

Cable : "AITUCONG"

Telephones : 48771  
43414

107  
अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन काँग्रेस  
ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

T. U. LAW BUREAU :  
R. L. TRUST BUILDING,  
55, GIRGAON ROAD,  
BOMBAY 4 (INDIA)

4, ASHOK ROAD,  
NEW DELHI.

President : ~~N. CHAKKARAI CHETTIAR, M.L.C. (Madras)~~ S.S. Mirajkar

General Secretary : S. A. DANGE, M.P.

January 28, 1958

PRESS STATEMENT

The Secretariat of the AITUC has issued the following statement:

"The All-India Peace Council has given a call for the observance of 'Summit Conference Fortnight' from February 9 to 23 to mobilise Indian public opinion in favour of the proposal. The AITUC fully supports this timely move and calls upon the working class to fully co-operate and participate in the movement which may help convening the Summit Conference."

*K.G. Srivastava*  
(K.G. Srivastava)  
Secretary

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President : V. CHAKKARAI CHETTIAR, M.L.C. (Madras)-  
General Secretary : S. A. DANGE, M.P.

8th January, 1958.

For favour of publication:

## HANDS OFF INDONESIA DAY ON 18th JANUARY.

Shri S.A. Dange, M.P., General Secretary, All India Trade Union Congress has issued the following statement to the press:-

" Heroic and firm resistance by the people and Government of Indonesia against the intrigues of Dutch colonialists to seize parts of Indonesia such as West Irian and thus harm the national sovereignty and independence of the Indonesian Republic deserve full support from the Indian people. The Dutch colonialists are being helped by the NATO powers in order to weaken the state of Indonesia. The intervention by NATO powers in the internal affairs of Indonesian Republic demands severe condemnation by all peace loving people.

In accordance with the decision taken at the 25th session of AITUC recently held at Ernakulam, I call upon all the unions to observe Saturday, the 18th January, 1958 as 'HANDS OFF INDONESIA DAY' by appropriate forms of demonstrations in co-operation with all the unions, to express solidarity with the workers and people of Indonesia in their fight against Dutch and such other colonial powers who want to intervene in their support."

*V.K.S.*  
(K.G. Sriwastava)  
Secretary.

To:

The Editor, \_\_\_\_\_, NEW DELHI.

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For favour of publication:

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" Heroic and firm resistance by the people and Govt. of Indonesia against the intrigues of Dutch imperialism to the national sovereignty, <sup>and its independence</sup> ~~security and the peace loving policy of~~ Indonesian Republic deserve full support from Indian people. At the same time <sup>the</sup> intervention by NATO powers in the internal affairs of Indonesian Republic demands severe condemnation by all peace loving people.

In accordance with the decision taken at the 25th session of AITUC recently held at Ernakulam, I call upon all the units to observe Saturday the 18th January, 1958 as " HANDS OFF INDONESIA DAY" by appropriate forms of <sup>demonstrations</sup> ~~mass actions~~ in co-operation with all the unions, ~~irrespective of affiliation~~ to express solidarity with the workers and people of Indonesia in their fight against Dutch and such other imperialist powers who want to intervene in their support. "

*acceptance to seize the parts of the  
Indonesia such as West Irian and  
New Irian the national sovereignty  
and independence of the Indonesian  
Republic  
The Dutch colonialists are  
... NATO powers ...*

Telephone :

# INDIA PRESS AGENCY

~~36, RAJGIRI ROAD HOSTEL,~~  
NEW DELHI

To: AITUC

Please send a copy of the  
Statement on Indonesia issued by  
Shri Dange.

O.P. Sakhwal.



February 21, 1958

NEWS RELEASE

The All-India Trade Union Congress has deputed Mrs Parvathi Krishnan and Shri Md. Elias, both Members of Parliament, to visit the Chimakuri mines, where explosions have taken place killing 180 miners.

(K.G.Sriwastava)  
Secretary

To  
The Press Trust of India,  
New Delhi

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President : ~~Y. CHAKHARAI CHETIAR, M.L.A. (Madras)~~ S.S. Mirajkar  
General Secretary : S. A. DANGE, M.P.

March 25, 1958

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

Shri S.A.Dange, M.P., General Secretary, All-India Trade Union Congress, has sent the following message to the President, All-India Port & Dock Workers Federation, on the sad demise of Comrade DeMello, the Federation's General Secretary:

"I just heard the shocking news of the sad death of Comrade DeMello at Calcutta. It is a great loss for the trade union movement. For the little time I had some contact with him, I always found him to be a leader who had a grasp of the problems he was handling and well knew how to bring about settlements as well as to conduct struggles in defence of the interests of the workers.

"Please convey the condolences of the AITUC to his family."

*K.C. Srivastava*  
(K.C. Srivastava)  
Secretary

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General Secretary : S. A. DANGE, M.P.

March 24, 1958

## PRESS COMMUNIQUE

DEPUTATION MEETS PRIME MINISTER ON

IRON & STEEL WORKERS' DEMANDS

New Delhi, March 24.


A deputation on behalf of Jamshedpur Masdur Union and the United Iron & Steel workers Union, Rurapur, under the leadership of Shri S.A.Dange, M.P., met the Prime Minister today at the Parliament House.

The deputation which consisted of Srimati Benu Chakravartty, M.P., Shri Kedar Das, M.L.A., from Jamshedpur and Shri Ali Anjad, pressed upon the attention of the Prime Minister the tremendous rise in the cost of living in Jamshedpur, as is admitted in the 'Economic Survey' laid on the table of Parliament by the Finance Minister.

The deputationists also impressed upon him the necessity for appointment of a Tribunal to go into the question of revision of grades, which has not undergone any change since it was fixed last ten years ago. They also demanded that the question of recognition of trade union be settled through a ballot of the workers.

It was also pointed out that the strike notice which was earlier decided upon by the Jamshedpur and Rurapur workers was deferred to try out a last chance for settlement of the grievances of the workers.

The Prime Minister gave a patient hearing and assured consideration of the problems raised.

  
(K.G. Srivastava)  
Secretary

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March 21, 1958

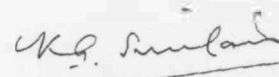
PRESS COMMUNIQUE

Shri S.A.Dange, K.P., General Secretary, All-India Trade Union Congress, has issued the following statement:

"The nullification of the Journalists Wage Board Award by the Supreme Court judgement is an attack not only on the working journalists but will become the basis for attacks on the workers in other industries also.

"This judgement which goes against the workers' legitimate interests and defends the multi-millionaires is another proof to show that the demand made in the Parliament and outside by the AITUC that Government should undertake legislation to take all trade union matters out of the purview of the Supreme Court is thoroughly justified.

"All trade unions must mobilise against the effects of this judgement and in defence of the journalists and themselves."

  
(K.G. Briwastava)  
Secretary



अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन काँग्रेस  
ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

President : ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ S. S. Mirajkar  
General Secretary : S. A. DANGE, M.P.

April 27, 1958

PRESS RELEASE

Shri S.A.Dange, M.P., General Secretary, All-India Trade Union Congress, has issued the following statement:

"The AITUC strongly condemns the attack of the goondas on the workers of the Premier Automobiles in Bombay. It is deeply grieved at the death of Comrade Dayanand Suvarna who died fighting against the goondas, in defence of the trade unions' and workers' cause.

"It is strange that the attack should have taken place in broad daylight and led to the murder of one of our good workers, right in the presence of the police who have been posted at the works.

"The owners of the Premier Automobiles are well-known for shady financial operations and making profits at the cost of everybody including the country. It is well known that they have received crores of rupees of aid from the Finance Corporation and they received orders from the Defence Ministry for supplies of vehicles for which fantastic prices are charged. The Company does not even hesitate to supply defective supplies to the country's defence and when caught in this act, dares to discharge workers who expose these shady activities.

"Since the Company is maintained on Government orders and Government loans, it is the duty of the Government to see that the workers' interests are protected.

"Workers are being taught about the Code of Discipline but the Premier Automobiles and its management in this case have violated every principle enunciated in the Code.

"All trade unions should express their solidarity with the struggle of the workers who have been locked out by the employers, and send messages of sympathy to the Hind Mazdoor Sabha to which the union in Premier Automobiles is affiliated."

*K.G. Srivastava*  
(K.G. Srivastava)  
Secretary

ALL - INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

4 Ashok Road, New Delhi

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May 8, 1958

PRESS RELEASE

Shri S.A.Dange, M.P., General Secretary, AITUC, has issued the following statement:

"The workers in the steel works of Jamshedpur of the Tatas and of Burnpur belonging to Martin-Burns, have long been agitating for increase in the dearness allowance and basic wages. It was admitted by the Government that the cost of living in these places; particularly in Jamshedpur, has been rising sharply. Wage rates in these industries also have not undergone any revision for years nor has any Wage Board been appointed despite the promises of the Tripartite 15th Indian Labour Conference.

"Representations by the unions affiliated to the AITUC have been made to the employers and also to the Government. I myself went to the Prime Minister and the Labour Minister with a delegation of the Unions to impress upon them the need for their intervention in favour of the workers, since the Government gives crores of rupees to these companies from public funds with which they reap huge profits. But our representation had no effect. Hence the workers had to give the notice of strike.

"It is then that the Martin-Burn Co. announced an increase of Rs.10/- in the dearness allowance and some increase in the rate of production bonus.

"But the Tatas have remained adamant and have only threatened reprissals with the help of the Government.

"It is surprising that the Bihar Government has hastened to help the Company by declaring even a one-day protest strike against rising living costs as illegal.

"The AITUC fully supports the resolution of the workers of Jamshedpur to carry out a one-day protest strike. It hopes the Tata Iron & Steel Company will see reason and meet the just demands of the workers and not allow police measures to harass the workers.

"The strike is perfectly legal. It is called mainly on demands not covered by any agreement. The agreements made by the INTUC have long ago been repudiated by the workers, in a memorandum signed by the overwhelming majority of the workers and hence are not binding on them."

Secretary

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The AITUC greets the working class of the world on this international day of festival. The working<sup>class</sup>/in the world today is faced with the problem of banning of atomic bombs which can be secured by the summit talks proposed by the Soviet Union and other countries. We hope the working class and the people will succeed in bringing about by their efforts the holding of the summit meeting and save mankind from horrors of war.

There is one more urgent task before the workers. In the capitalist countries, after a long period of boom, the workers are suffering from the usual crisis of capitalism. Even a developing economy like that of India is feeling the effects of the crisis. The unstinted help which the Soviet Union and other socialist countries have given to India and are giving further will partly help to modify the effects of the capitalist recession. The workers in India and in other capitalist countries will however have to struggle hard to protect their standards of living against the attacks which the employers will launch to preserve their profits.

Fortunately the working class of the socialist countries in contrast with the capitalist world has no fear of such a recession. Their solidarity with the workers of the world will be a great asset in the struggle for socialism.

ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS  
4 Ashok Road, New Delhi

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May 15, 1958

Comrade S.A. Dange, M.P., General Secretary, All-India Trade Union Congress, has issued the following statement on the Jamshedpur strike.

" The one-day protest strike in the Tata Steel Works in Jamshedpur was a complete success. The publicity agents of the Tatas have tried to hide this fact but they themselves know that the strike called by the Jamshedpur Mazdoor Union and the AITUC was complete despite the efforts of the Company, the INTUC and the Government.

" The main issues in the strike were the demands for revision of wages and dearness allowance and the recognition of the AITUC Union, as the INTUC union had ceased to have the support of the workers.

" The success of the strike shows, first, that the workers keenly feel on these demands and are prepared for struggle. Secondly, the strike serves as a clear ballot of the workers in favour of the AITUC Union.

" We would ask the Government and the Company to draw these lessons from the strike and change their policies accordingly.

" The AITUC union is the only force now that can deliver the goods. What is the policy of the AITUC on this? It is prepared to enter into collective agreements on the issues in the dispute, and fulfil norms of production that will be mutually agreed upon in a democratic way and not dictatorially imposed on the workers by the Company and dittoed by the INTUC. The AITUC has already declared that it accepts its duties for the fulfilment of the Plan in the steel industry of the country, provided the rights and needs of workers are also fulfilled.

" But the Tatas want to carry on a political and personal vendetta against the AITUC workers and Unions, calling it as a "battle against Communism". We, however, are not prepared to take it as a battle for or against Communism.

" We want correct and democratic labour-management relations. Today they are not so in the Tatas, despite the advertisement made by the Government, the Company and the INTUC. We want collective agreements to be sanctioned by the vote of the workers, because those made by the INTUC are against the interests of the workers and are repudiated by them. We want Union recognition to be determined by a secret ballot of the workers because the INTUC roll of membership and its subscriptions are all false and are made by and with the help of the Company. We want the Union executives to be elected democratically wherein, at least 30 per cent of the workers must vote and not in the way the closed-door meetings of the INTUC do where even a hundred workers are not present. Leadership

must be ...

must be elected and not imposed by a caucus of the Company and the Union bosses.

" Our fight is for all this. In union agreements and its relations with the Company, fulfilment in the matter of collective agreements, we have nothing to do with such questions of large policy as to whether they have American capital and technicians or any other capital; provided they all behave. These policy questions are dealt with elsewhere. Hence, the AITUC once again would ask the Company and the Government to recognise the AITUC Union and make new collective agreements on wages and DA. If they, however, pursue a policy of arrests, victimisation, vendetta and gangsterism, then the AITUC will not be responsible, if industrial peace is not guaranteed and if the Tripartite Conference agreements on Code of Conduct and other relevant questions are not observed. The violation of these agreements are solely at the door of the Company and the Government."

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*K.G. Sriwastava*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(K.G. Sriwastava)<sup>1575</sup>  
SECRETARY

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President : S. S. MIRAJKAR.  
General Secretary : S. A. DANGE, M.P.

May 22, 1958

PRESS RELEASE

Shri S.A.Dange, M.P., General Secretary, AITUC, who has just returned from Nainital, is leaving for Jamshedpur by air tomorrow (Friday) morning.

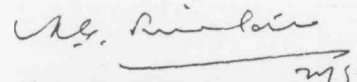
At Nainital, Shri Dange informed Shri Gulzarilal Nanda, Union Labour Minister, on the situation in Jamshedpur and had an interview with him. A representation from Jamshedpur workers which was specially brought to Nainital by a comrade from Jamshedpur Mazdoor Union was submitted to the Union Labour Minister ~~in the course of the interview.~~

Shri Dange has sent the following telegram to the Chief Minister, Government of Bihar, from Nainital yesterday evening:

"ONCE AGAIN REQUEST YOU APPOINT OR INDICATE TRIBUNAL IN JAMSHEDPUR AFFAIRS AND DEMANDS IN THE INTEREST OF PRODUCTION PEACE AND WORKERS GOOD."

In a telegram to Shri Kedar Das, MLA, General Secretary, Jamshedpur Mazdoor Union, Shri Dange said:

"MEET YOUR CHIEF MINISTER AND ASK TRIBUNAL FOR DEMANDS AS ALSO OTHER INCIDENTS STOP APPEAL WORKERS NOT GET INTO PROVOCATEURS TRAP OF CLASHES STOP COMPLETE UNITY, STRENGTH OF SUFFERING AND PEACE WILL WIN."

  
(K.G. Sriwastava)  
Secretary

must be elected and not imposed by a caucus of the Company and the Union bosses.

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*K.G. Sriwastava*  
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(K.G. Sriwastava)

SECRETARY.

1-6  
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: S. S. MIRAJKAR.  
Secretary : S. A. DANGE, M.P.

June 14, 1958

PRESS RELEASE

The AITUC regrets to announce the sad demise at Madras/<sup>this morning</sup>  
of Shri Chakkarai Chettiar, veteran leader of the  
Indian working class and its former President.

The AITUC has sent the following condolence  
telegram to the bereaved family:

"CHAKKARAI'S PASSING AWAY HAS PLUNGED ENTIRE  
WORKING CLASS IN DEEP GRIEF. HIS DEDICATED SERVICE  
FOR A GENERATION AND DEVOTION TO THE CLASS WILL BE  
CHERISHED FOR AGES. CHAKKARAI LIVES FOR EVER IN  
OUR HEARTS INSPIRING US ONWARD".

*Vmo*  
*14/6*  
(K.G. Sriwastava)  
Secretary



ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.  
Camp: Darjeeling

June 1, 1958

PRESS RELEASE

The Working Committee of the AITUC which is meeting here since May 29 in a resolution condemned the policy of the Tata management and the Bihar Government in violating its own conventions adopted by the Bihar Labour Advisory Board in 1952, regarding negotiation with the registered unions and taking ballot of workers to determine recognition of unions. The resolution added that the Bihar Government came to the help of Tatas by resorting to ruthless repression including firing and killing workers and handing over the law and order situation to the military troops.

The resolution pointed out that calling in military troops in connection with an industrial dispute, as was done by the Bihar Government in Jamshedpur, was unprecedented and the Government has not given any reason or stated a single instance where the State was in danger, needing help of the army.

The Working Committee demanded release of arrested workers, withdrawal of chargesheets and suspension orders, and an impartial judicial inquiry into the firing. The Committee called upon its affiliated unions to rally behind the Jamshedpur workers by holding meetings, passing resolutions in support of the demands of the steel workers and collecting funds for their defence. At the meeting itself, the donation to the Jamshedpur Fund totalled Rs.300, initiated by Working Committee members. The Jalpaiguri Zilla Cha Bagan Workers Union donated Rs.100. It was decided at the meeting that important trade union leaders would visit Jamshedpur shortly.

Another resolution adopted at the meeting viewed with concern the recent fascist coup in Algeria by a section of French militarists. The Committee directed affiliated unions to associate themselves with the Algeria Aid Committee and express their solidarity with the freedom struggle of the Algerian people.

The Working Committee decided to hold four regional trade union schools in the month of October 1958. The four schools on a zonal basis would train about five hundred trade unionists from all States in India.

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION:

Com. S.A. Dange General Secretary, All India Trade Union Congress has issued the following statement:

"Mr. Shantilal Shah, the Labour Minister of Bombay has denounced the proposed general strike of 25th July in Bombay as a "political strike." He is right in calling it a political strike because it is against the reactionary policies followed by the Labour Minister in Bombay and his supporters in the Central Government.

"The strike of 16th May last was postponed at the request of the Central Labour Minister, Mr. Nanda who thought that the solution to the problem of Textile closures and the deadlock in the Premier Automobiles could be found by discussions at the Naini Tal Conference. The Conference did discuss the problems. ~~X~~ But what is the net outcome? Not a single mill has been reopened. On the contrary more mills have closed down and the deadlock in Premier continues.

"Emboldened by Government's shielding of the capitalist ~~offen~~ offensive and frauds against the workers, the mill owners have now asked for a wage-cut in all the mills.

"In view of this, the workers have no alternative but to try to halt this offensive of Government and the employers by a series of determined strikes.

"Making excuse of the Middle-East crisis, the speculators and profit hunters of India have raised prices and begun hoarding. That shows how patriotic, democratic is our capitalism and how socialist and planned is our economy. The only thing that the Central Government did was to ask Mr. Morarji Desai to address moral sermon to these man-eaters in our economy. Sermons to man-eaters and bullets ~~x~~ for workers is the policy of Mr. Shantilal Shah and his INTUC supporters. The workers must fight back this policy. If it means ~~politic~~ politics, it has to be so. The Bombay workers must unite as a class, irrespective of trade or Party or Union affiliation and defeat the policies of this Government by class-unity and class-action."

109  
AITUC Statement

KERALA : ISOLATE THE PROVOCATEURS

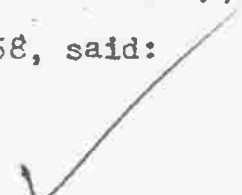
At Chandanathope, near Quilon, in Kerala, on July 26, 1958, two workers were killed in police firing, the first time such an unfortunate incident took place in that State under its Communist Ministry.

The Kerala Government has ~~appointed~~ ordered a judicial inquiry into the firing and also for payment of compensation to the families of the killed.

~~The trade unions and workers cannot feel concerned that the vested interests~~

While the findings of the judicial inquiry are awaited, it is a matter of grave concern to find that trade union, kisan and political leaders who support the present Government in Kerala have become subject of violent attack by certain vested interests and anti-social elements and that unions belonging to the INTUC and the UTUC are indulging in practices contrary to the Code of Discipline and Inter-Union Code of Conduct.

Com.S.A.Dange, M.P., General Secretary, AITUC, in a statement issued on July 29, 1958, said:



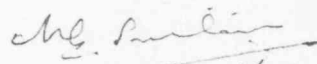
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The All-India Trade Union Congress has received the following cable from the 90-million strong World Federation of Trade Unions, Prague, on the Chinakuri colliery disaster:

"DEEPLY GRIEVED AT SHOCKING NEWS OF TERRIBLE  
DISASTER AT CHINAKURI COLLIERY AND AT CENTRAL BHOWRAH  
AND MAHALBANI COLLIERIES STOP KINDLY CONVEY OUR  
SINCERE HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO BEREAVED FAMILIES  
AND DEEP SYMPATHY TO INJURED STOP REQUEST FURTHER  
INFORMATION ON DISASTER -- WFTU SECRETARIAT"

File -

  
(K.G. Sriwastava)  
Secretary

For CEC Members

Following is the text of Com.S.A.Dange's interview to the Times of India correspondent on June 27, 1958:

I can understand some people disapproving of the execution of Imre Nagy on the ground that they dislike all such executions and the like. But I cannot understand some Congressmen and PSP people getting hysterical over the matter. I have yet to see them getting very agitated and threatening over the shootings of innocent workers that took place only two weeks ago in Madras Port strike or over the despatch of troops to suppress an ordinary thing like the strike in Jamshedpur.

Why should the moral indignation of these gentlemen be reserved only for some happenings in Socialist countries is worth inquiring.

Some critics forget that there is a host of counter-revolutionaries out to overthrow the Socialist regimes and re-establish the old imperialist order. And everyone knows that the imperialists and their agents cannot be silenced by mere prayers. They killed twenty thousand Hungarians and every Communist they could get hold of before they were repulsed.

Capitalists the world over are everyday planning to overthrow socialism where it exists or stop its coming where still it does not exist. And they do this by the most cruel and violent killings of the working class. So the socialist States have to be vigilant against them.

We must understand the Hungarian events in the context of this situation.

I have heard some Congressmen and PSPers saying that Imre Nagy was shot for ideological or political differences. And one prominent Congressman has even lectured us a sermon on Indian culture and Congress tolerance. As regards culture, I may remind these critics that in Indian traditions, even differences on philosophical questions was visited with the punishment of death and many philosophical pakhandis of our ancient or medaeval history were burnt alive for ideological views. Even Buddhism and its great message would have found difficulty in spreading if it had not been backed by the Kings of Rajgriha and the strong armed might of Asoka. So let us not go into that. Imre Nagy was not shot for political or ideological views.

Yet, having said all this, I feel that there can be an opinion that the executions were not so absolutely necessary at this stage, though punishment was necessary. It would have been better if it could have been avoided.

I am giving my personal reactions. As for the Communist Party, it will, if necessary, take up the matter in the meeting of the Central Executive Committee when it meets next month.

To all those honest men who feel disturbed about this, I would say, by all means express your dissatisfaction but do not allow the die-hard reactionaries who were silent when the imperialists organised a rebellion in Sumatra or invaded Egypt to utilise this occasion for their game against the forces of Socialism.

P.T.O.

On the 29th June, the Times of India published the interview as follows:

NEW DELHI, June 28.

Mr.S.A.Dange, leader of the Communist group in the Lok Sabha and a member of the eight-man Secretariat of the C.P.I. conceded here today that "it would have been better if the execution of Imre Nagy and his three associates had been avoided."

In an exclusive interview, the Communist leader said: "There can also be an opinion that the executions were not absolutely necessary at this stage." Punishment, he, however, added, was "necessary".

This is the first time that a responsible Communist leader has expressed his views, though in his personal capacity, regarding these executions.

Before granting the interview, Mr.Dange is reported to have consulted a few other members of the C.P.I. Secretariat who were available in Delhi.

He, however, hastened to clarify these were his own personal views. So far as the CPI was concerned, its executive would consider the matter, if necessary, some time next month.

He maintained that "Imre Nagy was not shot for his political or ideological views."

Mr.Dange, addressing those who "feel disturbed about these executions," said: "Express your dissatisfaction by all means," but "do not allow the diehard reactionaries, who were silent when the imperialists organised a rebellion in Sumatra or invaded Egypt, to utilise this occasion for their game against the forces of socialism."

Some critics, Mr.Dange said, forgot that there was a host of counter-revolutionaries out to overthrow the socialist regimes and re-establish old imperialist order. And everyone knew that the imperialists and their agents killed 20,000 Hungarians and every communist they could get hold of before they were repulsed.

Capitalists the world over, he said, were every day planning to overthrow socialism where it existed. And they did this by the most cruel and violent killings of workers. So the socialist States had to be vigilant against them.

The Communist leader declared that "we must understand the Hungarian events in the context of this situation."

He added: "I can understand some people disapproving of the execution of Imre Nagy on the ground that they dislike all such executions, and the like. But I cannot understand some Congressmen and Praja Socialists getting hysterical over the matter. I have yet to see them getting agitated over the shootings of innocent workers that took place only two weeks ago in Madras or over the dispatch of troops to suppress an ordinary thing like the strike in Jamshedpur."

"Why should the moral indignation of these gentlemen be reserved only for some happenings in socialist countries?" he asked.

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ALL - INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

4 Ashok Road, New Delhi

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✓ July 29, 1958

PRESS RELEASE

Shri S.A.Dange, M.P., General Secretary, AITUC, has issued the following statement:

"The All-India Trade Union Congress regrets that the police in the Kerala State had to resort to firing in which two workers were killed and six wounded.

"The AITUC notes the fact that the Kerala Communist Ministry had succeeded in governing the State for the last sixteen months without resorting to the use of police force and in rendering relief to the exploited people.


"This success of the Ministry, in sharp contrast with the failures of the previous Congress and PSP Ministries in Kerala has enraged the leadership of the Congress and the PSP-RSP in the Kerala State.

"They have long been hatching schemes of vilification and violence against the trade union, kisan and political leaders who support the Governmental policies. Some workers and students have fallen into the trap of their own enemies and have towed the suicidal line of the Congress-PSP-RSP alliance.

"The AITUC calls upon all workers in Kerala as also students and democratic minded people to isolate these provocateurs from their misguided followers, in the interests of peaceful development of the State.

"The AITUC calls upon all its unions to organise workers' own democratic initiative against the provocateurs and isolate the evil elements. Only such initiative can keep the popular Government in saddle and enable it to do constructive work for the masses. While this particular firing may not raise the question of the Ministry's resignation or stability, the failure to mobilise and move the masses will help the provocateurs to canvass support for a demand for resignation. The AITUC warns the trade unions of Kerala not to be complacent about the situation but mobilise mass initiative throughout the country.

"The AITUC notes that the Government has appointed an Inquiry Committee. It requests the Government to give compensation to the families of the killed."



July 28, 1958

Com.S.A.Dange, M.P., General Secretary, AITUC, has issued the following statement:

"The All-India Trade Union Congress regrets that the police in the Kerala State had to resort to firing in which several workers were killed and wounded.

"The AITUC notes the fact that the Kerala Communist ministry had succeeded in governing the State for the last sixteen months without resorting to the use of police force and in rendering relief to the exploited people.

"This success of the Ministry, in sharp contrast with the failures of the previous Congress and PSP Ministry in Kerala has enraged the leadership of the Congress and the PSP-RSP in the Kerala State.

"They have long been hatching schemes of vilification and violence against the trade union, kisan and political leaders who support the Governmental policies. Some workers and students have fallen into the trap of their own enemies and have towed the suicidal line of the Congress-PSP-RSP alliance.

"The AITUC calls upon all workers in Kerala as also students and democratic minded people to isolate these provocateurs from their misguided followers, in the interests of peaceful development of the State.

"The AITUC calls upon all its unions to organise workers' own democratic initiative against the provocateurs and isolate their evil elements. Only such initiative can keep the popular Government in saddle and enable it to do constructive work for the masses. While this particular firing may not raise the question of the Ministry's resignation or stability, the failure to mobilise and move the masses will help the provocateurs to canvass support for a demand for resignation. The AITUC warns the trade unions of Kerala not to be complacent about the situation but mobilise mass initiative throughout the country.

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throughout the country  
to educate their own  
~~masses~~

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Shri S.A. Dange General Secretary of the All India Trade Union Congress has issued the following statement on the Dock workers' strike:-

"The AITUC strongly condemns the firing on the Port and Dock workers in Madras resulting in several being killed and wounded.

"The All India Trade Union Congress supports the demands of the Port and Dock Workers' Federation and their decision to strike.

"The reply of the Government of India to their demands is a very lame document. The Chaudhary report has been before Government for over nine months. Government's contention that they could not accept it without studying its effects on all its five million employees is totally misplaced because each industry under the Government has to have its own variations in certain scales of wages and working conditions suitable to its own place in the national economy and its productivity, except on certain very common matters such as basic minimum wages and hours of work etc.

"Even on their own plea, it is strange why the Provident Fund demand could not be conceded because Government have already accepted this demand in their Labour Conference and have accepted modification of the Provident Fund Act to permit higher contribution

"There was thus no difficulty in accepting the Provident Fund demand at least, when the workers deputation met Mr. S.K. Patil.

"It was also a provocative act on the part of Government to have called the Federation leaders to Delhi for talks and then to have summarily dismissed the meeting with the vague statement that they would be called again. What guarantee was there that the July meeting would come to positive results and not be an abortive one again. The trade union leaders cannot accept the position of being pawns on the whims of the Government. If after eight years of Planning, Government cannot bring about some betterment and uniformity in working conditions and wages of their vast number of employees in a planned manner, then it cannot blame workers for going on strike.

"The AITUC wishes to bring to the attention of the public an instance how pigheadedly Government behaves. We asked for a copy of ~~Chand~~ Chaudhary Report in order to advise our union on the matter. The Government replied to us that the Report was "secret" (Sec), in spite of the fact copies of the report were given to several unions and officers in the various states and even a press summary of the Report had been issued by Government itself. Now such a report was a "secret" for the AITUC alone is incomprehensible.

"The AITUC strongly disapproves of the readiness with which the Government is now using the army to break strikes or terrorise the workers.

"It was done in Jamshedpur to help ~~the~~ a private company and now it is being done in the docks. If Government persists in the use of such violent forces to suppress strikes, it will lead to serious repercussions in the whole labour movement.

"The AITUC strongly condemns Government's move to prevent the Dock workers from getting the support of the international bodies and the working class. It is inherent right of the workers to seek international solidarity and there is nothing unpatriotic about it, if the F. & D. Federation asked unions in other countries to support them. If the Government can use international forces for its own purposes why cannot the workers do the same? Our international solidarity is neither against the country nor the Governmental rule as such but purely a matter of trade union solidarity against the employers' attack on the workers' claims and rights.

"The AITUC appeals to the Government to concede the minimum demands at least in the interest of national economy and the Plan and prove their own patriotism also to the people, instead of casting reflections on workers' patriotism."

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ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

To  
The Editor,  
BOMBAY.

Telephone: 71155  
R.L. Trust Building,  
55, Girgaon Road, Bombay 4  
June 15, 1958.

Dear sir,

Please publish the above statement in the columns of your esteemed paper and oblige.

Yours faithfully,  


ALL - INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

4 Ashok Road, New Delhi

August 1, 1958

Shri S.A.Dange, M.P., General Secretary, All-India Trade Union Congress, has sent the following telegram to Shri N.Srikantan Nair, President, United Trade Union Congress, Quilon, Kerala:

"AS WE ARE ALL PARTY TO CONVENTIONS AND CODE OF CONDUCT ADOPTED IN TRIPARTITE CONFERENCES IN DELHI AND NAINITAL REGARDING CONDUCT OF DISPUTES AND INTER UNION RELATIONS I REQUEST YOU, IF YOU DO NOT MIND, TO LET ME KNOW IF THE U.T.U.C. UNIONS IN KERALA AS WELL AS THE EMPLOYERS AND GOVERNMENT HAVE OBSERVED THEM OR NOT IN THIS AND OTHER DISPUTES. REPORTS ALLEGE THAT YOU ARE NOT CONDUCTING YOURSELF ON THE BASIS OF THOSE CONVENTIONS. HENCE THIS REQUEST

- DANCE, GENERAL SECRETARY, AITUC."

The following telegram has been sent to the President, Kerala Branch of the Indian National Trade Union Congress, Ernakulam, Kerala:

"AS WE ARE ALL PARTY TO CONVENTIONS AND CODE OF CONDUCT ADOPTED IN TRIPARTITE CONFERENCES IN DELHI AND NAINITAL REGARDING CONDUCT OF DISPUTES AND INTER UNION RELATIONS, I REQUEST YOU, IF YOU DO NOT MIND, TO LET ME KNOW IF THE I.N.T.U.C. UNIONS IN KERALA AS WELL AS THE EMPLOYERS AND GOVERNMENT HAVE OBSERVED THEM OR NOT IN THIS AND OTHER DISPUTES. REPORTS ALLEGE THAT YOU ARE NOT CONDUCTING YOURSELF ON THE BASIS OF THOSE CONVENTIONS. HENCE THIS REQUEST.

- DANGE, GENERAL SECRETARY, AITUC"

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Shri Dange has addressed the following letter to Shri U.N. Dhebar, President, Indian National Congress, New Delhi:

Dear Shri Dhebarbhai,

I have seen reports in the press that you are worried about the situation in Kerala, especially about its law and order.

I am not writing to you with regard to the general problem of law and order, as you pose it, but about certain specific aspect of it in relation to trade unions and workers. The INTUC as a trade union body receives its guidance from the Congress and is also organisationally connected with the Congress. Hence, I am writing to you as well as to the INTUC about it.

..... One of the



One of the prominent Congress leaders, Shri P. Govinda Menon, who was the Chief Minister in the Congress Ministry in Travancore-Cochin, suddenly interested himself in the grievance of some four workers in the Sitharam Mills and developed a situation of satyagraha and widening the dispute into one of political battles.

Now you are aware that in the matter of trade union disputes, there exist the Tripartite Conventions of Delhi and Nainital which are agreed to by all trade union organisations, employers and Governments. The AITUC unions are always asked by the INTUC and the Congress Governments and employers to observe these conventions even though they themselves may not do so.

It would be pertinent to ask if Shri Menon and the INTUC leaders in Kerala are abiding by these conventions.

It would certainly be relevant to put a counter-question also - whether the Kerala Government had observed these conventions. The AITUC feels that in the matter of the Seetharam Mills the Government as an employer did everything within their power to carry out the spirit of the convention and hence we did not support the agitation as a trade union.

The question is, will you as Congress President, ask Shri Menon for an explanation and, secondly, ask the INTUC union leaders there whether in their relation with the Government or the unions of the AITUC, they are observing the Nainital and Delhi Conventions (including the one on inter-union rivalry).

Very much was heard from the Congress leaders and Government in Bihar about the Conventions when the Jamshedpur strike took place.

Is it not strange that nothing is mentioned about them in regard to disputes in Kerala?

I would request you to give some attention to this aspect of the matter.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

S. A. DANGE

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NOTE: A copy of the letter to Shri Dhebar has also been forwarded to Shri S.R.Vasavada, General Secretary, INTUC. In his forwarding letter, Shri Dange wrote: "May I put the same question and problem (raised in the letter to Shri Dhebar) before you, for your consideration also?"

Secretary

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ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

4 Ashok Road, New Delhi

September 16, 1958

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

The Secretariat of the All-India Trade Union Congress has issued the following statement:

"We are surprised that in his understandable anxiety to disclaim the increase in the membership of the AITUC, the President of the INTUC should rely more on slanderous statements than on hard facts.

"The debacle faced by the INTUC in its efforts to impose itself on the Indian working class, despite all official patronage and active support, has been widely discussed in the press and it needs scarcely be reiterated here. No amount of slander on other central trade union organisations, which the INTUC leaders might sedulously spread, can hide the reality.

"As to whose membership has erred on exaggeration, it is common knowledge that not only the AITUC, but the Hind Mazdoor Sabha and the United Trade Union Congress has time and again condemned the official boost in membership given by the Government to the INTUC in the past years, through an arbitrary method of verification. It was not surprising that the INTUC which was borne in 1947 with the patronage of the then Deputy Prime Minister and other ministers of the Union and State Governments, not to say of big employers, should be bestowed officially with inflated membership.

"In the recent past, however, the struggles of the working class for its legitimate demands, which were consciously opposed by the INTUC, have torn to pieces the highly inflated claims of the INTUC, so much so that even big employers have expressed their extreme annoyance over their investments yielding poor results. But the Government obligingly "verified" their membership figures as the largest.

"The AITUC did not submit its figures for verification by the Ministry of Labour, in the last two years, as a protest against the policy of discrimination followed by the Government of India. The AITUC, however, welcomes the fact that in the 16th Indian Labour Conference held at Nainital in May this year, a new procedure of verification of membership has been devised. According to this procedure, the right to challenge inflated figures in membership has been expressly provided. It is because of this guarantee against arbitrary procedures for verification of trade union membership that the AITUC has decided to submit its membership lists this year.

"The AITUC expects that an impartial scrutiny of the membership of the central trade union organisations would take place and hence, at this stage, when such a scrutiny has already begun, we feel it unnecessary either to reiterate our claims or refute the claims of other organisations.

"One thing more. We stand for the unity of the trade union movement and abide by the Inter-Union Code of Conduct evolved by mutual consent at Nainital. We are therefore desisting from any effort at mutual recriminations which would lead to further intensification of inter-union rivalries.

"The reference made by the INTUC President to the Jamshedpur strike in the context of the Code of Discipline, we wish to point out, is rather wide off the mark. The Code does not ban

page two

strikes and whatever has happened at Jamshedpur on May 12, can happen everywhere in the same circumstances.

"In fact, Shri Michael John, a Vice President of the INTUC, had to call a strike in the Telco Works, Jamshedpur, on August 3. The INTUC unions are also very much in the picture as far as the current Calcutta tramway strike and the token strike on September 15 in W.Bengal plantations, are concerned.

"The Ministry of Labour instituted an inquiry, in the context of the Code of Discipline, regarding the Jamshedpur strike. We have pressed the question as to what was left undone by the AITUC union to get the demand of enhancement of D.A. fulfilled? After the strike, now even Shri Michael John has raised this demand.

"We stand by the Code of Discipline and the Code of Conduct.

"Our experience of the last few months is that the employers in the private and public sectors are not honouring the Code in the letter and spirit in which it was adopted. It is normally not our job to find out if the INTUC has been following the Code of Discipline or not."

*K.G. Sriwastava*

(K.G. Sriwastava) / 6/11/58  
Secretary

# 'REDS GETTING MONEY FROM SOMEWHERE'

## INTUC CHIEF SUGGESTS INVESTIGATION

BY A STAFF CORRESPONDENT

MR G. RAMANUJAM, INTUC President, has suggested that the sources from which the Communist Party of India gets money should be probed because there might be some link between these sources and the reports that the influence of communists in the labour is growing. Such a probe would also show how authentic these reports were.

Mr Ramanujam was addressing a Press conference on Monday.

He pointed out that reports about communists throwing in a large number of full-time paid workers in all industries and in all centres would naturally involve considerable expenditure and it was obvious that the amount collected from labour alone would not be sufficient to meet this expenditure. It would therefore be interesting to know wherefrom the huge funds for financing such a programme came. It would be worthwhile to find out if the Communist Party had already collected about Rs 75 lakhs as stated by Kerala Congress sources.

Mr Ramanujam said the labour in Kerala, owing allegiance to non-communist trade union organizations, felt insecure and there appeared to be little chance of free trade unionism in the State if this state of affairs continued. This was more particularly so in the case of plantation labour as they were generally far away from the cities.

He admitted that the increase in the cost of living as a result of the present food situation without an adequate rise in the dearness allowance had affected the working class adversely. If this position continued it might seriously affect the productive effort of the workers.

### FOOD TO WORKERS

He suggested it would be necessary for the Government to take immediate steps to supply food grains at subsidized prices in all working class areas through workers' co-operative stores. This, he thought, was the only way to provide immediate relief. On a long-term basis, he said the problem could not be satisfactorily solved unless the land reforms were expedited and a better incentive provided to the tiller.

Claiming that the I.N.T.U.C. was still the most representative organization, Mr Ramanujam said it

Secretary, that the I.N.T.U.C. unions in Kerala had not been hon-  
ouring the code was baseless and  
untrue. He said the communist  
unions were violating the term  
of the code by indulging in vio-  
lence with a view to terrorizing

pens.  
Ready gram declined by a rupee

iry. Business to tune of 2,000  
2,500 bales of superfine Bengal  
eshi (new crop) was reported on  
ations of Abohar and Sriganga-  
igar lines.

Staple cotton (new crop) at-  
acted inquiry from Bombay mer-  
chants. Mills generally did not  
show any interest.

#### BOMBAY COTTON

### Weather Reports Depress Futures

FROM OUR BOMBAY OFFICE  
BOMBAY, Sept. 15.—Cotton futures  
commenced lower and declined fur-  
ther on heavy bull liquidation and  
bear sales following reports of very  
favourable weather from all over  
the cotton belt. The weak trend  
was also partially due to the widely  
held belief that cotton crop this  
season would be much higher than  
early anticipations.

Jarilla March opened lower at Rs  
58.50. From Rs 659 it dropped on  
heavy liquidation to Rs 655 and clos-  
ed at Rs 655.50. The turnover was  
estimated around 10,000 bales.

In the ready section, trading was  
dull. Business was negotiated in  
places like Bagalkot, Akola, Amaraoti,  
Madhya Pradesh, Berar, Jaydhar, Punjab  
Prant, Moglal and Porbandar.

#### DELHI BULLION

### Prices Tend To Steady

BY OUR COMMERCIAL REPORTER  
Steadier conditions were noticed  
in the Delhi bullion market on  
Monday. The turnover, particularly  
in silver, was good with wide fluc-  
tuations.

Early in the session silver lost  
ground due to selling pressure  
prompted by heavy arrivals. But  
towards close there was a smart  
recovery thanks to fresh support. In-  
crease in badla charges in favour of  
buyers aided sentiment.

The session-end quotations were  
around the day's highest levels and  
gold and silver futures disclosed  
gains of 9 nP and 19 nP, respective-  
ly, over the day. Offtake in silver  
was reported to be about 35 bars  
against a better inflow of about 60  
bars.

### Increase In Area Under Potatoes

According to the Directorate of  
Economics and Statistics, the all-  
India second estimate of potatoes  
for 1957-58, placed the area at  
6,000 acres, against the corres-  
ponding adjusted estimate of  
5,000 acres for 1956-57. This  
shows an increase of 66,000 acres  
or 9.4 per cent in area as compar-  
ed to 1956-57. The extent of the  
area sown as given in the second  
estimate is correct up to the end  
of May, 1958.—P.T.I.

### Late Quotations

Following are Monday's latest  
quotations:

# INQUIRY INTO "HUGE FUNDS" WITH C.P.I.

## INTUC Chief's Demand

13 SEP 1958  
By A Staff Reporter

The President of the Indian National Trade Union Congress, Mr. G. Ramanujam, on Monday demanded an inquiry to determine the source of the "huge funds" with which, he alleged, the Communists were financing their trade union activities.

Addressing a press conference, Mr. Ramanujam said that he had received reports that "the Communists are making determined efforts by throwing in a large number of full-time paid workers in all industries and in all centres. This will, naturally involve considerable expenditure and it is obvious that the amount collected from labour alone will not be sufficient to meet a fraction of this expenditure."

He referred to the allegation made by the President of the Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee that the Communist Party had already collected about Rs. 75 lakhs. This allegation was denied by the Secretary of the Kerala Communist Party. But, Mr. Ramanujam said: "A probe into the sources of the Communist Party's financial position will be not only revealing but also is called for."

The INTUC chief said he was convinced that the claim made by the All-India Trade Union Congress that its membership had increased to over 14,25,000 was exaggerated. He said that the A-ITUC claimed a membership of only nine lakhs. Hence, it could not be true that its strength had increased by over five lakhs in the last 12 months, he said. "The A-ITUC's claim of about 2,70,000 members in Kerala alone is surprising. It is doubtful whether the

strength of industrial labour in Kerala is that much," he added.

He, however, reaffirmed the INTUC's claim of a membership of 14,25,000. "I believe if the machinery for scrutiny will go into the details of the claims of both thoroughly, the INTUC is sure to be found to be the most representative organisation," he said.

Mr. Ramanujam charged that in Kerala Communist unions were violating the terms of the Naini Tal code of conduct in regard to inter-union relations by indulging in violence "with a view to terrorising labour from joining the INTUC unions." In Munnar (Deviculam) he received complaints that workers, who came from estates to attend the meetings of the INTUC unions, were assaulted. He was, therefore, surprised that Mr. S. A. Dange should have accused the INTUC unions of violating the code.

He said that in Kerala workers owing allegiance to non-Communist trade union organisations lived in a State of insecurity and "there appears to be little chance of free trade union movement functioning if the present state of affairs are allowed to continue. This is more particularly so in the case of plantation labour as plantations are generally far away from cities and are in the midst of hills."

He claimed that the INTUC was today the strongest organisation in the textiles, plantations, jute, cement, iron and steel, coal mines and motor transport industries. In view of the growing importance of the public sector the INTUC would take steps to organise workers in the public sector effectively.

Referring to the food situation, he deplored attempts of the Central and State Governments to disown responsibility. In the process, the people, particularly the wage-earners, suffered. If this position continued, it might seriously affect the productive effort of the workers. It was necessary for Government to take immediate steps for supplying food grains at subsidized prices in all working class areas, he said.

Telephone: 71188



ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

R.L. Trust Building,  
55, Girgaon Road,  
B O M B A Y - 4,  
October 29, 1958.

" DANGE'S ILLNESS "

Shri K.G. Sriwastav, Secretary, All India Trade Union Congress in a press note says:-

"Our attention has been drawn to a write up in a Bombay Weekly on Com. Dange's health. The writer has exercised his fertile imagination to spin out stories based on the fact that Com. Dange was not keeping good health before he left India. Therefore we are giving below his present condition:-

"Com. Dange left for Moscow on 10th September 1958 along with his wife who has been ill for the last two years, for her treatment. Com. Dange himself was suffering from diabetes and low blood pressure in the last few months and was advised complete rest. In Moscow, Doctors advised him immediate treatment for his low blood pressure and diabetes. Accordingly he was admitted in the Hospital and the treatment continued till 24th October. He has progressed well and is now out of the Hospital. We learn from his letter and from the friends who have recently met him that he has progressed well and he is likely to go to a Sanatorium for convalescence."

The Editor,

Dear Sir,

Please publish the above statement in the columns of your esteemed paper and oblige.

Yours faithfully,

*K.M. Sundaram*

for SECRETARY.

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A L L - I N D I A T R A D E U N I O N C O N G R E S S

4 Ashok Road, New Delhi

October 24, 1958

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

The Secretariat of the All-India Trade Union Congress has issued the following statement:

"The AITUC fully supports the demands put forward by the plantation workers of Kerala, who are on strike in Devicolom and Peermade plantations since October 4.

"The policy of the plantation owners, led by British planters, in refusing to concede the legitimate demands of the workers, has led to disastrous consequences and the AITUC takes a grave view of this situation.

"If the plantation workers in Kerala are forced by the employers to go on a united State-wide strike from tomorrow onwards, the unions in the plantation industry all over India are considering steps to express their powerful solidarity with their brethren in Kerala.


"The unions affiliated to the Indian National Trade Union Congress and Shri B.K.Nair, the State INTUC President, are in the United Action Committee, along with the AITUC and UTUC unions, for conducting the State-wide strike in plantations contemplated from tomorrow. The strike in Devicolom estates which began on October 4, was also jointly called by the AITUC and INTUC unions. All these clearly give the lie to the propaganda of the vested interests that the plantation strike in Kerala is politically motivated.

"In this connection, it is also relevant to point out that the efforts at conciliation made by Shri T.V.Thomas, Kerala Labour Minister, and his proposal to pay Rs.20 lumpsum, to avert the strike so that production does not suffer, has been turned down by the employers.

"Thus the united move of trade unions of all affiliations is against the stubborn and provocative attitude of the planters in relation to the workers' long-outstanding demands.

"It is strange, however, that the President of the INTUC, Shri G.Ramanujam, camping on the other side of the Ghats, should indulge in criticisms of the just struggle of the plantation workers and the helpful attitude of the Kerala Government, in tune with the British planters. This is perhaps the INTUC way of observing the Code of Discipline and ~~Inter-Union~~ Code of Conduct!

"Shri P.Ramamurti, Vice President, and Shri K.T.K.Tangamani, M.P., Secretary, of the AITUC, are now in Kerala for an on-the-spot study of the situation there."

  
(K.G.Sriwastava) 24/8  
Secretary, AITUC



109  
ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

4 Ashok Road, New Delhi

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION

October 21, 1958

The Secretariat of the All-India Trade Union Congress has issued the following manifesto on the occasion of the 38th Anniversary of the AITUC:

OBSERVE THE 38TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AITUC!

INTENSIFY STRUGGLE FOR BUILDING WORKING CLASS AND TRADE UNION UNITY!

October 31, 1958, will mark the 38th Anniversary of the birth of the All-India Trade Union Congress. This is a historic occasion for the entire working class of our country, irrespective of present-day affiliations, because it commemorates the founding of the first central trade union organisation ever to be established in our country.

Through what trials and tribulations, what vicissitudes and conflicts, what victories and setbacks, the Indian working class movement has had to pass in the last four decades is well-known. This history is at the same time essentially the history of the AITUC, and there is no section of trade unionists in our country today which has not at some period or other been associated with the AITUC and identified their careers with its fortunes.

That is why the AITUC itself is history. And on the forthcoming 38th Anniversary of its birth, we can rightfully expect the working class to pay due homage to its proud traditions, its glorious record of struggles and sacrifices, and the innumerable martyrs who have given their all to defend and build it through thick and thin.

Since 1947, the trade union movement has been disastrously split among essentially political lines. Whatever the verdict of history may be, it can never place the burden of responsibility for this disruption on those who remained loyal to the AITUC and to the principles of democratic functioning. It was the leadership of the Indian National Congress and the Socialist Party which deliberately chose to break away from the united trade union centre and to form their INTUC, HMS, thereby bringing grist to the mill of the bourgeoisie.

The AITUC remained faithful to the ideology of class struggle, of firm defence of the workers' interests, of uncompromising resistance to the onslaught of the capitalists, both Indian and foreign, upon the workers' living standards. And because of its stand, the AITUC became the main target of the wrath of the ruling class and was subjected, in the years from 1948 to 1951, to the concentrated fire of repression. Any other organisation, in similar circumstances, would either have collapsed or abjectly surrendered. But the AITUC braved the storm in conditions of virtual illegality, with many of its unions crippled, its leaders and cadres imprisoned, its members shot down, beaten and tortured, its legal rights brutally violated, its normal functioning dislocated. Still, the enemy failed to crush the AITUC.

In the last six years, what a different story has unfolded itself! Despite severe handicaps, despite the hostile discrimination practised by the Government and the employers, despite the common weakness of disunity in the general movement, the AITUC has steadily grown in strength, in mass influence, in organisation and in effective leadership until today it is once again bidding for recognition as the country's premier trade union organisation with an affiliated membership of over 14 lakhs, thereby challenging the claims of the officially-sponsored INTUC itself.

This story of growth and development is by no means fortuitous. It is the outcome of the AITUC's continued and loyal adherence to all that was historically best in its traditions - the struggle for unity and for united struggles of the

. . . working class against the

The AITUC appeals to all its affiliated units, to all its friends and well-wishers, to all its brother trade union organisations and to all fraternal mass organisations of other sections of our democratic people, to join with it in country-wide observance of October 31, by organising commemoration rallies, meetings and demonstrations, cultural performances, exhibitions, symposia, and so on, and thus to make this historic day of our working class movement a real popular celebration.

The AITUC calls upon its units to pledge before the workers on this day that we shall, as ever, stand unflinchingly beside them through all trials and struggles, and shall always try to help the great working class to unite itself in its onward march to peace, democracy and socialism.

LONG LIVE THE AITUC!


LONG LIVE THE UNITY OF THE INDIAN WORKING CLASS!

LONG LIVE THE FRATERNAL ALLIANCE OF THE DEMOCRATIC MASSES!

LONG LIVE WORLD PEACE!

WORKERS OF THE WORLD - UNITE!

A.I.T.U.C. SECRETARIAT

  
(K.G. Srinivastava)  
Secretary 21/2

ALL - INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

4 Ashok Road, New Delhi

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

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*K.G. Sriwastava*  
(K.G. Sriwastava) 21/8  
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This story of growth and development is by no means fortuitous. It is the outcome of the AITUC's continued and loyal adherence to all that was historically best in its traditions - the struggle for unity and for united struggles of the

. . . working class against the

working class against the constantly intensifying attacks of the bourgeoisie. The AITUC has played a leading role in the overwhelming majority of the mighty strike struggles waged by our workers, from 1953 onwards, for higher wages, security of service, the right to bonus, extension of trade union rights, and against retrenchment, rationalisation, wage-cuts, victimisation, and unemployment. And throughout these struggles, whether conducted singly or jointly, the AITUC has striven to forge a united front of all unions, irrespective of affiliation, and has also repeatedly made unity proposals and appeals to the other TU Centres.

At the same time, what has particularly distinguished the AITUC from other central organisations in this period has been its active concern for the cause of world peace and anti-colonialism. Rejecting the false ideology that trade unions should hold themselves aloof from "politics", the AITUC has sought to educate the workers on their obligations as a part of the international movement against imperialist war plots, military blocs, and the threat of nuclear aggression and for the peace, disarmament, Afro-Asian solidarity, friendship and cooperation with the countries of Socialism and their trade union organisations and the defence of the national independence of all peoples.

The application of this correct working class policy has itself developed the AITUC's maturity and helped to extend greatly the scope of its activities and organisation. The AITUC has penetrated into new sectors of industry; it has organised vast "backward" sections in the plantations and mines as well as the more "advanced" workers of the steel mills and the new State-owned industries; its representatives in various States have won striking victories in the 1957 General Elections to Parliament and the State legislatures; its mass base among the working class of Kerala is one of the most solid pillars of the new, democratic, Communist-led Ministry there; it has established new and fruitful contacts with the international working class movement and become a worthy detachment of the great World Federation of Trade Unions.

The AITUC can no longer be ignored by its enemies and detractors. Its prestige today in the eyes of the workers and the democratic public is unrivalled. Its rights to recognition and representation, though still curbed, are being increasingly wrested from the unwilling hands of the Central and State Governments and the employers.

Today, the biggest task still facing the workers of India is the overcoming of the divisions within their ranks and the forging of their class unity both in struggle and in organisation. So long as disruption remains a major force, the working class can never win even its minimum rights and demands, can never be sure of those already won, and can never play its true role in the great struggle for genuine national reconstruction and independent development of the national economy, as a stepping stone to the goal of social Unity is all the more urgently necessary because attacks and burdens upon the working class are intensifying daily, due to the deepening crisis of the world capitalist economy and of our own Second Five Year Plan.

The AITUC has dedicated itself to the central task of developing workers' unity in action, and of taking every possible initiative for strengthening fraternal ties between itself and all non-AITUC trade union organisations without distinction. At the same time, the AITUC must work tirelessly to strengthen itself, to expand and perfect its own organisation, to accelerate its own development activities also - because every advance registered by the AITUC means an advance for the forces of unity.

It is with this outlook and in this spirit that we should celebrate the 38th Anniversary of the AITUC on October 31. This is an occasion for expressing pride in our past, enthusiasm and class fraternity in the present, and confidence and determination for the future.

The AITUC appeals to all its affiliated units, to all its friends and well-wishers, to all its brother trade union organisations and to all fraternal mass organisations of other sections of our democratic people, to join with it in country-wide observance of October 31, by organising commemoration rallies, meetings and demonstrations, cultural performances, exhibitions, symposia, and so on, and thus to make this historic day of our working class movement a real popular celebration.

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LONG LIVE THE AITUC!

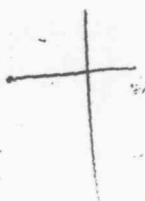
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A.I.T.U.C. SECRETARIAT



*K.G. Srivastava*

(K.G. Srivastava)

Secretary

21/2



A L L - I N D I A T R A D E U N I O N C O N G R E S S

4 Ashok Road, New Deahi

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

October 21, 1958

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*K.G. Sriwastava*  
(K.G. Sriwastava) 21/8  
Secretary

Cable : "AITUCONG"

Telephones : 48771  
43414

अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन काँग्रेस  
ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

T. U. LAW BUREAU :  
R. L. TRUST BUILDING,  
55, GIRGAON ROAD,  
BOMBAY 4 (INDIA)

4, ASHOK ROAD,  
NEW DELHI.

President : V. CHAKKARAI CHETTIAR, M.L.C. (Madras).  
General Secretary : S. A. DANGE, M.P.

Sept 29, 1958

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION

(109)

Comrade Md. Elias, M.P., member,  
Working Committee, AITUC, has arrived  
in Delhi from Prague this morning.

Com.Elias went to Europe in the  
middle of July in connection with  
World Peace Congress held in Stockholm  
and to attend the extraordinary session  
of World Federation of Trade Unions  
on Middle East and also to attend  
the third International Conference  
of Metal & Engineering Workers held  
in Prague from 21st to 25th September.

(K.G.Srivastava)  
Secretary



A L L - I N D I A T R A D E U N I O N C O N G R E S S

4 Ashok Road, New Delhi

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

November 5, 1958

The Secretariat of the All-India Trade Union Congress has issued the following statement:

"According to reports received from Jamshedpur, the condition of trade unionists who are in jail since May last, and facing trial in connection with the Jamshedpur steel strike, is causing grave anxiety, and one of them, Shri Kalindi died on October 29.

"Shri Barin Dey, a leader of the Jamshedpur Mazdoor Union (AITUC), and one of the under-trial prisoners, collapsed in jail due to high blood pressure. No proper medical attention was given to him. Even the jail doctor certified that 'there is a likelihood of his getting a shock endangering his life' and urged expert medical treatment. Shri Dey's blood pressure had shot up to 273 points.

"Shri Jagir Singh, another trade unionist, is suffering from serious illness, suspected to be tuberculosis.

"The tragic death of Shri Haridas Kalindi, who was earlier injured in the police firing on May 20, has shocked the trade union movement.

"Shri Barin Dey and Shri Jagir Singh, in their critical condition, were removed from jail to hospital at a very late stage. Instead of giving them urgent medical attention, they were subjected to further harassment by the police. At one stage, it is reported, even the medical authorities protested at this inhuman attitude of the police, when a sergeant tried by force to hand-cuff Shri Barin Dey chaining him to the hospital bed-frame. This was done even when the hospital premises were heavily guarded by armed policemen.

"The bail petitions moved on behalf of these under-trial prisoners were rejected by the Patna High Court. The Jamshedpur Mazdoor Union had appealed to the Government to release the ailing prisoners for proper medical treatment but the Bihar Government has so far not moved in the matter.

"The AITUC strongly protests at this criminal neglect of the health and life of these popular leaders jailed in Jamshedpur and wishes to state that such an inhuman treatment of under-trial prisoners is indeed an affront to civilised society.

"The AITUC therefore demands that the Government authorities in Bihar should immediately release Shri Barin Dey and other under-trial prisoners who are seriously ill, on humanitarian grounds, so that proper medical treatment may be arranged for them. The AITUC also demands that the Government should immediately improve the amenities for the trade unionists in jail and stop all harassment by the police and jail officials.

"The AITUC calls upon its affiliated unions and the working class to protest against the inhuman treatment meted out to the Jamshedpur trade unionists in jail and press the Bihar Government to secure them human conditions of life and speedy justice."

*K.G. Sriwastava*  
(K.G. Sriwastava) SJK  
Secretary

15 SEP 1958

STATEMENT BY SHRI G. RAMANUJAM, PRESIDENT  
OF THE INTUC, AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE ON  
15TH SEPTEMBER 1958.

Membership Claim.

We have been hearing recently about growing influence of the communists among labour in this country. I have seen the claim made by the AITUC some weeks back that its membership is now over 14½ lacs while the INTUC's claim is just about 14¼ lacs. The AITUC's claim last year was only a little over 9 lacs. If the present claim of the AITUC is correct, it should mean that within the last 12 months their strength has increased by over 5 lacs, which, however, cannot be the case. The AITUC's claim of about 2 lacs and 70 thousand membership in Kerala alone is surprising. It is doubtful whether the strength of industrial labour in Kerala is that much. And then there are claims of the INTUC, U.T.U.C. and other trade union organisations in Kerala. It would also appear that similar claims of the AITUC of increase in membership in the States of Madras, Andhra and other places are also highly exaggerated. On the other hand the INTUC's claim is solid and steady and does not give room to any exaggeration. I believe if the machinery for scrutiny will go into the details of the claims of both thoroughly, the INTUC is sure to continue to be the most representative organisation.

Need for a Probe.

I am also getting reports that the communists are making determined efforts by throwing in a large number of full-time paid workers in all industries and in all centres. This would naturally involve considerable expenditure and it is obvious that the amount collected from labour alone will not be sufficient to meet a fraction of this expenditure. It should be interesting to know wherefrom the huge funds for financing such a programme are received. In this connection it is worthwhile pointing out the allegation made by the President of the Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee that the communist party had already collected about 75 lacs of rupees, which, however, has been denied by the Kerala Communist Party Secretary.

A probe into the sources of the communist party's financial position will be not only revealing but also is called for.

The Nainital Code at Work.

Some time back there was a complaint by Shri S.A. Dange, General Secretary of the AITUC, stating that the INTUC unions in Kerala have not been honouring the Nainital code, which governs the conduct of unions in their inter-union relations. I was myself in Kerala when this complaint was made by Shri Dange and I was greatly surprised. The fact was that it was the communist unions who were violating the terms of the code by indulging in violence with a view to terrorise labour from joining the INTUC unions. While I was in Munnar (Deviculam) I received complaints from local INTUC unions that normal trade union activity was made impossible by the violent tactics adopted by the communist union workers. Even the workers who were coming from estates to attend the meetings of the INTUC unions were assaulted and prevented from attending the meetings. It was clear that it was the AITUC unions who were violating every provision of the code. The code so far as the communists are concerned was still born for it was killed in Jamshedpur by the communists at the very moment of its birth in Nainital. In the face of these facts, when we received a complaint from Shri Dange that the INTUC was violating the code, it only appeared to me to be in conformity with the set pattern of the communist trade union activity and that they were not really anxious to honour the code. On the other hand the INTUC unions have always been respecting the principles underlying the code, even before the code was formally adopted.

Labour in Kerala.

Labour in Kerala owing allegiance to non-communist trade union organisations are in a state of insecurity and there appears to be little chance of free trade union movement functioning if the present state of affairs are allowed to continue. This is more

particularly so in the case of plantation labour as plantations are generally far away from cities and are in the midst of hills.

United Fronts.

There was recently a call by Shri Dange to the so-called Leftist trade union organisations in the country to dissolve themselves with a view to form a leftist united trade union organisation to meet the challenge of the INTUC. It is one of the perfected techniques of the communists to invite other parties for a united front, for out of all such united fronts, the communist party has always emerged stronger and the other components always the weaker, that is, if they are still left to maintain their identity. Usually the united front is started by the communists to swallow the smaller elements in the opposition. In the past there was a lack of adequate realisation of the dangers of the united fronts by the HMS and other organisations, but they now appear to be alive to the dangers inherent in this process. This awakening is reflected by the re-action of leftist parties in Kerala when invited by Shri Dange for forming a government of the united front there.

INTUC and Public Sector.

INTUC was formed with a view to organise labour in the country on the lines of the Textile Labour Association, Ahmedabad. During the last 11 years it has concentrated mostly in the private sector and today it is easily the strongest in textiles, plantations, jute, cement, iron & steel, coal mines, motor transport, etc. But then in a country committed to a socialist order of society the public sector is bound to go on increasing and government will come to be the biggest employer in various forms. The INTUC is conscious of this fact as well as the need for organising the workers in the public sector, which should be the beginning of the second stage in the work of the INTUC. The INTUC is, therefore, taking steps to organise the workers in the public sector effectively. The achievements of the INTUC in the private sector will be a pointer to the

workers in the public sector, that similar achievements will be possible if they rallied round the banner of the INTUC.

The INTUC has already made its position clear that there should be no discrimination whatever between the workers in the private sector and the public sector and programme of work in the public will be based on this principle.

#### Food Situation.

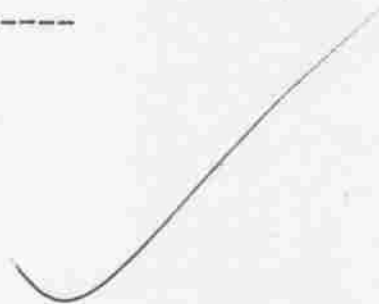
The Government does not appear to know its own mind on this most important problem. The State Governments appear to be pointing their accusing finger towards the Centre and the Centre in turn is trying to shift the responsibility to the States. In the process it is the people generally and the wage earners particularly, who are the hardest hit. Food has been a chronic problem with us; and the Governments, whether at the States or at the Centre, must have had sufficient experience by now to tackle it intelligibly instead of groping about. The increase in the cost of living in consequence of the present food situation, coupled with a poor percentage of neutralisation of the rise in the cost of living by means of dearness allowance, has affected the working classes adversely. If this position continues it may seriously affect the productive effort of the workers. It will therefore be necessary for Government to take immediate steps for supplying foodgrains at subsidized prices in all working class areas either through workers' co-operative stores wherever they exist, and where there are no such co-operative stores, by asking the District Co-operative Central Stores to open fair price shops and supply foodgrains through them. This, however, is only by way of immediate relief. On a long-term basis the problem cannot be satisfactorily solved unless the land reforms are expedited and a better incentive is provided to the actual tiller.

#### Working Journalists.

The INTUC has been taking active interest in protecting

and promoting the interests of the working journalists, even though the working journalists' organisations are not affiliated to the INTUC. The INTUC has always been voicing their feelings because their cause was just. Justice delayed is justice denied; and the feeling of dissatisfaction and resentment prevailing amongst the working journalists is quite legitimate and I hope that atleast the present action taken by the Government will lead to some early and fruitful results, not only in respect of the future but also for that part of the past they had been victims of the delaying tactics of the employers.

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A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a long, sweeping horizontal stroke that curves upwards at the right end and then loops back down and to the left.

1 PA

16 SEP 1958

INTUC PRESIDENT DISFAVOURS STATE TRADING IN FOOD -- DISPUTES

AITUC MEMBERSHIP CLAIMS -- STRESSES NEED FOR BUILDING ORGANISATION IN KERALA

New Delhi, September 15.

Sri G. Ramanujam, President of the INTUC, said in New Delhi on Monday that he did not believe that State trading in wholesale foodgrains, as suggested by the Congress Working Committee would not solve the food problem, because even then the retail traders will be free to fix whatever prices they deemed and hence the prices would not come down. He wanted foodgrains to be subsidised and sold through co-operative stores.

The INTUC President, who was speaking at a press conference said that his organisation held that it would be unfair to have a fixed wage while prices are fluctuating. He suggested that either the wage schedule should also be allowed to fluctuate with the price level, or alternatively, the prices also should be fixed as the wages.

Fair price shops to sell foodgrains at subsidised prices were suggested by Sri Ramanujam as short term measure to meet the food situation, while long term measure like immediate land reforms were also urged. According to him, though eleven year have passed since Independence, the Government has not been able to give any material benefits to the actual tiller, nor the minimum wage for agricultural labour has been fixed, though the Statutory provision was made long ago.

Membership Claims

Regarding membership, the INTUC President alleged that the AITUC's claim of a membership of 14 lakhs 50 thousand is surprising, because last year they claimed only 9 lakhs and in the course of one year they would not be able to reach the present figure claimed through ordinary means. Sri Ramanujam said that the figure of 2 lakhs 70 thousand for Kerala was astounding, and thought that the "two lakhs was bogus, while 70 thousand needed scrutiny".

He added that last year while the AITUC claimed 9 lakhs membership last year, but the Union Labour Ministry accepted only 6 lakhs. Asked whether there was any difference in the claimed and accepted figures of the INTUC last year, he said that the INTUC claimed 14 lakhs, while the accepted figure was only 9 lakhs.

The INTUC President admitted that there has been a fall in the membership of his organisation in Kerala, but did not know whether this was due to fright on the part of the workers of being repressed, or the workers are thinking that there is no use for any trade unions. He did not know whether those who defected the INTUC joined

the AITUC unions.

Sri Ramanujam said that the "non-Communist trade union organisations (in Kerala) are in a state of insecurity" and there was "little chance of free trade union movement there". In the urban areas, according to him, there was normalcy, but in the plantations, the Communist workers are terrorising the INTUC workers and actual murders have taken place, too.

Though he did not "vouchsafe" for the KPCC President's allegation that the Communists have already collected Rs. 75 lakhs, he had grave doubts that they were getting funds from extraneous sources. The fact that the Communists have put out so many paid full time workers in every place shows that they are spending money lavishly, and the President of the INTUC did not think the workers contributed all the money. He demanded a probe into the source of the Communist Party's income.

#### Breach Of Code Of Conduct

Asked to expand his denial of the allegation by the AITUC General Secretary, Sri S.A. Dange, that the INTUC in Kerala is breaking all codes of conduct accepted at Naini Tal, Sri Ramanujam said that the code itself was still-born, because even at the time of Sri Dange signing the code, it was being violated by them at Jamshedpur. He made a counter-allegation that the AITUC workers in Kerala were terrorising INTUC workers, which is against the code, which puts that peaceful conversion by persuasion only can be sought from one union to another.

Deprecating the united front call by Sri Dange, Sri Ramanujam said that whenever there was a united front, the Communists always emerged out of it stronger, while the others were the sufferers. He said that what was needed was a unity of all democratic trade unions. The INTUC President said that this unity was to be built up from the bottom and added that if only some top leaders signed an agreement and said we have united, it will not strengthen the movement, but only weaken it.

The INTUC President claimed that his organisation was the most independent trade union organisation and quoted as proof the fact that Congressmen and Pradesh Congress Committees' labour wings are organising rival unions against the INTUC. As an example he mentioned the Hindia and National Press Workers Union in Madras, which is organised by the labour wing of the Madras PCC, but not affiliated to the INTUC. There are also unions affiliated to the PCCs' labour wings.

Asked whether the demand for the recognition of a union can be counted as a legitimate demand, Sri Ramanujam said it was. However, he added that the demand for recognition of a union was an outmoded one, because nowadays any registered trade union can raise a demand and ask the labour department of the Government to intervene, which would lead to talks with management or to adjudication. Recognition did not do any particular good in these days, Sri Ramanujam said, these are days when they talk about labour participation in management.

The INTUC also supported the working journalists demand for implementation of their award, and said in this connection that he was not against compulsory adjudication, because today in India, the compulsion was always on the management.(IPA)



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105  
ALL - INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

4 Ashok Road, New Delhi

CIRCULAR No. STUC/8/58

September 11, 1958

To All STUCs

Sub: TUI Conference of Agricultural & Forestry Workers, Bucharest, October 16-19, 1958

Dear Comrades,

Ref: Our circulars dated June 10, July 26 and August 16, 1958

Due to financial stringency, it will not be possible for the AITUC to subsidise any amount in the fare of comrades attending the above TUI conference.

2. The fare from the following important centres to Bucharest are given below:

Return journey - tourist

Bombay to Bucharest (also from Delhi)	Rs. 3024 approx.
Calcutta to Bucharest	Rs. 3528 "
Madras to Bucharest	Rs. 3407 "

3. Comrades should therefore be informed that each of them will have to collect the above amount and get passport in order to be able to go to attend the conference. The inconvenience caused to them is very much regretted.

4. Re. the passport, we have written to the Government of India and are pursuing it.

5. In the latest arrangements, the amounts need not be remitted to the Central Office. State TUCs in their stations can make direct arrangements for booking.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

*K.G. Sriwastava*  
(K.G. Sriwastava)  
Secretary

CIRCULAR No. STUC/9/58

September 11, 1958

Sub: Functioning of Works Committees in Private Sector

Your attention is invited to our Circular on the above subject printed on page 7 of TRADE UNION RECORD dated May 20, 1958.

2. Very few unions have sent the information on the required pro-forma, though we know there are many more cases which comrades would like to bring before the Ministry of Labour.

3. The Ministry of Labour is now in a hurry to close the receipt of further cases so that they can start examining and categorising them for necessary action.

Comrades are therefore requested to send more cases, latest by the end of this month on the form referred to in the TUR of May 20, 1958

With greetings

*K.G. Sriwastava*  
(K.G. Sriwastava)  
Secretary