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ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS
CENTRAL OFFICE
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File No. 35
Working Committee / Genl Council

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Subject Working Committee / General Council

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All India Trade Union Congress
President: S. A. DANGE
24 Canning Lane New Delhi - 1.
General Secretary
Indrajit Gupta. M.P.

To 17th November 1982 .

All State Committees

Dear Comrade,

We give below details of the main decisions of the General Council meeting held from 11-13 November at New Delhi.

Bombay Textile Strike

The General Council decided to intensify/immediate campaign for an settlement. If no settlement emerges there will be a countrywide textile strike.

On our approach, the National Campaign Committee will give a call for countrywide strike of textile workers in third week/ of December in support of Bombay textile strike and demanding immediate negotiated settlement.

All affiliated textile unions must start the preparations in right earnest immediately and make the strike a complete success.

On Minimum Wages

The General Council has decided that the earlier decision to held regional M.W. Conventions must be vigorously pursued.

All Regional Minimum Wages Conventions should be completed by February 1983.

Punjab T.U.C. has to convene Northern Zone Convention of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal, J & K, Rajasthan, U.P. and Delhi.

Eastern Zone-Bihar TUC has to take the responsibility. States to be covered are Bihar, Assam, West Bengal and Orissa.

Western Zone-Maharashtra T.U.C. has to take the responsibility. The states to be covered are Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.

Though Southern Zone Conference was held, but another will be helpful. in view of the fact that the earleir one was not fully representative. A.P. State Council of AITUC has to convene. (This time it could be in Bangalore. A.P. State and Karnatak TUCs to arrange among themselves). The States to be covered are Andhra Pradesh, Karnatak, Tamilnad and Kerala.

After completion of the Zonal Conventions, an all-India Convention will be organised sometime in March 1983. Comrade Raj Bahadur Gour is given the responsibility from AITUC Centre.

Public Sector

The AITUC General Council has endorsed the decision of the NCC to call for a one day General Strike in Public Sector undertakings against the BPE guidelines that are stalling the negotiations and crippling the collective bargaining.

Our STUCs and Public Sector unions must conduct a vigorous campaign and prepare from now on for the strike.

Campaign Against Communalism

The General Council has directed all our unions to carry on a serious campaign among workers against communalism, and such other fratricidal, divisive forces.

To begin with District wise, Industrial Centrewise, Regionwise and statewide Conventions should be organised. Make all attempts to involve other trade unions including INTUC unions in these Conventions/and isolate the communal elements in the T.U. movement.

Non-aligned meet in March 1983

The campaign that was started on September 1 and in connection with the Delhi Peace March of October 4, 1982, has to be carried forward. The campaign should now centre around the forthcoming conference of non-aligned heads of states that will take place in New Delhi in March 1983. Imperialism and its agents are already active in their efforts to blunt the anti-imperialist edge of the non-aligned movement, we have to carry forward our peace campaign and prepare for intensifying working class action to foil imperialist conspiracies at the non-aligned meet, and in favour of a firm stand

- for World Peace, against Nuclear Weapons, for disarmament;
- for a new international economic order
- against the Multi-nationals and Imperialist threat to independence and stability of the non-aligned countries.

The Working class must not only be made aware of the Imperialist Conspiracies but also prepared to fight against them.

ORGANISATION

State Committees should take immediate steps to :

1. Ensure payment of affiliation dues by affiliated unions for the years 1980 and 1981. The counterfoils sent with the state share statement would give the record of those unions which have already cleared the dues. All these dues have to be cleared by 31 March 1983. When state committees collect affiliation fees and forward them to the centre, they should also provide the membership for the relevant year, particularly so in all cases where the minimum of Rs. 30 is paid. Unions sending fees direct to the centre should also be advised to do this.
2. State Committees should immediately clear the dues against the WFTU stamps which they had taken. This has to be done by 31 December 1982.
3. State committees should take immediate steps to bring details of affiliated unions with them up-to-date and send the final list of functioning unions with the relevant membership figures to the centre by 31 January 1983.
4. State committees should get ready to take all steps required to ensure the prompt and correct submission of annual returns to the Registrars.

We enclose herewith the press communique issued after the General Council meeting which also provides for the details for reporting to State Committees.

With greetings

Yours fraternally,

T. V. Sivaraman

Secretary.

Cable:AITUCONG All India Trade Union Congress Tele:387320
President: 24 Canning Lane, New Delhi - 1. 386427
S.A. Dange General Secretary Indrajit Gupta.M.P.

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

Dated: 16 . 11. 1982 .

Meeting of the General Council of the All-India Trade Union Congress was held in New Delhi on November 11 - 13, 1982. In absence of the President the meeting was presided over by a presidium consisting of the Vice-presidents present viz., M.S. Krishnan, J.Chittaranjan, Md. Elias, B.D. Joshi. Homi Daji and M. Kalyanasundaram, M.P. On the eve of the commencement of the meeting, the news of the demise of L.I. Breznev was received.

On the 11th November therefore, the General Council meeting was adjourned without transacting any business and only adopting a condolence resolution and paying homage to his memory.

On the 12th November the meeting adopted a condolence resolution on the death since the last working committee meeting held in May, of S.S. Yusuf, a veteran trade union leader, former Vice-president of AITUC, President of UPTUC and a member of the present General Council; Sohan Singh Josh, veteran freedom fighter and communist leader; N.S. Purav, Bank Employees' leader; SK. Mohd. Abdullah, leader of Kashmir, Dinkar Desai, old AITUC leader in the early period; L. Khandkar, veteran TU and communist leader of Madhya Pradesh; K.R. Ramaswamy, T.U. leader of Tamil Nadu; Ravindran, Secretary, Kerala STUC; A.R. Khan, T.U. leader of Bhiwandi, Maharashtra; and S.C. Dutta, TU leader of Dehradun.

The Report was made by the General Secretary, Indrajit Gupta, M.P. on the International and national situation and developments since January this year. He indicated the economic policies being pursued by the Government of giving more and more concessions, reliefs and subsidies to big business, both Indian and foreign and on the other hand the increasing attacks on the trade union rights, right of strike, of collective bargaining and on activities of trade unions beginning from the National Security Act, followed by the ESMA, the series of amendment Bills some of which like the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Bill have already been rushed through the legislative processes. He explained the circumstances in which the decision of boycott of the

of the National Labour Conference held in September last was taken, of the continued unilateral steps taken by the Government without any consultations with the trade union organisations. He reminded that AITUC has been boycotting verification of membership for the last more than 10 years, that it was due to stubborn opposition of INTUC, government and a section of employers that secret ballot ^{the only democratic method} although available for workers to express their free choice, is not being followed. He pointed out ^{that} the National Labour Conference which adopted so-called unanimous conclusions, brings in the anti-labour package of the National Labour Commission recommendations which were never adopted at any tripartite forum. He congratulated the Bombay textile workers for their unity and iron determination despite all odds for the prolonged strike and called upon all unions, particularly the textile workers of different centres to intensify solidarity actions and to put pressure on the Government to come to a just settlement. He also drew attention of the Council to the rising divisive forces - communal, regional, chauvinistic, casteism etc. which are dividing the working class and weakening it in its fight against exploitation. Trade unions are to take initiative to organise workers at various levels to fight against this menace.

Members of the General Council participating in the discussion on the report generally approved of the stand taken by the AITUC and the NCC of boycotting the National Labour Conference and also of not submitting the membership to the process of verification by the Labour Ministry.

The General Council adopted a large number of resolutions - on the Boycott of the National Labour Conference; on the Bombay textile strike; in support of the struggle of the people of South Africa; on imperialist threat to Cuba; on Israeli aggression in Lebanon and in support of PLO; on lockouts and lay-offs; on the nationalisation of Swadeshi Group of mills; on Railway workers and their demands; on the central government employees' agitation; on amendment to Bonus Act; on Bihar Press Bill; on Drought and Flood; and so on.

The General Council decided to recommend to the All-India Textile Workers' Federation for organising one-day token strike all over the country of textile workers in consultation with other textile unions in support of the Bombay textile strike which will be

completing 11 months on December 18th and for a negotiated settlement.

The General Council decided to organise regional conferences of workers covered by the Minimum Wages Act by February 1983 so that an all-India Convention is held by March 1983.

The General Council called upon unions to carry forward the Campaign which was launched in an organised manner in connection with the Anti-war, Peace and Disarmament Day on September 1 called by the WFTU and 10th World TU Congress and in connection with the preparations for the 4th October Peace March in Delhi.

The General Council endorsed the decision taken at the Convention of Public Sector unions held at Hyderabad on October 12 - 13, 1982 and called upon workers and unions in public sector undertakings to prepare for one-day strike the date of which will be decided by the National Campaign Committee, against the arbitrary guidelines of the BPE and for a satisfactory settlement of the charter of demands.

The General Council expressed grave concern at the recurrence of communal disturbances, the widespread regional and chauvinistic fanaticism that has been continuing in northeastern region and in connection with the current agitation in Punjab. These added to other divisive tendencies seek to cut at the root of working class unity. The General Council in this connection commended the efforts of the UP State Committee which organised recently a convention against communalism at Ghaziabad and recommended to other state committees to hold such conventions at different levels to organise the working class to fight against this menace.

The General Council sympathised with the sufferings of the people in different states like Orissa, Gujarat etc. on account of drought and floods and called upon the workers and trade unions to come forward for succour of the distressed people.

For Favour of Publication/ Circulation

T. V. S. S. S. S.
Secretary.

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Gratuity Act.

Under the gratuity Act the seasonal workers should work for the 75% to the number of days the season works. But some of the seasonal factories particularly Tobacco work with a small number of workers for a long time while discharging the large number after a small period of work, by which act of the management ~~many~~ many of them are not qualified for getting gratuity. So it should be amended suitably - to say - that the "number of days work offered to the worker."

Marella Narasim Reddy
13/11/82

Checked & *[Signature]*
[Signature]

ON HOSHING COMMITTEES' RECOMMENDATIONS ON
E.S.I. SCHEME

The General Council of the AITUC considers that the recommendations of the Hoshing Committee, ~~on~~ the Employees State Insurance Scheme, a Committee consisting of only one representative of the Trade Union from the INTUC and loaded fully with officials of the Government is absolutely unsatisfactory and inadequate considering the needs of the situation.

While the main demand of the Trade Union movement has been that the entire responsibility for financing this scheme should be taken up by the Government of India and the state Governments and the workers should not be burdened with cuts from their wages for running the schemes, the Hoshing Committee ^{recommended} has that the Government of India which is not contributing a single Naya Paisa towards the scheme should consider meeting "at least the cost of capital ^{construction} contributions" by also bringing the scheme under the plan schemes. Similarly, ~~the demand~~ ^{of demand} of the ~~entire~~ trade union movement, that the State Governments' — whose ~~of~~ share towards cost of Medical benefit is dwindling yearly by year, should bear the entire responsibility for providing adequate medical benefit. The Hoshing Committee has recommended that the ~~of~~ share of the State Governments be increased from 1/8th to 1/6th and later on to 1/4th the Cost of Medical benefit. It is obvious that with such recommendations it would be a far cry to make the social security schemes non-contributory.

As far as ~~for~~ coverage is concerned not all wage earners, whether in industry or agriculture are covered; and even all sections of industrial workers are not covered. The AITUC has been continuously demanding that greater coverage should be there of all classes of workers and in particular it has been urging that all workers employed in establishments with 10 or more workers should be covered. The Hoshing Committee ^{has stated} that the minimum size of

Border, it is of retrospective recommendation & since it has not accepted even the recommendations of the earlier E.S.I. Review Committee.

establishments for coverage in terms of ~~the~~ number of employees engaged can also be progressively reduced below the existing limit of 20, subject to medical ^{practices} policies in the area being adequate for extended Coverage". The conditions stipulated defeats the recommendation itself.

Another important question is the question of exempting factories, establishments from the scheme. The Trade Union movement has demanded that no such exemptions are to be granted since they are liable to be misused. However the Hoshing Committee while agreeing in principle that exemptions ~~be~~ are not conducive to the development of a national Social Security Scheme has recommended that under certain specific circumstances exemptions may be granted, thus leaving again a loophole.

The AITUC General Council ^{welcomes the} recommendation that urgent steps be taken to provide full medical care to the families of all insured persons within a time bound programme ^{nearly} by the end of 1985-86, ~~has~~, as well as that those whose wages are Rs. 6/- per day be exempted from contributing to the scheme. At the same time one of the demands of the T.U's that wage ^{Ceiling} ~~policy~~ under the ESI Act be dispensed with has not been accepted. A recommendation has been made that the wage ceiling be raised to Rs. 1600/- per month. This again does not meet the needs of the situation.

The AITUC General Council expresses its grave concern about the absolute incapacity ^{and} inability of the Government of India to recover the arrears of revenue from the employees which has risen ^{Rupees} ~~from~~ 29.61 crores ^{to} in 1979 to 41.23 crore Rupees ^{by} end of March 1981. The ^{Hoshing} ~~working~~ committee has recommended that "Special posts be created in the revenue departments at the Cost of the ESI Corporation extensively for recovery of ESI dues". The General Council is firmly of the opinion that this recommendation, even if implemented, will not ~~be~~ improve matters. It once again reiterates that an independent machinery has to be established for purposes of recovery of arrears and stringent action should be taken against defaulters.

The Hoshing Committee has not made any specific recommendation in respect of ~~concerning~~ sickness benefits during the periods of strikes, lock-outs and lay-offs as the committee was unable to reach a consensus on this question, and has passed it on to the Government of India for further consideration. This only means postponing the evil day. The General Council ~~wishes~~ wishes to warn that the damocles sword of attacking the working class and denying them the sick^{ness}~~ness~~ benefits during strikes, lock-outs and lay off still hangs on the head^{of the working class} and unless ^{an} powerful united campaign is conducted by the Trade Unions, the Government of India is likely to bring about retrograde and reactionary measures.

The General Council of the AITUC notes that nothing such useful has come out of the Hoshing Committee's report. Many of the issues for which the T.U. movement has been struggling lie still unsolved. The General Council of the AITUC calls upon its affiliates to conduct conventions, conferences etc. on the working E.S.I. Scheme and carry on a united powerful campaign for achieving the various demands in respect of the ESI.

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M. L. KRISHNAM

RECEIVED
NOV 1982
A. I. T. U. C.

Resolution:

(1) The General Council of A.I.T.U.C. demands the nationalization of Swadeshi Group of Mills under the management of National Textile Corporation, Uttar Pradesh. The issue of nationalization is pending for the last 4 years before the Central Government. Due to uncertain fate of Mills, expansion, modernisation and rationalisation are hanging in the air causing unnecessary lay-off, temporary closure of departments, shortage of raw materials, adversely affecting the wages and earnings of the workmen.

(2) The General Council of A.I.T.U.C. takes serious notice of violent, abusive and aggressive attitude and behaviour of member of Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha and Vidhan Parishad Sri Priyadarshi Jaitely and Jagdambika Pal against A.I.T.U.C. Union leaders at Bara Banki in Uttar Pradesh. The A.I.T.U.C. affiliated Unions have majority in U.P. State Spinning Mills Company No.1 and Sri Priyadarshi Jaitely is mis-using his position and exploiting the power of his Government to create violent atmosphere at Bara Banki and Akbarpur. Undue favour is being given to I.N.T.U.C. affiliate Unions and, Chief Executive Officers and Labour Officers have been threatened with their termination, transfer and even violent attacks and man-handling if they fail to favour the I.M.T.U.C. affiliated Unions having the following of handful workmen. Strong Protest has been

(2)

lodged with the State Government to desipline
the members of treasury benches.

Moved by D.P. Pal, D.P. Pal
Vice-President,
U.P. Textile Workers Federation,
Camp at Rae Bareli.

Meeting Textile Comrades
on 12/11/82

Present

<u>Sl. No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>State</u>
1	D. L. Pal	U.P.
2	ANOLAK RAO	A.P.
3	B. Roy Choudhury	W. Bengal
4	G. V. Chitnis	Bihar
5	Arun Sen	W. Bengal
6	Kuber Nath Sirohi	W. Bengal
7	S. R. Gajjar	Bombay
8	Pandurangam Iyer	Punjab
9	<u>Ch. Kamalamma</u>	Tamil Nadu
10	Parvathi Krishna	
11	B. D. Joshi	
12	Homi Daji	

RESOLUTION

On Imperialist Threat to Cuba

The General Council of the AITUC expresses its grave concern at the growing threats from the U.S. Reagan administration to the security of Socialist Cuba. The recent "Symms Amendment" approved by the U.S. Congress authorises the Reagan Administration to undertake "any measure" including Military action against the Republic of Cuba.

The General Council urges upon the Government of India to take up this threat against a dynamic non-aligned do its best to stay the hands of U.S. Imperialists.

The General Council is confident that socialist Cuba that has joined all the earlier attempts of US Imperialism, will thwart any fresh effort with the help of the socialist world and peace loving forces.

The General Council of the AITUC urges on India's working class and the Trade Union Movement to rally against this U.S. threat world peace.

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RESOLUTION

The General Council of the AITUC notes with concern that in line with the statute that is in the ~~off~~ing to deny trade union rights to the employees of Research and other ~~s~~ similar institutions, the authorities of the Central Power Research Institute Bangalore have taken recourse to suppress the trade union activities in the CPRI by unjustly and illegally transferring the Joint Secretary of the CPRI Employees' Association, by charge-sheeting the union functionaries and activists against their legitimate trade union activities, thus attempting to browbeat them. The CPRI, flouting all norms and procedures ~~s~~ecks to victimise the trade union functionaries, it is observed.

The General Council urges upon the Ministry of Energy

- 1) to recognise the CPRI Employees' Association, the only trade union functioning ~~in~~ ^{in the} CPRI,
- 2) to withdraw the transfer order on the Joint Secretary of the Association and also to withdraw the charge-sheets issued to the ~~members~~ ^{members} of union functionaries and activists and
- 3) to put down all sorts of harassing and victimisation processes being pursued in the CPRI.

DRAUGHT AND FLOODS

The General Council of the ^{not} AITUC ^{is} moves with grave concern the acute distressed conditions prevailing in different parts of the country due to natural calamities like drought, cyclone and floods - crores of people in Orissa, Gujarat, Rajasthan U.P., M.P. etc. have lost their home, hearth and their crop.

In Orissa and parts of Gujarat the situation is ~~s~~ worst. In this month of June after an acute draught a wide-spread Cyclone lashed the coastal districts. Thereafter a devastating flood affected more than one crore of population in the state 8 districts - thousands of villages have been washed away and as preliminary estimates showed 8000 villages have been hardly affected. Crops for this whole year has been completely damaged. The irrigation system in these districts completely destroyed. The loss of human life and cattle have been innumerable - immediately after the floods a statewide draught has completely destroyed the crops. Therefore the people there are ^{face} ~~face~~ with the specter of a famine of the type of Bengal famine of 1943. Taking advantage of these conditions the employers have now mounted a big attack ~~on~~ on the working class in the state. The state Governments have miserably failed to cope with the situation. When the common people not affected by floods and cyclone rose as one man to help the affected people, this state Governments and their machineries behaved ^{very} most irresponsibly and inhumanly. The damage has been so immense that it would not be possible for the concerned state Government to cope with the situation of giving immediate relief and to rehabilitate the devastated economy within a short time. Therefore the central Government should undertake the responsibilities of these tasks of relief and rehabilitation.

Therefore the council demands that the Government of India should immediately provide adequate funds and resources including essential commodities to Orissa and ~~other~~ ^{of which} ~~other~~ devastated states. It demands that the public distribution system should be streamlined all with the cooperation ~~its profit,~~ wholesale trade in food grains be taken over by the Government. The relief and rehabilitation should be undertaken on a war footing with the cooperation with people and other political parties and ~~mass~~ ^{mass} organisations.

The General Council calls upon the Working Class in the country to gear up all resources to help the distressed people in this hour of their peril.

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M-111

(Important)

A resolution on Bihar
and Tamilnadu press Acts
to be drafted & put on record

) , M , NPOINT (M) ,

XK1 , XK2)

ON BOMBAY TEXTILE WORKERS STRIKE

This meeting of the General Council of AITUC warmly greets the Textile Workers of Bombay for their unparal-
leled unity in action and dogged determination to continue their
~~just~~ fight against all repressions, ⁱⁿ dismptions and police
attacks. The Bombay Textile Workers with their ^{historic} unparal-
leled strike action ^{have} here written a glorious chapter in the history of
the working class movement of the country.

This meeting strongly ^{condemns} the Government of
Maharashtra and the Government of India for refusing to
negotiate and settle the strike with the leaders of the striking
^{in the interest of Textile monopolists.} workers. Instead, they have been trying to forcibly foist
the INTUC's monopoly of representation under the BIR act on
the workers. But the workers have convincingly demonstrated
that the INTUC's claim to sole representation is totally
^{devoid} of any basis and their strike has blown up the convenient
arrangement between the employer and INTUC as expressed in
the BIR act.

This meeting while expressing its fully support and
solidarity with the Bombay Textile Workers, calls upon the
all ^{the} workers to step up solidarity actions and particularly ~~as~~
^{appeals to} ~~calls upon~~ the Textile Workers ^{Federation} of the country to prepare, ~~as~~
^{soon as possible for} an all India strike of Textile Workers in support of the
Bombay workers. The A.I.T.U.C. shall approach other T.U.
centres for such an action to be ^{jointly} ~~jointly~~ organised by all
the ^{centres.} country. The A.I.T.U.C. assures the brave and fighting
workers of B'Bay ^{of its} full support of the working class
of India who will not allow the ~~good~~ ~~to~~ ~~be~~ ~~beaten~~ ~~down~~
~~down~~ and the ^{mill} owners to beat down the B'Bay workers.

D r a f t r e s o l u t i o n

SOUTH AFRICA

The General Council of the AITUC condemns the International Monetary Fund Loan to the racist South Africa in violation of the U.N. resolutions and in defiance of the World Opinion for economic sanctions of this fascist regime in Pretoria.

U.S. vote in favour of this loan has exposed the Reagan administration's strategy of building up South Africa and Israel as U.S. aggressive outposts in that part of the Afro-Asian world.

U.S. aid and total support to South Africa has emboldened that ~~regime~~^{regime} to take the latest step to concentrate ~~the~~^{Tens} of thousands of soldiers and units of military hardware on the frontiers with Angola, Zimbabwe and Mozambique in preparation for an attack on the front ~~line~~^{line} states on the lines of the recent Israeli aggression in Lebanon. The aim of South Africa's sinister move is to physically annihilate Namibian patriots fighting for freedom and destabilise the internal situation in these front ~~line~~^{line} countries and bring into existence, again as in Lebanon, Governments more suited to the aggressive designs of Pretoria and Washington.

The U.S. has already lifted the ban on exporting to South Africa of many types of armaments. On top of this the IMF loan and the proposed lifting of the U.S. bar on export of technology and equipment would enable South Africa to augment its aggressive might and produce nuclear weapons.

The General Council urges upon the Government of India to act up to the gravity of the situation, and mobilise the ~~entire~~^{entire} non-aligned world and the forces of peace, independence and social progress to effectively counter the U.S. challenge and isolate the South African regime by enforcing sanctions. ~~The~~

The General Council welcomes the proposal to hold a World Conference of Trade Unions against apartheid in Geneva in June 1983 under the auspices of the U.N.

The General Council calls upon the Trade Unions to campaign in solidarity with South African patriots fighting this ~~regime~~^{regime} with arms and all the people of South Africa ~~threatened~~ threatened will South African aggression.

ON AMENDMENT TO BONUS ACT

This meeting of the General Council of the A.I.U.C. demands the immediate removal of pay ceiling of Rs. 1500/- for the payment of Bonus and also the ceiling of 750/- as the maximum permissible Bonus. These limitations are ~~per~~se unjustified. Besides due to inflation and the ~~step~~ rise the prices these limitations have become totally unrealistic and work harshly against the workers disenti~~ng~~ling many categories from the benefit of the payment of wages Act. This meeting demands the ^{re} ~~memo~~val of these restrictions as well as removal of the ceiling of 20 % placed on the payment of Bonus.

On Closure of Poyscha

The General Council notes with great concern that Kapadia-owned Poyscha Factory at Ghaziabad remains closed for the ~~last~~ since February making 800 workers unemployed & over 3000 dependents facing starvation. In the name of closure they have transferred their business to their other units in India. This transfer of business has been termed as closure.

Though the Government of U.P. has prosecuted the concern for illegal action of closing down the concern without notice yet the Central Govt has till date not taken any steps either to set up an enquiry under the Industries Development Regulation Act or called the Parties at the negotiating table. It is surprising that despite their illegal action the Central Government continues to give concessions in respect of import quota of imported tin plates and is further negotiating with the employers for grant of industrial licences to open new factories ^{in Madhya, W.P. & Tamil Nadu} for the manufacture of the same articles which Ghaziabad Factory was manufacturing.

This meeting of the General Council congratulates Engineering workers of Ghaziabad who went on token strike twice in solidarity with Poyscha workers. This is all done in the year of productivity and this ^{so called} closure has meant a man days lost to the ~~the~~ ^{the} extent of 146000 of production & man days lost to the extent of 2,08,000.

This meeting, therefore demands from the Central Govt to immediately ^{to call the parties round the table for negotiation} intervene & set up enquiry under Industries Development Regulation Act, and stop allotment of import quota of tin plates and refuse to grant licence for opening ^{other} factories till Ghaziabad Factory opens.

- Ghanshyam Sarda Guha

1260
1300
139000
800
260
208000

Resolution:

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(2) The General Council of A.I.T.U.C. takes serious notice of violent, abusive and aggressive attitude and behaviour of member of Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha and Vidhan Parishad Sri Priyadarshi Jaitely and Jagdambika Pal against A.I.T.U.C. Union leaders at Bara Banki in Uttar Pradesh. The A.I.T.U.C. affiliated Unions have majority in U.P. State Spinning Mills Company No.1 and Sri Priyadarshi Jaitely is mis-using his position and exploiting the power of his Government to create violent atmosphere at Bara Banki and Akbarpur. Undue favour is being given to I.N.T.U.C. affiliated Unions and Chief Executive Officers and Labour Officers have been threatened with their termination, transfer and even violent attacks and man-handling if they fail to favour the I.N.T.U.C. affiliated Unions having the following of handful workmen. Strong Protest has been

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lodged with the State Government to discipline
the members of treasury benches.

Moved by D.P. Pal,
Vice-President,
U.P. Textile Workers Federation,
Camp at Rae Bareilly.

on lock out and lay offs

This meeting of the S.C. of the A.D. the
expresses its grave concern at the rapid
increase of lock-outs and lay-offs in many
Industries ~~throwing out lakhs of workers from~~
employment. ~~More than 2000 factories have closed because of~~
lock outs and lay offs are a result of
growing crisis of the Capitalist Economy and to world
Capitalist economy. They are due also because of
Govt's policy of liberalised imports, shortage and
failure of infrastructural facilities and because of
Profit greed ^{and} mismanagement by the owners.

This meeting demands

- (1) A Ban on lock-outs and lay-offs
- (2) Full compensation to workers who are victims of unemployment.
- (3) Staunchly pursuing the economic policy of self reliance.
- (4) Taking over by the Govt. of closed mills and factories.

The Council calls upon the workers to forge wide unity to fight back this widespread offensive endangering the livelihood of lakhs of workers.

lock
outs.

Retrenchment
ON ~~RE~~STRAUCHMENT OF P.W.D. WORKERS IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

This meeting of the A.I.T.U.C. General Council condemns the ~~re~~^{*retrenchment*} ~~trauchment~~ of nearly 40000 workers of the P.W.D. department by the Himachal Government. The P.W.D. department has introduced a new system by which the budget allocations are diverted for bulk purchase of machines etc. leaving no budget fund for payment to workers, ~~xx~~ necessitating heavy ~~xxxxxx~~ ~~re~~ ~~trauchment~~. This meeting calls upon the Himachal Pradesh Government, to immediate ^{*re*} ~~re~~ ~~trauchment~~ ^{*retrenched*} workers.

Resolution

On Israel's aggression against PLO and Arab nations.

The AITUC General Council strongly condemns Zionist Israel's aggression and Genocide in Lebanon to exterminate heroic Palastinian fighters fighting for their homeland. Israel is the Fascist face of U.S. Imperialism to impose U.S. blackmail and terror against Arab countries in order to control the oil.

The powerful war-machine built in Israel with the aid of U.S. diabolical weapons of mass destruction and generous flow of U.S. dollars is sustained by the poison of communal hatred of the Jews against the Muslims and was created to destroy the secular democratic movement of the freedom-loving Palestinians. True to the traditions of the Indian working class of the days of the Freedom struggle and their inflexible commitment to fight against Imperialism, ~~New~~ Neo-colonialism, Racism and Facism, the AITUC General Council pledges full support for the just cause of the Palestinians to establish an Independent Palestinian state. The council appeals to all workers in India and their Unions to rouse the Indian people to extend their united support to enable the Palestinians to win their just demands.

The AITUC General Council firmly declares that massacre in Beirut by the Zionist and the Phalangists at the instance of Sharon and Begin was the worst crime against humanity and Begin and Sharon must be tried for their war crimes committed in Lebanon on the principles of Nuremberg trial.

The merciless killing of innocent men, women and children and destruction of hospitals so that the wounded are denied medical treatment to ensure their liquidation is the most outrageous defiance of all civilised norms of human behaviour and International Law.

The AITUC General Council hails the peace-loving people of Israel who raised their united voice for the ouster of Begin in view of his responsibilities for cold-blooded massacre of Palestinians in Beirut.

The AITUC General Council condemns the hypocrisy of Reagan Administration to use the Facist terror of Begin to blackmail the Arabs into submission and acceptance of humiliating terms of the extension of Camp David. The military presence of US troops on Arab soil on the pretext of imposing peace in Lebanon is an extension of the U.S. nuclear base established in Diego Garcia with the sole aim of dominating the middle East

to impose Economic Imperialism. It is a part of the Global Designs of Reagon Administration to encircle India and the Soviet Union and aggravate the dangers of Nuclear war in this region.

The General Council demands severe sanction against Israel so that it's war-machine is smashed and never used in future, for imposing facist war. Israel though created by a resolution of the United Nations is acting as the worst culprit against the United Nations charter defying flagrantly all resolutions of the United Nations demanding that the aggressor ~~an~~ must not retain the fruits of aggression and occupied territory must be vacated.

Israel cannot be tolerated to be an outlaw in International Law, raiding, invading and destroying life and property in every country at will. The fate of Israel awaits the fate of Nazi Germany and Begin's end cannot and must not be different from the end of Hitler. The responsibility for the Emergence of a new Hitler must be borne by U.S. imperialism fully and squarely.

...

D r a f t r e s o l u t i o n

SOUTH AFRICA

The General Council of the AITUC condemns the International Monetary Fund Loan to the racist South Africa in violation of the U.N. resolutions and in defiance of the World Opinion for economic sanctions of this of racist regime in Pretoria.

U.S. vote in favour of this loan has exposed the Reagan administration's strategy of building up South Africa and Israel as U.S. aggressive outposts in that part of the Afro-Asian world.

U.S. aid and total support to South Africa has emboldened that ^{regime} ~~regime~~ to take the latest step to concentrate ^{tens} of thousands of soldiers and units of military hardware on the frontiers with Angola, ^{Zimbabwe} ~~Zimbabwe~~ and Mozambique in preparation for an attack on the front ^{line} ~~line~~ states on the lines of the recent Israeli aggression in Lebanon. The aim of South Africa's sinister move is to physically annihilate Namibian patriots fighting for freedom and destabilise the internal situation in these front ^{line} ~~line~~ countries and bring into existence, again as in Lebanon, Governments more suited to the aggressive designs of Pretoria and Washington.

^{The} U.S. has already lifted the ban on exporting to South Africa of many types of armaments. On top of this the IMF loan and the proposed lifting of the U.S. bar on export of technology and equipment would enable South Africa to augment its aggressive might and produce nuclear weapons.

The General Council urges upon the Government of India to act up to the gravity of the situation, and mobilise the ^{entire} ~~entire~~ non-aligned world and the forces of peace, independence and social progress to effectively counter the U.S. challenge and isolate the South African regime by enforcing sanctions. ~~The~~

The General Council welcomes the proposal to hold a World Conference of Trade Unions against apartheid in Geneva in June 1983 under the auspices of the U.N.

The General Council calls upon the Trade Unions to campaign in solidarity with South African patriots fighting this ^{regime} ~~regime~~ with arms and all the people of South Africa ~~threats~~ threatened will South African aggression.

TO OPEN CUT HERE

1182

भारतीय दूर
INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAMS DEPARTMENT

तार
TELEGRAM 1635

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Receipt

पता
Address

Fromसे
Byद्वारा प्राप्त हुआ

इस तार के प्रारम्भ में प्रविष्टियों का क्रम इस प्रकार रहेगा—
तार की श्रेणी, प्राप्त करने का समय, कम संख्या, मूल कार्यालय
तारीख, सेवा प्रनुदेश (यदि कोई हो) और शब्दों की संख्या।

The sequence of entries at the beginning of this telegram
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इस तार के संबंध में यदि किसी प्रकार की पृच्छतमझ हो तो
उसे इस कार्य के साथ प्रथम संलग्न करना चाहिए।

Enquiry must accompany any enquiry respecting this
telegram.

SECOND FOLD

AMBALA INDIA TELEGRAPH UNIT

CALCUTTA - 24 CANNING LANE NEW DELHI

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12 NOV 1985
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भारतीय डाक-तार विभाग
INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

HERE

तार
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0869

A. I. T. U.

From
By

द्वारा प्राप्त हुआ

इस तार के शुरुआत में प्रविष्टियों का क्रम इस प्रकार रहेगा—
तार की श्रेणी, प्राप्त करने का समय, क्रम संख्या, मूल कार्यालय,
तारीख, सेवा अनुदेश (यदि कोई हो) और शब्दों की संख्या।

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of words

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उसे इस कागज के साथ धरभय समझ करना चाहिए।

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6 GENERAL SECRETARY ALL INDIA TRADE

UNION CONGRESS 24 CANING LANE

NEW DELHI 110001

पहला धरें/FIRST FOLD

= REGRET INABILITY ATTEND GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING GRANT ME LEAVE =

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C. No.



द्वारा प्राप्त हुआ

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तार की श्रेणी, प्राप्त करने का समय, क्रम संख्या, मूल कार्यालय,
तारीख, सेवा अनुदेश (यदि कोई हो) और शब्दों की संख्या।

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इस तार के संबन्ध में यदि किसी प्रकार की पूछताछ हो तो
उसे इस कार्य के साथ अवश्य संलग्न करना चाहिए।

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TELEGRAM

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11-25

पता
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दोसरे छेद पर काटें

RPPD EXPRESS PARVATHI KRISHNAN AITU CONG
24 CANNING LANE NEW DELHI

पहला मोहर/FIRST FOLD

KINDLY CONFIRM WHETHER GENERAL COUNCIL HAVE BEEN POSTPONED OR NOT

SC KRISHNAN

Ref. = GENERAL COUNCIL STANDS 11-13 NOV-
EMBER PLEASE ATTEND: PARVATHI KRISHNAN

Abharashan
4/11/57

Copy

1. 11. 1982

Com. S.A. Dange,
President, AITUC,
Shah Niwas,
9, Kohinoor Road,
Dadar,
BOMBAY 400 014.

Dear Com. Dange,

I am sure you know that the AITUC General Council has been convened at Delhi (24. Canning Lane) on November 11th, 12th and 13th. The Working Committee will meet at 3 p.m. on November 11th.

I hope it will be possible for you to attend and preside over the meeting. Please inform us if you require us to make any arrangements for your travel and your accommodation in Delhi.

Hoping this finds you in good health.

Greetings,

Gupta
(INDRAJIT GUPTA)
General Secretary.

Enclo: 1 Circular.

ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

24, Canning Lane, New Delhi

.....

President : S. A. DANGE

CABLE: "AITUCONG"

GENERAL

SECRETARY : INDRAJIT GUPTA, M.P.

Tele : 387320/386427

October 6, 1982

ALL GENERAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dear comrades,

(1) The General Council of the A.I.T.U.C. will meet at New Delhi from November 11th to 13th, 1982.

The agenda before the General Council will consist of:

- (i) Report on developments since the General Strike of 19.1.82;
- (ii) Tasks and programme of action;
- (iii) Reporting on WFTU Congress and Bureau;
- (iv) Organisational and financial matters;
- (v) Any other matter with the permission of the chair
- (vi) The General Council meeting will commence at 4 p.m. on 11.11.82 at 24, Canning Lane, New Delhi.

All comrades are requested to bring light woollen clothing with them (at least one blanket and one pullover), although it may not be very cold. We would later inform the state committees about the accommodation arrangements made.

With fraternal greetings,

T. A. Dange
for General Secretary.

To

All members of the Working Committee

Dear comrades,

A meeting of the Working Committee of the AITUC will be held at 24, Canning Lane, New Delhi on 11th November 1982 at 3 p.m. Agenda:

- (1) Confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting
- (2) Programme and agenda of the General Council meeting to be held on 11th to 13th November, 1982.
- (3) Any other matter with the permission of the chair.

All members are requested to attend.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

T. A. Dange

for (INDRAJIT GUPTA)
General Secretary

ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

Cable "AITUCONG "

24 Canning Lane
New Delhi

Telephones : 387320/
386427

President: S.A. Dange General Secretary: Indrajit Gupta M.P.

Dated: 31st May, 1982

AITUC WORKING COMMITTEE CALLS FOR

- * United resistance to the Black Bills.
- * Solidarity with the Bombay Textile Strike.
- * Fight against wage freeze policy.
- * Campaign for Peace and against war danger.

The AITUC Working Committee met in New Delhi on May 29-30, 1982 and was presided over by Vice-Presidents N.K. Krishnan and Homi Daji. The Committee condoled the passing away of M.A. Suslov, Jyotirmoy Basu, Major Jaipal Singh, D. Rajagopal, Sibnath Banerjee, J.B. Kripalani, Rajni Patel, M.L. Sharma and Kapila Khandwala.

AITUC General Secretary Indrajit Gupta reported on the developments in various spheres during this year, the 19th Jan. strike and its observance, government's economic policies, the new anti-working class amendments Bills, Strikes and Lock-outs going on etc.

WFTU Secretary, K.G. Sriwastava reported on the decisions of the 10th World Trade Union Congress and their significance.

All the State T.U.C representatives present participated in the discussions.

The Working Committee adopted a number of resolutions and adopted the following decisions:

- * Beginning on September 1, 1982, unions are to arrange meetings and demonstrations and a sustained campaign all over the country on the vital issue of peace and against imperialist war conspiracies, arms build up, the danger of nuclear holocaust and to mobilise largest sections of the working class preparatory to a PEACE MARCH to be organised in Delhi in the first half of October, 1982.
- * Solidarity campaign by all textile unions in particular, should be stepped up immediately, including fund collection during the current pay-days for the striking Bombay Textile workers.
- * To launch immediately an explanatory campaign to expose to the mass of workers the reactionary anti-working class provisions of the amending Bills and to observe the opening day of the forthcoming monsoon session of the parliament as "ANTI-BLACK BILLS DAY" by holding meetings and demonstrations all over the country, in all State capitals and industrial centres.
- * To organise industrywise joint Conventions especially in Steel, Coal, and BHEL in connection with the forthcoming wage negotiations.

The working committee in the main resolution adopted denounced the reactionary amendment Bills introduced in the last session of the Parliament and a new Bill to cover hospitals, educational institutions etc. to suppress trade union rights

and called for organising Anti-Black Bills Day on the opening day of Parliament.

The Committee in another resolution rejected any proposal of linking wages with production, productivity or profitability.

The Committee extended full support to the 12-day/^{old} strike of employees of Rajasthan State Electricity Board and condemned mass arrests and repression resorted to by the State Government.

The Committee in a resolution supported the 4½ month old strike of the Bombay Textile Workers and condemned the attitude of the Central and State Governments. The Committee called for solidarity action by all textile unions including fund collection.

The Committee opposed the rise in coal price recently announced by the Government and rejected the reasons advanced, and also the proposal of upward revision of electricity tariff structure.

The resolution on the barbarous repression on workers of the Rallis India in Uttar Pradesh demanded enquiry into firing, punishment/^{of} guilty officials and compensation to workers.

The Committee in a Separate resolution strongly criticised the economic policies being pursued by the Government which are shifting increasingly towards appeasing the monopolies and multi-nationals and more and more attacks are being resorted to on the people, their rights and benefits.

The working committee hailed the decisions adopted the 10th World Trade Union Congress which will help strengthening trade union unity and unity of the anti-imperialist and peace forces against war danger and enormous stepping up of arms race and tension by the U.S. imperialists and their allies.

The Committee in a resolution condemned the military aggression mounted by the British Colonialists against Falklands islands (Malvinas), and against brutal suppression of trade unions and democratic liberties in Turkey.

.....

Enclo: Copies of Some Resolutions

/-or Favour of Publication

T. S. Sankaranarayanan
Secretary

RESOLUTIONS

AGAINST THE REACTIONARY AMENDMENT BILLS

The Working Committee of the AITUC strongly denounces the utterly anti-worker and anti-trade union amendment Bills introduced at the last session of Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha, more particularly the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 1982. The amendments proposed are almost copied from the infamous Industrial Relations Bill of 1978 introduced by the then Janata Government which had met with fierce opposition of the entire trade union movement including the INTUC and could not be pursued. / and the trade union (Amendment) Bill, 1982

The Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Bill brazenly flouts the Supreme Court verdict of February 1978 amplifying the definition of "Industry" to cover hospitals, educational institutions etc. for the purposes of Industrial Disputes Act; the amendment Bill specifically excludes all these institutions from the purview of the ID Act and a new Bill, as was done by the Janata Government, has been introduced prohibiting strikes, imposing compulsory arbitration and so on, in these institutions.

Both these amendment Bills seek to impose increasingly stringent restrictions on the trade unions right from their very formation to their functioning and activities in defence of workers' interest. Punitive measures are threatened in the name of unfair labour practice, even registration of unions are liable to be cancelled on the plea of participation in "illegal" strike and powers of bureaucracy are sought to be widened to enable it to interfere into the internal affairs of trade unions.

The Working Committee of the AITUC notes with indignation that the Government before introducing these Bills which are as many as five in number, did not care to have prior consultations with the Central trade union organisations and unilaterally moved in an arrogant manner taking a further step forward towards its policy of suppression of the Working class and trade unions.

Coupled with the notorious ESMA and the National Security Act, these reactionary amendments are aimed at throttling the working class and their trade unions and constitute an all-round attack on the fundamental trade union rights at the behest of Big Business, both Indian and foreign.

It is significant that along with the increasing intensity of attacks on the trade union movement, on the freedom of association, on the right of functioning in defence of workers' interests and on the right of strike, a policy of liberalisation all along the line has been put into effect by the Government to woo the big business including the multinationals and to ensure them super profits by suppressing the workers and their legitimate demands.

With these measures, the Government hopes to get over the deep crisis in ^{which} the economy of the country is enmeshed today, through the capitalist path of development pursued by them so far. Unfortunately however, as experience elsewhere has proved, these measures are bound to further attacks on the living and working conditions of the workers.

The Working Committee of the AITUC calls upon its affiliates to launch vigorous campaign against these reactionary provisions in these Bills and to expose them to the widest sections of the workers and employees. All meetings and demonstrations should bring to focus these Bills and their reactionary provisions preparatory to building up a resistance movement and to observe the opening day of Parliament as "Anti-Black Bills Day" by holding meetings and demonstrations.

The Working Committee firmly believes that the working class and the trade unions will unitedly build up a countrywide massive movement to defeat this fresh onslaught on the trade union rights and these Bills will meet the same fate as the abortive IR Bill of 1978.

.....

BOMBAY TEXTILE STRIKE

The Working Committee of the All India Trade Union Congress warmly greets the 2½ lakh textile workers of Bombay for their glorious struggle, for their just demands, since last 130 days and more. All efforts of the Government, the Millowners Association and the RMMS (INTUC) to break this unity and consequently this strike have been successfully rebuffed by the workmen and the strike continues with exemplary unity and undaunted determination. This itself is as much a confirmation of the justness of their demands as it is of their determination to fight till their demands are won.

Apart from the various demands concerning improvement in their wages and working conditions which are just and fair, the workers have also demanded the scrapping of the BIR Act and the cancellation of recognition granted to the R.M.M.S. (INTUC) under that Act. The strike has confirmed the utter bankruptcy of the very concept on which the BIR Act is based and exposed the complete hollowness of the claims of the RMMS (INTUC) to represent the Textile workers. The Working Committee fully supports the demands of the workmen that the BIR Act should be scrapped and that the union to be recognised as the representative union shall be elected by secret ballot of all the concerned workmen.

The Working Committee strongly denounces the attitude shown by the Government - Central as well as State - in respect of the workers demands and their strike. Instead of helping to resolve the dispute the Governments have been openly ganging up behind the Millowners Association and the RMMS and rendering them all help in their efforts to break the strike and thus deprive the workers of their legitimate aspirations. This attitude of the Government, severely condemnable as it is, is anti-working class and pro-employer.

The Working Committee has noted with satisfaction and welcomes the fact that workers in other industries and the peasants in Maharashtra have mobilised wide support to the striking workers and helped them with money and grains etc. The Working Committee calls upon the working class in other states, and particularly those in the textile industry to rise to the occasion and extend all help to the striking workers and help them achieve victory in their just and heroic struggle.

The Working Committee calls upon the Government to immediately intervene in the dispute with a view to bring about a satisfactory settlement by direct negotiations with all the unions conducting the strike.

.....

DEFEAT THE WAGE FREEZE POLICY

The Working Committee of the AITUC expresses its total opposition to any proposal to link wages or wage increases with production/ productivity and profitability. Workers have no control either on production or productivity and profitability in the public sector in particular depends on factors like financing and pricing etc. on which workers have no say. Workers cannot be saddled with such a pre-condition which would amount to an embargo on wage increases and an increase in workload.

The Working Committee therefore rejects any such proposal and such other proposals that the Government has already made known in the Parliament as well as to the trade unions in the public sector, particularly the Steel Industry to hamstring all wage negotiations.

The Working Committee calls on all central trade unions organisations including the INTUC to take a united stand on this vital issue and reject such harmful proposals unanimously.

In accordance with the decision of the April 16 meeting of the National Campaign Committee along with industrial federations, the Working Committee calls upon unions and federations in Coal, Steel and BHEL undertakings to complete industrywise joint conventions by the end of June for the purpose of evolving common charter of demands, starting mass campaigns against the wage freeze policy of the Government and the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) and to adopt a common approach on the major questions in relation to the forthcoming wage negotiations.

The Working Committee believes that a united stand of all trade unions and well-coordinated movement of the workers of the public sector industries and undertakings will be able eventually to force the Government to retreat.

.....

IN SUPPORT OF ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES'
STRIKE IN RAJASTHAN

The Working Committee of the AITUC warmly greets the heroic strike of the Rajasthan State Electricity Board Employees which they are continuing for the last ten days defying mass arrests under ESMA and threat of victimisation.

The Working Committee strongly condemns the arrest of striking employees which have exceeded so far one thousand five hundred, and the reign of repression let loose by the State Government to suppress the strike.

The Working Committee demands of the State Government to immediately start negotiations with the employees' representatives, release of all those arrested and halting of all repressive measures.

The Working Committee assures its continued support to the strike and the legitimate demands of the employees and congratulates them for their unity and determination and courage displayed in face of brutal repression.

.....

Cable "AITUCONG" ALL - INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS
24 Canning Lane, New Delhi-110001. Tele: 387320
386427

President: S. A. Dange General Secretary: Indrajit Gupta.MP.
To

All Working Committee Members,
A. I. T. U. C.

Dated: 29th April 82.

Dear Comrades,

A meeting of the Working Committee of the AITUC will be held at 24 Canning Lane, New Delhi, on May 29th and 30th, 1982.

The meeting will commence at 10. a.m. on May 29th, so please arrange your arrival in Delhi accordingly.

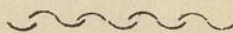
The agenda of the meeting will be:

- 1) Assessment of January 19th All-India general strike, and tasks flowing therefrom;
- 2) Recent developments in the industrial and T.U. field;
- 3) Next phase of NCC programme, and industry-wise preparations;
- 4) Report on 10th World Trade Union Congress; and other international activities;
- 5) Organisational tasks.

You are requested to make it a point of attending.

Yours fraternally,

T. V. S. D. Gupta
for (INDRAJIT GUPTA)
General Secretary.



ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS
24, Canning Lane, New Delhi 110001

Telephones : 386427/ 87320 Telegrams : AITUCONG

President : S . A . Dange

General

Secretary : Indrajit Gupta MB

6 February 1982 .

To

All State Committees & Members of the Working Committee

Dear Comrade,

Enclosed herewith is the joint circular addressed by the National Campaign Committee to all state campaign committees and industrial federations .

First and foremost we draw your attention to Paragraph 3 of the circular . You will note that February 23rd is to be observed as an all-India protest day against victimisation . You should immediately take steps to see that you approach all the other constituents of the National Campaign Committee and chalk out the appropriate programme of dharnas, demonstrations, rallies, or any other mass action on February 23rd demanding the vacation of c victimisation of 19 January one day protest strike . In centres where there has been such victimisation it is all the more important .

Please also see that reports as asked for in the enclosed circular are collected and sent . If the reports collected by you are sent to us we shall arrange to reach them to the national campaign committee .

Please see that the reports of the actions and programmes of 23rd February are sent immediately to us . The need for this need not be stressed .

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Parvathi Krishnan
(Parvathi Krishnan)
Secretary

.....

LIST OF OFFICE BEARERS OF AITUC

(VISAKHAPATNAM CONFERENCE ; 26 - 31ST OCTOBER 1980)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Com. S. A. Dange,
President, AITUC
Shah Niwas,
9, Kohinoor Road,
Dadar, BOMBAY - 400014.</p> | <p>10. Com. K. G. Sriwastava,
Vice- President, AITUC
H - 351, Naraina Vihar,
NEW DELHI - 110028.</p> |
| <p>2. Com. N. K. Krishnan,
Vice-President, AITUC
68, North Avenue,
NEW DELHI - 110001.</p> | <p>11. Com. Indrajit Gupta . M.P.
General Secretary, AITUC
1 - Dover Road,
CALCUTTA - 700019.</p> |
| <p>3. Com. J. Chitharanjan, <i>M.L.A.</i>
Vice-President, AITUC
Kerala State Committee AITUC
Sugathan Memorial Building,
Sugathan Road, <i>KONDIAK GARDENS</i>
TRIVANDRUM - 695014. <i>KONDIAK</i>
<i>TRIVANDRUM</i></p> | <p>(2) Com. Indrajit Gupta . M.P.
General Secretary, AITUC
41, Western Court, Janpath,
NEW DELHI - 110001.</p> |
| <p>4. Com. Homi F. Daji,
Vice - President, AITUC
M.P. State Committee AITUC
Shakir Sadan,
Patel Nagar Labour Colony,
Near Bharat Talkies,
BOPAL - 462001.</p> | <p>12. Com. Parvathi Krishnan,
Secretary, AITUC
68 - North Avenue,
NEW DELHI - 110001.</p> |
| <p>5. Com. B. D. Joshi,
Vice - President, AITUC
B-6/8, Old Rajendra Nagar,
NEW DELHI - 110060.</p> | <p>13. Com. T. N. Siddhanta
Secretary, AITUC
24, Canning Lane,
NEW DELHI - 110001.</p> |
| <p>6. Com. Mohd. Elias
Vice - President, AITUC
19 - Andul, 2nd Byelane,
P.O. Botanical Garden,
HOWRAH - 700003.</p> | <p>14. Dr. Raj Bahadur Gour,
Secretary, AITUC
1-8/99, Suryanagar,
HYDERABAD - 500020.</p> |
| <p>7. Com. M. S. Krishnan,
Vice - President, AITUC
53, Gayathri Devi
Park Extension,
BANGALORE - 560003.</p> | <p>15. Com. Y. D. Sharma,
Secretary, AITUC
15 - Jogdhan Gali,
Behind State Bank,
Chandini Chowk, DELHI-110006.</p> |
| <p>8. Com. M. Kalyanasundaran M.P.
Vice - President, AITUC
16-B Ferozeshah Road,
NEW DELHI - 110001.</p> | <p>16. Com. K. A. Rajan . M. P.
Secretary, AITUC
16-B Ferozeshah Road,
NEW DELHI - 110001.</p> |
| <p>(2) Com. M. Kalyanasundaran M.P. (C)
Vice - President, AITUC
Balan Illam,
19- South Bough Road, T. Nagar,
MADRAS - 600017.</p> | <p>Com. K. A. Rajan . M. P.
Secretary, AITUC
Kerala State Committee, AITUC
Sugathan Memorial Building,
Sugathan Road,
TRIVANDRUM - 695014.</p> |
| <p>9. Com. Chaturanan Mishra M.L.A.
Vice - President, AITUC
M.L.A. Flat No. 104 - B,
Patel Marg,
PATNA - 800001.</p> | <p>17. Com. Harish Tewary,
Treasurer, AITUC
Ram Niwas, Moti Nagar,
LUCKNOW - (Uttar Pradesh)</p> |

WORKING COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF A I T U C
(VISAKHAPATNAM CONFERENCE, 26 - 31ST OCTOBER, 1980)

Office:
President:
Visakhapatnam
Harbour Post Office
And
Gen. Secy
Federation of India
R-2 Post Area
Visakhapatnam
530035
(AP) Expired

- | <i>Office</i> | <i>Residence</i> |
|---|--|
| 18. Com. M.V. Ehadram,
Harbour Approach Road,
VISAKHAPATNAM - 530001. | M.1.G-1 Quarters
Lajapathi Roy Nagar
G.T. Road
P. A. N. I. P. A. T -- Haryana. |
| 19. Com. M.V.N. Kaparde,
A.P. State Committee AITUC
3-5-912, Makhdoom Mohiudin,
Marg, Himayat Nagar,
HYDERABAD - 500029. | 27. Com. Kameshwar Pandit,
H.P. State Committee AITUC
Skipton Villa,
SIMLA - 171001. |
| 20. Com. K.L. Mahendra,
103, Jambagh,
HYDERABAD - 500001. | 28. Com. Kallat Krishnan,
East Christian College,
KOZHIKODE - 673001. |
| 21. Com. Barin Chowdhury,
Assam State Committee AITUC
Tambulbari, Dt. Lakhimpur
P.O. TINSUKIA - | 29. Com. K.N. Shyamsundara,
1715 E Cross No. 136/B, 2nd Stage, 1014/D
Binna-Mangalia, Indira Nagar,
BANGALORE - 560038. |
| 22. Com. Ratan Roy,
General Secretary,
Bihar State Committee AITUC
Narain Market, Baripath
PATNA - 800004. | 30. Com. M.C. Narasimhan,
27-VI Cross, IV- Main Road,
Malleswaram,
BANGALORE - 560003. |
| 23. Com. Gayasingh,
Bokaro Ispat Kamgar Union,
Qr. No. 823, III/D,
BOKARO STEEL CITY - 827003. | 31. Com. P.K. Thakur,
Advocate, Yadav Colony,
Behind Hanuman Mandir,
Lachmipura,
JABALPUR -- Madhya Pradesh. |
| 24. Com. Shafique Khan,
United Coal Workers Union,
No. 4 Area, Dist. Giridih,
P.O. BERM O -- Bihar. | 32. Com. Sudhir Mukherjee
Budhapara,
RAIPUR -- Madhya Pradesh. |
| 25. Com. Halchandra Trivedi,
General Secretary,
Gujarat State Committee AITUC
Sun-Moon Building, Laheri Pura,
BARODA -- 390001. | 33. Com. G.V. Chitnis
120 - Shivaji Nagar,
N.M. Joshi Road,
BOMBAY - 400013. |
| | 34. Com. Roza Deshpande,
Shah Niwas,
9- Kohinoor Road, Dadar,
BOMBAY - 400014. |

35. Com. A. B. Bardhan,
Sadar,
NAGPUR - 44 00 01.
36. Com. B. S. D h u m e ,
8- Sundar Niwas,
Kanara Goud Saraswat Society,
Jogeshwari,
B O M B A Y - 4 0 0 0 6 2 .
37. Com. S. K. Sanyal,
Advocate, *216 1111 25111*
Bornala, *Residence: 32775*
N A G P U R - 44 00 03.
38. Com. D. C. Mohanty,
Gopa Bandhu Niwas,
Badambadi,
CUTTACK - 7 5 3 0 0 9.
39. Com. Baba Kartar Singh,
President, Punjab TUC
29 MLA Flat, Sector - 3,
CHANDIGARH - 1 6 0 0 0 1.
40. Com. Madanlal Didi
29- MLA Flat, Sector- 3,
CHANDIGARH - 16 00 01.
41. Com. K. Viswanathan,
General Secretary,
Rajasthan State AITUC
Swami Kumaranand Smarak Samiti,
Behind Shalimar Cinema,
JAIPUR - 3 0 2 0 0 1.
42. Com. A. M. Govindarajan (Gopu)
Door No. 25, Block ' P '
E. W. S. Quarters, South Boag Road,
T. NAGAR,
M A D R A S - 6 0 0 0 1 7 .
43. Com. K. T. K. Thangamani,
Bar-at-Law,
8 - III Main Road,
Gandhi Nagar,
M A D R A S - 6 0 0 0 2 0.
44. Com. D. K. Yadav,
U.P. Bijli Karmachari Sangh,
7, Bisheshwarnath Road,
LUCKNOW - 2 2 6 0 0 1.
45. Dr. Ranen Sen,
18/1 - Sarat Bose Road,
CALCUTTA - 7 0 0 0 2 0.
46. Com. Bhowani Roy Chowdhury,
General Secretary, RPTUC
144 - Lenin Sarani,
CALCUTTA - 7 0 0 0 1 3.
47. Com. Nihar Mukherjee,
32-A, Sadananda Road,
Kalighat,
CALCUTTA - 7 0 0 0 2 6.
48. Com. Arun Sen,
R/66, Garden Reach Road,
CALCUTTA - 7 0 0 0 2 4.
49. Com. Kalyan Roy M.P.
63, South Avenue,
NEW DELHI - 1 1 0 0 0 1.
- (2) Com. Kalyan Roy. M. P.
Colliery Mazdoor Sabha,
G. T. Road,
Dist. Burdwan,
ASANSOL - 7 1 3 3 0 1.
50. Com. N. N. Manna,
C/7, D. D. A. Flats,
Ehim Nagari,
NEW DELHI - 1 1 0 0 1 6.
51. Com. N. C. Dutta,
1927, Above Dayal Press,
Majestic Lane,
Chandini Chowk,
D E L H I - 1 1 0 0 0 6.

LIST OF GENERAL COUNCIL MEMBERS OF AITUC
(VISAKHAPATNAM CONFERENCE : 26 - 31ST OCTOBER 1980)

.....

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Comrade J Satyanarayana
Bezompeta
VIJAYAWADA 520003.</p> | <p>10. Comrade D.V.V.S. Varma
Communist Party Office
TADEPALLIGUDEM 534101</p> |
| <p>2. Comrade Amolak Ram
Secretary
Andhra Pradesh Trade Union
Congress
"Shailendu", 5-9-22/21
Adarshnagar
HYDERABAD 500483</p> | <p>11. Comrade M.U. Bhaskara Rao
City Trade Union Council Office
"Palme Dutt Bhavan"
Near Bus Stand
VIJAYAWADA 520002</p> |
| <p>3. Comrade K Srinivas Rao
Secretary
Andhra Pradesh Trade Union
Congress
"Satyanarayan Reddy Bhavan"
3-5-912, Himayatnagar
HYDERABAD 500029</p> | <p>12. Comrade K. Nagaiiah
Old Bank Street
Kothapeta
GUNTUR 522001</p> |
| <p>4. Comrade K. Gurumurthy
D.No.17-1-21, A.V.N. College Road
VISAKHAPATNAM 530001</p> | <p>13. Comrade G.V. Krishna Rao
"Malliah Lingam Bhavan"
Kothapeta
GUNTUR 522001</p> |
| <p>5. Comrade V.V. Rama Rao
Visakhapatnam Harbour & Port
Workers' Union
"Bhadramurthy Sharma Bhavan"
R-2 Port Area
VISAKHAPATNAM 530035</p> | <p>14. Comrade G. Suryanarayana (Suryam)
"Malliah Lingam Bhavan"
Kothapeta
GUNTUR 522001</p> |
| <p>6. Comrade B.V. Raja (Chinna)
Communist Party Office
P.O. SALUR
Dt. Vizianagaram 532591</p> | <p>15. Comrade Bodepati Iaxmaiah
P.O. MUKTINUTALAPADI
Tq. Ongole
Dt. Prakasam
Andhra Pradesh</p> |
| <p>7. Comrade C. Prabhakara Chowdary
H.No.14, Block No. 3
Gandhipuram
Dt. East Godavari 533103</p> | <p>16. Comrade K. Subbanna
Alamkhanpalli
P.O. RAVINDRANAGAR
Dt. Cuddapah
Andhra Pradesh</p> |
| <p>8. Comrade M. Narasimha Rao
12-4-16, Bapuji Nagar
KOVVUR
West Godavari Dt. 534350</p> | <p>17. Comrade C. Krishnamurthy
Adoni Textile Labour Union
D.No.74, Ward II
Pandit Nehru Road (Budekal)
ADONI
Dt. Kurnool 518301</p> |
| <p>9. Comrade Pudi Appalaswamy
C. P. I. Office
Ramachandraraopeta
ELURU
West Godavari Dt. 534002</p> | <p>18. Comrade M. Komaraiah
General Secretary
Singareni Collieries Workers
Union
P.O. KOTEGUDEM COLLIERIES
Dt. Khammam 570101</p> |

19. Comrade B.Gangaram
Singareni Collieries Workers
Union
BELLAMPALLI 504251
20. Comrade M. Bhaskara Rao
Singareni Collieries Workers
Union
GODAVARI KHANI 505209
21. Comrade R.P. Ranga Rao
4-5/21 First Floor
St. John's Road
SECUNDERABAD 500025
22. Comrade A. Ramulu
179, Darziwada
Comsary Bazar
Bowenpalli (Cantonment)
SECUNDERABAD 500011
23. Comrade Andrew Joseph
10-5-814/4
Tukaram Gate
North Lallaguda
SECUNDERABAD 500017
24. Comrade P. Nageswara Rao
8-3-903/4/3, Ellareddyguda
HYDERABAD 500038
25. Comrade Salem Shahedi
19-1-1062/7, Bandalguda
Outside Doodhbowli
HYDERABAD 500002
26. Comrade P.J. Chandrasekhara Rao
7-108, Raju Colony
P.O. HAL
HYDERABAD 500042
27. Comrade M.Krishna Murthy
H.No. 18/692
Kareemabad
WARANGAL 506002
28. Comrade V.Gangadhar Rao
"Malliah Lingam Bhavan"
Kothapeta
GUNTUR 522001
29. Comrade V.Koteswara Rao
Ramannapeta 1 Line
Koritapadu
GUNTUR 522002
- 30* Comrade P.K. Kumaran
24 Canning Lane
NEW DELHI 110001
31. Comrade Desinga Raju
S.C.Railway Workers Union
Poornanandampeta
VIJAYAWADA 520003
32. Comrade G. Venkat Reddy
9-11-165/4, Quilla Road
NIZAMABAD 503001
33. Comrade G. Ramchander
21-5-383, Puranapul
HYDERABAD 500002
34. Comrade Promode Gogoi
C/o Assam State Council, CPI
Rajgarh
GAUHATI 781003
35. Comrade Suren Bhatta
East Sarania
(Near Air Force Office)
GAUHATI 781003
36. Comrade J.M. Biswas
33/B Nambari Colony
GAUHATI 781011
37. Comrade A.K. Kandwal
C/o O.N.G.C. Workers' Association
Dolmukh Charali
P.O. SIBSAGAR
Dist. Sibsagar 785640
- 30* Comrade P.K. Kumaran
Kadoor House
PUNNOL P.C.
Tellicherry 670102

39. Comrade K.C.Choudhary MLC
Chitragupta Nagar
P.O. RAJENDRA NAGAR
Patna 800016
40. Comrade Ramavtar Singh
C/o Jamshedpur Mazdoor Union
33, Sarkar Building
P.O. Sakchi
JAMSHEDPUR 831001
41. Comrade Ramendra Kumar MLA
United Coal Workers' Union
P.O. BHURKUNDA
Dt. Hazaribagh 825301
42. Comrade Tikaram Manjhi MLA
ICC Workers' Union
P.O. MAUBHANDAR
GHATSHILA
Dt. Singhbhum
43. Comrade Shivanandan Jha
United Coal Workers' Union
P.O. MANDU
Dt. Hazaribagh 825301
44. Comrade T.N. Jha
United Coal Workers' Union
Dakra Colliery
P.O. KHELARI
Dt. Ranchi 834001
45. Comrade Anirudh Singh
Bokaro Ispat Kamgar Union
823 - III D
P.O. BOKARO STEEL CITY
Dt. Dhanbad 827001
46. Comrade B. N. Thakur
Jamshedpur Contractor's
Worker's Union
33 Sarkar Building
P.O. Sakchi
JAMSHEDPUR 831001
47. Comrade K. K. Sinha
United Cement Workers' Union
Raj Bhawan
P.O. JHINKPANI
Dt. Singhbhum
48. Comrade Lalit Burman
United Coal Workers' Union
Near Mack & Co.
DHANBAD 826001
49. Comrade S. K. Roy
United Coal Worker's Union
Sahu Bhawan
Dharmashala Road
P.O. JHARIA
Dist. Dhanbad
50. Comrade Umakant Jha
Kosi Kamgar Union
BIRPUR
Dist. Saharsa
51. Comrade Ram Balak Singh
Keshopur
P.O. JAMALPUR
Dt. Monghyr
52. Comrade Surya Narayan Singh MP
CPI Office
Karyanand Bhawan
BEGUSARAI
Bihar.
53. Comrade Abdul Zabbar
Biri Workers' Union
Mansoor Bhawan
P.O. BIHARSHARIF
Dt. Nalanda
54. Comrade Md. Salim
Jamshedpur Mazdoor Union
33 Sarkar Building
P.O. Sakchi
JAMSHEDPUR 831001
55. Comrade Omilal Azad
United Coal Worker's Union
Gaddi Mohalla
P.O. GIRIDIH 815301
56. Comrade S.D. Sharma
United Coal Worker's Union
P.O. MANDU
Dt. Hazaribagh
57. Comrade Triveni Tiwary
CPI Office
MOTIHARI
Bihar.

58. Comrade Deeki Nandan Singh
Barauni Telsodhak Mazdoor
Union
Refinery Township
P.O. BARAUNI REFINERY TOWNSHIP
Dt. Begusarai
59. Comrade Ramavtar Shastri MP
MLA Flat 113
Gardiner Road
PATNA 800001
60. Comrade P.K. Ganguly
Jamshedpur Mazdoor Union
33 Sarkar Building
P.O. Sakchi
JAMSHEDPUR 831001
61. Comrade Lakhan Lal
Dalmianagar Mazdoor Union
P.O. DALMIANAGAR
Dt. Rohtas
62. Comrade Raj Kishore Singh
CPI Office
Ajoy Bhawan
Langertoli
PATNA 800001
63. Comrade Ehubneswar Singh
Ghantaghar Water Tower
BHAGALPUR
Bihar
64. Comrade Krishna Mohan Prasad
Narayan Market
Langertoli
PATNA 800004
65. Comrade N.M. Prasad
Barauni Telsodhak Mazdoor
Union
Refinery Township
P.O. BARAUNI REFINERY TOWNSHIP
Dt. Begusarai
66. Comrade Mani Bhushan Prakash
Purana Jailkhana
GAYA
Bihar
67. Comrade A. K. Ahmad
H.S.C.L. Kamgar Union
823 III-D
P.O. BOKARO STEEL CITY
Dt. Dhanbad 827001
68. Comrade R. C. Sharma
KD/40-A
Ashok Vihar
NEW DELHI 110052
69. Comrade Shakeel Ahmad
1/24 Nehru Nagar
NEW DELHI 110024
71. Comrade M. M. Cope
58 Servant Quarters
South Avenue
NEW DELHI 110011
72. Comrade Narain Parshad
Kapra Ekta Mazdoor Union
Gaushala Gate
Near Double Phatak
Kishanganj
NEW DELHI 110006
73. Comrade J.P. Khare
Delhi Municipal Workers' Union
4/7 Asaf Ali Road
NEW DELHI 110002
74. Comrade D. L. Sachdev
Kapra Mazdoor Ekta Union
Gaushala Gate
Kishan Ganj
NEW DELHI 110006
75. Comrade S. Chandra
23/1 Chawri Bazar
DELHI 110006
76. Comrade Ishar Singh
DTC Workers' Union
3-A Asaf Ali Road (Top Floor)
NEW DELHI 110002.

77. Comrade ~~Adri~~ Das Sharma
102/1 Railway Quarters
Kishanganj
NEW DELHI 110006
*B-2-210 Yamuna Vihar
Delhi*
78. Comrade Vijay Kotaria
Hotel Mazdoor Union
167 Panchkuin Road
NEW DELHI 110001
79. Comrade George Vaz
At/Post Assonera
GOA 403503
80. Comrade Prabhaker Ghodge
Post Box No. 99
MARGAO 403601
Goa
81. Comrade Bhikhubhai Desai
10/B Alembic Colony
VARODA 390002
82. Comrade Raj Kumar Singh
34 Tupovan Society Mizampura
New Chani Road
VARODA 390002
83. Comrade Bhikhubhai Vaghela
Trade Union House
Ranjit Singh Road
JAMNAGAR 361001
84. Comrade Bhupendra Thaker
9, Keshariaji Nagar
Vasana
AHMEDABAD 380001
85. Comrade Narayan Prasad Bhatt
3/348 Navapura
Kanta Niwad
SURAT 395001
86. Comrade P. D. Gandhi
1, Laxmikunj Society
Paldi
AHMEDABAD 380001
87. Comrade Abhai Singh
House of Unity
B.C.W Surajpur Dt. 133001
AMBALA
88. Comrade Darshan Singh
Office of AITUC
Sector-I
FARIDABAD N.I.T. 121001
89. Comrade Mahabir Singh
Office of Bata Shoe Workers ' Union
Tikona Park
FARIDABAD N.I.T. 121001
90. Comrade Man Singh
Office of Mazdoor Sabha
Labour Colony
BHIWANI
Haryana
91. Comrade M. L. Mistry
General Secretary
IDPL Workers ' Union
GURGAON 122001
92. Comrade D. R. Nirdoshi
General Secretary
Baira Siul Hydrel Workers ' Union
Surangani
Dt. CHAMBA 176317
93. Comrade Roshan Lal Dogra
General Secretary
Himachal Pradesh Transport Workers ' Union
Fay Lodge, Bus Stand
SIMLA 171001
94. Comrade Keshav Sharma
197/10 Jhanera Mohalla
MANDI
HIMACHAL PRADESH 75001
95. Comrade H. N. Wanchoo
63 Jawaharnagar (Private)
SRINAGAR 190008

96. Comrade A.S. Mugrooh
President
L.J. Electrical Employees' &
Workers Union
Gantamulla
BARAMULLA 193124
Kashmir
97. Comrade Kanwal Dev
General Secretary
MES Workers' Union, J & K Area
Ashok Nagar
Satwari, Jammu Cantt. 180003.
98. Comrade H. N. Narendra Prasad
Secretary
All India Cement Workers'
Federation
Adithyapatna
AMMASANDRA
Dt. Tumkur 572101
99. Comrade V.R. Ananda Thirtha
Communist Party Office
9/3 Ashoka Road
DAVANGERE 577002
100. Comrade H. Unanath Nayak
" Hari Niwas "
Bolar
MANGALORE 575001
101. Comrade D.S. Sriramulu
No. I (Upstairs)
Russell Market
BANGALORE 560001
102. Comrade H. Mahadevan
AITUC South Zone Office
24 (Upstairs)
Lakshmana Modaliar Street
BANGALORE 560001
103. Comrade C. Munirathnam
539, IV Block
Rajajinagar
BANGALORE 560001
104. Comrade A.J. Mudhol
Veerapur Oni
HUBLI 580004
105. Comrade K.F. Mense
804, Mense Galli
BEIGALUM
Karnataka 590001
106. Comrade Adivappa Shanappa
Secretary
Hyderabad-Karnataka PWD
Workers' Union
Brahmapur
GULBARGA 585101
107. Comrade M. Jumnal
Communist Party Office
Banahalli
Jamkandi Taluk
BIJAPUR 586101
108. Comrade Pampapathi MLA
Communist Party Office
9/3 Ashoka Road
DAVANGERE 577002
109. Comrade M. S. Mani
General Secretary
Bharat Electronics Employees'
Union
BBL Hostel Area
Jalahalli Post
BANGALORE 560013
110. Comrade S. K. Rehman
1867 Sayyajirao Road
MYSORE 570001
111. Comrade P. Bhaskaran
President
Kerala State Trade Union
Council
Sugathan Memorial Buildings
Vazhuthacaud
P.O. THYCAUD
Trivandrum 695014
112. Comrade K.P. Prabhakaran MLA
Vice-President
Kerala State Trade Union
Council
ANTHIKAD P.O.
Trichur 680641

113. Comrade K. C. Mathew
Vice-President
Kerala State Trade Union
Council
Kulangara, Edappally
COCHIN 682024
121. Comrade C.K. Kesavan
General Secretary
Kerala State Chethu Thozhilam
Federation, AITUC
MULLAKKAL
Alleppey 688007
114. Comrade R. Ravindran
Secretary
Kerala State Trade Union
Council
KONNI P.O.
Dist. Quilon 691001
122. Comrade K. V. Kocheria
Secretary
District Trade Union Council
Palace Road
KOTTAYAM 686001
115. Comrade P.P. Mukundan
Secretary
Kerala State Trade Union
Council
Communist Party of India Dist-
rict Council
Near Kallikodan Kavu
CANNANORE 670003
123. Comrade K. C. Prabhakaran
Eravoor Veedu
KALITHARAM P.O.
North Parur
Ernakulam Dt. 682011
116. Comrade C. A. Kurien MIA
Secretary
Kerala State Trade Union
Council
D.E.W. Union, AITUC
MUNNAR P.O. 685612
Idikki District
124. Comrade T. A. Joseph
Theckanattu House
Olanad
VARAPUZHA P.O.
Ernakulam Dt. 682011
117. Comrade M. T. Chandrasenan
" Usha Bhavan "
Kuthirapanthy Ward
ALLEPPEY 688002
125. Comrade T. J. Varghese
Prabhath Book House
UDYOGAMANDAL P.O.
Eloor
Ernakulam District 682017
118. Comrade N. Aravindan
Secretary
District Trade Union Council
CPI City Committee Office
Koderlane
TRIVANDRUM 695001
126. Comrade T. N. Prabhakaran
Jothy Niwas
SUKHAPURAM P.O.
Via Edappal
Malappuram District 673009
119. Comrade N. Anirudhan
Secretary
District Trade Union Council
CPI District Council
Kadappakada
QUILON 691008
127. Comrade P. Venugopalan Nair
Archana
Karakkamandapam
NEMOM. P. O.
Trivandrum District 695020
120. Comrade A.N. Yoosuf
Kalmadapam
PAIGHAT 678007
128. Comrade Prakash Roy
CPI Office
RAJNANDGAON
Madhya Pradesh

130. Comrade Ranchandra Sarwate
Lalaka Bazar Lashkar
GWALIOR 474001
131. Comrade C. R. Bakshi
LIG-9 Vaishali Nagar
BHILAI 490027
132. Comrade D. K. Rao
Samyukt Khadan Mazdoor Sangh
NANDINI MINES
Dist. Durg 491001
133. Comrade K. Swami
B-15 Grasim Workers Colony
P.O. BIRLAGRAM-NAGDA 456331
134. Comrade Sambal Chakravarti
Bhilai Steel Mazdoor Sabha
Nandini Road (AITUC)
Camp No. 2
BHILAI 490001 Dt. Durg.
135. Comrade Preetam Singh Chowkse
1/4 Pardesi Pura
INDORE 452001
136. Comrade K. Adinarayanan
C/o O.P. Mill Labour Union
AMLAI PAPER MILLS (AITUC)
District Shadol 484117
137. Comrade Nandlal Pardesi
C/o Bhilai Steel Mazdoor Sabha
Nandini Road
P.O. BHILAI 4900
District Durg 490001
138. Comrade Mushtaque Hussain
C/o Dr. Bessoon
Dayal Bund
BILASPUR 495001
139. Comrade Indrajit Singh
Gr. No. Type C/5
KIRINDUL
District Bastar 494556
140. Comrade Krishna Modi
Samyukta Khadan Mazdoor
Sangh
P.ATHA. KHEDA-BETUL 460449
141. Comrade A. Gulphate
C/o Heavy Electricals
Mazdoor Union
Gr.No.622/N-2/ Sector C
GOVINDPURA
BHOPAL 462023
142. Comrade Govind Prasad
Shrivastava
Madhya Pradesh State
Committee of the AITUC
Patel Nagar Labour Colony
Near Bharat Talkies
BHOPAL 462001
143. Comrade V. D. Deshpande
Advocate " Prashant "
Saraswate Colony West
AURANGABAD (S.C Railway)
Maharashtra
144. Comrade Vasant Tulpule
844 Sadashiv Peth
POONA 411002
145. Comrade Govind Pansare
Red Flag Building
Bindu Chowk
KOLHAPUR 416001
146. Comrade Madhav Mokashi
Pangarkar's Bungalow
Katwal Nagar
P.O. KARZAT
Dt. Colaba
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C/o Communist Party Office
Near Tilak Statue
Mahal
NAGPUR
159. Comrade Mohandas Naidu
Nagpur Trade Union Centre
C/o Communist Party Office
Near Tilak Statue
Mahal
NAGPUR
160. Comrade Rajaram Gujrathi
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CUTTACK 753009
173. Comrade Ramchandra Ram, Advocate
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180. Comrade Badri Nath Sahni
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KALKA 133302
181. Comrade Piara Singh Deosi
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CHANDIGARH

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General Secretary
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C/o District Trade Union
PATIALA 147001 Council

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Ex-ia Bherwan
Sukhi Ghar
Amritsar. (Burgala)

185. Comrade Fateh Singh
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186. Comrade M. L. Yadav
Rajasthan State Roadways Emplo-
yees' Union
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MADRAS 600045
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Dated: 27th Sep: 1981

P R E S S H A N D - O U T

THE General Council of the All-India Trade Union Congress met in New Delhi on September 23 to 25, 1981 and reviewed the developments since the 31st Session of the AITUC held at Visakhapatnam last year.

THE meeting was presided over by a presidium consisting of the Vice-Presidents present viz. J.Chittaranjan, M.S.Krishnan,Md.Elias, Chaturanan Mishra, B.D.Joshi and Homi Daji. In Condolence Resolutions, the General Council mourned the death of M.V.N.Kaparde, General Secretary, Andhra Pradesh State TUC; Prasanta Datta, General Secretary, Calcutta Port & Dock Workers' Union; Kedar Das, Veteran Trade Union leader of Jamshedpur; K.Kumariah, Coal Miners' leader at Singareni Collieries, Andhra Pradesh; Jai Prakash, HMS leader of Modinagar; Bal Dandavate; President of HMS; Moses, Vice-President of Madhya Pradesh TUC; Shyam Behari Singh, Coal Miners' leader in Asansol (West Bengal).

THE General Council also mourned the death of Com.Bupesh Gupta, S.A.VikramSinghe, Communist and working class leader of Sri Lanka; Pandit Sundarlal, K.D.Malaviya, Robert Sands and 9 other IRA activists who died of hunger strike, Madam Sun Yat-Sen, General Omar Torrijos of Panama and P.B.Gajendragadkar, former Chief Justice of India.

Indrajit Gupta, AITUC General Secretary submitted a report on the developments since the 31st Congress of the AITUC held last year, in the international and national spheres and indicated the tasks in the coming period.

THE aggravation of the international situation by the stepping up of arms race by the Reagan Administration, its decision to produce the neutron bomb, arming of Pakistan, aggression on Angola by the South African racist regime, US intervention against the people of El Salvador came in for discussions at the general council and emphasis was laid on the urgency of mobilising the workers against imperialist conspiracies, against the manufacture of neutron bomb etc.

THE economic and labour policies of the Government came into sharp focus during discussions in the Council particularly with regard to the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance which has now become a law banning strikes in so-called essential services, the attack on trade union rights in different states, beginning of wage-freeze in the shape of the proposal to impound DA of Central Government employees, the continuing rise in prices of essential commodities, more and more reliance of the Government of India on huge loans from imperialist agencies such as IMF, appeasement of monopolies and traders.

THE Council hailed the resolution and decisions of the united trade union convention held in Bombay on June 4 last and resolved to carry forward the united struggle and draw in other sections of the toiling people in the united movement.

THE General Council called upon the working class and trade unions to implement the decisions of the National Campaign Committee of Trade Unions to hold state conventions wherever such conventions have not yet taken place, to observe the ALL INDIA "PROTEST AND DEMANDS DAY" ON NOVEMBER 3, to mobilise tens of thousands workers, employees and other sections of the working people, particularly agricultural labour, students, youth, women and others for Delhi March on November 23 before the Parliament and to get prepared to carry out any other programme including an all-India one-day general strike that the National Campaign Committee might decide.

THE General Council severly condemned the promulgation and subsequent enactment of the draconian Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance imposing blanket ban on strikes and agitations in so-called essential services and called upon the working class to intensify their struggles demanding withdrawal of this thoroughly anti-labour legislation which has been brought forward to gratify the Indian and International Monopolies.

THE General Council called upon the trade unions to organise the vast number of workers in the Minimum Wages Sector who number millions and who are condemned to sweated labour and pitifully low wages, as well as contractors' workers in the public and private sectors, and launch struggles for betterment of their wages and service conditions.

THE General Council drew attention of the workers and trade unions to the Jamshedpur riot enquiry commission report and called for

vigilance and fight against the communal forces which are trying to divide the working class and the toiling people.

THE General Council adopted a large number of resolutions on both International and National issues and some of the main resolutions are attached for information and publication.

Indrajit Gupta

(INDRAJIT GUPTA)

G E N E R A L S E C R E T A R Y

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING 23-25 SEPTEMBER

ON AMENDMENT OF LABOUR LAWS

Although no specific amendments to some of the labour laws viz., Industrial Disputes Act, Indian Trades Union Act, Employment & Standing Orders Act, have so far been brought before the Parliament, the General Council of the AITUC noted the intention expressed both in the Parliament and outside, by the Ministers in the Ministry of Labour of bringing in amendments to these legislations. There has been no discussion with the trade unions on the specific amendments that the Government intends to bring in. But the proposals circulated in connection with the several times postponed national labour conference as part of the agenda of the said conference, are essentially retrograde seeking to put further restrictions on the formation and functioning of the trade unions and also trade unions rights including the right to strike.

The General Council calls upon the trade unions to oppose such reactionary amendments to the labour laws which the Government has decided to sponsor.

The General Council of the AITUC reiterates the demands put forward by the 31st Session of the AITUC last year to amend the I.D and other Acts to provide for:

1. Extension of the definition of "industry" to cover all wage and salary earners without discrimination and distinction on account of occupation and place of work.
2. Compulsory recognition by means of secret ballot.
3. Abolition of salary ceiling and nature of work for being defined a 'workman'.
4. The right of individual cases of termination of service to be taken directly to labour courts.
5. No compulsory arbitration or adjudication, except when demanded by the trade unions.
6. Annulment of all restrictions on the right of strike and trade union work inside and outside the factories and in the industrial townships and of the recently passed draconian legislation for banning strikes in so-called essential services.
7. The right of trade unions to take disputes directly to courts and tribunals when they so desire.

The General Council calls upon the workers and trade unions to remain vigilant and to intensify the united countrywide movement which has been launched since the Bombay Convention of June 4, 1981.

ON THE ESIS SCHEME REVIEW COMMITTEE

A committee to review the working of the ESIS Scheme has been set up by government with INTUC leader V.R. Hoshing as Chairman. The committee does not include any representative of the AITUC or HMS, both of whom are members of the ESIC since its inception. The AITUC takes a grave view of this and strongly protests against this growing practice of the government to exclude workers' interests other than INTUC from committees to review the EPF, ESIC etc. The other feature of the committee is that it is dominated by officials who form a majority of the thirteen-member committee. Such a committee can certainly not inspire confidence in the minds of the insured persons, the principal contributors to the scheme. Moreover, INTUC cannot be the sole representative of the insured workers, which indeed they are not.

The experience of the Ramanujam Committee has not been a happy one. That committee has made certain major recommendations which are retrograde, pro-employer, and militate against workers' interests. The attention of the government has already been drawn to these.

It is therefore apprehended that the Housing Committee will do no better. There are already reports that the committee is trying to rush through its work. There is no plan of visiting important centres and consulting the views directly of the insured persons on the working of the scheme. Workers are seriously concerned with the report that there is an attempt to push through a recommendation for amending Section 63 of the ESI Act so as to deny insured persons sickness benefit during strikes, lockouts, closures, and lay-offs. Such an amendment has already come up before the ESIC for consideration. The general council endorses the stand taken by the AITUC representatives in the corporation stoutly opposing any such amendment. It is now learnt that this matter has only been deferred for consideration after the report of the Housing Committee is presented. It is clear that this proposal is part of government's attacks on the working class. One has also to recall, that already two committees have reviewed the working of the scheme, and made certain positive proposals. However, they have been put in cold storage. The present committee is therefore an attempt to bypass the earlier positive recommendations, and impose certain retrograde recommendations.

Social security is a fundamental right of the working class. In India a comprehensive social security scheme is yet a far cry. The AITUC has consistently been demanding that government should come forward with a comprehensive non-contributory social security scheme to cover workers in the rural sector also. The earlier ESIS Review Committee had recommended, as a beginning, a comprehensive scheme, amalgamating all schemes so far extant in the country. Government has, however, over the years paid little heed to this issue.

Now the process is beginning to whittle down even the existing schemes instead of removing defects which have seriously impaired the satisfactory working of these schemes. The proposed amendment to Section 63 is part of this policy.

The general council of the AITUC demands that the Hoshing committee has reconstituted with the inclusion of representatives of Central T.Us so as to ensure fair representation of the insured persons, thereby also reducing the weightage of the official representations. The general council also warns that any move to bring about any amendment to Section 63 as proposed will be stoutly resisted by the working class.

The general council calls on all state committees and affiliates to take up these demands and launch a determined campaign to achieve them. All steps should be taken to ensure the widest participation in this campaign through holding gate and shift meetings, through organising state-wide conventions and presentation of memoranda to government.

ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE RAMANUJAM COMMITTEE
ON PROVIDENT FUND SCHEME

The general council of the AITUC views with grave concern certain retrograde recommendations made by the Committee set up to review the working of the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme under the chairmanship of G. Ramanujam. While the recommendations regarding the composition of the Central Board of Trustees giving greater and proper weightage of workers' representatives, the extension of the coverage of the Act to all establishments employing 10 or more persons, that the Act be amended so that all penal provisions apply to exempted establishments also, that in case of liquidation and closure the employers' share may also be paid to the subscriber out of the Special Reserve Fund without waiting for its recovery, etc. - all reflect the long standing demands of the working class and merit immediate implementation, these become nullified by the other retrograde recommendations.

The general council of the AITUC specifically opposes the major recommendation on decentralisation and removing departmentally run public sector undertakings out of the purview of the EPF Act. Other retrograde recommendations include the continuation of the infancy period, and making only the employer's share the first charge on the assets of establishments taken over by the government or going into liquidation, etc.

The proposal regarding decentralisation particularly, if implemented, would virtually amount to handing over the scheme to be run by the employers on the lines of the now exempted establishment. The experience, by and large of the exempted units has shown that malpractices and mishandling of money belongs to the workers is a common phenomena. The picture of arrears of the exempted establishments is a telling fact to illustrate how the scheme has operated against the vital interest of the workers in a large number of exempted establishments.

In pursuance of the decision of the working committee, the AITUC had addressed a letter to the Minister of Labour demanding that a meeting of representatives of all central trade union organisations be held to discuss the recommendations of the Ramanujam Committee before legislation is undertaken to give effect to them. Though more than four months have gone by there has been no response from government.

The general council of the AITUC is of the firm opinion that while immediate effect should be given to the recommendations of the Ramanujam Committee which have been unanimously endorsed by the Central Trade Union Organisations.

The general council calls on all unions to take up this issue and organise a broad campaign, drawing in all sections of the trade union movement into it to achieve this demand.

The trade unions and the working class should fight back any further inroads on the rights of workers to social security benefits.

AGAINST THE NEUTRON BOMB

US president Ronald Reagan's decision to go in for full production of the neutron bomb has evoked the most widespread protest throughout the world. It is the overwhelming opposition in all countries that had compelled the former US administration to suspend the production of this most inhuman weapon. Reagan's decision is nothing short of driving the world closer to the abyss of nuclear catastrophe. It has now become doubly serious since the manufacture of components for the neutron weapon is already underway. All that is now required is to assemble and deploy the bombs. These weapons will be placed at the disposal of many second-string commanders, thus multiplying the risk of their use as so-called 'tactical weapons'. Combined with the NATO decision to place new US strategic missiles in Europe, this decision of Reagan greatly increases the accumulation of nuclear weapons and adds a new and more dangerous dimension to the arms-build up by the United States.

In face of this grave new danger, it is absolutely imperative for all to act to save humanity from the perils of a nuclear catastrophe. The movement against the manufacture of the ~~next~~ neutron bomb is growing in all countries. The forces of peace have become more capable now to prevent production of the neutron bomb if they act in time. Through united actions the Carter administration had been compelled in 1977 to abandon plans to manufacture the dread weapon and desist from the employment of Pershing II and Cruise missiles.

The general council hails the powerful movement that has built up spontaneously by all peace-loving and right thinking people. Unprecedented popular manifestations against the criminal policy of Reagan have already taken place, such as the long march from Copenhagen to Paris on the initiative of women's organisations, the W. Berlin demonstration, the massive march to Washington and so on.

The government of the USSR has acted promptly demanding the US should scrap the production of the neutron bomb and putting forward positive proposals for disarmament and a halt to the arms race. World public opinion has come out in support of these positive actions of the Soviet government. They have also made it clear that they would not stand by with arms folded if the US, ignoring world opinion, went ahead with the production of the bomb.

In face of the grave danger of President Reagan's decision it is more urgent than ever for the working class of our country to act and participate in fullest measure in all actions against the production of the bomb. Demonstrations have already been held in various parts of the country and in front of the US Embassy in Delhi to voice the protest of the peace-loving people of our country. But the battle is not yet won.

The general council of the AITUC fully endorses the demand put forward by the World Peace Council addressed to President Reagan demanding that he rescind the decision to go ahead with the production of neutron weapons and enter into Summit negotiations regarding Eurostrategic missiles and return to SALT process.

The general council of the AITUC calls on all affiliated unions and the working class to take up this vital demand and organise the widest possible campaign in cooperation with all forces of peace in the country demandin:

NO TO NEUTRON BOMBS AND ALL NEUTRON WEAPONS !

NO TO US CRUISE AND PERSHING MISSILES !

START NEGOTIATIONS FOR DISARMAMENT !

.....

O N B O N U S

Barring restoration of the minimum bonus of 8.33 percent in the Payment of Bonus Act, no other amendment has been effect to do away with the retrograde provisions incorporated during the Emergency in 1975-76 and to further improve it in respect of coverage and eligibility and also quantum of bonus. The collective bargaining right of the workers has not yet been restored. Attempt is continuing to deny workers the guaranteed minimum Bonus and employers, in one industry or another, are trying to introduce productivity linked bonus which the AITUC has consistently opposed.

The General Council reiterates the demands put forward by the 31st Session at Visakhapatnam last year.

1. Minimum bonus to all unconditionally and to raise the quantum
2. Radical change in the present bonus Act including the computation chart.
3. Pending that, beyond the statutory minimum of 8.33 percent, bonus should be left to be determined by collective bargaining.
4. The various ceilings contained in the Act should go.
5. The choice of linking bonus above the statutory minimum to profits or production or productivity should be left to the workers and the basis should be decided by collective bargaining.

* * * * *

ON ESSENTIAL SERVICES MAINTENANCE ACT

The general council of the AITUC expresses its strongest condemnation at the passing into law of the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance.

This draconian Act takes away the fundamental right to strike of the workers both in the public and private sectors in the name of maintenance of production in Essential Services. It is sheer hypocrisy to say that the Government has only acquired the power to ban the strikes and that it would not be used against the workers. History and experience has amply exhibited that when the bourgeois rulers are given such powers they have been used mercilessly to attack the working class and take away their democratic rights and suppress the trade union movement. When the definition of 'strike' has been made so wide that any worker who for genuine reasons is not able to work is brought under its ambit, when the police are given such sweeping powers to arrest any worker without warrant and on suspicion, the diabolical intentions of the Government to beat down the working class and snatch away their rights are crystal clear considering that the Act provides for severe punishment of summary dismissals, huge fines and imprisonment for one year, this measure is more intended to strike terror in the working class using the strong arm of law, instead of governing industrial relations in a proper manner.

The general council of the AITUC considers that the real reason for bringing in such an Act is to appease the US dominated International Monetary Fund who have laid down the most objectionable and derogatory conditions, namely, wage freeze, use of the funds mainly in the private sector etc. if they have to grant the 5½ Billion dollars aid which the Government has sought for. Unable to solve the mounting crisis, created by its own policies which are in favour of the capitalists, the Government of Indira Gandhi is, on the one side, bartering the interests of the country by getting funds from the I.M.F. on conditions which no country with self-respect should accept and on the other, attacking the working class and seeking to snatch away their hard won rights by enacting measures such as the Essential Services Maintenance Act.

It is a matter of shame that the ruling party has chosen to push through such an undemocratic measure despite the united and powerful protest of the entire opposition in the Parliament. It is a matter of satisfaction that the working class of the country is agitating powerfully against this measure immediately after the Ordinance (ESMO) was promulgated and expressed in unmistakable terms its strong resentment at this Ordinance, through united conventions, demonstrations, processions, observance of Black Day on August 17, bandhs in Kerala, West Bengal and proposed bandhs in other states etc. The general council of AITUC urges upon the President of India to take note of the universal resentment of the working class of the country and refuse to give his assent to this Black Act.

The AITUC while expressing happiness at the united movement that has already been launched, appeals to the trade unions and working class to make the programme of action chalked out by the National Campaign Committee of the central trade union organisations, namely observance of protest day on November 3, 1981, and Delhi March on November 23 a mighty success. It also calls upon all its affiliates to fully participate in the programmes of action chalked out by the N.C.C. at the national level as well as at the state level and see that the government is forced to withdraw this anti-working class Act.

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ON MINIMUM WAGES IN SCHEDULED EMPLOYMENTS

The general council of the AITUC expresses its grave concern on the deplorable wage and service conditions of millions of workers covered by the Minimum Wages statute.

Taking the country as a whole, even on government's own admission, 25,27,74,000 or more than 50% of our rural population is labouring below poverty line. 5,18,39,000 or more than 38% of the urban population live below poverty line. Less than 50% of these toilers are covered by the establishments mentioned in the Minimum Wages law schedule.

Firstly, the Minimum Wages are not regularly periodically revised.

Secondly, those revised and fixed are deplorably low.

Thirdly, there is no adequate machinery to enforce the wages statutorily fixed.

Fourthly, whatever machinery is there, it is inefficient and even corrupt.

Fifthly, due to certain defects in the Act, and loopholes deliberately left in the modifications, the wages notified are stayed for years by the courts.

But the experience is that where better wages are fixed and enforced, the employers tend to shift the establishments to neighbouring states where the wages are low.

Only some states like Kerala, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Punjab, Haryana, and West Bengal and in some cases in Bihar and U.P. the Cost of Living Allowance is also paid in terms of Section 4 of the Minimum Wages Act. In other places, and even in cases where the Central Government fixes the Minimum wage, no cost of living allowance is given to compensate to any extent the rise in the prices.

The General Council notes that this sector of workers are moving in joint actions to secure a just minimum wage.

But the Government of India that swears by the well-being of weaker sections of people has been doing little to ameliorate the suffering of these hard hit working people.

The Minimum Wages fixed by the Central Government are lower than those fixed by some state governments.

The Government of India is refusing to allow Cost of Living Allowance or automatic adjustment of Minimum Wages every six months.

It insists on paying only 70% of the fixed minimum wage to the physically handicapped.

The recent meeting of the Labour Ministers, presided over by the Union Labour Minister, has proposed that poverty line wage be secured for this sector, and that too in phases.

The "Poverty Line Wage" (on the basis of 2400 calories in rural areas and 2100 calories in urban areas) works out at 427 Consumer Price Index in April 1981 to Rs. 342.64 in rural and Rs. 395.6 in urban areas for four consumption units.

The AITUC has demanded Rs. 400/- and a number of State Conventions of Trade Unions in this sector have demanded Rs. 500/- as a minimum wage on April 1981 Index and Cost of Living Allowance over that fully compensating the rise in prices.

The economic activity in the sector is handicapped because of the taxation and other economic and fiscal policies of the Government. Lack of financial infrastructure facilities, and marketing assistance and above all inflationary situation go against this sector and seriously cripple it. The employers want to pass on the burdens arising out of all this, on to the workers by denying them adequate minimum wages and cushion against high prices.

The Minimum Wages Law of 1948 is also out of date and needs to be amended to meet the needs of the times.

The AITUC general council demands that:-

1. (a) bring in a number of employments that are not covered;
(b) make Cost of Living Allowance mandatory;
(c) Lay down the criteria for an adequate minimum wage;
(d) make the enforcement machinery adequate and efficient; and
(e) make the punishment for non-implementation or mal-implementation very stringent.
2. The minimum wage should in no case be less than Rs. 400/- and in the range of Rs. 400/- and 500/- depending on the nature of employment.
3. Cost of Living Allowance should be made compulsory to compensate the rise in prices.

The AITUC general council congratulates the trade unions for their struggle to improve the Minimum Wage level in scheduled employments and calls upon the trade unions to further intensify the united struggle in this, the most down-trodden, sector of workmen.

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IN SUPPORT OF BOMBAY CONVENTION AND
===== UNITED MOVEMENT =====

This meeting of the general council of the AITUC hails the Nation/Convention held at Bombay on 4 June 1981 as a significant event in the history of the trade union movement. TU organisations and industrial federations represented there spoke in one voice expressing their determination to fight unitedly against the anti-people, anti-working/policies of the government. The Congress (I) Government has during its terms of office failed to redeem a single promise to alleviate the sufferings of the common people. Prices have continued to rise and inflation rate is steadily shooting up. The delegates gathered at Bombay in their speeches reflected the growing realisations that the working class would have to combine with all sections of the toiling masses and common people, as the struggle for their demands was an integral part of the common struggle against governments' pro-monopoly, pro-multinationals, and pro-landlord policies.

The Bombay convention gave a resounding call to the working class to mobilise all their strength to observe an all-India Demands Day, a massive march to Parliament and to prepare for a country wide one-day strike. Immediately after the convention steps were taken in all states to prepare for state-wide conventions with all the organisations which participated at Bombay taking part in full measure.

In the meanwhile, Government promulgated the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance (which is now in the process of becoming an Act). The unity achieved at Bombay resulted in the resounding success of observance of 17 August 1981 as Protest Day. unitedly throughout the country at the call of the National Campaign Committee set up at Bombay. This unity was further reflected most effectively on the floor of both houses of Parliament when the hated bill came up for discussion. The general strike in Kerala, the bandh in W. Bengal & Tripura, and the proposed bandhs in other states, have carried this unity forward.

The state conventions planned after the Bombay convention have now been completed in almost all the states. The experience in all these conventions is that the unity forged at Bombay has met with enthusiastic response from all sections of the working class and has created the possibilities of further united actions to achieve the demands set out in the Bombay resolution.

The National Campaign Committee has called on all constituent organisations to take steps to observe 3rd November as all-India Demands Day through/the country and stage demonstrations before state government offices, district headquarters, etc. These demonstrations will be a preparation for a massive march to Parliament on 23 November.

It is unfortunate that in some states the unity seen at the Bombay convention has not been fully reflected due to certain continuing differences. The general council of the AITUC appeals to all unions, organisations and federations to shed their reservations and play their full role in achieving all-round unity without which we cannot succeed in the struggle to win our demands. The AITUC is confident that no effort will be spared towards achieving such unity of action.

The general council of the AITUC calls on all affiliated unions to take all steps to make 3rd NOVEMBER and 23rd NOVEMBER a resounding success. The unions should also take steps to draw in all other organisations for the common demands of checking price rise and for an effective public distribution system, for effective steps against blackmarketeers, hoarders and speculators, for take-over of wholesale trade in foodgrains and nationalisation of certain consumer industries like textiles drug, sugar, for remunerative prices to the farmers and assured adequate wages to agricultural labour. If the workers are to succeed in their fight against the attacks on their own rights and working and living standards it cannot be done in isolation from the other sections of the people fighting for these demands which are common to one and all.

The general council of the AITUC calls on all unions to be prepared for the final call of the national campaign committee after the march to parliament for the country-wide one-day strike. It is only through a sustained, determined and united action that government will be forced to heed the voice of the working class and toiling masses.

FORWARD TO UNITED DEMONSTRATIONS ON 3rd NOVEMBER
1981:

FORWARD TO THE UNITED MARCH TO PARLIAMENT ON 23rd
NOVEMBER 1981:

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RESOLUTION ON EXPLOSION IN CRACKER UNIT IN
SIVAKASI

Nearly 60% of hand made matches and entire crackers fire works are manufactured in and around Sivakasi and Kovilpatty of Tamilnadu. Many thousands of workers mostly women and children are employed. Due to vacillating policies of the Government of India, thousands of mush room factories have sprung up in the last few years. Even huts and cow-sheds have been converted into factories. This endangers the life of workers and one evidence is the recent explosion in fire works factory near Sivakasi killing 31 persons. It is hightime, the Government of India Constitutes a high level committee to enforce measures to improve the working condition in these factories. The General Council of AITUC calls upon the Government of India and the Government of Tamilnadu to take up the issue of child labour and to enforce the existing laws relating to Child and Women labour in these industries who are cruelly exploited. It is also resolved to reconstitute the licensing pattern for match works and to bring forth the existing factories under them for a better working condition and a better living condition.

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RESOLUTION ON SERVICE CONDITIONS OF WORKERS ENGAGED
IN LOADING AND UNLOADING OPERATIONS

The general council is of the opinion that the Government of India have not taken adequate steps to bring the service conditions of the workers engaged in loading and unloading operations in New Mangalore, New Tuticorin and Paradip on par with their counter parts in Dock Labour Boards. On the other hand the Management in collusion with the INTUC is encouraging and abetting a closed shop system in New Mangalore Port. Attempts

are made to smash the AITUC union by taking recourse to goondaism etc.

Further without ensuring security of service and minimum guaranteed wages, attendance allowance, weekly rest day etc. introduction of mechanical services in cargo handling in these ports has reduced the employment and consequently wages.

The general council therefore demands that the benefits such as minimum guaranteed wages, Attendance allowance, paid weekly rest day, P. F. which are being enjoyed by the workers under various Dock Labour Boards should be extended to the workers engaged/cargo handling operations in New Mangalore, New Tuticorin and Paradip. /in

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U.S. ARMING OF PAKISTAN

The general council of the All-India Trade Union Congress views with great concern the U.S. decision to arm the military regime of Pakistan with latest F-16 bombers, tanks and all. This decision of the U.S. is a part of the global strategy of the U.S. in particular its strategy in Indian Ocean and South and West Asia.

Arming of a discredited military usurper regime in Pakistan is aimed at creating a puppet regime capable of dancing to the Imperialist tunes in the area - a substitute for the Reza Shah Iranian regime in this part of the world. A US armed military rule in Pakistan would be a mill-stone round the neck of the people of Pakistan. They would be ground down as they are already under unprecedented inflation, stagnation in economy and total suppression of democracy.

The dictator is armed by US only as a source of constant threat to the neighbours including our country. Arming Pakistan is ruling out Peace on our borders, and an end to the Simla Pact, era of detente between our two countries.

The AITUC general council calls upon the entire trade union movement and all the peace loving democratic forces to condemn this U.S. move and rally in defence of Peace in this area, for friendly relations among all the countries in this part of the world and to clear the Sub-Continent of all Imperialist influences - arms as well as multinational economic plunder.

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ON DA AND CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The general council of the AITUC notes the adamant attitude of the government in continuing the process of the compilation of a fresh working class family income and expenditure survey in the country "with a view to derive weighting diagrams, for the compilation of a new series of consumer price index numbers on base 1981-100"

From the outset the AITUC had demanded that prior to undertaking such a survey the government should first implement the recommendations of the Rath Committee for correction of the existing series based on 1960. The workers continue to be deprived of crores of rupees due to the faulty index of 1960 series. This is all the more reprehensible in a period of rapid price rises. The workers/thus being doubly penalised; /are

on account of faulty index on which DA is adjusted and secondly, on account of the fact that full neutralisation is denied.

After detailed examination the Rath Committee had come to the conclusion that many defects had arisen as trade unions had not been actively associated with income and expenditure survey, that the markets selected for collecting of prices had in many instances no relation to those actually patronised by the working class, that the units for which prices were collected did not correspond to the units which working class usually purchase, etc.

Hence one of the unanimous recommendations of the Rath Committee was the setting up of a permanent tripartite machinery to monitor price collection at the state level and a central committee to be associated with the preparation of any fresh series.

All these were given the go-by^{by} the Janata government at first, and later the Congress (I) government. The AITUC has made it quite clear that no fresh series can be compiled following the procedures that existed hitherto.

The past has shown clearly that in all cases when the trade unions had taken up this issue, the criticism made by them have been borne out by facts and workers have achieved some gains as in Bombay, Ahmedabad, etc. In spite of this government continues in the same old manner.

The general council of the AITUC strongly protests against this obdurate attitude of the government and demands that government implement the recommendations of the Rath Committee for correction of the current indices based on 1960 forthwith and take steps to set up the requisite fully representative tripartite machinery to supervise the preparation for a fresh series.

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ON AMENDMENT TO THE GRATUITY ACT

The act ensuring gratuity was put on the statute book to provide workers money commensurate with their years of service at the time of retirement. However, a recent judgment of the Supreme Court has nullified the operation of the Act by stipulating that workers should be in service for 240 days for each year of service to be entitled to gratuity according to their years of service. This has affected a large number of workers who are being denied the amount due to them for having less than the 240 days due to various factors, whether illness, lockout, closure, lay-off, strike, etc. The employers, including those of the public sector, have not delayed in taking the undue advantage of the judgement.

The general council of the AITUC demands that government immediately bring forward amending legislation to make explicit what was intended originally in bringing forward such a measure and ensure that workers are not made to suffer and their social security benefit eroded in this manner.

The general council calls on all state committees and affiliated unions to take up the campaign for amendment of the Gratuity Act and address memorandums and telegrams to the government to achieve this demand.

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RESOLUTION OF JAMSHEDPUR RIOT ENQUIRY
COMMITTEE

The Jamshedpur Riot Enquiry Committee report has fully confirmed the general allegation made by many people that the riot at Jamshedpur was the creation of R.S.S., Jan-Sangh (Present BJP) and B.M.S. on the one hand and the Jamaat-e-Islami on the other. The Commission found that RSS Chief Sri. Deoras and the local BJP, M.L.A. Sri. Dinanath Pandey were directly responsible for provoking riot.

The commission also found that the administration failed to tackle the situation.

The commission has recommended that the Bihar Military Police be immediately reformed and reorganised having representation of different religious groups, and that the activities of RSS & Jamat-e-Islami be banned in all public places particularly the educational institutions.

The findings of the commission are great lessons for all the secular forces particularly those who advocate joint working with such communal organisations. These organisations when they were in power, could totally paralyse the administration by rousing communal feelings, as it happened at Jamshedpur or previously at Ranchi during the days of the S.V.D. Government.

This meeting of the general council of the AITUC calls upon the Government to immediately act upon the recommendations of the commission and launch prosecutions against all the named persons and the organisations.

The meeting also asks its affiliates to educate the working class about the findings of this commission.

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31ST SESSION OF AITUC VISAKHAPATNAM : 26-31 OCTOBER 1980

The 31st Session of the All-India Trade Union Congress was held, as scheduled, at Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) on 26-31 October 1980. The concluding day coincided with the 60th Anniversary of the foundation of the AITUC.

Despite restrictions sought to be put on the number of delegates following amendment of the constitution, about 3,000 delegates from 3004 unions representing a membership of 27,45,027 as on 31 December 1979, attended the conference. The previous membership in 1976 at Jamshedpur was 2.58 million. The highest number of delegates to this session came from Andhra Pradesh (488) followed by West Bengal (486) and Bihar (480).

Flag hoisting was done by the former President, Dr. Ranen Sen and wreaths were placed at the martyrs' column erected specially at the conference venue.

The conference campus was named after S. S. Mirajkar, former President of the AITUC and one of the pioneers of the Indian Trade Union Movement. The conference hall where the delegates' sessions took place, was named after V. V. Giri, another veteran of the Indian trade union movement. Besides, several gates were erected all over the city and named after former Presidents of the AITUC like Lala Lajpat Rai, Subhas Chandra Bose and others.

The conference proceedings were conducted by a Presidium consisting of the President, S. A. Dange and the Vice-Presidents, who were present, viz., N. K. Krishnan, Indrajit Gupta, M. S. Krishnan, Md. Elias, B. D. Joshi, J. Chatterjan and Homi Daji.

S. A. Dange in his presidential address called for nationalisation of the 20 monopoly houses which alone can

give genuine socialist orientation in the economy. He asked the delegates not to forget that we are under bourgeois rule.

Chairman of the Reception Committee, M. V. Bhadrani welcomed the delegates and guests.

Fraternal delegates from the WFTU, from trade unions of the USSR, German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Mongolia, Vietnam Kampuchea, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Australia attended the congress. Besides, fraternal delegates from All-India Kisan Sabha, Bhartiya Khet Mazdoor Union, All-India Bank Employees' Association, All-India LIC Employees' Federation, GIC Employees' All-India Association, BMS, CITU, All-India Youth Federation and National Federation of Indian Women greeted the conference.

The WFTU Acting General Secretary, I. Zakaria handed over to S. A. Dange, vice-president of the WFTU the medal and the scroll as the token appreciation of the services rendered to the WFTU since its inception as he could not be present at the General Council meeting held on the occasion of 35th anniversary of the WFTU.

The Congress expressed condolences on the death since the 30th session held in 1976 of prominent personalities abroad, leaders of international trade union movement, trade union leaders and workers in India, prominent public personalities of India and of workers, peasants, agricultural workers who were victims of police firing, mine disaster or of micreants' attacks.

The conference adopted a special condolence resolution on the passing away of S. S. Mirajkar and another on

V. V. Giri and recalled the role played by them in building up the trade union movement in India.

A large number of messages wishing success of the conference were received which included those from Cuban Trade Union Centre, CGT, France, CGIL, Italy, Pancyprian Federation of Labour, General Confederation of Portuguese Workers, Romanian Trade Unions, Central Council of Trade Unions of Poland, Trade Union Federation of Angola, and in India from the Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, T. Anjiah, the then Labour Minister, NLO, Hind Mazdoor Sabha, UTUC (L.S.), INTUC, Director ILO Regional office in New Delhi.

Three documents were placed before the delegates—General Report, Report on certain Industries and Information Materials.

The Report and Accounts since the last session were placed by K. G. Srivastava, General Secretary which were later adopted unanimously. Delegates from all states participated in the discussion on the Report which took place for about one full day.

Besides the large number of resolutions on national and international issues, the conference discussed in depth the following issues in four commissions:

- a) Public Sector—its problems and its role in democratic development strategy—Reporter: Dr. Raj Bahadur Gour.
- b) Social Security:—Reporter: Parvathi Krishnan.
- c) Wages, D.A. and Bonus:—Reporter: Y. D. Sharma.
- d) Trade Union Unity, in defence of trade union rights:—Reporter: Homi Daji.

N. K. Krishnan, Vice-President released the souvenir brought out by the Reception Committee.

On October 30, the conference unanimously adopted a declaration in the form of an Appeal entitled "Forward to end the miseries of capitalist rule; Launch united struggles for democratic alternative to capitalist path".

The new General Council of 314 members was elected unanimously; the previous general council had 285 members. The new General Council met on 31 October and elected the office-bearers and working committee and again unanimously, with S. A. Dange re-elected as President and Indrajit Gupta as General Secretary.

On the 31st October, the concluding day of the conference, which coincided with the 60th anniversary of the AITUC, S. A. Dange formally released the book published by the AITUC on this occasion: A Short History of the AITUC (1920-1947) by Prem Sagar Gupta, and urged on the younger generation to study this to understand the Indian Trade Union Movement.

On the occasion of the 60th anniversary the AITUC Secretariat honoured the former Presidents of the AITUC viz., Dr. Ranen Sen, Sibnath Banerjee and Dr. Charu Chandra Banerjee and of course, the present President S. A. Dange in appreciation of their long services to the cause of working class movement and presented each of them with metal plaque with inscriptions. As Sibnath Banerjee and C. C. Banerje could not be present, West Bengal State Committee General Secretary received these on their behalf to hand over to the recipients.

In conclusion, the assembled delegates took a pledge on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the foundation of the AITUC, to carry forward the struggle for the realisation of the goal. The pledge was read out by Raj Bahadur Gour on behalf of the President.

On an appeal by the reception committee, delegates to the session and various unions contributed about Rs. 7,000 and the reception committee contributed a sum of Rs. 3,000 towards

aid of flood victims in the neighbouring Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh.

A big demonstration and mass rally in the evening with fire works to celebrate the diamond jubilee concluded the 31st session of the AITUC. The mass

rally was presided over by M. S. Krishnan as S. A. Dange could not be present due to indisposition. Among those who spoke at the mass meeting were Indrajit Gupta, Raj Bahadur Gour, M. V. Bhadrani and fraternal delegates from the USSR, Vietnam, Kampuchea and Bangladesh.

31ST SESSION OF AITUC : VISAKHAPATNAM, 26-31, OCT. 1980

LIST OF OFFICE-BEARERS ELECTED ON 31 OCTOBER 1980

President :	S. A. Dange
Vice Presidents :	N. K. Krishnan K. G. Sriwastava B. D. Joshi Chaturanan Mishra M. S. Krishnan Homi Daji J. Chittaranjan Mohammed El'as M. Kalyanasundaram
General Secretary :	Indrajit Gupta
Secretaries :	Parvathi Krishnan T. N. Siddhanta Raj Bahadur Gour Y. D. Sharma K. A. Rajan
Treasurer :	Harish Tewary

LIST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE ELECTED ON 31 OCTOBER 1980

1. M. V. Kaparde	18. A. B. Bardhan
2. K. L. Mahendra	19. B. S. Dume
3. M. V. Bhadrani	20. S. K. Sanyal
4. Barin Choudhury	21. D. C. Mohanty
5. Ratan Roy	22. Baba Kartar Singh
6. Gaya Singh	23. Madanlal Didi
7. Shafique Khan	24. K. Viswanathan
8. N. N. Manna	25. A. M. Gopu
9. Bhalchandra Trivedi	26. K. T. K. Tangamani
10. Raghbir Singh	27. D. K. Yadav
11. Kameshwar Pandit	28. Dr. Ranen Sen
12. M. C. Narasimhan	29. Bhowani Roy Chowdhury
13. K. N. Shyamsundara	30. Kalyan Roy
14. Kallat Krishnan	31. Nihar Mukherjee
15. P. K. Thakur	32. Arun Sen
16. Sudhir Mukherjee	33. Roza Deshpande
17. G. V. Chitnis	34. N. C. Dutta

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE 31ST SESSION OF AITUC

On Disarmament and Duty of the Working Class

The 31st session of the AITUC views with grave concern the intensified war preparations by the imperialist powers and the building up of the cold war atmosphere. The aggressive forces of imperialism are threatening a new world war. Enmeshed in a deep all-round crisis, economic, political and social, these forces are seeking a way out by whipping up war hysteria, nuclear blackmail and intensification of the arms race. The mythical "Soviet threat" is being trotted out to justify these acts.

The working class of the country cannot afford to remain indifferent to these developments. No country in the world is exempt from the evil consequences of armed conflict and of a world war. The arming of Pakistan and the conspiracies of the US-Peking axis particularly in this region pose a serious threat to peace in the region and our national independence. The Iraq-Iran conflict has already aggravated the oil crisis.

While taking note of all these developments the AITUC notes that the world-wide movement for peace has grown significantly in this period. The AITUC hails the recent world parliament of the peoples of peace held at Sofia in Bulgaria attended by 2260 delegates from 196 countries and more than 100 international organisations. While endorsing the unanimous appeal adopted at Sofia, the AITUC calls on all trade unions to organise the widest possible campaign in support of the appeal.

The AITUC calls on all trade unions to come forward and support the demand that the Government of India take a firm and determined position on the ban on nuclear weapons, reduction of armaments and the demolition of military bases and for the reduction of stockpiles of arms.

The AITUC at this 31st session renews its pledge to ceaselessly fight for the achievement of a lasting and stable peace throughout the world.

On Diego Garcia

The 31st session of the All India

Trade Union Congress denounces the attempts of US imperialism to further extend their nuclear base in Diego Garcia and extending their bases to other areas in the region. Facilities have now been made available to them by such states as Egypt, Bahrein, Oman, Kenya and Somalia. While Diego Garcia has been converted into a formidable aid and naval base equipped with diverse and most sophisticated weapons, the French imperialists have now provided Reunion Island also to the US imperialists who are extending their base there.

At the same time it is to be noted that US imperialism is supplying arms to countries in the region such as Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Pakistan. The recent joint military manoeuvres by the United States and Japan and the conversion of the self-defence forces into combat forces, and their participation in landing operations by US marines in Okinawa are also ominous and disquieting.

All these developments have made it clear that the US imperialists' plan to build up Diego Garcia is part of a global strategy directed against all progressive anti-imperialist regimes of the third world and the liberation movements in Asia and Africa.

The US imperialists have consistently spoken of a "Soviet threat" in the Indian Ocean to justify their acts of militarisation in the region. Unfortunately many, including the Government of India, fall victim to this propaganda and talk of "super power rivalry" in the Indian Ocean. But the Soviet Union had made a categorical statement in the United Nations that they had "no intention of building any military base in the Indian Ocean area and that it is prepared, together with other powers, to seek ways of reducing, on a reciprocal basis, the military activities of non-coastal states in the zone of the Indian Ocean". Talks were commenced to this end, but were broken off unilaterally by the United States.

In the light of all these developments it is crystal clear that it is US imperialism which constitutes the main threat in the Indian Ocean area. Their increased activity in extending

their military bases is in flagrant violation of the declaration of the UN General Assembly that the Indian Ocean should be a zone of peace.

This 31st session of the AITUC reiterates the demand, in conformity with the demands made by many countries in the region, that the Indian Ocean should be declared a zone of peace and the US should be called upon to dismantle the bases set up in Diego Garcia and in the region.

The AITUC calls upon the Government of India to take the initiative for united action by all littoral states of the Indian Ocean to achieve this demand.

This 31st session of the AITUC calls on all trade unions and the working class to conduct a sustained campaign together with all democratic and progressive forces and all sections of the toiling masses for achieving this objective, which is vital for the national sovereignty and independence of our country.

On Iran-Iraq War

The 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress expresses its serious concern at the continuing armed hostilities between Iran and Iraq—a development which has brought the flames of a new war to the Middle East and is a grave threat to the peace and stability of this part of Asia.

The All India Trade Union Congress notes that, taking advantage of the Iran-Iraq conflict, the US government, aided by some other western governments, have concentrated a powerful naval force in the Persian Gulf which is threatening to intervene at any moment. Consequently, the danger of imperialist aggression has also been greatly aggravated with its attendant risks of wider escalation.

The war between two major oil-producing countries has already resulted in serious destruction of oil installations and complete dislocation of oil exports to countries like India. This will further aggravate our country's energy crisis. Thousands of Indian workers and technicians employed on projects in Iraq have been rendered jobless and have been forced to return to India.

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The AITUC, therefore, fervently hopes that the governments of Iran and Iraq will cease hostilities against each other without further delay, and find ways and means of resolving their disputes and differences peacefully through negotiations. This would be in the best interests of peace and stability of the region and also of safeguarding the independence and sovereignty of the countries concerned.

On Solidarity with Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos

The 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress conveys to the heroic people of Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos its warm greetings and militant solidarity with their struggle in rebuilding their countries in the face of constant threats from Chinese expansionists and US imperialists.

Hundreds of thousands of Chinese troops are massed on the borders of these countries carrying out occasional incursions into their territories and disrupting their normal developmental tasks. The Chinese expansionists who have already carried out one dastardly attack against Vietnam and have been beaten back are still talking of teaching Vietnam a second lesson. In Kampuchea where the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique has been eliminated and an end has been put to its barbarous genocide regime, the people are rebuilding their country virtually from the rubbles of destruction. Yet the American imperialists, operating through the Thai government and the Chinese, are providing all sorts of assistance to the remnants of Pol Pot marauders who have found sanctuary in Thai border areas. But the Kampuchean working peoples' efforts at rebuilding their country under the leadership of the United Front for Salvation of Kampuchea have won recognition of working people everywhere and it is this that has led to the recognition of their government by many countries.

In response to popular demand, especially by the working class of India, led by the AITUC, the Government of India has recognised the government headed by Comrade Heng Samrin which has been widely welcomed and created an impact on the non-aligned movement. India, which already had very close relations with the peoples of Vietnam, Kampuchea

and Laos, is now extending, both at official and unofficial levels, various types of help in economic reconstruction and other fields. The working people of India, who have a fighting tradition of solidarity with the valiant people of these three Indochinese countries, will continue to extend all possible help to their brothers in their struggles. The AITUC in its modest way has already contributed to the great work of national reconstruction directly, as well as through the World Federation of Trade Unions.

The 31st session of the AITUC assures once again the working people of Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos that they can rely on the working people of India for assistance in the coming period in diverse fields.

The AITUC strongly condemns the imperialists and their Chinese collaborationists for their naked interference in the affairs of the three Indochinese countries and demands that Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos must be allowed to shape their own destiny freely. It fully supports the growing world wide demand for the unseating of the Pol Pot clique from the United Nations, and its replacement therein by the Heng Samrin government which is in effective control of the whole of Kampuchea and enjoys the total confidence of the people of Kampuchea.

On Solidarity with Afghan Revolution

The 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress expresses its firm solidarity with the new revolutionary Afghanistan that has emerged after the April revolution of 1979. Afghanistan that was subjected to predatory British wars and reduced to misery due to the ruthless exploitation of landlords and moneylenders, has overthrown the feudal imperialist yoke and launched on the path of socialist oriented development.

The imperialists could not reconcile to this and have taken to blatant intervention and subversion. The US imperialists, the reactionary military regime of Pakistan, the Chinese hegemons, in particular, are doing every thing to help the subversive elements.

It is to defend itself against these foreign interventionists that the Babrak Karmal government requested the Soviets to help it.

The new Afghan government has made the May 14 offer of a negotiated

settlement with specially its neighbours, Pakistan and Iran.

The Afghan government and the Soviet Union have declared any number of times that as soon as the foreign threat to Afghanistan ceases, the Soviet armed forces would withdraw. The Soviets have already withdrawn some of their forces.

The US imperialists and the Chinese and Pakistan regimes have not only ignored the Afghan offer of May 14 but, as the revolutionary regime consolidates more and more, as patriotic and even influential religious circles rally behind the Babrak Karmal government and the people more and more enjoy the fruits of the revolution, the US-Chinese-Pakistan interventionists are trying to step up their subversive activities.

The AITUC warns the imperialists and their interventionists allies that their nefarious game is doomed to failure.

The AITUC extends its fraternal solidarity to the working people of Afghanistan and pledges full support to their heroic struggles against the criminal subversive activities of the interventionists and in defence of the April revolution and their determination to build a bright future for themselves.

Solidarity with the struggle in South Africa and Namibia

The 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress hails the emergence of the fiftieth independent state on the continent of Africa—the Republic of Zimbabwe, after a dedicated struggle of the patriotic forces, over many years, against the oppression of colonialists and racists.

The AITUC expresses its full solidarity with the struggle of the people of Namibia who are continuing their heroic struggle under the leadership of SWAPO against the illegal occupation by the colonialist and racist regime of South Africa and for their independence.

The 31st session of the AITUC reiterates its firm support to and solidarity with the working class and all people of South Africa who are fighting heroically, despite brutal oppression, for trade union rights, for democracy and national salvation.

The AITUC assures, on behalf of the Indian working class, its full sup-

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port to the SACTU and the National Union of Namibian workers.

On Repression in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka

This 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress expresses most grave concern at the wave of repression let loose against the trade unions and all democratic forces in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The AITUC sends warm fraternal greetings of solidarity to the heroic working class of Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka who have been valiantly fighting for trade union rights and democratic liberties, for their just demands and against brutal repressive measures.

In Bangladesh, all sections of the working class and employees have gone into action for their just demands. In March this year, 600,000 government non-gazetted employees went on strike for their 15-point charter of demands. All national trade union federations acted in solidarity with the strike. In April, 30,000 workers of the jute industry went on strike. The Zia government met these strikes with most brutal repression. Trade union leaders and activists were thrown into prison. Leaders of democratic parties and organisations were also imprisoned. Freedom fighters were executed. But the united struggle has been continuing. This 31st session of the AITUC demands of the government of Bangladesh immediate release of all those imprisoned and a halt to all repressive measures and restoration of trade union and democratic liberties.

In Pakistan, under the military dictatorship, all political parties and mass organisations have been banned and the most elementary rights brutally suppressed. Discontent against the military dictatorship has been steadily mounting. The trade unions have demanded that elections should be held at the earliest and democratic and civil liberties restored. Trade unions have demanded a reduction in military expenditure which formed 45% of the annual budget. On May Day, meetings were held demanding an end to all aid being given to the guerillas being used to subvert the revolutionary gains of the people of Afghanistan which is being done at the behest of the US-Peking axis. The AITUC extends full support to the working

class and people of Pakistan in their struggle to restore democracy and civil liberties in their country.

In Sri Lanka, since June, the struggle of the working class for their demands of wage rise and trade union liberties has been continuing. The Joint Trade Union Action Committee, which called for a one-day strike in June in support of their charter of demands, has been conducting a heroic battle. The government declared an emergency and went so far as to freeze trade union funds and seal trade union offices. Hundreds were arrested and thousands of employees summarily dismissed from service. There was widespread protest throughout the world at this repression. The AITUC calls on President Jayawardene to withdraw all repressive measures forthwith and rescind all victimisation and restore democratic and civil liberties.

The 31st session of the AITUC calls on all trade unions to carry out a sustained campaign of solidarity with the working class and trade unions of Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka in their heroic battles for trade union and democratic liberties and for their just and reasonable demands.

Solidarity with Working People of Latin America

This 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress takes note of the increasing attacks on the working masses in countries of Latin America such as Bolivia, Uruguay, Guatemala, El Salvador, Chile, etc. The AITUC greets the heroic leaders and workers who have been unitedly and valiantly resisting these attacks and fighting against the intensification of the exploitation by multinational corporations, monopolists and imperialists.

In Bolivia, the military junta of Garcia Meza has let loose an orgy of violence and repressive measures against the trade union movement. Many trade union activists including Juan Lechin, president of the COB, have been arrested and subjected to inhuman torture and their lives are in jeopardy. In Chile and Uruguay, so-called plebiscites are being staged. Thousands of activists are in prison. In Guatemala and El Salvador repression has reached the proportions of genocide. In Argentina and Peru, the conditions reflect the same alarming situation and trade union activists and

workers are subjected to brutal repression.

This 31st session of the AITUC calls on all unions and workers to act in solidarity with the trade unions and toiling masses of these countries and support their struggle for trade union rights and liberties. The AITUC demands the release of all those arrested by the reactionary regimes of these countries and call for a halt to the repression.

In Latin America, however, in socialist Cuba, in Nicaragua and in Grenada, the picture is different. These countries are steadily advancing and the working class actively participates in all development. The US imperialists are, therefore, stepping up their attacks on these countries. In Brazil, the workers and trade unions, in unity with other social forces are making further headway towards a democratic system after many years of fascist dictatorship.

The 31st session of the AITUC hails the victories and call on all trade unions to express their solidarity with them in their fight against the imperialist machinations.

On Solidarity with Palestinian People's Struggle

The 31st session of the AITUC expresses its grave concern at the tense situation that obtains in the Middle East, and particularly in relation to the increased aggressive activity of Israel. The annexation of Jerusalem and its proclamation as Israel's "eternal capital" and the plans to annex other Arab territories in the Syrian Golan Heights, the bloody repression let loose on the Palestinian masses on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip, the continuing confiscation of land and establishment of Zionist settlements and the increasing acts of aggression and repeated bombing of Lebanon, the attacks on Syria—all these display growing territorial expansionism of Israel.

To achieve a just and lasting peace it is necessary for the Israeli troops to withdraw from all the Arab territories occupied by them and to implement the rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of an independent and sovereign Palestinian state under the leadership of the PLO, as stipulated in a recent decision of the UNO.

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The AITUC calls on all trade unions to organise a campaign in support of the Palestinian people and the demand for the application of the recent UN resolution on Palestine within the stipulated period and for cessation of the attacks on Lebanon and Syria by Israel.

On Solidarity with workers and people of Korea

The 31st session of the AITUC extends its solidarity with the workers and people of South Korea who are undergoing a new phase of brutal repression and terror at the hands of the new fascist military clique which has taken over power in South Korea with the support of the US imperialists. There is not even any semblance of democracy and civil liberties. Hundreds have been arrested and done to death.

The US imperialists are occupying South Korea with more than 40,000 troops stationed there, which constitutes the greatest impediment to peaceful reunification of Korea. The constructive proposals put forward by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in this regard have been turned down by the South Korean military dictators at the behest of US imperialists.

The 31st session of the AITUC extends firm solidarity with the just struggle of South Korean workers and people against fascist dictatorship and for democracy. The 31st session appeals to the democratic public opinion all over the world to demand the release of all those arrested in South Korea including the opposition leader Kim Dae Jung who has been sentenced to death in a fake trial and for the restoration of democratic rights and civil liberties in South Korea.

The AITUC extends support to the proposals put forward by the DPRK for peaceful reunification of Korea without outside interference.

On Solidarity with the workers of Turkey

The 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress condemns the military coup in Turkey and the attacks on trade unions and democratic rights by the military regime. The militant central trade union organisation—the DISK—has been dissolved and thousands of trade union activists detained. These events followed the brutal assassination of Kemal Turkler,

an outstanding trade union leader of Turkey, by the reactionary forces.

The 31st session of the AITUC demands the immediate release of all trade unionists and democrats of Turkey and the restoration of unfettered trade union and democratic rights. The AITUC assures the DISK and all workers and trade unions in Turkey of its complete solidarity with their just struggle for an end to the military regime and for a peaceful democratic orientation, delinked from the NATO and the US imperialist tentacles.

On Bonus

This 31st session of the AITUC is of the considered opinion that bonus has become a vital part of the emoluments of the working class in India which is constantly under attack from the employers, influential section of the bureaucracy and the monopoly press. During the emergency the right of bonus was annulled by an ordinance. The collective bargaining right of the workers in matters of bonus was taken away by repealing section 34(3) of the payment of bonus act. The talk of linking bonus to production and productivity which negates the basic concept of deferred wage, turned to be a big fiasco, as even employers were not prepared to accept it in both the private and public sector. By a special act of parliament, the bonus contracted bilaterally was invalidated depriving contracted bonus to millions of workers.

In its election manifesto, the Janata party accepted bonus as a deferred wage. But, on coming to power, while it restored the right to guaranteed minimum bonus of 8.33%, though on a year to year basis, at the same time the Janata party government refused to restore the old provision of Section 34(3) and failed to accept the demand for raising the limits of salary for eligibility and ceiling etc. It dragged its feet in accepting the right to bonus in railways, post and telegraphs, defence and other central government employees. However, ultimately the Charan Singh government granted performance bonus as against a guaranteed minimum bonus to a section of railway workers, defence employees and the employees of the post and telegraphs department.

With the return to power of the Indira Gandhi government, the talks

of productivity or production linked bonus, on which workers and sometimes even employers have no control, have again started. The AITUC has consistently opposed productivity linked bonus or any bonus substituting the minimum statutory guaranteed bonus. The labour minister held talks with trade union leaders and employers but ultimately under the new law, the same old ad-hoc approach has been adopted. By not accepting the reforms in the bonus law, particularly by maintaining the ceilings, etc. the government has refused to accept that the same has become out of date. As a result of unprecedented inflation, ceilings for eligibility and quantum have become redundant since the value of a rupee has been reduced to 1/3rd of what it was in 1965. It is again the reason for demanding radical reform in the law and to increase the quantum of minimum bonus.

While demanding radical revision of the bonus act, the AITUC wishes to make it clear that the same and similar bonus should be ensured for all, irrespective of the strength of employment in the establishment, to contract labour, to workers employed in schemes, to employments and bidi rollers and all government employees. The AITUC at the same time demands the increase in the quantum of minimum bonus and removal of ceiling of Rs. 750 and Rs. 1600.

The AITUC strongly feels the computation chart to calculate allocable surplus is not free from defects for which purpose the balance sheet should not be taken to be sacrosanct. Bonus, having been accepted as a deferred wage, should be shown in the balance sheet as other revenue expenditure are shown and bonus beyond the purview to be calculated before deducting depreciation and development rebate, and that also before taxation. Exemption given to the new concerns should go. Compensation for any reasons including lay-off subsistence allowance and overtime work should be taken into account for calculating bonus.

The AITUC, therefore, demands:

- * Minimum bonus to all unconditionally and the quantum be raised upwards.
- * Radical change in the present bonus act including the computation chart.

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- * Till the above is achieved, beyond the statutory minimum of 8.33 per cent, bonus should be left to be determined through the process of collective bargaining and if the income tax act is of any hindrance it may be amended.
- * The various ceilings, except the minimum or the exemption contained in the bonus act, should go.
- * The LIC workers, who got their bonus agreement enforced through a judgment of the supreme court must continue to enjoy the benefits like other workers in various undertakings.
- * The choice of linking bonus above the statutory minimum to profits or production or productivity must be left to the workers and the basis should be decided by collective bargaining.

On Industrial Relations Law

The 31st session of the AITUC reiterates the demands of the trade union movement being voiced since long for a democratic industrial relations system ensuring full trade union rights to workers and employees, to replace the existing outmoded and anti-worker laws.

The 31st session congratulates the working class and trade unions of various persuasions for rejecting with one voice the anti-worker and anti-trade union industrial relations bill brought forth by the Janata party government in 1978.

Pending evolving of a comprehensive industrial relations bill acceptable to the trade union movement the 31st session of the AITUC demands of the government to amend immediately the existing industrial disputes act to provide for:

1. Extension of the definition of 'industry' to cover all wage and salary earners without discrimination and distinction on account of occupation and place of work.
2. Compulsory recognition by means of secret ballot.
3. Abolition of salary ceiling and nature of work for being defined a 'workman'.
4. The right of individual cases of termination of services to be taken directly to labour courts.
5. No compulsory arbitration or adjudication, except when demanded by the trade unions.

6. Annulment of all restrictions on the right of strike and trade union work inside and outside the factories and in industrial townships.

7. The right of trade unions to take disputes directly to courts and tribunals if desired.

The AITUC warns the government that any attempt to arbitrarily impose restrictions on the formation and functioning of trade unions, on the exercise of trade union rights including the right to strike, will be strongly resisted by the trade union movement with all its might. This session of the AITUC calls upon the workers to be vigilant and build the widest unity to defeat any such move.

Against Anti-Democratic Ordinances

The 31st session of the AITUC condemns the national security ordinance promulgated recently. This ordinance gives draconian powers of detention without trial and other actions to the government. As has been the experience of the last more than 30 years, whatever the ostensible or declared purpose of such ordinances may be, these are invariably used ultimately against workers' struggles and their rights.

The AITUC expresses grave concern that some state governments have enacted laws or are proposing to prohibit strikes by issuing ordinances and otherwise on the pretext of maintaining essential services with the discretionary powers to declare any industry and service as essential. Their main aim is to suppress the legitimate grievances of the employees concerned.

The 31st session of the AITUC in this connection congratulates the Karnataka State Committee and other trade union centres in the state for organising a statewide protest general strike on 18 August 1980 against the essential services maintenance bill.

The AITUC calls upon all unions to organise united protest campaigns against these anti-democratic measures aimed principally against the trade union movement.

On Trade Union Unity

In the struggles of the workers to defend their rights and secure better living and working conditions, the broadest possible unity of workers has

always been and remains the most effective weapon of the working class. The AITUC therefore has always stood for and championed the cause of trade union unity.

It is, however, a regrettable fact that the working class movement in our country is divided and this results in weakness to further the legitimate rights of the workers.

In the past few years, there has been a growing unity of action between the various trade union centres and unions on concrete issues. This 31st session of the AITUC heartily welcomes this development. It was such broad unity that could succeed in defeating the move of the Janata Party government to foist the hated anti-working class industrial relations bill and also in securing minimum bonus of 8.33 per cent. This 31st session of the AITUC calls upon the workers and all trade unions to redouble their efforts and continue to strive for building the widest possible trade union unity in industries, factories and plants on local, regional and state levels on as wide a scale as is possible. The AITUC reiterates its pledge to strive its utmost to build effective and purposeful unity in action.

While all efforts at all-India and state levels have to be particularly and persistently pursued, efforts at unity from below, at the grass root level have a very important role to play at the present time. Such unity has been growing and should be taken forward by means of consultative committees of trade unions at plants, industry, region or state levels as is possible in a given circumstance.

While striving for overall trade union unity we have to lay special emphasis on unity with trade unions who accept the principles of class struggle and the objective of bringing about radical socio-economic changes and building socialism. Unity with such trade unions not only reduces rivalry but also helps in winning over larger sections of the working class for struggle in furtherance of their rights. All attempts, at all levels, should be redoubled to achieve close understanding and cooperation between such unions. The AITUC makes a fervent appeal to trade unions believing in class struggle and standing for socialism to realise the seriousness of the situation and to sink narrow and sectarian considera-

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tions to cooperate and come together at this critical juncture so that not only attacks on the workers' rights can be effectively met and defeated, but so that the working class can play its historic role to lead the nation in a left and democratic direction. The AITUC on its part will initiate proposals for continuing consultations and coordination at the national level with such trade union centres.

We must also initiate concrete slogans of action and proposals for unity. Dialogues and discussions and constructive criticism all form an integral part of our attempt to achieve unity. Sectarian attempts and disruption have to be patiently combated both by mass work and building compelling unity from below.

While we have to strive for widest possible unity, the importance of our own independent actions and initiatives is of very great importance. Strong and active unions with living ties with the workers, taking independent action will greatly help us in playing our role as unifier of the working class movement. Therefore, the AITUC calls on all trade unions to build up their own strong unions and take forward the great task of bringing about the unity of the trade union movement in the country.

On Social Security

This 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress takes serious note of the continuing defects and inadequacies of the various schemes of social security at present extant in the country in respect of coverage, financing, benefits and administration.

As far as coverage is concerned, not only are all wage earners, whether in industry or agriculture, not covered by existing social security legislation, but even all sections of industrial workers are yet to be brought under the purview of such legislation.

The AITUC urges government to remove all conditions of infancy period of an industry, minimum service, wage limit, etc. As an immediate step, the EPF Act and other social security benefits should be extended to all workers employed in establishments with 10 or more workers.

In respect of the financing of social security schemes, at present, the employee's provident fund scheme, family

pension scheme and employees' state insurance scheme are mainly financed by contributions from the workers and the employers, while all other schemes such as the gratuity scheme, maternity benefit scheme, workmen's compensation scheme, etc. are financed by the employers. The government does not finance any scheme except contributions to the family pension scheme and the employees' deposit linked scheme and ridiculously low contributions of state governments to the ESIS.

The AITUC has been and is of the firm view that any scheme for social security should be the responsibility of the government and the employers. However, until such a scheme is achieved, as an immediate step, this session of the AITUC demands that the rate of the provident fund contributions should be raised uniformly to 10 per cent throughout the country without exception. Workers earning upto Rs. 6 per day should be exempted from the contribution to the ESIS.

Another aspect of this question is that, on the one hand, the value of the EPF deposits is steadily going down due to inflationary pressures and, on the other, even the bank or post office rate of interest on fixed deposit is not given to the workers. At present, the interest on EPF deposits is only 8.25 per cent in the case of unexempted establishments and the rate of interest on family pension deposits is only 5½ per cent which was fixed as far back as 1971 when the scheme was first introduced. The rate of interest in the case of overwhelming majority of the exempted establishments is much lower—it varies from 4 per cent to 7 per cent.

This session of the AITUC is of the firm opinion that the real value of all the EPF deposits must be ensured. To begin with, the bank and post office rate of interest should be paid to the workers. At the same time, in the matter of investment of the funds of the EPF, government should be guided by the central board of trustees, thereby ensuring a democratic functioning on this vital question.

Another important question is that, as a result of the defective bureaucratic administration of the scheme, huge arrears have accumulated over the years. But the government has been consistently underplaying the seriousness of this problem and tried to show

that the arrears constitute only a small percentage of the total collection of the contributions. But, the fact remains that lakhs of workers had been affected by the default in payment of dues.

The employers of both exempted and unexempted establishments have embezzled and not deposited crores of rupees in the EPF and ESI. It is significant that the employers of the exempted establishments are the main defaulters. At present, the arrears in respect of EPF amount to Rs. 22.95 crores and in respect of family pension fund, Rs. 22.05 crores, and in respect of employees' deposit linked scheme, Rs. 2.78 crores.

It is most reprehensible that government itself is in default in respect of its contributions to the family pension scheme and the employees' deposit linked scheme to the extent of as much as Rs. 20.79 crores and Rs. 1.80 crores respectively as on 31 March 1980. Similarly, it should be noted that hundreds of public sector undertakings, both at the centre and state levels, are both in default also.

Another aspect of these arrears is that out of Rs. 22.95 crore, due to the EPF, Rs. 7.97 crores are due to the workers of mills belonging to the National Textile Corporation. Government refuses to shoulder the responsibility of payment of this amount. Similarly, employers are in arrears to the tune of crores of rupees towards the ESIC.

Thousands of prosecution cases are today pending in the courts awaiting disposal—as many as 25,852—and 19832 recovery cases are pending execution with the recovery authorities. The employers continue to take recourse to courts of law to delay the recovery of money due from them.

This 31st session of the AITUC, therefore demands:

- * The category of exempted establishments be abolished.
- * Social Security Legislation be included in the ninth schedule of the constitution, to bar the courts from interference in respect of recovery of arrears.
- * The EPF and ESI organisations should have independent recovery machinery as in the case of income tax department.
- * The government should take steps immediately to clear outstanding dues of the workers of NTC mills

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and all nationalised undertakings where this problem exists.

* The acts be amended to give priority to the recovery of EPF and ESI arrears, over all other creditors in the distribution of assets of the establishment under liquidation. All future legislation nationalising any particular establishment should ensure that workers' dues are given the first priority.

* The employers' and employees' share in all cases of default should be paid from the forfeiture account.

* Pass books should be issued to all EPF members, in which monthly entries should be made and the ESI card should carry a photograph of the insured worker.

Benefits under the various social security schemes are very meagre inspite of the fact that the workers are the main contributors. It can be said that insurance for the health of the worker is being done mainly from his own earnings over the years. Full hospitalisation to the families of the workers does not exist in all centres and states. The construction of the hospitals has proceeded at a very slow pace.

A ridiculously low minimum pension of Rs. 40 per month is provided under the family pension scheme and retirement benefits are also very meagre since all these were fixed in 1971. Since then the value of money has itself gone down.

Similar is the position in respect of employees' deposit-linked scheme, benefits under the workmen's compensation act, maternity benefits and various benefits under the employees' state insurance scheme, coal mines welfare scheme, etc.

On the other hand, there is a huge accumulation of balance under the ESI, EPF and EDLI schemes according to the valuer's report submitted to the ESI Corporation and the latest annual report of the EPF organisation.

This 31st session of the AITUC demands that the benefits under the ESI, EPF, EDLI and workmen's compensation act, maternity benefit, gratuity act, etc. should be substantially enhanced. Further, all wage earners should be entitled to benefits of social security schemes including the gratuity

act, workmen's compensation act and the ceiling now placed on salaries for purposes of entitlement should be removed.

The AITUC demands that full wages should be paid in all cases of sickness, accident and full hospitalisation facilities extended to family members throughout the country. The limit existing at present for the period for payment of sickness benefit should be cancelled. In the case of gratuity, the amount should be raised to 30 days' wages per year of service and the clauses in the act regarding the minimum service, forfeiture of gratuity in case of dismissals, should both be removed.

One of the major defects is the inordinate delay in settlement of claims and applications as also issuance of annual statements of claims. This session demands that all claims and applications for advances be settled within 20 days and all arrears in issuance of annual statements be cleared immediately.

One of the major drawbacks in the ESI and EPF schemes is the manner in which they are run. Ostensibly, these schemes are run by bodies which are tripartite in composition, but the weightage in both the committees has been given to government representatives who form the majority of the members. The workers' representatives are in a small minority. The workers are also the major contributors to the schemes. The main demand, therefore, in respect of these scheme is that the composition of the management should be changed and that workers be given due share of representation. It is pertinent to mention here that the representation of AITUC in the board of trustees of the EPF has been reduced in the board to be reconstituted.

This session of the AITUC is of the firm view that workers' representation in the central board of trustees of the EPF and in the ESI Corporation should be substantially increased. Unless this is done, and a democratic management of the schemes ensured, the existing defects will continue and dissatisfaction of the workers increase. The AITUC further demands that the representation given to its organisation should not be decreased.

The AITUC has consistently stood for a comprehensive social security scheme. The review committee set up

to examine the ESIS had, as far back as 1966, recommended that government take measures to introduce such a comprehensive scheme. This was accepted by government, in principle, but there has been no further progress in the matter. The fight for such a scheme is an uphill task. The normal working day and a living wage for the worker is incomplete without social security. Social security is also primarily the responsibility of the government and of the employers. At the same time, such a scheme would eventually have to embrace the millions of people without work and without any means of existence. The schemes extant today are not only defective but also cover only a minority of the working masses. Hence, the demand for a comprehensive scheme which also envisages a scheme of unemployment insurance.

Social security is the concern of the entire people and while defending the existing gains, the AITUC has been striving for such a comprehensive social security scheme where the cost of benefits will fall solely on the government and the employers. The benefits should be extended to cover all natural contingencies without imposing restricting conditions on the workers. The democratic management of the scheme must be ensured by assigning to trade unions their share in management at all levels. This is an indispensable condition to the success of any social security scheme.

This 31st session of the AITUC calls on all trade unions to take up this vital demand with renewed vigour and mobilise the broadest participation in a campaign for this demand.

Right to Work and Employment

It is common knowledge that, despite increase in employment during the plan periods, unemployment also has been increasing by leaps and bounds. In fact, job opportunities fall far short of requirements and for ensuring gainful employment to tens of millions of job seekers. Insufficient development, lack of rapid industrialisation and absence of thorough-going agrarian reforms have had the cumulative effect of too many job-seekers chasing too few jobs. There is no doubt that this is one of the scourges of capitalism and that full employment can only be ensured in a socialist economy as the

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growing unemployment in the capitalist world and total absence of unemployment in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries have amply and unmistakably demonstrated.

The exploiting classes take full advantage of the growing army of unemployed to depress wages and other benefits of those who are employed. The acute problem of unemployment is not confined to unskilled or illiterates, but also extends to educated sections including people of various professions.

In India, unlike in developed capitalist countries, the state neither takes the responsibility of providing jobs for the able-bodied unemployed who are willing to work nor makes any provision for the subsistence of the unemployed; the entire burden of maintenance of the unemployed in any household rests on those who are employed, although this factor is never taken into account while fixing wages and salaries of the employed either in the public or private sector.

The 31st session of the AITUC considers that the right to work and employment is a fundamental right of a citizen and it should be obligatory on the part of the state to provide for work and gainful employment failing which the state must provide for subsistence or unemployment benefit as an essential measure of social security.

The 31st session of the AITUC notes that the Left and democratic governments of Kerala and West Bengal have introduced unemployment relief and some other states like Punjab have taken steps in this direction which, though inadequate, partially mitigate the ordeal which the unemployed, particularly the educated youth, have to undergo. It amounts, on the other hand, to an implied acceptance of this obligation on the part of the state governments, in principle, to provide subsistence to the unemployed.

The AITUC draws urgent attention to all unions and workers to the necessity of building up a broadbased movement on the demand of right to work or unemployment benefit to all unemployed persons with a view to forcing the government of India to accept its obligation towards the unemployed.

Insufficient economic development and regional imbalances in develop-

ment have given rise, along with and arising out of growing unemployment, to various divisive and fissiparous tendencies under different slogans which ultimately divide the working class and harm national integrity. Such reactionary tendencies are getting fertile ground to operate as the unemployment problem gets more and more acute day by day.

The 31st session of the AITUC appeals to all trade unions and all democratic forces for a united campaign on this urgent national issue.

On Reduction of Working Hours

For more than thirty two years, there has been no change in the working hours of industrial workers in India. The Factories Act, 1948, provides for a minimum 48-hour week. During the whole of the post-independence period, the working hours have remained unaltered, particularly for the blue-collared workers. Not only is Indian labour cheap and wages extremely low, but they are also made to work longer hours for the profit of the employers.

This state of affairs has been allowed to continue despite technological developments, setting up of modern industries and production processes, and despite growing army of unemployed job-seekers and lack of job opportunities for the new entrants in the labour force of the country. This apart, overtime work and incentive schemes have further narrowed down the opportunity of any increase in the avenues of employment. The employing classes have, on the one hand, introduced rationalisation in various ways and reduced labour complements, and, on the other, increased the workload of the existing labour force to extract more profit.

This 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress considers that the time has come to take concrete steps towards reduction of working hours and this session demands that the weekly hours of work be reduced in the first instance to 44 hours from 48 hours without any loss of wages.

The AITUC notes that in many capitalist countries, not only are the hours of work much lower, but the workers in those countries, particularly in Western Europe, are conducting struggles for a 35-hour week.

The 31st session of the AITUC appeals to all central trade union organisations and all unions and federations to take up the issue jointly as one of the major demands of the trade union movement in the coming period.

On Agricultural Workers

In the thirty three years since independence, capitalist development has taken place in the field of agriculture also. At the same time tardy implementation of land reforms, the benami-holdings that exist, all these have contributed to further intensification of the exploitation in the rural areas. The problem of an adequate wage for agricultural workers and full trade union rights has assumed greater importance and urgency.

In the exploitation that exists in the countryside, the rural landed classes also increase their attacks on agricultural labour, the vast majority of whom belong to the Harijans and weaker sections. The Bharatiya Khet Mazdoor Union (BKMU) has faced many difficulties, arising out of the class and caste oppression, in organising the agricultural labour.

While minimum wages for agricultural labour have been announced in the various regions and states, the implementation is achieved only where the agricultural labour is organised and, after bitter struggles. There is yet no adequate machinery to ensure implementation. While in areas where newer techniques are being used and modern agricultural practices are adopted, the productivity of the agricultural workers has yielded higher profits to the big landowners, the agricultural workers have not received remuneration commensurate with this. At the same time, unemployment and underemployment amongst agricultural workers is also on the increase and more and more of them are now living below the poverty line.

The AITUC supports the demands of the BKMU which include:

- * trade union rights ensuring security of employment, machinery for the fixation of wages and regulation of working conditions, compensation for injury and loss of life, provident fund, health insurance, pension, etc.
- * employment guarantee schemes for all agricultural workers, men and women, and provision for un-

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employment wages when there is no work provided.

* equal wages for men and women, maternity benefit schemes, and provision of creches and kindergartens

* a separate administrative machinery to ensure implementation of all legislation relating to agricultural workers.

The 31st session of the AITUC expresses its full solidarity with the BKMU in fighting for the achievement of a comprehensive legislation. The BKMU has given a call for a united one-day countrywide action of strikes, demonstrations before government offices, etc. of all agricultural workers in support of these demands. The AITUC calls on all workers and trade unions to extend the fullest support to the BKMU in organising this mighty battle. The agricultural workers are a significant and powerful section of the toiling masses and fighting shoulder to shoulder with them the working class will better be able to march forward to further successes.

Working Women

This 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress notes that the discrimination against women workers continues unabated. In many industries where they were traditionally employed, they are being steadily eliminated. The vast majority of the working women are confined to the lowest paid categories and sweated industries.

The equal remuneration act is far from being implemented in all areas of employment. The special requirements of working women such as creches, kindergartens, after care centres and hostels for working girls are either far from satisfactory or totally absent. There is practically no scheme for proper technical training for women workers to enable them to acquire higher skills. Feudal and semi-feudal attitudes on the part of the employers also continue, seriously affecting the working women. In most places, working conditions are extremely onerous and such problems as inadequate housing and sanitation facilities affect women workers primarily.

This 31st session of the AITUC, therefore, demands that:

* special implementation machinery should be set up to guarantee the implementation of the equal remuneration act

* all iniquitous and onerous practices should end and security of employment of women in industries where they are already employed should be ensured

* All discriminatory practices in regard to employment of women, and especially in the employment exchanges, should be eradicated and women assured of equality of opportunity in employment in all fields of employment

* working women should be given in-training at their jobs to enable them to acquire higher skills

* working women should be ensured protection from all forms of harassment and particularly at their places of work

The AITUC directs all unions to take up these demands of working women and extend the fullest support to the struggle for achievement of their specific demands. During the period since the last session there have been some conferences and meetings of working women. The AITUC resolves to take steps to organise an all-India conference and ensure the broadest participation in it. The struggle for achievement of demands of working women should be coordinated with the trade union movement as a whole and is an integral part of it.

The AITUC, while calling on women workers to come forward and join the trade unions, also calls on all unions to help working women to more and more shoulder responsibilities in their respective trade unions. The active participation of the working women in trade union work, in the struggles and activities of the unions are the surest guarantee that their special demands are also achieved.

On Prices

The All India Trade Union Congress expresses its deep anxiety and agony at the continually rising prices of all essential commodities making the life of workers and fixed income groups miserable. Industrial workers' real wages are constantly being eroded. Firstly, all the workers do not get dearness allowance, and the overwhelming majority of wage earners,

particularly in the sweated industries, do not get any dearness allowance. Secondly, even where dearness allowance is paid it does not automatically rise with the rise in the consumer price index in most cases. And, lastly, even where it is linked, it does not fully neutralise the rise in index. The index is itself faulty and does not reflect accurately the actual price rise in the retail market.

The trade unions are vitally interested in price stability as that is the only way to retain wage stability in real terms.

The other side of the price phenomenon is that the primary producer, the peasant does not get a remunerative price for his produce. We witness the paradoxical phenomenon of the peasants forced to accept a low price for paddy, wheat, sugarcane, jute, cotton, oilseeds, etc., which they produce, while all consumers pay a higher price for rice and wheat, for cloth and sugar, for edible oils.

This phenomenon expresses the monopoly loot through its controlled market mechanism. The trade unions must, therefore, jointly with agricultural workers and peasants' organisations fight for:

* remunerative prices for the producer, and

* a reasonable price for essential consumer articles.

This could be achieved only through a well organised public distribution system of consumer cooperatives, government depots and even retail shopkeepers working under popular vigilance committees.

To usher in such a public distribution system, as the Kerala experience shows, the government should have physical control over stocks through a the distribution system.

The AITUC, therefore, demands that the public sector must enter the essential consumer goods industry and the distribution system.

* The sugar, drug and cotton textile and jute industry must be nationalised.

* In other cases such as edible oils, soap, etc. the government should take over the stocks for public distribution.

* With regard to foodgrains and industrial raw materials such as

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31st Session Of AITUC : Appeal To All Workers

Thirty three years after the achievement of national independence, our country is sinking deeper and deeper in the crisis of the capitalist system. This is the inevitable result of the capitalist path pursued by the Indian ruling class.

Price of all essential commodities and consumer goods are galloping upwards. The cost of living index has risen by 40 points in the ten months since the Indira Gandhi government was re-installed at the centre. The market for all essential commodities is totally in the grip of unscrupulous profiteers and hoarders, whom the government does not dare to touch. The working people of our country, facing untold privations and suffering, are being sacrificed at the altar of the powerfully entrenched blackmarket in the name of "free trade".

The only prices which remain depressed are the prices of agricultural raw materials and commercial crops produced by the sweat and toil of the farmers and perforce sold by them to the cartels of big traders and their agents.

Mass unemployment is spreading across the country like a cancer. Nearly 60 per cent of our people are somehow surviving below the poverty line which condemns them to a subhuman existence.

Hundreds of industrial units are lying idle having been either closed down or locked out by the employers due to their own internecine quarrels over sharing the loot, or defalcation of funds and mismanagement, or simply in order to teach the workers a "lesson".

On the other hand, the monopoly houses in collaboration with foreign multinationals, are recording higher and higher profits every year, sometimes despite lower production and sales. The grip of big business over the country's economy enables them to pile up their assets and reap maximum benefits with the help of government loans and bank credits and of concessions and services rendered to them by the public sector itself. Vast amassing of black money has made corruption all pervading.

Unchecked inflation, now running at the rate of nearly 30 per cent for the year 1980, spells misery for the common man, but record profits for the

capitalists. Such is the experience of all countries of the capitalist world, of which India is still very much a part.

In the vast countryside, the army of landless labourers and displaced, migrant workers is growing. Pauperised communities of Harijans, tribals and others, are desperately struggling to defend themselves from the rapacious economic and social oppression of landlords, money-lenders, contractors and other exploiters, who do not hesitate to resort to killings, arson, loot and rape.

Police violence in the service of the vested interests has reached unprecedented proportions. Peaceful strikes are being met by brutal firings and physical beatings of workers. The police has been directly involved in hundreds of instances of murderous assaults on the hamlets of landless agricultural labourers, Harijans and Adivasis, and on the minority community during communal disturbances. Torture and beatings in police lock-ups have acquired a new dimension of horror and brutality with the large number of cases of rape of which the police personnels have been guilty.

Capitalist class policies of the Congress and the Janata Party governments are unable to find a solution for the all-round crisis of rocketing prices, declining purchasing power of the masses, shrinking markets, a stagnant growth rate, unfavourable balance of trade, all-round corruption, mounting foreign debts, deficit budgets and mass unemployment.

The government is desperately trying to salvage the capitalist system and its bourgeois rule by the familiar method of imposing greater and greater burdens on the workers and the toiling people. Different expressions of this attack are the deliberate jacking up of prices, raising of indirect taxes and rates, the policies of wage freeze, attacks on workers' dearness allowance and bonus, and depriving peasants of legitimate prices for their crops while imposing heavier levies on them.

An inseparable part of this all-round attack is the promulgation of and enactment of a host of utterly reactionary and repressive ordinances and laws aimed at total suppression of trade union and democratic rights. The bureaucracy is being armed with a whole battery of

draconian powers in the name of maintaining "essential" services and supplies, of tackling so-called "disturbed areas", or of controlling "goonda" activities. The notorious MISA of emergency fame has reappeared in the new garb of the national security ordinance.

Attempts are being made to foist a presidential system of government on the country and to topple the Left and democratic governments in West Bengal, Kerala and Tripura.

Against all these offensives of the exploiting classes and the Congress governments, the people are fighting back heroically through determined mass actions including bandhs showing new heights of militancy and consciousness.

BROTHER WORKERS! The capitalist ruling class has brought our country to the brink of disaster. Taking advantage of the chaos and anarchy, dangerous conspiracies have been hatched and are being executed by the most reactionary and anti-national forces which are out to weaken and divide our country.

On the one hand, an attempt is being made to deflect our country from its peaceful, non-aligned and anti-imperialist policy and to enmesh it in the trap of the US imperialists and their allies, the Chinese expansionists, which is directed against the socialist and newly independent countries.

"On the other hand, a frantic attempt is being made to split the working class and destroy its fighting unity by unleashing communal, caste, linguistic, regional and chauvinistic riots. The dark forces responsible for this criminal activity have raised their ugly heads in a number of places, provoking disruptive and separatist passions in the north eastern region and instigating bloody riots against the minorities in several other states.

In this way, our enemies, external and internal, hope to destroy the very basis of national integration and secularism on which our national independence rests. The mounting misery and discontent of our toiling people are sought to be diverted into dangerous channels of ultra-chauvinistic passions and fratricidal strife.

BROTHER WORKERS! This critical challenges facing us have to be answered boldly.

Forward To End The Miseries Of Capitalist Rule

The offensive of the ruling class, the conspiracies of the imperialists, expansionists and their hirelings have to be resisted, checked and thrown back by the counter-offensive of the working class, by its united retaliatory mass action along with its democratic allies.

It is high time to see clearly that there is no solution to this crisis, there is no way forward to the peoples' salvation, so long as our country remains in the grip of this evil, decadent, profit-hungry capitalist system. This bankrupt system has nothing to offer except exploitation in the interests of a few, unemployment and pauperisation of the millions, economic stagnation, all-round corruption, and savage assaults on democratic and trade union rights. Such a system, however much it is sought to be disguised behind fine words and promises, is the mortal enemy of the working class and of the nation's interests.

It is high time to end the fashionable practice of paying lip service to the cause of socialism. It is high time to—and we do so with pride—that 60 years ago the foundation conference of the AITUC, presided over by Lala Lajpat Rai, had inscribed on its banner the slogan of advancing to the establishment of a new society in which man's exploitation by man will be ended. The AITUC remains dedicated to that great ideal. But the realisation of this lofty aim requires clearcut consciousness on the part of the working class and determined mass struggles by a mighty united front of the workers, peasants, toiling middle classes, progressive intelligentsia and all those organisations, forces and individuals that are prepared to break with the capitalist path.

It is not enough for the trade union movement to fight for adequate wages, full neutralisation of the rise in the cost of living, correction of the fraudulent price index numbers, bonus as a deferred wage, workers' housing, improvement in the social security provisions, for full trade union rights and a democratic industrial relations law, etc. These and many other issues are, no doubt, essential parts of the trade union struggle against capitalist exploitation from day to day.

But the working class cannot take itself and the nation out of the malignant,

all-round crisis in which the country has sunk simply by fighting for a bigger share in capitalist profits by way of higher wages, dearness allowance or bonus. This crisis is the crisis of Indian capitalism, which is a part of world capitalism. To overcome this crisis it is necessary, first and foremost, to break with the capitalist path itself, to turn the country towards a broad democratic alternative path and thus to open up the prospects of a socialist orientation.

BROTHER WORKERS! The AITUC calls upon you to play a leading role in forging a countrywide, broad front of the toiling people, of all left and democratic forces which will unitedly struggle to bring about an end to the all pervasive domination of the monopolists, Indian and foreign, the multinationals, the wholesale profiteers in trade and speculation, the big landed interests, semi-feudal exploiters and rapacious village usurers. Without destroying the exploitative and corrupt grip of these sharks on our country's economy, there can be no advance towards a truly democratic and socialist order.

The AITUC, from the platform of its 31st session, demands:

- * An end to the power of the Indian and foreign monopoly houses and break up of their concentrated wealth
- * Immediate nationalisation of industries producing essential commodities like sugar, cloth, vegetable oils and drugs, etc. and of industries dependent on export markets like jute and tobacco
- * A comprehensive public distribution system to ensure supplies of essential goods at reasonable and fixed prices and supervised by public committees
- * Effective implementation of land reforms and distribution of surplus land to the landless and poor farmers
- * Guarantee of living wage to the working class and other toilers and remunerative prices to the toiling peasants
- * Guarantee of employment or unemployment relief to every able-bodied citizen
- * Guarantee of full trade union and

democratic rights and rejection of attempts to introduce a presidential system in our country

- * Firm adherence to the policy of non-alignment, peace and anti-imperialism
- * A concerted, all-out national campaign against the divisive and anti secular forces which preach and practice communalism, casteism, and provincial chauvinism, or separatist and secessionist ideas.

Let the organised forces of the working class, launch a decisive struggle for the fulfilment of such a democratic programme which will constitute a clear break with the present disastrous capitalist path.

For defeating the capitalist attack and opening up the road to a new democratic advance, the indispensable condition is the broadest working class unity. Experience of life itself is teaching the workers every day that class unity is their one and only weapon. Without it they are helpless, at the mercy of those who perpetrate oppression and injustices in order to maintain their rule. With it, they can inspire millions more and move mountains.

The AITUC has undying faith in the cause of workers' unity. Sixty years of struggle has taught it that only the exploiters gain from disunity in our own ranks and that unity and united struggle are the only passwords to advance and victory. It is working class unity which has brought the triumph of socialism in one-third of the world and enabled its gains to be defended.

The AITUC makes a fraternal appeal to all sections of workers, to all militant trade union organisations which stand for class struggle and for socialism, to exert all their efforts to forge closer ties of mutual cooperation and joint struggle in the common cause, before the capitalist crisis engulfs us all.

- * With faith in the irreversible forces of world history;
- * With confidence in the inevitable doom of the bankrupt imperialist and capitalist system and its replacement by a truly democratic socialist order.

LET US CLOSE OUR RANKS AND MARCH FORWARD TO VICTORY!

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cotton and jute, the government should resort to monopoly purchase of all marketable stock so as to ensure remunerative price to producers and to set at naught the manipulations by monopolies and traders.

This is the only way to stabilise prices and afford relief to the toiling people.

The AITUC calls upon the organised trade union movement to take up the challenge of the monopolies and force the government through united struggle to implement this programme of stabilising prices of the commodities of daily use.

On Minimum Wages in Scheduled Employments

Millions of workers toil in the vast sweated industry sector of scheduled employments. And the minimum wages law makes it obligatory on the part of the respective governments to fix, revise and enforce statutory minimum wages for these workers. But, everywhere, except in Kerala and West Bengal, the wages are low and are not revised for long periods. The law provides for "cost of living allowance" to help workers to cushion their earnings at least to some extent from the rising prices.

But such an allowance is allowed only in some states like Kerala, Punjab, and Bihar. In fact, the central government has not given any cost of living allowance to employments that come under its jurisdiction. In a number of states, the minimum wages have been stagnating at these fixed more than five years ago.

In some cases, where wages are revised and notified, for certain employments, the employers go to the courts and obtain stay on implementation.

This 31st session of the AITUC notes that the trade unions in this sector have started moving into action. There was a day's token strike in Andhra Pradesh and Delhi. There has been a state-wide convention in Bihar to launch a movement for revision of minimum wages.

The AITUC demands of the respective governments to take steps immediately to revise the minimum wages and allow cost of living allowance. In no case should the minimum monthly wages be less than Rs. 400.

The AITUC calls upon the state TUCs and all the unions in this sector and appeals to all the other central trade union organisations to launch a united struggle for securing a reasonable minimum wage of not less than Rs. 400 per month and a system of cost of living allowance linked to the consumer price index to protect the workers from exorbitant rise in prices.

Rectify The Consumer Price Index

The 31st session of the AITUC expresses its indignation at the refusal of the government to rectify the 1960-based consumer price index as recommended by the Rath Committee, thus denying the workers their due dearness allowance. The decision of the government will only go to the benefit of the employers to the tune of tens of crores of rupees.

The workers will thus continue to be doubly penalised—on account of denial of full neutralisation of the rise in the cost of living and also due to faulty index which does not accurately reflect the actual cost of living.

The 31st session of the AITUC considers the union government's decision in this regard as totally ill-advised and ill-conceived, which will only accentuate the discontent of the workers and employees and as an atrocious way of appeasing the employers.

The 31st session reiterates the stand of the AITUC already communicated to the government that the AITUC will not cooperate with any programme for a fresh family budget survey until the 1960-based index is rectified as recommended by the Rath Committee and the fresh survey undertaken only after the establishment of tripartite machinery also recommended by the committee to supervise and conduct the same.

The AITUC calls on all trade unions to undertake a vigorous and sustained campaign ensuring the broadest participation to achieve this urgent demand of the working class.

On Lock-outs and Closures

The 31st session of the AITUC views with serious concern the large incidence of lockouts and closures declared by the employers throwing workers out of job resulting in untold sufferings for the workers and their families.

More often than not, the employers

resort to lockout as a means of inflicting punishment on the workers to suppress their legitimate grievances, and also with the object of imposing harsher working conditions. Closures also have become a handy weapon for the employers for use against the workers.

The AITUC deprecates the attempts to equate lockouts with strikes, with a view to giving a free hand to the employers to resort to lockouts, while taking various measures, direct and indirect, to suppress strikes.

The 31st session of the AITUC draws attention of all unions to the importance and urgency of organising solidarity actions in the struggles of workers locked out by the vindictive employers.

The AITUC urges both the central and state governments to take stern measures against lockouts and closures including the take over of such concerns.

On Communal Disturbances

This 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress expresses its deep sense of horror at the present communal disturbances in a number of cities and towns and in the state of Uttar Pradesh in particular.

These riots, first and foremost, lead to loss of valuable working lives and deprive the wage earners of their daily bread. They make a dent in the ranks of the toiling people, make united struggle to defend working and living conditions impossible and in the ultimate analysis help only the exploiters and profiteers.

That is why the organised trade union movement has to take them seriously and mobilise all its might to prevent and combat the communal menace.

No doubt, there are communal, parochial and aggressive sectarian forces such as the RSS and Jamat-i-Islami who only thrive on communal polarisation.

That reactionary vested interests at home and imperialists and the Chinese expansionists abroad do extend their help and sympathies to such elements is also not in doubt.

That deteriorating economic situation, rising prices, growing unemployment, create an atmosphere of frustration and despondency which work as a favourable medium for the reactionaries to fan such diversionary, fratricidal

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movements, should be noted by trade unions.

That the PAC and sectors of the administration, specially in Uttar Pradesh, and the BMP and sections of the administration in Bihar, have been rendered partisan by infiltration of communal elements and have therefore been igniting rather than fighting communalism, is the shocking experience of recent communal disturbances.

In these circumstances, it is the duty of all trade unions and the entire organised working class to defend secularism and unity of toiling people against all divisive forces and ideologies. They must mobilise all their strength to maintain communal peace and cooperate with all the forces of peace and unity, including administration, to restore peace where it is disturbed. We demand the reorganisation of the police forces and administration on secular lines by providing adequate representation to minorities, scheduled castes and others, where this is lacking.

The AITUC makes a fervent appeal to the entire organised working class to take up the communal challenge and vigorously uphold the banner of secularism, communal unity and the unity of toilers.

On the North Eastern Region

The 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress notes with serious concern that the movement which was launched more than a year ago in some of the states of the north eastern region of India over the issue of foreign nationals is not only defying solution, but has deteriorated alarmingly in recent months threatening the very national integrity of India.

The AITUC is fully conscious of the indisputable fact that the people of the north eastern region, which is abundantly rich in natural resources, have historically been the victims of gross neglect and successive central governments have paid little or no attention to their problems of economic and cultural development. Their resultant resentment and deep-seated grievances have created a fertile soil for the growth of divisive and communal forces which are now trying to take full advantage of it to divert the mass sentiment into dangerous anti-national channels.

It is also true that there has been, over the years, a large scale infiltration of people from East Pakistan, and later Bangladesh, to Assam and other north eastern states. The situation today warrants a satisfactory solution of the problem of foreign nationals, based on constitution, relevant acts, international agreements and humanitarian considerations.

The AITUC notes with serious concern, the extreme stand taken by the leadership of the Assam agitators in the matter and their refusal to negotiate a settlement except on their own terms. Their organised blockade of crude oil, plywood, timber and jute to the rest of India is not only causing immense loss to the nation, but also disrupting the economic life of the north eastern region itself.

The AITUC cannot fail to note that the movement in Assam has developed a pronouncedly anti-Left character and that sustained attacks have been launched against the left parties and trade unions and their cadres. The massacre of the people belonging to linguistic and religious minorities and tribals has taken place in many parts of the state. Chauvinist and communal forces like the RSS, Jamait-i-Islami, Amra Bangali, Ananda Marg, etc. are working overtime to disrupt the unity of the common people. The working class and toiling masses are being divided with one section pitted against the other. Extreme bitterness among different linguistic, ethnic and religious communities has been roused, undermining the common class and democratic struggles of the masses.

US imperialism and Maoist China are lending direct help and guidance to the separatist and secessionist forces who have raised the slogan of a "United States of Assam" consisting of the seven north eastern states. This is having a dangerous impact not only in the entire north eastern region of our country, but also on the whole of India, threatening its very national integrity and unity.

After the failure of the talks recently held between the union Home Minister and the sponsors of the current agitation in Assam, the government of India has come out with its decision, as a starting point to start the work of detection of foreigners who came to Assam after March 1971 vigorously and on a priority basis. But, unfortu-

nately, instead of responding to the government decision, the leaders of the current agitation have resumed their movement from 27 October 1980 in all its forms including bandhs, gheraoing members of the state assembly, etc. Such a line of action will only hamper the process of normalisation and the solution of the problem and will obviously lead to chaos and disorder.

The AITUC appeals to all the democratic secular minded people of Assam and neighbouring states to take a resolute stand against all secessionist ideas and activities and rouse the people in defence of the unity and integrity of India and for peace and unity amongst all communities of the region.

The AITUC warns the working class throughout the country to be vigilant against the danger of disruptive, communal and chauvinist forces spreading their activities to other states, particularly among tribals and people of backward and neglected regions. The unity of the working class and trade unions must be consciously defended at all cost against all attempts of the monopolists and other reactionary forces to divide and suppress the working class.

In Support of Journalists and Newspaper Employees

The 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress congratulates the working Journalists and newspaper and news agency employees for their magnificent countrywide strike on 30 September 1980 demanding amendment of the final version of the Palekar award which goes back in certain vital respects from the interim proposals.

The AITUC fully endorses their demands and hopes the government will not once again succumb to the pressure of the press barons.

The AITUC assures all support to the newspaper employees, both journalists and non-journalists, in any step they take for realising their legitimate demands.

Solidarity with the struggles of Life Insurance Corporation and the General Insurance Corporation employees

The 31st session of the AITUC extends full support to the longdrawn battle being conducted by the employees of the Life Insurance Corporation and the General Insurance Cor-

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poration for settlement of their long pending charters of demands.

It is highly condemnable that the government, instead of coming to an expeditious settlement of the demands of the employees of these two corporations, are trying to curtail even the existing rights and benefits, as it has done in the case of the GIC by a government order.

The 31st session of the AITUC urges upon the government of India to withdraw all unilateral orders and arrive at an early negotiated settlement with the employees.

The AITUC reiterates its solidarity with the struggling LIC and GIC employees.

On Strike of Local Self-Government Employees in Bihar

This 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress congratulates the heroic continuous strike of 30,000 local self-government employees of Bihar and supports their just demand for parity of wages with other government employees of Bihar.

The AITUC demands immediate and unconditional release of all striking local self-government employees of Bihar who have been arrested for offering peaceful satyagraha and an immediate negotiated settlement of their just demands.

On Repression, Firings and Attacks on Trade Unions

This 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress notes with grave concern the repression on the trade union movement and the working class in many parts of the country resulting in firings, harassment and serious infringement of the functioning of trade unions.

In Faridabad, more than one firing has taken place during the past year. On 17 October 1979, workers were fired upon and more than 20 were killed. Again, on 5 May 1980 another firing followed. All trade unions have strongly demanded that judicial inquiries should be instituted into these instances of wanton firing and the guilty punished, but the demand had not yet been conceded. The 31st session of the AITUC demands that the government concerned immediately order judicial inquiries into these instances of wanton killing of workers.

On 8 September 1980, thousands of tribal forest and agricultural workers and Adivasi peasants had assembled to protest against indiscriminate arrests of tribals, school and college going students and passengers in buses and trains by the police. The Bihar military police resorted to indiscriminate firing on the peaceful assembly and hundreds were injured and killed, amongst them tribal workers in the mines in Gua.

This 31st session calls upon the government to institute immediately a judicial inquiry into the firing. The AITUC further demands the appointment of a commission to consider the longstanding demands of the tribals and full compensation to the deceased families and release of all arrested workers and persons and withdrawal of all cases launched against them. The AITUC further demands the withdrawal of the Bihar military police from the area and an end to the harassment of the tribal workers in the Gua iron ore mines, and peasants and agricultural workers.

In Ghaziabad, the attacks on the working class and trade unions by employers and government agencies has assumed serious proportions. Employers have been continuously scuttling negotiations. Prolonged strikes have resulted from the attitude of the employers and the administration. The employers have also resorted to hiring professional goondas to attack trade union activists and act as strike breakers. Trade union activists have been murdered and such murders go uninvestigated. Far from bringing the perpetrators of such crimes to book, the police have been falsely implicating workers in criminal cases.

The AITUC demands immediate withdrawal of all cases against trade unionists and workers in Ghaziabad, and a halt to all repressive measures. The AITUC calls on all trade unions to express their firm solidarity with the workers of Ghaziabad.

The AITUC calls on all trade unions and workers to fight back such attacks wherever they may occur unitedly and defend their rights and liberties in face of all attacks whether from the employers or the administration.

On Support to the Struggles of the Peasantry

Peasants all over the country and in particular in Karnataka, Maha-

rashtra and Tamilnadu have come out in ever increasing struggles since the last several months. They have been agitating to get fixed a remunerative price for their produce, reduction of prices of inputs, abolition of betterment levy, debt relief, water tax, introduction of crop insurance, etc. In some places, they are also demanding implementation of minimum wages for the agricultural workers. Lakhs of peasants have participated in various forms of struggles and have been lathi charged, arrested and jailed. Due to inhuman police firing, 23 peasants lost their lives in Karnataka.

This 31st session of the AITUC strongly condemns the brutal repression let loose by the police against the peasants in Karnataka and demands that judicial enquiries be ordered in all cases of firing. It further demands that all those arrested during the agitation be released forthwith and all police cases withdrawn.

The 31st session of the AITUC urges upon the governments concerned to concede the legitimate demands of the peasants. It greets the peasants who have been conducting big struggles to get their just demands conceded.

The 31st session of the AITUC congratulates the AITUC trade unions and working class of Karnataka and other places for their solidarity actions in support of the peasantry and their struggles.

On Nationalisation of industries which have been taken over

This 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress notes that there are a number of undertakings which have been taken over by the government and still await nationalisation. Many such undertakings have been taken over by the Government of India after sustained united movements when they were either closed down or in the process of being closed down due to mismanagement, inner-management quarrels and malpractices. While the government and financial institutions have advanced considerable sums for running these undertakings the AITUC notes that the running of these

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undertakings has been left to the inefficient and corrupt bureaucrats and personnel of previous managements have also continued in key posts. This has resulted in continued inefficiency, malpractices and corruption and anti-labour practices. The AITUC demands that all such personnel should be immediately removed from the posts they hold and the management streamlined.

The AITUC further demands that all enterprises which have been taken over should be nationalised forthwith. The unhealthy practice of either handing them back to the earlier managements or selling them to other bidders in the private sector should be ended once and for all.

Many such establishments are awaiting nationalisation. The Andhra Scientific Company, Machilipatnam, an important concern, taken over as far back as 1971, and producing defence equipment has been awaiting nationalisation for past eight years. The nationalisation of this key concern has been subjected to inordinate bureaucratic delays. Other such concerns are also the Bengal Potteries Ltd., the Bengal Chemical Company founded by Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray, Bird & Co., etc.

This session of the AITUC demands that all such concerns be nationalised without further delay and released from all interference by the private sector and removal of all personnel of earlier managements from key posts.

The AITUC calls on all trade unions to carry on a sustained campaign to achieve this urgent demand to protect these industries and to save public money which has so far been invested in them.

On Retrenchment of Tobacco Workers

The government of India has recently given licenses to some tobacco companies to construct green leaf threshing plants in the tobacco industry. This industry is one that is primarily manned by women and accounts for the employment of more than two lakh workers. Erection of such plants, introducing un-

called for mechanisation, will result in rendering tens of thousands of workers unemployed. The step is uncalled for and the AITUC demands that the government forthwith cancel the licenses issued and thereby safeguard the employment of these workers. It is to be noted that this industry and the attempt to mechanise it arises also out of the domination of the industry by big monopolists with their multinational links.

The AITUC calls on all trade unions to support and campaign for this just and urgent demand of the tobacco workers.

On Nationalisation of tea concerns

The 31st session of the AITUC, after due consideration is of the view that tea is one of the most important export commodities in India and equally an important commodity in the home market. However, the control of the industry is in the hands mainly of those least concerned with the national requirements in respect of export trade or the home market. The management engaged in tea plantations and marketing and distribution of this commodity is dominated even now by foreign capital whose only motivation is to earn ever higher profits.

In view of the importance of this industry, the AITUC once again reiterates that all tea companies, whether foreign or Indian, engaged in plantations, marketing and distribution of tea in India should be nationalised immediately. Only thus can the drain of the country's resources in this field of industry be stemmed and the resources harnessed in service of the people.

The AITUC calls on all trade unions to take up this demand and carry out a sustained campaign to achieve the aim of nationalisation.

On Pollution

With the growth of industries, particularly chemical and other allied industries in India, the question of environmental pollution and keeping the air, water

and land clean, has assumed urgency.

Eager to make easy huge profits with cheap labour, the multinationals of developed countries are rushing to instal in India, or collaborate or sell to India, outmoded technology which are banned in Europe and America.

The installation and working of the outmoded technology in the chemical industries and the uncontrolled generation of toxic gases and pollution of effluent water has started affecting the health of the workers and people, creating hazards and many are becoming victims of such deadly diseases as cancer.

In India, there are very few regulations to check or control toxic gases and polluted water. Though the water pollution (control) act is in force, only a few states have formed state boards as stipulated in the act. Whenever, such state boards are formed they are ineffective. Any state trying to enforce the central act on water pollution finds that big business is dodging implementation under various pretexts and even threaten to close down or lay off the factory.

This 31st session of the AITUC calls upon the government of India and the concerned states to enforce the following:

- * air pollution control act be enacted and enforced.
- * new licenses should not be given to chemical industries without proper provision to check and control toxic gases and polluted effluent water. Especially outmoded technology in chemical industries and those banned in all advanced countries should not be allowed to be imported and given license for installation.
- * Water pollution central boards be formed in states where they have not yet been set up.
- * Trade union representatives be included in the central and state boards.
- * All the modern available technology for checking and controlling pollution be mustered not only from India but

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also from the socialist and advanced capitalist countries and the WHO and the particulars of such technology be made available to all state boards.

* Working hours in chemical industries producing toxic gases and creating hazards be reduced to six hours per day.

* There must be regular periodical medical check up in chemical and other industries and specialised treatment given to the workers employed in them.

* A body of experts, including medical personnel from the IMA, be constituted at the centre, as well as in the states, by the concerned governments to go into the effect of toxic gases inside the factories and the polluted air and water outside on workers and the surrounding area.

This 31st session of the AITUC calls upon the working class in India, and particularly the affiliated trade unions, to consciously and seriously take up the pollution problem and to press upon the concerned governments to take remedial measures.

A vigorous campaign in cooperation with outside agencies, including scientists, be conducted, educating the workers and the people on the problems of pollution and demand remedial measures.

On Vijaynagar Steel Plant

The Vijaynagar steel plant for which Prime Minister Indira Gandhi laid the foundation-stone at Toranagallu, in the heart of the iron ore belt in the district of Bellary in Karnataka State, in August 1971 has been almost shelved by the government of India. The 10,000 acres of land has been acquired for commissioning of the plant. The necessary infrastructure of laying a broad-gauge railway line connecting the entire iron ore belt with the Madras-Guntakal railway line has been laid. The Narihalla project intended for provision of drinking water to the project area and the feasibility study are complete. When the Janata party govern-

ment tried to make a political issue for buttressing their election campaign by stating that a "port based steel plant was required", in order to shelve the Vijaynagar steel plant, the chairman of MECON stated that "feasibilities are in favour of Vijayanagar, but the government wants it elsewhere"—this is the answer to the false campaign of the bankrupt political government of the country.

The commissioning of the steel plant, in addition to increasing the national wealth, will open up tremendous employment and occupational potentialities to the extent of a few lakhs being employed or occupied. The Vijaynagar steel plant will result in opening up more than 260 ancillary industries. The state government of Karnataka, as envisaged in its own steel plant area development programme, is going to open many colleges, and a new Vijayanagara university, which will bring about a big change in the area and in the welfare of the people.

This 31st conference of the AITUC demands that the government of India immediately declare and undertake the work of commissioning the Vijaynagar steel plant and calls on the working class and people of the area to unite and fight and secure the plant.

On Beedi workers and their demands

This 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress views with grave concern that even 14 years after the passing of the beedi and cigar workers (conditions of employment) Act, the implementation of the act has been most ineffective. The act, which sought to benefit about 40 lakhs of beedi workers toiling in one of the most sweated industries in the country, continues to be a mere piece of paper in most cases.

The AITUC therefore demands that government constitute immediately a central tripartite committee to go into the implementation of the act and formulate guidelines to state governments for setting up the requisite implementation ma-

chinery and ensure uniform implementation in all states.

The AITUC further strongly urges on the government to fix a national minimum wage with suitable variable dearness allowance for the beedi workers and abolish the existing disparity between one state and another. The AITUC expresses grave concern at the discontinuation of the cess fund collection under the beedi workers welfare cess act, 1976, without providing for any alternative measure. This 31st session of the AITUC urges on government to earmark the maximum cess levy on one thousand beedis to provide adequate funds for welfare measures for the beedi workers. The 31st session also deplores the continued delay in handling cases in court filed by employers to prevent the extension of the employees' provident fund act to all beedi workers who are deprived of this benefit. The AITUC urges on government to dispose of the cases speedily and ensure the extension of EPF to the beedi workers at the earliest.

On 6th Plan Frame

The AITUC considers the sixth plan frame as totally inadequate both in its basic approach and the targets, and demands that it is recast.

The trade unions are vitally interested in planned economic development of our country aimed at securing employment for the job seekers, reducing and stabilising prices and overcoming the crying imbalances as between backward regions and relatively developed areas. The plan must provide for gainful employment and overcome under-employment, both in terms of idle hours and low remuneration.

In a country of over 15 million registered unemployed, among whom over two million are graduates and postgraduates, and among the rest are also a great number of technically qualified and diploma holders, the plan must aim at rapid industrialisation with the public sector playing the leading role. The public sector has not to be confined

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only to heavy industry like steel and heavy chemicals or feeder industries like coal, power and transport. It must enter essential consumer goods' sector as well which the plan frame assigns to private monopolies.

The crying inequalities in the countryside, and the growing unemployment and under employment among the rural poor, demands a policy of vigorous land reforms based on strict implementation of land ceiling laws, acquiring of surplus land and its distribution among the landless and the hungry, a policy of assistance to the poor and marginal farmer by way of supplying cheap inputs, providing cheap credit and helping in profitable marketing. Rural industries have to be built also as a source of generating remunerative employment. They have to be considered also as complementary sector to meet seasonal unemployment and other varieties of under employment.

The plan frame, on the contrary, makes a fetish of the rural industries and assigns it the fantastic role of absorbing the bulk of backlog unemployment and new addition to the labour force.

The trade unions are very much concerned with price stability which is the only way to achieve wage stability. The plan should, therefore, aim at stabilisation of prices, which is unimaginable without a severe curb on monopoly profits. In our country, the monopoly profits are soaring as is evident from reserve bank and other studies.

The assets of monopoly houses have been growing by leaps and bounds despite the MRTP act.

High profits go with high prices. And prices can be lowered only by curbing monopoly profits.

Monopoly profits are acquired also by fleecing the primary producer. The peasant is deprived of a remunerative price only to add to the monopoly coffers.

This phenomenon has to be remedied by an attack on monopoly profits and taking away the distributive mechanism from their hands and resort to monopoly purchase by the government for supply through a public distribution system of government depots, cooperative stores and retail shop keepers, all working under the supervision of popular committees.

But the plan offers no such hope.

This 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress, therefore, demands that the plan frame be recast on the lines of radical socio-economic changes against the monopolies and feudal vested interests and in the interests of the people, and calls upon the trade unions to unitedly agitate for it.

On Demands of Railway Workers

This 31st session of the All India Trade Union Congress notes that the long pending urgent demands of railwaymen have met with scant regard on the part of the government and the railway administration. The just demands of the railway workers have been pending since the historic strike of May 1974 and continue to be ignored. Railwaymen continue to be treated as part of a government apparatus and do not have the rights of workers in other industries, though the railways are the biggest single industrial undertaking in the country.

The AITUC appreciates the growing participation of railway workers in general all round trade union action as was demonstrated in their total participation in the united action against the retrograde draft industrial relations bill proposed by the erstwhile Janata party government and the movement against the recommendations of the Bhoothalingam study group and for the implementation of the recommendations of the Rath com-

mittee in respect of correction of the consumer price index.

The AITUC wholeheartedly supports the demands unitedly agreed to in November 1979 by all trade unions of railwaymen viz:

- * Minimum bonus at 8.33%
- * Industrial wage structure for all railwaymen on par with workers in public sector undertakings such as steel, coal, etc.
- * Full decasualisation throughout the railways and ensuring casual labour all benefits according to their completed years of service in the railways
- * Eight-hour duty to all railwaymen without exception
- * Vacation of all victimisation cases on the railways
- * Time-bound promotion to all railwaymen in all categories
- * Autonomous corporation for the management of the railways.

The AITUC further supports the demand of railwaymen for Rs. 150 interim increase until such time as a negotiated settlement on the above demands is reached.

The most important task before the railwaymen today is to achieve the widest possible unity and close their ranks. Experience in all other industries shows that where such unity has existed the just demands of the workers have been achieved. The unity achieved in drawing up the charter of demands has to be further strengthened and taken forward in the service of the railway workers. The AITUC is confident that the sentiments for unity existing amongst railwaymen will become a reality.

The AITUC calls on all affiliated unions in unity with all sections of the railway workers to strive unitedly to achieve the demands and assures the railwaymen of continuing support in their struggles.

LIST OF MEMBERS ELECTED TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL AT THE 31ST SESSION

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Dr. Raj Bahadur Gour | 37. G. Ramchander | 73. Krishna Mohan Prasad | 110. A. S. Majhroo |
| 2. J. Satyanarayana | 38. Barin Chowdhury | 74. N. M. Prasad | 111. Kanwal Dev |
| 3. M. V. N. Kaparde | 39. Promod Gogoi | 75. Mani Bhooshan Prakash | 112. M. S. Krishnan |
| 4. K. L. Mahendra | 40. Suren Bhatta | 76. A. K. Ahmed | 113. K. N. Shamasundara |
| 5. Amolak Ram | 41. K. K. Kandwal | 77. Y. D. Sharma | 114. H. N. Narendra Prasad |
| 6. K. Srinivas Rao | 42. Jyotirmoy Biswas | 78. B. D. Joshi | 115. V. R. Ananda Teertha |
| 7. M. V. Bhadram | 43. Chaturanan Mishra | 79. N. N. Manna | 116. H. Umanath Naik |
| 8. K. Gurumurthy | 44. Kedar Das | 80. R. C. Sharma | 117. D. S. Sritramulu |
| 9. V. V. Rama Rao | 45. Ratan Roy | 81. Shakil Ahmed | 118. H. Mahadevan |
| 10. B. V. Raju (Chinna) | 46. Krishna Chandar | 82. M. M. Gope | 119. C. Munitratnam |
| 11. C. Prabhakara Chowdary | 47. Ramavatar Singh | 83. Munshi Narayan Prasad | 120. A. J. Mudhol |
| 12. M. Narasimha Rao | 48. Gaya Singh | 84. J. P. Khare | 121. K. P. Mense |
| 13. Pudi Appaiaswamy | 49. Shafique Khan | 85. S. Chandra | 122. Adavappa Shanappa |
| 14. D. V. V. S. Varma | 50. Ramendra Kumar | 87. D. L. Sachdev | 123. M. Jumnal |
| 15. M. U. Bhaskara Rao | 51. Tikaram Manjhi | 88. Vijay Kataria | 124. Pampapati, MLA |
| 16. K. Nagaiah | 52. Sivananda Jha | 89. Badri Das | 125. M. S. Mani |
| 17. G. V. Krishna Rao | 53. T. N. Jha | 90. George Vaz | 126. S. K. Rehman |
| 18. G. Suryam | 54. Anirudh Singh | 91. Prabhakar Ghodge | 127. J. Chittaranjan |
| 19. B. Laxmaiah | 55. B. N. Thakur | 92. Bhalchandra Trivedi | 128. P. Bhaskaran |
| 20. K. Subbanna | 56. K. K. Sinha | 93. P. D. Gandhi | 129. K. A. Rajan |
| 21. G. Krishna Murthy | 57. Lalit Buman | 94. B. D. Desai | 130. Kallat Krishnan |
| 22. M. Komaraiah | 58. S. K. Rai | 95. Raj Kumar Singh | 131. K. P. Prabhakaran |
| 23. B. Gangaram | 59. Umakant Jha | 96. B. J. Thakur | 132. K. C. Mathew |
| 24. M. Bhaskara Rao | 60. Ram Balak Singh | 97. N. P. Bhatt | 133. R. Ravindran |
| 25. R. P. Ranga Rao | 61. Suryanarayan Singh | 98. Bhiku Bai Vaghela | 134. P. P. Mukundan |
| 26. A. Ramtulu | 62. Abdul Jabbar | 99. Darshan Singh | 135. C. A. Kurian |
| 27. Andrew Joseph | 63. Mohd. Salim | 100. Mahavir Singh | 136. C. K. Kesavan |
| 28. P. Nageswara Rao | 64. Omilal Azad | 101. Man Singh | 137. M. T. Chandrasenan |
| 29. Salam Shahedi | 65. S. D. Sharma | 102. Raghbir Singh | 138. P. Venugopalan Nair |
| 30. P. J. Chandrasekhar Rao | 66. Devkinandan Singh | 103. Abhai Singh | 139. T. A. Joseph |
| 31. M. Krishna Murthy | 67. Ramavatar Shastri | 104. M. L. Misty | 140. T. J. Varughese |
| 32. V. Gangadhar Rao | 68. Triveni Tiwari | 105. Kameshwar Pandit | 141. T. L. Prabhakaran |
| 33. V. Koteswara Rao | 69. P. K. Ganguli | 106. Roshan Lal Dogra | 142. A. N. Yoosuf |
| 34. P. K. Kumaran | 70. Lakhan Lal | 107. D. R. Nirdoshi | 143. K. C. Prabhakaran |
| 35. Desinga Raju | 71. Raj Kishore Singh | 108. Vacant | 144. K. V. Kochrian |
| 36. G. Venkat Reddy | 72. Bhuneshwar Singh | 109. H. N. Wanchoo | 145. N. Aravindan |

146. N. Anirudhan
 147. Homi F. Daji
 148. Sudhir Mukherjee
 149. Prakash Roy
 150. P. K. Thakur
 151. R. C. Sarvate
 152. C. R. Bakshi
 153. D. K. Rao
 154. Swamy
 155. Sambal Chakravarti
 156. Preetam Singh Chowksi
 157. K. Adinarayanan (Amlai)
 158. Nandalal Paradeshi
 159. Mustaq Hussain
 160. Indrajit Singh
 161. Krishna Modi
 162. A. Golphate (BHEL)
 163. Govind Prasad Shrivastav
 S. A. Dange
 165. B. S. Dhume
 166. A. B. Bardhan
 167. G. V. Chitnis
 168. Rosa Deshpande
 169. S. K. Sanyal
 170. V. D. Deshpande
 171. Vasantharao Tulpule
 172. Govindarao Pansare
 173. T. N. Ramarao
 174. Vital Choudry
 175. Bhagwan Thorat
 176. Sitaram Jagtap
 177. Madhav Mokashi
 P. V. Upadhyaya
 179. Manohar Deshkar
 180. Ram Ratnakar
 181. Chintamani Indapure
 182. Rajaram Gujarathi
 183. R. K. Ganguli
 184. R. N. Mishra
185. Mohandas Naidu
 186. Jayant Gadkari
 187. Sivaji Dalvi
 188. T. G. Sonavane
 189. Vacant
 190. Vacant
 191. A. Babudhon Singh
 192. Sharda Prasad Gupta
 193. Prafulla Mishra
 194. Dalington Dymdep
 195. Ramachandraram
 196. Hari Bandhu Behara
 197. Durga Charan Mohanty
 198. Duti Krishna Panda
 199. Loknath Choudary
 200. Narendra Kumar Swain
 201. Sukomala Datta
 202. Sadananda Mohanty
 203. Baba Kartar Singh
 204. Madanlal Didi
 205. Pyara Singh Deosi
 206. Parduman Singh
 207. Jaswanth Singh Samma
 208. Keval Singh
 209. Sitaram
 210. Badarinath Sahani
 211. Om Prakash
 212. Sunehri Lal
 213. K. Viswanathan
 214. Fateh Singh
 215. Mangilal
 216. P. S. Parmar
 217. Jayanti Saha
 218. Srikrishna
 219. N. K. Krishnan
 220. Parvathi Krishnan
 221. M. Kalyana Sundaram
 222. A. M. Gopu
 223. K. T. K. Thangamani
 224. K. M. Sundaram
 225. V. Subbaiah
 226. Dr. G. Kannabhiran
227. S. C. Krishnan
 228. A. Govindaswamy
 229. S. Karapuswamy
 230. R. Karuppiyah
 231. R. Dakshina Murti
 232. A. V. Ramaswamy
 233. P. M. Ramaswamy
 234. P. T. Narayanan
 235. K. A. Venugopal
 236. M. Arumugam
 237. S. Tyagarajan
 238. S. Ramaswamy
 239. K. Gopinathan
 240. R. Ganeshan
 241. P. K. Srinivasan
 242. J. Silam Paul
 243. K. G. Sriwastava
 244. Kali Shankar Shukla
 245. Harish Tiwari
 246. R. K. Garg
 247. Basudev Pandey
 248. K. K. Singh
 249. Sadruddin Rana
 250. Damendra Kumar
 251. D. K. Yadav
 252. Ramakant Bajpai
 253. A. C. Kulshreshtha
 254. Dwarika Singh
 255. Lallan Rai
 256. Bisheshwar Mukherji
 257. D. P. Pal
 258. Girish Bharati
 259. Ghanshyam Sharan Sinha
 260. Yashpal Gupta
 261. Abdul Hafiz
 262. Narendra Sinha
 263. Om Dutt Shastri
 264. Dr. Ranen Sen,
 265. Indrajit Gupta
 266. T. N. Sidhanta
 267. Mohd. Elias
 268. Bhowani Roy Chowdari
 269. Arun Sen
 270. Kalyan Roy
271. Nihar Mukharji
 272. Kamalpathi Roy
 273. Ram Sen
 274. Tarun Maitra
 275. Nanda Dulal Shrimani
 276. Narayan Chaube
 277. Prasanfa Dutta
 278. Dhiren Mazumdar
 279. Taher Hussain
 280. B. N. Tiwari
 281. Sunil Sen
 282. Jadugopal Sen
 283. Gobin Karar
 284. Sushil Chakraborty
 285. N. C. Roy Chowdary
 286. Ramesh Das
 287. Shanti Roy
 288. Gulam Mohiuddin
 289. Gour Goswami
 290. Nimai Roy
 291. Girija Mukherji
 292. Nimai Routh
 293. Jahar Chatterji
 294. Kuber Singh
 295. Nitish Sett
 296. Pradip Maitra
 297. Kamalendu Ganguli
 298. Sankarashan Roy
 Chowdari
 299. Saral Sen
 300. N. C. Datta
 301. Prem Sagar Gupta
 302. M. C. Narasimhan
 303. P. K. Chandrasekharan
 304. Divakar
 305. Prabhat Kar
 306. Mahendra Sen
 307. M. Atchutan
 308. Deb Kumar Ganguli
 309. O. P. Gupta
 310. S. M. Banerji
 311. Umalal Sinha
 312. P. P. Patil
 313. S. Madhusudhan
 314. S. S. Yusuf

PORT & DOCK STRIKE DEFERRED

The negotiations with the Government on Wage Revision etc. were held on 12th & 13th. On the 1st day the Minister attended the meeting for some time and then left the discussions to be conducted by the officers of the Ministry. The offer made by the officers was Rs. 547/- at the minimum level and the break up was Rs. 360/- basic and FDA Rs. 187/- at 363 points of CPI of 1960 series i.e. on 1-1-1980. The D.A. @ Rs. 1.30 per point would continue and could not be changed. An amount of Rs. 60/- will be added to the basic pay as on 1-1-1980 of each employee and fitted into the new scale. Hence there will be an increase of Rs. 35/- in the basic wage for new entrants and all the existing employees would get Rs. 60/- each as fitment

money. The offer was unanimously rejected by all federations. Then the Ministry offered 12% increase on the existing Wage Bill as against the demand of 23%. As such it was also not acceptable to the federations. At this stage the Minister joined the talks who assured to improve on 12% and wanted time for the same. The Federations agreed to postpone the strike to 28th and the negotiations with the Minister will be resumed on 26-11-1980. In the meantime, the discussions will continue from 17th, on other demands contained in the joint charter of Demands.

If a satisfactory settlement is not arrived at on 26-11-1980 on the wages strike will take place from the midnight of 27th.

AITUC SUPPORTS AIR-INDIA STRIKE

Indrajit Gupta, M.P., General Secretary, AITUC, issued the following statement:

"The management of Air-India, presumably backed by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, is out to break the strike of its ground staff which has already lasted for 13 days. There can be no other explanation for the authorities' refusal to enter into settlement talks with the Air-India Employees' Guild which has publicly stated its readiness to negotiate. The AITUC strongly condemns the management for its adamant attitude which alone is responsible for prolonging the strike.

"The AITUC fully supports the demand of the striking employees for 20% bonus instead of the minimum of 8.33%. According to the Employees' Guild, fulfilment of its demand would entail an additional expenditure of only Rs 1 crore which is roughly what the company spends every month on publicity & entertainment. Besides, it is well known that Air-India goes in for really lavish hospitality for VIPs, as was recently the case with a much publicized "inaugural" flight to Japan which was not inaugural at all. The Committee on Public Undertakings, in a recent report, made serious allegations against Air-India of extravagant & wasteful expenditure.

"The AITUC, therefore, demands

that negotiations be opened with the strikers' representatives for a settlement of their justified bonus claim. It assures the employees of its full support & solidarity". (5 November 1980).

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SAGGING INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION ?

It is evident from the figures of mandays losses which include those on account of lock-outs, given below for the current year (and compared to 1979,) that industrial unrest cannot at all be

cited as one of the factors for stagnant industrial production during 1980. This is apart from the responsibility of whatever mandays losses occurred during the period.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES DURING JANUARY TO JULY, 1980

A total of 1,414 industrial disputes resulting in workstoppages were reported during January to July, 1980. In these disputes 602,975 workers were involved and 7,840,188 mandays were lost. During the corresponding period of 1979 (i.e. January to July, 1979) there were 1,952 industrial disputes in which 1,978,260 workers were involved and 32,039,347 mandays were lost.

Number of Mandays lost due to Industrial Disputes during January to July 1980 (P) and 1979 (P)—

Month	Mandays 1980 (P)	Lost 1979 (P)
January	1,285,982	8,390,991
February	1,335,694	7,199,945
March	1,176,495	2,240,950
April	1,700,964	1,779,273
May	1,257,294	2,274,000
June	676,160	5,068,857
July	387,599	5,084,593
TOTAL	7,840,188	32,039,347

(P)—Provisional

(Indian Labour Journal, October 1980).

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WORKERS' PLEDGE

WE, meeting on the occasion of the diamond jubilee anniversary of the foundation of India's oldest and premier trade union organisation, the ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

EXPRESS our sense of pride in belonging to the All India Trade Union Congress—the organisation that has a proud record of glorious struggles against imperialism for the liberation of our motherland, and of brilliant actions against capitalist exploitation and in defence of workers' right to live a decent life and work in decent conditions.

ON THIS OCCASION, we pay our heartfelt homage to the great and innumerable martyrs who laid down their lives and those who suffered at the hands of the government and the employers, upholding the militant traditions of the AITUC. We pledge to carry forward this sacred heritage.

WE PLEDGE to work for the unity of the working class and of the trade union movement, to strive for defending our country against the conspiracies of imperialism, in particular US imperialism, which, in collusion with the Chinese expansionist rulers, is trying to subvert our independence and our economic development and divide and defeat the revolutionary movements in our country and plunge the world in a terrible nuclear holocaust.

WE PLEDGE to work in unity with all the worldwide forces of peace and of revolution, progress and democracy, and above all with

the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, against the imperialists and their allies.

WE PLEDGE to work for advancing the cause of international unity of the working class by strengthening the World Federation of Trade Unions—the militant organisation of trade unions of all countries on our planet.

WE PLEDGE to rally in support of all revolutionary movements of working people to achieve a life free from exploitation and misery.

WE PLEDGE to work in unity with all forward looking forces in our country to fight against disruptive forces and fissiparous tendencies that try to divide our people on the basis of caste or community, language or region, and thus only help the enemies of our country and our people.

WE PLEDGE to fight for and support all social movements aimed at rapid economic development of our country, to strengthen self-reliance and to overcome regional imbalances.

THE arch enemies of our development and our people's prosperity are the multinational and national monopolies and the landlords, who are minting profits on the labour of our people, draining our valuable resources and causing misery for our people and crisis in our economy. WE PLEDGE to fight against them and rally all democratic forces in this fight.

WE PLEDGE ourselves to make a determined struggle in defence of our trade union and democratic rights, against all attacks on our right to unionise and the right to strike, against all draconian laws and measures aimed at suppressing progressive and revolutionary movements of our people, and defending a moribund social order of exploitation.

WE PLEDGE to struggle unitedly in defence of our right to work, and right to decent living.

We PLEDGE to fight for a democratic development strategy for

our country based on a leading role to the public sector, its expansion in spheres of production and distribution of essential goods, nationalisation of multinationals and essential consumer industries like sugar, cotton and jute textiles and drugs, for land reforms, rigorous ceiling laws, acquisition and distribution of surplus land, a vigorous policy of development to overcome unemployment and guarantee of price stability.

WE PLEDGE to carry out the sacred struggle against the capitalist order of exploitation and of wars, and rally all the progressive forces to establish socialism in our country and launch on the path to prosperity and end to all misery.

LONG LIVE AITUC!

LONG LIVE THE UNITY OF THE WORKING CLASS OF THE WORLD!

ALL-INDIA CONSUMER PRICE INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

(Base : 1960 = 100)

1980	
January	— 371
February	— 369
March	— 373
April	— 375
May	— 382
June	— 385
July	— 394
August	— 397
September	— 402

Out of 50 centres for which the Simla Labour Bureau computes the Consumer Price Index with base 1960, in as many as 24 centres the Index already in August 1980 crossed 400 and the holy city of Varanasi has the distinction of recording the highest index number at 457 followed by Sambalpur in Orissa (448), Monghyr (440), Jaipur (438) and so on.

P. C. JOSHI

TUR deeply condoles the passing away of P. C. Joshi, veteran communist leader, former General Secretary of the Communist Party of India and an accused in the Meerut conspiracy case.

LIC Employees' Right to 15 Percent Bonus Upheld

The Supreme Court on November 10, 1980 upheld the Judgement of the Allahabad High Court quashing the order of the LIC management abrogating the bonus agreement of 1974. The court has held that the said agreement under the Industrial Disputes Act will continue to be in effect till replaced by a new agreement, award etc., and cannot be cancelled by means of the LIC Act.

The LIC employees' longdrawn battle on bonus and protection of the agreement of 1974 has ended in success. During the emergency the government annulled the agreement by a new Act of Parlia-

ment. The Janata Government did not repeal the said Act, though a product of Emergency, but defended the Act in the Supreme Court which was considering the writ filed by the employees. The Supreme Court declared the Act ultravires of the constitution. But even then the LIC management tried to deny the LIC employees bonus in terms of the said agreement of 1974 and issued a so-called order unilaterally and arbitrarily absolving itself of any obligation to pay bonus at the rate of 15 percent.

The Supreme Court Judgement has now restored the agreement in its original position.

PRICE STABILITY?

Government spokesmen do not fight shy in claiming that price stability has been achieved and that price rise has been arrested.

But in one sweeping measure the union cabinet has increased prices of sugar, rice and cereals and white printing paper which will hit the poorer people harder.

The government appears to be not content with the fabulous profit earned by the sugar industry during the last few months and by this new measure has given a fresh concession to the sugar barons to the tune of 65 paise per kilogram of levy sugar at the cost of consumer by enhancing the levy sugar price from Rs. 2.85 per Kg to Rs. 3.50 a Kg. from December 1, 1980—an increase of 23 per cent.

Effective from January 1, 1981, the issue price of all varieties of rice and coarse grains will be enhanced by 10 paise a Kg or Rs. 10 per quintal.

Price of white printing paper used by students and for printing

school and college books has been increased by 28 percent from Rs. 2,750 per ton to Rs. 3,500 a ton ex-factory, restrictions on the price of cream wove paper have been lifted making room for the millowners and traders to charge whatever prices they choose.

All these prove beyond doubt the hollowness of the claim of the government about arresting the price rise of essential commodities. Earlier drug prices also have been increased.

LOK SABHA REPLY

CRUDE OIL LOSS DUE TO ASSAM AGITATION

Loss due to non-production of crude oil since the beginning of the Assam agitation is estimated at Rs. 400 crore.

Six to seven fertiliser plants were affected because of non-availability of petroleum feedstock following the closure of the Bongaigaon and Ba-

Welcome to L.I. Brezhnev

The visit to India of L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU and President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR will begin on December 8. His last visit took place in November 1973. There is no doubt that his visit at this juncture will further strengthen Indo-Soviet friendship and will help further development of Indo-Soviet co-operation in varied fields.

The working class and other sections of the working people and all right thinking people will heartily welcome the forthcoming visit of L. I. Brezhnev.

63rd Anniversary of Great October Revolution Greetings to Soviet Trade Unions

ON BEHALF OF INDIAN WORKING CLASS AITUC SENDS ITS WARMEST FRATERNAL GREETINGS TO THE LEADERSHIP OF AUCCTU AND SOVIET WORKING CLASS ON THE OCCASION OF SIXTYTHIRD ANNIVERSARY OF GREAT SOCIALIST OCTOBER REVOLUTION STOP WISHING GREATER SUCCESSSES TO WORKING PEOPLES OF USSR STOP AITUC ASSURES CONTINUING SOLIDARITY AND COOPERATION IN STRUGGLE FOR PEACE AND SOCIAL PROGRESS

: SECRETARIAT

AITUCONG

5th NOVEMBER, 1980

rauni refineries on account of the Assam situation.

The Sindri modernisation plant of the Fertiliser Corporation of India Limited had been closed since January 16 due to non-availability of feedstock, fuel oil/LHS. The production loss till July 15 was estimated at 50,850 tonnes of nitrogen.

(JULY 22, 1980)