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M E S S A G E

FROM

THE ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS
TO THE SECOND CONFERENCE OF THE
INDIAN MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION

The All-India Trade Union Congress warmly greets the Second Conference of the Indian Mine Workers Federation.

Since the foundation of the Federation four years ago, it has been able to unite the workers and realise quite a large number of demands affecting almost all the workers in the mines. In achieving these demands, the Federation followed the path of uniting and organising the workers, of negotiating with the mine owners and utilising the method of appealing to the Labour Tribunals. Where necessary, it has not hesitated to call for determined strike struggles, when the mine owners or the Government refuse to accept the method of submitting disputes to the Tribunal or of expediting its verdicts and their implementation.

Thus you will see that the Federation has followed a composite policy of negotiations, settlements, arbitrations and strike struggles.

As a result, more and more mine workers have come to the flag of the Federation and have shown confidence in its leadership. No doubt, the Federation may have committed a mistake here and there but on the whole, it has guided the movement of the mine workers along the right channels.

The problems of miners, however, still remain acute in spite of the gains made so far. The greatest hurdle in the progress of the realisation of their demands is the fact that, as yet, there is no unity among the trade unions of miners.

Secondly, there is the fact that despite the existence of a so-called democratic government in our country, both at the Centre and the various States where the mines are situated, the mine workers, do not possess real freedom of association or speech or assembly.

The use of police powers by the governments concerned to suppress strike struggles, to ban meetings and arrest indiscriminately the leaders of the workers who are not liked by the mine owners, is going on unchecked. Hundreds of arrests of mine workers and their leaders, refusal of the owners to recognise the trade unions who do not obey their dictates show to the workers what kind of democratic freedoms they have got under the present regime.

What is needed to overcome this state of affairs is, of course, the unity and solidarity of all workers, and organised, democratic, peaceful struggle against the attacks of the owners and the Government on the mine workers.

The tasks before the Federation today seem to be:

1. First and foremost, to defend their democratic rights and civil liberties.
2. To build unity around their common demands.
3. To put forward new wage claims and to demand a Wage Board for all miners, in view of the fact that production, profits and prices have gone up.

4. To demand the enforcement of safety regulations, the violation of which by the mine owners is leading to most disastrous accidents and tremendous loss of life, as was shown in Amlabad, Newton Chikli, Burra Dhamo and Chinakuri.
5. To demand of the Government that they introduce a system of inspection through inspectors elected by the mine workers themselves.
6. To campaign for the observance and implementation by the Government and employers of all the laws and regulations which have been adopted for the benefit of the workers, but are violated by the employers.
7. To campaign for the nationalisation of all mining interests.

It is well-known that we cannot achieve the development of our national economy without the development of mining on a large scale. At present, this development is utilised by the capitalists in the private sector for their own selfish interests, setting aside the needs of the country. Not only they refuse to satisfy the interests of the workers, they even dictate unconscionable prices for our products of mining, fleece the consumers and build up their own private fortunes.

Mining is such a key industry that if it continues to remain in the hands of private owners and run as it is today, the needs of the country will not be fulfilled, despite increase in production. It is the duty of the workers to see to the development of national economy while guarding their own interests.

We hope that the Federation will be able to guide the workers correctly in this double task.

S. A. DANGE, M.P.,
General Secretary,
All-India Trade Union Congress

New Delhi,
September 2, 1958

East Jemehary - BOND

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We have seen and we are in opinion that as a result of riots amongst workers of the Colliery who indulged in riots and assaults leaving their work. The Colliery work has been completely stopped for no fault on the part of the management. Even then the management requested workers to join their duties immediately to run the colliery but they struck work and the mine is stopped functioning and that there is general cry from the trouble-mongers that they would ruin the colliery by destroying machineries and otherwise. The apprehension exists.

In view of the extended request to join the work, we intend to go in our jobs guaranteeing on our part that all statutory rules of the Mines Act and other relevant Acts pertaining to the mine shall be observed by us and we shall do our work in obedience to the instructions from the management authorities. We shall not violate any rules nor we should allow any violation of any rule to our knowledge and information and we undertake to take due diligence for the safety of the mine and the safety of the machineries, we shall be liable for any act of omission or commission on our part, which, if be deemed the cause of damage to the mine and machineries and we shall also be liable for not communicating the acts of omission or commission on the part of others, which, if be deemed to come within our knowledge, and information.

On our such undertaking we offer ourself to go on the job, if so permitted.

Yours faithfully,

कोल वर्कर्स यूनियन

रजिस्टर्ड नं० १६

अ० भा० ट्रेड यूनियन कांग्रेस से सम्बंधित

हे० आ० गिरिडीह

पौ० गिरिडीह

11.6.58.

दिनांक 30

१९५८

G 27/1/58

पत्र संख्या

To
The Secretary to the Hon'ble Minister,
Mines Fuel and Power,
Govt. of India,
New Delhi.

Sub:- Mass petition on Charter of Demands.

Dear Sir,

Please find attached herewith a mass petition from the workers of Giridih group of collieries, for the redressal of their grievances, contained in the Charter of immediate demands, which I have been directed to forward to you.

Requesting an early reply.

Yours Faithfully,

Chaturman Mishra
General Secretary, 14/6

Copy forwarded to:

The Hon'ble Minister,
Labour & Employment,
Govt. of India,
New Delhi.

S.A. Dange., M.P.
New Delhi.

हमारी फौरी मांगें

सूची संख्या ८

- १। अरोलाट ट्राइयूनल के फैसले के दफा ७४ के मुताबिक फौरन पिछड़े ज़: महीने से जोड़कर ३ आने प्रति दिन के हिसाब से महंगाई भत्ता बढ़ाया जाय।
- २। ट्राइयूनल फैसले के दफा १६७ के मुताबिक तमाम मजदूरों का साठाना इन्फ्लेक्शन के साथ पेंडिंग करने के लिए संयुक्त कमेटी बनायी जाय।
- ३। ट्राइयूनल फैसले के मुताबिक तथा माइनिंग रेगुलेशन के दफा १६१ के मुताबिक ड्रेस-जूता बगैरह देना शुरू किया जाय।
- ४। कोयला खानों से तथा खासकर सरकारी कोयला खानों से ओवरबर्डन लोडिंग गीरने से शोईंग की ठोकेशारी प्रयास फौरन खतम की जाय। नयी बहाली खतम कर मजदूरों के रिश्तेदारों को पहला मौका दिया।
- ५। माइन्स एक में संशोधन कर पैसा के साथ साथ छुट्टी तथा ओवर टाइम काम की दर के कठरी एक के बाहर कर दिया जाय तथा माइन्स एक में संशोधन कर एक कोलियरी में एकही साप्ताहिक छुट्टी का दिन होने का नियम सभी मजदूरों के लिए किया जाय।
- ६। कोल वर्कर्स यूनियन रजि न० १६ हेड ऑफिस, गिरिडीह को मंजूर किया जाय तथा तमाम मजदूरों के वोट से प्रतिनिधि यूनियन का फैसला किया जाय।
- ७। जैसा कि यूनियन के ता० १३ दिसम्बर के खत में मांग की गयी है सरकारी कोयलाखान के स्ट्रेकिंग आइडल के जालिमानी शर्तों को खतम कर संशोधन किया जाव।
- ८। जैसा कि भूख-हड़ताल के समझौते में तै हुआ था तथा हजारों मजदूरों ने दरवास्त को है कि काम के मुताबिक उचित डिजिनेशन रेकॉर्ड किया जाय और एक आखिरी तारीख निश्चय हो जिसके पहले सबों का ठीक डिजिनेशन मिल जाय।
- ९। अभी तक लेबर अरोलाट ट्राइयूनल के फैसलों को जो पूरा लागू नहीं किया गया है और जिसका त्रिक कोल वर्कर्स यूनियन ता० २७-८-५७ के मेमोरेंडम में है उसे लागू करने के लिए फौरन आवश्यक कदम उठाया जाय और एक निर्धारित तारीख के अन्दर उसे पूरा-पूरा लागू कर दिया जाय।
- १०। पहला पे कमीशन के विवादमस्त सबालों को एक निश्चित तारीख के अन्दर हल कर दिया जाय।
- ११। तमाम रिटायर्ड मजदूरों का कुछ हिसाब रिटायर होने के दो महीने के अन्दर चुका कर दिया जाय और पुराने केसों को एक महीने के अन्दर तै कर दिया जाय।
- १२। दो साल के पुराने तमाम काम करने वालों की सरभिस का कनफरमेशन एक निश्चित तारीख के अन्दर कर दिया जाय और उचित प्रमोशन के लिए एक संयुक्त कमेटी बनाई जाय जिसमें यूनियन के भी प्रतिनिधि हों।
- १३। मजदूरों के रहने के क्वार्टर, सफाई, पीने के पानी, डाकूरी सहायता आदि को देख भाळ के लिए एक संयुक्त कमेटी हर कोलियरी में बने जिसमें यूनियन के प्रतिनिधि रहें।
- १४। सरकारी कोयलाखान से भ्रष्टाचार खतम करने तथा दूसरी पंचशाळा योजना में पैदावार को पूरा करने के लिये हर पिट के आधार पर संयुक्त पैदावार कमेटी बनायी जाय और चाजशीट, सस्पेंशन, डांड फटकार के तरीकों को खतम कर स्वेच्छा, समझदारी और उचित सुपरबीजन के आधार पर पैदावार बढ़ाने की होड़ लगाई जाय।
- १५। कुछ प्राइवेट खानों जैसे बोकारो-भरिया-करमाटांड क्षेत्र में कोई भी ट्रेड यूनियन यहाँ तक कि कामेसी यूनियन भी मालिक अपनी गुंढागोरी के कारण नहीं बनने देते हैं। अतएव ऐसे क्षेत्रों में ट्रेड यूनियन बनाने का अधिकार दिया जाय तथा बाकी जगहों में भी दफा १०७, बिहार सुरक्षा कानून आदि के मातहत ट्रेड यूनियन कार्यकर्ताओं को फैसले की नीति बन्द की जाय।

माननीय श्रीमान् लेबर मिनिस्टर,

भारत सरकार, नयी दिल्ली

महाराज,

नेशनल कोल डेवलपमेन्ट कारपोरेशन लि० तथा हजारीबाग जिला के अन्दर कोयला खान में काम करने वाले हम मजदूर आपके पास दरखास्त करते हैं कि हमारी नीचे लिखी आवश्यक मांगों के लिए आप फौरन उचित कार्रवाई करें।

कापी—१. माइन्स मिनिस्टर, भारत सरकार
नयी दिल्ली

२. श्रीमान् एस ए० डांगे-एम० पी०

आपके प्रार्थी—

कोल वर्कर्स यूनियन—हे० ओ० गिरिडीह

क्रम संख्या	नाम	काम	काम की जगह	टीकट नं०	निशान या दस्तखत
1	नारायण वरि	फोरे	कोयला खान	552	Narayan B...
2	सुरेश मिश्र	फोरे			Suresh Mishra
3	इन्द्र				Indra...
4	अनिल कुमार	मजदूर			Anil Kumar
5	इमरुद्दीन	मजदूर		293	Imrudin...
6	सहज	मजदूर		564	Sahaj...
7	देवराज	मजदूर		935	Devraj...
8	जगन्नाथ वरि	मजदूर			Jaganath...
9	नारायण वरि	फोरे		688	Narayan B...
10	सुनील वरि	मजदूर			Sunil...
11	चमरा	मजदूर		809	Chamra...
12	जगदीश	मजदूर		822	Jagdish...
13	इमरुद्दीन	मजदूर		823	Imrudin...
14	अनिल वरि	मजदूर		808	Anil...
15	सहज	मजदूर		83	Sahaj...

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7/9/99

Ref: No. *31/22/58* Dated the 24th. June, 1958.

To
The Chief Labour Commissioner,
Govt. of India, New-Delhi.

Dear Sir,

Sub:- Objectionable methods of Conciliation-officer (c), Hazaribagh.

This is to draw your attention to the objectionable methods of Conciliation Officer (c), Hazaribagh for your proper action:-

1. The present Conciliation Officer (c) of Hazaribagh is a pro-private employer. He fixes up his programme in a manner that gives no time to the Trade Union to prepare for it as it will be clear from the following letters:-

S.No.	No. & Date of letter issued.	Letter received.	Distance of place.
1.	No. COH/22(22)/58 Dated. 26th. April.	on 28th. April	90 miles off
2.	No. COH/22(22)/58 Dated. 23rd. May.	" 27th. May letter sent to wrong address.	-do-
3.	No. COH/22(22)/58 Dated. 10th. May.	on 12th. May	-do-
4.	No. COH/36(44)/58 Dated. 27th. May.	" 29th. May evening.	135 miles
5.	Similarly PORA Strike Conciliation telegram was received too late.		
6.	Even the employer of the State Collieries, Giridih has to complain against this method and a representation to the effect has been made to the R.L.C. Dhanbad.		

2. On 11.6.58 he came to Giridih without informing any registered Unions in the field and he held a conciliation with a so called Labour representative Sri Chapalendu Bhattacharji who represents no Union and that too simply because he happens to be his personal friend. This is when the representations from the real Unions go in default due to his inefficiency.

It is reported,
3. That on 12.6.56 he prepared a Brief for the management of the Mines Operators Ltd. against the representation of the Bihar Mica Mazdoor Sangathan served there a Strike notice.

Under these circumstances we request you to transfer him from this area at an early date as his links with employer are harming the cause of the labour.

Yours faithfully,

General Seceretary,
Bihar Mica Mazdoor Sangathan.

Chaturman Mishra 24/6
General Seceretary,
Coal Workers Union, Giridih.

- Copy to:-
- 1) Regional Labour Commissioner, Dhanbad.
 - 2) Ministry of Labour, Govt. of India.
 - 3) S.A. Dange, M.P. New-Delhi.

RESOLUTION IN THE TALCHER VILLIERS COAL MINE WORKERS MEETING

HELD ON 21ST JUNE, 1958.

The Talcher Villiers Colliery Workers are not getting wages despite work for the last 27 weeks. Besides these wages they have not been paid bonus for the last 4 quarters. The owner is, despite deductions, not depositing the contributions in the Provident Fund Account. The previous arrears and arrears of the recent Tribunal award (Colliery dispute) stand at more than a lakh of rupees. The sum total of workers dues amount nearly to 6 lakhs of rupees.

All legal steps have been taken to get the dues, but no effect yet.

There has been discussion in the Orissa Assembly and in the Parliament. The Provincial Ministers concerned and the Central Ministers and Deputy Ministers concerned have been apprised of the situation. The Labour Department, Provincial and Central, are in the know of the affairs. In spite of all these, none of the ~~means~~ concerned authorities can get the dues for the workers from the owner, for the latter is so powerful.

Of course, under the pressure of workers movement the Central Labour Department has instituted many cases under various sections against the Owner. But naturally and normally Courts take much time to decide the cases. Moreover the Owner brings stay order against the operation of the decision of the lower court from a higher one. Consequently the labourers do not get any immediate benefit from these cases.

At present from 9-6-58 last the owner has suspended the mining operations and is daily returning the workers after taking their attendance in the register. This is a great ~~unfortunate~~ conspiracy, because the owner thinks that in this process the workers shall resort to other works else where for eking out their existence and then he can begin with less labour & force the mining operation to get maximum benefit with the greatest work load on each.

The owner is doing all sorts of illegal and unjust work and the Govt. are unable to prevent. Even the Government are not doing anything to help these 700 labourers who are going to face unemployment from a long establishment industries like the Villiers Coalmine, but it is said that the Government have a plan for employment in the second five year plan.

Even in this desperate situation the labourers have not gone beyond legal limits out of in patience and have been co-operating all along in the Mining operation. In the present deplorable financial position of the labourers, very bad mismanagement of the mine and governmental disorder and delay, what are consistently provoking the labourers are the cruelty of the owner and inability of the Govt. In these circumstances none can hold responsible the labourers for the fatal consequences of any breach of peace at any moment. Rather government are to be fully responsible if the workers die like Elias, starved in harness without wages.

For this miserable plight and predicament of the labourers, the latter hold the Government fully responsible, sharply deprecate the Government and strongly demand that the ~~mine~~ mine owner, acting illegally and with ~~disregard~~ disregard as he is, ~~shall~~ be arrested under Preventive Detention Act, while simultaneously the Government should, the workers appeal, manage the mine for a limited period and arrive at a settlement with the Talcher Villiers ~~Coal~~ Coal Mine Karmachari Hardkor Union, a registered trade union, about the ~~payment~~ payment of the workers' ~~dues~~ dues. Through negligence and ~~protection~~ protection of various Acts, rules, and regulations and procedure any delay in conceding this demand and appeal of the workers is not only dangerous but criminal also.

Sd. Srinibas Misra, M.Sc.,
President of the Meeting.

Copy submitted to the:-

1. Hon'ble Minister of Mines, Govt. of India, New Delhi-
2. Hon'ble Deputy Minister Govt. of India, -do-
3. Chief Labour Commissioner, New Delhi.
- ✓ 4. General Secretary, A.L.U.C., New Delhi.
5. Regional Labour Commissioner, Calcutta.

P.O. Talcher 7
Orissa
22.6.58

Dear Comrade Srinivasulu,

News & statements sent for publication in Trade Union Record about Villiers Coal Mine, Talcher are being neglected & not published.

Secondly in Talcher the following unions are affiliated to ~~AT~~ TUC party, but no T.U.R. is being sent:-

- 1) ^{Talcher} Deulhera Coal Mine Workers Union ✓
- 2) Talcher Villiers Coal Mine Karmachari Workers Union
- 3) 1) Dera " " " " ✓
- 4) Dhenkanal-Talcher Nauri Sengha ✓

T.U.R. is coming regularly to the Deulhera Union, of course wrongly addressed as "Denthera".

Thirdly, the Villiers issue is

fully known to you. Kindly ~~write~~ ^{publish} this resolution in T.U.R. The resolution typed is sent herewith.

Fourthly, at this juncture the AITUC office should financially help the Villiers Union with Rs 500/- minimum. We are unable to do any thing without finance. Even the starving workers' families cannot be helped. Kindly ^{be} serious about it.

Greetings

Trinika, Miss

Gen. Secy.

Talcher Villiers Col Mine
Kermachon Hazdow Union
P.O. Talcher
Orissa

Please reply what you are doing ^{with regard to} this ^{also if} you have received this note of mine.

कोल वर्कर्स यूनियन

रजिस्टर्ड नं० १६

अ० भा० ट्रेड यूनियन कांग्रेस से सम्बंधित

हे० औ० गिरिडीह

पो० गिरिडीह

दिनांक 28/6 १९५८

पत्र संख्या

To

A. I. T. U. C.

New-Delhi.

Dear Comrade Srivastava,

Your letter dated 26th June. Please send the amount by M.D. to the Manager, Yatin Press, Sewandmahal das Lane, Langartoli, Patna-4 where the matter is printed. I have informed the State Committee about this. They will send a copy of it to you before it is finally out and please request Com. Sange to write a forward note for the same.

Tata Comrades came here and we paid him Rs. 250/- towards the Tata Fund.

Please let me know if you have taken any action on our memo "Functioning of the National Coal Development Corporation. Ltd." a copy of which was sent to you.

I am also sending you a copy of

the memo & signatures on a check of demands. please do something for it. Some 600 signatures have been collected and more are being collected.

Yours Comrade
Chaturvedi

P.S. Will Com. Sange be available for IALWF Conference to be held in from 15th of Aug. 1958 at (Karpura area) Bhurkunda.

Dated, the 1st July, 1958

Dear Com. Srivastava,

We have obtained an adjournment in the West Bokaro, Bonus Appeal case (Central Govt. Industrial Tribunal Dhanbad) on 1.7.58 for only 14 days, upto 15.7.58, and that too with great difficulty. It appears that the Tribunal is not prepared to allow the necessary time for securing the certified copy of the interim stay order granted by the Supreme court, staying the operation of the LAT award, possibly because, it also understand the importance of the document and also that once the authentic copy of the document is submitted in the court our case will become unassailable. Probably the Tribunal is under the pressure of the Central Labour Ministry because once the West Bokaro strike is declared legal, not only that the Labour Ministry will be in the dock but the West Bokaro workers will rally round once again under our leadership. We are in close contact with the leading workers of the colliery and we have come to know through them that the management is also very panicky about the ultimate outcome of the appeal case; and that they are trying their utmost to win the case. The importance of this case should be viewed from this direction.

Therefore, it is necessary for the AITUC centre to make utmost efforts to secure the certified copy of the stay order and send it here so as to reach before 15.7.58. In all probability no further adjournment will be allowed. If however found that there exists no possibility of obtaining the certified copy of the stay order in time, then at least the certified copy of the employers petition (containing reference to the stay order) which must be lying with Sri Janardan Sharma (because you gave me a copy of the said petition previously) should be sent here immediately by regd. post. We hope you will understand the situation and give this matter the required priority.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Prasanta Basu

R.S.

The ad-interim stay order was allowed by the Supreme Court on 11th March 1958.

1/7

270

8

July 1, 1958

Dear Com.Srinivas Misra,

Your letter of 22nd June.

Will you please see page 7 of the TRADE UNION RECORD dated June 20 on non-payment of wages in Villiers Colliery? As you will realise, for a journal of its size, the TRADE UNION RECORD cannot possibly print full texts of all resolutions passed by affiliated unions. However, the Central Office, while publishing important news reports, make use of all material in representing on different issues to the Government.

2. Your complaint about non-receipt of TUR is ~~is~~ being looked into. But it would also be helpful if you inquire locally if the copies are being properly delivered from the Post Office.

3. We would in this connection refer you to the letter dated 21st June addressed to you by Shri R.L.Mehta, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Labour. Please let us have your comments on the Government's letter at your earliest and the present factual position, so that further steps may be taken by us at this end.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G.
Sriwastava
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

270

9

July 3, 1958

Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers Federation,
Dhanbad.

Dear Comrade,

We have not as yet received your suggestions regarding the Government Scheme for training of welfare personnel. We had suggested that you contact the authorities at Dhanbad for details of the Scheme. We hope you have done so. Please let us know if we are to participate in the Training Scheme.

Meanwhile, the Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner has written to us that the first course would begin only on August 1, 1958 instead of 15.7.58 as announced earlier. The Government now wants the names of our candidates. For this purpose, we await your reply by return of post.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G. Sriwastava

(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

July 4, 1958

Dear Com.Chaturanan Misra,

Your letter of 28th June. Thanks.

2. Money has been remitted to the address given by you.
3. Your donation to JMU is noted.
4. Re. National Coal Development Corporation functioning, your memo is to the Union Government and as such formal reply is to be awaited. Meanwhile, we have asked our MPs to raise questions in Parliament on its basis.
5. Charter of Demands with mass signatures has been received. This will be useful to you when you have to struggle in future for the demands. Please go on pressing for demands through conciliation; etc. We have a mind to raise it in the Industrial Committee on coal mines when next held.
6. Com.Dange has gone abroad. It will not be useful to fix up his engagements in his absence. He is likely to return sometime early August.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G.
(K.G.Sriwastava)

270

July 4, 1958

The Manager,
Yatin Press,
Devendranath Das Lane,
Langartoli, PATNA 4

Dear Sir,

As desired by Shri Chaturanan
Misra of Coal Workers Union, Giridih,
we have sent you today a sum of
Rs.100/- by moneyorder.

Please acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,

K.G.
Sriwastava
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

BIHAR KOYLA MAZDOOR SABHA
REGD. NO. 837

C/o. Indian Mine Workers
Federation,
(Near Mack & Co.)

PHONE 2855
P. O. & DIST. DHANBAD.

Ref. No

Dated 2nd July '58 195

Dear Comrade Swastara,

We have written to you many times about the Certified Copy of the Stay order dated 11.3.1957 granted by the Supreme staying operation of the award of the Labour Appellate Tribunal. You must have received Com. Roussant's letter of 1.7.58.

This document is absolutely necessary in defence of our case in the Dhanbad Industrial Tribunal in the matter of legality and illegality of the West Bokaro Strike. You know the Strike was declared illegal and the consequences thereof. Now if we can prove that the Strike was legal, that would change the whole position in West Bokaro

And there will be radical change in our organisation. And for this specific purpose we require the Certified Copy of the ~~the~~ Supreme Court's that order. You sent the Copy of IMA's application. Have you got a certified copy of that application, please send that too.

The Tribunal's Chairman was totally against granting any adjournment. And it was only with great deal of persuasion that I could secure time till 15th July '58. It is clearly understood that if we do not get the documents as mentioned above (at least one of 'em too) the Tribunal would not grant further adjournment and in

BIHAR KOYLA MAZDOOR SABHA

REGD. NO. 837

C/o. Indian Mine Workers
Federation,
(Near Mack & Co.)

PHONE 2855

P. O. & DIST. DHANBAD.

Ref. No

Dated 195

That case the case will surely be
lost.

It is so important. I,
therefore, request you to please
procure the certified copy of
the stay order and send it
tho' Com. Ramcharan (the bearer).

If the copy (certified copy) of the
owner's application copy of
which you sent earlier is
with you send that immediately
that will be helpful also.

If the ^{certified} copies are not available
from Supreme Court can't you
get it from some other source
and the same would be returned
after our use.

James Casadey
Lawyer

4.
Contribution of Rs. 10/-
is sent herewith

W3

July 4, 1958

Dear Com. Prasanta and Lalit Burman,

Your letter of 1st and 3rd July received today.

2. Shri Janardan Sharma has applied for the copy of the Stay Order.

As you know there are three orders in the case.

One ad interim order when the writ was filed.

Another when sine die adjournment was given.

And last one when withdrawal of the petition was accepted.

Copies of the first two orders have been applied for.

3. There are about 800-900 plaintiffs in the case and in each certified true copy all the names have to be typed. This means several pages. Also with copy of each document, a certification fee of Rs.10 is to be deposited. And the typing charges at the Supreme Court rates are there.

4. Normally copies of these orders would have been obtained by the lawyer as and when these were passed for just record.

I am told the lawyer in this case did not do it because not only he has not been paid his fee but even the expenses which he had to incur in conveyance and certain other routine jobs. He did appear on all hearings.

I am further told that IMWF did not care to contact the lawyer about this case at all.

Even now when copy of the documents are needed and specially in the circumstances which I mentioned ~~my~~ in my last letter; not a single penny has been sent to him. He is supposed to be spending from his pocket even for these copies. I have been thinking that with the passage of time you will realise this and send some money and will not only go on promising. Today when your representatives met me and he did not bring any money for this purpose, I can assume either you have no money and there is no likelihood of any payment being made for this expenditure.

You should be aware of the practices in the court. You want things to be got done early and you want the lawyer to run about and take interest but do not talk of expenses.

In the budget I have for office work here, there is no margin for spending any amount on this.

I have asked the lawyer to tell me the approximate expenses. He is naturally not enthusiastic in telling me this in view of the past experience. Whenever he informs me I will write to you.

I am trying my level best to get copies by Tuesday or so and will send either with your representative or by registered post. Meanwhile, instead of stressing on the importance of the case which we no doubt realise, if you lay a little stress on the financial aspect, it would help move matters swiftly. With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G. Sriwastava
(K.G. Sriwastava)

270

July 5, 1958

General Secretary,
Colliery Mazdoor Sabha,
G.T. Road,
Asansol.

Dear Comrade,

We enclose herewith copy of our reply to the Ministry of Labour & Employment on the violation of Code of Discipline at East Jemehery Colliery.

Please let us know if the other union about which the Labour Ministry has referred is a registered trade union.

We would also like to know the latest position in this regard, as for the illegal lockout at the colliery is concerned.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Yms
Shi
(K.G. Sriwastava)
Secretary

Encl:

15
20
July 11, 1958

The Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers Federation,
Near Mack & Co.,
DHANBAD

Dear Comrade,

Please refer to our letter dated June 10, on the trends of employment of women in mines. Your early reply will be appreciated.

2. We have also not heard from you on the training in safety in mines proposed by the Government of India. We wanted you to meet the authorities at Dhanbad and get more details. Please let us know what you have done in this regard.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G.
11/11
(K.G. Srivastava)
Secretary

11/7/58

270

AITUCONG

DHANBAD

COPIES SUPREME COURT ORDERS DESPATCHED REGISTERED POST

SRIWASTAVA

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE SUPREME COURT

CIVIL MISC. PETITION NO. 1420 OF 1957

INDIAN MINING ASSOCIATION AND OTHERS

PETITIONERS

: VERSUS:

INDIAN NATIONAL MINE WORKERS
FEDERATION AND OTHERS

RESPONDENTS

(APPLICATION FOR DIRECTION)

24.3.1958. This Application was called on for orders today.

CORAM:

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M.H. BHAGWATI
THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE T.L. VENKATARAMA AIYAR
THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIVIAN BOSE

For Petitioners Nos. 1 to 31: Mr. M.C. Setalvad, Attorney-General (Messrs. D.N. Mukherjee and B.N. Ghosh, Advocates with him).

For Petitioner No. 32: Mr. I.N. Shroff, Advocate.

For Respondent No. 1: Mr. N.C. Sen, Advocate.

For Respondents 7 to 9: Mr. Satya Bimal Sen, President of the Union.

For Respondent No. 13: Mr. Ratnaparkhi, A.G., Advocate.

For Respondents Nos. 20 to 21: Mr. Janardan Sharma, Advocate.

UPON hearing Counsel for the parties, the Court made the Notice of Motion absolute. The Order to be without prejudice to the rights and contentions of the parties.

Sd./-

M.P. Saxena
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

PETITIONS FOR SPECIAL LEAVE TO APPEAL

Nos.130-138 of 1957./

Petitions under Article 136(1) of the Constitution of India for Special Leave to Appeal from the Judgment and Order dated the 29th January 1957 of the Labour Appellate Tribunal of India Calcutta in Appeal Nos.(Cal) 166, 167, 171-174 and 230 and (Bom) Nos.205 and 206 of 1956.

W I T H

CIVIL MISCELLANEOUS PETITIONS NOS. 264-272 OF 1957

Applications with a prayer for an ex-parte Order of Stay of the implementation of the Order of the Labour Appellate Tribunal of India, Calcutta, dated the 29th January 1957 above-mentioned.

Indian Mining Association having its office at No.6, Netaji Subhas Road, Calcutta and 543 others as per Schedule annexed hereto,

.... Petitioners

Versus

Indian National Mine Workers' Federation having its office at Dhanbad opposite State Bank of India and representing or claiming to represent workmen and/or trade unions of workmen in relation to the coal mines specified in Schedule 1 to the Notification No.SRO 691 of the Government of India in the Ministry of Labour dated 22nd February 1954 as subsequently amended by Notification No.SRO 1786 dated 20th May 1954 and 29 others as per Schedule annexed hereto.

.... Respondents.

11TH MARCH 1957

C O M M:

The Hon'ble Mr.Justice N.H.Bhagwati
The Hon'ble Mr.Justice Syed Jafer Imam
The Hon'ble Mr.Justice A.K.Sarkar

For the Petitioners:-

Mr.M.C.Setalvad, Attorney General
for India (w/s.D.N.Mukherjee and
B.N.Ghosh, Advocates, with him).

The Petitions and the Applications above-mentioned being called on for hearing before this Court on the 11th day of March 1957 UPON hearing Mr.M.C.Setalvad Counsel for the Petitioners THIS COURT DOETH ORDER:-

1. THAT Special leave be and the same is hereby granted to the Petitioners to Appeal to this Court from the Judgment and Order dated the 29th day of January 1957 of the Labour Appellate Tribunal of India, Calcutta in Appeals Nos. Cal-166, 167, 171-174, 230 and Bom-205 and 206 of 1956,
2. THAT the Petitioners-Appellants do within six weeks from the date of this Order furnish to the Registrar of the said Tribunal 9 sets of security in the sum of Rupees 2,500/- (Rupees two thousand five hundred) each for the costs of the Respondents in each of the 9 Appeals i.e., Rs.22,500/- (Rupees twentytwo thousand five hundred) in aggregate;
3. THAT the said Registrar do forthwith give notice of this Order to the Respondents as prescribed under rule 1 of Order of Supreme Court Rules, 1950;
4. THAT the said Registrar do have prepared and transmitted to this Court at the expense of the Petitioners-Appellants twenty printed copies of the Record proper of each of the 9 Appeals to be laid before this Court one copy each of which shall be duly authenticated;
5. THAT the Petitioners-Appellants herein do forthwith take out notice of motion to the Respondents above-named in respect of their Applications for Stay above-mentioned returnable before this Court on the 15th April 1957;
6. THAT PENDING the hearing and final disposal of the Applications for Stay by Notice of Motion the implementation of the Order of the Labour Appellate Tribunal of India, Calcutta dated the 29th January 1957 in Appeals Nos. Cal-166, 167, 171-174, 230 and Bom-205 and 206 of 1956 be and the same is hereby stayed;

AND THIS COURT BOTH FURTHER ORDER that this ORDER be punctually observed and carried into execution by all concerned.

WITNESS the Hon'ble Mr. Sudhi Ranjan Das Chief Justice of India at the Supreme Court New Delhi the 11th day of March, 1957.

Sd/- Guru Datta
DEPUTY REGISTRAR
14th March, 1957

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE SUPREME COURT

CIVIL MISC. PETITION NO. 1420 OF 1957

INDIAN MINING ASSOCIATION AND OTHERS

PETITIONERS

: VERSUS:

INDIAN NATIONAL MINE WORKERS
FEDERATION AND OTHERS

RESPONDENTS

(APPLICATION FOR DIRECTION)

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For Respondent No. 1: Mr. N.C. Sen, Advocate.

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For Respondent No. 13: Mr. Ratnaparkhi, A.G., Advocate.

For Respondents Nos. 2 & 21: Mr. Janardan Sharma, Advocate.

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AND THIS COURT DOETH FURTHER ORDER that this ORDER
be punctually observed and carried into execution by all
concerned.

WITNESS the Hon'ble Mr. Sudhi Ranjan Das Chief Justice
of India at the Supreme Court New Delhi the 11th day
of March, 1957.

Sd/- Guru Datta
DEPUTY REGISTRAR
14th March, 1957

July 11, 1958

The Minister for Labour & Employment,
Government of India,
New Delhi.

Sub: Closure of Kuardih Colliery, Ranigunj,
W. Bengal - Payment of arrear wages,
etc. to workmen.

Dear Sir,

The Kuardih colliery belonging to M/s.H.V.Low & Co., in the Ranigunj belt, was closed down by the Mines Department for violations of the Mines Act by the management. We have also reports of other closures ordered by the Mines Department on charges of similar nature. The vigilance displayed by the Mines Department, though belated, is indeed remarkable but the workmen employed by the defaulting mineowners should apparently expect the same kind of fervour on the part of the Labour Department in safeguarding their rights.

However, the experience of our trade unions and workers in the affected mines bear out the almost total inability of the Labour Department, even to secure the minimum demands of the retrenched workers, ~~in affected mines.~~

For instance, the Kuardih Colliery was closed down on March 26, 1958. Till this day, the workers have not been paid their arrear wages, salary and quarterly bonuses, leave pay, etc. due to them on the date of closure, not to speak of layoff or retrenchment compensation following the closure. We understand that a sum of Rs.60,000 is due to the workers in the Kuardih Colliery.

The Colliery Mazdoor Sabha, our affiliate, and the Indian Mine Workers' Federation have repeatedly brought this serious matter to the attention of the Chief Labour Commissioner and the Labour Ministry but no steps have so far been taken.

It appears that the mineowners are actually trying to use the orders of the Mines Department to deny the workers' dues and close down the mines till it suits them. And without even settling their dues, the workers are being evicted from their quarters. We need hardly stress that these provocative and illegal acts of the mineowners are not only contrary to the spirit of the Code of Discipline but would also lead to an explosive situation developing in the coal belt.

We would therefore request that when the Mines Department orders closure of mines, the Labour Department should simultaneously see to it that the workers are paid their arrear wages, bonuses, etc.; secondly, alternate employment is provided, or layoff/retrenchment compensation paid to the workers depending on the nature of the closure effected. And it is also requested that immediate steps be taken to put an end to the gross abuse of labour enactments indulged in by the owners of Kuardih Colliery.

Yours faithfully,

Mmo
11/11
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

Colliery mazdur sabha
(Indian Mine Workers Federation)

Dt: 27. 6. 58

To The
Minister in Charge of Labour & Employment,
New Delhi.

From: Sri Kalyan Roy,
Secretary, Indian Mine Workers Federation.
G. T. Road. Asansol.

Dear Sir:

Once again I wish to draw your urgent attention to the extreme tragic conditions of workers of the Kuardih colliery, H. V. Low & Co., Beanli House, P.O. Ranigunj, which was closed down by the Mines Department because of the refusal of the management to appoint a first class manager and build suitable fire stoppings. We have written several letters to you, the Chief Labour Commissioner and others regarding the non payment of (1) salary to monthly paid staff for several months; (2) bonus for several quarters; (3) arrear wages, wages for paid festival holidays, leave pay, overtime, train fare and lay off compensation and wages to the essential staff for the period after the closure. The conciliation proceedings failed and the management is desperately trying to evict the hungry workers from their quarters and instituting cases against workers to harass them.

Up till now, we do not know what action has been taken by the Ministry to compell the management to pay the amount to workers. It is indeed a great tragedy that while we talk about code of discipline and more production and good industrial relations, the workers of a very good colliery are left to starve, denied their earned wages and the management continues to defy the law of the land. How long the miners will wait? Not only

(2)

the miners, but a large number of overmen, mining sirdars, electricians and other technical staff are now sitting in the colliery idle since the closure of the colliery on the 26th March.

If prompt action is not taken and dues are not paid, the consequence will be extremely bad for the coal workers in general in this belt. This delay and this waiting destroy the confidence in the industrial relations machinery.

I would again request you to intervene in the matter and save the colliery and workers.

Yours sincerely

Kalyan
Kalyan Roy

Copy to: Sri S. A. Dange, ✓
General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress,

The Chief Labour Commissioner
New Delhi.

*Can we send it to
Institution (Cele.)
Have no alternative
me
30/4*

Ranchi
31/7/58

Dear Comrade Srivastava,

As per the decision of the IMWF we are going to organise the IMWF Conference at Bokaro under the Branch of our Coalworkers union from 15th Aug. to 17th Aug. Mass Rally will be held on the 17th Aug. We are not in a position to fix up with all India leaders for the conference and hence request you arrange with all India leaders who can be available for the conference. I don't know if Com. Sange is available. Com. Vittal Rao, Com. Chakraborty, Md. Elias etc. will be available. Com. Renu is wanted by Com. Purandari who is in Hazaribagh central Jail and it will be better if she does both the work. As the time is short immediate reply is needed. Please reply to Giridih address. please also let me know what action has been taken by you on our memo. on N.C.D.C. functioning & the mass petitions that we have addressed to the Mines Ministry with a copy to you.

Yours Comradely
Chaturaman Das

Com:
Renu Chakraborty

Com:

Com: Renu Chakraborty should be approached by the Reception Committee. I don't know if you are here yet & we don't know their programme. Some of them will be here for 10 days and will be too late. Dr. P. V. V. is in M.P. you had to attend the confer: for night now. We will try to promote by come here.

Com: Sange is still not sure about & reports back in camp.

Com: Madhu is here but in Enigma yet to be sent out in camp return.

I have written quick letter to

IMWFO Office. Mr. Prabh.

270

19

July 14, 1958

Com.Chaturanan Mishra,
Coal Workers Union,
GIRIDIH, Bihar

Dear Comrade,

Thank you for your letter of 9th inst.

Com.Renu Chakravartty should be approached by the Reception Committee. I have spoken to her.

None of the MPs are here yet and we do not know their programme. Some of them will be here on and from 10th August. That will be too late. So please write to the MPs you want to attend the Conference from right now. We will try to press when they come here.

Com.Dange is still abroad and is expected back in early August.

Com.Mohd. Elias left for Europe yesterday and will return only in early October.

I have written similar letter to IMWF Office.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G.S.
14/11/58
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

THE INDIAN
MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION,
H. D. DHANBAD.

Dated, the 9th July, 1958

The General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress.
New-Delhi.

Dear Comrade,

This is to inform you with pleasure that the above federation has decided to hold its national conference on 15th to 17th August, 58 at Bhurkunda coal area in Hazaribagh. The conf. is not likely to be postponed this time. We will need some assistance from AITUC in connection with the conf. and it is hoped that we will get it, at least to same extent as was granted at the time of Angarpathra conf. in 1955, if not more. You probably remember that yourself is still an ex-officio member of the provisional committee, constituting the leadership, till now.

1. Publicity: AITUC should give us assistance in giving publicity to the conf. Over and above the despatches sent by us the AITUC should publish ~~its~~ articles on its own on the miners federation & its conf.
- 2; Participation: There are a number of MPs and MLAs in the office bearers of the miners unions, who are also the members of the general council and the working committee of the AITUC. The AITUC should impress upon and persuade these members to participate in the conf. to contribute in the deliberations and also to lend it weight & colour. Yourself should also make some time to come, if medically permitted, and if we can make suitable arrangement for accommodation.
There are some units of the AITUC who do not keep any contact with fed. inspite of our repeated efforts to develop the same. Their list is appended. Please ask them and the PTUC s to reply to our letters and to ensure participation in the forthcoming conf.
3. Invitation : We like to invite delegates from the Miners Trade Union International in the conference. We like to have your advice in this matter, specially because we wont be able pay any passage, and the accomodation arrangement will not be upto the mark. You should consider in this matter the visit of the delegation of the IOFTU miners international in the last conference of the INTUC fed. We will send the invitation after getting your opinion about it. I hope you will give your consent.

I think that is all, for the present.

Your fraternally,

Prosanta Banerjee
Secretary. 9/7

List of unions -

1. Hyderabad Goldmine
Workers Union, PO. Hutti, Dt. Raichur, Andhra.
2. Lignite Mine Labour Union,
PO. Neyveli, Dt. South Arcott., Madras.
3. M.P. Mine Workers Union,
Chitnawisgunj, PO & Dt. Chindwara, M.P.
4. Magnesite Workers Union, Salem Junction, Madras.
5. Manganese Mining Workers Union, Viziangram, Andhra.
6. Champion Reef Labour Union,
PO. Kolar Goldfield, Dt. Kolar, Karnatak.

270

July 11, 1958

Com.Kalyan Roy,
Secretary, IMWF,
Calcutta

Dear Comrade,

Yours of the 7th inst. Thanks.

2. Copy of our letter to the Minister for Labour & Employment on the Kuardih Colliery closure is enclosed, for your information.
3. Re. East Jemehary colliery, we have already represented and copy sent to you at Asansol.
4. As regards discrimination, we shall write on seeing the reply you get on the representation of 4th July. Please send copy to us.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

KMG
11/7/58
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

Encl:

INDIAN MINE WORKERS FEDERATION

DT: 7. 7. 58

My dear Sriwastava:

Received your letter.

1. In relations in safety in coal mines, I corresponded with the Ministry. At our suggestion, they have agreed to take representatives of the Safety officials, like overmen, mining sirdars etc; but they have ignored the old independent organisation of them, Indian National Mines Overmen, Sirdars & Shotfirers' Association and invited the recently formed an INTUC affiliated body, Indian National Mining Staff Association, as you may see in the list.

I have written a strong letter to the Minister, a copy of which is enclosed. In a different way, you can also send some comments of the AITUC on this matter direct to the Ministry with a copy to me.

There is nothing more in it.

2. Secondly, I do not know what have you done in relations to the Kuardi colliery, belonging to H.V.Low & Co, a Karnani concern, which was closed down by the Mines Department for violations of the management. It was closed in March and workers are sitting there without any payment and arrear wages, salary, leave pay, bonus etc amounting to Rs. 60 thousand are due. Why not write a strong letter to the Ministry.

Similarly, the case East Jemehary colliery. 143 workers refused job from May 30 because they refused to sign a illegal bond, the copy of which was sent to you along with a report. Please write to the Ministry regarding what action they are taking? Has it been referred to a Tribunal? We were informed by the Conciliation Officer (C), Ranigunj, that it has been. But no official information up till now. In the meantime, 143 workers all idle. Great drain on our meagre fund.

Anything else? Where is Com. Dange?

Yours sincerely

Ranigunj

Dated Calcutta,
4th July, 1958

To
Sri G. L. Nanda,
Minister in Charge of Labour & Employment,
New Delhi.

From: Sri Kalyan Roy,
Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers Federation,
47 European asylum lane,
Calcutta 16.

Dear Sir:

I wish to draw your attention to a circular and telegram sent by the Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of India, in connection with the proposed safety conference. (No. M 27 (4)/58, dt. 24th June), and sent to 11 organisations and their secretaries.

We are very much surprised and disturbed to see that the "General Secretary, Indian National Mining Staff Association, Opposite State Bank, Dhanbad," has been included in the list. This is an organisation created only a couple of months back, after the first meeting of the Steering Committee, and is affiliated to the Indian National Trade Union Congress and Indian National Mine Workers Federation. It has even got the same address of the Indian National Mine Workers Federation.

While, there is an old and independent organisation of the Mining Staff, INDIAN NATIONAL MINES OVERMEN, SIRDAR, & SHOTFIRER'S ASSOCIATION, since 1956, a registered body. It is not affiliated to any Central Trade Union Organisation and an independent organ of the safety officials. The Indian National Mining Staff is not even registered.

The Indian National Mines Overmen, Sirdar & Shotfirers' Association, as I understand, and as it appeared in papers and colliery journals, The New Sketch and The Coal Field Times, has made several representations to the Ministry for inclusion in the Safety Committee since last March, sent various memorandums and collected mass signatures of overmen and mining sirdars on its behalf to improve upon the present mining laws which has been sent to you for consideration.

We deeply regret that inspite of all this, this Association has not been included in the list. We strongly protest against this and consider it to be a step to increase the members of the INTUC in the committee. We are indeed shocked by this open discrimination. We thought that the Safety Committee would impartially concentrate its whole attention to the problems of safety in coal mines with the assistance and cooperation of all organisations and associations, ~~which~~ we now find that while some particular organisations, and an organisation of the safety officials, are left out;

(2)

the Ministry is inviting those who are somehow affiliated to the INTUC & IMNWF.

We would like to know if this is the policy of the Ministry?

We suggest that both these two organisations of the Mining Staff should be invited and their view points be heard. The exclusion of the Indian National Mines Overmen, Sirdar & Shotfirer's Association, which has submitted a detailed pamphlet "WE DEMAND" to the Ministry with copies to us and is likely to contribute a great deal in the problem of safety will greatly affect the work of the committee and the conference and make it difficult for us to associate with the safety committee wholeheartedly.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully

Kalyan Roy

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THE INDIAN
MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION,
H. D. DHANBAD.

Report of the meeting of the Secretarite of Indian Mine
Workers Federation, held on 2.7.58 at Dhanbad head office.
.....

1. The meeting condoled the sudden ~~axxt~~ and sad end of the eventful life of Com. Binode Mukherjee, a member of the Sectt. on 17.6.58 at Surajgarah. The sectt. calls upon all the affiliates of the federation to hold condolence meetings in the mines and appraise the miners with the Com. Binode's contribution in the cause of the miners.
2. The meeting finalised the plan of the next national conference of the federation, and decided to hold the conference at Phurkunda (Hazaribagh Dist. Bihar) on 15th, 16th & 17th August, 1958. The detailed direction for the preparation of the conference has been finalised and are being sent in a separate circular.
3. The meeting heard the reports and the draft resolutions, and after full discussion has given necessary guidance for the finalisation of the drafts to be placed in the conference. The sectt. once again calls upon all the affiliates to send their reports to facilitate the preparation of a comprehensive report covering all the branches of mining.
4. The meeting heard the reports from the different coalfields on the progress of the signature campaign on the charter of demands, and detected lag in the matter of organising the campaign at the colliery level. The meeting directs all the coal branches to organise the signature campaign as the most important programme of general campaign and to fulfill their targets before the conference is held. All signatures collected should be sent to this office directly.
5. The meeting directs all our coal branches to agitate and demand from the respective employers the immediate payment of the arrear amount of increased D.A.

Sunil Mukherji
General Secretary.

4.7.58

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION.

Prasant Kumar
Secretary.

30

THE INDIAN
MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION,
H. O. DHANBAD.

CONFERENCE CIRCULAR -2

4th July, 1958

1. The next national conference of the Indian Mine Workers Federation, will be held at Bhurkunda (Hazaribagh Dist. Bihar) on 15th, 16th & 17th of August, 1958.
2. The delegates to the above conference shall be elected by the affiliated (and desires to be affiliated) unions at the rate of one delegate per 250 member or any major part thereof; and the list of the delegates ~~selected~~ shall be sent to this office and the office of the Reception Committee.
3. The delegates fee shall be Rs. 2/- per delegate.
4. The arrangement of feeding will be made by the Reception Com. but the delegates shall have to pay the minimum cost. All these particulars and others regarding lodging etc. will be made known by the Reception Com. directly.
5. The address of the Reception Committee is as follows:
Com. Mahendra Nath Bharati, Coal Workers Union, P.O. Bhurkunda, Dist. Hazaribagh, Bihar.
6. The admission of the delegates to the conference will be allowed on the basis of the payment of one fourth of the annual affiliation fee in accordance with the rules stated below - calculated on the membership of 1957-58.

The unions having

Upto 100 members	Rs. 5/-	per year.	
Between 101 to 500	4/-	per 100	with minimum of 5/-
" 501 to 1000	3/-	" "	" 20/-
More than 1000	2/8/-	" "	" 30/-

Suresh Chandra

General Secretary.

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14/7/58

PRASANTA BURMAN

INDIAN MINE WORKERS FEDERATION

DHANBAD

SEND DETAILS OF REPORTED CLASH BETWEEN INTUC AND AITUC
LOCAL UNIONS AND ARREST OF CHINMOY MUKERJEE

SRIWASTAVA

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA OVERSEAS COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE

WP. 1557 19000x200 5-58

N.B.— All enquiries regarding this Telegram should be made to the Government Telegraph Deptt. accompanied by this form.

THE FIRST LINE OF THIS TELEGRAM CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING PARTICULARS IN THE ORDER NAMED.
Prefix Letters and Number of Message. Office of Origin.
Number of Words. Date. Time filed, and Official Instruction—if any

Received at NEW DELHI at:—



DR 59

XPB20 PEKING 21 8 1140 -

LT AITUCONG NEWDELHI -

DEEPLY GRIEVED AT DEATH OF CONRADE BINODENUKHERJEE
STOP PLEASE CONVEY CONDOLENCE TO HIS COALMINERS
UNION AND FAMILY - ACFTU •

INWARD
OCT
NBR

Handwritten initials/signature

INITIALS

Handwritten initials/signature

TIME
RECD

कोल वर्कर्स यूनियन

रजिस्टर्ड नं० १६

अ० भा० ट्रेड यूनियन कांग्रेस से सम्बंधित

हे० आ० गिरिडीह

पो० गिरिडीह

पत्र संख्या

दिनांक

१६५

To
The General Secretary,
I.M.W.F., Dhanbad.

D/Comrade Prasanta,

Suddenly we have been asked by the Bihar P.C. that I.M.W.F. conference should be postponed to September or so. As I have already informed you that several mass meetings attended by thousands have been organised in support of the conference and Rs.600/- already collected. And then to suddenly postpone the conference will give chance to the opposition specially I.N.T.U.C. which is seriously reorganised in the field for unnecessary adverse propaganda.

I am of opinion that Conference should not be postponed and that can be possible only when at least one All India leader like Com. Ramu, Dange attends it and All India respective delegates attend it. It is a wrong practice that because a certain political party demands postponement so the I.M.W.F. conference is postponed. What would have happened if the I.M.W.F. would have been a real All party organisation. It is upto the political parties including in C.P.I., to adjust its programme according to the programme of mass organisation and not the vice-versa.

Hence please let me know if any All India Leader is available or not? Are the different units preparing for sending the delegation or not? needless to say that we should go ahead with the conference preparation. As for the Bihar P.C. it is just in the habit of postponement and so far Hezeribagh is concerned we are also habituated to go without them.

Requesting an early reply.

Yours Comradely

Copy to:-

1) A.I.T.U.C. to confirm if any all india leader is available or not.

2) Bihar P.C. to note it.

3) Com. Kalyan to confirm if the Bengal Delegation is attending the conference.

Chaturanan

25/7

P.T.O

mo

270

Dated, The 26th July, 1958

270
The General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress.

Dear Comrade,

The secretariate of the Indian Mine Workers Federation met on 24.7.58 to discuss about the forthcoming national conference and some other matters. As it was found that a number of branches from several states have requested for the extension of dates, and as the Reception Com. was not disagrreable to some limited postponement, the sect decided to postpone ~~at~~ the dates of the conference to 5th to 7th Septemeber, 58. All other programme will remain unchanged. The Recp. Com. is trying hard to hold the delegates sessions in the Bhurkunda mining area, and probably it will become possible to do so.

The Recp. Com. has already collected 600/- in one week, and mass collection in the collieries of Hazaribagh district has strated. The documents for the conferece is already under preparation, and arrangement for printing and cyclostyling them have been made. The recruitment of volunteers and training has statted. The cultural squads are painting posters, festoons and rehearsing their programmes. The accomodation, kitchen, hospital arrangements are being made.

The assitance of the AITUC will be vitally necessary for making the conf. a success. All the MP leaders connected with the miners unions should be made available for the conf. The delegation of the miners TUI who have been already invited should be insisted upon to come to the conf. Other trade union bodies who have been invited by us and who are associated with the AITUC should be prevailed upon ~~shankar~~ to send their representatives. A english copy of the draft report will be sent shortly for your perusal. With greetings.

Yours fraternally,

Prasanta Bhowan
General Secretary.

THE INDIAN
MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION.
H. O. DHANBAD.

No. MIL-18(3)58
Government of India
Ministry of Labour & Employment

From

Shri B.R. Khanna,
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

To

- 1) The General Secretary,
The Indian National Trade Union Congress,
17½ Janpath, New Delhi.
- 2) The General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress,
R.L. Trust Building,
455, Girgaon Road, Bombay-4.
- 3) The General Secretary,
United Trade Union Congress,
46, South End Park, Calcutta-29.
- 4) The General Secretary,
Hind Mazdoor Sabha,
Servants of India Society's Home,
Sandhurst Road. Bombay-4.

Dated New Delhi, the

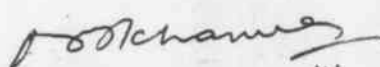
Subjects:- Gorakhpur Labour Advisory Committee Dhanbad -
Constitution of.

.....

Sir,

I am directed to say that in pursuance of a recommendation made by the Tripartite Committee on Gorakhpur Labour, an advisory committee was set up in February, 1955 at Dhanbad under the Chairmanship of the Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner with representatives from the Government, the workers and the employers as its members for the purpose of advising the Coalfields Recruiting Organisation regarding matters affecting the Gorakhpur Labour at worksites. Under rule 5(1) of the rules passed by the Advisory Committee in August 1955, nominated members are to hold office for a period of three years from the date of their nomination. The outgoing members are, however, eligible for renomination. Sarvashri R.N. Sharma and Mahesh Desai, the two workers' representatives on the said Advisory Committee, have completed their term of office. I am, therefore, to request you to recommend two persons from your union to represent workers on the Committee. You will no doubt ensure that only such representatives are sponsored by you as are connected with Coal Mines Labour. It will be highly appreciated if the names, designations and addresses of your representatives are sent to this Ministry at an early date but not later than 15th August, 1958, whereafter the nomination will be made from the names received.

Yours faithfully,


(B.R. Khanna)
Under Secretary

Copy of letter dated 11th July to: INTUC, AITUC, UTUC & HMS

Sub: Constitution of
GORAKHPUR LABOUR ADVISORY COMMITTEE, DHANBAD

In pursuance of a recommendation made by the Tripartite Committee on Gorakhpur Labour, an advisory committee was set up in February, 1955 at Dhanbad under the Chairmanship of the Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner with representatives from the Government, the workers and the employers as its members for the purpose of advising the Coalfields Recruiting Organisation regarding matters affecting the Gorakhpur Labour at worksites.

Under rule 5(1) of the rules passed by the Advisory Committee in August 1955, nominated members are to hold office for a period of three years from the date of their nomination.

The outgoing members are, however, eligible for renomination.

Sarvashri R.^N.Sharma and Mahesh Desai, the two workers' representatives on the Advisory Committee, have completed their term of office.

I am, therefore, to request you to recommend two persons from your union to represent workers on the Committee.

You will no doubt ensure that only such representatives are sponsored by you as are connected with Coal Mines Labour. It will be highly appreciated if the names, designations and addresses of your representatives are sent to this Ministry at an early date but not later than 15th August 1958, whereafter the nomination will be made from the names received.

B.R.Khanna,
Under Secretary,
Ministry of Labour & Employment

July 16, 1958

Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers Federation,
Dhanbad.

Dear Comrade,

As you will find from the enclosed letter from the Labour Ministry, the Gorakhpur Labour Advisory Committee is being re-constituted.

The Government has asked for two recommendations from us, as from other national TU centres.

Please let us have your nominations for the Committee, so that we may forward the same to the Government.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G.
16/ii
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

Encl:

210

45

The 26th July, 1958

The Secretary,
AITUC.

Dear Comrade,

Please note that the last meeting of the Sectt. of the federation has approved the names of the following comrades to serve in the safety conference on coal and the tripartite meeting on the coal industry to be held at Calcutta on 3.8.58.

Com. Kalyan Roy Delegate
" Lalit Burman Advisor

The Sectt. has further decided to suggest the names of Com. Chaturanan Misra, and Com. Sahahuddin of Hazaribagh and Dhanbad respectively, for the panel for selection of members for the Gorakhpuri Labour Advisory Committee at Dhanbad.

These are for your information and necessary action.

Yours fraternally,

Prasant Kumar

General Secretary.

THE INDIAN
MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION,
H. O. DHANBAD.

10/11/58

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July 30, 1958

Shri B.R.Khanna,
Under Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of Labour & Employment,
New Delhi.

Sub: Gorakhpur Labour Advisory Committee,
Dhanbad - Constitution of

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter No.MIII-18(3)58 dated July 11, 1958 on the above subject, we hereby suggest the following persons for nomination to the Gorakhpur Labour Advisory Committee:

1. Shri Chaturanan Misra,
General Secretary,
Coal Workers Union,
GIRIDIH, Bihar
2. Shri Salahuddin,
Indian Mine Workers Federation,
Near Mack & Co.,
DHANBAD, Bihar

Yours faithfully,

Vmo
30/7/58
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

Copy to: IMWF
with ref. to their letter of 26th July

47
6

Copy of letter from
COAL MINES WELFARE COMMISSIONER, Dhanbad
dated 5/6 August 1958.

I thank you very much for your letter of 30th July 1958 together with a cheque for Rs.2503/-.

Shri Prasanta Burman, Secretary, the Indian Mine Workers' Federation, Dhanbad, has already forwarded names of the following 5 candidates for training and has deposited Rs.300 per candidate as messing charges.....

I am therefore returning herewith your cheque for Rs.2503 and request you to kindly deposit Rs.1,000/- as tuition fee for 5 candidates in the Government treasury under the following head of account and send a copy of the challan to this office:

"S.Deposits and Advances, Part II Deposit and Advances not bearing interest 'B' Reserve Fund
Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund."

For your convenience I suggest that you send a cheque for Rs.1,000/- to your local representative and direct him to draw the amount, deposit it in the Treasury under the above head and send a copy of the challan to this office. It may please be noted that payment of fees by cheque is not accepted.

I have, in the meantime, permitted the above candidates to undergo the training.

Yours faithfully,

Sd.

(K.Bag Singh)
Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner

July 30, 1958

47

270

My dear Prasanta,

I returned to Delhi and immediately I was confronted with the problem of our students being sent to the Welfare Training Scheme. I looked into the papers and have despatched one telegram to you and one telegram to the Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner. I am also sending to the Commissioner a cheque for Rs.2503/- to cover the expenses for five students as asked for by them, i.e., Rs.200 for tuition fee and Rs.300 for boarding, per trainee.

You will see that the matter has got to be taken up seriously. You have sent us eight names. Now select five out of those eight and contact the Commissioner about them. ~~All these~~ Of those five I have no information. You should be the best judge of their capacity and calibre. I hope you will be able to gather them together and put them in the course on First of August. If they are outside Dhanbad and have to travel, they can reach on 2nd. But you must fix it up with the Commissioner directly. I have informed the Government about the matter also.

The Government of India letter dated 29th July almost takes it for granted that we may not be able to send our students on 1st August in view of the short time at our disposal. But I think it would not be difficult for you to send those five students by August 1.

I am sure you must have looked into the prospectus and other things and that your students would conform to those qualifications, etc. It is necessary that we should be in the first course itself. That is why this hurrying on my part. I am sending you the other application forms that were lying with us.

As regards other matters pending between us and IMWF we will deal with them when I come back for the Parliament session. I want one or two of you to come to Delhi at that time, ~~since~~ since I will not be able to go to Dhanbad myself. I will send you intimation when I return to Delhi at that time.

Some of you had raised the subject of finding a President of the IMWF in place of Com.Vittal Rao who is very busy on other matters. We will consider that problem also. We shall try, from here, to send for your conference of 5th September as many MPs as we can, who are connected with miners' unions.

You should take care to invite the leaders of PSP Unions and particularly Deven Sen to come and lead the Conference. I hope you will not object to it on some "principle".

It is good that you are printing some of the material for the Conference. But I wonder why you do not print the letterheads of your Federation. It creates such a bad impression, especially on officials and international organisations.

- two -

That you have collected Rs.600 for the Conference in one week shows that workers are willing to pay and to rally behind us. I hope your Report will be factual and will give perspectives for the future also. It need not be a very long document but I am sure you will make it instructive with all the history of the recent past to help you.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Encl:

(S.A.DANGE)

Com.Prasanta Burman,
Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers Federation,
Dhanbad.

4 Ashoka Rd New

Government of India
Ministry of Labour & Employment

.....

No. LWI(I)-14(6)/58

Dated New Delhi the 29 JUL 1958 July 1958.
Saravana, 1880.

From

Shri Balwant Singh,
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

To

All State Governments and Union Administrations.
All-India Organisations of industrial employers
and workers.

Subject:- Training of welfare personnel:

Sir,

I am directed to invite reference to this Ministry's letter No. LWI(I)-61(1)/55 dated 10.10.56 (copy enclosed) in which broad outlines of the scheme for the training of welfare personnel were indicated. The Scheme has now been finalised and the Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner, Dhanbad, who will implement the scheme, has completed all arrangements towards that end. The first course is likely to start on the 1st August 1958.

2. The intention is that during the remaining Second Plan period about 500 personnel should be trained. Of this, about 125 will be the nominees of the Coal Mines Welfare Fund Organisation and the remaining 375 of the State Governments, employers and workers organisations, etc. Five courses each of six months will be run during this period and about 75 persons will be required to be nominated for each course by the State Governments, employers and workers organisations, etc.

3. As already stated in the letter dated the 10th October 1956 referred to above, the training will enable the welfare personnel to run welfare and social education centres, organise community welfare, manage small canteens, reading rooms, and other multi-purpose welfare programmes and activities.

The Government of India feel that this training course will fulfil a long felt want and are confident that sufficient number of trainees will be forthcoming to take advantage of the opportunities to be offered by this training. As already stated, the first training course is likely to start on the 1st August 1958 and, in view of the short time at your disposal, it may not be possible to depute more candidates for this course. It is requested that the number and names of the candidates to be sponsored for the second and subsequent courses may kindly be intimated direct to the Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner, Jagjivan Nagar, Dhanbad, sufficiently ahead of the dates of starting of the courses, intimation about which will be sent to you by the Welfare Commissioner.

4. The cost of training will be Es.500/- per trainee (Es.200/- as tuition fee and Es.300/- for board and lodging) payable direct to the Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner. In the case of the nominees of the workers' organisations who are not in a position to meet tuition fee, the Government of India will be prepared to bear the tuition fee charge, subject to the condition that the number of such nominees does not exceed 50 during the Second Plan period.

Yours faithfully,

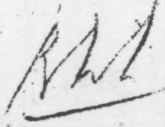

(Balwant Singh)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Copy forwarded to the Ministries of the Government of India for information and necessary action.

Copy also forwarded to the Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner, Dhanbad, with reference to his D.O. letter No. GW.21(18)/58 dated 30.6.1958 and his official letter No. GW.21(18)/58, dated the 9th July 1958.

With regard to paragraphs 2 and 3 of his letter dated the 9th July 1958, his attention is invited to this Ministry's letters No. LWI(I)-14(6)/58, dated the 27th June and 7th July 1958 (copies enclosed for ready reference).


(Balwant Singh)

Under Secretary to the Government of India.

M.L.G.

Government of India
Ministry of Labour.

No. LWI(1)-61(1)/56

Dated New Delhi, the 10th October, 1956.

From

Shri P. N. Sharma,
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

To

- (1) All-India Employers' and Workers Organisations.
- (2) All State Governments (except Coorg, Ajmer, Pepsu, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur and Kutch).

Subject:- Training of Welfare Personnel.

Sir,

I am directed to say that the Government of India have drawn up, for inclusion in the Second Five Year Plan, a tentative scheme for the training of welfare personnel at Bhuli (Bihar) under the auspices of the Coal Mines Welfare Fund Organisation. The essential features of the Scheme are:-

(1) Object of the Scheme.- With the contemplated expansion of activities in the field of labour welfare, there is a growing need for multi-purpose welfare workers, trained systematically in the various aspects of welfare work. The execution of some of the welfare schemes during the Second Five Year Plan period may be handicapped if such personnel in adequate number are not found. It is, therefore, necessary that provision should be made for the training of an adequate number of welfare workers who could be drawn upon by the Central and State Governments and employers' and workers' organisations.

(2) Subjects in which training will be imparted.- The training proposed under the Scheme will be both theoretical and practical. The course will cover the following subjects in broad outlines:-

- (i) General knowledge including civics, hygiene, office administration and procedure.
- (ii) Social education - its aims and objects, technique of organisation of social education.
- (iii) Library service, organisation of cooperatives, canteens, clubs, etc.
- (iv) Knowledge and use of audio-visual education.
- (v) General knowledge of cottage industries and crafts, domestic science.
- (vi) First aid and public health.
- (vii) Organisation of cultural and recreational activities.

The intention is to train welfare personnel to enable them to run welfare and social education centres to organise community welfare, to manage small canteens, reading rooms and such other multi-purpose welfare programmes and activities. Both men and women workers will be trained.

(3) Number of workers to be trained and duration of training. It is proposed to train 500 persons during the period of the Second plan at the rate of 100 persons per year, at the training centre to be organised for the purpose at Bhuli in Bihar. The period of training will be six months and a batch of 50 trainees will be given training at a time. The trainees will be drawn partly from the Central and State Governments, employers' and workers' organisations and partly from the Coal Mines Welfare Fund Organisation.

(4) Educational and other qualifications necessary for admission to the training.— A person possessing at least a Matriculation or a School Leaving Certificate or a certificate of equivalent qualification would be eligible for admission to training. This minimum qualification may be relaxed in special cases where the person concerned is considered suitable in other respects. What is actually required is that the candidate should have a general aptitude for social and welfare work.

(5) Cost of training and on board and lodging.— Arrangements for board and lodging for trainees will be made by the Coal Mines Welfare Organisation and the cost thereof will be recovered from the sponsoring organisations, namely, the Central and State Governments, employers' and workers' organisations, etc. The charges tentatively fixed for each trainee will be about Rs.500/- which will cover expenses of training and board and lodging (Rs.300/- for board and lodging and Rs.200/- tuition fee).

2. Before finalising the training programme, the Government of India will be grateful if the State Governments, Employers' and Workers' Organisations will kindly communicate their comments, if any, on the proposed scheme and indicate the approximate number of trainees they are likely to sponsor for training during the period of the Second Five Year Plan.

3. It is requested that the matter may kindly be treated as most urgent and the comments of the State Governments etc., communicated to the Government of India as early as possible and in any case not later than the 1st November 1956.

Yours faithfully,

Sd. P.N. Sharma
Under Secretary

270

23. 7. 58

My dear Sriwastava:

Enclois a letter to the Labour Minister. I have seen in papers that the Ministry is calling a Tripartite coence to settle some differences, mainly the tion of arrear of dearness allowance on the 3rd Aug. But so far we have recieved no information. Id you kindly see it and see that the IMWF is not luded.

Second the Kuardi matter has been settled with the managem

Yours comradely

भारत का सरकार

Handwritten signature

10
7/10

INDIAN MINE WORKERS FEDERATION

DT: 22. 7. 58

To
The Minister in Charge of Labour & Employment,
Ministry of Labour,
New Delhi.

From: Sri Balyan Roy,
Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers Federation,
G. T. Road. Asansol.

Sir:

There is a great deal of agitation among colliery workers following the decision of employers to pay the arrear of Rs. 4. 14. 0 (Increased Dearness Allowance as per the LAT Award) in instalments. Similarly, news has reached us that some groups of employers have decided to discontinue payment from the next month. Both are illegal and the Federation is not willing to accept the arrear in instalments.

Secondly, There is the question of the period of the Award of the Labour Appellate Tribunal.

I would request you to intervene and settle the outstanding differences and the Federation is prepared to cooperate fully. A Tri-partrite conference if called would, in our opinion, help to solve the problems facing us.

Yours Faithfully

Secretary.

[Signature]

To,
Shri G. L. Nanda,
Minister, Labour & Employment.
New Delhi.

From: Shri Aalyan Roy,
Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers Federation.
C/O The Colliery Mazdoor Sabha.
G.T.Road. Asansol.
Dt. Burdwan. (West Bengal)

Sub: Industrial Dispute in East Jemehari
Colliery, P.O. Kanigunj regarding
refusal by the management to provide
work to the workmen since 30.5.58.

Dear Sir,

We are deeply shocked by the Ministry's
letter No. LR11/2(35)/58, dated 15th July, 1958, refusing
an Industrial Tribunal for adjudication on the alleged
ground that the workers concerned "had indulged in acts
of violence, indiscipline etc".

These large number of workers were stopped
work illegally from 30th May, 1958, as you we have informed
you by our letter dated 11th June '58. The All India
Trade Union Congress has corresponded with you on this
subject.

How did the Ministry come to the conclusion
that the workers indulged in violence etc? Out of
126 workers, still prevented from joining work, only
21 18 were arrested by the Police and subsequently
realised. The management has not even issued chargesheets
to the workers excepting 18 workers.

The whole action of the management is so
illegal that the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central)
Dhanbad, after a hearing, has declared that strike -- as
alleged by the management ---- TO BE LEGAL ---- his
reference letter No. C-6/208(3)/58, dated the 4th July, 58.

So, without chargesheet and without any cases,
these workers(excluding 18) have been locked out. And
yet the Ministry has made a general comment that the
workers indulged in violence, and refused adjudication.

we regret to say that the Ministry has not
been fair and its policy is one of descrimination/
against the Colliery Mazdoor Sabha, affiliated to
A I T U C and Indian Mine Workers Federation. And the
management is being encouraged by the Ministry's policy
to violate and trample the Code of Discipline".

Cntd.....

page 2.

We have all along moved in a constitutional manner but unfortunately we find that the Ministry is supporting the unconstitutional act of the management.

We are prepared to face any enquiry from any source in this matter. But if the Government continues to keep silence over this dispute, the Colliery Mazdoor Sabha will be free to act in any manner it thinks right to defend the jobs of 126 workers against the illegal action of the management.

With thanks.

Yours Sincerely

(Kalyan Roy)
Secretary
I.M.W.F.

Dated, the
Asansol 22nd July, 1958.

Copy forwarded to:

✓ 1. Shri S. A. Dange, M.P.
General Secretary,
The All India Trade Union Congress.
4, Ashoka Road.
New Delhi.

2. The Chief Labour Commissioner(C)
Govt. of India .
Ministry of Labour.
New Delhi.

for information.

To,
Com. K.G.Srivastava,
Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress,
4, Ashoka Road. New Delhi.

Dear Comrade,

Your letter to the Ministry dated
July 5, 1958 on East Jemehary Colliery--- Maniganj.

There is a very serious mistake in the
the note which you have sent to the Ministry in para 2.
This Colliery Mazdoor Congress has nothing to do with the
INTUC or INMF. It is an independent organisation unaffi-
-liated to any one. And Shri Kanti Mehta, General Secretary,
INMF has also informed the Ministry that it has got no
branch in the Colliery.

So the question of INTUC does not arise &
at all in this Colliery. You should make it clear to
the Ministry.

2. Enclosed is a copy of our letter to
the Labour Minister. The refusal to give a Tribunal is
nothing but a clear anti -- AITUC policy.

I would request you to write a strong ~~pro~~
protest letter to the Ministry for its refusal to give
a Tribunal.

3. Please let me know what is the amount
due to Shri Janardan Sharma, Advocate, Supreme Court.

With thanks.

Your Comradely

Kalyan Roy
(Kalyan Roy)
Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers
Federation.

C/O The Colliery Mazdoor Sabha.
G.T.Road. Asansol.

Date.
22nd July, 1958

*Some of the
copy.*

*It is not a copy
on paper INMF.
Balau may be
As for the case of Kanti
handed on 15 has been for
S.K. Awar, I am told. It
would be better to give up this
line.*

270

July 26, 1958

Com. Kalyan Roy,
Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers Federation,
47 European Assylum,
Calcutta

Dear Comrade,

We have your letters of 22nd and 23rd July.

2. Please let us know the source of your information as to Shri Kanti Mehta of IMWF disowning the Colliery Mazdoor Congress and if possible, a copy of his communication.

3. As for the fees of Shri Janardan Sharma, the case has been handed over to him through Shri S.K. Acharya, I am told. So it would be better to fix it up through Shri S.K. Acharya.

I have informed the IMWF about the cost incurred for obtaining copies of stay orders, etc., recently. The balance dues may be sent to us early.

4. We note that the Kuddi matter has been settled. Please send us a copy of the settlement.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Wme
26/7/58
(K.G. Sriwastava)
Secretary

P.S. We note that many of the letters you are writing on behalf of the IMWF are sent on plain paper. It is our very humble suggestion that the IMWF as a leading Federation of TUs should have at least a printed letterhead.

Wme
27/7/58

BIHAR KOYLA MAZDOOR SABHA

REGD. NO. 837

C/o. Indian Mine Workers
Federation,
(Near Mack & Co.)

PHONE 2855

P. O. & DIST. DHANBAD.

Ref. No

Dated 15th July'58 195

To

The General Secretary
All India Trade Union Congress
New Delhi:

Enclosed herewith please find the copy of a memorandum on the incidents at the Selected Jharia Colliery, Jharia P.S. , Dt. Dhanbad and the police repression on the workmen of the colliery.

This is for your information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Puranta Barman
GENERAL SECRETARY

Enc: -As above
(in 3 pages).

BIHAR KOYLA MAZDOOR SABHA

REGD. NO. 837.

C/o. Indian Mine Workers
Federation,
(Near Mack & Co.)

PHONE 2855.

P. O. & Dist. DHANBAD.

Ref No.

Dated 15th July, 1958.

Memorandum on behalf of the Bihar Koyla Mazdoor Sabha on the incidents and police repression in Selected Jharia Colliery, P.S. Jharia.

1. On 7th July 1958 night the Police under the direct supervision of the Officer-in-Charge of Jharia P.S. launched several repression on the workers of the Selected Jharia Colliery.
2. The repression continued on the following days and was followed by gangsterism and a reign of terror by the hired gangsters of the Company and their stooge union ought to be maintained at the Colliery in utter disregard of the choice of the workers themselves.
3. The whole thing was conducted by the police under spurious cover of performing their official duties whereas in reality the police connived with the management in ousting the B.K.M.S and installing the stooge union of the I.N.T.U.C brand, discarded and disliked by the workers.
4. The affairs centred round the occupation of the quarter which was used as residence of Sri S.N. Tiwari and the Union office, when Sri Tiwari was an activist of the I.N.T.U.C.
5. Since the formation of the Branch of the B.K.M.S. Sri Tiwari continued to reside in the said quarter as before.
6. The management served a notice on Sri Tiwari for vacating the quarter in the last week of June 1958 and Sri Tiwari was considering over the said notice in consultation with his legal advisers.
7. The B.K.M.S was also arranging for representation to the management of the colliery for recognition of its branch as the sole representative of the workers employed in Selected Jharia Colliery also for officially allotting the quarter ~~concerned~~ concerned as our Union office; and waited for the completion of the membership enrolment for the year 1958-59.
8. The management and their stooges probably understanding the genuineness and strength of the aforesaid claim for recognition and the office, desired to oust Sri Tiwari and the workers at that from the quarter by force and illegal and unfair method.
9. The management won over the open support of the Jharia police in furtherance of the object.
10. On 5.7.58, the normal pay day, the management stopped weekly payment with a view to jeopardise the mass enrolment of the members of B.K.M.S. as settled earlier, and thus to provoke the workers.
11. The workers remained calm and did not fall a prey to the provocation and the Union sent intimation of deliberate withholding of weekly payment to the authorities concerned.
12. Nothing further was done. Yet the management tried to

frase

frame a case against Sri Tiwari and the workers and with this end in view arranged some persons to throw stones at the Colliery office.

13. The attempt, however, failed despite the connivance of the police, and the Officer-in-Charge arrested Sri Tiwari at the P.S. u/s. 151 Cr.P.C. when Sri Tiwari objected to the open threat of the O.C. concerned.

14. On 7th July 1958 when the weekly payments were being made the membership enrolment started and the initiative of the workers in this regard was viewed with panick by the Company and the INTUC workers there.

15. Failing in their attempt to prevent the progress of membership enrolment, the Company - INTUC combine planned to attack the quarter of Sri Tiwari and the Union Office, while Sri Tiwari was lodged in Dhanbad Jail.

16. Immediately on getting the information, Sri Lalit Surman lodged a diary over the telephone at 12 noon on 7.7.58 and confirmed the same in writing.

A petition was made to the S.D.O., Dhanbad on 7.7.58 during the Court hours on behalf of Sri Tiwari.

17. Unfortunately no action was taken by the Dhanbad P.S. to maintain status quo till the release of Sri Tiwari on bail at least.

18. In the afternoon four persons of the INTUC - Company alliance entered the quarter in dispute by scaling the outer wall when there were none but women workers inside the said quarter. These persons indulged in provocative actions of insulting and misbehaving with the women workers under the very nose of the police posted outside the quarter. Not only this, they got encouragements from the Police.

The male workers kept themselves away from the place and did not intervene despite such utter provocation.

19. The police was informed of this over the phone by Sri Chinmoy Mukherjee and written intimation was also sent to the P.S. which was not formally accepted and the man who carried the written intimation was threatened of arrest. The S.P., Dhanbad was also informed over the phone by Sri Mukherjee. The D.C., Dhanbad was also contacted over the phone and under his instructions Sri Mukherjee requested the S.D.O. Dhanbad to intervene.

20. Despite all this the police moved into action for 'rescuing' these very persons who forced their entry into the disputed quarter and indulged in repression.

21. The first act of the police was to insult, abuse and assault the women who demanded that instead of 'rescuing' the evil doers they should be brought to book. The police replied by ordering the women to vacate the quarter and indulged in further insult, abuse, threats and assault on women.

22. This news brought the male workers to the spot who objected to the above acts of the police and the reply was lathi charge and followed by police own gangster repression from the night. We also understand that the women folk has not been spared. The raping of women (wives of Miners) have also been brought to our notice.

23. The belongings, valuable articles and some papers and documents of Sri Tiwari were looted. The workers were beaten in their dhowrahs throughout the night and following days and a large number of them have been driven away.

/till

24. We wish to stress that had there been any sincere effort by the Officer-in-Charge, Jharia P.S. to put a stop to the attempt of INTUC - Company alliance to take forcible possession of the quarter/the release of Sri Tiwari, nothing would have happened at all. And this was the ONLY reasonable action that should have been taken by the police in the background of the facts and circumstances.

25. Even if it is stated that Sri Tiwari was illegally occupying the sid quarter, the Company could have pursued the matter legally after the notice afore-mentioned was served on him. This also was not done by the Company nor the police advised the management and the INTUC to take recourse to law for getting possession of the said quarter.

26. We submit that the real intention was to break the newly organised branch of B.K.V.S by terror and repression and the possession of the quarter by the interested parties (Company and INTUC) was a plea to create trouble and call for police repression, while the local police took active part in formulating and executing the foul plan.

We demand - (i) Enquiry into the conduct of the police, particularly C/C, Jharia P.S. and his responsibility in the matter.

(ii) To put a stop to assault and repression on the rank and file workers who are compelled to stay out and are prevented from going in the colliery to attend their duties.

(iii) To compell the Company to allow all workers who were on roll of the Company till 7.7.58 to work and stay in the colliery.

(iv) To ensure safety of the person and properties of the workmen and their families from the open gangsterism of the goondas of the Company and their stooge union.

(v) Enquiry by the authorities as to which Union commands the support of the majority of the workers of the colliery as this question has been made the basis of the police story and report.

We also demand that a Judicial Enquiry be started on the above points at the very earliest in order to arrive at the truth of the much talked off "Law and Order" in the Jharia Coalfield.

Chinmay Mukherjee
VICE PRESIDENT
Bihar Koyla Mazdoor Sabha.

Prsanta Barua
GENERAL SECRETARY.

15th July, 1958.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN THE
SINGARENI COLLIERIES COMPANY LIMITED AND THE
SINGARENI COLLIERIES WORKERS' UNION.

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This memorandum of Agreement is arrived at Kothagudem on the 13th August, '56, between the Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., and the Singareni Collieries Workers' Union

Short recital of the case:- With a view to ensure that major issues relating to the implementation of the Award of the All-India Industrial Tribunal (Colliery Disputes) are not left in doubt leading to unnecessary controversies and also to ensure peace in the industry a discussion was held between the Management's representatives and the representatives of the Union, at which the Union were asked to represent all the major pending issues connected with the Award. The desirability of reaching settlement on all these issues was brought to their notice, and it was also explained to them that except day to day issues relating to the anomalies under the Award there should be no room for difference on major issues once a settlement is reached. All the relevant issues connected with fillers were therefore carefully examined and discussed between the Management and the Union and it was agreed as follows:-

TERMS OF MEMORANDUM OF SETTLEMENT.

1. Dearness Allowance:- The Award provides for payment of D.A. on the basis of different scales for different pay-slabs. Under the Award when the basic wages per month exceeds Rs.30 the worker ceases to draw 150% D.A. and becomes eligible only for 100% D.A. subject to a minimum of Rs.45/-. In view of the request made by the Union it was agreed that a flat rate of 150% be paid as D.A. for fillers irrespective of their emoluments with effect from the 26th May., 1956 viz. the date of implementation of the Award.

2. Difficulty Allowance:- This will be paid subject to the discretion of the Management in difficult headings. The same thing will apply in respect of progress allowance for special headings.

3. Attendance Bonus and Incentives:- The revised wages are in replacement of the existing emoluments which include attendance bonus and incentive etc., Attendance bonus is not, therefore, payable under the new arrangements. The Management, however, agree to institute studies and introduce scientific schemes of incentive payment unconnected with the old un-studied schemes in force. These schemes may vary from ninee to mane according to the studies and the working conditions. The Management also agree to the new schemes when promulgated being given effect to from 1st Sept., 1956 or the commencement of the 1st wage period in Sep., 1956 as may eventually be decided upon.

4. Lead and lift:- In accordance with item (2) of the ~~XXXX~~ Scheduled II of Notification No.SHD.691 dated 22nd Feb., 1954 the Tribunal was required to adjudicate on the question of inclusion of pay for lead and lift for calculation of Bonus and Provident Fund. After examination of the issues involved, the Tribunal have directed in respect of Hyderabad that lead and lift should be treated as wages for the calculation of Bonus and Provident Fund. The Union requested that Lead and Lift should also be reckoned for the purposes of D.A. Although this would mean considerable financial strain, the Management have agreed to treat lead and lift as part of pay for purposes of calculation of D.A. as well. This decision will take effect from the 26th May., 1956.

Sd/ G. Babaiah.
Sd/- K. Komaraiah.

Sd/- S.K. Nargundkar,
General Manager,
The Singareni Collieries Co., Ltd.,

Employees' Representatives
for the Singareni Collieries
Workers' Union.

Kothagudim,
Dated: 13th August., 1956.

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN THE
SINGARENI COLLIERIES COMPANY LTD.,
AND
THE SINGARENI COLLIERIES WORKERS' UNION.**

This memorandum of agreement has been arrived at Kothagudim on 12th September 1957 between the Singareni Collieries Co., Ltd., and the Singareni Collieries Workers' Union.

Short recital of the case:- In para 256 of their decision the Labour Appellate Tribunal of India in the Colliery Appeals have stated that the directions under the Award of the All India Industrial Tribunal (Colliery Disputes) would stand subject to such special or general modifications which the Appellate Tribunal have made in the Appellate Award. In the light of these directions and with a view to ensure that the issues relating to the implementation of the Appellate Award are not left in doubt leading to unnecessary controversies and also to ensure peace in the industry, discussions were held between the Management's representatives and the representatives of the Union. The desirability of reaching a settlement on all the issues connected with the implementation of the Appellate Award was brought to the notice of the representatives of the Union and it was also explained to them that except individual cases under the Award, there should be no room for difference on major issues once a settlement was reached. The special features which were brought out by the Union in connection with the implementation of the Appellate Award were carefully examined and discussed between the Management and the Union and it was suggested as follows:-

TERMS OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT.

(A) FILLERS.

(1) Basic pay, D.A., and underground allowance:-

In para 652 of the Award of the All India Industrial Tribunal (Colliery Disputes) the work load for a filler has been suggested as 3 tubs of 24 cft each. The basic rate for a tubs

of 24 cft was fixed as Rs. 0.6.0 per tubs. In accordance with the agreement dated 13th August 1956, it was agreed that a flat rate of 150% be paid as D.A. for fillers irrespective of their emoluments. It is now agreed that the work load suggested by the All India Industrial Tribunal (Colliery Disputes) in para 652 Viz. 3 tubs of 24 cft should be continued and that the emoluments (basic pay, D.A. and underground allowance) for fillers for a work load of 72 cft be based on category 5 emoluments as stipulated for Bengal and Bihar in para 141 of the Appellate Award. Category 5 emoluments for a work load of 3 tubs of 24 cft (or 2 tubs of 36 cft) are as under:-

	Small tube (24 cft) per tub.	For three small tubs	Large tub (36 cft) per tub.	For two large tubs.
	Rs. np.	Rs. np.	Rs. np.	Rs. np.
Basic	0.44	1.32	0.66	1.32
D.A.	0.57	1.71	0.86	1.72
U/G allow.	0.06	0.18	0.09	0.18.
Total	1.07	3.21	1.61	3.22.

These revised rates shall be given retrospective effect from 26th May, 1956 as directed under the Appellate Tribunal.

In accordance with Clauses (1) of agreement dated 13th August 1956 which was reached between the Management and the Union under the Award of the All India Industrial Tribunal (Colliery Disputes) the fillers were allowed Dearness Allowance at the rate of 150% on the lower Award basic. The representatives of the Union desired that the same rate of 150% be continued for Dearness allowance under the Appellate Award basic. This demand was not acceptable to the Management and the Appellate Award rates of Dearness Allowance have therefore been incorporated in the schedule prescribed in the preceding paragraph. The representatives of the Union mentioned that the request for 150% Dearness Allowance was under reference before the Implementation Committee appointed by the Ministry of Labour. They therefore urged that this agreement should not come in the way of the

decision of the implementation Committee in case they agree to the demand of Dearness Allowance at 150%. The Management after ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ considering this point of view agreed that in the event of the industry agreeing to a flat rate of 150% Dearness Allowance for fillers they would extend the same consideration in respect of fillers in all our collieries.

ii) Pushing allowance:- The rate of pushing allowance now allowed for pushing a tub to and fro is Rs.0.1.0 in the case of a small tub and Rs.0.1.6 in the case of large tub irrespective of the distance. With effect from 1st Septem., 1957 it has been agreed that the fillers should be paid pushing allowance on the following basis to push to and fro an empty and a loaded tub.

	<u>Rate of allowance.</u>
For the first 100' irrespective of the distance.	Rs.0.06 np per tub irrespective of the size of the tub.
For distance beyond 100' for ever 100' or part thereof.	Rs.0.06 np per tub irrespective of the size of the tub.

iii) Periodic review of fillers' emoluments:-

The Appellate Award have prescribed that the wages of fillers should be reviewed every week and that the management should make up the deficiency to the extent of 75% of Category V ~~xxxxxx~~ emoluments after setting may have been paid, if on account of factors for which the piece rated workers are not responsible they could not reach the outputs prescribed. The Union represented that the procedure prescribed in the case of breakdowns is not being properly implemented and the Management have assured that the following procedure would invariably be followed in respect of breakdowns:-

- (1) In a case of breakdown alternative work may be shown to fillers. If the alternative work is undertaken, the fillers would be allowed either the piece rated attached to the alternative work or a muster of Rs. 3.21 np if the alternative work is muster rated.

- (2) Where alternative work is not available the fillers would be laid off and paid lay off compensation due under the standing orders or Industrial Disputes Amendment Act.
- (3) Where a filler failed to undertake alternative work given by the Management, he forfeits his claim for lay off compensation. He also forfeits his claim for making up the deficiency in earnings upto 75% as his failure to earn muster would be due to his own fault.
- (4) If during the weekly review, it is noticed that owing to causes over which a worker had no control, he could not reach the outputs prescribed the deficiency in earnings could be made good to the extent of 75% for the days he has worked.
- (5) A breach of this procedure in any individual case should be promptly brought to the notices of the Managers who would examine the relevant issues and appeals if any over the decision of the manager should be made to the Agent within one week, as it would be difficult to investigate into representations long delayed.

(iv) Clauses 2,3 and 4 of Agreement regarding fillers dated 13th August 1956 shall continue to be in effect.

(B) COAL CUTTERS:- The emoluments of coalcutters under the Appellate Award have been prescribed as basic Rs.1-8-0; D.A. Rs.1.11.8 and Underground allowance Rs.0-2-9 or a total of Rs.3-4-5 under category 3. The union have represented that the coalcutters should be given 150% D.A. as their emoluments have not increased appreciably under the Award. It was explained to the Union that the increase over the Appellate Award asked for by the Union could not be justified. After considerable discussion it was agreed that the basic pay of the coalcutters be fixed at Rs.1-8-0; D.A. remaining the same Viz., Rs.1-11-8 under the Appellate Award. The Coal cutters would continue to get appropriate underground allowance at 12½% of basic pay. The emoluments of coal cutters under this agreement would therefore be:-

	Rs.	Rs. np.
Basic Pay	1-8-0	1.50
D.A.	1.11.8	1.73
U/G allow.	0. 3.0	0.19.
	-----	-----
Total	3. 6,8	3.42.
	-----	-----

The rates now agreed to in respect of coalcutters shall take effect from 1st September, 1957.

(C) TRAINING MUCCADAMS:- The Training Muccadams were placed in Category 6 along with set riders and other trammers. This has been a subject of discussion between the Unions and the Management during the past 12 months. It is now agreed that the training muccadams who were placed in Category 6 be given the same emoluments as coalcutters under this agreement, i.e.,

	Rs.	Rs. no.
Basic Pay.	1-2-0	1.50
D.A.	1.11.8	1.73.
U/G allow.	0- 3.0	0.19.
	-----	-----
Total	3-6-8	3.42.
	-----	-----

The revised rates shall take effect from 1st September, 1957.

CONCLUSION:- Both the parties noted that the Implementation Committee appointed by the Labour Ministry is going through certain issues brought before them by the Unions and the Managements. If any general improvements are agreed upon by the industry, the question of application of similar benefits to the workers of Singareni Collieries Co., Ltd., will be discussed between the management and the Union taking into account local conditions. Where conditions are identical the improvement introduced by the Implementation Committee would be implemented.

Both the parties are happy that the relative issues have been satisfactorily settled and that agreement has been reached. The Union and the Management will continue to maintain harmonious relations and it will be their endeavour to reach the production targets prescribed under the Second Five Year Plan.

Sd/ S.K. Nargundkar,
GENERAL MANAGER,
SINGARENI COLLIERIES COMPANY LTD.,

Employees' Representatives for the
Singareni Collieries Workers' Union.

Kothagudem Collieries.,
Dated: 12th September, 1957.

The Singareni Collieries Workers Union

(AFFILIATED TO A. I. T. U. C.)

BRANCHES:

YELLANDU

BELLAMPALLI

L. No. GS/47/624/58.

Kothagudem Collieries P.O
BHADRACHALAM ROAD STATION
(CENTRAL RAILWAY)

Date 28th July 1958.

The Secretary to the Govt., of India,
Ministry of Labour and Employment,
New Delhi.

Dear ~~Commis~~, Sir,

Sub: Proposed meeting of Industrial Committee on
coal mines at Calcutta.

--- :# : ---

We learn from New Sketch that the above committee is meeting on 3rd and 4th, August 1958, at Calcutta. According to that news the Agenda is very important and therefore we give below the issues and the problems to be placed and discussed in the committee for decision of agreement.

As you are aware from May 1956 two awards (lower and ~~minimum~~ Appellate) are implemented here in our collieries.

The following categories are effected and did not get reasonable benefit due to the implementation of the said Award.

1. Fillers:-
 - A. Fixing of Work-Loads.
 - B. 150% D.A. flat rate.
 - C. Pushing Allowance.
 - D. Minimum Guaranteed Wages.
2. Machine Mining Operators:-
3. Monthly Paid Staff:-
 - A. Calculation of the past service for the purpose of service increments.
 - B. 2nd grade clerks.
 - C. Compounders - Ward Boys, Ayahs etc., medical staff and canteen staff.
4. Implementation of the Railway Fares.
5. Uniforms and shoes.

The Singareni Collieries Workers Union

(AFFILIATED TO A. I. T. U. C.)

BRANCHES:

YELLANDU

BELLAMPALLI

Kothagudium Collieries F.O

EHADRACHALAM ROAD STATION

(CENTRAL RAILWAY)

L. No.

-2-

Date 195 .

7. Fixing up of grades to all the categories as per the recommendation of the Tribunal after the expiry of 2 years.

8. Implementation of the new mines regulations and the service gratuity.

--- :# : ---

Here I am giving brief notes on the each item for your information and necessary action.

1. Fillers.

A. Fixing up of work-loads:- In the case of fillers the normal performance of work-load fixed by the Tribunals is 3 tubs of 24 cft each or 2 tubs of 36 cft each which in our opinion and as per the experience also is high because of the prevalent unfavourable working conditions such as :-

1. Frequent break down of machinery.
2. Long Trammimg.
3. Limited capacity of hauler in hauling loads and irregular supply of tubs.
4. Lack of proper ventilation at working places, bad roof, heavy smoke and humidity.
5. Limited working places and over crowding yet headings.

Taking in to consideration the above facts, it is not possible to achieve the normal performance of 3 tubs of 24 cft fixed by the tribunal.

Therefore it is ~~necessary~~ necessary to fix 2 tubs of 24 cft as normal performance of work load for fillers ^{and} category 5 ~~emoluments~~ emoluments should be paid for the 2 tubs of 24 cft.

The Singareni Collieries Workers Union

(AFFILIATED TO A. I. T. U. C.)

BRANCHES
YELLANDU
BELLAMPAL

Kothagudium Collieries P.O
BHADRACHALAM ROAD STATION
(CENTRAL RAILWAY)

No.

Date 195 .

- 3 -

13. Flat rate of D.A:- Since 1949 the fillers of our collieries are getting D.A. at flat rate irrespective of basic emoluments i.e., Jadhava Committee has fixed 100% D.A., upto 30 basic, 31-to 50-66 $\frac{2}{3}$ % and so on.

Since the fillers are on piece rates they are given this flat rate D.A., irrespective of the basic earnings as their earnings depend upon the tubs filled.

When the Lower Tribunal was implemented the management of the Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., computed D.A., at flat rate of 150% irrespective of the basic emoluments and an agreement was reached to that effect. The copy of the agreement is enclosed .

At the time of implementation of the LAT the management did not accept to implement the provision in regard D.A., inspite of our best efforts.

But the management has given category No.5 emoluments for the work load of 3 tubs of 24 cft., or the two tubs of 36 cft.

That is per tubs of 36 cft is Rs.1-8-4 and for 2 tubs is Rs. 3-0-8. If the D.A. is computed ^{at 150%} it comes to Rs. 1.10.3 per tub ~~at 100%~~ of 36 cft capacity. For two tubs it would be Rs.3.4.8. The management of Singareni Collieries agreed to implement ^{D.A. at flat rate} if the implementation committee decided accordingly. We are not aware of the decision arrived at by the implementation committee. Under the above circumstances, we request the committee to decide ~~that~~ that the D.A. should be calculated at

The Singareni Collieries Workers Union

(AFFILIATED TO A. I. T. U. C.)

BRANCHES:
YELLANDU
BELLAMPALLI

Kothagudium Collieries F. D.
BHADRACHALAM ROAD STATION
(CENTRAL RAILWAY)

F. No.

Date. 195 .

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150 percent of the basic wage without any limit.

C. PUSHING ALLOWANCE:-

The management of Singareni Collieries Company has adopted the following procedure. From 26-5-1956 to 1st Sep., 1957 Rs. 0-1-0 per 24 cft., and Rs. 0-1-6 per 36 cft., irrespective of the distance pushed.

We referred this issue to the Conciliation Machinery for the clarification of the same.

The Management has accepted to pay on the following basis from 1st Sep., 1957 for pushing to and fro loaded or empty:-

	<u>Rate of pay.</u>
For the first 100' irrespective of the distance.	Rs. 0.06 Np per tub irrespective of the size of the tub.
For the distance beyond 100' for every 100' or part thereof.	Rs. 0.06 Np per tub irrespective of the size of the size of the tub.

The above arrangement was agreed upon by the management from 1st Sept., 1957 as a working arrangement pending finalisation by the implementation committee.

In Bengal and Bihar the fillers will only push the empties and the loaded tubs are pushed by the trammers. But here, in our collieries, our fillers are made to push the empties as well as the loaded. But the management is paid ^{wag} Rs. 0.1.0 per only 100' or part thereof for the passing of one side only i.e., if they push 200' and get them back again only Rs. 0.2.0 are paid instead of Rs. 0.4.0 per tub i.e., they are not calculating the

The Singareni Collieries Workers Union

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BHADRACHALAM ROAD STATION
(CENTRAL RAILWAY)

P. No.

Date 195 .

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We contend that Rs.0.1.0 should be paid for the empties per tub for every 100' or part thereof and Rs.0.2.0 for the loads per tub for every 100' or part thereof.

I may add for your information that this case is under the reference before the Industrial Tribunal, Bombay, First hearing took place on 10th July., 1958 and it is post-poned to 4th August., 1958.

1. Minimum Guaranteed wages:-

The minimum guaranteed wages fixed by the Tribunal is 75% of the category No.5 total emoluments. It is unfortunate to note that this 75% guaranteed wage works out to Rs.2.41, only where as the minimum wage fixed for the category one is Rs.2.79, (Rs.2.12.8) for underground work.

We contend that minimum guaranteed wage for piece rated workers should not be less than category No.1 emoluments for any day.

2. Mechine Mining Operators:-

This category of workers did not get any benefit as per the Lower and Appellate Tribunal Awards as they were drawing already higher wage than the wages prescribed under the Award. When all the workers got some thing due to the same Award we request that atleast ^(Fifteen) 15% increase may be granted in their existing basic wages.

3. Monthly paid staff:-

(a) Calculation of past service for the purpose of Service increments. The management did not

The Singareni Collieries Workers Union

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BHADRACHALAM ROAD STATION
(CENTRAL RAILWAY)

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calculate the total service of the clerk for this purpose but they are calculating the service in a particular grade. His job and designation is the same. But there were different grades from time to time. We contend that total service should be calculated for this purpose.

(b) Second grade clerks:- In our collieries second grade clerks are in the grade of 60-5-100. But due to the LAT they did not get any thing as the LAT fixed for the Second grade clerks Rs.93 as maximum. Our request that their grade be revised suitably.

(c) As per the LAT the medical staff did not get any thing as the LAT has confirmed the Lower Tribunal only. They also be granted increase in proportion to others.

4. For the monthly paid staff basic wage minimum basic monthly basic wage should not be less than Rs.28/- but the management here has given Rs.26/- basic to the canteen cleaners, female mazdoors, peons etc., We contend that no monthly paid workers should be paid less than Rs. 28/- as basic per month.

5. Railway fare:-

Here the management is not paying the bus fair as yet if the distance is traversed by bus. Further they have put some conditions about the Return Railway Fare which are against the spirit of the Award i.e., a worker should put in 60 attendances after his return from journey. If one muster is less than such workers are not paid return railway fare. We also wish to

The Singareni Collieries Workers Union

(AFFILIATED TO A. I. T. U. C.)

BRANCHES:
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Kothagudum Collieries P.O.
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(CENTRAL RAILWAY)

L. No.

Date 195 .

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bring to your notice that the management did not accept to implement this provision from 22nd Feb., 1954. The Tribunal clearly stated that those who earn leave after 22nd Feb., 1954 are eligible for this benefit. The management states that Government has given ruling to that effect to implement ~~the~~ to the persons who availed leave after 26th May., 1956. This is a clear modification of the Award.

6. Uniforms and shoes:-

As per the Tribunal's Award workers are eligible for this facility after the expiry of two years from the date of the operation of the Lower Tribunal Award. Since two years passed have passed we request that these provisions should be implemented.

7. Tradesmen and the time scales:-

In the categorisation, the managements and the unions had assumed that the tradesmen will be on time scales. Therefore, it was noted accordingly in the categorisation list against this category as follows:-

" Tradesmen are placed in categories 4,7,9,10 on the assumption that they will be on time scales. " But both the Tribunals did not fix the time scales as there was no proper representation.

We may add for your information that in our collieries all the tradesmen were on time scales on daily rates from the very beginning of these collieries. But the time scales were not fixed at the time of the implementation

contd.

The Singareni Collieries Workers Union

(AFFILIATED TO A. I. T. U. C.)

BRANCHES:

YELLANDU

BELLAMPALLI

L. No.

Kothagudlum Collieries P.O

BHADRACHALAM ROAD STATION

(CENTRAL RAILWAY)

Date 195 ..

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of the award. So, we request that this case should be taken up for fixing up the time scales on monthly basis.

8. Fixing up grades to all the categories as per the recommendation of the tribunal after the expiry of two years.

As per the recommendation of the tribunal the management and the union should discuss and fix the grades for all the categories. Our request is to take up this matter and finalise the same early.

9. Service Gratuity:-

As per the new regulations the age fixed for retirement is 60 years, but there is no provision for the retirement benefit. Further all the competent persons should appear in the examination of eye-sight and hearing every five years. Most of the workers are being declared unfit for further service due to their bad visions, etc., We request that the scheme of service gratuity may kindly be introduced for coal miners.

We request you to have these items on the agenda for Industrial Committee on coal mines while discussing the implementation of the Award.

Copy forwarded to:

The Secretary, A. I. T. U. C. New Delhi. M. Komariah.

GENERAL SECRETARY.

THE INDIAN
MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION,
H. O. DHANBAD.

Dated 20th July, 1958.

To
The General Secretary,

All India Trade Union Congress.

Dear Friend,

I have to inform you with pleasure, on behalf of our Federation that the First National Conference of the Federation is going to be held in Hazaribagh Town on 15th & 16th August, '58. The mass rally will be held on 17th Aug. '58.

I am inviting your organisation through you on behalf of our Executive, to send a fraternal delegation of visitors or observers to participate in the conference in a fraternal capacity.

I shall be highly obliged if you please inform the acceptance of the invitation at your earliest and also let us know the probable number of members of your delegation. Please note that the accomodation and fooding arrangements will be made by the Reception Committee free of charges.

Yours fraternally,

Samir C. Mukherjee

GENERAL SECRETARY
INDIAN MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION

CONFERENCE
CIRCULAR

THE INDIAN
MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION,
H. O. DHANBAD.

Dated 19th July, 1958

1. The Reception Committee for the First National Conference of the Indian Mine Workers' Federation has decided to hold the delegates session in the town of Hazaribagh due to unavailability of accomodation in the mining area. But it has decided to hold the mass rally in the Bhurkunda Coalfield, and for which some transport arrangements will be made to take the delegates to the meeting place.
2. The Delegates Session will be held on 15th and 16th and the mass rally will be held on 17th August, '58. Hence all the delegates shall have to reach the office of the Reception Committee at Hazaribagh town before 14th night. Hazaribagh town is situated in the interior of Hazaribagh district, and it will be easiest for the delegates to reach Hazaribagh via Dhanbad. The delegates or group of delegates shall have to wire their arrival time at Dhanbad, and arrangement will be made for their reception and guidance at Dhanbad station.
3. All units are requested to elect their delegates immediately and send the list of delegates to this office and the office of the Reception Committee.
4. Units must not fail to send their prescribed amount of Affiliation Fee (as stated in the Conference Circular dated 4.7.58) through the leader of the delegation.
5. Any unit wanting to bring visitors along with the delegation shall have to fix the number earlier with the Reception Committee as the accomodation will be limited.
6. Await for further instructions regarding accomodation, fooding etc. for the delegates and visitors.

Sunil K. Mukherjee

GENERAL SECRETARY
INDIAN MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION.

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Bermo
22. 7.1958

Dear Comrade. Prasanta,

Yesterday there was a good demonstration before the Superintendent of collieries, Kargali against stoppage of -/3/- D.A. and non-payment of arrear in this group of collieries. A memo was submitted. Admist rains an impresseure procession from Swang, Jarangdih, Bermo & Kargali collieries marched to the S.O.O. Kargali and there was a 5000 strong mass meeting at Kargali. Resolution for carrying the signature campaign on Federationdemands and preparing the IMWF Conference at Bhurkunda were carried on. The significance of IMWF conference explained and there was great enthusiasm for that.

At Bhurkunda on the last pay day Rs. 579/- were collected for the conference fund. Leaflets, poster, cards etc. have gone into the press. Similarly flags, posters etc. are being made.

The Bermo Branch has promised to send Rs. 225/- at an early date. Volts are being recruited.

Please ensure all India delegation and arrival of leaders. Com. Derge, Renu Chakrabarty, Vithel Fao & Elias' names have been announced. Please let me know if you have got any response from any international delegation. It will create a very bad impression if the all India leaders fail to attend the conference and so Please try for that.

Yours Comradely,

(Chatturaman Mishra
(Chatturaman)

Copy to
AI FUG.

22/7

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THE INDIAN
MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION.
H. O. DHANBAD.

Dated, the 17th July, 58

Com. K.G. Srivastava,

Dear Comrade,

We have received the certified copy of the stay order of the supreme court in time and that was utilised. The rest of the expenses is being sent shortly.

A copy of the memorandum from Bihar Koyla Maxdoor Sabha on the incidents at Selected Jharia Colliery has been sent to your address with copies to the Chief minister, Bihar, ~~and~~ Deputy Commissioner, Dhanbad, and Sri R.L. Mehta of the Union Labour Ministry. It should be given publicity, and the matter should be taken up with the Union Labour Ministry for enquiry into the violation of the code of discipline. Com. Chinmoy has been bailed out.

Re: Conference of the federation

A reception committee has been formed with Com. Mahendranath Bharati as chairman. The reception committee has decided to hold the delegates session in Hazaribagh town for want of proper accommodation in Bhurkunda mines area. The mass rally will be held in Bhurkunda coalfield. Already two mass meetings, one in Bhurkunda, and the other in South Karanpura to popularise the conference. The reception committee has started collection from the masses of the miners for meeting the expenses of the conference. Invitations have been sent to different national organisation of the workers, the members of the parliament and assemblies, and the Miners Trade Union International and other foreign organisations of the mine workers.

~~know~~

I do not ^{know} the addresses of the different MPs connected with the miners unions, and I am giving you the list of the MPs and MLAs whose presence we demand in the conference. ~~The~~ Individual letters of invitation cannot be sent to them as most of them are likely to be elected delegates for the conference. Anyhow, ~~the~~ I am giving the list below, and you should contact them and ask them on behalf of AITUC to be particular in attending the conference. Com. T.B. Vittal Rao, Com. Dange, Md. Illyias, Rendu Chakravarty, Coms N.C. Narsimham, and Taher Hussain.

I have sent the invitations to the miners TUI, and the Chinese Miners Union, thro' Com. Mahendra Sen.

Please keep close contact with me in the matter of organising the conference and help us in publicising it.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

P. Banta Basu
General Secretary.

कोल वर्कर्स यूनियन

रजिस्टर्ड नं० १६

अ० भा० ट्रेड यूनियन कांग्रेस से सम्बंधित

हे० आ० गिरिडीह

पो० गिरिडीह

दिनांक 16/7 १९५

पत्र संख्या

Mr. Com. Srivastava,

Just now I have sent a telegram to you asking for inviting Messrs TUI on our behalf without fail. It must be done immediately. I have also sent a telegram to the Chinese Embassy to convey our invitation to the Chinese Mines Federation. We don't have the requisite addresses even and hence your help is sought.

The R. Committee with Com. Mahendra Nathi Bhatti as chairman has been formed. Mass meetings for the preparation of the conference held at Bhurkunda Khas KARANPURA Colliery. Adequate preparations are going on.

Delights Session will be held at Hazarih Town and the Open Session at Bhurkunda Colliery. All arrangements have been made for that. Volts are being recruited & fund raised. Leaflets, posters, cards etc. sent to the Press. Coms. Daul, Renu Chakraborty, T.V. Vittal Rao, & Md. Elias names have been given. We want them and have already written to you to arrange with them.

अखिल भारतीय खान मजदूर संघ
द्वितीय अधिवेशन

66

स्वागतार्थ्यक्त—श्री महेन्द्रनाथ 'भारती'
स्वागत मन्त्री—श्री सहाय श्वरी प्रसाद
पत्र संख्या
मिति

स्वागत समिति कार्यालय
स्थान एवं हाकघर—भुरकुन्डा
जिला—हजारीबाग
(बिहार)

The General Secretary,

The 29th July, 1958

All India Trade Union Congress.

Dear Friend,

This is to inform you that the dates of the conference, which was earlier notified as 15th, 16th, and 17th August, 58 in our invitation letter dated 26.7.58, has been changed to 5th, 6th, and 7th September 1958 due to unavoidable circumstances. Please also, note that the delegates session will be held in Bhurkunda mining area instead of Hazaribagh town as notified previously in the same letter.

Please advise your representatives about the above changes,

Yours fraternally,

Sunil Mukherjee

General Secretary.

THE INDIAN
MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION.
H. O. DHANBAD.

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THE INDIAN
MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION,
H. D DHANBAD.

CONFERENCE CIRCULAR.

29th July, 1958

1. At the request of several important branches the Secretariate of the Federation in its meeting dated 24.7.58 has decided with the consent of the Reception Committee to change the dates of the conference from 15th-17th August to 5th, 7th September, 58.
2. At the request of the Executive Com. and some branches the Reception Committee has agreed to try its best to arrange for holding the ~~main~~ delegates session and the open session in Bhurkunda mining area itself. The final arrangement along with the instructions for travelling to the venue of the conf. will be intimated ~~in~~ in the next circulars.
3. The Reception Committee has fixed the fooding charge at annas ten -/10/- per meal. Separate arrangements for tea etc will also be made.

Sunil Mukherji

General Secretary.

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C

70

August 14, 1958

Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers Federation,
Dhanbad.

Dear Comrade,

We enclose copy of a letter received from the Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner, Dhanbad. While returning our cheque for Rs.2,503/-, the Commissioner has asked for a sum of Rs.1000/- to be deposited in the treasury to cover tuition fees.

We note from your letters that the Commissioner has agreed to waive the tuition fees in an oral talk on telephone. Will you please let us know the exact position by return post as to whether we should remit the sum of Rs.1000/- under the circumstances?

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G. Sriwastava
14/8/58

(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

Encl:

13 AUG 1958

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

.....

No. LJI-4(67)/58

Dated New Delhi, the -8-58

From

Shri A.L. Handa
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India.

To

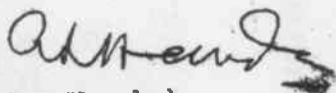
1. Secretary to the Government of Bihar,
Labour Department,
Patna.
2. Secretary to the Government of West Bengal,
Labour Department,
Calcutta.
3. Secretary to the Government of Madhya Pradesh,
Labour Department,
Bhopal.
4. Secretary to the Government of Andhra Pradesh,
Labour Department,
Hyderabad.
5. Secretary to the Government of Assam,
Labour Department,
Shillong.
6. The Chairman,
Indian Mining Association,
Royal Exchange, Calcutta.
7. The Chairman,
Indian Mining Federation,
135, Canning Street,
Post Box 70,
Dhanbad.
10. The Chairman,
National Coal Development Corporation (Private) Ltd.,
Ranchi.
11. The General Secretary,
Indian National Trade Union Congress,
17, Janpath, New Delhi.
12. The General Secretary,
Hind Mazdoor Sabha,
Servants of India Society's Home,
Sardar Patel Road, Bombay-4.
13. The General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress,
4, Ashok Road, New Delhi.

Subject:- Tripartite meeting of Coal Mining Interests held at
Calcutta on 3rd August, 1958.

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith for information and necessary action a statement containing the conclusions reached at the tripartite meeting of the Coal Mining Interests held at Calcutta on the 3rd August, 1958. Kindly acknowledge receipt of

17. Shri R. Maulik,
M/s. Jardine Hunderson Ltd.,
CALCUTTA.
18. Lala Indor Mohan Thapar,
Chairman,
Indian Mining Federation
C/o. M/s. Karam Chand Thapar & Brothers (Private) Ltd.,
No: 12, Indian Exchange Place,
CALCUTTA.
19. Shri V.N. Chopra,
Accountant, Shaw Wallace & Co.,
Parasia, Chhindwara Dt.
Madhya Pradesh.
20. Shri Samanta,
C/o. Indian Colliery Owners' Asscn.,
P.B. 70,
Dhanbad.
21. Shri P.L. Nayak, I.C.S.,
Coal Controller,
CALCUTTA.
22. Shri B.R. Bagroy,
Chief Mining Engineer,
National Coal Development Corporation, Private, Ltd.,
Dherbanga House, Ranchi.
23. Press Information Bureau, Now Delhi.


(A.L. Handa)
UNDER SECRETARY (..)

[25 spare copies]

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT

.....

Conclusions reached at the meeting of coal mining interests
(Calcutta - 3rd August, 1958)

.....

The suggestion made by the Labour Minister for the formation of a tripartite Standing Committee to deal with the general problems concerning the workers in the coal industry was accepted unanimously. The Standing Committee which will be constituted by the Government of India shortly, will discuss Labour matters with a view to arrive at agreed settlements. Wherever agreement cannot be reached between the parties, they may have recourse to arbitration or seek adjudication.

2. The following conclusions were reached in regard to the various items on the agenda:-

(1) Question of extension of the period of operation of the Coal Award beyond August, 1958.

It was decided to extend the period of operation of the Coal Award upto the 25th May, 1959.

(2) Question of the payment of arrears of enhanced dearness allowance due to workers since the 1st Jan., 1958, consequent on the rise in the All India Consumer Price Index Numbers (General), in one lump sum.

The increased dearness allowance payable to the workers on the basis of the cost of living index figures for the second half of 1957 will be paid to the workers during the period 1st April 1958 to 30th September 1958 instead of from 1st Jan. 1958 to 30th June, 1958. The same procedure will be applied in regard to future payments of enhanced dearness allowance, if due. The arrears for the period from 1st April 1958 to the date of actual commencement of payment will be paid in lump sum before the 15th August, 1958.

(3) Question of extension of the benefits of the Assam Coal Mines Bonus Scheme to employees of the Head Office, etc. belonging to the Assam Railways & Trading Company, Ltd.

As the matter relates to an individual management,

it would be taken up for settlement by the Chief Labour Commissioner.

- (4) (1) Matters arising out of the Coal Award-
Introduction of grades and time scales
of pay for all categories of workmen.

This will be referred to the Standing Committee.

- (11) Prescription of uniforms and footwear for workers.

As directed by the All India Industrial Tribunal (Colliery Disputes), the Chief Inspector of Mines had convened a meeting of the employers and workmen on the 25th April, 1958, at which an agreement was reached about the quality of boots to be supplied to the workers. As for the cloth for uniforms, the Chief Inspector of Mines recommended the use of 'militia' cloth for the purpose. But the workers' representatives complained that they were not shown sample of the cloth which was recommended by the C.I.M. As orders have already been placed by some employers, the workers would be supplied with one uniform made of that cloth. With regard to the second set of uniforms, they would be supplied after the sample of cloth is shown to the representatives of workers.

- (5) Matters incidental to the Award:
Revision of the rates of sick
khoraki and maternity benefits.

The item relating to the revision of sick khoraki will be referred to the Standing Committee.

With regard to the rate of maternity benefit, Government will take steps to amend the Mines Maternity Benefit Act so as to bring it in line with the law relating to the Factories. In the meantime, the employers will pay the enhanced rate of benefit which the Ministry of Labour might suggest.

- (6) Matters not covered by the Coal Award:

- (a) Categorisation of doctors, senior
overmen, teachers, etc.

The workers may raise industrial disputes over this issue in respect of individual collieries and they will be dealt with

by the Conciliation Machinery.

With regard to the categorisation of the workers in beehive Coke Oven Plants, the unions would make specific proposals for the consideration of employers. If necessary, this item may be placed before the Standing Committee.

- (b) Revision of the rates of commission payable to workmen like minors, trammers, loading and sirdars, who have not been benefited by the Award.

There are two categories of sirdars, viz.

(1) those who also work along with their men and (11) those who do not work. In regard to category (1) there is no complaint as they are paid as per the Award. In regard to category (11), their case is not suitable for discussion at this meeting. The question of abolition of the Sirdary system along with the contract system in coal mines will be dealt with separately by the Government.

- (c) Revision of the rates for loading soft and hard coke.

The workers may raise industrial disputes wherever necessary and the Conciliation Machinery will deal with them.

//Grant of 150% dearness allowance to workers irrespective of their basic earnings.

- (d) Revival of the practice of granting 150% dearness allowance over lead and lift wages which had been discontinued.

There was no scope for settlement on this issue.

// If there is any difference of opinion in the interpretation of the provisions of the Award, it is open to the workers to request the Government to refer such cases to a Labour Court or Tribunal under section 36A of the Industrial Disputes Act.

(7) Improvements in the Award.

- (a) Grant of a percentage of flat rate increment in the salaries of neutralised workers (including machine loaders & C.P. Miners especially in the larger collieries) who have not derived any benefit from the Award.
- (b) Grant of a percentage increment in the piece-rated trammers.

These items were not considered as suitable for discussion at this meeting.

3. In the course of discussion the employers' representatives requested that cases on non-implementation of the Coal Award might be referred also to the organisations of colliery owners and to the collieries concerned by the Evaluation and Implementation Division of the Ministry of Labour and Employment while addressing to the All India Organisation of employers.

- 3 DEC 1958

LRII-4(67)58.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT.

From

Shri K. D. Hajela,
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

The General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress,
4, Ashok Road, New Delhi.

Dated New Delhi, the

Subject:- Tripartite Meeting of Coal Mining Interests held
at Calcutta on the 3rd August, 1958.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the statement of conclusions reached at the aforementioned meeting forwarded with this Ministry letter No. LRII-4(67)/58, dated the 12th August, 1958 and to forward herewith a Corrigendum to the said statement.

Yours faithfully,

K. D. Hajela

(K. D. Hajela)
Under Secretary.

P.T.O.

ALIK*
D.A. REED. TO
27/11/58

Com. Keshav
P. L. ...
Recd

Ans
3/12/58

Copy together with a copy of enclosures forwarded

K. D. Hajela

(K. D. Hajela)
Under Secretary.

CORRIGENDUM.

1. In para 6(b) for the words "miners, trammers loading sirdars"
Read "miners', trammers' and loading sirdars."
2. In para 6(d) for the words "Grant of 150% dearness allowance to workers"
Read "Grant of 150% dearness allowance to piece-rated workers."
3. In para 7(a) for the words "O.P. Miners" Read "C.P. Miners"

19 AUG 1958

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Dear Com Sriwastava:

The circular will tell you what happened in the two meetings. Com. Dange should be fully informed.

You can build up a news on the basis of this circular for the T.U. Record.

The East Jamehai colliery situation is serious. Something should be done from that level.

I am going to Delhi towards the end of this month.

Anything more.

Yours Sincerely

W. D. Dange

INDIAN MINE WORKERS FEDERATION

Dt: 8. 8. 58.

- CIRCULAR RE: 1. Tri Partrite meeting on coal at Calcutta on 3.8.58.
2. Safety Conference in relations to Mines. 4.8.58 to 6.8.58.

Dear Comrade:

You are aware that a Tri partrite meeting on coal was held at Calcutta on 3.8.58. The information reached The A.I.T.U.C. very late, towards the end of July. As a matter of fact, we first saw it in the paper and on the 22nd July, I wrote a letter to the Minister of Labour & Employment, demanding the participation of the AITUC. So it was not possible for the I.M.W.F. to issue any circular before the meeting. However, the I.M.W.F. Secretariat discussed it on the 24th July, and decided to raise the question of the WAGE BOARD for the Coal Industry and settlement of the disputed issues, in relations to the Award.

The issues which were circulated by the Ministry of Labour were those on which the Implementation Committee failed to reach any agreement. The question of grading and time scale was also raised. The enclosed annexure is the list of disputes circulated by the Ministry.

The Tri Partrite meeting mainly discussed the procedure through which outstanding disputes in relations to the Award could be settled. It was agreed that a TRI PARTRITE COMMITTEE would be set up soon to discuss the unsettled questions of the Award plus incidental points. If the Committee fails to reach any agreement, then issues where there would be no agreement would be referred to Adjudication.

2. Secondly, the task of grading and time scale was also left to the Committee broadly.

3. Regarding the question of Rs.4.14.0, it was decided that the management would continue to pay it, although there might be delay in the publication of Indian Labour Gazette; And where the management has discontinued to pay it, as in the N.C.D.C., and the Singareni Collieries, the payment will be immediately started, and payment of those weeks, stopped, will be paid in one instalment. Secondly, the question of arrear. Because of the delay in publication of the cost of living index and confusion following from it, it was decided that henceforward payments would be made on the basis of the half year April September instead of January June. Thirdly, it was also agreed that the arrears from April 1, 1958, should be paid in a lump sum.

The question of violation of code of discipline and conduct by colliery employers was also raised by the I.M.W.F. delegate and Sri Nanda wanted a full list where the colliery employers have violated the code of conduct in details.

So I would request the Comrades to immediately furnish us with the following information in details and demands;

1. The points raised in the Implementation Committee raised by us are well known. So general anomalies regarding the Award need not be sent. Only those points in any particular field left unsettled or arbitrarily settled by the management should be

(2)

sent. 2. Categories left undecided or arbitrarily settled by the management be sent. 3. Full and detailed information regarding all violations of code of conduct by employers.

Com. Kalyan Roy and Lalit Burman attended the meeting as delegate and advisor.

The Award is extended for another 9 months.

Item No.(2): Safety Conference.

The Steering Committee in its last meeting in March at Delhi decided to call a broad safety conference and requested the various associations to submit their views on various aspects on safety.

Accordingly, the Indian Mine Workers Federation submitted its views in two memorandums in March and May. The memorandums submitted by the Federation were most extensive and detailed and the comments of the Mines Department mainly dealt with our suggestions.

The conference was attended by: 1. Sri Kalyan Roy, Belegate. 2. In absence of Lakit Burman, Sri Surya Rao of the Singareni Collieries and Sri Shafiq Khan of the N.C.D.C. acted as advisors. Moreover, Sri Vittal Rao and Sri Ballav Rao also attended. Com. Narasinghman of the Kolar Gold Fields was also present.

In the conference, the A.I.T.U.C. delegates demanded the setting up of a High Powered Commission to go into all aspects of Safety. The employers were also in favour of it. But Sri Nanda wanted the conference to discuss these problems and reach an agreement.

The conference split itself into three committees:
Committee A: Sri Shafiq Khan and Sri Surya Rao attended this committee on behalf of the AITUC & IMWF. It discussed the subjects relating to: Safety education and propaganda; professional education and training; other factors related to human element.

Committee B: Sri Vittal Rao attended the committee which discussed the following subjects: Technical aspects of accident prevention; Changing patterns of working condition; rescue and recovery of accident victims; safety equipments, etc; accident statistics.; other factors.

Committee C: Sri Kalyan Roy attended this committee which discussed: The role of the management: The role of managers and other officials: The role of workers: The Problem of safeguarding the safety officials; The enforcement agency; compensation and rehabilitation.

The minutes of the discussions of three committees will be circulated by the Ministry. Then on the basis of our comments, another conference will take place where perhaps the finalisation will be made.

Board agreements were reached on the following points:

1. Workers inspectors to periodically inspect the mines will be allowed, but this right to select the inspectors be confined only to recognised unions. The AITUC and HMS strongly objected to this saying that they have no objection to this, provided recognition is granted to representative unions and suggested that let them be elected by ballots. 2. Safety councils be set up in each colliery to discuss all questions of safety. The AITUC suggested that members to this council should be elected. No final decision is taken. 3. Before the dismissal of overmen, sirdars and shot firers, these councils will discuss. 3. Section 22 of the Mines Act should be amended giving powers to the mines department to close down a mine if the management continues to violate safety precautions and warnings. 4. The question of termination of leave also be considered. 4. Compensations should be increased and supplementary compensation be given to coal workers. But while management and the INTUC agreed that a portion of the supplementary compensation should be paid by workers the AITUC & HMS objected.

Now each of our zone has got full documents of the Satf Safety Conference and memorandums of the AITUC & I M W F, so if they have got any comments or suggestions, they should be sent.

W.
Kalvan Roy
Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers Federation,
G. T. Road, Assnsol.

Re. proposed publication on COAL

1. In addition to the decisions circulated by Govt, we have the following material.
 - a) Copy of a Circular sent by IMWF on decisions of the meeting - 3 pages
 - b) Matters arising out of the LAT Award - memo by Indian National Mine Workers Federation. - 3 pages
 - c) ~~2x~~ Note on question of extension of benefits of Assam Coal Mines Bonus Scheme to employees of Head Office, etc. - 1 page
2. The decisions of Safety Conference will come in a few days.
3. Kalyan Roy has written to say that he would be coming to Delhi by the end of this month. He can be asked to come a bit earlier and prepare the MSS.

Await Kalyan
SAS

१५

कोल वर्कर्स यूनियन

रजिस्टर्ड नं० १६

अ० भा० ट्रेड यूनियन कांग्रेस से सम्बंधित

9 AUG 1958

हे० आ० गिरिडीह

पो० गिरिडीह

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पत्र संख्या ६९/१३/५८

दिनांक 5 AUG 1958 १६५

To
The Conciliation Officer (c),
Hazaribagh.

D/Sir,

Refer your letter No. CUI/B-1/56 (part II) dated 17 th July 1958 and I submit the following :-

1. That the details required by you have already been sent to you vide our letter dated 15 th of July 1958 received by your office on the 17 th of July 1958 and it seems that seeing that details you have written to me that no action can be taken on it.

2. That it simply shows that because we made certin complaints against you so you have gone vindictive and I am to say that it is an employer's attitude and nothing else.

3. That even this delay was made because in the first para of the said letter No. CUI/B-1/56 part II dated 30 th April, 1958 you have written to me that the matter under workhop (and naturally than under Power house, Cokeplant etc.) comes under the perview of the state Govt. and not under you and then I demanded clarification which is still unresponded and then I had to send the list.

4. That so far delay is concerned I can easily give you the list of the various cases that we gave to you and no proper action was taken and permit me to say without any ex-ggration that your office has not been able to settle even a single dispute which we referred during the last several years and I am prepared to prove it and hence a faithlness has been created against your office so far I.C.D.C. collieries are concerned.

I. I. O.

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August 15, 1958

Com.Kalyan Roy,
C/o Colliery Mazdoor Sabha,
G.T.Road, Asansol.

Dear Comrade,

We have your letter of 28th July on the situation in East Jamehary Colliery, Ranigunj. We are closely watching the situation and have already raised the question with the authorities.

In this connection, please send us a copy of the "bond" which the workers are forced to sign, referred to in your letter.

We have received your letter on the tripartite meeting on Coal. We are planning a booklet on the subject and for this purpose, if you could advance your contemplated date of departure to Delhi by a few days earlier, it would be advantageous.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

13 AUG 1958

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COLLIERY MAZDUR SABHA
G. T. ROAD.
ASANSOL.

DL: 28. 7. 58

To
Sri S. A. Dange,
General Secretary,
A. I. T. U. C.

From: Kalyan Roy,
Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers Federation.
G. T. Road. Asansol.

Sub: SERIOUS SITUATION IN EAST JEMHARY COLLIERY, RANIGUNJ,
AND DANGEROUS POSSIBILITIES.

Dear Comrade:

The situation in East Jemhary colliery, in Ranigunj belt has reached such a position that complete break down of law and order might be the ultimate consequence.

There has been correspondence between the AITUC and the Colliery Mazdur Sabha and the Govt of India on this but nothing has come out so far.

On the 27th, the following URGENT TELEGRAM has been sent to the following persons: The Minister of Labour, New Delhi; The Chief Labour Commissioner, New Delhi; Regional Labour Commissioner, Dhanbad and the District Magistrate, Burdwan District: ---

" 126 WORKERS OF EAST JEMHARY COLLIERY, RANIGUNJ ASKED TO JOIN THEIR DUTIES BY A LETTER 21 July STOP BUT DENIED WORK WHEN THEY TURNED UP FOR WORK STOP 126 WORKERS ARE ALL HARIJANS STOP AND IT IS A PLANNED OFFENSIVE AGAINST HARIJAN WORKERS STOP CONTRACTOR'S MEN ARE THREATENING THEM STOP IMMEDIATE INTERVENTION REQUESTED". (KALYAN ROY).

The fact of the case is reported to you. On the 30th May, the management did not allow 146 workers to join their duties and there was some disturbance and the colliery was closed for a few days. The police arrested some of the workers, belonging to both sides. After the colliery opened after a few days, the management issued a bond and said that all those who would sign that bond would only be allowed to join. The bond, a copy of which has been sent, is absolutely illegal and put the whole blame on workers.

As these 126 workers refused to sign the bonds, they were not allowed to join in spite of their repeated approaches to the management. The management asked the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central), Dhanbad, to declare that it was a strike and it could be declared illegal. The R. L. C. declared the strike a LEGAL STRIKE. Although our whole case that it was a illegal stoppage of work and not a strike. However, we won.

The case of 126 workers (mainly miners and loaders) were taken for conciliation and the conciliation failed. The Conciliation officer, Ranigunj, gave a favourable report and as we gather, recommended that the cases should be sent to a Tribunal. We also expected to get a TRIBUNAL and win the case there. But here is the

rub. The Labour Ministry sent us a letter saying that they would not give a Tribunal as the workers have indulged in violence etc. We do not know how they came to this conclusion? There are no criminal cases or charge sheets against these workers excepting 12 to 13 workers. So how can they be penalised? This seems to be a political move of the Ministry. The other union, recognised by the Management, is an independent union, a gangster's organization.

On the 11 July, the management issued individual letters to 125 workers to join duties within 3 days. But when they turned up for work, they were refused and on their way to the office, threatened and abused by outsiders brought by the contractor and the management.

The situation is very tense. And serious trouble will follow if the Ministry does not intervene.

JUST NOW REPORT HAS COME THAT SRI SENARASI TEWARI, GENERAL SECRETARY, COLLIERY MAZDUR SABHA, HAS BEEN ARRESTED BY THE POLICE WITH ELEVEN OTHER WORKERS FROM THE COLLIERY.

MALYAN ROY.

msy

*Please find copy
held
13/7/54
14/7/54*

THE INDIAN
MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION
H. D. DHANSAO.

15 AUG 1958

Dated, the 13th August, 58

To
S.A. Dange, M.P.
General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress,

Dear Comrade,

I have received a letter from the general Secretary of the Miners Trade Union International, intimating us that they won't be able to send any delegation because of other pre-occupations. They have sent a message of greeting to the conf.

The reports from the reception committee says that the preparations for holding the conf. at Bhurkunda is progressing well. Com. Chaturanan Mishra had been to Bhurkunda for several times, and I myself will go there and stay until the end of the conf. from the last week of this month.

The report, resolutions, and the constitution have all been drafted and in the process of being translated, ~~revised~~ printed, and multiplied, before circulation. We are hoping to circulate these before the dates of the conf.

The final information about the venue of the conf. will be circulated to the unions after I go there, or even earlier. Until now the arrangement is to hold both the delegates session and the mass rally in Bhurkunda. Please inform the reception committee about the number of MPs that will attend the conf. They are very interested in it. I hope to get some fraternal delegates also from some other organisations of the miners, at least from Jharia field. I have invited all miners organisations.

I have received two letters from the office of the Commissioner, Coalmines Welfare Fund, asking a written representation on behalf of the AITUC for waiving of the tuition fee for the trainees; and that he has asked you to send Rs.1000/- challan for the tuition fee. Our idea is, if we are allowed to make a representation on behalf of the AITUC then the tuition fee may be waived. We have not written anything to them, and is waiting for your advise. You have been informed of our opinion in the matter in our letter dated 6.8.58, but we will do according to your advise. Please reply at your ~~earliest~~ earliest.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

P. S. Dange

for General Secretary. 2/8

Pen

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CONCLUSIONS REACHED AT THE MEETING OF COALMINING INTERESTS
(Calcutta - 3rd August, 1958)

The suggestion made by the Labour Minister for the formation of a tripartite Standing Committee to deal with the general problems concerning the workers in the coal industry was accepted unanimously. The Standing Committee which will be constituted by the Government of India shortly, will discuss Labour matters with a view to arrive at agreed settlements. Wherever agreement cannot be reached between the parties, they may have recourse to arbitration or seek adjudication.

2. The following conclusions were reached in regard to the ~~full~~ various items on the agenda:

(1) Question of Extension of the period of operation of the Coal Award beyond August 1958.

It was decided to extend the period of operation of the Coal Award upto the 25th May 1959.

(2) Question of the payment of arrears of enhanced dearness allowance due to workers since the 1st January 1958, consequent on the rise in the All India Consumer Price Index Numbers (General), in one lumpsum.

The increased dearness allowance payable to the workers on the basis of the cost of living index figures for the second half of 1957 will be paid to the workers during the period 1st April 1958 to 30th September 1958 instead of from 1st January 1958 to 30th June 1958. The same procedure will be applied in regard to future payments of enhanced dearness allowance, if due. The arrears for the period from 1st April 1958 to the date of actual commencement of payment will be paid in lump sum before the 15th August, 1958.

(3) Question of extension of the benefits of the Assam Coal Mines Bonus Scheme to employees of the Head Office, etc., belonging to the Assam Railways & Trading Company, Ltd.

As the matter relates to an individual management, it would be taken up for settlement by the Chief Labour Commissioner.

(4) (1) Matters arising out of the Coal Award - Introduction of Grades and time scales of pay for all categories of workmen.

This will be referred to the Standing Committee.

(ii) Prescription of uniforms and footwear for workers.

As directed by the All India Industrial Tribunal (Colliery Disputes), the Chief Inspector of Mines had convened a meeting of the employers and workmen on the 25th April, 1958, at which an agreement was reached about the quality of boots to be supplied to the workers. As for the cloth for uniforms, the Chief Inspector of Mines recommended the use of 'militia' cloth for the purpose. But the workers' representatives complained that they were not shown sample of the cloth which was recommended by the C.I.M. As orders have already been placed by some employers, the workers would be supplied with one uniform made of that cloth. With regard to the second set of uniforms, they would be supplied after the sample of cloth is shown to the representative of workers.

(5) Matters incidental to the Award:
Revision of the rates of sick khoraki and maternity benefits.

The item relating to the revision of sick khoraki will be referred to the Standing Committee.

With regard to the rate of maternity benefit, Government will take steps to amend the Mines Maternity Benefit Act so as to bring it in line with the law relating to the Factories. In the meantime, the employers will pay the enhanced rate of benefit which the Ministry of Labour might suggest.

(6) Matters not covered by the Coal Award:

(a) Categorisation of doctors, senior overmen, teachers, etc.

The workers may raise industrial disputes over this issue in respect of individual collieries and they will be dealt with by the Conciliation Machinery.

With regard to the categorisation of the workers in beehive Coke Oven Plants, the unions would make specific proposals for the consideration of employers. If necessary, this item may be placed before the Standing Committee.

- (b) Revision of the rates of commission payable to workmen like miners, trammers, loading sirdars, who have not been benefitted by the Award.

There are two categories of sirdars, viz., (i) those who also work along with their men and (ii) those who do not work. In regard to category (i) there is no complaint as they are paid as per the Award. In regard to category (ii), there case is not suitable for discussion at this meeting. The question of abolition of the Sirdary system along with the contract system in coal mines will be dealt with separately by the Government.

- (c) Revision of the rates for loading soft and hard coke.

The workers may raise industrial disputes wherever necessary and the Conciliation Machinery will deal with them.

- (d) Revival of the practice of granting 150% dearness allowance over lead and lift wages which had been discontinued.

There was no scope for settlement on this issue.

- (e) Grant of 150% dearness allowance to workers irrespective of their basic earnings.

If there is any difference of opinion in the interpretation of the provisions of the Award, it is open to the workers to request the Government to refer such cases to a Labour Court or Tribunal under section 36A of the Industrial Disputes Act.

(7) Improvements in the Award.

- (a) Grant of a percentage of flat rate increment in the salaries of neutralised workers (including machine loaders and O.P. Miners especially in the larger collieries) who have not derived any benefit from the Award.

- (b) Grant of a percentage increment ~~in~~ for the piece-rated trammers.

These items were not considered as suitable for discussion at this meeting.

3. In the course of discussion, the employers' representatives requested that cases on non-implementation of the Coal Award might be referred also to the organisations of colliery owners and to the collieries concerned by the Evaluation and Implementation Division of the Ministry of Labour and Employment while addressing to the All-India organisation of

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अखिल भारतीय खान मजदूर संघ

द्वितीय अधिवेशन

स्वागताध्यक्ष-श्री महेन्द्रनाथ 'भारती'
स्वागत मन्त्री-श्री सिद्धेश्वरी प्रसाद
पत्र संख्या
मिति the 18th August, 1958

स्वागत समिति कार्यालय
स्थान एवं डाकघर-भुरकुन्डा
जिला-हजारीबाग
(बिहार)

To
The General Secretary.
All India Trade Union Congress.

Dear Friend,

This is to inform you that the arrangements for holding the second national conference of the Indian Mine Workers Federation at Bhurkunda is almost complete. The delegates session and the mass rally will be held in Bhurkunda.

Please send the number of representatives that are likely to attend the conf. on behalf of your organisation, and also send the letters of introduction through them. All arrangements for lodging and fooding will be made for them by the Reception Com. Only they should be advised to bring their beddings.

Please advise the representatives to detain at Barkakhana Junction of Eastern Railway, and to contact the volunteers camp with the letters of introduction. They will be provided with transport to the venue of the conf. Please send the likely number for the facility of the Reception Committee. The representatives may take part in the discussions in the fraternal capacity.

Yours faithfully,

Prasanta Bhowan
General Secretary. 19c

THE INDIAN
MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION,
H. O. DHANBAD.

CONFERENCE CIRCULAR.

Dated, the 18th August, 1958

1. This is to finally confirm that the Second national conference of the Indian Mine Workers Federation is going to hold in the Bhurkunda coalmining centre, in the district of Hazaribagh, Bihar. Both the delegates session and the ~~xxxxxxx~~ mass rally will be held in Bhurkunda. All arrangements have almost been completed by the Reception Committee.
2. All miners unions, affiliated or likely to be affiliated, can send their delegates to the conference, at the rate of one per 250 members, on the membership strength of 1957-58, by paying the affiliation dues for the 1957-58 in accordance with the circular dated 4.7.58. The delegates fee will be Rs. 2/- per head.
3. Arrangements for lodging and fooding for the delegates have been made by the Reception Com. The delegates shall have to bring their own beddings, and one glass or a mug each. Meals and breakfast will be supplied by the Reception Com. to the delegates on advance payment of Rs. 1/4/- per head per day.
4. The delegates coming to the conference shall have to detrain at Barkakhana Junction of Eastern Railway (old S.E. Rly). Arrangements for motor transport will be made by the Reception Com. for taking the delegates to the venue of the conf. on payment of -/8/- per head. A volunteer camp will be there at Barkakhana Junction to help the incoming delegates.
5. The office of the Indian Mine Workers Federation will be temporarily transferred to Bhurkunda, and all communications should be addressed to ~~the~~ the care of Com. Mahendra Bharati, Chairman Reception Com. PO. Bhurkunda, Dist. Hazaribagh, on and from 24.8.58.
6. The draft report of the Secretary will be sent to the unions shortly. The copies of the resolutions and the draft constitution will be supplied to the delegates in the delegates camp before the conf. begins.
7. The unions shall inform the Reception Com. Immediately, the number of delegates that are likely to attend from each union. This is to help the Reception Com. in making necessary arrangements for the fooding and the accomoation of the ~~xxxxxx~~ delegates.
8. Every night after the delegates session the cultural shows will be provided by the popular cultural troupes from the different parts of Bihar.

V. S. and a
Secretary. 18/8

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26 AUG 1968
The General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress.

The 18th August, 1958.

Dear Comrade,

Your letter along with the copy of the letter, from the ~~Commissioner~~, Coalmines Welfare Commissioner. I have already written you that from my talk with the Commissioner I have understood that the tuition fee may be waived if we represent for the same. I have heard that INTUC have got the tuition fee waived for their trainees. I am waiting only for your clear instruction for making the necessary representation. Advise by wire so that I can do it before leaving for Bhurkunda. By the time of the conf. the result will be known, and if necessary, you can give me the cheque for making the deposit in the treasury. I hope to get it waived anyhow.

The proceedings of the tripartite committee on coal held on 3.8.58 may be published in the TU Record with some comments. Kalyan will be the best person to give the commentary, as he represented us in the meeting. Personally, I feel that will be sufficient.

The Genl. Secy. of the Miners TUI have informed that they wont be able to send any delegation. Their absence could be fairly compensated if you could arrange the visit of a delegation from the Miners Union, ~~from~~ China. I request to take it up on our behalf, and see, if it can be arranged. It will give a tremendous fillip to our organisers.

In any case, the presence of these members of the parliament, who are office bearers of our affiliated branches must be granted, and for which the AITUC itself should make all arrangements. I am giving you the names. Com. S.A. Dange, ex-officio member of the federation executive, Com. T.B. Vittal Rao, president of the federation, Com. Md. Illyias, president, Coal Workers Union, Com. Bhanu Chakravarty, Vice-president, United Mineral Workers Union. I don't know if there is anybody else. The arrangements for accomodation transport, medical help etc. will be made as it was done in Kargali, if not better.

To reach Barkakhana it will be easiest by catching Patna- Tata express from Gomoh Junction in the early morning. It will reach Barkakhana at about 9 a.m. in the morning. Bhurkunda is half an hours motor ride from Barkakhana.

I had a mind to go to Delhi and to make the arrangements personally, but now it is very difficult, in view of the urgent calls from Bhurkunda, for my presence there. Com. Bharti is doing all arrangement almost singlehanded and he needs assistance badly. Other preparations, requiring reading and writing, is being done by me almost alone. Still, if it is felt that I must go then it will be done. I think Kalyan will go to Delhi with some buisness of his own. So you can have the talks with him also.

I think this conf. will be much better than the conf. in Angarphra, and if proper assistance is being given from the concerned quarters then it will give a strong push in further advance in the field of miners movement, as a whole. I hope that you will share my belief and give all assistance possible from your part.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Prasanta Basu
Secretary.

18/8

(Copy)

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT PATNA

(Miscellaneous Judicial Jurisdiction)

The 14th April, 1958.

Miscellaneous Judicial Case No. 660 of 1957.

In the matter of an application under Article 226 of the Constitution of India.

A.C.C. Rajanka Limestone Quarries' Mazdoor Union Petitioner .
Versus.
Registrar of Trade Unions, Government of Bihar. Opposite Party.

For the petitioner :- Messrs Baldeva Sahay and Keshvi Kishore Saran.

For the opposite party: The Government Pleader.

Present: The Hon'ble the Chief Justice, and

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Choudhary.
(One of the judges of this Court.)

Ramaswami, C.J.

and

Choudhary, J.

In this case the petitioner is the Union called
a
" A.C.C. Rajanka Limestone Quarries Mazdoor Union,"

Rajabhawan, P.D. Jhinkpani, District Singhbhum, represented by Sri K.K. Sinha, General Secretary of that Union. It is alleged that the Union consisted of workers employed in the A.C.C. Rajanka Limestone Quarries of the Associated Cement Company Limited at Jhinkpani in the District of Singhbhum. It is said that the Union was formed at the meeting of the workers on the 5th of July 1957, and the constitution and rules of the said Union is attached to this application as enclosure II. On the 31st of July, 1957, the petitioner sent an application for registration of the Union to the Registrar of Trade Unions, Government of Bihar, Patna, under a Registered postal cover with acknowledgment due. The application was duly received by the Registrar of Trade Unions on the 3rd, of August, 1957. As the matter was kept pending for a long time, reminders were sent to the Registrar to expedite registration, but no action was taken by the Registrar of Trade Unions. A telegraphic reminder was also sent on the 23rd. September 1957, but there was no reply to that telegram also. In these circumstances the petitioner has applied to the High Court for the grant of a writ in the nature of mandamus calling upon the respondent to perform his statutory duty of registering or refusing to register the Trade Union

to register the Trade Union under the provisions of the Indian Trade Unions Act (Act 16 of 1926). There is a counter affidavit filed on behalf of the respondent and in paragraph 5 of the counter affidavit it is said that the Inspector of Trade Unions passed the following order on the 26th October, 1957:-

"Perused the list. Original copy of the constitution of the already registered Union at the Establishment has not been made available. However, a spot enquiry may be necessary and at that time the discrepancy noticed in the draft constitution can be removed. Put up when I draw up my programme to visit that side sometime in November/ December, 1957."

In our opinion the order of the Inspector dated the 26th October, 1957, is much belated and there is no effective denial of the averments made by the petitioner in the application. Section 3 of the Trade Unions Act confers power on the appropriate Government to appoint a person to be the Registrar of Trade Unions for each State. Section 4 states that "any seven or more members of a Trade Union may, by subscribing their names to the rules of the Trade Union and by otherwise complying with the provisions of this Act with respect to registration, apply for registration of the Trade Union under this Act". Section 5 deals with application for registration and is to the following effect:-

"5. Application for registration-(1) Every application for registration of a Trade Union shall be made to the Registrar and shall be accompanied by a copy of the rules of the Trade Union and a statement of the following particulars, namely:-

(a) the names, occupations and addresses of the members making the application.

(b) the titles, names, ages, addresses and occupations of the officers of the Trade Union.

(c) the name of the Trade Union and the address of its head office; and

(2) Where a Trade Union has been in existence for more than one year before the making of an application for its registration, there shall be delivered to the Registrar, together with the application,

a general statement of the assets and liabilities of the Trade Union prepared in such a form and containing such particulars as may be prescribed."

Section 7 confers upon the Registrar power to call for further particulars and to require alteration of name. This section is important and must be quoted in full: -

" 7. Power to call for further particulars and to require alteration of name - (1) The Registrar may call for further information for the purpose of satisfying himself that any application complies with the provisions of section 5, or that the Trade Union is entitled to registration under section 6, and may refuse to register the Trade Union until such information is applied.

(2) If the name under which a trade Union is proposed to be registered is identical with that by which any other existing Trade Union has been registered or, in the opinion of the Registrar, so nearly resembles such name as to be likely to deceive the public or the members of either Trade Union, the Registrar shall require the persons applying for registration to alter the name of the Trade Union stated in the application and shall refuse to register the Union until such alteration has been made."

Section 8 then imposes the statutory duty upon the Registrar to register the Trade Union on being satisfied that it has complied with all the requirements of the Act. Section 8 states as follows:-

" 8. Registration- The Registrar, on being satisfied that the Trade Union has complied with all the requirements of this Act, in regard to registration, shall register the Trade Union by entering in a register, the particulars relating to the Trade Union contained in the statement accompanying the application for registration."

It is the admitted position in the present case that though the application for registration was made on the 31st July, 1957, no action has yet been taken by the Registrar- under section 7 - to call for further particulars, and there has been a failure on the part of the Registrar

per
to inform the statutory duty imposed upon him under section 8 of the Act.
It is true that section 7 confers upon the Registrar the power to make
further enquiries in order to satisfy himself that the application complies
with the provisions of section 5 or that the Trade Union is entitled to
registration under section 6. The Registrar has also got power to refuse
the application until such information is supplied. Similarly, under
section 7(2), the Registrar may require the Trade Union to change its
name if the name of the Trade Union is identical with any other of the
existing Trade Unions. In the present case no action was taken under section
7 and the application of the petitioner was merely kept pending from
July, 1957, to November, 1957, when the present petition for writ was
filed. In these circumstances we consider that the petitioner had made
out a case for a writ under Article 226 of the Constitution commanding
the Registrar of Trade Unions to perform the statutory duty imposed
upon him under sections 7 and 8 of the Trade Unions Act and to deal
with the application dated the 31st July, 1957, made by the petitioner,
in accordance with law and as promptly as possible. We accordingly allow
this application.

There will be no order as to costs.

Sd. V. Ramaswami.

Sd. R.K. Choudhary.

High Court, Patna.

The 14th April, 1958.

270-A.

August 23, 1958

Secretary,
United Mineral Workers Union,
GUA.

Dear Comrade,

We enclose herewith copy of a letter received from the Labour Ministry on the demands of Gua Miners about which we had represented earlier.

Please let us have your comments on para 1 to 5 of the enclosed letter.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,



Secretary

Encl:

Copy of letter from
MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT dated 14 August 1958

270-A
Sub: Agitation by workers in Gua Ore Mines
of the Indian Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter of May 6, 1958 on the above subject and to say that an enquiry was made about the 15 demands of workers of Gua Ore Mines from the management. It is understood that recently there has been a revision of wages and grades among different categories of workers as a result of joint consultation between the Company and the recognised union, i.e., Gua Mine Workers' Union. A large number of workers, both daily as well as monthly rated would benefit by this agreement. Besides, additional tubs have been made available for the use of manual workers and there is no shortage of tubs now.

2. The management has assured that steps would be taken for giving tram lines up to the nearest distance of the working faces of the mines. As regards housing, the Company is reported to have drawn up a scheme for constructing new houses every year so that within the next three or four years, every worker could be housed.

3. The management has already taken steps to supply rice at the hill top from the 3rd week of June, 1958. As regards the payment of compensation, the management is reported to be paying compensation, in the case of accidents, in accordance with the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act. No specific case of contravention has been cited.

4. The demands made in items 9, 10 and 11 are of a general nature. According to the management, in all cases of ordinary mazdoors, seniority and merit are taken into consideration. Ordinary mazdoors are employed on different works according to their fitness. In regard to the permanency of workers, the management follows the provisions laid down in the Standing Orders. Specific instances of violation would alone make it possible for us to take action.

5. It has been reported that production bonus was given for 1957 at the rate of 64 days' basic wages to the employees of the Company and of raising contractors. The question of paying production bonus to employees of petty contractors engaged in road and building construction works has been taken up by the Gua Mine Workers' Union and is, at present, under consideration of the Conciliation Officer concerned. As the workers, who are given work on the off-day are given rest on another day of the week, the management considers that the question of overtime wages does not legally arise in their cases.

6. It will thus be seen that many of the demands made by the workers of Gua Ore Mines have been generally met by the management. As regards the registration of the United Mineral Workers' Union, under the law, the State Registrar of Trade Unions has complete discretion in the matter. You may, therefore, kindly advise the union to approach him in the matter and satisfy him on all legal points.

Yours faithfully,
R.L.MENTA,
Joint Secretary

220

August 27, 1958

Dear Com.Chaturanan,

We enclose herewith text of the reply given by the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel to a question sent by us through Com.Vittal Rao, M.P., on the basis of papers received from you.

Please let us have your comments on the reply so that the matter may be pursued again suitably.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G.
27/8/58
(K.G.Sriwastava)

Encl:

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Conrad
Schubert - The suggestion for
this question was sent by you
may send the copy to the Union concerned
22/8

L_O_K_S_A_B_H_A

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 679.

23 AUG 1958

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21ST AUGUST, 1958.

GIRIDIH COLLIERIES

679 SHRI T.B. VITTAL RAO:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of retired workmen of the Giridih group of collieries have not been paid their S.R.P.F. deposits and gratuity even after the lapse of 5 to 7 years since their retirement; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay?

A_N_S_W_E_R

MINISTER FOR STEEL, MINES & FUEL (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH):

(a) & (b) The ownership and management of these collieries were transferred to the National Coal Development Corporation (P) Ltd., a Company entirely financed by the Central Government, with effect from the 1st October, 1956. It is understood from the Corporation that payment of S.R.P.F. deposits and gratuity has been effected in a good many cases but there are about 120 retired employees who have not received their dues so far either because their confirmation in permanent posts was still under examination, the cadres in which they should be shown had not been finalised or the appropriate scales of pay for them on the recommendations of the first Central Pay Commission had not been decided. These questions are now in the final stages of settlement. It is understood from the Corporation that the Superintendent of Collieries, Giridih, has been asked to undertake a monthly review of the outstanding cases and to effect the payments without further delay. The Government, for their part, will be watching the progress closely.

27 AUG 1958

97
C/O. Colliery Mazdoor -
Sabha.
Po. Topsis. Burdwan.

270
To
Honourable Ministry of Labour,
West Bengal.

Subject :- Employment

Dear Sir,

We, the villagers of Topsis, Katabaria, Jotejanki, Kunst-ore, Sarthakpur, Dhasal, and Bahadurpur of Topsis Po, Dist. Burdwan have intended to submit this for your perusal and necessary action.

That the Topsis Colliery, Po. Topsis, Burdwan at present, employing 200 people in Incline opened further, one new Incline and one quarry, besides that, we have been reported that 2 quarry will be open soon near Topsis Village.

But we regret to state that no villager, though they are fit for colliery job, is not getting any employment, be it good type or ordinary job, in the colliery. Management, though asked for, have flatly refused to give any job to the local people.

In this connection we like to inform you that we have co-operative by selling our lands to the management in industrialisation. But this time they have been recruiting men out side of Bengal, for the colliery. But sorry to state that ours have no employment, though we are more hardy, experienced and loyal to our work.

This above situation has led to the local people much discontented, more when the management has flatly denied to help employment to the local people. But it is not unknown to any body that the local have faced severely the un-employment. Many people have been passing days practically in the starvation. Besides that, the increase in rice prices and scarcity of food grains and scanty fall of rain this year have made the situation more acute.

So, we pray that the Govt, provincially or Centrally will administer their capacity to give us employment in the said colliery and we will remain ever thankful for.

Copy to :-

Yours faithfully

1. Ministry of Labour & Employment
New Delhi.
2. Sri. S.A. Dange. M.P.
General Secretary. A.I.T.U.C.
3. Chief Minister. West Bengal.
4. D.M. Burdwan.
5. S.D.O. Asansol.
6. Joti Basu. M.L.A.
7. Secretary. B.P.T.U.C.
8. Secretary. K.T.U.C. Asansol.
9. Manager. Topsis Colliery.
10. Gen. Secretary. Colliery -
Mazdoor Sabha. Asansol.

শ্রী সত্যেন্দ্রনাথ দাঙ্গা
জি. স. এ. ডাঙ্গা এম. পি.
সাধারণ সেক্রেটারী, আই.টি.ইউ.সি.
শ্রী জ্যোতি বসু এম. এল. এ.
সি. মন্ত্রী, পশ্চিমবঙ্গ

Govt Chandan Keswani
Govt Rammandal

श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण प्रोप्रायि

श्री गोपीनाथ प्रोप्रायि
अनंत शर्मा

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The Shivrajpur Mines Workers' Union.

(Regd. No. 2740)

27 AUG 1958

Ref. No. S.M.W/29/58

270

The General Manager,
Shivrajpur Syndicate Ltd.,
Shivrajpur

Bazar
Shivrajpur.
(Dist. Panchmahal)
Date 27 August 1958

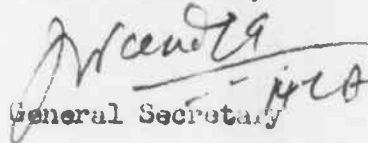
Subject: Non-payment of notice pay & retrenchment compensation to workers re-trenched from Pani Mines on 15/6/1958.

Sir,

A number of workers were re-trenched from Pani Mines on 15th June 1958. We regret to state that these workers who had completed more than one year's service, were neither given one month's notice pay nor retrenchment compensation as required by Clause (a) of Section 25F of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

The list of those workers who had completed more than a year's service is attached herewith. We demand that they must be paid all their dues within one month, or else we will have to take legal steps to recover the same at your cost.

Yours faithfully


General Secretary

Copy forwarded to:

1. Hon'ble the Minister for Labour, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
2. Regional Labour Commissioner (Central), Bombay
3. Shri T.B.Vithal Rao, President, All India Mining Workers Federation
4. Shri S.A. Dange H.P., General Secretary, A.I.T.U.C.

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

153

PARLIAMENT

LOK SABHA

'12.2'

UNDERGROUND FIRE IN COAL MINE
NEAR ASANSOL

25 AUG 1958

New Delhi, Sravana 31, 1880
August 22, 1958

The Union Deputy Minister for Labour, Shri Abid Ali, told Lok Sabha today during question time that there was underground fire on either side of the Jotimutuk railway siding near Asansol and the fire was likely to advance further and endanger the stability of the siding. The collieries and the Aluminium Factory served by the siding might be affected unless the siding was diverted. Steps for this purpose were being taken.

Shri Abid Ali, however, added that there was no danger to the collieries or to the factory due to the underground fire.

The Deputy Minister was replying to a question by Sarvashri Tribid Kumar Chaudhuri, Ajit Singh Sarhad, Sadhan Gupta and Bose.

SKD/RAO.

PRM

6w/22.8.58/12.3076898

P.T.O.

Copy of letter from

MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES & FUEL dated 3rd October 1958
to the AITUC

Sub: Death of 5 persons due to gas effects
in Nishchinta, Asansol, on August 11, 1958

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter dated the 6th September, 1958, on the above subject and to say that the accident referred to was the subject matter of a question asked by Shrimati Renu Chakravartty, in the Lok Sabha on the 22nd September, 1958. In reply thereto the Deputy Labour Minister has already pointed out that no fissures or cracks were known to have developed in the roof of the galleries in the seams lying below the village and the well and that no gas was known to have seeped into the well from the underground workings.

Yours faithfully,

Sd.

(N.S.MANI)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

270

September 1, 1958

Com.Kalyan Roy,
Secretary, IIMF,
Asansol.

Dear Comrade,

This is with reference to the refusal of National Coal Development Corporation to abide by the decisions of the Implementation Committee, about which you had written to us earlier. We had taken up the question with the Labour Ministry and are now informed that "the Regional Labour Commissioner and the concerned Ministry have been requested to investigate into the matter with a view to taking remedial action."

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Vmo
- 1 SEP 1958
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

573



INDIAN POSTS AND



TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

22 AUG 1958



C

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By

To

By

700 Bks. [T. 30. 5/53]

Date	Hour	Minute	Service Instructions	Words
22	19		COMRADE S A DANGE	

TO

Recd. here at H. M.

ASHOKROAD NEWDELHI

QUARREL AROSE IN SAMARAPANT MINES SEVEN SERIOUSLY INJURED

COMRADE DAVID ARRESTED

NATHULAL

MOLEPAH-374-18-63

Union Reports

105

270
A meeting attended by 5000 workers of Barbil was held on 25th August 58 to celebrate the martyr's day under the presidentship of Shri D.C. Mohanty, General Secy. of Utkal State Committee of A.I.V.C., to celebrate the martyr's day. On this day in 1958 four workers were shot dead by the armed police in connection with the lock-out of the mines of Bird & Co.

The meeting was addressed by Shri N.K. Bose, Shri H. Behera, Secretaries of K.M.F.W. Union and by Com. Abdul Monin, President of the State Committee of the A.I.U.C. and a few other.

The speakers paid homage to the martyrs, called upon workers to strengthen the organisation to achieve their demands and criticized the anti-labour policy of the Government. The president, in his speech warned the workers that a serious situation was arising due to the closure of mines in Barbil area and exhorted them to unite and build their organisation stronger than ever.

New Executive elected

At a general body meeting of the members of South Kanara Municipal & Local Board Employees Federation, a new executive committee was elected on 15th Aug. 58, at Mangalore.

* The new executive committee elected Shri S.G. Salanna as president and Shri K. Gopal -

ii
Krishna Shankhagare and Shri N. Acharya - as
General Secretaries for the current official year.

New Managing Committee elected

New office bearers elected

At an annual general meeting of the Greaves Cotton & Allied Companies' Employees' Union, Bombay, held on 28th June 1958, Shri K. J. Sule a new Managing Committee was elected with Shri K. J. Sule as President, and Shri Y. N. Rama Rao and Shri Ali Sheeb Amir as Vice presidents, for the year 1958/59.

Sixth Annual Conference of P.N.B. Employees Union (Punjab)

The sixth annual conference of the Punjab National Bank Employees Union (Punjab) was held at Chandigarh - on 16th and 17th Aug. 58. Nearly 500 delegates and observers from all over the Punjab State and representatives of various Trade Unions of various Industries attended the conference. The conference was inaugurated by Shri H. L. Parwana, Asst. Secy, All India Bank Employees Association and was also attended by Coms. Satish Lomba and Kailash Singh, General Secretary and President of A. I. T. V. C. (P. Branch). Messages of goodwill and greetings were received from the Government, the General

III
Manager Punjab National Bank and from various Trade Union Organisations.

The delegates session was held ^{throughout} ~~in~~ the nights of 16th and the 17th. A powerful demonstration was held on 16th, in front of the office of the Dist. Manager, Chandigarh circle.

Shri Lajia Ram Kashyap and Shri P.R. Bhatia were elected as President and General Secretary respectively for the current official year. ~~By the newly elected~~

Hunger strike by Five Motor Transport Workers

Five motor transport workers have gone on a hunger strike ~~as a protest against them~~ to achieve the fulfillment of the demands of Motor Transport workers of Amravati in general and the workers of Shri Ram Chandra Motor Transport Company in particular.

A meeting of motor workers was held on 12th Aug. 1958, which passed a resolution wishing success to the hunger strikers. By another resolution the meeting expressed its sympathy for the striking workers of the Syndicate Transport Company, Nagpur.

Jiruchitrapadi Handloom weavers Association ^{worker}

At ^{the} General Body meeting of the association held on 17th Aug. 58 passed the following resolutions, expressing its grave concern

W over the increase in the price of yarn, which has resulted in a crisis of the industry. The resolutions requested the Government G.O.I. and G. C. Madras to take urgent measures in forcing down the price of yarn, supplying yarn on seasonal price and relaxing import restriction on artificial silk, and dyeing materials.

Another resolution expressed resentment at the compulsory purchase of hand loom cloth below cost price, by the Madras Government, ~~which~~ due to which the weavers had to suffer a great loss. The resolution requested the Government to redress the plight of the poor weavers by sanctioning subsidies from the Cess Fund.

Keonjhar Mines and Forest Workers' Union.

(Registered No. 63)

P. O. BARBIL, DIST. KEONJHAR, ORISSA.
RLY. STN. BARAJAMDA, S. E. RLY.

In Reply Please Quote.....

BABIL, dated 26th of August.....1958.

Martyrs Day at Barbil

A meeting attended by 5000 workers of Barbil was held on 25th August 1958 under presidentship of Sri D.C. Mohanty, general Secretary of Utkal State committee of the AITUC to celebrate the martyrs day. On this day in 1956 four workers died as a result of firing by the armed police in connection with the lock-out of the mines of Bird & Co.

The meeting first of all observed a minutes silence to pay homage to the Martyrs. The meeting was addressed by Sri N.K. Bose, Sri H. Behera, Secretaries of K.M.F.W. Union and by Com. Abdul Monin, President of the State Committee of the AITUC and a few other workers.

Sri Monin at the out set paid homage to the martyrs and exhorted the workers to build up the 15000 strong Union into a Union of 35000 within a very short time. He criticised the Govt's anti labour policy and exhorted the workers to unite under the Red flag for their immediate and basic demands.

Sri Bose and H. Behera explained the problems facing workers in general and specifically in the different mines. They just explained the successful outcome of the struggle of the workers of the O.D.C. (P) Ltd against retrenchment and dismissals. Sri A.P. Das, Secretary North Orissa Worker's Union greeted in the meeting.

The president pointed out that while paying homage to the martyrs the workers have to note to take note of the fact that another retrenchment worker named Laxman Munda of Ores Development CO. (P) Ltd had committed suicide due to starvation. He has placed the whole blame of such suicide on the management and the Govt's. He stated that a serious situation was arising of the closure of mines in Barbil mines area and consequently unemployment of 5000 workers in the mine-owners to make a common cause with the workers in keeping the mines open and to demand of the Govt. for supplying of adequate wagons. He called upon Bird & Co. to accept the discipline code and to recognise the Keonjhar mines and Forest Workers Union because it represents almost all the workers of the Company. He called upon workers to strengthen the organisation and and through their unity and discipline achieve the demands.

With a vote of thanks to the chair the meeting with resounding slogans ended.

Yours sincerely

H. Behera
Joint Secretary of K.M.F.W. Union

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION.

270

Sept 2, 1958

Secretary,
Samyukta Khadan Mazdoor Sangh,
Tirodi, M.P.

Dear Comrade,

We have seen the copy of your letter addressed to the Regional Labour Commissioner, Jabalpur, on the violent incidents on August 21.

Please let us have the details of the incidents so that we could take up the question effectively with the authorities concerned.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G.
sep 2
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

27 AUG 1958

संयुक्त खदान मजदुर संघ

तिरोही.

REGISTERED

396/A/58

श्री रीजनल लेबर कमिश्नर (८) जलंधर

विषय: १००२२ कागस्त २८ ई तार (Telegram) के सम्बन्ध

महोदय

आपकी १००२२ कागस्त की हमारे संघ की ओर से
एड तार दिया गया था। जो कि विवरण इस प्रकार है।

१००२९/८/२८ की आगरा नौ नर्म हिन्दु स्थान
मंगनी जमाईन के के लेबर वेल्फेयर काफ़ीतर तथा
मार्नि म्यागेजा सम्बाध के खुद खड़े रहकर पणजे
नये कामगारों के भरती दिया को उणी के जरिये
कामगारों पर हमला किया गया जो कि फलस्वरूप
६ कामगार सहित घायल होये हैं। इससे कामगारों
की स्थिती खराब काफी खराब है। हमारी आपसे
प्राथना है कि आप फौरन इस बारे में कदम उठावे
को को तिरौड़ी आवे। आपसे आये बिना यहाँ
के फाई (Disput) हल नहीं हो सकती। को
कामगारों की स्थिती खराब होजायेगी।

आपका

संयुक्त

अध्यक्ष संयुक्त
खदान मजदुर संघ
तिरोही. C.
दिल्ली।

अध्यक्ष संयुक्त
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३०० डॉलर प्रधानमंत्री

A. P. V. C.

अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन काँग्रेस
ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESSPresident : S. S. MIRAJKAR.
General Secretary : S. A. DANGE, M.P.

270

Dt: 30. 8. 58

Shri S. Rangaswami,
Under Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of Labour & Employment
New Delhi.Sub: Draft Report of the Conference on Safety in Mines (August, 1958);
(C) Committee.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter dt. 21. 8. 58, Ref. No. MI-27(17)58, containing the conclusions of the C Committee, I beg suggest the following changes in the light of the discussion on the 5th & 6th August at Calcutta:

1. Recommendation No. E. 5 (P. 3):- As we pointed out in the conference, that the Mines Regulations Section 27 (2) is not at all necessary and creating unnecessary complications. We are unable to accept the paragraph 3. We suggest that all who have once passed the gas testing examination and obtained a certificate should not be asked to sit for fresh examinations in every three years. Instead, there should be refresher courses and overmen, sirdars etc should be asked to attend these courses compulsorily.

Para 118 (P. 3) Suspension of certificates:- Our point of view regarding suspension is no enquiry by the Regional Inspector of Mines should be in camera. Or in other words, before proceeding to take any action against any overman, sirdar etc, he should be given a detailed charge-sheet and an opportunity to reply. An enquiry should be held and overman, sirdar etc should have the right to produce witnesses and cross-examine other people. He should have also the right to produce witnesses before the Board and cross examine others either by himself or by his chosen representative. The period of suspension should not exceed more than a year. And till the final verdict of the Board, he should be given an allowance for suspension period.

2. Recommendation No. E. 7 (P. 4):- Regarding the size of the district of a overman or a sirdar, we hold that firstly, the present 113 (2) of the Regulations should be made more clear and specific and exact size be mentioned.

3. Recommendation No. F 2:- Para 4. We are unable to accept that workmen's inspectors should be employees of the mine. We suggest that the union should have the right to appoint any person holding overman's certificate to inspect a mine, and not necessarily an employee of that particular mine.

Yours faithfully

Kalyan Roy,
Delegate of the All India Trade Union Congress
to the Safety Conference & Member (C) Committee.

30 AUG 1958

Copy to the A.I.T.U.C.

270
Sept. 8, 1958

Dear Com.Kalyan Roy,

I again discussed the East Jemehary colliery affair with R.L.Mehta, Joint Secretary, Labour Ministry, at his request. He is willing for a settlement if some sort of bond is signed.

I told him we are in principle against signing any such bond.

This particular Bond is also incorrect. The latter part of the Board is only repetition of the rights of the employer which he has and is therefore superfluous.

In order that the workers are taken back on duty you can consider and contact the RLC for agreeing to a bond with only the latter part which deals with the normal rights of the employer, clearly stating that this should not be a precedence.

The question of re-employment ~~vix.~~ re-instatement, wages for this period after 30th May, seniority, leave entitlement, etc., will be questions left to be considered. On that can we agree to conciliation and if failed, adjudication.

These are just the suggestions which you think of and let us know the position. Ministry will tell RLC. In case this is not settled there, we may have to talk again here.

I am told RLC had called a meeting on 22nd August. A copy of your letter was with the Ministry of Labour. What happened in the meeting?

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Vmm
8/10
(K.G.Sriwastava)

Annexure B.

(K.G.S.)

We have seen and we are in opinion that as a result of riots amongst workers of the Colliery who indulged in riots and assaults leaving their work. The Colliery work has been completely stopped for no fault on the part of the management. Even then the management requested workers to join their duties immediately to run the Colliery but they struck work and the mine is stopped functioning and that there is a general cry from the trouble mongers that they would ruin the Colliery by destroying machineries and otherwise. The apprehension exists.

In view of the extended request to join the work we intend to go to our jobs guaranteeing on our part that all statutory laws rules of the Mines Act and other relevant acts pertaining to the mine shall be observed by us and we shall do our work in obedience to the instructions from the management authorities. we shall not violate any rules nor we should allow any violation of any rule to our knowledge and information and we undertake to take due diligence for the safety of the mine and safety of the machineries, we shall be liable for any act of omission or commission on our part, which, if be deemed the cause of damage to the mine and machineries and we shall also be liable for not communicating the acts of omission or commission on the part of others, which if, be deemed the same within our knowledge, and information.

On our such undertakings we offer ourself to go on the job, if so permitted.

Yours faithfully

Dated.

/True Copy/

(K.G.Sriwastava)

8 SEP 1958

Sir,

Hope by this time you have gone through the article published in the New Age dt. 20th. July, '58 about National Coal Development Corporation (P) Ltd. (a Government of India Undertaking).

The attached sheet will explain you some more details about the same Corporation. All these are facts.

We do not know why you responsible people is not paying attention to this when the national money is wasted in this manner.

You being the leader of the Opposition party, we hope that you will discuss about this in the Parliament. We have got full confidence in you that you will set right the things without any further delay.

On the grounds of these points you can raise questions.

Appointments made both for higher and lower posts are full of malpractices and favouritism.

All high Officials in the Corporation except the Managing Director are corrupted. (high officials mean all Chief Engineers, Director of Administration.)

Director of Administration is the number 1 corrupted Officer in this Corporation. Without Managing Director's knowledge he is making so many injustices only to please his own people.

Will you kindly spare some time in Parliament for discussing about this.

Thanking you.

SOME FURTHER POINTS TO BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION.

1. Regarding Mr. B.D. Sahi (Chief Excavating Engineer), he is an Officer who has been dismissed from Hirakund Project, when he was Executive Engineer there some three years back. Before the appointment in National Coal Development Corporation, Mr. Sahi was working as Chief Engineer of M/S. Hind Strip Mining Corporation the Contractors of N.C.D.C. for removal of overburden. Only due to influencing the Selection Committee, he has been given the chance in NCDC.

2. There is one Chief Engineer (Civil) in National Coal Development Corporation. His name is Mr. M.N. Das. He is an Officer who has come from Calcutta Corpn. Before joining Calcutta Corporation, he was working as Project Officer in Damodar Valley Corporation in the Maithon Dam Project. He was dismissed on phone by the then Chairman Mr. P.S. Ram and was asked to clear out the D.V.O. Area within 24 hours. From this you can very well imagine the seriousness of the mistake committed by him in D.V.O.

You can also imagine the reasons for the leakage in the newly constructed Miners Quarters in Bhadrakunda and so on!

3. One gentleman by name, Mr. Major A.C. Gossain is working in National Coal Development Corporation as Deputy Chief Excavating Engineer. He has not got even the elementary knowledge of earth moving machineries. So many well qualified and experienced persons were applied for that post and some were fortunate enough to appear at the interview also. But the selection committee recommended this No. 1 FOOL as Dy. Chief Excavating Engineer. This is another example of influencing the Interview Board. Now Mr. Gossain is handling Corporation's machineries worth crores of Rupees of national money, even though he is under Chief Engineer (Excavating). You will really wonder when you know some Excavating Executive Engineers now working under Mr. Gossain are more efficient qualified and experienced. From this also you can understand that really qualified and experienced people have got no chance in National Coal Development Corporation.

4. Now there are some Senior Revenue Officers. We understand they have been appointed for work in connection with acquisition of lands and payment of compensation etc. One Senior Revenue Officer, Mr. Johuri by name is meant for Bihar and Orissa Region. He is the relative of Mr. K.P. Narain who is the Director of Administration of National Coal Development Corporation. The Other Senior Rev. Officer seems to be meant for Madhya Pradesh Region. Practically speaking no work is done by these Officers except going on tours under the pretext of Office work and going to Collieries for inspection of land or payment of compensation claims. When they go on tour they do not do any Office work and they finish their private work and on their return they simply claim false T.A. We are further given to understand that they are taking money from the Land Owners at the time of payment of compensation and thus cheat this Corporation. They are really Traitors.

5. Director of Administration, Mr. K.P. Narain is in charge of Administration, recruitment etc. Recruitment is full of malpractices. So many people have been appointed even without any interview. (These are his own men or his known men). He is has done so many things without the knowledge of the Managing Director. Recommendation has become the only qualification for getting a job in National Coal Development Corporation. Thus really qualified persons have no chance to enter in N.C.D.C. Promotions and appointments are made only to please either his relations or his friends.

Staff are far above requirement and still recruitment is going on with the intention of only providing jobs for his men. Managing Director is unaware of all these things. Staff is roaming here and there without any work and D.A. is sleeping over this. What can he do? Because he has provided his own men.

6. One separate Finance Section is functioning. In most of the other Govt. Undertakings, there is one Financial Advisor cum Chief Accounts Officer. But in National Coal Development Corporation the case is quite different. There is one Financial Advisor, one Dy. Financial Advisor, one Asst. Financial Advisor (at present, but we understand the number of Asst. Financial Advisors will be increased in the near future, i.e. as soon as they find their own men to give promotion....!) Practically there is no work for these Officers. They are simply coming and thinks themselves that the Office is a Rest House in their old age....! Posts are not created and sanctioned considering the volume of work but on the other hand to promote some of their particular favourite men. In all other Undertakings the duty of Financial Advisor is...

is to check unnecessary expenditure and to control Finance. In National Coal Development Corporation the Financial Advisor is only to sanction unnecessary expenditure. Really speaking expenditure incurred for the Corporation in maintaining this Section is an unnecessary wastage of Nations' Money.

7. Besides the Finance Section, there is a full fledged Accounts Section under one Chief Accounts Officer. There is one Dy. Chief Accounts Officer and a large number of Assistant Accounts Officers with numberless staff. But there also no work is going on. Most of the staff including some Officers even are spending their time in reading Novels, Newspapers etc. No Officer is taking the trouble of supervising the work of the staff.

8. There was an interesting report that the stores Accounts papers in connection with certain purchase at Bhurkunda Colliery have been found to be lost due to storm and rain there. You will easily understand the significance of the loss of these particular papers relating to Stores which was purchased prior to the sanction of the competent authority.

एच. एम. कंपनी के गुंडों द्वारा निहत्थे कामगारों पर कातिलाना हमला

शर्मा-चड्डा मठबन्धन मजदूरों की जान का ग्राहिक

मजदूर स्त्रियों से दुर्व्यवहार का पुलसो कारनामा



साप्ताहिक

आवाज

—(स्वतन्त्र प्रगतिशील हिन्दी साप्ताहिक)—

वारसिवनी मंगलवार ता० २६ अगस्त १९५८ सालाना ३)५
सम्पादक तथा प्रकाशक— श्री प्रेमनाथ भन्डारी, मुद्रक— बिहारीलाल रिड्यारिया
वर्ष २ रा] मूल्य ७ नये पैसे [अंक २४]

तिरोड़ी २३ अगस्त ५८ ।
ता० २१ अगस्त ५८ को दिन के तीन चार बजे के करीब एच. एम कंपनी द्वारा मजदूरों के वेष में भरती किये गये एक दर्जन के करीब गुंडों ने जाम्नापानी खदान नं० ४ के कामगारों पर अचानक गैरितियों फाबड़ा और चाकूओं से हमला करके ६ कामगार स्त्री और पुरुषों को बुरी तरह से जखमी कर दिया । जखमी कामगारों में एक-संयुक्त खदान मजदूर संघ की प्रान्तीय कार्य कार्णी और कुछ स्थानीय शाखा की कार्य-कार्णी के सदस्य भी थे । हमला पूर्व नियोजित योजना के अनुसार किया गया और जैसा कि कामगारों का ध्यान है पोलिस सब इन्स्पेक्टर श्री शर्मा और सर्कल इन्स्पेक्टर श्री अवस्थी ने इस योजना की सफलता में पूरी तरह से श्री चड्डा और कंपनी के खूनी लेबर वेलफियर आफिसर जैदी के नापाक इरादों का साथ दिया ।

यह शाजिश ही थी ।

श्री चड्डा को जब बार बार प्रयत्न करने पर भी छटनी और पगार कटोती की चालों में सफलता नहीं मिली और वह मजदूरों को उत्तेजित करके पोलिस से मिड़वाने में भी नाकाम रहे तो उन्होंने ठेकेदारी प्रथा की आड़ में अपना मतलब निकालना चाहा और जब यह भी असम्भव नजर आया तो गुन्डागिरी की सोची । अपनी योजना की सफलता के लिये वह जैदी नामक एक वेलफियर आफिसर को बम्बई से लाये जिन्होंने आते ही यह साबित कर दिया कि वह वेलफियर विशेषज्ञ की ब-

जाये 'दंगा विशेषज्ञ' ही अधिक है । श्री जैदी ने अपना जाल बिछाना शुरू किया । चड्डा साहिब और थानेदार शर्मा की दोस्ती रंग लाई और ता० २१-५८ को जबकि का. कृष्णा मोदी तथा यूनियन के जिम्मेदार दूसरे कार्य-कर्ता तिरोड़ी से बाहर थे मजदूरों पर यह खूनी हमला कर दिया गया ।

२१ तारीख को ११ बजे लेबर वेलफियर आफिसर जैदी ने स्त्री मजदूर नेता सोना बाई को बुला कर कहा कि—हमें ठेकेदार द्वारा कम मजदूरी और बिना बोसराशन वाले मजदूर मिल गये हैं तुम स्वयं उसी कम मजदूरी पर काम करो और उन्हें भी करने दो ।

सोना बाई ने इन्कार कर दिया । दिन के एक बजे जैदी मिया ने मजदूरों के भेष में बाहर से लाये १२ गुन्डों की भरती किया और जीप में बिठाकर खदान पर ले गये । पुराने कामगारों ने जब इस पर आपत्ति की और ट्रब्युनिल की उपस्थित में इस प्रकार की पगार कटोती को गैर कानूनी बताया तो जैदी सा० उन गुन्डों को लेकर थाने पोंहचे जहां उन गुन्डों की ओर से पुराने कामगारों के खिलाफ रिपोर्ट की । रिपोर्ट के बाद फिर खदान पोंहचे और उन गुन्डों ने काम शुरू किया । पुराने मजदूर उन्हें मजदूर समझ कर ज्यू ही समझाने के लिये पोंहचे कि खदान के ऊपर खड़े वेलफियर आफिसर जैदी ने संटी बजाई और ज्यू ही सीटी को आवाज सुनी कि— गुन्डो ने गैरियों, पाबड़ों और चाकूओं से निहत्थे कामगारों पर हमला कर दिया और जब तक कि

दूसरे गुन्डों में काम करते हुये कामगार स्थिति को समझ कर अपने साथियों की सहायता को पोंहचेगुन्डे ६ कामगारों को जखमी करके मांग कर खदान के दफतर में पोंहच चुके थे । कामगारों ने अपने साथियों और खास तौर से स्त्रियों को जखमी देखा तो उनमें उत्तेजना आना स्वाभिक ही था । किन्तु गुस्से की हालत में जैसे ही मजदूरों ने आफिस के गिर्द घेरा डाला कि थानेदार श्री शर्मा पोलिस दल सहित आ धमके । शर्मा साहिब और उनको पोलिस के पक्षपात पूर्ण रूख को देखकर मजदूर समझ गये कि नेताओं की गैर मौजूदगी में पोलिस और चड्डा को एक होने का मौका मिल गया है और हमारी उत्तेजना इन्हें खुल खेदने का मौका देदेगी । चुनौति उन्होंने चुपचाप सब कुछ सह लेने का ही निश्चय किया । उसके बाद की कहानी बड़ी दर्दनाक है ।

पोलिस की बर्बरता !

मजदूरों ने जिस कामगार को थाने में रिपोर्ट करने भेजा था उसे सर्कल इन्स्पेक्टर श्री अवस्थी ने जबरन वहीं रोक लिया गालियों दी और बुरी तरह से पेग आये और यह सब चड्डा के सामने हुआ ।

गुन्डों को प्रतिष्ठित महैमानों की तरह जीप में लाकर थाने की वेन्च पर बिठा दिया गया और जखमी मजदूरों को एक गीले टुक में जानवरों की तरह लाकर थाने के दालन में पटक दिया गया । जब कामगार वहाँ पोंहचे और उन्होंने अपने पक्ष में कुछ बोलना चाहा तो सर्कल इन्स्पेक्टर ने मजदूर औरतों को "रन्डी" तक कह डाला और हर वह गाली दी जो उनकी याद थी । दो हजार मजदूर खड़े अपनी निर्गहों के सामने अपने भाई बहनों को जखमी पड़े देख रहे थे और अपमान सह रहे थे मगर खामोश थे ।— किन्तु सब की भी हद होती है जब सर्कल इन्स० ने उसी गीले टुक में मजदूरों को अस्पताल ले जाने का आदेश दिया और औरतों को रन्डी कहा तो डा० डेविड से नहीं रहा गया और उन्होंने इस दुर्व्यवहार का विरोध किया । लेकिन उनका बोलना था कि उन्हें भी गिरफ्तार कर लिया गया और शर्मा साहिब ने उन से इतना अभद्रता पूर्ण व्यवहार किया और वह वह गालियाँ बकी जिन्हें सुनकर ही शरीफ आदमी शर्म से सर नोचा कर ले मगर इसके बावजूद भी मजदूरों ने उत्तेजित हो कर पोलिस को मन मानी करने का मौका नहीं दिया और अपने जखमी भाइयों को पोलिस के रहम पर छोड़ कर खामोश खड़े रहे । उन्होंने पहचान लिया था कि यह एक साजिश है उन्हें मिया देने की ।

जाँच का आश्वासन—

तारीख २२-८-५८ को भन्डारी और डा० रामपसादजी पाठक ने क्लेक्टर महोदय तथा डी. एस. पी. साहिब से मिल कर इस कांड को जाँच का मांग का और डी. एस. पी. साहिब ने इसका आश्वासन भी दिया । उसी दिन रात को भी भन्डारी और डा० पाठक ने तिरोड़ी जाकर स्वयं मामले की जाँच की और तारीख २३-८-५८ को पुनः डी. एस. पी. साहिब से मिलकर ओक्त तथ्यों को उनके सामने रखा । डी एस. पी. साहिबने पुनः उन्हें न्याय का विश्वास दिलाया । कंपनी ने जखमी कामगारों को काम से बंद करके अपनी दमन नीति को और भी स्पष्ट कर दिया है और हालाँकि यूनियन की माँग पर जाँच होने तक हमला करने वाले १ गुन्डों को भी खदान से बाहर रखना मान लिया है मगर हालत बताते हैं कि अभी इस साजिश का अंत नहीं हुआ और जब तक शर्मा सा० तिरोड़ी के थानेदार हैं न्याय की आशा असंगत सी प्रतीत होती है । इसी लिये यूनियन ने निष्पक्ष जाँच के साथ साथ शर्मा साहिब के तबादले की भी माँग की है ताकि इस साजिश का पूर्णतः अंत हो सके । यूं भी शर्मा साहिब को तिरोड़ी में तीन साल से ज्यादा होचुके और वह तिरोड़ी के बदनाम चिरगुट का अभिन्ना अंग हैं । और इस गुट के कारण तिरोड़ी की शान्ति प्रिय जनता को कितनी ही मुसिवतों का सामना करना पड़ा है । तिरोड़ी में शान्ति और व्यवस्था तथा मजदूरों की शोषण और आर्तक के राज्य से मुक्ति के लिये उनका तबादल अवश्यक है ।

संपादकीय

थानेदार तिरोड़ी का तबादला करो

ता. २१-८-५८ को एच. एम. कम्पनी तिरोड़ी की जाना पानी नं० ४ खदान में कंपनी के पालतू गुन्डों द्वारा मजदूरों पर जो कातिलाना हमला हुआ और इस साजिश में थानेदार श्री शर्मा ने सर्कल इन्स्पेक्टर के सहयोग से जिस तरह कम्पनी को सहयोग दिया वह एक ऐसा अक्षम्य अपराध है जिसे कोई भी इन्सानियत रखने वाला व्यक्ति बर्दाश्त नहीं कर सकता। तिरोड़ी का बच्चा बच्चा जानता है कि शर्मा चड्ढा दोस्ती का यह कोई पहला फल नहीं है जो मजदूरों को चखना पड़ा हो। पिछले तीन साल से यह मित्रता मजदूरों के लिये ही नहीं तिरोड़ी की जनता के चरित्र के लिये भी जहर का काम कर रही है और इसके कारण काफी लोगों का सर्वस्व खतरे में पड़ने की दास्तानें तिरोड़ी के कण कण में बसी हुई हैं। ऐसा नहीं है कि उच्च अधिकारी इस से परिचित नहीं हैं, विभिन्न साधनों से यह रिपोर्ट उन तक पोंहचती रही है और अब भी पोंहच रही है मगर इसके बावजूद भी जब इस सम्बन्ध कोई जांच आदि नहीं हुयी तो इनकी बन आई और एक एक करके आलोचकों से बदला लिया जाने लगा। ता० २१-८-५८ का हमला भी इसी बदले की भावना और अपनी राह के कांटों को हटाने के इरादों की एक मात्र तस्वीर है।

आज लेबर आफिस इसका गवाह है कि एच. एम. कम्पनी पिछले १ साल से कानूनी फैसलों को तोड़ रही है और जहां तक कि उसने आर बेट्रेटर के फैसले की भी कोई कोमत नहीं की। यह भी उतना ही सच है कि कम्पनी ठेकेदारी की आड़ में मजदूरों की पगार कटौती करना चाहती है और राशन और बोनस छीनना चाहती है। मजदूरों की संगठित शक्ति इस मतलब के हल होने में रुकावट थी और कम्पनी ने इस रुकावट को दूर करने के लिये बार बार मजदूरों को उत्तेजित करके पोलिस से भिड़वाने का प्रयत्न भी किया मगर मजदूरों की शान्ति प्रियता ने उसे सफल नहीं होने दिया। स्वयं शर्मा जी यह सब जानते हैं मगर

इसके बावजूद समय आने पर उन्होंने कानून तोड़ने वालों का ही साथ दिया कानून के मार्ग पर अप्रसर कामगारों का नहीं।

ता० २१-८-५८ के भगड़े में तो शर्मा साहिब ने अपनी मित्रता का रहा सहा हक भी अदा कर दिया और यह तो खुरा नसीबी है कि कामगार गुस्से में नहीं आये वना वड़ और उनके सर्कल साहिब तो गोली चलवाने से भी गुरेज न करते इस से पहले स्वयं मैने और लेबर इन्स्पेक्टर श्री शन्डोले ने भी उनसे बार २ कम्पनी की जीप में बैठ कर खदान पर जाने और मजदूरों को नाजायज तौर पर धूमकाने का विरोध भी किया था और शर्मा साहिब ने उस समय अपनी तटस्थता का विश्वास दिलाया था मगर इस तटस्थता का असली रूप २१ अगस्त को सामने आ ही गया।

संयुक्त खदान मजदूर संघ ने उक्त घटनाओं की जांच की मांग करते हुये शर्मा साहिब के तबादले की भी मांग की है हम इस मांग का समर्थन करते हैं और डी. एस. पी साहिब से आशा करते हैं कि वह तिरोड़ी की जनता के सम्मान की रक्षा और पोलिस पर पक्षपात के इलजाम को दूर करने के लिये शर्मा जी को तुरन्त तिरोड़ी से ट्रांसफर करें वना उनकी मौजूदगी में मजदूरों को न्याय मिलना मुश्किल ही नहीं असम्भव है।

नमा कीजिये.....।

नमा कीजिये कि "आवाज" मेरी मुस्तकिल बीमारी के कारण ६-७ सप्ताह तक आपके बीच से गैर हाजिर रहा। आप जानते हैं कि "आवाज" का सम्पादन केवल मैं ही करता हूँ और इस सम्बन्ध में अभी तक मुझे किसी भी साथी से कोई सहायता नहीं मिलती थी किन्तु अब इसकी आशा हो गई है कि मेरी गैर हाजरी में भी आवाज आप तक बराबर पोहंचता रहे। वार्षिक ग्राहकों को आवाज के बन्द रहने के दिनों की कमी उनके चन्दे की श्रेयध में वृद्धि करके पूरी कर दी जायेगी। आशा है कि आप मेरी विवशता के लिये माफ करेंगे और आईन्दा भी उसी तरह से आवाज को अपनी आवाज समझ कर अपनाते रहेंगे जैसे कि आज तक अपनाते रहे हैं।

सम्पादक

वारासिवनी रेलवे स्टेशन ?

वारासिवनी रेलवे स्टेशन से रेलवे विभाग को इस समय कम से कम एक लाख रुपये सालाना की आमदनी है मगर यहां जनता की सुविधा के लिये यहां मामूली से मामूली सुविधा भी अप्रयाप्त है। न तो पानी की कोई समुचित व्यवस्था है और न ही वेटिंग रूम। शोड है तो ऐसा कि पानी धूप और सर्दी किसी भी मौसम में रक्षा न कर सके बल्कि उलटा वबाले जान बन जाये। एक ही क्लर्क लगेज क्लर्क भी है और टिकट क्लर्क भी। पार्सल क्लर्क भी है और दुसरा सब कुछ भी। जबकि गत वर्षों में दफ्तरी कारोबार शैतान की आंत की तरह लम्बा हो गया है।

ऐसी हालत में हम रेलवे विभाग से जोर दार मांग करते हैं कि वह वारासिवनी स्टेशन पर जनता की सुविधा के लिये- (१) पानी के ट्यूब वेल की व्यवस्था करे। (२) फस्ट क्लास और सेकन्ड क्लास वेटिंग रूम बनाये जायें (३) या तो जनता के आने जाने के लिये ओवर ब्रज बनायें या दोनों ओर प्लेट फार्म बनायें। (४) शोड को बड़ा और हिफाजत दार ननाया जावे और पार्सल तथा लगेज का काम अधिक बढ़ जाने के कारण अधिक स्टाफ की व्यवस्था की जावे।

जनता को भी चाहिये कि वह इन मांगों की पूर्ती के लिये लगातार अन्दोलन आरम्भ करे ताकि रेलवे बोर्ड की नींद टूटे। (सम्पादक)

वारासिवनी नगर पालिका का आक्राय विभाग

पक्षपात का अड्डा

वारासिवनी २४ अगस्त ५८।

यू तो वारासिवनी नगर पालिका अपने पक्षपात पूर्ण रुख के लिये बदनाम है ही मगर अभी अभी आक्राय विभाग में पक्षपात और अन्वेर गर्दी की जो मिसालें सामने आई हैं वह इस रुख को और भी स्पष्ट कर देती हैं।

विश्वस्त सूत्रों से ज्ञात हुआ है कि नगर की एक प्रसिद्ध फर्म श्री महादेव चुन्नीलाल ने आडिट आब्जेक्शन तक आक्राय टैक्स का एक पैसा तक अदा नहीं किया जब कि उनके जिम्मे ६ हजार रुपये के करीब रकम आती है और इस पर आडिट आब्जेक्शन भी आ चुका है किन्तु जल्ल मामला दोस्ती का हो तो शायद आडिट आब्जेक्शन की बात को भी रद्दी की टोकनी में डाला जा सकता है वना कोई कारण नहीं है कि आडिट आब्जेक्शन के बावजूद भी ६ हजार की रकम यू खटाई में पड़ी रहती ?

सुना है कि आक्राय वसूली की रसीद बुकों पर छपे हुये पर सीरीयल नम्बर तक नहीं होते और हाथ से नम्बर डाल कर ही काम निकाल लिया जाता है। आक्राय वसूली को रसीद बुकें गायब होने की बात भी सुनी जाती है और यह भी कि कुछ रसीद बुकों में से कुछ रसीदें भी ला प्रता है ! जाहिर है कि बिना सीरीयल नम्बर की रसीद बुकों में इस तरह की धान्दलियां होना कोई बड़ी बात नहीं ? मगर सवाल तो यह है कि आखिर इन धान्दलियों के लिये जिम्मेदार कौन है ?

अभी तक आक्राय नाके भी स्थाई नहीं बने हैं और न ही आक्राय कर्मचारियों की कोई वर्दी है जिससे लोग उन्हें पहचान सकें ! ऐसी स्थिति में जनता के लिये गलत प्रकार की दिककतें भी पैदा हो सकती हैं इससे इनकार नहीं किया जा सकता। बेचारे चपरासियों से आठ घन्टे से ज्यादा डियूटी ली जाती है और उन्हें १२-घन्टे लगातार काम करने के लिये विवश किया जाता है जबकि साधारण मानवीय दृष्टि कोण से एक कर्मचारी से आठ घन्टे से जादा डियूटी लेना गलत है मगर हमारी नगर पालिका के पास इस प्रकार की मानवता के लिये भला क्या स्थान हो सकता है जब कि प्रजातन्त्र के उसूलों के विररीत ७ साल गुजर जाने पर भी लोग गरीब बनाये बैठे हैं और चुनाव के नाम से जिनकी आत्मायें कांप उठती हैं और वह रात दिन इसी तिकड़म में लगे रहते हैं कि यह सरी बनी रहे और वह अपना और अपने दोस्तों का भला करते रहें ?

सस्ती व सुन्दर छपाई का एक मात्र स्थान

श्री कमलापत प्रि. प्रेस वारासिवनी

तीरो



नशतर

(लक लक)

भानुमति का कुन्वा.....?

बालाघाट नगर पालिका चुनाव के फलहाव सदस्यों का नागरिक मोर्चा भानुमति के कुन्वे की त ह फूटता नशर आ रहा है और ऐसा लगता है कि बेचारे जयचन्द जी को तकदीर उन्हें पार्टी लीडर चुनने का भजाक उड़ा कर ही अडियल टट्ट की तरह आगे बढ़ने से इनकार करने लगी है और प्रेजीडन्टी का खवाब शर्मिन्दाये ताबीर होता दिखाई नहीं देता। शयद अंगूर खट्टे हैं देखकर ही यह कहा जाने लगा है कि चूकि जयचन्दजी कांग्रेस के कर्मठ सदस्य हैं इस लिये वह प्रेजीडन्ट नहीं बन सकते और अब नागरिक मोर्चे का कांग्रेसी दल कोई दूसरी मुर्गी फसाने की फिक में है जिसे अंगूरों की खटास की मी पवाह नहीं हो। मुमीबत तो मोर्चे के गैर कांग्रेसियों के लिये है कि जिनकी मन्जिल ही वे निशान हो चुकी है।

वैसे अगर कोई लक लक से पूछे तो एक तरह से यह अच्छा ही हुआ जो खुदने गंजे को नाखुन नहीं लिये वना खुदा ता खाता अगर वही जयचन्द जी की आड़ में सत्ता कांग्रेसियों के हाथ में चली ही जाती तो नतीजा क्या होता? यह अगर रूढ़ि आने भगवान जानते हैं तो ५ आने हम भी समझ हों सकते हैं। आप पूछ सकते हैं कि नतीजा आखिर क्या होता? तो हम अज करेंगे कि ज्यादा तो कुछ नहीं मगर इतना जरूर होता कि बालाघाट नगर की जनता और जनता की जानोमाला का पट्टा कांग्रेस के नाम लिख दिया जाता कांग्रेसी प्रेजीडन्ट बनते ही नगरपालिका में एक प्रस्ताव पास कर दिया जाता कि आज से नगर की पूरी प्रापटी कांग्रेस की है। प्रेजीडन्ट केवल नाम के प्रेजीडन्ट हैं असल में ताकत तो टेम्बरे साहिब के हाथ में रहेगी और नगर पालिका की काय नीतियां वही तय किया करेंगे। कांग्रेस आदिस में एक और फोन की व्यवस्था होगी जिस पर मोतीलाल भाऊ दिन भर बैठे नगर पालिका को आदेश देते रहेंगे कि, फलां व्यक्ति ने कांग्रेस की सदस्यता स्वीकार नहीं की उसकी टट्टी बन्द कर दी जावे और फलां कांग्रेसी के घर में तीन और पाखानों की व्यवस्था कर दी जावे। गंज की जमीन कांग्रेस भवन के लिये दे दी जाय और गंज देवी तालाब में धकेल दिया जावे। तमाम स्कूलों में जिले के प्रमुख कांग्रेसी नेताओं की तस्वीरें लगा दी जायें और नगर पालिका या उसके अन्तर्गत चलने वाली तमाम संस्थाओं की ओर से किये जाने वाले प्रत्येक समारोह की अध्यक्षता केवल भाऊ सा. से कराई जावे। बाल मन्दिर का सामान कांग्रेस को दे दिया जावे और मेहतरों से कह दिया जाये कि अगर वह २५ दिन के अन्दर अन्दर कांग्रेसी यूनियन के सदस्य न बने और उन्होंने भाऊ साहिब को अपने यूनियन का अध्यक्ष न बनाया तो उन्हें एक क्लम मौकफ करके कांग्रेसी राज में कांग्रेसी म्युनिसिपैल्टी के अन्तर्गत जीने का मजा चखा दिया जायेगा-आदि।

कहते हैं कि जिला कांग्रेस अध्यक्ष श्री मोतीलाल जी जैन अपने एक पत्रकार मित्र पर इसलिये नाराज हैं कि पत्रकार महोदय ने चन्द पत्रों में यह समाचार छपवाया कि-“जिला कांग्रेस अध्यक्ष श्री मोतीलाल जैन तथा कुछ अन्य कांग्रेसी नेताओं पर गैर कानूनी मर्डिनिंग के मामले चल रहे हैं”— भाऊ साहिब का कहना है कि मामले मोतीलाल जैन पर चल रहे हैं जिला कांग्रेस अध्यक्ष पर नहीं। समझ में नहीं आता कि हमारे पत्रकार मित्र की समझ में इतना अच्छा तर्क क्यों नहीं आया? वना दुनियां जानती है कि हाथी दो दांत रखता है।

बहरामजी के गुर्गे दमन की राह र गुन्डारी और आतंक के देवताओं के ताजा कानामे

भरवेली २३ अगस्त ५८।

बी. बहराम जी कंपनी की भरवेली खदान के गुर्गे ने बाल मन्डा यूनियन के कार्यकर्ताओं को एक एक करके बाहर निकाला का काम शुरू कर दिया है। आज उन्होंने यूनियन के प्रमुख कार्यकर्ता श्री जरलू को बिना किसी सफाई का मौका दिये काम से बन्द कर दिया और उसके साथ ही गजराबाई नामक एक रेजा को भी। उनका कसूर यह बताया जाता है कि ता. ७-८-५८ को जरलू जी ने गजरा बाई की मई महीने की औसत पगार की मांग लेकर इन्सपैक्टर श्री शन्डोले के सामने की। मैनेजर ने पगार दी जा चुकी है कहकर रजिस्टर में मिन्ट भी दिखा दिया। लेकर इन्सपैक्टर के चले जाने के बाद गजराबाई को जब इस सफेद भूट का पता चला तो उसने मैनेजर से इस भूट का कारण पूछा और कहा कि यदि मुझे पगार नहीं मिली तो फिर कौन खा गया? मैनेजर साहिब इस तरह भूट पकड़े जाने पर गर्म हो उठे और उन्होंने ता. ६-८-५८ को ओक्ट रेजा को पगार तो दे दिया मगर उसके साथ ही जरलू जी और उस रेजा को यह इल्जाम लगाकर काम से बन्द भी कर दिया कि उन्होंने मैनेजर पर पैसे खाने का इल्जाम लगाया और कहा कि मैनेजर साहिब ऐसा करने से तो बेहतर है कि मजदूरों को जहर दे दो। क्या कहते हैं समाजवादी बहराम जी इस समस्या के सम्बन्ध में? क्या मजदूरों को इस तरह काम से बन्द करना जहर देना नहीं है? और यदि है तो क्या आशा करें कि मजदूरों को न्याय मिलेगा? यूँ भी सुना है कि आज कल हाशिन मियां फोर्मेन इतने हौसले वाले बन गये हैं कि मजदूर औरतों के सामने उनके पतियों को मां बहन की गालियां देते हैं और बहराम जी साहिब के समाजवाद के साथे में मजदूरों को गुन्डारी और आतंक के देवताओं के कहर का शिकार बनना पड़ता है।

त्रिवेदी खदान में फर्मे के रेट में कमी ?

भरवेली

ज्ञात हुआ है कि त्रिवेदी बन्धुओं की भरवेली खदान कुछ दिन पहले बन्द कर दी गई थी मगर फिर खोल दी गई और अब सुना है कि कामगारों के फर्मे के रेट में कमी कर दी गई है और उन्हें नये सिरे से भरती किया गया है।

यह स्मरण रहे कि ओक्ट खदान बन्द किये जाने के सम्बन्ध में संयुक्त खदान मजदूर संघ ने लेकर अधिकांशियों की लिखा था।

न तड़पने को इजाजत है न
फर्माई की है

८-६ चपासी टेम्बरे साहिब के कहर
का शिकार ?

बालाघाट २० अगस्त ५८।

विश्वरत सूत्रों से ज्ञात हुआ है कि श्री तेजलाल टेम्बरे अध्यक्ष सहकारी बंक ने एक विशेष आज्ञा द्वारा सोसायटी के ८-६ चपासियों को काम पर से बन्द कर दिया है। गरीब चपासियों का दोष केवल यह है कि उन्होंने अपने लिये अधिक पगार तथा अन्य सुविधाओं की मांग की थी यूँ सुना है कि टेम्बरे साहिब ने उनकी प्रार्थना पर विचार करने का वायदा भी

किया था मगर वह वायदा पूरा इस तरह किया गया कि चपासियों में से ज्यादा जागरित चपासियों को ठीक वसत के दिनों में रही सही रेजी से भी वन्चित कर दिया गया। क्या कोई है, जो गरीब चपासियों को टेम्बरे साहिब के कहर से बचाये ?

रौंगटा कंपनी के निराले तानाशाह।

लौगुर २०-८-५८

संयुक्त खदान मजदूर संघ लौगुर की शिकायत पर आज यहाँ लेकर इन्सपैक्टर श्री शन्डोले ने रौंगटा कंपनी के खिलाफ मजदूरों की शिकायतों की भी जांच की।

यूँ तो अभी अभी इस कंपनी ने अन्डर ग्राउन्ड शुरु किया है और जल्दी से जल्दी ज्यादा मैंगनीज निकाल कर अपनी तिजोरियां भर लेने की फिक में हैं मगर बेचारे मजदूरों को दवा धारू तक की सुविधा नहीं जिस नर्स को कन्गोउन्डर के रूप में रखा गया है वह दिन भर तो पैसेफिक में काम करती है और शाम को यहाँ आती है। बोनस के तो नाम से ही कंपनी कानों पर हाथ धर लेती है और 'रेफ्रेंस' में न होने के बहाने बनाती है-मगर अब मजदूर यूनियन में आ गये हैं और उन्होंने बोनस आदि वसूल करने का मांग अपना लिया है किन्तु अच्छा हो यदि कंपनी आने और अपने कामगारों के सुसंस्थानों को बिगड़ने से बचाये।

गबन में सजा याफता व्यक्ति क्वोप्रोटिब्व सोसायटी का अध्यक्ष ?

वारासिवनी २२ अगस्त ५८ ।

वारासिवनी का बाबा आदम ही निराला नजर आता है वनां नगर में प्राणित नागरिकों की मौजूदगी में सन्दिग्ध चरित्र व्यक्तियों को जिम्मेदार संस्थाओं में जिम्मेदार पदों पर कभी जगह नहीं मिलती । यह जानकर हैरानी हुयी कि वारासिवनी वीव्हर्ज क्वोप्रोटिब्व सो० के मौजूदा अध्यक्ष महोदय कई बार गबन के मामलों में सजा पा चुके हैं । यह सजायें जुमानें और ता बख्वास्त अदालत कैद पर आधारित हैं इन सज्जनों को यहसजायें वारासिवनी नोटिफाईड एरिया कमेटी की रकम के गबन के आरोप में हुयी थीं । इस सम्बन्ध में विधान सभा में सवाल भी पुछे जाने वाले हैं । सोसायटी के सम्बन्ध में भी निम्न लिखित प्रश्नों के उत्तर हम रजिस्ट्रार महोदय से चाहेंगे ताकि जनता में सोसायटी के सम्बन्ध में असन्तोष दूर हो ।

(१) वारासिवनी वीव्हर्ज क्वोप्रोटिब्व सोसायटी की मूल भूत पूंजी क्या है और उस पर विकास योजना के अन्तर्गत सरकार का कितना कर्ज है ?

(२) क्या यह सच है कि सोसायटी का पैसा एक ही व्यक्ति के पास जमा रहता है और बैंकों में नहीं रखा जाता यदि हां तो ऐसा क्यों किया जाता है ?

(३) क्या यह सच है कि सोसायटी ने गत दिनों अपना हजारों रुपयों का तैय्यार माल घाटे में बाहर के व्यापारियों को बेचा है जबकि तीन माह से रोजाना तैय्यार माल के भाव बढ़ रहे थे ? और कि—

(४) सोसायटी के कर्मचारियों ने कितने रुपये नगद या उधार या कितने रुपये का माल लोगों को दे दिया है ?

यह गश्न ऐसे हैं जो सोसायटी के सम्मान के साथ सम्बन्धित हैं क्या रजिस्ट्रार महोदय जनता के सामने सोसायटी की इज्जत को बरकरार रखने का प्रयत्न करेंगे ?

कटंगी ग्राम पंचायत के चुनाव न करवा कर सरकार अनैतिकता को प्रोत्साहन दे रही है ?

कटंगी

गत सात वर्षों से कटंगी ग्राम पंचायत के चुनावों का प्रश्न खटाई में पड़ा है और कटंगी की जनता की ओर से इस सवाल पर लगातार आन्दोलन किये जाने के बावजूद भी सरकार इस ओर से आंखे बन्द किये पड़ी है ! हज़ारों की संख्या में दस्तखत नथी कर, बार बार राजधानी में जा कर मंत्रियों के सामने प्रतिनिधित्व करके कटंगी के नेताओं ने सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना चाहा मगर चूंकि ग्राम पंचायत के मौजूदा कांग्रेसी शासक तिवारी जी के "अपने" माने जाते हैं इस लिये सरकार ने इस ओर न ध्यान देना था न दिया ! उलटा नगर पालिका का पचड़ा खड़ा करके इस प्रश्न को ठण्डे बस्ते में डाल दिया । क्या मरकार की यह अचहेलना अनैतिकता को प्रोत्साहन नहीं है ?

फिर पीली दुवन्नी ?

सरकारी घोषणा के अनुसार पीली दुवन्नी का चलन दिसम्बर १९५८ तक जारी रहना चाहिये था मगर हमारे बालाघाट जिले में पिछले एक महिने से फिर पीली दुवन्नी लेने से इन्कार किया जाने लगा है और कोई दुकानदार उसे लेने के लिये तैय्यार नहीं । मजे की बात तो यह है कि सरकारी खजाने और बैंकों में दुवन्नी ली जाती है मगर जिस ढंग से वहां काट की जाती है उससे जनता को भारी क्षति का सामना करना पड़ रहा है । सरकार की ओर से पीली दुवन्नी की कोई पहचान नहीं बताई जा रही है और न ही आम जनता में कोई एलान पीली दुवन्नी लिये जाने के संबंध में किया जा रहा है जिस का फल गरीब जनता को बहुत बुरी तरह

से भुगतना पड़ रहा है और यह समस्या काफी परेशानी का कारण बन रही है ।

मैं कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी की ओर से क्लेक्टर महोदय से यह प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वह शासन की ओर से पीली दुवन्नी की सही पहचान तथा दिसम्बर तक उसका चलन जारी रखने के सम्बन्ध में शीघ्र स्पष्ट घोषणा करके जनता को परेशानी को दूर करे ।

रामप्रसाद पाठक

कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी की जिला समिति की ओर से

जाहिर नोटिस

जाहिर किया जाता है कि मु. पार्वतीबाई महादेवकर तथा दि-गम्बर महादेवकर में दिनांक ६-७-५८ को आपसी बटवाड़ा होकर बटवाड़ापत्र रजिस्ट्री हो चुका है. पार्वतीबाई के हिस्से में मौज मुरफड प० ह० नं० ५५ तहसील वारासिवनी की खसरा नं० ६४२ रकबा २.१८ एकड़ हक मौरूसी की जमीन जो वारासिवनी वार्ड नं० १ बजरंग राईस मील के सामने का दो मंजरा मकान पक्का कुवा ट्टी सहित चौड़ाई २३ हाथ व लम्बाई ८३ हाथ है अब इस बटवाड़े के मुताबिक पार्वतीबाई खुद मालकिन है. उपर लिखी जायजाद बेचना है जिस किसी को लेना हो वह श्री मनोहर मोरेश्वर माहुरकर वारासिवनी इनसे मित्रर सौदा कर सकते हैं । वास्ते जाहिर नोटिस दिया सो सही फ. तारीख १६-७-५८

नि० अं० मु० पार्वतीबाई महादेवकर

रामपायली पोलिस द्वारा डोंगरमाली के चार गरीब वक्तियों पर बर्बर अत्याचार

बालाघाट २६ अगस्त ५८ ।

आज यहां डोंगरमाली थाना रामपायली के श्री टीकाराम, भादू उमरलाल, सूरजलाल, तथा सुखल व० उमरलाल चार भाईयों ने जिला कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी के नाम एक दरखास्त में बताया है कि रामपायली पोलिस ने ता० ७-८-५८ को किसी चोरी की जांच के सम्बन्ध में बुलाया और ता० २४-८-५८ तक लगातार नाजायज हिरासत में रखा । दरखास्त देने वालों ने अपनी दरखास्त में पोलिस द्वारा उन पर किये गये बर्बता पूर्ण अत्याचारों का उल्लेख करते हुये लिखा है कि उन्हें डाक बंगले और पट्टे के बाड़े में निर्दयता पूर्वक पीटा गया और कई कई घण्टे उलटा लटका कर रखा गया और उन्हें मजबूर किया गया कि वह किसी दूसरे का नाम लें । मार से तंग आकर एक भाई ने एक दूसरे व्यक्ति का नाम लिया भी । ता० १२ से २४ अगस्त तक उक्त व्यक्तियों के कुछ सगे सम्बन्धियों ने श्री आर. एन. शुक्ला तथा श्री सुरेन्द्रनाथ खरे जैसे सम्मानित वकीलों द्वारा श्री डी. एस. पी. साहिब से इस अत्याचार को बन्द करने और मुजल्मों को जमानत पर छोड़े जाने की मांग की किन्तु जब रोज नामचे में गिरफ्तारी ही दर्ज न होतो जमानत कैसी ?—वह तो श्री सिवलाल बिसेन वकील बालाघाट ने जब स्वयं मौके की जांच की और अपनी कार पर उक्त मुजल्मों को लाकर डी. एस. पी. साहिब के सामने पेश करके मार के निशान दिखाये तब कहीं जाकर कप्तान साहिब को स्थिति का सही ज्ञान हुआ ।

श्री बिसेन ने जिला क्लेक्टर के सामने दरखास्त पेश कर इस अत्याचार के खिलाफ खुजी अदालती जांच की मांग की है तथा काम्प्लेन्ट बोर्ड को भी इसकी प्रतिलिपी भेजने का फैमला किया है ।—यह अत्याचार हमारे जिले की पोलिस के मौजूदा बर्बर रूप की एक नंगी तस्वीर है इसमें कोई शक नहीं । मार इतनी अधिक थी कि एक आदमी तंग आकर कूप में कूद गया ।

यह पत्र मुद्रक विहारीलाल रिछारिया, सम्पादक तथा प्रकाशक-प्रेमनाथ भन्डारी ने श्री कमलावत प्रि. प्रेस, वारासिवनी में छपाकर

आवाज प्रकाशन कार्यालय वारासिवनी में प्रकाशित किया है ।

13 SEP 1958

118

COAL CONFERENCE

New Office bearing (270)

President. Com. Vittal Rao

Gen. Secy - Com. Kalyan Roy

Secretaries - Prasanta Bhusan, Chaturanan,
Satyanarayana (Simparesni)
+ SK Sastry (MP)

Vice Presidents. Rama, Elias, Menasimhan
(Kolar)

- Delegates from W. Bengal, Bihar + Andhra.
- one from M.P. (not SK Sastry)
- none from Orissa (Barkh Union did not attend)
- 2 workers came from Jamshedpur to greet the conference. Delegates gave spot collection of Rs. 106/-

They want General Secretary's Report to be printed by AICC.

Jagannath Sarkar to send report for TUR

25 SEP 1958

270

The Colliery Mazdoor Sabha.

G. T. Road.

Asansol.

Dated 23rd Sept, 58.

To,

The Secretary,
Ministry of Labour & Employment.
Govt. of India.
New Delhi.

Sub: Demand for direct payment and abolition
of Contract system in Trammig depart-
ment, Dhenoo Main Colliery, Macneill &
Barry Ltd. (West Bengal)

Dear Sir,

I wish to bring to your notice the serious
problem created by the continuance of Contract System
in Dhenoo Main Colliery (Macneill & Barry Ltd, West Bengal).

The Trammers of this Colliery have sent
several petitions to the management demanding direct
payment and abolition of Contract System.

Failing to get any reply from the management,
the union has submitted several petitions to the Labour
Inspector (Central) Meerapur, is enclosed (Annexure A).

We would like to know what action is being
taken by the Ministry to abolish the Contract System in
trammig as demanded by all the Trammers in the Colliery.

Waiting your reply.

Yours Sincerely

B. Tewari
(Benerasee Nath Tewari)
General Secretary.

Copy to:

The Chief Labour Commissioner,
Ministry of Labour & Employment.
Govt. of India, New Delhi.

The General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress.
New Delhi.

✓ The General Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers Federation.
Dhanbad.

*Quoted in
Pan. Office
25/9/58*

ThaxGalkient

Annexure A

True Copy.

Government of India
Ministry of Labour & Employment
Office of the Labour Inspector (Central) Neamatpur.
Buruwan Dist.

No. E-2(5)/58

Dated 17th September, 1958.

To,
The General Secretary,
Colliery Mazdoor Sabha-- Asansol.

Sub: Demand for direct payment and abolition
of Contract System in Trammig Department,
Dhemo Main Colliery, MacNeill & Barry Ltd
Asansol (west Bengal)

Ref: Your letter dated 23-7-1958.

Dear Sir,

I am to inform you that the question of
abolition of the contract system is receiving attention
of the Government and is under consideration. Action
will be taken as soon as the instructions are received
in the matter

Yours Faithfully

Sd/ C. Narayan
Labour Inspector (C)
Neamatpur.

25 SEP 1958

INDIAN MINE WORKERS FEDERATION

DT: 23. 9. 58
Colliery Mazdur Sabha
G. T. Road.
Asansol.

Dear Com. K. G.:

Enclosed are two letters.

One to Shri R. L. Mehta and the other to the Regional Labour Commissioner on the question of the continuous deadlock at East Jemehary colliery. Please go through the letters which will explain the situation. I think we have been betrayed. And put into a rather embarrassing position before the workers. Accepting the advise of the Shri Mehta and the R.L.C., we told the workers, against their wish, to sign the bond and go to work. And now the management is not taking them. They have taken only 30 and about the remaining they are saying all sorts of things. This is sheer double crossing and should be squarely put before the Joint Secretary. Management is again intimidating them and we are preserving peace inspite of great provocations by them.

(2) Enclosed is a letter regarding the contract labour in Trammig in Dhemo Main colliery for action.

I hope you will take up the case of the east jemehary workers in the light of the present developments.

Could you let me know somehow the approximate date of the meeting of the industrial committee. Because during the puja, we will be going out.

Yours sincerely

Kalyan Roy

23. 9. 58

Camp : Colliery Mazdur Sabha
G. T. Road.
Asansol.

Regional Labour Commissioner,
(Central), Dhanbad.

Sub: Illegal activities of the Management of the
East Jemehary colliery & Refusal to allow
79 workers to resume their duties &
Intimidation and threat.

Dear Sir:

I deeply regret that inspite of our best cooperation with you and acceptance of suggestions given by Shri R.L.Mehta and you, the situation of the colliery has hardly improved. And I further regret that after our discussion with you, we have not at all been informed what steps you have taken to arrange for the jobs of these workers illegally left out by the management.

Firstly, we do not know why the workers were not given 24 hours time before signing the bond for consultation with us. This is an act of supreme high handedness of the management and we regret that there is a feeling that management is dictating the terms and the Industrial Relations Machinery is afraid to disturb it.

Secondly, when only after a day of your visit, and as advised by us, the workers went to the manager to sign the bond as required, why were they not allowed? ~~xxxx~~ Then after the visit of Sri Benarasi Tewari, General Secretary, Colliery Mazdur Sabha, to you and your subsequent visit to Asansol and Ranijunj on the 17th Sept, 30 workers have been allowed to resume their duties.

This is most surprising. Why 30 out of 118? (Please note that nine workers of 118 have left). Then why ~~did the~~ were we told that if we ask the workers to sign the bond, they will be taken? Accordingly we asked the workers to sign the bond, and now we find that the management is double crossing us. Is it fair?

The whole thing appears to us rather mysterious. And we have not at all got a far deal. When we have accepted the suggestion that workers will be allowed to resume their duties after signing of the bonds, then why are they prevented inspite of their repeated approaches to the Manager?

And now the management is telling the workers that they are not going to allow any more to resume their duties and going to throw them out of their quarters. And the workers are telling us what sort of compromise has been made by the union and the R.L.C.?

I would request you to immediately arrange for the immediate employment of the remaining 79 workers.

Awaiting a reply,

Yours faithfully

—
(Kalyan Roy)
General Secretary.

Copy to: Shri R. L. Mehta, I.A.S.
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of Labour & Employment,
New Delhi.

General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress,
4 Asoka Road. New Delhi.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao. M.P. .
President, Indian Mine Workers Federation,
New Delhi.

Indian Mine Workers Federation.

23. 9. 58
Camp: Colliery Mazdur
G. T. Road.
Asansol.

Shri R. L. Mehta, I.A.S.
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of Labour & Employment,
New Delhi.

Sub: Gross Illegal activities of the Management of
the East Jemehary Colliery, P.O. Raniganj &
Continuous refusal to allow workers to resume
their duties since the 30th May, 1958.

Dear Shri Mehta:

I deeply regret to inform you that the situation in the East Jemehary colliery is far from happy and our expectations have not at all been fulfilled. Absolute peace which is being maintained by the union Colliery Mazdur Sabha is being considered by the management and the Contractor as a sign of our weakness and a fresh dose of intimidation has started.

The present situation is this. I had a detailed talk with Mr. Singh, Regional Labour Commissioner, Dhanbad, at Raniganj Conciliation office on the 5th Sept, which was practically boycotted by the management whose representative Shri S.N. Mullick walked out a few minutes after the discussion began. I told Mr. Ranjit Singh that we are prepared for any settlement for the reinstatement of 118 workers and left the thing to him to bring about a speedy settlement.

Mr. Singh later went to the colliery and asked the workers to sign the bond and go to work. The workers wanted one day's time to consult us as we had gone to Bhurkunda to attend the second annual conference of the Indian Mine Workers Federation from the 5th to 7th. The request of the workers was

The request of the workers was rather brushed aside, and a kind of ultimatum was given to them, like now or never. However, they said that they are ready to sign within 24 hours only after consultation with myself.

One day later, as advised by myself and Sri Benarasi Tewari, General Secretary, Colliery Mazdur Sabha, when the workers approached the Manager, and said that they are ready to sign the papers: they were told by Shri Gumin, Manager, that he is not prepared to take any one of them without fresh instruction from the Regional Labour Commissioner.

Accordingly, Shri Tewari, General Secretary, saw Shri Singh at Dhanbad and explained to him the situation arising out of the management's refusal to allow them to resume their duties inspite of their readiness to sign the "bond". Later, Shri Singh came to the Asansol and after a discussion with the management, some 30 workers were allowed to join their duties from Thursday, 18th Sept.

But nothing is known about the remaining workers who are still being allowed to resume their duties. Their number is 79. Nine workers have left the colliery.

The management is saying that they are not going to take any more worker and some of the contractor's gang are threatening them to leave their quarters. The situation is again deteriorating.

Nor do I understand the stand taken by the R.L.C. He has not informed us when these remaining 79 workers are going to be taken? How long they are going to remain out of work? And why the management is again threatening them to leave their quarters?

The whole thing is very very mysterious. We expected and were told that workers will be allowed to resume their duties after signing the bond and we told them to do so. Now when they are prepared to sign, the management is not taking all of them and majority is left out. Not only this is a breach of assurance given by the Ministry but also have put us into a great embarrassment. It seems that either the government does not want a settlement or it has no power to compell the management to abide by standing order and its own labour laws and codes.

These 79 workers cannot infinitely wait and Puja is coming soon. I would request you to intervene to allow these remaining workers to go back to work within a fortnight as we have kept every word & accepted the suggestion given by you. This double talk of the management is again creating misunderstanding.

Awaiting a reply,

Yours Sincerely
(Kalyan Roy)
General Secretary.

Copy: *handwritten*
A. J. T. U.C.

Sept 25, 1950

270
Dear Com. Kalyan Roy,

Yours of 23rd inst.

2. I had a talk with Shri Mehta just as I received your letter. He says that his report is that all workers will get jobs, may be in instalments. I have protested against the behaviour of the management. He will look into it now (by this time, he had not seen your letter) and issue instructions to the RLC.

3. In my letter dated Sept 8, I wrote to you very clearly that the bond to be signed should be agreed upon by all the parties, i.e., the union, management and the RLC. It should also provide for the immediate reinstatement of all employees who sign the bond.

From your letter, it seems the whole thing was left over to the RLC and no written agreement or letter was insisted upon.

According to the report of the RLC to the Ministry of Labour, it seems that the management said that they would take workers in instalments. How is it that the RLC knew it and not our Union leaders? Please find out if this is true.

Secondly, it also seems from your letter that you did not amend the bond as suggested by me. If this was done, the feeling among the workers would have been different.

Anyhow, let us know the correct position so that the matter is pursued from here, ~~and~~ ^{and} all the workers get back their jobs.

What about the question of their wages for the past period, re-instatement or re-employment, etc. It appears, on this score also, we did not settle anything with the RLC.

We are sending a question in Parliament (next session) regarding the contract labour in Dhemu Main colliery.

As yet no date has been fixed for the Industrial Committee meeting. Mr. Nanda has to fix it up according to his convenience - likely in October.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G.
sep 25
(K.G. Sriwastava)

4 OCT 1958

COLLIERY MAZDOOR SABHA

Regd. No. 3449.

(Affiliated to A. I. T. U. C. & Indian Mine Workers' Federation W. F. T. U.)

President :- Bijoy Paul.

Genl. Secy :- Benarasi Nath Tewari.

Ref. No.

124
~~EX-1000~~ BOARD ASANSOL
Topsi Branch. Po. Topsi.

Dated 30. 9. 1958.

To
The Minister of Labour & Employment,
Govt. of India,
New Delhi.

Sub :- Closure of Mithapur Colliery. Po. Satgram. Burdwan.
Non-payment of wages, bonus, arrear dues as per -
L.A.T. Award and other dues.

Sir,

I wish to bring your notice the extreme hardship faced by over 150 workers of the Mithapur Colliery following non-payment of wages, salary, arrear dues as per L.A.T. Award, & dues etc.

The management entered in to an agreement with the union before the R.L.C.(C) on 20.5.58 to clear up all the dues. But instead of making prompt payment, the management without any notice whatsoever closed the colliery since 20.6.58.

Uptill now the workers have not received a single pie from the management who has started selling of their machinery & equipment. This has created a great fear among workers that the management would leave after selling their goods and without making any payment to workers. The matter has been reported to the R.L.C.(C) but nothing has happened so far.

The entire action of the management is absolutely illegal and clear violation of the code of dicipline.

I would request you to intervene in this matter and compell the management to clear the dues to workers.

Yours faithfully

B. T. O.

K. D. Chatterjee,
org. Secretary

COLLIERY MAZDOOR SABHA

Copy to :-

1. R.L. Mehata,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of Labour & Employment,
Govt. of India,
New Delhi.

2. S.A. Dange. M.P.
G. Secretary, A.I.T.U.C.

3. To
The Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers Federation.
all for information & necessary action.

K. D. Chatterjee
K.D. Chatterjee,
Or. Secretary,
Colliery Mazdoor Sabha.

President - Biju Paul

Ref. No. 7

24 SEP 1958

हिन्दुस्तान खान मजदूर फेडरेशन
Indian Mine Workers Federation

DHANBAD (Phone 2855)

Ref. No. 270

Dated 22nd, September, '58.

To,
The Editor,
T. V. Record.

Dear Sir,

Enclosed is a short statement in relations to closure of the Muslia Colliery, P.O. Kaliphari, Dt. Burdwan, by the Mines Department following a big explosion on the 10th Sept, 1958. I would appreciate if you kindly publish it in your journal.

Thanking you.

Yours Faithfully.

Kalyan Roy
(Kalyan Roy)

General Secretary,
and Member, Steering Committee
in relations to safety in
Coal Mines.

Sumitranandan Pant
4/25
24/12

Shri Kalyan Roy, General Secretary, Indian Mine Workers' Federation & Member, Steering Committee in relation to Safety in Coal Mines: has issued the following statement :-

" We condemn the sudden closure of the Muslia Colliery (Managing Agent: Bhartar's Agency), P.O. Kalipahari, Dt. Burdwan by the Mines Department from the I shift (4 P.M.) 10th of Sept, '58.

In the morning of the 10th of Sept, there was a big explosion in the No. 1 Pit and the pit-top was heavily damaged. However, there was no casualty. Soon after the explosion which took place at about 11 a.m., the workers came out of the pit. The management did not care to inform the Mines Department, which was done by the local union, Colliery Mazdoor Sabha. The Regional Inspector of Mines Mr. H.E. Ghose accompanied by Mr. Mukherjee, Inspector of Mines, inspected the mine at about 12 p.m.

But what is the most surprising is the attitude shown by Mr. Mukherjee who when approached by the union officials and workers on the spot, refused to say anything to them on the ground that it was a top secret and the matter concerning the management and the Mines Dept. Then they left and the Colliery was closed. Uptill now the workers, and the union know nothing why the explosion occurred and exactly why the mine has been closed?

The union deprecates the attitude of the Mines Dept to the union, particularly when right from Shri Gulzari Lal Nanda, Minister, Labour & Employment, Govt. of India, to the various owner's associations are stressing the need of close cooperation between the labour, management and mines dept in matters of safety and conferences are being held for that purpose. How can a union educate general workers in relations to safety matters if they are not told the origin and source of dangers and treated rather contemptuously?

Secondly, we would request the government to investigate the mining method of this management and the role of the Mines Dept. in relations to this Colliery. Because this is the second time in this year that this Colliery has been closed down, throwing 500 workers out of employment.

It was first closed down by the Mines Dept from the beginning of March '58 to June '58. The question is what were the dangers which led to its closure in March '58? Were all the dangers removed at the time of its re-opening in June '58? If so, why this second closure on the 10th Sept.?

We have reasons to believe that an attempt is being made to suppress the real facts and we demand a thorough enquiry to find out the real causes behind the closures and factors responsible for it.

25 SEP 1958

हिन्दुस्तान खान मजदूर फेडरेशन
Indian Mine Workers Federation

DHANBAD (Phone 2855)

Camp : G.T. Road, Asansol

Ref. No.

Dated The 23rd September, 1958.

To
The Editor,

T. U. Record.....

..New Delhi.....

Dear Sir ,

Enclosed please find a short report of the second conference of the Indian Mine Workers' Federation held at Bhurkunda Colliery (Hazaribagh Dist) on 5-7th September, 1958 for the favour of publication in your esteemed journal , which will be much appreciated.

With thanks.

Yours sincerely,

Wky
General Secretary.

Dated, the 23rd Sept., 1958.

A Short Report on the 2nd Conference of the
Indian Mine Workers' Federation on 5-7 Sept.,
1958, held at Bhurkunda (Hazaribagh, Behar) .

The Second Conference of the IMWF was held on 5-7th Sept., 1958, at Bhurkunda in Hazaribagh district (Bhurkunda Colliery)

Nearly 200 delegates came from Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, and Behar representing Coal, Iron, Mica, Manganese. Delegates also came from Barbil and Gua Iron Ore workers' Union

300 volunteers under the leadership of Com. Mahendra Bharati, Chairman, Reception Committee and Com. Chaturanan Misra, General Secretary, Coal Workers' Union, Giridih, worked continuously to provide the delegates and observers with the maximum possible ease and comfort.

The venue of the Conference was named after late Com. Binode Mukherji who was one of the pioneers of Trade Union Movement in Bihar and led the 3-month long strike of the West Bokaro workers.

Com. G. Babaiya, leader of the Singareni coal workers, hoisted the flag of the IMWF and thereafter laid a wreath on the Martyrs' Column erected near the pandal.

Com. T.B. Vittal Rao, M.P., President of the IMWF was elected to the Chair. Com. Mahendra Bharati, Chairman, Reception Committee greeted the delegates and observers. Delivering his address he ~~gave~~ gave a graphic picture of the working and living condition of the workers in the state collieries (NCDC). It is still a sorry state of affairs - a bureaucracy reigning hell all over the state collieries, violation of the Award going on, bungling combined with nepotism and despotism ruining our nation's most valuable assets. Worst of all, there is no trade union right. The workers are deprived of the minimum amenities and benefits guaranteed statutorily. In his presidential address Com. T.B. Vittal Rao, M.P., gave an account of the miners' trade union movement and the role of the IMWF played in it. Com. Prasan Burman, Secretary, IMWF, presented the report of the General Secretary in his absence due to illness. Delegates participated in the deliberations on the Report with zeal and vigour and placed before the Conference their daily bitter experience. The Report was then adopted by the conference with the proviso that the Report should be finalised in the light of the discussions that took place.

The Conference heard with rapt attention the messages received from Com. S.A. Dange, M.P., General Secretary, AITUC (ill-health prevented him from attending the conference) and the All China Congress of Trade Unions. In his ~~address~~ message, Com. Dange, put before the Conference the task of campaigning for nationalisation of all the mines - a step forward from the resolution on nationalisation taken in the first conference. Expressing their inability to attend the Conference the message from All-China Congress of Trade Unions voiced their deep conviction and confidence in the inevitable victory of the struggle against Anglo-US Imperialism in Arab, in Kuemoy & Matsu and elsewhere.

The Resolution Sub-Committee placed before the Conference the Constitution and the Resolutions. With minor or no amendments they were all adopted by the Conference unanimously. The resolutions passed are on :

On Nationalisation of Coal Mines; On Nationalisation of all mines other than coal mines; On NCDC; On amendment of the Mines Act, Workmen's Compensation Act, Bonus Scheme, Standing Orders,

On Trade Union Rights and Recognition of Trade Unions; On Social Security ; On Occupational Diseases, Sick Khoraki & light work; On amendment of the Mines Act,; On safety in the mines; On abolition of Contract System; On general amenities and benefits for the moners etc.

The Confernce elected a Working Committee of 25 fram with the following as office-bearers :

- 1. President Com. T.B.Vittal Rao, M.P.
- 2. Vicepresidents: Com. Md. Illias, M.P.
- 3. Com. Renu Chakravarty, M.P.
- 4. Com. N.C.Narsimam, M.L.A.
- 5. Com. Sristidhar Mukherji
- 6. Gen. Secretary: Com. Kalyan Roy.
- 7. Secretaries :Com. Chaturanan Misra
- 8. Com. Prasant Burman
- 9. Com. S.K.Sanyal
- 10. Com. P. Satyanarayana.
- II. Treasurer :Com. Chinmoy Mukherji.

The conference g handed over a purse of Rs.106/- collect ed from the delegates and observers in response to a call from the Chair to the delegation that came from ~~the~~ Jamshedpur on behalf of the Jamshedpur Mazdoor Union.

The open session was attended by over 4000 workers coming from collieries miles afar inspite of heavy rain. Com.T.B. Vittal Rao presided and the meeting was addressed among others by Comrades Kalyan Roy, Chaturanan Misra explaining the resolutions of the Conference.

The resolution on nationalisation of coal mines and all mines other than coal mines demanded nationalisation of all such mines for proper compliance of safety measures and save our national assets from being wasted away by the profit-hunter monopolists in the private sector.

The resolution on the working of National Coal Development Corporation demanded institution of a "parliamentary committee constituted of all parties and M.P.s" to enquire into the working of the NCDC "and a ballot be taken to decide the issue of representative union for recognition." The resolution asked the Govt. & the NCDC to accept the charter of demands submitted by the workers.

The resolution on Food-Crisis viewing the situation with grave concern demanded that supply of food-grains at cheap price should be ensured to the workers and opined that the crisis can only be tackled properly if cooperation of the popular parties, trade unions & Aisan sabhas are taken by the Government.

The resolution on the Coal Mines Welfare Organisation and Housing demanded improvement in the functioning of the Organisation's activities and formation of such committees for other branches of mining. Housing should be given top priority.

The resolution on Recognition of Trade Unions demanded secret ballot to determine the true representative nature of a trade union. The resolution on Trade Union Rights and civil liberties condemned the anti-labour practices of the employers as well as of the Govt. for example, "refusing ~~the~~ to register unions..., depriving TUs from utilising the facilities of conciliation and various ~~other~~ methods of discrimination practiced by the Government against trade unions which do not enjoy the patronage of the employers" which is causing widespread discontentment among the miners.

Resolutions demanding immediate grading of all workmen with retrospective effect; extension of provident fund to all branches of mining, introduction of gratuity for workers of all branches of mining; modification of the Workmen's Compensation Act to provide half-monthly payment of relief as also lump sum payment of compensation; and institution of Wage Boards for all branches of mining.

Resolutions were passed also demanding effective steps against the increasing menace of occupational diseases such as, pneumonococcosis, TB, silicosis etc and institution of a Medical Inspectorate; amendment in the Bonus Scheme, Workmen's Compensation Act, and the Standing Orders to the effect that bonus should be paid proportionate to the no. of days worked and be calculated on the Basis and D.A., the rate of compensation be ~~r~~ in case of death be raised to Rs. 3000/- & in cases of partial disablement suitable alternative job should be provided for their rehabilitation, and the standing orders should be scrapped and redrafted in consultation with the trade unions to make it a really democratic one suitable for a society based on Socialist Pattern; resolution was passed demanding free supply of uniform (2 prs), Helmet (1), Shoes (1 pr), Warm clothing & Rain coats for all workmen and blankets in addition to these be issued for the sanitary mazdoors., restrictions laid down in the Award for payment of Return Rly Fare be waived with retrospective effect, transport for workmen living outside the colliery, Free Housing, proper treatment of TB & such other diseases and establishment of Zonal Clinics; Sick allowance @ full pay for the first 15 days and @ halfpay for the subsequent period, light work or adequate compensation for workers recommended for light work, on the surface; abolition of contact system was also demanded in a resolution

4 OCT 1958

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
(DEPT. OF MINES & FUEL)
MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES & FUEL

No.C4-33(5)/58.

NEW DELHI-2, the ^{13 Oct}~~12 Sept.~~, 1958.

To

13 OCT 1958

The Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress,
4, Ashoka Road,
NEW DELHI

SUBJECT: Death of 5 persons due to gas effects
in Nishchinta, Asansol, on August 11,
1958.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter dated the 6th September, 1958, on the above subject, and to say that the accident referred to was the subject matter of a question asked by Shrimati Renu Chakravartty, in the Lok Sabha on the 23rd September, 1958. In reply thereto the Deputy Labour Minister has already pointed out that no fissures or cracks were known to have developed in the roof of the galleries in the seams lying below the village and the well and that no gas was known to have seeped into the well from the underground workings.

Yours faithfully,

(Signature)
(S.S. MANI)

JOINT SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF INDIA.

132

1310

October 4, 1958

Secretary,
Colliery Mazdoor Sabha,
G.T.Road,
ASANSOL.

Dear Comrade,

With reference to your letter
re. death of 5 persons due to gas effects
in Nishchinta.

We enclose herewith copy of a
letter received from the Ministry of
Steel, Mines & Fuel, for your information.

We would like to have your comments
on the Ministry's letter, if there is
any, to take up the matter further.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

ms
412
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

131
210
October 4, 1958

URGENT

Dear Com.Kalyan Roy,

The note from you on "lawlessness in mines" in relation to the Mine Managers' complaints has not yet been received.

This is considerably overdue.

Please send the same by return post.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

hmo
412
(K.G.Sriwastava)

270
3 APR 1958

131
Dated, the 29th Sept., '58.

To
The Hon'ble Minister for Labour & Employment
Government of India
New Delhi.

Subject : Anti-trade union activities of the Agent,
Jamuria Group of Collieries, M/s Macneil
and Barry Limited, P.O. Nandi, Burdwan.

Dear Sir,

I wish to invite your attention to the following incidents of violation of the Code of Discipline and the Code of Conduct by the management of the collieries run by Managing Agent M/s Macneil and Barry Ltd, P.O. Dishergarh, District Burdwan., for necessary action thereupon.

Sri B.N. Bag is the Agent of the Jamuria Group of Collieries, Macneil & Barry Ltd/. His activities are all solely promoted with the intention of crushing the trade union movement in the collieries and as such he is pursuing an anti-labour anti-trade union practice contrary to all democratic principles and the Codes of Discipline & Conduct adopted at the 16th Indian Labour Conference at Nainital . The general situation so far as labour unrest is concerned is very bad in these collieries thanks to his policy. Among many of his activities worth citation I am referring to two cases of eviction only. Though the eviction has not yet taken place yet the matter ~~xxxxxx~~ stands at filing of a petition before the civil court praying for their eviction of Sarvasree Kamal Mandal, President, Jamuria A&B Pits colliery Branch and Ramdhari Sardar, Organising Secretary, Jamuria Group of Collieries . These petitions have been filed with the intention of (i) virtually closing-down the local union offices and (ii) to evict the two outstanding personalities in the local trade union movement, popular for their long service to the workers. As a matter of fact the office of the Jamuria A&B Pits colliery Branch is situated in the quarter allotted to Sri Kamal Mandal, its President and the office of the Jamuria Group of Collieries Branch is situated in the quarter allotted to Sri Ramdhari Sardar, its organising secretary. All these branches are of the Colliery Mazdoor Sabha., and therefore are the local offices of the Colliery Mazdoor Sabha.

Sri B.N. Bag has gone to the extent of terrorising them by his hired goondas and chaprasis. On one occasion, (reported duly to the O.C., Jamuria Police Station, Burdwan) obstructed them from entering into the quarter premises with the purpose of ~~xxx~~ creating disorders and consequent to such disorders to evict them per force . But, due to the vigilance of the workers the game was foiled.

All these activities are being continued when appeals under section 23 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 are pending before the Court filed by them. Attention to their illegal actions ~~xx~~ was drawn by Sarvasree Kamal Mandal and Ramdhari Sardar in their individual petitions before the Aotg. Supdt, Equitable Coal Co. Ltd. ~~xxxx~~ of which M/s Macneil & Barry Ltd. are the Managing Agents and to whom the collieries in Jamuria group as referred to here belong. But, no action has so far been taken by him also in this respect showing fully well that the policies being pursued by Sri Bag are in
p.t.o.

are in fact the policies laid down by the Company .

So, unless immediate action is ~~is~~ taken by the Government of India to curb such activities of the Companies and their responsible personnels the fate of the Nainital Documents will be nothing better than sealed for ever and an avalanche of industrial unrest will sweep over the country which the Colliery Mazdoor Sabha is ~~is~~ willing to avoid but, it can be done if the efforts of the Government is fully cast in its favour.

There are signs and symptoms which of course are causing alarm among the workers and the trade unionists.

Hope you will allay them and take effective measures in stopping the company from evicting Sarvasree Kamal Mandal and Ramdhary Sardar from their respective quarters.

Copies of their individual petitions addressed to the Actg. Supdt, E.C. Co.Ltd are herewith forwarded for your information and necessary action.

With thanks.

Yours faithfully,

Encls: 2 petitions as stated
above in last para.


General Secretary.

cc: Sri R.L.Mehta, Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment,
Government of India., New Delhi.

✓ Sri K.G.Srivastava, Secretary, All India Trade Union Cong.,
4. Ashok Road, New Delhi. for action

Sri Kalyan Ray, General Secretary, I.M.W.F., Dhanbad.

3 APR 1958

G.T.ROAD

ASANSOL.

Dated, the 29th Sept., 1958.

Com.K.G.Srivastava,
Secretary,
A.I.T.U.C.,
4, Ashok Road,
New Delhi.

Dear Comrade,

Your letter on Nimcha (E.Semehary) colliery dated 25.9.58 is in hand.

It is evident from the copy of our letter to the RLC sent to you that the RLC did not inform us of anything

We did not press for immediate modification of the bond as workers were at the last point of their patience and further delay over the issue of modification would not have helped us to keep the morale of the workers. However, we thought that this issue may be taken at a later stage.

So far, only 30 workers have been re-employed but no news about the rest. Nothing has been communicated to us by the RLC so far. It is also not known when and how the rest will be taken in. In the meantime, new hands have been recruited.

The matter must be taken up by ~~the~~ Sri Mehta immediately and it would be preferable if he visits the colliery and makes the management to sign the agreement.

The workers who have been taken in so far are now being regularly terrorised so that they leave the colliery of their own. Charge sheets are being issued against them purposely.

With ~~the~~ thanks & sincere greetings.

Yours sincerely,

K.R.
(Kalyan Roy)

Reply

It was I had a talk with Sri Mehta when he came here for Col. Hazdoor. He is better you will the RLC point out the facts of the case which he has agreed with the employer. If he can give us written letter.

I am again assured that the employer has agreed to take all workers back he is not willing to give a time limit. This is because we are at the time of negotiations at the spot. I criticized it before Mehta but now he has to see that away is possible. He has to agree on time is, one of the steps to ensure this has been taken at the instance of the Ministry.

138
October 7, 1958

Com.Kalyan Roy,
Colliery Mazdoor Sabha,
G.T.Road,
Asansol.

Dear Comrade,

Yours of 29th September re. East Jemehary.

I had a talk with Shri Mehta when he came back from Calcutta today. It is better you meet the RLC and get all the facts of the case on what he has agreed with the employer. If he can give us in writing, that would be better.

I am again assured that the employer has agreed to take all workers but he is not willing to give a time limit. This is because we erred at the time of negotiations on the spot. I criticised it before Shri Mehta but now we have to see that as early as possible, all the workers are taken in. One of the steps to ensure this has been taken at the instance of the Ministry to stop eviction from quarters of the labourers who have not yet been taken back, because they are in any case to be taken back ultimately.

Regarding new entrants, it is better that you bring this to the notice of the RLC in writing, with copy to us and may be, to Shri Mehta. He will not believe unless he hears from the RLC.

Efforts should be made even now, on the spot, to take the RLC into confidence and have some agreement with the management, if possible written, or otherwise.

A visit of Shri Mehta is not possible just now as he is too busy with other jobs elsewhere - Bombay, etc. You should have met him at Calcutta - he said his visit was publicised in the press. Probably you were not in Calcutta last week.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

mm
71E
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

- 6 OCT 1958

142

हिन्दुस्तान खान मजदूर फेडरेशन Indian Mine Workers Federation

DHANBAD (Phone 2855)

Ref. No.

Dated 30. 8. 58
Camp: Pravat Hotel
G.T.Road. Asansol.

My dear Sriwasatva:

Enclosed is the note of code of discipline which I have sent directly to Shri R.L.Mehta (Ref. No. E&I-35(7), Govt of India, Ministry of Labour & Employment.)

Could you give it proper publicity in the T.U.Record ? Also in the NEW AGE. The publicity in New Age is important. Let me know.

(2) The East Jemehary crisis continues. And you will be surprised that uptill now, I have received no letter from the Regional Labour Commissioner (C). ~~There~~ We have not been informed anything what transpired between him and the management. Will you please tell Shri Mehta about the mysterious way the whole thing is developing. And the management is threatening the workers and telling them to quite their quarters. This matter has been reported to the R.L.C., but he is silent.

Yours fraternally
Kalyan Roy
(Kalyan Roy)

Recd.
Please note that the folder
where the report is carried in
by the R.L.C. for submission to the
Govt. should be sent to the R.L.C. in
same manner as the folder. The
certificates in the folder should
understand that the folder should
When forwarded is given in
the folder 2 copies given
that one is given to the
other. It should be kept in
the folder for R.L.C. in
the folder.

- 6 OCT 1950

हिन्दुस्तान खान मजदूर फेडरेशन
Indian Mine Workers Federation

DHANBAD (Phone 2855)

Ref. No.

Dated 26. 9. 58
30

Shri R. L. Mehta, I.A.S.
Joint Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of Labour & Employment,
New Delhi.

Subject: Lawlessness of the Colliery labour and the
need for appointment of an Enquiry Commission.

Ref: No. E&L-35(7)/58, Govt. of India. Ministry of Labour
& Employment.

Sir:

We are glad to note that the "Implementation of the code of discipline in the coal Mining Industry" has been included as an item for discussion in the next meeting of the Industrial Committee on coal mines. As a matter of fact, the Federation raised the matter in its MEMORANDUM ON THE Points raised BY THE MINISTRY of Labour and Employment in its letter No.B-3/96 (3) /57, dt.6.8.57 on 15. 8. 57 at Asansol and again in our letter to the Minister of Labour & Employment on 28. 7. 58.

So far as the alleged "lawlessness on the labour front in the coal industry" is concerned, the matter was also raised in the SAFETY COMMITTEE (C) by representatives of the Mine Managers Association. While we did not at all agree with the views of the Association, we expressed our opinion in favour of a High Power Commission to go into all aspects of labour relations in mining areas. However, it is the representatives of the Indian Mining Association who came out strongly against any such enquiry. Apparently, the I.M.A. is happy with the present situation.

Coming to the subject raised by the IMMA, we want to state that there is no lawlessness on the labour front in the coal industry. The list given by the IMMA deals with cases which alleged to have taken place before 1958-- long before the code of discipline came into existence. And unions affiliated to the ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS and the Indian Mine Workers Federation are not involved in any one of them. As a matter of fact, our enquiry shows that practically in all these cases (some of them are absolutely false like ^{Nudlam} Jamuria A & B pits colliery in April 1956 by labour leaders, Senora Bansjora) managers are victims of their own rudeness, illtemper and failure on the part of employers to implement labour laws and such acts were committed by individual labourers being provoked by the management.

And we are rather surprised that when the Central Government keeps absolute silence on various representations made by the unions like the Colliery Mazdur Sabha, Bihar Koyla Mazdur Sabha, Coal Workers Union of Bazaribagh District, (all affiliated to the A.I.T.U.C. & I.M.W.F.), in relations to attacks on trade union rights by the managements and Police, they have rushed to circulate these two documents by the IMMA which represents only a handful of managers. We hope that the Labour Ministry will circulate the documents on violations of code of discipline by the managers and the managements received from various unions in relations to attacks on trade union rights.

For the last few years, the industrial relations is bad, strained and there is a great deal of distrust between management and labour. And particularly there is a ~~great~~ ^{great} sense of insecurity among trade union workers, belonging to to unions affiliated to the I.M.W.F. & A.I.T.U.C. This point was raised by us in our memorandum on the points raised by the Ministry of Labour and the Employment in its letter No. B-3/96 (3)/57, dt. 6.8.57 and there we stated specific reasons for it but unfortunately we have not received any reply from the Ministry. Extracts from the Memorandum is enclosed. (Annexure A). However, we are again giving the causes of tension and unrest in the following paragraphs:

1. The managements, both State (National Coal Development Corporation) and private collieries, including managers, have viewed the developments of trade unions in coal fields with suspicion and anger. Still now, excepting a few, the managements are trying to crush the unions with their power. Only recently, Mrs. Seeta Paramanand, M.P. stated in the Raya Sabha that the main job of so called welfare officers in collieries is to destroy unions.
2. There is absolutely no security of jobs for the workers and employees who are engaged in trade union activities and on slightest pretext, they are dismissed, discharged or transferred. They are under continuous harassment and are discriminated in matters of quarters and other facilities. Representations to the Ministry yield no result.
3. The continuous use of police force to suppress the trade union activities. It is our bitter experience that whenever workers move to build unions either in places where there is no trade union or in place where they have lost confidence in the union recognised by the employers, the local police appear in the horizon and actively help the managements to suppress them. False cases are instituted. Section 144 is imposed. And workers are intimidated in all possible ways.

As a matter of fact, there are Police cases against all the leaders of the A I T U C & I M W F affiliated unions in Ranigunj, Jharia & Hazaribagh coal belts. Only recently, in early July, 1958, Sri Kalit Burman & Sri Chinmay Mukherji of the Bihar Koyla Mazdoor Sabha were arrested in connection with disturbance at Selected Jharia Colliery, Jharia, Dhanbad, inspite of the fact that none of them were present at the spot and the office of the Bihar Koyla Mazdoor Sabha was itself the target of attack by goonda elements, actively backed by the local police. Similarly, Sri Benarasi Nath Tewari, General Secretary, Colliery Mazdoor Sabha, West Bengal, along with leading members of the union were arrested on the 28th July, 1958, on a charge of "Attempt to murder" but Sri Tewari was later released unconditionally when the Police found it difficult to build up a case. The goonda elements who attacked Sri Tewari and others was left untouched by the Police of Ranigunj. Following the same pattern, the police of the Hazaribagh has opened a general offensive against the leaders of the the Coal Workers Union of the Hazaribagh district and police cases are pending against Sri Mahendra Nath Bharati, Secretary, and others ---- the only reason is they have dared to challenge the supreme authorities of Colliery employers in that vast jungle area. Only recently, section 144 was imposed in the Bhurkunda colliery just on the eve of the second annual conference of the Indian Mine Workers Federation with the sole intention to prevent the holding of the conference. However, it was withdrawn at the last minute. Besides the facts mentioned above, there are numerous instances of police terror against our unions, the news of which have been sent to the local S.D.O. and Ministry of Labour from time to time.

(4) The whole atmosphere has been further ~~poisoned~~ poisoned by the Central and state government's determined policy to foist the INTUC unions over workers and open discrimination against other union particularly against AITUC & Koyla Mazdur Panchayet. The sudden removal of Sri Prasanta Burman, Secretary, Indian Mine Workers Federation, from the Transport Advisory Board in 1954 to the nomination of Sri Kanti Mehta, General Secretary, Indian National Mine Workers Federation, to the Board of Directors of the National Coal Development Corporation in 1957 (where the Coal Workers Union has got the largest membership) show the pattern of the Government policy. This policy of discrimination in favour of the INTUC is also reflected in constitution of various committees in relations to the coal industry.

This official patronage of the INTUC unions has encouraged the employers to withhold recognition to unions belonging to AITUC & IMWF unions. And perhaps one of the main sources of the present bitter relations between labour and management can be traced to this. And also the main reason of multiplicity of unions.

It is our unfortunate experience that from the National Coal Development Corporation to private collieries in Bengal, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, employers refuse to recognise, sit together and talk with unions belonging to the AITUC & IMWF and "recognition" depends on the whims of employers and not on the strength and following of unions among workers. Things have come to such a stage that colliery authorities are constantly refusing to attend even conciliation proceedings to deal with ~~xxxx~~ individual cases submitted by the AITUC unions. The result is complete deadlock in these collieries. And one can very well imagine the state of industrial relations in these places. Letters to employers bring no replies. All attempts to settle the cases at the colliery level inevitably end in failure because employers do not like the "small" of AITUC unions.

(5) The contract system and method of payment through contractors is another great source of continuous dispute, ill-feeling and tension. The workers under contractors are exploited in all possible ways and contractors corrupt the life of a colliery. It is generally seen that contractors, particularly, in Loading, Traming, Raising departments, some of the managers and a section of "babu" staff form an unholy alliance, thanks to the supply of money by contractors, and make healthy labour-management relations impossible. Contractors act as a wall and sabotage good relations. And it is our greatest regret that inspite of our repeated demands to abolish the contract system, and atleast make arrangement for direct payment to workers, the government has taken no steps whatsoever to do so. The typical answer we receive from the government is "the matter is under consideration." Lately, when the entire Trammers of the Dhemu Main Colliery (MacNeill Barry & CO) submitted mass petition to the Labour Inspector (Central), Neamatpur, Dist. Burdwan, for abolition of contract ~~xxxx~~ system and make arrangement for direct payment, he pleaded his inability to do anything in this matter. It is rather futile to expect PEACE in the coal fields when even this simple demand is ~~xxxxxx~~ kept in the cold storage.

(6) Then the failure of the Industrial Relation Machinery is ~~xxxx~~ is also a big factor for the present unfortunate relations. Here too, we find a bias against unions, not affiliated to the INTUC. And disputes submitted by the AITUC & IMWF unions are seldom referred to Adjudication. In times of emergency, the Labour Ministry instead of bringing about a settlement through quick intervention, allow the crisis to develop as shown in the cases of West Bokaro Strike, East Jemehary Lockout and other similar cases. Even in matter of implementing the Award, which has led to so many strikes in collieries, the part played by the Ministry is negligible. The Implementation Committee which was set up by the Government with a great publicity proved to be useless and utterly ineffective inspite of the presence of the Chief Labour Commissioner. And even ~~xxxx~~ unanimous recommendations of the Implementation Committee (as in the case of overburden workers of the National Coal Development Corporation collieries) has been treated with contempt by the N.C.D.C. authorities and the Labour Ministry did nothing to implement the decision taken under the very chairmanship of the Chief Labour Commissioner.

Coming back to the notes of the Indian Mine Manager's Association, we are of opinion that lawlessness which the IMMA is talking about is a creation of their imagination and there is more evidence of the lawlessness on the part of employers and some managers to crush trade unions in coal fields. This is a mere propaganda to hide the true picture. Only recently, the Indian Mine Workers Federation has received several complaints, copies of which have been forwarded to the Ministry of Labour & Employment, regarding the anti-union activities of Sri Harnam Singh, Agent, Bengal Coal Co LTD, Sri B.N. Bagh, Agent, Equitable Coal Co; Sri D.K. Jain, Manager, Chapui Khas Colliery. We would like to know whether the Ministry will investigate into the complaints.

The so called causes of labour unrest as described by the IMMA is vague and mostly insinuations and slanderings against the working class and trade unions. While we agree that bad housing condition, lack of various facilities like leave, medical, etc, can not lead to cordial industrial relations, we want to point out in which other country in the world, the difference between the salary of a MANAGER and wage of a MINER so vast as here? In which other country, the difference of standard of living between a miner and a manager so great as in this country? In which other country the difference between a Manager's bungalow with lawn and garden and a worker's dhowrah without light,

sanitation and water facilities as in India is allowed to exist? And unless this fantastic economic disparity is removed and workers are treated like human beings, all attempts to establish industrial peace will inevitably end in failure.

We do not know on what basis the IMMA came to the conclusion that wages are now at a fair level, when the minimum is Rs. 69-1, at present hardly enough to buy two maunds of rice. Even the Mazumdar and the LAT Awards clearly stated that ~~xxx~~ wages fixed are minimum and units which can pay more should do so. What happened to workers of West Bokaro, the most highly mechanised mine of India under the Tatas, who wanted a little extra is not unknown in coalfields.

We are entirely in agreement with the IMMA, ^{INT} there should be one union in each colliery. And this demand has been placed before employers and the Government again and again. But as we stated it is the very policy of employers to recognise unions breed unions. elections

The only solution is to hold ~~xxxxxx~~ in collieries where there is more than one union to find out which has got the largest following and the union securing the highest vote should be recognized and accepted in good faith by the management and other unions should cease to function there. This is the only way to prevent the multi-plicity of unions which is worrying us more than it is bothering the IMMA.

While we are entirely in agreement with the IMMA regarding suggestions under the Government Labour Machinery, other suggestions like labour leaders should require a certificate from the Government and those described under the Law & Order are good for a Fascist country or in South Africa or in British Colony, but unthinkable here.

Time has come to restrain the Police force from interfering with trade union activities. In every major strike, the Police have sided with employers and workers have been shot and killed at Loyabad, Banksimulia, Jamuria A & B Pita----- examples of Police brutality in coal fields. And we request the government to halt this police oppression in coal belts.

It is these factors mentioned above that are responsible for the present condition in the coal belts: The Government Labour Policy & Employers offensive against Unions, particularly against AITUC & KMP unions. And because any ENQUIRY would reveal the pattern of labour policy of employers that the representative of the Indian Mining Association opposed so vehemently the suggestion to set up a High Power Body to enquire into the industrial relations in coal fields. So I would request the Mine Managers to convince their bosses about the above suggestion before venturing to ~~xxxxxx~~ ask the trade unions how should they move?

A short list of attacks on unions is enclosed,

Annexure B.

Kalyan Roy
General Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers Federation.

To
The Acting Superintendent,
Equitable Coal Co. Ltd.
Dishergarh P.O.

Dear Sir,

I have received your letter dt. 21st May, 1958.

I regret that this is the second attempt to drive me out of my quarters where I have lived for over 15 years. First, you instituted a case while the appeal under section 23 was pending. That action was illegal.

Now this is the second attempt to drive me out and shatter the local union of which I am the President. I have already informed the P.O. that I have filed in the High Court against the award of the Appellate Tribunal and this fact is also known to you. But in spite of this, out of sheer grudge and with a motive to break the union, you have issued this notice.

It is well known to you and this is the system in all collieries and factories that a worker is entitled to his quarters till the final disposal of the case. So I am utterly surprised that in spite of this you have issued this notice which is totally illegal and mala fide. Moreover, my quarters is also the local office of the Colliery Mazdoor Sabha. So it seems that by driving me out, you want to crush the local union and prevent them from taking up cases in the conciliation offices and elsewhere, which we are doing at present.

I would request you to withdraw this notice pursue a healthy labour policy in this colliery.

24.5.58.

Yours sincerely

Kamal Mandal.

To
The Acting Superintendent,
Equitable Coal Co Ltd,
Dishergarh P.O.

Sir ,

I have received your letter dt.21st May.

I regret ~~xxx~~ that you have issued the letter asking me to vacate the room knowing fully well that my case under section 23 which was heard in the month of February, 1958, has not been disposed and the award has not yet been delivered. My case is sub judice. So till the case is decided, I am fully and legally entitled to remain in my quarters and hence your letter is illegal. Moreover, it is obvious that the whole purpose of ~~xxxxxxx~~ your letter is to break the local union here in various ways. Firstly, an order was issued to chaprasis not to allow us inside inside the gate while it was clear to you that all the cases of this colliery are represented by us. We protested and even informed the police. You are also aware ~~xxx~~ that my quarter is also used as a central union office of the Colliery Mazdoor Sabha for the Jamuria group of collieries, belonging to the Equitable Company. So it seems that by driving us out, you want to get hold of the union office and demoralise the workers. Not only this, we are being threatened to leave the union and a sort of reign of terror prevails in the colliery because of the action of the management.

It is indeed surprising that you are taking law into your own hands without even caring to wait for the decision of the Labour Tribunal.

Any arbitrary action, if taken by the company, to drive us out and get hold of this quarter cum office, will lead to great labour unrest in this colliery. And I would request you to take a reasonable view of the whole thing and usher in a ~~xxxxxx~~ healthy and good labour relations in this colliery.

Yours sincerely

24.5.58.

Randhari Sirdar.

ANNEXURE A.

(Page -One)

True Copy

Indian Mine Workers' Federation.
H. C. Dhanbad.

Dt. 15/8/57

Memorandum on the points raised by the
Ministry of Labour & Employment in its
letter No. B-3/96(3)/57, Dt 6-8-57.

From: Aalyan Roy, Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers Federation.

Agenda:- (1) Promotion of discipline in the industry as
per the decision of the Indian Labour Conference
held recently at New Delhi.

We do not think that discipline has broken down in
coal-fields. What we find in coal industry is lack of
understanding between labour and employers. The relations
between labour and management is strained and even bitter.
Some of its causes are mentioned below:-

a) The refusal of managements to recognise unions
with large following, particularly those unions which
are affiliated to the All India Trade Union Congress,
Indian Mine Workers' Federation and Koyla Mazdoor Panchyat.
The managements recognise unions according to their likes
and dislikes irrespective of the fact whether they command
any influence or not. The refusal of managements to discuss
with all unions, commanding influence, has created a
deadlock in coal-fields.

"Recognition" has become a tool in the hands of
managements, which is being used to prevent the development
of real democratic trade unions and a source of all
confusion. We suggest that either all unions should be
recognised or there should be periodical election to find
out which union has got the largest following and the
union which will get the highest number of votes should
be recognised. The election should be conducted by the
labour ministry in cooperation with managements and labour
unions. This practice has been followed in Dalmianagar
with satisfactory result.

b) Refusal of managements to discuss problems of the
Colliery with leaders of the union at Colliery level. We
feel many small problems which gradually become big and
cause much damage can be easily avoided if the managements
discuss atleast once a week local problems with leaders
of the Colliery at the colliery level.

c) Policy of managements to victimise union leaders by
way of discharge, transfer and dismissal. This has become
a regular pattern in both private and state collieries. We
can give hundreds of cases where leading union leaders
have been transferred to remote places.

d) Another and perhaps one of the biggest causes of present unrest is the Failure of Conciliation Officers and conciliation office to settle or even help to solve disputes.

What we find to-day is that when a dispute of grievances or a complaint is sent to Conciliation Officers(C), these officers send us back the comments of managements which we already know. The Conciliation Officers have become "Post Offices" whose only duties seem to be distribution of letters.

The attitude of the Labour Ministry is also unhelpful. When we fail in conciliation and managements blantly refuse to come to any settlement and then we send the particular case to ministry for referring the dispute for adjudication, the usual reply is "The case is not Fit for Adjudication".

We suggest that Conciliation Officers must held joint conferences on receipt of complaints, and all cases particularly cases of dismissals, transfer etc which will not be settled in conciliation or regional labour commissione commissioner's offices should be sent for adjudication in labour courts or tribunals.

We regret that inspite of our repeated demands the Government has not set up any Labour Court in this biggest industrial belt in India. The choice of Nagpur is most unfortunate and our suggestion is that Labour Court should be immediately set up at Dhanbad.

.....

Sd/ Kalyan Roy

Annexure B

We are giving here a few instances where employers, managers and Police actively combined to crush the unions. Detailed reports have been sent to the Ministry in all these cases.

Bihar (Dhanbad Area)

1. Amlabad Colliery: In early 1954, when the local AITUC union and workers tried to meet the Manager with a list of grievances, the Manager called the Police who looted the union office with the help of goonda elements, burnt down some of the workers' quarters, arrested and assaulted the union leaders including Sri Chinmay Mukherji and created such a terror that over 100 workers fled from the colliery. A few days after this attack on workers, the explosion took place. The request of the AITUC for a full enquiry into the matter was turned down.
2. Angarpathra Colliery: Soon after the first conference of the Indian Mine Workers Federation in this colliery in 1954, the employer tried to impose a company union on workers which created a deep resentment and ultimately led to a clash. A leading worker of the local union (AITUC) was killed. But the Police with the help of goonda elements attacked the union office, destroyed it and a large number of workers was forced to leave the colliery. The goonda elements imported from outside set up a union of their own. Protest to the Bihar government yielded no result.
3. Selected Jharia Colliery: In early July, 1958, the Police intervened to assist the management to prevent the workers from joining the AITUC union. When the attempt of the company to take by force the union office was foiled by workers, the police resorted to lathi charge and even beat up workers in their quarters. Sri Lalit Burman & Sri C. Mukherji were arrested. Although none of them were on the spot and actually informed the local authorities about the disturbance.

Similar incidents happened in Loyabad and other collieries involving the AITUC & Koyla Mazdur Panchayat unions.

HAZARIBAGH DISTRICT

For the last four years, the Coal Workers Union, has been subjected to all sorts of attacks by the Police and managements, including the authorities of the National Coal Development Corporation. In 1953, Sri Mahendra Nath Bharati, General Secretary, (CWU) was arrested from the office of the Superintendent of Collieries, Giridih, where he was invited to discuss certain demands. Many other Police cases were launched by the Police at the instigation of the management against leaders of the Coal Workers Union in Giridih area from 1953 to 1956.

Similarly in Bermo & Kargali area, leaders of the AITUC union were also victims of unfair labour practice. In 1955, Sri K.K.Sinha and others were attacked by hired goondas when they were returning from a meeting and written complaints were made to the Police that Shri Fell, Manager, Bermo Collieries, directly organised this attack. But no action was taken. In 1956, the authorities of the N.C.D.C. came to an written agreement with the leaders of the coal workers Union and others regarding the implementation of the Award after a demonstration of nearly 10,000 workers. But after the agreement, the authorities suspended some of the leading members of the C.W.Union and Police arrested them in violation of the agreement. The management singled out the Coal Workers Union for the attack. Repeated complaints have been made to the authorities regarding discrimination against the members of the AITUC union in matters of allotment of quarters etc, but the management has so far paid no heed to complaints. In spite of the fact, that the AITUC union has captured majority of seats in the Works Committee, the N.C.D.C. is still refusing to recognise it.

In Bhurkunda area, Sri Bharati, Sri Nazru and other union leaders (AITUC) have been repeatedly arrested by the Police at the instigation of the management. And the managements of Bird Sandhya Colliery, Pora (K.C.Thapar & Co) Colliery, Manki colliery are systematically trying to impose company union on workers although the workers owe allegiance to the AITUC Union. The result is seen in the present tension in this area.

Raniganj Coal Belt:

The colliery Mazdur Sabha (AITUC & IMWF) has repeatedly drawn the attention of the Ministry to unfair labour practices of the employers in this belt. In this attack on the Sabha, employers have been assisted by the Police. Some of the cases are mentioned below:

1. Adjoy Second Colliery: In the middle of 1956, Sri Arun Sarkar, Secretary of the union, was assaulted inside the mine by an outsider, ordered by the employer Sri Chopra himself. But the Police arrested Sri B.N.Tewari, General Secretary, Colliery Mazdur Sabha, who went there to pacify workers. Later, he was acquitted by the Court. In 1957, Sri Chopra made another attempt to prevent collection of union subscription, and police was informed by the union. Since then, Sri Chopra with the help of a Contractor has setup a company union and forcing workers to become members of that union.

2. Bankimulia Group of Collieries (Seebpur & others)
In this group, the Agent of the Bengal Coal Co., Sri Harnam Singh is engaged in intimidating and threatening the workers to leave the Sabha since 1956. Only recently, the Sabha has written to the Minister of Labour & Employment, regarding his activities.

3. MacNeill Barry Group of Collieries: The Sabha has already drawn the attention of the Ministry to illegal activities of the Agent of the Equitable Coal Company in Jamuria Group, Sri B.N.Bagh. Cases have been launched by the management to force the Sabha to vacate their offices in the colliery. In Dhemo Main Colliery, the management in early 1958 tried to stop collection for the union and the Police was informed by the union.

4. New Jemehary Khas Colliery: Here the management did & resorted to all sorts of methods to destroy the union. And in this union breaking game, the Ranijunj Police rendered the management their best service. The Police ~~came~~ ^{collected} altogether nearly 10 cases against the union leaders in course of one and half year since 1957. And in all the cases, (some are still pending) the leaders were fully acquitted. Surprisingly, the Police did not file a single case against the management inspite of the repeated serious complaints by the workers. The Sabha has drawn the attention of the State government and the Labour Ministry but no reply came from either one of them. Repeated mass petitions of workers against the unfair labour practices of the management to the various authorities yielded no result. And the tension persists.

5. East Jemehary Colliery: Here the management locked out a large number of workers and after reopening refused to take back over 100 workers. The Regional Labour Commissioner declared it a lockout. But the management kept the workers out of their employment (the dispute is still continuing) without any chargesheet and insisted that the workers must sign a bond saying it is a illegal strike. The police arrested a number of union leaders. And repeated approaches to the Labour Ministry yielded no result so far. The workers are now out of their jobs since May, 1958. And the matter is still under consideration of the Labour Ministry.

Instead of making this list a very long one, we may add that the managements of Kuardih, Mithapur, Sripur (Truner Morrison), Chapui Khas collieries are carrying on all sorts of unfair labour practices and the attention of the Ministry has been drawn to them.

Assam The Assam Railways & Trading Compnay LTD has not viewed the development of the Assam coal workers union with satisfaction. Towards the last of February and first week of March, 1958, the managers of Tikok & Ledo collieries got a large number of workers arrested by the police. The only fault of workers was that they wanted the managers to discuss their gri-vances with the General Secretary of the AITUC union. However, mass demonstration of workers later led to an agreement between the union and the management. But the relations between the management and the union is strained because of the non-settlement of a large number of demands.

143
October 7, 1958

Dear Com.Kalyan Roy,

Your letter of 30th September and the enclosed note. Many thanks.

In future, whenever the report is called for by the AITUC for submission to the authorities in the Government, please note that the same should be sent to the AITUC centre and not to the Government direct, unless otherwise stated.

Whenever publicity is required in New Age, it would be advisable to send two copies to us or better still, to send a copy to them direct.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

KGS
9/12
(K.G.Sriwastava)

October 6, 1958

General Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers Federation,
Dhanbad.

Dear Comrade,

As you know, the 1600 workers of Hutti gold mines, led by our affiliate, the Hyderabad Gold Mines Labour Union, (P.O.Hutti, via Raichur, Mysore State) are on strike since September 8.

The strike is complete and peaceful but the Government of Mysore, major shareholders in the mines, are persisting in their adamant attitude and no settlement has been therefore forthcoming. In view of this situation, the General Secretary of the Union has also started hunger strike from September 29 onwards.

It is necessary that to help with their struggle against the adamant management, the Hutti miners are given the fraternal support from all miners' trade unions. We would therefore suggest that the Federation may take the necessary initiative to render fraternal aid to the Hutti union and arrange remittance of solidarity funds at the earliest.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Umro
6/R
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

10
-8 OCT 1958

6th Octo - 1958
Dt: 6.10.58

My dear K.G.:

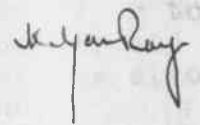
Enclosed is a letter to Shri Mehta.

Hope you have received the note of code of discipline.

I will be able to send you the article for the T.U.Record, by 21st October, 1958. Will that do? let me know.

I will be at Calcutta from the 15th Oct, 1958. and come back after the Pujas.

Yours sincerely



18 OCT 1958

India Mine Workers Federation
Dhanbad.

6th October, 1958

Camp: Pravat Hotel
G.T.Road.
Asansol.

Shri R.L.Mehta,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of Labour & Employment,
New Delhi

Sub: East Jemehary Colliery Ref: my letter dt.23.9.58

Dear Shri Mehta:

Uptill now we have not been informed ~~addition~~ by the Regional Labour Commissioner, (C), Dhanabd, ~~company~~ actually what he did in consultation with the management. We were verbally told that workers would be taken back. But there are 79 people still out of their jobs. It seems to be rather a mistake on our part to accept the suggestion that all would be allowed to resume their duties after signing the bonds. And according to our instruction, they have approached the Manager and agreed to sign the bonds repeatedly. The news has also been communicated to the R.L.C. more than once.

But instead of allowing them to resume their duties, they are being threatened by contractor's armed chaprasis, who are trying to make them leave their quarters. And even wives of workers in the time of bringing water from the common tubewell are being abused.

And I am afraid that these workers, out of employment because of illegal Lock Out, as pointed out by Shri Venkatachalam, Dy.C.L.C., since the 30th May, will have no other alternative but to resist this fresh dose of terrorisation with all their power.

May I again request you to settle the matter as your assured before the Puga vacation.

Awaiting a reply,

Yours faithfully

General Secretary

-9 OCT 1958

No. 00/3(13)
Government of India,
Ministry of Steel, Mines & Fuel,
(Deptt. of Mines & Fuel),
Office of the Coal Controller,
1, Council House Street,
Calcutta, the 3rd October, 1958

To

The Secretary,
Indian National Trade Union Congress,
17, Janpath, New Delhi.

✓(2) The Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress,
R.L. Trust Building, 85, Girgaon Road,
Bombay-4.

(3) The Secretary,
Hind Mazdoor Sangh, *Sabli*
Servants of India Society's Home,
Sandhurst Road, Bombay-4

(4) The Secretary,
Bihar Colliery Mazdoor Sangh,
Opposite State Bank of India,
Dhanbad.

(5) The Secretary,
Koyala Mazdoor Panchayat,
P.O. Jharia, Dhanbad.

(6) The Secretary,
Indian Nation Mine Workers Federation,
122/7, Hazra Road, Calcutta.

Dear Sir,

Sub:- Circulation of Coal Council (questionnaires
to workers' organisation.

I am directed to forward herewith for your information
and comments, if any, a copy of the Indian Standard Procedure
for coal reserve estimation drawn up by the Assessment of
Resources Committee of the Coal Council of India.

Please acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,

S.S. Garga
(S.S. Garga)

Secretary to Coal Controller.

Handwritten notes:
11/10/58
19/10/58
1/11/58

INDIAN STANDARD PROCEDURE FOR
COAL RESERVE ESTIMATION

The following standard procedure for coal reserve estimation is intended to provide uniform rules and definitions for Geologists and Mining Engineers so that the estimates prepared in different areas and by different persons can be suitably correlated and combined into all India and International figures. Obviously this procedure cannot be applied rigidly to all coal-bearing areas and modifications within its broad frame work to suit the geological features in particular areas are permissible. Wherever such modifications are made, however, proper explanations should be given.

The basis of calculation of all regional coal reserves is the geological map of the coalfield. The degree of reliability of the estimates will depend on the degree of reliability of the geological map and the data available from the same. The latest available geological maps should, therefore, be used in every case.

1. Reserve data shall be reported according to (A) the amount of overburden on the coal and (B) according to the depth from surface, as follows:-

| | | |
|-----|-----|---|
| (A) | (1) | Overburden equal to one thickness of the seam or seams, where two or more seams occur in close proximity. |
| | (2) | " " " " two " " " " |
| | (3) | " " " " three " " " " |
| | (4) | " " " " four " " " " |
| | (5) | " " " " five " " " " |
| (B) | (1) | 0 metre to 150 metres or 0 - 500 ft. |
| | (2) | 150 metres " 300 " or 500 - 1000 ft. |
| | (3) | 300 " " 600 " or 1000 - 2000 ft. |
| | (4) | 600 " " 900 " or 2000 - 3000 ft. |
| | (5) | 900 " " 1200 " or 3000 - 4000 ft. |

In arriving at figures of reserves within the abovementioned overburden limits and depths, the dislocation caused by faults should be taken into account and their effect eliminated while demarcating the sectors under different categories for the purpose of calculation.

2. Classes of Reserves

2:1 On the basis of the relative reliability of data coal reserves shall be classified as follows:-

2:1:1 Proved Reserves. In this case, the reserves are estimated from dimensions revealed in outcrops, trenches, mine workings and bore holes and the extension of the same for a reasonable distance not exceeding

200 metres (660 ft.) on geological evidence. Where little or no explanatory work has been done, and where the outcrop exceeds one kilometre (3300 ft.) in length, another line drawn roughly 200 metres (660 ft.) in from outcrop will define a block of coal that may be regarded as proved on the basis of geological evidence.

2:1:2 Indicated reserves. In the case of indicated reserves, the points of observation are 1,000 metres (3300 ft.) apart but may be 2,000 metres (6600 ft.) for beds of known geological continuity.

Thus a line drawn 1,000 to 2,000 metres (3300 to 6600 ft.) in from outcrop will demarcate the block of coal to be regarded as indicated.

2:1:3 Inferred Reserves. This refers to coal for which quantitative estimates are based largely on broad knowledge of the geological character of the bed, but for which there are no measurements. The estimates are based on an assumed continuity for which there is geological evidence, and more than 1,000 to 2,000 metres (3300 to 6600 ft.) in from the outcrop.

2:2 Proved reserves shall be further divided as follows:-

- (i) In working collieries
 - (a) Coal standing on pillars and in partings, roof and floor.
 - (b) Solid coal.
- (ii) In closed mines
- (iii) In areas covered by mining leases but not worked.
- (iv) In other areas.

3:1 Thickness range. The average thickness of coal seams shall be calculated and stated in centimetres (and feet). Partings greater than 5 centimetres (2 inches) in thickness shall be excluded in calculating reserves. The burnt out portions of coal and jhama shall be excluded while taking thickness of the seams for the purpose of calculation.

3:2 The thickness range for individual seams for the calculation of reserves shall be as follows:-

- a) 0.5 metres to 1.5 metres (1.5 ft. to 4.5 ft.) ;
- b) 1.5 metres to 10.5 metres (4.5 ft. to 10.5 ft.) ;

pto

- c) 3.5 metres to 5 metres (10.5 ft. to 15 ft.) ;
- d) 5 metres to 10 metres (15 ft. to 30 ft.) ;
- e) above 10 metres. (Above 30 ft.) ;

4:1 The reserves of each individual seam in a sector or part of the coalfield shall be given separately.

4:2 Reserves in virgin seams or solid coal may be calculated in the case of flat seams on the basis of area, the thickness of coal beds and a correction applied in the case of seams with inclination above 5 by multiplying the figures with the Secant of the dip angle. All reserves shall initially be expressed in cubic metres or cubic ft.

5) Coal mined and lost in mining. This shall be calculated by either of the two methods given below :-

i) By actual quantitative measurements in working mines. Its comparison with coal production figures gives a yield percentage of recovery data which can be applied under similar conditions in virgin areas to determine the recoverable reserves;

ii) Where no data is available, the production figure increased by a percentage factor of losses in mining gives the quantity of coal worked out in a particular coalfield. The balance are the available reserves. The yield percentage factor again applied to available reserves will give the recoverable reserves. Where no other data is available, the yield percentage factor may be taken as 50 tons for every 100 tons of coal mined.

6) Coal in existing mines, closed mines and areas under mining leases.

6:1 The reserves of coal in the seams which have been or are being worked may be calculated from the pillars, partings, roof and floor in the mines and the coal standing as solid blocks. Standard stipulations regarding overburden, thickness categories, class of reserves etc., will apply as in the case of virgin areas.

6:2 The possible losses in working shall be given under the following heads :-

- (a) Coal likely to be lost due to geological features;
- (b) Coal likely to be locked up under roads, railway lines, rivers and jores;

pto

(c) Coals likely to be lost in barriers.

(d) Mining losses.

The working plans of the collieries and the geological maps shall form the basis of calculations.

6:3 The standard procedure shall be followed in every detail in the computation of reserves in the areas under mining leases, the latest geological maps of the coalfields forming the basis of calculation.

6:4 The reserves shall be reported separately for each seam in the form of tables indicating thickness taken and dip, to facilitate break up of figures qualitywise.

6:5 Both in situ and recoverable reserves should be estimated in every case separately. In the case of working collieries the recoverable reserves shall be classified as follows:-

(a) Recoverable without stowing.

(b) Recoverable with stowing.

This will also help in arriving at a recovery ratio factor applicable to the whole coalfield and the calculation of overall recoverable reserves.

7. Rank classification of coals. The figures for reserves shall be classified as follows according to the rank of the coal :-

I. Anthracite.

II. Bituminous.

(A) Low to Medium volatile coals or coking coals.

Air dried moisture upto 2% and volatile matters usually not more than 35% on unit coal basis.

(B) High volatile or High Moisture coals.

Air dried moisture more than 2% or volatile matter usually more than 35% on unit coal basis. Sulphur less than 1% in either case.

(a) Semi coking coals.

(b) Weakly to non-coking coals.

(C) High Sulphur coals.

Sulphur more than 1%. These occur in Assam and although some of them are semi caking they are not suitable for metallurgical purposes.

III. Lignite.

8. The bituminous coal reserves shall be further classified according to quality on the basis of the analysis of seam samples, as follows :-

(A) Low to medium Volatile Coals or Coking Coals.

- Class I - Ash not exceeding 17%
- Class II - Ash exceeding 17% but not exceeding 24%
- Class III - Ash exceeding 24% but not exceeding 35%
- Class IV - Ash exceeding 35% but not exceeding 50%

(B) High Volatile or High Moisture Coals.

- Class I - Ash + moisture not exceeding 19%
- Class II - Ash + moisture exceeding 19% but not exceeding 28%
- Class III - Ash + moisture exceeding 28% but not exceeding 40%
- Class IV - Ash + moisture exceeding 40% but not exceeding 55%

(C) High Sulphur Coals.

No quality classification is needed.

9. Specific Gravity:-

Where reliable data are available, the following average specific gravity of each class within each category should be used :-

(A) Low to Medium Volatile Coals or Coking Coals.

- a) Class I - 1.42
- b) Class II - 1.47
- c) Class III - 1.57
- d) Class IV - 1.70

(B) High Volatile or High Moisture Coals.

- a) Class I - 1.40
- b) Class II - 1.45
- c) Class III - 1.55
- d) Class IV - 1.70

(C) High Sulphur Coals.

Ash Content

- a) 0 to 5% 1.30
- b) 5 to 10% 1.34
- c) 10 to 15% 1.38

10. Unclassified reserves:

Where no data are available or where reliable data are lacking, the reserves should be placed under a category of 'unclassified' reserves and for the calculation of the quantity a specific gravity of 1.5 may be used. These will be split up into various categories and classes as and when reliable data become available.

pto

11. Abnormal coals:

Some coals may exhibit abnormal properties because of their unusual petrographic composition e.g. some coal may show low moisture content but at the same time be non-coking. These should preferably be reported separately.

Gc/-

Note on Action taken in Decisions of the Standing Labour Committee (16th Session) by the Labour Ministry - in respect of

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APPOINTMENT OF A HIGH POWER COMMISSION TO ENQUIRE INTO SAFETY IN COAL MINES

October 13, 1958

The question whether a high power Commission should be appointed to enquire into safety in coal mines was

definitely taken up by the Industrial Committee on General Secretary, Indian Mine Workers Federation, Dhanbad.

The Industrial Committee on Coal Mines has not yet met. Dear Comrade,

We enclose extracts relating to mines, of action taken by the Ministry of Labour on the decisions of the 16th Session of the Standing Labour Committee held in Delhi last year.

We would like to know how far the contentions of the Government in this connection corroborate the existing situation in the mines.

It would also be helpful to our representatives on the Standing Labour Committee, if you could furnish us with particular points which could be raised in the Committee meeting in this connection.

Since the meeting is to be held in the last week of this month, we wish that you send us your comments not later than 20th of this month.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

Encl:

Note on Action taken on Decisions of the Standing Labour Committee (16th Session) by the Labour Ministry - in respect of Mines.

APPOINTMENT OF A HIGH POWER COMMISSION TO ENQUIRE INTO SAFETY IN COAL MINES

The question whether a high power Commission should be appointed to enquire into safety in coal mines was deferred for consideration by the Industrial Committee on Coal Mines.

The Industrial Committee on Coal Mines has not yet met. Meanwhile a Conference on Safety in Mines consisting of mining experts and representatives of workers, employers and Government was convened in August 1958 to discuss the various aspects of the problem of safety in mines. The Conference came to certain tentative conclusions which will be given a final shape at the next session of the Conference. The conclusions of the Conference will be placed before the Industrial Committee. In the light of this action, it is not considered necessary to appoint a Commission.

APPLICATION OF LABOUR LAWS AND MINING RULES TO MINES OF IRON ORE, MANGANESE AND MICA

The Committee recommended that steps should be taken to ensure better enforcement of the laws which were already applicable to mines other than coal mines, particularly in the case of manganese mines.

The recommendation has been brought to the notice of the authorities concerned with the enforcement of labour laws applicable to non-coal mines.

The Mines Inspectorate is being strengthened with a view to providing for more frequent inspection of mines and better enforcement of the statutory provisions.

The Working Group, set up to review the working of the welfare provisions in the Mines Act, Rules, etc. has since submitted its report wherein it has made a number of recommendations regarding better enforcement of the various welfare provisions. These are under examination.

An Evaluation and Implementation Division has also been set up in the Ministry of Labour and Employment, with a view to assessing the extent of non-Implementation of labour laws, awards, etc. and to evaluate the results achieved by such measures.

8 OCT 1958

(L70)

The Colliery Mazdoor Sabha.
G. T. Road.
Asansol.

To,
The News Editor,

J. V. Record, New Delhi.

In Favour Of Publication.

MARTYRS DAY AT JAMURIA A & B PITS COLLIERY.

A meeting was held at Jamuria A & B Pits Colliery (Mac^{nil} & Barr on the 27th Sept '58 under the auspices of the Colliery Mazdoor Sabha in memory of three workers Haroo Pandit, Bara Pradhan Munda and Sovan Ali who were killed by Police firing in 1956-Sept-Strike

A "SAHED BADI" was built by the union which was adorned with pictures of the Martyrs. The leaders of various collieries assembled there at 11a.m. and paid their homage by offering flowers.

Sunil Banerji, Vice-president, Colliery Mazdoor Sabha

The meeting was addressed by Shervasree Kalyan Roy, Gen. Secy Indian Mine Workers Federation, Bejoy Pal, President, Colliery Mazdoor Sabha, Benerasee Math Tewari, Gen. Secretary, Colliery Mazdoor Sabha, and Robin Sen, Gen. Secy, Bengal paper Mill Union. Speakers pointed out the increasing attacks by Colliery employers on workers and union leaders in Raniganj Coal-field and severely criticised the role of the management of the Jamuria A & B Pits Colliery, particularly his Agent, Shri B.N. Bag, who has let loose a reign of terror in the Jamuria Group of Collieries. The meeting passed resolutions condemning illegal discharges, wrong implementation of the LAT Award and attempts of the managements to evict the leaders of the Jamuria A & B Pits Colliery from their quarters. Speakers also appealed to workers to build up an united front against this offensive of the management.

The meeting was presided over by Sri Bejoy Pal, President C.M.S.

PAY STRIKE AT RAMNAGAR COLLIERY.

The workers of Ramnagar Colliery belonging to Indian Iron and Steel Co. near Kulti, resorted to pay strike on 3rd Oct '58 as a protest against a forcible deduction of Rs. 2.50/n.p. by pay clerks who are also leaders of local Colliery Mazdoor Congress.

In the past also, this sort of illegal deduction was made by the Colliery Mazdoor Congress. Repeated protest to the management yielded no result. The pay-strike, frightened the collectors and from 4th morning the deduction was dropped, following intervention by Colliery Mazdoor Sabha and the Conciliation Officer (Central) Asansol.

On 3rd and 4th Shri B.N. Tewari, and Sunil Sen of the Colliery Mazdoor Sabha went around the dhowrats of the workers and asked them to remain peaceful.

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ARM GOONDS ATTEMPT TO HALT PROCESSION.

A gang of armed men, brought from outside by the management of the Chapul Khas Colliery, belonging to Bharat Collieries Ltd, attempted to halt a procession of over two hundred workers of the said Colliery, led by Shri Benerasee Nath Tewari and Shri Sunil Sen, leaders of the Colliery Mazdoor Sabha, who went on 29th Sept '58, morning to submit a memorandum of grievances to the Manager.

The workers remained absolutely peaceful near the gate of the managers the Manager's quarter and sat there inspite of the great provocations given by the hired gangsters.

At first the Manager, Shri D. K. Jain, with a notorious record of anti union activities, refused to meet the union leaders.

As the workers refused to disperse without submitting memorandum, the Manager called the Police. Later, Shri Jain agreed to see the leader of the Colliery Mazdoor Sabha and after a discussion with them, received the memorandum.

Later, the workers held a meeting in which Shri Tewari informed them the content of his discussion with the Manager.

Sunil Sen
Vice President
5/19

The workers of the Chapul Khas Colliery, belonging to Bharat Collieries Ltd, near Hoshiarpur, Punjab, on 29th Sept '58, morning to submit a memorandum of grievances to the Manager. The workers remained absolutely peaceful near the gate of the managers the Manager's quarter and sat there inspite of the great provocations given by the hired gangsters. At first the Manager, Shri D. K. Jain, with a notorious record of anti union activities, refused to meet the union leaders. As the workers refused to disperse without submitting memorandum, the Manager called the Police. Later, Shri Jain agreed to see the leader of the Colliery Mazdoor Sabha and after a discussion with them, received the memorandum. Later, the workers held a meeting in which Shri Tewari informed them the content of his discussion with the Manager.

15 OCT 1958

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15. 10.58

My dear K.G.:

Enclosed are two letters in relations to the Hutti Strike.

You are aware of our financial position. So could you possibly, send a cyclostyled appeal to all unions for help. There in that appeal you may refer to our support.

Kalyan Roy

Kalyan Roy

11

While we are evermost to keep the Fed. MTWPs. In the extent possible as in the past it would be wisest to send freshing it for new Delhi.

Our Janakpuri appeal is still open. Munis Union except Pindia has not subscribed to it. I think this matter may appear to the Munis more than Janakpuri & therefore on your appeal some funds may be collected to help the Hutti Munis.

By using a fund appeal to all unions (which has cyclostyled while means extra expenditure) while in the situation is not likely to get more response, we are want to have it a game.

I am sure the union would be thankful to you for the support.

But letters need pass through you. 16. Who will be receiving call: on Oct. 20.

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हिन्दुस्तान खान मजदूर फेडरेशन
Indian Mine Workers Federation

DHANBAD (Phone 2855)

Ref. No.

Dated 13th 10. 58

General Secretary,
Hyderabad Gold Mines Labour Union,
Mysore State.

Dear Comrade:

We extend our wholehearted support to your strike in order to secure proper wages and better working condition for miners of Hutti.

The Federation strongly condemns the inactivity of the Government of Mysore which has allowed the strike to continue for over a month without making any attempt to bring about a reasonable settlement with the union.

The Federation has sent a letter to the Minister of Labour & Employment, New Delhi, (a copy of which is enclosed) urging the Centre to intervene to end this strike brought about by the adamant attitude of the Government of Mysore.

The Federation is trying to render some aid to your union.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally

A. Kalyan Roy
(Kalyan Roy)

General Secretary

(V)

हिन्दुस्तान खान मजदूर फेडरेशन
Indian Mine Workers Federation
DHANBAD (Phone 2855)

Ref. No.

Dated 13. 10. 58

To
Minister of Labour & Employment,
Government of India,
New Delhi.

Sub: Strike of 1600 workers of Hutti Gold Mines

Sir:

We wish to bring to your notice the prolonged strike of Hutti Gold mine workers. The matter is simple and could have settled long ago had the Government of Mysore shown any desire to settle the dispute. All attempts by the Hyderabad Gold Mines Labour Union to settle the issues failed to soften the stand of the State Government. And strike is the direct result of this unfortunate stubborn policy of the Government.

The demand for an uniformity in wages and service conditions in all the gold mines in the State is a fully justified demand for which the Hutti workers have been agitating for long. And it is a matter of great regret that when all coal miners, scattered all over India, are covered by a single Award and enjoy the same facilities, why gold miners within a state should not be given the same wages etc?

We would request you to intervene in the matter and bring about an early settlement.

Yours faithfully
(Kalyan Roy
(Kalyan Roy)
General Secretary

ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS
4 Ashok Road,
New Delhi

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October 15, 1958

Dear Com.Kalyan Roy,

Your letter of 13th inst. and the enclosures on the Hutti Strike.

While we are ever ready to help the IMWF to the extent possible, as in the past, it would be incorrect to start functioning it from New Delhi.

Our Jamshedpur appeal is still operative. Miners unions except Giridih have not subscribed to it. I thought this incident may appeal to miners more than Jamshedpur and therefore, on your appeal some funds may be collected to help the Hutti miners.

By issuing a general appeal to all unions (and that too cyclostyled which means extra expenditure) which in the circumstances is not likely to get enough response, we do not want to make it a farce.

I am sure the Hutti Union will be thankful for your support.

The IMWF letterhead pads are being sent through Com.Indrajit Gupta who will be reaching Calcutta on October 20.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

V. M. 15/10
(K.G.Sriwastava)

The Singareni Collieries Workers Union

(AFFILIATED TO A. I. T. U. C.)

BRANCHES:
YELLANDU
BELLAMPALLI

Kothagudium Collieries P.O.
BHADRACHALAM ROAD STATION
(CENTRAL RAILWAY)

P. No. VP/42/867/58.

Date 12th, Oct 1958.

The General Secretary,
Andhra Pradesh Trade Union Congress,
Himayat Nagar,
Hyderabad.

Dear Comrade,

Further to my letter dated 8th, Oct' 1958,
I have to bring to your notice the following matter.

On 9th, morning section 144 was announced,
prohibiting public meetings either in maidans or lanes.

On 10th, morning at 4-30 am, the police took
in to custody Comrades M. Komariah, General Secretary,
V. Rajeswar Rao, Joint Secretary along with seven more
workers under various charges.

The police used abnormal methods in arrest-
ing these leaders and workers. Even the previous night
to their being arrested Com. Komariah went to the police
officials asking them not to make a big show of the arrests
since that would unnecessarily lead to tensions. If Com.
Komariah was one of those to be taken in to custody, the
police officials could have told him of the same and arres-
ted him atonce. But they did not do so, and early in the
morning they went to his house with a big pose of armed
police in lorries and jeeps as though there would be trouble
when arresting.

Contd on page 2.

This is suspected to be purposely insisted upon the police by the INTUC and District Congress leadership.

Otherwise the local police never resorted to such methods. But this time the INTUC did all this with a definite plan to create terror by some way or other and establish their position in the disturbed conditions.

From what has happened till now it now appears to us that INTUC wanted the situation to go to the extent of flooding the colliery town with armed police and create panicky among the workers.

To achieve this end they have provoked series of incidents during the past few days.

We have been very carefully observing their plans and thus took all precautions to see that our workers do not fall in to their trap. In fact it has become a testing period for us and we tolerated the most provocative action by the INTUC.

Having failed in all other methods, lastly they resorted to beat our comrades. This has enraged our workers and they went in a big procession condemning the goondaism committed by INTUC.

Now after this procession they have come out with charges that our workers have attacked their people and damaged their property. They are filing number of cases against our workers.

They expected chaotic conditions followed by strikes soon after arrests of Com. Komariah and Com. Rajeswar Rao. But we have come to know their plans, took all the precautions to see that there is no stoppage of work and as a result of our efforts the workers went in the mines even few minutes earlier than usual time. Thus their plan was failed. Now the only course left for them is to lodge false complaints and involve our workers in cases. Ofcourse we will face this boldly.
Contd on page 3.

There is no necessity, in fact, for promulgating 144 section. But using their ruling party influence on the district police Officials, INTUC got 144 section promulgated. It is distressing to note that the state Govt. thought it wise to have disturbed condition in the colliery area. The peaceful atmosphere being maintained in this industry has its good results in increased production for which the Union is really proud of.

We are unable to understand why the state Govt. is encouraging this sort of disturbance by INTUC in this industry where the Govt. should have more interest in maintaining peace.

You will be astonished to note that Sri. K. Sudarshan, M.L.A who was here on the day when INTUC workers beat our delegates has planned the attack on our workers sitting in INTUC Office at Ramavaram and when he knew that workers were marching in a procession ran away to Kothagudium.

One more interesting things

Some of the INTUC workers are dreaming of the Rajakar days and they are wishing to have the opportunity of seeing once again those old days. They are openly talking about those Rajakar days and that the Union leaders will be put behind the bars. It is unfortunate that INTUC has among its care some elements who hail the ~~similar~~ activities of Rajakars of Nizam days.

Inspite of all these provocations by INTUC, we are trying our level best not to get provoked and we are sure that our workers in general are conscious of this policy of ours.

But for their realisation of INTUC goonda plans, it would have been difficult for our workers to foil their games and maintain peaceful atmosphere.

Now everything is moving normally.

Copy to General Secretary,
A S TUC
New Delhi

Yours fraternally,
P. Satyanarayana
(P. Satyanarayana)
Vice- President.

15 OCT 1958

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The Singareni Collieries Workers Union
KOTHAGUDIUM.

Sri K.G. Srivastava,
~~the~~ Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress
4 Ashok Road New Delhi

12th, Oct' 1958

Dear Comrade.....

I reached this place on 10-10-1958, on learning of the assault ^{on} of our Union office-bearers by the I.N.T.U.C gangsters. I give briefly the incidents as they took place.

On 28th, Sep' 1958, there was the annual General Body Meeting of the Share Holders of Kothagudium Collieries Co-Operative Society. The election of the members of Managing Committee was conducted by Chairman of the Society, Sri L.R. Sharma, Deputy General Manager of the company. Seven out of the nine members were elected with an overwhelming majority. I.N.T.U.C Leader Sri Narayana Reddy sent his men to contest the elections. Many of them were fully drunk. They tried to disturb the Meeting from the beginning. They were infuriated when the Union sponsored candidates were getting elected with a big majority. As the Chairman called for voting for the rest of the seats the I.N.T.U.C representatives rushed to the dias and demanded that the elections should be conducted by means of secret ballot. On the Chairman declining they even went to the extent of assaulting the Chairman. The Assistant Registrar of Co-Operative Societies (Govt. Official) was present throughout. His attention was also drawn by our representatives to the roudly behaviour of the persons belonging to rival organisation. Whereupon the meeting was adjourned. The local Circle Inspector of Police was also there but he did not take any action on these roudy elements being afraid of the local Congressmen.

Contd on page 2.

Since they were dubbing even the Govt. Officials as communists.

There was a public meeting arranged on 5th, Oct' 1958, under the auspices of Kothagudium Town Communist Party. It was announced that Com. K.S. Dass would preside over the meeting. Sri Dass is a very active member of the Union. The IHTUC workers openly propagating that they would attack Com. Dass. The meeting was held and one or two spoke. When four (4) workers who were responsible for creating disturbances at the General Body Meeting started abusing the Union Leaders in a filthy language. They rushed to the stage with a view to attack Com. Dass. The Volunteers stayed off the attack. One of them, Sri Appa Rao was caught with a big knife. The police who were present at the meeting did not intervene at that time. Later on they took in to custody (4) four workers who were fully drunk and tried to disturb the meeting. The meeting was continued and terminated after passing two resolutions expressing sympathy and solidarity with the striking workers of Mica Mines, Gudur and for the establishment of a 'Low temperature carbonisation plant' at Kothagudium.

On 7th, Oct' 1958, Comrades Dass and Baswar Rao another active worker of the Union were attacked by the same IHTUC gangsters while they were having tea in the hotel nearly their office. They were on duty. Com. Dass was admitted in the hospital for the treatment of injuries sustained by him.

Comrade Kaswar Rao was treated as an out-patient. This incident took place just before 3pm i.e., the end of 1st, shift. On hearing about the assault the workers got infuriated and organised a big procession of 2000 strong to draw the attention of the local Deputy Superintendent of Police. The Police Inspector who never took any action all these days against the congress or INTUC workers got extremely panicky at the rage of workers and immediately arrested the above three workers. After this the workers dispersed.

The local congressmen and INTUC leaders filed a number of complaints against the office bearers and active workers of the Union on the alleged charges of Criminal trespass, theft, and unlawful assembly and rioting.

It appears pressure was brought on the Superintendent of Police to arrest the Office-Bearers and a number of active workers. The Police Officials without inquiring into the incidents promulgated ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Sec. 144 banning meetings and processions on 8-10-58 at 8pm, and at about 2am on 10-10-58 Coms. Komariah and V. Rajeswar Rao; General Secretary and Joint Secretary respectively of the Union were arrested along with 7 others. The former two were released on bail by the police and the others were refused bail. Again on 11-10-58, seven more were taken into custody on charges of non-bailable offence.

The local officials refused to withdraw sec. 144 and posted several hundred of armed police all over the town area. Deputy Collector refused to grant permission to hold meeting in the Union-Office premises.

Contd. on page 4.

The people in the town are ~~rising~~ resenting the action of the police and INTUC. The latter have failed miserably to strike terror since the workers are attending to their work and the Union is functioning normally. The workers were determined to fight against the repressive methods. It may be stated in this connection that some state Ministers have been trying for a long time to disrupt the Union. Having failed in their attempts their stooges are resorting to rowdyism.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

T. B. Vittal Rao

T.B. Vittal Rao, M.P.
President.

...#i...

270 15 OCT 1958

Asansol
13. 10. 58

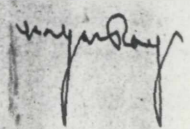
153

My dear K.G:

Received your letter. I was at Dhanbad for last four days. If you have not yet informed me about the article. Enclosed are two letters to the R.L.C (C), Dhanbad and Shri R.L.Mehta for your information. I sincerely appreciate your interest in the affairs of East Jemehary Colliery and so I would request you to please tell Shri Mehta on the basis of information I have given to you. I sent the note of code of discipline directly because before you informed me, the Ministry sent me a letter. I will be at Calcutta from Wednesday (15th Oct), so if anything special, write to me at Calcutta. But please remember Jemehary.

Accept my warm puja greetings,

Yours Comradely



Indian Mine Workers Federation

13. 10. 58
Camp: Pravat Hotel
G.T. Road.
Asansol.

Shri R.L.Mehta,
Joint Secretary to the Govt Of India.
Ministry of Labour & Employment.

Ref: No. E&I-35(31)/58, dt. New Delhi, 7th Oct, 1958
Sub: East Jemehary Colliery, Raniganj

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter, dt. 7th Oct, 1958, I wish to inform you inspite of repeated approaches by workers to the Management, none of the workers have been allowed to resume their duties, after the first batch of 30 who joined in the early September. Seventy Nine workers are still kept out. And as I pointed out in my letter, dt. 23.9.58, the remaining 79 is being told that they will not be given job and threatened by the Contractor, who is trying his best to sabotage any further employment. It is no more a question of signing or not signing the bond; there is something else which is foiling all our attempts.

I am enclosing a copy of my letter to the Regional Labour Commissioner, (C), Dhanbad, which will give you an idea of the present situation.

I have asked a simple question whether, the management is going to honor the agreement and take back the workers? Or are they planning to keep them idle in this manner infinitely? The local labour leaders are ready to cooperate with all fully, but no body at his stage seems to be at all interested to get their cooperation. I would again request you to see that the remaining 79 are taken back before the Pujas. Awaiting a reply,

Yours Sincerely

W. P. Ray
General Secretary

Copy

Indian Mine Workers Federation
Dhanbad.

Dt: 13. 10. 58
Camp: Pravat Hotel
Gt. Road.
Asansol.

To
The Regional Labour Commissioner,
(Central). Dhanbad.

Sub: East Jemehary Colliery Lockout.

Dear Sir:

In continuation to my detailed discussion with you at your office on Saturday (11th Oct, 1958) in relations to East Jemehary Colliery, I wish to point out that so far none of the 79 workers have been taken back. And there seems to be a certain force inside the management which is trying its best to prevent any understanding between labour and management. And that force is the group led by the contractor and Shri Gopal Vyas. ~~They would not allow any more single person to enter the mine.~~ They are threatening the workers and declaring that "he would not allow any more single person to enter the mine." So this is the situation.

The first group of workers were taken back in the early september. Over a month has passed. And the rest is still unemployed, which you are well aware of, since the 30th May. It is because of this as advised by you, we want to the extent of advising them to sign the "Bond" and join the work. But it seems that the management is adamant as ever. However, I have not yet given up all hope and still expecting that your assurance that all workers will be taken back soon will be honestly implemented by the management.

But workers cannot wait infinitely. So I would request you to take up the matter and let us know whether other workers, as per the agreement, will be taken back or not? If so, when? Because on the basis of information given by you, we will have to take necessary steps to defend the interest of these workers. Thanking you in anticipation of an early reply.

Yours sincerely
k7
General Secretary

(Imp)

(155)

The letter refers to a film
on the history of AT&T.

Am
8/9/99

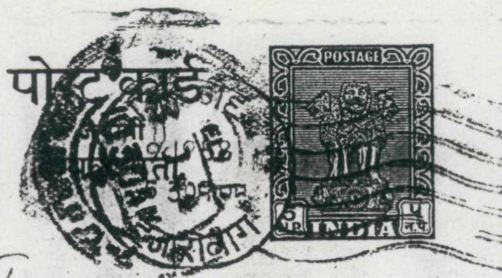
AITUC Day also we
will like to have any
such film. Also inform
us if it involves any
cost?

waiting for your

reply

Yours

Chaturaman



To

All India Trade Union Congress

4, Asoke Road

New - Delhi

13 OCT 1958

Lindih
9/10/58

155

Dear Com Sivaswami,

Between 15th of Oct. to 21st Oct.
there is going to be a Conference of the Bihar
State Communist Party - at Lindih and on that
occasion we want to popularise AITUC
~~and so~~ on behalf of our coal workers union
and we shall be very glad if you
could arrange for us the film of history of the
AITUC and some other progressive Hindi
films also. We have arranged a projector.
It will be helpful if you can contact Soviet Embassy
and arrange Soviet ~~news~~ films on miners life
and other films preferably in Hindi. On the

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October 16, 1958

Dear Com.Chaturanan,

Your postcards.

We are remitting the sum of Rs.30 to Yatin Press.

As for "popularising the AITUC" at the time of the Communist Party Conference, I do not know what you mean.

We have no arrangements to get progressive Hindi films. The AITUC film "They Life and Labour" is now in Bombay and we will enquire if this could be made available to you. As for Soviet films, some are dubbed in English and others in Russian and to get these, you should correspond directly with the Embassy and send a person here to collect the same, if they agree to lend the films. We will help the comrade who comes here to get the films..

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G.
16/10
(K.G.Sriwastava)

17 OCT 1958

The Singareni Collieries Workers Union

(AFFILIATED TO A. I. T. U. C.)

BRANCHES:
YELLANDU
HELLAMPALLI

Kothagudlum Collieries P.O
BHADRACHALAM ROAD STATION
(CENTRAL RAILWAY)

Date 15th Oct., 1958

The General Secretary,

A. I. T. U. C.
New Delhi

Dear Comrade,

I am giving you further information from 12th October., 1958. Basing on the false complaints made by the INTUC fellows, the police have framed seventeen cases against our active workers.

Thirteen workers have been involved in cases under non-available sections. Twenty four workers have been involved in cases under available sections and we have got them released on bail. For the thirteen workers also we are trying for bail. Of these thirty seven workers, four are office bearers, four working committee members and the next delegates and active workers of the union. Still INTUC is trying to involve many of our workers in various cases.

2. Com. Vittal Rao, represented to the District Collector, to remove Section 144. Accordingly the section was removed from 14th instant.

We have arranged a public meeting on 15th in the Union Office premises to explain the situation to the workers.

3. The Industrial Tribunal, Bombay has given their judgement in the matter of para 652 of Mazundar Tribunal award regarding Pushing Allowance. A copy of the judgement will be sent to you within a week.

4. Mr. Sanjeeva Reddy, president of the state INTUC has come here yesterday to boost up the morale of INTUC cadre who have become the target of public criticism for their roudy activities. So far they have not held any public meeting.

Further details in the next letter.

Yours fraternally,

P. Satyanarayana
(P. SATYANA RAYANA)
VICE PRESIDENT.

Handwritten notes:
Wrote a letter to the
Chief Minister of Andhra
State.
1000
20/12

270
21 OCT 1958

From:-
Shri Bonarasoo Nath Tewary,
General Secretary,
Colliery Mazdur Sabha,
G.T.Road, Asansol.

To
The Manager,
Dhemo- Main Colliery.
(M/S Macneil & Barry Coal Co. Ltd.)

Subj:- Attacks upon workers' T.U.Right. at Dhemo-Main
Colliery.

Sir,

I want to draw your serious attention towards increasing attacks on the workers' Trade Union Rights by the Management of this colliery. It is worth recalling that several such attacks have been reported to you and it was hoped that you would enquire and stop these all, but on the contrary I find that harrasing and threatenings the workers for their T.U. activities and even placing some grievances to you for redressal and such other anti-labour practices have become rampant in this colliery. I think that only two incidents will be enable one to see the extents of Management's anti-labour practices.

1. Shri Koralu Soury, W.E.Oil Mazdur of this colliery was badly assaulted while on duty on the 2nd October '58 by the Engineer of the colliery and it was duly reported to you by the workers of the colliery with a request for justice in this case, but you did not think it necessary to enquire even into the matter as yet. Not only this much, but the witnesses have been threatened to speak the fact before others.

2. Shri Kripal Mishra, a Pump-Khalasi and leading office-bearers of our Local Committee was threatened of transfer to other collieries or dismissal for his only act of placing some long felt grievances of the workers of the Khalasi Deptt on the 10th October '58. It goes without say that all the workers there took a serious view of such threatenings and protested against these manners of the Management.

We take a serious view of this day to day interference in workers' T.U.life and other anti-labour practices of this Management, because it goes against the fundamental right of workers and all attempts being made by our Union, Government for better relation between employer and employees, Industrial peace. We further see that if you continue these practices, Code of Discipline, which has been agreed by all parties concern will be continue to be violated.

So we request to stop these anti-labour practices and violation of Code of Discipline for better relation and Industrial peace without any further delay.

With thanks.

Contd

Contd.

Yours faithfully

B. Tewary

Benarasee Nath Tewary.
General Secretary,

Copy to:-

The Chief Mining Engineer,
M/S Macneil & Barry Coal Co. Ltd.
Disergarh.

The Regional Labour Commissioner(C)
Dhanbad.

Secretary,
Ministry of Labour & Employment,
Govt Of India,
New Delhi.

General Secretary,
Indian Mine Workers' Federation,
Dhanbad.

General Secretary,
✓ All India Trade Union Congress,
New Delhi.

for information and necessary action.

21 OCT 1958

159

To

The Labour Inspector (C)

Ranchi.

ref. no. B/312(8)'58.

Dated the 15th October 58.

Sub: - Complaint against the management of Manki No. 2. Colliery
P. S. Hazari, District - Ranchi.

Sir,

I am very sorry that you have not taken any action against the management of Manki No. 2. Colliery. I have already mentioned you that more than hundred twenty five mohandars labour have been dismissed because they joined coal workers union.

The management have not only dismissed them but by the help of police and Gundas they have ~~xxxx~~ been taken thumb impression on resignation paper that have been by the management.

It is known to every body but I do not know what you are asking a specified cases from me.

I tell you one thing very frankly that a great resentment among the villager sides increasing against the management. which consequences will be very bad.

I, therefore, inform you timely so that you may take action against the management and save the situation. I hope you will inquire into this matter thoroughly and take necessary action against the management.

Yours faithfully

Mu. R. Khari
Mahendra Nath Bharti
Secretary

Coal workers Union Bharkunda.

Copy to :-

1. Chief Labour Commissioner of India Government, New Delhi.
2. Regional Labour Commissioner (C) Dhanbad.
3. Conciliation Officer (C) Hazaribagh.
4. S. A. Dange, Opposition member communist Group,
and member of parliament, New Delhi.

TDR

21 OCT 1958
The Singareni Collieries Workers Union

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(AFFILIATED TO A. I. T. U. C.)

BRANCHES:
YELLANDU
BELLAMPALLI

Kothagudium Collieries P.O
BHADRACHALAM ROAD STATION
(CENTRAL RAILWAY)

L. No. P/41/379/58.

Date 16th Oct., 1958.

Dear Com: Srivastava,

Our Vice President is sending a separate note on the latest situation here. I am thinking of writing to Sri Gulzarihal Nanda about the rowdy activities of the local INTUC workers.

2. Please let me know whether the Government have since fixed the dates of meeting for the Industrial Committee on coal.

3. Also send me a copy of the syllabus prepared by me about coal industry.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

T. B. Vittal Rao
(T.B.VITAL RAO)
PRESIDENT.

N. B.

^{he}
I will ^{be} here till the
end of this month. All
our actives have been
released on bail yesterday.

A huge mass meeting was held yesterday. It was the
biggest in recent times. Nearly 4,000 workers were
present notwithstanding the fact it was a working
day.

T. B. V. Rao.

21 OCT 1958

The Singareni Collieries Workers Union

(AFFILIATED TO A. I. T. U. C.)

BRANCHES:
YELLANDU
BELLAMPALLI

Kothagudlum Collieries P.O
BHADRACHALAM ROAD STATION
(CENTRAL RAILWAY)

L. No.

Date 17th, Oct 1958.

The General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress
New Delhi

Dear Comrade,

A public meeting was held in the Union Office premises on 15-10-1958. Com. T.B. Vittal Rao, M.P. President of the Union was in the chair.

I herewith enclose copies of the resolutions passed in the meeting. Following the appeal by W.F.T.U, which appeared in T.U. Record, we took the opportunity and passed the resolution requesting the Big Powers who will meet in Geneva; to make the purpose of the meeting successful.

We are sending copies of the resolution to the foreign ministers of three Big Powers and the Secretary General U.N.O.

This is for your information.

Yours fraternally,

T. B. Vittal Rao
Vice President.

...:~:...

Enclosures . 3 . (Three) .

The Singareni Collieries Workers Union

(AFFILIATED TO A. I. T. U. C.)

BRANCHES:
YELLANDU
BELLAMPALLI

Kothagudium Collieries P.O
BHADRACHALAM ROAD STATION
(CENTRAL RAILWAY)

L. No.

Date 15th Oct., 1958.

RESOLUTION. 2

This mass meeting of Singareni Collieries Workers' protests strongly against stopping of additional dearness allowance from 1st Oct., 1958 average Consumer Price Index Number (Working Class) for the half year period 1st January, '58 to 30th June., '58 works out to 112 points. Thus registering an increase of 10 points. Therefore, the workers are eligible for the additional Dearness Allowance of Re.-/3/- (annas three) per day per worker as per Labour Appellate Tribunal decision .

This meeting urges upon the Management to restore the payment of Dearness Allowance immediately as it would provide relief to the workers as they are experiencing considerable hardship due to the soaring of the prices.

... ..

The Singareni Collieries Workers Union

(AFFILIATED TO A. I. T. U. C.)

BRANCHES:

YELLANDU
BELLAMPALLI

Kothagudium Collieries P.O
BHADRACHALAM ROAD STATION
(CENTRAL RAILWAY)

Date 15th Oct., 1958.

L. No.

RESOLUTION. I.

This mass meeting of the workers expresses its strong indignation at the promulgation of section 144 banning processions and meetings at Kothagudium on the 8th October and the arrests of the office-bearers and active members of the Union. While the INTUC gangsters responsible for the assault on Sourades; K.S.Dass and Easwara Rao are left scot free the action of police to curb the legitimate activities of the union is highly discriminating.

Further, this meeting congratulates the workers for the patience and solidarity shown at this grave provocation. And urges upon the Government to withdraw the cases launched against the office bearers and active members of the union on the false complaint filed by the INTUC leaders.

... ..

The Singareni Collieries Workers Union

(AFFILIATED TO A. I. T. U. C.)

BRANCHES:

YELLANDU

BELLAMPALLI

P. No.

Kothagudlum Collieries P.O

BHADRACHALAM ROAD STATION

(CENTRAL RAILWAY)

Date 15-10-1958.

RESOLUTION . 3.

This meeting of the workers of Singareni Collieries expresses its deep concern as the 'Big Powers' have not come to any agreement for stopping the atomic and Hydrogen Bomb explosion tests.

This meeting further condemns the United States and the United Kingdom for continuing the tests notwithstanding the fact the Soviet Union unilaterally stopped such test for some time.

This meeting hails the proposed meeting of the 'Big Powers', the Soviet Union, the United States and the United Kingdom on 31st October, 1958, at Geneva for discussing the question of cessation of the atom bomb explosion tests.

This meeting appeals to the Foreign Ministers of the Big Powers that they will sincerely strike that the discussions at Geneva will lead to good results and remove the danger to world peace.

...

जिप्सम माईन वर्कर्स यूनियन, जामसर

संख्या 1684

श्री. एस. ए. डोंगे एम.पी.

बीकानेर कार्यालय

साहुल एम. पी. स्कूल सामने

बीकानेर, ता. 20 अक्टू.

मान्यवर,

जामसर जिप्सम श्रमिकों की हड़ताल

निवेदन है कि जिप्सम खानों के 1500 श्रमिक 15 दिनों की अपनी मजदूरी बढ़ाने बोनस व कम्पनी द्वारा निकाले हुए मजदूर साथियों को पुबारा नौकरी पर लेने की मांगों को लेकर हड़ताल पर है।

बीकानेर जिप्सम लि० द्वारा संचालित इन खानों में निकलने वाला जिप्सम सिंदरी फाटीलाइजर फेक्टरी को रासायनिक खाद बनाने हेतु बना जावा है। अतएव देश में व्याप्त अन्न संकट और मंहगाई के समय जिप्सम की महत्ता सहज आंकी जा सकती है। उक्त कम्पनी में राज्य सरकार के 40 प्रतिशत हिस्से है। फि. मी. न. राजस्थान सरकार बीचबचाव करती है और न केन्द्रीय सरकार अपना फर्ज उठाती है। दो साल पूर्व इन्ही मजदूरों के 35 दिन की हड़ताल के बाद भारत सरकारने मांगों के संबंध में औद्योगिक मांग न्यायालय स्थापित किया था।

हड़ताल समस्त वैध उपायों को काम में लाने के उरांत भी कम्पनी की पीड़क नीति और यूनियन के प्रमुख पदाधिकारियों को नौकरी से पृथक र देनेसे कारण विवश होकर करनी पड़ी है। इससे पूर्व राज्यीय व केन्द्रीय सरकार सहस्त्वहोप करने तथा कम्पनी से दोने पक्षा मिलकर सरकार से औद्योगिक व न्यायालय कंविवाद सौंपने की प्रार्थना की गई पुर कहीं से कोई जवाब तक नहीं आया। एक जनतंत्रिक सरकार द्वारा अपने मजदूरों की मांगों पर कोई तवज्जह न देना और उनकी मांगों को हड़ताल को नजरन्दाज करना एक सम्प्रवादी राज्य की नीति के समान है।

साथी मुरलीधर व्यास, मंत्री जामसर जिला माईन वर्कर्स यूनियन-सदस्य विधान सभा के नेतृत्व में चलने वाला इस हड़ताल को कम्पनी सरकार गैरकानूनी घोषित नहीं कर पाये तोभी कम्पनी के पैसों पर नाचकर पुलिस सजा करिश्मे दिखाये उसके लिये केवल इतना खिखना काफी होगा कि शांत सत्याग्रहि के चेहेर पर शिकन तक नहीं आई लेकिन चंद मालिक परस्त मजदूरों तथा पुलिस मार से कुल 30 क व्यक्तियों को गंभीर चोटें आई। एक महिला खून से लथपथ बेहोश व पुरुष गुप्तांग की मार के कारण घायल 7 घंटे तक बिना प्राथमिक उपचार के पड़े रहे है कि अन्त में मजदूरों ने ही अस्तताल महुंचाया पर उनका दिल उनका दिल नहीं पसी।

गणपतसिंह को कम्पनी के गुंडों के कर पीटना चालू किया। नौ लाठी लाने के बाद हाथ ढीला हुआ और गुंडे की ठी गिर गई। मार खाने वाले सत्याग्रही ने लाठी उठाकर वापस दी और स्वयं मारने के लिये तैयार होगया। एक गर्भवती का कड़ी मार मड़ने से बच्चा गिर गया। पुंने औरतों को अर्धनग्न किया, घसीटा, रौंदा, बस्ती से 30-40 मील दूर अकेली महिला को छोड़ा, गोद के नन्हे बच्चों को उकाला

बेरहमी से फँका । ये सब साहस के साथ पुलिस ने शान्ति और व्यवस्था के नाम पर किये । मारनेवालों को जबान का फटकार तक नहीं फिर भी चुन चुन कर सत्याग्राही पकड़े गये और उन्हें १०७ - १४७ - ३६५ - १५३ दफा जाव्ता फौजदारी में फाँसा गया और व्यासजी सहित वे सब जेल में बजरबंद हैं । गुन्डे खुले धूमते हैं स्वयं न्यायाधीश श्री रस्तोगी ने हड़तालियों को पीटा । इस तरह को घटनाओंको अनेक बार पुनरावृत्ति हो चुकी जिस पर समस्त अधिकारी वर्ग चुप है । त्रस्त मानवधारी नर-कंकाल त्रमिक जमना ज्ञान पर दृढ़ है और मांग संबंधी विवाद औद्योगिक न्यायालय को सॉपने के लिये तैयार है ।

लाखों का मुनाफा देने वाले ये मजदूर धरोँदाँ जैसी फौंपड़ियों में जिनकी लम्बाई-चौड़ाई-ऊँचाई ४.४.५ से अधिक नहीं बसर करते हैं । घुटनों के बल घुसना और गोडे रिकोड़ कर सोना पड़ता है । कम्पनी शत प्रतिशत लाभ कमाती है स्थिति की गुंता संबंधी कुछ पचें संलग्न किये जाते हैं ।

हड़ताल, सत्याग्रह और नोकशाही को जोर जबरदस्ती जारी है । सरकार कानों में तेल डाले पड़ो है । प्रजातन्त्र और समाजवाद की ओट में मानव फफकता है घमनियाँ तड़फती हैं, जात्मा बिखसता है पर बोल नहीं सकता, सोच नहीं सकता और मांग भी नहीं सकता ।

ये हृदय विदारक दृश्य कब तक चलते रहेंगे ? क्या इन निर्राह मानवों का अन्याय, अत्याचार, शोषण और भुखमरो से कभी निस्तार होगा ? आपकी सहृदयता और सहा-मृत्ति के दो शब्द इन उत्पीड़ितों के लिए वरदान सिद्ध होंगे ।

स्नेहाकांडो

स. नं. पारीक
सत्यनारायण पारीक
मंत्री

Sanjay Supriya
Prateek

24/8

१. ठेकेदार अपने मजदूरों को १४ जाने टन के बजाय २ रुपये प्रति टन खुदाई के व बाठ जाना टन भराई केहे । बोनस, दवा, पानी, मकान, सवेतनीक कृटियां बादि सुविधा दी जाये । कम्पनी जिप्सम भराई तथा खुदाई का सवा ८ रुपया प्रति टन भारत सरकार से तथा १२ रुपये से २५ रुपये प्रति टन तक अन्य खरादवारों से लेती है किन्तु मजदूरों को केवल सवा रुपया टन देता है । मजदूरों के बीजार जोरियां तथा उन के जानवरों के लिए सस्ते चारे का उचित प्रबन्ध किया जाये ।

२. समस्त मजदूरों को १९५५-५६ का ४ माह का तथा १९५६-५७ का ६ माह का बोनस दिया जाये । बोनस का आधार किसी भी कम्पनी में होने वाला मुनाफा है और इस दृष्टि से जिप्सम कम्पनी को प्रतिवर्ग शतप्रतिशत मुनाफा ही रहा है । कम्पनी को ५ लाख का पूंजी पर ५ लाख से भी अधिक का मुनाफा पिछले सालों से हो रहा है जबकि हिन्दुस्तान को अन्य कम्पनियों ६ से ८ प्रतिशत डिडिटेड मोषित करने में भी विचकिनाती है तब जिप्सम कम्पनी ने १५ प्रतिशत मुनाफा अपने शेयर होल्डरों को दिया है ।

हिन्दुस्तान औद्योगिक अदालतों ने जिन कम्पनियों में २५ प्रतिशत मुनाफा हुआ है उन कम्पनियों द्वारा मजदूरों को ४ से ५ माह तक का बोनस दिलाया है । बीजानेर जिप्सम कं० शत प्रतिशत मुनाफा लेकर भी ४ से ६ माह का बोनस देने से इन्कार करती है जो कि गैरवाजिब व अन्यायपूर्ण है । बोनस मजदूरों के हक का कमाई है और उसे प्राप्त करने के लिये जामसर मजदूर कुर्बानी करने को तत्पर है ।

३. बाज को मंहगाई को देखते हुए समस्त कर्मचारियों के वेतन दरों तथा मंहगाई भवे में वृद्धि की जाय ।

खिन्दरो कारखाने के जामसर स्थित कर्मचारियों को दिया जाने वाला रेगिस्तानी मजदूरी कम्पनी के समस्त कर्मचारियों तथा श्रमिकों को दिया जाय ।

४. कम्पनी ने गांव वालों की कोपरेटिव सोसायटी, मकान, बिजली तथा कृषिप के कर्मचारियों के ग्रेड के बारे में जो समझौते किये थे उन्हें तबिलम्ब पूरा किया जाये ।

५. ऊंट को वेतन दर सवा ३रुपये प्रतिदिन को जाय तथा उनके टार्किंग रेटेड मजदूर होने के नाते मिलनेवाली समस्त सुविधाएं उन्हें दी जाये ।

६. ठूणकरनसर खान में काम करने वाले मजदूरों की रेट बढ़ाई जाय । उनके रहने के मकान, पाना, दवा का उचित प्रबन्ध किया जाये । सारा खोचया, काउचर तथा मांडूसर आदि ग्रामों से काम पर आन वाले मजदूरों के लिये सवारी का इन्तजाम किया जाये ।

७. कम्पनी ठेकेदारा प्रथा खत्म करें जिसके कारण हो बाज मजदूरों के एक बहुत बड़े हिस्से को करीबन ८०० मजदूरों को अपने बोनस व दूसरे जायज व कानून संगत अधिकारों से वंचित रहना पड़ता है ।

८. समस्त कर्मचारियों तथा श्रमिकों के व्यक्तिगत तथा सामुहिक मुद्दे जैसे प्रमोशन तथा तरक्की बादि का रोका जाना, सोनियोरिटी को उपेक्षा तथा पदापात्तपूर्ण व्यवहार बादि मसले शोध सुलभार्थे जाय । उपयुक्त डेवेलोपमेंट और ग्रेड दिए जायें जिन कर्मचारियों को इन्तजाम किया जाये ।

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हिन्द मजदूर सभा, दिल्ली के महा मंत्री श्री डी डी वशिष्ठ का वक्तव्य

मैंने जामसर को कुना खान को हड़ताल का जो वाज अपने ग्यारहवें दिन प्रवेश कर चुकी है, अध्ययन किया। जिसमें माई वकील यूनियन ने हड़ताल का फैसला मालिक और यूनियन के बीच समझौता वाचा के असफल होबाने तथा तमाम अन्य कानूनी तराफें जिनकी औपोगिक विवाद कानून में व्यवस्था है कमाने के बाद किया है। कम्पनी द्वारा फेलाई यह करवाहीं तथा भारत सरकार को की गई रिपोर्टों के विपरीत हड़ताल पूर्ण रूप से शान्तिमय है और कम्पनी को किसी भी सम्पत्ति या मशीनरी को नुकसान नहीं पहुंचा है।

इस हड़ताल में पुलिस का व्यवहार बहुत ही दमनकारी और रूनीक रहा है। उसने निहत्था महिला और पुरुष सत्याग्रहियों पर फौंपड़ियों में घुस घुस कर भयंकर ज्यादतियां की और पुरुषों महिलाओं तथा बच्चों को बाहल किया। सारे काण्ड का अत्याधिक लज्जाजनक रूप यह था कि पुलिस ने पुरुष और महिला हड़तालियों को पचास पचास मोल दूर जंगल में लेजा कर छोड़ा और यह सब कार्यवाही सत्याग्रहियों को घारा १२८ को मनमाना और गलत व्याख्या के कारण की गयी है और इसे ही अपने कुत्यों के औचित्य का आधार बनाया है।

राजस्थान सरकार ने मजदूर नेताओं को गिरफ्तार करके, जिनमें यूनियन के मंत्री श्री मुरलीधर व्यास एम. एल. ए. भी हैं बहुत भयंकर गलती की है।

जिसमें हड़ताल की स्थिति दिन प्रतिदिन गम्भीर और शोकनोय होती जा रही है। मजदूरों को सन् ५५-५६ और ५६-५७ के जोनस वेतनों में वृद्धि, ग्रेडों, और ठेकेदारी मदति के समाप्त करने को मांगें पूणतया बायज है और इसलिए भारत सरकार का अविलम्ब हड़ताल में हस्तक्षेप करना चाहिये और जामसर जिसमें सानों में सामान्य स्थिति स्थापित करने के लिए तुरंत कदम उठाना चाहिये।

१६ अक्टूबर १९५८ को जारी किया गया और प्रजा सोशलिस्ट पार्टी लोकनेर द्वारा सब की जानकारी के लिए प्रसारित किया गया।

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October 24, 1958

Shri Satyanarayan Parikh,
Secretary,
Gypsum Mine Workers Union,
Near Sadul M.P.School,
BIKANER, Rajasthan

Dear Comrade,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 20th inst. to Comrade S.A.Dange, M.P., our General Secretary.

The AITUC notes with concern the repressive measures resorted to by the management and the police against the Gypsum mine workers who are fighting for their legitimate demands. It is indeed disgraceful on the part of the Government that on a long-outstanding demand in such an essential industry as gypsum mines, the workers have to go on prolonged strikes to get even their minimum demands.

While expressing our fraternal solidarity with the gypsum mine workers, the AITUC calls upon the Government to ensure an immediate settlement on the workers' demands.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

KMG
24/10
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

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CONCLUSIONS REACHED AT THE MEETING OF COALMINING INTERESTS
(Calcutta - 3rd August, 1958)

The suggestion made by the Labour Minister for the formation of a tripartite Standing Committee to deal with the general problems concerning the workers in the coal industry was accepted unanimously. The Standing Committee which will be constituted by the Government of India shortly, will discuss Labour matters with a view to arrive at agreed settlements. Wherever agreement cannot be reached between the parties, they may have recourse to arbitration or seek adjudication.

2. The following conclusions were reached in regard to the ~~fact~~ various items on the agenda:

(1) Question of Extension of the period of operation of the Coal Award beyond August 1958.

It was decided to extend the period of operation of the Coal Award upto the 25th May 1959.

(2) Question of the payment of arrears of enhanced dearness allowance due to workers since the 1st January 1958, consequent on the rise in the All India Consumer Price Index Numbers (General), in one lumpsum.

The increased dearness allowance payable to the workers on the basis of the cost of living index figures for the second half of 1957 will be paid to the workers during the period 1st April 1958 to 30th September 1958 instead of from 1st January 1958 to 30th June 1958. The same procedure will be applied in regard to future payments of enhanced dearness allowance, if due. The arrears for the period from 1st April 1958 to the date of actual commencement of payment will be paid in lump sum before the 15th August, 1958.

(3) Question of extension of the benefits of the Assam Coal Mines Bonus Scheme to employees of the Head Office, etc., belonging to the Assam Railways & Trading Company, Ltd.

As the matter relates to an individual management, it would be taken up for settlement by the Chief Labour Commissioner.

(4) (1) Matters arising out of the Coal Award - Introduction of Grades and time scales of pay for all categories of workmen.

This will be referred to the Standing Committee.

(ii) Prescription of uniforms and footwear for workers.

As directed by the All India Industrial Tribunal (Colliery Disputes), the Chief Inspector of Mines had convened a meeting of the employers and workmen on the 25th April, 1958, at which an agreement was reached about the quality of boots to be supplied to the workers. As for the cloth for uniforms, the Chief Inspector of Mines recommended the use of 'militia' cloth for the purpose. But the workers' representatives complained that they were not shown sample of the cloth which was recommended by the C.I.M. As orders have already been placed by some employers, the workers would be supplied with one uniform made of that cloth. With regard to the second set of uniforms, they would be supplied after the sample of cloth is shown to the representative of workers.

**(5) Matters incidental to the Award:
Revision of the rates of sick khoraki and maternity benefits.**

The item relating to the revision of sick khoraki will be referred to the Standing Committee.

With regard to the rate of maternity benefit, Government will take steps to amend the Mines Maternity Benefit Act so as to bring it in line with the law relating to the Factories. In the meantime, the employers will pay the enhanced rate of benefit which the Ministry of Labour might suggest.

(6) Matters not covered by the Coal Award:

(a) Categorisation of doctors, senior overmen, teachers, etc.

The workers may raise industrial disputes over this issue in respect of individual collieries and they will be dealt with by the Conciliation Machinery.

With regard to the categorisation of the workers in beehive Coke Oven Plants, the unions would make specific proposals for the consideration of employers. If necessary, this item may be placed before the Standing Committee.

- 3 -
- (b) Revision of the rates of commission payable to workmen like miners, trammers, loading sirdars, who have not been benefitted by the Award.

There are two categories of sirdars, viz., (i) those who also work along with their men and (ii) those who do not work. In regard to category (i) there is no complaint as they are paid as per the Award. In regard to category (ii), there case is not suitable for discussion at this meeting. The question of abolition of the Sirdary system along with the contract system in coal mines will be dealt with separately by the Government.

- (c) Revision of the rates for loading soft and hard coke.

The workers may raise industrial disputes wherever necessary and the Conciliation Machinery will deal with them.

- (d) Revival of the practice of granting 150% dearness allowance over lead and lift wages which had been discontinued.

There was no scope for settlement on this issue.

- (e) Grant of 150% dearness allowance to workers irrespective of their basic earnings.

If there is any difference of opinion in the interpretation of the provisions of the Award, it is open to the workers to request the Government to refer such cases to a Labour Court or Tribunal under section 36A of the Industrial Disputes Act.

(7) Improvements in the Award.

- (a) Grant of a percentage of flat rate increment in the salaries of neutralised workers (including machine loaders and O.P. Miners especially in the larger collieries) who have not derived any benefit from the Award.
- (b) Grant of a percentage increment ^{for} in the piece-rated trammers.

These items were not considered as suitable for discussion at ~~this~~ meeting.

3. In the course of discussion, the employers' representatives requested that cases on non-implementation of the Coal Award might be referred also to the organisations of colliery owners and to the collieries concerned by the Evaluation and Implementation Division of the Ministry of Labour and Employment while addressing to the All-India organisation of employers.

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THE SINGARENI COLLIERIES WORKERS' UNION.

Kothagodium Collieries,
Dated : 27th, Oct ' 58.

The working committee of the Singareni Collieries Workers' Union met in the Union Office on 24-10-58, under the Presidentship of Sri T.B. Vittal Rao, M.P. and unanimously passed the following resolution.

RESOLUTION.

This meeting of the Working Committee of Singareni Collieries Workers' Union expresses its profound sympathy to the families of these killed in the Police firing in the Tea Gardens. We appeal to Kerala State Government to institute a Judicial Inquiry into the causes of firing.

This meeting further condemns the attitude of the big planters for refusing the reasonable demands of the plantation workers who are on strike for the last two weeks. The Planters have been exploiting the labour for the past decades and making fabulous profits. This meeting appreciates the efforts made by the Labour Minister of Kerala and State Government to resolve the dispute between the Planters and Workers not withstanding the adamant attitude of the Planters.

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To the General Secretary.

A.D.T.U.C.

New Delhi

for information.

File

WMS

M. Kumari
General Secretary

MINISTRY OF LABOUR
New Delhi, the 25th October 1955

S.R.O. 3422:- Whereas the Central Government is satisfied that for the prevention of apprehended danger and the speedy remedy of conditions likely to cause danger it is necessary, in making regulations under clause (i) and clauses (k) to (s) excluding clause (l) of section 57 of the Mines Act, 1952 (XXXV of 1952), to dispense with the delay that would result from previous publication and previous reference to Mining Boards under sub-sections (1), (2) and (3) of section 59 of the said Act;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 60, read with the aforesaid provisions of section 57, of the said Act, the Central Government hereby makes the following regulations, namely:-

1. (1) These regulations may be called the Coal Mines (Temporary) Regulations, 1955.

(2) They extend to the whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

(3) They apply only in respect of coal mines,

2. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires-

(a) "additional precautions" in relation to any matter, means the precautions required to be observed under these regulations, in addition to those, if any, required to be observed under the principal regulations in relation to that matter;

(b) "principal regulations" means the Indian Coal Mines Regulations, 1926.

3. In opencast workings, the following additional precautions shall be observed, namely:-

(1) in alluvial soil, morum, gravel, clay, debris or other similar ground-

(a) the sides shall be kept sloped at an angle of safety not exceeding 45 degrees from the horizontal;

(b) the sides shall be kept stepped and the height of every step shall not exceed 5 feet and the breadth shall be not less than the height; and

(c) where any pillar is left in situ for the purpose of measurement, its height shall not exceed 8 feet, and if the height of any such pillar exceeds 4 feet, its base shall be not less than 5 feet in diameter.

(2) In coal, the sides shall either be kept sloped at an angle of safety not exceeding 45 degrees from the horizontal, or the sides shall be kept stepped and the height of any step shall not exceed 10 feet and the breadth shall be not less than the height;

Provided that the Chief Inspector may, by an order in writing and subject to such conditions as he may specify, exempt from the operation of clause (1) or clause (2) any working where in his opinion, special difficulties exist and they make compliance with these precautions not reasonable practicable.

(3) No person shall undercut any face or side so as to cause any overhanging, or cause or permit such undercutting.

(4) No person shall work or travel over any side or face having an inclination exceeding 45 degrees from the horizontal, or on any ledge or footpath less than 5 feet wide from which

he is likely to fall more than 10 feet, unless he is protected by guard rails or ropes suitably fixed and sufficiently fixed and sufficiently strong to prevent him from falling.

4. For the purpose of ensuring safety while raising or lowering persons or materials in shafts in a mine by means of machinery, the following additional precautions shall be observed, namely:-

(1) (a) Every winding rope in a shaft exceeding 100 feet in length when measured along the plane of the shaft shall be made of cold-drawn steel wires, and the diameters of the sheaves or drums of the winding apparatus and of the other pulleys and sheaves used in connection with winding shall, unless otherwise permitted by an order in writing of the Chief Inspector, be not less than 100 times the diameter of the rope. The grooves of such sheaves or pulleys shall be suited to the diameter of such rope.

(b) No rope other than a rope of a non-spinning type shall be used in any shaft, including a shaft in the course of sinking, where persons are lowered or raised and wire guides are not provided.

(c) No rope in use for winding shall subtend, in any position, an angle more than one and a half degrees on either direction with the plane of a sheave or pulley used in connection with the rope.

(d) Every sheave or pulley used in connection with winding shall rotate, while in motion, in a true vertical plane.

(2) (a) For every rope in use or intended for use for winding purposes, a record showing its quality, construction, size, breaking load, the names of the manufacturer and supplier, and the diameters of the drums, sheaves and pulleys used in connection with the rope, shall be maintained in a bound book kept for the purpose, pages of which shall be serially numbered. All entries therein shall be made and signed by a competent person authorised in writing by the manager for the purpose and shall be countersigned and dated by Manager.

(b) A new rope for which a test certificate as to the amount of its breaking load is not available, shall not be used unless a portion thereof, not less than 10 feet in length has been cut off and tested in a laboratory, institution or test house recognised by the Central Government for the purpose; Provided that notwithstanding anything contained in this sub-clause, the Chief Inspector may, by an order in writing, prohibit the use of any rope or type of rope for winding purposes.

(c) No rope, the breaking load of which at any one point therein is less than 10 times the maximum static load on it when the cage or other means of conveyance attached to the end of the rope is at the lowest working point, shall be used or continued to be used, unless an exemption in writing has been obtained from the Chief Inspector. The capel shall not be attached to the winding rope by rivets passing through the rope.

(3) No rope which has been spliced shall be used in a shaft for winding purposes.

(4) No winding rope in which any of the wires is found cracked or broken shall be used in a shaft in which persons are raised or lowered.

(5) No winding rope which has been in use for more than three and a half years shall be used in a shaft in which persons are raised or lowered except with the written permission of an Inspector.

Provided that where an Inspector is of opinion that any winding rope has become unsafe for use in a shaft for lowering or raising persons before the expiry of such period, he may, by an order in writing, require the installation of a new rope in the place of such rope in the shaft:

Provided further that where an Inspector is satisfied that, due to sparing use, any such rope is in good condition even after the expiry of the said period, he may, by an order in writing and subject to such conditions as he may specify, allow the use of such rope for a longer period. An appeal against the order of the Inspector under the first provision may be preferred to the Chief Inspector whose decision thereon shall be final.

(6) (a) Once at least in every six months, all detaching hooks in general use shall be annealed or given other proper heat-treatment, and shall be thoroughly examined by a competent person appointed in writing by the manager for the purpose: Provided that the Chief Inspector may, by an order in writing and subject to such conditions as he may specify, exempt from the foregoing requirements such detaching hooks as are made of a steel which does not require heat-treatment.

(b) Notwithstanding anything contained in regulation 66 of the principal regulations:-

(i) all detaching hooks in general use shall be dismantled, cleaned and refitted once at least in every three months: and.

(ii) all detaching plates and bells in general use shall be tested monthly by callipers or gauges.

(c) The result of each such annealing, heat-treatment, examination, or test shall forthwith be recorded by the competent person in the book maintained in pursuance of regulation 66 of the principal regulations.

5. For the purpose of ensuring against danger due to irruption or inrush of water or other liquid matter into the workings of a mine or part thereof, the following additional precautions shall be observed, namely:-

(1) Every application for permission under regulation 72B of the principal regulations shall be accompanied by two copies of plans, and sections showing the existing positions of the working of the mine, the proposed layout of workings, the depth of the workings from the surface, all faults, dykes and other geological disturbances and such other particulars as may affect the safety of the mine or of the persons employed therein.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in regulation 74 of the principal regulations, no working which has approached within a distance of 150 feet of any disused or abandoned workings (not being workings which have been examined and found to be free from accumulation of water or other liquid matter), whether in the same mine or in an adjoining mine, shall be extended further except with the prior permission in writing of the Chief Inspector and subject to such conditions as he may specify.

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in regulation 74 of the principal regulations, if any seepage of water is noticed in any working approaching but not within a distance of 150 feet of any disused or abandoned workings (not being workings which have been examined and found to be free from accumulation of water or other liquid matter), whether in the

same mine or in an adjoining mine, such working shall immediately be stopped and the Chief Inspector and the Inspector of the Circle shall forthwith be informed about the occurrence. Such working shall not be extended further except with the prior permission in writing of the Chief Inspector and subject to such conditions as he may specify.

Explanation.- For the purpose of clauses (2) and (3), the distance between the said workings shall mean the minimum distance measured in any direction whether horizontal, vertical or inclined.

(4) Every application for permission under clause (2) shall be accompanied by two copies of plans and sections showing the outline of such disused or abandoned workings in relation to the workings which are approaching the said workings and such other information as may be available in respect of the said workings.

(5) The precautions laid down in regulation 74 of the principal regulations shall be carried out under the direct supervision of a competent person authorised in writing by the manager for the purpose.

(6) Where in any mine it is proposed to construct a reservoir, dam or any other structure to withstand the pressure of water or other material which will flow when wet, or to control the inrush of water, the owner, agent or manager of the mine shall submit to the Inspector a notice in writing (accompanied by plans and sections showing the proposed design and other details of construction) at least 10 days before the work of construction is commenced; Provided that where the safety of the mine or of the persons employed therein is seriously threatened, it would be sufficient if in lieu of such notice, due information and plans and sections are sent to the Inspector as soon as the work is commenced.

(7) At every mine to which sub-regulations (1), (2), (3) and (4) of regulation 15 of the principal regulations apply:-

- (a) there shall be a permanent bench mark established on the surface; and all levels taken above and below ground shall be referred to a plan in relation to the bench mark. The position of the bench mark together with its height above Mean Sea Level shall be shown on the plan of the workings of the mine;
- (b) there shall also be shown on such plan the reduced levels, in relation to the bench mark, at a sufficient number of points situated in the workings of the mine, together with a sufficient number of surface contour lines drawn at vertical intervals not exceeding 10 feet, so as to enable the approximate depth of the workings of the mine at any point within the leasehold to be determined; and
- (c) where a river or stream flows within the boundaries of or in the vicinity of a mine, there shall also be shown on such plan the highest known flood level in relation to that river or stream; and the plan shall carry a certificate by the manager to the effect that the level so shown is correct.

Explanation.- For the purposes of sub-clause (c), a 'river' means any stream of water with its banks extending upto the highest known flood level.

6. For the purpose of ensuring the stability of surface and safeguarding against premature collapse, the following additional precautions shall be observed, namely:-

(1) No working either during the development or depillaring shall be made in a mine within 150 feet of any public road, building or other works not belonging to the owner of the mine, except with the permission in writing of the Chief Inspector and in accordance with such restrictions as he may impose.

(2) For the purpose of regulation 80(3) of the principal regulations, two or more seams lying within 30 feet of each other shall be considered as one and the same seam.

(3) In any mine or part thereof, no extraction or reduction of pillars shall be commenced except with the permission in writing of the Chief Inspector, and no such extraction or reduction shall be carried out except in accordance with such conditions as he may specify.

(4) Every application for permission under clause (1) shall be accompanied by two copies of plans and sections specifying the positions of the workings of the mine in relation to the public road, buildings or other works not belonging to the owner of the mine, the manner in which it is proposed to carry out the intended new operations and the limits to which it is proposed to carry the said operations.

Explanation:- For the purposes of clauses (1) and (4), "Public Road" means a road maintained for public use by Government or any local authority.

7. For the purpose of ensuring against an outbreak of fire or a spread of fire in a mine, the following additional precautions shall be observed, namely:-

(1) Before the commencement of extraction or reduction of pillars in any mine or part thereof there shall be provided such number of fire dams or stoppings as may be necessary to ensure the speedy isolation and control of fire in the event of spontaneous heating or outbreak of fire taking place in the mine or part thereof: Provided that the Chief Inspector may, by an order in writing and to such extent and subject to such conditions as he may specify, relax the provisions of clause (1) in any case where other adequate measures have been taken to achieve the object in view.

(2) Every fire dam or stopping referred to in (1) shall be constructed of suitable incombustible materials; and in the case of a mine where safety lamps are required to be used in pursuance of regulation 123(1) of the principal regulations, it shall also be of such sufficient strength as to be capable of withstanding the force of an explosion.

(3) If any dispute arises as to whether the fire dams or stoppings provided in a mine or part thereof are adequate in number or of sufficient strength or suitably constructed, it shall be referred to the Chief Inspector whose decision thereon shall be final.

(4) In every mine, all wild growths of vegetation, whether green or dry, shall be constantly kept clear of all broken ground and opencast workings connected with any underground workings or goaves (not being goaves which have been kept fully packed with incombustible material) in order to prevent any accidental fire in the wild growths travelling underground: Provided that the Chief Inspector may, by an order in writing and to such extent and subject to such conditions as he may specify, relax the provisions of this

clause in any case where in his opinion special circumstances exist and they make compliance with the said precautions not necessary.

8. For the purpose of ensuring safety in the use of explosives in a mine, the following additional precautions shall be observed, namely:-

(1) Before a shot is fired at any place in an opencast working, the shot-firer shall give sufficient warning, by an efficient system of signals or by other means approved by the manager of the mine, over the entire area of the danger-zone, that is to say, an area of ground falling within a radius of 800 feet from the place of firing.

(2) The shot-firer shall also see that all persons within the danger-zone have taken proper shelter; and he shall himself take adequate shelter.

(3) Where in any mine, an Inspector is of opinion that, owing to the special nature of the workings of the mine of part thereof, the use of explosives other than 'permitted explosives' as defined in clause (e) of regulation 2 of the principal regulation is likely to endanger the safety of persons employed in the mine, he may, by an order in writing, direct the use of 'permitted explosives' in the mine or part.

(4) The manager of every mine where explosives are used, shall fix from time to time the maximum number of shots which each shot-firer may fire in any one shift; and such number shall be based upon-

(a) the time normally required to prepare and fire a shot in accordance with the provisions laid down in the principal regulations;

(b) the time required for that shot-firer to move between places where shots are fired;

(c) the assistance, if any, available to him in the performance of his said duties; and

(d) any other duties assigned to him whether statutory or otherwise:

Provided that where an Inspector is of opinion that it is necessary for the safety of the persons employed in or about the mine that the number of shots so fired shall be reduced, he may, by an order in writing, require the manager to fix a lower maximum number of shots which may be fired in any one shift. In the event of any dispute regarding the lower maximum so fixed, it shall be referred to the Chief Inspector whose decision thereon shall be final.

(5) (a) No person whose wages depend on the amount of minerals obtained by firing shots shall be appointed to perform the duties of a shot-firer in any mine.

(b) Notwithstanding anything contained in regulation 108(1) of the principal regulations, no shot shall be stemmed or fired in any mine except by a person qualified to fire shots in pursuance of regulation 108(3) of the principal regulations.

(6) Every shot-firer shall, immediately after the end of his shift record in a bound book kept for the purpose the pages of which shall be serially numbered, the quantity of explosives taken, used and returned, the places where shots

were fired and the number of shots fired by him including misfires, if any; and he shall sign every such report and date his signature.

9. For the purpose of securing adequate ventilation in the workings of a mine or part thereof, the following additional precautions shall be observed, namely:-

(1) For the purpose of regulation 121 of the principal regulations, a place shall not be deemed to be in a safe state for persons working or passing therein, if the air contains either less than 19 percent of oxygen or more than 0.5 per cent of carbon dioxide or any noxious gas present in quantity likely to affect the health of any person; and such place shall not be deemed to be normally kept free from inflammable gas if the percentage of inflammable gas at any point in that place exceeds one and a quarter.

(2) The ventilation required to be constantly produced in any mine in pursuance of regulation 121 of the principal regulations shall also be adequate to prevent such excessive rise of temperature or humidity, as may be harmful to the health of persons employed in the mine. If any dispute arises whether the ventilation in a mine or part thereof is adequate or not, it shall be referred to the Chief Inspector whose decision thereon shall be final.

(3) If any alteration is made in the arrangements for the ventilation of any mine in which the quantity of air is required to be measured in pursuance of regulation 122 of the principal regulations, which substantially affects or is likely to affect the ventilation of the mine, the quantity of air passing through each ventilating district shall be measured as soon as practicable after the making of such alteration. Every such alteration shall be reported to the Inspector within seven days.

(4) Particulars of air measurements taken under clause (3) shall be recorded forthwith in the book required to be maintained in pursuance of regulation 122 of the principal regulations.

(5) In any mine where a mechanical ventilator is in use:-

(a) Every gallery which is a connection between a main intake airway and a main return airway shall, unless it is kept effectively walled off, be provided with two doors so spaced that whenever one door is opened, the other door serving the same purpose can be kept shut;

(b) every ventilation door shall be self-closing, and whenever opened, it shall be closed as soon as possible; it shall not be proposed or fixed so as to remain open, and if the door is required to be frequently kept open for the passage of men or materials there shall be a door attendant throughout the shift. Every such door, if not in use, shall be taken off its hinges and placed in a position in which it will not cause any obstruction to the air current; and

(c) every ventilation door, sheet or brattice shall be maintained in efficient working order and good repair.

(6) In a mine in which the use of safety lamps is for the time being required by or in pursuance of regulation 123 of the principal regulations and where a mechanical ventilator

shall be installed below ground unless and until the manager of the mine is satisfied as a result of a survey of the ventilation of every part of the mine liable to be affected, that such installation is necessary or expedient for the proper ventilation of the mine and that it should be installed.

Explanation:- The shifting of a mechanical ventilating district to another shall be deemed to be an installation of a fan for the purpose of this clause.

(7) Notice of every such installation together with particulars of the survey aforesaid, shall be sent forthwith to the Inspector.

(8) The installation and maintenance of every mechanical ventilator installed below ground shall be supervised and controlled by a competent person appointed by the manager for the purpose; and no such ventilator shall be started, stopped, removed or in any way altered, repaired or interfered with except by or on the authority of the official in charge of the mine. Particulars of every stoppage of a mechanical ventilator below ground shall be recorded with the least possible delay in a bound book kept for the purpose the pages of which shall be serially numbered.

(9) An Inspector may, at any time, by an order in writing and for reasons which he may specify therein prohibit the use of any fan installed below ground. An appeal against any such order may be preferred to the Chief Inspector whose decision thereon shall be final.

(10) Whenever there is any interruption of ventilation by the stoppage of any mechanical ventilator installed below ground, the official in charge of the mine or part thereof shall immediately take precautionary measures (including withdrawal of men, if necessary) against dangers that may arise out of non-compliance with the provisions of regulation 121 of the principal regulations read with clause (1) of this regulation, until the ventilation in the mine or part thereof is restored.

10. For ensuring proper lighting in mines, the following additional precautions shall be observed, namely:-

(1) Whenever electricity is available in a mine, efficient and suitable general lighting shall be maintained at all times-

- (a) at the top and bottom of every self-acting incline;
- (b) at every place at which tubs are regularly attached and detached from a haulage rope;
- (c) at every room or place made to house any engine, motor or other apparatus;
- (d) at every place where any pillar is under extraction;
- (e) in every travelling road;

Provided that nothing in this sub-regulation shall be deemed to authorise any contravention of the provisions of regulation 124 of the principal regulations and any of the provisions of the rules of the Indian Electricity Rules, 1937.

(2) In every mine where 20 or more persons are employed below ground at any one time, the roof and sides of the places specified in sub-clauses (a), (b), (c) and (e) of clause (1) shall be kept completely and effectively white washed.

(3) Every official in charge of a mine or part thereof, and every competent persons appointed under regulation 25(1) of the principal regulations, shall, during the time when he is so employed below ground, have in addition to any flame safety lamp which he is required to use in pursuance of the principal regulations, a portable lamp or light of adequate lighting performance so as to enable him to perform his duties in a proper and thorough manner. Every such lamp or light shall be provided by the owner of the mine. If any dispute arises as to whether any such lamp or light is of adequate lighting performance or not, it shall be referred to the Chief Inspector whose decision thereon shall be final.

11. For ensuring safety against dangers from dry coal dust in the workings of a mine or part thereof below ground the following additional precautions shall be observed, namely:-

(1) In every part of a mine which is not naturally wet throughout, the floor, roof and sides of the workings shall, as far as practicable, be kept clear of any accumulation of coal dust.

(2) All airways, haulage, tramming, conveyor and travelling roads, which are not naturally wet throughout, shall be treated in one of the following ways, namely:-

(a) they shall be treated with fine incombustible dust in such manner and at such intervals as will ensure that the dust on the floor, roof and sides throughout shall always consist of an mixture containing not less than 70 per cent of incombustible matter; or

(b) they shall be treated with water in such manner and at such intervals as will ensure that the dust on the floor, roof and sides throughout is always combined with 30 per cent by weight of water in intimate mixture; or

(c) they shall be treated in such manner as the Inspector may approve.

(3) The Inspector may, by an order in writing, also require the observance of the precautions laid down in clause (2) in all accessible parts of the mine if in his opinion they are necessary for ensuring the safety of the persons employed in the mine. An appeal against any such order may be preferred to the Chief Inspector whose decision thereon shall be final.

(4) The incombustible dust used for the purpose of this regulation shall be-

(a) free from any material containing injurious free silica; and

(b) of such fineness and character that it is readily dispersible into the air, and that when in use in places which are not directly wetted by water from the strata, it does not cake but is dispersed into the air when blown upon with the mouth or by a suitable appliance.

No such incombustible dust shall continue to be used if it is found by tests, which shall be carried out regularly, not to comply with the foregoing requirements.

(6) For the purpose of ensuring adequate treatment of coal dust in places specified in clause (2) samples of the dust shall be systematically collected in a manner approved by the Chief Inspector from all such airways and roads, and tested and analysed once at least in every calendar month. The result of every such test and analysis shall be recorded in a bound book kept for the purpose the pages of which shall be serially numbered.

12. The following provisions shall have effect with respect to every travelling road in a mine or part thereof which is provided in pursuance of regulation 96 of the principal regulations, namely:-

(1) Except with the permission in writing of the Chief Inspector, no travelling road shall be less than 6 feet high and 4 feet wide.

(2) The travelling road shall be clearly indicated, either on the roof or on any side, by a continuous band of whitewash at least 12 inches wide.

(3) Except for the purpose of making an inspection or effecting repairs, no person shall travel to or from his working place except by means of the travelling road so provided.

13. (1) A competent person appointed in writing by the manager for the purpose shall, once at least in every week, examine thoroughly the state of all machinery gear and other appliances of the mine, which are actually in use, whether above ground, below ground or in opencast workings.

(2) The result of every such examination shall be recorded without delay in a bound book kept at the mine for the purpose, the pages of which shall be serially numbered and shall be signed and dated by the person who made the examination.

14. If any dispute arises whether any fencing or gate provided in a mine or part thereof in pursuance of any of the principal regulations is adequate or not, it shall be referred to the Chief Inspector whose decision thereon shall be final.

(MA-60/1.)
(No.M.41(12)/55)
TEJA SINGH SAHNI, Dy. Secy.

K. CHAND

23 AUG 1958

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

No.M-41(12)55.

Dated New Delhi, the

19-12-55

From

Shri P.D. Commar,
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

To

All State Governments (Part A, B, & C).

Subject:-Coal Mines (Temporary) Regulations, 1955.

.....

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith for your information a copy of the Coal Mines (Temporary) Regulations, 1955 published in the notification of the Government of India Ministry of Labour No.S.R.O.3422, dated the 25th ~~November~~ ^{October} 1955.

Yours faithfully,

(P.D. Commar) 19/12/55

Under Secretary to the Government of India.

Copy with a copy of the Coal Mines (Temporary) Regulations, 1955 for information to the:-

1. Ministry of Railways (Railway Board).
2. Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply.
3. Ministry of Production.
4. Ministry of Natural resources and Scientific Research.
5. Ministry of Health.
6. Ministry of Home Affairs.
7. Ministry of External Affairs.
8. Director, Geological Survey of India, Calcutta.
9. Coal Commissioner No.1, Council House Street, Calcutta.
10. Chief Labour Commissioner, New Delhi.
11. Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner, Dhanbad.
12. Welfare Commissioner, Mica Mines, Dhanbad.
13. Chairman, Mica Mines Welfare Fund Advisory, Committee for Andhra, Collector's Office, Nellore.
14. Chairman, Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund Advisory Committee for Rajasthan, Labour Commissioner's Office, Jaipur.
15. Chairman, Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund Advisory Committee for Ajmer, 18/453 Civil Lines, Ajmer.
16. Principal Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad.
17. Director, Bureau of Mines, 'P' Block New Delhi.
18. Secretary, Mining Geological and Metallurgical Institute of India, Calcutta.
19. President, Rescue Stations Committee, Dhanbad.
20. Secretary, Indian Mining Federation, 15 Clive Street, Calcutta.
21. Secretary, Indian Mining Association, Royal Exchange Building, Calcutta.
22. Secretary, Indian Colliery Owners' Association Post Box No.70, P.O. Dhanbad, Manbhum, E.I.R.
23. Chairman, Madhya Pradesh Mining Association, Nagpur.
24. Honorary Secretary, National Association of Colliery Managers, Indian Branch Bhulan barce P.O. Pathardih, District Manbhum. 2

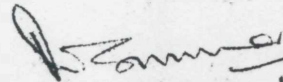
25. Secretary Indian Mines Managers' Association, Shankerpore Colliery, P.O. Ukhra, Burdwan.
26. M/S. John Taylor and Sons (India) Ltd., Ooregaum, Mysore State.
27. General Secretary, Hind Mazdoor Sabha, Servants of India Society's Home, Sandhurst Road, Bombay-4.
28. General Secretary, Indian National Trade Union Congress, 17, Queensway, New Delhi.
29. General Secretary, United Trade Union Congress, 249 Bowbazar Street, Calcutta-12.
30. General Secretary, All India Trade Union Congress, Regional Labour Trust Building, 55, Girgaon Road, Bombay-4.
31. Director, I.L.O. Indian Branch, Mandi House, New Delhi.
32. I.L.O. Office, Geneva.

*With 25 spare copies.

*Copy also forwarded for information to the Chief Inspector of Mines in India, Dhanbad.

Copy to the Library Section with the request that 500 copies of the notification in question may please be obtained from the Government of India Press and sent to this Section at early date. These are required urgently to be placed on the tables of both the Houses of Parliament during the next session.

By order, etc.,


(P.D. Commar) 19/11/55

Under Secretary to the Government of India.

'D.A.NIL'
J.S.17/11/55.

Handwritten initials and date:
A.P.
17/11/55

PROBLEMS OF ^{the} COAL INDUSTRY IN INDIA

JHAN BIKASH MOITRA

Coal is one of our basic industries. The future of the industrial development of our country is closely linked up with the planned expansion of the coal industry. As fuel, coal accounts for a significant portion of the cost of finished products of many ~~various~~ industries, especially the metallurgical ones.

Coal is not only the source of power for the railways, cotton and jute mills, iron and steel plants and a host of other power-driven industries; it yields such important bye-products as tar, dyes, benzol, synthetic petrol, explosives, chemicals and medicines.

The production of steel, which is a reliable index of the level of industrial development of a country, is impossible without good quality coal (coking coal).

With the beginning of planning in India and the emphasis on industrialisation in the Second Five-Year Plan, ^{now under discussion,} the importance of the coal industry has increased enormously.

Yet today this industry is completely dominated by coal monopolists, primarily British, who have been recklessly exploiting this vital raw material for the sake of their fat profits.

But, it is these very gentlemen who are claiming today that the coal industry can play its role in the industrialisation of the country only if it is left in their hands without any "interference" from the Government!

It is, therefore, necessary to know the facts about the industry and be clear about the steps that are urgently required to reorganise it.

Varieties of Coal and Their Reserves

Our coal is not all of the same quality. The quality, i.e., calorific or heating value, of a particular variety of coal depends on the amount of ash and moisture that it contains. The coals of higher grades have lower ash and moisture contents, and so have a greater calorific value.

The coals of the Bihar and West Bengal coalfields, which account for over 80% of our total output, have thus been classified into the following grades on the basis of their ash or moisture contents:

| <u>Grades</u> | <u>% of ash or moisture</u> |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Selected A | 15 to 17 |
| Selected B | |
| Grade I | 19 to 35 |
| Grade II | |
| Grade III A | |
| Grade III B | Above 35 |

It is thus evident that only selected A and B and Grade I may be regarded as higher-grade coals.

The total resources of our coal of all grades have been estimated at about 44,000 million tons. Of this, good quality coal amounts to about 5,000 million tons, the bulk of which - nearly 4,600 million tons - is in the coalfields of Bihar and West Bengal. A considerable margin, however, will have to be allowed in estimating the actual possible recovery.

The Committee on the Conservation of Metallurgical Coal (1949) estimated that only about 2,000 million^{tons} of our total reserves are metallurgical coal, i.e., coal which is suitable for manufacture of coke for use in blast furnaces in the smelting of iron ores.

The Washeries Committee (1953), however, was of the opinion that without extensive sand-stowing, not more than 60% of these reserves could be actually extracted.

Our total reserves are, no doubt, considerable; but they are not at all large compared to the U.K. reserves of 176,000 million tons and the U.S. reserves of 2,900,000 million tons.

An important source of power has been recently found in the lignite deposits in South India and at Umarsar in Kutch. The lignite is also a type of coal which however does not mature into that black hard substance called coal. It contains about 30% to 35% of moisture, but can be processed into a fuel. It is as good as any other fuel and can run locomotives, feed thermal power stations, smelt ores and cook meals. Besides, it can form the basis of important industries - synthetic petrol, chemicals and fertilisers.

The deposits are estimated at about 2,000 million tons. There is no doubt that this fuel has opened up new vistas of opportunities for the development of industries in the South.

The Madras Government has been conducting a pilot project at Neiveli in South Arcot District since March, 1953.

Production Trends

The total number of collieries in India is 839 (February, 1955), of which as many as 700 are in Bihar and W.Bengal.

The output of coal from these mines and despatches have steadily risen during the post-war years, as shown in the following table:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Production</u>
(in million tons) | <u>Despatches</u>
(in million tons) |
|-------------|--|--|
| 1947 | 26.9 | 25.2 |
| 1948 | 26.8 | 25.9 |
| 1949 | 29.9 | 28.0 |
| 1950 | 34.0 | 26.8 |
| 1951 | 34.3 | 29.1 |
| 1952 | 36.2 | 31.1 |
| 1953 | 35.8 | 30.7 |
| 1954 | 36.8 | 32.0 |

(A Note on the Coal Industry by R. Maulik, Hindusthan Standard, Dec. 31, 1954, and Commerce, 26.2.55)

It will be seen that the coal industry has enjoyed comparative prosperity all through the post-war years.

The increase in the output has been partly due to increase in exports and partly due to greater consumption by some industries. The exports shot up from 0.5 million in 1942 to over 3 million tons in 1952. But since then a decline started, and by 1954 the exports fell by nearly 40%.

This has been due to the emergence of South Africa and Australia as strong competitors in South-East Asian markets and the supply by the U.S. of large quantities of metallurgical and high-grade coal to Japan, which used to obtain its requirements from India.

Recently, the Government of India appointed a Committee with the Coal Commissioner as its Chairman, to enquire into the causes of the decline in our coal export trade and to suggest measures to regain it.

Consumption

The consumption of coal in ~~1949~~ 1950 was distributed as follows:-

| <u>Items</u> | | <u>Percentage of
total production</u> |
|---|-----|---|
| 1. All industries | ... | 40.9 |
| 2. Railways | ... | 31.1 |
| 3. Steam electric utilities | ... | 6.9 |
| 4. States (minor consumers) | ... | 4.5 |
| 5. Bunker and Steamer Service | ... | 2.2 |
| 6. Exports | ... | 3.1 |
| 7. Consumption at collieries
and wastage | ... | 11.3 |
| | | -----
100.0
----- |

(First Five-Year Plan, p.387)

The pattern of consumption has remained more or less the same as it was five years ago.

Targets of Production

During the last war, the Government of India set up 29 panels to formulate detailed plans for the developmat of various industries. On the basis of the reports of 11 of these panels, covering the main industries, the Indian Coalfields Committee (1946) estimated that the requirements of coal in 1956 would be 41 million tons. It, therefore, recommended the stepping up of production by 1.5 million tons per year.

The Working Party for the Coal Industry (1951), however, commented on this estimate in these words: "While writing its report, the Indian Coalfields Committee (1946) was confronted with the various schemes and plans that were drawn up for execution in the near future. But it is now observed that many of these plans have been put in cold storage and there is great doubt if a large number of them will ever see daylight."

The Working Party estimated the requirements in 1950 at 36.1 million tons. To this should be added 8% of the total output as consumption by the collieries and wastage. So the total requirements in 1950 amounted to 39 million tons, but the actual production was only 34 million tons.

The First Five-Year Plan earmarked only 8.4% of the total outlay for industry. Coal was, therefore, left in the wilderness. This is why the Planning Commission admitted that "it is not possible to indicate precisely what the consumption will be by end of the period of the Plan." Nevertheless, it estimated that by 1955-56 the additional demand was expected to be of the order of 6 million tons - 4 million tons for industries, 1 million tons for railways and 1 million tons for thermal power generation and other purposes.

Thus, the target to be achieved by 1955-56 is 40 million tons, but during the last three years production has remained more or less static around 36 million tons.

The "plan-frame" of the Second Five-Year Plan now under discussion, envisages an expenditure of 26% of the total outlay on industry and minerals and 22% on transport and communications.

It is proposed to increase the railway transport facilities by 30% over the present level. This means that the bulk of the expenditure earmarked for transport and communications will have to be allocated for the railways, which now use more than ~~29~~ 31% of our total coal output.

If these targets of industrial expansion and railway development are to be attained, coal production has to be stepped up to something like 60 million tons - an increase of 24 million over the present level.

Recently, ⁱⁿ a memorandum to the Planning Commission on the long-term planning for the Coal Industry, the Indian Collieries Bihar, Union, has estimated the demand for coal to rise to as much as 69.7 million tons by 1960, and this, it states, can be met by planning for an annual increase of five to six million tons from now onwards.

Is the coal industry as it is today capable of fulfilling this objective? Obviously not.

Chaos in Industry

Even after the industry has been in existence for very many years, it is not only still at an extremely backward technical level; it is in a state of chaos.

Coal is one of our most important national assets, but all along it has been allowed to be recklessly exploited by monopolists in their own selfish interests.

The Coal Mining Committee aptly summed up the situation in the following words: "In short, to use a sporting metaphor, the coal trade in India has been rather like a race in which profit has always come in 'first', safety a poor 'second', sound methods an 'also ran' and national welfare a 'dead horse', entered perhaps but never likely to start."

The Chairman of the Coal Consumers' Association recently observed that the coal industry is "riding on a rocking horse with much movement and no progress."

The domination of the industry by the monopolists, primarily British, has proved disastrous - primitive technical level of the industry, wasteful and dangerous methods of mining, rapid exhaustion of the reserves of high-grade coal, sub-human living standards of the miners and growing number of accidents.

The extent of monopoly control is seen in the fact that at present only 21 collieries or 3% of the total number, are units

that produce over 20,000 tons per month (Commerce, Annual Number, December, 1954).

British Stronghold

In 1951, about a dozen British companies owned 62% of the capital invested in the coal industry and accounted for over 63% of the total output. The position has not materially changed since then.

The stranglehold of British capital is, however, much deeper than what their direct investment indicates. It not only controls the bulk of coal production but also vast areas of the best coal-bearing seams, which have not yet been developed.

It also controls many collieries through the British managing agencies, although the entire capital invested in such collieries is not wholly owned by them.

Its grip is further seen in the fact that it is the British-owned collieries that produce most of our metallurgical and higher-grade coals, which yield the maximum profits.

The British companies also have a monopoly of our export trade in coal.

Primitive Methods of Mining

The coal monopolists, British as well as India, have deliberately kept the industry at a primitive technical level, because mechanisation means investment of more capital, higher costs and lesser return on the capital.

This explains why in such an important industry, the total capital invested amounts to only about Rs.20 crores, including about Rs.7 crores invested in 11 State Railway collieries.

At present, only 400 coal-cutting machines are in use, and they account for only about 19% of the total output! The position in respect of mechanical loading of coal and its transportation by conveyors is still worse. Out of the total output of 36 million

tons, only about 2 lakh tons are mechanically loaded and 7 lakh tons mechanically conveyed.

The extremely backward state of production techniques is one of the most important reasons why the productivity of our miners is the lowest in the world. The average productivity is as follows:

| <u>Category</u> | <u>Output per man-shift</u>
<u>(in tons)</u> |
|--|---|
| 1. Miners and loaders ... | 1.05 |
| 2. All persons employed underground
and xxx in open workings ... | 0.57 |
| 3. All persons employed above
and underground ... | 0.35 |

(Commerce, Annual Number, December, 1954)

The output of the Belgian miner is double, the French miner three times, the U.K. miner four times, the South African miner six times and U.S. miner eighteen times the output of the Indian coal miner.

The Indian Coalfields Committee pointed out that there has been little progress in respect of mechanisation of the mines, "because labour at times is both plentiful and comparatively cheap, machines do not always prove an economic proposition."

Representatives of the Tata Iron & Steel Co., which is the biggest of the Indian coal producers, stated before the Indian Coalfields Committee, "Mechanical coal-cutters increase the production from the ~~xxxxxx~~ mines by 100%, but the mining cost based on the actual number of miners and loaders is higher than for pick-mining."

The conclusion is inescapable. The coal bosses continue to reap huge profits by investing a very small amount of capital and forcing the miners to hew coal with the primitive pick-axes under the most arduous and, very often, hazardous conditions of work.

Even the Commerce had to admit, "It is common knowledge that the high cost of production in India is essentially due to the still prevalent antiquated methods of mining." (January 15, 1955)

Yet, the bosses repeat ad nauseum that the miner cannot legitimately demand any increase in his present starvation wage unless he increases his output!

Another result of the backward technical level is the huge wastage of coal. This is why the Working Party remarked, "There is no other alternative left for rapid production, movement and preparation of coal except by some process of mechanisation."

The Commerce observed, "Mechanisation of Indian Coal Mines is needed particularly to avoid the tremendous wastage of high-grade metallurgical and volatile coals caused by extravagant and reckless methods of mining." (January 15, 1955)

Fragmentation and Uneconomic Units

During the war years, when there was a boom in the coal industry, the number of collieries increased by leaps and bounds. The landlords, who owned the coal-bearing lands, leased them out to anybody ^{who} would pay them a fat "salami" and a high royalty rate per ton of coal extracted.

The landlords did not bother whether the lessees had the capacity or technical equipment to work the coal-bearing lands.

This practice of reckless leasing out was resorted to not only by the landlords, but by the lessees and sub-lessees also.

It led to the fragmentation of mines on an unprecedented scale, as evident from the following figures:-

| <u>Year</u> | <u>No. of coal mines in India</u> |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1939 | 587 |
| 1942 | 725 |
| 1944 | 994 |
| 1950 | 842 |
| 1951 | 825 |
| 1954 | 830 |
| 1955 (Feb.) | 839 |

Thus, between 1939-44, the number of mines increased by 207. Although the number has declined since 1950, fragmentation still continues and quite a large number of the existing units are uneconomic. Many of them are so small and of such grotesque shape that they baffle any scientific extraction of coal. Mechanisation of such mines is not possible, as pointed out by the Working Party, unless they are amalgamated.

At present, no less than 18% to 20% of the total collieries are such small units, producing less than 100 tons per month.

It is needless to say that big reserves of coal are wasted year after year due to fragmentation, peculiar sizes of mines and uneconomic working.

Wastage of Superior Grade Coals

Although the reserves of our superior-grade coals are very limited (5,000 million tons, of which only 2,000 tons are metallurgical coal), they are being wasted at an alarming rate. The British companies control most of the superior-grade coals, and they are mainly responsible for this reckless wastage of a precious national wealth.

During recent years, the production of metallurgical coal has been pushed up at an unprecedented rate:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Output (in million tons)</u> |
|-------------|---------------------------------|
| 1946 | 8 |
| 1949 | 12 |
| 1950 | 14 |
| 1953 | 16 |

Our requirement of metallurgical coal in 1953 was 3.39 million tons, but the output was forced up to 16 million tons!

The reason behind this steep increase in output is that the price of metallurgical coal is much higher than all other varieties and the British bosses are able to rake in huge profits by raising the output of metallurgical coal. The producers of

Selected A and B grades make an additional profit of Rs.4 to 5 per ton over what the producers of Grades IIIA and IIIB make.

The Railways which consume one-third of our coal output provide a glaring example of how metallurgical coal is being used for non-metallurgical purposes.

Successive official Committees have recommended the use of medium and lower-grade coals by the railways. The Fuel Economy Committee (1953), appointed by the Railway Board, pointed out that if lower-grade coals were used, the Railways could make a net saving of Rs.6 crores per year on its fuel bill.

But these recommendations have more or less remained on paper.

The Planning Commission estimated that "Of the total production of metallurgical coal, the railways consume about 40%, the iron and steel industry about 21%, about 13% is used for bunker and export and the balance is consumed by miscellaneous industries."

This situation - the wastage of 79% of the total output of metallurgical coal - should be a matter of serious concern for the entire nation.

It is but natural that the iron and steel industry should insist on the conservation of metallurgical coal. But, recently the Indian section of the coal industry, particularly the producers of inferior-grade coals, have put forward the same demand, because the rapid increase in the output of metallurgical coal is seriously affecting their own markets.

During the last two decades several coal committees advocated conservation of metallurgical coal. A growing volume of public opinion also supported it.

The Government was ultimately forced to appoint the Committee on the Conservation of Metallurgical Coal (1949). Subsequently, the Coal Mines (Conservation and Safety) Act was enacted in 1952, in the teeth of stiff opposition from British coal interests,

in order to reduce the output of metallurgical coal.

The British bosses, however, did not give up the battle. And, today, the policy of conservation has been reduced to a mockery.

Firstly, the output of only Selected A & B grades of metallurgical coal has been restricted. Secondly, the output will be reduced at a very slow rate of half a million tons per year, when the increase in 7 years between 1946-53 was as much as 8 million tons.

Lastly, there are no restrictions on the continued export of ~~these grades~~ of metallurgical coal.

The following figures clearly show how the production of metallurgical coal is still far above our requirements:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Requirements</u>
(in million tons) | <u>Production pegged at</u>
(in million tons) |
|-------------|--|--|
| 1954-55 | 3.65 | 7.4 |
| 1955-56 | 3.78 | 7.35 |

(Commerce, 9.4.55)

It is thus evident that even now the output is about 100% over the requirements for metallurgical purposes. The surplus is being used for non-metallurgical purposes and for export.

No wonder, therefore, that the Coal Commissioner and Chairman, Coal Board, is forced to admit, "While the reserves of selected grades are barely one-ninth of the total reserves, the production of high-grade coal is even now about 50 per cent roughly of the total output. In other words, the extraction of high grade coal, has proceeded in the past and is proceeding now at a far higher pace than the proportion of reserves to the total reserves."

(Commerce, Annual Number, December, 1954)

It is, therefore, quite evident that under pressure from the British bosses and a small section of the big Indian colliery owners, ~~who have been off~~

owners, who have been offered by the British a share in the export trade of coal, the Government of India is not pursuing a genuine policy of conservation.

Wasteful and Dangerous Methods

The coal monopolists have consistently refused to undertake sand-stowing, because it involves cost. It is estimated that the average cost of stowing is about Rs.1/12/- per ton of sand stowed.

The Government is paying about 75% of the cost subject to a maximum of Rs.1/5/- per ton; yet the bosses are not willing to spend the remaining 25% or Rs.7 per ton out of their profits.

It is to be noted here that between 1950-54, the Government paid to the coal bosses a sum of Rs.218.34 lakhs by way of "assistance" for sand-stowing. (Commerce, 16.4.55)

Huge reserves are thus wasted because stowing to the requisite extent is not done today. Without stowing only about 60% of the reserves of a mine can be extracted, while with it as much as 90% can be obtained.

The Government itself is guilty of not undertaking stowing in its own mines. In the State Railway Collieries, Giridih, a reserve of about two million tons of high grade coal is in danger of being wasted because necessary stowing is not being done.

The Commerce pointed out that "as much as 50 per cent of this coal (high-grade metallurgical coal) is lost due to inadequate stowing and temptation to extract the better and easier sections of the seams." (January 15, 1955).

The coal bosses also refuse to raise coal on the basis of proper pillaring of the coal seams, because it does not yield quick returns on the capital. This reckless method results in wastage of coal, avoidable collapses and fires.

In their mad lust for profits, the owners also resort to

what is known as "depillaring", that is, cutting down of the pillars supporting the roof of an upper coal seam. Such a method frequently results in a serious damage to other seams in the mine, rendering their extraction difficult and costly, if not altogether impossible.

Spontaneous fires have often broken out due to depillaring, devastating substantial areas of coal.

Another practice of the bosses has been to abandon a mine when it grows old and the margin of profit narrows down. Once a mine is closed down, its reopening becomes a costly affair and the coal that is still there is totally lost.

The Washeries Committee found that in the last two decades during which our coal production has increased from 18.7 million tons to 36.8 million tons, the average ash content has increased from 14% to over 20%. This is mainly due to the exhaustion of easily obtained coal of the best quality.

Addressing the annual meeting of the Geological, Mining and Metallurgical Society of India in Calcutta on August 2, 1954, the late Dr. S. S. Bhatnagar, the then Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research, said that he was "distressed to find that there are people in the private sector who use their mines merely as sources of profit. In trying to earn the utmost profit within the shortest possible time, they ruin the mines and abandon them in favour of new ones." He further observed that "no Government with the good of the country and people at heart could allow such things to happen", but ended with the pious hope that "conditions will improve so that the Government will not have to take any drastic step." (Coalfield Times, Dhanbad, 6.7.54)

The "slaughter" methods of exploitation not only mean a criminal wastage of our reserves; they constitute a serious danger to the safety and security of the miners.

Reckless methods of mining and violations of elementary safety regulations for the sake of high profits have cost our miners dearly. Only recently - between December, 1954 and February 1955 - as many as 130 miners lost their lives in Parasia (M.P.), Dharmabad and Amlabad (Bihar).

No amount of sophistry can ^{hide} ~~hide~~ the fact that accidents have been on the increase in recent years. The number of workers seriously injured in coalmines rose from 2,600 in 1952 to 2,787 in 1953 (Statement of Union Labour Ministry in Lok Sabha on September 22, 1954). Fatal accidents also have been on the increase, as the following official figures show:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>No. of deaths</u> |
|-------------|----------------------|
| 1950 | 241 |
| 1951 | 319 |
| 1952 | 353 |
| 1953 | 330 |
| 1954 | 334 |

There is little doubt that these accidents are due mainly to the violations of safety regulations. Even the Coal Commissioner makes the following admission: "In spite of legislation and rules, which seek to enforce certain standards of safety in mines, the tendency is to adopt the less meticulous and scrupulous methods." (Commerce, Dec. 1954)

Washing and Blending

A correct policy regarding our coal would mean not only the conservation of the superior grades, but also the utilisation of other grades in the best possible manner.

The low-grade coal, of which India has big reserves, is capable of being graded high by reducing its ash content by washing, and by blending it with coal of higher grades.

But upto now no attempt has been made to make a scientific use of our low-grade reserves. Two years ago the Coal Board

appointed the Washeries Committee, and only now it has been decided to set up Central Washeries plants.

The great advantages that our industries will derive from washing and blending of coal are obvious.

The joint memorandum of the Tata Iron & Steel Co., and the Indian Iron and Steel Co., to the Committee on the Conservation of Metallurgical Coal pointed out that with a reduction of only 2% of ash in inferior-grade coking coal, these two plants could effect an economy of Rs.26 lakhs on their coal bill, Rs.2.94 lakhs on limestone and Rs.29.54 lakhs in raw materials - that is, a total saving of Rs.58.48 lakhs.

It was further stated that the reduction of ash would allow an average increase in the annual output of steel in the vicinity of 82,400 tons, valued at over Rs.3 crores.

Wastage of bye-products

We have not yet made any serious efforts in the matter of processing coal in order to derive the maximum possible benefits out of it and thus improve the overall efficiency of its utilisation.

During the process of making coke from coal in the coke-oven plant, the bye-products recovered include tar, pitch, ammonium sulphate (xx used as fertilisers), sulphuric acid, soda ash, naphthalene, disinfecting fluids, benzene, benzol and a number of other chemicals.

These bye-products are the basic raw materials for the pharmaceutical, chemical, dyestuff and plastic industries. Benzol is used as an automobile fuel in Germany and other countries.

Our present production of benzol is 1.2 lakh gallons per month; but if benzol is recovered from all the coal which is now converted into coke, the production will amount to several million gallons a year.

There is also a tremendous scope for utilising coal dust accumulating at pit-heads of the coal mines. This dust is now being burnt in open air for conversion into soft coke, with the result that the valuable bye-products are wasted in the atmosphere.

Thus, huge quantities of by-products are just wasted because coal is not utilised in the best possible manner and also because coal is burnt in the open air.

This wastage is mainly due to the fact that the number of coke-oven plants is extremely small.

The Planning Commission, therefore, appointed an ~~ESSESS~~ Expert Committee in November last year to explore the possibilities of the installation of new coke-oven plant or plants.

Synthetic Petrol

The proposal for the setting up of a synthetic plant goes as far back as 1948, when the Government of India invited an American firm of consultants to submit a project report on the manufacture of liquid fuel from low-grade coal. But, all these years the report remained in cold storage.

The question of establishing a synthetic petrol industry assumes importance chiefly from the point of view of strategic needs.

At present, India's requirements of aviation spirit is estimated at 80,000 to 85,000 tons per year. But the entire quantity has to be imported. The new oil refineries that have been set up do not produce aviation spirit.

India has large deposits of low-grade coal which can be profitably used for the production of synthetic petrol. Recent investigations conducted on lignite in South Arcot have also revealed that it has potentialities for the manufacture of oil.

Last year, the Government set up a Synthetic Petrol Committee under the chairmanship of the Union Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Scientific Research to explore the possibilities of

establishing a synthetic plant in the country.

The Committee has recommended the erection of a plant at an estimated cost of Rs. 55 crores, capable of producing 3,000,000 gallons of liquid fuel from coal. The fuel will consist of (1) 85,000 tons of aviation spirit and (2) 215,000 tons of motor spirit, diesel oil and lubricants.

Mr. J. R. D. Tata, one of the members of the Committee, has, however, strongly opposed the proposal on the ground that "an expenditure of this order cannot be justified for such a purpose in preference to other urgent projects of far greater productivity and value to the country."

The Government has not yet taken a final decision on the matter.

Problem of Transport

The problem of transport has been an acute one for the coal industry. The railways, which carry practically the entire bulk of our coal because transport by road, river or sea is very costly, have not been able to lift the coal raised.

The Working Party for the Coal Industry pointed out in 1951 that due to lack of necessary railway transport, "certain parts of the country are undergoing acute shortage of coal and developments in certain areas, especially South India, Saurashtra and Northern Bihar, have been starved."

In 1952, the position seriously deteriorated and at one time it was estimated the pit-head accumulations of coal were worth as much as Rs. 6 crores. A large number of collieries, especially the smaller ones, whose existence depends on a quick turnover of their capital, were threatened with immediate closures.

The Government then introduced a scheme for speeding up the movements of coal.

The available transport capacity has greatly improved since then, but the position is still unsatisfactory and heavy stocks

at pitheads are even today a common phenomenon.

During the last three years, about 3 million tons per year have not been lifted from the pitheads. The production has been around 36 million tons, but the available transport capacity falls short of requirements by more than 10%.

This is so because the programme for the railways in the First Five-Year Plan is just one of rehabilitation, of making up the back-log of arrears ~~and~~ of replacements ~~of~~ and renewals, and not a programme of expansion. So the railways have failed to cope with the increase in industrial and agricultural production.

We have already pointed out that the industrial development envisaged in the Second Five-Year Plan will require our coal production to be stepped up from 36 to 60 million tons - an increase of about ~~33~~ 67%.

But this increase is inseparably linked up with a corresponding expansion of the ~~existing~~ transport capacity of the railways.

The Planning Commission proposes to increase the railway transport facilities by 30% over the present level. Whether this increase will be able to cope with an ~~33~~^{67%} increase in ^{the} output of coal - not to speak of the overall needs of an expanding economy as envisaged in the plan-frame - is yet to be seen.

..... PTO

Huge Profits

The production and distribution of coal and the fixed price at which it may be sold are regulated by the Colliery Control Order which was promulgated in 1944 and has been continued in force under the Essential Supplies Act, 1946.

But the regulatory measures have not prevented either the Government from fixing high prices, for the coal magnates from reaping rich harvests.

The actual figures of profits of the coal industry are not available. Nevertheless, an approximate estimate can be made on the basis of certain published statistics.

In the pre-war years, the owners used to make a profit of 10 to 14 annas per ton, but during the war period the profit shot up to the colossal figure of Rs.50-60 per ton (Our Economic Problem, Wadia and Merchant, p.444). At present, the position is as follows:

Compared to grade III B coal, the lowest grade, the prices of the other five grades are higher by the following amounts:

| <u>Grade</u> | | <u>Price (per ton)</u> |
|--------------|-----|------------------------|
| Selected A | ... | Rs.4-11- 0 |
| Selected B | ... | Rs.3-11- 0 |
| Grade I | ... | Rs.2-13- 0 |
| Grade II | ... | Rs.1-14- 0 |
| Grade IIIA | ... | Rs.1- 3- 0 |

Allowing for differences in the proportions in which various grades of coal are produced, the above grades make, on the average, an extra profit of about Rs.3/- per ton over that of IIIB coal.

This does not, of course, mean that grade IIIB does not make any profit at all. It does make a profit of at least Rs.1-8-0 per ton. This figure is an extremely moderate one, because the middle-

man alone is allowed a commission of Rs.1-14-0 per ton under the Colliery Control Order (1944).

Thus, the coal industry makes a profit of at least Rs.3 plus Rs.1-8-0, that is Rs.4-8-0 per ton. This figure, however, is an underestimate because the profits from hard coke, soft coke, etc. which are definitely higher than those from steam coal, have been calculated at the flat rate of Rs.4/8/- per ton.

The average annual despatches of coal between 1950-54 were of the order of 29.8 million tons. So the industry raked in a profit of Rs.13.41 crores per year, or as much as 67% of the total capital invested!!!

The following tables give an idea of the level of profits in the coal industry:

Table I - INDEX NUMBERS OF PRICES (Base : August 1939 = 100)

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Jute Manufacture</u> | <u>Cotton Manufacture</u> | <u>Cement</u> | <u>Coal</u> |
|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1941 | 175 | 153 | 114 | 104 |
| 1942 | 175 | 262 | 134 | 130 |
| 1943 | 241 | 439 | 163 | 197 |
| 1944 | 153 | 309 | 203 | 288 |
| 1945 | 249 | 275 | 205 | 296 |
| 1946 | 284 | 262 | 186 | 294 |
| 1947 | 476 | 255 | 200 | 322 |
| 1948 | 504 | 259 | 266 | 366 |
| 1949 | 511 | 366 | 258 | 364 |
| 1950 | 561 | 354 | 258 | 357 |
| 1951 | 813 | 400 | 280 | 357 |
| 1952 | 505 | 401 | 298 | 357 |
| 1953 | 402 | 407 | 261 | 357 |
| 1954 | 438 | 413 | 273 | 357 |

(Eastern Economist, Special Budget Number, March 5, 1955, p.384)

Table II - INDEX NUMBERS OF INDUSTRIAL PROFITS

(Base : 1939 - 100)

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Jute Manufactures</u> | <u>Cotton Manufactures</u> | <u>Cement</u> | <u>Coal</u> |
|-------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1940 | 359.1 | 142.5 | 102.8 | 100.8 |
| 1941 | 344.4 | 316.6 | 123.8 | 82.6 |
| 1942 | 351.1 | 491.3 | 169.1 | 80.5 |
| 1943 | 376.3 | 640.0 | 147.9 | 95.6 |
| 1944 | 310.6 | 492.1 | 214.4 | 237.0 |
| 1945 | 327.6 | 423.3 | 211.6 | 258.3 |
| 1946 | 415.4 | 408.9 | 194.1 | 198.5 |
| 1947 | 313.2 | 317.7 | 142.5 | 171.8 |
| 1948 | 361.2 | 548.1 | 252.6 | 201.0 |
| 1949 | 89.3 | 292.0 | 295.0 | 287.2 |
| 1950 | 456.9 | 356.6 | 333.4 | 209.2 |
| 1951 | 679.1 | 551.1 | 419.7 | 178.4 |
| 1952 | 183.4 | 262.8 | 293.4 | 220.4 |

(Eastern Economist, Annual Number,
December 31, 1954, p. 1142)

ORGANISATIONS OF COLLIERY OWNERS AND CLASS OF INTERESTS

The colliery owners have organised themselves into three associations:

1. The Indian Mining Association (IMA)
2. The Indian Colliery Owners' Association (ICOA)
3. The Indian Mining Federation (IMF).

The IMA, which represents the British coal bosses, ^{interests,} is the most powerful of these organisations. Uptill now, it has monopolised the lion's share of the production as well as profits.

The ICOA is an organisation of the Indian colliery owners and is dominated by the big Indian bosses. It, no doubt, fights the

British interests for having a greater share of the market, but it does not hesitate to sacrifice the interests of the owners of small and inferior grade collieries.

The IMF is an organisation of the small Indian owners, and it fights for the interests of collieries producing inferior-grade coals.

It is necessary to understand the nature of the conflicts between the various sections of the coal industry because they involve questions connected with the future of the industry itself.

These conflicts are mainly between the following interests:

- (1) British owners versus Indian owners;
- (2) Big colliery owners versus small colliery owners;
- (3) Private collieries versus State collieries;
- (4) Metallurgical coal producers versus non-metallurgical coal producers.

We have already seen the nature and result of the conflict of interests between the metallurgical and non-metallurgical coal producer. Here, we shall deal with the other conflicts.

CONFLICT BETWEEN BRITISH AND INDIAN OWNERS

The railways, which consume more than 31 per cent of our total coal output, have consistently discriminated against the Indian owners, especially those producing inferior-grade coals in respect of their purchases of coal (loco orders), allotment of wagons and facilities for railway sidings for the loading of coal.

Till recently, the post of the Chief Mining Engineer, Railway Board, was occupied by a Britisher, and he always used his position to extend all the advantages to the British coal companies.

The Indian colliery owners have repeatedly attacked this policy of discrimination.

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Commenting on the policy of the Government regarding the recommendation of several official committees for the use of lower-grade coals by the railway, Mr. B.L. Agarwala, former President of the Indian Colliery Owners' Association, said: "These recommendations, if implemented, could have resulted in the consumption by the railways of lower-grade coals by more than 50 per cent of their total off-take. But all these recommendations have been brushed aside. The use of grade III coals was discarded completely some four years ago and the use of grade II coal has been progressively dwindling from programme to programme."

This is why the despatches of inferior-grade coals have been continuously decreasing while the total output and overall despatches of coal have been on the increase.

It is, therefore, easy to understand why Mr. Michelmore, former Chairman of the IMA, should hold the brief for the Railway Board, while Mr. Agarwalla bitterly complained about the "fascist attitude of the present-day rulers of the Railway Board". Mr. Michelmore said, "It is a popular habit to blame the railway for the heavy accumulation of stocks at pitheads; it is said there is a shortage of wagons, or of locos, or general transportation efficiency I am afraid I cannot subscribe to the view. On the contrary, in my opinion the railways during the past year served the coal industry extremely well" (March 28, 1952).

This appreciation, it will be seen, came at a time when, as pointed out by the Working Party for the Coal Industry, certain parts of the country were experiencing an acute shortage of coal due to lack of railway transport facilities!

Besides these measures of discrimination against the Indian owners, and particularly producers of inferior-grade coals, the Government

reduced^{to} statutory prices of grade II and Grade II soft coke by Re.1/12/- and Rs.3/- per ton respectively.

In February last, the price of Grade II coal was further reduced by annas 9 per ton.

The total effect of the Government's policy has been to squeeze out ~~of~~ the inferior-grade collieries. While the big and superior grade collieries owned mainly by the British, have been stepping up their output, the small Indian units are being driven to the wall.

Many have already been forced to close down and a large number of those that have not yet stopped working are just marginal collieries.

CONFLICT BETWEEN THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND THE STATE SECTOR

The Government owns 11 collieries which can meet the full requirements of the railways. But, it has always been the policy of the Government to purchase as much as 68 per cent of the coal needed by the railways from private collieries, owned mainly by British companies. The output in State Collieries has been deliberately forced down so as to enable the monopolists to sell to the railways huge quantities of coal at high prices.

Not satisfied with^{the} position, the owners of private collieries British as well as big Indian owners, have consistently demanded the closing down of the State Collieries or, at least, a drastic restriction in their output on the grounds (a) that the cost of production in these collieries is very high and so their further working at heavy losses is an unnecessary burden on the tax-payer, and (b) that they produce considerable quantities of metallurgical coal, which should be conserved.

Let us see how far these arguments are correct.

The question of the closing down of state railway collieries producing metallurgical coal does not arise at all, because they are very old; and once ~~as~~ closed would result in large quantities of high-grade coal being totally lost.

they are closed down, they cannot be worked later on. So, closure

It is, however, true that the cost of production in state collieries is very high, as shown in the following table:

Minimum and maximum cost per ton

| | |
|---------|--------------------------|
| 1945-46 | Rs.9/6/1 to Rs.15/5/6 |
| 1946-47 | Rs.8/13/1 to Rs.23/6/9 |
| 1947-48 | Rs.11/13/5 to Rs.46/11/3 |
| 1948-49 | Rs.13/9/7 to Rs.42/12/9 |
| 1949-50 | Rs.25/3/2 to Rs.28/4/9 |
| 1952-53 | Rs.6/13/11 to Rs.31/4/11 |

The cost of production has been so high when the controlled price of the superior varieties of coal ranges from Rs.14/- to Rs.16/- per ton!!

How can this amazing state of affairs be explained?

The cost is so exorbitant mainly because the Government follows the policy of deliberately restricting the output. A sharp reduction in the cost can be effected only if the state collieries are worked to their full capacity and the corruption and inefficiency now rampant in these collieries are eliminated.

Experience has shown that whenever an attempt has been made to increase the output, the amount of losses and the cost of production have come down.

Till 1950-51, the state collieries suffered heavy losses because the output was severely restricted. But, when production was stepped up in 1951-52, the working of the collieries showed a net profit, although 7 out of the 11 collieries were still running at a losses.

The following figures clearly show how economic working depends upon the volume of output:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Output</u>
(in million tons), | <u>Profit (+) or loss (-)</u>
<u>in working (in lakhs</u>
<u>of rupees)</u> | <u>No. of collieries</u>
<u>working at loss</u> |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1949-50 | 2.23 | - 80 | All the 11 collieries |
| 1950-51 | 2.42 | - 69.98 | -do- |
| 1951-52 | 3.15 | + 11.29 | 7 |
| 1952-53 | 3.19 | + 61.20 | 6 |
| 1953-54 | 3.13 | + 1.35 | 8 |

(Annual Reports of the Railway
Board, and Commerce, dated 8.1.55
and 5.3.55)

On February 21, 1951, the late Mr. N. Gopalaswamy Ayyangar, the then Rly Minister, stated in Parliament that "the loss is almost entirely due to low output. The collieries do not produce the quantity of coal that might have made their working economic".

On the same day, Mr. K. Santhanam, Deputy Minister for Railways, also admitted in Parliament, "If the railway collieries could be worked to their full extent, probably they could yield a good profit; but their production, was limited by the Coal Commissioner to the needs of the country in the light of the production of the private collieries".

It is, therefore, easy to understand why the bosses of the private collieries should be so solicitous about the conservation of metallurgical coal in state collieries and also about the tax-payers' money!

Some of the other factors responsible for the prohibitive high cost of production are:

27.

* Corruption and mismanagement are rampant in the state collieries, as a result of which the state finances are literally squandered. Even some British companies have a share in this loot.

For instance, the Indian Mining Construction Corporation, a British firm, was given the contract of removing the overburden of rock and earth in the Kargali state colliery. The cost for removing the overburden was Rs.12/5/- per ton when the price of coal raised was only Rs.14/- per ton !!

* Frequently pits are opened and closed down without any plan, involving unnecessary expenses.

* Machineries worth lakhs of rupees lie idle, and year after year heavy interest charges have to be paid. In Jarangdih colliery, for instance, the interest charges in 1952-53 pushed up the cost of production by Rs.9/2/4, the total cost being Rs.30/4/6.

* Money is not sanctioned for such absolutely necessary purposes as sand-stowing, supply of adequate number of tubs, etc., as a result of which output goes down and the cost per tone of coal increases.

When stowing was done to some extent in the Jarangdih colliery the cost per ton came down from Rs.40/- to Rs.18/- and the output per man-shift increased from .9 to 1.4 tons between July 1953 and February 1954.

In 1952-53, the Bokaro Colliery made a profit of Rs.7/5/- per ton; but the profit could have been higher if an adequate number of tubs had been supplied to the miners.

There is thus nothing inherent in the economy of the state collieries that cannot make them a profitable undertaking.

But the policy of restriction of output so far followed by the Government has not only adversely affected the public exchequer; it has also resulted in a large-scale retrenchment of the workers.

Between 1944-53, about 10,0000 miners in state collieries were

retrenched as "surplus".

Another batch of 5,000 workers ~~were~~ was due to be thrown out, but the Production Minister recently stated in the Lok Sabha that only 1,500 would be retrenched.

CONDITIONS OF LABOUR

The workers in our coal mines constitute one of the biggest sections of industrial labour in the country. The total number is well over three lakhs:

Average daily number of workers employed in coal mines

| | |
|-----------------|---------|
| 1952 | 341,738 |
| 1953 | 337,796 |
| 1954 | 332,320 |
| 1955 (January) | 350,077 |
| 1955 (February) | 367,255 |

(Labour Gazette, March 1955)

The number of women workers is about 60,000, that is, about 20 per cent of the total strength.

WAGES

The wages of these vast masses of workers are shockingly low not only in relation to their needs, but also in relation to the wage-rates prevailing in other industries.

It is an accepted principle that since the work performed by the coal-miners is of a very hazardous and uncongenial nature, their conditions of work and living should be better than those in other industries.

~~विश्वकर्मिकोद्योग~~ The Coal Mines Workers' Charter, drawn up by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), lays down that the wage-rates in coal mines should be "more ~~favourable~~ attractive" and the conditions of work "more favourable" than those in other industries.

As early as April 1947, the Coal Mines Committee of the ILO noted that "most of the principal coal-producing countries have already effected considerable improvements in the conditions of mine workers".

The Government of India is a member of the ILO, but it has not yet taken any steps to implement these recommendations.

There is no denying the fact that in India the necessity for implementing the ILO recommendations is much more pressing than in the advanced European countries, because our miners have to work under far worse conditions.

Coal mining in our country involves extreme muscular exertion (only 19 per cent of the total output is cut by machines). The atmosphere in the mines is suffocating and unhealthy due to absence of proper ventilation and lighting.

The miners, therefore, fall an easy prey to serious occupational diseases, which not only invalidate a large number of them every year, but take a regular toll of lives.

The present wage-rates of the coal-mines workers are governed by the Conciliation Board Award (CBA) of May 12, 1947.

The CBA recommended the following wages and allowances:

(i) An increase of 50 per cent on the pre-war basic rates for the miners, loaders and trammers only. The time-rated and surface workers were not given any increment in the basic wage;

(ii) 150 per cent of the basic wage as D.A. to all workers drawing less than Rs.30/- per month as basic wage, and a lower percentage of D.A. to those with higher income.

As a result of these recommendations, together with the cash allowance of annas/3/6 and 1/4 seer of free rice (valued at annas -/1/6), which the miners were receiving from before, the total monthly earnings (inclusive of all allowances) of the lowest-paid categories of workers are now as follows:-

32.

| <u>Categories</u> | | <u>Total Monthly Earnings</u> |
|------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|
| 1. Female worker (unskilled) | ... | Rs.28- 6- 0 |
| 2. Male worker (unskilled) | ... | Rs.40-10- 0 |
| 3. Underground miner | ... | Rs.42- 0- 0 |
| 4. Wagon loader | ... | Rs.47- 0- 0 |

The above calculations have been made on the assumption that the miner works, on the average, for 4½ days in the week due to arduous nature of his work (the British miner, who is one of the best-paid workers in Britain, works for only 5 days in the week).

But, in actual practice, the employer does not give the miner even 4½ days' work in order to deprive him of bonus and other facilities.

No wonder, therefore, that the wage-levels in coal mines are lower than those in other major industries. They are even less than the wage-rates in many minor industries. The following figures speak for themselves:

| <u>Industries</u> | <u>Year</u> | <u>Total monthly earnings (unskilled male workers)</u> |
|---------------------|-------------|--|
| 1. Coal | 1954 | Rs. 40-10-0 |
| 2. Textile (Bombay) | Jan, 1955 | Rs.101-10-0 |
| 3. Jute: | | |
| Bengal | 1949 | Rs.88-8- 0 |
| Bihar | 1949 | Rs.54-13-0 |
| 4. Engineering: | | |
| West Bengal | 1949 | Rs.58-8- 0 |
| Bihar (Tatas) | 1949 | Rs.66-12-0 |
| 5. Kolar Goldfields | 1953 | Rs.53-12-0 |
| 6. Railways | 1954 | Rs.70- 0-0 |

EFFECTS OF RISE IN PRICES

The following table clearly shows how the real wages of the

workers have fallen and are at present below the levels of 1939:

A. Earnings of underground miners

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Money earnings</u> | <u>Index of money earnings</u> | <u>Cost of living index</u> | <u>Index of real earnings</u> |
|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1939 | Annas 9/9 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1947 (CBA) | Rs.2/3/- | 358 | 413 | 86 |
| 1953 (June) | Rs.2/3/- | 358 | 571 | 62 |
| 1955 (January) | Rs.2/3/- | 358 | 370 | 96 |

B. Earnings of surface unskilled workers

| | | | | |
|----------------|------------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1939 | Annas /8/- | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1947 (CBA) | Rs.1/9/- | 312 | 413 | 75 |
| 1953 (June) | Rs.1/9/- | 312 | 571 | 55 |
| 1955 (January) | Rs.1/9/- | 312 | 370 | 84 |

BONUS AND OTHER FACILITIES

Among the other concessions recommended by the CBA, the following are important:-

- (a) Payment of bonus at the rate of one-third of the basic wages,
- (b) Payment of special rates for "lead and lift", that is, in cases where the workers have to carry the cut coal face to the tubs over long distances or over steep inclines.
- (c) Payment of an allowance of annas 10 per day for involuntary unemployment.

The bonus scheme was later incorporated in the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Bonus Schemes Act, 1948.

The payment of the bonus is hedged in with these conditions:

- (1) Attendance of 65 days per quarter for surface workers and 54 days per quarter for underground workers, and

(if) Non-participation in any illegal strike.

It is evident that the attendance demanded is too high, specially for an industry like coal. Moreover, as the miners do not get work every day, many of them fail to qualify for bonus. It is estimated that during the last five years, not more than 30 per cent to 45 per cent of the workers received bonus.

Secondly, the condition regarding non-participation in illegal strikes is extremely severe and deprives the workers of a legitimate weapon of struggle, specially in the ^{present} situation ~~prevailing~~ in the coalfields.

Thirdly, the amount of bonus payable to the workers is small because the basic wage-rates, on the basis of which it is calculated, are extremely low.

We have already seen how the total earnings of the coal mines workers are among the lowest in the country. And basic wages constitute only 40 per cent of their total earnings. No wonder, therefore, that the average amount of bonus per worker per quarter comes to about Rs.10 only.

Generally, the employers donot also pay the special charges for lead and lift. Moreover, the Joshi Agreement, which clarified certain points of the CBA, clearly laid down that the lead and lift charges should be regarded as part of the basic wages. But, these charges are not considered as such in calculating bonus and ~~provi-~~ dent fund.

Similarly, the payment of the allowance for forced idleness has remained more or less on paper.

Some other recommendations of the CBA have also not been generally implemented, viz (a) introduction of the grade system for time-rated workers, (b) payment of train fares to workers going home on leave, and (c) supply of footwear.

SUPPLY OF FOODGRAINS

Till 1947, the workers used to get not only rice, wheat and pulses at concessional rates, but also a number of other articles like mustard oil, cloth, blanket etc. Since then, however, the concession has been practically limited to the supply of only rice and wheat.

But, even this small concession is curtailed or nullified in a number of ways:

(i) Workers who do not live in the colliery premises are not allowed to draw the cash allowances as well as rations for their dependents on the plea that they live in villages, and hence grow their own food!! But, the employers refuse to provide quarters and the majority of workers are forced to live outside the colliery premises.

(ii) Workers who put in less than four days' work in the week are not entitled to concessional rations for their dependents.

(iii) The number of dependents of workers who live in the colliery premises has been arbitrarily restricted to three persons for purposes of the supply of concessional foodgrains.

The employers, led by the IMA, are now demanding complete abolition of even these limited concessions, and their substitution by a system of cash payments.

In March this year, the IMA announced its decision to withdraw the concessions, but it had to retreat when it was faced with the threat of a general strike.

HOUSING

The housing conditions in the coal mines are, to say the least, deplorable. The workers' tenements, known as "dhowrahs", are a scandal to civilisation. Even these dhowrahs are not provided to the majority of workers. The employers neither build any quarters

nor give any house-rent to the workers who are forced to live outside the colliery premises. As a result, there is terrible overcrowding in the dhowrahs.

Soon after the Coal Mines Welfare Fund was instituted by the Central Government in 1944, a housing scheme was drawn up. Under this scheme, workers' townships were to be built up outside the colliery areas.

But the first township that came into existence was a total failure because ^{of} transport difficulties and high rent of the newly-constructed quarters.

The Coal Mines Welfare Fund Organisation (CMWFO), therefore, formulated a revised scheme, according to which the employers are required to build the quarters and the CMWFO ~~is to~~ pays a subsidy to the extent of 20 per cent of the cost of construction.

The employers, however, are not willing to waste a single pie on the scheme and so for the last three years the housing programme has remained in cold storage.

XXXX WELFARE MEASURES

The Coal Mines Welfare Fund derives its income from the levy of a cess of annas six per ton of coal despatched. The total annual revenue accruing to the fund amounts to about Rs.120 lakhs.

The Fund is administered by the Central Government in consultation with an Advisory Committee consisting of the representatives of the Government, employers and workers.

The activities undertaken by the CMWFO are as follows :

* It has a housing programme, but this has been practically given up after the first township proved a failure.

* It has built a number of central and regional hospitals, and T.B. clinics at a huge cost, but the medical facilities available in most of them are very inadequate.

* It gives a subsidy of annas eight per ton of coal despatched to every colliery which maintains a proper dispensary. This measure, however, has not resulted in any improvement in the colliery dispensaries.

* It has opened a number of women's welfare centres where women workers are supposed to get training in sewing, knitting, etc. and the workers' children are supposed to receive education. But instances are not lacking where these centres fail to get any students.

* It has opened some multi-purpose institutes which are supposed to provide indoor games and social education to adult workers. But what actually goes on there is anti-strike and anti-communist propoganda.

There is no doubt that the Coal Mines Welfare Fund has big potentialities provided that proper schemes are drawn up/^{and} their efficient implementation is guaranteed.

HOLIDAYS

The workers in coal mines do not get any festival holidays, although the workers in most other industry enjoy this facility.

Even the new Mines Act (1952) does not give the same facilities ^{as} provided under the Factories Act.

For instance, the weekly-paid worker in the mines gets only 7 days' leave with pay in a year, but the factory worker gets 14 days' leave.

In respect of payment for overtime work also, workers governed by the Mines Act are entitled to wages at twice the ordinary rate only if they work underground. But surface workers are allowed overtime at one and half times the ordinary rate.

COAL TRIBUNAL

The colliery workers had been agitating for a long time for an upward revision of their wages, effective implementation of the

of the CBA and other demands. But, the Government refused to take any action; and the employers were given a free hand to do as they liked. If the workers dared to put up any resistance, the police and gangster elements immediately came to the aid of the employers.

It was only when the workers served notice of a General Strike in March, 1954, that the Government climbed down and appointed the All-India Industrial Tribunal (Colliery Dispute).

But a number of important demands like paid weekly holiday, payment for bonus without any qualifying conditions, six hours' work for underground workers, payment of retiring gratuity, annual leave with pay, adequate compensation for lay-off etc. were not referred to the Tribunal.

Nevertheless, it is an important victory for the entire coal mine workers, because, the tribunal on an all-India basis is the first of its kind in the coal industry, and also because the main demand - the question of wages of all categories of workers - has been referred for adjudication.

The major demands placed before the Tribunal by the unions affiliated to the AITUC are as follows:

1. The minimum basic wage-rate for unskilled surface workers should be rupee one per day and that for unskilled underground workers rupee one and annas four per day.

The wage-rates for all other categories of workers, which have been worked out in detail in the memorandum submitted to the Tribunal, are based on the above minimum rates.

2. The wages should be standardised and grades for all categories of workers should be fixed.

3. Equal wages should be paid to male and female workers for equal work.

4. The payment for lead and lift should be included in basic

wages for calculating bonus and provident fund.

5. Railway fares for journey to and from home should be paid.

6. Footwear and uniforms should be supplied at concessional rates, ~~by 15 per cent of the market price.~~

7. Provision should be made for ²¹ paid festival holidays for ~~21 days~~ in a year.

8. Every worker should be provided with quarters or a house rent of Rs.10/- per month should be paid to single workers and Rs.15 per month to workers with families.

9. The present foodgrains concessions should be continued after restoring what has been curtailed since 1947. And the rules depriving the workers of concessional rations should be withdrawn.

The INTUC also has put forward demands more or less on the above lines.

The employers' organisations, led by the IMA, are leaving no stone/ unturned to "prove" before the Tribunal that "any award which imposes further heavy burdens on the employer can only lead to further improvier/ishment of the industry".

The memorandum submitted by the IMA contends that unless the workers raise their productivity, "there is no conceivable justifi-
fication for the demand for a general increase in amenities and emoluments" (Commerce, July 31, 1954.)

The British bosses have the cheek to state: "Any award which grants further ~~benefits~~ will be to the workers' own disadvantage".

They even go to the length of threatening closure of mines, and large-scale retrenchment in case the Tribunal's award is favourable to the workers: "Partial or complete closure of mines as a result of any increased burdens, will lead to retrenchment and other unhealthy consequences."

40

The big bosses have also adopted the tactics of stepping up their offensive against the workers in the coalfields and delaying the proceedings of the Tribunal at every stage.

The Tribunal itself began its work on November 1, 1954, eight months after its constitution. But when a number of sittings had been held, the Chairman of the Tribunal resigned. Instead of appointing a new Chairman to take his place, the Government adopted the unusual course of reconstituting the Tribunal de novo.

The reconstituted Tribunal is now engaged in hearing the case

~~(Under review)~~

GOVERNMENT POLICY

The Government of India has no Mineral policy at all. The steps that have been taken so far are just piecemeal measures which do not even touch the fringe of the problem relating to a planned development and proper utilisation of our mineral resources.

This is quite evident from the chaotic conditions of our coal industry, as well as from the acute slump in the mica and manganese industries.

The First Five-Year Plan made an attempt to formulate the broad outlines of a mineral policy. It stated, "As minerals form the basis of modern industry in peace and in war, it is necessary to have a national policy as regards their working and utilisation. The keynote of this policy should be conservation and economic working" (p. 388).

But this policy has not been put into effect in a proper manner.

So far as coal industry is concerned, it does not find a place in the Plan except in the allocation of Rs.1.61 crores for "Mineral Development" as a whole!

Now, when the blue-print of the Second Plan is under discussion, nothing is yet heard about the coal industry, although it is proposed to earmark 26 per cent of the total outlay on the plan for the

Immediate

No.L.C.56(1)/58
Government of India
Ministry of Labour & Employment

..*.*.*

From

Shri R.C. Saksena,
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

To

1. All the Delegates and Advisers.
2. State Governments and Organisations.

Dated New Delhi, the 22nd Dec.'58

Subject:- Agenda for the 6th Session of the Industrial
Committee on Coal Mining, Dhanbad, January, 1959.

..*.*.*

Sir,

In continuation of this Ministry's letter of even number dated the 19th December 1958, I am directed to say that the 6th Session of the Industrial Committee on Coal Mining will meet at Dhanbad on the 30th and 31st January, 1959 and also on the 1st February, 1959 if necessary. The place and time of the meeting will be communicated separately.

2. Memorandum on item No.1 of the agenda "Statement of action taken on the conclusions of the Fifth Session of the Committee held in New Delhi in August, 1956" is enclosed. Memoranda on the remaining items will be forwarded shortly.

Yours faithfully,

R.C. Saksena
(R.C. Saksena)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

3-refd. to
s 22.12

Copy with a copy of enclosure forwarded to:-

1. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi.
2. The Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel, New Delhi.

Copy also forwarded to:-

1. All Attached Offices including Chief Inspector of Mines, Coal Mines Provident Fund Commissioner, Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner.
2. All Officers of this Ministry including Private Secretary to Labour Minister/Deputy Labour Minister/Parliamentary Secretary/Secretary and Personal Assistants to Joint Secretary (G) & (E)
3. Mines-I,II and II Sections, LR-II Section, PF-I Section PF-II Section, E&I Section and Research Division.
4. Press Information Officer (Shri S.Kumar Dev) New Delhi.
5. Labour Attache, Consulate General of India, Geneva.

R.C. Saksena
(R.C. Saksena)
Under Secretary

INDIAN MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION

2nd Conference

September 5-7th, '58. Bhurkunda.

29 OCT 1958

Resolution on the Female Workers.

This Conference notes with satisfaction that the Demand of the trade union movement for Equal Wages for Men and Women has been acceded to by the Tribunal .

But, not all the demands of the trade union movement regarding the female workers have as yet been fulfilled.

The Conference therefore demands once again that :

1. The working hour should be fixed at 6 hours;
2. The working places should ^{be} ~~are~~ safe ;
3. Retrenchment of female workers should be stopped
4. The female workers should not be subjected to the task of performing the domestic duties of the superior officials ;
5. Till the introduction of Gratuity System the Super-annuation age should be fixed at 60.;
6. A Lady Doctor should be appointed for each 50 female workers employed in any mine ;
7. The minimum amount of Maternity Benefit should be Rs.2/- per day ;
8. The qualifying period of service to be put in by a female worker should be 120 days annually for the purpose of Leave and such other benefits .

September 5-7th, '58. Bhurkunda.



Resolution on Trade Union Unity.

The organised trade union movement has during the last few years advanced considerably among the workmen employed in the mines. In almost all the branches the workers are today being organised in trade unions. Even the remotest corners are no exceptions. The workers are no longer an easy prey to the ~~managers~~ monopolists. The Government is also today under pressure of the growing trade union movement accepting many of the demands of the workers statutorily.

But, the movement of the workers are everyday meeting with stiff resistance from the monopolists as well as also from the Government. Armed police force is being used against the workers in defence of the monopolists. The recent experience in Jamshedpur and Barbil & Gua are but a few instances of the naked alliance of the owners and the government in the bid to hunt down the workers. No respect is being shown to Democracy in order to suppress the workers struggle for rights. On the other hand, they are trying to impose upon the workers against their will the company unions in the name of recognition of trade unions.

Codes of Discipline & Conduct have already been thrown away in the ~~wind~~ wind by the employers both in the private and public sectors.

Unfortunately, the organised resistance of the workers is still suffering from chronic division, very often leading to mutual acrimony and strifes which ultimately help the employers in their struggle against development of trade unions. Apart from the so-called 'independent' trade unions there are 4 Federations of the miners and other employees working in the mines. This division is hampering the growth of trade unionism as such as a large number of workers are yet out of any trade union movement and consequently they fall easy prey to the profiteers in the mining industry.

The Conference therefore resolves to fight untiringly for establishment of Trade Union Unity and amalgamation of all the National Federations into, One . The Conference also resolves to develop unity in action on different local and national issues, such as nationalisation of the mines, establishment of Wage Boards , implementation of the Award etc.

The Conference ~~that~~ calls upon the entire working-class in the mining industries to rally around the call of the Federation to build up Unity of the workmen employed in the mining industries and fight incessantly for the same. It extends its fraternal cooperation to the unorganised workers and requests them to loose no time in joining their ranks with the organised trade union movement .

Once the miners stand unitedly forgetting all mutual acramonies and strifes, the capitalists will bid retreat and a new dawn will really usher in .

INDIAN MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION

2nd Conference

September 5-7th, '58. Bhurkunda.

Resolution on Com. Purnedu Majumdar,
Com. Kedar Dass and other leaders of
Guz and Jamshedpur Workers .

Comrades Purnedu Majumdar, Kedar Dass, Ali Amjad and other leaders of the Gua Iron Ore and Jamshedpur workers are languishing behind the prison bars for their faithful service to the country and the working-class. The Conference congratulates them and pledges itself to all ~~support~~ support to the struggles of the Iron Ore and Jamshedpur workers.

The Conference notes with grave concern the vindictive attitude of the Government . The beloved leaders of the workers including the representative of the Jamshedpur people elected to the Legislative Assembly are not being treated as a First Division prisoner in the jail .The Conference demands that they should be treated as Political Prisoners (including the ordinary workers who are the compatriots of the brave leaders) .

September 5-7th, '58. Bhurkunda.

Resolution on the Closure of Mines.

Closure of mines have become almost a daily feature in the lives of the miners, especially the coal miners. Most of these mines are being closed down under sec 22 of the Mines Act for various violations by order of the Chief Inspector of Mines. Some times the owners take advantage of these actions of the department of mines and deliberately violate the safety provisions only to compel the Mines Inspectorate to apply sec. 22 . Sometimes the owners close down the mines arbitrarily to avoid costly mining and leave the mines in such conditions as makes it more difficult to rehabilitate them. Resultantly, neither safety nor production is improving and quite obviously the workers are being rendered unemployed.

The Government must immediately probe into these closures and appoint a Parliamentary Committee for this purpose. The mines which the owners do not intend to work properly should be taken over by the Government. The Conference ~~whikexzxxx~~ demands immediate take-over of such mines as Talcher collieries and Singareni ~~xxxx~~ Colliery of M/s Villiers Ltd. which is swindling away our national assets.

Appropriate steps should be taken for recovery of unpaid wages from the owners who habitual defaulters and close down mines without paying the workers their dues.

The workers rendered unemployed due to such closures should be paid adequate compensatory allowance till they are provided ~~xxx~~ with alternate jobs by the Government at the rate fixed in consultation with the national federations of the miners.

The Government should take steps to improve the working of the Mines ~~xxxx~~ Inspectorate to avoid repeated closures ~~xxxx~~ due to violation of the Mines Act.

2nd Conference

September, 5-7th, '58. Bhurkunda.

XX

Resolution of Trade Union Rights & Civil Liberties.

The Conference views with grave concern the fact that there is no trade union rights in the mining areas . The employers are with the direct help of the police and other executives of the Government deliberately suppressing the growth of trade unionism using goonda forces at their disposal . The employers including the NCDC are fostering Company Unions to gag the real trade unions and thus Collective Bargaining is not developing in the mining industry .

Refusing to register unions which fulfil the provisions of the law, depriving T.U.s from utilising the facilities of conciliation - such are the practices being pursued by the Government against the unions which are not ' patronised ' by the employers . Widespread resentment is consequently growing among the workers .

The police use their power indiscriminately and very often there is an open & naked collusion of the police with ~~the~~ the gangsters at the employ of the employers and their pocket unions , meetings are banned and cases are instituted u/s I44, workers & t rade unionists are arrested u/s IO7, numerous case under different sections of the Cr.P.C. are instituted~~x~~ against the workers, actions against gangsterism ~~ix~~ are refused by the police, t rade unionists are harrassed continuously, - such are some of the examples of the anti-labour and undemocratic policies now ~~mx~~ being pursued by the Government.

The Conference demands repeal of all these & other anti-labour practices including withdrawal of firearms from thecivil police. It calls upon the working-class to launch a broad & popular movement in unision with other unions also for reversal of these policies, and to win TU and Civil Liberty Rights. It congratulates Com. Bhupesh Gupta, M.P., for introducing a Bill to amend the Cr.P.C. in order to ensure civil

civil liberties and trade union rights. It calls upon the workers to launch a mass campaign in support of this Bill.

Resolution on Recognition of Trade Unions.

Collective bargaining is the only effective means of developing a healthy labour-management relationship without which there can not be a real industrial development. A recognised trade union with mass of the workers following its leadership is the only effective instrument of Collective Bargaining. But, the policies being pursued by the owners and employers - both the private & public sectors - are not conducive to such development. In spite of the achievements of the 16th Indian Labour Conference held recently at Nainital, the situation is as yet the same. The policy of the Govt. to determine the representative nature of the Union by comparing the membership rolls is faulty and ineffective.

Therefore the Conference demands that the Government should abandon such ill-fated practices and adopt the method of holding secret ballot to determine the representative nature of the unions which under the circumstances is the only effective and sound policy. Such secret ballots should be held periodically. The unions enjoying the confidence of majority of the workers should be recognised by the employers as well as the Government. The public sector should be no exception.

INDIAN MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION

2nd Conference

September 5-7th, '58. Bhurkunda .

The mines in our country are situated in the hinterlands and are far from the cities and towns . The civic amenities and benefits are not available to them. Transport is seldom available . But, unfortunately, the owners have so far failed to provide the miners and other workmen employed in the mines with housing and supply of drinking water, not to speak of medical facilities.

Having realised the fact that the owners will not do it of their own, the Government has formed the Coal Mines Welfare Organisation. Similar Organisation has been formed in the Minca Mines Industry also. But, in none else. The Welfare Rules framed for the Manganese Mines have not yet been implemented. The Conference regrets the continued refusal of the Government to form Welfare Organisation in the branches of mining where it has not been done so far . It also regrets the non-implementation of the Welfare Rules in the Manganese Mines . The Conference notes that the CMWO and the MMWO are not functioning quite well.

The Conference therefore demands :

- a) The activities of the CMWO & the MMWO should be improved and the trade unions should be associated with its administration ;
- b) The Government should implement the Welfare Rules framed for the Manganese Mines without any delay ;
- c) In such branches of mining as Iron Ores, Gold, Lime stones etc Welfare Organisation should be formed immediately .

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

INDIAN MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION.

2nd Conference

September 5-7th, '58. Bhurkunda .

Resolution on National Coal Development
Corporation (P) Limited .

The State Sector in the Coal Mining Industry is expanding inspite of all its defects thanks to the policy of our Government to continuously develop the state sector and to increase its productivity . Crores of rupees are being invested to open new mines in the public sector . The Conference welcomes this healthy trend in the coal mining industry.

But, the state of affairs now existing in the public sector is not quite happy . The policy being pursued by the Government is not in any respect basically different from that of that of the employers in the private sector. The Industrial Relation is not at all good. Sole reliance is there on the bureaucratic officials who are connected with in many a respect with the private sector . Though it is declared policy of the Government to associate the workers' representatives in the management INTUC has been given the sole right to represent the workers in the Board of Directors. The will of the mass of the workers has not been respected and ~~knawh~~ consequently this ~~ed~~-parte decision of the Govt. has creted much discontent among the workers .It is high time that the Government should reconsider its 'decision'.

Due to the corrupt practices of the bureaucratic and opportunist officials who are out to make careers only the production is not reaching the desired level and this has become a weapon in the hands of the employers in the private sector to ~~attk~~ attack the public sector with the

with the motive to discredit it and ultimately to win the public sector into the fold of the private sector. The Government, if it is serious, should meet this challenge of the private sector and free the NCDC from all shady elements who are hand-in-gloves with the private sector. With the effective and close co-operation from the workers the Government should make a bid to raise the production.

So, the Conference demands :

- a) That the representative nature of the Union should be determined on Secret Ballot ;
- b) That no attempt should be made to impose the INTUC upon the workers ;
- c) That true & real representatives of the workers should be associated with the administration;
- d) That the Charter of Demands submitted by the Coal Union workers' (signed or LTI given by thousands of workers) should be fulfilled ;
- e) That a Committee should be set up to enquire into the state of affairs existing in the public sector (run by NCDC) composed of the Members of Parliament, from all parties .

Resolution on Grading.

The Coal Mining Industry- both private and public- have not yet implemented the Decisions of the Labour Appellate Tribunal in many respects, such as Grading etc. According to the Decisions of the LAT the grading is to be introduced within a period of two years from 26th May 1956. But, it has not yet been introduced. Neither the NCDC nor the owners in the private sector are as yet showing any sign of introducing grading in the near future .

This is an act of gross and willful violation of the Decisions of the LAT . Consequently, widespread unrest is growing in the collieries. If it allowed to go on further it may affect the industrial peace adversely which is not desirable and IMWF is very much interested in avoiding it .

The Conference therefore demands that grading should be introduced immediately with retrospective effect .

~~SECRET~~

INDIAN MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION

2nd Conference

September, 5th-7th, '58. Bhurkunda.

.....2.....
Resolution On Wage Board for the Mining Industry.

The productivity, profit, cost of living index are all going up accompanied with the increasing rate of fatal accidents in the mines. But, unfortunately, the wages and the real earnings of the workmen employed in the mining industry as such inclusive of all the branches, are showing an alarmingly downward trend. The situation has become more serious due to the persistent efforts of the employers including the MDCG and such other concerns in the public sector to deprive the workmen of the full benefit of the various awards and agreements etc.

Therefore the Conference considers it to be very appropriate to appoint Wage Boards for the different branches of the Mining Industry, such as, Iron Ore, Mica, Manganese, Limestone, Gold and Coal and demands of the Government early action in this respect.

The Conference asks the workmen employed in these branches of Mining Industry to launch immediately a broad campaign to relaise the demand of Wage Board .

INDIAN MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION.

2nd Conference.

September 5-7th, '58. Bhurkunda.

Resolution of Nationalisation of All Mines
Other than Coal Mines .

India's mineral resources are not only precious but also immense. For decades, since the colonial regime, these resources ~~have~~ are being utilised by the Foreign and Indian Monoploists only to reap fabulous profits at the cost of the country . Safety measu-
-res are given the least attention so far as their implementation is concerned . Unscientific and random mining practices are leading to huge loss of valuable minerals, such as, Copper below ground . In their rush for profit they monopolists are causing immatur^e/closure of the mines which will be very difficult to ~~rehabilitate~~ rehabili-
tate .

These mines (Copper, Iron Ore, Mica, Manganese , Limestones etc) are not only vital for the development of our Industries but also vital for earning foreign exchange which is ~~an~~ ~~xxxx~~ has acquired extra-ordinary importance in the present stage of our national economy. The price-rackets engineered by the mono-
polists are creating havoc and imposing undue burden on our national economy .

Therefore, for the realdevelopment of these mines as well as for the real development of our national economy the only correct measure should be ~~the~~ immediate nationalisation of all the mines .

But, unless there is a strong national movement launched by the working-class demanding nationalisation of ALL THE MINES including the COAL MINES the possibility of nationalisation will become very remote . So, the Conference while demanding Immedi-
-ate Nationalisation of All Mines urges upon the miners and all other workmen employed in the mines

The Conference appeals to all the democratic people to support this demand for the real development of our national economy .

The Conference requests the Government to early and effective steps in this respect.

Resolution on Occupational Diseases in the Mines and its Remedies

Occupational diseases have become an acute problem in all the branches of Mining. The alarming growth in the incidence of patients suffering from TB is a proof positive in this respect. Pneumonocosis and Silicosis are spreading their tentacles rapidly and widely. But, unfortunately there is no initiative as yet from the Government, to counter these social menaces which ~~ix~~ have their adverse effects on the production as well. Quite a large number of workmen are everyday being recommended by the ~~ix~~ medical authorities as unfit for underground duty and fit for light job on the surface. As a matter of fact all of them are being thrown out of job. The provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act are as yet on paper only. There is no provision anywhere for a Medical Inspectorate anywhere in the mines.

Hence, the Conference demands strongly that :

- i. A broad and representative survey of occupational diseases be undertaken by the Government in co-operation with the Trade Unions and the expert medical authorities.
- ii. An efficient and numerically strong Medical Inspectorate should be appointed under the Ministry of Labour & Employment without any delay.
- iii. The Workmen's Compensation Act should be so amended as to cover the occupational diseases in all branches of mining.
- iv. Workers recommended for light work should either be provided with light work or be compensated accordingly till they are fit for their usual ~~ix~~ and normal duties.
- v. Proper arrangement for rendering relief to the unfortunate victims of occupational diseases should be made.

INDIAN MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION

2nd Conference

September, 5th-7th, '58, Bhurkunda.

Resolution on Bonus Scheme, Workmen's Compensation Act and
Standing Orders .

This second Conference of the IMWF resolves that :

- I (a) The Coal Mines Bonus Scheme should be so amended as to provide for deletion of the existing laws which prevents the workers from privileges of Attendance Bonus. The Attendance Bonus should be paid proportionate to the total number of days of attendance put in by the individual workers
- (b) The Bonus should be calculated on the total Base Wages inclusive of both the basic and the D.A.
2. (a) The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1936, obviously today can not meet the standards of Social Security as it was framed by the British Imperialists . The lacunae and shortcomings, from which the Act suffers seriously can only be removed provided the Act undergoes certain radical changes to meet the needs of the present Age .
- (b) In cases of death due to accidents , the rate of payment of compensation should be raised to Rs.3000/- and be paid within a maximum period of two months to the nearest relative of the deceased person.
- (c) Suitable alternative job should be provided for the partially disabled workmen . In cases of non-availability of such jobs the affected workmen should be paid adequate compensation in addition to the usual Retrenchment Benefits.
3. The Standing Orders for the Coal Mines as is in force at present , do not guarantee the interests of the workmen . On the contrary, it is a weapon in the armoury
~~of the~~

in the armoury of the Employers in their nefarious pursuit of anti-labour practices to oppress them & disrupt their trade union activities . It is in letter and spirit a contravention of the Code of Discipline and Conduct . It is an anathema in any society based on Socialist Pattern.

It should therefore be scrapped and a new Standing Order should be framed and implemented in consultation with the Trade Unions .

INDIAN MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION

2nd Annual Conference

September 5th to 7th., Bhurkunda .

General Resolution on Amenities & Benefits.

This conference of the Indian Mine Workers' Federation resolves that all the workers working in the coal-mines should be provided with the following amenities and benefits without any delay whatsoever:

- 1) Free supply of Uniform (2 pairs) , Helmet (1) and Shoes (1 pair) to all categories of workers per year.
- ii) Warm clothings and Rain coats should be supplied free of cost to all categories of workers . Sanitary Mat-dorms should also be supplied with blankets free of cost to protect themselves against rain & cold .
- iii) Conditions laid down in the Award to enable one to be entitled to get the Return Railway Fares are exclusively pro-employer and have so far failed to defend the interests of the workmen. The employers taking advantage of ~~that~~ these conditions are very consistently depriving the work^{rk}men from the benefits of RETURN RAILWAY FARES. Hence, these conditions should be waived with retrospective effect.
- iv) Workmen residing outside the worksite should be provided with transport to & fro their residences free of cost.
- v) All workers should be provided with Free Housing inclusive of Lighting , Water and Latrine facilities.
- vi) The provision of the Mines Act, to provide all workmen working underground with Water Bottles free of cost, has not yet been implemented by the Management. This provision of the Mines Act should immediately be implemented.
- vii) Work in a mine is by nature hazardous and consequently, the workers are easy victims of diseases such as, T.B.

such as, T.B., Silicosis etc. The total numbers of workers in the waiting list awaiting treatment for T.B. is a proof positive that growing numbers of workers are daily becoming victims of such diseases. But, there is no arrangement for proper & adequate treatment, especially, in Indoor. The T.B. Clinics, run by the C.M.W.O. , are quite a few in number and inadequate for the purpose . Under the circumstances, it is ^{an} absolute necessity, to open ZONAL CLINICS to attend the T.B. Patients including the patients requiring Indoor treatment.

Proposed by : S.K.Lall, 6.9.58. (Sd/)

Seconded by : G. Babaiya, 6.9.58. (Sd/)

Passed Unanimously.

Sd/.T.B.Vittal Rao, 6/

President. 6/9/58.

INDIAN MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION.

2nd Conference.

September ~~1958~~, 5th to 7th, '58. Bhurkunda.

Resolution on Sick Allowance and Light Work .

This second conference of the IMWF resolves that :

- i) As the present rate of payment of sick allowance is absolutely inadequate it should be raised to (a) FULL PAY for the first 15 days from the date of sickness and (b) for the subsequent period @ HALF-PAY for each day on sick report.
- ii) The Underground workers recommended by the Colliery Medical Officers and/or Hospital Medical Officers for Light Work on the Surface do not usually get such jobs and are consequently , driven out of employment by the Owners and/or management. Either ~~ix~~ such workers should be provided with the jobs recommended ~~ix~~ by the medical authorities or they should be paid a compensatory allowance @ ~~the~~ rate of an amount equivalent to the total wages for the job recommended by the medical authorities, till they are fit for resuming their original duties underground.

Proposed by : Nirmal Bhattacharyya (Sd/).

Seconded by : Sunil Sen (Sd/).

Passed Unanimously.

(Sd/) T.B.Vittal Rao.

President.

6/9/58.

INDIAN MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION

2nd conference

Sept. 5-7th, '58, Bhurkunda.

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Resolution on Nationalisation
of Coal Mines .

Our coal-mining industry is one of the oldest industries in India . It has grown during the colonial regime by the British Monopolists who never cared ~~imp~~ ^{for} the safety of the mine nor for the lives of the workers who have contributed to the development of the industries at the cost of their lives . Bad mining practices pursued by them have today made it difficult to rehabilitate many of our mines. It was hoped that after the country has achieved its independence and the colonial regime has become a past history that will never be allowed to be repeated, the condition in our mines will be improved. But, unfortunately, the opposite is the reality. The magnates of the private sector , still under strong influence of the British Capitalists, are conducting a crusade against any sort of control or nationalisation of the coal industry. The sorry state of affairs that is now prevailing in the collieries in the public sector caused by the agents of private capital in the public sector is being used as a plea for non-nationalisation of the coal-mines .

The Government has on its part , in the past, submitted before the ~~suppliers~~ owners in the private sector. That it has lost its initiative is express from the experience we are having of the Amalgamation Committee. It has never come out with a bold policy of nationalisation of the coal mines though it has accepted it to be a sound policy. The collieries in the public sector, to-day being run by the NCDC, is not in a happy state of affairs. The bureaucrats and despots, the careerists and opportunists, very often connected with the private sector, are deliberately hampering the growth and development of the public sector to promote the interests of the private sector. ~~But~~ But for the workers the slow advance in the public sector would have come to a stand-still.

Coal is the basic raw material that is an essential for all our industries. So, this ~~xxx~~ branch of mining should not

should not be allowed to be a hunting-ground of profits by the private sector any more, if of course, we have the least concern for the industrialisation of our country and safety of our brave miners.

This Conference therefore demands immediate nationalisation of the coal-mines with simultaneous improvement in the public sector which must be freed from the grip of the bureaucrats and careerists in the secret employ of the private sector . Incompetent persons should be removed and new and young, experienced and imaginative technicians and administrators with the national outlook should be given charge of raising and administration. Co-operation of the organised working-class must not be ignored and as a matter of principle it should be associated with the administration. Any political discrimination made , will not be helpfull and may prove fatal for the succes of the nationalised mines.

No further concession to the private sector should be granted. Price increases made since the Tribunal Awards were nothing but abettment of the private sector at the cost of the nation . Strict compliance of the statutes and regulations should be ensured to prevent any further damage to our mines .

INDIAN MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION

2nd Conference.

Sept. 5-7th, '58. Bhurkunda.

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Resolution on Safety in the Mines.

The recent serious accidents in the history of Mining in India, such as, Newton-Chikli, Amlabad, Baradhemo and the most tragic in the recent memory - New Chinakiry - have highlighted ~~the~~ the issue of Safety in our mines. The enquiry that is now going on to find out the reasons and causes of accident in New Chinakiry will, it is hoped, help the Safety Committee, appointed by the Govt of India, to review the ~~safety~~ safety problems in a true national aspect and it is also hoped that the Safety Committee will be able to lay down a really National Safety Policy for our mines.

The Conference views with grave concern the situation now prevailing in the mines so far as the issue of safety is concerned. Most of our coal mines are old and dilapidated but there is no effort on the part of the employers to modernise and develop them and coal is raised without any care for safety. The new mines also are in a sorry state of affairs. Mechanisation of such new mines are pitifully combined with serious ~~xxx~~ violations of the mines Act and Regulations. The only consideration that moves the private sector is how quickly and easily to ^{reap a} harvest of fabulous profits. This is the situation in other branches of mines also. The situation on the public sector also is not happy.

The activities of the Department of Mines supposed to be the Watchdog of Safety in the Mines are also deplorable. The staff is not adequate to cope with the enormous task. Material requisites are also hopelessly inadequate. Many a Court of Enquiry instituted under the Mines Act have held the Department of Mines to be responsible for many an accidents.

The only ray of hope is that the Government has of late become conscious of the gravity of the situation and is taking some positive steps in the right direction, such as, convening the safety conference and appointment of the safety committee.

The Conference views with grave concern that the private sector and certain officials of the mines in the public sector connected with the private sector are trying to jeopardise the attempts of the Government to make our mines safe and last long.

The Conference declares that such a situation can only be tackled if the Government comes ~~frax~~ forward to accept the cooperation extended by the workers and other popular forces. Any reliance on the hardened bureaucracy is fatal.

The Conference therefore demands :

- i. Workmen should have right to appoint their own Inspectors to inspect the mine;
- ii. Workers' Representatives should be associated with the Inspectors of the Mines Department during their inspection of the mine ;
- iii. All Inspection Reports should be made available to the respective Trade Unions ;
- iv. Immediate separation of the Production Officials from the Safety Officials ;
- v. Such responsible personnels as the Overmen, the Mining Sirdars etc should be appointed by the Govt directly ;
- vi. Special Mining Court/Tribunal should be constituted to hear the cases instituted under different sections of the Mines Act, Rules and Regulations ;
- vii. Rates of compensation to the victims of the accidents should be increased to such an amount as to act as a deterrant factor on the employers in ~~that~~ reckless profiteering ;
- viii. Leave facilities should be extended and the duty hours should be reduced to 6 to lessen the hazards and fatigues ;
- ix. Special care should be given to the proper implementation of the education in Safety and propaganda on safety as well as the safety measures to make all the workmen SAFETY CONSCIOUS.

INDIAN MINE WORKERS FEDERATION.

2nd Conference

September 5-7th '58-Bhurkunda.

Resolution on Social Security for the Miners.

Social security measures for the miners has not developed into any comprehensive scheme. The existing measures vary from branch to branch of the Mining Industry. The Conference demands that a comprehensive Social Security Scheme should be enacted for the Mining Industry as such .

Pending such enactment the benefits of Provident Fund, Gratuity, and increased rate of compensation should be extended to all branches of mining.

The Compensation Act should be so amended as to provide greater monetary relief in the form of half-monthly payment and a lump sum payment of compensation to the miners.

INDIAN MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION.

2nd Conference

September 5-7th, '58, Bhurkunda.

Resolution on Amendment of the Mines Act, 1952.

This second Conference of the IMWF resolves :

That the Indian Mines Act, 1952 should be amended and also the ~~XX~~ Rules and Regulations framed under it in consultation with the Trade Unions .

The Conference suggests the following amendments to the Mines Act for immediate action thereupon :

1. That the rate of overtime payment should be , for the surface workers, at the rate prescribed under the Factories Act, i.e., double the wages instead of 1½.
- ii. That the working-hours should be reduced to 6(Six) hours from 8(Eight) hours keeping in view the extra-ordinary hazardous nature of the underground workings.
- iii. That ~~is~~ One day's leave should be granted for each Fifteen days' of work as per the recommendation of the Government. The qualifying period should be at ^{par} ~~xxx~~ with the Factories Act .

INDIAN MINE WORKERS' FEDERATION

2nd Conference.

September 5th to 7th, '58. Bhurkunda.

Resolution on Abolition of Contract
System

This second conference of the IMWF resolves

that :

All types of Contract system in all the branches of the Mining Industry as such , for example, contracting out the Raising, Overburden Removal, Loading and such ~~skwx~~ other works , should be abolished immediately.

Proposed By : Sm. Salwa

Seconded By : Sm. Draupadi.

Passed Unanimously.

Sd/. T.B.Vittal Rao.

6/9/58/.

President.
