



COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST) CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Press Statement

Red Salutes to Comrade Arvind, one of the Leaders of the Indian Revolution and Politburo Member of CPI(Maoist)!

4 May 2018

Comrade Arvind (Sujit, Nishant), one of the leaders of the Indian revolution and member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of CPI(Maoist), breathed his last in the third week of March 2018 after prolonged illness. He was 65.

Comrade Arvind was born in a middle peasant family of Jehanabad district in Bihar. He completed his B.Sc. in Patna. He joined and actively participated in the student and youth movement that had erupted on the scene during his graduation days. In this course he was attracted to revolutionary politics. He joined with some other communists and formed Communist Krantikari Sangathan (CKS). They merged with the erstwhile CPI(M-L)(PU) and developed as one of its Central Committee (CC) members. After the merger of CPI(M-L)(PW) and CPI(M-L)(PU), he worked as a CC member of the united CPI(M-L)[PW]. Following the merger of CPI(M-L)[PW] and MCCI, he worked as a member of the CC and the Central Military Commission (CMC) of the unified CPI(Maoist). In the fourth meeting of the CC held in 2013, he was co-opted as a Politburo member. He worked in this capacity till he was martyred due to heart attack after suffering from Diabetes and Blood Pressure for a long time. The CC, CPI(Maoist), pays its humble red homage to Comrade Arvind and takes pledge to continue the fight to fulfil his aspirations till the last breath. Our CC shares the grief of his family and friends and conveys them its heartfelt condolences.

The life of Comrade Arvind from the time of coming to politics in 1973-74 till his martyrdom has been full of struggle. In every step, every turn and every moment he remained on the side of progressive and revolutionary change. His four-decade long revolutionary life was inseparably connected to the revolutionary movement of Bihar and the Indian revolution and brought several experiences. His political life cannot be seen in isolation from the contemporary political situation, class struggle, mobilisation of lakhs of people in anti-feudal struggles, the strategy and tactics as formulated and applied in his area and field of work, state and Regional Bureau, his many struggles for the correct line and against the incorrect line, and the expansion of the revolutionary movement from smaller areas to vast rural and strategic areas.

From democratic politics to revolutionary politics: Many people's movements erupted in the first half of the 1970s against the autocratic rule of Indira Gandhi government – a representative of the exploitative ruling classes. Lakhs of students and youths participated in these struggles militantly. Comrade participated in these movements as an energetic activist. There was a great impact of the Naxalbari peasant movement throughout the country in those days. At that time, there was also quite a good impact of Comrade Jowhar who was martyred as the Secretary of the State Committee of CPI(ML) in the course of leading the historic Bhojpur armed agrarian struggle by upholding Comrade CM's line. People like Comrade Arvind came into revolutionary politics under the influence of these two factors by holding high the line of Comrade CM and keeping faith in it. He and some other comrades formed the Communist Krantikari Sangathan (CKS) during 1977-79 with an attitude of rectifying the errors that had cropped up in that line. This was the first step in Comrade's Arvind's political life.

As a leader of the armed agrarian revolutionary movement: Communist revolutionaries in their hundreds came out of jail throughout the country after the lifting of the Emergency. Some comrades under the leadership of Comrade Narayan Sanyal and others formed CPI(M-L)(Party Unity) in

November 1978 with the single agenda of uniting all the genuine revolutionaries. One group of CKS under the leadership of Comrade Arvind established contact with Comrade Narayan Sanyal-led CPI(M-L)(PU). These two groups merged in 1980 to form CPI(M-L)(Unity Organisation). It became CPI(M-L)(PU) after the inclusion of some more revolutionaries from Punjab in January 1982. This was the second step in Comrade Arvind's revolutionary life.

After Comrade Arvind joined the revolutionary party through efforts for upholding the correct line, it helped to initiate and develop anti-feudal and armed agrarian revolutionary struggle in Jehanabad, Aurangabad and Patna districts of his own Magadh region. In the state of Bihar which was known as a fortress of feudalism, the movement against cruel feudal lords and their private armies like Bhumi Sena erupted as a mighty tide through the mobilisation of lakhs of peasants. Mazdoor Kisan Sangharsh Samiti (MKSS) and Comrade Arvind as its leader played the main role in this. He was a great agitator. He had a feel for the pulse of the masses and could rouse them through his speeches. He inspired thousands of peasants to join militant struggles. He led them in chasing the landlords out of the villages and punishing their private armies by carrying out armed attacks on them. In this way, he earned the trust of the peasants as a capable peasant leader. His role was also significant in successfully carrying out resistance actions against the feudal private armies and seizing arms from them by mobilising the Dalits in retaliation against the massacre of Dalits by Upper Caste feudal armies in Magadh region. This movement expanded to the adjacent areas and 6-7 districts like Palamu of Koel-Kaimur area. The base of the feudal forces was shaken with the expansion and development of the revolutionary movement. The authority of the landlords started to crumble. Intolerant of these movements and in order to crush them, the state government conducted large-scale attacks by setting up police camps. Bihar Police fired upon the state conference of MKSS held in Arwal on 19 April 1986 bringing back memories of the Jalianawalabagh massacre. 23 peasants were martyred and 70 were injured in this massacre. Over 40,000 activists, leadership comrades and people were arrested across the state, tortured and incarcerated. Militant people's resistance movement was conducted against this repression.

From anti-feudal struggles to efforts towards establishing Guerrilla Zones with the aim of building Base Areas: The role of Comrade Arvind in developing the movement to the next higher level was very significant. The revolutionary forces which had emerged from the armed agrarian struggle were organised in Party Unity. Guerrilla Squads were formed out of MKSS and militia squads. He held discussions in the Party about developing the movement with the aim of establishing people's democratic power through the united front of four classes under the leadership of the Party by crushing feudal political power. In this way, he played a very important role in developing the line of the erstwhile PU Party.

Standing firm on the basic line of the Party in internal struggles: Comrade Arvind remained firm on the Party line during the internal struggles of the Party. Particularly in the first Conference of PU in 1987, the Party Secretary Ashok brought forward a proposal of taking a rightist line. He presented a document in which it was claimed that our country was no longer semi-feudal, that it transformed into a capitalist society and therefore it was appropriate to abandon the path of protracted people's war. The vast majority of the Party members under the leadership of Comrade Narayan Sanyal rejected this erroneous line and safeguarded the Party and its correct line. Comrade Arvind was one of those who stood in the forefront in this struggle under the leadership of Comrade Narayan Sanyal.

Struggle against the opportunist politics of the revisionist parties: Vinod Mishra became the leader of CPI(M-L) after the martyrdom of Comrade Jowhar. He took a revisionist line. Comrade Arvind had a significant role in the struggles carried out by the erstwhile PU against this group which was strong in Bihar at that time and such other revisionist groups of the M-L camp.

Preparing the basis for the unity of revolutionaries: It is not possible to achieve unity among revolutionaries without building strong movements in this way – by grasping this correct understanding, Comrade Arvind built strong movements in Magadh and consolidated the revolutionary line. In this way he brought valuable revolutionary experience to the Indian revolution in uniting revolutionaries. This brought a turning point in PU and formed the basis for the merger of

PW and PU. In this way he played a main role in the merger of PW and PU – the two main Parties of CPI(M-L) stream that were formed under the influence of Naxalbari.

The armed clashes with MCC that continued for nearly three years after the merger of PW and PU in the unified PW have been identified as a black chapter in the history of the Indian revolution and it caused serious losses as well. Nevertheless, on the basis of correct ideology and practice, on the basis of deep self-criticism, without giving scope to any kind of opportunist compromises, by learning from one another alone can genuine revolutionaries achieve unity – Comrade Arvind was one of those who had conviction on this understanding and worked for unity untiringly. This paved the way for the merger of the two main streams of the Indian revolution – MCCI and PW – and the formation of CPI(Maoist).

As one of the higher-level commanders of the Party: Comrade Arvind was one of the higher-level commanders given by the Indian revolution to the country's oppressed masses. He played the main role in developing guerrilla war in Bihar led by erstwhile PU, erstwhile unified PW and unified CPI(Maoist). He made efforts by concentrating on developing guerrilla war as the main form of struggle and guerrilla Squads, Platoons and Companies as the main form of organisation of people's guerrilla units. After the formation of CPI(Maoist), he performed his responsibilities as a member of the Central Military Commission (CMC) and Eastern Regional Command (ERC). His role in Bihar-Jharkhand in defeating the enemy's many aggressive attacks to wipe out the revolutionary movement, in intensifying the guerrilla war in the forested, hilly and plain areas and in adopting and implementing appropriate tactics to develop it to the level of mobile war was crucial. He directly led many valiant guerrilla actions including ambushes, raids and encounters and correctly guided many actions, contributing greatly to their success. No matter what hurdles came in the way of conducting guerrilla actions, he used to overcome them with great perseverance and made these actions successful with his boundless initiative, determination, patience, courage, understanding and sense of selfless sacrifice. He courageously led and coordinated the PLGA in many encounters between the enemy forces and the PLGA forces. He led from the front in directly commanding our forces to preserve our subjective strength and to destroy the enemy forces. He made serious efforts to develop the guerrilla war to a higher level with the aim of transforming it into mobile war. Jehanabad Jailbreak and guerrilla actions like Bhandaria, Dhardharia and Amvatikar will remain testimony to this. He gave direct leadership to the first Company under ERB in the Koel-Kaimur area of Bihar Region. He brought several new experiences of guerrilla war through continuous effort. He set examples before the Party and the PLGA by developing methods of active self-defence during the conduct of camps. He not only gave direct leadership in formulating military plans but also in implementing them concretely. He became one of the prime targets of the enemy as he directly gave leadership to the Party and the PLGA by always remaining with the Company in the field. Hundreds of enemy forces followed the Company with the aim of eliminating him. In spite of this, he never worried about the enemy and never bowed to it. Under his leadership, the PLGA conducted many heroic counter-offensive attacks against the enemy's counter-guerrilla campaigns targeting him and wiped out a large number of enemy forces. Comrade Arvind in particular played a special role in developing guerrilla war before and after the formation of CPI(Maoist).

Bringing new experience by developing as an expert in explosives and mine warfare: Comrade Arvind had a special role in preparing explosives, improvising various types of mines and developing mine warfare at a time when limitations in supply became a very acute hurdle in developing the guerrilla war. He not only acquired a grip on explosives through deep study, but he directly and successfully participated in many dangerous experiments in their preparation and use. He conducted many training camps for the PLGA related to this in ERB and one in CRB. He prepared notes on explosives and their use. Serious losses were caused to the enemy forces by successfully using the techniques of improvised explosives and science developed by Comrade Arvind.

As an in-charge of supplies for the guerrilla forces: Comrade Arvind also performed the responsibility as one of the in-charges of supplies of the CMC, CPI(Maoist). After the enemy targeted and destroyed the supply mechanism of our Party, he made serious efforts to provide supplies to the guerrilla forces particularly of Magadh region. He utilised all kinds of contacts for this. He took the

help of even his friends and family members for this. He untiringly made efforts to rebuild the supply mechanism of our Party even after the enemy targeted and destroyed it repeatedly. He was a higher-level revolutionary fighter and leader who incessantly made efforts for victory without getting dismayed by defeat and by believing that defeat is temporary while final victory belongs to the people.

A determined fighter in enemy dungeons: Comrade Arvind twice went through incarceration by the enemy. He always stood up to enemy repression. He preserved Party secrets while in enemy custody even by bravely going through severe mental torture. After release, he immediately returned to the Party ranks under secrecy and resumed his responsibility of leading them.

The life of Comrade Arvind is an ideal for the Party and India's oppressed youth: In totality, the life history of Comrade Arvind is the history of a communist revolutionary who always continued struggle through relentless effort by keeping faith on the people, the Party and the world proletariat in spite of several ups and downs, tides and ebbs, twists and turns in the protracted people's war and who never allowed despair to overcome him even when several comrades got martyred in front of his eyes. His service to the development of the people's war in India and in concretely implementing the Party line in particular was immense. In spite of facing serious ailment, he remained in underground life in the strategic area, gave direct leadership to the Party ranks till his last breath and passed away amidst them. He was a selfless fighter, commander and leader of the proletariat dedicated to the revolution. He was a leader who won the confidence of the Party rank and file by closely integrating with them. The firmness with which he gave leadership to the Party was equalled by his lively personality with which he kept the cadres and the masses in high spirit. He inspired all by sharing his vast revolutionary experience. He was untiring in his study of specific subjects. He led a plain communist life. The ideals he has established are worthy of emulation by the cadres of the entire Party from top to bottom, by the commanders and fighters of the PLGA, by the new generation of cadres and the masses of the oppressed people. Indian revolution has lost a great leader with his demise. But he will always be alive in the annals of the revolutionary movement of the Indian and the world proletariat and live in the hearts of the oppressed masses. Comrade Arvind will always keep inspiring them.

Let us develop the revolutionary movement in this difficult situation to the next higher level by upholding the ideals of Comrade Arvind who gave invaluable service to the revolutionary movement as one of the leaders of Indian revolution! Let us advance along the path shown by him! Let us take pledge to persist in struggle till the victory of the New Democratic Revolution and the establishment of socialism and communism.



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