

1951 MAY CPI CENTRAL COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ON TELANGANA

(Retranslated from Telugu)

(Note: Some papers and some persons are propagating that the Central Committee in its resolution has denounced the Telangana people's movement as terrorism and anarchist. If one goes through the resolution, it becomes crystal clear that this propaganda is utterly baseless and slanderous. We are releasing the full text of the C. C. resolution, to clear the confusion that is being created among the people by the propaganda being indulged in by some newspapers and some persons. – Andhra Provincial Committee)

In the Party, as well as in certain circles which are friendly to the Telangana peasants' struggle, there have arisen certain doubts and questions about the policies and methods that have been adopted during these five years of struggle or are to be adopted.

The Central Committee considers that it is the right and duty of Party units and Party members from all over India to make their suggestions to the Central Committee about the policies, tactics and methods to be adopted in the Telangana struggle. But the Central Committee wants to emphatically state that it is mainly the people, the people of Telangana, who started this glorious struggle against feudal exploitation, for land and freedom, who carried on this struggle facing untold sufferings, that have mainly to decide these issues. The Communist Party of India is proud to declare that it is standing hand in hand with the Telangana people who were heroically carrying on the fight against exploitation and that the Party is leading this struggle. The Communist Party, unlike the Congress party, is not a party that, irrespective of people's opinions and close cooperation and consent, can initiate any struggle, or continue, restrict or withdraw it.

During the last three years, all progressive forces in our country have realised that the boastful claims that the Indian Union army's action was intended only to end the hated Nizam's feudal rule and to usher in democratic rule, are utterly false. Through hundreds of meetings, demonstrations, memoranda, they demanded and forced the Government to stay the hangings of the 12 Telangana heroes and commute their death sentences. The selfish reactionaries who were behind the Indian Government, were effectively able to prevent land reforms being enacted, abolishing feudal landlordism, giving land to the tiller and thus solving the people's food problem.

In this situation, to defend the Telangana people's movement; to defend the land in the possession of the lakhs of agricultural labourers and the peasants; to defend their right to reduced rates of interest and of rent; to defend their freedom from forced labour and forced levies—all these won by their heroic struggles—is the real way for achieving agrarian reforms, and not by giving paper promises.

At the same time, the Central Committee declares that it is ready to arrive at an agreement through negotiations, to solve this problem, to safeguard and to defend the interests of the people and of the peasants of Telangana, and to restore peaceful conditions.

Some circles believe that the Telangana struggle was being carried on to overthrow the Nehru Government. But these circles forget that the Telangana peasantry, as early as in 1946, long before the Nehru Government was established, was carrying on a struggle against the Nizam and feudal landlord exploitation. The Nehru Government armies, which entered on the plea of ending Nizam's rule, joined hand-in-glove with the Nizam, and brought back the landlords. The same struggle in defence of the peasants' interests against the landlords is being carried on even after the establishment of the Nehru's Government. So it is necessary to clarify that the Telangana struggle was not started, nor is it being continued, to overthrow Nehru's Government but only to end the feudal exploitation. Everybody desiring progressive development of the country agrees that it is necessary to

struggle to end feudal landlord exploitation. Because it is on the success of that struggle that everyone can be assured of his daily food, daily work for livelihood, progress and freedom.

Keeping this in view, (1) the Central Committee directs the Polit Bureau to review the Telangana problem and adopt all ways and measures to make the Telangana struggle successful.

2) It appeals to all Party members and Party units to popularise the demands of the Telangana peasants and to mobilise the people, workers and peasants, against the atrocities and repression that are rampant in Telangana.

3) It appeals to all democratic forces and elements to raise their voice and to defend the Telangana people from the military attacks and atrocities.

4) It appeals to all to mobilise the people in support of the following demands of the Telangana peasants:

DEMANDS

–All the lands that are being cultivated by the agricultural labourers and the peasants must not be disturbed and their possession by ownership (patta) rights must be confirmed. No peasant and agricultural labourer cultivating land should be evicted from the land he has been cultivating. The lands forcibly seized from the peasants should be restored to them.

–People living in the forest areas must be free to utilise the forest produce, freely, for their own personal use and for sale. They must be allowed to freely cultivate the lands in the forests, under the supervision of their elected panchayats.

–All village affairs should be conducted by the panchayats elected by all men and women.

–Withdrawal of all the armed personnel and disbanding of the Home-Guards.

–Release of the convicted and detained political prisoners, all those connected with the Telangana movement. Withdrawal of all pending cases and warrants. Cancellation of all collective fines.

–Withdrawal of the ban on the Andhra Mahasabha and the Communist Party. Restoration of civil liberties.

–The question of abolishing the Nizam dynasty's rule as well as the Hyderabad state, and its merger into the united Andhra, Maharashtra and Karnataka linguistic states, to be left to be decided by a Constituent Assembly elected by adult franchise of the people of Hyderabad state.

(From P. SUNDARAYYA's *TELANGANA PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE AND ITS LESSONS*)