REVOLUTION TODAY

The World Socialist Party (India) maintains that it is a revolutionary party, committed to class struggle as the means of achieving its ends. That does not mean, however, that we mean violence or civil war. As the Socialist Party of Great Britain notes in their pamphlet *Socialist Principles Explained*:

“...The sort of bloody revolution that introduced capitalism in one country after another is out of date. Four main factors now make it essential to work for a revolution that is peaceful, democratic and which uses the voting system in those countries which have it:

- Most modern capitalist states are now so well-armed, so well informed and so wealthy and powerful that an armed insurrection trying to overthrow an established state machine would be doomed to failure.
- When violence has been used to establish a regime, it can only be maintained by violence or the threat of it (like capitalism). A socialist society cannot be built upon such foundations.
- There is no way of knowing, and showing, that such a violent revolutionary movement represents the wishes of the great majority. Many workers would oppose it simply because it was violent and destructive. Only a vote can prove that the majority insist upon the overthrow of capitalism.
- A sufficiently massive majority vote makes violence unnecessary because it demonstrates that opposition would be pointless.

Thus, we maintain that the only way socialism will come about is for a majority of people, on a worldwide basis, to believe in the superiority of this alternative social system. We endorse the theory of impossibilism, and favour achieving this objective through the use of elections, although in the current situation our main function is as a propaganda group to try to raise consciousness. In contrast to Leninists, we believe that it is possible to make the transition from capitalism to the complete abolition of the state immediately that the majority decides to do it.

"