

# ISSUES & VIEWS

Statement Issued by

**Popular Front  
of India**

January 2020 - December 2020



# PREFACE

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

In the current scenario, we are witnessing a dangerous trend where the ruling dispensation is trying to stifle the voices of democracy. Dissent is no more tolerated and any opposition to the evil plans of the fascists to convert our country into a fascist state is crushed using the government machinery. Minorities, Dalits, tribals, farmers, students and activists are being targeted with draconian laws.

Popular Front of India being a social movement has always prioritized the protection of people's democratic and constitutional rights. Popular Front is a vocal organization that believes in resisting any attempts by the anti-people forces to deprive people of their rights. Through our various campaigns, protests and statements we have been resisting the attacks on democratic rights.

We have compiled the statements and press notes issued by the organization on various issues and events that happened in 2020. We hope this collection will help the readers to understand the policies of our organization on various socio-political issues and also the general ideology of the movement.

Regards,

**Anis Ahmed,**

General Secretary

**Popular Front of India**

**INTERNATIONAL**



# The world should not bow before Israeli colonial ambitions

OMA Salam, Chairman of Popular Front of India, condemned the Israeli move to annex parts of the occupied West Bank.

After violating multiple international treaties and UN resolutions, Israel has expressed its lack of commitment to peace and negotiations. This mockery of international law was emboldened by unconditional US support and the inability of world countries and international bodies to bring Israeli leadership and military to account for their repeated violations. To this moment Israel hasn't stopped its illegal settlement in West Bank and inhuman blockade on Gaza Strip.

UN and the world must use every means at their disposal to stop Israeli colonial ambitions, he said.

*(21 May 2020)*

## Popular Uprising in the U.S a Ray of Hope for the Oppressed Across the world

**New Delhi:** Popular Front of India Chairman O M A Salam has stated that the ongoing popular uprising against institutionalized racism in America is a ray of hope for all oppressed people in the world.

The killing of George Floyd, an African-American man by police has shaken America. It was not an isolated case of police brutality and mere as studies showed that Black Americans are killed by police at a disproportionate rate and African American adults are nearly six times as likely to be imprisoned or jailed than white adults. These are examples of institutionalized racism.

In many respects, Afro-Americans share the fate that of Indian minorities and subaltern sections. Both are persecuted, discriminated against, and alienated by the privileged sections

who control power and wealth in both countries. Muslims and Dalits in India constitute the majority of people killed in police encounters and incarcerated in prisons charged under draconian laws.

However, it is highly hopeful that Americans are no longer ready to compromise with injustice and are determined to bringing the authorities to account. They are revolting against oppression and systemic racism. Movements like Black Lives Matter will show the way.

*(03 June 2020)*

## **Popular Front condemns Chinese aggression against India**

**New Delhi:** Popular Front of India Chairman O M A Salam has strongly condemned the Chinese attack and killing of Indian soldiers on Indian soil in Ladakh.

It is deeply disturbing to all Indians that China has been repeatedly violating Indian sovereignty and territorial integrity. As per reports, 20 soldiers from our side have sacrificed their lives and several soldiers have been injured. On behalf of the Popular Front of India, he expressed deep condolences to the families of the departed soldiers.

*(17 June 2020)*

## **India should not Support French Intolerance towards Muslims**

**New Delhi:** Popular Front of India Chairman O M A Salam has, in a statement, urged the India government not to support France in her policy of discrimination and intolerance towards minorities especially Muslims.



The Chairman said that there is an alarming rise of intolerance in the country towards its minorities. Both the physical attacks against them on the streets and racial humiliation in the mass media are on the rise. Unfortunately, instead of addressing these malaises plaguing the French society, the French government has decided to encourage them under the pretext of protecting freedom of speech. Simultaneously, France has unleashed police surveillance on innocent Muslims and restrictions are being imposed on their religious observance. Masjids were shut down in the country and Muslim charity organizations are being targeted in the name of the crackdown on 'terrorism'. Sadly, India has ignored these facts and chosen to support the Macron government, which is an unfortunate deviation from its core values.

***(29 October 2020)***

**HUMAN RIGHTS**



# Joint statement against the suppression of democratic protests and human rights violations in Uttar Pradesh

Since the passage of the Citizenship Amendment Bill by both houses of the parliament massive agitations and rallies have been happening in almost all cities and villages of the country. This was a very spontaneous outburst of popular anger against the legislation that goes against the values the country has been built upon.

The protests witnessed the active participation of people drawn from all sections of Indian society. Students, political parties, human rights activists and groups, and community organizations took part in the peaceful and democratic expression of dissent.

However, in BJP ruled states police unleashed brutal violence upon the people including women, children, and elderly people. Even those who were not part of any protests were beaten up. Uttar Pradesh has been witnessing unprecedented police brutalities mostly against the Muslims. The police officers were seen, without any regard for the law, barging into homes, destroying properties, beating up the residents, even women and children, abusing them, and telling them to leave the town. They were chasing protesters, beating them up, and opened fire at them. Out of 21 people dead in the state amid the protests, 18 died of bullet injuries. Many prominent activists and organization leaders are still in prison along with thousands of innocent people.

## Crimes Exposed

UP police stand exposed for the crimes they committed against innocent people and for the violation of the democratic right of the people to protest. They have now resorted to vilifying people and groups that participated in the protest in an attempt to break the will and create disunity and confusion among the people. Higher officials of UP Police now claim that Popular Front was behind all the protests and is reportedly seeking to ban the organization in the state. This is contrary to the facts. The agitations were and remain a collective movement of the people. No single organization, parties, or individuals have any authority or leadership role over it. What UP Government is up to is nothing but political vendetta, a move to demonize and destroy.

We refuse to buy this narrative and condemn any attempts by the authorities to isolate and

suppress any individuals and organizations including the Popular Front of India for participating in the protests. We demand UP Government to immediately release all the innocent people arrested and to initiate an impartial inquiry into the police atrocities. We also demand exemplary action against officers who violated the law. While we welcome any impartial investigations about the protests.

*Signed by:*

Maulana Sayyid Wali Rahmani- General Secretary All India Muslim Personal Law Board

Yashavant Sinha- Former Union Minister of Finance

Maulana KR Sajjad Nomani

Waman Chindhuji Meshram- National President of BAMCEF

Chandra Shekhar Aazad- Chief Bhim Army

Maulana Obaidullah Khan Azmi- Former Member of Parliament

Justice BG Kolse Patil- Former Judge of the Bombay High Court

Wajahat Habibullah- Former Chairperson, National Commission for Minorities

M.K. Faizy- National President, Social Democratic Party of India

Lalmani Prasad- Former Member of Parliament & Former Minister of UP Govt.

Mujtaba Farooq- Director Public Relations & Member Central Advisory Council, Jamaat-e-Islami Hind

Dr. SQR Iliyas- National President, Welfare Party of India

Adv.Bhanu Pratab Singh- National President Rashtriya Janhit Sangharsh Party & HSDO

Syed Sarwar Chishty- Gaddi Nasheen Khadim Hazrat Khwaja Moinuddin Chishty

Prof. Muhammed Sulaiman- Indian National League

Nishant Varma- Political Analyst

Nandita Narain - President, Democratic Teachers' Front, Delhi University

Adv. Mahmood Pracha- President, SAMLA, Legal Advisor, Bhim Army

Navaid Hamid- President, All India Muslim Majlis e Mushawarat

Bhai Tej Singh- National President, Ambedkar Samaj Party

Kamal Faruqui-Former Chairman Delhi Minorities Commission

Ashok Bharti- Chairman, All India Ambedkar Mahasabha

Prof. Abha Dev Habib- Secretary, Democratic Teachers' Front, Delhi University

M. Mohammed Ali Jinnah- Gen. Secretary Popular Front of India

**(5 Jan 2020)**

# Welcomes Chhattisgarh Government plea before Supreme Court against NIA Act; Urges other non-BJP State Governments to follow suit

New Delhi: Popular Front of India National General Secretary M Mohamed Ali Jinnah has welcomed the Chhattisgarh Government's decision to challenge the constitutionality of the draconian NIA Act in the Supreme Court and urged other non-BJP State Governments also to approach the apex court to strike down the act which is against the spirit of federalism.

The plea filed by the state government under Article 131 of the Constitution against the law expresses highly serious concerns which had already been raised by various political parties and civil rights groups since its introduction in 2008 and its amendment in 2019 making it even more draconian. As Chhattisgarh Government rightly pointed out, the law undermines the federal character of the country by conferring excessive powers to the centre to interfere in the prerogatives given to the states by the constitution.

There is no denying the fact that our mainstream opposition parties played a major role in creating this situation. It was the UPA government that first enacted the law in 2008, despite criticism from human rights organizations and activists. It is, however, highly hopeful, that some state governments are finally waking up to the reality. Kerala government has set a good example by officially approaching the apex court against the discriminatory Citizenship Amendment Act. As a state where there are instances of the misuse of the NIA Act and UAPA, the Kerala state government can be at the forefront to follow the example of the Chhattisgarh government and challenge both the laws. Taking the seriousness of the situation into account, Popular Front appeals to other non-BJP state governments to align themselves with Chhattisgarh in raising this demand and to save the constitution and federal character of the country.

***(16 January 2020)***

# The imposition of NSA for three months in Delhi an attempt to crush citizenship protests

The National Executive Council meeting of Popular Front of India has condemned the Delhi Lieutenant Governor order to impose National Security Act (NSA) in Delhi for three months starting from 19 January.

The NSA law is draconian and legalizes denial of constitutional rights in the name of national security. Provision of the act empowers police to take people into custody over mere suspicion and keep them for up to 12 months without producing in the court. Its abrupt imposition in Delhi now is even more concerning. While there is no situation exists in the state that can justify such draconian measures. But everyone knows how desperately the central government and Delhi police want people's agitations against CAA and NRC stopped. Delhi police used violence even against students and treated them like enemies merely for exercising their democratic rights to protest a government policy. Since the protests are still ongoing in various parts of the capital city like Jamia Millia Islamiya, Jama Masjid, Shaheen Bagh, and Jantar Mantar, there is every reason to fear that the NSA will be used against people participating in them. It might also be used by BJP against its political opponents during the State Assembly Election to be held in February since the party is already facing a serious crisis of declining popularity. In short NSA in Delhi is an attempt to suppress democratic dissent under the pretext of national security and law and order.

*(18 January 2020)*

## STOP ONGOING ATROCITIES BY THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND DELHI POLICE AGAINST RIOT VICTIMS

As per reports from the ground, more than 2600 people have been either detained or arrested alleging involvement in the North East Delhi riots, most of such persons hailing from the Muslim community. The majority of 53 people killed during the riots are Muslims as per official records. It is estimated that properties worth almost Rs. 25, 00crores had been destroyed. At least 19 mosques and 4 madrasas were found either damaged or desecrated. Most of the houses and shops looted and destroyed were also owned by Muslims. The

Muslims driven away during riots from places like Shiv Vihar are still not allowed to occupy their damaged dwellings.

All these happened due to the inaction of Delhi police controlled by the Union Home Ministry. There are videos which vividly show the policemen breaking CCTV cameras so that the faces and acts of the arsonists and rioters could not be captured, abusing seriously injured people, asking them to sing the national anthem, taunting them for raising 'Azadi' slogans during the anti-CAA protests, helping the rioters in picking stones and bricks, throwing stones with the rioters, etc.

It is reported that nearly 21000 distress calls were received in the Police Control Room between 22 to 29 February, out of which 1300 riot-related calls were received only on 24th and 25th. But most of them did not get any positive response. The Police had been so negligent in their duties that even the Supreme Court had to observe that had the Police acted the way law required them to act and stopped people from inflammatory remarks, the spiral of violence could have been averted and lives saved. To please its political masters, the Delhi police did not act the way it was required by the law. The cries of the victims were mostly ignored by them.

In an attempt to cover up facts that are open before the nation and even the international community, the Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP MPs had claimed in Parliament that the riots got controlled within 36 hours as if that duration appears to be normal. The fact is that the rampage continued for more than 70 hours in the full glare of the print media and news channels in the national capital which has a strong police force of more than 87000 people from companies of para-military forces. If such dereliction had happened in any other democratic country, the Home Minister would have resigned and the police personnel involved would have been dismissed.

But in India that is being transformed as a majoritarian communal fascist state, the real perpetrators of violence are elevated as great patriots, the visible RSS-BJP culprits and their motivator leaders are let free whereas the minority community victims, their leaders, and collectives are mercilessly thrown from frying pan to a burning fire. Following the path of BJP ruled Uttar Pradesh; the Delhi Police under Central Government continues the witch hunt of activists and groups that are in forefront of CAA-NPR-NRC agitations.

Hence we request all citizens and groups to raise their voice against these open violations of democratic values and laws of the land and strengthen our joint resistance against the RSS-BJP politics of communal fascism.

The Press meet was addressed by

1. AS Ismail, (NEC Member, Popular Front of India)
2. Dr. Tasleem Rahmani ( National Secretary, SDPI)
3. Bhai Tej Singh (National President, Ambedkar Samaj Party)

*(13 March 2020)*

# **Dr. Anand Teltumbde and Gautam Navlakha are Victims of State Vendetta, SC Rejection of Their Plea Disappointing**

Popular Front of India Chairman OMA Salam has called the charges against social activists and writers like Dr. Anand Teltumbde and Gautam Navlakha unfounded and part of political vendetta.

The Supreme Court has rejected the petition filed by Dr. Anand Teltumbde and Gautam Navlakha asking for a reprieve from arrest for six weeks due to Corona risks. The SC has asked them to surrender them within a week. When many countries are considering emptying their prisons due to the threat posed by the global pandemic, SC has displayed a disheartening disregard for the health of the citizens who are over 65 years of age. In a country where jails are already overcrowded, courts turning a blind eye to the world's realities are shocking and disappointing. Their arrest, which will reportedly take place on 14 April, the birth anniversary of Dr. BR Ambedkar, raises grave questions before the nation. The charges against them have no evidence and are part of the efforts to silence dissent.

The central government is making use of the Lockdown as a cover to intensify repressive measures. Popular Front demands to halt the move for arresting Anand Teltumbde and Gautam Navlakha.

*(13 April 2020)*

# Crackdown on Amnesty International to cover up human rights violations: Popular Front

Popular Front of India Chairman O M A Salam, in a statement, has said that the crackdown of Amnesty International was part of the attempt to cover up ongoing human rights violations in the country.

Modi government has been very intolerant towards independent organizations and watchdogs and Individuals who question the policies of the government. It is regrettable that Amnesty International is halting its operations in the country as its bank accounts have been frozen. The organization is being harassed by authorities due to the work it has done in the country and the uncompromising stand it has taken as regards the violations of human rights. It played a pivotal role in highlighting internationally the human rights violations being committed by the Modi government against minorities and political opponents. It has exposed the criminal complicity of Delhi Police in the North East Delhi violence and questioned the inhuman Lockdown in force in Jammu and Kashmir for the past year.

*(30 September 2020)*

## Laws against 'Love Jihad' will undermine religious freedom, and become a tool to oppress Muslims

New Delhi: Popular Front Chairman O M A Salam has stated that laws proposed by BJP ruled states against 'Love Jihad' is nothing but a covert attempt to eliminate religious freedom in the country. It will prove to be a tool to oppress innocent Muslims.

Despite volumes of evidence and investigation reports that there is no such thing as 'Love Jihad', for over a decade Sangh Pariwar has continued to use malicious anti-Muslim propaganda to polarise communities and political discourse in the country. While it helped BJP electorally and divert people's attention from their failures, the damage it is causing to Indian society is irreparable. It has and still continues to spark violence against the Muslim

community. BJP governments in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, and Karnataka are going to enact laws against 'Love Jihad'. This is a covert attempt to restrict religious freedom held sacrosanct by the constitution. Once such laws are enacted, people's right to marital and religious choices will become punishable offences. 'Love Jihad' will become a pretext to send Muslims marrying non-Muslims to jails. There is also inherent misogyny in the Love Jihad propaganda. Obviously, such laws will become an excuse for the state to interfere in the constitutionally guaranteed rights and autonomy of women.

Popular Front demands the secular forces in the country to abandon their silence and come out to resist Sangh Pariwar attempts for such racist, Islamophobic and anti-woman, anti-constitutional laws.

***(21 November 2020)***



**SOCIO - POLITICAL  
ISSUES**

## Attack on JNU students is a cowardly act by the fascist forces

**New Delhi:** Popular Front of India, Vice Chairman OMA Salam has strongly condemned the brutal attack on the students and faculties of JNU by the ABVP goons. Though the attacks were executed by the ABVP the mastermind behind these attacks is RSS. He stated that this attack is the sign of a new low in Indian politics where dissent is brutally suppressed. Since the BJP came to power in 2014 the JNU has been specifically targeted by the government. This is not a mere coincidence but a planned execution of a strategy to demonize and then suppress the democratic culture that is nurtured in the universities like JNU.

The fascist forces led by the RSS have always been intolerant towards the students, activists, and organizations critical of the fascist ideology. The country is witnessing the worst period of the fascist onslaught. Whether it be the attacks on the anti-CAA protesters in Jamia and AMU or the brutal killing of protestors through police firing in UP, Assam, and Karnataka, the violent nature of Hindutva fascism and the ruling dispensation has become evident.

Popular Front of India stands in solidarity with the students of JNU and calls upon the civil society to stand by the student fraternity which is continuously under stress.

*(5 Jan. 2020)*

## Supreme Court fails to address immediate concerns of the nation

**Calicut:** The Supreme Court hearing of the petitions filed against the discriminatory Citizenship (Amendment) Act today failed to address the immediate burning concerns of the nation and its people. The decisions given by the apex court today are rather procedural and have no bearing on the ultimate fate of the contentious legislation. It is also disappointing that the court has not ordered the government to suspend the operations on behalf of the Act till the pronouncement of the final verdict.

Ever since the passage of CAB in the parliament, the citizens across the country have been on the path of agitations. They were overtaken by fear and anxiety that the law as well as the

other central government steps like NPR and NRC would have a devastating effect on their lives. Millions of people including students, women, children, and elderly people who are still agitating on the streets across the country day and night for the past many weeks were expecting urgent relief from the judiciary. But they are left to wait for many more weeks for any sort of outcome.

The approach of the Supreme only necessitates the strengthening of the protest in the coming days. The struggle against CAA is nothing less than the struggle for millions of people who face denial of citizenship rights on the basis of religion. It is also the struggle to save the soul of India as a secular democratic republic. It is an ideological war of secular India by peaceful and democratic means against Hindutva politics of hatred and violence.

*The statement issued in the Press Conference at Calicut Kerala  
(22 Jan. 2020)*

***Participants:***

OMA Salam (Vice-Chairman)

M Muhammad Ali Jinnah (National General Secretary)

Abdul Wahid Sait (National Secretary)

C P Muhammed Basheer (State General Secretary)

# Jamia shooting premeditated, police negligence shocking

**New Delhi:** Popular Front of India General Secretary M Mohammed Ali Jinnah expressed anguish and shock over firing on the peaceful students' protest against the new Citizenship Law at Jamia Millia in Delhi.

The incident that happened in broad daylight in the national capital exposed the criminal negligence of Delhi Police. Not only did the police remained mute spectators the whole time, but they also did not even remove the barricade for the injured student who was forced to climb over the barricade to head for medical help.

Meanwhile, reportedly, there are attempts to downplay the seriousness of the incident. This attack is a culmination of a long created atmosphere of intolerance, hate, and violence against minorities and any form of opposition. Those who want to present Rambhakh Gopal, the shooter, as a mentally disturbed lone-wolf, are partners in crime and have a lot to cover up. Gopal's social media activities reveal his close association with Hindutva groups as well as his criminal intent of violence against the Shaheen Bagh protest. Also, the incident took place days after top BJP leader and Central minister Anurag Thakur's inciting sloganeering openly asking to shoot protesters (Desh ki Gadharom ko, goli maro salon ko). This incident happened on 30 January, the martyrdom day Gandhiji and it shows that those who worship the ideology and methods of Godse are ever more powerful.

We demand a judicial enquiry by a sitting judge to unearth the conspiracies behind the incident. The Union Minister who exhorted to shoot at protesters has no right to remain in office and hence to be expelled from office and arrested. The police officers who remained mute spectators and allowed a free hand to the shooter are to be dismissed.

**(31 Jan.2020)**

## **Supreme Court Judgment Undermines the Constitutional Provision of reservation: Popular Front**

Popular Front of India Secretary Anis Ahmed has, in a statement, called the Supreme Court's latest judgment on the reservation to scheduled castes another blow to the constitutional provision for affirmative actions meant for adequate representation of backward classes.

There is already a conspiracy underway to dispense with the system of reservation. The BJP government has already diluted the reservation system by imposing economic criteria on it. At this point, the Supreme Court verdict that the courts could not order states to provide quotas and states could not be forced to make such provisions is going to strengthen the efforts of those who fight reservation. A judgment such as this can only be viewed as an indirect move against reservation. It would further facilitate the insidious efforts to destroy it.

*(10 Jan.2020)*

## **Delhi Assembly Election results a slap on the face of anti-people, communal politics**

**New Delhi:** Popular Front of India Secretary Abdul Wahid Sait has stated that the results of the Delhi state assembly election was a slap on the face of the anti-people and communal politics of BJP.

As much as the Aam Admi Party's victory, Delhi assembly election results were also people's rejection of Sangh Parivar's malicious politics and propaganda. Despite being at the Centre for the past 6 years, BJP had little to convince people by way of development or improving basic living standards of the people. The candidates and campaigners of the party in the capital city relied solely on divisive campaigns. They often resorted to provocations for violence against the Muslim community. The capital city witnessed brutal police raj and thuggery of the Sangh Parivar goons in the past weeks. Delhi police under the command of the central government treated the students like enemies and subjected them to brutal torture merely for using their democratic right to protest peacefully.

As an assembly election that comes after the popular uprising against CAA, NPR, and NRC across the country, the result should also be read as people's displeasure with those divisive moves. By defeating the BJP on such a massive scale, the people of Delhi have sent a clear message that they are not with this violent and polarising anti-people politics.

*(11 Feb. 2020)*

## **Delhi riots planned and executed by Sangh Parivar, aided by police:**

New Delhi: Anis Ahmed, Popular Front of India General Secretary, has stated that the violence taking over the national capital is not a spontaneous one but planned and executed by Sangh Parivar and aided by the police.

It is extremely saddening that nearly 20 people have already lost their lives, over 150 people have been injured and properties worth crores have been destroyed in the violence that broke out in North East Delhi. The violence was not sparked by any unexpected incident but was planned and executed by Sangh Parivar goons. The protests against CAA and NRC in the national capital that has been going on for the past three months were peaceful and democratic. Since the very beginning, Sangh Parivar leaders and groups have been openly calling for violence against innocent women and children taking part in the agitations at Shaheen Bagh and other parts of the city. Attempts were made multiple times to attack them while police watched as mute spectators. It was BJP leader Kapil Mishra's instigation against nonviolent protests in Jaffrabad that triggered the planned violence. Now evidence is surfacing that men, armed with guns, swords, and iron rods are marauding, killing, maiming, and looting helpless people, as police duty-bound to protect the people, are aiding and even joining the attackers. Meanwhile, the reluctance of the secular parties to speak up in the face of a genocidal attack against Muslims in the capital city is disappointing.

Popular Front urges people and voluntary groups to mobilize rescue and relief operations in the affected areas. Popular Front also appeals to all political leaders and community leaders to take initiatives to deescalate the situation and prevent the violence from spreading further and demands immediate arrest of BJP leaders Kapil Mishra and judicial inquiry into the violence by a team led by a sitting Supreme Court judge.

*(26 Feb. 2020)*

# Calls Upon the Media Establishments to Stand Upright and Resist Information Blockade

**New Delhi:** O M A Salam, Popular Front of India Chairman, in a statement called the act of Narendra Modi government banning two Malayalam news channels – Asianet News and Media One – for 48 hours assault on the fourth pillar of democracy and the freedom of expression guaranteed by the Indian constitution.

In its orders, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting alleged that the two channels appeared to have covered the violence on February 25 in a manner that “highlighted the attack on places of worship and siding towards a particular community”. O. M. A. Salam termed this action as a means to terrorise those sections of visual media that still dare to remain independent and critical about wrongdoings of RSS-BJP and their governments. The central government is particularly targetting vernacular media houses in South India because they show their spine in exercising their independence rather than emulating their counterparts in other parts of India.

O M A Salam stated that under Bhagwat-Modi-Shah the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has been made Ministry of Information Blockade.

*(07/March/2020)*

# Muslims are being targeted to cover up Sangh Parivar and Police role in Delhi pogrom: Popular Front of India

**New Delhi:** In the resolution passed by the meeting of the National Executive Council, the Popular Front of India has stated that the violence that rocked North East Delhi for four days starting from 23 February was not a standalone incident of conflict between two sides but a communal pogrom against Muslim community planned and perpetrated by right-wing Hindutva leaders and their follower mobs.

The violence was the result of a series of communal propaganda and provocative speeches openly advocating violence that have been going at local and national level targeting Muslims. The Delhi Police and a section of media colluded with Sangh Parivar in manufacturing bigotry and hatred against Muslims. The underlying message was that Muslims in the country should not use their democratic rights to voice against discriminatory government policies.

The attacks were pre-planned as the Muslim houses and properties were marked in advance. According to the report of the Delhi State Minority Commission nearly 2000 people associated with right-wing communal organizations were brought in from the states adjacent to Delhi to carry out violence. The targeted people were asked their names to identify their religion. They were shot, stabbed, and burned alive. Their houses were looted and set on fire, properties destroyed, and places of worship vandalised. As of now, 53 people were killed and many more injured. It is reported that 22 houses, 322 shops, 301 vehicles, and 3 schools were destroyed. 16 Mosques were also vandalized. An open drain that runs across most of the affected area has been used by the perpetrators to dump the bodies and severed body parts. Many are still missing and people suspect that more people were killed.

The reports from the ground also point out that, amidst official apathy and indifference, the casualties were controlled in many localities because people there came forward to defend themselves against the attacking mob. The police facilitated the violence by the omission of their duties, by colluding with Hindutva right-wing mob, and sometimes, even by their active participation in assaults, murder, arson, and destruction. The cries of the victims for help were ignored by them. Their Families are still reluctant to approach the police due to their hostile and discriminatory treatment. The police are threatening them while shielding the actual perpetrators. For days police barred media persons and independent agencies from entering some of the worst affected areas. Now people are complaining of arbitrary arrests of

innocent Muslims while people who openly instigated the violence are left untouched. Meanwhile, the Delhi state government also showed criminal apathy towards the victims. Even though the AAP government has announced some relief measures, they played no role in emergency rescue and relief activities and providing medical treatment to the injured.

The displaced people are left at the mercy of various community organizations and local groups. Shockingly, the Prime Minister, the Union Home Minister, and the State Chief Minister were too busy in their other priorities during and immediately after the days of violence to the extent of even not uttering few words of consolation, confidence, and support to the victims.

### **The NEC of Popular Front demands:**

1. That the Delhi Police immediately start the much-delayed arrests of the Sangh Parivar leaders who fanned the flames of violence.
2. That the Delhi State Government to ensure the medical treatment of the injured and relief and rehabilitation of the displaced.
3. That the Delhi State Government to give Rs 1 crore compensation to the families of those who were killed as they have done in the case of the killed police constable.
4. That the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi to institute an inquiry commission headed by sitting High Court judge to investigate to bring the real culprits to justice.
5. That to publish immediately the full list of missing people and to take steps to find them out.
6. That to stop the witch-hunt of innocent Muslims and release them from jail after withdrawing the false cases on them.

**(11 March 2020)**

# Delink NPR exercise from forthcoming Census house listing process

In another resolution adopted by the NEC, the Popular Front of India urged the central and all state governments to delink NPR exercise from the forthcoming Census house listing process. The meeting also called upon the people to boycott the forthcoming census house listing in states where it would be carried out by linking it with NPR.

The passage of The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill by the Parliament of India in December 2019 gave BJP government the legal ground for denial of citizenship rights on the basis of religion. The CAA along with the move for the nationwide implementation of the National Register of Citizens and National Population Register threaten to render millions of poor Indian citizens stateless. This apprehension has taken millions of people across the country to streets protesting against CAA, NRC, and NPR. The killings and destructions unleashed in the BJP rules states along with Hindutva forces have not yet been able to contain these agitations.

With escalating tensions across India, many state governments have spoken out against the controversial CAA-NRC-NPR move and many state assemblies passed resolutions. Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Kerala, West Bengal Punjab, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Delhi, Maharashtra, and Andhra Pradesh are states which have taken an open stand against the CAA. These have, undoubtedly, given much relief and hope to the people.

While the Centre is still adamant on their decision of going ahead with NPR linking it with Census 2021, the incoherence between the words and deeds of most state governments leaves people confused. The Central Home Ministry has already revealed that the listing of houses along with linking of NPR data collection with Census will be carried out across the country from April 1 to September 30. Yet, except for Kerala and West Bengal, none of the above states has issued official orders by removing data collection for NPR from the Census house listing process.

Popular Front is of the view that NPR is nothing but the basic step towards implementing NRC and therefore to be boycotted by anyone opposing NRC. Once NPR is completed, there is nothing that can prevent the nationwide implementation of NRC. Therefore all the states must make their stand clear to people on the scheduled NPR linked Census house listing phase. Since it is not made clear by the respective state government through



orders/notifications the only option left before the people is to boycott the exercise.

It is a welcome step that Kerala and West Bengal states have made the distinction between the Census and NPR exercises and clarified that they would not include NPR-related questions during the census data collection. However, uncertainty and apprehensions still exist among people and enumerators about the real nature of the exercise. Hence the meeting called upon these governments to postpone the Census house listing exercise in all states including Kerala and West Bengal until the concerns of the citizens are satisfactorily addressed.

*Anis Ahmed*  
*General Secretary*  
*Popular Front of India*

## **Welcomes Corona Restrictions; Demands Adequate Support Measures**

O M A Salam, Chairman of Popular Front of India, in a press statement welcomed the lockdown imposed in the country for preventing the spread of the Corona pandemic. However, he expressed dissatisfaction that enough preparations have not been made before the blockade.

The dramatic way the Prime Minister announced a 21- day-long nationwide curfew without adequate preparations caused unnecessary panic among people.

Rs. 15000 crores announced by the Prime Minister is too inadequate to face the nation's Corona medical emergency. There was no plan to support the vast number of poor daily wage labourers.

Popular Front Chairman urged the central and state governments to take the following support measures.

- 1) To distribute special monthly allowance to all families Below Poverty Line.
- 2) To distribute free food kits to all those in need through PDS (Ration shops).
- 3) To declare steps to ensure that there is no food scarcity and that there is no price hike.
- 4) To ensure that the curfew doesn't affect the transportation of food, medicine, and other basic items across the country.
- 5) To allow shops selling food items and other essentials to open full day to avoid rush and panic during limited hours of buying.

*(25 Mar.2020)*

## **Thabligh Jama'at being victimised to cover up systemic failures**

OMA Salam, the chairman of Popular Front of India, has stated the allegations against Markaz Nizamuddeen are unfounded and that the Delhi state government and a section of media are victimising Thableeg Jama'at to divert the attention from the massive fallouts from the lockdown.

Markaz Nizamuddeen had canceled all their pre-scheduled programmes before the

lockdown started and fully complied with official instructions. However, the Lockdown announced without a warning or adequate measures proved tragic to millions of people.

Poor families and labourers groups got trapped all over India, particularly in all major cities across the country. Delhi was the most affected city by the Lockdown, for which both the central government and Delhi state govt are equally responsible. Tablighi Markaz, a centre where thousands of devotees gather, was thrown into crisis by the unexpected restrictions and their request to authorities for permission to send people back to their homes was ignored. Once the curfew was imposed, the Markaz had no other way than to keep delegates indoors inside the headquarters. Hence blaming Markaz for the mayhem is condemnable. The police cases charged against the Markaz are unjust need to be dropped.

Popular Front asks the media to refrain from demonising Markaz and Thabligh Jama'at for the situation problem by the authorities. Popular Front also urges the central and state government to take necessary steps to ensure food, accommodation, and medical facilities of all the stranded people across the country.

*(31 March 2020)*

## **Popular Front Salutes Nation's Health Workers, Demands Action Against Spreading Hatred**

Popular Front of India National Chairman OMA Salam appreciated state health authorities and health workers in many Indian states for their selfless efforts to save lives and prevent the spread of the Corona pandemic.

Compared to many developed European countries, India is doing a lot better in preventing the spread of the pandemic and reducing the fatality rate, he said. Coordinated and timely action by the authorities, police, and health workers is instrumental in bringing the situation under control. The nation is obliged to its health workers who have put their lives on the line to save others.

At the same time, there is also a dangerous trend seen in the country. While the nation is fighting the pandemic, the divisive forces are making use of the situation to communalise the issue and spread hatred against large sections of the population. Nizamuddin Markaz Masjid

and Tablighi Jama'at were viciously targeted and accused of being the carriers of the disease. The islamophobic content aired by many media houses has made the situation even worse. There are reports of Muslims being attacked due to hate propaganda. While a few state governments have issued a statement against this hate campaign, it is unfortunate that the Prime Minister is silent on this issue. We demand the central and state governments to take stern actions on the media houses and people who ran the anti-Muslim propaganda.

*(07 April 2020)*

## **Facilitate Safe Return of Stranded NRI's Across the World**

**New Delhi:** The National Executive Council meeting of Popular Front of India, in a resolution, urged the central government to facilitate the return of all stranded Indian citizens across the world.

Covid 19 lockdown in many countries, especially in the Gulf, has left millions of Indian citizens in an uncertain situation. There are reports of a severe shortage of basic goods and a lack of sufficient medical care. The NRI community across the world has been the backbone of our economy. Now they are desperately looking forward to a helping hand from their motherland.

In another resolution, NEC demanded action against those who are generating communal and racial hatred by linking certain sections of the population with the spread of Coronavirus. There is an extensive fake news campaign going on in the country jointly by a section of mainstream media and Hindutva forces targeting Muslims. They are propagating that Muslims are deliberately infecting people. The campaign has already caused fear psychosis and instigated hate crimes against Muslims in various parts of the country.

In another resolution, the NEC has called on the government to address the plight of migrant workers. There were many incidents in different cities wherein migrant labours defied the lockdown and came to the streets demanding help for them to go home. It indicates the feeling of uncertainty, frustration, and helplessness among them. In this situation, a further extension of the lockdown is unbearable to them. NEC demands state and central governments for urgent measures to send them home and special packages to support their families till the lockdown ends.

In another resolution, the meeting criticised the central government's attempts to cunningly use the lockdown to destroy the anti-CAA, anti-NRC protests. Dozens of people have been arrested and remanded during this lockdown period in Delhi for leading or involving in the protests against CAA NRC and NPR. This move raises serious concerns regarding the intention of the Delhi Police.

*(18 April 2020)*

## **Exempt Poor Expat Indian Laborers from Evacuation Charges**

**New Delhi:** Popular Front of India Chairman OMA Salam has asked central and state governments to bring back poor migrant Indian laborers stranded in foreign countries free of cost.

He also said that it is highly unfortunate that every one of them will have to pay for their flight and subsequent quarantine back home. Low-income unskilled laborers constitute the majority of the gulf & Singapore Indian expats population. It is to be remembered that India has a history of carrying out such operations completely free of cost. Chairman also said that central and state governments should take steps to meet the travel expenses of those expats unable to pay for to travel home.

*(15 May 2020)*

## **20 lakh crore package fails to address the real problems of the people: Popular Front**

**New Delhi:** A resolution passed by the National Executive Council of Popular Front of India has stated that the Prime Minister's 20 lakh crore stimulus package failed to address the real issues facing the country.

This is a stimulus only for crony capitalists and big businesses. Under the disguise of the lockdown package, the government is implementing another hidden agenda of privatization to benefit corporate houses favoured by BJP.

Various economists have pointed out that the government is trying to deceive the country by including previous schemes and announcements as a new package. The nation's labour thrown to hunger and despair overnight by the Lockdown receives is another package of hollow promises. There is little in the package that has any direct benefits to the labourers to overcome starvation and unemployment.

*(18 May 2020)*

## **First Anniversary Letter by Prime Minister to the Nation Attempt to cover up Truth with Rhetoric**

OMA Salam, Chairman of Popular Front of India has said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's letter to the nation after the completion of one year in his second term carries nothing but an attempt to hide burning issues. But his usual tactic of encapsulating his failures with meaningless rhetoric is repeated in this letter also.

Most of the things he lists as achievements were in fact attempts to polarize citizens. The letter cites the Supreme Court verdict on Ayodhya as an achievement of his government. This endorses the allegation that the unjust Babri verdict was the result of unholy collusion. Likewise, the abrogation of Article 370 was a betrayal of the constitutional promises given to the Kashmiri people and it proved tragic to the life of Kashmiris.

The letter looks like an attempt to blame his misgovernance and failures on the corona pandemic.

O M A Salam pointed out that there are no concrete plans or creative steps that will help the nation in overcoming the economic crisis.

Popular Front of India Headquarters

*(31 May 2020)*

## **Popular Front condemns Chinese aggression against India**

**New Delhi:** Popular Front of India Chairman O M A Salam has strongly condemned the Chinese attack and killing of Indian soldiers on Indian soil in Ladakh.

It is deeply disturbing to all Indians that China has been repeatedly violating Indian sovereignty and territorial integrity. As per reports, 20 soldiers from our side have sacrificed their lives and several soldiers have been injured. On behalf of the Popular Front of India, he expressed deep condolences to the families of the departed soldiers.

*(17 June 2020)*

## **Delhi Minorities Commission Fact-Finding Report Exposes Hindutva Groups Role in North East Delhi Riots**

New Delhi: Popular Front of India Chairman O M A Salam, in a statement, has said that the report of the fact-finding of Delhi Minority Commission into the violence that happened in North East Delhi showed that communal instigations provoked by Hindutva groups the reason for violence and Delhi police implicated innocents to save Hindutva culprits.

The report prepared by the Committee after collecting evidence and interviewing the victims of violence is an important document, he said. It proves that the claims of the Delhi police and central government were false and their actions were highly discriminatory against Muslim victims. The protests that broke in Delhi after the passage of CAA had the participation of people from all walks of life. As the findings of the team showed, in the wake of the Delhi assembly election campaign during December 2019 - February 2020, there were several speeches by BJP leaders openly inciting people for violence against anti-CAA protesters. This was followed by visible attempts by Sangh-backed right-wing groups and supporters to intimidate and attack the protesters in Delhi. There were even shootings in full public view. Delhi police completely failed to stop them.

Findings also reinforce the suspicion that the violence was pre-planned. Large numbers of outsiders were involved along with the locals. The report documents 11 mosques, five madrasas, one shrine, and one graveyard that were attacked and damaged in the violence. People interviewed by the Committee told that police were reluctant to intervene or help people even while the violence was happening in front of them. In some cases, victims themselves have been arrested just because they came forward to file cases against named individuals. The report also rejects unfounded police accusations against Muslim organizations, leaders, and individuals, including Popular Front, linking them with the violence.

Popular Front welcomes and supports the recommendations of the committee and urges central and state government, the judiciary, to act on them in the interest of justice to the victims and preventing such violence in the future.

*(17 July 2020)*

## **Delhi Police continue to obstruct the delivery of justice to riot victims**

Popular Front of India Chairman, O M A Salam, in a statement, has questioned tall claims of impartiality by Delhi police and told that the Delhi High Court calling certain police action 'mischievous, points to a serious situation. Now Delhi high court has questioned the controversial order issued by a Special Commissioner of Delhi Police to his subordinates asking to exercise due care and precaution while making arrests related to riots not to cause "Hindu resentment". The court has called the order "mischievous".

The Delhi Police's biased attitude in investigating and prosecuting the riot cases is proving to be a major obstruction to justice to the victims of the Delhi riots. More and more evidence is surfacing about anti-Muslim behavior. Many fact-finding teams including that of the Delhi Minority Commission have underlined the fact that police were reluctant to act, help the victims and stop rioters while violence was happening right under their noses. According to many eyewitness accounts, police encouraged Hindu mobs to attack Muslims and sometimes even actively participated in the violence and vandalism.

The response given by Delhi Police to an RTI query filed Adv. A Muhammed Yussuf, NEC member of Popular Front, casts doubts over Delhi police's commitment to justice. The Delhi Police are withholding vital information like the details of FIRs and remand applications, the identity of the accused in FIRs, their bail details, number and details of the charge sheets filed, etc. The police have not revealed the number of Muslims and Hindus and their group affiliations. Withholding of the details in the FIR in such cases is against the Supreme Court guidelines.

This smokescreen created by total lack of information is used to maintain the false impression of neutrality even when Muslim activists and organizations and ordinary Muslims who are distantly connected to the Delhi riots are implicated, while Hindutva leaders who openly advocated violence against anti-CAA protestors are still untouched by law.

*(02 Aug 2020)*

# Defeat Sangh Parivar attempt at polarization in the name of Ayodhya Bhumi Puja

**New Delhi:** In a statement issued today, Popular Front of India Chairman O M A Salam has appealed to the people to defeat Sangh Parivar's attempts to divide the nation again along religious lines in the name of the Ayodhya Bhumi Puja event.

A democratically elected government is supposed to treat all citizens equally and not take sides in religious, cultural, or other forms of disputes within the nation. The Ayodhya Bhumi Pujan on demolished Babri Masjid land scheduled on Aug 5 is, by all means, a politicised religious event. However, it is being projected as a government achievement and the Prime Minister and the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister are expected to lead the event. This is not only a blatant violation of the oath of office they have taken but also an act of rubbing salt to a national wound. This is another instance of the Modi government showing its true colour.

The Bhumi Pujan is about to take place at the site where a centuries-old place of worship belonging to Muslims was demolished by Hindutva fanatics. The criminals involved in that heinous act have still not been brought to justice. Now a democratically elected Prime Minister is offering Puja at the very site along with the criminals who led the demolition.

Unfortunately even the soul secular opposition parties have failed to understand the gravity of the situation and long-forgotten their commitment to people. Some of them are trying to pose themselves as 'better versions' of BJP. Some Congress leaders have expressed disappointment over not being invited to attend the Bhumi Pujan. Madhya Pradesh Congress leaders went a step further, they are celebrating the event along with Sangh Parivar, which showcases the real face of many prominent leaders from the Congress party.

*(04 Aug 2020)*

# Welcomes Bombay High Court Judgment Quashing FIR's Against Foreign Tableeghi Jamaat Members

**New Delhi:** Popular Front of India Chairman O M A Salam has, in a statement, welcomed the Bombay High Court judgment that quashed the FIRs against foreign Thableeghi Jamaat members.

The decision of the Division Bench of Justice TV Nalawade and Justice MG Sewlikar is historic. He said at a time when the independence of the Indian judiciary has come under clouds, it upholds an uncompromising commitment to justice, truth, and equality before the law. The observations made by the bench are a blow to communal politics.

*(23 August 2020)*

## India's GDP contraction result of policy blunders: Popular Front

**New Delhi:** A resolution passed by the National Executive Council of Popular Front of India observed that the crash of India's GDP to -23% was mainly the result of policy blunders committed by the Modi government during the past 6 years.

There were all the signs of our economy falling apart right from the beginning. It continued to drop for the eight consecutive quarters. Except for the past two quarters, Corona lockdown cannot be blamed for the situation. The country is paying the price for the anti-people and absurd economic policies that have been adopted since PM Modi came to power, like demonetization and poorly executed GST. The poorly executed Corona Lockdown was just another blow to the already shrinking economy and widening unemployment. Other than hollow packages and manipulating data, nothing is being done to address the situation. Instead what the government is doing is to turn people's attention away from key issues concerning their everyday lives and keep them constantly hooked in religious hostilities and hatred towards the minorities.

In another resolution, NEC called on the central government to restore the democratic rights of the Kashmiri people.

The lockdown imposed on Kashmiri people turned one year. It was a decision against democratic values and violated the constitutional guarantees given to the Kashmiri people. The lockdown only made an already bad situation worse. Human rights violations are on the rise in the valley. The attack on Muharram Day processions reportedly injured nearly a thousand people. Only by respecting the democratic rights of the Kashmiri people there can be a peaceful resolution to the situation.

*(07 September 2020)*

## **Farm Bills Will Worsen the Plight of Farmers and Result In Mass Unemployment**

A resolution passed by the National Executive Council meeting of the Popular Front of India has stated that the Farm Bills passed by the parliament are going to worsen the plight of farmers.

The reforms being brought into force through three bills will have a huge impact on the lives of a large section of the population in a country where more than half of the Indian population depends on agriculture for their living. The bills were never placed for discussion before the farmers, nor were any consultations done with political parties. It is just another instance of the Modi government using Corona as an excuse to implement its dictatorial policies. At a time when the country's farmers are in dire need of more government support and protection for their survival, the bills signal the withdrawal of the meager support they were getting. With the end of APMCs and government-imposed Minimum Support Price, farmers will now be left to fight with the corporate giants to get a fair price for their produce. These reforms are certainly going to result in mass unemployment. Only the corporates and big businesses will benefit from it. Modi government has successfully managed to destroy the country's economy through absurd reforms like demonetization and GST. It will take decades for the nation to recover from its impacts.

## **Modi Government's Deceptive Ways to Pass Bills A Threat to Democracy**

The way the farm bills were passed Rajya Sabha hurriedly and deceptively despite strong protests from farmers across the country, opposition parties, and even NDA alliance parties. As the ruling alliance doesn't have an absolute majority in Rajya Sabha, the opposition rightfully demanded the division of votes or to send the two bills to a select committee. Yet the Deputy Chairperson decided to go for a voice vote. The audio telecast of the live proceedings was muted, cutting off the nation from Parliamentary proceedings. All these show BJP's disregard for democratic values and the deceptive methods adopted by the Modi government to fulfill its objectives.

## **Stop misuse of central investigation agencies against political rivals**

In another resolution, the meeting demanded the Centre to end the misuse of investigation agencies to silence political rivals.

In the name of probing national security issues and financial crimes, central investigation agencies, NIA, ED, and CBI, are serving the political interest of the BJP. Opposition leaders individuals, groups opposed to BJP are being targeted for political reasons. Non-BJP states like Kerala and West Bengal are being portrayed as hubs of terrorism. It is noteworthy here that NIA had already been accused of being biased against the Muslim community and helping Hindutva terrorists walk out of jail in Samjhautha Express, Malegaon, and Ajmer Darga blast cases, in which hundreds of innocents were killed.

*(29 September 2020)*

## **Babri Masjid Demolition Case Verdict: A Shameful Act and a Challenge to the Idea of India**

Popular Front of India chairman O M A Salam has termed the special CBI court verdict in Babri Masjid demolition case shameful and a challenge to the very idea of India as a secular nation. The verdict makes a mockery of the justice delivery system by declaring that no conspiracy happened for demolishing the Masjid, that the top leaders tried only to prevent the mob and that those who climbed the domes and destroyed the Masjid were only miscreants as if all of

them were without any identity. The judgement pronounced by CBI Court Judge S K Yadav after 28 years of the heinous act of collective crime that happened in daylight and media limelight proved so deaf and dumb to acquit all 32 accused like LK Advani, Murli Manohar Joshi and others stating no enough evidence at all against them. The judgment has also ignored the findings of the Liberhan Commission Report which had pointed to 68 Sangh Parivar leaders as the key accused.

O M A Salam further stated that the Court has manufactured a political verdict that is not based on facts and evidence as it should have been in a criminal case. Following the 2019 Nov 9 Supreme Court judgment facilitating the temple construction on the demolished Babri Masjid site against its own observation that demolition was a criminal act, this biased verdict is not totally unexpected. The larger issue before the country is the dominance and control of the BJP led central government on the judiciary. Many instances in the past 6 years have brought to light the attack on the independence of central agencies.

Popular Front of India Headquarters.

***(30 September 2020)***

## **Condemns the illegal arrest of CFI leaders by UP Police**

**New Delhi:** Anis Ahmed, the General Secretary has said that the arrest of Atiqur Rahman, Masood Ahmad who are office-bearers of students' organization CFI along with journalist Siddik Kappan is highly deplorable. The team was heading to Hathras to meet the family of the rape victim. The arrest shows that in UP under the Yogi government even meeting the family of victims is now considered a crime. To hide the failed law and order situation in UP the BJP government has also tried to link the Popular Front of India (PFI) to the protests that are happening across the country.

The UP Police is trying to divert the attention of the issue by creating a conspiracy theory. Such acts only show their nervousness due to the growing anger among the people of UP and the rest of the country. Popular Front will not be intimidated by such tactics of suppression by the UP gov't. We demand the immediate release of the CFI leaders and journalist Siddik Kappan.

***(06 October 2020)***

# Yogi's 'Love Jihad remarks' to foment hatred and division for vote bank politics

**New Delhi:** A resolution passed by the National Executive Council meeting of Popular Front of India condemned Yogi Adityanath using the term 'Love Jihad'. The Love Jihad remarks made by UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath against those he claims are waging 'Love Jihad' was an attempt at fomenting hatred and division in the society for vote bank politics. Such remarks are aimed to create more fear in the minds of Muslim as they are wrongly accused by Sangh Pariwar of 'Love Jihad'. Several central and state investigation agencies have established beyond any doubt that 'Love Jihad' is nothing but an Islamophobic conspiracy theory cooked up by right-wing groups to insult and ostracise the Muslim community. BJP still uses this propaganda every now and then to create an atmosphere of violence.

Reservation for EWS harming the quota of backward classes:

In another resolution, the meeting remarked that the implementation of a 10% reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) is seriously undermining the existing quota for the backward classes. In states like Kerala Plus-Two seat allocation and seat allocation for NEET, candidates show that EWS reservation is eating into the quota of OBCs, SCs and STs. A recent recruitment notification issued by the Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (IBPS) maintained a 50% cap on the reservation and reduced quota for backward classes to accommodate the 10% for the EWS. The idea of introducing economic category to reservation had been staunchly opposed by the backward communities. They had pointed out that reservation is not a mean for poverty alleviation but for ensuring the representation of all sections in education and bureaucracy. However, the proponents of economic reservation argue that the reservation for EWS won't in any way affect the present quota reserved for the backward classes and their representation. The way 10% quota for the EWS is being implemented now is proving that their apprehensions right. The true objective, the adequate representation of the backward classes, has been successfully subverted. Backward classes should unite and come forward against this betrayal and demand an alternative to ensure their representation.

**(03 November 2020)**

## Bihar results, a wakeup call to secular parties

**New Delhi:** Popular Front Chairman O M A Salam has, in a statement, observed that the 2020 Bihar Assembly Election results are a wake-up call to the country's mainstream secular parties.

He said Bihar election results are yet another example of how mainstream secular parties like Congress continue to make the same mistakes expecting different results. The party has proved that it can't be an alternative to the anti-Muslim, anti-people fascist politics of BJP. Grave concerns of Muslims, CAA, NRC, Muslim political representation etc, weren't even raised in their campaign. National parties like Congress, while taking Muslim votes for granted, couldn't win people's hearts and minds to rebuild a strong secular narrative against polarising campaigns of Sangh Parivar. Rather they are seen playing soft Hindutva to lure BJP's Hindu vote bank. These parties badly need to do a reality check now.

It's a matter of hope that Muslim electoral responses in the state showed a radical shift. The 5 seats won by AIMIM is a clear message in it for parties who traditionally viewed Muslims as a default vote bank. Muslim votes can no longer be taken for granted and that they have to earn them. The community is telling that winning their votes without giving them any meaningful representation or without giving any space to Muslim parties will not be tolerated any more.

*(12 November 2020)*

## Extends support to Farmers' protests

**New Delhi:** In a statement issued today, Popular Front Chairman O M A Salam extended his organization's support to Delhi Chalo March being taken out by farmers' organizations against the newly enacted farm laws.

Modi government has made the plight of Indian farmers worse through the newly enacted laws and exposed its anti-poor and anti-people crony capitalist face. Unless the grievances of the farmers are not heard by the government it will soon become the grievance of the entire nation. Therefore every citizen of the country is duty-bound to support these peaceful and democratic agitations, he said.

*(26 November 2020)*

# Stand with the struggles of the farmers

A resolution passed by the National Executive Council of Popular Front of India has stated that it is the duty of all right-minded citizens and sections in the country to stand with the struggles of Indian farmers against new farm laws.

Like in the case of communal laws like CAA, and NRC, these three farm laws which will have immense ramifications to the country's agriculture and economy were rushed through the legislative houses without holding any consultations with the farmers, or the opposition parties. A recent RTI query reveals that the government has no records of any kind of discussions held with the farmers' organizations before finalizing these anti-farmer bills. The BJP government under the garb of sugar-coated claims like reforming agriculture are giving multi-national companies a free hand to exploit farmers. In a country where a large percentage of the farmers are already in distress and are resorting to suicides due to unpayable debts, government support and a regulated market are indispensable. Certainly, the government's decision to end the Minimum Support Prize and Mandies through new laws will have tragic effects on their lives.

## Largest Farm Agitation

That is why farmers across the country took it upon themselves to come to the streets against it without waiting for any political parties or saviours. One of the largest farm agitations witnessed by the country erupted against the laws is entering the second month amid official arrogance and apathy. In the bone-chilling summer, the protesters have made highways their home. Nearly 30 people have already lost their lives.

However, the authorities are trying to tarnish the protests as being instigated by the opposition and calling the farmers Khalistanis, Jihadis, Maoists, Naxals and anti-nationals. The Prime Minister apart from expressing his government's willingness to hold dialogues had done nothing substantial to address their concerns. The BJP government finds it convenient to fritter away the farmer's time by offering fresh rounds of talk and multiple times have these meetings gone inconclusive bearing no results.

The farmers in Delhi, who also have expressed their solidarity to the activists and leaders imprisoned for voicing against CAA and NRC, have proved that they are not just protesting against the anti-farmer laws but are in fact in the pursuit of larger solidarity against the



Corporate-Hindutva fascist and imperialist designs, by extending their hands towards the like-minded allies and victims of Hindutva.

As a community that is itself victims of Sangh Parivar is duty-bound to stand for justice and truth regardless of the results, the Muslim Community should come forward to support and voice for the farmers. Popular Front also calls upon all right-minded citizens and all the sections in the country to stand with the struggles of Indian farmers against new farm laws.

*Anis Ahmed,  
General Secretary,  
Popular Front of India, New Delhi.*



**ORGANIZATION**

## Vilification Campaign by UP Police

A vilification campaign against the Popular Front of India has been devised by the Uttar Pradesh government and UP Police and a conspiracy to stifle the activities of the Popular Front of India is underway. They are utilizing the peculiar circumstances developed in the country since the passage of the Citizenship Amendment Act.

The popular protests broke out against the discriminatory CAA were people's democratic expression freedom granted by the constitution. But they are being treated as a crime. While Prime Minister Modi made communal remarks about the protests, UP CM Yogi Adityanath encouraged the police to crush them. It was only the BJP ruled states which tried to use the police against the protesters causing the death of 27 people. Shocking reports and videos of how the police attacked houses, vehicles, and shops in Muslim-dominated areas. Sexual assault on Madrasa students in police custody has also been reported.

It is a fact that the protests were spontaneous and people of all sections of Indian society, regardless of all their differences, joined hands to reject CAA. The violence during the protests was committed by police and Hindutva gangs. The chief minister of UP openly stated that he would take revenge against the protesters and now we witness how the police were used to fulfill his pledge. The role of the UP Government and Hindutva goons in this carnage lay bare to the whole world. Therefore, they are now trying to wash their hands off putting all the blame on people and organizations who participated in the protest.

### Diversion Tactics

To divert the attention of the people from the police atrocities the UP Police and government are now targeting the Popular Front of India. Popular Front state ad-hoc committee convener Wasim Ahmed and committee members Qari Ashfaq and Mohammed Nadeem are arrested on fake charges of planning the violence. Though the police and UP ministers have made tall claims of Popular Front's involvement in the violence, to date they have failed to provide any evidence. Very often the police said that they had found "incriminating" and "provocative" literature from the organization's office but to date, they could not prove what is incriminating or provocative.

It is also reported that the UP state has sought a ban on the Popular Front of India from the Centre. We condemn this move, which is nothing but a 'face-saving act'. The move against Popular Front is yet another authoritarian step by Yogi Police against democratic activism in the state. There is no legal ground for the state or the Centre to take such a step for banning a people's movement like Popular Front. Popular Front has been working in the state openly among people like anywhere else in the country and we welcome all kinds of impartial

inquiries about any of the accusations made against us. The slanderous campaign against Popular Front is a warning to all dissenting voices in the country. We urge all the democratic forces in the country to come forward and raise their voice against this injustice.

The Popular Front of India has strong faith in the Indian Constitution and our rich democratic culture. It is committed to strive for the protection of the constitutional rights of every citizen and such slanderous campaigns against it cannot deter us from this path. We will fight this political vendetta through legal and democratic means.

Participants:

O.M.A Salam, Vice Chairman – Popular Front of India

Anis Ahmed, Secretary – Popular Front of India

AS Ismail, North Zone President - Popular Front of India

Pervez Ahmed, State President - Popular Front of India, Delhi

Dr. Mohammed Shamoon – Director, PR Popular Front of India

*(04 January 2020)*

# **Popular Front of India will continue to stand with all Indian citizens till the end of their struggles for the protection of citizenship rights**

New Delhi: Popular Front of India National Secretariat reiterated its support to nationwide democratic agitations that have been taking place peacefully against anti-constitutional and discriminatory CAA-NRC-NPR. The meeting of the Secretariat reaffirmed its resolve to stand with fellow citizens for the cause of protecting citizenship rights as envisaged in the Indian constitution and to defeat the attempts to intimidate the organization through allegations new and old. The meeting also hailed the active presence of students, campuses and diverse sections of the society in the ongoing protests across the country.

Popular Front from the very beginning has supported the fights for the protection of all civil rights violated either by the government agencies or communal and fascist groups in the country. The Front has identified RSS as the biggest threat to the society and the nation and educated its members and wider society through various democratic means. It is the only

reason why the governments vilify the organisation. The fact cannot be denied that the peaceful protests across the country were dubbed violent only in the BJP ruled states.

### **No Evidence**

Everybody knows that Popular Front had no role in any alleged violent incidents connected with protests. The police or the BJP leaders who accused the organization as the “mastermind” in their states could not produce a single piece of evidence to substantiate their claim. In U P the police are not even complying with the court orders granting bail to the arrested activists. They are kept in jail after implicating them in new criminal cases.

The meeting expressed disappointment that a section of media has joined in this vilification campaign to malign the movement though they are well aware of the hidden agenda of the BJP government in the matter.

When the petitions on the constitutional validity of the Citizenship Amendment Act are before the Supreme Court and is supposed to consider within this month, the government has hastily enforced the act with scant regard for the popular outrage against it across the country.

### **NPR as a Ruse**

The meeting observed that the National Popular Register is not part of the census operations that the country executes every decade. The present attempt is not just the new round of the NPR process which was carried out earlier in 2010 and updated in 2015. The questionnaire also raises suspicion; the one which was published on the website and the one given to the surveyors are contradictory. In fact, it is designed by the government in such a way as to act as the foundation of NRC. Popular Front has repeated its call to oppose NPR also along with CAA and NRC.

The Central Secretariat has decided to conduct 10,000 public awareness programmes at the grassroots level across India to educate the people about the communal and sectarian motives behind CAA-NRC-NPR moves.

***(12 January 2020)***

# Legal Recourse against Media Vilification

“The BJP government is trying to divert the public attention from the ongoing nationwide protests CAA-NRC-NPR by spreading blatant lies against Popular Front of India through the media under their control. In this new round of vilification campaign against the organisation, the puppet media carries out the ulterior plan of serving the agenda of a failed government. Some print, electronic and visual media including Republic TV are leveling baseless allegations against Popular Front. We are resorting to the legal measures as before against them”, said M. Mohamed Ali Jinnah, General Secretary of the Popular Front of India.

“The organisation has already sent a legal notice to Republic TV for their recent derogatory news. In 2018, the News Broadcasting Standards Authority (NBSA) issued a warning to Republic TV on the complaint filed by the Popular Front of India. But the channel has proved it is not ready for self-correction.

In 2012, Popular Front filed 10 complaints against print media including Deccan Chronicle, Hindustan Times, and Dainik Jagran in the Press Council of India. PCI warned them to be more careful while publishing the name of any organization and alleging their involvement in terrorist activities. “Before publishing such news proper investigation is essential but was not done, in this case. Newspapers should be more careful in the future and make a due investigation before leveling such serious charges. We feel this direction is necessary to maintain communal harmony and bind this secular fabric of this country.”

Mohamed Ali Jinnah continued reminded the media about the Norms of Journalistic Conduct states that ‘The fundamental objective of journalism is to serve the people with news, views, comments, and information on matters of public interest in a fair, accurate, unbiased, sober and decent manner... The Press shall eschew publication of inaccurate, baseless, graceless, misleading, or distorted material. All sides of the core issue or subject should be reported. Unjustified rumours and surmises should not be set forth as facts. On receipt of a report or article of public interest and benefit containing imputations or comments against a citizen, the editor should check with due care and attention its factual accuracy apart from other authentic sources with the person or the organisation concerned to elicit his/her or its version, comments or reaction and publish the same alongside with due correction in the report where necessary.’

Mohamed Ali Jinnah pointed out that in the matter of some recent reports about Popular Front of India, the above-mentioned norms are not followed, but blatantly violated and hence the only way left out is to expose them and bring them to justice.

**(14 January 2020)**

# PIL in Allahabad High Court seeking a judicial probe into police violence in Uttar Pradesh

Popular Front of India has filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in Allahabad High Court seeking a court-monitored judicial probe by a retired Supreme Court or High Court judge on the police violence in connection with the Anti-CAA protest in the state.

The petition came for hearing today in the court. The court posted the case for tomorrow along with other petitions before it on the same issue.

*(17 Jan 2020)*

## The allegations of Popular Front's funding of anti-CAA protest are baseless

**New Delhi:** Popular Front of India strongly condemns the news reports that are published in various news channels regarding the Front's alleged funding of CAA protests. The news channels have attributed the report to some “unnamed sources” with the Enforcement Directorate but the ED has not issued any such official statement regarding these allegations. The news attributes around 73 bank accounts allegedly to Popular Front and states that Rs. 120 crore was transferred through these accounts to fund the anti-CAA protest. Popular Front of India had stated multiple times that it fully complies with the law of the land and the allegation of Rs.120 Cr transferred from its accounts just before the CAA protest is baseless. The people who are leveling these allegations should prove their claims.

A few news channels also allege funds transferred from the Kerala state Popular Front of India account for advocates like Kapil Sibal, Dushyant Dave, and Indira Jaising. The truth is that transfers were made in 2017 as lawyer fees for these advocates for the Hadiya Case. This transfer was openly declared by Popular Front in various public meetings. Attributing a fee transfer that happened in 2017 as funding for the 2019 CAA protest is absurd and exposes the real intention to defame Popular Front.

Another allegation is the transfer of funds to Popular Front's Kashmir Wing. It is an

open fact that the Popular Front of India does not have any wing or branch in Jammu and Kashmir. Popular Front carried out extensive flood relief work in Kashmir in 2014 and built more than 100 houses for the flood victims which was also announced by the organization in 2014 itself through official publications.

We are confident that the fate of these series of the allegation will also be like the ones before which could never be proved. Recently the UP and Assam government alleged Popular Front's role in the anti-CAA protest-related violence and even arrested our state-level leaders. But their claims proved to be false imaginations when they could not prove anything in the court and our leaders were released on bail.

*(27 January 2020)*

## **ED Notices addressed to Popular Front Office Bearers: Yet another political vendetta of BJP Government**

We believe that the notices issued by the Enforcement Directorate at New Delhi today to the office bearers of the movement to appear for giving evidence as part of their investigation are ill-motivated moves at the behest of the RSS controlled BJP Government. It is only the latest in the series of ongoing attempts to suppress our organisation. We are sure that all sensible and honest citizens and groups in India will see it only as political vendetta because of our consistent stand and resolute fight against the evil designs of RSS and BJP.

Once the government started realising the strength of nationwide protests against the anti-people CAA, NRC, and NPR, they are playing all dirty games to destroy or at least weaken the movement. The central and state governments controlled by RSS are making Popular Front a scapegoat in their exercise of diverting public focus from the current mass uprising that has put the Hindutva agenda in trouble. The ways and means being adopted by authorities in the case of said notices on behalf of ED on the ground of alleged financial malpractices itself speak about the real agenda of the BJP government.

*(28 January 2020)*

# Refutes allegations of money misuse; it is yet another vilification and witch-hunt

The statement issued by the Central Secretariat

A new round of defamatory 'Breaking News' campaign against the Popular Front of India is being undertaken by the BJP government by utilizing the puppet media under its control. This time the allegations revolve around the alleged misuse of funds which is a more effective tool that can be used to defame the organization. Allegations of foreign funding and money laundering too are raised against the organization. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has issued notices naming the office bearers of Popular Front of India requiring them to appear to give evidence about the allegations.

The new allegation is a desperate attempt on the part of the central government to divert, if not defeat, the strong anti-CAA protests, by linking it to the Popular Front of India and branding it a terrorist outfit. Groups with vested interests have always been trying to raise different types of allegations against the organization. Though the government or the investigating agencies have so far failed to produce any evidence to prove the allegations, they will continue with new allegations as long as the organization continues its fight for justice.

The ongoing anti-Citizenship Act protests have shattered calculations of the BJP government of easily implementing the anti-people CAA, NRC, and NPR, as people of the country, barring the Sangh Parivar, have been thronging the streets for the past several weeks. These protests spread all over the world. Now they have drawn the last weapon in their armoury by alleging that the Popular Front of India has instigated violence in Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka and is providing financial assistance to the protesters all over India.

But violence occurred in the BJP ruled states only. Innocent Muslims, Popular Front members, and supporters, in particular, were targetted, accompanied by puppet media-trials and large-scale misinformation campaigns. The fraudulent ways and means being adopted by authorities in the case of ED notice itself speak about the real intentions of the BJP government. The reports referring to the Enforcement Directorate as the source of information claim that crores of rupees had been deposited to and withdrawn from scores of banks for this purpose. The slanderous campaign started with the accusation that Popular Front has used an amount as huge as Rs 120 crore through bank accounts to instigate

violence in UP in connection with the anti-CAA agitation in one month alone. Later, the allegation was diluted to spending the money for protests. The new finding has brought the one-month UP transactions for protests to just 1.04 crore. The unscrupulous media is replicating the versions provided by their political masters as payback for the personal and corporate benefits they enjoy.

The media reports quoting ED have dragged the name of an NGO working in the field of village development into the financial dealing of the Popular Front without any evidence. A few reputed Supreme Court lawyers like Kapil Sibal, Dushyant Dave, and Indira Jaising were also alleged to have received money from Popular Front of India to instigate anti CAA protests. Popular Front outrightly denies all such allegations leveled with the intention of maligning the organization and also the other individuals and organisations.

*(30 January 2020)*

## Allegations Vs. Facts

**Allegation:** Popular Front is behind the violence. The investigation has revealed that about Rs 120 crore has been spent to carry out the riot.

**Fact:** Popular Front is not behind, but is part of the protests against CAA wherever it has a presence. Acts of violence were reported only from the BJP ruled states of UP, Assam, and Karnataka. The media reported with evidence that all the above criminal activities were carried out by the police and the RSS criminals in police uniform. Popular Front members and associates have never indulged in any sort of violence anywhere and it has never funded protesters anywhere with any amount of money. Let the 'investigators' produce substantiating evidence to support their allegations.

**Allegation:** The police have found evidence against the PFI in Uttar Pradesh.

**Fact:** Those Popular Front members and supporters arrested in connection with the protests in UP were released on bail by the courts as the UP police failed to produce any incriminating evidence against them.

**Allegation:** 27 bank accounts were opened in the name of Popular Front of India, 9 bank accounts belong to Rehab India Foundation. Another 37 bank accounts in the name of 17 different people and organizations.

**Fact:** Popular Front has only 20 bank accounts in various states across the country. One would wonder whether having this number of bank accounts for an all India organization is an

offense. The Front doesn't have any other bank accounts anywhere. Rehab India Foundation is an independent NGO.

**Allegation:** Investigation going on about Rs 120 crore deposited in 73 accounts and were emptied leaving a nominal amount in the accounts.

**Fact:** Popular Front challenges to substantiate these allegations with evidence.

**Allegation:** Crores of cash started flowing into the accounts linked with PFI from December 4.

**Fact:** Total cash deposited from 4th December 2019 to 20th January 2020 to the 20 branches where Popular Front has accounts was Rs. 60 lakhs.

**Allegation:** Those who deposited the money were instructed to deposit less than Rs 50,000 at a time.

**Fact:** Main sources of income of Popular Front of India are the monthly subscriptions of its members that are spent at lower levels and donations and the annual working fund collected from the general public. Funds collected are acknowledged with receipts. Some people promise an amount, but don't pay on spot, and the money received later is deposited in the bank accounts at different times as and when the fund is received. It is the established policy of the organization not to accept foreign funds for its activities, and it has been successful in adhering to this policy without fail. Restriction on remitting Rs 50,000 and above without a PAN card is not the instruction of Popular Front, but a bank deposit norm.

**Allegation:** Rs. 1.34 crore withdrawn from the accounts in multiple small transactions, ranging Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 5,000 between December 4 and January 6.

**Fact:** Withdrawal from 1st December 2019 to 20th January 2020 from the Popular Front accounts was 97.6 lakhs. The small amounts between 2,000 and 5,000 drawn are amounts given to poor students for their higher studies under Popular Front Scholarship Scheme.

**Allegation:** The money transferred into these bank accounts was either cash deposits, transferred through NEFT or RTGS or IMPS mode. And the amounts were withdrawn on the same day or within two to three days leaving only a minimal amount in these bank accounts.

**Fact:** Customers generally deposit money to bank accounts as cash/cheque deposits or transferring through NEFT or RTGS or IMPS mode. This is not an offense. These are various modes of remitting money to the bank. Popular Front is not maintaining a Fixed Deposit account, but a Current Account, which per se is the account that permits regular remittance

and withdrawals. Cash is deposited when available and it is withdrawn now and then as Popular Front is engaged in routine social work which needs money for its day-to-day activities.

**Allegation:** Probe found Rs. 1.04 crore deposited in western UP.

**Fact:** Popular Front has no bank accounts in UP.

**Allegation:** Money paid to Kapil Sibal – Rs. 77 lakh, Indira Jaising - Rs. 4 lakh, Dushyant Dave - Rs. 11 lakh.

**Fact:** Yes. Popular Front had paid to these advocates through a bank account, not for anti-CAA-related cases but as their lawyer fees for appearing in Hadiya case in the Supreme Court. These payments were made in 2017–18 and Popular Front State Committee had already published the income and expenditure statement of this case.

**Allegation:** Money Paid to PFI Kashmir- Rs. 1.65 Cr, New Jyothi Group – Rs. 1.17 Cr, Abdul Samad - Rs.3.10 lakh.

**Fact:** Popular Front has no units in Jammu and Kashmir. It had spent Rs. 2.25 crores, not 1.65 crores, to construct houses and for other relief work for the flood-affected families in Kashmir in 2014-15. New Jyothi Group is a school bag manufacturer in south India, and they supply school bags to Popular Front for its annual School Chalo program in which the poor school children are given school kits. The total amount paid to New Jyothi Group is more than the alleged amount of Rs. 1.17 crores. And it is not for one year. Abdul Samad is a contractor, and money is paid to him for constructing houses to rehabilitate flood-affected victims.

## Popular Front U P state ad-hoc committee convener Waseem Ahmed released from jail

Popular Front of India U P State Ad-hoc Committee Convener Waseem Ahmed who was jailed after implicating in alleged citizenship protest-related violence in Lucknow on 16 December 2019 was released. Waseem Ahmed was taken into police custody, remanded, and granted bail after two weeks along with other falsely implicated activists like Darapuri, Shoaib, Sadaf Jafar etc. But he was further detained in jail by implicating in new cases. The court also

rejected the arguments raised by the prosecution against him being granted bail in the new cases. Waseem had to spend more than 40 days in jail.

It is to be noted that Waseem Ahmed and two other members Qari Ashfaq and Mohammed Nadeem who were released earlier were presented by UP police in the media conference as “masterminds” behind the riots. Their release has exposed the conspiracy of the state government that put the whole blame of its law and order failings on the organisation.

*(31-01-2020)*

## **National Executive Council resolves to continue fight against the new round of vilification and witch-hunt**

New Delhi: The National Executive Council meeting of Popular Front of India held at Calicut, in a resolution, has asserted that, along with mobilising masses against discriminations and atrocities, the organization would intensify legal fights against media vilification and police violations. The meeting has strongly condemned the new round of vilification by a section of media and atrocities by the Police in BJP ruled states, particularly in UP.

Post the unprecedented popular outrage and agitations sparked by the discriminatory CAA, few puppet media houses with the help of certain central agencies have launched an extensive and malicious disinformation campaign full of strange and absurd allegations against the Popular Front of India. Paradoxically, none of these agencies has yet been able to prove anything anti-national against the organization so far. Initially, it was alleged that Popular Front was behind the anti-CAA violence in Uttar Pradesh and other BJP ruled states. Then allegation was shifted to funding the anti-CAA agitations across the country. There is no other motive behind the present campaign than discrediting and defaming anti-CAA-NRC agitations. The meeting reminded that neither the popular protests nor the Popular Front would get defeated by such official arrogance.

## **Hindutva fanatic goons are let free in Delhi**

In another resolution, the meeting abused that there is an attempt underway in Delhi and BJP ruled states to scare away the masses agitating against anti-people CAA and NRC. Gun shooting and other extremely violent acts by Hindutva fanatic goons against unarmed protesters are being reported in the national capital under the watchful eye of Delhi police.

During the Jamia Nagar shooting, police had enough room to overpower and disarm the shooter, yet they let him fire, seriously injuring a student. At the same time, top Hindutva leaders continue to obliquely support similar violent actions. Within two days another shooting happened and gun-wielding men were found in the areas. UP CM Yogi Adityanath's remarks of "bullets to terrorists" can only be regarded as the incitement for such attacks. The law and order situation in Delhi is ruined. A kind of underworld rule is being promoted to overcome the political crisis that otherwise BJP and RSS cannot overcome through lawful means. Popular Front warned that unless and until the central government fulfills the demands of the protesters, there will not be an end to the crisis.

### **Stop illegal arrests and police tortures in UP**

In another resolution, the meeting condemned unlawful arrests and police harassment still going on in Uttar Pradesh. Many people were shot dead, youth in large numbers were tortured, properties worth crores were wantonly vandalized and innocents were falsely implicated and jailed. Organizations like Popular Front were demonized, and its leaders were portrayed as "masterminds" of so-called anti-CAA violence. Now reports are coming out from the state that police have started a new round of arrests and harassment of innocents. People who are already out on bail are still being pursued and taken into custody by police. Popular Front calls upon the political parties and civil society groups to raise their voice against the police raj of Yogi Adityanath in Uttar Pradesh.

*(03 February 2020)*

## **Misinformation campaign crosses all limits**

**New Delhi:** The misinformation campaign let loose by a section of media to serve the short and long-term vested interests of their political masters has crossed all limits of decency, fairness, honesty, and journalistic ethics. The latest round of vilification and witch hunt against the Popular Front of India using the Enforcement Directorate (ED) is nothing but a last-minute panic attempt to influence the electorate on the eve of the Delhi election.

All opinion surveys predict that BJP is set to lose in Delhi provided the elections are held fair and free without manipulation. The CAA-NRC-NPR move has backfired and all sane citizens sans the hate-monger Sangh Parivar fascists are fighting their efforts to divide the nation on religious grounds.

They try to brand the Shaheen Bagh protest as a funded-terrorist activity to get support from

the naïve voters The main allegation now aired by the “unofficial” official mouthpiece of the central government, Republic TV is that the Popular Front of India Delhi president had a connection with some AAP leaders and they often chat through WhatsApp!

Transparent Activities

Popular Front is an organization that works fulfilling all the legal requirements of the country and its activities have always been transparent. As members of society, members of the Popular Front have to interact with their fellow human beings As any other citizen of India, they would make phone calls and meet persons of all levels.

The RSS-backed BJP government is playing the role of the “chor chor” shouting thief in the crowd by tagging Popular Front of India terrorist and the Shaheen Bagh protests. It is BJP that gathers money from all illegal and unlawful sources.

Popular Front, while denying all the allegations raised against the organization including terror funding and financial malpractices, strongly condemns the efforts of the government and its biased puppet media to demonize a lawfully functioning organization for cheap political gains.

Popular Front once again challenges whomsoever to prove all the allegations with evidence instead of spreading lies and false news.

**(07 February 2020)**

## **Popular Front Filed Curative Petition in Babri Masjid Case Verdict**

**New Delhi:** The organization filed the Curative Petition challenging the judgment of the Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court in the Babri Masjid title suit. Earlier, the Supreme Court of India dismissed the batch of Review Petitions in this matter in the closed-door meeting of the bench comprising Chief Justice S.A. Bobde, Justices D.Y. Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan, S. Abdul Nazeer, and Sanjiv Khanna on 12.12.2019. The Curative Petition on behalf of Popular Front was filed on 11th February and is pending to get it listed.

The Petition says, “Even though the Curative Petitioner was not a party to the LIS, the verdict passed by the Apex Court in Babri Masjid title suit adversely affects his interests. The petitioner seeks justice from this Court on the basis of concrete historical facts and evidence”. The petition also sought an open court hearing. The petition prays to stay the operation of the judgment of the Allahabad High Court dated September 30, 2010; and to stay the operation of the judgment of Apex Court dated November 9, 2019; and restrain the Central Government from taking any steps under the order passed by the Constitution Bench of this Apex Court dated November 9, 2019.

**(05 March 2020)**

## Delhi Police prevents Popular Front Press Meet

**New Delhi:** Another act of suppressing democratic rights and show of arrogance towards Muslim minorities, Delhi Police today prevented the Press Meet called by Popular Front of India. The meet was scheduled at 3 pm at N D Tewari Bhavan and the leaders were on the way to the venue. Then the management informed that the booking was canceled as directed by police. Subsequently, the gate of the venue was locked preventing entry of media persons and the organisation leaders. Popular Front North Zone President A S Ismail and Secretary Anis Ansari strongly condemned this unlawful police act and warned that Popular movements and their fight against communal fascist forces could not be stopped through such brutal misuse of power.

*(13 March 2020)*

## Popular Front files more than a thousand cases against anti-Muslim hate news

State and district committees of the Popular Front of India have filed 1015 cases against print visual and media accounts in 8 states for their vilification campaign against Muslims. 500 rejoinders and notices were sent to different media houses. Cases have in Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, and Maharashtra. 500 rejoinders and notices were also sent to different media establishments involved in vilification and slander. In a statement, Anis Ahmed, the general secretary, said that that was a well-planned hate campaign against the Muslims in general and Popular Front in particular and the organization is determined to fight the fake news factories run by the Hindutwa forces.

*(27 April 2020)*

## **Popular Front Condemns Criminal Charges Framed against Dr. Zafarul Islam Khan by Delhi Police**

Popular Front of India Chairman O M A Salam has, in a statement, strongly condemned the sedition and other fabricated criminal charges framed against the well-known Islamic scholar, journalist, and Chairman of Delhi Minority Commission Dr. Zafarul Islam Khan by the Delhi Police.

A tweet by Dr. Zafarul Islam Khan was taken out of context, distorted, and added inflammatory content to it by some miscreants. This was followed by a vicious campaign against him by a section of media and social media handlers. Now it is reported that the Delhi Police Special Cell has booked Dr. Khan for sedition (sec 124A) and creating communal divisions (sec 153A). This is indicative of the very low level of harassment and character assassination ongoing in our country under the patronage of the BJP government. Dr. Zafarul Islam Khan is a strong advocate of human rights and minority rights in the country and has been doing an exemplary job as the chairman of the Delhi Minority Commission. The Delhi Police was made answerable on account of many complaints received by the Commission. Due to this reason, the communal elements in the police found him a threat to their abuses of power and hence the vilification campaign against him.

The chairman has called upon the Central Government and Delhi police to stop the witch-hunt and withdraw the baseless charges against Dr. Khan and expressed solidarity with Dr. Khan and ensured the movement's support through all legal and democratic means.  
*(02 May 2020)*

## **Popular Front Virtual Conference against Lockdown Fascism Draws Tens of Thousands of Viewers**

Tens of thousands of netizens watched live the online conference organized by the National Executive Council of Popular Front of India with the slogan "Lockdown Fascism: Unmask the Hidden Agenda". The conference was organized to expose the misuse of the corona lockdown by the central government to intensify its authoritarian measures, and also draw the

attention of the citizens towards the utter disregard of the authorities over the plight of millions of poor people stranded across the country due to the lockdown.

Chairman of the organization, OMA Salam delivered the presidential address. He said that while the entire world is fighting a virus, India is fighting two viruses during the lockdown, the coronavirus, and the communal virus. The communal virus is far deadlier for the country. While poor labourers and small industries suffer, the government is writing off the huge debts of the corporate looters. The media which portrays the Muslim community as disease-carriers is creating a new class of untouchables among the people. He asked parties, civil rights organizations, all citizens to unite and raise their voices to save the democratic republic. National General Secretary Anis Ahmed delivered the keynote address. He said that the conference was organized because while the entire nation had been brought to a standstill by the lockdown, fascism is working without overtime. The voices of the people were crushed; only the government narrative can be heard as in Nazi Germany.

Addressing the conference Moulana Khalilurahman Sajjad Nomani said that Muslims had carried out large-scale relief work in the country. Yet they are treated brutally by the authorities. This struggle is not against any particular religion but the oppression of any form.

Raj Ratan Ambedkar, National President of the Buddhist Society of India remarked that it has now become clear that the fight in the country is not between the parliament and the opposition but between the parliament and the rest of India. "If one Anna Hazare can gather tens of thousands of people at Ram Lila Maidan for a false cause, why can't we do the same for our constitutional rights," he asked.

Addressing the conference, Sasikanth Senthil, IAS officer, and social activist said that the government has been going ahead with a policy of suppressing any voice of opposition. "Now they've started arresting even youngsters and students and charging under UAPA". "I would like to express my solidarity with them all and want to say that they are not alone. I am also optimistic that unlike Germany or Italy, India is too big and diverse to be controlled by a single ideology" he added.

**(11 May 2020)**

# Popular Front Condemns the Harassment of Innocents and the Arrests of Muslim Youths In Uttar Pradesh

Popular Front of India North Zone President A S Ismail has condemned Uttar Pradesh police's widespread harassment of Muslim families and the illegal arrest of Muslim youths in the state in name of Ram Mandir Bhumi Puja.

He said dozens of Muslim youths in various parts of Lucknow were called on the pretext of casual inquiry on 4 August at midnight and then kept in preventive custody. Their families were threatened by police. Six of them have yet not been released. It is reported that four of those in custody have been remanded on the charge of causing disharmony between communities. It can only be viewed as an attempt to prevent Muslims from speaking against injustice. In western Uttar Pradesh districts like Muzaffarnagar and Shamili, police stormed Muslim houses at night and threatened families against protesting for Babri Masjid.

Popular Front state ad hoc committee member Nadeem, who was taken to custody, was subjected to inhuman torture by police. Even after three days, he has neither been remanded nor released. Popular Front demands the immediate release of all those arrested and action against officers involved in the torture of Nadeem. The Popular Front will fight this authoritarianism through legal and democratic ways.

*(07 Aug 2020)*

## Condemns E D searches in the houses of leaders and offices

New Delhi: Simultaneous raids were carried out by Enforcement Directorate at the houses of Popular Front national leaders across the country. Popular Front is of the view that it is a politically motivated action on the part of the agency. Such raids usually happen in our country whenever the government in power comes under the pressure of popular anger and wants to divert national attention from it. Modi government has always used central agencies against its political opponents and to crush dissent in the country to the point that the credibility of these agencies has come under question. The raids at the houses of the Popular Front leaders have followed this pattern. The central government has come under

immense pressure following the farmers' protests blockading Delhi and the ED raids are nothing but a gimmick to divert the attention of the people.

Popular Front condemns these attempts to malign the organization. As a democratically and legally working organization in the country, its activities are transparent and out in the public. The organization will face it legally and democratically as these actions will not stop it from raising people's voice seeking justice, nor will it weaken the ongoing democratic struggles.

*(03 December 2020)*

## **Joint Statement against ED Harassment of Popular Front and its Leaders**

We, the undersigned, are shocked by the way the Enforcement Directorate carried out raids in the offices of a legally and democratically working organization and the houses of its leaders. Eight state offices of Popular Front of India and the houses of its national leaders including its Chairman and General Secretary were concurrently raided without any rhyme or reason. This probably is the first time ED is targeting a social movement in this manner across the nation. Officials, without following procedures, abruptly broke into houses when only women and children were inside and remained there for hours, leaving them shocked and traumatized. This is another sign of the BJP government becoming increasingly authoritarian by using central agencies as their pawns against political opponents and dissenting voices.

Every time a popular outrage like Hathras or farm protest breaks out, there have been attempts by the BJP governments to spin false narratives dragging the name of Popular Front into it. This has been a typical modus operandi employed by the centre to divert national attention from the real issues. For the past two decades, the organization has been subject to several such false allegations and has come out clean at every instance. Popular Front, being a transparent organization, had already informed the authorities that they are open to any investigation, so this is another attempt to malign the organization.

The BJP government now stands exposed to its insecurities and intolerance to any form of dissent and criticism of its policies.

We demand the central government to end the politically motivated targeting of democratically working social movements and human rights defenders. We also demand the govt refrain from misusing central agencies and constitutional institutions to serve their vested interests.

*Signed by:*

Maulana Wali Rahmani- General Secretary of All India Muslim Personal Law Board

Justice BG Kolse Patil - Former judge of the Bombay High Court

Navaid Hamid – All India Muslim Majlis e Mushawarat

Hazrat Sajjad Nomani- Member of Working Executive Committee All India Muslim Personal Law Board

Hazrat Syed Sawar Chishti- Khadim Dargah Ajmer Sharif

Moulana UMRAIN MAHFOOZ RAHMANI- National Secretary, All India Muslim Personal Law Board

MK Faizy- National President, Social Democratic Party of India

Mujtaba Farooq- Director of Public Relations & Member Central Advisory Council, Jamaat-e-Islami Hind

Lenin Raghuvanshi- Gwangju Human Rights awardee

Bijendra Singh- former ADGP UP.

Mrs Raj Bala Sharma- Vice President, Brahmin Sabha, Haryana

Natthu Singh- Vice President, Jat Mahasabha

DC Kapil- President, All India Dalit Muslim United Morcha

Nandita Narain- Associate Professor, St.Stephen's College, Delhi University

Nishant Verma- Renowned National political analyst

Bittu K R, WSS

Manik Samajdar- General Secretary, Bangladesh Bharat Pakistan People's Forum (Bharat Chapter)

Tara Rai- Democracy Collective,

K.K. Ray- Advocate High Court, Allahabad

Gopal Mishra, Activist and Journalist

Ramesh Kumar- Advocate, high court Allahabad

Rajiv Yadav- General Secretary, Rihai Manch

**(09 December 2020)**



# ED Stop being RSS tool: Outrage across the Country at Politically Motivated ED Raids

**New Delhi:** Leaders, members and supporters Popular Front of India took out massive protest rallies at various parts of the country against the politically motivated raids by ED at the offices of the organization and residences of its leaders. Hundreds of people including women and children joined the marches. At Kochin, Kerala, the march to the regional office of the Enforcement Directorate was stopped by police. In Rajasthan's Bhilwara, the rally was stopped and protesters were arrested by police. People marched raising slogans against central government misuse of investigation agencies against political rivals, dissenters, and democratically and lawfully working organizations. Mass protests took place in hundreds of places in different states such as Delhi, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Bihar, Manipur, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu states.

The speakers who addressed the rallies reminded the government that the organization would neither be intimidated nor stopped by such repressive measures.

*(12 December 2020)*

## Popular Front to launch a nationwide campaign against ED harassment

**New Delhi:** Popular Front of India will conduct a 3-day long campaign, from December 18 to 20, against Enforcement Directorate harassment of the organization's activists and its leaders.

Organization activists across the country will go from door to door, to meet masses to tell the people how investigation agencies and government institutions have become instruments of torture in the hands of the central government.

Agencies like ED, NIA and CBI are being misused by the BJP at the behest of the RSS government to settle scores with its political rivals and suppress voices of dissent. Organizations and activists who stood at the forefront against anti-people policies are now



being targeted by implicating them in fabricated cases. The concocted cases against the Popular Front of India, the raids on its offices and the residences of its leaders are nothing but part of these vindictive actions.

Through the campaign, the organization intends to wake up the masses against the ongoing repression.

***(16 December 2020)***

**CONDOLLENCE**



### **Swami Agnivesh (11 September 2020)**

India has lost a true spiritual leader who stood to his last moments for secular India and its true tradition of religious harmony. At time when there is little resistance within against its misuse of Hindu religion by communal fascist forces, he fearlessly spoke against religion being perverted by communal fascist forces for their divisive politics. For this reason, Sangh Parivar found him a threat and targeted him multiple times but failed to stop him from his path. He was a towering leader who fought for social justice. He stood with the oppressed sections demanding equality and justice. It is indeed a big loss to the social justice movement in India. Popular Front expresses deep condolences.

### **Maulana Qalbe Sadik (24 November 2020)**

Death of Maulana Qalbe Sadiq is big loss to Muslim community. He was a widely respected scholar in the country and will be remembered for his efforts for unity between Shia and Sunni sections. As the Vice President of All India Muslim Personal Law Board, he always upheld the common interest of the community. May Allah accept his deeds and grant him Jannah.

### **Ahmed Patel (25 November 2020)**

We are pained by the demise of Ahmed Patel. One of the most prominent leaders Gujarath has ever produced. He remained committed to his secular ideals and Congress politics even in the most hopeless and challenging days the party went through. Definitely an irreparable loss to Congress and the secular politics in general. My heartfelt condolences to his family, friends and party colleagues.

### **K M Shareef (22 December 2020)**

The Demise K M Shareef, former Chairman of Popular Front of India, was a big loss to the organization and Indian Muslim community.

From his very student days, KM Shareef was active in social activism and held leadership roles in various Islamic platforms. A writer and orator, Shareef was proficient in Kannada, Urdu and Malayalam languages and he made his own contributions to Beary Literature. . He was the founder and Chief Editor of Kannada Magazine 'Prasthutha'. He has translated books like 'Swahabi Charithram' and 'Sathya Vishwasiyude Dina Charyakal' from Malayalam to Kannada. He had also authored a book named 'Anti-Dowry'.

One of the rare and courageous voices of justice in the country, KM Shareef was the founding

President of the Karnataka Forum for Dignity (KFD). Since the formation of Popular Front of India in 2007, Shareef Sahib was in the national committee in various roles leading the organization through its ups and downs.

Before becoming the Chairman, he was National Vice Chairman and General Secretary of the organization. At the time of passing, he was the national treasurer a member of the National Executive Council (NEC) of the Front. He was a special invitee to the Muslim Personal Law Board meetings Shareef Sahib will have a special place in the minds of members and supporters of the organization and the downtrodden sections of Indian society.

### **Maulana Wali Rahmani (3 April 2021)**

It is with great pain and sorrow that he received the news of the demise of Maulana Mohammed Wali Rahmani, the General Secretary of All India Muslim personal Law Board and the head of Imarat - e-Shariya, Bihar Odisha and Jharkhand. One of the most prominent leaders of Indian Muslim community, he dedicated his life in the efforts for uplifting the community as a scholar, as an educationalist, and as a politician. Maulana was also well-wisher of Popular Front of India and a vocal critique of the repressive moves against the organization. He was also a relentless voice for justice and human rights who spoke out against repressive laws, and as the Chairman of the People's Movement against UAPA, he played leading role in the historic nationwide campaign against the draconian Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. His absence will be an irreparable loss to the community and the country at large. Popular Front expresses its deepest condolences to the family and friends of Maulana. May Allah Almighty accept his deeds and grant him Jannah.

### **Prof. K. A. Siddique Hassan (6 April 2021)**

It is deeply saddening to hear the demise of Prof. K. A. Siddique Hassan, former Assistant Ameer of Jamaat e Islami Hind. An embodiment of humility, Sidheeque Hasan Sahib was a source inspiration both as a person and as a community leader. He was exceptional as a scholar, as a teacher, as an author and as a visionary leader. He spearheaded highly successful social empowerment projects for impoverished and marginalized sections in various parts of the country under the Human Welfare Foundation. He also led initiatives for ensuring justice to the victims of human rights violations under the Association for the Protection of Civil Rights. May accept the unparalleled efforts he has put in to alleviate the sufferings of the the weak and the marginalised in the society and reward him Jannah.

# Popular Front of India

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