

# **Nationwide political campaign from April 14 to May 15, 2023**

## **Defeat BJP- Save the Nation and People**

**D. RAJA, General Secretary**

**Dear Comrades,**

Ever since its formation in 1925, Communist Party of India has remained at the forefront of peoples' struggles for a better life. The CPI is second to none when it comes at making sacrifices for the people and the country. In our glorious history, our Party has given voice to the exploited, marginalized and discriminated sections of the society and significantly shaped national agenda positively. Our struggles have resulted in major victories for all sections of the society. CPI's contribution is indelible whether we think of hard-earned labor rights or entitlements for farmers. Our history is truly inspiring and rich with the blood of martyrs who made supreme sacrifices for the people and society.

In the present times, we are facing a new and unprecedented political situation where there is a question mark on the very survival of democracy in our country. A regime controlled by the divisive agenda of the RSS is in power in the Union and in several states. This ideology is destroying everything that our freedom movement stood for. Core values of our Republic like Secularism and Socialism are being trampled on since RSS sponsored Hindutva narrative has gripped our country. Caste atrocities are on the rise under the Manuwadi order and discrimination with historically marginalized sections has become institutional. Crony capitalism is eating into the precious resources of our country ably abetted by the government.

In this scenario, the political campaign proposed by the National Council of the CPI from 14<sup>th</sup> April to 15<sup>th</sup> May becomes important and critical for further the cause of the people and to protect democratic rights. In the Political Resolution adopted by the 24<sup>th</sup> Party Congress of CPI held in Vijayawada in October 2022, we identified "public health, public education, land, housing, employment and food security as the fundamental demands of our agenda." Our political campaign must highlight the failure of the government in providing the very basic amenities for citizens. We must mobilize people around these demands and put them forth effectively.

April 14 is birth anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar — the prime architect of our Constitution who fought for social justice and for annihilation of caste throughout his life. May 1 is the day of celebration by the working people all over the world. Our Party should propagate and mobilise the people to fight for social justice and socialism.

Our campaign must also deal with the issues that have surfaced recently at the national and regional level. The Hindenburg Research report on the malpractices in Adani Group of Companies has created a furor and has brought the cronyism of the Modi Government to the fore. Government's refusal in constituting a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) to probe the irregularities is itself evidence of complicity. In the given composition of the Parliament, it would be the BJP that will have the majority in the JPC, still they are afraid of probing the matter is clearly indicative that there are many skeletons in the BJP's closet of crony capitalism. Our campaign must take this issue to the people.

Another angle of this issue is the rampant and institutionalized corruption that is taking place at the top. National assets built with the hard work and contribution of our citizens is being sold to a select few at throw away prices while the BJP makes money through electoral bonds. Almost all the sectors of the economy are being privatized with no concern of how this will affect the people. Financial integrity and independence of time-tested institutions like the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and the State Bank of India (SBI) are being threatened by their exposure to cronies. The money with these institutions is of the people and instead of financing public goods, they are being used by the BJP's nexus with a few capitalists to their advantage. Common people of the country are being betrayed when their hard-earned savings end up filling the coffers of corrupt capitalists while they reel under inflation. Our campaign must expose this and unite the people in opposition to these practices.

BJP came to power through electoral means but the fountain head of its ideology, the RSS, is anti-democracy since its inception. Under the influence of the RSS ideology, the government itself is engaging and promoting practices that are anti-democratic in nature. Civil rights of the people are being regularly flouted and the constitutional structure of our Republic is regularly tampered with. Parliament is being made redundant by abusing the parliamentary majority and any opposition is dubbed as anti-national. The media has been made compliant and they toe the government's line and tarnish the opposition. Independence of the judiciary is being challenged regularly by the executive. Party must take these issues to the people as part of our political campaign, along with the appeal of uniting all secular-democratic forces to protect our country from the assault of crony-Hindutva forces.

The conviction and disqualification of Congress MP Rahul Gandhi has raised several critical questions concerning the future of Democracy, freedom to express dissent and survival of Constitutional Institutions. This shows the sinister design of BJP-RSS combine to intimidate the Opposition and establish an authoritarian fascist regime.

Our political campaign on these and many other issues can take diverse forms including primarily the pada-yatras all over the districts. Distribution of

pamphlets explaining our agenda and exposing the rot in the RSS-BJP regime in all languages must be distributed and social media should be effectively utilized to reach more people, especially the younger generations. Events highlighting communal harmony, shared history and the need to unite the society against all sorts of divisions must be taken up in coordination with our class, mass and cultural fronts. Forging a principled, ideological unity of all secular-democratic forces should be one important pillar of our campaign. We must understand that only the Left can challenge the RSS-BJP ideologically and present a pro-people alternative to the people, our political campaign should successfully convey this to the people.

The general election to the Parliament in 2024 is very crucial in the history of our country. Prior to this there are elections to the State Legislative Assemblies in several States. The schedule for Karnataka state assembly elections has been announced. People of Karnataka are going to vote on May 10, 2023. Karnataka is considered to be the gate way for BJP to South. In all these elections BJP needs to be defeated in order to save the Nation, the Constitution and the Democracy.

Our glorious history of struggle and sacrifices has made us an integral part of the democratic setup in our country. At this critical juncture, it is the historical responsibility of the Left to lead the fight to protect our country, our constitution and the vulnerable from the divisive and exploitative order of the RSS-BJP. The Red Flag has always been with the common people. Our political campaign will be successful if it will reach the people of the country with our alternative agenda.

A strengthened CPI is the need of the hour, let struggles make the Party stronger to take up the challenges of the communal fascist forces.