

Demonstrations on Palestine issue, to be organised on 18-10-2023 - some facts.

Dear comrades,

The World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) has given call to its affiliates, to organise protest demonstrations, demanding to immediately stop the attacks on innocent Palestinian people, by Israel. Accepting this call, the Coordination Committee of BSNLEU, AIBDPA and BSNLCCWF has given call to organise demonstrations on 18-10-2023.

It is important to note here that, António Guterres, the Secretary General of the United Nations, has also called on Israel, to immediately stop the inhuman attacks being made on Palestinian people.

However, a few miscreants are making the false propaganda that, BSNLEU has given call for demonstration, supporting the terrorist group " Hamas". This is totally wrong. BSNLEU does not support Hamas and the Union condemns the attack on innocent Israeli people. At the same time, it is important to know some facts about this whole issue.

Before 1948, there was no country called as Israel. It was only in May 1948, David Ben-Gurion, the head of the Jewish Agency, announced the establishment of the State of Israel, within the land of Palestine. On the same day, U.S. President Harry S. Truman announced his recognition to Israel.

From then onwards, Israel, with the support of the United States, started forcibly occupying the lands of the Palestinian people. Due to the attacks of Israel, lakhs of Palestinians have left their country and are living as refugees in other countries. The worst part is that, within Palestine, Palestinian people are living in refugee camps today.

On many occasions, the United Nations has passed resolutions, directing Israel to withdraw its occupation of Palestinian lands. However, Israel and the United States have blatantly violated all those resolutions of the United Nations. Practically, Israel is acting as the 'hitman' of the US in the Middle East.

Everyday, Israel is committing crimes against the Palestinian people. It is in this backdrop, the Hamas attack has taken place on Israel. However, utilising the Hamas attack as an excuse, Israel has launched an all-out attack on the people of Palestine. Israeli armed forces have rounded up Gaza. Electricity, food, water supply, etc., have been cut off to the Palestinian people.

This has created a very big humanitarian crisis. It is in this background that, Antonio Guterres, the Secretary General of the United Nations, has called on Israel to immediately stop the attacks on innocent Palestinian people and to lift the siege on Gaza. The WFTU has also called on working class world over to organise demonstrations, demanding to immediately stop the attacks on innocent Palestinian people, by Israel.

Hence, the demonstration to be organised on 18-10-2023, is not to support the Hamas or any other terrorist group but, the programme is being organised, demanding to implement the call of the secretary general of the United Nations. Hence, we request all the comrades to participate in the demonstration and to make it success.

**- P.Abhimanyu,
General Secretary,
BSNLEU.**