

falls most heavily on the poor. Where there is a progressive system of taxation, the more a person earns the more tax that person pays. In indirect taxation, the same tax is paid regardless as to whether the buyer is a millionaire or a poorly paid worker. Let us illustrate:

*What is the effect of payment of indirect tax of, say, a R100,00 on A who earns R1 000,00 and B who earns R10 000,00? It means that A pays 10 per cent of his salary and is left with only 90 per cent of it. In B's case, he only pays 1 per cent of his salary and is left with 99 per cent of it.*

8. VAT is indirect taxation which falls heavily on the poor. Therefore, our opposition is to the whole of VAT and not just to the few items selected by COSATU and its ANTI-VAT allies.

## **ANC BEFRIENDS SELLOUTS**

### **INTRODUCTION**

For the oppressed people, life has been one long nightmare with no relief or let-up in sight. The ruling class, represented by the Nationalist Party, has done everything in its power to destroy the will and determination of the oppressed people to resist oppression.

1963 ushered in the era of legalised torture and execution in detention. Those of us who are old enough to remember will recall the horror with which we met the news of Babla Saloojee plunging to his death while he was in police custody. The horror was no less when Ahmed Timol and Dr Hoosen Haffejee were also killed while in police custody.

In all three cases mentioned, the State claimed that the cause of death was suicide. However, in all cases of deaths in detention, the oppressed people believe that those who so died are their martyrs and that they were murdered by agents of the state. No amount of explanation to the contrary has changed the collective mind of the people. Yet, despite the diabolical campaign of terror, the will of the people to resist remained unbroken.

### **AGE OF THE SELLOUTS**

Believing that the oppressed people had been sufficiently terrorised into submission, whilst their leaders were gagged and bound and imprisoned, the government considered it safe for its stooges to emerge from their rat-holes. Thus emerged a whole brood out in the open. What struck

one about these creatures was that, amongst them, there was not a SINGLE one who enjoyed the respect of the people. The people, in turn, did not have a SINGLE good thing to say about any of them. The sellouts were a motley crowd of scoundrels, gangsters, at least one murderer, bankrupts, fortune-hunters and last, but not least, the compulsive bootlickers.

In spite of their diversity, they had one factor common to them, namely, their complete disregard for the views and feelings of the oppressed people.

### PEOPLE REJECT SELLOUTS

Nothing was more eloquent in the condemnation of the Sellouts than the very low percentage poll in the Tricameral elections. The low poll stated loudly and clearly that the people had no time for the dummy bodies. It also provided candidates the opportunity to do the honourable thing by resigning if they had participated in the mistaken, but unlikely belief, that the people wanted their services. NOT ONE OF THEM RESIGNED!!! The people, therefore, had nothing but hatred and contempt for them. Even children used the names of sellouts as swearwords.

Let us not forget how the government and the Sellouts fought a dirty fight against the people. We will not forget how these creatures blackmailed the pensioners and those receiving grants (the most helpless section of the adult population) into voting. And what about the filthy trick of getting most of those who voted to do so before election day (Prior Voting) and by taking them to polling stations secretly?

No, the fight was not an easy one. There were arrests and detentions of those involved in the boycott activities. There was unchecked intimidation. There was the law which made it an offence to call for a boycott. People lost their lives while demonstrating against the Tricameral circus.

It will, therefore, be seen that the struggle against these traitors has been anointed with the blood of our martyrs. This has fuelled the hatred the people have for the Rajbansis of the world. It is not a blind hatred; it is a healthy hatred by people who were involved in a struggle.

### ANC BEFRIENDS SELLOUTS

In the September 1991 issue of "Galaxy" a "knock-and-drop" newspaper circulating in Pietermaritzburg, we will find two photographs: in one a local Sellout, Lity Nerrahoo, is seen with F.W. de Klerk. In the other, the same Sellout is seen chatting with Nelson Mandela.

In POST (Natal) of 25 September 1991, Rajbansi is quoted as saying that Nelson Mandela took his hand and said: "Hello Amichand, how is Asha and the children?"

Emboldened by Mandela's disgraceful conduct, a certain Louis Skweyiya honoured Sellouts J.N. Reddy and Baldeo Dookie by inviting them to the Conference of the so-called Patriotic Front (POST (Natal) –16 October 1991). Skweyiya is a civil rights lawyer. When he enters the political arena, he is out of his depth. In this case though, his action is no less disgraceful because he knows the role played by the Reddys and Dookies.

The courting of Sellouts by Mandela and members of his retinue has angered the oppressed. People want to know: "Who or what gives Mandela the right to fraternise with enemies of the people?" In this regard, Nelson Mandela has shown a complete disregard for the views and feelings of the people.

What Mr Mandela and the ANC have forgotten is that the Sellouts were part of a ruling class strategy, one of the purposes of which was to keep Mr Mandela and his colleagues for a much longer period in prison.

The strategy of the government was to weld the Whites, the Indian and the "Coloured" people into a single bloc of rulers, through the Tricameral parliament. The bloc together with stooges in the Bantustans was considered sufficient to deal with the ANC and other resistance bodies. The Rajbansis, the J.N. Reddys, the Baldeo Dookies and the rest of the rotten crowd fell in line with this strategy. The resistance of the people to the Sellouts, however, put paid to that strategy.

The nationwide and spontaneous loathing for the Sellouts convinced the imperialists and the far-sighted section of the Nationalists that the Sellouts will not be able to give much of a helping hand. This realisation introduced NEGOTIATION POLITICS. And it was this realisation that opened the prison doors. Had the boycott and the policy of non-collaboration failed, i.e., had the Rajbansis succeeded in getting a substantial number of people to vote for them, there would have been no reason for the ruling class to switch to negotiation politics. That, in turn, would have meant that the banned organisations would have remained banned and the prison doors would have remained shut. Yet, the ANC shows its appreciation by displaying contempt for the people by befriending the Sellouts.

## CONCLUSION

No organisation or individual, no matter how highly placed, must be allowed to disregard the views of the people and to get away with it. If people do not voice their disagreement or condemnation, they would be encouraging the growth of tyranny. The latter flourishes when people, through apathy, fear or misguided loyalty allow organisations or governments to perpetrate offensive acts by remaining silent. We have suffered tyranny and oppression for over three hundred years. The sacrifice in fighting tyranny has been awesome. All that sacrifice would have been in vain if the present tyranny is replaced by another. The colour of tyranny is of no consequence.

## THE JUDGE WITHOUT THE VOTE

Mr Justice Ismail Mahomed is an eminent lawyer. He was at the forefront of the legal struggle against tyranny, oppression and injustice. He fought numerous cases and achieved outstanding successes. Undoubtedly, nobody is better qualified as a judge for a democratic South Africa.

Yet, many people have expressed uneasiness because he has given the De Klerk government a great deal of credibility by accepting a judgeship in a system where bloody tyranny and exploitation continues. He has taken an oath of allegiance to De Klerk's republic, an oath to enforce laws that are part of the repressive system; laws that prescribe the death penalty; laws directed against the landless peasants and homeless workers who are given the ugly name of squatters. He has placed himself in a position that may require him to uphold the Tri-cameral system should any dispute of it come before him.

It is, indeed, sad that Mr Justice Mahomed has had to rely on the green light from the ANC to accept judgeship. He knows the ANC very well, as he does the calibre of its leadership, a leadership that will say "yes" to virtually anything if it advances its political ambitions:

Yes, De Klerk is a man of integrity.

Yes, racist cricket in South Africa is OK.

Yes, Hendrikse of the Labour Party is a patriot.

Yes, arch-capitalist Zac de Beer, leader of the Democratic Party, is a comrade.