

Violence continues and tension still prevails in the whole of Brahmaputra valley. Though there is a little improvement in the overall law and order situation and some measures taken yet the situation is nowhere near normal. In spite of recent postponement of agitational programme and controversies within the chauvinist leadership, there is no reason to believe that fresh programmes will not be taken. Hindu communalists are out to capture the agitation leadership and turn the tide into a solely anti-Muslim violence. Cong(I) on the other hand is trying to meet it with counter communalism.

It is true that we could not anticipate the full extent of violence let loose by the chauvinists during the recent elections. The violence became possible on account of direct police and bureaucratic participation and encouragement. We failed to anticipate this full-fledged participation. This problem of evaluation arose from the fact that the PC underestimated the intensity of the contradictions within the Indian ruling class sections. It was assumed that the opposition bourgeoisie would not go so far as to encourage the state's bureaucracy to openly defy and challenge the state apparatus as a whole. But that is precisely what the overwhelming sections of the opposition bourgeoisie have done. Even they themselves are now awed with the outcome of their encouragement after the recent holocaust and trying to modify their ways and means, as can be seen in their recent moves. This encouragement emboldened the chauvinists to make the passage to the limits of communal violence. This violence has exposed the true nature of the chauvinists and their power moorings and has aroused a resistance against them which will carry Assam out of the long drawn-out night of chauvinism. Thousands of lives lost, lakhs made homeless, many more consumed by communal frenzy etc. are the negative sides of the situation. But the development of resistance against chauvinism inspired by the martyrs, the best sons and daughters of Assam, is the principal positive theme which will grow in strength and ultimately triumph. Our identification with the resistance, even in the midst of carnage is absolutely correct and just. But our mis-judgement on the extent of violence led us into inadequate preparations to meet it. This was a serious error. In several places, many lives could be saved from chauvinist violence if we could prepare ourselves in the scale that was necessary.

On the question of taking initiative to settle the foreign nationals issue and diffuse tension, the PC after long discussion accepts unanimously the proposal and analysis on Assam put forward by the PB and the editorial in the February issue of FND (See editorial Srenee Sangram 7th April '83). The gist of the PB proposal is that the centre should invite all political parties and organisations representing all sections of people in the state and the agitation leadership for an immediate negotiated settlement of the issue. All political parties in Assam are agreed that the border ought to be properly sealed and all those who have come to India after 1971 (i.e. those whose migration have not been regularised by law, national commitment or international agreement) should be identified as illegal migrants i.e. foreigners. Our view is that those post 71 migrants from Bangladesh are Bengali Hindus, who have fled sporadic communal violence these people should not be forced back into Bangladesh on humanitarian ground. Those who have been living in Assam for five years or more and are thus entitled to citizenship, should be identified and disenfranchised. They can gain full citizenship rights as and when they receive citizenship papers. The others should be identified, disenfranchised and properly rehabilitated outside Assam as part of the moral responsibilities of ~~xxxxxx~~ partition.

We do not believe that there has been a serious influx of Muslim population ~~in xxxxxx~~ from Pakistan or Bangladesh in post independence years. The percentage of Muslim population remains almost stationary over the decades as can be seen from the census figures.

To allay the fears of the Assamese (unfounded but established through continuous propaganda) that their identity and growth is at
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