

DELHI TRADE UNIONS' ACTION COMMITTEE
K/TRA. SHARANSINGHI, CHANDNI CHOWK, DELHI:

TO ALL TRADE UNIONS :
CIRCULAR NO: AC/2/57:

Dated : 5th November, 57.

COMRADES !

In pursuance of the decision, a deputation of the Action Committee met the Director of Industries and Labour on 4.11.1957 at 10.30 A.M. in connection with the strike launched by the Kapra Sharanjeeve Singh and handed over to him a memorandum inter-alia complaining against the anti-labour policies pursued by the local administration. In the memorandum the Committee pointed out that the labour laws were not being effectively implemented and that there were glaring breaches of the provisions of the Awards by the employers. The deputation impressed upon the D I & L for bringing about an immediate settlement of the disputes, as otherwise, the other local trade unions would be compelled to resort to sympathetic strike actions.

At 3.00 P.M. our deputation met the Chief Commissioner. The overleaf news contains the gist of the interview with the Chief Commissioner.

The Shop Assistants struggle has entered into 15th day today. The morale of the strikers is very high inspite of 35 arrests and convictions of 10 employees. The employers are still adamant. The Kapra Sharanjeeve Singh has exhausted all its funds. Besides financial help to some strikers it is becoming difficult to meet the normal expenses to run the struggle. Most of the Unions have not so far paid their minimum quotas of Rs. 10/- even particularly when maximum financial help is needed. We, therefore, appeal to all the Trade Unions and through them their members to donate liberally to the fighting fund. The situation brooks no delay; hence the funds must reach the Committee without any loss of time.

COMRADES ! Among others the main demand of the shop Assistants is 25 % rise in the wages. Bankmen have already staged several strike actions. Other Trade Unions are also agitating. There can be no difference of opinion that only united mighty movement can lead us to success. It is therefore imperative to make every call of the Committee a success and mobilise your maximum membership in the Joint actions.

Section 144 is a serious danger particularly to our trade Union activities. We apprehend that in order to curb the trade union activities it will be kept in force. We must therefore raise a strong protest for lifting Section 144 forthwith; so also we must raise our voice against the police intervention in our peaceful agitations.

All the Trade Unions are requested to pass resolutions and write letters to the Chief Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, and the Hono Minister. Copies of such resolutions should be sent to the press and the Committee as well.

LONG LIVE WORKERS UNITY :


(H.L. PARVANA)
CONVENOR :

DELHI TRADE UNIONS ACTION COMMITTEE

Katra Shahensahi,
Chandni Chowk,
DELHI

CIRCULAR NO. AC/3/57

November 8, 1957.

C O M R A D E S :

Enclosed are the resolutions passed in the public meeting held in Gandhi Grounds on 5th November, 1957.

The Kapra Sharanjeevi Sangh has called off its strike, most of their demands having been acceded to. The agreement also contains the terms 'no victimization' and 'salary for the strike period'.

Still 35 arrested persons, out of which 10 were sentenced for one month imprisonment, have not been released. Besides this the Committee has to discharge various other responsibilities and obligations as per decisions of the joint meeting held on 1st November, 1957.

So far Rs. 120/- have been received from 11 organisations and others have not yet paid the minimum levy of Rs. 10/- fixed in the joint meeting held on 1.11.1957. We have spent about Rs. 170/- on the public meeting and Rs. 30/- on circulars, postage, stationery, conveyance etc. Thus you will please appreciate that the committee is in a deficit of Rs. 80/-. To discharge its normal responsibilities and obligations it requires more funds.

We are confident that all the unions would send immediately their due levy at least by 15th November, 1957 so as to enable us to pay the debts and discharge other responsibilities.

The menace of section 144 still continues. We asked all the unions to pass resolutions against section 144 urging upon the Delhi Administration to lift the ban on demonstrations, processions and meetings so as to enable us to mobilise the democratic opinion in support of our demands. We are hope-ful that all the unions might have moved in this direction and/or do the needful at the earliest, if not already done. The copies of the resolution should also be sent to the press and the committee.

WORKERS UNITY

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(H.L. PARVANA)
C O N V E N O R

DELHI TRADE UNIONS ACTION COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION ON SHOP ASSISTANTS STRIKE

" The Kapra Sharanjeevi Sangh has been pressing its demands for 25% rise in wages, regular pay scales, Bonus, Provident Fund, Gratuity and other demands for the last 2 years but the cloth dealers and commission agents and their organisation, the Hindustani Mercantile Association, remained adamant to concede to such reasonable demands of their employees. When all the avenues for a peaceful settlement of the disputes failed, the shop assistants were reluctantly compelled to resort to strike on and from the 24th October, 1957. The strike is most peaceful in character but still there is much interference and provocation by the police, which has arrested 35 strikers, out of which 10 have been sentenced to one month imprisonment.

This general meeting of the local trade unions of the workers and the middle class employees, held under the auspices of the Delhi Trade Unions Action Committee, vehemently condemns the attitude of the cloth dealers and commission agents and their organisation the Hindustani Mercantile Association, for not settling the dispute with the Kapra Sharanjeevi Sangh directly and peacefully and for creating such a situation by sticking to the point of prestige instead of appreciating that the prestige is rather enhanced if the disputes are resolved.

This meeting takes a serious view against the police interference and provocations and condemns its action for arresting peaceful strikers. This meeting also condemns the attitude of the Delhi Administration for sitting as passive spectator and thus helping the employers; particularly when the Government is wedded to the policy of establishment of a socialist society.

This meeting demands of the employers and their organisation, the Hindustani Mercantile Association to open negotiations with the Kapra Sharanjeevi Sangh and concede to the just demands of their employees. This meeting urges upon the Government for its early intervention for settlement of the dispute and release of the strikers, who have been sentenced and for withdrawal of other pending cases, as otherwise, the other local trade unions will be reluctantly compelled to resort to sympathetic strike action, the responsibility of which shall lie entirely on the shoulders of the employers and the Government.

This meeting while congratulating the Shop - Assistants on their heroic strike action and for exercising exemplary patience and restraint against all sorts of provocations, assures them its full support for the fulfilment of their just demands. "

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY IN THE LOCAL TRADE UNIONS RALLY HELD IN GANDHI GROUNDS ON 5 TH NOVEMBER, 1957.

DELHI TRADE UNIONS ACTION COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION ON 25% WAGE RISE AND AGAINST THE ANTI LABOUR POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT.

"The policy of deficit financing and high taxation has led to a steep rise in the prices of essential commodities and a sympathetic rise in other services. Near famine conditions prevail in various parts of the country. The Government has failed to keep the prices within the reasonable limit. The production and profits have increased substantially but the workers' wages have actually shrunk. This led to a demand of 25% wage-rise. Everywhere in the country the trade unions have started united actions. Very recently there was 31 days' heroic strike by the West Bengal Bank employees. In Delhi too the bankmen have on various occasions resorted to token strikes in support of their demand for Compensatory Allowance, at the rate of 25% of basic pay, the shop assistants are on strike for the last thirteen days and other trade unions are carrying on agitation in one form or the other.

"The employers are indulging in unfair labour practices by victimising trade union leaders and active workers, rejecting even the minor and most reasonable demands of the workers, not properly implementing various labour laws and violating the provisions of the Awards and in some cases by way of non-implementation of Awards. The Government wedded to the policy of establishment of a socialist society helps more and more the capitalists and thus encourages them even to flout the statute so glaringly. If the workers resort to direct actions there is much interference and provocation by the police, who arrest the peaceful strikers under various pretexts to crush the strike and suppress the genuine trade union activities.

"The Delhi Administration with a mala fide intention to curb democratic movement has clamped down Section 144 and deprived the workers to exercise their right to peacefully agitate and mobilise democratic opinion by staging demonstrations, taking out processions and holding mass rallies in Delhi and New Delhi areas. There seems to be an intention on the part of the Delhi Administration to continue this ban on demonstrations, processions and meetings.

"This mass rally held under the auspices of the Delhi Trade Unions Action Committee takes a serious view against such policies of employers and the Government and considers it an attack on workers' basic trade union rights by curbing trade union activities and suppressing democratic movements.

"This meeting warns the employers to desist from unfair labour practices and to concede the demands of the workers. This meeting urges upon the Government to release the trade union workers who have been sentenced and withdraw the cases pending against the others and to immediately lift the ban on demonstrations, processions and meetings, as otherwise the workers shall be compelled to defy the ban in order to defend basic trade union rights and civil liberties. This meeting further urges upon the Government to warn the police not to interfere in the peaceful movement of the workers and take steps to compel the employers to concede the just demands of the workers for 25% rise in wages and/or payment of Compensatory Allowance to offset the abnormal rise in prices. This meeting appeals to all the democratic organisations to raise their voice against the anti labour policies of the Government and in support of the demands of the employees. This meeting calls upon the workers and the middle class employees to keep themselves in readiness to fulfil any call of the ACTION COMMITTEE in case the Government fails to lift the ban on demonstrations, processions and meetings and for fulfilment of the demand of 25% rise in wages and other pending issues."

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY IN THE LOCAL TRADE UNIONS' RALLY HELD ON
5TH NOVEMBER, 1957 IN THE GANDHI GROUNDS.

जिला किसान सभा वाजिदपुर जाजमऊ, कानपुर

Zila Kisan Sabha Vajidpur Jajmau, Kanpur

श्री मनोहर लाल सभासद (अध्यक्ष)

„ श्रीम प्रकाश दीक्षित (मंत्री)

1060 22/3/66

क्रमांक.....

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दिनांक..... ५-३-६६

प्रिय साधु,

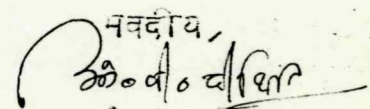
जिला किसान सभा कानपुर ने २१, २२ मई सन् १९६६ को अग्रिक-किसान सम्मेलन करने का निश्चय किया है, जिसमें आपको सादर आमंत्रित किया जाता है।

आशा है कि निम्न तारीखों में तयार कर कार्यक्रम को सकल बनायेंगे।

कार्य-क्रम

- १- २१-५-६६ को किसान सम्मेलन।
- २- २२-५-६६ को रेयान, लेबर वर्क्स सम्मेलन।
- ३- २३-५-६६ को आम सभा।

नोट:- सभी कार्यक्रम लेबर वेल फेअर सेंटर जे०के०पुरी लेबर कालोनी कानपुर -१० में होंगे।

भवदीय,

 : ओ०पी०दी०दि०
 मंत्री

Upica Employee's Union

REGISTERED No. 2104

President
S. M. Banerji
M. P.

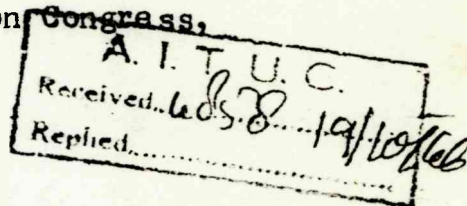
117/418-B Sarvodaya Nagar
Chimmiganj,
KANPUR 2.

Ref. No. 128/VEO/66-9

Dated 17th October, 1966.

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The Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress,
8-Jhandewalan,
Rani Jhansi Road,
New Delhi-1.



Dear Sir,

Sub: U.P. Coop. Societies ACT, 1965.

We have the honour to say that some time past A. I. T. U. C. have taken up the matter with Govt. of India, Ministry of Labour, regarding clause 135 of above Act by which Coop. Societies were exempted from Industrial Dispute Act.

As for as we came to know that Govt. of India have assured A. I. T. U. C. that U.P. Govt. has been advised to withdraw above clause from the said act. We, therefore, request you if such assurance has been received by you may kindly be sent to us. As the Labour Commissioner U.P. Kanpur is intending to drop our few cases pending with him in view of above clause.

An early reply is requested.

Yours faithfully,

(M. L. GUPTA)
GENERAL SECRETARY.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE POINTS RAISED BY SHRI T.B.VITHAL RAO
IN THE LETTER DATED THE 14TH APRIL 1959 AND THE
REMARKS OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND
EMPLOYMENT.

<u>Point raised</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
<p>(1) (a) Increase in number of accidents in the Stone Quarries of Ramganj- mandi - From December onwards only, as a result of these accidents six workers were killed and many others seriously wounded.</p> <p>(b) This has created a tense situation in the mines area and it is reported that the local authorities including the Regional Inspector are not taking adequate steps to prevent the recurrence of these accidents.</p> <p>(c) It is said that the employers do not have qualified mine managers or technicians and most of the accidents followed from faulty blasting.</p>	<p>(1) (a) Only one fatal accident, involving the death of one person and serious injury to another caused by blasting occurred on the 14th 1958. Criminal proceedings have been instituted against the management for violation of the Me- talliferous Mines Regu- lations, as was revealed during the course of enquiry.</p> <p>(b) It would be helpful if specific instances are mentioned about alleged failures of the official concerned.</p> <p>(c) Particular Sections of the Act may kindly be stated about which breaches are noticed. Appropriate action would be taken further.</p>
<p>(2) In none of the above cases of accidents had there been any payment of compensation to the rela- tives of the dead or to those injured. Repre- sentations made to the Conciliation Officer (Central) have brought forth no results.</p>	<p>(2) No representation has been received from Stone Quarries Labour, Union, Ramganjmandi regarding non-payment of compensa- tion. However, the union may be advised to take action under the workmen's compensation Act, which is administe- red by the State Govt.</p>
<p>(3) Despite the recommendations of the Industrial Committee on Mines other than Coal, the Minimum Wages Act has not yet been enforced in these quarries. The Union has also repor- ted that officials of the Labour Department do not pay proper attention to enforcement of the Mines Regulations.</p>	<p>(3) The notification under which minimum rates of wages were fix fixed for mines and quarries in Rajasthan was set aside by the Rajasthan High Court. The question of fresh notification fixing minimum rate of wages is under the consideration of the Rajasthan Government.</p>



Punjab Pepsu & Himachal Committee.

OF

All India Trade Union Congress.

G. T. Road JULLUNDUR.

Ref No.

Dated

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Fifth annual conference of Punjab, Himachal Committee of All India Trade Union Congress was held at Sonapat from 21st October to 24th October. Nearly two hundred delegates representing trade unions from cotton, textile, Engineering, cycle industries, Hosiery industry, Transport, ~~at~~ Bhakra Nangal Dam, Sugar etc ended this conference. Textile Mazdoor Eka Union of Amritsar, one of the strongest unions of the Punjab and which is not affiliated with any central T.U. organization sent a strong delegation of 22 delegates to attend the conference as fraternal delegates.

It is significant to note that during the last 18 months, the influence and prestige of AITUC in this region has considerably increased. Nearly 20 new unions have got themselves affiliated with AITUC in this period, including Hosiery Workers Union of Ludhiana, one of the oldest unions in the Province. At present about 60 unions are affiliated with AITUC in this region. The growing influence of AITUC in this region is also reflected in the preparations for the conference. For the first time, practically every union participated in the fund collection campaign to stabilize the finances of PTUC Centre. From Sonapat and its adjoining areas nearly Rs. Three thousand were collected. Workers of At-las cycle works alone contributed about Rs. 700/- for the conference. Almost same amount was contributed by the Kisans around Sonapat.

Another important feature of this conference was that for the first time in the history of AITUC in this region, a broad based Reception Committee of the conference was formed. Apart from the representatives of the various unions of Sonapat and Kisan Sabha,

Punjab Pepsu & Himachal Committee,

OF

All India Trade Union Congress.

G. T. Road JULLUNDUR.

Ref No.

-2-

Dated

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Leading citizens of Jullundur became the members of the Reception Committee. All the members of the Reception Committee took keen and active interest in the preparations and deliberations of the conference.

Mr. Lakhmi Lal, the general secretary of PTUC presented his report on 22nd October and practically full one day was devoted to the discussion on his report. As many as 35 delegates participated in the discussions on the report. The importance of discussions on this report lies in the fact that this report made an attempt to apply the stand of AITUC on the ^{in decisions of} 15th Labour Conference. There was a general agreement about the policy of AITUC regarding Second Five year Plan, wage increase, Rationalisation, discipline etc. The representatives of the various unions enriched the report with their comments and living experiences.

After the discussions on the general secretary's report, the conference was split up into various commissions to discuss the problems of various industries in the region.

The conference passed a large number of resolutions such as on Recognition of Trade Unions, Policy of Labour Department of the Punjab Govt., Trade Union Unity, on Wage, on Labour, communal unity, amendments to existing Labour laws, Trade Union Organisation, Trade Union (Fortnightly organ of PTUC) etc. But most of the discussions took place on four main subjects.

Punjab Pepsu & Himachal Committee,

OF

All India Trade Union Congress.

G. T. Road JULLUNDUR.

Ref No.

Dated

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- 3 -

T. U. Unity, Communal unity, Labour Policy of the Punjab Govt and strengthening of AITUC in this region.

In the discussions on T. U. Unity, the conference noted with satisfaction the progress made in this direction. It should be mentioned here that class workers Federation including AITUC, IATUC and independent Unions has been formed. Similarly Trade workers Federation has been formed. Besides this T. U. Councils are being formed in important industrial towns. In some factories, various Unions have been merged into one Union such as Co-operative sugar factory at Rehtak. In some other factories, joint committees were formed to wage struggle such as Tata factory Phagwara. The conference underlined the importance of T. U. Unity in the coming period and emphasized that special attention should be paid to unorganised workers.

In the resolution on communal unity, the conference appealed to the leaders of Hindi Raksha Samiti to initiate the movement and a round table conference should be called. The conference also demanded that the repression should be stopped.

In the resolution of the Labour Policy of the Punjab Govt, the conference pointed out that Labour Department of the Punjab Govt is still continuing a policy of discrimination towards AITUC Unions, which in its proceedings are subjected to prolonged delay, requests to the disputes are made after many months, awards are not implemented and above all the adjudication proceedings in the Tribunal take a very long time.

Punjab Pepsu & Himachal Committee,

OF

All India Trade Union Congress.

G. T. Road JULLUNDUR.

Ref No.

Dated

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- 4 -

On the resolution on strengthening AITUC, the conference appealed to all the Trade Unions to launch a campaign to increase membership of their Unions and to strengthen fraternal relations with these Unions which are quite close to AITUC but still hesitate to join AITUC. The conference also decided to strengthen PTUC centre and took a decision that at least three committees should function at the PTUC centre. In order to strengthen "Trade Union" journal of PTUC, the conference issued an appeal for funds.

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About Rs two hundred were collected on the spot.

Com. Anura Kshatri Vice President of AITUC addressed the delegates on 23rd October nearly for two hours. In her speech, she emphasized the role of working class India in post-independence period and laid special emphasis on training and building working class leadership.

Com. S.A. Dange General Secy of AITUC addressed the open rally of the conference.

- Put some sentences here. (I was absent)

Similarly Com. S.M. Banerji M.P., Com. T. Changanani M.P. also addressed the open rally. Com. Vittal Rao greeted the delegates.

The conference unanimously elected the office-bearers for the next session. Com. Kartar Singh was elected as the President and Com. Suresh Chandra as the General Secretary. Com. V.P. Gupta was elected as President and elected as General Vice-President.

DELHI TRADE UNIONS ACTION COMMITTEE

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION.

A deputation of the Delhi Trade Unions Action Committee, consisting of Sarvshri A.C.Nanda, H.L. Parvans, Ram Chander Sharma and R-jinder Soyal, met the chief commissioner today at 3 P.M and complained to him about the role being played by the Labour machinery, which was responsible for the present strike by the shop assistants and for delaying the matter instead of taking effective steps to bring about a settlement of the dispute.

The deputationists complained against the police intervention; particularly at the instance of the employers and arresting peaceful strikers, their summary trials and convictions. The deputationists requested for an immediate release of those sentenced and for withdrawal of the cases pending against others.

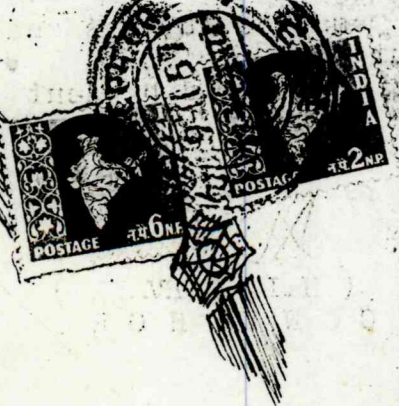
The deputationists told the chief commissioner that section 144, which was primarily imposed to check the communal tension due to the " save Hindi agitation ", was in fact being used to curb the legitimate trade union activities as it was most difficult rather impossible for the trade unions to mobilise the democratic opinion in support of the workers demands in absence of demonstrations, processions and public meetings.

The chief commissioner gave a patient hearing and asked the Director of Industries and Labour to immediately submit a report on the dispute between the whole-sale cloth dealers and their employees so that the dispute be referred to an Industrial Tribunal for adjudication. The Chief-Commissioner asked the committee to submit a list of those convicted and against whom the cases were pending for his sympathetic consideration. The Chief Commissioner agreed to give permission to hold meetings but promised to consider for the permission to take up processions.

Katra Shahenshahi,
Chandni Chowk,
DELHI

November 4, 1957.

(Signature)
(H.L. PARVANS)
CONVENOR



BOOK POST

General Secretary
All India Trade Unions Congress
4, ASOKA Road,
NEW DELHI

DELHI TRADE UNIONS ACTION COMMITTEE

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION.

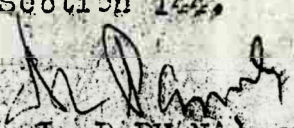
The Delhi Trade Unions Action Committee held a public meeting in Gandhi Grounds today under the presidency of Shri Shakil Ahmed. The meeting was largely attended and addressed among others by Sarvshri H.L. Parvane, A.C. Nanda, Prem Sagar Gupta, Har Srup Sharma, Y.D. Sharma, B.D. Joshi and Ram Chander Sharma.

The meeting passed a resolution supporting the demands of the Shop Assistants for 25% rise in wages, Bonus, Provident Fund, Gratuity etc. and demanded of the Hindustani Mercantile Association to settle the dispute directly with the K. Pra. Shranjivi Singh through negotiations. The meeting urged upon the Government for immediate intervention to bring about a settlement, as otherwise other local trade unions will resort to sympathetic strike action, the responsibility of which shall lie on the employers and the Government.

In another resolution the meeting condemned the unfair labour practices and illegal actions of the employers in victimising the trade union activists, rejecting even minor and most reasonable demands and non-implementation or mal-implementation of the awards of the Industrial Tribunals. The meeting condemned the anti labour policies of the Government which although committed to establish socialist society, in its anxiety to help the capitalists adopts repressive measures to crush the peaceful struggles. The meeting took a serious view against the interference of the police in provoking and arresting the peaceful strikers. It was urged upon the Government to compel the employers to concede the demand for 25% rise in wages and/ or Compensatory Allowance to offset the exorbitant rise in prices as otherwise local trade unions shall resort to a general strike for fulfilment of this reasonable demand.

The meeting urged upon the Government to lift the ban on demonstrations, processions and meetings, otherwise the trade unions of Delhi will start a united movement to defy Section 144.

Katra Shikshanshahi,
Chandni Chowk,
DELHI-6.
5th November, 1957.


(H. L. PARVANA)
CONVENOR

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BEFORE THE INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNAL AT HYDERABAD.

C.No. 9/57 and 18/57.

Agreement of settlement entered into this Tenth day of November 1957, between :

1. The Rayalaseema Mill Ikiya Karmika Sangham, Adoni, represented by the Committee of negotiations consisting of:-

1. Sri Amolak Ram,
2. Sri A.N.Ramanna, President,
3. Sri T.Venkateswarulu, General Secretary,
4. Sri S.Krishnaji,
5. Sri P.Mahaboob Sab
6. Sri V.Palaniswamy
7. Sri S.Mohamed Sheriff and
8. Smt. Nagamma, herein after called the Ikiya Karmika Sangham.

2. and the Rayalaseema Mills Ltd., Adoni, represented by Sri C.R.Vyasa Rao, Secretary, herein after called the Management.

While there are two cases No.9/57 and 18/57, between the Ikiya Karmika Sangham and the Management, pending before this Hon'ble Tribunal, and while it has been decided by the said parties to settle the disputes pending under the said cases outside the court,

The Ikiya Karmika Sangham and the Management, parties to the above disputes, are agreed that an award may be passed in the above two cases in the following terms:

1. Basic Wages:(a) All workers who are now getting Rs.26/- p.m. as basic Wages will get Rs.27-10-0 p.m. as basic wages and all workers getting basic wages over Rs.26/- p.m. now, will

get in addition of Rs.1-10-0 to their basic wages. This increase in basic wages will take effect from 1-11-1957.

- (b) All other workers who have not reached the basic minimum wages now will reach the Rs.27-10-0 in the usual course as their basic minimum wage; after the periodical tests to be conducted at the end of December, 1957, those who are efficient will reach the minimum from 1-1-1958 and others will reach the minimum after further periodical tests.

2. Workload:

The Ikiya Karmika Sangham will sit up with the Management and examine the workloads obtaining in Hemalatha and other Mills and adopt suitable work loads under mutual agreement and put this into execution immediately not later than end of December, 1957 i.e., before the new spindles are put into Commission.

3. Dearness allowance

The Ikiya Karmika Sangham and the Management agree to wait till all the new 6400 spindles go into production and run for 2 months and then take up this question of rate of dearness allowance for consideration by about the 15th March, 1958.

4. Bonus.

Management agree to pay additional one month (1/12th) basic wages as bonus for year 1955 to all the employees of the Mills. The bonus will be paid on or before the 30th November, 1957.

5. Festival holidays.

The Management agree to give 5 days of festival holidays with wages ~~xx~~ per year in addition to the 2 National holidays now being given with wages i.e., all 7 days of National and Festival holidays per year.

The list of five festival holidays will be submitted to the Management by the Ikiya Karmika Sangham.

6. Sick Leave.

The labour Union does not press their demand for sick leave at present.

In witness where of the Ikiya Karmika Sangham and the Management have hereunto set their hands this day and year first mentioned above.

On behalf of Ikiya Karmika Sangham.

on behalf of management.

1. sd. AMOLOK RAM.
2. sd. A.N. RAMANNA.
3. sd. T. VENKATESWARULU.
4. sd. S. KRISHNAJI.
5. sd. B. MAHABOOB SAB.
6. sd. V. PALANI SWAMI.
7. sd. S. MOHAMMED SHERIFF.
8. sd. NAGAMMA. (left thumb impression)

(sd) C.R. VYASA RAO.
SECRETARY.

(TRUE COPY)

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THE WIMCO STRIKE AND AFTER

Although the Wimco Match Factory in Bareilly has re-started work after the 20-day stay-in-strike by the workers, the situation obtaining in the factory is one which causes the gravest concern.

Nine leaders of the Wimco Workers Union are in jail and are on hunger-strike for the last 34 days. Thirteen workers have been charge-sheeted for taking part in the stay-in-strike and are on suspension. Earlier 18 workers were dismissed from service on a false charge of forcibly extorting a letter from the Manager of the factory for the recognition of the union. Cases under Sections 147, 148 and 386 I.P.C. are pending against eleven workers. These workers are on bail but they are not allowed to go within two miles of the factory area. This ban applies to the President, Secretary and other prominent workers of the Union.

The election of Union office-bearers has not been recognised by the Registrar of Trade Unions, Kanpur, on the flimsy ground that it was held by show of hands and not by secret ballot. Several cases of the workers are pending with the Regional Conciliation Officer, Bareilly, but no one can represent the workers as there is no recognised union.

The Wimco workers Union held their annual election on July 17 last and an Executive Committee of 35 persons with Har Sahai Singh as President and Musharraf Ali as Secretary was elected. The copy of the proceedings of the elections was sent to the Registrar, Trade Unions, Kanpur and the management. On August 2, the management opposed the presence of the elected President in an adjudication case of the Wimco Factory. The adjudicator fixed August 25 as the next date of the case till this matter was settled from the Registrar of Trade Unions. The Union held a gate meeting to protest against this attitude of the management. At this stage, on the invitation of the manager of the factory, a meeting took place between him and the Union leaders, in his office where the manager gave them in writing a copy of the letter

sent to the Labour Commissioner, Kanpur, recognising the Union. Later on, however, the management made a complaint to the district authorities that the letter was forcibly extorted from him. In this manner, eleven leaders of the workers were involved in false cases under Sections 147, 148 and 386 ~~of~~ I.P.C. and 22 workers charge-sheeted and dismissed from service.

The Registrar of Trade Unions, Kanpur, slept over the matter of recording the Union elections on the Register of Trade Unions. The relations between the management and workers worsened. The union made several representations to the ~~Home~~ Minister for Labour and the Labour Commissioner but with no result.

Har Sahai Singh, the elected Union President, gave notice of a hunger-strike if the Registrar of Trade Unions did not settle the matter at an early date. He also met the Labour Commissioner at Nainital who told him that he would definitely let him know the decision before October 24. But this was not done and ~~Shri~~ Har Sahai Singh and three other leaders started a hunger-strike outside the factory gate from October 25. The Registrar of Trade Unions, at this stage wrote a letter making the absurd contention that the election could not be recognised as it was held by show of hands and not by secret ballot. Thirtyfive persons had been proposed for thirtyfive posts on the Executive; there was no question of an election whatsoever. The authorities were shown the relevant papers and no worker made any representation on it.

The hunger-strikers were however suddenly arrested on the night of October 30. At this act of treachery, the workers went on a stay-in-strike. Other workers took the place of the hunger-striking leaders. Thus nine leaders of the Union are in jail and on hunger strike and by November 29, the hunger strike of the first batch had entered the 34th day. The Union tried to negotiate with the management but with no result as the attitude of the District Magistrate and the management was not helpful. Shibban Lal Saxena, M.P., Madan Pandey, M.L.A. and local leaders were not allowed to meet the hunger-strikers in jail to find out some solution of the dispute. S.S.Yusuf, President, UPTUC, Kanpur, came with the assurance of the Labour Commissioner to settle

the dispute but the District Authority did not allow him to get in touch with the leaders in jail. The stay-in-strike was however withdrawn by the workers on certain assurances from the management, but 13 workers were suspended for taking part in the strike.

S.V.Parulekar, M.P., President, Ambernath Wimco Workers Union, wanted to convey to the leaders in jail the request of that Union to withdraw the hunger-strike but the district authorities did not allow him to do so.

The police have been taking an unusually keen interest in the dispute on the side of the management. Twelve workers were challaned on November 27 and are being arrested in addition to three others already put under arrest earlier the same day.

The Union and workers demand consideration of the following:

- The recognition of the election of the office-bearers of July 11, 1957 without any delay;
 - Reinstatement of the victimised workers against whom cases are pending till the decision of the Court;
 - No installation of new machines without the permission of the Government and the consultation of the Union;
 - No introduction of new wage system;
 - Consideration by an arbitrator or by a tripartite conference, of the 30-point Charter of Demands given to the management;
 - Payment of all wages for the period of strike;
 - No victimisation of the hunger-strikers and withdrawal of cases, if any, against them for the hunger-strike by the Government;
 - Withdrawal of the cases against 12 workers under Section 147, 148 and 386 I.P.C. - these cases have been filed at the instigation of the management.
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