

# Ghadar International

July 2019

## Meetings to commemorate 100 years of Jallianwala Bagh massacre.

The centenary of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre was marked by the Ghadar International through many public meetings in Britain and Australia during April, 2019.

There were two meetings in Britain, in Southall and Ilford on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> April respectively. The first meeting in Australia was held in the open on 21<sup>st</sup> April, at Sikh Games in Melbourne. The second meeting was held on 28<sup>th</sup> April in Sydney.



At each of these events there were photo exhibitions about the Jallianwala Bagh massacre and the glorious history of uncompromising struggle of the Ghadari Babas.

There were also photos exhibited, showing the atrocities committed by the Indian state against people waging struggles for their rights since 1947, i.e. after the British colonialists transferred power to the class of big capitalists and big landlords.

Comrades Dalvinder and Salvinder were the main speakers at all these meetings. Narrating

the events preceding the massacre, they pointed out that about 15,000-20,000 people had gathered at Jallianwala Bagh on Baisakhi Day to condemn the killing of more than two dozen people who were participating in a peaceful protest march three days earlier. The people had been protesting against the imprisonment of two leaders of the anti-colonial struggle, Dr Satyapal and Dr Saifudin Kichlew, also against the passing of the draconian Rowlatt Act. The Rowlatt Act allowed the authorities to arrest anybody without warning and prosecute them without a jury. Recalling the background of the Rowlatt Act, the speakers said that the Rowlatt Act was the continuation of The Defence of India Act which was used mainly against the revolutionaries of Hindustan Ghadar Party. The speakers explained that Hindustan Ghadar Party (HGP) was formed in US by the Indian immigrants who realised that the cause of racist attacks and racist discrimination in US and Canada was the enslavement of their country by the British colonialists. It became clear to them that although the British empress had declared, after the defeat of Ghadar of 1857, that all her subjects were equal, but in practice they were not allowed same rights as the Europeans. The British Secretary of State even refused to meet the delegation sent by the Indians in Canada to ask the British government to take measures for their safety and dignity.

As the First World War began, the HGP gave

a call to all its members to go back to India and fight for the independence of their motherland. More than 8000 Ghadaris heeded the call of the party and went back, handing over everything they owned to the Party. They worked hard to mobilise the British Indian Army to launch the second Ghadar to free India. They told Indian soldiers in British Indian Army not to fight for enslavement of other countries, like China, Turkey and Iran. Indian Army not to fight for enslavement of other countries, like China, Turkey and Iran.

The speakers exposed the treacherous role played by the Indian National Congress. They explained that while HGP acted to make use of the opportunity provided by the World War to liberate India, the leaders of the Congress Party, especially MK Gandhi, were working to safeguard the British Empire by campaigning for recruitment of Indian youth in the army. Gandhi asked the INC to hold back all their demands including Home Rule and work wholeheartedly for the Victory of the British Empire. Gandhi, Nehru and other leaders of the Congress Party were instrumental in creating and fostering the illusion that the British Rule was beneficial to India and that after the victory of Britain in the War, Indians would be made partners in the British Empire.

The speakers pointed out that the Jallianwala Bagh massacre was a turning point in the struggle for independence of India. Even Gandhi was forced to wage non-cooperation movement in 1920. The Jallianwala Bagh massacre gave rise to leaders like Shaheed Udham Singh, who avenged the massacre by shooting dead the lieutenant governor of Punjab, Sir Michael O'Dwyer after 21 years. Twelve year old Shaheed Bhagat Singh was deeply affected by that event.

Referring to the campaign asking the British government to apologise for the massacre, the speakers' view was that an apology for historical injustices will not be a sincere one, unless the British State stops launching unjust wars against other countries and the perpetrators of these wars are punished. Speakers recounted that Tony Blair took the decision to send the British army to Iraq despite opposition from the British people.

The speakers explained that in commemorating these historical events, we should draw lessons from them and work to ensure that these kind of atrocities do not happen again.

Comrades said that the sacrifices of our martyrs weakened the British rule. The colonialists were forced to transfer power to the class of Indian



capitalists and big landlords in 1947. This class kept intact the state established by the British to exploit and plunder the land and labour of Indian people. Now it is the brown sahibs and the foreign capitalists who are using the same state to enrich themselves by robbing the resources and exploiting the labour of Indian people.

The present rulers have further perfected the policy of divide and rule. They kept the same draconian laws like sedition act and land acquisition laws and passed numerous anti-worker, anti-peasant laws to perpetuate their rule.

They have committed many more massacres like the Jallianwala Bagh. Many examples were given of genocide committed by the state under the rule of Congress party and the BJP, like the attack on the Golden Temple in Amritsar, demolition of Babri Masjid, genocide in Gujarat, the state terror in Chhattisgarh, Kashmir, and other regions of the country.

The speakers pointed out that O'Dwyer had commended Dyer for "teaching the Indians a lesson" for disobeying the rulers and justified his actions. The British government was forced to end the services of Dyer and allow him to retire. That was the only so called "punishment" to this butcher of Amritsar. Back in England the Tory party collected more than £60,000 for Dyer. Similarly the present Indian state has not punished any of the perpetrators of genocides committed against Sikhs, Muslims, Kashmiris, Assamese, etc. Describing the conditions of workers, peasants, students, women, Adivasis, Dalits and small shopkeepers, the speakers said that after more than 70 years of independence, the lot of ordinary people has become worse. Thousands of peasants have committed suicides. Apart from the super-rich, all sections of Indian people are in turmoil and are waging struggles for their rights.

None of the parties of the rich are trusted by the people. The only solution offered by the Congress party and the BJP is to change the governing party at the centre and the states at each round of elections. But changing the

governing party or the leaders does not make people the decision makers. People do not set the agenda or decide the direction of economy. We have seen various alliances of the parties of the rich come and go at the centre and the states. What does our experience show? That they all carry out the agenda of the monopoly capitalist class. The state is controlled by this class and they bring to power the party most effective in deceiving the people. Although they promise to end corruption, end poverty etc. but in practice they do their best to increase the wealth of the rich. Speaking about prime minister Modi's claim that he is a Chowkidar who will safeguard the wealth of the country, one of the speakers said that far from being the Chowkidar safeguarding the country's money from being stolen by the rich, Mr. Modi is actually facilitating the loot of our wealth and resources by the monopoly capitalist class, by viciously attacking all those who are opposing the exploitation, loot and plunder.

All the speeches concluded with the clear message that to stop the massacres like Jallianwala Bagh from happening again and again, the present system has to be replaced with a new system where the will of the people is paramount, where people are the decision makers.

Vigorous discussion took place after the speeches. Many people present at the meetings expressed serious concern about the situation in our country. Many questions were raised, which the speakers addressed, about the agenda of our rulers, the grave dangers to our people and the need to take the people's struggles forward.

## **These elections are neither fair nor free!**

### **The political process needs democratic renewal!**

India is called the world's most populous democracy. It is held up in contrast with China and Pakistan, as a country in which "free and fair elections" are regularly held. The fact that several political parties compete for seats in the central and state legislative bodies is presented as proof that democracy is thriving in our country.

Life experience, however, keeps exposing the fact that elections in the existing system are neither fair nor free by any standard.

If elections are to be fair, then every adult member of society must enjoy equal right to elect and be elected. In practice, only a privileged minority enjoys the right to be elected.

Thousands of candidates are contesting the 543 seats in the 17th Lok Sabha. However, only candidates of a handful of parties are promoted in the media. Only candidates of BJP, Congress Party and a few regional parties are represented in the debates and interviews on TV news channels.

Numerous women and men who have risen up through struggle, from among the workers, peasants and other toiling people, are contesting these elections. Such people's candidates face a steep uphill battle.

They carry out their campaigns through extremely hard work, spending many hours every day meeting people in their houses and factory gates. They have only a few lakhs of rupees to spend on their campaigns, collected from their supporters and friends. There are

more than 15 lakh voters in an average Lok Sabha constituency. With the best of efforts, the people's candidates can reach only a fraction of the voters in their constituency.

At the other pole, candidates selected by parties backed by the capitalist class enjoy a privileged position. The Tatas, Ambanis, Birlas and other Indian monopoly houses, regional capitalist groups as well as foreign multinational companies contribute to the campaign finance of such parties. Thousands of crores of rupees are spent to promote the candidates of such parties on TV and through social media, on a daily basis, for several months before the election dates are announced. Thousands of paid volunteers are set in motion to run their election campaigns.

The Election Commission, an unelected body, is supposed to ensure that elections are fair. The EC specifies campaign spending limits for individual candidates. But there is no limit, and no monitoring, of what political parties spend on election campaigns. There is rampant and growing inequality in campaign spending between people's candidates and the candidates of capitalist parties. There is also growing inequality among the capitalist parties. The EC is powerless to prevent the inequality of money power, except to make a show of capturing some hoards of cash meant for distribution before the voting day.

India's 17th Lok Sabha election is said to be the most expensive election that has ever taken place in the world. Total election spending is estimated

by different agencies to be between Rs.50,000 and 1,00,000 crore. Most of it is spent by the parties of the capitalist class.

Within the capitalist parties, BJP alone accounts for more than three-fourth of the total expenditure, according to some estimates.

Rules laid down by the Election Commission are not only failing to curb the exorbitant use of money power. They further accentuate the unfair competition facing people's candidates. All kinds of restrictions are imposed on posters and other means of communication available to such candidates. There is no restriction on paid hoardings, paid advertisements in newspapers and on TV, social media and other means used by the BJP, Congress and other capitalist parties. Moreover, the "recognised" parties enjoy the advantage of having permanent election symbols assigned to them. They can start popularising their symbol several months ahead of the elections, whereas many of the people's candidates get a symbol assigned only a few weeks prior to voting day.

The candidates of capitalist parties try their best to divert the attention of people away from burning problems such as unemployment, insecurity of livelihood facing peasants, violation of workers' rights and insecurity facing women. They do so by spreading hatred

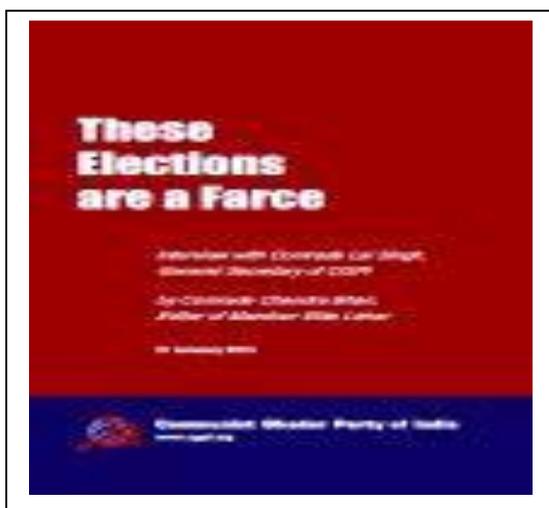
and jealousy against specific castes and religious minorities, and against neighbouring countries.

The capitalist parties have no choice except to divert, deceive and divide the people, because they have no solution to offer to the any of their burning problems. They have no solution because they are committed to implement the capitalist enrichment program of globalisation, through liberalisation and privatisation. They reduce political debate to the lowest possible level, setting people at each other's throats.

The 17th Lok Sabha elections have been marked by the leaders of rival parties calling each other thieves, mass murderers and national traitors. As Narendra Modi and Rahul Gandhi hurl all kinds of abuses against each other, people are left wondering why the fate of India should be entrusted to one or another of these gangs of thieves and killers of the people.

The code of conduct prohibits candidates from spreading hatred against people of a particular religion or caste. Historically, the EC has rarely taken any action to punish those who violated this principle. In 2019, the EC has been directed by the Supreme Court to take action against candidates who deliver hate speeches. After being admonished by the Supreme Court, the EC ordered the temporary suspension from campaigning of a few selected candidates. For making communal speeches.

Mayawati and Yogi Adityanath were among those suspended temporarily. Laws and rules governing elections offer full freedom to the representatives of capitalist parties to get away with the most monstrous crimes. There is no freedom as far as the toiling majority of people are concerned.



Those in positions of authority use the laws and rules to persecute and harass the representatives of workers and peasants.

Elections in this system are an occasion for the ruling class to escalate the spread of fear, suspicion and all kinds of tensions among the people. Periodic elections are a mechanism for manipulating public opinion and gaining legitimacy for imposing the will of monopoly capitalists on the whole of society. Election campaigns are dominated by massive disinformation which the monopoly capitalists and their parties spread through TV, newspapers and through social media such as facebook, twitter and whatsapp. temporarily suspended.

No action has been taken against Prime Minister Modi and BJP President Shah, who have repeatedly and openly incited hatred against Kashmiris, and referred to immigrants from Bangladesh as pests. They refer to Muslims as “they” who must be put in their place. No action has been taken against either of them for their repeated hate speeches. Why? It shows that the Prime Minister and president of the ruling party are, for all practical purposes, above the law. It is they who dictate to the Election Commission and not the other way around.

The electoral battlefield is not fair by any standards. It cannot be fair as long as society remains divided between an exploiting minority and the exploited majority. There can be no equality of opportunity as long as monopoly capitalists own and control the principal means of social production, as well as the news media. There can be no fair elections as long as monopoly capitalists are free to pour enormous amounts of money behind the election campaigns of their preferred parties.

Multiple phases allow them the option of orchestrating a so-called wave in favour of one or another party in the concluding phases.

These elections are not free either. Every adult woman and man is not really free to go and vote for whoever she or he wants. Enormous pressure is brought to bear on different sections of the people, to induce them to vote one way or another. Different forms of inducement and pressure are used, ranging from cash and liquor distribution to threats of physical attacks. Crores of workers who are registered as voters in their village cannot bear the cost of missing wages and travelling to their villages to vote.

Laws and rules governing elections offer full freedom to the representatives of capitalist parties to get away with the most monstrous crimes. There is no freedom as far as the toiling majority of people are concerned. Those in positions of authority use the laws and rules to persecute and harass the representatives of workers and peasants.

These elections are being held in as many as seven phases, spread out over 40 days. Past experience with multiple phase elections shows that it not only enables the deployment of more security forces. Multiple phases also give a lot of scope for Indian and foreign monopoly and manipulate the result in their own favour.

The biggest monopoly companies organise exit surveys after every phase, both to gauge the people’s mood and to promote the slogan and party of their choice. The capitalist class, headed by the monopoly houses, uses surveys conducted after the early phases to decide which of their trusted parties is better equipped to fool the people at this particular time. They use the most modern means of communication to promote their preferred team as the best for the n

Past experience shows that even when one party replaces another through these elections,

there is no qualitative change in the course of India and the conditions of her people.

The right to vote is not of much use to the people because the laws and rules governing the electoral process are designed to ensure that only parties which have the backing of the capitalist class can win elections and take charge of executive power.

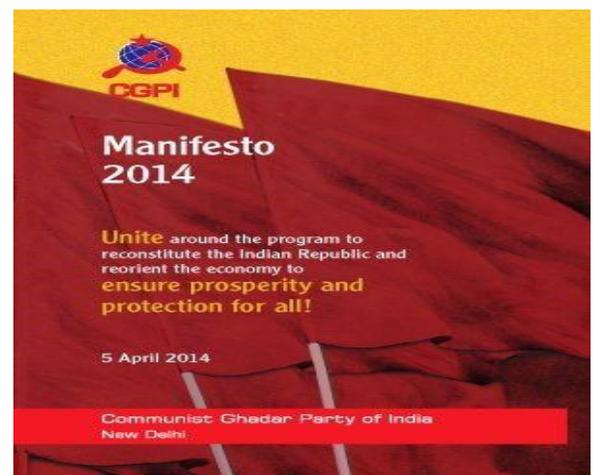
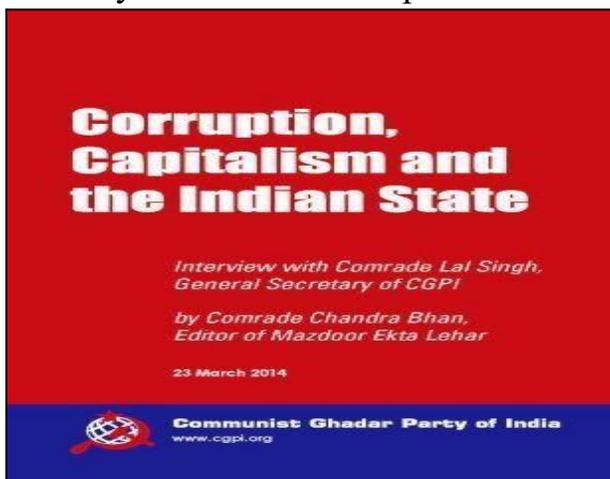
The existing political process, in which parties backed by big money power take turns to manage the government, is the mechanism through which the monopoly capitalists impose their will on society. They use elections as a tool to maintain their dictatorship, while creating the impression that people have expressed their will.

The deep desire and growing demand of the people, that they must be the decision-makers and rulers of India, can be seen in the rise and growth of people's candidates. It shows that people want an end to the vicious cycle of monopoly capitalist rule, with the same kind of parties replacing each other periodically. They want to take their destiny in their own hands.

A qualitative change in the political process and the nature of political power is essential for fulfilling the people's desire and demand to determine their own destiny. The existing political system needs to be replaced

with a system that is consistent with the demand that we, the people, must be the master of India. The political process must serve to keep decision-making power in the people's hands and prevent it from being usurped by any party or gang of vested interests. The political process must serve to keep decision-making power in the people's hands and prevent it from being usurped by any party or gang of vested interests. The role of a political party in such a system will be to provide the people with the vision, plan and leadership they need so as to rule themselves. Laws governing political activity will ban any party that spreads hatred or Enmity among people on communal or caste basis. There will be no space for any party that seeks to exclude the masses of people from decision-making power.

Let us unite around the democratic renewal of the political process (see Box). It is an essential component of the overall program for the Navnirman of India.— that is, for the political empowerment of the people, reorientation of the economy to fulfill human needs instead of being geared to fulfill monopoly capitalist greed, and reorientation of foreign policy to safeguard peace and defeat imperialist war designs.



## Democratic Renewal of the Political Process

With the goal of bringing decision-making power into the hands of the people, let us fight for the following immediate changes in the political process:

- No election without people's selection of Candidates!
- All organizations of workers, peasants, women and youth to enjoy the right to nominate candidates from among their midst!
- All selected candidates to be assigned symbols at the same time -- No discrimination between candidates of recognised parties and others!
- No private funding, only state funding, of the selection and election process!
- People must enjoy the right to demand rendering of account by their elected representative, and the right to recall him or her at any time!

Read Program on:

Unite around program for Real Democracy!  
Bring forth representatives standing up for  
needs of working people and the Community!

Read latest about Brexit, Austerity and  
Privatisation, Democracy and Human Rights  
in Next Issue of Ghadar International.

## Donald trump, the president of the most ferocious imperialist power, US, not welcome in Britain

Statement of Ghadar International and Indian Workers Association, 04/06/2019

Donald Trump the President of World's most ferocious warmongering imperialist power has arrived in Britain on an official visit. The British prime minister, Mrs Theresa May extended an invitation to Trump when she visited the US, after he was elected president in 2017.

Trump has taken many provocative actions and decisions against the countries and peoples all over the world. The US has tried its utmost to overthrow the democratically elected government of president Maduro in Venezuela and install its puppet Juan Guaido to power. The US imperialism-imposed sanctions on trade with Venezuela, thereby creating severe shortages of food and medicines. The revenue from oil exports was adversely affected by sanctions. This contributed to decline in people's living standards. The Trump government unilaterally ended the nuclear agreement with Iran which was signed by five major nuclear powers including the UK. The US slammed trade sanctions against companies and countries buying oil from Iran; threatened to break diplomatic relations with Cuba, which were restored in 2015 after nearly 58 years since 1959; it came out of Paris Climate change agreement and is threatening North Korea with using nuclear weapons against it.

US imperialism took on the mantle of restoring fascism after it was defeated by the Allied forces in 1945, in which the Soviet

Union and the anti-fascist forces in the world played a decisive role making tremendous sacrifices. More than 25 million people of the Soviet Union were killed in the second WW, which is more than any other country. The prestige of Soviet Union soared in the eyes of the countries and people waging struggles for independence from colonial slavery. The US and other imperialist powers were mortally scared from movements for socialism gaining momentum.

Some steps US and British imperialism took were to stop the spreading of socialism from Central Asian Soviet Republics and attempt taking control of the state of Jammu and Kashmir. The state of Jammu and Kashmir is



located at a strategically vital area from military point of view, especially, the Gilgit area. They could use Gilgit to attack Soviet Union, China, Tibet, Nepal and could have Airbases in the valley area from which their fighter planes could take off and launch attacks.

The people of Jammu and Kashmir were fighting to end the rule of Dogra Hindu raja, Hari Singh and establish an independent state of Jammu and Kashmir. This undermined the ability of US-British imperialists to use Kashmir to contain the spread of socialism from Soviet Union and China. . This is the major reason for organising Tribal Militias from north-west frontier area to attack and take over the control of Srinagar. The government and the army of Pakistan trained, armed and financed these Tribal Militias. The Kashmir problem has its roots in the plans of imperialist powers to contain socialism. This is still a major problem facing the peoples of Kashmir, Pakistan and India.

The political representatives of British monopoly capitalist class have never missed an opportunity to point out the “special relationship” between US and Britain. The Kashmir problem is a glaring example of this ‘*special relationship*.’ The British and the US imperialists have got a common interest in plundering and acquiring the sources of raw materials and unhindered access to the markets for their goods all over the world.

The European imperialist powers, including Britain were considerably weakened by the end of the second World War. US imperialism came out stronger and became the leader of the western world with Britain taking on the role of a junior partner. Together, these two imperialist powers have been active in drowning the people’s struggles for revolution and independence in blood.

Some examples are the army attack against North Korea in 1952, the military coup in Indonesia in which they organised a revolt in the army and overthrew the democratically elected government of president Sukarno and killing thousands of communists and democratic people.

They organised the overthrow of democratic government of Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddegh of Iran and brought the Reza Pahlavi as Shah of Iran; they launched armed attacks on Vietnam and Cambodia and killed hundreds of thousands of people and injured people using napalm bombs against the people waging struggles for their freedom; organised counter revolution in Chile in 1972 against democratically elected government of Salvador Allende and killed tens of thousands of communists and democratic minded people; the list goes on and on.

Recently, these ‘*special friends*’ have created terrorist organisations like the Mujahideens, Taliban, ISIS etc. They created thousands of small terrorist gangs all over the world and use them whenever a state or regime does not carry out their dictate. For example, in Pakistan the US has penetrated the entire administrative system including the army and ISI (secret service). They order these cells to launch terrorist actions whenever they see the need for it. It is not surprising, that whenever there is an attempt at resolving issues between India and Pakistan and normalising mutual relationships, there is some terrorist bombing or massacre happening. Similarly, they have their terror cells in India as well.

The direct military interventions which started in Afghanistan and then spread to Iraq, Libya and Syria are still taking a heavy toll on peoples of these countries. Tens of hundreds of thousands have been killed and injured and maimed, millions more have been forced to flee their homes and become refugees living in make shift camps.

Many migrated to various European Countries where they faced discrimination and humiliation. Crimes committed by this ‘*special relationship*’ are countless.’

For the past few years the domination of US imperialism is threatened by some EU countries like Germany and France. The US is trying to see off this threat by trying to create some kind of wedge between various EU member states. That is the reason Mr Trump promoted Nigel Farage, who voiced his opposition to Britain remaining in the EU during the referendum campaign and is also promoting Boris Johnson to become the next prime minister of UK. This is naked interference in Britain’s internal affairs.

Trump’s visit on the occasion of D-day (deliverance day), when allied forces of Britain, France and US landed at Normandy in France; during world war 2, is an insult to the memory of those who laid down their lives to save the world from the menace of fascism.

Voices amongst EU remainers are being raised against the red-carpet welcoming given to Trump by some politicians and the media. They are even encouraging people to come and show their opposition to Trump’s visit.

We must intensify our struggles such that this exploitive capitalist system enabling big corporations amass superprofits at the expense impoverishing working people must be ended. We have to fight to establish a political and economic system where working people, being the creators of wealth, utilise this wealth to constantly raise their material and cultural standards. This is possible only if the working class and other toiling sections of have political power. They must become the decision makers in affairs affecting their lives. People should have the right to elect and be elected. Political representatives must uphold the agenda stemming from the needs of the majority. They must be empowered to hold their representatives to account and be able to replace those failing to uphold the agenda stemming from the needs of the majority.

***Down with US imperialism!***

***Trump go back!***

***No to the “special Relationship” of the Murderers!***

***Workers of the world unite!***

**Read Literature From Communist Ghadar) Party of India (CGPI)**

Wither India, Call of the Ghadaris, Magazine- Ghadar Jari Hai

**CGPI Fifth Congress Report, Corruption, Capitalism and the Indian State**

On the Note Ban - Real Aims and False Claims; Manifesto 2014 More

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