

AIRF Collection - NCCRS/1/74 (Part-II)

'NCCRS File on Railway workers demands and calls for protest action in the aftermath of 1974 railway strike'

Authors: NCCRS, Bharatiya Railway Mazdoor Sangh, Socialist Party of India, Eastern Railwaymen's Union, et.al.

[Archives of Indian Labour / AILH - VV Giri NLI]

National Co-ordination Committee For Rly. Men's Struggle - Dibrugarh.

Date : 22 - 7 - 1974

“OBSERVE PROTEST WEEK”

From 22nd July to 28th July 1974

“OUR DEMANDS”

1. IMMEDIATE CALL BACK ALL THE REMOVED RLY. STAFF TO DUTY.
2. WITHDRAW BREAK-IN SERVICE AT ONCE.
3. NO FURTHER VICTIMISATION.
4. DO NOT HOLD E.C.C.B. ELECTION BEFORE FINALISING THE REMOVAL CASES.
5. START NEGOTIATION WITH N.C.C. RS ON 6 POINTS DEMAND.
6. STRIKE IS OUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT.
7. WE DO NOT WANT STRIKE, WE WANT FUL-FILMENT OF OUR DEMANDS.

United Committee of Rlymen, All India Loco Running Staff Assn, Workshop Council Engg. Staff Association, All India Ministerial Staff Association, Yard & Cabin Staff Association, Coach Attendance Association. [All Constituent Bodies of NCCRS/DBRT.]

NATIONAL CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE
FOR RAILWAYMEN'S STRUGGLE
N.F.RLY. - DIBRUGARH.

Dt: 18/6/74.

: ANTI-VICTIMISATION DAY-18th JULY'74 :

In response to the call of the NCCRS the Anti-Victimisation Day was observed on 18/6/74 and a mass-meeting was held at Naliapole, Durgabari under the auspices of different categories/councils including U.C.R. The following resolutions were moved and passed unanimously in great applause of hundreds of Railwaymen and toiling people of the area:-

: I - Homage to Martyrs :

This meeting pays respectful homage to the martyrs who have sacrificed their most precious lives during the Historic Railway Strike in the month of May 1974.

: II - On Working Class Unity :

This meeting expresses its utmost gratefulness to the working people of the area including different Trade Unions, Youths, Students and Women organisations for their active support to the recent struggle of the Railwaymen and resolves to apply all possible efforts to strengthen this Broad-Based Unity of the Working Class of the Country.

: III-On Anti-Victimisation, Trade Union Rights etc. :

This meeting expresses its strong resentment at the vindictive attitude adopted by the Railway Authority to the fighting Railwaymen in removing, dismissing, discharging, arresting under MISA., DIR., rendering break in service and forcibly occupying quarters of thousands of Railway workers only on the ground that they took part in the recent Railway Strike at the call of the NCCRS on some of their very legitimate demands. This meeting urges upon the Railway Administration to withdraw all the above Anti-Labour punitive measures and restore normalcy in Railway service for the interest of the Country.

This meeting condemns the action of the Railway Authority on preventing Comrade GEORGE FERNANDES, Convenor-NCCRS from entering the Railway Colony in Parel (Bombay) and the Union office at Garden Reach (Calcutta) and demands that no member of the NCCRS be debarred from entering the Railway Area.

We accept the NCCRS as the only representing organisation of the Railwaymen at the call of which 95% of the Railwaymen went on strike and demand that all future negotiation be done with the NCCRS alone.

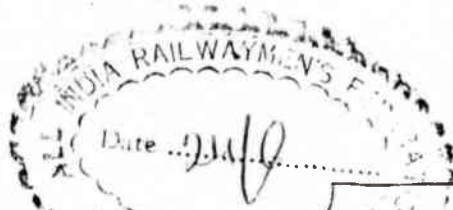
We demand immediate release of all Trade Union Workers arrested in connexion with the recent Railway strike and withdrawal of all false cases against them.

: IV - On Central Govt. Employees :

This meeting strongly condemns the repressive measures in the shape of arrest, dismissal, retrenchment, suspension etc. unleashed by the Central Government to its employees for their mere participation in the "WORK TO RULE" movement on May 8 & 9 and subsequent strike from May 10 to 13.

We demand immediate re-instatement of all discharged staff and release of arrested persons.

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RAILWAY LABOUR

(Issue dt.10/6/74)

I. Main Topic:

Post strike situation: The 20 day old strike from 8/5/74 to 27/5/74 was historic and heroic. Historic because never during the last 120 years in Indian Rlys such a strike took place. Heroic because the Rlymen had to fight a valiant battle bravely resisting and opposing the repression & oppression by the Govt. of both centre & states. Many places particularly in Rly. colonies, the families of Rlymen were tortured not only by the agencies of the Govt. i.e. Police, CRP, BSF etc. but by the supporters of the Ruling circle who turned themselves as fascist and the AIR, the Press & all publicity media resembled the days of Fascist regimes of previous decades.


The strike has brought out certain new aspects which both the Rlymen & the public should note very well. They are:-

- 1) The claim hitherto made by some left parties that some section of the leaders of the Ruling circles are progressive has proved a myth.
- 2) The existance of black money to the extent of thousands of crores of rupees did not paralyse the economy very soon as expected.
- 3) The hoarded goods with business community can sustain the necessities of common man for 2 to 3 months and so increase in prices by them at a galloping rate is unjustified.
- 4) The unilateral opinions of some constituents of NCCRS should not henceforth repeat to avoid confusion and disruption.

Although the strike was withdrawn unilaterally, it has forged a new militancy in the Rly. Trade Union movement as well as in the working class movement and it has more or less warned the Govt. of a possible serious consequence if the prices and corrupt practices go unchecked. It is natural that the Govt.'s attitude is stiff in the post strike situation but this has to be met with by more effective organisation or strengthening of NCCRS. If NCCRS is to be strengthened, the AIRF should be strengthened organisationally. Massive legal aid fund for fighting victimisation and rendering relief to the victimised employees is a must. Experiences of the past strikes indicate the Rlymen will always be in the forward more in all these but effective programming and implementation by the leaders of all constituents of AIRF and NCCRS is very necessary for this up hill task.

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II. Miscellaneous news:

- (a) Prof. Samar Guha, MP, President of this Union during the strike visited Kancharapara, Kharagpur and addressed meetings in support of the strike. Comrade Guha has also met the General Manager, S.E.Rly. on 7.6.74 and has urged him to take the following steps for restoration of normalcy in S.E.Rly.
- 1) To write to State Governments of West Bengal, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh for release of all arrested/detained persons and withdrawal of court cases. in connection with the strike.
 - 2) To reinstate all Rly. employees dismissed/removed/discharged from service.
 - 3) To allow all suspended employees to resume their duties.
 - 4) To keep in abeyance the pay cut and the brake in service till the matter is finally settled with Rly. Minister. The General Manager, S.E.Rly. has agreed to consider these and hoped for an improvement in the situation after the ensuring GM's conference.
- (b) Sri Fernandez visits West Bengal: Comrade George Fernandez convenor NCCRS and President AIRF visited W. Bengal on 5 & 6.6.74. He has visited Rly. colonies at Kancharapara, Kharagpur, Lillooh and addressed public meetings at Lillooh, Kharagpur and at Calcutta. He exhorted the Rly. men to be prepared for a bigger movement in case of the Rly. Ministry failing to ensure no victimisation and failing to concede the pending demands. He urged the Rly. Ministry to implement the assurances of the Government of India on the eve of calling off the strike.
- (c) Comrade Robi Ghosh, MLA & working President of this Union in a communication to the Home Minister, W. Bengal urged the release of the persons detained/arrested on the eve of calling off the strike, as well as denies and after the strike.
- (d) Observance of Anti-Victimisation day:- The action committee of the NCCRS has decided to observe Anti-Victimisation Day on 18.6.74 all over India and this decision has also been supported by the AIRF working committee.

III. Recent instructions from Board on staff matters.

- (a) The Board vide letter No. E(NG)II-73SB/14 dt. 6.3.74 has decided that the rights and privileges as an admissible to temporary Rly. servants on completion of 6 months continuous service may henceforth be granted to substitutes after completion of 4 months continuous service.



- (b) The Board vide letter No. POIII-73/DA dt. 9.3.74 has issued ruined instructions on the reimbursement of tuition fees in respect of children of Rly. employees with a proforma to be signed by the Hd. master of the Institution and to be submitted by the employee.

IV. Short comments:

- (a) The move of NFIR to press the government of India to derecognise the AIRF is regrettable as the recent strike has indicated that less than 5% of the Rly. men support the NFIR. It will be unwise for the government to derecognise AIRF as this will embitter the relations and also create chaotic conditions in the Indian Rlys. This strike along with the past strikes of 1960 & 1968 has indicated and proved that the AIRF alone is the fighting organisation without any wavering attitude as displayed by some other Rly. Federations. It will be better if all categorical associations join the AIRF by accepting the position of Advisory Bodies and a 3 tier machinery at Divisional level, Zonal level and All India level can be evolved for this.
- (b) The move of comrade George Fernandez to visit S.E.Rly. centres for strengthening AIRF & NCCRS is welcome. It is a departure from the old practice of AIRF leaders who seldom used to visit S.E.Rly. centres. In fact this union's Central Council meeting before the strike urged him to visit the S.E.Rly. centres.

V Railway employees working for S.E.Rly. Labour Union affected by recent strike. The list is incomplete availing for full details from Branches.

A. Persons still in jail custody and not yet released.

1. Sri A.K.Roy, Driver, Locoshed, Jharsuguda arrested on 1.5.74.
2. " B.N.Prasad, Shtg. Jamadar, Shalimar arrested on 2.5.74.
3. " M.Dhamaju, Crane Driver, BMY.

B. Persons dismissed or removed from service without being given opportunity to show cause :-

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1. Sri Anil Kundu clerk, COS Office, Garden Reach.
 2. " P.Suyanarayana, Crane Driver, Kharagpur Workshops.
 3. " B.N.Prasad Shunting Jamadar, Shalimar.
 4. " A.K.Bhattacharjee, Shtg. Jamadar, Shalimar.
 5. " H.S.Reddy, Waltair.
 6. " M.Dhanannaju Crane Driver, BMY.



C. Persons Under Suspension :

1. Sri P.V.Ramarao, Sr.Typist, DEN's Office, Waltair.
2. " S.Narayana, Carriage shed, Waltair.
3. " A. Thirumala Rao, " "
4. " H. Appa Rao, " "
5. " " Appa Rao " "
6. " D. Appa Rao " "
7. " H.Suryanarayana " "
8. " K.Renuka " "

VI. A. Letters sent by AIRF to Rly.Board:

<u>Letter No. & Date.</u>	<u>Subject.</u>
(1) AIRF/53(19) dt. 25.2.74	Seniority of staff recruited in the Railway grain shops on Indian Rlys.
(2) AIRF/224(10) dt. 18.3.74.	Anomalies in the Pay Scales recommended by the 3rd Central Pay Commission for Trains Clerks of the Indian Railways.

B. Letters sent to Rly.Administration & others by the S.E.Rly.Labour Union.

<u>Letters & Date.</u>	<u>To whom sent.</u>	<u>Subject.</u>
(a) LU/REP dt.22.2.74	CPO/CME.	Grant of scale of Rs. 110-180 AS to the stingers & Chairman in W/Shop.
(b) LU/REP dt.12.4.74	CPO/GRC	Rectification of date of Birth wrongly recorded case of Sri Chabrinath, CEMR/Medical Dept., KGP
(c) LU/REP dt.12.4.74	CE(P&D)GRC	Confirmation of Sri N. Bhirma Rao, peon, DEN(Con)/RLRP's office, KGP.
(d) LU/REP dt.31.5.74	CME, CPO & FA & CAO.	Delay in payment of settlement dues of employees of KGP workshop.
(e) NCCRS/1974 dt. 31.5.74.	GM/GRC.	Victimisation in connection with Strike of May'74.

NATIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE FOR RAILWAYMEN'S STRUGGLE,
SAMASTIPUR DIVISION, N.E. Railway

Samastipur,
Dated 13.9.74

Ref: No. NCCRS/SJ

Com. George Fernandes,
Convenor/N C C R S

Dear Comrade,

Reg: National Convention of N C C R S on 4th Oct.'74

537
14/12

We are exceedingly glad to be informed vide your circular letter No. NCCRS/1/74 dated 1-9-'74 regarding the National Convention as decided by the Majority of Action Committee members at a very proper time and warranted situation. But the whole thing can be put on the right line when the NCCRS begins to function in a right manner with coordination from Branch level to Zonal level and central level. Since we are concerned to N.E. Railway, we would like to point out some difficulties in functioning of NCCRS in N.E. Zone.

2. At the very outset it is pointed out that two Zonal NCCRS are still functioning in N.E. Railway and for which Divisional NCCRS are functioning on their own way having no co-ordination with the Zone and Samastipur Division is no exception to this. As per the resolution of NCCRS passed on 26-6-'74 at New Delhi for convention at all levels, a Divisional Convention was held at Samastipur on 26/7/'74 during the period of Observing the 'Protest Week' programme from 22nd July/74 to 28th July/'74. In the convention a resolution was unanimously passed and sent to both the leaders of Zonal NCCRS for amalgamation of two Zonal NCCRS into one unit but in vain which still results in in-coordinated functioning of NCCRS on Zonal basis and prevents to adopt any programme of action on Zonal basis. Both the Zonal NCCRS are in morbid condition in taking programmes of 'UNITED ACTIONS' for the achievement of our six point charter of Demands, withdrawal of all victimisation etc and instead the leaders of Zonal NCCRS are making efforts to divide the Divisional NCCRS into two groups only to establish their own leadership. This aspect has to be viewed seriously by the NCCRS and all efforts should be made to create an atmosphere for amalgamation of two zonal NCCRS into one so that a conformity in action could be developed on a Zonal basis.

3. The morale of Railwaymen at Samastipur Division is high and the Railwaymen are mobilized under the banner of NCCRS. There were several cases of united resistance by the Railwaymen against the repressive measures adopted by the Railway Administration after the strike. There were two occurrences of ~~xxxxx~~ CEASE WORK by the Railwaymen on 28/5/74 and 14-6-'74 due to arrest of the leaders of NCCRS and another Cease work on 25-6-'74 by the Workshop workers against appointment of the wards of the loyal workers and payment of arrears under revised scale of pay 1973 within a target date. In all these cases of Cease work, the Administration had to concede the demands of the Railwaymen such as arrested leaders were released unconditionally and appointments were not made and payment was arranged within the target date fixed by the Administration before the workers. Apart from this, Effigy of Railway Minister and Chairman, Railway Board were burnt on 13-6-'74 as a mark of great hatred against the repressive policies of the Government and Railway Administration with massive rally of Railwaymen and their children on the day. A massive demonstration was held before the Dy. DS/Samastipur on 26-7-74 for withdrawal of all victimisation. The Demonstration turned into a militant 'Gherao' of Dy. DS for 2½ hours and forced him to accept the memorandum which was being refused to be accepted by him.

4. But the mood of Railwaymen has to some extent leading to demoralisation amongst some section of workers due to further break in service inflicted upon 48 substitutes of Loco shed in the month of August, '74 on the plea of participating in the Cease work on 13-6-'74.

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5. Due to penal transfer in large number of cases and a sort of panic created by the Administration by way of revoking the victimisation in other Division except in Samastipur Division for a single case.
6. One of the constituent unit in the NCCRS is confusing the staff by circulating appeal for withdrawal of victimisation on their own way and without the consultation with NCCRS.
7. Some of the constituent units are campaigning with categorical outlook for categorywise collection in contrary to the collections being made through NCCRS coupons.
8. Due to two zonal NCCRS there is lack of proper guidance resulting in the Divisional NCCRS has to depend over the newspaper information for all programmes of NCCRS, thereby the information for cancellation of National Convention on 26-8-74 could be known to us only after arrival at Delhi.
9. Some of the constituent units are working on the line of disruption of NCCRS and thereby they are least interested in the programmes chalked out in the NCCRS and also due to cancellation of National Convention which was not officially ~~NCCRS~~ communicated in time for which capitalising for disruption in NCCRS and demoralising the workers.

Even after all these disruption being made by the leaders of some constituent unit, the majority of workers are very much keen towards strengthening the NCCRS and are also desirous to keep the NCCRS actively alive at all costs. Most of the leading cadres and workers of different units of the NCCRS at Samastipur Division are very much inclined towards the NCCRS and are ready to act upon the line and programmes of action as it directs but the disruptive forces are trying to disunite them in absence of any further programme from the NCCRS after the "Protest-WEEK" programme from 22nd July to 28th July, '74. In absence of any programme on all India basis it may kindly be approved for taking programme of action at lower levels on local issues. This is necessary because some of the leaders of constituent units in NCCRS at this Division particularly from the Unions object to the programme of NCCRS which does not relate to the charter of Demands of NCCRS. But to keep the Divisional NCCRS active and alive it is very necessary to send directives to take programmes on local issues through the Divisional NCCRS to mobilize the workers for the united actions on local issues and thereby the unions/associations will have no chance to object to the programmes of actions other than all India programmes.

A very timely guidance in the given situation will be very much appreciated. *with a memorandum of my open appeal to you, dated 8.8.74 in the AIRF file which you were addressing us there in.*

Com. George Fernandes,
Convenor/ N C C R S
125 E Babar Road,
NEW DELHI

Comradely yours,

S. C. Paul
CONVENOR
N.C.C.R.S.N.E.Rly. 13.8.74
Samastipur

June 29, 1974

On Railway Strike

The National Committee of the Socialist Party congratulates the Railway employees on their heroic struggle in support of their Charter of Demands.

The railwaymen's unprecedented strike evoked widest sympathy and support from all sections of the working class because in the present economic conditions marked by growing inflation, rising prices and dwindling living standards of the people, the Railwaymen's struggle had sharply focussed the attention of the Government and the people on issues whose appeal extended far beyond the ambit of railwaymen and touched all sections of the working class.

The railwaymen's grim battle has amply demonstrated that when faced with an effective challenge from the working class, the Government's engine of repression moves ruthlessly using tyrannical measures like the MISA and DIR to detain the workers on strike and utilising the army, BSF, territorial army and CRP to suppress the workers' struggle.

The Socialist Party strongly condemns the action of the Government in resorting to large scale dismissals, suspensions and break in service of the railway employees despite its oft-declared policy of not resorting to victimisation after the withdrawal of the railway strike.

The suspension of the payment of wages act in the case of railways on the eve of the strike and the offer of advanced increments to strike breakers as "wages-of betrayal" shows the depths of degradation to which the anti-working class attitude of the Government could sink.

The Socialist Party warns the government that if it persists in its repressive policy of victimisation the party in cooperation with other opposition parties will unitedly resist the government's vindictive policy both from the forum of Parliament and outside and declare non-cooperation with the Government.

The Socialist Party also appeals to all the Central Trade Union organisations to forge effective unity in launching an offensive against government's policy of repression.

The Party demands that the Government should immediately resume negotiations with the representatives of railwaymen and settle their demands focussed by railwaymen's unprecedented struggle.

The National Committee of the Socialist Party directs all the party branches to contribute liberally towards the amelioration of the hardships of the victimised workers.



Eastern Railwaymen's Union.

Registered under Indian Trade Union Act 1926 (Regd. No. 2770)

Recognised by the Eastern Railway Administration.

Affiliated to The All India Railwaymen's Federation.

Subash Mitra
Actg. General Secretary.

C O P Y

CENTRAL OFFICE

23 & 24, Strand Road.

No. Post-Strike/74

Cal-1 1.6.1974

The General Secretary,
All India Railwaymen's Federation,
125-E, Babar Road,
New Delhi.

Dear Comrade,

Sub: Post-strike position in
the Eastern Railway.

I am sure, you have already received the position of strike in the Eastern Railway through our reports dated 23.5.74 and 25.5.74 forwarded to you per special messenger. A detailed report indicating the actual position of strike at different places, participation of Railwaymen in the strike departmentwise, report of Police atrocities at different places of the Eastern Railway, list of staff removed from service and list of staff who were arrested and present position of those cases will be sent to you in a consolidated form within a very short time. All these informations are being collected and as you know all the important men of our organisations are busy in arranging resumption to duty of staff, the full picture has not yet been forwarded. The Central Office Bearers of this Union are moving out in the branches from 2.6.74 and a detail report will be sent at the earliest. The approximate figure as we could collect indicates as under:-

- | | | | |
|--|-----|-------|-----------|
| 1). Number of staff removed from service. | --- | about | 2600 |
| 2). No. of staff arrested. | --- | about | 1086/uso. |
| 3). No. of casual unapproved and approved substitutes removed. | --- | about | 5000 |

This is a first-hand report and the final report of the post-strike situation vis-a-vis victimisation of staff is expected to be forwarded to you in the next week.

Yesterday we obtained an order for release on bail of Sri Bimal Chandra Dey but when it was being processed we were informed that unless Clearance is obtained from D.C/ Special Branch, after release, he will again be arrested for which release order has not been executed. Attempts are

p.t.o.

EASTERN RAILWAYMEN'S UNION,
23 & 24, Strand Road,
Calcutta-1.

No. Post Striko/74.

Dt/- 1- 6- 74.

To

All Branch Secretaries,
Eastern Railwaymen's Union,

Dear Comrades,

Sub:- Few instructions for the guidance of
railwaymen on post-strike situation.

I am directed to inform you that about 2,600 permanent, temporary railwaymen and about 5,000 Casual labour, un-approved and approved Substitutes have been thrown out of employment and 1150 cases of arrest are pending at different places within the jurisdiction of Eastern Railway.

The Union had already written to the Chief Ministers of West Bengal, Bihar and U.P. States to withdraw cases under DIR & TTA etc. and to release all the arrested persons if the government is willing to bring normalcy in the functioning of the Eastern Railway. The General Manager of the Eastern Railway has also been requested to advise the State authorities to drop all cases, to release the arrested persons and to cancel warrant etc. pending execution.

This Union feels that it is our moral responsibility to get back the victimised workers back to duty and will continue our efforts till the last man is re-instated in service.

Accordingly negotiation with the Railway Administration at different levels had been started by the Central Office and necessary instruction from the Head Office, it is understood, has been issued to review the cases of removal from service and you should also take initiative at your levels to start negotiation with the Divisional/Workshop Authorities to get the victimised staff back to duty.

Rumours are being spread to submit application, appeals, mercy appeals etc. by individual railwaymen but steps should be taken so that no such unilateral action is taken. The following instructions are issued for your guidance and railwaymen should be advised accordingly. A leaflet in Hindi and Bengali will be available from the Central Office with effect from 4-6-74 and you are directed to take delivery of the same for distribution amongst the railwaymen:

I N S T R U C T I O N S.

1. No staff should submit any appeal against removal/dismissal Order;
2. Staff removed from service should not accept final settlement dues, if it is arranged at any place by the railway administration;

contd...2/-

3. Temporary staff including casual labour etc. attending temporary status should not accept pay for 14 days in lieu of notices for termination of service;
4. If there is any attempt of eviction from the railway quarters to those who have been removed from service such staff to resist eviction and inform this office immediately for further representation to the appropriate authority;
5. In order to bring down the number of strikers from its actual position attempts are being made by different railway authorities to encourage railwaymen to submit application on certain plea to cover their absence either by application or medical certificate etc. only to cover their absence which will belittle the Railwaymen's historic strike in the eye of others;
6. All court cases pending trial should be contested earnestly so that none is convicted;
7. No legal step against the removal order be taken at present till further advice;
8. As cases of LIR, MISA etc. are being dropped as per instructions of the government, nobody should surrender in the court if any warrant is pending execution.

Yours fraternally,


ACTG. GENERAL SECRETARY

Eastern Railwaymen's Union
22 & 24, Strand Road,
Calcutta-1.

No. Post-Strike/74.

Dated 30- 5- 1974.

All Branch Secretaries,
Eastern Railwaymen's Union.

Dear Comrade,

Sub:- Strike in Eastern Rly. for the
period from 8- 5- 74 to 27-5-74.

I am directed to draw your attention that a thorough analysis of the strike position of the Eastern Railway at all the places is necessary for informing the same to the Convenor of the N.C.C.R.S. - Delhi and also to the General Secretary, A.I.R.F. for their knowledge. This Union should also evaluate the strike position at different places and to assess the correct position of participation of Railwaymen in the Strike which commenced on 8- 5- 74 and continued upto 27- 5- 1974. A meeting either of the Working Committee or the Central Council will be held to review the strike position and in order to prepare a consolidated report of the Strike in Eastern Railway, you are requested to forward the following information as per proforma given at the earliest so that on receipt of the same the appropriate forum of the Union may be assembled.

Proforma.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------|--|---|---|
| A). | Branch. | Name of the Office Bearers, Branch Council Members & Active Workers who did not participate in the Strike. | Name of Office Bearers, Branch Council Members & Active workers who participated in the strike partially and if so, the period they were on strike. | |
| | (1) | (2) | (3). | |
| B). | Department. | Total strength of staff. | No. of staff participated in the strike for full period (3) | No. of staff participated in the strike partially. (4). |
| | (1). | (2). | | |

Yours Comradely,

Actg. General Secretary.

AS/- -

EASTERN RAILWAYMEN'S UNION,
23 & 24, Strand Road,
Calcutta - 1.

No. Post Strike/74.

Dt/- 28. 5. 74.

TO

ALL BRANCH SECRETARIES,
Eastern Railwaymen's Union,

Dear Comrades,

Sub:- INDEFINITE STRIKE ON INDIAN RAILWAYS
FROM 8.5.74 - ITS WITHDRAWAL FROM
28.5.74 AND POST STRIKE SITUATION ON
EASTERN RAILWAY.

I want to convey congratulations to all the fighting railwaymen for their heroic struggle from 6 A.M. of 8.5.74 with complete success for which not a single wheel of Eastern Railway could be moved and this position continued upto 18.5.74. Thereafter due to resumption of a minor percentage of railwaymen on strike skeleton services could be resumed even then the revised time table could not be followed. In all workshops of the Eastern Railway not a single machine could be operated due to overwhelming majority of all categories of staff participated in the strike. All types of regressions were let loose against the struggling railwaymen and their families members but at very many places our mothers-sisters-brothers and dependants resisted and encouraged us to continue the struggle. I also congratulate them for their heroic act and all the performances together ~~with~~ created a history of Trade Union movement in India. The HCCRS/Delhi took a decision to withdraw the strike and in pursuance of the said decision the Eastern Railwaymen's Union and other constituents units of N.C.C.R.S. E.Rly. informed the General Manager formally withdrawing the strike notice served on him on 23.4.74. Accordingly you are requested to advise the railwaymen on strike working within the jurisdiction of your Branch to resume their duty immediately.

A large number of railwaymen have been arrested and in many cases bail has not been granted and in certain cases although bail has been given they are to appear in the court on some date/dates. Likewise large number of railwaymen have been removed from service and we shall not rest till the last man is rehabilitated. In order to know the actual position of arrest, victimisation etc. you are requested to forward informations by special messenger immediately according to the proforma given for intimating the Convener, N.C.C.R.S./Delhi and General Secretary, A.I.R.F. for their necessary action.

P R O F O R M A.

A. No. of staff arrested from the jurisdiction of the Branch	Name, Desig., T/No. Station of individual employee.	Date of arrest.	Arrested under DIR OR MISA.
1.	2.	3.	4.
B. No. of staff removed from service including casual labour & Substitutes.	Name, Desig., T/No. of individual employee	Copy of the notice if available for each case	Whether bail granted or otherwise. Next date of appearing in the court, with name of the court.
1.	2.	3.	5. 6.
C. No. of staff suspended from duty and/or against whom charge sheet has been issued.	Name, Desig., T/No. & Stn. of individual employee.	Copy of charge sheet, & suspension order if available	
1.	2.	3.	

Yours faithfully,
[Signature]
/GENERAL SECRETARY.

BIHARATIYA RAILWAY MAZDOOR SANGH

(INDIAN RAILWAY WORKERS FEDARATION)

President

Shri Hukumchand Kachwai
M. P.

Working President

Shri G.S. Gokhale

भारतीय रेलवे मजदूर संघ

(भारतीय मजदूर संघसे संलग्न)

Secy. Genl.

Shri Amaldarsingh

Secy. Genl. (org.)

Shri Manohar Phatak

Phone : 4 8 3 5 6

१६, विंडसर प्लेस
नई दिल्ली-१



३३, मोती भवन डिसिल्हा रोड,
दादर बम्बई-४०००२८

L. No. PCRS/74

Date 4th June, 1974.

Dear Shri Chobe ji,

In the prevailing post strike situation prompt and proper dealing of the cases of victimized workers has to be given top priority. In view of this we have opened a cell for this work at 19, Windsor Place, New Delhi. Shri Yoditara Vira, General Secretary, Metropolitan Transport Project (Elys.) Employees Union, Delhi is in charge of this cell. He will be available on Telephone No. 49356 during office hours i.e. 11 A.M. to 5 P.M.

I am sure, cooperation between our organisations will continue and strengthen the bonds of fraternity.

With regards,

Brotherly yours,

G. D. Solway

(G.D. Solway)
Gy. Secretary-General.

Shri J.P. Chobey,
Asstt. General Secretary,
A.T.P.W.,
125-B, Kabar Road,
NEW DELHI-110001.

To:

Comerade George Fernadez,
Convonor National Cordination Committee,
New Delhi.


Dear Comerade:

Sub: Termination of Service of the
Temporary Employees due to
General Strike.

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Herewith I am enclosing a list of temporary
Employees/CPC whose services have been terminated due
to the participation in the May 8th general strike.
Before absorbing as C and W Khalasi, Loco Khalasi,
Electrical Khalasi, R.B. Servant and Traffic Porters
on the date mentioned against their names, they have
already served in the Railway for an average of five
years prior to getting C.P.C. scale. I request the
case of Mangalore also may be taken up on a national
level along with others.

Yours Faternaly,



(K.P.N. NAMBIAR)
CONVENOR, CORDINATION COMMITTEE
FOR RAILWAY MEN'S STRUGGLE
RAILWAY STATION
MANGALORE.

3/6/74

Copy to:

1. Secretary, AIRF, New Delhi.
2. Indian Railway Workers Federation, New Delhi.
3. Railway Employees Con-federation, New Delhi.
4. A.K. Gopalan, M.P., New Delhi.
5. S.M. Banerjee, M.P., New Delhi.
6. Maddu Limai, M.P., New Delhi.
7. Thengadi, M.P., New Delhi.
8. Convonor, Zonal cordination Committee, Madras.
9. Convenor, Divisional Cordination Committee, Olavakot.

National Co-ordination Committee
for Railwaymen's Struggle

S. E. RAILWAY ZONAL COMMITTEE

N.C. Roy Choudhuri,
C O N V E N O R.

UNION BUILDING
KHARIDA
P. O. KHARAGPORE
WEST BENGAL

No. UR/15/74

Dated: 30 May, 1974.

To
Com George Fernandes,
Convenor,
N.C.C.R.S.,
125/E, Babar Road (Rly. Quarters),
New Delhi-1.



Dear Comrade,

Sub: Post-strike situation in S.E. Railway.

It is heartening to note the line for unity as spelt out by you in your first Press Conference after your release from Tihar Jail.

We have sent two telegrams to you, Prime Minister and Railway Minister reporting about the post-strike situation in this Railway. Kharagpur, the biggest railway township of India has been turned into a concentration camp, as if for a vanquished army.

Since the evening of May 27, when the call-off of the strike was announced, armed hooligans with Congress banner went round the residential quarters of the strikers at Kharagpur and hurled threats at them. Even women were abused and they were warned that from now these ladies will be made naked and would be made to dance in the street. The vehicle which was used for microphone announcement by N.C.C.R.S. - to call upon the railwaymen to resume work from 6 A.M. on May 28, was obstructed at various points.

But on May 28, when railwaymen went to join work they had to face extreme humiliation everywhere as they joined duty chanting slogans of NCCRS. In the Diesel Shop one worker was beaten up by one senior Inspector-Diesel and the victim is in the hospital now. In the Wagon Shop the Dy. CME(W) was physically making out the dismissed workers from the Shop premises with the help of Border Security Force. In the Loco Shed also the workers had to face the same sinister provocations. The enraged railwaymen staged protest demonstration in all the Shops and Sheds. In some shops the Foremen and Assistant Works Managers who display outrageous behaviour were heckled. But immediately CRP and BSF encircled all the Shops and Sheds. Union leaders of the Workshops were dismissed and they were not allowed to enter the Workshops. But Com Sunil Chakraborty, Central Treasurer and Sunil Baran Das, Branch Secretary,

.....2/-

went inside in the workshops and persuaded the workers to remain peaceful and not to fall prey to provocations.

But since May 29, arrests and dismissal are swelling. To-day the workers were made to stand in long line for verification of identity in the Workshop gates for hours together. During this ordeal some were being arrested and policemen were waving sticks and rifles waiting in the queue. Of course, after the local AITUC leader Shri Narayan Choubey spoke to the District Magistrate, The checking at the gates was relaxed.

Section 144 which was clamped on the eve of the strike all over S.E. Railway has not yet been withdrawn. As a result, no unit of NCCRS is able to reach the workers publicly. Thus in the midst of this intensified tension it has been impossible to restore normal working.

Apart from dismissal of permanent employees under rule 14(ii) of Discipline & Appeal Rules and Clause 311(B)(b), the largest number is of those who have temporary status including those who are called casual labour and substitutes - in the massive army of dismissal. Number of those already dismissed will be over 15,000 and those in jail is 5,000. In case of dismissed workers, in many cases they are being quest to take their settlement dues along with the salary of April.

So, financial hardships has reached a climax and in the next month salary for 20 days is threatened to be retrenched. If the government does not agree to pay the wages for the strike period some advance to the tune of Rs.200/- may be arranged.

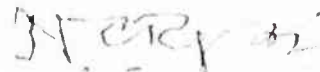
In Adra Division workers are being asked to sign a Bond pledging "Good conduct" for the future. No one has agreed to sign such Bond and as a result, nobody could join duty in Adra Division yesterday.

Police opened fire at Wagon Shop-Kharagpur and resorted to 'Lathi Charge' at Bankura (Adra Division), yesterday. 2 railwaymen were injured at Kharagpur and 3 at Bankura.

I shall give you further details on receipt of the detailed report of the whole railway.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,



(N.C. Roy Choudhuri)