



All India Peace and Solidarity Organisation

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Press Release

The Secretariat of the All India Peace and Solidarity Organisation has issued the following statement to the Press

Say No to Bolsonaro as Republic Day Guest

The All India Peace and Solidarity Organisation (AIPSO) denounces the decision of BJP government to invite Jair Bolsonaro, President of Brazil as the chief guest for 2020 Republic Day celebrations.

Indian Constitution, which had come to force from 26, January, 1951 explicitly recognises the equality of all citizens irrespective of their caste, creed, gender, ethnicity or nationality. Bolsonaro is a known anti-thesis for all the great constitutional values that our country celebrates.

Bolsonaro is a misogynist, who looks down upon women and their great contributions to social life. He is a racist, who repeatedly mouths abuses on indigenous people of Brazil and takes pride in the supremacy of the 'white race'. Such a person cannot be called to grace our Republic Day, which celebrates the diversity, multi-cultural, multi-national, multi-religious, multi-ethnic and multi-lingual traditions of our country.

Most importantly our country takes pride in its democratic heritage and is widely mentioned as the worlds' largest democracy. Bolsonaro openly opposes democracy and democratic values. He yearns for a return to dictatorship in Brazil and is often found expressing nostalgic praises for the brutal dictatorship sufferings that Brazil had gone through. It is a disgrace even to have such a fervent supporter of dictatorship, to participate in our Republic Day parade, let alone be a guest.

The only reason for inviting Bolsonaro as the chief guest is the ideological affinity he shares with RSS and BJP – they both are birds of the same feather. Misogyny, authoritarianism, hatred for diversity, lack of tolerance are some of the commonalities shared by both Bolsonaro and RSS/BJP. Except for this reason, there is no other merit in inviting Bolsonaro to India. Our country stands to gain nothing from this bonhomie exhibited between these two extreme right-wing forces.

AIPSO proudly defends the values of Indian Constitution and calls upon the people to oppose Indian government's decision to invite Jair Bolsonaro as the chief guest for our Republic Day and demand it to rescind its invitation. AIPSO will organise seminars, symposiums and extensively campaign among people to mobilise public opinion against this grave affront to our Constitution, committed by the BJP government.