

# BATA MAZDOOR UNION

REGD. NO. 681

Head Office : Kassimuddin Road, Nangi  
P. O. BATANAGAR (24 Parganas)

President—Sudhir Chandra Mookhoti  
Secretary—Sailendra Nath Paul

Ref. No.....

A. I. T. U. C.  
I.R. No. 3508 Date: 7 OCT 1961  
File No.....

Date 5th October, 1961.

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The General Secretary,  
All-India Trade Union Congress,  
4, Ashok Road,  
New Delhi-1.

Dear Comrade,

Re: My membership in the Administrative  
Committee of Textile & Leather TUI.

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I could not be satisfied with the reply of Com. Srivastava. I am afraid, he is not clear about the meeting of the Administrative Committee and that of Professional Section. Besides the meetings of Professional Section of Leather & Textile, there were two meetings of the Administrative Committee and Com. Joshi attended in both the meetings, which is at variance with the decision of A.I.T.U.C. Working Committee meeting at Bangalore.

However, as the matter is very delicate particularly concerning myself, I do not like to say anything more in this respect. The matter is entirely left to you.

With greetings,

fraternally yours,

S. N. Paul  
(S.N. Paul)

sent to S.A.D.  
13/10

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Aug 23, 1961

Dear Com.Sailen Paul,

Thank you for yours of 7th August.

2. When the Textile and Leather TUIs merged, we had to introduce this system of alternate members on the Administrative Committee. Specifically for the meetings on the basis of agenda to be considered, representatives had to be sent.

Sending textile representatives in a meeting where leather problems are main subjects to be discussed will be, you will agree, ridiculous. And so is vice versa.

Accordingly, when there was a Leather meeting you attended it on behalf of India though Com.Joshi remains the member of the Administrative Committee. In this meeting, Textiles - larger industry - was the main item and so Com.Joshi attended it.

If you like, we can further discuss this in the ensuing Working Committee and General Council meetings.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G.  
(K.G.Sriwastava)

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Ref. No.....

A. I. T. U. C.  
I. R. N. 227  
Date 7. 8. 1961.

Date 7. 8. 1961.

Dear Com. Sriwastava,

Many thanks for your letter dated 3rd August.

So far I remember, the decision taken in the meeting of the Working Committee of A I T U C Bangalore, was that Com. Joshi and myself would attend the meeting of the Administrative Committee alternately as there was provision of one member in the Committee. Perhaps my contention appears to be true as can be found from your own letter dated 22.2.60 to Com. Joshi and Copy to me. A Copy of the letter is enclosed herewith. I am not aware of any other subsequent decision of A I T U C at variance of the above decision.

I am, therefore, sorry that your letter could not convince me and I shall eagerly wait for your further clarification.

Fraternally yours,

*S. N. Paul*

( S. N. Paul )

*Encls (1)*

True Copy

All India Trade Union Congress

President: S.S. Mirajkar  
General Secretary: S. A. Dange, M.P.

February 22, 1960

Com. B.D. Joshi,  
General Secretary,  
Kapra Mazdoor Ekta Union,  
Delhi.

Dear Comrade,

Your letter No. 469/60 dated 18th February.

At the first meeting of the Administrative Committee of the TUI of Textile, Clothing, Leather & Fur Workers to be held in Moscow on April 27-29, you will represent the AITUC.

Com. Sailen Paul will attend the next meeting of the Committee.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Sd/- K.G. Sriwastava,  
Secretary.

Copy to: Com. Sailen Paul.

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Decisions of the Administrative Committee of the Trade Unions International, Textile, Clothing, Leather and Fur Works:

The Administrative Committee of the T.U.I., Textile, Clothing, ~~Knacker~~ Leather and Fur Workers, met in Lodz, Poland from 15 to 18th May, 1961. 18 member-organisations, representing about 8 million workers in different parts of the World, including Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Chinese Peoples' Republic, Chile, Cyprus, Cuba, France, Finland, German Democratic Republic, ~~Hungary~~ Hungary, Italy, India, Indonesia, Poland, Rumania, South Africa, Uruguay and U.S.S.R., were represented.

This session of the Committee turned out to be one of exceptional importance and value for the international movement of the Working-people of these important branches of the industry. Besides discussing and adopting the well-prepared report of the General Secretary of the T.U.I., Comrade Jaroslav Revald, there was an extremely useful exchange of views and information based on concrete experience of the workers in different parts of the world gained in the course of their struggles during the past one year. The Report, unanimously adopted by the Session after two days instructive debate, contained the following main important points and conclusions:

1. As a result of ~~continued~~ <sup>and</sup> continued victorious march forward on the world-scale of the forces of peace, democracy, freedom and socialism, compelling the imperialist and reactionary forces to retreat, the struggle of the working people against capitalist exploitation is gaining new strength and mounting in intensity. In this connection, the analysis of the present international situation made from the point of view of the tasks of the international trade Union movement in the struggle for peace, made by the 22nd Session of the Executive Committee of the W.F.T.U. held in Berlin in 8 February 1961, are of the utmost importance for the working people. "The main task of the whole international workers movement is today the strengthening of unity of action of the workers and the development of international solidarity, the most intensive struggle for peace, for complete disarmament, for the liquidation of colonialism in all its forms."

"The task to force upon the capitalists the policy of peaceful coexistence and competition instead of policy of feverist armament can be fulfilled by whole international workers' movement and consequently it is a real task of our trade union international.

"When analysing the present situation, we must stress that the forces of peace and progress are advancing and the forces of reaction are being thrown back."

The Situation of the workers in our Industrial Branches:

The report goes on; "The period which has elapsed since our last meeting is also marked by a further concentration in our industrial branches, by further introduction of rationalisation schemes of all kinds, by the application of complex mechanisation, by partial and also complex automation, by the introduction of new technical processes in all capitalist countries, bringing unfavourable consequences upon the workers. The class antagonism between the workers and the capitalists became even more acute...."

Citing a few instances of such unfavourable consequences the report quoted proceedings of a Conference of Trade Unions of American Textile Workers held in New York in December 1960, wherein it is stated that in consequences of automation, 350,000 workers lost their jobs in the Textile Industry of the U.S.A. in the course of the last few years. In England in the Lancashire area, the number of Cotton workers dropped from the original 200,000 to a mere 1/3rd of the figure - that is to about 60,000. In the West Germany more than 60,000 Textile workers who were dismissed during the economic recession between 1958 and 1959, did not return to their jobs, ~~XXXXXX~~ though production today is considerably higher as compared to 1958-59. The number of Textile workers as well as clothing and leather workers decreased in France, Italy, in Benelux countries, as well as throughout Scandinavia. Workers in India, Japan and in the countries of Latin America are undergoing the same experience.

"A further general feature of the present phase in our

industrial branches in all capitalist countries", the report continues, "is the considerable increase in work accidents and ~~professional~~ professional diseases." The report then cites facts and figures to show <sup>how</sup> alarming increase in work-accidents and diseases caused by physical strain and nervous exhaustion has been taking place in West Germany, Japan, Belgium, France, Finland and other countries.

Another major factor causing misery and suffering to the workers in most of the capitalist countries is the persistent and abnormal rise in cost of living. In colonial and dependent territories there has been a further deterioration in the working conditions of the workers. The report took special notice of the mounting temp<sup>o</sup> of violation of democratic and trade union rights of workers in all capitalist countries. It drew pointed attention to "new wave of terror and persecutions unleashed in Spain, Iraq, United Arab Republic and India, characterised by frequent resort to firing on unarmed workers resulting in bloodshed."

As against this ruthless capitalist exploitation, and suppression and terror practised against the workers, the report drew attention to the ever-rising standard of living of the workers, accompanied by enlargement of opportunities and freedom for all-sided advancement of the toiling masses, in the socialist countries. The report made ~~special~~ special mention of the following achievements of workers of the Socialist countries:

- (1) In Soviet Union, reduction of working hours without loss of pay has taken place - bringing the average working week to 39.5 hours, which is the shortest working week in the world.
- (2) Since last year, the Textile, ~~the~~ Leather, Shoe and Clothing workers in Soviet Union have gone over to 7 hours-day, with not only no reduction in pay, but actual increase in basic rates, resulting in an overall increase of 13.5 per cent in their wages.
- (3) By virtue of a law enacted last year, abolition of income-tax from certain categories of workers has already taken place in Soviet Union.

(4) Despite reduction in working hours, production in Soviet Union has been all along increasing because of introduction of most upto date technique, modernisation of processes and automation, accompanied by mechanisation of strenuous and manual ~~work~~ work, better organisation of and further improvement of the administrative and managerial set-up and introduction of methods for speedy and efficient transport of raw materials and finished products. In Leather industry production is increasing by leaps and bounds due to introduction of highly mechanised and streamlined processes, bringing in their wake considerable reduction of physical strain and of unpleasant<sup>ness</sup> ~~ties~~ involved in some of the process like tanning and hide processing.

(5) In the Shoe-making industry in Czechoslovakia, a 42 hours working week has already been introduced and the same will be applied to all the industrial branches by the end of the 3rd Five Year Plan. The shortening of working-hours is being accompanied by an actual increase in real wages.

(6) A continuous process of reduction of prices of goods and services of vital importance has been taking place in all the Socialist countries - e.g. German Democratic Republic, the Polish People's Republic, The People's Republic of Rumania, Bulgaria, China, Hungary and the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia. In all these countries continuous improvement in working conditions in factories, establishment of ever greater number of social and hygienic institutions, e.g., hospitals, cultural and recreational institutions, holiday homes, Creches and facilities for working mothers, etc. is taking place.

#### Struggle of Workers:

The report dwelt at some length upon the numerous struggles of workers and their trade Unions in the capitalist countries for their demands and against the attacks of the employers on their rights and interests. Notable among these are: (i) Successful struggles of the Italian Textile workers lead by the W.F.T.U. affiliate FIOT; In the course of these massive struggles, which in many cases took the form of stay-in-strikes, a large measure of trade-union unity was achieved as among trade unions of diverse affiliation and compelling the employers to concede wage-claims of workers.

(ii) Likewise over 3,00,000 Italian Clothing workers working at their homes, launched a novel ~~new~~ form of struggle, compelling the Government to implement enactments concerning the protection of home-work.

(iii) The Austrian Textile and Leather workers fought many struggles around ~~a~~ issues such as rise in cost of living, lowering of age-limit for retirement, shorter working-hours without loss of pay. Besides they have taken up such important political issues as penetration of West-German monopolies into Austrian economy, revival of Fascistic or Feudal trends in politics, etc.

(iv) The West German Textile workers after a prolonged struggle for shortening of working hours have succeeded in achieving a 43 hours working-week, while continuing their agitation for further reduction of working hours to 40 a week.

(v) The working class of France besides engaging ~~itself~~ itself in ceaseless struggle for their economic demands, distinguished itself by demonstrating its tremendous unity on the face of fascist attempts at take-over of the Government. In this struggle, the working class fulfilled its historic role of organising and leading the popular resistance to the Fascist menace which was nipped in the bud.

(vi) The heroic Belgian workers fought a unique nation-wide strike against their reactionary government.

(vii) Strike-wages of vast dimensions were also in evidence in Argentine, Chile, India and Japan, for wage-rise and against deteriorating working and living conditions and increase in prices.

(viii) 25,000 Textile workers in Uruguay fought a heroic 76 day strike against the onslaught of the monopolies and the Government on their living ~~and~~ standards and their unity. They forged nationwide unity of workers not only in their own industry but of the workers in all industries who supported their struggle, inter alia, by launching a nationwide 24-hours general strike. By this action, they achieved a 70% increase in wages, reinstatement of ~~a~~ victimised workers, equal wages for men and women and revision of all work-categories.

(ix) The Leather and Shoe workers of Athens and Greece, worked

out a militant programme for their demands in the face of Fascistic Dictatorship.

International Week of Struggle, Actions and Solidarity:

The report expressed satisfaction at the implementation of the decision of the Moscow-session of the Administrative Committee to observe a week of Solidarity and struggles from 6 to 12th March 1961. This militant demonstration of unity of the workers of our Branches of the industry throughout the world shows again that there is a wide range of common demands which can serve as a basis for the achievement of unity of action in all capitalist countries. Such demands in the present circumstances include (1) Higher wages, (2) Shorter working hours without loss of pay, (3) abolition of degrading discrimination between the wages of men, women and juvenile workers in respect of wages for equal work, (4) Wide range of demands for the improvement and extension of social insurance and pension schemes; (5) Demand for higher professional qualification of young workers, (6) demands concerning the broadening of trade-union rights and democratic freedoms, ~~(6)~~ (7) Finally, common demands of all the workers for the achievement of total and universal disarmament and for a firm unity of the workers of the whole world against the war preparations of the imperialists.

The report dealt with the importance of the forthcoming Vth World T.U. Congress to be held in Moscow in December 1961. It called upon all the member-organisations to organise campaigns for popularising the Congress among the workers of their industries.

After dealing with the multifarious activities undertaken by the leaders of the T.U.I. including visits to various countries and building up of important contacts with non-member organisations in certain countries, the report dealt with the importance of convening the 2nd international Conference of workers in Textile and Leather industries.

After declaring that the struggle for peace remains the main issue of our entire activity, the report concludes with the following slogans around which the workers' activity in these important branches of the industry are to be further developed and consolidated

- Peace, General and Universal Disarmament;
- ~~xx~~ Continue to lead vigorous struggles for the ~~ma~~ maintenance and expansion of Trade Union rights and democratic freedoms wherever they are violated or restricted;
- Lead the struggles for economic and social demands based on the concrete conditions ~~of~~ of your countries, and strive for unity of action on the basis of these demands;
- Fight for higher wages, for the enforcement of the principles of equal pay for equal work, for ~~man~~<sup>e</sup>, ~~woman~~<sup>e</sup> juvenile workers, for shorter working hours without loss in pay, for better living and hygienic and medical conditions, for the right to improve general and professional education;
- Strengthen your ranks on national as well as international levels; member organisations of the T.U.I. should establish closer contacts among themselves;
- Strengthen contacts with non-affiliated organisations and individual functionaries, expand such contacts;
- Continuously strive to achieve unity of action in enterprises, factories and concerns according to the prevalent specific conditions;
- In developing the activities of our professional sections, pay more attention to issues which would interest also non-affiliated organisations.
- Prepare for the Vth World ~~Trade~~ Trade Union Congress - organise broad pre-Congress campaigns aimed at unifying *for the workers for carrying out* the present tasks of the W.F.T.U. in the struggle for peace and a better life for the workers.
- Make maximum effort for the success of the 2nd international Conference of Textile, Clothing, Leather and Fur workers to be held in May 1962 - arrange thorough discussion of the problems confronting the workers in these branches of the industry; ensure the maximum participation of representatives of organisations from

from your countries in the Conference - collect funds to cover the fare of the delegates attending the Conference.

RESOLUTIONS, ETC., ADOPTED BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE SESSION:

The Committee adopted a number of resolutions on important issues and struggles facing the workers in its branches of the industry. These resolutions are briefly reproduced below:

I. The General Resolution: The General Resolution adopted by the Committee, while fully approving the report presented by the General Secretary, expressed satisfaction at the activities of the T.U.I. which greatly contributed to the development of the united struggles and their success and to the solidarity of all workers in these industries. It observed that the year 1960-61 was ~~marked~~ marked by further development of united struggles of workers in our industries in capitalist countries. Tens of thousands of ~~workers~~ workers who participated in these struggles gave example of particularly high fighting spirit and an ever growing unity of workers and their trade unions irrespective of their affiliation, resulting in success of many struggles undertaken for the fulfilment of economic and social demands of the workers. The role ~~of~~ played by the workers of our Branches of the industry in the General struggle of the international working class for peace and freedom was notable. The resolution greets the "growth of the new forces" and appeals to the affiliated as well as other friendly organisations all over the world to exercise increasing initiative for the development of the united struggles of workers for progress, national independence, democratic liberties and peace.

The resolution hails the great successes achieved by the workers of the Socialist countries in developing these industries so as to satisfy the needs of the working people. These successes encourage the struggle of the workers in capitalist countries. The superiority of the Socialist system over the decadent capitalist system, as freshly demonstrated by the space-flight of Comrade Gagarin has become a fact, the resolution states.

Declaring that "the struggle for peace still remains the foremost task of the T.U.I. and its member organisations," the resolution fully approves the resolution of the 22nd session of the Executive Committee of the W.F.T.U. held in Berlin on February 2nd to 4th, 1961. Emphasising the great importance of the 5th World T.U. Congress, to be held in Moscow from December 4 to 16th, 1961, the resolution appeals to all workers of Textile, Clothing, Leather and Fur industries to forthwith commence preparing for full participation in the Congress so as to assure its success.

The resolution condemns the attempts of the imperialist forces to aggravate international situation by intensifying arms race, rearming West German revenge-seeking armies, by instigating and organising military adventures and interfering in the internal ~~affairs~~ ~~affairis~~ affairs of independent countries so as to dominate them; by thwarting the fight of the colonial peoples against colonial subjugation and finally by persistently rejecting all peace proposals of the Soviet Union and the ~~Sov~~ Socialist countries. "The Success obtained by the workers in the socialist countries in all economic and social fields, the national liberation movements of the oppressed people which spreads widely in Asia, Africa and Latin America, the political and economic struggles of the workers in the capitalist countries, which become more and more powerful, demonstrate that the forces of peace and progress are far stronger than the forces of reaction and war and that the peace camp constitutes a strong force enough to upset all belligerent provocations of imperialist forces."

The resolution emphasises the necessity to unite all forces of workers and trade Unions in powerful actions for:-

- the prohibition of nuclear arms and cessation of armament race launched by the imperialist camp.
- for the evacuation of the imperialist military bases all over the world since these are a permanent danger to peace and the national independence of the people;
- for general and complete disarmament and peaceful co-existence.
- for a complete liquidation of colonialism.
- for the conclusion of a peace treaty with the two German States;
- West Berlin to become a free and demilitarised city.
- for the nullification of the Japan-American Military Pact, the cause of tension in the Far-east.

Analysing the struggles of the workers in Textile and Leather industries, the resolution observes that rapid capitalist concentration, accompanied by the introduction of new techniques and greater workload is taking place in these industries. "For the employers and the monopolies this means higher profits, greater investments; but for the workers worse working and living conditions." With the growing cost of living the already low wage of workers employed in these industries, are being constantly depressed in terms of their purchasing power. The introduction of new techniques increase in productivity in the capitalist countries, resulting in insecurity of employment, dismissal, increase in accidents and nervous diseases of workers.

"In their struggles and actions, therefore, the workers justly put forward as their demand a general wage-increase and bonus. At the same time they demand the reduction of working hours with full pay."

The resolution puts forth the following demands on behalf of workers of Textile, Clothing, Leather and Fur workers and calls upon the workers employed in these branches of the industry world over, to carry out struggles and actions for the fulfilment of these demands:

1. General increase in wages, bonuses and pensions;
2. Reduction of working-hours to 40, and 5-days a week, without loss

in pay;

3. Equal pay for equal work for men, women, young-persons and adults, and abolition of all discrimination because of age, sex and race in respect of wages, jobs and employment;
4. The right ~~and~~ to work and labour protection, proper employment-benefits to assure a decent life to the unemployed and their families.
5. Negotiations with the Trade Union on all levels, including the enterprises, on all workers' demands;
6. Safeguarding and extension of the social security system;
7. Safeguarding and extension of trade Union rights and democratic freedom;

The resolution hails the achievements of the working class in Socialist countries, where, parallel with ~~x~~ economic progress, the increase in production and labour productivity and technical progress, a steady rise in the living standard and improvement in working conditions is taking place, where wages are continuously rising, ever increasing sums are allotted to social welfare; where working-hours are being reduced without reduction in pay. The resolution welcomes the shortening of working hours in Soviet Union to 41 hours week and even 36 hours a week with increased pay.

The resolution also expresses satisfaction at signal successes achieved by workers in capitalist countries through unity and united struggles. "The united struggles were lead not only for the safeguarding of economic, social and professional demands, but also for political aims, as for example, the safeguarding and extension of trade union and democratic freedoms, for national independence, for the complete liquidation of colonialism and for the maintenance of peace."

Taking special note of the successful observance by the workers of our branches of the industry all over the world, of the International Week of struggle, Solidarity and Actions from March 6-12th 1961, the resolution conveys the decision of the Administrative Committee to organise again in 1962 a week of struggle, Actions and

olidarity during the same period - i.e. 6-12th March, 1962. It recommends that the observance of this week should be linked up with the preparations for the 2nd International Conference of the Textile, Clothing, Leather and Fur workers.

The resolution ends by reproducing the decision of the Administrative Committee of the T.U.I. to hold the 2nd International Trade Conference in the capital of the Rumanian Peoples' Republic in Bucharest in May, 1962.

OTHER IMPORTANT RESOLUTIONS:

Among the other important resolutions adopted by the TUI are:-

- i. A resolution expressing deep feelings of solidarity with the heroic struggle of the Algerian People against French colonialism, and warmly congratulating the French Working-class, especially the workers of Textile, Clothing, Leather and Fur industries for firm and united action against the plots of fascistic Generals against French Democracy. The resolution calls upon the working people of our industries the world over to ~~manifest~~ demonstrate in ever greater degree their indignation against continuance of French colonial rule in Algeria.
- ii. A resolution hailing the victory of the Cuban workers and peasants over the U.S. mercenaries and calling upon all affiliated organisations to ceaselessly remain on guard against the plots of the imperialists to subvert the national independence of nations.
- iii. Resolution on the convocation of the 2nd International Conference of Textile, Clothing, Leather and Fur workers in May 1962, in Bucharest Peoples' Republic of Rumania.

The entire proceedings of the Administrative Committee of the T.U.I. took place in an extraordinarily fraternal atmosphere. The arrangements for the meetings made by the Textile, Clothing, Leather and Fur workers Union of Poland, were excellent.

See 6 SA 2. file  
Me  
4/11/62

*[Handwritten signature]*

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8TH MAY 1961<sup>14</sup>

LT

CENTRAL COUNCIL TRADE UNIONS

KOPARNIKA 36

WARSAW

(POLAND)

JOSHI REACHING WARSAW WEDNESDAY TENTH FROM MOSCOW FLIGHT  
NUMBER LO 232 FOR TEXTILE TUI MEETING STOP PLEASE ATTEND

AITUCONG