

But of all our weaknesses and shortcomings the greatest weakness has been the very sad state of party organisation. As a matter of fact the election has revealed—and even the figures will tell this—that our party as a militant organisation of the working class is not growing at all in many parts of the country and even where it is growing the pace is extremely slow. The gap between general political influence of the party and its organisation seems to have widened. Obviously big election battles could not be effectively fought without a strong mass communist party well spread over the country. Election demands effective cadres and for communists the election is not easy to win unless the party's bonds with the masses are deep and strong. Every constituency under bourgeois parliamentary system becomes a kind of centre of class struggles and we can

never play our part without providing the masses in the constituencies with party and mass organisations. Our organisational work among the workers is extremely unsatisfactory except in few pockets. Our work among the peasantry is almost non-existent.

It is no wonder that even in areas of UP where the princely influence does not hold sway big sections of peasants are being drawn towards Jana Sangh through village traders and others. Agricultural labourers and poor peasants should constitute today the mainstay of the left and democratic movement in rural India. But our party's work among them is of very poor quality even where we have got functioning party units. In the majority of more than half a million villages the CPI has not even a single communist and this in itself is enough to remind us where and how we stand. As far as the election is concerned tens of millions of votes come from the villages and these votes are now being exploited by the Swatantra Party, Jana Sangh and others in addition to the Congress.

The development of peasant work based on kisan sabha is an urgent necessity if at all we want to turn the present upsurge of the masses into a conscious political force for democratic advance.

In this election, the students and other sections of the youth have been in the forefront as a very active force and many have worked for us also. But the election campaign betrayed once again how weak is our work among the students and youth of the country. This has enabled the JS in many places to draw the students towards them. Behind the DMK of course there was mass mobilisation of Tamilnad student community.

It has become customary with us to talk about party organisation after every election but soon we forget the lessons and fall back on our old, unavailing and somewhat barren ways. The drift starts all over again. It is not for this review to go into the organisational questions but no lessons whatsoever will have been, in the long run, learnt from the election unless the party makes a determined

break-through on the organisational front. A militant mass communist party is the need of the moment and such a mass militant communist party can never be built unless we consciously overcome some of our wrong ideas and habits in the matter of party organisation and party building.

This general election has unmistakably shown the superiority of our politics and our political line. But all this will not take us very far unless sound policies are matched by powerful party organisation. We are entering a period of great strains and stresses in our political life. This is yet another reason why party's entire thought and attention must go to the building of the party as a mass political force capable of meeting all twists and turns in the situation and capable of fulfilling the role of a staunch unifier of all democratic forces and builder of their unity. The post election conditions are extremely favourable for making great strides in the building of party organisation and we must undertake the work in all earnestness.

Militant sons and daughters of the working people are waiting to be drawn into the party. And we must know how to draw them here and now and assimilate them into the party organisation. The problem of cadre and party education naturally acquires very great importance in the context.

CONCLUSION

The post-election situation and our tasks do not come within the scope of this review. However some observations in conclusion will not be perhaps out of place here.

We have definitely entered a new period of deepening political and economic crisis—a period unpredictable in many ways, a period in which all manner of social, economic, political explosions are to be expected. The sunny days of the stability of the bourgeois rule are over. A period of uncertainty and instability has begun. Of which one manifestation is likely to be governmental crises and mid-term elections. The centre-state relations will assume new