an amount of Rs 1.19 crore in the fixed deposit account.

The CKC meeting held on 18-19th March 2018 had resolved to collect Rs 5 crore as Kisan Sangharsh Fund 2018 - a struggle fund for future expansion of the organization. The decision was to collect Rs 10 only per rural household or local shop keeper. A village / primary unit with 100 membership may collect Rs 100 only (Rs 10 each from 10 households) and those with 1000 membership may collect Rs 1000 only (Rs. 10 each from 100 households).

From the amount thus collected, 50% could be shared with respective state units for strengthening state/district level organization. A letter to office bearers of primary units and notice to the public was drafted and circulated to state units and called for two days mass bucket collection first in villages and then in nearby bazaars/towns.

This fund collection was conceived as a political campaign to reach out to the rural public with the message of struggles against both the anti-peasant neoliberal policies and communal agenda of the RSS-BJP combine. The campaign was aimed at activating the lower level units and to grasp the potential of growth and political influence of the peasant movement across the country.

As part of the fund collection in villages, on 22nd and 23rd July 2018, AIKS Centre comrades Hannan Mollah had participated in Haryana, N K Shukla in Bihar, Vijoo Krishnan in Telangana and P Krishnaprasad in Madhya Pradesh and there was good response.

In the background of the unprecedented flood in Kerala in July/August 2018 and the mass collection that followed across the country to assist the people there, the peasant struggle fund collection was affected in majority of states including Kerala and West Bengal. We have received fund of Rs 11.34 lakh so far, with the breakup of Rs 5 lakh from West Bengal, Rs 2.25 lakh from Maharashtra, Rs 1 lakh from Tamil Nadu and Rs 65000 from Uttar Pradesh.

AIKS centre had to borrow money to maintain its expenses and even to support the allowance and travel expenses of the central functionaries. This situation needs to be addressed at the earliest. If we have to build peasant movement across the country and build worker peasant alliance based mass movement, then we need more resources of cadres as well as financial resources. Hence this AIKC meeting may discuss this serious issue and arrive at practical and achievable solutions.

There are three suggestions that we may consider:

1. Enhance membership by 10% every year and ensure enhanced income through affiliation fee.
2. Ensure all state units irrespective of weak or strong collect annual working fund and contribute 5% of the amount received by the respective state units to the AIKS centre.
3. Collect Rs 50 lakh as Peasant Struggle Fund 2019 in November/December 2019 in order to overcome the present financial crisis faced by the CKC.

Conclusion

The re-election of the RSS-BJP combine in the Lok Sabha Election 2019 and the second tenure of the Narendra Modi Government only reflects the sharp polarization in the Indian society, especially in the context of ensuing global recession due to world capitalist crisis. The political polarisation between the exploitative and exploited social forces has led to right wing consolidation by enfeebling even the pro-corporate political forces in the opposition including the Congress. This right wing consolidation under the pro neo-liberal and communal forces has taken place especially in the context of intensifying struggles of the peasantry and working class in the agrarian, industrial and service sectors across the country.

In a way the struggles unleashed by the AIKS and the united peasant movement have helped to hasten this right wing polarisation.

The post election political situation at the All India level further underlines the growing relevance of class struggle and the significance of clarity on building systemic and protracted unity of the toiling people especially under the worker-peasant alliance. The consequent vast unity of the toiling people in struggles as well as on building alternative model of development based on worker-peasant social cooperatives will inevitably change the existing socio-economic and political order dominated by the corporate forces.

Appraisal of strength of the Left and democratic mass and class movements based on electoral performance alone cannot depict their actual influence among the people. The consistent initiatives on the contemporary political process with political clarity will yield concrete and considerable results in the struggle for emancipation of the basic classes.

Hence identifying burning issues of minimum wage and minimum support price as the mainstream mode of exploitation of the workers and peasants and rallying the masses on these issues apart from issues of land and credit, as the base of future struggles especially in the context of the growing corporate penetration on agriculture, with 100% FDI, contract farming, Free Trade Agreements etc will decisively shape the future of the political process at the All India level. Along with this, addressing issues at the local level for further intensifying result oriented struggles as per the strength and political influence in particular regions and locally will provide space for developing cadres and movements in order to confront the ruling class social forces.

The worker-peasant alliance has to prioritize struggles in the agrarian sector by mobilizing the peasantry and the rural proletariat against the rural rich nexus. The unity of the left and democratic forces that is emerging in the context of growing struggles of the peasantry and the workers will further help to advance the class struggle across the country.

Hence we have to learn from our rich experiences and provide inspiring leadership to the people by further intensifying our struggle on the basis of the following future plan of action.

Future Plan of Action

On Movement

1. **22nd July - Protest actions against violation of FRA and evictions:** Millions of Adivasis and other traditional forest dwelling communities are facing the danger of eviction and the Supreme Court is due to hear the different petitions on 24th July 2019. The BJP Government is also proposing draconian amendments to the Indian Forest Act, 1927, to facilitate corporate loot and

exploitation of the tribal people. The BAA and platform of tribal organizations have called for protest actions condemning the government actions and proposed amendments to the Forest Act on 22nd July at the village, block, district and state level. Chief Ministers of different states of the country have been written to seeking their intervention in favour of the Forest Rights Act and the Adivasis in the Supreme Court. AIKS will call upon all its units to rise in protest across the country on 22nd July 2019 jointly with the Adivasi Adhikar Rashtriya Manch, All India Agricultural Workers' Union and constituents of the Bhumi Adhikar Andolan. A protest demonstration will also be held at Jantar Mantar in Delhi at 11:30 AM on that day. If the SC endorses eviction, then in order to defend the rights and livelihood of tribal people, all the state units have to mobilise tribal masses for the All India rally on 28th November 2019 at New Delhi. The quota may be decided later.

2. **3rd August - AIKSCC Protest:** The All India Kisan Sangharsh Coordination Committee has called for holding demonstrations and dharnas at all District Collectorate on 3rd August 2019 and submitting memorandum through the Collectors to the President of India demanding the passage of the two Bills passed by the Kisan Parliament on a) Remunerative prices for all crops as per the Swaminathan Commission recommendations with assured procurement and b) Freedom from indebtedness by waiving of all loans of farmers. Other burning issues like drought relief, crop insurance etc can also be taken up in these actions.
3. **5th September - Nationwide Protest Against Labour Code Reform:** The AIKC has to resolve to unite with workers to hold nation wide protests on 5th September against the retrograde changes being brought by the Narendra Modi-led BJP government to the existing labour laws. If the proposed Bill is passed by Parliament, then 70% of the workers now under the protection of labour laws will be excluded and will be at the mercy of their employers. The mode of protest action will be decided and informed after due consultation with the TU leadership. AIKC adopted a resolution in this regard which is attached along with a note with details. This may be used for campaign at the ground level.

On Organisation

1. **Extended two day state committee meetings** – In order to report the review of AIKC meeting and the future plan, two day extended meetings of all the state committees (state committee members and district office bearers) should to be arranged before 30th August 2019 in the presence of minimum two central functionaries and office bearers.
2. **Workshop on organisation** - A workshop on organisation building may be organised at New Delhi in March/April 2020 in which apart from AIKC members selected state secretariat members also will be invited. The date will be fixed later with due consultation.
3. **Unit Registration** - The registration of primary units will be considered mandatory from the year 2019-20 onwards and election of delegates will be decided based on the number and membership strength of active and registered primary units. The district committees have to submit the list of registered units to the respective state units and that may be reported to AIKC by the respective state units every year.

4. **Membership 2019-20** - All the state units have to organise special state level workshop to ensure expansion of membership. In this regard based on crop wise mobilisation, various federations may be formed and such federations may be allowed affiliation to AIKS. Thus the federations may apart from subscription collect affiliation fee also for AIKS.
5. **Crop wise mobilisations – A** - All the state units have to give special emphasis to develop farmers' federations based on crop wise specific issues and fixing priorities to such crops cultivated by poor and middle level peasantry. The existing sub committees covering Sugarcane, Rubber, Coffee and Jute may organise their All India Conferences and form All India Federations. **B - Coffee Growers' Regional Convention** - The state committee of Kerala and Karnataka may facilitate the regional convention of coffee growers before 30th August 2019. **C- Sugarcane farmers conference** - The first conference of sugarcane farmers may be organised by the Tamil Nadu unit. The date and venue may be decided after due consultation.
6. **Worker-Peasant Social Cooperatives** - The state units are requested to organise state level workshop to explore the possibilities of cooperative intervention in order to protect and expand the rights and livelihood of the peasantry and rural workers.
7. **Peasant Struggle Fund, 2019** - All the state units may undertake series of preparations to activate primary units for two days mass collection in the village and nearby bazaar in November /December 2019 to collect Rs 10 only from each household for the Peasant Struggle Fund 2019. The date may be decided by the respective state units. A leaflet detailing the message of the ongoing peasant struggles may be distributed as part of the collection. The fund as per the quota may be deposited to the account of AIKS by all the state organizations before 10th January 2020.
8. **On JEJAA, BAA, AIKSCC** - The meetings of the concerned platforms may be convened as early as possible and resolve to intensify the ongoing struggles based on burning issues.
9. **South Asian Conference of TUI (Agriculture)** -Trade Union International had proposed to hold South Asian Conference in India. We may hold it in April 2020 in Kerala. South Asian Peasants Coalition also proposed its conference in India. After consultation both the events may be organised simultaneously.

State Reports

WEST BENGAL

Paschim Banga Pradeshik Krishak Sabha organized three campaigns in November, December and January. After long preparation we staged a huge demonstration from Singur to Kolkata and that concluded in a rally at Kolkata in November 2018.

North Bengal districts were engaged in a similar programme from Coochbehar to Siliguri and concluded in a huge rally that raised various demands of peasants.

The third was organized by Nadia and Murshidabad districts at Palassey. A convention was organized earlier. There thousands of peasants demanded the right on land, and against speculation on land.

In this period we also organized a padayatra throughout the state with other organizations under the banner of Bengal Platform of Mass Organizations. Innumerable small and big rallies were organized. On the concluding day, 3rd October, a huge demonstration was staged at Kolkata.

At the same time we staged dharnas at various panchayat offices against corruption and on various demands. Regarding fall of price of potato, jute and paddy, demonstrations were also organized throughout the state.

For three long months the entire organization was involved in making these movements successful. In the meantime we took up organizational steps for effective functioning. We also took up membership campaign seriously. But it is a matter of regret that we failed in our target and at last we could manage to enroll membership, ten lakhs less than last year. We had to incur huge monetary expenditure to organize those movements. So it hampered our membership campaign.

We must admit our organizational weakness. In various areas shortage of cadre was also a factor. Even functioning of village or booth level committees remained weak. We elaborately discussed this problem and it shall have to be corrected in coming days.

After parliament election, the state secretariat and state council meeting was held. The meeting evaluated the position and chalked out programmes. We have taken up membership enrolment programmes and lower level conferences. To make it successful, general body meetings and committee meetings at all levels are being seriously taken up.

KERALA

The programmes undertaken by the Kerala Karshaka Sangham State Committee after the CKC meeting held on 17-18 December 2018 in Delhi are as follows.

Protest against Price Rise of Fertilizer

Peasant marches and dharnas before the Central Govt. Offices at the district centres were held against cutting the quota by the Central Govt. of major fertilizers like Urea, Potash, Factumphose etc... which are needed for the agricultural crops in Kerala, and against giving the right to fix the price of fertilizers to the companies and also against price rice.

Women Farmers' Conventions

Women farmers conventions were organized at district level to protest the anti women position adopted by the political parties such as BJP, Congress etc in the names of traditional practice related to the issue of the entry of women between the age of 10-50 at the Sabarimala temple and to ensure participation of the women farmers in the works for the revival of agriculture sector after the flood. The convention at the Palghat district was inaugurated by Com. Mariam Dhawale, General Secretary, All India Democratic Women's Association. Conventions in Kannur and Thiruvananthapuram were inaugurated by Com. P. K. Sreemathi Teacher and Com. Susan Kodi (State President of AIDWA) respectively. 5346 women farmers participated in these conventions. Area level conventions were held in Alappuzha district.

Integrated Agriculture

Kerala Karshaka Sangham State Committee took up work for the success of the integrated agriculture sector. Integrated agriculture was formed at ward level farmers gatherings. Integrated agriculture in the companionship of the self help groups and associations. Karshaka Sangham has to fulfill the task of mobilizing the peasants of Kerala towards integrated agriculture which has the aim of sustainable development and safe food. These works are going on throughout the state as part of the integrated agriculture campaign:-

1. Forming of peasants help groups and joint liability groups.
2. Giving credits needed for the farmers and farmers groups.
3. Availability of inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, machines, labour fare in time.
4. Agricultural market intervention in proper time.
5. Coordination of the projects of various departments of the State Government local bodies.

March to the Chief Forest Conservator Office (CCF) demanding protection from Wild Animal Nuisance

Wild animals are trespassing the agricultural land and destroying crops in several places of various districts in the state. Although many struggles were organized at local level the forest department officials have failed to stop the menace. It has caused heavy loss to life of people and agricultural crops. In this situation a peasants March and Dharna was organized in front of the office of the Chief Conservator of Forest, Thiruvananthapuram on 12th December 2018. The dharna was inaugurated by Com. Koliyacode N. Krishnan Nair, State President of Karshaka Sangham. State Secretary K. V. Ramakrishnan also addressed the dharna. 2880 peasants participated in this struggle from affected districts in the state.

A memorandum demanding permanent remedy to protect the farmers and agricultural sector from the attacks of wild animals was submitted to the CCF.

Womens' Wall

In relation to the womens' entry at the Sabarimala Temple, there was a conscious effort by some reactionary forces to destroy the renaissance values which have been achieved through numerous agitations and to make Kerala again into a madhouse. To combat this despicable effort, Kerala Government decided to build a Women's Wall on 1st January 2019 along with some organizations who have the legacy of renaissance. Our State Committee decided to mobilize all the women farmers throughout Kerala in the Women's Wall and to organize an intensive campaign.

It was decided to mobilise at least 50 women farmers from each village in the Women's Wall. As per the reports from the district committees, 2,73,487 women farmers participated in the women's wall throughout the state. We are proud of this participation.

Membership

The 25th state conference of the Karshaka Sangham held on January 2017 at Kannur decided to enroll 50 lakh farmers to the organization as part of the future course of action. We are proud that we could achieve this target. 50,30,750 farmers took the membership of the Karshaka Sangham this year. An increase of 1,15,357 membership took place this year over last year, within prescribed period since we planned the work.

Alternative Policy Document for Agriculture

Kerala witnessed a huge flood disaster in the month of August 2018. As per the official statistics, loss of 480 lives and loss of Rs. 40,000 crore took place. In the agricultural sector there is loss of Rs. 20,000 crore. Alappuzha district had a huge agricultural loss over an area of 12,095.55 hectares of land. Besides this, thousands of cattles and lakhs of cocks, hens, ducks etc died during the flood. As per a primary estimate there were 3,09,000 farmers who lost their agricultural crops. During the flood the peasants of these areas lost their entire life long savings.

The LDF Government successfully handled the situation, took all measures to overcome menace of the floods. In this situation, Karshaka Sangham State Committee prepared an alternate agricultural policy document for the purpose of complete recouping of the agricultural sector in post-flood Kerala and this document was adopted by the special convention held on 4th January 2019 at Ernakulam.

The convention mainly discussed the necessity of building a new agrarian Kerala by studying the challenges and weaknesses facing agrarian Kerala. The convention discussed the ways to attract the youngsters towards agriculture by making it economically viable and intellectually inspiring them.

The convention was inaugurated by Com. S. Ramachandran Pillai, All India Vice President of Kisan Sabha. State president Koliyacode N. Krishnan Nair presided over the convention. State secretary K. V. Ramakrishnan presented the alternate agricultural policy

document. Keynote address based on the alternate policy document was presented by Dr. R. Ramakumar, State Planning Board Member. After a detailed discussion the document was adopted. 516 persons including Karshaka Sangham district executive committee members, district committee members, selected farmers and agricultural experts participated.

Worker-Peasant Solidarity Day - January 19

As per the decision of the central committee to organize worker-peasant solidarity day on January 19, under the leadership of CITU and AIKS, worker-peasant solidarity day was organized.

State Level Workers Convention - January 24

A state level workers meeting was convened on January 24, 2019 at Thiruvananthapuram to explain the CKC meeting decisions held in Delhi on 17-18 December 2018. Com. Dr. Ashok Dhawale, All India President of Kisan Sabha inaugurated the convention and explained the decisions of the CKC. Members of the state and district committees of the Karshaka Sangham throughout the state participated.

Work Related to Lok Sabha Elections

As part of the Lok Sabha election campaign peasant gatherings were organized. They exposed the hollowness and anti-peasant positions in the Central Budget and against anti-peasant policies of the Central Government. ‘Throw away Modi Regime’ and ‘Save Peasants’ the slogans on which campaign was organized. 66,527 farmers participated in 803 centres.

Besides this, booth level peasant squads were formed and booth level peasant conventions held by March 10. A leaflet was prepared for exposing the hollowness of the Central budget and the anti-peasant policies of Central Government for distributing to the voters during the squad work of the election campaign.

Kerala Karshaka Sangham Conference

State committee decided to begin the preliminary work for the 26th state conference of Kerala Karshaka Sangham. State Committee also decided to conduct state conference in December 2019. The conferences at various levels of the organization are planned as follows:

Unit Conferences	-	June 15 – July 31
Village Conferences	-	August 01 – 31
Area Conferences	-	September 01 – 30
District Conferences	-	October 01 – 30

Young Farmer’s Meet

On 30th June we will conduct a convention named “Yuvakarshaka Sangamam” at Thrissur, for the young farmers and to discuss the probability of a new Karshaka Sangham

including the youngsters. The convention will be inaugurated by the Chief Minister Pinarai Vijayan. It is expected that four hundred young farmers will attend the convention. The convention is intended to attract young farmers to the agricultural sector.

TRIPURA

The 17th Lok Sabha election was held in Tripura in an abnormal situation in the backdrop of unabated fascistic attacks by the ruling party of the state, BJP. Since declaration of results of Tripura State Assembly election on March 3, 2018, democracy loving people of the state are facing continuous violent attacks. There is no existence of civil liberties and rule of law in the state.

Lawlessness and continuous terror in Tripura which is not at all conducive to free and fair Lok Sabha elections was brought to the notice of the Election Commission in Delhi as well as of the state Election authority several times and both were requested to restore fear-free atmosphere as precondition to hold free, fair, peaceful Lok Sabha poll. Though assurance was given by Election Commission, there was no improvement of the situation.

Both the Left Front candidates Jitendra Choudhury and Sankar Prasad Datta were attacked several times, their vehicles were vandalised in the presence of security forces during the campaign. Our leaders were prevented from addressing any mass meeting. Even participants in the opposition meetings were attacked.

In this background, in the election held on 11th April in Tripura West parliamentary constituency, the armed gangs of the ruling BJP rigged the entire election with the help of a section of the police and election staff.

The Election Commission also admitted that rigging was done in this constituency. Addl. D.G. of Police who was in-charge of the deployment of Central Para Military forces and R.O. of West Tripura Constituency was transferred. The Election Commission deferred the poll date for Tripura East (ST) seat from 18th to 23rd April due to law and order situation. A team led by the state Chief Electoral Officer examined Webcams and other documents and recommended re-poll in 433 booths. But ultimately they ordered re-poll in only 168 polling booths, nearly one-tenth of total booths. This was held on 18th May. In this re-poll also BJP resorted to various electoral manipulations.

Brief Results

Tripura East (ST) PC

Valid Vote	BJP	Congress	CPI(M)	IPFT
82.93%	46.32%	26.69%	19.31%	4.35%

Though the BJP came in first position, this includes a large percentage of fake votes. In the last Assembly election BJP+IPFT combine vote was 49.69%, CPI(M) 45% , Congress and INPT combine 2.9%. In this election Congress gained a lot.

Reasons behind Success of BJP

1. RSS-BJP extensively campaigned. Amit Shah held meeting with booth level workers. Mohan Bhagawat held meeting with RSS functionaries and Narendra Modi held election meeting with large attendance. BJP Chief Minister extensively campaigned in each of the Assembly segments. Main point was Modi will again be the PM.
2. Apart from national print and electronic media, they also utilised local print and electronic media in their favour extensively, using huge money power.
3. Widely used social media in an articulate manner and made house to house contact.
4. BJP-RSS workers campaigned door to door and publicised success of central and state governments. They told the voters that the Government introduced various benefit schemes. The first instalments of amount to the peasantry and unorganised workers have been deposited in the respective bank accounts and they were told that more benefits are in the offing. Procurement of paddy through FCI, supply of free cooking gas, partial implementation of 7th Pay Commission etc. was also propagated.
5. The social pension-holders, MNREGA and other scheme workers were threatened that if they do not vote for BJP, their names will be deleted. Similar threat was given to the residents of landless colonies.
6. BJP-RSS consolidated with ultra-Hindutva campaign. They spread communal venom and hatred against religious minorities. Balakot airstrike was widely propagated.
7. Modi and other BJP leaders strongly argued for implementation of Citizenship Amendment Bill. A section of non-tribals, mostly Bengalis, who have their relatives still in Bangladesh were influenced by this campaign.
8. Major section of middle class and new generation were allured by aggressive pursuit of neo-liberalism and became prey to self-centrism and corruption.
9. Through unabated fascistic attacks and creating of extreme panic, they compelled a section of our voters to vote for BJP.
10. A section of voters who earlier used to vote for Left Front, but in the last Assembly election voted for BJP, due to their misrule and other reasons this time voted against BJP. But the BJP compensated for this loss by casting fake votes.

Factors behind Congress Gain

- The main thrust of our campaign was to defeat the BJP and to form a secular Government at the Centre. But the benefit of this campaign went in favour of the Congress. Different sections of society cast their vote in favour of the Congress on the basis of the understanding that only Congress with their allies can form an alternative Government at the centre. If there will be a Congress-led Government at the Centre, the intensity of the fascistic attack of BJP in the state will be less.
- A section of voters, who voted Left Front in the Assembly election last year, this year shifted to Congress.
- BJP promised to implement Citizenship Amendment Bill. PCC President Pradyut Kishore Debbbarman raised the slogan for all in unity of the tribal regional parties at the call of “first community, then party”. With this slogan a section of our traditional voters in the tribal areas shifted to Congress. Tribal youths and middle class voted for Congress. A good number of IPFT supporters also voted for Congress.
- In the last Assembly election to defeat Left Front, Congress shifted its votes to BJP. This time a section of Congress voters who voted for BJP earlier, came back to Congress.
- The Vice President of state BJP Subal Bhowmik switched over to Congress, and contested on behalf of his parent party. A section of Congress supporters who lent support to the BJP in the Assembly election last year to dislodge the Left Front from office, have come back to Congress this time. A section of Congress and TMC workers who joined BJP before the assembly election, worked for Congress in polling booths and in some places rigged the election in favour of Congress.

Causes of our Setback

- The Left could not campaign due to constant terror and attacks. They could not build up booth level organisation to establish direct contact with the voters.
- During last 14 months, almost all our Left parties offices were attacked by the BJP and 90% of our offices were non-existent.
- The printed leaflets and posters published by Left parties, AIKS and AIAWU could not be reached to the voters due to the terror situation.
- Left parties, mainly the CPI(M) had organisational weaknesses in making direct contact with the voters.
- To combat the huge fund and lavish expenditure of the ruling BJP, the Left parties had tremendous fund constraint.

- Left parties failed to combat the campaign through strong social media by the BJP.

Post Poll Violence

From the counting hall itself, BJP let loose renewed widespread fascistic attacks in a planned manner. Inside and outside the counting hall more than 60 counting agents of the Left candidates were physically assaulted in the presence of security forces. Many of them suffered fractural wounds. From 23rd May, the day of the counting up to 2nd June more than 500 party leaders, workers and supporters of Left parties were physically attacked and many of them had to be hospitalised.

More than 300 houses and shops of our party workers were attacked, vandalised, looted. More than 30 houses and shops were set on fire. Rubber gardens, fisheries, cars and motor bikes of party comrades were destroyed. The so called 'Gau rakshaks' even killed milching cows of a party supporter by mixing poison in food.

Daily Desher Katha, a critique of the BJP Government, is again under severe attack. Subscribers, readers, hawkers and agents were threatened not to distribute the paper.

Telecasting of first-ever live cable channel of the state 'Akash Tripura' has been stopped.

In the name of celebrating victory, BJP miscreants started mass extortion of money in the entire state. Demand for subscription is ranging from Rs. 5000 to 5 to 10 lakhs, mainly from Left supporters.

In this situation, AIKS State Secretariat and Executive Committee met. We have completed our membership campaign for the year 2018-19 before the Lok Sabha election. This year the membership came down to 1,25,319, decreased to 31.78%. The enrolment in 2017-18 was 3,94,339.

There is frustration among a section of leaders and workers. Various level committees, from State Committee to lowest did not function properly. We have decided to re-constitute the Local and Sub-Divisional Committees and this will be completed soon. Registration form will be sent by 30th June.

In the rural areas of the state, there is crisis of food and work. The actual farmers are not getting agri-inputs supplied by the State Government. The BJP-IPFT alliance Government is procuring paddy from the farmers at the rate of Rs. 1750 per quintal which is not at all remunerative.

'Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Yojana' was implemented before the Lok Sabha election. Agricultural workers and share-croppers are not getting this benefit. In the state

farmers are not interested in PMFBJ. It failed to satisfy the farmers of the country. This scheme benefited the insurance companies only. Mandays generated in MNREGA decreased by 35-40 days and the fund is being looted by hoodlums. There is severe crisis of food and work in the rural countryside, particularly in tribal pockets.

MAHARASHTRA

1.AUGUST 9 JAIL BHARO STRUGGLE

The Maharashtra participation in the actions on August 9 and September 5 was vigorous. It was the second largest in the country after West Bengal in the August 9 Jail Bharo; and it was the largest in the country among AIKS state contingents in the Mazdoor Kisan Sangharsh Rally on September 5. The figures were as follows:

The total participation in the Jail Bharo struggle in Maharashtra was 63,437 at 67 centres in 27 districts. The class organisation-wise break-up was as follows: AIKS - 45,715, CITU - 16,558, AIAWU - 1,074. Had it not been for the partial Maharashtra Bandh the same day on the Maratha reservation issue, the participation would have crossed one lakh as planned.

The first five districts in the AIKS mobilisation for August 9 were as follows: Thane-Palghar (20,720 in 7 centres), Nashik (17,880 in 9 centres), Nanded (2,055 in 4 centres), Parbhani (1,275 in 4 centres) and Ahmednagar (1,000 in 1 centre).

2. SEPTEMBER 5 MAZDOOR KISAN DELHI RALLY

The total participation on September 5 from Maharashtra was 12,356 from 26 districts. The class organisation-wise break-up was as follows: AIKS - 9,312, CITU - 2,696, AIAWU - 348. One large section of the AIKS Nashik contingent, led by our former state president J P Gavit, MLA, came by a special train which carried more than 5,500 peasants, mostly Adivasis.

The first five districts in the total mobilisation for September 5 were as follows: Nashik (7,236), Thane-Palghar (1,576), Solapur (615), Wardha (438), Kolhapur (405). Except for Solapur, the bulk of this mobilisation was by the AIKS.

3. NOVEMBER 29-30 KISAN MUKTI MARCH TO PARLIAMENT

The AIKS in Maharashtra mobilised around 1500 peasants from all over the state for the AIKSCC Kisan Mukti March in Delhi on November 29-30. Most of them also participated in the Nizamuddin to Ramlila Maidan march on November 29. The Maharashtra AIKS had mobilised 9,312 peasants for the Mazdoor Kisan Sangharsh Rally in Delhi on September 5, hence mobilizing to the same extent again in November was naturally not possible.

‘Nation for Farmers’ chapters were started in Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur and other centres for the propagation of the Kisan Mukti March and they did excellent work. Demonstrations in support of the March were held in some of the above centres.

4. AIKS STATE CONVENTION IN MUMBAI

Over 5,000 peasants from 23 districts of Maharashtra participated in the statewide Farmers’ Rights Convention organised by the AIKS Maharashtra state council at the prestigious Y B Chavan Auditorium in the heart of south Mumbai, on November 12.

This convention achieved many objectives. It gave a call to mobilise in strength for the nationwide Kisan Mukti March to Parliament organised by the AIKSCC on November 29-30 and in support of the All India Strike by trade unions on January 8-9. It condemned the BJP-led government at the centre for its crass anti-farmer policies and its communal conspiracies. It took the BJP-led state government to task for reneging on many of the written promises that it had given to the AIKS-led Kisan Long March from Nashik to Mumbai on March 6-12. It highlighted the issue of the grim spectre of drought that is ravaging the state and the disastrous changes in drought criteria unilaterally imposed by the Modi regime. And it called for a special session of parliament and the state assembly to discuss the agrarian crisis.

Most important, it unanimously adopted a four-page, twelve-point resolution setting out the AIKS alternative on the burning agrarian issues in Maharashtra today. This AIKS resolution was given to all the peasants who attended. It was also given to top leaders of the left and secular parties who were invited to place their opinions on it.

The five hour-long convention began with the screening of a half an hour-long documentary film prepared by the state AIKS along with Newsclick on the Kisan Long March, with subtitles in Hindi and English.

The chief guest was AIKS general secretary Hannan Mollah, ex-MP. The convention was presided over by AIKS president Dr Ashok Dhawale. It was inaugurated by former state president J P Gavit, MLA. The main resolution was placed and seconded by state general secretary Dr Ajit Nawale and state president Kisan Gujar respectively. Prominent leaders of left and secular parties placed their views.

5. AIKS STATE WORKSHOP IN KOLHAPUR

The decision to organise this Mumbai convention was taken at the AIKS statewide workshop held at Kolhapur in the sugar belt region of Western Maharashtra on October 22-23. This convention was attended by over 200 activists from 21 districts.

In the public inaugural session, reception committee chairman Sampatbapu Pawar Patil, former MLA of the Peasants and Workers Party (PWP), welcomed the gathering. AIKS state vice president Dr Uday Narkar presided. The convention was inaugurated by AIKS president

Dr Ashok Dhawale. Former state president J P Gavit, MLA, addressed the gathering. In the delegate session, state president Kisan Gujar and state general secretary Dr Ajit Nawale placed the tasks about movement and organization to be carried out and also about the grim drought situation.

All the delegates then discussed and decided about these tasks in their district groups and placed their planning the next day before the workshop. The workshop decided to hold district level demonstrations on the drought issue on November 2 and took district quotas for the State Convention in Mumbai on November 12 and the Kisan Mukti March in Delhi on November 29-30. It also decided to complete AIKS membership enrolment by the end of December.

6. STATE GOVT AGAIN BENDS TO AIKS-LED KISAN LONG MARCH 2

The BJP-led state government was forced to bend within two days to the second Kisan Long March led by the Maharashtra state council of the All India Kisan Sabha (AIKS). It began at Nashik on the evening of February 20, 2019 with a massive public meeting of over 25,000 peasants. They started marching resolutely towards Mumbai on the morning of February 21, defying both the repression resorted to by the government and the written refusal of the police to give permission to the march.

Nearly a year after the first Kisan Long March from March 6 to 12, 2018, the AIKS Maharashtra state council held at Nashik on February 4, 2019, took the major decision of launching a second massive Kisan Long March in defence of the rights of the peasantry. It was decided to begin this Long March from Nashik on February 20, the martyrdom anniversary of Comrade Govind Pansare.

This march was held with three major objectives in mind. The first objective was to take the BJP-led state government to task for its poor implementation of the demands that it had conceded in writing last year. The second objective was to focus on the grim drought that has affected more than half of Maharashtra this year. The response of the state government to the plight of the drought-hit has been scandalous. The third objective was to denounce the Narendra Modi-led BJP central government for its callous and 'jumleбай' attitude to farmers and agricultural workers.

Concerted preparations were launched by the AIKS throughout the state immediately after the state council meeting on February 4 to make a resounding success of this Long March. On February 4 itself, a large AIKS Nashik district convention was held along with a press conference. On February 6, a large 1500-strong Thane-Palghar district convention was held in Talasari. On February 11, an Ahmednagar district convention was held in Akole. Similar preparations were made in other districts.

To prevent the second Kisan Long March, the state government began repression in Ahmednagar and Thane-Palghar district – slapping false cases, stopping peasants from

coming to Nashik etc. The AIKS condemned this act of the government as an attempt to crush a democratic and peaceful struggle. It warned that such repressive attempts of the government will not succeed in stopping the Long March. The media flashed this issue all over and the government was forced to retreat.

The significant feature of Kisan Long March 2 was its widely representative nature. Along with the three biggest contingents from Nashik, Thane-Palghar and Ahmednagar districts, a total of 18 districts from all the five regions of Maharashtra - Vidarbha, Marathwada, Western Maharashtra, Northern Maharashtra and Konkan – were represented. The overwhelming majority was poor peasants and landless farmers, but there was also a fair sprinkling of middle peasants. A new section of polyhouse and shednet farmers from several districts also joined. Adivasi peasants were in huge numbers, and so were peasant women.

The AIKS leadership decided that the march would begin on the morning of February 21. In the meanwhile, a huge and spirited public meeting was held in Nashik. The public meeting on February 20 evening was chaired by AIKS former state president and seven-time and sitting MLA of the CPI(M), J P Gavit. AIKS general secretary Hannan Mollah, ex-MP, inaugurated the public meeting. The meeting was addressed by AIKS president Dr Ashok Dhawale, state president Kisan Gujar, state vice president Ratan Budhar, state general secretary Dr Ajit Nawale and state joint secretaries Sunil Malusare and Vilas Babar. Among those who extended fraternal greetings to the march were CITU state president Dr D L Karad, CITU state vice president Mahendra Singh, AIDWA state president Naseema Shaikh, DYFI state president Sunil Dhanwa and SFI CEC member Kavita Ware.

Considering the experience of Kisan Long March 1 last year, this time around, after the AIKS announced Kisan Long March 2 at a press conference at Nashik on February 4, the government was extremely nervous at the prospect of a repeat performance. Hence chief minister Devendra Fadnavis immediately invited an AIKS delegation to meet him well in advance. Two meetings were held by the chief minister with the AIKS delegation – the first preliminary one on February 11 and the second full meeting on February 17 in which a battery of other concerned ministers and officials were also present. A charter of demands was presented by the AIKS. However, the talks were inconclusive and the AIKS made public its determination to go ahead with the Kisan Long March from February 20.

On February 20 evening, the chief minister sent one of his senior cabinet ministers Girish Mahajan to Nashik to once again negotiate with the AIKS. A small AIKS delegation met him at his invitation. The delegation first criticised the government for its acts of repression against peasants in Thane, Palghar and Ahmednagar districts and demanded the immediate withdrawal of all police cases. The minister agreed.

The contentious and unresolved issues were then discussed, after which the minister said he would speak to the chief minister and get back. The AIKS insisted on a written agreement like last time and also on bimonthly review meetings. The minister agreed, said a written agreement on AIKS demands would be prepared by next afternoon and appealed to the AIKS

to desist from the Long March and let the peasants stay on in Nashik until he came with the written agreement. The AIKS leadership told him clearly that the Kisan Long March would proceed as announced and he was welcome to join it once the written draft agreement was ready.

On the morning of February 21, Kisan Long March 2 began with tremendous enthusiasm. Behind the main AIKS Maharashtra State Council banner which announced that this Kisan Long March was being held against the betrayal of farmers by the BJP state and central governments, and with hundreds of red banners of the various AIKS district and tehsil committees, and thousands of red flags and red caps, tens of thousands of peasants from all over Maharashtra streamed out of the ground and came on to the Nashik-Mumbai national highway. It was a magnificent sight.

The police, who had denied permission to the march, were helpless before the massive and determined peasantry. Peasant women marched in their thousands. Adivasi farmers had brought along their traditional musical instruments, and they sang and danced to their tune. The air was rent by resounding slogans echoing the farmers' main demands and condemning their betrayal by the BJP governments.

After marching for around 15 Km, the march stopped at Ambebahula village in Nashik tehsil for lunch around 2 pm. As in the last Kisan Long March, peasants from the villages had sent their tempos ahead with rice, dal, firewood and cooking utensils and by the time all reached the spot, food was ready. Just as the march was about to begin at 4 pm after some rest, the minister Girish Mahajan rang up to say that he was reaching along with another cabinet minister Jaykumar Rawal and other officials.

An urgent meeting of AIKS state office bearers was held. It decided on an effective contingency plan to intensify the struggle should the final talks fail. Just ahead of the village on the highway, an armed police force had gathered in strength, had put up a number of barricades and had also kept water cannons and an ambulance ready in case of a confrontation. The contingency plan aimed to surmount this.

Both the ministers came with the draft of the agreement. AIKS leaders Dr Ashok Dhawale, J P Gavit, MLA, Dr Ajit Nawale and Sunil Malusare were in the delegation in the final talks. For over three hours, the draft was discussed line by line, para by para, and the AIKS insisted on several changes and additions to the draft as per what had been decided. The government was forced to give in and had to include almost all the AIKS amendments. A meeting of the AIKS state office bearers was urgently called and, only after getting its approval to the final agreement, was it unanimously decided to suspend the Kisan Long March around midnight on February 21.

The ministers and AIKS leaders both reported on the demands conceded to the large number of media persons gathered outside and the minister also declared to the media that there would be bimonthly review meetings of implementation with the AIKS leadership. After

midnight on February 21/22, a huge public meeting of tens of thousands of participants in the Kisan Long March was held at the Ambehahula village, in which both the above ministers announced the demands that were conceded by the government and also pledged to have regular bimonthly reviews of their implementation with the AIKS.

The culmination meeting was then addressed by AIKS leaders Dr Ashok Dhawale, J P Gavit, MLA, Kisan Gujar, Dr Ajit Nawale, Savliram Pawar, Umesh Deshmukh and Sunil Malusare. All of them congratulated the peasantry for the unity and struggle that had led to this victory within two days; warned about the draconian Supreme Court judgement about eviction of tribals and called for intense struggle if any such steps were taken by the government; asked the peasants to strengthen their organization; and called upon them to defeat the BJP-Shiv Sena combine and to strengthen the Left in the coming Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha elections in the state. The Kisan Long March 2 then ended with resounding victory slogans.

The first meeting of the AIKS delegation with the chief minister and other concerned ministers and officials to review the implementation of the demands conceded after the Kisan Long March 2 is scheduled to be held in Mumbai on July 4.

7. VOTE INCREASE IN LOK SABHA ELECTIONS

In the just-concluded Lok Sabha elections, CPI(M) central committee member, AIKS former state president and seven-time sitting MLA, J P Gavit secured 1,09,570 votes in the Dindori (ST) seat in Nashik district, fighting against both the BJP and the NCP. This was nearly 37,000 votes more than what the CPI(M) had secured in the same seat in the 2014 Lok Sabha polls. Hundreds of AIKS activists worked well.

In the other Palghar (ST) seat in Palghar district, we supported a local secular party, the Bahujan Vikas Aghadi. Here, as a result of the work of hundreds of our activists, nearly 80,000 votes each, and leads of 6,000 to 8,000 votes each over the Shiv Sena-BJP candidate, could be secured in both the Dahanu and Vikramgad assembly segments where we have a substantial base.

8. JUNE 1, 2019: AIKS PROTESTS FLAY BJP-SENA STATE GOVT

At the statewide call of the AIKS, thousands of farmers came on to the streets in several districts on June 1, 2019, just two days after the newly elected BJP regime of Narendra Modi at the Centre took office. The statewide protests flayed the State Government of the BJP-Shiv Sena for its betrayal of promises given to farmers on issues of drought relief, loan waiver, fair prices, land rights, ration, pension and other local issues, which included opposition to the proposed Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train and the proposed Mumbai-Vadodara Expressway in Palghar district.

June 1 marked the second anniversary of the historic 11-day statewide farmers strike in Maharashtra that began on June 1, 2017. It may be recalled that it was this novel strike that forced the BJP-led state government to declare a Rs 34,000 crore loan waiver package. However, only Rs 18,000 crore of this package has been disbursed to farmers, by the government's own admission. The AIKS, along with other farmers' bodies, had played a vital role in the success of that strike. AIKS state general secretary Dr Ajit Nawale was elected Convenor of the Coordination Committee of Farmers Organisations that led the strike.

In the June 1 actions, the largest mobilisation of over 10,000 peasants was in the eight tehsils of Thane-Palghar districts, viz Dahanu, Talasari, Vikramgad, Jawhar, Mokhada, Wada, Shahapur and Palghar. There were impressive rallies at Akole in Ahmednagar district, Kinwat in Nanded district, Solapur in Solapur district and several other districts in the state like Parbhani, Beed, Hingoli, Latur, Usmanabad, Buldana, Sangli, Kolhapur, Nashik and others. Demonstrations and dharnas took place in all the eight districts of Marathwada region, which is the worst affected by drought. Memorandums were given to govt officials, who were forced to concede several local demands.

These actions in Maharashtra were led by AIKS president Dr Ashok Dhawale, state president Kisan Gujar, acting president Arjun Adey, vice presidents Dada Raipure, Ratan Budhar, Barkya Mangat, Sidhappa Kalshetty, general secretary Dr Ajit Nawale, joint secretaries Vilas Babar, Sunil Malusare, Radka Kalangda, treasurer Umesh Deshmukh and many others.

9. STATE CONVENTION ON TEMPLE AND INAMI LANDS ISSUE

On June 16, 2019, the AIKS organised a state convention at Kolhapur that was attended by hundreds of tenant farmers cultivating temple trust lands and enami lands. The main demand was the vesting of such lands in the names of the tenants. This issue has been taken up through struggle by the AIKS for a number of years in the South Maharashtra districts and the state government had assured after both the Kisan Long Marches that legislation to this effect would be enacted.

The convention was presided over by AIKS state vice president Dr Uday Narkar and the main speaker was AIKS state general secretary Dr Ajit Nawale. Others who spoke and organized the convention were AIKS state treasurer Umesh Deshmukh, state council members Subhash Nikam and Digambar Kamble. The convention gave a call to organise such peasants all over the state and later to gherao the CM's house.

10. MAHAPADAV OF 30,000 IN SEVEN TEHSILS OF THANE-PALGHAR

From October 10-13, 2018, day and night mahapadavs were organised in Talasari, Dahanu, Vikramgad, Jawhar, Palghar, Wada and Shahapur tehsils of Thane-Palghar districts by the AIKS, CITU, AIDWA, DYFI and SFI. Over 30,000 people took part simultaneously in the above seven centres. The struggle lasted from two to four days and nights in different centres, depending on when the government officials conceded the demands. Seven tehsil level

meetings were held from September 29 to October 5 to prepare for the struggle and they mobilised over 2,000 activists.

October 10 is observed every year in the district as Martyrs' Day and as the death anniversary of the legendary leader and former AIKS president Godavari Parulekar. The demands related to the implementation of the Forest Rights Act (FRA), opposition to the proposed Bullet Train, Expressway and River Linking project, MNREGA, PDS, drought relief, pension, drinking water, electricity, housing, education, health and so on. The SDOs/Tehsildars were forced to hold talks, concede several local demands and also begin their implementation.

The struggle was led by AIKS president Dr Ashok Dhawale, AIKS state president Kisan Gujar, AIKS state vice presidents Barkya Mangat and Ratan Budhar, AIKS state joint secretary Radka Kalangda and several state and district committee members of mass fronts.

11. AIKS RALLY IN NASHIK MOBILISES 25,000 PEASANTS

On November 14, 2018, the AIKS held a 25,000-strong districtwide rally in Nashik. The main demands were: Declare Nashik as a drought-hit district; Give Rs 50,000 per hectare to the peasants as compensation for severe crop losses; Provide for drinking water, work under MNREGA and fodder for cattle; Start the scheme long-proposed by the AIKS to lift and direct water from the west-flowing rivers to the Marathwada region that is chronically the worst affected by drought; Immediately and stringently implement the Forest Rights Act (FRA); Give complete loan waiver and electricity bill waiver to drought-hit farmers; Implement the recommendations of the Swaminathan Commission including that of MSP at one and a half times the entire cost of production; and Give pension at Rs 5000 per month to agricultural workers and to poor and middle peasants.

The rally was led by AIKS president Dr Ashok Dhawale, former state president J P Gavit, MLA, state president Kisan Gujar, AIKS state office bearers Savliram Pawar, Subhash Choudhari, Dr Uday Narkar, Sunil Malusare and Irfan Shaikh and DYFI state vice president Indrajit Gavit. A delegation led by J P Gavit, MLA, met the district collector, submitted its charter of demands and held an hour-long discussion. The district collector agreed to immediately implement the demands concerning drought and FRA that fell in his purview.

12. AIKS STRUGGLES ON GRAVE ISSUE OF DROUGHT

To discuss and plan struggles on the issue of drought, which has assumed serious proportions in Vidarbha and Marathwada this year, and also to strengthen the organization, meetings of leading AIKS activists of these two regions were held in October 2018 at Wardha and Nanded respectively. They were attended by state president Kisan Gujar and state general secretary Dr Ajit Nawale.

For the last few months, constant struggles by the AIKS have been held on drought-related issues like water for drinking and irrigation, work under MNREGA, fodder for cattle, crop

insurance, loan waiver and credit etc in districts like Parbhani, Nanded, Beed, Hingoli, Jalna, Aurangabad, Buldana, Yavatmal in the Marathwada and Vidarbha regions. These are apart from the statewide actions of June 1, 2019.

13. AIKS STRUGGLES ON MAJOR ISSUES IN AHMEDNAGAR DISTRICT

In centres like Akole, Sangamner and Rahuri in Ahmednagar district, the AIKS has during this period constantly led struggles on several issues. A 2,500-strong rally was held in Akole for the implementation of the Forest Rights Act (FRA). Another rally was held on the issue of old-age and other pensions. An impressive joint rally was held against the arbitrary criteria set by the Modi government for declaring drought and demanding that Akole tehsil be declared drought-hit. Struggles were also launched on burning issues like remunerative price for milk and sugarcane. On June 27, 2019, another 3,000-strong militant rally was held in Akole on some of the above issues plus housing. These actions were led by AIKS state general secretary Dr Ajit Nawale, state council members Namdev Bhangre, Sadashiv Sable and others.

14. AIKS STRUGGLE ON LAND ACQUISITION IN SANGLI DISTRICT

The AIKS in Sangli district has been waging an intense struggle for the last few months against unjust land acquisition without giving compensation for two state highways. After an intensive village-level campaign, from October 4-6, 2018, over 2,000 affected peasants took out a jeep rally from Sangli to Solapur, took many meetings on the way in the affected villages and held a militant demonstration outside the concerned state minister's house in Solapur. There was a lathi charge by the police in which many were injured. Still the peasants refused to move. Finally, the state government had to agree to initiate talks. The struggle was led by AIKS state general secretary Dr Ajit Nawale, treasurer Umesh Deshmukh, vice president Sidhappa Kalshetty, joint secretary Manik Avaghade, state council member Digambar Kamble, CITU state general secretary M H Shaikh and others.

This struggle continued relentlessly this year with several mass actions, the latest being in May-June 2019. Talks with the government authorities are on and some partial gains have been made so far.

15. STRUGGLE AGAINST MUMBAI-AHMEDABAD BULLET TRAIN

In our earlier report to the AIKC, we had given details of our earlier struggles in Palghar district against one of the Modi Government's pet projects – the Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train. Now, with the Modi regime having been re-elected, efforts at land acquisition for the project have been intensified from June 2019. Notices have been issued to several villagers in Talasari, Dahanu and Palghar tehsils.

The Bhoomi Adhikar Andolan (BAA) held its Palghar district meeting for this issue on June 30, 2019 and the state-level meeting has been scheduled for July 16. It was decided to adopt resolutions strongly opposing the Bullet Train Project in each of the Gram Sabhas of the

villages through which the proposed Bullet Train passes. These Gram Sabhas have been scheduled by the administration on July 13-14. Further decisions to intensify the struggle will be taken after this step.

16. STATE COUNCIL MEETINGS, MEMBERSHIP AND CENTRAL FUND

Six AIKS State Council meetings, preceded by State Office Bearers meetings, have been regularly held during the last one year as follows: Year 2018 - October 22-23 (Kolhapur), December 21 (Pune), Year 2019 - February 4 (Nashik), March 14-15 (Belapur), May 5 (Parali Vajjnath), June 22 (Belapur).

AIKS membership in Maharashtra for 2018-19 that has been submitted to the Centre is 2,28,249. It marks an increase of almost 27,000 over last year's membership, which was 2,01,320. But it is less than our quota and our highest membership of 2,65,127 achieved in 2015-16. We have submitted the district wise membership chart of the last three years.

For the AIKS Central Fund, we have given Rs 2,25,000 so far.

Weaknesses in district and tehsil council functioning and especially in the primary units of our village committees persist. From this year we have started the process of registering our village committees, with the names of their presidents/secretaries. Much more attention will have to be given to this organisational aspect in future.

TAMILNADU

The last state committee meeting of the TNKS was held at Hokanekhal on 25th and 26th February 2019. The last three months we had to work for Parliamentary elections. We decided to work for the success of the secular, democratic, progressive front which includes the Left parties and presided by DMK in Tamilnadu. It was decided to conduct district level General body meetings to explain our stand on the elections. In between the state office bearers and district secretaries meeting of TNKS was held on 24th April at Thanjavur. The state office bearers meeting at Tambaram on 7th June and state committee meeting on 15th and 16th June at Rameswaram were held. All India Vice Presidents Com. KV and KB participated in the meeting. The state centre meetings were held 5 times.

The cadres of TNKS at all levels in the state worked for the success of alliance candidates presided by DMK in the parliamentary elections. On behalf of district committees notices were printed and propaganda conducted. Village meetings were held and conducted the election campaign at possible places. 18000 copies of Uzhavan Urimai election special issue was printed and used for the propaganda. In the Chidambaram parliamentary constituency public meeting was held on behalf of all Kisan Sabhas. More than 300 farmers attended the meeting. 2000 notices and 300 posters were printed for the meeting. General body meetings were held almost in all districts. In the Thiruvallur general body meeting 152 farmers mostly common farmers participated. In all other districts most of our cadres participated in the

meeting. In most of the meetings only about 50 to 100 farmers participated. The district committees did not pay attention to bring in common farmers for the meeting.

The struggles conducted independently and jointly against the High tension cable, 8 way road, Karur-coimbatore 6 way road, and against the Hydro carbon project have helped our victory against the BJP-ADMK alliance in the state. Tamilnadu people have defeated the BJP-ADMK alliance and gave grand victory for the secular, democratic and progressive front. The four candidates of the Left parties have won the election. We express our greetings to all those worked for the Parliamentary elections. The farmers who are affected by the Karur-Coimbatore High way project conducted election campaign for 20 days spending their own money and collected 1 lakh for the election fund. About 200 farmers independently campaigned against High tension cable project during this period and it has reflected in the voting in the elections.

The effort to remove the communal BJP from power has not succeeded. BJP again came to power at the centre. In this background we should take forward the struggles of peasants and toiling people and build a powerful people's movement and face the challenges and move forward.

8 way Road, Thiruvannamalai - Seminar

Against the 8 lane highway project Salem-Chennai 8 lane highway project series of struggles were conducted by our association and joint struggle committee. The police foisted cases against our farmers and office bearers. Krishnamoorthy a farmer from Dharmapuri district filed a case in the High court against the 8 lane highway project. Several others have also filed cases in the court. The High court granted stay to the project on 8.4.2019. This judgement was welcomed by the farmers.

Seminar was conducted on 28-4-2019 on behalf of the Joint struggle committee following the High Court judgement on the topic of Challenges facing the 8 lane highway project and future tasks. Our association took initiative to conduct the seminar. The comrades in the Thiruvannamalai joint struggle committee and the office bearers of TNKS in the district worked sincerely for the success of the seminar. 450 people participated in the seminar. The retired judge of the High court Mrs Sivasubramanian, Com.K.Balakrishnan Secretary, CPI(M) and the lawyers who pleaded the case participated.

The court refused to vacate the stay already granted. The central and state governments are repeatedly saying that the 8 lane high way project would be implemented. In this background joint struggles of the kisans should be taken forward. The central government has gone to Supreme Court against the high court judgement.

Demonstration against PepsiCo

The multinational Pepsi co. sued the Gujarat state farmers for the use of potato seeds patented by Pepsi co. Besides the filing of cases against the Gujarat farmers and claimed a compensation of Rs.one crore and five lakhs from each farmers demonstration was conducted jointly with DYFI and SFI on 30-4-2019 demanding withdrawal of the cases against farmers. The demonstration was presided over by com P.Shanmugam General Secretary, TNKS and 275 people participated in the demonstration. Demonstrations were held at Thiruvannamalai,

Cuddalore, Theni and Dindigul against PepsiCo. About 100 farmers participated in the demonstration in each place. The media gave good coverage for this struggle.

Against laying of Pipes for the GAIL Gas Project

The laying of pipes for a distance of 29 kilometers from Madhaanam village in Sirkazhi taluk, Nagappatinam district to Memaathur in Tharangambadi taluk is done with the protection of police force. The GAIL company gave 1.10 lakh per acre as compensation for the loss of crops to the farmers and started laying pipes for GAIL gas project. One organization organised picketing against this project. Case was filed against 19 farmers and one farmer was imprisoned by the police.

After hearing this news our Kisan Sabha conducted a demonstration at Sembanarkoil with 120 farmers participation. State president V.Subramanian participated. The weakness of our association is seen in not taking initiative on this issue at the initial stage. We are struggling against the laying of pipes in the crop fields and insisting to lay pipes at the border of the roads. We should jointly conduct movements against this move of GAIL. We should stop laying of pipes in the crop fields.

Intervention in Thanjavur District

The GAIL company brought pipes in the lorries to lay at crop fields at Boodalur taluk in Thanjavur district. Our Kisan Sabha conducted a road roko by organising the farmers. After negotiation with the officials the pipes were taken back by the lorries. It was agreed to organize an opinion seeking meeting after the elections. On this basis the struggle was withdrawn.

Against the High Tension Cable Towers

Against laying of high tension cable towers in the fertile lands struggles were conducted during the last two months. Mecheri and Selavadai in Salem district, Kurichi in Erode district, Salapalayam in Namakkal district are the villages we conducted struggles and forced them to take back the materials. The state committee members of the Kisan Sabha Com. Peruaml, Com. Munusamy, Com. Ramamurthy and Com. Kumar were in the forefront of the struggle.

After the elections through the collectors and with the help of police they are taking steps to carryout the task intensively. The farmers in the Sulur area in Coimbatore district and Bhavani in Erode district have resisted this project and stopped. The frontline leaders were arrested and released in the evening.

Demonstration demanding Declaration of Drought affected district

Last year the monsoon rain was meager. We demanded to declare this district as drought affected district even before February and begin the drought relief measures. The state government did not bother about it. After the elections the revenue secretary issued a G.O. declaring 24 districts and 7 taluks as water drought area.

In the district secretaries meeting held on 10th June it was decided to conduct demonstration seeking relief measures for the drought. About 742 persons in the demonstration held at

Ponneri and Thiruttani in Thiruvallur district ,500 persons in the 6 centres in Thiruvannmalai district ,650 persons in the 3 centres in Villupuram district (North), 75 persons in one centre at Vellore, 130 persons at one centre in Ariyalur,160 persons in 2 centres in Ramnad,406 persons in 2 centres in Dindigul district, 510 persons in 5 centres ,50 persons in one centre at Sivagangai participated in these struggles. Efforts should have taken to mobilize more people.

Demonstration demanding Release of Water in Cauvery on 11th June

It was announced to conduct demonstration condemning Karnataka government and Tamilnadu government for the failure to release of water and seeking release of water for Kuruvai crop in the Cauvery delta districts on June 11th as per the order of Cauvery management authority. In the demonstrations held 250 persons at 3 centres in Nagappattinam district, 120 persons at 2 centres at Cuddalore district , 65 persons in one centre in Thanjavur district ,45 persons in one centre in Pudukkottai district, 60 persons in one centre at Trichy rural district participated. Efforts should have been taken to conduct at more centres and to mobilize more people in this struggle.

Against Hydro Carbon project

The central government has given permission to extract hydro carbon, methane, shale gas in the Cauvery delta districts for Vedantha, Reliance and ONGC companies. Series of struggles are conducted against this. At the initiative of our Kisan Sabha representatives of several Kisan organizations and social welfare organisations met at Thanjavur on 18-6-2019. 25 organisations participated in the meet. An organization called “Cauvery delta protection joint movement” was formed. On behalf of this, it was decided to conduct a rally on 9th July at district headquarters and vigilant campaign at villages. In the meantime state government announced in the assembly cannot allowed Hydro Carbon project in the state future also. In this situation we postponed 9th rally.

Workshop

Two day workshops were conducted at 4 Mandals for the leading cadres working in the Kisan Sabha. About 612 cadres participated in the workshop at 4 places.

Local Movements

Series of petitions were given by the Kisan Sabha to the collector to seek opinion from farmers for the land acquisition of 4000 acres for the Cuddalore-Maruthanadu -Madappattu 4 way road project. We met the highway department officials. Demonstration was conducted on 9th evening at Cuddalore pressing for negotiation on this issue. 100 farmers participated.

The Ambika Aarooran management has raised loans from Banks dodging the sugar cane farmers. Notices were served to the farmers to repay the loan. Complaints were lodged to the District Collector and Superintendent of police against the management. More than 100 farmers filed cases against the management with the police. Demonstration was held before the sugar factory of Ambika Aarooran. More than 100 farmers participated.1000 notices were distributed.

NLC management should fill up the vacancies, withdraw outsourcing, the issue of the farmers who have given land should be settled, CSR fund to be allotted to Cuddalore district,

desilting of lakes, tanks and canals are the demands raised in the Seminar conducted on 10th May on behalf of CITU, TNKS, AIDWA, DYFI and AIAWU at Neyveli. More than 500 persons participated in the seminar. A public meeting was held on 30th May pressing the NLC management to fulfill the demands. More than 1000 persons participated. Com. K. Balakrishnan, Vice President of AIKS was the main speaker in the meeting.

Com.U.Vasuki Vice President of AIDWA, Com.Madhavan Asst. secretary of TNKS, Com.Prakash District secretary of AIAWU, Com.Krishnan District secretary of DYFI, Com.Baskaran District president of CITU met the NLC chairman Mr. Rakesh Sharma gave petition containing the demands passed in the seminar held on 22.5.2019.

Sugarcane Farmers Struggle

The state committee of the Tamilnadu Sugarcane farmers met at Virudhdhachalam on 27.4.2019 and the state office bearers met at Tambaram on 16.4.2019.

The sugar factories in Cuddalore and Thanjavur districts, Ambika and Aarooran sugar mills respectively have acquired a loan of Rs.600 crores without the knowledge of the farmers and used it for their purpose. Condemning the fraudulent activities of the sugar mills demonstrations were conducted before the Ambika mill at Pennadam and at Papanasam by our union. The affected farmers have given complaints against the management to the Collectors of Tanjore and Cuddalore districts and SPs. Our union is continuously conducting struggles on this issue. Demanding CBI enquiry on this issue we have sent a petition to the CM.

Milk Union

The state committee of Tamilnadu Milk producers association met at Namakkal on 6.5.2019. Demonstrations were held at certain places demanding to raise the procurement price of Milk. It was decided to conduct demonstrations on this issue at state committee.

Tamilnadu Tribal Association

The Tamilnadu Tribal association has decided to conduct general body meetings at all districts. Thiruvannamalai district general body meeting was held as decided. 500 tribals participated. The general body meetings held at Thiruvallur and Chengleput about 200 and 100 persons participated respectively.

The district conference of Thiruvannamalai Vettaikaran union was held at Thiruvannamalai on 2.6.2019. 750 persons participated. The state president Com. Delhi Babu and General secretary Com.Saravanan participated.

Demonstration was held on 30.5.2019 before the RDO office at Udayarpalayam in Ariyalur district demanding community certificate and burial ground for the Tribal people. As promised by the officials community certificate was issued to 40 persons on 4.6.2019 and burial ground was provided.

A medical camp was conducted on International women's day at Cheyyar on 8.3.2019. More than 500 persons attended the camp.

Due to the efforts of Tribal association house site pattas were distributed to 833 persons in Kancheepuram district, 37 persons in Polur area in Thiruvannamalai district and 70 persons in Kurusai area in Cheyyar taluk. Totally 1000 families received house site pattas in the last 2 months. It is to be appreciated.

TELANGANA

Farming Situation

Deficit rainfall and drought situation prevailed during Kharif of 2018 in 232 mandals out of 484 mandals having agriculture. Loss of crop value is about Rs 2200 crores. About 20% of the crops sown has dried up. Against the normal cropped area of 1.51 crore acres, only 1.29 crore acres have been sown. State govt.was reluctant to identify and declare drought affected mandals due to ego problems in spite of suggestion(s) from the centre to send report on drought effect in the state. Fourteenth Finance Commission has made an allocation of Rs. 318 crores towards taking up assistance work in case of natural calamities. Crops in the state during the reporting period have lost heavily as the Govt. ignored the same. Paddy brought to market for sale has been damaged. Similarly, harvested chilly produce while being dried in the field, ground nut, maize and pulse crop produce have also suffered loss due to untimely rains. Even these losses were not taken into cognizance by the state government. Rabi crops were sown in only 70% of the normal area. Crop yields were drastically reduced. In this manner, farmers have lost heavily during 2018-19 agricultural season during both kharif and rabi seasons. State Government did not even collect any statistics to assess extent of crop loss.

Farmer's Suicides and Mass Migration

During 2018-19, 620 farmers committed suicide. During TRS Government period, on an average, 680 famers committed suicides every year. Government subsidies , either announced or actually given, could not stop farmer's suicides in the state. In addition, State Electricity Regulation Commission has reported that due to electrocution during irrigation 650 farmers died. Burning of transformers and motors has been going on uninterruptedly. There are 22 lakh pump sets in the state. After introduction of 24 hour power supply to agriculture, not more than one acre is being irrigated under each bore well, on an average, in the state. With reduction of employment in the villages, distress migration to Mumbai, Hyderabad, Bhiwandi, Surat, Bangalore and even to Arab countries has increased. Some of these have either died or got imprisoned.

Participation in the Calls given by the Centre

1.2019 January Grameena Bandhu programme: Voluntary *Grameena bandh* programme was organised in the state in villages on 8th and 9th January demanding debt relif, payment of MSP and on local issues. Processions and dharnas were organized at Mandal headquarters.

2. Jail Bhara: Jail bhara programme was organized on August 9th though the day is falling on August 2nd itself. All the District Collectorates having farming, were blockaded. Posters were pasted and pamphlets were distributed on the occasion.

3. Kisan-Mazdoor Rally: From Telangana state 824 farmers from 17 districts participated in the Kisan-Mazdoor rally organized at Delhi on 5th September 2018 demanding introduction of bills in the Parliament enabling Debt relief and receipt of MSP by farm producers. Another 300 farmers participated voluntarily in the programme. Before the actual programme, extensive propaganda was made through distribution of pamphlets and 50,000 wall posters. On the whole, against the quota of 2000 for the state, only 1124 participated from the state.

4. Jan Ekta-Jan Andolan Programme: Extensive propaganda was made in the state in response to the call given by 212 organizations for rally in Delhi on November 28th to 30th. However, due to declaration of elections to the state legislature, only few participated from the state in the rally.

5. Signature campaign: We decided to collect signatures of about 50,000 as part of the call given by AIKS for 10 crore signatures. But we collected only 20,000 signatures. These were presented through the District collectors. The demands included, among others, giving remunerative price to farm produce and debt waiver. Extensive propaganda was made through organizing round table conferences at the district level and pamphlet distribution.

6. Jana Jagarana: Jana Jagarana programme was organized on August 14th night along with CITU in response to AIKS call. K. Nageswar, Ex. MLC also participated in the programme.

Activities taken up by the State Committee

1. Implementation of MSP: Though fixed unscientifically and measly, MSPs were not implemented in the state. Against this injustice, we organized blockade of National Highway from Bhadracham to Kareemnagar on 31st May 2018. Police have resorted to either arrest or chased away at almost all the places where blockade was imposed. This has made god impact on the people in general. Paddy was purchased at Rs 200 to 300 less than the MSP and pulses at Rs 1000-1300 less than the MSP. It was estimated that due to purchase at low price, farmers in the state collectively lost r 8500 crores. *Dharna* and *rasta roko* were organized in Nalgonda demanding purchase of sweet lime (Baththai) at Rs 30,000 per ton. The purchase price of *baththai* continued to be low though an exclusive market was started for their purchase at Nalgonda itself.

2. On the Problems of Displaced Persons: TRS Government started procurement of about 10 lakh acres land in the name of several development projects including irrigation projects. The displaced farmers demanded payment of compensation according to the 2013 Central Act. But the state Government brought an amendment to the Act modifying the Act to the disadvantage of farmers. Land acquisition was taken up for Palamuru Lift project, Kaleswaram project, Sitaram Sagar project, Pharma city at Mucherla in Rangareddy district, for Railway line in Sattupally area in Khammam district and for solar power plants. Three of our activists, including the District Secretary, were arrested and kept in jail for about a month, when they were protesting against payment of low compensation at Mallannasagar reservoir in Sangareddy district. In spite of such repression, agitation continued for 600 days. With this inspiration, agitations continued at all places where land acquisition was resorted to,

demanding higher compensation. Finally, land acquisition was taken up by paying compensation of Rs 12 lakhs per acre at Mallannasagar. At other places, compensation payment was enhanced substantially.

3. Rythu Bandhu - Pass books: State government announced input subsidy scheme "Rythu Bandhu" padhakam with payment of Rs 4000 per acre per crop in the state from the Kharif season of 2018. Out of 58 lakh farmers, about 9 lakh farmers did not receive their pass books (land title) to enable them to get input subsidy. Even in the pass books issued, about 40 % of the books had some mistake or the other. We agitated before the local revenue offices demanding payment of subsidy amount to all the farmers. Government promised to correct pass books and issue remaining pass books to those who did not get earlier. But this has not been done though Kharif of 2019 has commenced. Nine lakh farmers who did not get books have been deprived input subsidy during both kharif and rabi seasons of 2018. They may not be able to get subsidy even during Kharif of 2019. All these are small and marginal farmers. Hence, agitations are continuing before the local revenue offices even now.

4. Debt Waiver and Bank Loans: State government announced debt waiver of Rs 1 lakh and released only Rs 16,000 crores in four annual installments. As a result, farmers collectively are owing debt of Rs 37,000 crores even then as all the loans were not covered by debt waiver. Again, the TRS government announced waiver of Rs 24,000 crores as part of implementing its election promise during 2019. But no amount was released for this purpose to the banks. Farmers are agitating that the debt waiver amount be paid in one lump sum or take burden of the same on its account. But the state government has allocated only Rs 6000 crores for the purpose in the interim budget and so far, it has not agreed to take the burden, to the extent accepted, on its account.

During 2018-19, banks have announced a target of Rs 42,000 towards short term loans to farmers but distributed only Rs, 27,000 crores. As the banks did not get the debt waived amount, banks are reluctant to give loans to the farmers. We opposed this tendency and organized seminars and conducted propaganda to sanction fresh loans. Banks announced a loan target of Rs 48,000 crores for 2019-20 crop season but loans were not sanctioned to the farmers. As a result, farmers had to take private loans of Rs 18,000 crores to raise 2019 kharif crop.

5. Spurious and Substandard Seeds: These problems are serious in the state. MNCs like Bayer, Dupont, Cyngenta, Cargil etc., are controlling 80% of seed supply in the state though 480 seed companies are operating in the state. These companies, using their clout, are supplying spurious and substandard seeds in the state. Statewide agitations have been conducted to curb such sale. Seminars have been organized demanding stern action to curb the same and for enactment of Seed Act, which has long been promised even by this Government but kept pending. Instead of taking stern action on the companies, action has been initiated on the premises holders of Bt3 seeds caught recently in the state.

6. Problems of Tenant Farmers: There are about 14 lakh tenant farmers in the state. Govt is refusing to recognize them. It is refusing to implement the existing Act on Licensed Cultivation of 2011. It is not giving them even the benefits meant to farmers including payment of compensation in case natural calamities sanction of bank loans, extension of Rythu Bandhu, Rythu Bhima *padhakams* etc. intended to land owning farmers. Agitations are

continuing before the Revenue offices demanding issue of certificates under Licensed cultivation Act.

7. Problems of Podu Cultivating Farmers: Forest Rights Act has not been implemented properly in the state. Tribal farmers, cultivating the forest land for the last about 70 years, are being driven away from their cultivating lands in the name of developing forests. Forest department is planting tree saplings in the lands of the tribals. These lands are under cultivation in the undivided districts of Khammam, Waragal, Adilabad and Mahabubnagar. Big and large scale agitations have been organized under the joint leadership of Kisan Sabha, Girijan Sangham and Agricultural Workers Union. Due to relentless agitation, State Chief Minister announced that he would arrange protection to the tribals and that he would get the revenue records corrected soon. But so far, that has not been done.

8. Kharif 2019 Seminar: Every year before the commencement of kharif season, mostly in May, we have been organizing kharif seminar with participation of scientists from the state Agricultural University/ central Agricultural Institute and senior Official of the State Department (mostly at the level of Addl. Director of Agriculture. In such seminar, our leaders interact and sensitize the concerned about the likely problems that might crop up during the ensuing Kharif. At such seminar, we review the past cropping experience; identify likely problems that might be encountered during the ensuing season(s) from the farmer's perspective. Scientists/ State Department Senior Official (Addl. Director Level), brief our participants about their preparedness to face the problem. If they do not have adequate answer, they take note of it and try to solve them during crop period. This year, we arranged this seminar on June 2nd and 3rd due to elections. Seminar was preceded by Aribandi Laxminarayana First Memorial Lecture by Com. Vijoo Krishnan on "Problems on Kisan Front: Today and tomorrow". This and Kharif seminar together were followed by workshop involving extended State Committee, where we have worked out action plan. This entire exercise was a two day event. With our past experience, we are confident that we will be armed with action plan based on immediate felt needs of the farmers in the state.

9. Assistance to Kerala during its Natural Calamity: There is groundswell of sympathy with a feeling of doing something to help our Kerala brothers at the time of their extreme grief and hardship due to unprecedented floods during 2018. We made an appeal to the people. We ourselves collected..... and sent them to our Kerala brothers.

10. Local Problems:

a) We took possession of 94 acres of forest scrub land and distributed it to the poor in Narsingapally village Medak district.

b) We organized *rasta roko and dharnas* demanding release of water from Sreeram Sagar project to save standing crops. Six of our local leaders were arrested and sent to jail.

c) A committee was appointed by the State Government to assess and arrange for compensation when cotton seed growing farmers lost heavily due to supply of defective parent seed material by the seed contract seed producing companies in Gadwal district. Crop in about 50,000 acres was affected adversely. This committee recommended payment of Rs 1.60 lakhs as compensation to compensate the loss sustained by the farmers. Similar orders were given for in Sangareddy district also.

Organizational Matters:

1. Membership: 2018-19 : 2,42,532 2019-20 : 2,45,615 2020-21 : 3,00,000 (Quota)

2. **No. of Village committees formed: 963**
3. **No. of Mandal committees formed: 167** out of which only 100 are fully functional.
4. **No. of Zilla Committees formed: 25** out of which only 20 are fully functional.
5. **No. of whole timers: 31.** Efforts are underway to have at least one full time worker in each mandal.
6. **State Classes:** 2019 May 16-18 conducted at Jammikunta in Kareemnagar district with participation of 71 senior leaders. Another set of classes will be arranged at Sangareddy for those who could not attend the earlier one in the last week of July.
7. **Rythu JAC:** We are working in the Joint Action Committee having organizations with Left ideology. This worked on some problems only. Series of recent elections in the state interrupted functioning of this Committee.
8. **Chaitanyasyam Monthly Magazine:** Circulation varying between 2000 and 1500. We have prepared action plan to raise it to 5000.

Tasks Ahead

- 1) At the level of the organization, immediate action will be taken to strengthen at district, mandal and village level units by having at least one whole timer at the mandal level, enrolling membership and forming committees at all these levels and through part time workers at the village level and financially through mass door to door collection of funds.
- 2) Political classes to be organized at the district and mandal levels.
- 3) To ensure circulation of Chaitanyasyam magazine to all villages.
- 4) To ensure supply of revenue pass books through effective intervention.
- 5) To intervene in the markets to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers and to curb all mall practices in the markets through effective monitoring by our monitoring committees and direct intervention where needed.
- 6) Intervention to address irrigation related problems at all levels.
- 7) Ensuring supply of quality inputs including credit access and seeds through regular monitoring and direct intervention, where and when needed.
- 8) Monitor crop condition regularly during the season and intervention to alleviate the developing problems.
- 9) Monitor to ensure effective implementation of crop insurance in the state.
- 10) Ensure effective functioning of all sub-committees including those of tenant farmers, cotton, sugarcane, fruits and vegetables and seed producing farmers.

ODISHA

1. Impact and Damages of Cyclone Fanni: Because of the severe cyclone Fanni, the damage caused in the Agriculture Sector is unprecedented in the State of Odisha. The cyclone Fanni took place with heavy rainfall on 2nd and 3rd May 2019. In 159 Blocks, 52 urban local bodies, 20367 villages and in 14 districts 159.85 lakhs of people have been affected. 64 persons as per Govt. record lost their lives due to cyclone. Agriculture, Horticulture crops including orchards in 1.49 lakh hectares have been damaged. The fishing communities have

been severely affected due to huge loss to their boats and nets. The handloom and handicraft artisans have lost their looms, equipment, accessories and raw materials. Livestock and poultry farmers have also sustained huge loss. Massive damages have been caused to public properties. Puri and Khordha Districts including the State Capital are the worst affected areas. In our calculation about 50 lakhs people of this area affected severely and seriously from all counts.

House Damage: 1,35,876 pucca and kutcha houses have been fully / severely damaged due to the cyclone. Besides 1,40,782 pucca houses and 2,72,556 kutcha houses have been partially damaged. Similarly 7,549 haats and 1,19,694 cowsheds attached to houses have been damaged.

Crop Damage: 1,46,311.38 Hectares of agriculture, horticulture and perennial crops have been sustained crop loss to the extent of 33% and above due to cyclone associated with heavy rains.

Livestock Death: 140 Nos. of large draught animals and 700 Nos. of small draught animals, 2510 Nos. of large milch animals, 2931 Nos. of small milch animals and 53,26,905 poultry birds have lost their lives due to cyclone.

Lost of livelihood: Due to cyclone 71060 traditional craftsmen have been affected causing damages to their equipment and raw materials. Similarly 42488 handloom millers and 12135 sericulture farmers have been affected.

Damages to nets and boats of fishermen: 6416 boats and 8828 fishing nets have been damaged.

Damage of public property: Damage of public property is unprecedented. Lakhs of electric poles, transformers, 33 and 11 KV line, many roads, culverts, schools, community centres, almost all Govt buildings of the affected area, hospitals, educational institutions, telecommunication networks etc. have been damaged severely.

Relief Package by Govt.: The relief package by Govt. of Odisha is very meagre amount so far loss is counted. Because of NDRF and SDRF norms, the farmers are unable to get due compensation amount due to cyclone. Relief, restoration and reconstruction work is going on. Though Odisha Govt. claims shifting of 13 lakh people to the safe places, but the ground reality of the situation did not match this. Still people are in very precarious conditions in the affected areas. Because of the post-election period, Govt. failed to address the urgent need of the people after the cyclone. People had to suffer for drinking water, electricity, food materials in a severe hot summer.

1. **Kisan Sabha Intervention:** Kisan Sabha team immediately visited the affected areas, met with the people. AIKS Joint Secretary, Com. Vijoo Krishnan and leaders of democratic movement with State Kisan Sabha office bearers visited two days in the areas of Puri and Khordha Districts. For immediate relief some demonstrations held after one week of the cyclone before Govt. offices. But our observation is, the issue of farmers is still unresolved. All types of farmers are facing very distress situation. We have to take up this issue in the coming days with concrete planning.

2. **January 8th and 9th All India Workers Strike:** Immediately after CKC Meeting, Kisan Sabha met its State Council meeting for strike preparation. Our cadres worked in rural areas and joined the strike about 60 Blocks and rural towns on the day of strike. Kisan Sabha also participated in all preparatory works for general strike.

3. **General Elections:** Practically after the general strike, the entire Kisan Sabha and its workers worked for general election preparation with some routine programmes. Politically Kisan Sabha worked to vote for Left party candidates, Left party candidates where not there, Kisan Sabha worked to defeat the BJP and its allies like BJD also, in a concrete condition of Odisha. In election though BJD got 112 seats in State Assembly out of 146 and 12 Lok Sabha seats out of 21 with the vote share of 44.71%. BJD lost its strength in Assembly marginally, that was 117 in 2014, but in Lok Sabha it lost 8 seats to BJP. People of Odisha decisively voted BJD Govt. at the State and in Parliament there was fractured mandate.

The most dangerous development is the rise of BJP in the State. BJP won 8 Lok Sabha seats and 23 Assembly seats, now is the recognised Opposition Party and in another 85 seats BJP secures second position. Congress won only 1 Lok Sabha and 9 Assembly seats. Congress position deteriorated further.

So far as Left is concerned, the CPI(M) retained its Bonai Assembly Seat with tactical support of JMM and Congress. CPI could not win a single seat. CPI(M) won Bonai seat with 12,030 margin from BJD. In all other four seats of CPI(M), the electoral performance has deteriorated further.

4. **9th August Jail Bhao Andolan:** Total Participation - 22035, Kisan Sabha Participation - more than 10,000, the rest belongs to CITU and AIAWU. 50,550 signatures were collected. Total 22 Districts covering 70 Places i.e. - Districts, Sub-Divisions, Tahasils and Block Headquarters. From State Centre and Districts all together, one lakh leaflets were printed. This agitation created an atmosphere to strengthen our movement.

5. **5th September Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Rally:** 525 farmers from Odisha participated in Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Rally. Kisan Sabha also participated on 14th August CITU programme i.e. Samuhika Jagarana.

6. **10th September Bharat Bandh:** On 10th September Bharat Bandh Peasant participated in rural Odisha. Total agitational point were 60 in 22 districts. This Bandh became successful even with short preparation because the issues were very burning and accepted by people.

7. **All India Kisan Mukti Yatra:** 75 peasants participated in this programme. The all India Centers campaign for this programme is unique.

8. **Local Agitation: Odisha faced another cyclonic storm** i.e. TITLI. 16 Districts badly affected due to Cyclone and heavy rain. More than 100 People died. Thousands of animals died. Heavy crop loss caused particularly in Ganjam and Gajapati Districts. Gajapati situation is worst. Thousands and thousands houses damaged, human causality, crop loss, ruined the back bone of farmers. In another 66 Blocks of western Odisha of peasantry faced severe drought. MSP, Loan waive, sharecroppers rights are some of the burning issues of farmers. Kisan Sabha conducted agitational Programmes in Gajapati, Ganjam, Nawarangpur, Sundargarh, Anugul, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanja, Nayagarh, Puri, Baleswar, Bhadrak and many of other places during this period.

9. **On Organisation:** Our State Committee met four times in the year 2018-19. Office bearers met 7 times, almost all district committee meetings held including some block committee meetings during this period. Bhadrak District held the District Conference during period.

District wise Membership Break-up for 2017-18 - Anugul - 7130, Deogarh - 500, Bhubaneswar - 750, Khordha- 190, Nayararh - 3330, Ganjam - 10560, Puri - 2710, Cuttack -

1719, Balasore - 8740, Mayurbhanja - 2000, Sundargarh - 2500, Keunjhar - 2000, Sambalpur - 200, Bhadrak - 1400, Kalahandi - 700 = 15 districts, 43,800 membership with 53 Block Committees.

Dear comrades, we would like to draw the attention of All India Council regarding the grave situation of the farming community, i.e. Odisha farmers faced two severe cyclone and drought in one year. Mostly the Titili cyclone affected south and south-west districts, drought affected western districts of Odisha and Fanni cyclone affected Central and North districts of Odisha. So in one year the entire State faced three severe natural calamities. The farmers economic backbone, livelihood of common people has been ruined. In spite of this situation Kisan Sabha was engaged in different campaigns, agitations and participation in elections with our limited organisational strength.

Till now, the membership enrolment for the year 2018-19 has not been finalised. But we shall clear all membership levy at the All India Council Meeting. The list has been finalised partly. So we are not mentioning here the membership position for this year.

Kisan Sangharsh Fund: Because of the very weak financial condition of Odisha farmers, we could not collect money or Kisan Sangharsh Fund during this period. We have made all preparations from State Centre for collection of funds. But that has not materialised till now. Now we are not in a position to pay Kisan Sangharsh Fund. We appeal to the AIKC to give us some more time for collection of Kisan Sangharsh Fund.

HARYANA

The meeting of the state committee of All India Kisan Sabha, Haryana was held on 23 June 2019 in the State Office, Hisar. Following is our work report.

1. Intervention was carried out in 6-7 districts for procurement of mustard and wheat at the minimum support price. As a result, a movement was developed for procurement of mustard and against government's unnecessary conditions of online registration and maximum 25 quintals per farmer. Which given some success and managed to sell more mustard than 25 quintals, the maximum limit of mustard procurement set by the government. Wheat was almost complete procured.

2. Under the Prime Minister's Crop Insurance Scheme. With our struggles we have achieved some results. For Kharif 2017 a major payment for insurance claim was made in Bhiwani and Sirsa which is around 400 crore rupees. Some claims were received in other districts too. For Kharif - 2018 also major claim received in Bhiwani, 140 crore and Sirsa Rs 142 crore.

3. In Lok Sabha Election for CPI(M) candidate from Hisar Com. Sukhbir Prabhat, our organization has made significant participation, due to which more than 10000 votes were received. The organization also made possible efforts for the CPI candidate from Ambala.

4. Membership campaign is being interrupted due to crop insurance and mustard procurement movement and electoral inconvenience, the organization is far behind from its goals, for session 2018-19 we were able to enroll only 46,255 members.

MADHYA PRADESH

Assembly and Lok Sabha elections

Almost five months of last 11 months were consumed by these two elections. The Result is all to see. We have written so much on these elections. There is some improvement in loan – waiving and purchase of agri- produces, after defeat of BJP in MP. But it can be noted that poison of communalism has spread so much in the rural areas that all the Assembly seats and Parliamentary seat of Mandsaur dist were won by BJP, with huge majority.

Independent Activities

In this period, our state Kisan Sabha appealed for campaign at district level on the issues of loot in crop insurance, price of onion loan waiver and its extension, registration for mustard procurement and for timely in purchase of wheat. The campaign programme was implemented at some places.

On Displacement and Other Issues

On demands of pattas for rural homestead lands there were some actions organised in Moreana and Sidhi dists. Against displacement and for rehabilitation, protest was organised in Satna dist, for power plant in Anuppur and some actions by plants affected people in Sidhi.

Joint Actions

In this period, two meeting of Madhya Pradesh Chapter of Bhumi Adhikar Andolan and one conference was held in which Com Hannan Mollah also participated Bhumi Adhikar Andolan tried to prepare and publish joint agenda for Assembly and Lok Sabha election also

There was a preparation for 9th Augutst Jail Bharo, but heavy rains affected that programme. Besides, campaign and mobilisation was done for 5th September Delhi March with CITU. Despite being busy with Assembly election, preparation was made for Delhi long March of Nov 29-30. And participation was there also in long March. In Madhya Pradesh, campaign was organised for the success of country wide T.U strike of January 8-9 and attempts were made for the participation of peasantry in that strike . Joint movement was organised against menace of stray animals in Chhatarpur of Budolkhand. Kisan Sabha participated in anniversary of Madsaur firing.

Some Other Actions

- a) Kisan Sabha units have been active in Morena and Chambal against repression on Dalits. Its veteran leader J K Pippal was arrested and put in Jail.
- b) Campaign was organised for collection of flood relief for Kerala.
- c) Kisan sabha participated in number of joint campaigns against forcible land acquisitions for Induatrial corridor passing through Gujarat, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh and there was a big protest rally at Bansvara.
- d) Some units of Kisan Sabha organised grain collection.

Education

MP delegates participated in Hindi school organised at Agra. Kisan Sabha is organising 2 days education camp for each dist on 12 relevant points, in which leading cadres will participate.

Organisation

In this period two meetings of Office Bearers and one meeting of state committee were held. February 2019 meeting of state committee re distributed the responsibilities.

Membership

There is a drastic fall in membership. From 56194 in 2016-17 and 45212 in 2017-08, now it has come down to 16740 only in 2018-19. AF sent to AIKS centre. There may be many reasons for drastic fall in membership but main cause is inactivity of organising committees at state and district level for a long time. If we do not overcome this weakness now, it will be difficult to maintain this membership also in coming days.

CHHATTISGARH

Chhattisgarh state committee of Kisan Sabha met 5 times in last one year. In all these meetings, in charge Com Badal Saroj was present. Necessary organisational and agitation decisions were taken and attempts were made to implement then mixed experience is there for these attempts.

BJP was comprehensively defeated in Assembly election. It got only 15 of 90 seats. Issues of farmers and agriculture dominated the Assembly election campaign, which resulted in defeat of BJP. After victory Congress state govt has initiated the process of loan waiver and purchase of paddy at the rate of Rs 2500 per quintal. The State govt also tried to return the lands to its original owners in Bastar, which the BJP govt had forcibly acquired to hand over to TATA. But no effective step has been taken to implement the forest Rights Act and the congress state govt has also moved on the path to appease corporates. Consequently tribals have begun protesting against this govt also which BJP is trying to utilise. It is one of the main cause for defeat of Congress in Lok Sabha poll. The voters, which had gone to Ajit Yogi, in Assembly election returned to BJP in Lok Sabha election.

Activities

484 peasants participated in 5th September workers peasant March in Delhi but only 100 farmers participated in Long March. We published 30 thousand leaflets in support of Left candidates in Assembly election and distributed 3000 leaflet sent by centre also.

Dharna were organised in 6 dists in support of 8-9 January countrywide rural Budh in which 1500 peasantry participated. Effective participation was at 15 centres. 5000 leaflets were distributed for this programme. On 2nd Feb last, joint conference of land losers was organised at 2nd February jointly with DYFI and AIDWA. There was good participation of women in this gathering of more than 200 people. Accordingly a padyatra of 500 was taken. On 26 February which marched for 25 km and demonstrated before DM in which com Badal Saroj also participated that padyatra a good coverage in media.

In Agra school of AIKS cadres, five comrades from Chhattisgarh participated. Thousands of tribal of Chhattisgarh demonstrated at Raipur on 9th March against Supreme Court's decision of eviction tribal from forest land. This demonstration was organised jointly by a number of Tribal organisations. Chhattisgarh Kisan Sabha independently participated in this demonstration and we organised a mass meeting before joint protest which Com Badal Saroj addressed.

Approximately 300 people participated in our mass meeting with placards and banners. It had good media coverage. An education camp was organised on 14-15 June at Bilaspur for cadres

of that district. Our main weakness is lack of membership which does not reflect our activities. We are trying to collect membership for this year 2018-19.

BIHAR

After the last AIKC meeting in July 2018 at Viradhunagar, the concrete activity report of Report of Bihar Rajya Kisan Sabha is as follows:

9th August Jail Bharo Struggle - At the call of AIKS, on the burning issues of peasantry at 28 districts collectorates of Bihar militant demonstrations were organized. In these demonstrations and jail Bharo struggle over 55,000 thousand kisan and kisan supporters participated. In Saharsa 6,000, in Darbhanga 1,500 and in Samastipur 25,000 Kisan activists courted arrest. This was the most militant struggle of Bihar Kisan Sabha in recent days.

5th September Mazdoor-Kisan rally in Delhi - In Mazdoor-Kisan rally which was jointly organized by AIKS, CITU and AIAWU, over 5,000 kisan activists participated from 23 districts of Bihar.

Convention against Eviction - On the question of eviction of patta holders from the land on which they are residing for years with the allegation of encroachment, a convention was organized by Bihar Rajya Kisan Sabha and Bihar Rajya Khet Mazdoor Union at Patna. This convention was attended by 306 peasants and agricultural workers. The convention was addressed by AIKS Joint Secretary Com. Nand Kishor Shukla.

Milk Producers' Convention- On the issues of Milk producers on 19th August 2018, a convention was organized at Samastipur. In this convention from 22 districts 1200 Dairy farmers participated. This convention was addressed by AIKS President Com. Ashok Dhawale. In this convention the issues of milk producers were articulated and a plan for struggles was formulated.

March against Eviction - On the demands, possession on the land for which patta holders having pattas, land to the landless possession holders, on the name of encroachment stop eviction of poor peasants and agricultural workers etc March against eviction was organized on the district collectorate. In this march peasants and agricultural workers both participated.

29-30 November 2018 Kisan Mukti March and Rally - In Kisan Mukti March which was organized by AIKSCC 98 peasants participated and in rally 600 peasants from 16 districts of Bihar participated

Countrywide Strike and Bihar Bandh - At the call of all major Trade unions there was a successful general strike on 8-9 January 2018, in Bihar. And the rural bandh call of AIKS was also effectively implemented. Kisan activists had good participation in it. In 68 spots road were blocked and over a dozen spots railway lines were blocked.

Martyrs Memorial Day - AIKS, CITU and AIAWU jointly observed 19 January Martyrs Memorial Day as Worker-Peasant Unity and Determination Day. It was observed in 15 districts of Bihar.

Peasants Vidhan Sabha March - A Vidhan Sabha March of peasants was organized on the boiling demands of peasantry on 18th February at Patna, Gandhi Maidan to Vidhan Sabha under the banner of Bihar State Kisan Sangharsh Coordination Committee. In this march 30,000 peasants belonging to 11 organisations participated. The participation of Bihar Rajya Kisan Sabha was highest in it. AIKS joint Secretary Com. N K Shukla addressed this rally.

Hindi Speaking States Cadre Study Camp - The study camp for Hindi speaking states cadre which was organized at Agra on 12-14 February 2019, only two comrades attended this camp from Bihar because of 18 February Kisan March.

Convention on Drought - On 27 January 19, a convention was organized on question of drought at Saran headquarter. Over 700 kisan activists participated in this convention. Convention was addressed by AIKS joint secretary Vijoo Krishnan.

Intervention on water crises - Due to continued downfall in level of ground water in majority districts of Bihar a water crisis has emerged there. Raising demand of resolving water crises, protest and demonstrations were organized in 5 Districts of Bihar from 1 to 19 June 2019.

Martyrdom Day of Com. Ajit Sarkar - Com Ajit Sarkar Martyrdom Day was observed as “Anti land eviction Day”.

Struggles of Sugarcane Growers - Demonstrations were organized from 7th to 19th February at Bettiah, East Champaran and Gopalganj districts on the issues of sugarcane grower farmers.

Incident of Eviction Intervention and Resistance - In entire state land mafia, feudal, police and criminals nexus evicting Dalit, landless poors from the land of which they having patta or they were residing for years. These incidents are rapidly growing in state. In Pipra village of Tegra block, Begusarai the people residing for many years on ceiling surplus land the huts were destroyed and over a dozen was burned. In one more same kind of incident of Langona village of Bakhadi block Dalits’ house were forcefully evicted. Kisan Sabha local leadership immediately intervened in it and visited the spot and resistance actions were organized.

Government is trying to evicting landless poor proclaiming them naxsalites in Gangolia village of Saraya block of Muzaffarpur. Kisan Sabha had a meeting in that village and by Dharna at District Headquarter, demanding stop the conspiracy of eviction and give pattas.

In Copa village of Sonevarsh block, Saharsa District 10 patta holders were evicted from land for which they own pattas. Kisan Sabha immediately intervened in it and organized a day and night hunger strike, Dharna, Demonstration, and lockout of office from 11th to 13th June 2019 at divisional office and forced for written agreement. The struggle is continuing. In Kathumar Village of same district, 3 years back 12 patta holders were evicted from land. Kisan Sabha by organizing patta holders harvested the crop and have taken the possession of land.

Kisan Sabha local leader Yuvraj Yadav was trapped in a false case by local landlords and tried to kill him in a fake encounter. He was leading the struggle in Sangtagi panchayat of Navada district demanding hundreds are on government land patta to landless poor as. Com. Yuvraj was arrested and tortured so that land mafia can grab the government land. Against this incident demonstrations were held at Navada district headquarters and in other parts of state.

Notice was served to residing poor in Laukahi block of Madhubani district to leave the land without any alternative arrangement Kisan Sabha intervened in it. And it was settled on providing 5D land patta to landless poor before eviction.

State Council and State Committee Meetings - In this period 6 Kisan council and 5 kisan committee meetings were held. Except one meeting in rest all AIKS joint secretary Com. N K Shukla was present as observer from center.

JHARKHAND

1. Election Review - Communal pseudo Nationalism against of terror activities focus as a main narrative and depict Modi as a Super Hero captured power by defeating the issue of people of our country.

Except Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana & Kerala opposition parties lost most of the state. CPI(M) and left parties faced crushing defeat in their own States. Our nation will face the tremendous challenges for the defence of the Constitution, bodies, people rights and civilian liberty. That is why Kisan Sabha of the Jharkhand State appeal to the peoples of Jharkhand to come forward boldly and unitedly this challenges unleashing by the ruling communal forces.

2. Election Reviewed in Jharkhand - We fought single sheet in Jharkhand that Rajmahal Parliamentary constituency. Under the complex political situation BJP undertook massing Communal campaign in big way and in difference forms. There is tremendous communal polarization. We have witnessed. But our Political campaign throughout the Parliamentary segment gathered the minority vote in favour of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha by defeating BJP by margins of 99195. CPI (M) got 35587 votes.

From Kisan Sabha Centre Com Surjeet Sinha, Com Sufal Mahato, Com Birendra Kumar and Prafull Linda work hard with local leader. It is very important to know Kisan Sabha constituent of Jan Ekta Jan Adhikar Aandolan decided to undertake the campaign against the BJP communal Agenda and its anti people policy at large. We have met in Ranchi on 31th of March 2019 but this programme is not properly carried out. It shows the participants were much more reluctant except some parts of Ranchi City. CITU Comrades under took door to door campaign covering 2000 house hold. Where Kisan Sabha Comrade under took this campaign in 32 villages in Gomia Block of Bokaro Districts under the leadership of Shyamsunder Mahato, Comrade Birendra Kumar organised 17th Gram Sabha in Arke Block of Khuti District where political situation is very complex. In Baram block of east Singhbhum campaign in 22 villages under the leadership of Lotan Das but it should be noted majority of District Comrades are in different to this programme which shows there low level of Political consciousness.

Before the assembly election in Jharkhand State which is schedule to be held November to December 2019 Raghubar Das Government has allotted of 62,00 crores of Rupees for 35 lakhs Kisan Pariwar which are as follows :-

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Yojna - 2100 crores, Chief Minister C. Ashirwad Yojna 3500 crores for drop relief in the year of 2018- 19 for 129 block 380 crores. This amount of does not covered population affected. Kisan Sabha demands the central Government allocated the funds for drop major for drought relief. If Government fail to do show that means Government is not pro farmers. Simply it may be called Jumlebaazi.

Jharkhand State Situation - Scam in purchasing paddy crops. It is recorded 137 thousands big and middle class farmer has been registered out of them 34,000 thousand kisan benefited with this scheme. Majority of the marginal and small farmer's do not got any profit with this scheme. As you know Jharkhand have state have 1,20,000 of cultivators directly or indirectly involve in cultivation in rural area. Government allotted 1.50 crores of Rupees for crop insurance scheme fill today. Government did not spend single penny for this scheme. Corporates are taking advantages largely by district.

Jharkhand Recorded rain fall 55% less whereas its normal rain fall upto 30th June should have 199.9 mm in comparison to this 90 mm rainfall recorded. Except Sahebganj almost all district has weak rainfall as Jharkhand have 24 District. Which will reverse impact upon paddy cultivation. In the year of 2018 paddy cultivation was 20 lakh term due to drought situation in 129 block severely effect the production.

Now People of Jharkhand facing severe water & Power crisis. Big water reservoir water level coming down 50 % of tube well in about dried. There is rampant corruption in small and medium scale irrigation system. Government failed to preserve rain water harvesting. 25 big river is about getting dry. Government has not gave the proper plant for dry land cultivation. Jharkhand Government close to make new Ration Card under full security programme. You all know people of Jharkhand are very poor. Two years before Jharkhand Government ended 15.1 lakhs of card from food security net. Till today 22 poor people die of hunger. Biometric system not properly function when Kisan sabha raised this issue with civil supply Minister of the state he ordered an inquiry ask the Deputy Commissioner and supply officer and told them those persons who are not in a position to link his Aadhaar Card with bank they may apply off-line application.

Activities Report:

On 8th & 9th January 2019 Kisan Sabha alongwith working class successfully conclusion on historical strike in rural areas Kisan sabha organised rally in 52 places independently and jointly 23 places alongwith other Kisan organizations. 52 Panchayat successfully paralyzed the rural activities in 03 places Chandankiyari (Bokaro) Kundahit, Jamtara, Latehar, 92 people both arrested when the) picketing on the road. In February 15 to 24, 2019 Kisan Sabha organised Dharna and demonstration in 32 block Headquarters. On 26th Feb. 2019 consisting of 1500 hundred people before the block headquarter. Comrade N.K. Shukla Joint Secretary of Org. was a main speaker.

Organisation:

Kisan sabha of the Jharkhand State has a registered 74 thousand membership. 325 units has been registered. 9 District has no membership. Sustain campaign of membership not carried out properly by most of the district council and proper planning are not made. It is our organisational weakness.

JAMMU & KASHMIR

Kashmir turmoil, which is a part of our life now since decades, need not be elaborated. But one adding factor which is witnessed after the Modi's rule at centre is a deep communal division of the state. What we see today is, Hindu Jammu, Muslim Kashmir and the Bodh Ladakh. The recent parliamentary elections clearly indicates the same. The one year long Governor's rule provided an atmosphere to get hatched the forces interested in this division both at Jammu as well as in Kashmir. Civilian killings, human right's violations and the Pulwama attack is the result of the same. In such a situation all of us understand that the democratic voice is bound to become a casualty. Our organisation is not only passing but facing this very situation in Kashmir.

Our Comrades, despite such a situation of mass alienation in Kashmir we don't lag behind in raising the issues which the kisans of the state are facing.

Below are some activities which are worth reporting.

1-July 19th.2018: A day long convention of hundreds of kisans was held at Anantnag demanding the implementation of crop insurance scheme in Kashmir regions as well and one time loan weaving for small and marginal kisans.

2-August 9th.2018: A militant demonstration and Court Arrest was held at Jammu on the call given by AIKS,AIAWU and CITU at all India level. Hundreds of people participated in this programme.

3-Aug.12th 2018: A militant demonstration was held at Srinagar in connection of above mentioned call in which hundreds of kisans from different areas participated.

4-December 2018.Two strong demonstrations were held at Srinagar and Anantnag for demanding immediate survey of damage caused to Hort. and standing Agri.crops by early snowfall in Kashmir. Full compensation for all effected kisans ,implementation of Crop insurance scheme covering Hort.as well and weave off of all agricultural loans for the small and marginal kisans were the main demands.

5-Jan.8th.2019.A big demonstration was held at Jammu on the United call given by TUs, AIKS and other mass organisation at All India level.

6-March 23rd.2019. A kisan convention was held at Kathua (Jammu) on local issues faced to the kisans.Three hundred kisans participated .

7-Tree demonstrations were held at Kathu, RS Pora and proper Jammu on different dates of May 2019 on the issues of implementation of PMFBY and the compensation for the kisans who's wheat crop was damaged due to accidental fires.

Two meetings of State kisan working committee were held in Jan.2019 at Jammu and May 2019 at Anantnag, Kashmir. In the meetings along with other issues the campaign for enrolment of kisan membership was discussed .Since parliamentary elections created hurdles in implementing this decision but after elections this campaign has been taken up again. It continues till date. We expect that upto 15th of July 2019 this campaign will be completed. But so far we have collected only 17000 of membership, but it will be increased.

Moreover, we have decided to hold the Kashmir region level conference this year. But prior to that all district conferences are to be completed.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

Organizational Status

With continuous intervention and struggles on the issues of the farmers the Himachal Kisan Sabha built its reach and image among the majority of sections. In last five years it has been more strengthen, due to the continuous nationwide peasant movements led by All India Kisan Sabha. As a result of this today peasants issues are national agenda of the country.

Due to the organizational weaknesses of organisation in state, unable to built the organization according to the work and struggles of the Kisan Sabha. The ongoing decline in membership continues. We have not succeeded in increasing last year 2017-18 membership 35,572. As per the decision taken in the State Committee meeting of the of the Kisan Sabha held at Chandigarh on 25th February 2019, membership day was organized on 28th February, but first, due to bad weather and subsequent parliamentary elections we were unsuccessful to

complete the membership. It will be finalized till June 30 and final report will be given in the upcoming meeting. According to the report so far, membership of the year 2018-19 has been around 25000.

The All India Kisan Sabha organized a training camp for the Hindi language states in Agra from 12-14 February 2019 in which 10 representatives from the state participated.

Work and struggles done by Himachal Kisan Sabha

In Himachal Pradesh, as per the decisions of Kisan Sabha, struggles on local issues are being extended: -

During this time, struggle was organized against the marketing fees being taken illegally by the brokers, the issue was raised by the CPI (M) MLA in the Vidhan Sabha on which the government had farced to take action against the brokers and given assurance to return back the looted money to orchard owners before March 31. On the other hand, in the case of land, the Hon'ble High Court issued a circular that no one can be deprived from its right of power and water. And the government has made policy to regulate the occupation up to 5 Bigha of land.

Under the pressure of the Kisan Sabha and the milk producer association, which was struggling for increase in the price of milk from a long time, it was decided to increased milk price every 2 rupee annually instead of previous 1 rupee annually, which is still inadequate. Along with it, there were also done provisions of 40 milk measuring machines.

Continuous struggle is going on by Kisan Sabha to get rid of the threat of wild animals and due to widespread pressures, the government of Indian had to issue notification for declaring monkeys to be vermin on 14th February 2019. But the demand of the Kisan Sabha is that the government should make a concrete plan.

In addition to this, Kisan Sabha organized a state level convention on the issue of vegetables at Solan on 21-22 December 2018, in which the movement was planned on the issue of vegetables growers for problems related to production, marketing, processing and preservation.

With this, focusing on local issues, Kullu, Shimla, Solan, Mandi district committees organized struggles on issues related to hospitals, schools etc. demonstration and protest were organized against vacant positions and pressure was built on departments through delegations.

in continuation the series of Kisan Sangharsh being run at the All India level, On the one hand there was a historic mobilization of workers-peasants on 5th September 2019, on the other hand on 29th November, 2019 213 farmers 'organizations from the three corners of the Delhi "Kisan Mukti March" was processed which was jointly organized by 213 Kisan organisations, it was culminated in "Kisan Mukti rally" at Parliament street, New Delhi on 30 November 2019. It had a major impact on the government, the media and the government machinery. In this, 188 farmers from Himachal Pradesh took part in it.

These peasants' movements had such a tremendous impact that during the assembly elections held in five states, the BJP's anti-farmer policies were badly defeated and those governments which came to power had to implement the loan waiver for the farmers. Even forced Modi government to implement Kisan Sabha's demand of 5000 rupees monthly pension for peasants, But it was used by the Modi government only for elections and only 10 percent 500 rupees monthly in the forum of 6000 rupees annually was implemented.

In the General elections, the Kisan Sabha made wide propaganda against the Center's Modi government. And tried to create a secular government in the country and send pro-peasantry candidates to parliament. But due to the weakening of the opposition coalition, role of the pro-Modi media, use of money by BJP and the wrong tactics of the Congress, on the name of Modi BJP succeeded to come again in power with a clear majority, although it is clearly visible that this government is not going to solve the problems of the working class. The crisis of farm is going to be deepening and the only way to solve it is movement and struggles.

Against forceful illegal recovery of marketing fees by brokers and not doing payment to apple growers for their product from last 4-5 years. A broad movement was held under the banner of the Kisan Sangharsh Samiti and supported by Kisan Sabha in Shimla District. After organizing orchid owners meetings at Narkanda, serving memorandum to APMC administration and road blocked, on May 22 in Dhali Vegetable Mandi Ghera of APMC was done and memorandum was given to President. As a result, special investigation team was formed with the intervention of the Honorable High Court. After this, owners of orchids lodged FIRs in Narkanda, Kumarasain, Theog, Rohru, Kotkhai, Nankhari etc and SIT has taken action. And as a result of this, the payment process was also started by some brokers. On June 24 demonstrations were held and memorandums were served at division and tehsil level in which hundreds of farmers participated.

On the demand of the Kisan Sabha, on the issue of tomato a joint convention was organized by district administration Vegetable Market of Solan, on 28 June in which about 300 delegates from state agricultural marketing boards, agricultural products and marketing committees, brokers associations and peasant organizations participated. At this convention, the major demand was tomato sale should be in kilograms instead of karat and establishment of tomatoes based processing and industry unit, for which the chairman of the marketing boards asked one month time for the solution of this issue with the government. Other problems coming in the vegetable markets were settled at the spot only.

RAJASTHAN

After the last AIKC meeting there were assembly elections in the month of December and the Lok Sabha elections in month of May in Rajasthan, which had adverse effects on our agitational activities and our membership work. Our activists were very hopeful in the election. They hoped that due to the successes of our movements, we would get better results but the actual conditions were not the same. The defeat of our two prominent comrades, Amra Ram and Pema Ram, also brought some disappointment in our activists. But our two other comrades Balwan Poonia from Bhadra and Girdhari Mahia from Shri Dungargarh seat won the battle and our AIKC member Shyopat Ram got 46 thousand votes which has enthused our comrades. But the results of the Lok Sabha elections discouraged our activists. These results were not even around our expectations. One of the main reasons for this was after viewing of the effect of our movement on demand of loan waiver, National President of Congress announced loan waiver before the elections. By this farmers were misled and they voted in favour of Congress, but after the elections the Congress announced to waive off only

debt of the Society and even that up to 2 lakhs. We have done the following activities in Rajasthan after last AIKC meeting.

01. On August 8, 2018, the farmers protested against the deduction of full premium amount from their account, as a result of which premiums amount returned back into the accounts of farmers.
 02. On August 9, demonstrations was organized at district headquarters and the signature letters were sent to the prime minister.
 03. On August 19, fund collection was done for flood victims of Kerala.
 04. On January 8, in support of the workers' strike copy of orders for debt relief was burnt in villages of Rajasthan. (Churu 437 villages, Ganganagar 25, Hanumangarh 200, Bikaner 70, Sikar 300, Jhunjhunu 62, Jaipur 15, Nagaur 110, Jodhpur 1, Alwar 5, Dungarpur 10, Kota ..
 05. On January 8-9, joined the workers strike and supported it.
 06. On February 1, 2019 participated in the Delhi rally organized under the banner of Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan, Jai Samvidhan.
 07. Membership campaign was organized from 1 to 15 February 2019.
 08. On February 26, 2017, for the demand to pay the outstanding payment of Kharif and full crop insurance claim of 2018 a Memorandum was sent to the Prime Minister.
 09. Farmer movement was organized in Sikar on the issue of onion procurement in the month of February.
 10. On March 11, 2019, after 2 days Dharna at a bank of Churu district, 700 farmers received compensation of Rs 29343902.67.
 11. On April 3, after two days Dharna in front of PNB Bank in Sardar city of Churu district, 17478754.10 rupees was given to farmers.
 12. On May 22, after the suicide of a debt burdened farmer at SDM office in Rawatar tehsil of Hanumangarh district, an impressive demonstration was organized.
- A programme of three-day training camp is planned for 20, 21 and 22 July in the State Committee meeting.

UTTAR PRADESH

Struggles on the Call of AIKS

Jail Bharo On 9th August 2018 – At the call of the nationwide call of Jail bhara by AIKS, in Uttar Pradesh 50 districts where Kisan Sabha has its influence protest was organized, around 13 thousand men and women gave arrests and over 20,000 people participated in demonstrations. 10000 posters and 2 lakh pamphlets were published. Meetings and padyatra were organized. In the year 2018, the most effective movement were organized in the state, though the peak season of paddy plantation, besides kawar yatra in many districts and organizational weaknesses of many districts, adversely affected.

Signature campaign - A signature campaign was organized to send memorandum to the Prime Minister and there was a report of about 2 lakh signatures across the state. There was weakness in running a planned campaign and collecting signature letters.

Kisan Sangharsh Fund 2018 - UP state committee sent 65,000 rupees collection to AIKC Centre. This effort was done for the first time, although we had decided to collect fund as 3

times of our membership. There was a trend of fund collection in districts, but there was rarely any fund collection campaign for Centre and State. The poster and appeals printed from the center have given a good effect on campaign.

5th September Delhi rally - This rally had a countrywide impact, and the message of alternative policies went down to the bottom. Posters, Nukkad Sabhas, foot / bike / jeep jathas were organized in about 40 districts of Uttar Pradesh. 1600 people participated on the behalf of Uttar Pradesh Kisan Sabha in this rally, due to heavy rains from many days and organizational weaknesses we were unsuccessful to reach our target.

The Kerala flood relief fund was collected by districts and Rs 1,10,000 sent to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund, Rs 5,000 through Central Committee and Rs 12,000 through State committee.

Kisan Mukti March 29-30 November 2018 - In this programme, participation from our state was not as per the expectations. 200 people from Anand Vihar side, 80 from Faridabad side and 652 farmers participated in rally. There was adverse effect of busy season of paddy and sugar cane harvesting and wheat germination. Even then, this situation reflects our organizational weaknesses. Usually the districts have not taken this programme seriously. They show much more seriousness in their local movements.

Study camp of Hindi speaking States 12-14 February 2019 - The Study camp was successfully held in Agra. AIKS All India President Com. Ashok Dhawale, General Secretary Com. Hannan Mollah, Joint Secretaries N K Shukla, Badal Saroj, Vijoo Krishnan and Finance Secretary P. Krishnaprasad took part in this camp as teachers. 1 - History of Kisan Sabha, 2 - Agrarian Crisis - Reasons, Dimensions and Prevention, 3 - Importance of Joint Struggles and their correlation with Independent Struggles, 4 - Organization: Problems in expansion and strengthening, 5 - Social Issues and Role of Peasant Movement, 6 - Peasant Struggles Status and Movement after Hisar Conference, were the topics of the study camp. The expenses for this camp was Rs. 1,63,400, out of this Rs. 50,000 was contributed by the State Committee, the remaining amount was collected by the Agra District unit. There was no delegation fee for this camp. The presence of delegation from UP state was weak. A seminar and a Mushayra were also organized on this occasion.

Joint Peasant Movement- Joint peasant movement is very weak in Uttar Pradesh. After the efforts and direction of AIKS, All India Kisan Sangharsh Samiti, Jan Ekta Jan Adhikar Andolan, Bhumi Adhikar Andolan were formed. Decision was made to coordinate with other kisan organisations and district level contact, but the work could not be implemented.

All India Strike, 8-9 January 2019 - We supported the two-day nationwide workers strike, called by major Trade Unions of the country. At district level we participated in demonstrations and protests at 40 districts. Effect of rural shutdown and road blocking was negligible

30 January - Joint programmes on Mahatma Gandhi's martyrdom day have been organised in many districts.

State Level Agitations - On the issue of stray cattle effective demonstrations and public meetings were organized at Tehsil offices in 40 districts on 5-10 December, 2019. Under this pressure Uttar Pradesh government even announced to open Gaushalas, but not implemented.

Outstanding Sugarcane Arrears - In relation to the payment of outstanding price arrear of sugarcane executive committee has given continuous call for struggles. Government was

forced to pay some dues amount but still 11082 crore is outstanding in Uttar Pradesh. Effective demonstrations on various sugar mills of Bulandshahr were organized, some actions were also held at sugar cane growing districts like Deoria, Bijnore.

Paddy and Wheat - The state executive also planned movement in connection with the procurement of paddy and wheat. In some districts including Etawah, Demonstration and Dharnas were organized at purchasing centers of districts. But in this regard, the attitude of the UP government was totally anti-farmer and almost negligible procurement of paddy was done from farmers and farmers were forced to sell their crop in market at price of 900 to 1100 rupee per quintals. This session the situation of wheat purchase was very severe, as per a broad idea only 5 percent of wheat procured by government.

Potato - Due to not having any government policy regarding potato, potato growers are in grave crisis. Continuous agitations were organized in Agra against it.

Movement on Land Acquisition- Instead of acquiring the land for Bundelkhand Expressway and Purvachal Expressway taking land with anonymous name, for proper settlement and other related problems the state executive committee had taken decision regarding the movement and responsibilities for both of them was given to different comrades. In relation with Bundelkhand Express project public meetings and mass contact campaign was done and struggle was initiated. Due to heavy pressure of administration, after the Lok Sabha elections 65 percent of people have given land anonymously. Some farmers are still in struggle. In Etawah for widening of Highway No. 2, expensive land which is under Municipality was tried to acquire at agricultural land rate which was opposed by people, till now possession was not given. The unjustly opposed to the compensation for the prize money of the precious area of the populated area under the Municipality has not been allowed to be captured. Struggle continues for the remaining payments against factorydoor in Etawah.

Proposed Hike in Power Tariff - The UP Government has recently proposed to increase the rates of electricity at every level up to 25% to 109%. Against this Kisan Sabha had announced a statewide campaign. Call of demonstration at district level with proper preparation was given for 18th July 2019. On June 19, demonstrations at all sub-power houses were held in Bulandshahr. Call for demonstrations at sub-power house in first week of July at Etawah was given.

Different Issues of Districts - There was movements on different issues at district level. Apart from Bulandshahr, Etawah, due to not getting regular reports, we are not able to give proper report.

Against Neo-liberal Economic Policies - There is an emphasis on continuous struggles against neo-liberal economic policies. We use to talk on it in every demonstration, gathering and programs. In Bulandshahr planned programs were organized throughout the year under 'Save right to life, save peace, save the country' campaign. Programmes were organized on important dates and a brotherhood convention was also organized. In name of so-called Gokashi, at Chiratati police post in Bulandshahr, RSS / BJP this planned a conspiracy, on 1 to 3 December 18 Tabloli Ijtima was organized in which 20 lakh people were participated, a conspiracy to commit a nationwide riot on this occasion was made but a brave Police Inspector Subodh Kumar Foiled their plan by his martyrdom, Kisan Sabha jointly with other organizations done effective intervention.

Communalism and Crimes - Government-sponsored communalism is becoming horrible. The Yogi government has proved to be a great failure, the law and order situation is very bad. The oppression of the children, women and weaker sections has increased. Kisan Sabha is constantly raising the voice against it and the movement has been organized in different districts.

17th Lok Sabha Election - The decision to unite against anti-farmer policies and to campaign for secularism, democracy and Constitution protection was taken in the state committee and on this basis work was done in this election. The results of the election are startling. With the help of communal, nationalist fundamentalism the Modi government has won the election diverting attention from the main issues. Struggles and challenges ahead are difficult, against those we have to fight.

Membership - In the year 2017-18 Uttar Pradesh total membership was 3,00,722. There were committees in 171 blocks and 1300 villages. This year 2018-19 membership is in over 2,000 villages, membership target is of 459000, campaign was going on till 30th June, membership will be finalized in the state committee meeting on 2nd July, and it seems difficult to reach the target. Our decision is to constitute village committees by August, and Mandals committees by September. There is plan to organize 3 training camps in the state. Training camps have been organized in the districts, in which Bulandshahar, Mathura, Agra, Deoria, Chandauli, Banaras, Bhadohi, Etawah, Bijnor around a dozen districts are included.

ASSAM

Following are the major activities of Assam State Kisan Sabha since last AIKS meeting.

- 1. Committee meeting:** Assam state kisan council met twice, state committee met five times and office bearer's meeting was held seven times during this time.
- 2. 9 August 2018:** In Assam the Jail Bharo movement was organized jointly with CITU in 34 centres where about 35 thousand peasants and workers participated.
- 3. 5 September 2018:** From Assam more than 2000 peasants and workers participated in 5th Sept 2018 All India Peasants-Workers Rally which was held in New Delhi. Only 246 peasants participated in the same.
- 4. Kerala Relief Fund:** Assam State Kisan Sabha collected Rs 50,000 for Kerala Flood Relief Fund and it was deposited to AIKS centre.
- 5. Assam State Class:** The three-day Assam state study camp of the AIKS was held at Dhemaji in Upper Assam on October 27-28-29. It concluded on October 29 with an impressive peasants and workers rally and public meeting which was addressed by AIKS general secretary Hannan Mollah, AIKS president Dr Ashok Dhawale, veteran Kisan leader Hemen Das, state secretary Tiken Das, state president Fazlur Rahman and reception committee secretary Khageshwar Changmai, while it was presided over by reception committee chairman Prof Amiyo Kumar Hendique.

All the speakers came down heavily on the betrayal of the promises given to the people by the BJP government at the centre and in the state. State issues included the refusal to give land pattas to peasants and to implement the Forest Rights Act, failure to control and solve the chronic flood and erosion problem and the unconstitutional and communal Citizenship Amendment Act, which must be withdrawn forthwith. Several cultural troupes and

individuals presented their song and dance performances in the public meeting. 143 leading AIKS activists from 24 districts attended the camp. The subjects taken in the camp were as follows: 1. The Present Agrarian Crisis - Causes, Effects, Remedies - Dr Ashok Dhawale, 2. Current Political Challenges and the Danger of Communalism - Dr Ashok Dhawale, 3. Agrarian Situation and Tasks in Assam - Hemen Das, 4. History of AIKS and Building the Organisation - Hannan Mollah.

An extended AIKS state council meeting was also held on October 28, attended by Hannan Mollah and Ashok Dhawale.

6. General Strike 8-9 January 2019: Kisan Sabha organized some group and street corner meetings all over Assam to success the general strike. The strike was total in Assam.

7. Worker-Peasant Jatha From 26th Feb to 7th March 2019: Jatha was organized in Assam jointly with CITU. The Jatha was organized in 54 centres which covered 357 villages. Total length of the Jatha was 762 km.

8. Movement to Reopen Paper Mill: Two paper mills, one in Cachar district and another in Jagiroad near Guwahati had been closed since 2015 and 2017 respectively. More than two lakh families are facing acute economic crisis due to closure of both paper mills. 55 paper mill workers were dead without proper medical treatment. Three of them committed suicide. A large number of bamboo farmers are also affected.

Assam State Kisan Sabha took the initiative to organize a joint movement to re-open both the paper mills. On 26th of May and 11th of June Kisan Sabha along with CITU, JCTU and paper mill workers union organized a demonstration. We also decided to organize a joint Rally at Silchar and Jagiroad on 23rd July 2019.

9. Movement against Eviction: The BJP Govt. of Assam, as soon as they came to power, started eviction. Recently in Cachar district forest deptt evicted a large number of families from the forest land, who were living for more than 25 years. Cachar District Kisan Sabha took a series of demonstrative programs demanding stop to eviction without alternative.

10. AIKS Assam State Council: The Assam state council meeting of the All India Kisan Sabha (AIKS) began on July 7, 2019 with an enthusiastic and impressive public meeting at Rangloo village in Nagaon district of central Assam. People from Nagaon and neighbouring Hojai district had come in large numbers. The public meeting was presided over by AIKS district president Ramakanta Bora. Reception Committee chairman Prof Abdush Salam, Secy Aswini Paul welcomed the gathering. The public meeting was addressed by AIKS national president Dr Ashok Dhawale, Assam state secretary Tiken Das and state president Fazlur Rahman. The latest issue of the AIKS state journal 'Krishak Sangram' was also released in the public meeting.

The AIKS state council meeting on July 7-8, which was attended by 95 members and invitees, was presided over by Fazlur Rahman and was inaugurated by Dr Ashok Dhawale. Tiken Das placed the written report on which 26 members spoke. The meeting decided to begin a campaign and launch local struggles on peasant issues, to take part in large numbers in the AIKS-CITU-JCTU demonstrations at Jagiroad and Silchar on July 23 against the closure of both large paper mills, and to begin concerted preparations to streamline and strengthen the organisation from the primary village conferences onwards till the AIKS Assam state conference to be held in January 2020.

The state council also finalised the AIKS membership for the year 2018/19. District wise membership details are attached herewith.

KARNATAKA

1. KPRS state committee accepted and finalised 2018-19 membership ie, 2,33,523

2. Study Camps:

KPRS conducted state level 3 days school at Doddaballapur (Bangalore Rural district) on 10-11-12 June 2019. 200 participated from 14 districts. AIKS president Com. Ashok Dhawale and joint secretary Com. Vijoo Krishnan also participated as lecturers from the Centre. Ballary and Kolar district committees also conducted 2 days study camps for district and taluk level cadets.

3. Jail Bharo, August 9, 2018:

At the AIKS call jail Bharo on 09.08.2018 was successfully conducted all over Karnataka. It was organised by 7 organisations jointly. Over 28,000 farmers, agri labourers, dalits and workers participated. Over 8,000 were arrested. KPRS alone mobilised all over Karnataka nearly 11,000 farmers and 3,509 were arrested. Before that 15 days talukwise vehicle jatha campaign was conducted all over Karnataka. KPRS distributed 75,000 leaflets. Workers participation was good. 11,570 participated.

4. Milk Producers Demands Day, August 23, 2018:

Over 2500 milk producers participated and protested for their demands in front of 3 milk union federation centers in Bangalore, Kolar, Ballary.

5. Coffee Growers All India Convention:

KPRS organised All India Coffee Growers Convention at Bangalore last 22 October. We involved other kisan organisation called Karnataka Growers Federation.

6. AIKSCC State Convention:

AIKSCC state convention was held at Bangalore on October 31, 2019. A state level committee was formed. 9 kisan organisations participated in it. Over 300 farmers and activists participated from all the organisations.

7. District Level Protest Convention at Kalaburgi:

Kalaburgi district committee organised a district level protest convention on various farmers issue like loan waiver etc on 12.12.2019 at Kalaburagi. AIKS president Com. Ashok Dhawale participated. Over 1000 farmers participated.

8. Parliament Chalo :

AIKS called protest in front of Parliament on September 5, 2018 from Karnataka over 2,000 participated from KPRS, CITU and other mass organisations. KPRS mobilised over 300.

9. Seminars :

Potato growers round table meeting:

Potato growers round table meeting was organised by the Hassan district committee on 28.05.2019 at Hassan town. Farmers round table meeting demanded state government to support price for potato. Comrade H R Naveen Kumar state joint secretary inaugurated the meeting and CITU com Dharmesh also addressed the meeting as chief guest.

Against State Land Acquisition Amendment Act:

Kalburgi district committee organised a seminar on draconian amendment to land acquisition act made by state government at Kalaburagi on 07.07.2019. Over 300 farmers and 50 lawyers participated. Justice Gopal Gouda inaugurated the seminar. Com. U. Basavaraja state general secretary addressed as Chief Guest. Com. Maruti Manpade and Com Gouramma Patil participated. Com. Sharana Basappa Mamashetty participated as president.

10. Land struggles:

Day and Night Dharna:

Ballari district committee organised 3 days protest day and night dharna in front of deputy commissioners office demanding land rights for forest land. Over 500 farmers participated. Siruguppa sandur, Hospet taluk farmers participated. Com. U. Basavaraja general secretary inaugurated the dharna. District president Com. V. S. Shivashanker and district secretary Com. Gali Basavaraja led this protest programme.

4 Days Dharna in front of Taluk Office:

Ballary district committee organised 4 days dharna in front of taluka sub office against state government decision on 3666 acre land sale at a low price, just average Rs 1,30,000 per acre. Over 400 farmers and others participated. Comrade U. Thippeswamy, Com. V. S. Shivashanker and Gali Basavaraj were the leaders.

Dharana in front Of Vidhana Soudha :

Bangalore city district committee organised a protest Dharna in front of state legislative assembly vidhana soudha demanding land right for town bagar hukum land cultivators and sites for the siteless on Janury 3rd 2019. Over 1,500 participated. Com. N. Venkatachalaiah, Com .G C Bayyareddy participated.

Bagar hukum Farmers Convention at Maddur, Tumukur and Kolar

Maddur taluka level bagar hukum farmers convention was organised on 18th September 2018 at Maddur, Mandya district. Tumkur district committee organised bagar hukum convention on 4.02.2019 at Tumkur. District level bagar hukum farmers convention was organised on 20.12.2019 at Kolar. Hundreds of farmers participated. Com. GC Bayyyareddy president inaugurated both conventions.

Kolar district committee organised struggle and had discussion with deputy commissioner on land acquisition for Bangalore-Chennai Express highway and KPTCL HT Line.

11. General Strike:

CITU and other trade unions called nationwide 2 day General Strike on January 8th and 9th. KPRS participated in and supported the strike. Thousands of farmers participated in a Karnataka bandh and rasta roko.

12. Elections:

In this period we have participated in two major elections. One was assembly election. Nearly 6 KPRS state office bearers contested that election. KPRS Kalburgi, Chikkaballapur, Dakshin Kananda and Koppala district committees collected funds and all state level cadres worked.

Second is the recent Lok Sabha election. District level political conventions were organised. Election fund was also collected to support the Left candidates.

13. Chikkaballapur Protests:

Chikkaballapur district committee organised two protest programmes at Gudibande and Bagepalli on various issues on 4th and 5th of this month. Thousand farmers participated. Com. GV Sree Rama Reddy. State vice president inaugurated this protest.

ANDHRA PRADESH

Report of Activities in Farming Sector

Famine affected in 347 mandals of the state in kharif season, followed by heavy crop losses by Thithli and Pathai. And one side there was heavy crop loss due to viruses to Chilly and Cotton in Rabi season and on the other side there was no market to crops like Subhabul and Jam oil, no trader to purchase it. Other crops like Onion, Tomato and Bengal gram dried due to scanty or no rainfall in late rabi season. The Government was totally indifferent in coming to the rescue of the affected farmers.

On December 28th a Bandh taken by the farmers to take up famine relief works and many were arrested on the occasion. Due to severe drought conditions prevailing in Rayalaseema, Nellore, Prakasam and Northern Districts of Andhra Pradesh, Government was forced to declare 347 famine mandals. The Government is totally neglecting the farmers, farm workers and artisans affected by famine. A.P. Rythusangham, CPM, CPI and other political parties called for a Bandh on 28th December demanding the Government to take up immediate famine relief works. The trade unions of farmers, tenants, farm workers quickly responded and participated in the Bandh and made it a success, and distributed leaflets, conducted village level meetings. In the context of the Bandh the leaders visited the villages and noticed dried crops, weekend cattle without fodder and water, locked houses whose occupants migrated to cities in search of work and food, also notice the dried fruit gardens and dried borewells. Many leaders and farmers from all the districts were arrested during Bandh. In Vishakhapatnam District Tahasildars were forced to declare 11 mandals as famine hit. 3000 posters and 15000 leaflets were distributed. A memorandum was submitted to the District Collector enlisting the problems of famine hit villages. On 11-12-2018 in Orokhal Mandal of Kurnool District a herd of 4000 sheep was rallied before the Tahasildar Office demanding fodder and water to the skeletal sheep, resulting in the permission to graze the sheep in nearby Solar Plant Compound. A memorandum was submitted to the District Collector of

Kurnool to extend Jalasiri Scheme to the whole of the District. A Memorandum was submitted to the Central Famine Study Team visiting the Districts of Kurnool, Ananthapuram, Nellore, Prakasam, Chittoor and Kadapa Districts on 05th, 06th December demanding to take up the famine relief measures without delay, and expressing our displeasure over the negligence of the State and Central Governments. The unions of farmers, tenants and labourers surrounded the Tahasildar Offices of West Kurnool Districts, the people numbering 3000 from 111 villages participated in the agitation. Rasta rokos organised. A demand was made for the compensation for dried Bengal gram and Chilli crops during Rabi season in Ananthapur North district on 11.12.2018 at Tadipatri Tahasildar Office. Relay hunger strikes were conducted in Kadapa District.

January Janmabhoomi Meeting:

The Government conducted special Janmabhoomi meeting in the villages. In these meetings the Officers, Peoples representatives and Ministers were demanded to finalise the farmers debt relief, cyclone compensation and settle the famine relief and webland problems. The struggle was conducted in 149 mandals and there was court arrest also.

January 9th Grameen Bandh:

The peoples anguish was expressed against the anti farmer and anti labour policies of BJP Government in the form of distributing the leaflets, conducting round table and street meetings and jeep jathas, conducted road blockades with bullock carts and court arrests. January 9th Grameen Bandh was successful in 170 mandals, human chains were also formed.

Mana Rythu Vani:

After some intensive work for two months at the State centre and District, it was possible to collect 3546000. 7000 copies of Diaries and Calendars for the year 2019.

Struggle on Market Issues:

In Kurnool Market Agents were on strike on 21-12-2018. The farmers and the leadership of our union held discussions with the Secretary of the market yard, market agents and farmers and solved the problem. 400 Onion farmers started road blockage on 29.10.2018 demanding remunerative price for onions and submitted a memorandum to the Collector. Dharnas were taken up by groundnut farmers in Pamidi and Pedda Vaduguru Mandals of Anantapur District demanding action against the traders for weight frauds. A case was filed against a fraudulent trader, recovered Rs.70000/- from him and paid to the farmer.

Horticulture Farmers Issues:

In Anantapur district farmers held dharna at Horticulture Office and a memorandum was given to Commissioner of Horticulture, Andhra Pradesh. 100 Farmers participated. A Dharna was held on December 24th by Mango Farmers of Chittoor District demanding incentive for their produce. 1000 farmers participated in Kolluru and Bhattiprolu Mandals of Guntur District. A Bandh was held demanding the payment of dues regarding maize purchase. 150 farmers participated. In Guntur and West Godavari Districts farmers agitated for the purchase of wet paddy in THITHLY and PETHAI cyclones. On January 17th a meeting was held between farmers unions and Ministers of Agriculture and Social Welfare to discuss about the purchase of soaked paddy by Government Agencies. The Sericulture farmers led by State Seri Farmers Union met the Commissioner of Sericulture and demanded remunerative price for Silk Cocoons and payment of incentive arrears pending for 8 months. The delegation of Seri farmers of Ananthapur and Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka led by

Seri farmers of Unions of A.P. & Karnataka and also by M.P. Hindupur met Chairman of Central Silk Board at CSB Office Bangalore, demanding remunerative price of Silk cocoon and increase of incentives. The farmers of Mirch and Tamarind took an agitation led by APRS at Hindupur Markets to abolish e-nam Market system. A memorandum was given to Agriculture Special Secretary Mr. Murlidhara Reddy demanding the payment of maize purchase dues.

At Tadipatri Anantapur district a dharna was held at ADA office to prolong the last date for the payment of premium for PMs Fasal Beema.

At Tirupathi our APRS and farmers met the members and Chairman of Electricity regulatory committee to solve the pending Agriculture Electricity connection immediately and pre electricity supply to Jaggery making units and fair compensation to the victims of currents shocks.

Milk Producers Problems:

Milk producing farmers from Ongole and Tirupathi held a dharna at Vishaka dairy. They demanded loans, incentive and increased milk rates to the producers. During Janmabhoomi meetings milk farmers submitted memorandums in 6 villages and 2 milk producers committees were formed.

Land Issues:

Dharnas were held at 2 villages to give a fair compensation to the farmers lands acquired for formation of Gas pipeline from Rajamandri to Mailavaram and negotiation was held with ONGC officials and SDC. The union of farmers and tribals held a dharna in Srikakulam on 3rd December demanding Rythuvari Pattas for 150 acres. 50 farmers participated. Capital area island land owners whose land was aquired for capital city of new state, demanded fair compensation. They organised meetings and submitted memorandums to the concerned officials. In Nellore district the farmers submitted memorandum to the district Collector after a 3 days road march January 5th, 6th& 7th. 50 farmers participated. Farmers and farm workers unions jointly visited the villages conducted meetings and submitted the Memorandum to the district Collector, bluntly opposing the land pooling system in Vishaka trijunction. A meeting was held at Gangavaram with 120 farmers a long time struggle is going on in K.Kotipadu and K.Santhapadu Mandals against the illegal occupation of Dalit lands. RDO had passed an order in favour of Dalits who are in possession and cultivation of 18 acres of land. 2 Seminars were held in Guntur district on December 22nd to oppose the land acquisition for Penna Godavari river linkage. In Ananthapuram south district Dharmavaram Mandal, Government acquiring land of 215 acres for housing scheme. Nearly 90 poor families are fighting to retain the lands which were in their possession for decades and growing fruit gardens. The struggle is going on with the support of CPM and other political parties. In Kadapa district struggles are on for cultivable lands.

Pethai and Thithly Cyclones:

APRS volunteers actively participated in relief and rehabilitation during Pethai Cyclone from 14 to 16th December. Due to devastating cyclonic heavy rains in Guntur, Krishna, East and West Godavari Districts, our union visited the fields, saw the drenched paddy heaps, bundles and grain heaps in the yards. We discussed with the officials about the relief operation taken. A memorandum was submitted in this regard. Compensation for maize loss was also demanded. A state conference was held in Duggirala of Guntur district to form turmeric

board. 140 turmeric farmers attended. We met the officials of spices board and submitted a memorandum to the Tahasildars. Seminars and round table conferences were organised in January and February demanding that the political parties include the problems and solutions of farming community in their Election Manifestos. 30000 leaflets were printed. A seminar was held demanding remunerative price of sugarcane and payment of pending dues. At Bheemadolu a dharna was conducted at the Sugar factory and also in the district of Vijayanagaram, Chittoor, West Godavari, Vishakhapatnam and Srikakulam. A memorandum was submitted to the Commissioner which resulted in the release of part of the dues. Agitations were conducted in the district of West Godavari, Vijayanagaram and Nellore for the payment of dues from FCI and to purchase the remaining stock of food grains. 20000 leaflets were distributed, resulted in the start of purchasing programme. Dharnas were held in Penta Padu for the payment of dues. A memorandum was submitted to the Commissioner and Minister while the agitation continues.

In support of the Gujarat farmers agitation, effigies were burnt, press notes released, Seminars conducted in the state from 1st May to 15th May. Dharnas were held by APRS units in Guntur opposing Pepsi Company. A call was given to ban the Pepsi products and Social Media was used for this purpose. APRS promptly responded to the arrest of APRS volunteers and forced their release and withdrawal of cases.

In Guntur district the slogan “Seed Right is Farmers Right” was widely canvassed by the APRS and Rythu Rakshana Vedhika, in Ananthapur District Mukundhapuram of Garladinne Mandal hunger strike was conducted demanding to save the drying fruit gardens and rally was held displaying dried plants.

Famine tour and inspection of SEZ lands on 12-06-2019 - AIKS National President Dr Ashok Dhawale toured Chilamathur and Hindupur tehsils of Anantapur District.

APRS statewide training classes and workshop was held at Puttaparthi of Anantapur district on 13th, 14th and 15th of June 2019. There was no attendance for training classes from East Godavari, Rajamandri and Kakinada. 176 out of 366 committee members, 26 Special invitees attended, 15 State Committee members were absent. AIKS President Dr Ashok Dhawale, AIKS Joint Secretary Vijoo Krishnan and AIKS Vice President S. Mallareddy were present for the sessions. A decision was taken to take up the underlined duties.

1. A membership of 18500 was completed and yet to complete another 18000 membership shortly.
2. During membership campaign, village committees are to be formed. The present committees are 425 and 632 to be formed.
3. 169 Mandal Committees are formed and 105 to be formed in one month.
4. Issue wise sub-committee are to be formed and strengthen the present committee to prepare for the ongoing struggles.
5. Farmers issues and organization matters, to strengthen the organization the newly formed Govt. should be complained to implement its election promises. This programme of takenup from 1st to 30th July as per the dates announced.
6. Conducting district wise training classes in 14 districts in the month of July.
7. The dues of Mana Rythuvani ads to be collected and handed over to state centre.
8. The APRS State conference will be held in the month of August and the place and day will be announced soon.

UTTARAKHAND

After All India Kisan Sabha Council meeting held on 18th to 20th 2018, the following activities were held in Uttarakhand

On 9th August 2018, 1500 people participated in Jail Bharo and 16000 signatures were done before Jail Bharo which was given to prime minister through district collector from 9 districts of Uttarakhand.

In the month of August, Jota Buggi Union did procession in two time in Dehradun district and on 28th August 2018 a procession of Kisan Sabha was organized in Doewala Sugar Mill on the issue of payment of sugar cane.

Hunger strike and big procession was organized by the Udham Singh Nagar Kisan Sabha with Tarai Bhaber kisan sangharsh morcha in Rudrupur on the issues of MSP and loan waiver in the first week of August 2018.

On 5th September 2018, 104 people participated in Delhi in the joint Rally of AIKS and CITU. 10,000 leaflets were distributed among the people in different districts of Uttarakhand before the rally.

On 11th October 2018, a Dharna was organized by Kisan Sabha at Bhagwabpur Tehsil Headquarter of Haridwar district on MSP and other issues. Uttarakhand Kisan Sabha General Secretary and Com. Kamrudeen also participated in this Dharna.

On 29th November 2018, 30 people participated in Delhi March and on 30th November 157 people participated in Delhi Kisan Rally from Uttarakhand.

On 8th& 9th January 2019, Dharna and procession were organized by Kisan Sabha in 9 districts of Uttarakhand in support of Trade Union two days General Strike.

A state level rally was organized by Uttarakhand Kisan Sabha in State capital Dehradun on 28th February 2019. 10,000 leaflets and 2,000 posters were printed and distributed in different districts of Uttarakhand before the rally. Due to adverse weather conditions and heavy rainfall only 500 people participated in the rally. Com. Hannan Mollah General Secretary of AIKS addressed the rally as the main speaker.

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR

On 5th September 2018, Andaman and Nicobar Islands Kisan Sabha unit organized one-day street corner meetings throughout south Andaman village area and public meeting at Ferrargunj junction under the chairmanship of Com. Narayan Biswas in support of the central program at Delhi. The speakers were Com. Gouranga Majhi, Com. Rajkumar Saw, Com. S. Chidambaram, and Com. Narayan Biswas. The speakers highlighted local problems such as unbearable power cuts and in village areas not supplying enough drinking water on a regular basis. Not supplying of fertilizers to farmers due to unknown cause so farmers are facing difficulties in farming. For long, people of the remote area suffer more from power and water scarcity. Farmers are not getting any crop insurance.

The All India Kisan Sabha Andaman and Nicobar Islands, state committee had submitted its comments and suggestions on the recommendations of the committee on land matters. The

Kisan Sabha had expressed serious concern over the consequences of removing the farmers and poor toiling masses who are living in such encroached land for several years. The worst affected would be the unemployed youth and the successors of the family, who could easily get involved in anti-social activities and lead their life in wrong direction if they do not have any source of income or land to earn their living. It was also suggested to take measures for making guidelines to stop the influx of people from outside and to introduce interline permit system for the betterment of the Islands.

On 11th April 2019 the AIKS foundation day was observed at Diglipur Kisan Sabha office. This day was the Parliamentary election polling day. The All India Kisan Sabha flag was hoisted by Dr. Gouranga Majhi in front of the Kisan Sabha office at Diglipur, followed by a meeting at office premises where there were present local leaders and Kisan Sabha activists. Secretary Gouranga Majhi briefly narrated the history of Kisan Sabha in India from its foundation conference in 1936 at Lucknow and the situation during the British period.

Nowadays Kisan Sabha is fighting against the central government's anti-farmer policies. In every year budget shows reducing Kisan fund, MGNREGA scheme, decreasing subsidy, etc. Stop reducing subsidy in agriculture, seeds, fertilizers, medicine and irrigation scheme. In Andaman and Nicobar Islands farmers are not getting fertilizers and medicine for their crops due to unknown cause. Kisan Sabha several times urged agriculture department for the same but agriculture department has avoided. For increasing farmer income, they should be provided high value seeds and young plantation in time along with fertilizer, medicine, etc. throughout the year without interruption and require suitable irrigation system which is absent in Andaman, so Kisan Sabha fights in favour of kisans always.

On 16th June 2019 a written complaint was submitted by the Kisan Sabha Secretary to Administrator of Andaman and Nicobar Islands when the situation become intolerable due to scarcity of water supply and frequent cutting of power supply in the islands. The people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands are facing indifferent attitude by Andaman and Nicobar Administration towards receiving the basic amenities of water and power supply.

The Andaman and Nicobar Islands have a single Hydro Electric Power Plant established in Diglipur which is now in a deteriorating condition, but other Diesel based generators are also unable to cater to the large population in this area. Kisan Sabha stated that one of the reasons behind such a situation is the poor maintenance of electric cables and other accessories and also demanded immediate steps to fill up the vacant post of linemen, technicians and engineers in the department for the timely upkeep of electric lines and power generator.

Resolutions

Resolution on Drought Situation

Large parts of India have been reeling under severe drought conditions. India has witnessed the second driest pre-monsoon season in the last 65 years. More than 44 per cent of India's areas were under various degrees of drought conditions (abnormally dry to exceptionally dry) as of June 10, 2019. It is estimated that more than 40 per cent of the country's population or 500 million people are severely affected. Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Bihar, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu are the worst hit. Notably, 'severe to exceptionally dry conditions' prevailed in 17.33 per cent area and 'exceptionally dry' conditions prevail in 5.87 per cent area.

Low rainfall has also contributed to a downward trend in water levels in at least 71 of 91 reservoirs across India according to the recent bulletin by the Central Water Commission (CWC). The water storage in dams has dropped to a critical level and the Centre has issued a drought advisory to Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Tamil Nadu. The State governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan have declared many of their districts as drought-hit. Severe scarcity of drinking water and fodder for livestock has created extreme distress and crop cultivation has been severely hit. However, the Central government has not declared it a national calamity.

The Central Government led by BJP in times of any natural calamity is not forthcoming in providing relief to States. It is washing its hands off drought relief by introducing new parameters. The new Manual for Drought Management of 2016 says that the States can ask for

Centre's help only if the drought is "severe". However, the parameters that make a drought "severe" are extremely stringent and are tailored to ensure that the Centre has no liabilities. The new definition replaces the parameters for calculating drought that have been used so far. Earlier if there was a deficient rainfall and the crop yield was less than 50 per cent of the average of 10 years then that is considered a drought year. This has been reversed and different indicators like rainfall, agriculture, soil moisture, hydrology and remote-sensing (health of crops) are to be considered. Memorandum for Assistance under the National Disaster Response Fund will be submitted only if the calamity is of a severe nature according to this criterion.

In such a situation even the farmers are not being given proper crop insurance. According to RTI data the much advertised flagship programme of the BJP Government namely the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana has miserably failed in times of extreme drought adding to the distress of the peasantry. Only for 2018 Kharif season about Rs.13,000 crore was pocketed by the insurance companies. Nearly 40 per cent of the Rs 12,867 crore estimated claims which had to be paid by February remained unpaid as of May 10, 2019. In a drought situation such apathy is criminal.

The AIKC meeting at Hyderabad demands that the extraordinary drought situation must be declared a national calamity and relief measures must be taken up on a war footing. The Manual for Drought Management is unjust and needs to be scrapped. We demand that the Central Government must announce a moratorium on repayment of crop loans, provide employment under MGNREGA for at least 200 days, assist States to address food security concerns and malnutrition, make arrangements to provide drinking water and fodder to States, provide interest free loans and subsidised inputs for next season and free ration for 3 months. Crop losses have to be properly assessed and compensation must be provided to farmers as per present cost of cultivation and yield. The compensation rate for disasters at present is too low and should be done away with. Actual cultivators should benefit from such measures. Disbursal of old age pensions and widow pensions must not be delayed. Clampdown on water traders who are fleecing people also should be ensured. AIKS will undertake relief activities and also hold protests to ensure disbursal of relief and compensation for crop losses.

Resolution on Flood Situation in Assam

The national council meeting of the All India Kisan Sabha (AIKS) being held at Hyderabad expresses grave concern regarding the flood situation in Assam.

The flood situation continues to worsen as new areas are getting flooded every day. The Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) has said that 25 districts of the state are under water. One person died in a flood-related incident in Dhemaji in the last 24 hours, taking the death toll to seven due to floods and landslides.

According to the ASDMA, a total of 14,05,711 people have been affected by the deluge in 25 out of 33 districts. "Over 20,000 people are living in 234 relief camps opened by the district

administration," an official of the ASDMA said on Saturday. He added that 51,722 hectares of agricultural land have also been submerged so far, badly affecting the farmers.

The AIKS demands that the central government immediately release adequate funds for flood relief and the state government must forthwith step up relief and rehabilitation measures for the flood-affected. The AIKS also demands that adequate compensation be paid by government to all those whose houses, fields and other property has been destroyed by the floods.

Floods have been a chronic feature in Assam for the last several decades. No government has taken up the matter seriously. The present BJP government is the worst in this regard. The AIKS demands the setting up of long term measures to avert and control floods and the massive land erosion associated with them.

Resolution on the dilution of FRA and against the draconian move to further thwart the natural rights of Adivasi and TFDs through passage of the amendment of Indian Forest Act, 1927

Indian Forest Act.1927 is inherited by independent India from the colonial regime. The concept of the Act is totally anti-people, very particularly against the interest of the Adivasi and Traditionally Forest Dwellers (TFD), whose life and livelihoods are oriented with the forest and nature. Britishers had conceived the Act mainly to feed their raw materials need in Europe. By that natural right of the Adivasi and TFD was denied in every aspect and has always been remained as a tool of repression against them.

In the wake of this irony of Indian Forest Act, 1927 the Forest Right Act, 2006 was enacted during the UPA-1 regime under the enormous pressure of the left parties. The Act has made the provisions to compensate the historical injustice meted out with the Adivasi and TFD by the way of conferring right over the forests in the shape of individual and community right.

But from the inception, FRA has been facing continuous negative wave from within the Government itself(bureaucrats of MoEF), number of NGOs comprising of so-called Wildlife Conservationists and Environmentalists together with the big Zaminders and Corporate lobbies. They have been opposing tooth and nail to that historical legislation. Being convinced to that peculiar situation the Parliament has very consciously made the Ministry of Tribal Affairs as its nodal Ministry.

Facing the negative climate from the MoEF and lack of political will of the most of the State Governments led by bourgeois parties, implementation of FRA could not make much headway, except in the Left led States. Even after 13 years of enactment of this Act millions of Adivasi and TFD families remained unaware of this historical legislation. During the Modi-1 Government the implementation remained completely stalled.

State wise details of claims received, titles distributed and the extent of forest land of which titles distributed, as on 31.03.2019.

No. of Claims received		Total	No. of Titles Distributed		Total
Individual	Community		Individual	Community	
40,89,035	1,48,818	42,37,853	18,87,894	76,154	19,64,048

Modi-1 Government has amended the CAMPA Act to thwart the extent of the Act by re-encroaching the forest land in the name of aforestation where titles have been conferred. Supreme Court has delivered an order on 13th February, 2019 on the plea of Ex-Forest Officials, NGOs and Zaminders combine by terming all families as encroachers, whose claims are yet to be settled and instructed to the State Governments to evict them by force. Now, if the order is implemented more than 1 Crore Adivasi people and TFDs would be ejected from their natural habitat. On the face of huge uproar SC has kept the order 'on hold' for the time being, which would be heard on 24th July next.

In the midst of this very disastrous situation, to further encroach the ambit of FRA the Modi-1 Government has introduced the "The Indian Forest (Amendment) Bill, 2017 in Lok Sabha. The Bill shall amend the Indian Forest Act, 1927. Proposed amendments are mainly

- i) Total centralization of powers in the hand of Union Government to take control over entire forest.
- ii) Powers of Gram Sabha and Village Committee shall be taken out and given to the hands of forest bureaucracy.
- iii) Commercialization of forests. Any amount of forest could be declared as productive forest and joint venture would be executed with the Corporate and individuals.
- iv) Induction of stringent criminal act and imposing of offence clauses by which forest bureaucrats would be empowered to use fire arms. Arrest without proof of guilt and without arrest warrant.
- v) Burden of proof fall is fall on Adivasis and forest dwellers. Decision of Session Court is final. No legal rights shall prevail.
- vi) Definition of community is diluted such a way, which shall cease to Community Forest Right enshrined under FRA. Etc.

All India Kisan Council held in Hyderabad on 13-14 July, 2019 strongly opposes this undemocratic, anti-advasi and anti-people move of the Modi Government. This move is to dilute the FRA from backdoor and a sinister design to further widen the way for ensuring the loot of forests and minerals by the Corporate and forest mafias. AIKC appeal to all patriotic Indians, ie; mass, class and social organizations to resist this draconian move by all means to save our forests, minerals and rights of Adivasi & TFDs.

Resolution on Labour Law Reform

Peasantry will never tolerate corporate move to enslave workers
'Ease of Loot of Workers' in the name of 'Ease of Doing Business'

The All India Kisan Council Meeting at Hyderabad strongly rebuffs the decision of the Modi Government to change the existing labour laws to enslave the workers of the country for

facilitating increased exploitation by domestic and foreign capitalists. On 10th July 2019, the Union Labour Minister had announced that the code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Bill 2019 has been cleared by the Union Cabinet in the name of 'Ease of Doing Business'. The AIKC condemns this move of the Modi Government as 'Ease of Loot of Workers by the Employers'.

The decision of Modi Government to allow capitalists to extend the working hours to the tune of up to 14 hours is inhuman and naked exploitation. It is an example of the anti worker outlook of the RSS-BJP combine. If the proposed Bill is passed by the Parliament, then 70% of the workers now under the protection of the labour codes will be excluded and will be at the mercy of their employers.

The Union Minister has said that the Cabinet has approved floor level minimum wage at Rs 178/- per day (Rs.4628/- per month) which is way below the minimum wage available in many states and is outrageous. This will provoke and inspire all the conservative state governments and employers to further suppress the minimum wage to lower it. All the Trade Unions are demanding to declare Rs 18000/ month (Rs. 692.3/ per day) as minimum wage. However, the Code on Wages is totally silent on the formula for fixation of minimum wages as unanimously recommended by the 15th Indian Labour Conference along with the Supreme Court judgment in the Raptakos and Brett case, which was repeatedly reiterated in the 44th and 46th Indian Labour Conferences.

As per the provisions in the Code on Industrial Relations, employers in establishments employing up to 300 workers can retrench them at their will, they need not take formal permission from the government, they can 'hire and fire' according to their needs. The Code makes forming trade unions and going on struggles and strikes on their genuine demands almost impossible. A virtual ban on the right to strike has been imposed along with heavy penalty for joining and organising a strike. The Bill empowers the employers to unilaterally change the service conditions of the workers; the right of the workers to oppose or dispute the same has been severely curtailed. In one word, it seeks to enslave workers by virtually doing away with trade union rights. Even people supporting workers' struggles will be punishable with huge fines and imprisonment. At the same time employers are let off with no punishment or very light punishment for any violations on their part.

The proposed Code on Social Security is highly deceptive and fraudulent and does not propose even a single specific social security measure for the workers. What it specifies is that all the funds with EPFO, ESI, Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess etc will be merged and brought under the control of a national advisory board to be set up under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister. This huge fund will be made available to the share market.

Obviously, the government is more interested in helping the big corporate companies, both domestic and foreign, by improving their 'ease of doing business' index. The corporates, the employers class allege that the labour laws in India are 'restrictive', and demand that they should be given the right to 'hire and fire' workers according to their will, close or open

factories according to their needs etc. They demand union free workplaces so that they can freely exploit workers without organised resistance, increase their profits and amass their wealth.

The reality is that in our country over 90% of the workers are not covered by labour laws at all. Even in the organised sector, more than 50% of workforce is now made of contract workers in public sector units while their share is 70% in private units. They are considered to be beyond the purview of labour laws. The overwhelming majority of the small proportion of workers who are legally covered by labour laws do not benefit because of poor or non implementation.

Modi Government had amended the Apprentices Act so that apprentices can be made to work for years together without payment of statutory minimum wages and social security benefits. The definition of 'workers' has been changed in this amended Apprentices Act to include contract, casual and daily rated workers. Now the employers can deploy 30% of the total of such 'workers' as apprentices; pay them nominal amounts and increase their profits.

As a follow up to the amendment of the Apprentices Act, the Govt had launched 'National Employability Enhancement Mission' (NEEM), most dubiously designed to pave the way for gradually replacing the regular workers by induction of trainees/apprentices. NEEM regulation 2017 provides 3 years period of 'training' with minimum wage paid as consolidated amount without any statutory benefit or increment.

The Factories (Amendment) Bill, envisages factories employing less than 40 workers (operating without power) and less than 20 workers (with power) to be pushed out of the coverage of the Factories Act. This means 70 per cent factory workers in the country will be thrown out of the purview of the Factories Act. There will be no regulation on working hours, overtime wages, overtime hours, safety at workplace etc for these workers; they will be at the mercy of the employers.

The move for amendment of Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act 1970 aims to legalise the deployment of contract workers in permanent perennial jobs which has been so long going on illegally in various establishments. Workers deployed by a contractor for jobs outsourced by the Principal Employers will not be treated as contract workers. They will henceforth be out of the purview of the Act. The contractors employing less than 50 workers will not be required to obtain license and thereby freed from all regulatory inspections. In reality, if these amendments are passed, contract work will totally replace regular employment.

Thereafter, on the same spree to do away with the very concept of regular employment from the workplaces in a phased manner, the government had amended the Central Rules under the Industrial Employment Standing Order Act. It has allowed "fixed term employment" in all establishments. Workers employed for fixed term can be retrenched after the end of the term without notice or compensation. Already even in many PSUs, workers are being employed through this provision. Now this phenomenon is going to become widespread everywhere, making the conditions of even the regular workers extremely vulnerable.

In the background of large scale changes in labour laws pushing the majority of the workforce out of the purview of all labour laws, these moves of the government to amend the Apprentices Act, the Contract Labour Act and the introduction of fixed term employment have to be understood together as a comprehensive design of the BJP government to destroy the hard won rights of the workers of India. Through this process it seeks to curb the trade union rights of the workers. It is a comprehensive design to ensure “ease of doing business” for the corporates to whom the present government is absolutely in bondage. In this context, workers must identify their real enemies, who are also enemies of the nation as a whole, in clear terms.

After attaining power for the second term, it is obvious that it is payback time for the Modi Government - to pay back those corporate companies, both foreign and domestic, who have helped the RSS-BJP combine with big money during elections and continue to support it including through the media they own.

The capitalist class has been putting pressure on the governments to weaken the labour laws. The previous Congress government had forced changes in laws to make registration of trade unions more difficult to prevent workers from organising. But workers held massive struggles including countrywide strikes and many of these attempts could be defeated. Now, the government of India led by the BJP has directed all the state governments to amend the labour laws in their states as per the pattern of the BJP led Rajasthan state government.

All the statutory benefits that the workers have today – eight hours working day, minimum wages, equal remuneration, maternity benefit, bonus, social security benefits including provident fund and ESI, the right to form trade unions etc - have been achieved through hard struggles and huge sacrifices by the working class supported by the peasantry and the people. They were not granted out of benevolence or charity by either the employers or any government.

The AIKC warns the BJP government that such anti-worker policies will no more be tolerated; the peasantry will move hand in hand with the workers to protect the labour rights of the working class and will join all future protest actions called by the Trade Unions in this regard. The AIKC reiterates that the alliance of the working class and the peasantry will counter the corporate onslaught on labour and calls upon the peasantry to organise public meetings on 5th September 2019 at village level across the country to build up public opinion against this anti-worker move by the Modi Government.

ALL INDIA KISAN SABHA

36, Pt Ravi Shankar Shukla Lane, New Delhi

Membership for 2016-19 and Struggle Fund 2019-20

SL.No	STATE	Membership 2016-17	Membership 2017-18	Membership 2018-19	Struggle Fund Quota 2019-20
1	Andaman Nicobar	1240	1020	1025	5000/
2	Andhra Pradesh Rythu Sangham Tenant Farmers Association	170657 46000	130007 25000	1,02,007	1,50,000/
3	Assam	152557	1,45,005	1,38,480	1,00,000/
4	Bihar	294417	2,60,261	1,15,000	1,50,000
5	Chhattisgarh	6519	5233	4,895	10,000/
6	Gujarat	14146	19000	24483	5,000/
7	Haryana	136926	1,22,100	46600	1,50,000/
8	Himachal Pradesh	43048	35572	30720	50,000/
9	Jammu & Kashmir	13000	33000		25,000/
10	Jharkhand	70327	70,137	70399	50,000/
11	Kerala	4980386	4900000	50,32,250	15,00,000/
12	Karnataka	263329	162034	2,33,000	2,00,000/
13	Maharashtra	240107	201320	2,28,249	2,00,000/
14	Madhya Pradesh	55693	45,365	16740	50,000

15	Manipur	2260	1316	1530	5,000/
16	Odisha	44037	43,400	33,500	50,000/
17	Punjab	116890	110000	1,12,660	1,50,000/
18	Rajasthan	261644	317119	173317	2,00,000/
19	Telangana	225000	242532	245615	2,00,000/
20	Tamilnadu	726783	7,33,064	7,17,192	5,00,000/
21	Tripura KS GMP	390310 233900	394338 211190	1,25,569 40,000	2.50,000/
22	Uttar Pradesh	256743	300722	2,50,693	2,00,000/
23	Uttarakhand	22555	20187	21735	25,000/
24	West Bengal	5688845	5317317	4347482	10,00,000/
25	AIKS Centre	09	13	10	
TOTAL		14457328	1,38,46,252	1,21,13,151	52,25,000/

All India Kisan Sabha

36 Pt .Ravi Shankar Shukla Lane (Canning Lane)
New Delhi-1, email - kisansabha@gmail.com

Circular No. 29/34/6/2019

16-07-2019

To,

All State Unit Secretaries / AIKC Members

Dear Comrade,

The AIKC met at Hyderabad on 12, 13, 14 July 2019. The meeting was attended by 107 comrades from 23 states. President Ashok Dhawale chaired the meeting and General Secretary Hannan Mollah placed the report. 28 Comrades participated in the discussion. The committee adopted five resolutions. The major decisions taken are the following.

On Movement

- 22nd July - Protest action against violation of FRA and evictions:** Millions of Adivasis and other traditional forest dwelling communities are facing the danger of eviction and the Supreme Court is due to hear the different petitions on 24th July 2019. The BJP Government is also proposing draconian amendments to the Indian Forest Act, 1927, to facilitate corporate loot and

exploitation of the tribal people. The BAA and platform of tribal organizations have called for protest actions condemning the government actions and proposed amendments to Forest Act on 22nd July at the village, block, district and state level. Chief Ministers of different States of the country have been written to seeking their intervention in favour of the Forest Rights Act and the Adivasis in the Supreme Court. AIKS calls upon all its units to rise in protest across the country on 22nd July 2019 jointly with the Adivasi Adhikar Rashtriya Manch, All India Agricultural Workers' Union and constituents of the Bhumi Adhikar Andolan. A protest demonstration will also be held at Jantar Mantar in Delhi at 11:30 AM on that day. If the SC endorses eviction, then in order to defend the rights and livelihood of tribal people, all the state units have to mobilise tribal masses for the All India rally on 28th November 2019 at New Delhi. The quota will be decided later.

5. **3rd August - AIKSCC Protest:** The All India Kisan Sangharsh Coordination Committee has called for holding demonstrations and dharnas at all District Collectorate on 3rd August 2019 and submitting memorandum through the Collectors to the President of India demanding the passage of the two Bills passed by the Kisan Parliament on a) Remunerative prices for all crops as per Swaminathan Commission recommendations with assured procurement and b) Freedom from indebtedness by waiving of all loans of farmers. Other burning issues like drought relief, crop insurance etc can also be taken up in these actions.
6. **5th September - Nationwide Protest Against Labour Code Reform:** The AIKC resolved to unite with workers to hold nation-wide protests on 5th September against the retrograde changes being brought by the Narendra Modi-led BJP government to the existing labour laws. If the proposed Bill is passed by Parliament, then 70% of the workers now under the protection of labour laws will be excluded and will be at the mercy of their employers. The mode of protest action will be decided and informed after due consultation with the TU leadership. AIKC adopted a resolution in this regard which is attached along with a note with details. This may be used for campaign at the ground level.

On Organisation

7. **Extended two day state committee meetings** – In order to discuss the review report of AIKC meeting and for discussing future plan of organization, two day extended meeting of all the state committees (state committee members and district office bearers) shall meet before 30th September 2019 in the presence of minimum two central functionaries and respective office bearers in charge of the state units. A questionnaire is being prepared and will be sent to all state units on or before 25th July 2019 as a guideline for preparing a detailed report by the state centre for discussion in the state council. The list of central functionaries who will attend the respective state committees is attached. The future plan of action thus prepared for each state unit must be submitted to the AIKS Centre before 10th October 2019.

To make the discussion fruitful a questionnaire is being sent to all state Committees. State Committees should collect information on the basis of this and prepare a report which will be discussed in the extended meeting.

8. **All India Workshop on Organisation** - A workshop on organisation-building will be organised in Tamil Nadu in March/April 2020 in which, apart from AIKC members selected state secretariat members will also attend. The date and venue will be fixed later after due consultation.
9. **Unit Registration** - All the state units have to ensure mandatory registration of primary units by taking Rs 2/ as annual registration fee at district level from the year 2019-20 onwards. Election of delegates to the conference process will be based on the number and membership strength of active and registered primary units. The district committees have to submit the list of registered units to respective state units and then to the CKC by the respective state units every year by 31st May. The respective district committees must maintain records of membership as well as of primary units. Each primary unit has to organize General Body meetings of its members at least twice a year and keep the details of records at the district level.
10. **Membership 2019-20** - The meeting discussed with concern the continuous decline of membership, despite the growing struggles during this period, across the country. Now AIKS has only 1.27% of the targeted peasant population as its members. All the state units have to expand their membership strength every year considerably with the aim to attain minimum 10% of the peasant population in that state, so that within the next ten years AIKS can achieve the target of 10% share of peasant population as its members. State units must organize annual workshops to plan and train the main activists in this regard. The AIKC decided to retain last year's quotas for the 2019-20 membership campaign.
11. **Crop Wise Organisations** - In the context of capitalist expansion in agriculture, mono cropping has been widespread and is further intensifying across the country. AIKC has approved that the state committees can form crop wise sub-committees and organisations as per the specific situations prevailing in the state only after obtaining approval of the CKC. Such Organisations can collect both subscription fee and affiliation fee to AIKS. Special emphasis must be there to take up crop-specific issues and fix priority for crops cultivated by poor and middle level peasantry. **Regional Coffee Growers Conventions** - the state committees of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have to organise regional conventions of coffee growers before 30th September 2019 in the respective states. **Sugarcane Farmers Conference** - All India Convention of Sugarcane farmers should be planned and organised. The date and venue will be decided after due consultation with concerned state units.
12. **Worker-Peasant Social Cooperatives –A** - The AIKC assessed that the All India workshop on 11-12 July at Hyderabad on Role of Worker-Peasant Social Cooperatives in Building Alternatives was successful. The booklet with workshop papers both in Hindi and English will be distributed to state units and the papers must be translated by the respective state committees and published in various national languages by 31st August 2019. **B** - The state units according to the concrete situation there may consider organising similar workshops to explore the possibilities of cooperative intervention to protect and expand the rights and livelihood of the peasantry and rural workers. **C** - State units shall mobilize peasants who are already members of the existing state

cooperative institutions to ensure democratization of the cooperatives in order to protect the interests of the poor and middle peasantry and agricultural labour. All AIKS units have to do everything possible to conduct concrete studies to promote social cooperatives based on potential crops and specific character of regions.

13. **Accounts and Peasant Struggle Fund, 2019** – The AIKS accounts for 2018-19 were placed by the Finance Secretary. Considering the serious financial position of the AIKS and the increasing liabilities, it was decided that all the state units have to collect Peasant Struggle Fund 2019 of Rs. 50 lakhs as per the quotas given below. The state units may decide the date of collection; however the amount as per quota is expected to reach the AIKS account latest by 31st December 2019. As part of Fund collection, all State units have to undertake series of preparations to activate area-village-primary units for two days mass collection in the village and nearby bazaar, collect from each household, and distribute leaflets giving the message of ongoing peasant struggles against neo-liberal policies as well as communal forces in order to politicize the peasantry.
14. **Joint movements – JEJAA, BAA, AIKSCC** - All the state units have to regularly conduct meetings of the concerned platforms and where these platforms do not exist, state units must take special initiative to convene conventions as early as possible, and resolve to intensify the ongoing issue based struggles.
15. **South Asian Conference of TUI (Agriculture)** - Trade Union International (Agriculture) had proposed to hold South Asian Conference in India and it is proposed to hold it in April 2020 in Kerala. South Asian Peasants Coalition also proposed its conference in India. After consultation both the events may be organised simultaneously.
16. **P. Sundarayya Trust-** The AIKC decided to activate the P.Sundarayya Trust and develop it as a Centre for Research and Publication. A Sub-Committee involving academicians and experts will be constituted and entrusted with specific agrarian issues for research.
17. **Book on AIKS History-** A book “An Outline History of All India Kisan Sabha” by Hannan Mollah was released by Com.Thomas Isaac, Finance Minister of Kerala during the Meeting. All State Committees are requested to collect copies of the book for sale.

Resolutions

The AIKC meeting noted the serious flood condition in Assam and nearby states and a resolution was passed in solidarity with the victims calling for relief from the Government. The States of Bihar, Tripura and Bengal have also been affected by floods in which about 40 people are reported to have lost their lives. AIKS units in these regions are requested to be part of rescue and relief operations.

AIKC also passed a resolution against the BJP-led Central Government’s decision to bring all river disputes under a Single Tribunal for Inter-State River Water Sharing Disputes. The move is

cut off from ground realities and is impractical given that the efforts at dispute settlement in such disputes have been going on for decades. The AIKC also passed a resolution against the Kaveri Delta Coal-Bed Methane Extraction Project which will literally sound the death-knell for agriculture in the region. It called for ensuring rent for farmers through whose land high-tension power lines are installed as well as exploring of underground cables and alternative routes along highways for gas pipelines and compensation to the rate of fivefold amount of the existing market rate as compensation for the land being utilized for the project.

The AIKC demanded that the unprecedented drought in several states be declared a National Calamity and demanded effective relief measures including compensation for crop losses, provision of free rations, waiver of loans and creation of jobs under MGNREGA. The dubious role of Insurance companies who are not settling claims of farmers and are raking in huge profits was also criticised. AIKS activists will involve in relief work and also organise protests for ensuring proper relief.

Hannan Mollah
General Secretary

Two days Extended State Committee Meetings August-September 2019

SL. No	State	Centre functionaries/OBs
1	Andaman Nicobar	P Krishnaprasad
2	Andhra Pradesh	Hannan Mollah, Vijoo Krishnan, Malla Reddy
3	Assam	N K Shukla, Jiten Choudhury, Nripen Choudhury
4	Bihar	N K Shukla, Hannan Mollah, S R P
5	Chhattisgarh	Badal Saroj, P Krishnaprasad
6	Gujarat	Ashok Dhawale, K K Ragesh
7	Haryana	Badal Saroj, P Krishnaprasad, Amra Ram,
8	Himachal Pradesh	Vijoo Krishnan, K K Ragesh
9	Jammu & Kashmir	Vijoo Krishnan, P Krishnaparasad
10	Jharkhand	Madan Ghosh, N K Shukla, P Krishnaprasad
11	Kerala	Vijoo Krishnan, K K Ragesh, P Krishnaparasad, Hannan Mollah, SRP

12	Karnataka	Vijoo Krishanan, K Varadharajan, Hannan Mollah
13	Maharashtra	Post assembly election
14	Madhya Pradesh	Amra Ram, P Krishnaprasad, Badal Saroj
15	Manipur	Jiten Choudhury
16	Odisha	Vijoo Krishnan, Amal Haldar, Jiten Choudhury
17	Punjab	N K Shukla, Amra Ram, P Krishnaprasad
18	Rajasthan	Vijoo Krishnan, Badal Saroj, Hannan Mollah
19	Telangana	Vijoo Krishnan, Hannan Mollah, Malla Reddy
20	Tamilnadu	Hannan Mollah, K Varadharajan, Vijoo Krishnan,
21	Tripura	SRP, Hannan Mollah, Vijoo Krishnan
22	Uttarakhand	N K Shukla, Vijoo Krishnan
23	Uttar Pradesh	N K Shukla, Hannan Mollah, P Krishnaprasad
24	West Bengal	Hannan Mollah, Vijoo Krishnan, P Krishnaprasad

Questionnaire

For Preparation of Reports by Kisan Sabha State Committees

Each state committee should prepare a detailed report explaining the issues mentioned here and send to the All India Centre before the dates of the meetings of the state committees called for discussing organizational matters. The office-bearers of the state committee should collectively prepare the report after collecting all the details.

1. The General Secretary's Report presented to the 34th All India Conference came to the following conclusion on changes in agrarian relations and class differentiation: *“Agrarian relations are characterized by the expansion and intensification of capitalist development. Archaic institutions and social formations continue to exist with considerable influence. Capitalist development in India has been uneven and the unevenness has only further grown in the last 25 years. Land reforms have not been implemented in most parts of India and the skewed nature of land ownership has continued except in the states of Kerala, Bengal and Tripura where the Left Front governments have implemented redistributive reforms and in Jammu and Kashmir. The concentration of land, assets, agricultural and non-agricultural incomes have only intensified. The rural rich nexus of landlords, big capitalist farmers, contractors and big traders are the dominant forces in the countryside. In this context the development of class struggle and agrarian movement will have to be based on the fight against the exploitative landlord-rural rich nexus. Control over land remains the basis of the power of the landlords and big capitalist farmers. However, they are also involved in business*

activities such as money lending, grain milling, dairying, trade and speculation in foodgrains and agricultural inputs, manufacturing, real estate, construction, cinema theatres, petrol pumps, transport, lease of agricultural machinery and educational institutions. Literally no sphere in the countryside is untouched by their influence and power.”

- a) Explain the agrarian situation in the state with reference to this assessment.
- b) Land related issues in the state (types of tenancies existing, temple land issue, issuance of pattas, tribal land, ceiling surplus land, homestead etc).
- c) Any struggles conducted against the landlord-rural rich nexus in the recent period.

2. Campaigns and Struggles

- a) The main campaigns and struggles conducted in the state during the last two years.
- b) Demands raised.
- c) Number of people participated.

3.

- a) The struggles conducted continuously on realizable local/immediate issues at the state/district/local levels.
- b) Number of people participated.
- c) Result of the struggle.

4.

- a) Whether the campaigns and struggles helped in expansion of the Kisan Sabha?
- b) If so, to what extent?

5.

- a) Membership details at the state, district and lower levels for three years.
- b) Number of districts in the state.
- c) Number of districts where Kisan Sabha has units.

6. Committee Functioning

(i) State Committee:

- a) How many times state committee met in 2018 & 2019.
- b) Total number of state committee members and how many members present in each meeting.

(ii) District Committees:

- a) How many times district committees met in 2018 & 2019?
- b) Average attendance of the district committees.

(iii) Details regarding local level committees.

7.

- a) Whether primary units are formed after every membership campaign?
- b) Whether unit general body meetings are held.
- c) Details about village general body meetings.

8.

- a) Public meetings organized by the state committee.
- b) Public meetings organized at the district and local level during 2018 & 2019.

9. Publications

- a) Any monthly or bi-monthly published at the state level?
- b) Any leaflets published.

10. Age Group

(i) State Committee members

- a) Number of members below 40 years
- b) Between 40 and 60 years
- c) Above 60 years.
- d) Men/Women

(ii) District Committee members

- a) Number of members below 40 years
- b) Between 40 and 60 years
- c) Above 60 years.
- d) Men/Women

11. Wholetimers

- a) Number of wholetimers at state, district and lower levels
- b) Their wages
- c) Men/Women

12. Financial statement of the state committee

13. **Efforts to educate the cadres**

- a) Number of classes conducted at the state, district and lower levels.
- b) Number of cadres attended.

14.

- a) Whether tribals are part of the Kisan Sabha or separately organized.
- b) If separately organized, are they affiliated to Kisan Sabha?

15. **Office functioning**

Whether Kisan Sabha has separate office at the state, district and lower levels?

18. Any other important issue to be noted.

End