

M. Veeralhadram

SECRETARY.

Andhra Pradesh Trade Union Congress.

VISAKHAPATNAM-1.

D/ 18th August, 1958.

To  
The Registrar of Trade Unions,  
Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad-Dn.

Sir,

Sub: Trade Unions - Certified copy of rules relating to Port Khalasis  
Union, Vizag.

Ref: Your letter No. G2/29423/58 dated 2-3-1958.

I thank you very much for the supply of the certified copy of the bye-laws of the union. In the letter cited above it was stated that "The annual returns relating to Port Khalasis Union for the year 1955-56 and 1956-57 and 1957-58 has not been received. Hence, it is not possible to send copies of accounts and list of office bearers." From this it is obvious that the union had not submitted the annual returns pertaining to these three years.

I may mention in this connection that certain serious allegations regarding the funds of the union were made against the president of the union in a printed leaflet dated 7-10-57 which was said to have been issued by some of the members of the union. The same issue was also raised on the floor of the Assembly some time back.

Not taking the complaints into consideration, even ~~xxxx~~ otherwise as stated above the union failed to comply with the provisions of section 23 of Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, and it has been continuously defaulting for the last three years. Yet the provisions of the section 10 and/or 31 of the said act were not invoked and the union is continued to exist. The reason for this is only a matter of inference. Further, a leaflet dated 30-7-58 was issued by the union saying that Port Khalasis Union ceased to exist with effect from 30-7-1958. This was done obviously ~~xxxx~~ with a view to escape from the responsibility of ~~xxxx~~ getting the <sup>accounts</sup> funds of the union audited and submitting the same to the Registrar of Trade Unions.

Yours faithfully,

M. Veeralhadram

Copy to  
Chir Mukdum Mohiddin, M.L.C.,  
Member Labour Advisory Board,  
Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad-Dn.

Copy to General Secy,  
AITUC, New Delhi

# The Vizagapatam Harbour & Port Workers' Union,

Harbour Approach Road, VISAKHAPATNAM-I.

Our Ref No. CLM/26/58

Date 21-8-1958.

To  
The Chief Labour Commissioner,  
Hutments, Gurudwara Road, NEW DELHI

Sir,

Sub:- Dispute between workmen and management  
of S.A. Ackermans & Van Harren India Ltd.,  
Vizagapatam - Reference of Bonus issue for  
Adjudication - Request of.

The government of India thro, the Port Administrative Officer Vizagapatam Port, have entrusted the work of dredging in the Port Area to M/S. S.A. Ackermans & Van Harren, India Ltd., Vizagapatam. The work was completed and the concern, except a skeleton <sup>staff,</sup> left India. According to our information the total amount paid to this concern was Rs 71,55,325. The total wage bill for a month of the workers was about Rs 8,000. The total period of work <sup>and</sup> for which the workers were paid, <sup>was for</sup> about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  years. That is to say the amount paid as wages <sup>Rs.</sup> was 2,40,000 but I concede Rs 3,00,000 on this account. Even then this amount is almost  $\frac{1}{24}$  <sup>of</sup> what the Govt. paid to them. Hence our <sup>union</sup> claimed 3 months wages as bonus for the entire period. As the management was not responsive to the demand the conciliation proceedings began in April last. The management then stated that the accounts books of the Company were with the Income Tax authorities and they would be able to make up their mind only when the books ~~were~~ returned. They continued to maintain the same position even to-day. This can only be understood as delaying matters and gaining time to pack off. Meanwhile the director of the Company has left this Country.

The payment of Bonus is linked up with the net profits of the concern but not on the fact whether concern is contractor or not. In this connection I would like to state that the Lummus Company - India undertook the construction of Caltex Oil Refinery at Vizagapatam and the said company existed during the construction of the refinery. When there was a dispute regarding

P.T.O.



regarding the payment of bonus the Government of Andhra Pradesh in their G.O. Ms. No.567 Social Welfare & Labour dated 29-7-1957 refer the dispute for adjudication. The Industrial Tribunal, Hyderabad had awarded bonus and the award embodied in G.O. Ms. No.1260 Social Welfare & Labour dated 30-11-1957.

Under the circumstances, I request you to use your good office for reference of, <sup>The</sup> dispute (bonus) between the workmen and management of S.A.Ackermans & Van Harren India Ltd., at an early date.

Yours faithfully,

M. V. Bhadram

President,  
Vizagapatam Harbour and  
Port Workers' Union.

Copy to Secretary to AITUC.

with a request to contact  
the concerned authorities to  
see the dispute is referred to  
adjudication.

Bhadram  
21/8/55

MANSOOR GILANI  
66/1A, Baitakhana Road,  
Calcutta-9,  
1st September 1958

Dear Com. Dauge,

It is no longer possible  
for me to work with the Marine workers.  
I have, therefore, decided to give it up.

I wish to work under your  
guidance. Is it possible on your  
part to give me a chance to work  
any where outside West Bengal.

With regards,

Com. S. A. Dauge,  
M.P.

Asoka Road,

New Delhi

Yours sincerely,

Mansoor Gilani



225 SEPT 1958

25 SEP 1958

PHONE: 55729.

# THE MADRAS HARBOUR WORKERS' UNION

FOUNDED IN 1946 - REGISTRATION No. 429

(AFFILIATED WITH A.I.T.U.C. & W.F.T.U.)

President:

M. RAMASWAMY

Vice-Presidents:

KALYANI KUMARAMANGALAM, M.A.

MEMBER, MADRAS DOCK-LABOUR BOARD

T. R. GANESAN, B.E.

S. NAGIAH

General Secretary:

A. S. K. IYENGAR, M.A.

MEMBER, MADRAS DOCK-LABOUR BOARD &  
MEMBER, DOCK-WORKERS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Secretaries:

S. Thangasami

M. Poraikalam

K. R. Ramaswami

B. N. Sreeramulu

" BHAGAT HOUSE "

173, Broadway,

MADRAS-1.

Ref. No. HU/APDF/36/58

Date, 20 - 9 - 1958.

D.O.

My Dear Com. Kale,

Received your letter d/17-9-1958. I am sorry due to pressure of work, I put off and then forgot to reply to your earlier letter, which I should have done. I sincerely apologise.

On night of 12th of this month I tried to contact you on the Phone to find out if the Federation was to meet on 15th as earlier announced.

I was not able to get at you as I was told that there was no Phone at Ghansam Bagh. One Mukerjee or so from the Union Office, which I contacted, told me that you were in Bombay and had not left for Delhi. Since I was in doubt, I rang up Com. Deb-Kumar Ganguly (Calcutta) and heard that the Federation Leadership had postponed the scheduled Meeting. Next Morning Deb Kumar confirmed it by a Telegram. And thats that.

I am surprised to find that the Federation Leadership takes such a leisurely view of things like postponing a meeting without informing the constituent units in time, about it. In fact I had already bought a Railway Ticket which had to be returned and some money lost in the process, not to speak of the tremendous stress and strain on the brain.

Moreover, it is strange that the Federation takes decisions to suit individual conveniences, especially of just one or two persons - however big they may be - Mr. Pillai is away and so you must postpone.

As regarding Mr. Pillai and his Union, they are making scurrilous attacks on me personally and then my Union. Even basic honesty is even go-by.

I am enclosing herewith a printed leaflet where they state, "the Fox with its Tail Cut" etc., etc. You write to me to say that Mr. Pillai will return from abroad and then the Millennium! Well, you may have immense faith in your Colleagues of the Federation, but it is too much to expect all of us, who are the actual victims, to share your infinite faith. \*/-

And the Federation does not even care to do what is normal, expected to be done in the matter of routine work. I sent my affiliation fee of Rs. 200/- to Mr. Shanti Patel, by Postal Order. I requested him by a letter to kindly send a duly stamped receipt for purposes of accounts and audit. He has not cared to do it to this date. Is this how you treat a Registered Trade Union, which unlike your Federation, is bound to keep their accounts perfect which are subjected to audit.

I do not know what you intend to do with my two points, I raised long ago:-

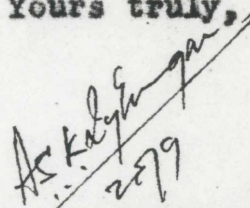
(1) Democratisation of the Federation.

(2) Changing the Affiliation Fee.

The second is inevitably linked with the first, and I would like you not to shelve it.

Meanwhile let me assure you of my very warm regards for you,

Yours truly,

  
(A.S.K. IYENGAR)

Copy to:

1. Com. Deb Kumar Ganguly, (Calcutta).
2. Com. M.V. Bhadram, (Vizag).
3. Com. K.A. Rajan, (Cochin).
4. Com. A.K. Shaw, (Kandla).
5. Com. S.A. Dange, M.P., (New Delhi).

- 4 DEC 1958

Telephone :- 45-1163  
45-1302

87

# CALCUTTA PORT SHRAMIK UNION

(REGD. NO. 10)

(Amalgamating Calcutta Port Trust Employees' Association &  
Calcutta Port Mazdoor Panchayet)  
"PORT SHRAMIK BHAWAN"

26, PIPE ROAD, CALCUTTA-23

No.

PS/1/9

Dated. Decr. 2, 1958.

The General Secretary,


All India Trade Union Congress.

Comrade,

We intend to publish in our monthly organ "Port Shramik" (in Bengali) the considered views of all the Central Trade Union Organisations on "The Trade Union Movement in India - its nature and problems" in the form of articles.

We therefore urge on you to extend your co-operation to make our venture a success.

Yours fraternally,

  
General Secretary



12 DEC 1958

## The Vizagapatam Harbour &amp; Port Workers' Union,

Harbour Approach Road, VISAKHAPATNAM-I.

87

Our Ref No. PAQ/ST/1/58

(287)

Date 10-- 12-- 58  
19

To

The Port Administrative Officer,  
Vizagapatam Port, VIZAGAPATAM.

Dear Sir,

Eleven Khalasis of the Floating Pipe Line were placed under suspension on 27- 9-58 and continued to be so even to-day. The efforts that were made for an amicable settlement did not materialise and the Conciliation also did not fructify. Even then the Union did not want to precipitate matters. But, on behalf of the Union, <sup>we</sup> I suggested to the Conciliation Officer that while keeping the question of suspensions away redefining the duties of the said khalasis be under taken, which is the root cause for the suspensions. This was suggested in view of the separation of Pipe Line from the Dredger and should be completed before the end of November. The Conciliation Officer had conveyed to <sup>us</sup> ~~me~~ that the Port Administrative Officer had had agreed to this and wanted an assurance that the workers would not resort to acts subversive of discipline. <sup>we</sup> I assured him in this respect and advised the pipe line khalasis accordingly. Since then <sup>we</sup> I have not come across a complaint—even a minor one— against them. Thus the Union acted upto its <sup>word</sup> ~~work~~ and expected of the administration the same. But I am sorry to say that the administration has not yet moved an inch in the direction of redefining the duties of the khalasis. The administration, it appears to me, wants to delay the matter under one excuse or the other and derive pleasure in keeping them under suspension indefinitely.

Secondly, nine shore khalasis in the I.O.W. section of the Engineering Department were suspended from duty since - 20-11-58, for the so called refusal to carry out a particular job which they had never done nor was it a part of their duties at any time in the past. The negotiations failed particularly because of the novel ideas on DISCIPLINE entertained by the

P-T.O.



the Administration. Even after that the administration never made an attempt to conduct the usual enquiry prescribed under the Central Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules and dispose of the case even though it is more than 20 days passed since the suspension.

Finally, one greaser in the Mobile Cranes of the Mechanical department was placed under suspension from 6-10-58 to 31-10-58 for the reason that he had left the station without the prior sanction, to attend the funeral of his brother's wife at Guntur. He produced during the enquiry the certified copy of the telegram which was received by him at about 7 in the evening and he had left for Guntur by the 7-40 p.m. train. Even in such a state he was conscious of his duties. As such he sent the leave application through his co-worker and a neighbour. All the above facts were proved and the officer concerned accepted that it was a genuine case. But he was so mechanical as to stick to 'Prior Sanction' and not prepared to exonerate him of the so called offence. If this is not a fit case where the prior sanction <sup>need</sup> ~~could~~ not be insisted I may state that only SANYASIS who have no social obligations whatsoever, alone are fit to be employed in the port or <sup>some</sup> ~~the~~ magic wand ~~of the~~ should be able to convert all the existing employees into Sanyasis.

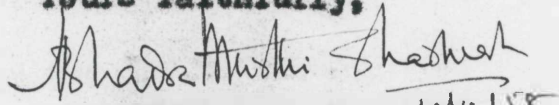
Under the circumstances and in accordance with the resolution of the General Body of the Union held on 3-12-58, I hereby give notice under Sec.22 of the I.D. Act, 1947 that if the demands contained in the annexure are not conceded within fourteen days, the employees will go on strike after the said day.

Encl :

Copy to:

1. Secretary to Govt. Ministry of Transport & Communications, New Delhi.
2. Secretary to Govt. Ministry of Labour Employment, New Delhi.
3. Chief Labour Commissioner, New Delhi.
4. Regional Labour Commissioner, Madras.
5. Conciliation Officer, Central, Vizagapatam.
6. ✓ Shri S.A. Dange, U.P. General Secretary, All India Trade Union Congress, New Delhi.

Yours faithfully,

  
General Secretary,  
Vizagapatam Harbour and  
Port Workers' Union

ANNEXURE.

1. The orders of suspension served on the eleven Khalasis of Pipe Line section should be cancelled and the duties of the Pipe Line Khalasis be redefined immediately.
2. The suspension of the 9 Khalasis of the Engineering Dept., should be cancelled.
3. The suspension of Shri K. Ramchander Bab, Mobile Crans ~~Driver~~ should also be cancelled.

*Greater*

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# The Vizagapatam Harbour & Port Workers' Union,

Harbour Approach Road, VISAKHAPATNAM-I.

Our Ref No. AK/1/58

Date 19-8-1958

To

The Secretary to Govt. of India,  
Ministry of Transport & Communications (Transport Wing)  
New Delhi.

Sir,

Sub:- Departmentalisation of shore labour -  
Representation of.

Ref:- Your letter No.17-FLA(16)/58, Dt.29th.April '58.

The issue is pending with Govt. of India for the last four months and a decision is yet to be taken in the matter. Meanwhile certain developments had taken place which I feel it my duty to bring to your notice for your consideration and which may have a bearing on the subject.

I have the occasion to go thro, a printed notice (in Telugu) dated 30-7-58 which was issued jointly by the Port Khalasis Union and Dock Workers Union. The notice says that the Port Khalasis union had been dissolved and as all the workers had already joined the DOCK WORKERS' UNION, the Port Khalasis Union ceased to exist with effect from 30-7-58 and the Dock Workers Union would function from 1st.August 1958. Not going into the details of the irregularities or otherwise of this change, it will certainly have repercussions on our (Vizagapatam Harbour & Port Workers' Union) relations with the administration.

In this connection I would like to state here certain facts. THE VIZAGAPATAM HARBOUR & PORT WORKERS' UNION came into existence in the year 1936 and was recognised by the Government in the year 1941. This union has since been representing generally the <sup>Class</sup> III artisans, Class IV, <sup>and</sup> temporary and casual labour engaged and paid directly by the Port Administration. There is one Port Non-Gazetted Officers' Association which came into existence in the year 1946 <sup>and</sup> which has been representing the supervisory and the clerical staff. This ~~xxxxxx~~ association is also a recognised one. There is no rivalry between the two organisations.

P.T.O.



# The Vizagapatam Harbour & Port Workers' Union,

Harbour Approach Road, VISAKHAPATNAM-I.

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Our Ref No DK/2/58

Date 21-8-1958

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23 AUG 1958

Dear Comrade Dange,

Enclosed please find copies of letters and they are self-explanatory. The president of both the Unions (Port Khalasis Union and Dock Workers Union) is one and the same i.e. Shri B.G.M.A.Narasingarao, M.L.A. (Congress). Both the Unions are affiliated to INTUC.

The Govt. of India in the Tripartite conference in Port Transport Industry held in Nov. 1956 have given an assurance to departmentalise Shore Labour and Ore Labour. The local Port Authorities were reluctant to do so. However, the shore labour (connected with clearance of imported materials from the Quay wall) has been taken over by the administration w.e. from 27-3-58 though not in the full sense of the word. The contract of handling <sup>of</sup> Manganese Ore is going to terminate on 5/6-9-58. But the local authorities had not <sup>made</sup> any arrangements to take over the same work. On the other hand they invited tenders and the 'TENDER' Committee has made its recommendation accepting the lowest tender. Departmentalisation means elimination of all middle men who are robbing the workers and direct payment to workers. Giving the work to a contractor means continuation of exploitation of the workers.

Since there is some time left, please move in the matter and do the needful.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

M. V. Bhadrani

President,

Vizagapatam Harbour and  
Port Workers' Union.

There was no third union recognised by the Government of India to represent the Port Staff. It is necessary to mention in this connection that when the Port was under the administrative control of the Ministry of Railways, there existed a branch of National Union of Railwaymen, the membership of which was mainly confined to the traffic department of this Port. This branch was never recognised by the Port Administration or by the Government to represent the Port Staff. This branch came to an end when the administration of the Port was transferred to the Ministry of Transport.

But in the month of March 1957 some of the staff (Tally clerks, tally men and casual tallymen) of the traffic department have organised a union DOCK WORKERS UNION by name, and was registered under the provisions of Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926 on 19-9-1957. The membership of this union was confined to the employees of the three categories mentioned above as per rule 3 of that union which says "Any person who is employed in the Vizagapatam Port as Tally clerk, Tallymen or as a casual Tallymen Clerk and who is not below the age of 15 years shall be eligible to become an ordinary member of the Union, provided he agrees to abide by the rules and bye-laws that may be made by the Union from time to time". This union when sought recognition of the Port Administration was refused obviously on the ground this union was a rival to the already recognised unions, THE VIZAGAPATAN HARBOUR & PORT WORKERS' UNION and THE PORT NON-GAZETTED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION.

To understand the implications of the present change cited above the connecting link is the role of the Port Khalasis Union. This union came into existence in the year 1951 and ever since representing the stevedore and other contractors' labour connected with the loading and unloading operations. This union has nothing to do with the employees of the Port. I am not concerned nor interested in how this union has been functioning for the few years, but the change referred to above necessitated to bring in certain facts. The leader of this Union continuously failed to get the funds of the Union audited and the Returns prescribed



under section 28 of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926 submitted to the Registrar of Trade Unions of Andhra Pradesh, for the last three years. This statement can be substantiated from the relevant portion of the letter No. 3/29433/58 dt. 2-8-58 of the Registrar of Trade Unions, Andhra Pradesh, addressed to me. It reads "The annual return relating to Port Khalasis Union for the year 1955-56 and 1956-57 and 1957-58 has not been received. Hence, it is not possible to send copies of accounts and list of office bearers." Further, serious allegations regarding the funds of the Union were made against the President of the union in <sup>a</sup> printed pamphlet dated 7-10-57 which was issued by some members of that union. The same issue was also raised on the floor of the Assembly of Andhra Pradesh, some time back. On 8-7-57 the president of the Union was manhandled for not accounting for the funds of the union for the last few years by the members in a meeting of that union and the police had to come to his rescue and escort him home. To get over this difficulty the president of the union thought it best to wind up the show and the result of which was the printed notice referred to above. I may not be misunderstood for mentioning the fact that Shri B.G.M.A. Narashingarao, M.L.A. (Congress) was the president of both the unions i.e. Port Khalasis Union and Dock Workers Union. He, as the president of Port Khalasis union has conducted as many as ten strikes during the year 1957 as a result of which the Govt. of India had to pay a demurrage to the tune of about Rs 10,00,000. The then Port Administrative Officer had a soft corner for this gentleman and had abetted his activities to <sup>the</sup> extent of making him the recruiting officer for shore labour for the imports particularly the Bhilai Steel.

Notwithstanding the fact that complaints against the dissolution of the Port Khalasis Union or the merger of port Khalasis Union with the Dock Workers Union, <sup>were</sup> already made to the Registrar of Trade Unions Andhra Pradesh, now the membership of Dock Workers Union <sup>is</sup> composed of Tally Clerks, Tally men



and Casual tally men all engaged and paid directly by the port administration, <sup>as also</sup> the recently departmentalised labour and stevedore gangmen, winchmen of the stevedore companies, and ore labour.

I am also herewith enclosing a copy of my letter to the Registrar of Trade Unions, Andhra Pradesh, and a copy of Complaint by a member of the Port Khalasis Union to the Registrar of Trade Unions for your information.

Under the circumstances, I request you to consider all aspects of the issue and pass orders.

Encl: As above

Copy to P.A.O.,  
Vizagapatam Port,

Yours faithfully,

M. V. Bhadrani

President,  
Vizagapatam Harbour and  
'Port Workers' Union.