**The L-20 Conference and Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh : Global Role as Indicators of Working Class Emancipation**

 **Chandan kumar Paul**

 **M.A, M.Ed, M.Phil, NET, NE-SET**

 **Assistant Professor**

 **Department of Political Science**

 **Netaji Subhash Mahavidyalaya, Udaipur**

 **Presently Deputed to Sri Aurobindo General Degree**

 **College (English Medium), Govt. of Tripura, Agartala.**

**Abstract**

Labour20 (L-20) is a core part of the G-20 and represents workers' interests at the G20 level. The forum seeks to bring together trade unionists representing 66% of the population of G-20 countries and about 75% of global GDP to discuss issues related to working people and populations across borders in general. With the Republic of India as the official host of the G-20 this year, the Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh, India's largest trade union, has been appointed the chair to host the L-20 in 2023.Since the onset of the global financial crisis in 2008, the L20 has been actively involved in intergovernmental processes in and around the G-20 to ensure a developed, equitable, fair and sustainable world. Constructive dialogue with government is key to achieving goals. Over time the L-20 has sought to link up with other engagement groups, particularly the Business-20 in which workers constitute essential stakeholders. At the onset of the 2008 financial crisis, representatives of the global Labour movement were meeting and prioritizing the first G20 leaders' summit in Washington. The first officially recognized L20 summit was held in Cannes (2011), followed by summits in Los Cabos (2012), Moscow (2013), Brisbane (2014) and Antalya (2015) in the Presidency and L-20 related summits. In the current year 2023 held under the Preside ship of India.

**Key words –**Sustainable, Transcends, Equitable, BMS, Spirituality, Summit and Civilization.

**Basic syndrome of L-20**

L20 is an integral part of the outreach process and its role is indispensable. The L20 priorities for 2015 can be summarized as:

Investment generation to create quality jobs with emphasis on infrastructure and the care sector,

1. Proportionate increase in quality apprenticeships and youth employment,

2. Ensuring participation and involvement of women,

3. Ensuring formalization of work through living wages, labour rights and social security,

4. Eliminate and eradicate slavery and informal work in the supply chain and ensure safe and

 decent jobs,

5. Achieving sustainable, environmentally friendly and comprehensive growth and justice,

6. Supporting climate action with a global agreement with just transition guarantees and

 social dialogue to secure industrial transition,

7. To ensure equitable distribution of income,

8. Re-regulation of the financial sector, and

9. Ensuring implementation of G20 past and future commitments.

**Details of the L-20 held at the international level for the last three years –**

**L20- Summit 2021**

The G20 Labour 20 (L20) Summit 2021 was preceded by the G20 Leaders' Summit 2021, hosted by Italy in October 2021. Labour 20 (L20) is one of the G20 engagement groups The 2021 G20, under the Italian presidency, focuses on three broad, interconnected pillars of action: people, planet and prosperity. Among these pillars, the G20 aims to take the lead in ensuring a rapid international response to the COVID-19 pandemic – capable of providing equitable, global access to diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines – and building resilience to future health-related shocks. Engagement Groups are independent collectives led by host country organizations. They work with other organizations in G20 countries to develop policy recommendations that are formally submitted to G20 leaders for consideration. L20 convenes trade union leaders from G20 countries representing millions of workers worldwide. It contributes to the work of the G20 with analysis and policy recommendations aimed at improving Labour-related issues. Under the Italian Presidency, L20 was co-chaired by three Italian trade union confederations: CGIL, CISL and UIL. The G20 consists of 19 countries and the European Union. The 19 countries are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, France, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States.

**L20- Summit 2022**

Shri Bhupender Yadav, Union Minister of Labour and Employment, attended the G20 Labour and Employment Ministers' Meeting in Bali, Indonesia on 13 - 14 September 2022. Addressing the ministerial session, the Union Minister spoke about the importance of countries coming together to promote responsive and robust policies on job creation, social protection, skills and formalization in the post-pandemic era to ensure a more resilient, equitable and sustainable economy. The Union Minister praised Indonesia for choosing priorities that matter in the ever-changing world of work. These are, Labour market integration of persons with disabilities, sustainable growth and productivity in human capacity development through strengthening community-based vocational training, promoting entrepreneurship and supporting small and medium enterprises (SMEs) as a means of job creation, and adapting Labour institutions for more labour and increased resilience for all workers. The Union Minister also drew attention to India's exemplary success in all these fields. He highlighted the provisions made in the Social Security Code to provide social security to gig and platform workers. He also emphasized that skill development is being linked to the future needs of the job. He said the lessons learned from this year's G20 Employment Working Group meetings will help India in its upcoming chairmanship and contribute to our pursuit of securing Labour welfare in light of the dynamic nature of work in the 21st century. The Union Minister held several bilateral meetings with countries including Germany, Singapore, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Netherlands and Turkey. In all these meetings, the Minister briefed on our upcoming Presidency and broad priorities and sought the support of these countries and organizations for our goals. The need to sign the Migration and Mobility Agreement and the Social Security Agreement as soon as possible was highlighted to facilitate mobility and ensure social security for international workers. The Union Minister also attended the welcome dinner hosted by H.E. Ida Fauziah, Minister of Manpower, witnessed the joint statement of Indonesia and the B20 - L20, two prominent engagement groups of the G20.

**L20- Summit 2023 -**

The 1st Labour 20 (L20) meeting is scheduled to be held in Amritsar, Punjab from 19th to 20th March 2023. The L20 is an engagement group under the G20 It consists of leaders and representatives of trade union centers from G20 countries who provide analysis and policy recommendations aimed at addressing Labour-related issues. Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) is the lead national trade union center for organizing the L20 Inaugural Meeting under India's G20 Presidency. Apart from the meeting, participants of Lot Meet Bold will be taken to various travel sites to showcase Amritsar's rich cultural heritage. The L20 launch meeting focused on the universalization of social security with women at the center of the future of work and the roles and responsibilities of employers, employees and governments, the changing world of work and new employment opportunities in G20 countries and the promotion of sustainable decent work. The inaugural meeting of the Labour20 (L20) Engagement Group, as part of India's G20 Presidency, in Amritsar, Punjab kicked off discussions on key issues related to the global workforce to provide direction for G20 nations and institutions to focus on development up to the last person. Trade union leaders, Labour studies experts and representatives from 20 countries are gearing up to call for the universalization of social security and put women at the center of the future of work at the Labour20 launch meeting under India's G20 presidency. In the inaugural session Shri Hiranmoy Pandya, L20 Chair and National President of the Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) said that in keeping with the spirit of the G20 in 2023, the world's workforce is a family. He highlighted the G20 theme ‘**One Earth, One-Family and One future’** and how the thought is pertinent to the labour movements worldwide.

The L-20 event was attended by representatives of the previous presidency, Indonesia, and the next presidency, Brazil, as well as trade union representatives from other G20 countries. Former National President of BMS Shri C.K Saji Narayanan said the L20 meeting concluded with a joint statement on Universalization of Social Security and Future of Women and Work, both of which are being discussed in detail at the event. He said that the economic recession had an adverse effect on women. The majority, and therefore the future of work, mainly depends on the female workforce, which requires global direction. He said it is also important to develop a global mechanism for the portability of social security in view of recent trends in global Labour migration. Shri Arun Maira, a former member of the Planning Commission of India, said India wanted peace and harmony in the world and noted that it was time to bring back the "family spirit" in the economy. He said there are many communities who are concerned about their future well-being in the economy and society. These include women, youth, farmers, factory workers, self-employed workers and micro-enterprises. He said, now they have to listen to everything. The summit included five parallel technical sessions on Labour international migration and the portability of social security funds; social protection for informal workers; Skill training and skill up gradation and roles and responsibilities of employers, employees and government; Changes in the world of work and new employment opportunities in G20 countries; and promote sustainable decent work. The second day of the two-day L20 summit included the Inception Meet and the Women and Future of Work Plan. **L20 is committed to the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to ensure participation of all citizens in the G20 Summit under the Presidency of India.**

**Inaugural Programme on L-20 in Tripura on behalf of Bharatiya Mazdoor sangh**

The opening programme of L-20was inaugurated in Sepahijala district under Tripura Pradesh.  In this august program 405 women and 295 men were present from the above mentioned district.  The program was presided over by district President of BMS of Sepahijala district. While keeping the introductory speech, President of BMS Tripura Pradesh told that India is presiding over the G-20 countries and under this; the Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh is presiding over the program of Labour-20.  All India President of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh Shri Hiranmay Pandyaji has been elected as its (L-20) President.  His appointment as President is a matter of pride for India and as well as for Tripura Pradesh too. This programme in connection with L-20 will be conducted at 56 places in the different places of the state. Subsequently this L-20 programme will be organised in the different segments of organized and unorganized sector. It is pertinent to mention here that special initiative would be taken for the expansion of motto of L-20 by organizing various programmes in universities and also in big colleges in Tripura Pradesh. It is also to mention here that State BMS along with concerned district committee of BMS will ensure public participation in all the eight districts.  In this context, today the first programme of L-20 has been inaugurated and starts its benevolent journey at Sepahijala district under Tripura Pradesh. It’s a pride and privilege to Tripura Pradesh BMS that veteran BMS activist Shri Sunil Kirwaiji, Organizing Secretary of North-East has taken a pivotal role to organize this auspicious programme and all the participants of this programme were spell bound by his remarkable speech along with that, he paved the way for programme that will be conducted in the coming days. Women representative of All India BMS executive Committee expressed her feelings that it is an unforgettable and historical moment that would not comes twice in life as Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh has gotten the opportunity for presiding over the L-20 programme.  It is our good fortune to have been able to witness this rare historical moment.

In this programme a large numbers of people participated as spectator along with labourers / workers of Gomati district.  As L-20 program has been organised, similarly W-20 (Women'-20) programme will be held in all districts in our state with public participation.  In today’s programme women participants were over flooded than male participants.  The program discussed about women's rights, women's status and place in the present world and also explored how women will take advantages from various National plans to fulfil their social, economical and family desires. In this context responsibilities of Indian women and their present stature also discussed based on Indian culture. There was a detailed discussion about various schemes for women empowerment as well as how it will be implemented and how benefits of good governance could be availed by the women’s in Global order.

 Chief speaker, veteran BMS activist, Shri Sunil Kirwaiji, Organizing Secretary of North-East articulated that how India’s glory in the world was earlier and how is it today?  Today the impression of Indian ideology and its cultural heritage is visible as well as practice able in the present world.  He opined the present world is not only thinking about Socio-Economic and Political ideas of India but also following the Indian culture, civilization and spirituality. He cited an example that the Prime Minister Shri P.V Narasimha Raoji sent the Leader of Opposition Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji to UNO to deliver his speech on behalf of Republic of India during his regime and that was surprised for the entire world. In the present state of juncture USA, calls Prime Minister Modiji in its election campaign but once upon a time USA deadly refused for giving visa to Modiji. After rescuing 20 thousand students during present Russia-Ukraine war India has shown its power to the whole world and proved its position in present Global order. Thus the world saw the rising power of India.  India has earned this place on the world stage by its conduct, performance, manners, core-values, universal long range goals and language for truth to its neighbour countries as well as whole world.

Today India has got the post of president of G-20 countries only because of ancient self-culture, politeness and it is the result that India is recognised by entire world.  India considers it not a position but a responsibility towards the Humanity with altruistic attitudes. Obviously It is a matter of pride for all Indians.  At the same time as the world heard that India was hosting the G-20 countries, nine other countries said that they are also want to attend this Global forum.  29 countries and 13 Organizations (Non-state actors) are going to participate in this event.  There will be programs like B-20, (Business 20), L-20 (Label 20), W-20 (Women-20), Y-20 (Youth-20), C-20 (Cultural-20).

Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh has got the opportunity for chairmanship of L-20 programme.  Shri Sunil Kirwaiji, Veteran BMS activist said that the BMS is not only India's largest non-political labour organization but also the world's largest labour organization or platform. The prime objectives of Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh are as follows –

 BMS works for favour of national interest, for the interest of industrial prop up and for the labourers/ workers interests.  It is a strong organization in commitment and works for the interest of the nation it upholds a positive and optimist struggle for the interest of the industry and a spirit of dedication towards service in the interest of the labourers.  He also gave many heart touching examples of the selfless service work done by BMS during the pandemic catastrophe due to outbreak of COVID-19.

The L-20 program is being presided over by Honorable All India President, Shri Hiranyamoy Pandya ji, Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh.  This is a historical occasion is going to come for the first and probably the last time in our lives.  Labour representatives from different countries will participate in this venture. In this juncture the condition of the workers of whole world, the condition of women workers and their social security, dignified livelihood, the condition of migrant labourers, along with deep brainstorming on this matter, the culture of India and other countries Civilization will also be discussed with full endeavour.  Through G-20 and L-20, we will also give the message of unity, integrity, love, prosperity and common-brotherhood all also sharing deep insights of cultural diversities of all nations.

 On the basis of, ‘**One Earth, One-Family and One future’** deep contemplation and exchange of ideas will also take place. He further asserted that 56 programs will be held at 45 places through public participation in all the districts of Tripura Stat and there will be 11 events solely for women.  Today the programme relating to L-20 for the entire North –East India has been started from Sepahijala district under Tripura Pradesh.

 All Office-bearers of BMS Tripura Pradesh, state Committe members and members from different organizations affiliated to BMS, All District Committee Secretaries and Federation were also present in this august occasion. The programme has been introduced by State General Secretary. Two women BMS activist has been nominated as State Pradesh Mahila Pramukh and Pradesh Mahila Saha-Pramukh.  President of BMS of Sepahijala district expressed gratitude and thanks to everyone while taking a pledge to take BMS to every village and to every person.  Finally the program ended with performing of the National Anthem.

**Conclusion -**

Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh has always been working nationwide for the interests of the labourer / worker section of people. In 2023 L-20 Conference has shown a new direction for the workers of the whole world. BMS has expressed its sketch to build up a common global future for working class of people. It is the major thrust areas of L-20 is that this platform seeks to bring together maximum number of trade unionists representing 66% of the population of the G-20 countries and about seventy five percent of global GDP to discuss and redresses all grievances relating to their sustainable needs and basic rights. BMS has provided various suggestions to the Government in formulating the National Labour Code-2020 and also played an important role as a stake holder of the Government in the time of revision. Times are changing, people’s needs are also changing, the form of labour of worker are also changing, considering all this, BMS is also demanding to formulate new laws in this new potential field. The main aim and objective of BMS is to build a better humane world and improve the standard of living of the workers through the awakening and proper utilization of the entire global workforce.

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