



COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST)

Central Committee

Press Release

15, September, 2020

Condolences on the demise of democrat and people's well-wisher Swami Agnivesh !

The Central Committee of our Party conveys condolences to the family and friends of Swami Agnivesh who passed away on 11th September, 2020 at the age of 80. The demise of Agnivesh is a great loss to the movement for a democratic, progressive and nationality liberation movements and movements for people oriented society. He fought for the abolishment of bonded labor. He raised his voice against the violation of Constitutional rights. He attended as the chief guest to the conventions and conferences of revolutionary mass organisations many times.

When Operation Green Hunt was launched in mid-2009, the then Central Home Minister Chidambaram requested Swami Agnivesh to arrange for talks with our Party. He readily accepted and came into contact with Comrade Cherukuri Rajkumar, our Party spokesperson at that time. Correspondence was in progress but the government came out with its true intention. It followed Rajkumar along with journalist Hemachandra Pande on their way in 2010 July and arrested them. Both of them were killed in fake encounter in Adilabad forest. Agnivesh was severely disturbed and shocked at the incident. He stated he felt 'guilty' for initiating talks and that he felt Chidambaram deceived him. Swami Agnivesh who wanted genuine democratic process for the sake of the people was made a scapegoat due to the attitude of the central government in the process.

Agnivesh went to Dandakaranya on few occasions. In 2011, he was attacked together with an IAS officer by the Koya Commandos and Salwa judum goondas and their families on their way to meet the people of Tadimetla. Agnivesh was accompanying the officer to provide house hold goods to the victims of more than 250 families of three tribal villages in Tadimetla area of South Bastar, whose houses were burnt by the government armed forces. The police forces under the guidance of the then Bastar IG SRP Kalluri blamed the Guerillas for burning the houses. In 2011 the people's militia along with guerillas arrested 5 policemen in retaliation to their unceasing attacks in East Bastar. Agnivesh went to the place along with few other friends of the people and requested the guerillas and got them released.

Agnivesh was in Pakul in Jharkhand in 2016 on an invitation of local Adivasi people to attend a function. Mob-lynching was going on at a severe pace at that time in the state and in the country. The saffron goons were against the presence of a democrat and attacked Agnivesh in a shameless manner.

At the present juncture where Brahmanic Hindutwa forces rule the law, the demise of Swami Agnivesh is a loss to the fight against fascism. The CC appeals to all the democrats, progressive minded and well-wishers of the people of the country to imbibe the spirit of Agnivesh and become part of the ongoing anti-fascist movement in the country.

Abhay
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Central Committee