

## JOURNEY OF COMRADE AZAD

- 1954 May 14 - Born in a rich peasant family in Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh.
- 1972 Came into contact with CPI (M-L) while he was in B.Tech. Became Party member.
- 1975 Took active role in the formation of Radical Students Union. Elected as Warangal district president of RSU.
- 1976 Arrested under MISA and 6 months Jail.
- 1977 Transferred to Visakhapatnam according to the necessities of the Party. Studied M.Tech. and elected as district Party committee member.
- 1978 Elected as state president of Radical Students Union.
- 1979 Arrested under NSA (National Security Act) in Visakhapatnam.
- 1981 Played main role in conducting Seminar on Nationality question in Madras (now Chennai).
- 1983 Transferred to Karnataka state.
- 1985 Key role in the formation of AIRSF and guiding it.
- 1987-93 First secretary of Karnataka state committee.
- 1990 Elected to COC by central plenum.
- 1995-01 Worked as secretariat member
- 2001 Elected to CC by the 9<sup>th</sup> Congress of erstwhile CPI (ML) [People's War] and elected to Politburo.
- 2001-07 Worked as CC in-charge for AP state committee.
- 2004 Played important role in merger. Elected to unified CC and PB after the formation of the CPI (Maoist).
- 2007 Elected to the CC by 9<sup>th</sup> Congress - Unity Congress
- 2001-10 Remained in Politburo for 10 years.
- 2007-10 Took responsibilities of urban subcommittee in-charge and Party spokesperson - 'AZAD'.
- 1990-2010 Worked as CC member for 10 years.
- 2010 July 1 - Martyrdom in the jungles of Adilabad...

The working class intellectual, a Great leader of the oppressed masses and Politburo member  
**Comrade Azad is immortal!**

**Nobody can kill the ideas of Azad...**

**Nobody can stop the March of Revolution...**

*(Politburo Letter To Party Members)*



**Politburo**

**Communist Party of India (Maoist)**

***PB Letter***

***For Party Members***

**The working class intellectual, a Great leader of  
the oppressed masses and Politburo member  
Comrade Azad is immortal!**

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**Nobody can stop the March of Revolution...**

Comrades,

July 1, 2010 is a day of great grief for the oppressed, toiling masses of India. As part of the fascist Operation Green Hunt (OGH), the ruling classes which are perpetrating massacres of revolutionary leaders and people have resorted to another cold blooded butchery. The beloved great leader of the Indian people, the Central Committee member, Politburo member and official spokesperson Comrade Cherukuri Rajkumar (Azad) was caught by Andhra Pradesh Special intelligence Bureau (APSIB) and central intelligence agencies near Nagpur in Maharashtra along with a freelance journalist Hemchandra Pandey. At that time he was traveling to Dandakaranya to teach Political Economy to the party cadres. The blood-thirsty intelligence officials took them to Jogapur, Sarkepalli forests in Adilabad district and viciously murdered them just as they had murdered many other revolutionary leaders in the past. The enemy assessed that he would not be able to extract anything from him in spite of tortures and so they gave him sedatives in an injection as soon as they caught him. So it is very clear that they caught him with a clear-cut aim of killing him. They killed Hemchandra Pandey along with him to cover up this brutal murder. This murder was done as part of a conspiracy hatched by Sonia-Manmohan-Chidambaram gang and later the police spanned the much repeated encounter story as usual and announced that an unidentified person was killed along with Azad in an encounter in Adilabad forests.

Comrade Azad was leading the entire urban movement on behalf of our Central Committee and was also looking after political propaganda and other such crucial responsibilities. He was one of the most popular mass leaders. He maintained close relations with many comrades at vari-

which are favorable for the rapid advancement of the revolutionary movement in our country today would give birth to thousands of leaders like comrade Azad. They would steel themselves in the flames of class struggle. This is an undeniable fact of the course of history. The ideological-political and practical work done by comrade Azad and the communist ideals he established have created the basis for such an eventuality. The martyrdom of a Surapaneni Janardhan had placed an ideal in front of many comrades like Azad. Similarly many more revolutionaries would be born by taking the sacrifice of Azad as an ideal to emulate. They would lead the Indian revolution. The enemy could eliminate the physical existence of Azad but it would be impossible to stop the ideas he had spread in the party and among the people from turning into a material force.

The PB appeals to the entire party, PLGA and people in all the states and guerilla zones of our country to wipe their tears and vow to spread people's war to all the corners of the country to realize the uncompleted aims of Comrade Azad and mobilize millions of people into the revolutionary movement and to create thousands of 'Azads'. Let us vow that we would successfully accomplish the New Democratic Revolution by destroying this blood thirsty brutal state.

- *Let us fight back and defeat the brutal enemy offensive!*
- *Let us vow to fulfill the tasks set by the Unity Congress-9<sup>th</sup> Congress and establish base areas!*
- *Let us effectively carry on political propaganda and fight back the enemy's psywar!*
- *Let us build a strong Urban movement to advance the protracted people's war!*
- *Let us bolshevize the party with the proletarian ideals of Azad!*

Fulfilling the above tasks would be the real and fitting homage for comrade Azad.

**Politburo**

**28 July, 2010 - Martyrs Day**

**CPI (Maoist)**

party expressing their condolences. In one word, the working people, democrats and revolutionary camp as a whole in our country and abroad considered this loss as their own loss. They felt it was their own grief.

Journalist Hemchandra Pandey who was brutally murdered along with Comrade Azad belonged to Devarthal village in Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand. Media persons, particularly those in Andhra Pradesh, democrats and intellectuals all over India had not only condemned on a wide scale the murder of a journalist but had also commented that fascism is implemented in India in the name of democracy. They demanded an independent probe into this fake encounter. Many democrats attended Pandey's funeral.

The Maoist party ranks and the revolutionary people would always remember this dynamic journalist and the pro-people budding intellectual born in Uttarakhand far away from AP who had laid down his life along with Azad without getting deterred by the deadly state violence and the risks involved. He would be given a respectful and deserving place along side the martyrs of the revolutionary movement. His martyrdom would be hailed.

On this occasion, on behalf of our CC, our Politburo is sending Red Salutes and appreciation to all these organizations and individuals who had condemned these brutal murders and expressed solidarity. It is this kind of democratic and revolutionary spirit which would give constant inspiration to the masses.

**Let us uphold the ideals of Comrade Azad!**

**Let us vow to create thousands of 'Azads' in his path!!**

The exploiting ruling classes are dreaming that they can stop the revolution by snatching Azad from us. Though Azad's death is a huge loss to the Indian revolution and to the fighting people of the world, the service he rendered to the revolution would live on forever. In fact, it was the people and the revolutionary movement that had given birth to a 'Azad'. The bitter class struggle has steeled him. Revolutionary movements give birth to leaders in this manner. In turn, these leaders lead the revolutionary movements along the path of victory. The sacrifice of many leaders is also inevitable in the revolutionary movement. The very conditions which give birth to the revolutionary movement and help its advancement would give birth to its leadership too. This has been proven repeatedly in the world revolutionary history. So the material conditions

ous levels and with the revolutionary masses. In the midst of severe repression, he worked selflessly and unflinchingly in spite of the many risks involved. It is under such circumstances that the enemy came to know about his whereabouts somewhere and could catch him by laying in wait.

We cannot separate Azad's life from the revolutionary history of the past forty years. Particularly, he played a key role in the ideological, political spheres, party education and running of periodicals and such. He fulfilled the responsibility of the party spokesperson since the new party's Unity Congress as 'Azad' in the most excellent and exemplary manner. He used his intellect and sharp pen outstandingly in fighting back the 'War on People' led by the Sonia-Manmohan-Chidambaram gang. He stood as the powerful voice of the people against the rulers and exploiters. In the development of the party's political line in the past 35 years, particularly from 1992, in the development of the party, people's army and mass organizations, in extending the revolutionary movement, in the emergence of organs of new democratic power and in all the victories won, Azad's ideological, political work and practice played a key role. Unflinching commitment in face of any number of odds and during the ebb and flow of the movement, great sacrificing nature, selflessness, simple living, indefatigable work for the revolution and for the interests of the people, astounding study, study of changing phenomena in the society from time to time, being with the people always are some of the great proletarian ideals established by Comrade Azad. Though he is no more, it is undeniable that he would serve as a revolutionary role model to every revolutionary and particularly to the youth, students and intellectuals.

On behalf of the party, PLGA, mass organizations, organs of new democratic power and the entire revolutionary masses our Politburo is paying humble and rich tributes with great respect to Azad with a heavy heart and bowed heads. It is upholding his great ideals. It is vowing to intensify the people's war to accomplish his unfulfilled aim. The enemy classes are celebrating that they had given a severe blow to the revolutionary movement by murdering Azad. But let us boldly face this challenge on behalf of the whole oppressed people and the revolutionary camp. Let us openly declare to the enemy that we would definitely politically avenge the murder of Azad by developing Maoist people's war to newer heights and spread to all the corners of our country to destroy this rotten system and establish a new democratic system.

On this occasion the Politburo is expressing deep condolences to his life partner (one of the senior comrades of our party), friends, relatives

and to all the comrades who worked with him. It is fully sharing their grief. The murderers of our beloved comrade Azad are the real reason for all our tears, grief and troubles. The Politburo is earnestly requesting that all of you should fight against them with renewed determination and hatred.

**Comrades,**

Let us briefly take a look at the important aspects in the revolutionary life of Azad, a great ideal communist who was always brimming with revolutionary inspiration, in order to imbibe his great qualities and carry them forward.

### **Family background**

Comrade Cherukuri Rajkumar (Azad) was born on May 18, 1954 in Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh. He was the second among five siblings. His mother was Karuna and father was Lakshmayya Chowdhary. His father died a few days back. Her old mother is still alive. He has three brothers and a sister. Azad's elder brother worked in the Indian army and retired as a Colonel. Both his younger brothers were doctors. Their ancestors lived in Penumathsa village in Pamidimukkala Mandal of Krishna district. During the tenure of Azad's grandfather, their family went to Nuziveedu and settled there. His father did service in the Indian Army for some time. Later he ran a hotel in Nuziveedu. Later they went to Hyderabad and settled there. There too they ran a hotel. Azad was born in a rich peasant and educated family and was from the beginning a brilliant student. He finished his primary schooling in a convent in Hyderabad and then he was joined in the Korukonda Sainik School in Vizianagaram district. There he finished his secondary schooling. He was good at sports and was a voracious reader from the beginning. He loved reading literature too. He was loved by his peers and teachers right from his school days.

### **First steps in the long inspiring revolutionary life**

The dynamic, militant revolutionary life of Azad was initiated in 1972. He joined B.Tech in Regional Engineering College (REC) of Warangal that year. In the decades of 1970s and 1980s the Warangal REC was like a bastion for Naxalbari politics. As Azad was a voracious reader from the beginning, he started thinking about the contemporary social and political issues. In those days he saw slogans like 'Down with feudalism', 'Down with imperialism', 'Long live New Democratic Revolution' 'Let us turn

nakedly displaying his neo-colonial ideology, Azad wrote an article in reply to this. In this article along with criticizing Verghese he also placed very effectively before the people the Maoist understanding about development of our country. Before this, he gave a long interview to 'The Hindu'. In this apart from giving clarity about our party's stand regarding talks or ceasefire he threw light on various aspects of the Maoist movement very efficiently. That was his last interview. Before this he has written many articles on behalf of our party to Economic and Political Weekly, to many Telugu magazines and other magazines.

Azad had used satire most successfully against enemies of the revolution, particularly against the likes of Chidambaram, GK Pillai, Raman Singh, Arnab Goswami, Viswanathan who were most reliable servants of the big corporations. He attacked their baseless arguments, lies and bankrupt policies mercilessly with sharp satire. His writing style was politically rational and intense. From the practical point of view it was balanced and tolerant. When Chidambaram was replying in Lok Sabha in April 2010 during the discussion on Tadimetla, he was quoting our documents and had been referring to his own parliament as a 'pig sty' many times. Azad shared his amusement with comrades about this in his letters to them. His pen used to respond very sharply to reactionaries, various kinds of revisionists, right opportunists and liquidators. He even had a modest style of writing which could win over the vast majority of the masses towards the revolution. There was no place for any intellectual snobbishness, unnecessary explanations in his writings. His arguments and the evidences he produced in his writings to prove them were so well-knit that it was almost impossible for his opponents to deny them bluntly. With Azad's death the oppressed people have lost an unambiguous voice and a sharp pen.

### **Widespread condemnation of the brutal murders**

Immediately after hearing about the brutal murder of Comrade Azad along with journalist Hemchandra Pandey, democratic, progressive, revolutionary organizations and individuals who wish for peace in our country and abroad have expressed their indignation and protest against the exploiting governments. Many human rights organizations, democratic organizations, many writers, artistes, journalists and media friends had condemned Azad's murder and demanded independent probe on it. Many prominent magazines had written articles. Many revolutionary organizations and parties in our country and abroad had sent messages to our

the people. When the ruling classes were inundating the people with fake proposals about 'peace talks' and 'abjuring violence' Azad had exposed their cruel, repressive character and proved that it is the ruling clique which is the staunch enemy of peace by clearly declaring the party's stand and understanding through interviews and statements. That is why the specter of Azad is haunting Chidambaram clique even in their sleep. With the death of Azad the Indian revolution has lost a matchless ideological warrior.

Azad was not only an avid reader but also an active, creative, serious and indefatigable writer with depth. He wrote on each and every issue ranging from economic crisis to the changes in Nepal. He wrote a series of articles in the party magazines about imperialist globalization which came to the fore in the 1990s. His great efforts in the form of innumerable press statements, regular publication of Maoist Information Bulletin, interviews and articles etc would remain a model to the party ranks. Pointing at the tactical counter offensives done by our PLGA and the people and using some of the mistakes done by us during military operations as pretexts the enemy had done foul propaganda in various forms on a wide scale against our party leadership. The whole party had effectively countered this misinformation campaign which was done with the aim of spreading confusions among the party ranks and to turn away the urban middle classes and the intellectuals from the revolution. The role of Azad in this is inspirational and leading.

Azad had vision only in one eye. He could not see properly with the other eye. Lately this other eye had become almost blind. Though doctors operated on it, there was no result. Even the one eye with which he could see was very weak. In the past six years his eye problem went on worsening. But this did not in the least deter him from following and understanding each and every change in the contemporary world. He used to work without rest or gap for 18, 20 hours too in a day. He studied deeply. Wherever he was - in forest or in towns whether traveling or drinking tea in a dabha he was always trying to learn, read and understand. He used to sit in front of the computer for hours together to read and write with his one functioning eye. As the official spokesperson he clearly stated the party's response on almost every issue. Whether on Democratic party Obama's policies or atrocities of the saffron terrorists, Israel's horrible attacks on Gaza or the world economic crisis - he had released statements and written on every issue, on each aspect. Recently when a well known reactionary writer/editor B.G. Verghese had written an article in Outlook

Warangal into another Srikakulam' on the walls of Warangal and was influenced by them. He was already sympathetic towards the Srikakulam movement. Rajkumar entered revolutionary politics with the inspiration of Surapaneni Janardhan who was later martyred in a fake encounter in Girayipalli forests along with three more students during the dark days of Emergency. Comrade Janardhan was a famous revolutionary student leader in REC in those days. He was like the apple of their eyes. Azad used to go to his hostel room at night and discuss revolutionary politics with him. As a result of many rounds of discussions and his own study, he completely committed himself to the revolutionary politics. The students of this college played a crucial role in the formation of Andhra Pradesh Radical Students Union (APRSU) in 1974. This college gave birth to many revolutionary leaders, cadres and soldiers. They strove to advance revolutionary movement not only in Andhra Pradesh (AP) but all over India in many fields. Many of them had laid down their lives for revolution. The murder of Janardhan in 1975 grieved Azad to no end. But soon he turned his grief into steely determination and advanced in the path of revolution. Once he had embraced this path, he never looked back. Thus from 1972 to 2010, for about 38 years his revolutionary life continued without any interruption or gap.

After the setback of Naxalbari and Srikakulam struggles, Telangana became the centre for revolutionary activities. The party reviewed the past practice and started working again after taking lessons from left adventurist and right opportunist wrongs. Thus relations with people began developing. The process of various sections of people getting organized increased. This began getting consolidated in the form of people's movements. The movements which came to the fore later, had proved that if we spread correct ideas among the people then they would turn into material force in practice. In this process Azad's social consciousness took the form of student power. Later it advanced further and played a prominent role in leading the Indian revolutionary movement. The party again consolidated itself basing on the lessons learnt after the setback of the Naxalbari and Srikakulam movements and concentrated on developing broad mass base and broad mass movements. Azad was an effectual representative of a generation which came to the fore due to this initiative.

### **Dynamic Revolutionary student life**

Due to his commitment Azad was given party membership in 1972

itself. Azad worked with initiative in building student and youth movements by mobilizing students on many issues in Warangal. He developed contacts among college professors and other staff employees. He had good contacts among the workers and employees of the college. In 1974, he was elected as the president of Warangal district RSU. Resisting goondaism in the town came to the fore as an important task in the course of development of the student movement in Warangal. It had to face the goonda gangs of RSS-ABVP, district leader and Congress MLA Hayagrivachary, CPI (M) leader Omkar etc. There were many clashes and many students were arrested. Azad managed the court-related legal work to get them released.

In 1974, the right opportunists belonging to CP Reddy group engineered a split in the revolutionary student movement and tried to form PDSU. Azad was one of those REC students who had played a prominent role in forming the RSU by politically defeating them. Along with Azad many students strove hard to bring the majority of the students to our side. It is due to their efforts that the revolutionary students could establish RSU in 1974 by defeating the right opportunists. Immediately after this, Emergency was declared in 1975. The enemy targeted Azad as he had built united movements against Emergency. During the fascist Emergency period of Indira government RSU was banned and hundreds of student activists were arrested. As part of this, the government arrested Azad under MISA and put him in jail for six months.

Though Azad was young, he influenced not only students but also many professors, writers and intellectuals with his profound intellect, great initiative, convincing nature and patience. Comrade Rajkumar played a leading role in all the students movements conducted in Warangal in those days. Azad had read literature widely in his student days and took interest in the developments in the literary and cultural fields. He had attended all their meetings and programmes in those days and even after he went underground he followed the changes in these fields. He was in touch with them and gave his valuable suggestions to them whenever necessary.

### **Widespread Activities in Visakhapatnam**

The party transferred Azad to Visakhapatnam in 1977 keeping in view the needs of the party and the student movement. He took admission in M.Tech in Andhra University (AU) as it would facilitate his work among the students. He concentrated on strengthening the student movement

tarian outlook, grip over dialectical method of analysis, foresight, bravery, courage, the urge to learn, mingling with the cadres etc. His nature was completely opposed to arrogance, careerism, selfishness and he never craved for name and fame. His loss is a great loss to the entire party. This loss would be the most serious for the CC. However, he had imparted to our CC great experiences and great communist values. They are a great treasure for our CC and the entire party. They would help our CC in leading the Indian revolutionary movement along the path of victory.

### **Warrior of words who fought back the enemy's Psychological War**

From 2007, Azad worked as the official spokesperson of the party. Since then he was known in India and abroad as Azad. After the emergence of the new party on September 21, 2004 the exploiting, reactionary ruling classes of our country had intensified suppression campaigns on a large scale with the aim of destroying the revolutionary movement completely. In the name of Salwa Judum in DK, Sendra, TPC, Nagrik Suraksha Samiti etc in Jharkhand, in the name of various black gangs in AP, Harmad Bahini in West Bengal and Santi Sena in Odisha, a series of fascist multi-pronged offensives were launched. Later, since 2009 a countrywide, fascist, counter-revolutionary massive military offensive had been launched in coordination by the central and the state governments. These suppression campaigns are in accordance with the LIC strategy of the imperialists and their counter-insurgency policies. Foul propaganda war plays an important role in enemy offensives. It is an important component of the enemy's psychological war. The enemy classes shamelessly misused the media and through some media barons and journalists who lick the boots of the corporate bosses have launched a massive misinformation war.

As the official spokesperson, Azad had very effectively countered this offensive. He exposed the real aims behind the Operation Green Hunt (OGH) and endeavored to make people in our country and abroad understand that this is a brutal and unjustified war launched against the people by the Indian government for the profits of imperialists and comprador big bourgeoisie and for continuing the exploitation of the feudal lords. He propagated that this war is particularly dangerous to the existence of the adivasis and the oppressed peasantry. He conducted a formidable revolutionary propaganda campaign against the foul psychological warfare done by the Sonia-Manmohan-Chidambaram clique. He released press statements from time to time and placed the stands of the party before of

the relevance of Marxism. This spread confusion among the intellectuals. Azad had written an article in 1995 in the name of Nishant and a book (Balagopal Taatvika Gandaragolam – the philosophical confusion of Balagopal) in 2001 in the name of Sameer. Both of them were in Telugu. In these he had very effectively criticized the philosophical confusions of Balagopal. In this ideological and political book he effectively exposed the reactionary nature and the political bankruptcy of post-modernism. Writers and intellectuals in the revolutionary camp had greatly appreciated this book. Azad used to be in the forefront in giving fitting replies condemning the wrong accusations and political bankruptcy of various types of right opportunists and revisionists.

Azad played main role in formulating a new document by enriching the document 'Our work in urban areas – Our perspective'. For the past few years he was the in-charge of our urban work. He educated the party cadres. He played a prominent role in finalizing the perspective documents on the women issue and the caste issue. From 2001 to 2006 he led the Central Mahila Sub-committee as its PB in-charge. Azad's deep understanding about the Marxist understanding on the women's question and his concern for the development of women's movement and for the development of women comrades in the party and army had helped advance the work of CMSC. He guided the ideological, political works and mass works undertaken by the CMSC and along with those comrades established a basis on which this work could be developed further.

While attending the party conferences and congresses he used to work hard and go with full preparation. In the polemical debates that are conducted there he used to express his opinions in a straight forward manner with lot of conviction clearly and without any room for vagueness or ambiguity. The years 1992, 1995, 2001, 2004 and 2007 are very crucial in the history of the Indian revolutionary movement. These were great years when unity in party was achieved, party line was preserved, party experiences were synthesized and party line was enriched by fighting back the right and left opportunist wrong trends which had raised their head in the party. On all these occasions, Azad played an effective and prominent role. In the central committee meetings and the state committee meetings or in other party forums, Azad used to state his views lucidly. He was very firm in expressing his views and was equally firm in implementing the majority opinion in accordance with the principles of democratic centralism. He was a front ranking comrade in displaying such proletarian revolutionary fine qualities such as great knowledge, prole-

in Visakha. At that time a successful and militant movement flared up in Visakha with the demand for nationalization of city bus services. That movement shook the whole Visakha city in those days. RSU led this movement. As this movement was successful the prestige of RSU increased a lot. Azad's role in this movement is crucial. In those days upper caste domination was very high in AU. The Reddys, Kammas and others belonging to the so-called upper castes used to harass the 'backward' and dalit castes in many ways. Azad mobilized the students and lecturers in AU with progressive and democratic views into struggles against these upper caste chauvinists. He insisted on the need to view caste issue with a class outlook. The impact of this struggle could be seen on other sections in the city. Just like in Warangal in Visakha too Azad endeavored to attract people of all sections to the revolutionary camp. He won their affection and love.

After Emergency, the Radical students and youth took up large scale political propaganda campaign about agrarian revolution with the slogan of 'Go to Villages'. This campaign was held every summer. This was very much helpful in building a strong agrarian revolutionary movement and in developing party contacts among the broad peasant masses. Like in Warangal, in Visakha too Azad strove hard to make this 'Go to Villages' campaign a success. He held revolutionary political classes for batches of students going for such campaigns. Under his leadership propaganda campaign was held right from rural areas like Uddanam in Srikakulam to urban areas like Rajahmundry. Party contacts developed well due to this.

After being transferred to Visakhapatnam district in 1977, Azad was elected to the party joint committee of Srikakulam-Visakha districts. Azad attended as a delegate to the AP state party conference held in 1980. He participated in the discussions enthusiastically.

### **Gallant defiance in captivity**

In July 1975, Azad was arrested under MISA and was held captive in Warangal for six months. At that time his family members, friends, lecturers, workers and all sections of people went to jail and courts and met him. He was a role-model for the students and workers at that time. His impact and influence was very wide. After his release from the jail, he collected the necessary evidences for the court trial against Girayipalli 'encounter' which took place during Emergency. He helped the Bhargava commission and Tarkunde committees a lot and worked hard to prove that it was a fake encounter. He worked along with many democratic

intellectuals, lawyers and civil rights activists for this. Thus apart from looking after the responsibilities of the student movement Azad also gained a grip over legal and court related matters. This helped him a lot in developing open struggles in the later period. Through all these efforts he could expose the brutality of the state very well. Later in 1979 he was arrested under NASA in Visakhapatnam. The case on him was that he hoisted a black flag in AU. On both the occasions when he was arrested, he stood very firm.

### **Inspirational President of RSU**

In the second state conference of RSU held in Warangal in 1978, Azad was elected as the state president. Along with developing state student movement as president, he also took up the responsibility of building and consolidating revolutionary student movement in other areas in the country.

As part of this process, a seminar on 'Nationality Question' was held in Madras (now Chennai) in 1981. Azad toured more or less all over India to make it a success. He met many student organizations and other organizations and individuals and held discussions with them. This seminar was successful in deeply understanding the Nationality question in India, in understanding the viewpoint of various nationality organizations and in making them understand the viewpoint of the revolutionary organization. Azad played a commendable role in clearly stating the viewpoint of communist revolutionaries on the nationality question and in establishing unity with various organizations. This seminar held in 1981 created a background for the All India Revolutionary Students Federation (AIRSF) formed in 1985. Thus Azad played a great role in the formation of AIRSF.

### **Uday – the Founder of Revolutionary movement In Karnataka**

The special characteristic of the AP revolutionary student movement is that many cadres and leaders who emerged from this movement had gone to various parts of the country and hoisted the revolutionary flag there. Party leadership consciously and with forethought scrutinized and recognized the students, youth and intellectuals joining the movement, educated them in MLM ideology and sent them to various parts of the country. Thus it facilitated the spread of revolutionary peasant struggles and urban movement. The party Central Committee sent Azad to Karnataka in 1983 as the state party organizer to lay the basis for building revolutionary movement in the state. There he started the work of the

economic terms needed for it. His role in preparing the party text book on Indian economy is enormous. In that he analyzed the Indian social phenomena with a historical dialectical materialist viewpoint. This book is very useful in ideologically understanding the current social situation. He used to suggest to comrades at various levels what books and articles to read and how to understand them.

Azad always paid attention to what literature is being published from the communist camp and from the counter-revolutionary camp. His role in the preparation of documents for presenting in party conferences and Congresses is huge. In political and ideological matters and in formulating programmes he played a crucial and dynamic role in the committee. He had an unflinching confidence on the people and MLM. He applied the Marxist method of combining theory with practice and developing the theory again by basing on the lessons gained in practice.

From the days of RSU until his last days Azad edited various party magazines. He wrote articles to many magazines. He wrote critiques. He had good grip over Hindi, Kannada and Tamil apart from English and Telugu. Especially his knowledge in English was fine. His style of writing was outstanding. Due to this skill of his, the party and the revolutionary movement have gained a lot. Apart from writing many articles, documents, drafts and circulars in English he had translated many articles from English for the study of comrades. Initially he looked after the 'Radical March' and 'Kalam' magazines of the student organization. He prepared propaganda material in various forms on a wide scale during agitations and propaganda campaigns of APRSU and AIRSF. He wrote many political and ideological articles in 'Vanguard', 'People's March', 'Maoist Information Bulletin' etc. He edited the 'Vanguard' between 1992 and 1993. His role in bringing out 'People's War' and other magazines was immense. The articles he wrote in the form of questions and answers on various ideological and political matters in 'People's War' for the education of the party are memorable. Not just this, whenever he had time he used to attentively go through the various magazines run by the party in various states and told them about the strengths and weaknesses in them. Thus he attempted to develop the magazines as effective 'organizers'.

Azad was proficient in conducting political debates. Whenever there was any attack on the party ideology, on its practice or its line from the revolutionary camp or from others Azad used to confront that strongly with his pen. In 1993, Balagopal (the leader of APCLC and later HRF) who was once a revolutionary intellectual had raised some basic questions on



people'. The ruling classes launched brutal, mopping up campaigns in various states by forming Sendra, Nagrik Suraksha Samiti, Cobras, Santi Senas etc along with Salwa Judum. Azad tirelessly propagated against all these and supported the revolutionary struggles erupting in various states. It was due to such diligent efforts by the party and various pro-people intellectuals that the world could understand that Salwa Judum and such counter-revolutionary organizations are nothing but state-sponsored fascist repressive campaigns. The support extended by Azad in the sphere of political propaganda with the aim of defeating the counter-revolutionary Salwa Judum and other such organizations is very immense. After the launch of Operation Green Hunt (OGH) in the country the massacres of adivasis have increased manifold. Azad put lot of efforts in exposing many massacres and in attracting the attention of democratic forces all over India towards them. He used to translate and edit the reports sent from the field and publish them in the magazines. He even wrote an article sending revolutionary greetings on the occasion of 25 years of DK movement. In that article he insisted on the need to build broad, militant struggles and a powerful united front against MNCs and companies of the comprador big bourgeoisie who are trying to exploit the valuable natural resources in DK. Most of the time, he used to be in touch with the CC comrades who were guiding the revolutionary movements of Tamilnadu, Kerala and Maharashtra. He used to develop an affectionate bond with the comrades in the states he visited as part of his work. The cadre always showed enthusiasm to meet him and talk with him. He used to be friendly with them and taught them politics. He discussed problems of the movement with them. With his death the entire party, PLGA units, commands and the people of our country have lost an adored well-wisher and leader who stood by them in all their troubles and difficulties, successes and defeats.

### **An indefatigable ideological warrior**

Between 1995 and 2004 he worked as the in-charge of SCOPE (Sub-Committee on Political Education) which was formed for conducting political and ideological training in the party. It was under his leadership that SCOPE had prepared study notes on MLM, Marxist Philosophy, Political Economy and Party History. He played a prominent role in the classes conducted by CC all over the country to educate the party leadership ranks. He conducted classes in Telugu, English, Hindi, Kannada and Tamil languages. In 1992, he strove hard to prepare the study notes on international situation and in preparing the dictionary of important political and

party depending on his contacts among the progressive and democratic intellectuals. Very soon party and mass organizations began to be built up in Karnataka. He attracted student-intellectuals like Saketh Rajan into the party. Azad worked among students, women, workers, peasants youth and cultural field. Thus the process of development of party and revolutionary movement began there. Many mass organizations were built. By 1985 a leadership team was formed to guide this movement. By 1987, this developed into the state committee. Azad became the first secretary of the Karnataka state committee.

Azad strove to consolidate and run militantly a movement which started on the nationality issue in Karnataka after declaring support for it. The state committee released a document supporting the separate state movement which started in Kodagu area of Karnataka. While working in Karnataka he also played a leading role in building the All India revolutionary student movement. He toured many states. He left an indelible mark as 'Uday' in the hearts of the people and comrades of Karnataka.

Azad concentrated party work in Hyderabad-Karnataka area, particularly in Raichur district with the aim of building the revolutionary movement in rural Karnataka. He studied the rural conditions in Karnataka and inspired his fellow comrades politically with the determination of intensifying anti-feudal struggles. He put considerable efforts in intensifying the peasant struggles in that area. Comrade Saketh Rajan studied the history of Karnataka and wrote a book called 'Making History'. (Saketh was martyred in an encounter with the police in 2005 while working to build an armed peasant struggle in Malnad area in Western Ghats as the secretary of Karnataka state committee). This book earned a great place in the Karnataka society. This has been included in the syllabus of Karnataka universities at present. Azad supported Saketh Rajan in many ways in writing this book.

### **Keeping aloft the revolutionary flag in internal struggles of the party**

In 1985 the AP state committee of the erstwhile CPI (ML) (People's War) decided to take up a rectification campaign against the six wrong trends (non-proletarian trends) it had identified in the party. As a continuation of it, the first internal struggle was conducted in People's War party in 1985. Satyamurty, Veeraswamy and another two comrades in the Central Committee had created a crisis situation inside the party. In that

period Azad played a great role in making the party cadres stand firm and united with the party line in Karnataka and Tamilnadu states. Thus he strove hard to isolate the liquidationist opportunists. The document released by the Karnataka leading team under the leadership of Azad to oppose the liquidationist opportunist wrong trend in the Central Committee contained deep analysis politically and ideologically. That helped the development of our party in Karnataka a lot. It helped in preserving the unity of the party by protecting it from the conspiracies of the liquidators.

In the central plenum of the erstwhile CPI (ML) (PW) held in 1990, Azad was elected as a member of the Central Organizing Committee. Within a few months after this a second internal struggle started in the PW party in 1991. The party secretary KS himself created this crisis. In this period, Azad fought back the liquidationist politics of KS, Bandaih, Prasad and other opportunists and careerists. In the critical note prepared on behalf of the Karnataka state committee he exposed the opportunists thoroughly. After expelling KS and other liquidationist opportunists from the party, Azad was one among the new young team of leaders which developed at the central level. In fact, we could be successful in keeping the party united and in enriching our party line by exposing the opportunists only due to the joint efforts of this new leadership team.

### **Efforts for uniting the revolutionaries**

As a member of CC delegation Azad put lot of efforts for unity with revolutionaries, revolutionary parties and organizations in our country. Particularly he played an important role in the merger of erstwhile CPI (ML) (People's War) and CPI (ML) (Party Unity) in 1998. Later, in the historic merger of the two prominent revolutionary streams of India – the CPI (ML) and MCC on September 21, 2004 and in the phenomena of it turning into a mighty current the role played by Azad is very great. In the bilateral meetings held in many phases between the two erstwhile parties Azad had participated as a member of the CPI (ML) (People's War) delegation. On that occasion, effort done by Azad in exchange of documents, study, debate, conducting discussion in a tolerant manner, in synthesizing the positive aspects in the practice of the two parties and incorporating them in the new documents of the united party is unforgettable. In the chapter on unity of revolutionaries in Indian revolutionary history the name of Azad would definitely be written prominently.

### **Guiding the revolutionary movement in AP**

Azad used to be in lively contact with the AP revolutionary movement even while leading the Karnataka movement. As a CC member he toured North Telangana, attended party committee meetings and guided the movement. After the Party Congress of erstwhile PW party in 2001, he took up the responsibility of AP state committee as a Politburo member. He participated in the meetings of the state committee and guided the movement. Particularly, during the period of talks with the government in 2004 he played a prominent role. He played an important role in preparing the agenda for the talks and in deciding the political aspects. He exposed the hypocritical and repressive nature of the exploiting ruling classes through various articles, statements and interviews in magazines. He effectively gave paper statements as the official spokesperson 'Janardhan' of the three state level committees in AP. While he was the in-charge of AP movement and even later Azad keenly followed the various social, economic changes and the changes in AP political scene and gave suggestions and instructions to the party in many forms. One cannot forget his eagerness to preserve the AP movement and his agony when that movement suffered a setback. Though this movement suffered a temporary setback he used to express great confidence that it would again give rise to a deluge once again and would sustain its place in the Indian revolutionary movement.

### **Highlighting the DK, Bihar, Jharkhand and Bengal movements**

Azad had close relation with the revolutionary movements of DK, Bihar, Jharkhand, Bengal and other areas. Wherever he may be, he used to keenly follow every incident happening in those states. He used to express his joy at every success won by the people and PLGA. He sent his revolutionary greetings to the entire DK comrades after the historic attack at Tadimetla (Mukaram) where 76 mercenary jawans were annihilated. He paid tributes to the martyrs. He wrote a great poem in English hailing this. His love for people was boundless as was his hatred for the enemy. Every incident of martyrdom and the memory of each martyr comrade pained him a lot and he expressed his anguish towards such incidents. He used to be ecstatic at every success of the PLGA in annihilating the class enemies and their mercenary forces.

The Salwa Judum was started in the Bastar area of DK in 2005. The bourgeois media wrongly propagated it as a 'voluntary movement of the