

Resolution Passed in SFI General Body Meeting Held on 5 July 2012
on CPI(M)'s Support to Pranab Mukherjee's Candidature
in Presidential Elections

The SFI-JNU Unit expresses its deep concern at the disruption of Left unity on the issue of supporting the incumbent finance minister of the UPA government, Pranab Mukherjee, for the Presidential elections.

The largest force within the Left, the CPI (M) has decided to extend support to Pranab Mukherjee. After due consideration, the SFI JNU Unit finds the CPI (M) stand to be unconvincing and not in the best interests of the left and democratic movement.

Pranab Mukherjee, who held important positions in the UPA Government, has played a key role in implementing neo-liberal policies and cementing India's strategic alliance with US imperialism, both of which are detrimental to the interest of the Indian people. Pranab Mukherjee's record as finance minister is mired with failures to check inflation and unemployment alongside shameless defense of high level corruption.

In a context where there is no threat of a BJP nominee getting elected to the highest constitutional position, supporting the UPA's candidate cannot be justified. The decision to abstain taken by other Left Parties would have been appropriate in the given situation.

Clause 2.13 of the SFI's Programme lays down the following

As a student organization with a progressive outlook, Students' Federation of India is interested in encouraging free and frank discussion on what scientific socialism is and what are the correct means and methods of achieving it. The Students' Federation of India declares itself as an united and broad-based mass organization of students and not a political party but is primarily interested in the upliftment and betterment of the student community, and pledges to zealously protect the independent, scientific, progressive, democratic, and secular character of its organization.

The stand adopted by the SFI JNU Unit on this issue is fully in keeping with the principles laid down in the SFI programme.

In Favour: 37 Opposition: 2 Abstention: 7