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LAND REFORM CONVENTION IN HARYANA

30 July (989)

About ADD-450 activists of the two Kisan Sabhas and two agricultural labour organisations coming from to out of 12 districts of Haryana, attended a united convention on Land Reforms held in the hall attached to stadium in JINDM 30 M Duly 89.

(Accy Shawan)

Yella-Manda Reddy, President Bhartiya Khat Mazdoor Union and P.K. Tandon joint Secretary, All India Kisan Sabha (Feroze Shah Road) represented the Coordination Committee of Left Led Peasant and Agricultural Labour Organisations that is leading the joint struggle for Land Reforms in the country.

A Presiduim comprising of State Presidents of the two All India Kisan Sabhas, 8KMU and AIAWU president over the convention, while Prithivi Singh Gorakhpuria, Secretary Haryana State Kisan Sabha conducted the proceedings.

Inaugurating the Convention YellarManda Ready pointed out that Mahalanobis Committee in 1969 had astimated the surplus often a 20 acreper faimly to be of the onder of 63 Million acres and a NSS survey in 1971-72 had estimated it to be about 21.5 Million acres but only 75 lakh acres have been declared surplus and 45 lakh acres have actually been distributed. No lane distribution has actually taken place in Haryana although a law has been passed.

Militant struggles are going on for land. In challapalli
3000 acres were occupied and distributed in Bihar and Karnataka land
has been occupied and we are demanding pattas.

About 25 crore acres of land including cailing surplus, govet. wastaland and forast land can be distributed.

Land is often allotted but actual possession is not given. Only under left front government of West Bengal, Kerala and Tripura land-land reforms have been seriously implemented. Jantaval and TDP govet. are following the same path as congress-I Governments.

Hence we should identify and locate land and work out a plan of action to achieve victory and get land. He expressed the hope that the convention will adopt a plan of action for this purpose.

Prithivi Singh moved a condolence resolution on the death of leaders of peasant and workers' movement all over the world and in India for those who died facing terrorist and secessionist elements.

Sat Pal Singh, General Secretary Haryana State Kisan Sabha

The resolution decibing Land Reform as one of the main demands of the freedom struggle gave details about the fake reforms that have been implemented in Happana; Land has been allotted, but possession not given. Wagfis and temples are holding huge announts of the land with tenents having no secure rights. Custodian of evacuee property owns land which has been allotted to Harijas who are in Government service and not to actual landless. Abadkars coming from Pakistan were allotted land more than forty years back they improved it, built houses on it but this land is being auctioned and government is asking Abadkars to pay heavy amounts to get ownership rights and those refusing to pay are being threatened with evictions. A loot of land by relatives of Congress-I leaders, senior Police & administrative of Ficers.

The Resolution raised the following demands-

- 1- Evictions of all types be ended and unrecorded tenants be recorded.
- 2- Loopholes in Ceiling laws be plugged, the entire surplus land be taken over for distribution amongst allottee tenants. All those continuing to illegally occupying surplus land be fine & 3000 per acre per year of occupation.
- 3- Cailing laws be applied to land owned by religious institutions, and tenants cultivating this land be granted security of tenure.
- 4- Abackars Patta Holders should not be evicted and land upto 10 acres be settled with each Abackar.
- 5- The white wasteland, uncultivated wasteland, Shodan land and land under Custodian by allotted to landless agricultural labour Pattas be given on Panchayat lands, upto 5 acres per faimly to agricultural labourers and poor peasants.
- 6- The community owner land should now after the supreme Court judgement be returned back to Panchayats.
- 7- Cheep rural credit be made available to poor peasants and tenants to whom land is allotted so that they may a carry on utilisation.

 These loans should not bear more than 4 percent interest.
- 8- Enquiry should be ordered into cases of bye passing ceiling laws through Benami transfers and false mocuments.

Satpal Singh gave setails about situation in Morana village in Jins district where actual possession is being denied tohundreds of allottee families same is the case in village Keithal in Khu Kurukshetra district.

Krishna Swaroop joint secretary state kisan Sabha (Feroze Shah Road) supported the resolution. He gave a short report of victory in land struggles in Golli. Kallar Bhani and over Faridkot land.

Adressing the convention CPI leaders Makhan Singh, said that while big princes have gone, found remmants still remain. Battle

Conted /3/

against them will not be easy, the named several Congress leaders who holds hundreds or thousands of acres by epassing calling law.

The problem is not only economickut also political and social, It is a battle for justiced for which a proper front of all peasants must be formed.

Ex. M.P. Bhan Singh Bhaura said that land ean not be given to poor peasants and agricultural labourers, but con by exchanged between landlords. He referred to land struggle against PEPSU landlords and in U.P.He also gave details about 1970 land grab struggle. Those wwwere saying that there is no land had to admit that there is land. He suggested that after making organisational preparations determined squatting should be organisad on identified land.

An independent leader of Backward classes of Haryana Ram Chandr. Jangra said that Congress-I could not solve land problems in 42 years. How can Janta lovernment solve it in a short time Due to this failure illusions are being agains and created that if Congress comes to power land will be distributed. He referred to the situation in a Willage where Harijans are not being given land to construct a Ravidas Temple.

In all 23 comrades participated in the debate. They gave details about the magner in which land reforms has been implemented and expressed their determination to expose every failure and organise struggles for the ending of injustice. They also emphasised that land to the tiller is not demanding gifts or also but a right of those who works on land.

Prominent among these speakers were Sube Singh Vice Presedent State Kisan Sabha, Raghubir Singh Secretary State CPI, Om Prakash Puri Secretary State BKMU and Dharam Pal Singh Secretary State AIAWU.

In between the discussion resolutions were passed against activities of communal forces and supporting the call for observing Bharat Bachao Day on 9th. August and Bharat Bandh on 30th. August. A resolution on Indebtedness demanding cancellation of all webts up to & 10000 of poor peasants and agricultural workers.

These resolutions along with the main resolution on Demands for land reform were adopted unanimously.

Giving his concluding speech P.K. Tandon congratulated the organisers for such a successful convention on land reforms. Only a decade back nobody could think that land question can be raised in Haryana. It is a great event that possents are supporting the demand for land distribution and agricultural workers are supporting demand for remunerative prices. A new unity of peasants and agricultural workers

is coming into existence and now united peasantry would join the common struggle to oust the Rajiv Ganchi Government as they once joined the fractom struggle in the hope that fractom would mean and of oppressive system of zamindari and Jagirdari. He called upon the delegates to expose every act of illegal possession or refusal of distribution of land to landless. The land belongs to those who till and the m class which has so far denied them its ownership is now ruling the country along with capitalists. The se struggle for lands is a struggle against Rajiv Ganchi government which represents bourgmois landlors alliance.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by Prakash Chandra leaders of Jins unit of All India Kisan Sabha.

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