

In May 2020, at the height of the Covid-19 lockdown, the Prime Minister announced a series of measures “to support [the] Indian Economy’s fight against Covid-19”. In fact, what followed was a sweeping programme of privatisation and liberalisation, portending rich gains to foreign investors and domestic large corporates.

As part of this “Covid-19 package”, the Finance Minister on May 15 announced agriculture-related ‘reforms’, supposedly for the benefit of farmers. These included three farm-related Acts.

Far from welcoming these ‘reforms’, peasant organisations have been protesting them ever since. Since November 2020, peasants have been staging a massive sit-in protest at the borders of the nation’s capital.

This collection of articles argues that the three Farm Acts are part of a comprehensive attack on India’s peasantry by imperialism and the Indian large corporate sector. At stake are the food security and self-reliance of the country; the lands and livelihoods of tens of millions of peasants; the overall level of employment in the country – hence the bargaining power of the working class; and the consumption demand of millions of working people. .

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The Attack on India’s Peasantry

*Interests Behind the
‘Farm Reforms’*

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Aspects of India’s Economy, no.s 75 & 76

RESEARCH UNIT FOR POLITICAL ECONOMY

(1) We are happy to announce two translations of RUPE materials.

(a) *Crisis and Predation: India, Covid-19 and Global Finance*, by RUPE, has been translated into Tamil by Praveen Raj B., and is being published by Chintan Books, 327/1 Dewan Sahib Garden, T.T. K. Rd, Royapettah, Chennai 600014. Cell. 9445123164. The price is yet to be finalised.

(b) “The Real Agenda of the Gates Foundation”, *Aspects of India’s Economy* no. 57 (May 2014), by Jacob Levich (<https://www.rupe-india.org/57/gates.html>), has been translated into Tamil and published by Keezhai-k-Katru (East Wind), 16, Arumalai chavadi, Cantonment Pallavaram, Chennai – 600043. Cell: 8925648977. The price is Rs 60.

Some other translations have been reported on pp. 94-95 of this issue.

(2) We request our readers to send us their email addresses, if any, for follow-up regarding their subscriptions.

(3) Other R.U.P.E. publications currently in print:

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-- The Editor

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