

# **MARXIST LENINIST PARTY OF INDIA (RED FLAG)**

## **CENTRALCOMMITTEE**

**Cochin, 2nd February 2022**

### **AN ANTI-PEOPLE CORPORATIST BUDGET**

The Union Budget 2022-23 is envisaged to be an instrument at hand for the Monopoly Capitalist forces who increasingly collaborate with International Finance Capital day by day. Its aggressive privatisation programme, pro-rich tax policy and the intent for ppp oriented future investment designs comprehensively serve the unfolding regime of the Monopoly Capitalist houses / corporates. The budget's intent is to unmake the republic by slaughtering the LIC which is the master pillar of the financial self reliance and the economic sovereignty of our nation. It is a clear indication of the final assault upon the core PSUs including even the SBI in not so far future.

The budget has totally discarded the vast majority of the people particularly the downtrodden and toiling masses by cuts in every kind of subsidy and vital welfare expenditure. It has callously denied provisions for healthcare in the face of the raging third wave of the pandemic denying a duty-bound assessment of loss of lives and deterioration of public health as was evident right from the economic survey itself. Further, reduced food subsidy from 2,86,219 crores to 2,06,481 crores, jeopardising food security. Along with this, about 60 lakh MSMEs were closed down and 84 per cent of households have suffered a loss of income dipping the social life index is showing a bleak picture as the per capita income has declined from Rs 1,08,645 in 2019-20 to Rs 1,07,801 in 2021-22 and per capita expenditure has declined from Rs 62,056 in 2019-20 to Rs 59,043 in 2021-22. An estimated 4.6 crore people have been pushed into extreme poverty. So, the claim of a robust growth rate, that is made to create the presumption that a full throttled recovery is on, is bogus as it is clear from the facts and figures. The economy still has not reached the pre-pandemic levels. Hence a detailed and expansive plan to help the betterment of demand until it reaches a steady level is vital to revamp the economy and social life. Immediate cash transfer of at least Rs10000/-, urban employment guarantee scheme and additional allocation for pandemic eradication - rehabilitation programme are the essential lifeline provisions. This is exactly what the budget is lacking.

Instead of helping the people to surpass the ordeal, the budget has rubbed salt in the wound of the working class and the peasantry by promising the bourgeoisie that the labour code will stay and new laws for SEZs will be introduced. The Modi government has blatantly cheated the peasantry, annulling all its promises to the Samyuktha Kisan Morcha as evident from this budget which has slashed allocation for MSP from 2.43lakh crores to 2.37lakh crores, slashed the subsidies for fertilisers from 1,40,000 crores to 1,05,000 crores and, at the same time, has enthused the real estate business by providing a 'one land one registration' policy. It has declared its aim to create new cities and towns to host new generation businesses and havens for ' technological advancements'. It means that it kick-starts a policy of unabated urbanisation without addressing the socio-political maladies that the already escalated urbanisation has created. The allocation for MGNREGA scheme has been slashed and the government has turned deaf ear to the plea for Urban Employment Guarantee scheme. No effective plan and allocation is provided to address the escalating rate of unemployment that is in a race to reach at double digit as the urban unemployment rate has reached 8.2% while the Rural unemployment rate is 5.8%. The WPI Inflation is estimated at 12 per cent and CPI inflation at 5.3 per cent. In effect, by increasing taxes of the non-ethanol-mixed fuels, the budget is going to increase price rise and inflation further.

The infrastructure build up and arraying of related big business listed as "seven engine gatishakti" is the grand plan for accelerated programme of privatisation. This move is to redefine the government's capital investment expenditure tailoring it to suit and be servile to the monopoly capital investments. This means that the kind of the PSUs that India created to build the republic is gone with the wind. Similarly, the inauguration of a new defence industry complex that is envisaged to be a fiefdom for private investors who collaborate with US-Israel like imperialist arms business hubs is the strategic shift from the state-owned defence manufacture regime to a state assisted capitalist arms production regime.

In nutshell, even in the face of elections to the state legislatures, the Modi government has nakedly expressed its betrayal of the people and open collusion with and subservience to the Monopoly Capitalist block that is being interpenetrated with the international Finance Capital. We call upon the working class, peasantry and all the toiling masses; the progressive, democratic and patriotic sections of the people of India to rally and protest against this anti-people pro-corporate budget, which is the express implementation of fascist corporatism in a neo-classical way, and to resist the degenerative move to unmake the republic.

(Signed)  
**MS Jayakumar,**  
**General Secretary.**