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തിരുവിതാംകൂർ

കയർ ഫാക്ടറി വർക്കേഴ്സ് യൂണിയൻ

8-ാമതു വാർഷികസമ്മേളനം

1954 ഡിസംബർ 3 മുതൽ 6 വരെയുള്ള തീയതികളിൽ

സ്ഥലം:

★ പുനപ്ര-വയലാർ നഗർ ★

(ശവക്കോട്ടയ്ക്കു സമീപം കളപ്പുരമൈതാനം)

സഖാക്കളെ—സുഹൃത്തുക്കളെ,

തിരുവിതാംകൂർ കയർ ഫാക്ടറി വർക്കേഴ്സ് യൂണിയൻ എട്ടാമതു വാർഷികസമ്മേളനം 1954 ഡിസംബർ 3 മുതൽ 6 വരെയുള്ള തീയതികളിൽ താഴെ പറയുന്ന കാര്യപരിപാടി അനുസരിച്ച് ആലപ്പുഴ ശവക്കോട്ടയ്ക്കു സമീപമുള്ള കളപ്പുരമൈതാനത്ത് പ്രത്യേകം തയ്യാർചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള "പുനപ്ര-വയലാർ നഗർ"ൽ കൂടുന്നതാണ്. പ്രസ്തുത സമ്മേളനത്തിന്റെ വിജയകരമായ നടത്തിപ്പിനുവേണ്ടി എല്ലാ തൊഴിലാളികളുടേയും സംഘടനകളുടേയും വിവിധ ജനവിഭാഗങ്ങളുടേയും സാന്നിദ്ധ്യസഹായസഹകരണങ്ങൾ സാദരം അഭ്യർത്ഥിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

ബിസിനസ്സ് യോഗത്തിൽ അംഗങ്ങൾക്കു മാത്രമേ അഭിപ്രായസമാവതന്ത്ര്യവും വോട്ടവകാശവും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുകയുള്ളൂ. എന്നാൽ പത്രപ്രതിനിധികൾ, സമഹാത്മ്യപ്രതിനിധികൾ, അതിഥികൾ, സന്ദർശകർ മുതലായവർക്ക് എല്ലാ സമ്മേളനങ്ങളിലും പ്രവേശനം ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുന്നതാണ്.

പൊതുയോഗത്തിൽ അവതരിപ്പിക്കാനുള്ള പ്രമേയങ്ങൾ, 5-ാംനമ്പർ മുന്പായി അംഗങ്ങൾ ആഫീസിൽ എഴുതി അയയ്ക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. വിഷയനിർണ്ണയ കമ്മിറ്റി അംഗീകരിക്കാത്ത പ്രമേയങ്ങൾ ഒന്നും പൊതുയോഗത്തിൽ അവതരിപ്പിക്കാൻ അനുവദിക്കുന്നതല്ല.

കാര്യപരിപാടി

1954 ഡിസംബർ 3-ാംനമ്പർ രാത്രി 9 മുതൽ

കലാപ്രകടനങ്ങൾ

4-ാംനമ്പർ ശനിയാഴ്ച രാവിലെ 10 മുതൽ

★ ലോകസമാധാനത്തെപ്പറ്റിയുള്ള ചർച്ചാസമ്മേളനം ★ *Prava*

അദ്ധ്യക്ഷൻ: സ: R. സുഗതൻ M. L. A

ഉൽഘാടകൻ: ,, C. ഉണ്ണിരാജാ.

★ സാഹിത്യസമ്മേളനം ★

വൈകുന്നേരം 6 മുതൽ

അദ്ധ്യക്ഷൻ: സ: M. S. ദേവദാസ് M. A.

സമാഗതം: ,, R. സുഗതൻ M. L. A.

പ്രസംഗം: ശ്രീ: പൊൻകുന്നം വർക്കി, M. K. കുമാരൻ, O. N. V. കുറുപ്പ്.

(മറവശം)

5-ാം നം- ഞായറാഴ്ച രാവിലെ 9 മുതൽ ബിസിനസ്സ് മീറ്റിംഗ്

അദ്ധ്യക്ഷൻ: സ: ടി. വി. തോമസ് (സ്ഥിരം പ്രസിഡൻറ്)

റിപ്പോർട്ടും വരവു ചെലവു കണക്കും അംഗീകരിക്കുക; അടുത്ത വാർഷിക ഭരണസമിതി തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കുക; ശ്രീ: ടി. വി ശാർദൂരൻറെ പേരിൽ 5 കൊല്ലത്തേയ്ക്കു നടപടി എടുക്കുവാൻ കമ്മിറ്റി ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള ശുപാർശ ചർച്ച ചെയ്യുക; വിഷയനിർണ്ണയ കമ്മിറ്റിയെ തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കുക.

★ മഹിളാസമ്മേളനം ★

വൈകുന്നേരം 5 മുതൽ

അദ്ധ്യക്ഷ: സ: റോസമ്മ പുത്തൂർ B. A. B. L.

സഹായകം: ,, K. മീനാക്ഷി

പ്രസംഗം: ശ്രീമതി വിശ്വലക്ഷ്മി B. Sc. B. L.

,, K. R. ഗൗരി B. A. B. L., M. L. A.

,, J. ശാരദമ്മ

(തിരു-കൊച്ചി മഹിളാസംഘം സെക്രട്ടറി)

Dr. N. വാസുദേവൻ B.Sc., M.B.B.S (എറണാകുളം)

(പൊതുജനാരോഗ്യവൃത്തശ്ശിച്ച് പ്രസംഗിക്കുന്നതാണ്)

രാത്രി 9 മുതൽ കലാപരിപാടികൾ.

6-ാം നം- തിങ്കളാഴ്ച രാവിലെ 10 മുതൽ

★ കയർ വ്യവസായത്തെപ്പറ്റിയുള്ള ചർച്ചാസമ്മേളനം ★

അദ്ധ്യക്ഷൻ: സ: എൻ. സി. ശേഖർ

ഉൽഘാടനം: ,, കെ. കെ. കുഞ്ഞൻ.

★ പൊതുസമ്മേളനവും റാലിയും ★

വൈകുന്നേരം 4-30 മുതൽ

അദ്ധ്യക്ഷൻ:

സ: മഖ്ദൂം മുഹിയുദ്ദീൻ M. L. A. (ഹൈദ്രബാദ്)

(സെക്രട്ടറി, എ. ഐ. ടി. യു. സി)

സഹായകം: സ: ടി വി. തോമസ് (സ്വാ: സംഘം പ്രസിഡൻറ്)

ഉൽഘാടനം: ,, N. C. ശേഖർ M. P. (കെ. പി. ടി. യു. സി. പ്രസിഡൻറ്)

പ്രമേയാവതരണം

പ്രസംഗം: ,, P. T. പുത്തൂർ M. P.

സമ്മാനദാനം

കൃതജ്ഞത: ,, പി ജി. പത്മനാഭൻ.

N. B. അംഗങ്ങൾ 1954 സെപ്റ്റംബർ മാസം വരെയുള്ള മാസവരി തീർത്ത്ത്ത് സമ്മേളനത്തിനുള്ള പ്രവേശന ടിക്കറ്റ് നേരിട്ടു യൂണിയനാഫീസിൽ നിന്നും നവംബർ 29-ാം നം- മുതൽ ഡിസംബർ 4-ാം നം- രാത്രി 12 മണിക്കുള്ളിൽ വാങ്ങേണ്ടതാണ്. ഘോഷയാത്ര 6-ാം നം- പകൽ 4.15 മണിക്ക് റിക്രിയേഷൻ ഗ്രൗണ്ടിൽ നിന്നും പുറപ്പെടുന്നതാണ്. കലാപരിപാടികൾക്കു പ്രവേശനം പാസുമൂലമായിരിക്കും.

അദ്ധ്യക്ഷൻ | വാഷികരിപ്പോർട്ട് 4 റൂ. വിലയ്ക്ക് 5-ാം നം- രാവിലെ മുതൽ ഹാളിൽ കിട്ടുന്നതാണ്. കെ. കെ. കുഞ്ഞൻ, ജന: സെക്രട്ടറി.

TC ishs copy
cont etc

തിരുവിതാംകൂർ

കയർ ഫാക്ടറി വർക്കേഴ്സ് യൂണിയൻ

8-ാമതു വാർഷികസമ്മേളനം

★ പതാക ഉയർത്തൽ മഹാമഹം ★

സ: എം. എൻ. ഗോവിന്ദൻനായർ

(തിരു-കൊച്ചി ട്രേഡ്യൂണിയൻ കൗൺസിൽ പ്രസിഡൻറ്)

പതാക ഉയർത്തുന്നു!

1954 നവംബർ 28-ാംനു- ഞായറാഴ്ച വൈകുന്നേരം 6 മണിക്ക്

സമാക്കളെ—സുഹൃത്തുക്കളെ!

തിരുവിതാംകൂർ കയർ ഫാക്ടറി വർക്കേഴ്സ് യൂണിയന്റെ 8-ാമതു വാർഷികസമ്മേളനം കളപ്പുര ക്ഷേത്രമൈതാനത്ത് തയ്യാറാക്കിയിരിക്കുന്ന വിശാലമായ "പുന്നപ്ര-വയലാർ നഗറി"ൽ വച്ച് 1954 ഡിസംബർ 3, 4, 5, 6 എന്നീ തീയതികളിൽ വിവിധ പരിപാടികളോടുകൂടി നടക്കുന്നതാണ്.

സമ്മേളനത്തിന്റെ കൊടിയുയർത്തൽ കമ്മേ 1954 നവംബർ 28-ാംനു- ഞായറാഴ്ച വൈകുന്നേരം 6 മണിക്ക് തിരു-കൊച്ചി ട്രേഡ്യൂണിയൻ കൗൺസിൽ പ്രസിഡൻറ് സ: എം. എൻ. ഗോവിന്ദൻനായർ നിർവ്വഹിക്കുന്നതാണ്. വടക്കുനിന്നും കൊടിമരവും, തെക്കുനിന്നും കൊടിയും വഹിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഘോഷയാത്രകൾ പട്ടണം പുറമ്പ്രകടനം നടത്തി സമ്മേളന നഗറിൽ എത്തിച്ചേരുന്നതാണ്.

കൊടിമരവും വഹിച്ചു വടക്കുനിന്നുമുള്ള ഘോഷയാത്ര, രക്തസാക്ഷി സ: കാട്ടൂർ ജോസഫിനോട്ട് തൊഴിലാളിവർഗ്ഗത്തിനുള്ള ബഹുമാനസൂചകമായി, കൃത്യം ഒരു മണിക്ക് അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ ഭവനത്തിൽനിന്നു പുറപ്പെട്ട് മാരാരിക്കുളം കലുകിനു സമീപമെത്തുന്നതും, 122-ൽ അവിടെ വീരമരണമടഞ്ഞ രക്തസാക്ഷികളെ അനുസ്മരിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് അവിടെ നിന്നും കൊടിമരവും വഹിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുള്ള ഗംഭീരപ്രകടനം നേരേ തെക്കോട്ടു പുറപ്പെട്ട് കൊമ്മാടി പാലം കടന്ന് എസ്സ്. പി.യു.അയ്യർ കമ്പനിയുടെ മുകിൽ കൂടി തെക്കോട്ടുനീങ്ങി കോട്ടുവാ തൃക്കൽ പാലത്തിനു വടക്കേ കരയിൽ കൂടി പടിഞ്ഞാറോട്ടുവന്ന് സമ്മേളന നഗറിൽ എത്തിച്ചേരുന്നതാണ്.

122-ൽ പുന്നപ്രയിൽ നടന്ന ഉജ്വലമായ പോരാട്ടത്തേയും അവിടെ വീരമരണമടഞ്ഞ രക്തസാക്ഷി കളുടേയും അനുസ്മരണയ്ക്കായി, സമ്മേളനത്തിൽ ഉയർത്തുന്നതിനുള്ള വെക്കോടിയും വഹിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുള്ള ഘോഷയാത്ര, ഒരു മണിക്ക് പുന്നപ്ര ബസ്സ് സ്റ്റോപ്പിൽ നിന്നും പുറപ്പെടുന്നു. പ്രസ്തുത ഘോഷയാത്ര നേരേ വടക്കോട്ടു പുറപ്പെട്ട് കച്ചേരിവെളി ജംഗ്ഷനിൽ എത്തുകയും, അവിടെനിന്നും പടിഞ്ഞാറോട്ടു പുറപ്പെട്ട് വെള്ളക്കിണർ മുകിൽ കൂടി വടക്കോട്ടുവന്ന് കൊത്തുവാൽലാവടിപ്പാലം കടന്ന് വടക്കേ കരയിൽ കൂടി കിഴക്കോട്ടു പുറപ്പെട്ടു മല്ലയ്ക്കൽ കൂടി വന്ന് കല്ലൻറോഡുവഴി കോൺവെൻറ മുകിലെത്തുകയും, അവിടെ നിന്നും വടക്കോട്ടു പുറപ്പെട്ടു സമ്മേളന നഗറിൽ എത്തുന്നതുമാണ്.

(മറവശം)

കൊടിമരത്തിനും കൊടിക്കും വിവിധ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ വച്ച് സ്വീകരണം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു പല സംഘടനകളും വ്യക്തികളും ആഫീസിൽ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. അങ്ങിനെ സ്വീകരണം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനുവേണ്ട സൗകര്യം നൽകുന്നതാണ്.

കൊടിമരവും കൊടിയും വഹിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുള്ള ഘോഷയാത്രകളിലും പ്രകടനങ്ങളിലും, അതിനുശേഷമുള്ള ചടങ്ങുകളിലും എല്ലാ തൊഴിലാളികളും മറ്റു നാട്ടുകാരും പങ്കെടുക്കുവാൻ അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു.

എന്ന്,

കെ. കെ. കുഞ്ഞൻ,

സ്വാ: സംഘം സെക്രട്ടറി.

യൂണിയൻ ആഫീസ്,
ആലപ്പുഴ 25-11-'54

മുദ്രാവാക്യങ്ങൾ

ചെങ്കൊടി—സിന്ദാബാദ്!

രക്തസാക്ഷികൾ—സിന്ദാബാദ്!

കയർ ഫാക്ടറി വർക്കേഴ്സ് യൂണിയൻ—സിന്ദാബാദ്!

എട്ടാമതു വാഷികയോഗം—സിന്ദാബാദ്!

സഖാവ് മഖ്ദൂം—സിന്ദാബാദ്!

എ. ഐ. ടി. യു. സി—സിന്ദാബാദ്!

ഇൻകപിലാബ്—സിന്ദാബാദ്!

ലോകസമാധാനം—നീണാൾ വാഴട്ടെ!

P. S. സെപ്റ്റംബർ മാസം വരെ മാസവരി അടച്ചിട്ടുള്ള അംഗങ്ങൾക്ക് നവംബർ 29-ാം തീയതിയോളം മുതൽ ഡിസംബർ 1-ാം തീയതി 12 മണി വരെ യൂണിയൻ ആഫീസിൽ നിന്നും പ്രവേശനം റദ്ദ് ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കുന്നതാണ്.

A.I.T.U.C.
Registered 4/12/54
Registered

തിരുവിതാംകൂർ

കയർ ഫാക്ടറി വർക്കേഴ്സ് യൂണിയൻ

8-ാമതു വാർഷിക സമ്മേളനം.

8th Cont. T.C. with Cont. Conf

To, Mr. Secretary A.I.T.U.C. New Delhi

Cont. Conf

സർ,

തിരു: ക: ഫാ: വ: യൂണിയന്റെ എട്ടാമതു വാർഷിക സമ്മേളനം 1954 ഡിസംബർ 3, 4, 5, 6 എന്നീ തീയതികളിൽ ഇതോടൊന്നിച്ച് അയയ്ക്കുന്ന കാര്യപരിപാടി അനുസരിച്ചു നടക്കുന്നതാണ്. കയർ വ്യവസായത്തിന്റെ പുരോഗതിയേയും നമ്മുടെ നാടിന്റെ സാമ്പത്തികവും രാഷ്ട്രീയവും സാംസ്കാരികവുമായ വളർച്ചയേയും ലക്ഷ്യമാക്കി സംവിധാനം ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള സമ്മേളനത്തിന്റെ എല്ലാ പരിപാടികളിലും നിങ്ങളുടെ സംഘടനയുടെ പ്രതിനിധികളെ അയക്കണമെന്ന് സാദരം ക്ഷണിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു; പ്രവേശന ടിക്കറ്റു ഇതുസഹിതം അയക്കുന്നു.

എന്നു്,

കെ. കെ. കുഞ്ഞൻ (ഒപ്പ്)

യൂണിയൻ ആഫീസ് }
ആലപ്പുഴ 28-11-54 }

സ്ഥാ: സം: സെക്രട്ടറി.

A BIG WAVE OF WORKING CLASS STRUGGLE IN T. C. STATE.

The heroic strike of the agricultural labourers of Kumarakam, Central Travancore, which was started on the 9th of Nov., has ended in complete victory with the agreement reached in a Tripartite Conference, held at Alleppy on 24th inst. according to which the landlord, Thomas Joseph, has accepted to pay wages to the women agricultural labourers at the rate of 3 Edangalis of paddy and midday gruel for seedling, as was fixed previously. The toiling people of the State consider this as a big victory of theirs in the PSP-Raj.

But recent developments in the state goes to show that this is only the beginning.

Encouraged by the anti-working class policies of the PSP Govt., everywhere the employers have started a holly war against the workers. Wage-cut, victimisation on most silly grounds, refusal to pay bonus and other gratuities and various sorts of other encroachment into the rights of the workers are being made. And in order to withhold these attacks and defend their hard-earned-rights workers of a number of industries are carrying on struggles.

In a statement issued on 4th of Nov. Com. R. Sugathan, General Secretary, T.C.State Trade Union Congress has enumerated the following current struggles and their duration:

1. Wood workers strike at Ollur (Trichur Dist) 7 days, (on 4th of Nov.)
2. Plantation workers strike, Kaliyar, 12 ,,
3. Motor Workers strike, Chirayinkil, 2 ,,
4. Cashewnut workers strike (affecting 25,000 workers)
5. Toady workers struggle, Udayamperur,
6. Punalur Plywood factory workers strike, 15 ,,
7. Alleppy-Parur coir workers strike, 123 ,,
8. Alleppy Boat-screw workers strike, 23 ,,
9. Ceramic workers strike, Kundara, 8 ,,
10. Alwaye and C.T. workers strike,

Similarly in a number of other factories and mills the workers have submitted their demands to the employers and preparations for struggle is going on (eg. Punalur paper mills, T.C.State plantation workers' Federation has just recently submitted a charter of demands to the plantations owners.)

PUNALUR PLYWOOD FACTORY WORKERS' STRUGGLE GETTING STRONG.

The strike in the Govt. owned plywood factory was started in the middle of October ^{which} the Govt. had, in utter disregard to the recommendation of the Labour Commissioner, refused to reinstate 19 militant victimised workers and leaders. Although the satyagraha was very peaceful, the government started all sorts of provocative acts. Apart from those who were on satyagraha, ordinary workers also were arrested on plea of shouting slogan and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. At the same time the Govt, made it very clear that they were not prepared to settle the matter by negotiations.

It was ^{at} such a juncture Com. K.C. Thankappan Pillai, a Law graduate, president of the Union and popular figure of the area had started hunger strike before the factory, on 15th of Nov.

The hunger strike, over two weeks long by now, has stirred the feeling of the whole of Central Travancore. And now the strike of a few hundred workers of the Plywood factory has assumed the shape of broad workers' struggle.

On 23rd of Nov. 1000 workers of the British owned Punalur Paper Mills went on sympathetic strike and came to the town in a protest demonstration. Big plantation-workers jathas from the neighbouring areas ^{Tha} marched to Punalur town and joined the workers. Punalur saw a most

militant and mighty demonstration of workers and mammoth rally that day. On 26th the shopkeepers and merchants of Punaloor gave expression to their sense of fraternity towards the struggling workers and their leader on hungerstrike by observing complete hartal. Meanwhile hundreds of letters and telegrams poured into the Govt. Secretariat demanding immediate settlement of the dispute. An unending stream ~~of~~ of people keep coming to Punalur to have a 'darshan' of the determined leader of workers who are on hungerstrike.

As days and hours pass by the anger and discontent of the people is mounting. Illusion of the common people about the Praja Socialist Party Govt. is fast fading away, and they are extending their support to the workers in various ways. Thus the struggle of the Punalur Plywood Factory workers is progressing.

WOOD WORKERS STRIKE AT OLLUR (TRICHUR DIST.)

Strike in a Wood Factory ^{owned} held by one Devassy was started only when the employer had refused to implement the agreement arrived at between the employer and the workers. On 1st of Nov. a meeting was convened by the conciliation Officer, but the employer refused to attend the meeting. But instead of punishing the mischievous employer the PSP Govt. conducted a ruthless lathi charge on the satyagrahi-workers and their leaders ~~and~~ including Sri. P.A. Govindan Nair, local P.S.P. leader and P.R. Francis, local Congress Worker.

On 15th of Nov. a 15,000 meeting was held at Ollur to protest against the most repressive policy of the Govt. in which all parties, Communist, PSP., and local Congressmen took part.

Presiding over the meeting ~~was~~ Sri. C.G. Janardhanan ^{a P.S.P. leader} ~~and~~ attached the Patam Govt. and assured to the workers he was prepared to give even his life for the cause of workers in the PSP rule if need be. He felt shy that ~~in~~ that such repression was conducted in a PSP Raj. He ~~also~~ also expressed his decision to go on hungerstrike in case the Govt. did not settled the matter immediately.

Nearly 15 people belonging to Communist Party, PSP., and Congress addressed the meeting. While the meeting was going on a number of arrested leaders came out on bail. People accorded a grant reception to them. The struggle of the Wood workers is still going on.

Similarly other worker-struggles are also progressing. All this show that a situation has reached in the state when the toiling people will rest content only by replacing the present Govt. which surpassed even to the Congress ~~and~~ Govt. in its anti-working class policy.

1/12/54

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ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

CIRCULAR: PTUC/43/1954.

The State Committees, and
Regional Councils.

Pawha Mansion, (1st. floor),
Kamla Market, Asafali Road,
NEW DELHI. 17th. August 1954.

OBSERVE AUG.25TH. AS ANTI-RATIONALISATION DAY.

The resolution on anti-rationalisation moved by P.T. Punnose, M.P. has secured first place in the ballot in the House of the People. The resolution will be taken up by the Parliament on 27th. August 1954.

This resolution comes up before the Parliament in the midst of a planned offensive of rationalisation and increase of work-load by the employers and the Government. If these plans are allowed to materialise large number of workers who are in employment will be thrown out of jobs and work-load will be considerably increased on the remaining workers.

Workers at various centres have been resisting these attempts to introduce rationalisation and increase of work-load. With a view to mobilise the entire workers and also public opinion against these attacks as also to demonstrate our united protest we request you to OBSERVE 25TH. AUGUST 1954 as anti-rationalisation day by holding meetings, demonstrations and other possible actions.

Since the issue concerns all workers, efforts should be made to draw in unions and workers affiliated to other national centres as also workers who are not yet members of any union.

Immediately after the observance of the Day please send telegrams to the Prime Minister and Labour Minister, Govt. of India, New Delhi, copy endorsed to A.I.T.U.C.

In this connection we should also request you to expedite your reports ~~xx~~ on our Circular No. PTUC/40/1954 dated 14th. August 1954.

SECRETARIAT.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/41/1954.

The State Committees, and
Regional Councils.

Pawha Mansion (1st. Floor),
Kamla Market, Asafali Road, NEW DELHI
Dt: 14th. August 1954.

RAILWAY SERVICES (SAFEGUARDING OF NATIONAL SECURITY) RULES, 1954

On April 19, 1954 the Govt. notified the enforcement of new rules called the Railway Services (Safeguarding of National Security) Rules, 1954. These rules have been issued by the President of the Indian Union in replacement of the old Railway Services (Safeguarding of National Security) Rules, 1949. According to the new rules, the position is that these rules give no reasonable opportunity whatsoever to an employee to show cause against any removal or dismissal where the President is of the opinion that the employee is engaged, or reasonably suspected to be engaged in "Subversive activities" and that his retention in service is prejudicial to the national security. The terms are so wide that in effect it allows the Government authorities to arbitrarily to single out any employee and deprive him of any opportunity for showing cause against any proposed action against him.

The 1949 rules at least gave an employee a chance of representing his case personally before a Committee of Advisers consisting of four officers of Joint Secretaries' level. The Committee could scrutinise the case and had only recommendatory powers. But under the new 1954 Rules, even this facade of justice has been done away with.

During the course of the last five years since the enforcement of these rules about 600 railwaymen all over India have already been victimised under these rules. The Railwaymen all over India have been constantly agitating for the repeal of these penal rules and demanding the reinstatement of the victimised employees. After innumerable representations, only about 39 of the 600 victimised employees were taken back. It is worth noting that during the 1952 budget session of the Parliament, the Railway Minister had given a specific assurance to a deputation consisting of all the opposition Parties' leaders in the House of the People, that these rules would no longer be used by the Government. But this assurance by the Railway Minister was never honoured and fresh cases of victimisation have thereafter also continued to take place under these rules. And, now the Government has replaced the old rules by a set of new rules which, as stated above, have done away with any opportunity to an employee to prove his innocence. He has been abandoned completely to the autocratic control of the authorities. These rules are, therefore, nothing but a device and a weapon to curb and smash the growing trade union movement amongst the Government employees by victimising their trade union activists and leaders.

This is not all. Just in the wake of the Central Government, the Provincial Governments are also contemplating the enforcement of similar rules for their employees. The Madras Government has already framed Security Rules under the name of Madras Civil Services (Safeguarding of National Security) Rules, 1954. These rules are of the same wording as that of the Railway Services (Safeguarding of National Security) Rules, 1954.

Under these Rules, the employees are victimised on the alleged charge that they hold certain particular political views and that they owe allegiance and show sympathy towards certain particular political parties. To carry out this nefarious plan, the powers are delegated to the officials to freely and indiscriminately use these powers to victimise the employees. To give just one instance, a Railway employee viz. Sri. R. Ananthanarayanan, Asstt. Bridge Inspector, Pokala has been recently served with a charge-sheet under the fresh 1954 rules. The grounds on the basis of which action is proposed to be taken against him are as follows:-

- " (1) You are a member of the Communist Party of India and of the Communist controlled S.I. Railway Labour Union, Golden Rock.
- (2) You are in touch with the Polit Bureau Secretariat of the Communist Party, Bombay.
- (3) You contributed articles to Communist Organs criticising the Govt. of India and the Railway Administration with a view to spread discontent and disaffection among Railway staff.

" (4) You spread the doctrine of Communism among the public and the Railway staff.

(5) You collected funds for the C.P.I.

(6) You actively canvassed for C.P. Candidates in the last elections to the Legislative Assembly. "

These grounds show that ~~only~~ the alleged contact and membership of a political party has been made equal to subversive activity.

Messrs. Row & Reddi, Advocates, Madras have filed a writ on behalf of Sri. R. Ananthanarayanan on various grounds.

The points that the lawyers have taken up in the case are as follows:

1. that the President having made the 1954 rules under Article 309, cannot take away the employee's right under Article 311 viz. reasonable opportunity of showing cause against the proposed action, because Article 309 is subject to the provisions of the Constitution and therefore subject to Article 311.
2. that in effect the procedure in the 1954 rules do not give any opportunity, much less a reasonable opportunity of showing cause against the action proposed to be taken, because it does not give an opportunity to prove the innocence of the employee, as the rules only allow the employee to make a representation against the grounds and there is no advisory committee and there is no procedure for proving his innocence. Thus there can be no reasonable opportunity when the principles of natural justice are violated and the employee is penalised without being heard and given an opportunity to prove his innocence.
3. The first special ground with regard to the facts of the case is that the grounds are a violation of fundamental rights of freedom of speech and freedom of association under the Constitution and therefore, the rules are violating Part 3 of the Constitution.
4. Another special ground the lawyers have raised is that, as long as any political party is a legal party, membership or association with that party cannot be considered as subversive activity.

They have also raised the question in the Writ filed, that subversive activity is a very vague and wide expression and gives arbitrary powers to General Managers of the Railways to single out any particular employee so as to deprive him of the ordinary procedure available under the Railway Establishment Code, and this violates Article 14 of the Constitution.

It will not be out of place to mention here that the Discipline and Appeal Rules laid down in the Railway Establishment Code are in themselves so wide and autocratic that the railwaymen have been long agitating for their revision. The above mentioned 1954 Security Rules ~~over-ride~~ even these rules embodied in the Railway Establishment Code by blocking whatever little avenue or opportunity was provided for to an employee in them.

Though the lawyers are contending in the writ that the rules concerned are void, yet this alone cannot be a solution to the problem that these rules confront the trade union movement in the country - to defend the trade union rights and liberties of the workers in Government owned industries and of Government employees, both under the Central and Provincial Governments.

For this, it ~~is~~ is absolutely essential to take up an intensive mass campaign to mobilise the workers and the public against this latest attack and demand :

- * The withdrawal of the Railway & Civil Services (Safeguarding of National Security) Rules, 1954, both in the Central ~~and~~ and in the Provinces.
- * The extension of the same trade union rights and privileges to Govt. employees as have been granted under the various existing enactments to the workers employed in private industries & Services.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

CIRCULAR: PTUC/39/1954.

The State Committees, and
Regional Councils.

Pawha Mansion, 1st. Floor,
Kamla Market, Asafali Road,
NEW DELHI. 13th. August 1954.

ASIAN T. U. CONFERENCE.

We hope you have received the Report sent by us on Friendly discussion of Asian Trade Union Delegates held in Peking on May Day occasion.

This friendly discussion has proved to be helpful in bringing closer the trade union representatives of different political and trade union affiliations.

This discussion has opened the way for further closer relations among working class of Asian countries for mutual understanding, friendship and unity on common issues like freedom, prosperity and peace.

We know the initiators' meeting is going to be held in Peking in October to discuss and decide about the Labour Conference of Asian countries, its venue and date etc.

There is a suggestion for holding such a Conference in India.

The U.T.U.C. has proposed all the National Trade Union Centres in India to join together to extend the invitation for such a Conference.

The A.I.T.U.C. welcomes and gives full cooperation to such a move and takes steps to see that this idea is materialised.

We are aware that such a Conference will be of immense importance in building the unity and friendly understanding of working class of all Asian countries and that of the Indian working class as well.

Therefore we would like to advise you to take immediate steps on the basis of the said report to popularise the idea and organise the opinion for such a Conference by holding friendly discussion meetings on all levels among the workers and trade union organisations of different political and T.U. affiliations and independents and see that the proposal for joining all the National T.U. Centres to invite such a Conference in India is strengthened and materialised. Such friendly discussion meetings must also be aimed to mobilise the opinion for sending a fully representative delegation of Indian Trade Unions consisting of all National T.U. Centres and independent organisations to participate in the initiators' meeting in Peking in October 1954.

Treat this as urgent and keep us informed about the development in this respect. Any question or enquiry in this connection will be most welcome.

With Greetings,

GENERAL SECRETARY

ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/61/1954.

Pawha Mansion, 1st floor,
Kamla Market, Asafali Road,
NEW DELHI, dt.19th October,1954.

To all P.T.U.Cs and Regional Councils.

Dear Comrades,

Herewith we are sending the statement of W.F.T.U. on MANILA Treaty (SEATO) and for peaceful relations between the countries of Asia.

We advise all our Trade Unions to popularise the above statement among the workers. For this we will suggest the following:-

- (1) Read out the statement to the workers in mass/group meetings, and in recess times in the workers' languages.
- (2) Get it published through handbills to reach the workers' hands and the press in your area.

The T.U.s should take initiative to popularise the statement among all the sections of the people and mobilise other organisations, and individuals for the same.

We will be pleased to receive from you reports.

Greetings,

Fraternally yours,

GENERAL SECRETARY.

STATEMENT OF THE W.F.T.U. ON THE MANILA TREATY AND FOR PEACEFUL
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES OF ASIA.

Despite the desire for national independence and peaceful co-existence clearly expressed by the representatives of the overwhelming majority of the countries of Asia, a Military Treaty has been signed in Manila on the initiative of the Washington Government.

By continuing to police Formosan waters to keep this area away from Chinese national life, these same leaders expose their real aggressive intentions against the Chinese people.

While it is aimed at the Chinese People's Republic, the Manila Treaty also represents a threat to all Asian countries.

It is a further illustration of the policy of military blocs pursued by the American Government. It is fresh proof of its determination to divide the peoples of Asia and to set them against each other.

It is a serious threat to world peace, to the independence, security and living standards of the peoples in this region. It is an additional move to strain the international situation at a time when the hope for better relations is becoming brighter for all peoples.

The so-called South East Asian Treaty has among its eight signatories, five non-Asian countries. It provides excuses for United States interference in Asian affairs. It facilitates interference by the colonial powers in the domestic affairs of the peoples of this region.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

CIRCULAR/PTUC/36/1954.

Pawha Mansion, 1st. floor,
Kamla Market, Asafali Road,
NEW DELHI. 5th. August 1954.

The State Committees, and
Regional Councils.

Subject:- ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF HANDLOOM WEAVERS.

A suggestion has been made by the Andhra Provincial T. U. C. that an All India Conference of Handloom Weavers should be convened in the last week of January 1955.

2. Will you please consult the Handloom Weavers' organisations in your area and let us know their opinion on the subject.

3. Also enclosed is a copy of the questionnaire on the Handloom problems, which may be completed and sent as early as possible, endorsing a copy to Andhra P.T.U.C.Office, at Governorpet, VIJAYAWADA.

SECRETARIAT.

QUESTIONNAIRE.

1. Number of Handlooms in your Province.
2. Total yarn consumed by Handlooms and the total quantity of cloth produced by Handloom and also the varieties of cloth.
3. The price level, the method of distribution and the quality of yarn used by Handloom.
4. The nature of competition between Handloom cloth and Mill cloth.
5. Extent of unemployment in Handloom weavers.
6. The nature of the Government aids and the relief schemes in operation.
7. The names and addresses of Handloom Weavers Organisations if any and their activities and their affiliations in your Province.
8. Addresses of important functionaries in Handloom to whom the circulars and other literature can be sent.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/59/1954.

The State Committees, and
Regional Councils.

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
Asafali Road, NEW DELHI.
Dt: 8th. October 1954.

The Textile Enquiry Committee Report which was recently placed on the table of both houses of Parliament says that out of the 2.19 millions hand looms in existence only 1.2 millions are effectively working and that the industry as it exists today provides employment for no less than 15 lakh workers. The Committee considers that by 1960, the consumption of cloth at 18 yards per head could be reached and that the demand for textiles could be safely placed at 7200 million yards for internal consumption and 1000 million yards for export. The Committee points out that export of hand loom cloth for the year 1953 was only 62.8 million yards out of a total export of 696.4 million yards and that it will be unrealistic to expect that there would be any considerable increase in the export of hand loom goods unless the economic and technical efficiency of hand loom increases greatly in the near future.

After careful consideration the Committee has come to what, in its opinion, is an irresistible conclusion, namely that at a pace at which there will not be too drastic a disturbance of the economic and social fabric, the hand loom industry has to be made technically more efficient by converting the hand loom either into semi-automatic loom and/or into a power loom, as power becomes available more generally in areas where the hand loom industry is widely prevalent. It has therefore suggested the conversion of hand looms into semi-automatic looms or power looms and one half of the existing looms in the mills into automatic looms within a period of 20 years. Under the programme 3 lakhs hand looms should be converted into 2.13 lakh improved hand looms or power looms over a period of six years and the conversion of the remaining looms in two or three 5 year periods, so that in 15 to 20 years the entire industry will have been converted into decentralised improved hand looms or decentralised domestic power loom industry. For the mills, the Committee has suggested the replacement of plain looms with automatic looms at the rate of 5000 a year.

This is a phased programme for increasing unemployment in towns and villages as well. With the present pace of industrial development in the country, there is little or no chance for the displaced workers getting absorbed in any other industry. Government themselves admit that unemployment is on the increase. The report of the Planning Commission as the Five Year Plan enters the fourth year, reveals a figure of an increase of 20% on the registers of the employment exchanges while the increase in persons seeking 'white collar' jobs is 28%. These figures as admitted by the Planning Commission do not reveal the exact position regarding the unemployed in our country and only reflects to some extent the condition in urban areas. Government's industrial policy heavily weighed in the interests of monopoly concerns both Indian and foreign, has resulted in the ruination of medium sized and small industries and collapse of cottage industries.

With a shrinking internal market thanks to steady lowering of the purchasing capacity of our people and competition from industrially advanced countries like U.K., U.S.A. and Japan and consequent uncertain foreign market, any change over to the so called improved method of production is bound to result in the complete pauperisation of the majority of hand loom workers and large section of textile mill workers. The textile mill workers irrespective of affiliation have protested against rationalisation. As for the hand loom weaver, the question now before him is not that of hand loom industry surviving but of himself surviving.

Next to agriculture, hand loom industry provides occupation for several millions of our people and for most of them there is no subsidiary occupation. Any change over at present will throw out of gear the entire industry. Many towns and extensive rural areas would be wiped out completely.

The improved type of so-called semi-automatic loom and power loom will produce 24 to 30 yards of cloth in 8 hours which will be about 4 to 5 times the cloth made on hand looms and as orders do not quadruple themselves in the meanwhile, immediate unemployment is the black prospect before the

hand loom weaver.

The report of the fact finding committee (Hand looms or Mills) 1942 observed 'that the fundamental cause of India's poverty is the tendency to an unequal diffusion of purchasing power. This defect cannot be rectified by expansion of industries unless large social and economic changes also take place simultaneously'. Unless the purchasing capacity of the peasantry who constitute the bulk of our population improves, and industrialisation takes place simultaneously, no attempt should be made to dislocate the present small and cottage industries.

Under the present state of things, the hand loom industry as it exist at present will have to be continued. The hand loom weaver is too poor to pay for the semi-automatic looms ~~xx~~ and if the looms are to be owned by cooperative institutions or joint stock companies he yet cannot be the owner of the same as long as he cannot pay for it. All over the country, the handloom weavers are heavily in debt; in Madras as many as 90% are said to be indebted. The unsteadiness of his employment is the main cause for his indebtedness. His main problem has always been to dispose of the cloth he has made and to obtain further raw material in the shape of yarns for next day's work.

The Committee has no other suggestion except rationalisation and modernisation of the existing looms. Increased production of cloth and consequent accumulation of the same in the markets can only bring greater crisis in the industry.

The estimated capital cost of Rs.2 crores a year for conversion of the looms can better be utilised for putting the existing hand loom industry on sounder basis by subsidising cheaper yarn for hand loom weaver, affording him cheap credit and better marketing facilities and cheaper dye stuffs. Cooperative Societies have not been very popular with the weavers and majority of weavers still remain outside. It is necessary to find out the defects in the existing system and remedy the same and put the entire hand loom industry on cooperative basis.

Considering the imminent threat to the textile mill workers and hand loom industry arising from any implementation of the Textile Enquiry Committee's Report, P.T.U.Cs and Regional Councils are requested to explain the implications of the recommendations to the entire workers especially to textile and Handloom workers of the Province or Region and rouse them against the so-called 'modernisation' or 'rationalisation' of textile industry both mill and hand loom.

SECRETARIAT.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/60/1954.

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
Asafali Road, NEW DELHI.

The State Committees, and
Regional Councils.

Dt: 12th. October 1954.

You would have received a Circular from All India Handloom Weavers' Organising Committee regarding the holding of All India Handloom Conference on 21st. and 22nd. January 1955.

The Conference is very important especially after the publication of the Textile Inquiry Committee's report which has suggested rationalisation or 'modernisation' of the entire Handloom industry.

All State Committees and Regional Councils are requested to make the Handloom Conference a success by - (a) getting delegates elected from affiliated unions; (b) getting representatives and delegates from non-affiliated unions and unions belonging to other organisations, to attend the conference; (c) collecting all materials and information asked for in the Organising Committee's Circular.

SECRETARIAT.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/35/1954.

Pawha Mansion, Kamala Market,
Asafali Rd., NEW DELHI. 28.7.1954.

The State Committees, and
Regional Councils.

We have received a communication from the Ministry of Labour, Govt. of India conveying the suggestion put forward by the Government of Bombay that the Payment of Wages Act, 1936 be amended by an ordinance so as to enable the workers subscribe to the National Plan Loan, and seeking AITUC's opinion thereon. We are sending you the following letter, which we wrote to the Ministry in reply to theirs mentioned above, for your information:

"With reference to your communication No.Fac.61(160) dt. 21.7.54, this is to inform you that we are strongly opposed to the suggestion of the Govt. of Bombay that the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, be amended by an ordinance to enable deduction being made from the wages of workers for the purchase of National Plan Loan Bonds or Certificates issued by the Govt. of India. We are also opposed to any amendment being made by legislation for the above purpose.

"The reason for our opposition is that if by Ordinance or by legislation the Act is amended in spite of all intentions the deduction will tend to be compulsory and not voluntary. Again any worker desiring to subscribe to the National Loan can do so on his own without any difficulty and invoking law for this purpose is superfluous and harmful.

"Under the circumstances we hope you will be good enough to advise the Govt. of Bombay not to press this suggestion of theirs."

SECRETARIAT.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

The State Committees, and
Regional Councils.

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
New Delhi. 20/8/1954.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/46/1954.

Under various Labour Acts such as the Minimum Wages Act, The Employees' State Insurance Act, The Provident Fund Act, Miners Welfare Fund Act etc., the Central and State Governments are required to constitute Advisory Committees and other Governing Bodies. In order to correctly assess the attitude of the Government towards the A.I.T.U.C. in giving representation etc., we require detailed information from you on the following points:

- (1) The number of such Bodies, your State Government have constituted and under which Act.
- (2) How many seats for labour representatives, representation given to each national organisation or organisations and the names of A.I.T.U.C. representatives, if any, on permanent bodies.
- (3) If on any Committee the A.I.T.U.C. representatives have not been taken, while representation was given to other organisations, what action did you take in that connection?

Please send us your reply at an early date.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/47/1954.

This is to request you to send us the Postal addresses of all members of the General Council of the A.I.T.U.C. from your State at an early date.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/48/1954.

It is requested that this office may please be furnished with information regarding tobacco industry in your State or Region. The information should be factual, covering number of workers, units of industry, nature of the dispersal of the units - big, small etc., with average number of workers, number of unions - bidi, cigar or cigarette; membership, affiliation, problems of working and living conditions, wage rate - with what conditions attached such as with tobacco leaves or working in their own houses or places fixed by the employers and whether Minimum Wages have been fixed at what rate, compare with previous rate; D.A., hours of work in factories, housing facilities, child and women labour and their rate of wages, application of Labour Acts etc., and other problems facing the industry - bidi, cigar or cigarette, with regard to market, introduction of machinery etc.

If you are not able to furnish all the information immediately, please send us what you can and also try to collect the rest and send us later on.

SECRETARIAT.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/49/1954.

The State Committees, and
Regional Councils.

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
Asafali Rd., NEW DELHI.
Dt: 28th. August 1954.

We are sending a report by Comrade Indrajit Gupta, representative of the A.I.T.U.C. in the Committee for fixing the Minimum Wages in the central sphere, regarding the meeting of the Committee held on 27.7.1954. The report is self explanatory.

Your suggestion regarding the items asked in the report for the next meeting may be sent to this office so as to reach us by 4.9.1954.

SECRETARIAT.

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REPORT OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE FOR
FIXATION OF MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES IN THE CENTRAL SPHERE.

This is one of the Tripartite Committees set up under Sec.5(1)(a) of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. By the Minimum Wages (Amendment) Act 1954, the time limit for fixation of minimum wages in the employments specified in Part I of the Schedule was extended to December 31st. 1954. The present Committee's responsibility is, therefore, to make its recommendations before the above date in respect of those categories of workers falling within the Central Government sphere for whom minimum rates of wages have not so far been fixed and notified. This Committee is not empowered to amend or revise the wage rates already fixed by the Central Govt. for several categories of workers; that being the function of a separate Committee appointed under Sec.6 of the Act.

The present Committee is constituted with the following personnel:

1. T.S.Parasuraman, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Transport.
2. C.K.Nair, Under Secretary, Ministry of Defence.
3. S.P.Saksena, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of W.H. & S.
4. R.R.M. Tandon, Deputy Chief Engineer, Northern Railway.
5. Nirmal Kumar Sen, I.N.T.U.C.
6. Indrajit Gupta, A.I.T.U.C.
7. Biswanath Debuey, U.T.U.C.
8. Bagaram Tulpule, H.M.S.
- 9) One representative each of the Labour & Finance Ministries.
- 10)

At the first meeting held on 27.7.1954 at New Delhi, all the above members, with the exception of the representative of the Railway Administration, were present.

The circulated Agenda for the meeting comprised proposals from various Ministries in respect of the following categories of workers:

1. Unskilled contract labour of the C.P.W.D. in Uttar Pradesh, engaged on road construction, building operations, stone breaking or stone crushing;
2. All outstanding categories of CPWD workers engaged in similar operations as stated above;
3. All categories of workers in Railway Administrations, excepting Eastern Rly., engaged in the above-stated operations;
4. Workers at the Citrarangan Locomotive works engaged in the above stated operations;
5. Workers engaged in the above stated operations on the Shoranur-Nilambur and Ernakulam-Quilon Sections of the Southern Railway;
6. Women Mazdoors employed by C.P.W.D. in Ajmer;
7. Various classes of employees in Lebong, Dagshai, Benares & Mathura Contonments.

At the outset, certain general points of procedure and principles were discussed.

It was agreed that in order to give the Govt. adequate time to study the Committee's recommendations and announce its decisions by the statutory time-limit of 31.12.1954, the Committee's work should be completed by mid-October.

The next meeting of the Committee was fixed for September 6th. (and subsequent days, if necessary), at New Delhi.

The U.T.U.C. representative proposed that the Dock Labour Boards of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras should be included as "local authorities" within the meaning of Part I of the Schedule, and minimum wages should be fixed for workers falling within the sphere of the Dock Labour Boards. The representative of the Transport Ministry promised to look into the matter, and to circulate proposals before the next meeting, provided the Ministry agreed that Dock Labour Boards were 'local authorities' for the purpose of the Act.

The A.I.T.U.C. representative prepared for inclusion of workers on Govt. owned Cinchona Plantations and those employed in the Saddlery and Harness Factory, Kanpur. The representatives of the Labour Ministry and Defence Ministry promised to look into the matter and circulate proposals, if possible, before the next meeting.

It was generally agreed that all categories of workers for whom the Central Government had not yet made notifications should be made known to the Committee.

After considerable discussion and arguments, the official representatives conceded the unanimous demand ~~for~~ of the labour representatives that this Committee need not be bound down by the recommendations of the Central Minimum Wages Advisory Board (though these recommendations should be 'borne in mind'), but would be free to discuss de novo the basis and principles of fixation of minimum wages.

In this connection, the A.I.T.U.C. representative pointed out that the recommendations made by the Central Advisory Board at its Bombay meeting on April 8th - 9th were not unanimous and the A.I.T.U.C. had opposed the suggested wage rates as being unjustifiably low.

The A.I.T.U.C. representative also stated that in his opinion this Committee, in fixing specific rates of minimum wages, should refuse to be guided by considerations of 'financial capacity', 'under-production', 'over-production', and similar arguments applicable to private industry. The Committee was concerned with Govt. concerns which are not expected to function on a 'profit-making' basis. Hence, the wage-fixation here should be properly linked with minimum standards and costs of living and should serve as a model for private employers to follow. Rates considered essential on this basis should be guaranteed, if necessary, by Central Government subsidies, suitable budgetary provisions etc.

The above views were recorded, though the official representatives did not express themselves thereon.

The specific proposals already submitted (as listed above) were then taken up, one by one.

Item (1): The CPWD proposals for Uttar Pradesh were as follows:

Adult Male Mazdoor or Beldar	-	Rs. 1- 6- 0 per day
Adult Female "	"	1- 2- 0 " "
Boy	"	0-13- 0 " "

The rates (all-inclusive) were unanimously opposed by the labour representatives who suggested instead:

Adult Male	-	1- 8- 0
" Female	-	1- 4- 0 (with phased advance to 1-8-0)
Boy	-	1- 0- 0

After considerable discussion, the rate of Rs.1-8-0 for adult males was

agreed to, but the CPWD representative refused to raise the proposed rates for females and boys. His main arguments were (a) that 'too high' rates for women would lead to their not being employed by contractors, and (b) that the 'market' rates and State Govt. rates in U.P. being much lower, the vident dislocation of labour supply would ensue.

No agreement was possible.

Item (2): The CPWD & WH & S Ministry's proposals for 23 outstanding categories in Delhi, Bombay, Madras, W.Bengal, Assam, Bihar, E.Punjab, U.P., Madhya Bharat, Madhya Pradesh, Travancore-Cochin and Hyderabad were next taken up.

The labour representatives pointed out a number of seeming anomalies in the proposed rates, wide fluctuations from State to State, absence of any uniform principle, the generally low and unsatisfactory levels etc. They demanded that more data be supplied, especially on the actual existing rates, as there were strong grounds for suspicion that the latter were no lower, and in some cases even higher than the proposed minimum rates. They also demanded that instead of a single minimum rate for any particular category throughout a State, different rates should be proposed for different regions, cities etc. within the same State in the light of variations in cost of living, conditions of work etc.

The discussion was inconclusive and was postponed till the next meeting. In the meantime, the data asked for by the Labour representatives would be prepared and circulated.

Items (3), (4) & (5): were postponed in view of the absence of any representative of the Railway Administration.

Item (6): The CPWD proposal for women mazdoors in ~~Xi~~ Ajmer was -/13/- annas per day (the current rate) as against Rs.1/8/- per day for men.

The labour representatives vehemently opposed the proposal and prolonged discussion took place. Even the representative of the Transport Ministry admitted that a rate of -/13/- as. seemed too low. The U.T.U.C. representative put forward an uncompromising demand for immediate and full parity of wages between men and women, i.e. Rs.1/8/- for all. This demand was equally firmly opposed by all the official representatives. Since, in the event of no agreement, there was a real danger of the -/13/- as. rate being maintained by Government, the AITUC representative put forward a proposal for immediate increment of the rate to Rs.1/2/- per day, on condition that this was raised to Rs.1/8/- within 2 or 3 years. This proposal was eventually carried, the UTUC representative recording his dissent.

Item (7): Proposals of the Defence Ministry for employees of Lebong, Dagshai, Benares and Mathura Cantonments were discussed, but no conclusions could be reached due to insufficient data. Consideration was postponed to the next meeting. In the meantime, the Defence Deptt. will prepare and circulate data regarding the nature and extent of duties performed by different categories, existing rules, whether any other monetary benefits are provided or not, etc.

Before concluding its work, the Committee considered a Memorandum of the Ministry of Labour on interpretation of the word 'limit' appearing in Sec.26(2A) of the Minimum Wages (Amendment) Act, 1954. The Committee was invited to express its opinion as to whether the word 'limit' should be interpreted as applying to (a) a scale of pay, or (b) the actual amount of wages. The labour representatives expressed themselves unanimously in favour of the latter interpretation, as this would more effectively safeguard the interests of lower-paid workers consistent with the spirit of the Act.

Proposals of the Transport Ministry for fixation of minimum wages of employees in Cochin Port engaged in road construction and building operations were received too late for consideration at this meeting and were postponed accordingly.

Sd/- INDERJIT GUPTA.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/51/1954.

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
Asafali Road, NEW DELHI.
Dt: 2nd. September 1954.

The State Committees, and
Regional Councils.

ON THE WORK OF COMMITTEE FOR REVISION OF MINIMUM RATES OF
WAGES IN THE CENTRAL SPHERE.

It is known to all the P.T.U.Cs that Government of India has set up an Advisory Committee for revision of minimum rates of wages in the Central sphere under Section 6 of the Minimum Rates of Wages Act ~~1948~~ 1948 in the Central sphere. The Act lays down that this Advisory Committee will enquire into the conditions prevailing in any scheduled employment and will advise the appropriate Govt. in making such revision in respect of that employment.

A revision made without complying with the provisions of this Section shall be invalid and not binding on the employer or the employee. Hence all revisions have to be recommended by this committee, though these recommendations will not be binding on the Central Government.

This shows the importance of this committee.

On this Committee A.I.T.U.C. is represented along with INTUC, HMS, and UTUC. The 1st. meeting of this meeting took place on 6th. August '54 at New Delhi and a note on the work of this meeting by Com. V.D.Chopra, our representative on the Committee is being sent herewith for your information. The next meeting of this Committee will be held at the end of November '54 in Bombay and T.U. Representatives are expected to give their Memoranda etc. by the 1st. of October.

So far, the Central Govt. has fixed minimum rates of ~~wages~~ wages in the following scheduled employments:-

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Oil Mills. | 4. Employment in stone breaking or stone crushing. |
| 2. Employment under local authorities. | 5. Employment in any mica mines. |
| 3. Employment on road construction or building operations. | 6. Employment in Tanneries and leather manufactory. |

We are sending herewith information regarding the Notifications issued by the Central Govt. in this connection. You should immediately get in touch with the workers & employees concerned and study how minimum wages Act is being applied and what concrete proposals should be placed before this committee for revision of the rates of minimum wages. All the material in this connection should be sent to Com. V.D.Chopra, Opposite District Jail, G.T.Road, Jullunder, PUNJAB and a copy of the same to AITUC Office.

We hope that the PTUCs will move immediately in the matter and send the required information to A.I.T.U.C. representative.

SECRETARIAT.

REPORT OF THE 1ST. MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE FOR REVISION OF MINIMUM WAGES
IN THE CENTRAL SPHERE.

This is one of the Tripartite Committees set up under Section 6 of the Minimum Wages Act 1948. The scope of work of this committee is to recommend to the Central Govt. and advise it regarding the revision of Minimum Wages fixed under the Act.

It may be mentioned here that the Central Govt. has fixed minimum rates of wages in the following scheduled employments at present: (refer para 5 above of the Circular.)

2. This committee is constituted with the following personnel:-

1. Shri. T.S.Parasuraman, Dy. Secretary to Government of India.
2. " C.K. Nair, Under Secretary to Government of India.
3. " S.P. Saxena, Dy. Secretary, Ministry of Works Housing.
4. " R.R.M. Tandon, of Northern Railway.
5. " Dr. S.L. Kesakar, I.N.T.U.C.
6. " V.D. Chopra, A.I.T.U.C.
7. " Renen Rai, U.T.U.C.
8. " K.R. Abhiah, Hind Mazdoor Sabha.

The 1st. meeting of this committee was held on 6.8.54 at New Delhi and all the above members were present there.

3. The agenda circulated for the meeting comprised of proposals from various Ministries for revision in the rates of minimum wages. T.U. representatives had not sent any proposals for consideration of the committee and hence in this meeting the proposals put forward by the various Ministries were discussed.

At the outset there was a general discussion on the principle underlying the proposals for revisions in rates of Minimum Wages. A.I.T.U.C. and U.T.U.C. representatives proposed that the principle underlying for revision of wages should be thoroughly discussed so that all those proposals are considered in that light. The A.I.T.U.C. representative took the position that minimum rate fixed should not be less than Rs.35/- in any case. He also held that the question of uniformity between Central & Provincial Governments should not be the basis for the revision. He quoted how Central Pay Commission and Gadgil Commission had already rejected this proposal. U.T.U.C. representative strongly supported this view point and similar position was taken by I.N.T.U.C. and H.M.S. representatives. After prolonged discussion it was agreed that the committee should bear in mind these discussions while recommending revision in rates of minimum wages. Govt. representatives were of the opinion that instead of discussing generalities each concrete proposal should be discussed. After this discussion proposals of the various Ministries were taken up.

4. The proposals of the various Ministries can be divided in 3 categories:

- (a) Proposals for increment in Minimum rates of wages.
- (b) " which were mainly due to printing mistakes.
- (c) " for reduction in the minimum rates of wages.

In this meeting proposals for increment in minimum rates of wages were unanimously approved. But the main discussion was confined to proposals (a) and (b). It may be mentioned here that even in case of those proposals which were being brought forward due to typographical errors, there was a substantial reduction in the minimum rates of wages. For instance; there was a proposal to reduce the wages of sweepers of Chakrata Cantonment from Rs.30/- to Rs.20/- p.m. A.I.T.U.C. representatives strongly opposed these proposals despite the fact that they were due to printing or typographical errors.

Therefore, in case of proposals of this nature, no decision could be arrived and most of the proposals were postponed for further discussion in the next meeting. This means, that in the next meeting, in addition to other proposals main discussion would revolve around these proposals. Without concrete knowledge of the situation prevalent in various Centres, it will not be possible for AITUC representative to put up an effective fight. It is in this respect that the help and cooperation of various Trade Unions is badly needed.

5. Proposals placed before the meeting:

(i) Ministry of Railways proposed revision in the rates of minimum wages of workers engaged on road construction or in building operations and in stone breaking or stone crushing in Western Railway, Central Railway and in such portions of Railways as are situated in the States of West Bengal, U.P. and Behar. In these proposals Ministry recommended an increment in scales of wages of skilled and semi-skilled workers, but in case of un-skilled workers it recommended a reduction of wages. T.U. representatives were willing to accept the 1st. two proposals but strongly opposed the 3rd. proposal, because in this profession the majority of the workers are un-skilled. This proposal will be discussed in the next meeting of the Advisory Committee.

(ii) Ministry of C.P.W.D. proposed reduction in the wages of contract labour employed by C.P.W.D. in the State of Mysore in connection with building operations, stone breaking or stone crushing. The proposal was put forward on the plea that Mysore Govt was paying less wages and therefore Central Government should also pay less wages. This proposal will again be taken up in the next meeting and the Ministry

concerned has been asked by the committee to provide further data in this respect.

(iii) Proposals of Ministry of Transport re: revision of minimum rates of wages fixed for Mistries and Mazdoors belonging to Shore Labour of Madras Port Trust. This proposal did not mean any cut in the total emoluments of Mistries and Mazdoors. The proposal was brought forward to correct certain legal flaws in the Notification. The general consensus of opinion was that this proposal should be accepted. But A.I.T.U.C. and U.T.U.C. representatives held the view that before the committee gives its final recommendation, they would like to discuss the matter with the Union concerned. A.I.T.U.C. representative has to send his view on this proposal by 1st. of September. Hence A.I.T.U.C. Office should immediately contact our Unions of Madras for their opinion.

(iv) Proposal of Ministry of Transport for revision of minimum rates of wages of certain categories of employees of Calcutta Port Commissioners. At the present the clerical staff of Calcutta Port Commissioner's Office is being paid different wages and Ministry recommended that senior Cash Clerk, Cheque Writer, Head Measuring Clerk, Measuring clerk, Cashier, all should be paid minimum of wage of Rs.80/- p.m. After lot of discussion it was decided that the employees for whom the minimum wages have been fixed by a Notification No.LWI/24(74) dated 17 March 1952 should be categorised as below:-

- | | | |
|--|---|---------------|
| 1. Ordinary clerks | - | Rs.60/- p.m. |
| 2. Senior " | - | Rs.80/- p.m. |
| 3. Supervisory & other Senior Clerks(Upper Division Selection) | - | Rs.160/- p.m. |
| & Special category of Stenos and etc. | - | Rs.180/- p.m. |

The Ministry brought another proposal for increment in wages of a few other employees, because in the Notification wrong figures were given by mistake. This proposal was also accepted.

(v) Ministry of Defence proposed that Sweepers of Chakrata Cantonment should be paid Rs.20/- p.m. as minimum wages as against Rs.30/- which was already being paid to them. After a lot of discussion a compromise solution was worked out and it was decided that sweepers would get minimum wage of Rs.20/- plus Rs.20/- D.A. It may be mentioned here, that at present, D.A. paid to sweepers is Rs.12/8/-. Committee also recommended that those sweepers who are already drawing Rs.42/8/- both as wages and D.A. - in their case there should not be any reduction. Ministry also brought a proposal to reduce the wages of Jemadars in the same cantonment. The issue was postponed for further discussion and Ministry was asked for to bring more facts.

(vi) Ministry of Defence brought a proposal for reduction in the rates of wages of Cycle Orderlies and Beldars employed in St. Thomas Mount Cantonment. As this proposal meant a reduction in the wages, therefore, it was postponed for further discussion in the next meeting.

(vii) Ministry of Defence brought proposal for revision of Minimum Wages of fitter, painter (polisher), Pipe-fitter, wireman, and Surveyor engaged on road construction or in building operations and stone breaking or stone crushing undertaken under Defence Ministry. According to this proposal, there was a proposal to reduce minimum wages of these categories of workers, by Rs.8/- to Rs.4/-. At present all these categories of workers are getting Rs.40/-. After discussion Ministry of Defence agreed to withdraw this proposal.

(viii) Ministry of Defence brought a proposal for revision of wages of various categories of employees of the Cantonment Board of Mhow. In case of Octroi clerk, it was proposed to increase wages from Rs.45/- to Rs.50/- and his cost of living allowance from Rs.29/- to Rs.31/-. This proposal was accepted. There was another proposal to decrease the wages of Public workmate from Rs.45/- to Rs.40/- and at the same time it was proposed to increase the cost of living allowance from Rs.29/- to Rs.31/-. This proposal was not acceptable to Trade Union representatives and hence it was postponed for further consideration in the next meeting. Over and above this, there was a proposal to increase cost of living allowance of about 64 categories of employees. In some cases, the increment was by Rs.2/- and in other cases by Re.1/-. This proposal was endorsed unanimously.

6. From the above details it is evident that in this meeting recommendations were made only in those cases where some increment was proposed. Next meeting of this committee will be held some time in the last week of November in BOMBAY. In this meeting all the items which were not disposed of in this meeting would be taken up for discussion. Over and above this, proposals by the various Ministries and T.U. representatives would also be taken up. It was agreed that all the proposals by T.U. representatives should be sent to the Labour Ministry by 1st. October. This naturally means, that AITUC representative has to prepare his own Memorandum for revision in the wages and cost of living allowance of various categories of workers. This task can only be undertaken if the proposals by the various unions and employees are sent to the A.I.T.U.C. representative by middle of September by the latest. A.I.T.U.C. office should pay immediate attention to this.

7. On the initiative of the A.I.T.U.C. representative all the T.U. representatives agreed to meet in Bombay on 25th. November in order to hold informal discussions. It was also agreed that various T.U. representatives should remain in touch with each other through correspondence so that the interests of the workers are properly defended in this Committee.

Sd/- V.D.CHOPRA.

LIST OF EMPLOYMENTS WHERE MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES HAVE BEEN FIXED BY CENTRAL GOVT.

<u>Name of Employment.</u>	<u>Notification.</u>
1. Madras Port	- vide S.R.O. 335 dt. 7th. March 1951.
2. Bombay Port	---do-----
3. Calcutta Port	---do-----
4. Delhi Transport Service	---do-----
5. CPWD within Delhi State	---do---581 dt. 25th. April 1951.
6. CPWD on road construction & bldg operations:	S.R.O.1065 dt. 11th. July 1951.
7. In Tanneries, Leather Manufactures, Rd. constructions,)) vide LWI/24(74) dated) 25th. September 1951
Bldg. operations, stone breaking, stone crushing) under Ministry of Defence.)	
8. Bldg & Repairs Sections of India Security Press, Nasik	- vide LWI/24(74) dt. 17th. October 1951
9. Port of Madras Trust	- vide LWI/24(74) dt. 12.11.1951
10. Contract Labour in the CPWD	- vide LWI/24(33) dt. 14.11.1951
11. Govt. Housing Factory, Delhi	- vide LWI/24(74) dt. 21.12.1951
12. Contract Labour under CPWD	- vide LWI/24(33) dt. 31.12.1951
13. Labour employed under the authority of Coal Mine Welfare Commissioner, Dhanbad.	- vide LWI/24(74) dt. 28.1.1952
14. Labour employed under authority of Coal Mine Welfare Commissioner, Dhanbad.	- vide LWI/24(74) dt. 4.2.1952.
15. C.P.W.D.	- vide LWI/24(74) dt. 23.2.1952.
16. Labour employed under the authority administering Port of Calcutta	- vide LWI/24(74) dt. 17.3.1952.
17. Employees of Oil Press Section of Medical Store Depots of Bombay & Madras	- vide LWI/24(96) dt. 19.3.1952.
18. CPWD in States of Madhya Bharat & Mysore in connection with bldg operations, stone breaking & stone crushing.	- vide LWI/24(33) dt. 19.3.1952.
19. Contract Labour of CPWD in the State of U.P.	- vide LWI/24(74) dt. 20.3.1952.
20. Employees in Stone breaking, stone crushing, bldg. operations, in such portions of Railways as are situated in States of M.P., Behar, Delhi & Punjab.)) vide LWI/24(74) dated) 18.3.1952.
21. Employees of road constructions & bldg. operations in Cochin Port	
22. Employees in the Port of Bombay-	vide S.R.O.590 dt. 29.3.1952.
23. Employees in Delhi Transport Service	- vide S.R.O.591 dt. 29.3.1952
24. Employees on road construction, bldg operations, stone breaking, stone crushing on Central, Southern Bengal, Nagpur, Oudh, Tirhut, East Indian, Western & Assam Railways in such portions of EPR as are situated in the State of PEPSU.) vide S. R. O. 593) dt. 29.3.1952.
25. Employees on Rd. construction, bldg operations etc. in Vizagapatnam Port.	
26.** Bareilly, Almora, Faizabad, Jalalpur, Wellington, Nasirabad (in all 52 Cantts.)	- vide S.R.O. 534 dt. 25.3.1952.

26. ** Cantonment Boards: Jullunder, Ambala, Meerut, St. Thomas, M.T.cum/PBM Cantt Madras, MHOW, Clement Town, Lansdown, Kirkee, SAUGOR, Khas Yol, Amritsar, Jhansi, Ahmedabad, Jutogh, Ferozepur, Shahjahanpur, Kamptee, Barackpur, Delhi, Poona, Cannanore, Ahmednagar, Agra, Roorkee, Lucknow, Kasauli, Sabatu, Fatehgarh, Allahabad, Dinapur, Dehra Dun, Belgaum, Secunderabad, Jubulpore, Ramgarh, Bucklough, Dalhousie, Kanpur, Chakrata, Ranikhet, Aurangabad, Landaur, Pachmarhi, Shillong, Nainital, Deniali,

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

CIRCULAR:PTUC/63/1954.

Pawha Mansion, Asafali Road,
Kamla Market, NEW DELHI.
25th October, 1954.

To

All P.T.U.Cs and Regional Councils.

Dear Comrades,

Enclosed please find a report by Com. Indrajit Gupta, regarding the Second meeting of the Committee for fixation of Minimum Wages in the Central Sphere held at New Delhi on 30th September 1954. Since the final meeting of the above committee is fixed on 6-7th November, you are requested to send your views on items of this report as well as the report sent to you under our circular PTUC/49/54 dated 28th August, 1954.

The material may be sent to Comrade Indrajit Gupta, Bengal Provincial Trade Union Committee, 249, Bow Bazar Street, Calcutta 12, with a copy endorsed to us.

Greetings,

GENERAL SECRETARY.

REPORT OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE FOR FIXATION OF MINIMUM WAGES IN THE CENTRAL SPHERE (HELD AT NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1954)

All members of the Committee were present. In addition, 6 more representatives of the C.P.W.D., Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Irrigation and Power, All-India Radio, and Central Water and Power Commission, attended by invitation. The AITUC representative was accompanied by Com.S.D.Manna, Secretary, C.P.W.D. Workers' Union, as Adviser, Similarly, the UTUC representative had as his adviser, Com. Makhan Chatterjee, Secretary, Calcutta Port Trust Employees' Association.

The following decisions were reached in respect of minimum rates of wages for workers engaged in road construction, building operations, stone-breaking and stone crushing in different undertakings:-

(1) CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS: Most of the rates, proposed by the Ministry for different categories of unskilled workers were approved. In fact, they are the same as the actually prevalent rates. Where certain cuts were proposed, e.g. in the case of Head Carpenters, Head Masons, & Blacksmiths, the T.U. representatives opposed these proposals successfully and got them amended. The rates agreed to eventually range between Rs.1/8/- per day for unskilled Mazdoors (Rs.1/4/- for females) up to Rs.4/8/- per day for skilled workers. Some proposals were held over for further clarification.

(2) NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY IN UTTAR PRADESH & BIHAR: Consideration of the Ministry's proposals had to be postponed due to insufficient data.

(3) NORTHERN RAILWAY - JODHPUR & BIKANER DIVISIONS: Postponed due to insufficient date, and inability of the Ministry's representative to explain his proposals.

(4) HIRAKUD DAM PROJECT: The Ministry of Irrigation and Power brought forward proposals for both monthly-rated and daily-rated staff, corresponding to the prevalent rates.

With regard to the monthly-rated categories, the minimum wages proposed were approved subject to the following amendments, moved by the T.U. representatives:-

(a) Minimum basic wage of all Grade IV Machine Tool Operators, Fitters, Mechanics, Pattern Makers, Blacksmiths, Moulders, Turners, Pipe Jointers, Instrument Mechanics, Coppersmiths and Tinsmiths should be Rs.50/- p.m. instead of Rs.40/- as prevalent at present.

(b) Minimum basic wage of Cleaners, Greasers, Oilmen, Helpers, Pump Attendants, and Sounders should be Rs.30/- p.m. instead of Rs.25/- as at present. Similarly, some other categories now getting minimum wages of Rs.15/- or Rs.20/- p.m. should all be raised to Rs.30/- (e.g. Gauge readers, Petrolmen, Pipe Linemen etc.)

(c) Legal opinion should be taken as to whether Foremen, Asst. Foremen, and Chargemen are covered by the definition of "employee" for purposes of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

With regard to the daily-rated categories, the proposals were accepted after the T.U. representatives had succeeded in getting the minimum rate for female mazdoors raised from Re.1/- to Rs.1/2/-, for Runners and Hammermen from Rs.1/8/- to Rs.1/10/- and for Bellowmen from Rs.1/4/- to Rs.1/8/-.

(5) CENTRAL WATER & POWER RESEARCH STATION, KHADAKWASTA: The rates proposed for notification (existing rates) were accepted after some cases of upward revision for semi-skilled workers. The only notable thing was that the T.U. representatives got the prevalent rate of Rs.1/4/- per day for unskilled female mazdoors raised to Rs.1/8/- which, in this case, brings them on a par with the men.

(6) STUDIOS & TRANSMITTER STATIONS OF ALL-INDIA RADIO, at Madras, Calcutta, Cuttack, Gauhati, Patna, Indore, Delhi, Simla, Jullundur, Lucknow, Allahabad, PEPSU, Jaipur, Ajmer and Rajkot.

This Ministry provided a welcome exception by proposing new rates uniformly higher than the existing rates, as an "incentive" for attracting more skilled and experienced workers! Naturally, they had to propose higher rates for unskilled categories also. A few anomalies were pointed out by the T.U. representatives and the Ministry's representatives readily agreed to rectify these also. In no case is the minimum wage for unskilled mazdoors to be below Rs.1/12/- per day (even for women), while the range for higher categories goes up to as much as Rs.10/- and Rs.15/-. The majority of semi-skilled categories range between Rs.2/- to Rs.4/- per day and skilled categories between Rs.5/- to Rs.8/-.

(7) C.P.W.D: The rates proposed (existing) for 9 states were accepted, though the T.U. representatives expressed their dissatisfaction and disapproval on many points, particularly the discrepancies in the rates of different States and the unfavourable position of the daily-rated workers in comparison with work-charged staff of the same designations. The only point they were able to uphold was that separate rates, higher than the rates proposed for any particular State as a whole, should be fixed for greater Calcutta, Bombay and Madras. The Ministry agreed to submit proposals at the next meeting for these 3 major cities.

(8) ALL UNNOTIFIED POSTS UNDER CALCUTTA PORT COMMISSIONERS, STARTING AT OR BELOW Rs.220/- p.m: The Ministry's proposals covered present scales of pay (basic) for about 180 different designations of employees. Of these, objections were raised in about 50 cases by the T.U. representatives on the grounds of unfair discrimination, anomalies, unfavourable comparison with Bombay rates, etc. These disputed cases are held over for consideration at the next meeting which will discuss what should be a fair minimum wage for each of these designations. Subject to this, the remaining minimum scales were accepted for notification.

(9) CANTONMENT BOARDS OF LEBONG, BANARAS, DAGSHAI & MATHURA: Consideration postponed till next meeting.

It was decided that the next and final meeting of the Committee should be held in Bombay on November 5th and 6th, so that final recommendations may be submitted to Government in time to enable the latter to issue the necessary notifications by 31.12.54, as required under the Minimum Wages Act.

INDRAJIT GUPTA.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

CIRCULAR: PTUC/45/1954.

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
Asafali Rd., NEW DELHI. 20th. Aug. '54.

The State Committees, Regional Councils,
and Working Committee Members.

ASIAN SOLIDARITY MONTH.

The All India Peace Council which met in Calcutta from July 30th. to August 1st. 1954 has appealed to its constituent units and all other organisations to observe the month of September 1954 as Asian Solidarity Month. The A.I.T.U.C. fully supports this call and appeals to all affiliated unions to take initiative for full mobilisation of the working class and other sections of people towards this.

For your ready reference we are also reproducing below copy of the resolution of A.I.P.C. on Asian Solidarity.

While campaigning for these demands towards the preservation of world peace and explaining the positive contribution of the Govt. of India towards this end, the affiliated unions of the A.I.T.U.C. should link up our struggle for the preservation of peace with the burning day to day problems of the working class and the people and demand reversal of the anti-working class and anti-people policy of the Government, with its economic dependence on the war economy of U.S.A. and Britain and also to take steps for the full mobilisation and utilisation of our internal resources for the building up of an independent and expanding economy for the prosperity and well being of the working class and the people.

SECRETARIAT.

COPY

ASIAN SOLIDARITY MONTH.

"The All India Peace Council calls upon all its constituent committees in all parts of the country and all organisations and individuals who support it, to observe the month of September as an ASIAN SOLIDARITY MONTH to popularise the call of the Council for Asian solidarity on the basis of the Five Principles enunciated in the Nehru-Chou Agreement.

"The Council recommends that during this month signatures be collected on a declaration in support of the call for Asian solidarity. Meetings should be organised, demonstrations held and other suitable and necessary measures taken to explain the significance and far-reaching implications of the afore-said agreement and to mobilise all sections of opinion in support of the resolution on Asian solidarity adopted by the Council."

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/44/1954.

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
Asafali Rd., NEW DELHI. 18th.Aug.1954.

The State Committees,
Working Committee Members, and
General Council Members.

Subject:- DEFINITION OF RIGHTS.

Enclosed herewith please find the Definition of Rights adopted by the Drafting Commission for the Charter of T.U. Rights at its meeting from June 26-28 in Vienna, in pursuance of the decision of the Third World T. U. Congress.

2. At first the Executive Bureau of the W.F.T.U. at its meeting in Vienna from March 23-28 issued a statement ~~xxxxxx~~ on the Basic Principles of T. U. Rights which was submitted for discussion to the workers and Trade Unions.

It is on the basis of the ~~grounds~~ ^{opinions} and proposals formulated during the discussion that the Drafting Commission for the Charter of Trade Union Rights, made up of representatives of the W.F.T.U., affiliated and non-affiliated National Centres and the T.U.Is, drew up the enclosed Definition of Rights to appear in this Charter.

The Commission decided to send this document to trade union organisations of all countries, so that they may express their views on this matter. The Charter of T.U. Rights will be adopted by the next meeting of the General Council of the W.F.T.U.

Your proposals in this regard should be sent so as to reach this office not later than 30th. September 1954, to enable us to send our consolidated proposals in time for consideration at the Warsaw General Council meeting.

The largest possible number of workers and trade union organisations, without exceptions should have the opportunity to discuss and help to work out the Charter. This should, therefore, be given widest publicity through Trade Union meetings, democratic news papers, leaflets and discussions at all levels.

The discussion will be more helpful if it is linked with specific and united action against all the attacks and acts of persecution against trade unionists and trade union organisations in the various countries, and for the winning of Trade Union Rights.

Reports of activities in this connection may please be sent at intervals.

SECRETARIAT.

DEFINITION OF THE RIGHTS TO APPEAR IN THE CHARTER OF TRADE
UNION RIGHTS.

Adopted by the Drafting Commission to Draw Up the Draft Charter of Trade Union Rights, meeting in Vienna, June 26 - 28, 1954.

1. The rights of the workers.

The workers, irrespective of trade, profession or employment, age, sex, race, nationality or colour, caste, political or religious opinions shall have the right to form trade unions without authorisation or control by the public authorities or employers.

The workers, without exception, shall have the right to belong to the trade union organisation of their choice and to take part in all trade union activities.

The workers, without discrimination of any kind shall have the right at all places of work and away from them, to meet, discuss and express their opinions freely on all questions affecting them, to read and distribute the

trade union and working class press, to carry out without hindrance the trade union functions to which they have been elected by the workers or appointed by the trade union organisations.

The workers shall have the right to elect at their places of work, in public or private enterprises including public or private administration, trade union leaders or delegates of basic trade union organisations responsible for defending their interests. They shall have the right to turn to the trade union organisation or trade union delegate elected by them on any question affecting their general, particular or individual interests.

The workers shall have the right to take part in any action to defend their interests, whether this action be a strike, a demonstration or in any other form of trade union struggle.

The trade union affiliation or activity of the workers, their personal opinions or beliefs, shall in no case be taken into account in hiring, employment or wages, or be the cause of their dismissal, or the application of penalties.

II. The unhampered functioning of trade union organisations.

Trade Union organisations shall have the right, in accordance with their constitutions, to carry on their activities without interference or control by the public authorities or the employers.

The members shall freely determine the constitutions of their trade union organisations, decide on how they shall function and on their activity, freely and without restriction elect their leaders and executive bodies without interference or control from the public authorities or the employers.

Trade union organisations shall have the right to go to law to defend the interests of the workers.

Trade union organisations shall have the right to call trade union meetings and congresses without prior authorisation from the public authorities. They shall have the right to organise trade union demonstrations, including demonstrations on the public highway. They shall have the right to call trade union meetings at the place of work.

Only trade union organisations and their representatives shall have the right to collect trade union dues from the workers, dues which have been freely decided on and fixed by the workers in accordance with the constitution of the trade union.

Only trade unions shall have the right to administer trade union funds without control by the public authorities or the employers. In no case can trade union funds be siezed.

Trade union organisations shall have the right to publish and distribute the trade union press and propaganda.

Trade union organisations shall have permanent premises at their disposal sufficient for them to carry out their activities. They alone shall have the right to see to the running of the premises belonging to them or placed at their disposal. These premises are inviolable.

Trade union organisations shall have the right to organise any educational training or other cultural work among the workers, to set up and run schools, libraries, clubs and other educational and cultural institutions for the workers.

Representatives of the trade unions and delegates of the workers shall have the right to carry out their activities at the places of work without hindrance and without control by the public authorities or the employers. They shall have the right to carry out their functions during working hours.

In carrying out their trade union functions they shall be protected against all penalties or disciplinary or repressive measures. When the workers are housed by the employer, the public authorities and the employers shall not be able to bar trade union representatives and delegates exercising their trade union functions from access to the places where the workers live.

Trade union organisations in every trade and profession shall have the right to form trade, industrial, local, regional, national or international federations. This same right in the same conditions shall be recognised between different trades.

Trade union organisations shall not be dissolved except by the freely expressed wishes of their members under the conditions laid down in their constitutions.

III. The representation of the workers by trade union organisations.

Trade union organisations shall have the right to take up the defence of the interests of any worker, to study, pass opinions and act on any question affecting these interests.

In particular, they shall have the right to negotiate and conclude, with the employers and public authorities, collective agreements in an enterprise, group of enterprises, an industry, or on a local, or national scale, including in the public services.

They shall represent the collective or individual interests of the workers in all bodies dealing with questions affecting them, particularly in settling wages, labour safety, hiring, employment and dismissal.

They shall have the right to take part in administering and directing social security and all other social bodies; the representatives of the trade union organisations in these bodies shall be elected by the workers, the distribution of the places in these bodies shall correspond to the number of votes obtained.

Trade union organisations shall be consulted on all questions directly or indirectly affecting the workers especially in the drawing up of laws on these questions.

IV. Guarantee of the right to strike.

The right to strike is a basic trade union right. Every worker, whatever his trade, shall have the right to resort to strike action. Trade union organisations shall have the right to take all steps to organise and support strikes.

The organisation of a strike by a trade union and the participation of a worker in a strike, as also in a demonstration of solidarity, shall in no case, before, during or after the strike give rise to punishment or penalties or repressive measures against this union or this worker.

V. International trade union activity.

Trade union organisations shall have the right to join the international trade union organisation of their choice, in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of their members.

Trade union organisations shall have the right to take part in international trade union activities, to co-operate and carry out joint action with foreign or international trade union organisations, and solidarity action with the workers and trade union organisations in other countries. They shall have the right to organise international trade union conferences and meetings.

Trade union organisations shall have the right to exchange delegations and maintain relations with foreign or international trade union organisations without restriction.

International trade union organisations shall have the right to maintain permanent relations with national and local trade union organisations and with the workers. International trade union organisations shall have the right to conclude any agreement with trade union organisations with a view to sending trade union delegations and representatives to their countries, of sending publications there, organising international trade union meetings and conferences, and organising international solidarity. They shall have the right to receive dues from national or regional trade union organisations.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

CIRCULAR: UNIONS/1954.

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
Asafali Rd., NEW DELHI.
Dt: 16th. September 1954.

All Affiliated Unions.

Unions are requested to furnish reply to this questionnaire before 15.10.1954 so that the General Council of the A.I.T.U.C. which is meeting shortly might be able to work out concrete slogans and give guidance on the various problems facing the workers and their unions.

If you cannot reply to all the questions, please answer such which you can.

1. Membership of your Union. Is your Union registered?
2. Any other union or unions in the same industry? If so, affiliated to which All India centre? Its approximate membership.
3. Any joint action or demonstration conducted by you and other unions? What steps you have taken for Trade Union Unity? Any united mill, shop or factory committees?
4. Any strike conducted by the Union since May 1954? If so, on what issue? Give a brief report on the same.
5. Wages - Maximum and Minimum paid in your industry. Wages for women and children. Any wage differentials? If so, on what basis.
6. D.A. at what rate and on what basis?
7. Is bonus paid? If so, on what basis?
8. Leave facilities - Apart from ~~leave~~ (Statutory leave provisions) leave under Factory's Act, Shop Act etc., any leave - casual, sick etc., with wages? Any paid national and festival holidays?
9. Any production bonus? Any night allowance etc.?
10. Any provision for housing facilities, canteen, creches, rest houses, recreation facilities, reading room, schools etc.
11. Any cooperative stores or cheap grain stores?
12. Social Insurance and other allied matters - Any Provident Fund, Welfare Fund, Gratuity or Pension Scheme in your industry?
13. Standing Orders for your industry. Can you send us a copy of the same?
14. Functioning of the Works Committee - your experience.
15. Is your union recognised by the management? If so, what facilities do you get?
16. Any adjudication conducted? On what issues? Any Workmen's Compensation case or other legal questions taken up by the Union? Give short report.
17. Non-implementation of awards and provisions of Labour legislations. Give instances with regard to your industry, with special reference to non-implementation of the provisions of Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Act.
18. State of T.U. Rights and Liberties - Victimisation for trade union activities - other unfair labour practices - cases of repression - arrests - banning of meetings, processions, gagging of press etc.
19. Has the Union submitted any memorandum to the Central or Provincial Govt? On what issues - please send a gist of the same.
20. Condition of contract labour, women and child labour.
21. Give details of rationalisation adopted by the managements and steps taken to fight the same. (Unions which have sent reports on the above need not do so unless they have fresh materials).
22. Unemployment - efforts taken by the union to organise the unemployed. Any closure of your factory either partial or complete and if so for how many days in the last one year? Have the workers got wages for the involuntary unemployment and if so for what period?
23. Office functioning - what are the office hours? Is the office regularly kept open? How many full time or part time cadres doing office work?
24. Union subscription - at what rate - average monthly collections and monthly expenses.

25. How many general body meetings held in last year - General Council and Working Committee meetings?
26. Any literary, cultural or sports activities conducted by the Union - Any reading room - Any efforts made for adult education?

~~27.~~ Apart from the above, you are requested to furnish whatever other material you consider important especially with regard to the particular nature of your industry, its working conditions, wages etc.

SECRETARIAT.

P.S. Copy of the replies to the above may also please be forwarded to the respective State Committees/Regional Councils.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/54/1954.

The State Committees, and
Regional Councils.

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
Asafali Rd., NEW DELHI.

Dt: 15th. September 1954.

With a view to collect adequate material for the ensuing General Council meeting of the A.I.T.U.C. this questionnaire is being sent to all State and Regional Committees who are requested to furnish replies to the same by 15th. October 1954 so that the General Council might be enabled to give proper and concrete guidance to the new and numerous problems arising in the T.U. movement. If all the details asked for cannot be furnished, you are requested to give answers to such of the questions for which you have information already.

1. Number of Unions affiliated to A.I.T.U.C.; and Total membership.
2. Number of registered Unions in your Province.
3. Number of unions affiliated to I.N.T.U.C., H.M.S. and U.T.U.C. Approximate membership.
4. Number of unions not affiliated to any central organisation. Approximate membership.
5. Functioning of the Provincial Centres. How many full time T.U. Cadres at the Centre? Is the office regularly functioning?
6. The number of working committee meetings held during 53-54? The number of General Council meetings held during this period? Public meetings held by PTUCs and Regional Councils?
7. Any T.U. journal published by the Provincial centre? If so, its circulation.
8. Give review of important struggles conducted by A.I.T.U.C. Unions since the Calcutta Session of the AITUC in May 54; and on what issues? Result of the struggles.
9. Give short report on struggles conducted by INTUC, HMS, UTUC and independent Unions since May 1954.
10. Any joint struggle, action or demonstration during this period?
11. Attitude of other Unions, cadres and leaders for joint action.
12. Any efforts made for amalgamating different or rival unions into single union?
If so, give details. Any other form of united organisation such as Joint Mill or Factory Committees or Trade ~~Un~~ Councils?
13. Rationalisation and efforts made to fight the same.
(^{PTUCs}~~The Unions~~ which have sent reports on rationalisation need not ~~do~~ do so again unless they have new materials with them).
14. Recognition of Unions. What are the Unions in the Province recognised by the managements.
15. Is the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Act implemented with regard to lay off wages and retrenchment benefits.
16. What are the industries brought under Minimum Wages Act. Give the minimum rate of wages for men, women and children in each industry.
17. State of T.U. rights and liberties with special reference to victimisation for Trade Union activities, unfair labour practice by the managements - Arrests of Trade Union and other leaders and militants of mass organisations - Banning of meetings and processions and gagging of press - denial of passport facilities etc. Give all instances of denial and curtailment of trade union rights and civil liberties.
18. Non implementation of awards - Which are the awards not implemented and what steps taken for their implementation?
19. Give instances of violation of provision of Factory's Act, Shops & Establishments Act, Minimum Wages Act, Plantation Labour Act, Mines Act, Industrial Disputes Act and other labour legislations.

20. How many factories, establishments, plantations etc. have closed down in your Province?
21. Any unemployment conference held?
Any data collected regarding the unemployed in your Province?
What steps taken to organise the unemployed?
22. Have you anything particular to say on the condition of women workers, child-workers and contract labour?
- ~~20x~~ 23. Social Security and other welfare measures (Provident Fund, Savings Fund, gratuity scheme etc.).
- ~~21x~~ 24. Have you submitted any memoranda to the Provincial or Central Governments, regarding the problems facing the workers in general or industries etc?

Any memoranda on problems of other sections of people?
25. Any other problems which you consider important? Give brief reports on the same.

SECRETARIAT.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/53/1954

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
Asafali Rd., NEW DELHI.
Dt: 14th. September 1954.

The State Committees, and
Regional Councils.

The All India Trade Union Congress draws the attention of the State Trade Union Committees and coal workers' unions to the serious nature of the All India coal tribunal under the presidentship of Justice J.N.Majumdar. Every effort should be made to put up a strong fight in order to convince the Tribunal about the justification of demands submitted in our memorandum. In the background of events in connection with the bank tribunal and the success the employers got in making the Government surrender to their interests, the three employers organisations, the Indian Mining Association, the Indian Mine Owners Federation and the Indian Colliery Owners Association would make every effort to put us in the defensive and corner us and use all sorts of statistics and economics to throw aside the workers demands. The very nature of the memoranda submitted by the I.M.A. and the Government show how determined they are against workers' demands. The other trade union organisations including the INTUC are also taking it very seriously and deputed their best men to Calcutta. The first few days of sitting on the question of representation of lawyers and documents point to the gravity of the Tribunal and its importance to nearly four lakh miners in India.

But unfortunately, our preparation for various reasons has not been satisfactory. However, in the month of August, a comprehensive supplementary was prepared and certain basic and preliminary works were done. Now that work should be well co-ordinated, managed, directed and planned. All our materials derived from printed sources or from comrades from fields should be systematised and should be readily available to our counsel. A strong team should harmonise the work, advise and brief the counsel and guide the Tribunal work. It involves both a long term planning and day to day work.

The A.I.T.U.C. suggests that following steps should be taken to improve our work in the Tribunal. The A.I.T.U.C. also feels that Tribunal work should be coordinated with work in the fields in such a way that each would help the other and thereby strengthen our demands and also increase the strength of the A.I.T.U.C. in the coal fields.

1. The office work in Calcutta should be systematised. Books and documents and materials should be properly studied, indexed, noted and arranged in such a way so that these could be promptly used in times of hearing and counter-arguments.

2. There should be regular discussion between comrades working in connection with the Tribunal and the counsel. This is more necessary because conditions in coal mining vary from one State to another. So unless discussion between comrades of various Provinces and the counsel takes place, our case in the Court would become ambiguous and sometimes even contradictory.

3. This is the most important of all. Comrades are aware of the fact that this coal Tribunal would take some time (perhaps even more than a year). What would be our stand in the meantime to safeguard the interests of miners? The example of the Madras Trade Union Congress's stand before the Plantation Tribunal is before us. There during the course of Tribunal's work, our comrades took the stand that an interim wage increase should be given to plantation labourers pending the final decision of the Tribunal. The matter was pressed very hard both inside and outside the Tribunal. At last the Tribunal had to give an interim wage increase. This was hailed by all plantation workers. So a move must be taken to demand an interim wage increase. We should immediately move the matter in the Tribunal and also take up the matter in the coal fields, and the unions should also move the Central Government to include this 'interim wage increase' in the reference. This is urgent.

and Madhya Pradesh

Comrades from Dhanbad, Singareni, Bengal/coal fields should let us know immediately their opinion on this matter. We hope that the work of the coal tribunal and interim wage increase should be taken up with right earnest. The headquarters would give all possible help in this matter.

A short note is attached to inform the work done by the A.I.T.U.C. in connection with the Coal Tribunal:

Com. Ranen Sen and Com. Kalyan Roy went to Calcutta and set up an office. Com. Sanat Bose and Comrades from Bengal and Bihar coal-fields were also informed and discussions were held to put our case effectively before the Tribunal. Com. Prasanta was kept in Calcutta to organise the work. Com.V.Rao (M.P.) of the Singareni coal fields arrived and took part in the discussion. Com. Sunil Mukherjee of Bihar also came to Calcutta and had discussions on the question of the Tribunal. Some materials were brought from Delhi as they were not available in Calcutta. They were studied and certain basic agreements were arrived at on the basis of discussions of comrades from various coal fields. And a comprehensive supplementary was drafted and put up before the Tribunal. Question of counsel was also a subject of discussion and continuous efforts were made to engage a well-known lawyer to represent our unions. A final arrangement was not possible because of the sudden departure of that lawyer for abroad. Now the A.I.T.U.C. is again taking up the matter. In the mean time, Com. Sunil Basu Roy of the Bengal coal fields and Com. Sanat Bose have been requested to assist and guide Com. Latif who is at present arguing our case before the Tribunal.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/52/1954.

The State Committees, and
Regional Councils.

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
Asafali Road, NEW DELHI.
9th. September 1954.

ORGANISE IMMEDIATE FLOOD RELIEF.

The devastating floods of U.P., Bihar, West Bengal and Assam call for immediate reaching of relief to the flood stricken areas.

Innumerable Plantations have been submerged and thousands of plantation workers and others have been reduced to utter misery and destitution. Vast stretches of land covering above 25,650 sq.miles are affected by the floods. According to official figures 226 lives have been lost, more than 7200 cattle have perished and crops over an area of 132 acres valued approximately at Rs.38 crores have suffered damage. In Assam, Bihar and U.P. about 50000 houses have been damaged or destroyed. Unofficial sources estimate the damages much greater.

West Bengal Committee of the A.I.T.U.C. writes to the effect that Garden areas in Dooars are extremely affected and that in one garden only about 127 workers have been trapped to death.

People's Relief Committees have been formed in West Bengal. So far workers in West Bengal have collected about Rs.7500 towards flood relief.

A.I.T.U.C. calls upon every worker to contribute one day's wages towards flood relief. Help your Plantation brother worker and others to fight the floods. Together let us unitedly fight the tragedy in which thousands have been uprooted from their hearths and homes.

Observe 15th. of September to 15th. of October as flood relief month. Unleash the biggest campaign for relief throughout the country. Collect relief not only from workers but also from all sections of our people. Collections may be made not only in money but in the shape of clothes, grains and other food-stuffs etc.

Please treat this Circular as urgent and important. Kindly inform the A.I.T.U.C. Office regarding the progress made in the campaign.

Collections may be sent to A.I.T.U.C. or any other relief agency in the affected areas. Collection received by the A.I.T.U.C. will be distributed ~~towards~~ through the Trade Unions or any other relief agency capable of administering relief in the affected areas.

S.A. DANGE
GENERAL SECRETARY.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

CIRCULAR/PTUC/55/1954.

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
Asafali Rd., NEW DELHI. 28/9/1954.

The State Committees,
Regional Councils, and Unions.

The Central Office of the All India Trade Union Congress inaugurated the flood relief campaign in Delhi on 21st. September 1954 when squads led by S.A.Dange, Aruna Asafali, A.K. Gopalan and others made street and shop to shop collections in Chandni Chowk and Cannought Place areas.

The response from the shop keepers and the public was very encouraging and inspiring. The collections amount to Rs.522-2-3.

The A.I.T.U.C. appeals to all State and Regional Committees and Unions to follow this up with an intense drive ~~xxxxxx~~ for relief collections.

It is necessary to realise the importance of relief collections and take this as a major campaign. We suggest every P.T.U.C. and Regional Committee should organise their own squads for collections from the public. Other T.U. centres, important leaders of the locality and other organisations should be approached for joining squad collections.

All affiliated unions should be helped to organise the collections during the coming pay days. "One day's wage for flood relief" is the A.I.T.U.C. Call to every worker. Also make collections from all sections of the people.

Greetings,

SECRETARIAT.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

To

The General Council Members of
All India Trade Union Congress.

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
Asafali Road, NEW DELHI.
22nd October, 1954.

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING ON 14TH, 15TH, 16TH & 17TH
NOVEMBER 1954 AT NAGPUR.

Dear Comrades,

In our communication dated 28/9/1954 we had informed you that the General Council meeting will be held on 12th to 15th November, at Nagpur.

Now there is a change of dates. Instead of 12th to 15th, the General Council will now meet on 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th November, 1954 at Nagpur. The change has been made on request from some members from Bengal.

Since the meeting starts from the after noon of 14th, all comrades are requested to reach Nagpur either by 13th evening or 14th early morning.

Accommodation for stay will be arranged, for which each member is required to pay Rs.0-12-0 (annas twelve) per day as rent. The AITUC Centre will not be able to make any separate arrangements of its own for food. Hence the members will have to take food from hotels at their own cost.

Since we have to make early bookings for stay it is necessary to get definite information about the members of General Council, their number etc. who will be attending the meeting. Hence all members are requested to intimate to the AITUC Office not later than 5/11/1954 whether they are attending the meeting or not. In case no intimation is received it will be difficult for us to arrange accommodation. Hence you are requested to intimate the details in time.

As it will be cold season by November 14th, Comrades are requested to bring with them sufficient warm clothing and bedding. There is no need for mosquito nets.

Greetings,

GENERAL SECRETARY.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/62/1954.

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
NEW DELHI: 22nd October, 54.

To All P.T.U.Cs and Regional Committees.

FLOOD RELIEF FUND.

We hope you have gone ahead with the drive for this fund on the basis of our Circular No. PTUC/52/1954 dt. 9th September, 54. C.G.T. France has sent us a symbolic amount of 50,000 Francs ~~was sent~~ as they have to provide substantial help to the Algerian earthquake relief work. A number of Unions in West Bengal, Bihar, Assam etc. are doing splendid work both in collection and distribution of relief. We request all unions to send (1) all ~~sent~~ collections in kind to Secretary, Peoples Relief Committee, ~~249 Bowbazar Street~~ 249 Bowbazar Street, Calcutta 12, (2) all cash collections to the AITUC Office, (3) Also send us details if you had made collections and sent them to any other relief fund organisation. This information is essential as we must have a complete picture of the efforts our trade unions have done on this vital issue of rusing help to the flood ridden areas.

SECRETARIAT.
A.I.T.U.C.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/50/1954.

The State Committees, and
Regional Councils.

Pawha Mansion (1st. floor),
Kamla Market, Asafali Road, NEW DELHI.
Dt: 2nd. September 1954.

MADRAS SESSION OF THE STANDING LABOUR COMMITTEE.

The 14th. Session of the Standing Labour Committee of the Indian Tripartite Labour Conference met in Madras on 11th., 12th. and 13th. August 1954 under the Chairmanship of Mr. Giri, the Labour Minister of Government of India.

The All India Trade Union Congress was represented by Comrades S.A.Dange and K.T.K. Thangamani. The Indian National Trade Union Congress was represented by Shri. Vasavada and Ambekar, the Hind Mazdoor Sabha by Shri. R.A.Khedgikar, and the U.T.U.C. by Shri. Jatin Chakravarty and Ramathan.

There were seven items on the agenda.

On the item, reviewing the action taken on decisions of the previous Standing Committee, some of the employers resented the amendments to the Industrial Disputes Act following the agreement on Lay-off Compensation.

The A.I.T.U.C., the U.T.U.C. and H.M.S. objected to the method followed by the Ministry in the verification of membership of the Central T.U. organisations and determining the representatives of labour on the basis of such doubtful verification. It was suggested that equal representation be given to all the organisations, especially in view of the fact that no decisions were taken by votes in these conferences, which were merely advisory bodies. The I.N.T.U.C. differed from this view point.

Inquiry was made as to whether the Joint Consultative Board, which in its recent meeting permitted the employers to retrench workers without any deference to the existing Law, was an official body, and whether Ministers of the Government of India participated in it in their official capacity, as this Board was composed only of the employers and the I.N.T.U.C. and H.M.S.

It was stated by the Labour Minister that the Board was a non-official private organisation and Ministers participated in its work in their personal capacity.

The Madras Government wanted the Standing Labour Committee to allow the Tanneries and such other concerns as had no big finances, to cancel altogether the weekly holidays and limits on overtime imposed by the Factory Act. The proposal was so retrograde on the very face of it that it found no support even from other Governmental representatives and most of the employers. The proposal was rejected outright.

But during discussions, it came to light that the Government of Uttar Pradesh had allowed such employers to deny weekly holidays, and impose unlimited overtime on their workers by framing bye-laws under the Factory Act itself, namely its Rule No.91 on 64(2) D of the Factory Act.

The T.U. representatives pointed out that such a rule or bye-law was clearly a violation of the Act and should be held ultra-vires of the Act and cancelled. All labour representatives asked the Central Government to take up the matter with the U.P. Government.

The Planters of South India wanted that the Minimum Wages once fixed under the Act should not be allowed to be referred to any Tribunal as an industrial dispute by the workers and that the Minimum Wages Act on this question should supercede the Industrial Disputes Act, which allowed wages question to be taken to a Tribunal. The Planters' view point was not accepted by the Conference, as it meant that workers in the industries governed by the Minimum Wages Act would be debarred from bargaining for higher wages.

There was a proposal that a Central Law should be enacted establishing Welfare Funds in all industries and States as a Statutory obligation.

The finances for the fund were to be made up generally from the unpaid sums lying with employers in respect of wages, bonus etc. and fines recovered.

Bombay Government had already enacted an Act on the lines, but as it was being challenged in the Supreme Court, consideration of the matter was deferred.

Another item on the agenda was the conditions of work in the building and construction industry. A short survey published by the Labour Bureau showed that the workers suffered from every conceivable disability, even to the extent of not getting drinking water at places of work. Even in Government employment Executive Engineers were violating established laws.

The modest proposal before the conference was to ask the State Govts to see that in their P.W.D. and other construction works, the minimum rules as adopted in the Labour Contracts of the Central P.W.D. were adopted and applied. But the State Govt. representatives and employers stoutly resisted the proposals which were also subject matter of I.L.O. resolutions. Due to Governmental opposition the matter was deferred to the Labour Ministers' Conference, after which it would again come up to this Committee.

The A.I.T.U.C. specially demanded the abolition of the use of convict labour in the construction works in the Five Year Plan Projects, in preference to free labour.

On the question of the Manganese workers, which came before the Conference the I.N.T.U.C. demanded a Committee of Inquiry. There was discussion on the conditions in the industry, the employers asserting that the biggest Company in the industry, the C.P.M.O. gave very good conditions of employment. This was challenged by us. The A.I.T.U.C. exposed the true character and the manouvers of the C.P.M.O. and asked that the Tribunal now appointed by the Government should move to Nagpur and deal with the question expeditiously. It was agreed to by all that the terms of reference of the Tribunal should be widened so as to provide for inquiry into the closures and retrenchment and the compensation and relief that the workers should get.

The Mysore Conference of January 1954 had appointed a Committee to consider what I.L.O. conventions remained unratified by India and to make recommendations. The convention on forced labour, working hours in coal mines, conditions in building industry and equal pay for equal work came in for special mention and short discussion.

Though on the official agenda the subject of the Banks was not there, the proposal of the Government of India to revise the award of the Appellate Tribunal came in for sharp criticism by all labour representatives and the Labour Minister was requested to press on Government not to intervene against the interest of the workers. Similarly the intervention of the Government of India in appealing against the Madras Tribunal's award to give compensation to the workers affected by the closure of the Tram Co. from the reserve funds was criticised by the labour representatives. It was pointed out that the Government of India was more and more following retrograde steps in the matter of gains that fell to the workers occasionally from the Tribunals.

The attention of Government was also drawn to the inordinate delays in the work of the Tribunals, the stay of awards granted by Courts to employers, and to the defiance of Tribunal awards by certain employers, against whom no action was taken by Government for such defiance, as they were a powerful bloc of employers. Cases from Bengal and U.P. were cited. The A.I.T.U.C. warned that in view of this condition, the workers were bound to take to direct action, even if such actions were technically "illegal" in terms of a law which the employers broke with impunity.

The Employers and Govt. representatives did not wish to participate in the last two matters raised by labour, as they were not on the official agenda. In fact some demanded that points that are not in the agenda should not be raised, but the Chairman allowed the points to be mentioned though a discussion as such may not take place, if the other representatives choose not to participate. After these references were over, the Session terminated.

S.A. DANGE
GENERAL SECRETARY.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/57/1954.

The State Committees, and
Regional Councils.

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
Asafali Rd., NEW DELHI.

Dt: 5th. October 1954.

OBSERVE AITUC DAY ON 31ST. OCTOBER.

On 31st. October 1954 falls the 34th. Anniversary of the All India Trade Union Congress. On October 31, 1920 the representatives of the Indian working class assembled in Bombay and laid the foundation of this Central Organisation of the Indian workers. Throughout the period of its existence the A.I.T.U.C. has been fighting to defend the workers from the attacks of the employers and the Government, in order to improve the working and living conditions of the workers and other toiling masses.

Unfortunately today the A.I.T.U.C. is not the only Central Organisation for the Indian working class. The split in the working class movement embolden the employers and the Government to intensify their attacks on the rights and privileges of the workers which have been won after years of continuous fighting. Already the attacks of rationalisation, the denial of Trade Union Rights etc. are being intensified. The Govt. is lending its support to the employers in their offensive against the workers.

The existence and strength of the A.I.T.U.C. is the greatest guarantee of the workers against these attacks. Through the selfless sacrifice and devotion of lacs of workers the A.I.T.U.C. has kept its flag aloft against the attacks of the employers and repression and discrimination of the Government. Against all odds the A.I.T.U.C. has been in the forefront in championing and defending the class interests of all workers.

With the fraternal assistance and cooperation of the World Federation of Trade Unions, the A.I.T.U.C. has been continuously strengthening the international solidarity of workers.

The observation of the A.I.T.U.C. DAY should go a long way in strengthening the organisation of the A.I.T.U.C. and its affiliated unions. The increased strength of the A.I.T.U.C. is the guarantee for achieving Trade Union Unity.

Hence begin making preparation from now on to celebrate the Day. Take the message of A.I.T.U.C. to every worker, irrespective of affiliations. Make all efforts to forge unity with all toiling and democratic sections of our people. Take steps to realise the call of the 24th. Session of the A.I.T.U.C. to increase its membership to 10 lacs.

Prepare and sell token A.I.T.U.C. Flags on that day. Send 50% of collections to the A.I.T.U.C. Centre and use the rest for strengthening the activities in your Province.

The manifesto of the A.I.T.U.C. will be sent soon.

Please begin your preparations from now on to celebrate the Day on a very grand scale.

SECRETARIAT.

P.S. As the meeting of the General Council is fast approaching,
please expedite your replies to our questionnaire.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/58/1954.

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
Asafali Road, NEW DELHI.

Dt: 5th. October 1954.

The State Committees, and
Coal Workers and other
Miners' Unions.

We have received a letter from the General Secretary of the Miners' Trade Unions International, Vienna about the preparation of the coming international conference of miners. The Conference, you are aware, will be held in December 3 - 7, 1954 at Prague, Chekoslovakia. This Conference will immensely help to understand the miners' problems all over the world, strengthen our bond, increase our knowledge and cement our relations to forge a united and powerful movement all over the world.

So in order to give miner comrades of other countries, a glimpse of the condition of miners in our country, pictures, wage Charts, housing condition and reports should be sent to Vienna as soon as possible. Our struggles should also be mentioned, and this will enable comrades of foreign countries to understand the terrible plight of miners and hard working conditions.

Some Post Cards from Vienna are on their way to Delhi. As soon as we receive them, we will send them to you. You can fix any price and sell them. The money should be sent to the W.F.T.U.

The address to which all information should be sent is -
Secretariat, U.I.S.M., Wien IV, Schwindgasse 7/6, WIEN.

SECRETARIAT.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

CIRCULAR:PTUC/64/1954.

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
Asafali Road, NEW DELHI.
5th November, 1954.

To

All PTUCs and Regional Councils.

Dear Comrades,

Since some unions have sought clarification regarding the operation of Section 79(I) of the Factories (Amendment) Act, 1954, we are reproducing below for your information a communication received by us from the Ministry of Labour, Government of India. We hope this will be useful for you in interpreting the above provision.

Greetings,

SECRETARIAT.

(COPY)

No.Fac.41(482) dated New Delhi, the 3rd November, 1954.

Subject: Leave Provisions of the Factories Act, 1948.

.....

Sir,

A number of references have been received by this Ministry requesting for clarification of the implications of the section 79(I) of the Factories Act, 1948, as amended by the Factories (Amendment) Act, 1954. The main points raised relate to the date of operation of the new leave provisions particularly the part thereof relating to qualifying period for eligibility to leave with wages. This Ministry has been advised as follows:-

(i) Every worker who has worked on or after 7th May, 1954 for a period of 240 days or more in a factory during the calendar year 1954 (from 1st January, 1954 to the 31st December, 1954, will be entitled to leave with wages under the new section 79(I).

(ii) A worker who has taken benefit of the period between 1st January, 1954, to the 6th May, 1954, for computing the period of 12 months' continuous service under the old section 79 would be disabled to count the same period for computing the period of 240 days under the new section 79.

(iii) Those workers to whom leave is due under the old section 79 because they have completed 12 months' continuous service or before the 6th May, 1954, can, of course, avail of the leave sanctioned under the old section 79,

2. I am directed to stress that interpretation of laws is a function of Courts and the views expressed above do not constitute an authority for taking any action required to be taken under the law.

Yours faithfully,

sd/- P.M. Sundaram.

Deputy Secretary.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

CIRCULAR: PTUC/65/1954.

Pawha Mansion, Kamla Market,
Asafali Road, N.W DELHI.
5th November, 1954.

To
All PTUCs and Regional Councils.

Dear Comrades,

ON BANK DISPUTE.

You are aware that the bank employees are greatly agitated over the action of the Government in modifying the Labour Appellate Tribunal's award in the bank dispute.

The modification of the award results in heavy reduction in the emoluments of the employees and excludes branches in certain areas having a population of 30,000 and less in B and C states. Some banks like the Central Bank of India, Bank of Baroda and Bank of India have started implementing the modified award.

Government's action has evoked criticism from all sections of the public. Shri V.V.Giri had to resign from the Central Cabinet in protest against the Government's policy.

HISTORY OF THE DISPUTE: In 1949, the Government at the request of the Bank employers referred the issue of dispute to Sen Tribunal for adjudication. The Tribunal awarded slight wage increases and recommended improved service conditions. The Bankers got the award declared void by the Supreme Court on technical ground as the Government without proper notification and notice had requisitioned the services of one of the members of the Tribunal for Ind-Pak Commission.

In spite of protest from the employees, the Government again referred the dispute to Sastry Tribunal, whose independent character was challenged by the employees. The Sastry Tribunal imposed an all round cut in the emoluments of employees going up to Rs.150/- in case of clerical staff and Rs.40/- in the case of subordinate staff.

The employees approached the Government to modify the award in the interest of social justice. The then Minister for Labour had agreed at the time of the passing of the Industrial Disputes (Appellate) Tribunal Act that the Government would interfere with the decisions of the Tribunals only in the interest of social justice. The Govt. refused to intervene on the ground that the award was passed by a duly constituted Tribunal.

The Bank employees appealed to the Appellate Tribunal. The L.A.T. award imposed a cut in the emoluments of 43% of the employees and reduced the basic pay of 75%. The demand of the Bank employees was that L.A.T. Award should be implemented with the internationally accepted proviso that no cut was to be made in the present emoluments.

But, the bankers approached the Government to modify the L...T. award. The Government readily agreed to do so.

The Bank employees all over India, have protested against Government's interference. On 23rd of September, 1954, they struck work in all important centres. In many places they are refusing to receive pay and are demonstrating every-day against the attitude of the Government and the employers.

Every attempt of amicable settlement has failed. Bank employees have decided to observe another all-India Protest Day on 25th November and to start their struggle from 10th of December. Their Association has approached the A.I.T.U.C. and other all-India Trade Union organisations to meet during the 3rd week of November to chalk-out a common plan of action for mobilising support for their struggle. The A.I.T.U.C. has accepted that suggestion.

The A.I.T.U.C. calls upon all Provincial and Regional Committees and also affiliated unions to support the Bank employees in their day-to-day programme and their struggles.

Greetings,

SECRETARIAT.
A.I.T.U.C.

Organisational position of A.I.T.U.C. There is tremendous ~~lack~~ of organisation. Though there is improvement in the functioning in the Centre and Provinces, yet the weakness in relation to the improvement in the situation are very serious. For the next coming period, what will be the most disastrous handicap will be the ~~lack~~ of organisation. No doubt, in the AITUC Centre, we have got about 10 cadres. Perhaps we have done more circulars than we have ever did. That is nothing. There is no regular interchange of thought or information between the centre and the provinces, i.e. as pointed out by a Comrade (B. tuk Desai) coming out with a statement on Rationalisation etc. He is right in that. Tell the AITUC centre not to issue abstract statements. Because the Statement on Rationalisation was written by Marx in 1860 or so, which can be utilised today even. When I went to Bombay, they gave me list after list of mills with detailed information about machines, where rationalisation had come and where not come. Therefore, In Engineering Industry, what is the information we have got. In this you are concrete, if you wish to make your statement and if it should be valid, there must be interchange of these informations. We must get some information in the Centre., so that the Centre will study the matter. Many comrades discussed Rationalisation here. But I could not get anything from it.

Organisational defect continues to be the main defect of AITUC organisation. There are xx many suggestions. One suggestion is interchange of Information. A monthly bulletin must be there, to do this work. Other-wise it is ^a very difficult job. Ofcourse we cannot think of a weekly, like "Indian Worker". The AITUC is composed of many political parties and each party's views will be different. As you know the main party in the AITUC is Communist Party. So if the AITUC starts a weekly, there will be a quarrel between the Centre of CPI and AITUC over giving priority to the weekly. Same will be the case with the Forward Bloc and Independents. Therefore, the question of a weekly will be ruled out. There the next question is monthly bulletin. We are quite prepared to under take it. We have been discussing this problem. We came to the conclusion that the same bulletin will have to be revived.

Everybody was pestering me. The comrades have, it seems, applied for a declaration. The difficulty is this. If we do not get news from the Provinces, we are not prepared to carry out this task.

In any case we must have the Bulletin. So I agree that the bulletin must be there. ~~But we do not~~. In the recent period we find that a centralised organ of T.U. news is not enough. Each province must have its T.U. organ. That is why there is a movement in various provinces to start a newspaper. I shall tell you one or two cases. If you want to reach the working class cadres, if you want to build them up, there must be a paper in their own language. Central organ is not good. In West Bengal we issued three bulletins. One in Sadri, it is a ~~sort of~~ combination of languages. Similarly there are experiences from not only in Assam, i.e. ~~for~~ Coal pits. You cannot reach every coal pit. We have got a paper in the Coal pit. In order to overcome this difficulty, please consider the issuing a ~~new~~ paper in their own language, not to propagate your political views, but not avoid it altogether. There must be some news about the international working class movement. It should be written in the workers' style. If the leaders are not prepared to this, remove them from that position.

Cadres. We are trying to hold classes. There is difficulty in understanding the economic situation of each industry. In the T.U. classes, tell him what is economic situation is. Not only on the basis of profits, on the basic principles. So we have to hold a series of classes for T.U. cadres. That is the function of the Centre, but they have not done. This has to be done in the Provinces and in the Centre.

Then the question is ordinary literacy classes. You may hold T.U. classes. But first start literacy classes. Militants without literacy is of little use. We are now moving with the idea of holding T.U. classes. Find out how many of the militants are literate or not. So ~~now~~ begin the T.U. class here. And do not make the leaders of T.U. the teachers. You can employ some unemployed teachers for this purpose.

Other organisational ~~lack~~ is the membership and enrollment of membership. I know some people start collecting the membership when the landlord presses for the rent, or the press people ask for the balance dues. Then we often talk of representation in the Government's Committees. We do not publish statistics. The AITUC centre is not getting any returns from the PTUCs. Except from certain PTUCs we have not got any reports

So Please send us returns and give us membership and affiliation. Take the example of T.C. or Andhra. These things have to be done in order to create our representation in the Government committees.

Help in Government committees. If you read the circular on Minimum Wages Committee, you can see that some good work is done on this committee. This committee is the most complicated committee. I ~~xxx~~ shall tell you some experience of State Insurance Corporation, Provident Fund Corporation and the Minimum Wages Committee. If we ask for information, we do not get anything. We had a nomination in the Tea Board. I cannot get any information from any centre. This is the question regarding Government committees.

PAMPHLETS. The unsold heap of Pamphlets doesnot encourage us to write more. But some pamphlets are sold, no doubt. This is not the index of proper movement. We printed so many. Secondly, we have been forced to take a decision on the Hindi journal. We have spent about 15,000~~0~~ rupees. We have got back only about Rs.80/- or so. Ofcourse money is not the main point. Propaganda is the main point. At the centre we have made every arrangement. We appointed a manager. Hindi is worse.

In Germany they are selling about 20,000~~0~~ copies. But it is not enough encouraging there. In England it ^{is} also ~~is~~ very difficult position.

PROVINCIAL ~~FUNCTIONING~~ FUNCTIONING. What about the Provinces. My proposal should that it is high time to adopt a motion disapproving the functioning of certain centres. Let us take the example of the Delhi centre. There is no functioning in Delhi. They have stopped working for T.U. in the name of "Unity". They have got a Delhi Trade Union Council. We do not want such Trade Union Councils, which suppresses the A.I.T.U.C. Now they have got to start their organisation. Now comrades should consider what should be done on this centre. On the question of State Insurance Scheme. There is no report from them. ~~But now where~~ I know there are comrades who do not know where the Corporation is situated. There is no question that the AITUC is not functioning. What about the Provincial centres.

IN U.P. there is no centre. We asked a Comrade to set up an office. One comrade set up an office, but it was soon closed. I wanted the comrades from U.P. to be present here. Find out what is happening in U.P. They shouted at us that Government is not giving representation ~~ix~~ for U.P. From the UPTUC there is no guidance to these people. Will you or will you not take up the question of disapproving the functioning of certain PTUCs.

Bombay, absolutely there is no functioning at the T.U.C. centre. You see down below, you can see people working. ~~French~~ Tremendous forces of trade unionism was there. Function there effectively. This is the position in Bombay.

The Naval Dockyard Union we got, the textile union is there. All these good things do not have any representation in the Centralised organisation. It has no link with the AITUC in a Trade Union manner. The united trade organisations should take note of ~~political~~ political situation. Some times T.U.s get into trouble because of politics. That you should see.

The General Council must not avoid it from discussing this problem at a T.U. level. If the provincial centres are not functioning, and the AITUC come to a conclusion, it will not help to improve the movement. I know there are many explanations for this problem.

If you want really to build up, the G.C. should know the seriousness of the position. There cannot be the AITUC if these two centres are not functioning - Bombay and Calcutta. I do not want to move a resolution on this now. The time will come for that. ~~xxxxxx~~ I tried through many channels, but I have failed. Now it is for the General Council to decide on this question. The organisational question is very simple. Many lags are there. The time is now that we build up the organisation. This is all what I have to say on the question of organisation.
