

# A P P E A L

*Frontier* is at a crossroads. After 39 years of continuous circulation without any break, the Weekly, founded and edited by Samar Sen till his death in August 1987, faces a severe crisis situation created in the main by political and ideological vacuum both at home and abroad, and its inevitable impact on *Frontier's* specific readership. *Frontier* finds it increasingly difficult to survive in a hostile atmosphere as any voice of dissent against the establishment and status quo-ism is seen as dangerous. Then *Frontier* in essence is the voice of voiceless.

As for *Frontier's* infrastructure, it has been in precarious condition ever since its inception in 1968. At no point of time it succeeded to cross the shoestring budget and make a major breakthrough in financial matters. Having spent 39 years on sublet basis and fighting a number of court cases all these years, *Frontier* is now in a position to deal with the landlord directly if requisite money [rent arrears, interest, court fines etc. amounting to Rs. 5 lakhs] is paid to the said landlord. Also, the very old building, otherwise in a dilapidated state, urgently needs repairing requiring another Rs. 3 lakhs. Incidentally the entire first floor is now under *Frontier's* possession. As the present situation demands, *Frontier's* own computer set-up and skilled persons both for administrative and desk work, a reasonable fund is all that is desperately needed at the moment to make *Frontier's* restructuring (or renovation) plan successful.

A review of *Frontier's* role in the most tumultuous years during the last four decades suggests that it is not impossible for the new generation of readers to continue the legacy of Samar Sen, [*The Nation* in USA is more than 100 years old], without compromising on basic principles for which *Frontier* is so different from others. Today *Frontier* is seriously looking for the next generation of readers.

All things considered it has been felt that a reserve fund to the tune of at least Rs. 10 lakhs is to be raised within a short period to make *Frontier* economically viable.

We, therefore, request our friends, well-wishers, subscribers and contributors to donate generously so that *Frontier* could reach the target as early as possible.

[Signatories to the Appeal]

mahasveta Devi (Dr.) Robi Chakravarti Ranganayakamma

Mahasveta Devi

(Dr.) Robi Chakravarti

Ranganayakamma

PARESH CHATTOPADHYAY

Ranjit Sau

T. Vijayendra

Paresh Chattopadhyaya

Ranjit Sau

T. Vijayendra

Vir Bharat Talwar. Partha Chatterjee

Madhusudan Pal

Vir Bharat Talwar

Partha Chatterjee

Madhusudan Pal

Timir Basu

I. K. Shukla

Abhijit Ghosh Dastidar

Timir Basu

I. K. Shukla

Abhijit Ghosh Dastidar

[All remittances (Cheque/Draft/MO) to FRONTIER. 61, Mott Lane, Kolkata-700 013]