



COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MARXIST)
21st Congress
Samar Mukherjee Nagar
Visakhapatnam, April 14-19, 2015

Resolution

**On the Occasion of 125th Birth Anniversary of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar
For a Special Session of Parliament**

On the occasion of the 125th birth anniversary of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, the 21st Congress of the CPI(M) demands that the Government hold a special session of Parliament to discuss issues connected with the status of Scheduled Caste communities in India.

With the advent of neo-liberal policies, the condition of dalits has worsened. The practice of untouchability and different forms of violence against Scheduled Caste communities continue, the conviction rate of people accused in such cases continues to be low. Laws such as The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act need to be strengthened and fully implemented. The Manual Scavengers Act is also yet to be implemented. Large sections of Dalits in rural India are landless workers without assets. There is a huge backlog in filling up reserved posts. Development schemes lie unimplemented. Dalit Christians and Muslims have been denied recognition as Scheduled Castes, and are consequently excluded from benefits to which Scheduled Castes are entitled, in addition to existing quotas. These and other issues need separate discussion and resolution by Parliament. A special session would ensure that the attention of the entire country is focused on this shameful scourge of Indian society -- inequality on the basis of birth and descent -- and on the urgent need to take comprehensive and strong measures to eliminate it.

The 21st Party Congress calls upon the entire Party to integrate struggles against social and caste based discrimination and for the rights of Dalits with the class struggle, to fight against atrocities against Dalits, to fight for the elimination of untouchability and the caste system, to encourage inter-caste marriage, and to counter the efforts of those who seek to keep Dalits away from democratic mobilisation and movements.
