Stop Restart of Oi Nuclear Plant!

200 thousand protesters besiege the prime ministers office

On Friday, June 29, 200 thousand people inundated the streets around the Prime Minister’s Office and Residence, the Parliament Building and other facilities.

Around 5:40 PM, the “protest on the sidewalk” spilled over to the streets. Around 6:50 PM, all the six traffic lanes of the street from the crossing in front of the Prime Minister’s Office through the Ministry of Finance were completely occupied by workers and people, young and old, who held makeshift placards. Other streets nearby were also full of protesters. It was a Tahrir Square in Tokyo.

Huge crowd of people began to move toward the PM’s Office, chanting “Saikado hantai” (“Stop Restart”). The panic-stricken police moved dozens of armoured police vehicles and built a wall with them and stop the march of protesters at the last minute.

Prior to this action the women from Fukushima and...
the rest of Japan held a rally inside the Upper House Building and in front of the main gate of the Parliament. Around 5:45 PM, they joined the protest in front of the PM’s Office and led chants and speeches. NAZEN contingents also led chants.

The delegation of Ethecon from Germany emphasized, “We have to strengthen solidarity and unity in Europe, America, Asia, Africa and Australia in order to abolish nuclear plants.” The protesters cheered and chanted loud with them.

A historical upsurge of tens of millions of workers and people has begun.

We have to organize anti-nuke movement in labor unions and workplaces, passing resolutions and mobilize entire workers in each workplace to Yoyogi Park rally on July 16. Organize half million protest rally!

Organize a huge worldwide anti-nuke movement together with us in Japan!

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**Japanese nuclear power for “security” instead of energy**

The hangyoreh  Jun.22,2012

**Early, vague signs come up that Japan may be clearing a path toward weapons development**

By Jung Nam-ku, Tokyo correspondent, and Gil Yun-hyung, staff reporter

Japan may be moving towards acquiring nuclear weapons, a move that is expected to draw objections from within the country and from its neighbors in Asia.

The issue came up after the National Diet of Japan amended the Atomic Energy Basic Act to add “contributing to security guarantees” as one of the goals for nuclear power.

According to June 21 news reports, the Diet’s House of Councilors voted the amendment through on the previous day. The amended act includes a twelfth supplementary article. A second item was added to Article 12, which prescribes the goals for the research and use of nuclear power. The new item states that nuclear power “is intended to protect citizen lives and property, preservation of the environment, and guaranteeing the nation’s security.”

The original article stated only that research and use of nuclear power would take place “under democratic management for only peaceful goals, with emphasis on ensuring security.”  read more

**Fukushima radiation sizzling at 10 sieverts in flooded basement of unit 1**

The Japan Times: Friday, June 29, 2012

Tokyo Electric Power Co. said Wednesday that radiation levels exceeding 10 sieverts have been detected in the flooded basement of reactor 1 at the crippled Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant, a development that will hamper its decommissioning.

Radiation from the basement water was found to be as high as 10,300 millisieverts an hour, a deadly intensity that will deliver the maximum annual dose in only 20 seconds and sicken anyone who is exposed within minutes.

“Workers cannot enter the site and we must use robots for the demolition,” Tepco said.

Tepco took samples from the basement by inserting a camera and surveying instruments through a drain hole in its ceiling.  read more

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