

# Resolutely Take the Path of People's War Pointed Out by Chairman Mao

— Report on the peasants' armed struggle by the Srikakulam District Committee of the Indian Communist revolutionaries in Andhra Pradesh

THE monthly *Liberation* published in its May issue a report on the peasants' armed struggle by the Srikakulam District Committee of the Indian Communist revolutionaries in Andhra Pradesh. The report calls on the Indian revolutionaries and the people to resolutely take the path of people's war pointed out by Chairman Mao, arouse the peasants, unfold guerrilla warfare, establish rural revolutionary bases and finally seize the cities to accomplish the national-democratic revolution.

The report points out: Today we are in the midst of armed struggle. The path we follow is that of people's war. The method we adopt at present is that of guerrilla struggle. We know that the building up of revolutionary rural base areas and the seizure of towns at the end are the primary tasks to be achieved through

people's war. We can raise the consciousness of the peasants only by intensifying armed class struggle in villages and thereby annihilating the class enemies. This method of people's war is necessarily applicable against the ruling classes in all semi-colonial and semi-feudal countries, especially those of Asia, Africa and Latin America. This method of protracted armed struggle was first victorious in semi-colonial and semi-feudal China. It is Chairman Mao who mapped out this revolutionary path of people's war. There is none other than the path of people's war indicated by Chairman Mao. Since the victory of people's war in China, people in the Asian, African and Latin American countries firmly believe that it is only people's war that is to be adopted in these countries for their liberation. The material conditions in these countries also make the people realize this truth. Today, guerrilla

struggles on the lines of people's war based on Chairman Mao's thought are getting intensified in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The walls built up by the imperialists, revisionists and reactionaries in these countries are cracking. The present era is most favourable to the people's revolutions in oppressed countries. In these conditions any single spark anywhere against the reactionary ruling classes will start a prairie fire and all the reactionary ruling classes will be consumed by that fire. So it is the central task of a revolutionary Party and individual to make conditions suitable for the kindling of that spark.

The report points out: India is a semi-colonial and semi-feudal country. People's war is inevitable in this country and it has already started: the armed struggle that raged in Naxalbari in 1967 inaugurated the people's war. Among many contradictions in our country the one between the feudal landlords and the peasantry is most acute, and this is no doubt the principal contradiction today. Only by resolving this contradiction can we advance towards a bright future. This contradiction can be resolved through the revolutionary armed struggle of the peasantry under the leadership of the proletariat. That means, we are in the stage of democratic revolution. We have to complete the stage of democratic revolution through peasant revolution headed by the proletariat. This is the immediate task before us in this country.

The report says: Firmly believing in Chairman Mao's dictum "**political power grows out of the barrel of a gun,**" we decided that the struggle for seizure of political power is possible only by taking firm hold of the gun. In a leaflet we appealed to the people "to support the peasant struggle, to build up rural revolutionary base areas" and declared that the Communist Party with the help of other progressive forces will do its best to make the peasant revolution a success and that the district peasantry have taken up Chairman Mao's thought as their guide.

The report calls for the deep-going study of Marxism-Leninism. Especially, it says, one should never forget the study and application of the thought of Chairman Mao.

The report says: People, mainly peasants, have risen like a storm and it is now blowing like a whirlwind. We have to take this forward through to the end. We have to continue the class struggle on guerrilla lines in a much bigger way. The District Committee firmly believes that our cadres and members will carry out this task with discipline. It also believes that they will lead the fighting people in annihilating the enemies with death-defying spirit.

But now the situation is different, the report says. Militant peasants from the villages are coming forward with great enthusiasm to join the guerrilla squads. The number of squads which are quite active is increasing day by day. We have made many new changes in the organization of squads. After our taking up the gun there was great enthusiasm among the people. On December 20, 1968, in the Balleruguda struggle of Aviri area, the victories achieved by the people roused great enthusiasm in all the nooks and corners of the agency. It also roused the fighting spirit of the cadres.

On December 20, 1968, the police entered the Aviri area to make raids. The resistance put up by the people shook the whole mountains.

The report says: After our taking up the gun and giving the call for people's war the hearts of the police in the agency area trembled. When the police began to die in the hands of the guerrillas the morale of the police was shattered. Hearing the roar of the guns midway the police become nervous. They feel afraid whenever they have to travel along village routes. Unlike on the previous occasion, the police are not able to go for searches in groups of twenty or twenty-five. The truth of Chairman Mao's saying that all reactionaries in the world are paper tigers is proved to us within a short span of time. Yet the enemy may concentrate its big forces and try to attack us. Our cadres and people should develop such mental calibre as to face the difficulties with undaunted courage and learn such tactics as to beat back the enemy's offensive on the lines of protracted war from now onward.

The report says: The present conditions are very hopeful for carrying our struggle forward. We have reviewed our movement, the present situation and the conditions we faced before and during the struggle. Basing on this, we formulate our tactics of struggle and advance along the path of struggle. We achieved many victories within a very short period of time. Let us be prepared for more arduous struggles in the future. In this context all of us must make efforts to help every Party member and cadre to observe discipline, make sacrifice and stand firm.

In conclusion, the report says: We place tremendous confidence in our nation. This nation following the thought of Mao Tsetung has begun its struggle against the reactionary ruling classes. We must remember that we have become participants in this great struggle. Whether we live or die, it must be for the people, revolution is our ultimate goal. There is nothing greater in life than this. Let us build up a revolutionary base area. Let us build up the people's army, because "**without a people's army the people have nothing**" as Chairman Mao said.