

Report On Srikakulam

FROM A CORRESPONDENT

THE Regional Communist Committee (Marxist-Leninist), Srikakulam, issued a document in November 1970 which (a) traces the history of the movement in Srikakulam and (b) contains a list of specific tasks to be carried out. The document says that on 3-11-70 *Andhra Patrika*, a bourgeois paper, carried the story that "the Naxalite leadership is now willing to give up the struggle if the Government agrees to constitute a separate hills district (within Srikakulam i.e. the Agency part of it) and announces a general amnesty." This document may be taken as a denial of the newspaper report and as a general call for the mobilisation of all revolutionary forces to continue the struggle.

In the first part i.e. the history of the movement, it is stated:

Two years ago the Girijan peasantry of the Agency had started a struggle for the capture of political power armed with Mao Tse-tung Thought. This struggle immediately spread to other parts of the district and as a result many class enemies fled the villages to hide in towns. The movement subsequently spread to other parts of the country as well. The peasantry won many victories but the ruling class through its police and the army unleashed terror on an unprecedented scale: they burnt villages, they tortured people in various ways. The heroes caught by the police were put in concentration camps. Comrades Appalaturi and Tejeswara Rao were among those who were subjected to such brutal treatment, but they refused to divulge a single secret. Nor did the struggle discontinue; the people gave shelter to the fighters. Even today the people are prepared to make more sacrifices; they are now our allies in the struggle.

We have also had our losses but these are temporary. The power of the people can never be vanquished. Our setbacks are the result of tacti-

cal errors. We learn by our mistakes. The Government, on its part, tried to put an end to the struggle by other means: nationalisation of banks, sanction of new projects, financial schemes that are supposed to help the poor and so on. But the truth is that none of these schemes will improve the lot of the poor peasants. This is a standard trick of the ruling class; whenever the revolutionary peasants begin to intensify their struggle the Government promptly announces various economic measures. But the fact is that although our district is rich in resources, the people are desperately poor. On the other hand the rich become richer, aided by the ruling class.

Bobbli Raja has made lakhs of rupees through many corrupt practices like blackmarketing, counterfeiting etc. He was an open supporter of the British but today he passes off as a *Desa Bhakta*. Boddepalli Rajagopala Rao is another blackmarketeer who operates on an international scale. He has murdered many poor peasants in their homes. Gorrela Srivamulu Naidu is an exploiter of the coastal region, who has murdered many people. He is known as Ravana in this region. Majji Tulasi Das was originally a rich peasant. After exploiting the poor continuously for 23 years he is now a big landlord. The people know that these murderers are instigating the police to torture the revolutionaries. There is no doubt that they will be reduced to ashes.

Today the police are indulging in acts of fascist terror, despite the socialist veil of Indira. They have killed and maimed many of our comrades. Vempatapu Satyanarayana, Panchadri Krishnamurthy, Adibhatla Kailasam, Dr Chaganti Bhaskara Rao, Tamada Ganapati, Subbarao Panigrahi, Dr Devineni Mallikharjunudu, Ramesh Chandra Sahu, Panchadri Nirmala, M. V. Ramana Murty,

Reddy Appalawami Naidu were among those revolutionary heroes killed.

But the struggle will continue. A protracted war to achieve victory will be waged.

The portion dealing with the tasks for the future states:

"We have gained a lot of experience in the last two years. We have made some tactical errors. We are trying to rectify these mistakes. It is right to regard the enemy with contempt; our tactical line also reflects this. We act accordingly, taking into consideration the objective political and social conditions that prevail. We have decided to mobilise people under the leadership of the CPI(ML) for fighting all kinds of exploitation. Appropriation of excess land and land illegally occupied by the landlords, refusal to pay interest on usurious loans, appropriation of stocks of grain held by landlords and selling such grain at fair prices, refusal to pay the so-called dues being collected by the revenue officials of the Forest Department—these are some of the issues on which the people should fight. The struggle should intensify in those areas where it already exists and we should also attempt to extend it to new areas. People should be mobilised to appropriate the present harvest.

"Our class enemies are doing all kinds of false propaganda to discourage people. In the bourgeois papers and over the radio the story is spread that the movement is finished, the leadership killed and most of the squads caught. They say that the struggle has ended in the Agency and that there are only a few fighters left in the Sompeta area. This is totally false. We have elected a new leadership and all our squads are as strong as ever.

"The Indian Revolution is a part of the struggle of the people the world over against the forces of reaction."

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