

## **AIPSO PROGRAMMES IN WEST BENGAL 2007-2013**

### **2007**

7 August 2007: Public Meeting at Kolkata

A public meeting was organized by the AIPSO West Bengal Unit at Meghnad Saha Auditorium, Calcutta University Rajabazar Science College. A preparatory committee for the coming India Vietnam Friendship Festival was formed with Mr. Jyoti Basu as President, Mr. Hasim Abdul Halim, Speaker, West Bengal Legislative Assembly as Working President and Mr. Rabin Deb as General Secretary. Among the speakers were Mr. Rabin Deb, Mr. Pallab Sengupta, Mr. Manoj Bhattacharjee, Dr. Srikumar Mukherjee, Mr. Chinmoy Roy, Mr. Shyamal Sengupta.

9 August 2007: Nagasaki Day Observed at Kolkata

AIPSO, West Bengal State unit organized a procession at Dharmatala, Kolkata on 9 August 2012 to observe the Nagasaki Day.

2-4 September 2007: India-Vietnam Friendship Festival, Kolkata. The West Bengal Unit of the AIPSO successfully organized the India Vietnam Friendship Festival in Kolkata from 2 September to 4 September 2007. The Festival was inaugurated at the Netaji Indoor Stadium by the then Union Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee. Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, former vice-president of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and president of the Vietnam Peace Foundation was present at the inaugural programmes. Other who addressed the inaugural session included Former Chief Minister Jyoti Basu, Lok Sabha speaker Somnath Chatterjee, the then West Bengal Chief Minister Mr. Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, the West Bengal Assembly Speaker Mr. Hashim Abdul Halim, Left Front Chairman Mr. Biman Basu, Mr. Rabin Deb, Mr. Pallab Sengupta and leaders of the Left Front, West Bengal.

The head of the 36-member Vietnamese was Mr. Tran Dac Loi, executive vice president of the Vietnam Union of Friendship Organisations, and secretary general of the Vietnam Peace and Development Foundation joined the Kolkata festival, In Kolkata, Madame Binh and the delegation from Vietnam were accorded a warm welcome at the Rabindra Bharati University and at Kolkata Municipal Corporation.

A seminar at the Jadavpur University on WTO and the challenge of globalisation saw a large attendance by teachers and students. Seminars were also held at the Burdwan University, Calcutta University and Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswabidyalaya as well.

It may be mentioned in this context that Mr. Pallab Sengupta and Mr. Rabin Deb visited Vietnam in the month of July 2007 for the preparation of the Festival and met the political leadership as well as the leadership of Vietnam Union of Friendship Organisation (VUFO). They also met Madam Binh and make her agree to lead the delegation to India.

4 September 2007: Protest against the Naval Exercise in the Bay of Bengal

The members of the AIPSO West Bengal state unit took part actively in the protest programmes organized in Kolkata against the holding of joint Naval exercise by India, US, Australia, Japan and Singapore in the Bay of Bengal. On 4 September 2007 veteran Communist leader Comrade Jyoti Basu flagged off the anti-imperialist jatha in Kolkata.

### **2008**

15-16 February 2008: Asia Pacific Regional Conference of the WPC /New Delhi. Two of our members from West Bengal took part in the Asia-Pacific Regional Consultative Meeting of the World Peace Council hosted in New Delhi by the AIPSO from 15 to 16 February 2008.

8-13 April 2008: WPC Assembly in Caracas, Venezuela

Prof. Khagendra Nath Adhikary, Prof. Amlendu Debnath , Dr. Saumendranath Bera, MLA, Dr. Pradip Duttgupta, Mr. Shyamal Sengupta, Mrs. Sumitra Goswami and Mr. Bir Singh Mahato, ex- MP (West

Bengal) were part of the delegation of the AIPSO who attended the WPC Assembly and World Peace Conference held in Caracas, Venezuela in April 2008.

24-25 May 2008: AIPSO All India Committee Meeting

Dr. Srikumar Mukherjee, Mr. Anjan Mukherjee, Dr. S N Bera, Dr. Pradip Dattagupta, Prof. Binayak Bhattacharya from West Bengal attended the meeting of the AIPSO All India Committee at Raipur, Chattisgarh from 24 to 25 May 2008. The meeting reviewed the activities of the organization since the Patna National Conference held in April 2007.

14-15 June 2008: Fourth Asia-Pacific Regional Conference of Solidarity with Cuba, Colombo, Mr. Shyamal Chakrabarty, MP, Mr. Madan Ghosh, Mr. Rabin Deb (Secretary, AIPSO, West Bengal State Unit), Mr. Sridip Bhattacharya, Mr. Abhas Roy Choudhury attended the 4th Asia-Pacific Regional Conference of Solidarity with Cuba held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 14-15 June 2008. Nearly 80 delegates from 18 countries joined the programme.

26 July, 2008: Moncada Day -- Cuba Solidarity Programme

AIPSO West Bengal unit organized a meeting on the 'Moncada Day', that is, on 26 July 2008 to celebrate 50th year of Cuba's revolution. The meeting was held at Meghnad Saha Auditorium, Calcutta University Rajabazar Science College. Mr. Rabin Deb, Convener AIPSO West Bengal unit, Mr. Manab Mukherjee, Minister of the West Bengal government spoke on the occasion. Dr. Shrutinath Praharaj presided over the function.

6-9 August 2008: Japan

Mr. Ananta Bandyopadhyay, Mr. Kallol Majumder from West Bengal attended the International Conference against the Atom Bomb in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan.

10-15 August 2008: Second India-Vietnam Peoples' Friendship Festival, Vietnam, A 55-member delegation from West Bengal under the leadership of Mr. Rabin Deb, Secretary, AIPSO West Bengal State Unit, visited Vietnam to join the second Vietnam-India People's Friendship Festival held in Hanoi, Vietnam from 10 to 15 August 2008.

1 September 2008: Anti-Imperialist Rally

AIPSO West Bengal unit took part in the Anti-Imperialist rally organized in Kolkata.

9 September 2008: Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People

The AIPSO West Bengal State Unit observed the day as the Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. In West Bengal, the day was observed with full seriousness. A meeting was organized on the day in front of Metro Channel, Kolkata. A mass deputation and signature campaign was held from 4 PM to 8 PM. People from all walks including scientists, educationists, film & TV personalities, musicians, sports people, youth and students' activists took part in this programme. AIPSO decided to send a letter to the Prime Minister of India demanding to cancel the Indo-Israel Treaty. More than 30 thousand people have signed the appeal. Mr. Rabin Deb, Convener, AIPSO, West Bengal chaired the meeting. Other who addressed the meeting were Mr. Debashis Chakraborty, Mr. Anjan Mukherjee, Dr. Tomonash Bhattacharjee, Mr. Amitava Chakraborty, Mr. Ananta Bandopadhyay, Mr. Nirranjan Chatterjee, Mr. Palash Das, Mr. Shibsankar Roy .

Among others who participated in the programme were Mr. Subodh Sarkar, Mrs. Papiya Adhikari, Mr. Badsha Moitra, Mr. Pilo Bhattacharya, Prof. Binayak Bhattacharjee, Dr. S N Bera, Dr. Srutinath Praharaj, Mr. Prabir Deb, Mrs. Mousumi Ghosh .

26 September 2008: Solidarity with Cuba

AIPSO, West Bengal State unit and National Committee for Solidarity with Cuba (India) jointly organized a meeting at H L Memorial Hall (Jadavpur University) demanding immediate release of the Five Cuban heroes who have been languishing in US prisons since September 1998 with fake and

fraudulent charges for the only crime of combating terrorism. Mrs. Rosa Aurora Freijanes, wife of Fernando González, and her lawyer, Mrs. Nuris Pinero Sierra were also present in the meeting.

14 -16 December 2008: AAPSO 8th Congress in Hyderabad, Mr. Rabin Deb, Mr. Anjan Mukherjee, Prof. Binayak Bhattacharya, Smt. Pradipta Kanungo, Dr. S N Bera, and Dr. Pradipta Dattagupta from West Bengal joined the 8th Congress of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India, from 14 to 16 December 2008. The Congress was hosted by the AIPSO.

## **2009**

7 January, 2009: Solidarity with the Palestinian People

AIPSO, West Bengal State unit hold a convention in solidarity with the struggling Palestinian people on 7 January, 2009 at the Darbhanga Hall, Calcutta University College Street campus. Rabin Deb, Convener AIPSO West Bengal unit presided over the session. Among the speakers were Prof. Suranjan Das, Vice Chancellor of Calcutta University, Dr. Srikumar Mukherjee, Minister of West Bengal government, Dr. S N Bera, MLA, Mr. Anjan Mukherjee and Mr. Ananta Bandyopadhyay. The speakers deplored Israeli attack on innocent Palestinian people.

30 March 2009: International Palestine Day observed

AIPSO, West Bengal State unit hold a meeting 30 March 2009 at Jogesh Mancha, South Kolkata to observe International Palestine Day. Rabin Deb, Convener AIPSO West Bengal unit presided over the session. Among the speakers were Mr. Hasim Abdul Halim, Speaker of the West Bengal Assembly, Prof. Syed Samsul Alam, Vice Chancellor of Aliah University and Dr. S N Bera.

12-13 June 2009: Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting of the WPC/ Kathmandu

The delegates from West Bengal took part in the Asian Regional Consultative Meeting of the World Peace Council held in Kathmandu from 12 to 13 June 2009. The meeting was hosted by Nepal Peace and Solidarity Council.

6-9 August 2009: Prof. Biplab Chakrabarti (Calcutta University) from West Bengal attended the International Conference against the Atom Bomb in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan.

1 September 2009: Anti- Imperialist Day

AIPSO West Bengal unit observed Anti-Imperialist Day. A meeting was organized on the day in Metro Channel, Kolkata from 4 PM to 8 PM. People from all walks including scientists, educationists, film & TV personalities, musicians, sports people, youth and students' activists took part in this programme. A procession was organized from Subbed Mullick Square to Metro Channel.

## **2010**

29 January 2010: Visit of Chinese delegation-- A delegation of the Chinese Peoples Association for Peace and Disarmament (CPAPD) visited Kolkata. The AIPSO West Bengal unit hosted a dinner for the visiting delegation.

20-21 February, 2010: Asian Peace Conference/ Kathmandu

Mr. Rajat Bandyopadhyay, Mrs. Pradipta Kanungo and Mrs. Swapna Mukherjee joined the Asian Peace Conference jointly organized by Nepal Peace and Solidarity Council and World Peace Council held in Kathmandu on 20-21 February 2010.

19-20 March 2010: 5th Asia-Pacific Regional Conference of Solidarity with Cuba, Laos. Prof. S. N. Bera MLA and Mr. Anjan Mukherjee from West Bengal unit attended the Fifth Asia-Pacific Regional Conference of Solidarity with Cuba (APRCSC) took place in Vientiane, capital of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) in March 2010 as a member of the AIPSO delegation.

28-30 April 2010: Exhibition in Kolkata

AIPSO West Bengal unit organized an exhibition of postal stamps on Lenin at Gaganendra Pradarshsala, Kolkata from 28 April to 30 April 2010. The stamps were provided by Subhra Chandra from his collection. The exhibition was inaugurated by Biman Basu, Chairman, Left Front.

1 September 2010: Anti- Imperialist Day

AIPSO West Bengal unit observed Anti-Imperialist Day. A meeting was organized on the day in Metro Channel,Kolkata from 4 PM to 8 PM. People from all walks including scientists, educationists, film & TV personalities,musicians, sports people, youth and students' activists took part in this programme.

21 November -5 December 2010: Visit to China--Mr. Rajat Banerjee, Mrs. Anindita Sarbadhikari, Mr. Prabir Deb and Mrs. Papiya Adhikari from West Bengal visited China on behalf of the AIPSO West Bengal unit.

## **2011**

12-13 March, 2011: South Asian Peace Conference/ Kathmandu,

Mr. Ashok Guha, Mrs. Mousumi Roy, Mr. Dipankar Majumder, Mr. Swapan Sarkar, Smt. Mohammadi Tarunnam,Mrs. Kasturi Goswami, Mr. Ashok Adhikari from West Bengal took part in the South Asian Peace Conference organized by Nepal Peace and Solidarity Council in Kathmandu from 12 to 13 March, 2011. Delegations from India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bhutan attended this meeting. A four member delegation from CPAPD of China also attended the meeting.

4-5 June, 2011: Asia-Pacific Peace Conference / Dhaka, Bangladesh,

Prof. Saumendranath Bera (Anjan) MLA, Mrs. Manju Bose, Mrs. Mousumi Roy, Dr.Keshab Bhattachrya, Prof. Binayak Bhattacharya among others attended the Asia-Pacific Peace Conference organized by Bangladesh Peace Council and held in Dhaka in June, 2011.

26 July 2011: Moncada Day

AIPSO, West Bengal State Committee organized a programmed at Abanindra Sabhagriha, Kolkata on the occasion of 'Moncada Day'. Speakers: Mr. Rigoberto Zarza Ross, Asia-Pacific representative of the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples, ICAP, Mr. Rabin Deb, Mr. Pallab Sengupta, Dr. S N Bera (Anjan)

1 September 2011: AIPSO West Bengal unit observed Anti-Imperialist Day. A meeting was organized on the day in Metro Channel,Kolkata from 4 PM to 8 PM. People from all walks including scientists, educationists, film & TV personalities,musicians, sports people, youth and students' activists took part in this programme.

## **2012**

19-20 March 2012: Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting of the WPC/ Kolkata

AIPSO West Bengal unit hosted the Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting of the WPC in Kolkata. The meeting was held in Jadavpur University campus.

17-18 July 2012: Meeting of the Peace Organisations from BRICS Countries

AIPSO hosted the BRICS' Peace Movement Meeting at Jawaharlal Nehru National Youth Centre, New Delhi. Dr. Pradip Dutta Gupta and Prof. Binayak Bhattacharya attended the meeting.

20- 23 July 2012: WPC Assembly in Kathmandu, Nepal,Mr. Rabin Deb, Dr. Srikumar Mukherjee, Mr. Anjan Mukherjee, Dr. S N Bera , Mrs. Mousumi Roy from West Bengal attended the WPC Assembly and World Peace Conference (Kathmandu, Nepal, 20- 23 July 2012) as AIPSO delegates.

26 July 2012: Moncada Day Observation

AIPSO, West Bengal State Committee organized a programme at Nehru Children's Museum auditorium, Kolkata in solidarity with Cuba on the occasion of 'Moncada Day'. The well-attended programme was addressed by Rabin Deb, Prof. Amaljyoti Sengupta, Hafij Alam Sairani, Bhanudeb Datta, Anjan Mukherjee.

9 August 2012: Nagasaki Day- AIPSO, West Bengal State Committee organized a public meeting on 9 August 2012 to commemorate the Nagasaki Day at Victoria Institution (College) auditorium. Rabin Deb, Convener of the State Committee, Prof. Anandadeb Mukhopadhyay, Former vice Chancellor, Vidyasagar University and Prof. Subimal Sen, former Chairman, West Bengal Higher Education Council spoke on the occasion.

1 September 2012: Anti- imperialist Rally- The members of the AIPSO West Bengal unit joined enthusiastically the big anti- imperialist rally in Kolkata on 1 September 2012.

30 September 2012: AIPSO West Bengal State Convention-- The State Convention was organized by the AIPSO West Bengal State Unit on 30 September 2012 at the Darbhanga Hall, Calcutta University. Mr. Rabin Deb, Convener of the State Unit placed the report which was discussed and accepted unanimously with minor amendments. Delegates for the coming national conference of the AIPSO were also elected.

**5-6 October 2012:** AIPSO National Conference, Pondicherry. A 34-member delegation under the leadership of Mr. Rabin Deb attended the National Conference of the AIPSO at Pondicherry. The conference was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Pondicherry, Mr. N Ramasamy on 5 October 2012 at Kamban Kalai Arangam. The delegate session was held at Hotel Jayaram. The delegates from West Bengal were: Mr. Rabin Deb, Dr. Srikumar Mukherjee, Mr. Prabir Deb, Dr. Barun Mukherjee, Mr. Anjan Mukherjee, Mr. Rajat Banerjee, Dr. Ramkrishna Chatterjee, Mrs. Bharati Mukherjee, Mr. Kallol Majumder, Prof. Keshab Bhattacharjee, Prof. Pradip Dattagupta, Prof. Saumendranath Bera, Principal Khgendranath Adhikari, Prof. Amalendu Debnath, Prof. Binayak Bhattacharya, Dr. R T Goswami, Dr. Sudipta Roy Choudhury, Mr. Sanjit Chatterjee, Mr. Dhiren Pal, Mr. Ajoy Agnihotri, Mrs. Mousumi Roy, Mr. Utpal Datta, Mr. Ashok Guha, Mr. Kalyan Sengupta, Mr. Jayanta Mukherjee, Mr. Ananta Bandyopadhyay, Mr. Tapan Sengupta, Mr. Dipankar Majumder, Mr. Sudipta Chakrabarti, Mr. Partha Das, Mrs. Dulu Das, Mr. Shubham Banerjee, Mr. V K Srivastava, Mrs. Jayasri Sengupta, Mr. Ehesan Ali.

**20-21 October 2012:** 6th Asia-Pacific Regional Conference for Solidarity with Cuba, Colombo, Sri Lanka. Mr. Amal Halder, Prof. Saumendranath Bera, Smt. Swapna Bhattacharya, Dr. Tarun Kumar Patra, Prof. Jyotirmoy Datta, Mr. Dilip Das, Mrs. Manidipa Das, Mr. Tapan Sen Gupta, Mrs. Jayasree Sen Gupta, Mr. Sougata Panda from West Bengal attended the Sixth Asia-Pacific Regional Conference of Solidarity with Cuba (APRCSC) took place in Colombo, Sri Lanka on 20-21 October 2012 .

24-25 November 2012: International Peace Conference, Antioch, Turkey

Mr. Debasish Chakraborty from West Bengal represented AIPSO at the International Peace Conference held in the city of Antioch (Antakiya) of Turkey at the initiative of the Peace Association of Turkey under the auspices of the World Peace Council.

## **2013**

25-28 January 2013: 40th YEAR OF PARIS PACT

Mr. Rabin Deb, the Secretary, All India Peace & Solidarity Organisation ( AIPSO), All

India Committee and the Convenor, AIPSO, West Bengal State Committee visited Vietnam from 25 to 28 January 2013 on the occasion of 40th anniversary of signing of Paris Peace Accord. The Paris Peace Accord, formally signed between Vietnam and the USA on 27 January 1973, represents Vietnam's diplomatic victory in its struggle against the United States. It liberated South Vietnam and reunified the

country. Around 37 international delegates from 17 countries participated in activities to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Paris Agreement in Hanoi. The programmes were organised by Vietnam Union of Friendship Organisation and Vietnam Peace & Development Foundation. Rabin Deb also visited the War Remnants Museum and there in the seminar he spoke about how the Solidarity Movement of Vietnam left a deep impact on the political and cultural life of West Bengal. He also read out the translation of a poem of the former Chief Minister, West Bengal, Mr. Buddhadeb Bhattacharya.

29 March 2013: AIPSO West Bengal State First Conference-- The AIPSO West Bengal First State Conference was organized successfully on 29 March 2013 at Victoria Institution Hall, Kolkata. More than three hundred delegates from all over West Bengal participated in the conference. Internationally acclaimed magician Mr. P. C. Sorcar (Junior) inaugurated the conference.

Mr. Rabin Deb, convener of the West Bengal Unit of AIPSO placed the report. The report, in detail, discussed the relevance of peace and solidarity movement in present world order. In the backdrop of the current international scenario, the role of AIPSO West Bengal unit has been discussed in the report. The report has also dealt with specific programs initiated and observed by the AIPSO West Bengal unit since 2007. The report has mentioned the importance of making the organization a real broad platform for accommodating pluralistic ideas and dispositions against imperialism.

Dr. Surjya Kanta Mishra, the Leader of the Opposition, West Bengal Legislative Assembly, congratulated the conference. Mr. Pallab Sengupta and Mr. Nilotpal Basu, general secretaries of the AIPSO addressed the delegates. The conference elected a new State Committee.