

IPSG MEETING ON:

DOES POLITICAL POWER GROW OUT OF THE BARREL OF A GUN?

History shows that the transfer of state power from one ruling class to another class has never taken place without armed struggle between the two classes. This universal truth is simply summed up by Chairman Mao as, "POLITICAL POWER GROWS OUT FROM THE BARREL OF THE GUN!" Today, in India this means armed struggle between the masses of landless and landpoor peasants led by Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) and Comrade Charu Majumdar on one hand, and the comprador bourgeoisie, led by Indira Gandhi and the Congress Party on the other.

In discussion a question which often comes up is, "What is a state?" Again history shows that the state as a special apparatus for coercing people arose only wherever and whenever there appeared a division of society into groups of people, ^{some} of whom are permanently in a position to appropriate the labour of others. This division of society must always be clearly borne in mind as a fundamental fact of history. Thus, the violence and the oppression of the bourgeoisie must and will be met by the revolutionary violence of masses of the people based on the scientific revolutionary theory of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tse-Tung Thought.

Some people say that they desire a fundamental change in society but that such a change should be a "peaceful transition" or talk about the "parliamentary road to socialism", or else go as far as to say that the era of violent revolutions is over. They often talk of "democracy" but do not put the fundamental question: democracy for which class?

Such people consciously distort history and ignore class struggle in society. The present revisionist leaders of the Soviet Union, the revisionist leaders of the Communist Party of India, (e.g. Joti Basu etc) put out such statements in an attempt to undermine the revolutionary aspiration of masses of people, in India, and also throughout the world. Thus these revisionists, by virtue of their objective position and irrespective of their subjective convictions, inevitably prove to be lackies of U.S. imperialism, Soviet social imperialism and the enemies of all oppressed people. Such people will never escape the punishment of history. Chairman Mao has said, "The socialist system will eventually replace the capitalist system; this is an objective law independent of man's will. However much the reactionaries try and hold back the wheel of history sooner or later revolution will take place and will inevitably triumph".

Indian Progressive Study Group invites all the interested people to a discussion on the topic, "Does political power grow out of the barrel of a gun?"

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Place: 2nd Floor, University Center.

Date: Wednesday, 13th, September, 1972.

Room 1