

## **N.D. Sundriyal, AITUC, Transport & international, Delhi**

<b>Name</b>	<b>N.D. Sundriyal, AITUC, Delhi, Transport &amp; international.</b>
<b>Date of Interview</b>	27th Sept. 2002
<b>Time</b>	Morning to evening
<b>Place</b>	Residence in Delhi.
<b>Context</b>	N.D. Sundriyal came across as a very honest and witty person with a great sense of humor. His knowledge over the issues he dealt with is really excellent and wonderful. His work in Uttarakhand transport workers and work for getting a statehood needs to be honoured.
<b>Interviewers</b>	Anil Rajimwale, Krishna Jha, Bobby Poullose.

### **Biographical Sketches**

N.D. Sundriyal was born on 10<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1927 in Gharwal i.e. today's Uttarakhand. He came from a middle class family. He was active in extra circular activities from his school and college days. His main trade union achievements are that he is one of the tallest leaders of road transport workers of Uttarakhand region from the 1952 to 1970 late. He was Gen. Secretary of the Garwal Motor Transport Workers Union from 1952 to 1960 and he was General Secretary of the National Federation of Indian Road Transport Workers from 1960 to 1970s. He got the Motor Vehicles Act 1961 amended to include benefits for road transport workers. He was a national level leader of AITUC at the center for many years working in the WFTU in the Transport TUI. He was among the pioneering leaders of the Uttarakhand movement which led to the creation of the state.

## Transcript Summary

Narender Dutt Sundriyal began by saying that he was born on 10<sup>th</sup> November 1927 in Gharwal in present day state of Uttarakhand. He said he came from a middle class family and his father was a businessman. He said he did his B.Sc from Lucknow. In the college itself he was active in extra-curricular activities like gymnastics, NCC. He got slowly involved into the transport worker through some people who were with the Congress Socialist Party. In those days Kotdwar, Risikesh, and Tehri were the center of the motor transport center. Initially he used to just help but slowly he got involved and took over the leadership of the Garwal Motor Transport Workers Union which was an old union since 1948. He also worked in the sweeper's colony and educated them and today one of the boys he educated is the Inspector General of Police. He narrated how he worked in the union and how in 1952 there was a serious flood in which many drivers and buses were swept away. Sundriyalji along with others erected a stupa in memory of the dead workers and it is there even today. Then there was the Kumaon Motor Owners Company. Sundriyalji worked with them also and worked out many good settlements for the workers. He narrated another incident when he along with others were arrested in Kotedwar over a fight over some case. He was the General Secretary of the Motor union from 1952 to 1960 and also in 1960 became the General Secretary of the National Federation of Indian Road Transport Workers (NFIRTW) and then he moved to Delhi and worked also at AITUC center among the PWD and Municipal workers unions in AITUC center. He was involved in the elections of the party also. In Delhi he worked and lobbied among the MPs etc to get an amendment to the Motor Transport Workers Act of 1961 and finally he managed better wage and work hours and conditions into the act. In 1971 again he along with others fought for giving a living wage to be included in the Motor Vehicle Act. He was General Secretary of the Federation till 1974 and also for some time the president. He used to from Delhi AITUC bring out a magazine "Transport Mazdoor" from 1962. It went on for quite a few years. Then he said he moved to WFTU and its Transport TUI under which he went abroad. Then he narrated his role in the Uttarakhand movement since 1952 onwards with other leaders of the movement. He managed to convince his party in 1974 and was the one who drafted the resolution and moved it in the party congress.