

BIHAR STATE COMMITTEE
ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS
बिहार राज्य कमेटी
अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन कांग्रेस

LANGARTOLI,
Patna-4

Ref. No.

Date 4.12.57.

✓
Dear Com. Srivastava,

I hope you will be soon
departing for the AITUC conference to Ernakulam.

In the meantime the industrial
movement in our state is daily growing due the offensive
of employers & the govt. on the one hand and very
hard food situation in our state on the other.

The west Benares strike has
been declared illegal by the R.C. Dhanbad. I don't
know if they will now try to prosecute the leaders
of the strike including the employees.

The situation at Jamshedpur
is fast developing and the workers may be forced
by the short-sightedness of the management and
our state govt. to go into a general strike.

The working journalists are
contemplating to go into action against large-
scale retrenchment.

A lot of cases are pending
before the Industrial Tribunal & courts, the two
main being the references of Telco. & Tinsplate Co.,
Jamshedpur. The Tinsplate Co. authorities have
brought fine out of seven discharged persons who
were sacked during the recent strike. Their
cases were pending before the Tribunal under
Sec 33 A of the I.D. Act.

I do not know if the situation
continues like this, how many of us will be able
to go to Ernakulam though we do not like to miss
this opportunity for various reasons. I am
herewith putting a suggestion regarding the

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS
4 Ashok Road, New Delhi
November 8, 1957

135

Dear Com.Ratan Roy,

Your postcard of the 5th inst., to Com.Shiwastava.
The decision of the Working Committee to hold the
General Session of the AITUC at Ernakulam, Kerala,
stands and the details will be announced shortly.
You can therefore prepare to go to Kerala in the last
week of December.

Com.Sriwastava is now in Calcutta and he is expected
to be back in a day or two.

With greetings,

Fraternally yours,

BHAR STATE COMMITTEE OF THE AITUC, LANGARTOLI,
Patna-4.

Dear Com Seivastava,

5.11.57

I have not heard from you for a long time. It was decided that the next AITUC conference would be held at Eranukulam in the last week of Dec., 1957. I shall be thankful if you kindly let me know whether the AITUC conference is going to be definitely held there in the last week of Dec. this year. We are facing enquiries regarding this from a number of Unions and comrades. This is so because comrades here have to prepare a long time ago the arrangements for their going to Eranukulam.

Hope to hear from you soon.

With best wishes,

Yours fraternally,

Ratan Singh.

Recd
7/11/57

बिहार कमिटी

ऑल इन्डिया ट्रेड यूनियन काँग्रेस

चननाद, ई-बेलने।

Langarholi,
Patna-4.

10. 10. 57.

पत्र संख्या _____

ता० _____

१६५

Dear Com. Srivastava,

Received your letter.

The money sent by you to be handed over to the Samyukta Sangarsha Samity reached here at a time when I was out of Patna. By the time I returned here the strike at Dalminagar was over. As such I wrote to the Samyukta Sangarsha Samity asking if they were still functioning and if they required the money. They have written back to me requesting me to send the money to the ~~workers~~ ^{striking} workers of Tata Foundry at Jamshedpur. They are on strike since 13/9 and have appealed for financial help.

So please write to me immediately if I should send the money to Tata foundry workers or to you back. I shall do as directed. I may be going to Jamshedpur in the beginning of the next week. So please write to me as early as possible.

I am sorry that you did not receive my earlier report on Dalminagar. I am here with sending you a copy of agreement arrived at re. the Dalminagar strike.

A copy of the letter of Samyukta Sangarsha Samity of Dalminagar has been sent to you directly as such I am not enclosing one.

Refer our letter
we have met the Ministry
Secy. to the Labour Minister
on 14th 11/57 & most his
instructions. But
we have no further
information for Jamshedpur.
Pl. write to me
+ get copy of
14/12

With best wishes,
Yours faithfully,
Ratan Singh

ROHTAS INDUSTRIES LIMITED
DALMIANAGAR

4th October, 1957

NOTICE ✓

The Management of Rohtas Industries Ltd. will advance 20 days' gross salaries or wages to such employees as will get no bonus or will get bonus under item (d) of the schedule of clause 4 of the agreement dated 2nd October, 1957. This does not apply to employees who were not on strike.

This money, which is purely an advance, will be realised in four monthly instalments from the employees' wages or salaries after the award of arbitrators.

Sd/- V. Podder,
Works Manager.

Memorandum of agreement arrived at on 2-10-1957 between the Management of Roshas Industries Ltd. and its workmen represented by R.I. Masdoor Sangh, R.I. Staff Union, Dalmianagar Staff Employees' Union and Dalmianagar Masdoor Sewa Sangh through the Samyukta Sangharsh Samiti.

- 1) The strike is immediately withdrawn.
- 2) The Management immediately withdraws the lock-out that was declared from 29th September, 1957.
- 3) It is agreed in unequivocal terms by all the Unions and the Management that only legal and constitutional methods shall be adopted to resolve industrial disputes at Dalmianagar, and no recourse to coercion in the employer-employee relationship shall be taken at any stage. Negotiations to resolve disputes shall be conducted at the following levels in succession. Every effort shall be made to conclude the negotiations at every stage with the utmost possible expedition and no time will be lost unnecessarily in passing from one level to the next :-
 - (a) Firstly, the Works Committee or Staff Committee level.
 - (b) Secondly, the Union and Works Manager level, and
 - (c) Thirdly, at the Managing Director of the Company and President of the Union level.

If all the methods mentioned above fail, steps shall be taken to resolve the dispute through conciliation, adjudication or arbitration machinery before any direct action is resorted to.

- 4) After the strike is called off, the Company shall pay $3\frac{1}{2}$ months' basic wages and salaries as bonus to all employees on rolls on 31-10-55 on account of the interim award of the Industrial Tribunal, Bihar, dated 19th September, 1957, immediately as per following schedules:-
 - (a) To those on rolls on and before 1-11-54 -- $3\frac{1}{2}$ months basic wages.
 - (b) To those on rolls on and before 1.2.55 but after 1-11-54 -- $2.1/3$ months basic wages.
 - (c) To those on rolls on and before 1-5-55 -- $1.1/6$ months basic wages.
 - (d) To those on rolls on and before 1-8-55 but before 1-5-55 -- $7/12$ months basic wages.
- Note: (1) Basic wages and salaries for calculating above payment shall be basic wage and salary drawn by employees on 31-10-55.
(2) Those who received advance bonus when 2 months bonus was given to staff members under agreement dated 20-2-57 will be paid in accordance with the above schedule minus what they received in that advance payment.
- 5) Instead of the two instalments ordered in the interim award dated 19-9-57 to be paid in December, 1957, and March, 1958, the Company shall pay $3\frac{1}{2}$ months basic wages and salaries as bonus on account of the said interim award to all employees on rolls on 31-10-56 by the first week of February, 1958, as per following schedule:-
 - (a) To those on rolls on and before 1-11-55 -- $3\frac{1}{2}$ months basic wages.
 - (b) To those on rolls on and before 1-2-56 but after 1-11-55 -- $2.1/3$ months basic wages.
 - (c) To those on rolls on or before 1-5-56 but after 1-2-56 -- $1.1/6$ months basic wages.
 - (d) To those on rolls on and before 1-8-56 but after 1-5-56 -- $7/12$ month basic wages

Note: Basic wage and salary for calculation of above payment shall be those drawn by employees on 31-10-56.

- 6) The Adjudication now pending before the Industrial Tribunal, Bihar shall continue as it is on all issues of the Reference.
- 7) The employees' claim for wages and salaries for the period of strike and the Company's claim for compensation for losses due to strike shall be submitted for arbitration of Sri J.N.Majumdar and Sri R.C.Mitter, ex-High Judges and Ex-Members of the Labour Appellate Tribunal of India as joint arbitrators and their decisions on the two questions shall be final and binding on all the parties.
- 8) Although the award of Shri F.Jeejeebhoy ceased to be effective long ago and is no longer in force, the Company shall allow the following weekly rest with wages to the casual workmen with effect from 20th December, 1956:-
- | | | |
|---|----|--------------|
| (a) For work of 24 days in a wage month | -- | 4 days rest. |
| (b) For work of 18 days or more but less than 24 days in a wage month | -- | 3 days rest. |
| (c) For work of 12 days or more but less than 18 days in a wage month | -- | 2 days rest |
| (d) For work of 6 days or more but less than 12 days in a wage month | -- | 1 day rest |

No casual workman will get less than six days work in a month.

The workmen regard this as fully satisfying their demand with regard to the wages of the casual workmen on the basis of Shri Jeejeebhoy award.

- 9) The Company shall permit all employees to resume work and no employee shall be victimised in any way on the ground of his having gone on strike. Both parties shall jointly request the Labour Department, Government of Bihar, to drop all prosecution cases. The above actions of the Company do not prejudice Company's claim before the arbitrator.

For R.I. MAZDOOR SANGH,
Sd/- Baswan Sinha,
2-10-57
PRESIDENT.

For ROHTAS INDUSTRIES LTD.,
Sd/- V. Podder,
WORKS MANAGER.

For R.I. STAFF UNION,
Sd/. R.P.Saxena,
VICE-PRESIDENT.

For DALMIANAGAR STAFF EMPLOYEES UNION,
Sd/- Baswan Sinha,
PRESIDENT.

For DALMIANAGAR MAZDOOR SEWA SANGH,
Sd/- Hargobing Mishra,
PRESIDENT.

Members, Sanyukta Sangharsh Samiti:

- 1). Sd/- Upendra Nath Shukla
- 2). Sd/- Anandi Prasad Jha
- 3). Sd/- Rudra Pd. Singh, Convenor.
- 4). Sd/- Dwarika Prasad Gupta
- 5). Sd/- Bindeshwari Singh
- 6). Sd/- Ram Dulare Pandey
- 7). Sd/- Muni Lal Singh
- 8). Sd/- Rajendra Pd. Dixit
- 9). Sd/- Lakhan Lall.

✓
October 9, 1957

Dear Com.Ratan Roy,

copy of a
We have received today a letter from the Samyukta Sangharsa Samiti, Dalmianagar dated 7th October addressed to you stating that they do not require the sum of Rs.200/- sent from the AITUC as fraternal help through you. They have also stated that the money may be sent to Com.Kedar Das in aid of the Tatanagar Foundry Workers.

We have not as yet received any appeal for help from Com.Kedar Das and if the Samyukta Sangharsa Samiti does not require the amount, the same may be returned to us at your earliest.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Wms
9/9
(K.G.Sriwastava)
for General Secretary.

Com.Ratan Roy,
Bihar Trade Union Congress,
Langartoli, Patna.

SAMYUKTA SANGHARSA SAMITI

Dalmianagar (Bihar)
7th October, 1957

The Secretary,
Bihar Trade Union Congress,
Langertoli,
PATNA.

Dear Friend,

We learn that Rs.200/- (Rs.Two hundred) sent to us by the All.India Trade Union Congress is lying with you. Since the Strike has ended in the grand Victory of the Labour of Dalmianagar on the 31st day, it would be better if the money is now directed to Sri Kedar Das, M.L.A., Jamshedpur where workers of Taptanagar Foundry Company Limited are on Stay-in-Strike and who now need the money most urgently. We are requesting the A.I.T.U.C. to accede to our request. In the meantime, however, you can send the money to Jamshedpur.

We take this opportunity of thanking you for the assistance that you have rendered to Dalmianagar workers in course of their struggle.

We hope you will take the Victory of Dalmianagar to be yours.

With greetings,

Fraternally yours,
for SAMYUKTA SANGHARSA SAMITI,

Lakshmanlal

- c.c. to General Secretary, A.I.T.U.C., 4, Asok Road, New Delhi to kindly accept our request.
- c.c. to Sri Kedar Das, M.L.A., 53, Sarker Building, Sakchi, Jamshedpur for information and with request to accept the same.

*M. K. Das to Kedar Das
of 50/51 Sakchi Jamshedpur
with Rs. 200/-, with some for 1957
M.L.A. M. K. Das
has been sent to
Kedar Das.*

*Ans
9/10*

Cable : "AITUCONG"

Telephones : 48771
43414

135

अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन काँग्रेस
ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

T. U. LAW BUREAU :
R. L. TRUST BUILDING,
55, GIRGAON ROAD,
BOMBAY 4 (INDIA)

4, ASHOK ROAD,
NEW DELHI.

President : V. CHAKKARAI CHETTIAR, M.L.C. (Madras).
General Secretary : S. A. DANGE, M.P.

September 26, 1957

Com.Ratan Roy,
Bihar Provincial Trade Union Congress,
Langartoli, Patna.

Dear Com.Ratan Roy,

Further to our letter dated 24.9.57.

A sum of Rupees Two Hundred is being sent
by money order towards fraternal help to the
struggle of Dalmianagar workers.

As we do not know the name of the friends
of the United Action Committee, this amount
is being remitted to you for onward transmission
as early as possible and confirm us of having
done so.

We hope you will request the Action Committee
to keep us in touch with the developments.

We wrote a letter to the Action Committee
giving our support and clarifying the issue of
the workers' discipline decision taken in the
last Indian Labour Conference. A copy of the
same is enclosed for information.

With greetings,

Fraternally yours,

Encl:

K.G. Srivastava
(K.G.Srivastava)
for General Secretary.

Copy to: Sanyuktha Sangharsh Samiti,
Dalmianagar.

COPY

September 17, 1957

The Secretary,
Samyukta Sangharsha Samiti,
Dalmianagar.

Dear Comrade,

Your telegram regarding the Dalmianagar strike and refusal of the employer to concede your demands.

The AITUC declares its full solidarity with you in your struggle to achieve your just demands.

The Dalmia Company is advertising in the Press that the strike is against the terms of the agreements arrived at in the Tripartite Labour Conference in the matter of strike struggles, settlements, etc. In this connection, I wish to point out that the agreements which are claimed by the Dalmia Company as being in support of their standpoint do nowhere allow an employer to refuse to settle the demands of the workers and allow him to impose one-sided conditions on the workers. Nor does the agreement take away the right to strike in case the employers refuse to settle matters under dispute quickly and amicably.

I hope the Company will see its way to negotiate with you on this question and arrive at a settlement.

In order to let you have the agreements arrived at at the Tripartite Labour Conference at which representatives of the INTUC and the HMS also participated, I am sending herewith two copies of the text of the agreement which have been published by us along with an introduction by me. That introduction makes clear the spirit of the agreements which is not being accepted, as it seems, by the employers in Dalmianagar.

I am sorry I am not able to visit your place just now as I have had to go to Bombay in connection with work already undertaken.

I wish you success.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Sd./

S.A.Dange,
General Secretary.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS
4 Ashok Road, New Delhi
Sept. 24, 1957

Dear Com.Hatan Roy,

Thank you for yours of the 21st inst. Com.Dange,
I am sure, will not be able to pay visit as he is
waiting in Bombay only for a seat for France. I shall
let you know about the help in a few days' time.

With greetings,

Fraternally yours,

K.G. Srivastava
(K.G.Srivastava)

Dear Com. Srivastava,

Langatoli,
Patna-4.
21.9.57.

I dropped you a letter yesterday informing that the strike at Dalmianagar ~~will~~ is going to be withdrawn. But to-day I have received news from there that the strike will continue and is continuing. They have written to me to persuade Com. Dange to go once to Dalmianagar. They might have written to him directly. They have also appealed for some funds. We are going to conduct a solidarity campaign for Dalmianagar. Please inform if it is possible

for Com. Dange to go
come once for Dalmiana.
Com. Halder and T. V. C.
President had been there
and addressed meeting.
The B.T.U. and its
affiliated unions have
earned popularity among
Dalmia workers for their
fraternal help & sympathy.

Hope to hear from
you soon.

Yours truly,
Ratan Ray.



Shri K. G. Srivastava,

40 All India Trade Union Congress,

4, Ashok Road,

New Delhi.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS
4 Ashok Road, New Delhi

September 23, 1957

Dear Com.Ratan Roy,

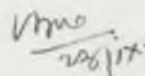
Thank you for your letter of the 20th inst.

We have got no report earlier of the Dalmianagar strike, which you mention in your letter and we feel the same would have been lost in postal transit. Please therefore send us a copy of the earlier report at your earliest.

We have received the detailed handout issued by the United Action Committee. Thanks for the same.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,



(K.G.Sriwastava)

Com.Ratan Roy,
Bihar Committee of the AITUC,
Langartoli, Patna 4.

बिहार कमिटी

ऑल इन्डिया ट्रेड यूनियन काँग्रेस

धनबाद, ई० रेल्वे।

Langartali, Patna-4.

पत्र संख्या

ता० 20.9.57. १६६

Dear Gen. Srivastava,

I have already sent you the details of Dalminagar strike which you must have received by this time.

Yesterday, there was a press note by the govt. which assured the workers that Jeejeebhoy's award regarding wages of casual workers will be implemented and the bonus will be paid to the workers. The strike is going to be withdrawn. This assurance has been given by the Labour Minister to the deputations of the strikers. The issue of wages for strike period demanded by the workers and compensation for the loss ~~was~~ demanded by the management has been referred to the Industrial Tribunal. The govt. have appealed to the management in the press note not to victimise the workers and have appealed to the workers to join the work. The strike will be withdrawn from to-day. I am sending you also a copy of a hand-out prepared by the Joint Council of Action for a press conference which they held at Patna a few days back.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,
Ratanbhai.

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10-10-57

33
K. S. / 18

Patna.
24.8.57.

Dear Com. Srivastava,

Your letter dated
the 19th August, 1957 is to hand.

Being to my sudden
illness having been attacked with
'flu, it appears that I shall not
be able to go to Delhi this
time.

I shall, however,
without fail send the list of
affiliated unions through someone
who might be going to Delhi
to attend the working committee
meeting. My 'kind attention'
had been drawn long ago in
this respect but so long it
had failed to draw the kind

attention of our affiliated
unions. Still the required
data of one or two unions
could not be gathered. For
example you will find from
the list that the Regd. No.
of one of the two workers
unions (Chaubat) is missing.
The date of registration of
one or two unions may
also be not there. But I
do not want to delay this
for such a few shortcomings
in the list and I hope that
as soon as I recover from
my illness, I shall be
able to send you these informa-
tions within a week.

So may I request you
for a thing? In the 15th Labour
Conference was important

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रलिये



decisions on many points
have been taken, e.g.,
principles of wage fixation,
disciplinary action etc.
If the proceedings or even
the decisions of the conference
is available to AITUC Centre
will you please try to send
us a copy of the same?

Hope to hear from
you soon.

with greetings,

Yours sincerely,
Rababroy

Spina File
10/11
9/11

Sri K. G. Srivastava,
c/o All India Trade Union Congress,
4, Achok Road,
New Delhi.

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता :-

Rababroy,
B.T.V.C. Akce,
Langartoli, Patna-4

← 10/11/11 2/11 11/11

BIHAR STATE COMMITTEE
ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

Patna-4

Dated.....12.6.57...195

Ref.....

To
The General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress,
B O M B A Y.

Dear Comrade,

Please refer to your circular letter dated 3rd June, 1957.

You have asked us to send short notes on various points which we are furnishing as far as possible in the short period of time at our disposal to send the report.

Yours fraternally,


Secretary.

Annexure: One.

No. 1) MOVEMENT ABOUT INCREASE IN WAGES BONUS AND DEARNESS ALLOWANCE.

a) One day's protest strike by about 15,000 mica (factory) workers of Bihar for a rise in their wages on 2nd July, 1956. All the three Unions, INTUC, HMS, AITUC gave a call separately for this strike. The issue was since referred to an Industrial Tribunal. The AITUC submitted its memorandum and argued the case in the Tribunal.

b) Strike notice by HMS led union at Dalmianagar for Bonus in March, 1957 ended in a compromise.

c) Strike by 4,000 State electric workers in Bihar for a period of ten days between 8th Feb. to 18th Feb., 1957 for increase of wages and other demands. Strike withdrawn without demands being immediately fulfilled on assurance of no victimisation. The State Council have again resolved to take a to direct action if demands not fulfilled by July, 1957. The State Electricity workers' Union is comprised of elements from INTUC, HMS, and AITUC.

d) The state hospital employees have also demanded a rise in the wages and are considering of direct action if demands not fulfilled.

e) Bank employees are submitting memorandum for increase in D.A. in Bihar in view of the special rise in the cost of living in Bihar.

No. 2) CLOSURE OF FACTORIES, COMPENSATION AND REOPENING.

Large number of Biri and Mica factories have been closed. But this does not reflect the real condition of trade in these industries. In fact factories are closed just to deprive the workers of some of their rights, e.g., annual leave with pay, bonus etc. Such factories generally do not pay any compensation to workers and they reopen in another name. The TIC took up the cases of about 350 of the 2000 retrenched Biri workers of Biharsharif and pursued the matter with the Govt. A case was instituted and a sum of Rs. 94,000/- was decreed in favour of the workers. The employers have since appealed to the higher court and the labour Dept. is paying scanty attention to the case. Other cases for retrenchment relief are not taken up by the labour department generally and it becomes difficult for the workers to wait and pursue matters for long time. Ways and means should be devised to surmount this difficulties so that the workers may really get the retrenchment reliefs.

No. 3. THE SECOND FIVE YEAR PLAN AND ITS FIRST YEAR OF WORKING.

Nothing tangible has come out of it for the workers in Bihar.

No. 4. EXPERIENCE, IF ANY, OF WORKERS' PARTICIPATION IN MANAGEMENT:

There has been no case of a real participation of the workers in management. Even the much boosted Tata-John agreement was characterised by the Finance-and-Labour Minister in his budget speech in the Assembly this time as a first step towards a future participation of workers in management. Since AITUC is informed amply on this agreement, we need not tell much about it.

No. 5. WORKS COMMITTEES:

Works Committees every where is not constituted properly in as much as while selecting the representatives of the workers, the AITUC unions (where there is more than one union) were not consulted. In such works Committees where the representatives of AITUC unions constitute the workers' representative, they tend to become a Committee of deadlock where most of the issues remain unsettled. In many other where non AITUC unions representatives are on the Committee, they generally do not function and at times even acts as a repressive of the management.

No. 6. RATIONALISATION IN MILLS AND FACTORIES:

Not possible to write a note on in a short period that is at our disposal.

No. 7) WORKING OF EMPLOYEES STATE INSURANCE:

The scheme has recently been introduced in Bihar at three centres, viz., Patna, Monghyr and Katiहार. The Monghyr Tobacco Factory workers (though led by ISEIU leaders) have strongly protested against its introduction as they had been enjoying much more facilities from the company than those proposed to be given in this scheme.

It will be an welcome measure at Patna and Katiहार where the employers do not give any medical aid to their employees. But it is too early to comment as to how matter in reality will work out.

No. 8) COMPILATION OF THE COST OF LIVING INDEX AND ANY COMPLAINTS OR SUGGESTIONS ABOUT IT.

It appears that the cost of living index is not compiled properly and do not reflect the real rise in prices. Even Sri Murlidhar Honohar Pd. a prominent Congress leader of Bihar wrote on 12th June, 1957 in an article in Indian Nation ~~magazine~~ captioned "Food crisis - a stark jolt to official infallibilities".

"Both at the centre and in Bihar there has been a tendency to minimise the phenomenon of rising prices.

Year		Jamshedpur Base 1944 = 100 (1)	Jamshedpur Base August 1939 = 100 (2)
1954	(a) E.E. May, 17, 1957 (2) Bureau of Statistics & Economics, Govt. of Bihar.	140	427
1955		135	409
1956		149	447
1957		144	430
1957		148	448

(Foot notes compiled by the Govt. of Bihar in the month of June 1957. In the month of June 1957, the cost of living index was 427. In the month of August 1957, the cost of living index was 448. In the month of September 1957, the cost of living index was 448. In the month of October 1957, the cost of living index was 448. In the month of November 1957, the cost of living index was 448. In the month of December 1957, the cost of living index was 448.)

Jan.
Feb.

No. 9) STRIKES, FIRINGS, ARRESTS, CASES IN YOUR AREAS:

Please refer to item No. 1 where some information about strikes are given.

Apart from those the important strike struggles in our state has been:

- a) Strike by the Bank of Bihar employees against victimisation which ~~was~~ ended after 11 days in a compromise to ~~for~~ refer the matter to an arbitrator and assurance of no victimisation and payment of wages during strike period.
 - b) Strike by 6,000 Bermo Coal workers on 23. 5. 57 for 11 days on the issue of payment of arrears and other local demands. An agreement was reached. Strike led by AEMUC union.
 - c) Strike for 7 days by Tata Town Workers against victimisation. The strike ended without achieving any demand.
- No firing on workers since August 1955 firing at Patna.

Arrest and cases are continuing in Giridih, Bermo, Dhanbad, Jamshedpur, Katiहार. For demonstration, U/s 107 Cr. P.C. and industrial disputes Act (illegal strike at Jamshedpur) and also strike in coal, Jute, electric, and Tata workers. Several cases instituted against T. J. Dutt and others in Bihar (Jamshedpur) mines.

No. 10. TRIBUNAL CASES AND THEIR EXPERIENCES:

Since sometimes past, it is our general experience that the

of the workers and nothing tangible has come out ~~from~~ since the last three years from the industrial Tribunals. They exhaust the patience of the workers and take so much time in deciding issues that the workers loose their interest on such issues. For example, the ^{of steel} bonus for the year 1954 is pending before the Tribunal since 1955 and nobody knows if the matter will be concluded this year. Similarly, the wage question of Mica workers remain undecided for the last one year. Such examples can be added ad infinitum. Moreover, in the course of Tribunal proceedings, the employers on a small pretence run to High Courts and Supreme Courts thus delaying the matters all the more.

No. 11. TRADE UNIONS AND UNITED ACTIONS:

No such movement has yet grown which can force different central trade unions to join hands ~~in~~ on issues. Even ~~the~~ UTUC and HMS do not generally tend to act jointly on issues affecting the workers. However, there are certain unions and Trade Federations (e.g. Press, Electric) where except INTUC other TUs or representatives thereof work jointly.

Since sometime past a trade union coordination Committee has grown out of solidarity action and sympathies shown by Unions to the various struggles of workers in Patna. This co-ordination ~~of workers~~ in Patna Committee of Patna includes most of the effective TUs, in Patna, viz., Bank, Insurance, Working Journalist Association, P & T employees Federation, BTUC and other big and small unions of Patna. Such a coordination Committee was recently formed at Muzaffarpur.

On the question of rise in prices and food crisis in Bihar some joint actions are being contemplated through the Patna TU Co-ordination Committee.

12. FOOD SITUATION:

Food situation is very bad. Newspaper reports will reveal. A comparative studies of the cost of living index reveal the following:

1956 - The cost of ~~living~~ living index figures in Bihar was higher in this year by 21 points above Kanpur, 38 points above Nagpur, 96 points above Calcutta and 109 points above Bombay.

Jan. 1957 - In this month the Bihar index was higher by 12 points above Kanpur, 32 points above Nagpur, 96 points above Calcutta and 111 points above Bombay.

Feb. 1957 - The figures in this month in Bihar stood 65 points above Kanpur, 133 points above Calcutta and 142 points above Bombay.

13. EFFECTS OF THE ELECTION RESULTS ON TU. WORK.

We have won from only one T.U. centre in Bihar and that is Jamshedpur. This has aroused some elemental enthusiasm among the Jamshedpur workers which need be consolidated. We have, however, so far failed to utilise the struggle inside the Assembly with the movement outside properly due to our limitations and inexperience. We shall like to be enlightened on this matter.

14. TU Schools and workers' education: By any agencies - Govt., INTUC and or we).

No schools by any agency so far as our information goes for the last 2 years.

GENERAL REVIEW OF THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Since sometime past the rise in the cost living index, due to rise in food prices, taxation etc., is forcing the workers and other employees of the State to move for the increase in their wages in any shape to neutralise this rise. The situation has been more surcharged by the great preparation of strike by the postal Employees and other Central Govt. employees and their subsequent victory.

In our State the State Govt. employees are already moving into action. The ministerial staff of the State Govt. throughout Bihar have decided to go on pen-down strike from 27th August. The ministerial employees of the Bihar Govt. Secretariat have already taken a ballot and it appears that they will also go in for some form of action. Their main demand is revision of pay scales and enhancement of Dearness Allowances.

Other ministerial sections of the State Govt. employees are also thinking in the same way.

The employees of the local bodies mainly municipalities are also moving into action on this issue. They are among the lowest paid workers in the State. Dispute regarding their wages are already raging at Bhagalpur, Patna, Dhanbad, Chamra and the sanitary workers of Muzaffarpur are already on strike since 10th August, 1957.

The Press workers in Patna as also in other centres of Bihar are demanding higher wages and D.A. The Patna Press workers observed their demands day by organising procession and meeting on 9th August which was largely attended.

The bank employees of Bihar are already moving for an increase of their D.A. because of the very high cost of living in Bihar.

The workers at Jamshedpur and other sections of Engineering and textile workers in the state are seething with discontent and it may express itself in action of thousands of workers at any time.

In this situation a trade union convention of various trade unions were held at Patna on 3rd and 4th August which has tried to give shape to this movement against rise in prices (Report attached separately).

There is a general feeling of resentment against the Black Bill both among the postal employees and other sections of workers and trade unionists. Everybody is feeling that a combined and united action by all trade unions should be taken to effectively fight back this act. The Patna Trade Unions Co-ordination Committee and the Postal Employees Union are already thinking in terms of approaching all central trade unions to evolve a joint action to fight back this bill.

The Bihar State Committee of the AITUC by giving unflinching and fearless support to the struggles of various sections of the workers, viz., Bank, Insurance and very lately the Postal employees have earned for itself the respect and love of large sections of these employees and they always count upon the help of the STUC in their every struggle.

The BTUC has also come out in large industrial centres and may important towns as the best champion of working class and newer and newer sections of workers and employees are coming over to us to lead them and their union. In recent period the Cement workers of Jhinkpani, the mine workers of Maubhandar, the textile workers of Phulwarishariff, the Engineering workers of Phulwarishariff and large section of coal workers both in the State collieries in Hazaribagh and private collieries in Jharlia coal-fields are coming over to the BTUC to lead their organisations and movement. The BTUC is actually facing a paucity of effective cadres to cope with the task that the recent swing among the workers of Bihar has faced us with. The extreme ~~weakness~~ weakness of the BTUC centre whose work has been tried to be improved after the recent working committee meeting held on 2nd and 3rd August, 1957, the terrible opposition on behalf of the labour deptt. and the police deptt. of the State, the paucity of cadres and fund are some of the main difficulties facing us.

Our ~~working~~ Working Committee has set up a Sectt. at the BTUC Centre to look after the immediate movements and problems and have decided to hold its annual Conference at the end of October, 1957 at Janshedpur.

P.S. The latest developments in Tatanagar have already been reported to the AITUC Centre. Hence, we are not sending any separate report for the present.

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