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To,
All the Zonal/Divisional/State/Regional Units

SOLIDARITY AND SUPPORT FOR CUBA

The Cuban Revolution completed 66 years on 1st of January 2025. Ever since the Revolution in 1959, Cuba has met with a belligerent stance from the US government. US imperialism has been trying to sabotage the Revolution right from the time the oppressive regime of Fulgencio Batista was dethroned and Fidel Castro was elevated to the position of Prime Minister in February 1959. The US administration severed all diplomatic ties with Cuba in 1961. From then on, the CIA started implementing a series of destabilizing tactics including over six hundred assassination attempts on Castro, terrorist activities under Operation Mongoose and the Bay of Pigs invasion by right-wing Cuban exiles. In 1962, the Kennedy administration initiated an inhuman blockade against Cuba launching a relentless campaign of starvation and deprivation. That genocidal blockage chokes the island nation to this day.

The cruelty towards Cuba and the Cuban people by officials of the US administration is too well known to be repeated here. One example should suffice. Former US Secretary of State Alexander Haig is reported to have told President Reagan in March 1981, "Just give me the word and I'll turn that ***** island into a parking lot". The US administration has been vindictive towards the Cuban Revolution and the people for the simple reason that it has successfully defied Washington and has offered a Socialist Model for the rest of the Third World.

But what is remarkable about Cuba is that even though this small island nation has been embargoed by the most powerful country in the world since 1960, the people have been resisting. There is perhaps no other case in world history of a small country resisting the efforts of a powerful country to strangle it and being successful not only in surviving but in succeeding in many ways. More than six decades of economic blockade notwithstanding, Cuba has been able to overcome the indignities of hunger, ill-health and illiteracy- the three social plagues that continue to trouble much of the world. Despite the blockade, Cuba has ensured that every Cuban gets free education, free healthcare and excels in sports, arts and in the spheres of culture. The health statistics in Cuba are universally acknowledged to be much better than that of the US. Cuba has the unique distinction of sending its doctors and nurses to many parts of the world which face natural calamities or pandemics. During the Covid, when most countries refused to send vaccines or medicines to other countries, Cuba stood out by sending its doctors to more than 50 countries including advanced countries like Italy. The vaccines developed by Cuba, despite acute scarcity of raw materials, have an efficacy rate of over 90 per cent and are being used by a large number of countries. The spirit of internationalism displayed by Cuba and the Cuban people is simply outstanding. Eminent Sociologist from Columbia University C. Wright Mills commends this arduous process of development as "construction of socialism with heart".

The illegal and inhuman economic blockade has however inflicted a rude jolt to Cuba. The country is passing through a critical situation. Recently, the entire country experienced prolonged interruptions in the supply of electricity. Cuban people who helped the world with their medicines are now unable to produce medicines for shortage of raw materials. Food, fuel, raw materials- everything is being denied to the Cuban people to bring them under subjugation. To add to their woes, Cuba is arbitrarily included in the spurious list of State Sponsors of Terrorism to coerce the people to bow down to the dictates of US.

The people of Cuba are resisting all attempts to subjugate them. They are heroically defending their country. They are fighting for dignity and sovereignty. They are fighting with a hope, a hope of a better future. It's time we helped the Cubans gather their hopes and lead the struggle for a better future. The National Committee for Solidarity with Cuba, New Delhi, has given a call to mobilise resources and help the people of Cuba in these trying times. The campaign to mobilise resources started on 28th of January 2025- the birth anniversary of Jose Marti, Cuban poet, philosopher and national hero. It will conclude on 13th August 2025- the beginning of the birth centenary of legendary leader Fidel Castro.

The Secretariat of AIIEA that met at Hyderabad on 12-13 April 2025 felt that it's time to show our solidarity and help Cuba with all help that we can put together. We call upon the employees to donate liberally to this noble cause and stand with the people of Cuba, true to the traditions of the AIIEA.

With Greetings,

Comradely Yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shreekanth Mishra'.

General Secretary