

## **Situation is deteriorating Support by workers needed**

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### ***Situation is deteriorating day by day***

The situation in the affected areas is deteriorating day by day. As for today, the death toll of the disaster is estimated to stand at over 5, 000. More than 14,000 people are still missing and there are a lot of local areas out of contact. Shelters and hospitals are not provided with enough foods, fuels and medicine, causing death of a considerable number of refugees. The site of the disaster is a battlefield of life or death.

Kan administration has totally abandoned necessary relief measures to tackle with aggravating catastrophe. Governmental incompetence and inability is publicly exposed. No effective supply of water, food, clothes and heating to the stricken areas is organized at all. Refugees are threatened by severe cold weather and imminent starvation after having barely escaped from the death on the spot.

Stiff policy of the government to put every public activity under rigid control has caused administrative immobility in essential fields. Kan administration proved to have lost governing power completely. But its incompetence doesn't prevent it from doing everything to suppress independent relief actions of people. Kan ordered TSUJIMOTO Kiyomi and YUASA Makoto, founders of an NGO and an NPO respectively, to take charge of "volunteer relief activities" in an attempt to put independent rescue works under their control.

Massive exodus from the earthquake-stricken areas is taking place to avoid starvation and exposure to high level radiation and the government is blocking this movement "in order to avoid disorder". Violent suppression of angry voices of people and maintenance of public security are the only concern of the ruling class.

### ***Fight to live***

In the affected areas, people have begun to fight for their survival through organizing independent actions to tackle with the critical problems.

To restore lifeline and to set social function again in motion, a large number of workers are making efforts day and night. At least 200 workers are fighting aggravating radiation disaster on the site of the stricken nuclear plants at the risk of their lives.

We should not throw the people in the affected areas into despair. Our duty is to organize support action for them everywhere in Japan with all our power.

### ***Disclose the facts on the disaster***

The stricken nuclear plants are precipitating into a catastrophe. Several countries have begun giving direction to their compatriot to leave Japan. The US government ordered Americans staying in Japan to evacuate from the areas within 80 kilometer from the accident spot. Japanese government is, however, only repeating, "Measured radiation level is not at all harmful to the health", while its evacuation order is directed to the areas only 20 kilometers from the disaster spot. In reality, 6 units of the nuclear complex are totally out of control and there is scarcely effective measure to prevent catastrophe. And still no precise and detailed explanation is given by the government on the serious character of the present crisis and impending danger.

### ***Massive discharge has already begun***

Not only in battered Northeast Japan but also in all around the Tokyo metropolitan region, a large-scale power cut is repeatedly forced upon by the electric power companies on tens of millions of families. A huge number of workers are deprived of their means of transportation.

They cannot go to work because they are not informed beforehand if the trains are on schedule or not and there is scarce supply of gasoline for cars.

Directly or indirectly hit by the earthquake, numerous factories and offices are closed and massive dismissal is raging over the workplaces of the workers there. For workers of irregular employment, it means immediate loss of way of living for today and tomorrow. Immense numbers of working people are now facing terrible adversity. Economic collapse instantly brings unbearable burden on working class.

The earthquake is disclosing in the worst and wicked form what neo-liberalism has brought

about to working people.

We never abandon our hope for bright future even in face of unimaginable difficulties and are determined to continue fighting in unshakable confidence in the united power of workers.

Let's organize relief work by the hand of workers for the affected people and areas!

Stop all nuclear plants immediately!

We demand the government disclose the facts on the ongoing disaster and help evacuate people to safe places!

No dismissal under the pretext of the earthquake!