AITUC WORKING COMMITTEE

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Cable: "AITUCONG" TEL: 387 320,

All - INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS
24, Canning Lane, NEW DELHI-1.

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President : M.S.KRISHNAN
Gen. Secy.: Homidaji
Act. Gen. Secy: B.D. Joshi,

December 15, 1993.

To

All Members of General Council of AITUC

All State Committees of AITUC and all office-bearers of AITUC

Sub: Proposed amendments to the constitution of AITUC.

Dear Comrades,

This is to inform you that the following amendments to the AITUC Constitution (as registered with the Registrar of Trade Unions, Delhi) are proposed to be moved in the session of the General Council to be held in Hyderabad on 30-31 December 1993, by Com. M.S. Krishnan, President, AITUC.

An item pertaining to the amendments in the constitution has already been included in the agenda suggested for the General Council session.

With greetings,

Yours comradely,

(B.D. JOSHI)
Acting General Secretary

Encl: Proposed amendments.

To

General Council members of AITUC

AMENDMENTS TO AITUC CONSTITUTION
(proposed by AITUC SECRETARIAT)

1) page. 4. Clause 4(1) : Substitute by "Abolition of other systems of Labour such as through contractors, middlemen etc.

ii) page 4. Clause 4 (m) : - Delete.

iii) page 5: Clause 5 (a) (iv) : After "under the Rules of the AITUC" in line 7 of the clause add the following-

"The State Committees shall take care to see that more than one union in the smae category of workers in anindustrial establishment in the area is not recommended for affiliation". If still more than one union is affiliated in the some industrial establishment in the area, the AITUC Centre has the right to disaffiliate the union which has been affiliated later.

iv) page.9: Clause 11:- Substitute the word "on" in line 3 of the clause by 'to' . In line 8 of the clause and substitute the words " "one fifth of the total number of representatives of the affiliated organisations' by "not more than fifteen".

v) page.9. Clause 13 :- Amend sub-clause (i) as follows: "The President , Vice-presidents, General Secretary, Secretaries and the Treasurer Shall constitute the Secretariat."

vi) page 12. Clause 18 :- In line 3, substitute "the voting shall be by Unions, and each union is then entitled to as many votes as the number of deleg_tes it is entitled to send as per rule 17 above". by

"The voting shall be by secret ballot of the delegates present."

Delete "on a poll the voting shall be by means of card" in line 6 of the clause.

vii) page 13. Clause 24: Substitute by the following:

"The proceedings of the General or Special Session of the AITUC shall be conducted by a presidium which includes the President and Vice-Presidents of the AITUC."

viii) page 16. Clause 30 (d) : Delete.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

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Hyderabad,
Dt. 01-01-1994.

PRESS HANDOUT

General Council of All India Trade Union Congress met in a 2-day session in Hyderabad on 30-31st, December, 1993. The session was attended by nearly 150 of its members, representing major Trade Unions, Industrial Federations, etc. accounting for over 3 million workers and employees organised under their banner. The session was presided over by a presidium assisting of Vice-Presidents of the organisations headed by its President Com. M.S.Krishnan.

Among other items placed on the agenda of the session, the participants in the session discussed the report of work, activities, including campaigns and struggles, undertaken by the various constituents of the organisation, during the year, presented by the Acting General Secretary of AITUC, Com. B.D.Joshi, on behalf of its secretariat. The general council hailed the strike of the Telecom employees against attempt at privatisation and setting up a corporation to allow shareholding by privatisation.

The General Council expressed its surprise at the refusal of the Government to remove the ministers inducted by JPC and on the contrary treating the JPC x report as tainted. The effort is to legalise the illegal deals.

The General Council has urged on the government to immediately settle wage revision in public sector, remove the ceiling on bonus, introduce pension scheme with Amendments as proposed by the trade unions. The Government should convene the meetings of the Industrial Committees to plan out revival of sick public sector undertakings. The council further expressed concern at the increasing sickness of state sector industries and closures on a massive scale of small, medium and big industries in the private sector even without paying Provident Fund Gratuity or the retrenchment compensation to the workers.

The council urges on the government to immediately convene the meeting of the standing labour committee to discuss the sessions problem of these closures and sickness in the state sector undertakings.

Contd..2.

The General Secretary hailed the people of the states who did not allow to B.J.P. to come to power.

The council welcomed the growing unity of approach as well action among the various national T.U.centres and their affiliates are over India-including the INTUC, AITUC, CITU, HMS, UTUC and some other workers' organisations and major national Industrial and professional workers' federations. This was appraised as a fixfine development for the working class and trade union movement of the country in the present phase of allround attacks on the job and living standards of the workers both in the public as well as private sector. Different aspects of the New Economic Industrial policy being pursued by Narasimha Rao government came in for strong criticism and condemnation by the participants in the discussions. Among these were the so-called structural adjustment program i.e., with their concommitants of liberalisation in trade, investment, import, free access with several concessions to MNCs even in critical industrial and financial sectors of the economy, exit policy and shameful surrender of vital interests of the nation including its economic sovereighty to imprialist dommination, by signing the govt. agreement on dotted lines.

The council endorssed the strategy of intensifying and deepening the content of the working class struggles against the anti-people policies of the central government by continuously strengthening and broadening the platform of the class and mass organisations recently forged on the initiative of the sponsoring committe of Indian Trade Unions. The council also laid considerable stress on uniting different democratic and secular elements and sections of the society against the menace of communalism and religious fundamatalism which threates the very unity and integrity of the nation.

The council strongly opposed the anti-working class and anti-people programmes embarked upon by the government aimed at liquidation of the entire public sector, built up through blood and sweet of the mass of the working people.

Contd..3.

It emphatically condemned the imabated closure of public sector units by starving them of essential inputs like working capital, brought allocations, raw-material, and orders for their products, combined with closures, retrenchment and by offs in the private sector, the situation on the employment front is assuming imprecedentedly alaring propositions, with unemployment estimated to rise to almost 100 million mark of the end of the cnetury. As pointed out in the report, the situation is already giving rise to serious distortion in the economic, social as well as cultural life of the nation, creating dangerous allround tensions. The council also took the goverment to take for its total failure to tackle recession resulting mainly from its policy of sharp out-back on capital/developmental expenditure and expenditure on improving social infra-structure, in line with dictates of IMF and World Bank. Such a policy accompanied by rising tempo of black-money operations, is leading to persistent rise in prices, creating havoc with already abyssmally low living standards of majority of the people.

NAGPUR TRADE UNION COUNCIL

नागपुर ट्रेड युनियन कौंसिल

Parvana Memorial,
44, Kingsway,
NAGPUR-440001.

Ref. No.....

Date...04.01.94.....

NOTICE

A meeting of the Nagpur Trade Union Council will be held on January 10, 1994 at 5.30 p.m. at Parwana Bhavan.

Com. S.K. Sanyal, Secretary, AITUC, H.Q., New Delhi has kindly consented to report on the deliberations of the AITUC General Council, held in Hyderabad on December 30th & 31st 1993. The report is of immense importance in regard to the Trade Union Movement.

You are therefore, requested to be present in time along with your other colleagues to post yourself with latest developments.

AGENDA

1. Report of AITUC General Council meeting.
2. Details of AITUC Conference - March 11th to 15th 1994 at Patna.
3. To raise Funds for NTUC Conference scheduled to be held in April.
4. Any other matter with the permission of the chair.

Mohandas

(Mohandas Naidu)
General Secretary

General Secretary,

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

SRI. S.K. Sanyal, Secretary, AITUC has issued the following statement to the Press:

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

General council of All India Trade Union Congress met in a 2 day session in Hyderabad on 30-31st December, 1993. The session was attended by nearly 150 of its members, representing major Trade Unions, Industrial Federations, etc. accounting for over 3 million workers and employees organised under their banner. The session was presided over by a presidum consisting of Vice-Presidents of the organisations headed by its President com. M.S. Krishnan.

Among other items placed on the agenda of the session, the participants in the session disussed the report of work, activities, including campaings and struggles, undertaken by the various constituents of the organisation, during the year, presented by the Acting General Secretary of AITUC, Com. B.D. Joshi, on behalf of its Secretariat. The general council hailed the strike of the Telecom employees against attempt at privataisation and setting up a corporation to allow shareholding by privatisation.

The Genral Council expressed its surprise at the refusal of the Government to remove the ministers inducted by JPC and on the contrary treating the JPC report as tainted. The effort is to legalise the illegal deals.

The General Council has urged upon the government to immediately settle wage revision in public sector, remove the ceiling on bonus, introduce pension scheme with Amendments as proposed by the Trade Unions. The Government should convene the meetings of the Industrial Committees to plan out revival of sick public sector undertakings. The council further expressed concern at the increasing sickness of state sector industries and closures on a massive scale of small, medium and big industries in the private sector even without paying Provident Fund, Gratuity or the retrenchment compensation to the workers.

The council urges on the government to immediately convene the meeting of the standing labour committee to discuss the serious problem of these closures and sickness in the state sector undertakings.

The General Secretary hailed the people of the states who did not allow the B.J.P. to come to power.

The council welcomed the growing unity of approach as well action among the various national T.U. centres and their affiliates all over India including the INTUC, AITUC, CITU, HMS, UTUC and some other worker;s organisations and major national Industrial and professional worker's federations. This was appraised as a positive development for the working class and trade union movement of the country in the present phase of alround attacks on the job and living standards of the workers both in the public as well as private sector. Different aspects of the New Economic Industiral Policy being purused by Narasimha Rao government came in for strong criticism and condemnation by the participants in the discussions. Among these were the so-called structural adjustment program i.e. with their concommitants of liberalisation in trade, investment, import, free access with several concessions to MNCs even in critical industrial and financial sectors of the economy, exit policy and shameful surrender of vital interests of the nation including its economic sovereinty to imperialist domination, by signing the GATT agreement on dotted lines.

The council endorsed the strategy of intensifying and depending the content of the working class struggles against the anti-people policies of the Central Government by continuously strengthening and broadening the platform of the class and mass organisations recently forged on the initiative of the sponsoring committee of Indian Trade Unions. The council also laid considerable stress on uniting different democratic and secular elements and sections of the society against the menace of communalism and religious fundamentalism which threatens the very unity and integrity of the nation.

The council strongly opposed the anti-working class and anti-people programmes embarked upon by the government aimed at liquidation of the entire public sector, built up through blood and sweat of the mass of the working people.

It emphatically condemned the unabated closure of public sector units by starving them of essential inputs like working capital, budget allocations, raw-material, and orders for their products, combined with closures combined retrenchment and lay-offs in the private sector, the situation on the employment front is assuming unprecedentedly alarming proportions, with unemployment estimated to rise to almost 100 million mark at the end of the century. As pointed out in the report, the situation is already giving rise to serious distortion in the economic, social as well as cultural life of the nation, creating dangerous all round tensions. The council also took the government to task for its total failure to tackle recession resulting mainly from its policy of sharp cut-back on capital/developmental expendiuture on improving social infra-structure, in line with dictates of IMF and World Bank. Such a policy accompanied by rising tempo of black-money operations, is leading to persistent rise in prices, playing havoc with already abysmally low living standards of majority of the people.

NAGPUR,
03.01.1994

(S.K. SANYAL)
SECRETARY
AITUC

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS, 24 Canning Lane, New Delhi.
President: M.S.Krishnan, General Secretary: Homi Daji.

12. 2. '91.

To: All State Committees of the AITUC,
All Officebearers of AITUC & Working Committee Members.

DECISIONS OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE - [illegible] th FEB.'91.

OBSERVE 23rd MARCH '91 AS A DAY OF NATIONAL UNITY & INTEGRATION.

Dear Comrade,

The Working Committee of the A.I.T.U.C. met at AITUC Office, 24 Canning Lane, New Delhi. Comrade M.S.Krishnan presided.

36 members attended the meeting.

The report of the political situation, the growing economic crisis, the work undertaken towards fulfilment of the Madras Conference decisions. The action programmes undertaken and the struggles of the workers during this period was reviewed in the report placed on behalf of the AITUC Centre.

The report was generally accepted.

The Executive Committee took the following decisions:

1) To observe 23rd March as the day for National Integration and against secessionism, holding rallies and meetings in industrial centres.

2) To introduce the new perspective in our trade union work. The trade unions are now called upon to widen their sphere of activities and also to address themselves to problems other than Wage, D.A. and Bonus. It should seriously concern and involve itself in such problems on housing safety at work place, environment, the problems of women workers and child labour which constitute 1 crore 70 lakh. Such varied activities will give a new thrust to our trade union's work and help us in drawing various sections of the workers in our unions.

3) All States which have not sent their list of unions for verification must do so by 20th February '91.

4) Affiliations of unions not yet affiliated to the AITUC should be sent to the Central office by 20th February 1991. The State Committee should send the papers after proper scrutiny and completing all the requirements. The Executive Committee empowered the Secretaries to give affiliation to such applications.

5) Every State Committee should send monthly reports to the AITUC.

6) Such members of the General Council who have not yet become subscribers of the Trade Union Record should be enrolled.

The State Committees should take these tasks urgently.

The price of Trade Union Record from first March 1991 shall be raised to Rs. 25/- per year.

State Committees should meet and decide on areas of concentration of their work and areas of expansion. The report of these decisions should be sent to the AITUC Centre.

The State Committees should ensure that unions which have not held elections as per the constitution should hold the same within the next four months.

Formation of the District Committee of the AITUC should be completed in the next four months.

The Unions should undertaken intensive membership drive.

The State Committees should ensure that unions clear the affiliation fees of 1989 if pending and should also ensure that the affiliation fees are paid regularly every year.

Industrial Federations should function regularly and democratically and such Federations have not held their Conference should organise the same at an early date.

The report was placed before the Executive Committee regarding unity moves undertaken as per the decision of the Madras Session of the AITUC. The Executive Committee authorised the President, General Secretary, the Secretaries and Comrades Chaturanan Mishra, and Indrajit Gupta to pursue the same and report back to the Executive Committee.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

(K.L.MAHENDRA) Secretary

Cable : "AITUCONG"

Telephone : 386427
387320

अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन काँग्रेस

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

24, CANNING LANE, NEW DELHI-110001

President : M. S. KRISHNAN
General Secretary : HOMI DAJI

December 11, 1991.

MEETING OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE
ON 15th, 16th FEBRUARY 1992.

Dear Comrade,

A meeting of the Working Committee of the All India Trade Union Congress will be held at Delhi at AITUC office, 24 Canning Lane, New Delhi on 15th & 16th February 1992.

Agenda:

1) Developments since last meeting of the General Council.
2) Review of the 29th November '91 strike.
3) Immediate tasks.
4) Affiliation Fees
5) Resolutions,
6) New Affiliations
7) Any other subject with the consent of the Chair.

As the Tripartite Committee constituted by the Government to monitor the exit policy will have met before the meeting, important decisions will require to be taken. So, all members are requested to make it a point to attend the meeting. Meeting will begin at 3. p.m.on 15th and last till the evening of 16th February 1992.

On 17th there will be a meeting at AITUC office about the N.T.C. mills in which at least one comrade from every state is expected to attend after collecting all the relevant information about the N.T.C. mills in their state.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

(HOMI DAJI)
General Secretary.

To all Officebearers &
Working Committee Members
of the AITUC.

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All India Trade Union Congress

24, Canning Lane, New Delhi-110 001

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ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

24, CANNING LANE, NEW DELHI-110001

President : M. S. KRISHNAN
General Secretary : HOMI DAJI

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15. 10. 1991.

To: All Working Committee Members of the AITUC.

Dear Comrades, OBSERVE 31st OCTOBER AS AITUC FOUNDATION DAY.

You will recall that the General Council of the AITUC has given a call in observance of 31st October the Foundation Day of the AITUC in a big way this year.

This is all the more important because attacks are being mounted on the very idea and concept of socialism which has also confused some of our cadres. It is therefore necessary that this Day is observed in a befitting manner and we rededicate ourselves for fighting for socialism. In fact, even at the founding congress of the AITUC at Bombay in 1920 presidential address of Lalalajpat Rai had spelt out as one of the three objectives of the trade union movement is fighting for a society free from exploitation of man by men . It is therefore important that the Day is observed by all the District Councils of the AITUC, jointly with all AITUC unions and other friendly movements and our objective of socialism is retierated.

Hope all Comrades will join in the important task.

2. REPORT ON STRIKE PREPARATIONS

How are the preparations for the strike of 29th November? Has a joint committee been formed? Have Conventions being held or planned? What is the response? Please inform us immediately without fail so that we can monitor the strike.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Homi Daji

(HOMI DAJI)
General Secretary.

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All India Trade Union Congress

24, Canning Lane, New Delhi-110 001

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ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

24, CANNING LANE, NEW DELHI-110001

President : M. S. KRISHNAN

General Secretary : HOMI DAJI

11 September 1991.

To: All State Committees & Office bearers of the AITUC.

DISCUSS AND SEND YOUR OPINIONS ON PENSION SCHEME BY 10th OCTOBER 1991.

Dear Comrade,

The General Council discussed the Pension Scheme worked out by the Employees Provident Fund Scheme. Some Comrades had some objections and others wanted to study the scheme further. It was therefore decided that the State Committees should discusss the same and send their opinions by 10th of October, 1991.

The Scheme is based on 8.33% employees contribution plus 1.17% Government's contribution to the family and E.P.F. Pension Scheme i.e. the total deduction of 9.5% from the Provident Fund. It should be noted that even now workers who had opted for the Family Pension Scheme were paying 1.17% from their contribution to the Provident Fund. Thus, with an additional contribution of 6%, the workers will get pension on death, retrenchment and dismissal, or some disability for any reason, and the widow and dependents of the workers will also get pension in the case of the death of a worker.

The pension payable under the Scheme works out to 50.6% of the average salary (Basic + DA) drawn in the last thirty six months for 36 years of service.

The papers given at the time of the General Council give further details of the Scheme. This was also published in the TUR.

All State Committees are requested to discuss the Scheme in depth and also consult important workers who are members of tthe Employees Provident Fund Scheme and send their opinions by 10th of October.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

(HOMI DAJI)
General Secretary.

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All India Trade Union Congress

24, Canning Lane, New Delhi-110 001

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32

United Coal Worker's Union

REGD. NO. - 16, AFFILIATED TO A.I.T.U.C.

P. O. - Bhurkunda, Distt. - Hazaribagh

Ref No. UCWU/BHK/91/21 Date 2.2.91

RECEIVED
14 FEB 1991
A. I. T. U. C.

To
The General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress,
24, Canning Lane,
New Delhi.

Deaf Comrade,

Due to unavoidable circumstances I am unable to attend the meeting of the Working Committee scheduled to be held on 8th & 9th February,91. My absence from meeting may be accepted.

With Greetings,

Comradely Yours,

(RAMENDRA KUMAR)
Secretary,
United Coal Workers Union.

FOR INFORMATION TO THE WORKING COMMITTEE
MEMBER OF AITUC

POWER DEVELOPMENT CONVENTION-CUM SEMINAR DEMANDS HALT TO PRIVATISATION

The National Campaign Committee(NCC) of Electricity employees unions has demanded a halt to wholesale drive for privatisation of the power sector and formulation of a comprehensive energy policy to remedy the ills facing this vital industry. Experts, economists, parliamentarians and trade unionists expressed concern over the policy of economic liberalisation pursued over the last many years by successive governments while participating in a Seminar-cum-Convention organised at the Gandhi Memorial Hall in New Delhi, on January, 13, 1991.

The Seminar was organised on the initiative of the All-India Federation of Electricity Employees and the Electricity Employees Federation of India. It discussed the theme. Privatisation in Power Industry and Power Development and Environment.

The convention was presided over by AIFEE president A.B. Bardhan and EEFI president E.Balanandah, M.P., who also acted as-co-moderators of the Seminar. Nearly 300 participants of electricity employees unions and some power engineers' associations participated in the convention.

About 20 trade union leaders spoke on the declaration which was moved and seconded by Shri Meel, Executive Engineer,Rajasthan State Electricity Board, and Shri Chakradhar Prasad Singh,General Secretary, AIFEE, respectively.

The declaration which was adopted unanimously has called for a campaign which includes seminars at all state capitals, rallies and demonstrations at all district headquarters, and a mass dharna before parliament during the budget session. If the Government presisted in its drive to privatise despite the public awareness campaign of power workers, it has been proposed to call a one-day token strike to protest against the official policy

In a parallel meeting, the All-India Power Engineers Federation has also resolved to join in the seminars and campaign against privatisation along with workers and their grade unions. This was conveyed to the convention by their spokesman, Shri Sharma, Executive Engineer and Shri N.D.Bais.

C.P.I.General Secretary Indrajit Gupta said while addressing the Convention that a comprehensive power policy which took into consideration all the aspects of the problem should come from the platform of the federation of Trade Unions as a popular-democratic alternative to the ill-conceived official policies.

With the power crisis getting severe every day, country would soon be confronted with an all round crisis because electricity is a vital part of the national economy. He admitted that there can be a combination of private and public sector participation in the industry, but giving control of the sector to the private business has to be combatted with all their strength by trade union movement. He said that it was strage that the government did not consult the trade unions while formulating its policies through the workers who run power plants. They can not be ignored, he stressed.

Gupta said that India is one of the few Third world countries which manufacture the entire range of power equipment. There is no limit to which the BHEL can be expanded and modernised for the power industry's self reliant development. The CPI General Secretary also felt there was need for improvement of work ethics at the workplace.

AIFEE president A.B.Bardhan said that the policy direction which initiated privatisation has been followed over the last eight years. Unfortunately, the National Front government too continued the policy.

Now the policy was being pursued with a vengeful fervour.Power Minister Kalyan Singh Kalvi has been going around wooing businessmen to enter the power sector. The problem of privatisation has assumed serious dimensions in four states, he siad.

P.T.O.

In Maharashtra, where Chief Minister Sharad Power says that his state is showing the way, global tenders have been floated for foreign participation in power generation and distribution . 1200 MW have been earmarked for privatisation.

In Bihar, Tenughat and Chandil are to be turned over to the private sector and Goenkas and others have been invited to invest in the industry. In Andhra Pradesh, the Chenna Reddy Government has been following same course. Similar statements are being made in U.P. and suggestions are being made to biburcate the UPSEB into generation and distribution units. Trade unions, he said, have gone into action to oppose privatisation and to press their other demands.

In an impressive exposition of the problem, Prof. Rajni Kothari said that spectre of privatisation should be taken serious note of in as much as it undermines the very constitutional authority of the state. Delivering his keynote address, he termed it as a doctrine which is becoming accepted not only in India but the world over.

The State has a constitutional responsibility to the workers and the socieity. The private sector and TNCs don't. The massive attack on the public Sector is an attack on the rights of the workers, he said. Mege projects financed by the World Bank and TNCs are becoming increasingly capital intensive which ignore technologies which are employment-oriented and decentralised.

Speaking of the doctrine of economic liberalisation, he said that giving the plea of resource crunch and balance of payments (foreign exchange) problems, we are advised to take to export-oriented industrialisation. Such projects overlook the basic necessities of the people. In fact, there is a nexus between privatisation, Export-oriented development, decline in Employment opportunities and environmental distribution.

Prof. Kothari equated privatisation to the elimination of the people's rights and the decline of the state's sovereighty. He exhorted various Left and democratic forces to join the struggle to once again recapture the model of self-reliance of 1960s and to restore to Indian state its primacy.

Ex-Chairman of the Bihar State Electricity Board B. N. Ojha siad previously power industry was run by private companies. It was nationalised to increase its efficiency. Now, strangely, there is talk about privatisation. If democracy fails, he asked, can we bring back monarchy ? Then why this clamour to revert to private ?.

Ojha felt that the power policy pursued over the years have been suicidal one as we copied big contralised systems from other Western countries.

We could have set up more efficient and employment-intensive smaller systems. Today the Maga units are under utilised. There is huge wastage on the one hand, while we are unable to provide power to the villages, on the other.

K. Ashok Rao of the National confederation of Officers' Associations of Central Public Sector Undertakings said there is no standerdisation in the power sector despite its very high capital intensiveness. Foreign equipments are not made to our specifications as we get them under some aid project which has so many strings tied to them.

He said that while the world power equipment industry faces recession it sees in India a big market. The BHEL was not getting enough orders while we go on buying equipment abroad.

CITU leader M.K.Pandhe said that while India purchases equipment from abroad at prices two to three times of the international rates, the BHEL is not getting enough orders. If all orders for our requirement are given to the BHEL, its cost of production will also come down.

NTPC Executive Director S.M.C.Pillai said that India's per capita power consumption was behind China and even marginally behind Pakistan.

Contd..page 3

EEFI President E. Balanandan said that the government wants to racklessly pursue privatisation, it has issued a circular to ensure 15 per cent profit to private business houses which enter the power sector. Private companies will have to invest 11 per cent and financial institutions will provide 40 per cent. Rest can come from abroad. He wanted to know what was meant by ' coming from abroad' will it not come in form of machinery and equipment when our own power manufacturing industry has capacity to produce, he asked.

He ridiculed the logic of lacking resources given by government saying that the Tatas and Birlas can enter the power industry investing just five to six per cent. The rest will come from Public financial Institutions. Yet they are assured 15 per cent returns on their investment.

Renowned economist Ashok Mitra and Balraj Mehta had sent their papers to be read out at Seminar.

Deb Kumar Ganguli of World Federation of Trade Unions and K. Vijayachandran, Secretary, Bureau of Public Enterprises, Kerala, also spoke.

Chakradhar Pd. Singh

(Chakradhar Pd. Singh)
General Secretary
AIFEE

To

The Chief Minister/
The Power Minister/
The Home Minister, Govt. of Meghalaya Shillong.
The Union Labour Minister,
Govt. of India, New Delhi.
The Union Home Minister,
Govt. of India, New Delhi.
The Chairman,
Meghalaya State Electricity Board.

Sub: Observing 15th Feb. '91 as "Meghalaya Day" in protest against repressive measures of the State Electricity Board management of Meghalaya.

Ref: Call of AIFEE Executive Delhi meet dated 12.1.91.

Sir,

While responding to AIFEE Delhi Executive meet decision by observing 15th Februgry'91 as Meghalaya Day throughout the whole nation we the electric employees of (Name of the organisation) condemn the anti democratic and authritasian action of the management of Meghalaya State Electricity Board/ wo which more than eight power workers continue to be victim. We condemn the atrocities committed on the electricity workers by the gangsterism of the Board's management. We express our fraternal solidarity with the Meghalaya Power Workers and pledge to fight out all sorts of repression.

We appeal to all ruling elites of State and Meghalaya State Electricity Board to restore democratic trade union rights and withdraw all sorts of victimisation of electricity workers of Meghalaya.

We hope the State will realise that it shirks its responsibility in maintaining the democratic norms in most sensitive industrial organisation like electricity and ~~ml~~ accordingly act by restoring democratic trade union rights, withdrawing draconian measures of victimisation and creating congenical industrial climate.

Yours faithfully,

(General Secretary)
Name of the Organisation.

ALL INDIA FEDERATION O F ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES
VIDYUT MAZDOOR BHAWAN
SOUTH MANDIRI PATNA-800001

Phone: O-232495
R-233091

No. 25/91 Dated, the 24.1.91

To

All Unions/Associations affiliated to
All India Federation of Electricity Employees.

Sub: Decisions of AIFEE executive committee held at Delhi on 12.1.91 & 13.1.91.

Dear Brothers,

The executive committee of All India Federation of Electricity Employees in its meeting of 12th & 13th January'91 a t 24, Canning Lane, New Delhi under the presidentship of Com. A.B. Bardhan took the following decisions:-

1. On joint action of programme against privatisation.

The Committee discussed the deliberations of joint convention of AIFEE & EEFI of 13th Jan'91 and approved the decisions taken by that convention. All Unions are to implement the following three phased joint programme of action against the Govt's deliberate move of privatisation in Power Sector.

(a) Organise joint seminar-cum-conventions at State level in Jan.&Feb.'91. in which experts, engineers economists, environmentalists, social workers journalists, legislators & parliamentarian and representatives of different engineering Associations should also be approached to express their views on privatisation. -Ist phase.

(b) Organise joint statewise rallies in February'91 and March'91-2nd phase.

(c) Stage joint Dharna at Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi in March'91 the exact date of which will be communicated in due course- 3rd phase.

2. On victimisation of Meghalaya Power Workers.

All affiliated unions/Associations will extend solidarity with the Meghalaya Power Workers facing victimisation by observing 15-2-91 as "Meghalaya Day". All Unions/State Federations will send telegrammes to Meghalaya Chief Minister/Power Minister and Chairman of Meghalaya Power Board. demanding restoration of trade union rights and end of victimisation ~~xxxxxx~~ forthwith.

3. On pen down/tools down strike of Bihar Power Workers.

The Executive Committee resolved to extend full support to electricity workers of Bihar who are on pen down/tools down strike since 20th December'90 to press their demands relating to implementation of unimplemented items of Nov.'89 and July'90 agreements and revision of different allowances as suggested by union.

(However this strike has ended now on 19th Jan'91 after an agreement with the Union).

4. On Trade Union International Seminar at Patna from 2nd to 6th April'91.

It was decided to send one participant from small and two participants from big affiliated unions in the above seminar. In order to meet the expenses of the seminar all affiliated unions/Associations are to contribute at that occasion through collecting advertisement in the Souvenir to be published so that estimated cost of one lakh may be met.

5. Against President rule and repression of people's democratic rights including electricity workers in Assam.

The executive committee expressed grave concern over murder of democracy and imposition of president rule in Assam due to indiscriminate application of Black laws and police atrocities on the people. It passed a resolution in this reppect.

Contd....

The resolution passed has been sent to the Prime Minister, Govt. of India, Governor etc.

6. Financing of the Federation.

Com. A.B.Bardhan President laid great stress to improve the financial position of the Federation. It was decided that the affiliation fee of the Federation is to be sent immediately to its headquarter. It was also decided that the adhoc. amount decided at Madrass on 7th August'90 should be sent immediately

7. It was decided that each division of the State Union/Federation should have atleast one copy of the Indian Power Workers.

It was also decided that the Hindi fortnightly of Bihar State Electric Supply Workers Union should be made the Hindi mouth piece of the Federation. It should contain all the information and article connected with the power workers. movement. For this it was decided that all the units of the Hindi speaking States Union sould subscribe to the Shaktishrot. The annual subscription of which is Rs.25/- a year.

8. A resolution in support of the struggle of the employees of Uchchahar Vidyut Nigum against its privatisation was passed.

9. During the two sessions of the AIFEE Executive Committee the seminar-cum-convention of the Electricity Workers was held on 13th Jan'91 very successfully The brief report and the copy of the gist of the declaration are being enclosed with this circular.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

(Chakradhar Pd. Singh)
General Secretary

Encl: The draft for solidarity action with Meghalaya Workers.

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Cable : "AITUCONG"

Telephone : 386427
387320

अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन काँग्रेस

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

24, CANNING LANE, NEW DELHI-110001

President : M. S. KRISHNAN
General Secretary : HOMI DAJI

28 December 1990.

To

All Officebearers & Working Committee
Members of the AITUC. & State Committees of the AITUC

MEETING OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE ON 8th & 9th FEBRUARY 1991.

Dear Comrade,

A meeting of the Working Committee of All India Trade Union Congress will be held on 8th and 9th February, '91 at AITUC office. The meeting will begin at 3 p.m. on 8th and will continue whole day of the 9th February.

All members are requested to ensure that to participate in this meeting.

AGENDA:

1) Report of the World Trade Union Congress
2) Report of work since the Madras Conference
3) Implementation of the decision of the Madras Conference
4) Question of Trade Union Unity
5) Verification
6) Resolutions

NOTE: All State Secretaries are requested to send in brief and in points a report of important trade union actions and activities in their states since the Madras Conference. In particular report should contain actions regarding price rise and anti-communal work undertaken in this period. As per the decision of the last Working Committee comrades will not be allowed to make oral reports at the meeting. All reports received by us will be circulated to the members. Report should reach us by 30th January 1991.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

(HOMI DAJI)
General Secretary

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पहला मोड़ First Fold

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भेजने वाले का नाम और पता :- Sender's name and address :-

All India Trade Union Congress

24, Canning Lane, New Delhi-110 001

अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन कांग्रेस

24, केनिंग लेन, नई दिल्ली-110 001

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

PPH 32

Secretary: S.K. Sanyal

Bornala,
Nagpur 440013

7 February 1991.

Dear Comrade Bhaskar,

Thanks for your letter of the 25th ultimo received here on the 30th of the same month and to my hand to-day on my return. I have noted the contents. I thank you for the pains you have taken to explain the situation.

With best greetings,

Yours fraternally,

(S.K. Sanyal)

Com. Bhaskar Chatterjee,
PPH, Rani Jhansi Road,
New Delhi.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

Aerogramme

TAJ 75

FROM :

ASIAN TRADE UNION CONFERENCE

(*On Development and New International Economic Order*)

24, CANNING LANE,
NEW DELHI-110001 INDIA

People's Publishing House (P) Ltd.

PHONE : 529365, 529823
CABLE: QAUMIKITAB

RANI JHANSI ROAD
NEW DELHI-110055 (India)

PPH

25 January 1991.

RECEIVED
30 JAN 1991
A. I. T. U. C.

Replied
09-02-91

Com. S.K. Sanyal
A.I.T.U.C.
24 Canning Lane
NEW DELHI 110001.

Dear Comrade,

We have received your letter dated 06.01.1991 on 23.01.91 and thank you for the same.

We have noted the changes in your PIN CODE Number and it has been incorporated on our mailing list. In fact the mailing list was provided by the WFTU, Prague and the mistake occured from their side.

Regarding the delay in supply of the said magazine we would like to inform you that it is beyond our control. As we receive the films of all the Magazines from Prague and these are usually received here quite late. It is a weekly bulletin but frankly speaking it has lost the value. This was brought to the notice of WFTU comrades also.

However we will try to post them more promptly ~~to cutureowto~~ cut down the delays.

Thanking you,

With warm regards,

Bhaskar Chatterjee

(BHASKAR CHATTERJEE)
For People's Publishing House
(P) Limited.

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Com. S.K. Sanyal
All India Trade Union Congress
24 Canning Lane
NEW DELHI 110 001.

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Ram Jhansi Road
NEW DELHI-110055

37

AITUC
Miscell.

CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION

This meeting of workers employees, trade union and other organisations deeply mourn the passing away of Com. K.G.Sriwastava, veteran leader of the AITUC and the Indian Trade Union movement. He started in trade union work among Civilian Defence employees and became a prominent leader of the all-India Defence Employees' Federation and of the Central Government employees' movement. He was also the president of Indian Mine workers Federation.

He was secretary of the AITUC since mid-fifties until 1986 when he was elected General Secretary of the AITUC. For sometime after 1980 he was vice-president of the AITUC and from 1982 to 1984 secretary of WFTU in Prague. ~~In 1985~~

In 1985, at the Asian and Pacific workers Conference he was elected Secretary of the Co-ordination Committee and he continued in that position till his death.

This meeting recalls his long services to the cause of working class and his passing away is a tremendous loss to the trade union movement and of the defence employees in particular.

This meeting pays respectful homage to his memory and sends sincere condolences to the bereaved family.

...

17-01-91

32

Cable: "AITUCONG" Tel:387320/386427,

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

24,Canning Lane, New Delhi- 110 001,

==========

President :M.S.Krishnan,
General Secretary :Homi Daji, 10th September 1990,

Circulat letter

To,
All Members of the Working Committee of AITUC,

Dear Comrades,

For the forthcoming 12th World Trade Union Congress to be held in Moscow from 13th to 20th November 1990, the AITUC Secretariat has nominated the following Comrades to participate in the Congress on belhal of AITUC.

1. Comrade Indrajit Gupta,
   Vice-President-WFTU, & of AITUC,

2. Comrade M.S.Krishnan,
   President-AITUC,

3. Comrade Homi Daji,
   General Secretary,AITUC,

4. Comrade A.M.Govindarajan(GOPU),
   General Secretary,
   Tamilnadu Committee of AITUC,

5. Comrade Ramendra Kumar,
   General Secretary,
   Bihar State Committee of AITUC,

6. Comrade Dutta Deshmukh,
   President,Maharashtra Electricity Board
   Workers Federation,

7. Comrade P.Vasumati Devi,
   Member,General Council of AITUC,

8. One Comrade of Kerala State Council of AITUC,

We hope you will approve,

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Homi Daji

(HOMI DAJI)
General Secretary,AITUC,

WORKING COMMITTEE MEMBERS :

1. C.A. Kurien
2. C. Divakaran
3. Vijayan Kunissery
4. Christopher Fonseca
5. D.C. Mahanty
6. Raj Kishore Prasad Singh
7. Ramendra Kumar
8. Chakradhar Prasad Singh
9. P.K. Ganguly
10. Basudeb Pandey
11. D.K. Yadav
12. Ghanshyam Saran Sinha
13. Promode Gogoi
14. K. Modi
15. D.K. Rao
16. M.C. Narsimhan
17. H.V. Ananth Subha Rao
18. V.R. Ananda Tirtha
19. A.M. Gopu
20. S.C. Krishnan
21. A. Srinivasan
22. M. Manjini
23. Y.D. Sharma
24. T.A. Francis
25. P.S. Deoshi
26. Parduman Singh
27. Bhawani Roy Choudhury
28. Nihar Mukherjee
29. Narayan Choubey
30. Sunil Sen
31. K. Vishwanathan
32. Bhikubhai Vaghela
33. P. Nageshwar Rao
34. M. Komraiah
35. R.P. Ranga Rao
36. G. Ramchander
37. K. Srinivas Rao
38. A.B. Bardhan
39. G.V. Chitnis
40. S.K. Sanyal
41. S. Dhume
42. Manohar Deshkar
43. Bhagwan Thorat
44. D.B. Kango
45. Srikrishna
46. M.M. Gope
47. T.M. Aboo

Ex-officio Members

48. S.A. Dange
49. Dr. Ranen Sen
50. Chaturanan Mishra.

GC file

CO-OPTED MEMBERS :

1. Deb Kumar Ganguli
Secretary
World Federation of
Trade Unions
Vinohradska 10
12147 Prague 2
Czechoslovakia

2. M. Achuthan
World Federation of
Trade Unions
Vinohradska 10
12147 Prague 2
Czechoslovakia

3. S. Madhusudhan
General Secretary
Civil Aviation Department
Employees Union
T-16 INA Colony
New Delhi-110003.

4. G.L. Dhar,
General Secretary
Federation of Central Govt.
Employees Unions & Assns.,
Block No. 7/139 Lodhi Colony,
New Delhi- 110003.

5. R. Ravindranathan
General Secretary, General
Insurance Employees All
India Association,
232, Dr. D.N. Road,
Fort, Bombay- 400001.
Maharashtra.

6. A.V. Nachane
G-1, Sarita Housing Society
Behind State Bank of India
Naupada Thane
Bombay- 400602
Maharashtra

7. D.P. Chaddha
9, PNB Employees Co-op.
Housing Society,
Lallu Park, Andheri,
Bombay- 400056
Maharashtra

8. Tarakeshwar Chakraborty
General Secretary
All India Bank Employees'
Association
3B, Lall Bazar Street
Calcutta- 700 001
West Bengal.

9. O.P. Gupta
"Dada Ghosh Bhavan"
1, Patel Road,
New Delhi- 110008.

10. P.K. Kodiyan
203, V.P. House
New Delhi- 110001.

11. Bulu Roy Choudhury
"Shewa Bhavan"
Opp. Women's Polytechnic
P.O. PAPANAMCODE
Trivandrum 695018
Kerala.

12. Aboni Boral
43, Phouna Nagar
Bhubaneshwar 751001
Orissa.

13. Saila Bose
73, Vairut
Budapest.

14. N.K. Chatterjee
General Secretary
M.E.C.L. Employees Union
Mineral Exploration Corporation
Seminary Hills
Nagpur- 440013
Maharashtra.

15. V.P. Sinha
General Secretary
North-Eastern Railway
Mazdoor Union,
306-A, Dairy Railway Colony
Gorakhpur- 273001
Uttar Pradesh.

(contd....2)

16. Dr. Raj Bahadur Gour

17. Narendra Prasad

18. Ramdhari Parashar

19. Roza Deshpande

20. K.G. Srivastava

32
AITUC Secty

दिनांक 20 अगस्त 1990.

प्रिय कामरेड द्वारिका सिंह जी,

आपको 18 तारीख का तार द्वारा भेजी हुई सूचना की ए.आई.टी.यू.सी. की सचिव मंडल की मीटिंग 22 तारीख को नहीं हो रही है उसकी सूचना आपको मिल गई होगी हमने कोशिश की लखनऊ में भी आपको सूचना मिले पर पता चला की आप वहाँ पर गये ही नहीं अब यह मीटिंग शनिवार 1 सितम्बर को 10 बजे ए.आई.टी.यू.सी. ऑफिस 24, कैनिंग लेन में होगी । आप उपस्थित होने की कृपा करें ।

अभिवादन सहीत,

आपका साथी,
एस.के. त्रिपाठी
(एस.के.सन्याल)
सचिव

का. द्वारिका सिंह (सचिव)
हिन्डौलका प्रगतिशील मजदूर सभा
अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन कॉंग्रेस
अस्पताल रोड, पो. रेणूकूट
जिला- मिर्जापुर (उत्तर प्रदेश)

Cable : "AITUCONG"

Telephones : 386427
387320

अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन कॉंग्रेस

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

24, CANNING LANE, NEW DELHI-110001

President : CHATURANAN MISHRA M.P.
General Secretary : INDRAJIT GUPTA M.P.

Circular

12 July, 1990.

To

All State Committees of the AITUC,
&
Working Committee Members, AITUC.

ON LOADING AND UNLOADING WORKERS OF FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA AND THE WAREHOUSING CORPORATION.

Comrades,

The unions of loading and unloading workers of the Food Corporation of India and the warehousing corporations are requested to positively send their delegates to the AITUC Conference at Madras.

There shall be a meeting of these delegates where a common programme shall be chalked out on the demand for direct employment by the F.C.I. and the warehousing Corporations.

In Punjab a section of these workers are being made direct payment by the corporation. Already large number of paledars staged a dharna in front of the Parliament and submitted a memorandum.

Now all India movement is proposed to be launched.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K L Mahendra

(K.L.MAHENDRA)
Secretary.

.....

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र
INLAND LETTER

पहला मोड़ First Fold

तीसरा मोड़ Third Fold

दूसरा मोड़ Second Fold

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता :- Sender's name and address :-

All India Trade Union Congress

24, Canning Lane, New Delhi-110 001

अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन काँग्रेस

24, केनिंग लेन, नई दिल्ली-110001

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

AITUC RESOLUTIONS

AGAINST CONTINUING PRICE RISE

The working committee of the AITUC meeting in New Delhi on June 7 & 8, 1990, express concern at the rising prices of essential commodities which are continuing unabated despite promises and warnings by the NF Government. The wholesale price index continues its upward trend almost every week without any respite. It is officially admitted that during the first quarter of 1990, wholesale prices have gone up by about 50 percent more than in the corresponding period of 1989. The retail prices have been hiked still more.

There is no doubt that the measures taken by the NF Government, the Railway budget and general budget for 1990-91 are responsible for this unabated rise in prices of commodities. The petrol diesel price increase as well as hike in rail freight have added fuel to the fire. The price of wheat in the public distribution system has been increased by 30 paise per kg. following hike in the procurement price of wheat. Stoppage of import of cheaper edible oil helped traders to jack up prices. Prices have gone up and continue their uptrend despite increased production and stock of most of the essential commodities.

The Working Committee is of the strong opinion that the NF Government has failed to take any effective measures in time against hoarders and profiteers and to protect the interests of consumers and have been following policies which has funnelled the price rise.

Dear Shri Prasad,

The All India Trade Union Congress, the premier Tr. Un. Org. in the country is holding its conference at Madras at Vadapalani from 7th August to 12th August. The inaugural session will be held on the 7th ~~at~~

~~It~~ It would be our privilege if you can spare some time from your busy schedule to address the inaugural session. If for some reason this particular date does not suit you we will be glad to have you amongst us on any of the dates of the conference to address nearly 300 delegates from all parts of the country.

Pl. accomodate and let us know.

Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit and Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit in Vadapalani.

Cable : "AITUCONG"

Telephones : 386427
387320

अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन काँग्रेस

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

24, CANNING LANE, NEW DELHI-110001

President : CHATURANAN MISHRA M.P.
General Secretary : INDRAJIT GUPTA M.P.

32

26. 4. 1990.

WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING

Dear Comrade,

A meeting of the AITUC Working Committee will be held on 7th and 8th June,1990 at Delhi.

AGENDA:
(1) Work - Report
(2) Recent Developments on Trade Union Front.
(3) Verification of Membership
(4) Amendments to the Constitution of AITUC.
(5) Conference of the AITUC.
(6) Resolutions
(7) Affiliations
(8) Any other work with the permission of the Chair.

The meeting will begin at 3. p.m. on the 7th June and continue till 6 p.m. on the 8th June.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,
Indrajit Gupta
(INDRAJIT GUPTA)
General Secretary.

Note: As per the decision of the last Working Committee meeting no oral reports from states will be allowed. All states are requested to send a brief report of their main activities and problems of their movement which shall be circulated. The reports should reach the AITUC Office by 25th of May 1990.

.....

INLAND LETTER

SENDER'S NAME :-

All India Trade Union Congress
24, Canning Lane, New Delhi-110001
अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन काँग्रेस
24, केनिंग लेन, नई दिल्ली-110001

LIBERALISATION OF BENEFITS
UNDER
EMPLOYEES DEPOSIT LINKED INSURANCE SCHEME

.....

According to notification No.S-65013/1/90-SS.II dated 22nd May 1990, Paragraphs 22 and 26 of Employees Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme have been amended and the amendment has been made effective from 1.3.1990.

According to these amendments:

(a) The average balance is to be calculated for the preceding 12 months instead of 36 months and where the average balance exceeds Rs. 15,000/-, the amount payable shall be Rs. 15,000/- plus 25% of the amount in excess of Rs. 15,000/- subject to a ceiling of Rs. 25,000/-.

(b) The average balance in the account of the deceased subscriber should not be below Rs.500/- during the preceding 12 months as against the earlier provision of Rs. 1,000/- during preceding 3 years.

.....

COMMENTS ON THE BILL ON PARTICIPATION OF WORKERS IN MANAGEMENT BILL.

1) In the shop level and plant level if no agreement could be reached in the participative form, the provision is that it will be referred to employer for decision.

This means these two forms have no decision taking authority.

2) Representatives of workmen will constitute thirteen percent and other workmen twelve percent on the Board.

The trade unions had asked for 50 percent representation but now 25% is provided as recommended by the State Labour Ministers.

3) Even at the Board level the workers representatives shall be from amongst the workmen which means non-workers trade union leaders will not be allowed.

4) Option is left for direct election of workmen's representatives or nomination by the unions.

5) The bill provides that the Board of management shall review the functioning of each shop floor council and establishment council.

It is not specific the Board of management shall deal will all issues covered by Companies Act.

6) The Bill provides a right to the appropriate Government to exempt any employer or class of employers from all or any of the provisions of the Act.

.....

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Telephones : 386427
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अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन काँग्रेस
ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

24, CANNING LANE, NEW DELHI-110001

President : CHATURANAN MISHRA M.P.
General Secretary : INDRAJIT GUPTA M.P.

W/Committee

26. 4. 1990.

WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING

Dear Comrade,

A meeting of the AITUC Working Committee will be held on 7th and 8th June, 1990 at Delhi.

AGENDA:

(1) Work - Report
(2) Recent Developments on Trade Union Front.
(3) Verification of Membership
(4) Amendments to the Constitution of AITUC.
(5) Conference of the AITUC.
(6) Resolutions
(7) Affiliations
(8) Any other work with the permission of the Chair.

The meeting will begin at 3. p.m. on the 7th June and continue till 6 p.m. on the 8th June.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Indrajit Gupta

(INDRAJIT GUPTA)
General Secretary.

Note: As per the decision of the last Working Committee meeting no oral reports from states will be allowed. All states are requested to send a brief report of their main activities and problems of their movement which shall be circulated. The reports should reach the AITUC Office by 25th of May 1990.

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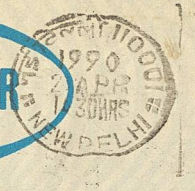
2-5-90

INLAND LETTER



8. Com.M.S.Krishnan,MLA
Vice-President,A.I.T.U.C.
53 Gayathri Devi Park
Extension
BANGALORE 560003
Karnataka

SENDER'S NAME :-

All India Trade Union Congress
24, Canning Lane, New Delhi-110001
अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन कॉंग्रेस
24, केनिंग लेन, नई दिल्ली-110001

RESOLUTION ON KASHMIR

This working committee of the AITUC feels deeply concerned at the growing threats to national unity and integrity posed by separatist, divisive and communal forces in different parts of the country.

The situation in Kashmir has become very critical. The secessionist forces, brazenly backed by Pakistani rulers who are making all efforts to detach Kashmir from India. They are forcing people belonging to minority community to leave Kashmir.

They are trying to paralise completely the administrative apparatus and are attempting to impose their own will on the people of Kashmir. To demand the abrogation of article 370 of the constitution in such a situation as is being done by BJP and other communal forces amounts to helping the pro-Pakistani secessionist forces. United efforts should be made to isolate the secessionists and defeat the terrorists by taking administrative and political steps. The working committee endorses the setting up of the Kashmir Relief Fund and calls upon unions to send contributions to the Fund and carry out mass collection campaigns also to react our message to the mass of workers.

.....

ON INDEPENDENCE TO NAMIBIA AND ADVANCE OF DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENTS

The working committee of the All India Trade Union Congress haild the achievement of Independence by Namibia after a long period of slavery. The release of Nelson Mandela after being imprisoned for 26 years is a historic victory of the democratic forces over apartheid and racism.

The ban on political parties is lifted in South Africa and it is expected that the emergency will shortly be lifted. But the people have to be vigilant and continue their pressure till apartheid is ended and a democratic government is established.

Recently there has been an upsurge for democracy in Nepal and the autocratic rule of the king and the socalled Panchayats has crumbled. A popular Government has been established and a new constitution is being drafted. The palace cliques and the conservative leaders of Panchayat system have not yet given up their efforts to defeat the democratic forces and return to the facist rule. // The Working Committee of the AITUC while welcoming these significant developments in Nepal hopes that the darkforces of reaction will be rooted and the rule of democracy be firmly established.

In Burma for the last one year there has been struggle for restoration of democracy. The democratic forces have won in the recent elections, which is welcome.

It is heartening to note that Prime Minister Hun Sen of Kampuchea and Prince Sihanaek have issued a joint communique appealing for an end to hostilities.

There are efforts to set up a joint national council at an early date and go in for a ceasefire.

The working committee of the AITUC notes with satisfaction these developments strengthening the forces of democracy, liberation and anti-imperialism. It is confident that in the coming days greater victories will be won by forces of democracy and freedom.

.....

Com. Gopal

SOLIDARITY WITH THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

The working committee of the AITUC meeting in New Delhi on June 7th & 8th, 1990, reiterates the support and solidarity of the Indian working class with the people of Palestine and their struggle for independent statehood.

The working committee strongly condemns the increasing repression and killing resorted to by the Karachi forces in occupied West Bank territories to brutally suppress the aspirations of the people of Palestine.

Despite world public opinion ranged against Ix Israeli repressive policy, Israel is still enjoy the protection of the U.S. imperialists who are preventing any international action against Israeli highhandedness in the occupied territories.

The working committee likes to assure the Palestinian people of the continued support and solidarity of the Indian working class and trade unions with the just cause of the Palestinians for a homeland and for statehood.

Com. Bakshi.

CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION

The Working Committee of the AITUC meeting in New Delhi on June 7th & 8th, 1990 condoles the passing away of the following prominent personalities, trade union and political leaders of India and abroad:

1. DOLORES IBARRURI - LA PASSIONARIA
2. DADA AMIR HAIDER
3. SARJOO PANDEY
4. SHANKAR PILLAI
5. BASUKI SINGH
6. SAROJ MUKHERJEE
7. B.T.RANADIVE
8. YOGENDRA SHARMA
9. KANAI BHOWMIK
10. D.S.SRIRAMULU
11. ABDUL SATTAR RANJOOR
12. S.DARBARA SINGH
13. MIRWAIZE MOULAVI FAROOQ
14. Monapla Shetty - Mangalore
15. M. Mehta - BMS President
16. S. Kamaraswamy Vice-President, STUC
17. Jaswant Singh Bhopani

AITUC RESOLUTIONS

AGAINST CONTINUING PRICE RISE

The working committee of the AITUC meeting in New Delhi on June 7 & 8, 1990, express concern at the rising prices of essential commodities which are continuing unabated despite promises and warnings by the NF Government. The wholesale price index continues its upward trend almost every week without any respite. It is officially admitted that during the first quarter of 1990, wholesale prices have gone up by about 50 percent more than in the corresponding period of 1989. The retail prices have been hiked still more.

There is no doubt that the measures taken by the NF Government, the Railway budget and general budget for 1990-91 are responsible for this unabated rise in prices of commodities. The petrol diesel price increase as well as hike in rail freight have added fuel to the fire. The price of wheat in the public distribution system has been increased by 30 paise per kg. following hike in the procurement price of wheat. Stoppage of import of cheaper edible oil helped traders to jack up prices. Prices have gone up and continue their uptrend despite increased production and stock of most of the essential commodities.

The Working Committee is of the strong opinion that the NF Government has failed to take any effective measures in time against hoarders and profiteers and to protect the interests of consumers and have been following policies which has funnelled the price rise.

The Working Commttee demands immediate strong measures to unearth stocks of commodities and to expand and strengthen the public distribution system. and to withdraw the hike in diesel and petrol prices and the increase in Railway freight charges.

THE NEW INDUSTRIAL POLICY

The working committee of the AITUC is dismayed at the new Industrial Policy of the National Front Government placed in Parliament on 31 May 1990. The new Industrial Policy is not only a continuation of the policy of liberalisation of the economy pursued assiduously of the Rajiv Gandhi Government, but goes much further in favour of monopolies and multinationals. Industrial licensing has been virtually given a goby.

Even multinationals can freely invest capital in whatever industry upto 40 percent without prior Government clearance.

The blanket permission to import technology without Government approval will spell disaster for indigenous technology. Almost free import of capital goods will ruin the indigenous industry which is already burdened with idle capacity. The big business will have opportunity after investment limit has been raised to extend their activities in newer spheres - backward and non-backward.

This policy will further strengthen the bigbusiness even to the detriment of the interest of the small scale sector for which the Industrial policy seeks to give more concessions.

It is no wonder therefore that the chambers of commerce and business houses have enthusiastically supported the new Policy and have kept up their pressure for scrapping the MRTP Act.

The New Industrial Policy belies the claim of the NF to reverse the economic policies of the previous regime which sought to build up an elitist economy. In fact the new policy will give boost to the kind of economy which has enriched industry and trade, and against the common good.

The working committee demands of the N F Government to reorient its policy towards strengthening self-reliance, the public sector and against monopoly concentration of wealth and income.

ON CLOSURES

The number of closed units due to socalled industrial sickness continues to increase. According to latest official data, the number in all three sectors viz. medium and large and small scale sectors, has gone upto 2,19,531 as in June 1988 with corresponding increase in blocked bank credit to nearly Rs. 7,000 crores. The number of workers thrown out of jobs has also increased along with in-series and hardship suffered by them.

The working committee of the AITUC regrets that the N F Government has not shown any particular concern for speedy disposal of these cases of closures some of which are long pending, and for alleviating the agony and distress of tens of thousands of workers.

The working committee demands that the N F Government takes immediate and urgent steps to revive viable units as already classified by the Reserve Bank of India, and also those units which can be revived.

The Working committee likes to point out that in this phenomenon of socalled industrial sicknes s being the product mainly of financial and other mismanagement, the worst victim has been the workers who with their families have in most cases reduced to destitution. Therefore ~~even from~~ even from the humanitarian point of view, apart from restoring the huge national losses that these closures entail, the Government should immediately act to get the viable units and those that can be made viable.

SOLIDARITY WITH SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLE

The working committee of the AITUC welcomes the changes that have already taken place in Southern Africa as a result of years of struggle and sacrifices of the people of South Africa and Namibia against apartheid and racist domination. Namibia has already won independence and in South Africa racism has begun to collapse.

The working committee hails the release after 27 years in prison of Nelson Mandela, the living hero of South African peoples struggle for freedom and democracy.

As a result of courageous struggle of the South African people defying tyranny and death and overwhelming world public opinion against apartheid, the racist regime has been forced to retreat and take measures to loosen the rigours of apartheid, although frame work has not been completely dismantled and therefore international pressure requires to be continued.

The working committee is confident that the people of South Africa will in the near future succeed in completely dismantling the hated apartheid system and replace it with a democratic and progressive regime in South Africa.

IN SOLIDARITY WITH CUBA

The working committee of the AITUC meeting in New Delhi on June 7th & 8th, 1990, reiterates the firm solidarity of the Indian working class with the people and Government of Cuba.

The working committee condemns the increasing provocations and threats held out by the U.S. imperialists by means of hostile radio broadcasts, naval and air manouvers in the vicinity of the Island against socialist Cuba.

The working committee assures the continued support and solidarity of the Indian working class and trade unions with the Cuban people in their struggle against the U.S. imperialists, in defence of national sovereignty and socialist gains.

SOLIDARITY WITH THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

The working committee of the AITUC meeting in New Delhi on June 7th & 8th, 1990, reiterates the support and solidarity of the Indian working class with the people of Palestine and their struggle for independent statehood.

The working committee strongly condemns the increasing repression and killing resorted to by the Karachi forces in occupied West Bank territories to brutally suppress the aspirations of the people of Palestine.

Despite world public opinion ranged against Xx Israeli repressive policy, Israel is still enjoy the protection of the U.S. imperialists who are preventing any international action against Israeli highhandedness in the occupied territories.

The working committee likes to assure the Palestinian people of the continued support and solidarity of the Indian working class and trade unions with the just cause of the Palestinians for a homeland and for statehood.

RESOLUTION ON COMMUNALISM & NATIONAL INTEGRATION.

This working committee of the AITUC feels deeply concerned at the growing threats to national unity and integrity posed by separatist, divisive and communal forces in different parts of the country.

The situation in Kashmir has become very critical. The secessionist forces, brazenly backed by Pakistani rulers are making all efforts to detach Kashmir from India. They are forcing people belonging to minority community to leave Kashmir.

They are trying to paralise completely the administrative apparatus and are attempting to impose their own will on the people of Kashmir. To demand the abrogation of article 370 of the constitution in such a situation as is being done by the BJP and other communal forces amounts to helping the pro-Pakistani secessionist forces. The Working Committee endorses the setting up of the Kashmir Relief Fund and calls upon unions to send contributions to the Fund and carry out mass collection campaigns also to react our message to the mass of workers.

In Punjab, the pro-Khalistani terrorists have intensified their activities. They are trying to disrupt communal amity by killing innocent people at randon using sophisticated weapons. In both states, the Pakistani rulers are directly interfering by organising training camps for the extremists and supplying weapons.

Since last year the disruptive activities of ULFA in Assam have posed a serious threat to our country's unity with the potential danger of destabilising the North-Eastern region. The divisive forces are also active in various other parts of the country under different garbs.

HOMAGE TO MARTYRS

At a time when the country is faced with such serious challenges, communal forces have become very active. By launching poisonous propaganda these forces consciously plan to disturb communal harmony and to inflame communal riots.

They are making full use of the Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid controversy for their nefarious designs. The Vishwa Hindu Parishad's insistence to build a temple at the disputed site by demolishing the mosque is creating a dangerous communal polarisation which can lead to incalculable consequences.

The majority community which is the mainstay of Indian secularism is sought to be poisoned against the minority community by the Vishwa Hindu Parishad. As against the secular foundations of the Indian state which alone provides the basis for Indian unity, the concept of a theocratic state like Hindu Rashtra and Khalistan is being advocated.

These activities of communal forces have started vitiating the atmosphere in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and other states leading to riots which broke out in Ranchi, Nawadah and Bhagalpur in Bihar, communal incidents in Kanpur and Mathura in Uttar Pradesh and riots in Ahmedbad and Baroda in Gujarat. These riots highlight the impending danger.

Never before since independence has the threat to the secular democratic fabric of the country been so grave. The forces which are working to disturb communal amity, if allowed to be successful, will endanger the hard won independence and unity of the country.

If these forces are not given a strong rebuff they will be able to permanently damage the secular ediffice defice of the Indian polity and society.

It is the view of this convention, that the time has come for all the secular and patriotic forces of the country to units and resist this onslaught. Those who disrupt unity have to be exposed. National unity and integrity has to be preserved at all costs.

In this respect, the Working Committee asks the government to make full use of the media to propagate the ideas of secularism. The traditions of the national movement in forging unity against the foreign rule must be highlighted.

This convention feels that alongwith administrative measures, the government must take steps to find a political solution to the problems of Kashmir and Punjab in order to restore peace there.

FOR COURT VERDICT

This convention considers that the Ram Janambhoomi Babri Masjid dispute is a sensitive issue which affects the religious sentiments of millions of people.

Both the majority and minority community will have to act responsibility to see that either a amicable solution is arrived at through negotiations or both sides should abide by the veridct of the court.

This convention calls upon all sections of the people to denounce the communal forces and to rally behind the reasonable and just approach on the Babri Masjid/ Ramjanambhoomi issue and avoid communal violence which will cause untold sufferings to countless innocent families.

U.S. AGGRESSIVE POSTURES AGAINST CUBA

The democratic have the violantion of diplomatic immunity of the Cuban mission in Ranama and the attack on the Cuban merchant ship in the sea.

The latest in the series of hostilities are ~~xxxx~~ aggressive U.S. military manoeuvres in and around Cuba and the blatant media aggression from Miami and Florida, alongwith jaming of Cuba's own programme by sophisticated electronic devices.

The U.S. military exercises are being conducted not only in the sea but on the territory of the cuba itself.

The working committee of the AITUC strong condemns the U.S. actions and expresses its solidarity with the people of Cuba.

ON ADVANCE OF DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT

The working committee of the All India Trade Union Congress welcomes the achievement of Independence by Namibia after a long period of slavery. The release of Nelson Mandela after being imprisioned for 26 years is a victory of the democratic forces over apartheid.

The ban on political parties is lifted in South Africa and it is expected that the emergency will shortly be lifted. But the people have to be vigilant and continue their pressure till apartheid is ended and a democratic government is established. Recently there has been an upsurge for democracy in Nepal and the autocratic rule of the king and the socalled Panchayats has crumbled. A popular Government has been established and a new constitution is being drafted. The palace cliques and the conservative leaders of Panchayat system have not yet given up their efforts to defeat the democratic forces and return to the fascist rule.

In Burma for the last one year there has been a struggle for restoration of democracy. The democratic forces have won in the recent elections.

Thus with the thaw in the cold war a new upsurge for democracy is seen.

It is heartening to note that Prime Minister Hun Sen of Kampuchea and Prince Sihanaek have issued a joint communique appealing for end to hostilities. There

RESOLUTION

FOR REINSTATEMENT OF VICTIMISED RAILWAY WORKERS.

The working committee of AIFUC notes with serious concern that inspite of the announcement of the Railway Minister, Shri George Fernandes on the floor of the Parliament in March last that "cases of all those Railway workers who have been removed from service under Rule 14(ii) of the Railway Servants' Discipline & Appeal Rules, will be reviewed in their entirety and a decision shall be taken that will help to resolve this problem that has been bothering all the trade unions among the railwaymen", not a single removed railway worker has so far been reinstated to service.

The railway workers are greatly disappointed to see that his question of reinstatment of railwaymen who were removed from service by the previous Government for participating in trade union struggles, is hanging fire even after more than six months of the Railway Ministry being taken over by Shri George Fernandes who had been associated with the railway workers' trade union movement and specially with the historic railwaymen's strike of May 1974.

The working committee deplores this situation and urges upon the Railway Minister, Shri George Fernandes not to delay any more the reinstatement of those railway workers who were removed from service under Rule 14(ii) of the Railway Servants' Discipline & Appeal Rules and Article 311(2) (b) of the Constitution.

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ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS
24 CANNING LANE, NEW DELHI.

President: Chaturanan Mishra, MP
General Secretary: Indrajit Gupta, MP
Tele: 387320
386427

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CIRCULAR

DATED 11 JUNE 1990

To

All Officebearers of AITUC,
All Working Committee Members of AITUC,
All State Committees of AITUC.

A.I.T.U.C. WORKING COMMITTEE

Dear Comrades,

The working committee of the A.I.T.U.C. met at New Delhi on June 7th & 8th 1990. After adoption of condolence resolution including on the demise of Com. B.T. Ranadive President of C.I.T.U. and Mehta President of B.M.S. The Secretary of the AITUC Comrade Homi Daji delivered the report developments and also main activities from the last meeting. The report pointed out the closures and also closures 1 viable units, the price rise and new tax burdens. The report pointed out that the N.F. Government has withdrawn the Amendments to the Industrial Dispute Act and the Trade Union Act proposed by the Congress(I) Govt. Further the Government appointed a Bipartite Committee for preparing Amendments to the I.D. Act and the Trade Union Act. The Government has also introduced an enabling bill for workers participation in management and the revival of D.A. Committee for the Public Sector workers after the unilateral declaration of Rs. 1.90 per point by the Government which was rejected by all trade unions.

The officers of the public sector undertakings went on a day's strike on varying dates as their pay and D.A. are not yet settled. Better relations have developed between the Officers Associations and Trade Unions.

The Anganwadi workers, Transport workers, the Palledars of F.C.I. from Punjab offered dharna in front of the Parliament. The report noted the main weakness of the movement that the Trade Unions and permanent workers have not taken up the problem of Contract Labour abolition and

and absorption of the Contract Labour as permanent employees. They do not get even the same wages for same and similar nature of jobs.

The report further noted the growth of communal, secessionist and terrorist forces. The working class in the main remained united but communal riots were organised in industrial centres. Further a number of Trade Union activists in Punjab and Kashmir have been the victims of terrorism aided and abetted from across the borders by reactionaries in Pakistan.

There is a danger of escalation of communal tension with the programmes of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad regarding the construction of Ram Mandir on the site of Babri Masjid.

Working class has to be vigilant and in unity with other secular forces defeat the communal and secessionist forces.

Reports from Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Assam,, and Madhya Pradesh were circulated.

The working committee discussed the various clauses of the I.D.Act and Trade Union Act which are to be amended.

The working committee also discussed the problems of arising out of industrial sickness and the steps necessary to force the Government to see that at least viable units and units that can be made viable are re-opened.

Comrade Indrajit Gupta gave a report of the changes that have taken place in the trade unions in Eastern Europe, the problems that came up for discussion at the meeting of the World Federation of Trade Unions Vice-Presidents.

The working committee adopted resolutions on New Industrial Policy, Price Rise, Bonus, Solidarity with the people of Palestine and Cuba, the Independence of Namibia and the Advance of Democracy etc.

The working committee endorsed the setting up of Kashmir Relief Fund and appealed for collection of Kashmir Relief Fund. The secretariat appeals that 3rd July 1990 to 10th July be observed as a week for mass collection of funds for the suffering activists in Kashmir because of

terrorism. The meeting also appealed to unions to donate liberally to the Fund.

The working committee has urged all state centres to send the list of affiliated unions with the details as required in the proforma before 10th July 1990 for verification of membership of central organisations. The state committees should send a list of unions industrywise affiliated to AITUC, with the registration number, date of registration, address, affiliation number, date of affiliation, receipt No. of payment of affiliation fees and the number of members.

These details for the purposes of central verification should reach by 10th July 1990 positively.

The working committee considered the Amendments to AITUC Constitution proposed to be considered at the next general council meeting.

Comrade A.M. Gopu, General Secretary of the Tamilnadu State Council of the AITUC gave a detailed report of the preparations being made for the AITUC Session to be held at Madras from 7th to 12th August 1990. He wanted that the comrade, who want special hotel accomodation should inform earlier. Further if anyone wants return journey tickets they should send the money in advance. The accomodation arrangements by the Reception Committee shall be made from 6th to 13th August 1990.

The various Pension Schemes under consideration were circulated at the meeting for information.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

T.N. Siddhanta

(T. N. SIDDHANTA)
Secretary.

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

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President: Chaturanan Mishra, MP

General Secretary: Indrajit Gupta, MP

AITUC WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING

REPORT AND

INFORMATION MATERIALS

NEW DELHI, 7 - 8 JUNE, 1 9 9 0.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

24 Canning Lane, New Delhi-1.

President: Chaturanan Mishra,MP
General Secretary: Indrajit Gupta,MP

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THE AITUC GENERAL COUNCIL 1989 AND AFTER

- By Homi Daji
Secretary,AITUC.

The All India Trade Union Congress General Council was held in June 1989. It called for -

§ Building up united militant struggles to halt the employers' offensive in the form of closures and lockouts.

§ Observing Independence Day as a "Day Against Communalism and For National Unity and Integrity".

§ Struggle for adequate minimum wage for workers in the unorganised sector.

The All India Trade Union Congress has moved in the direction of fulfilling these tasks.

Closures are of various types. The most individious type of closures are to force the workers to accept service conditions adverse to the workers hard won gains.

We have also to distinguish between closures in in viable units and units which can be made viable i.e.closures due to financial or industrial reasons or as a result of the government policy.

The last type of closures are of non-viable units which cannot be revived.

While no general policy can be laid down a differential approach will have to be taken taking in view concretely the closures involved. The first type of closures which amounts to employers' blackmail will have to befought tooth and nail. In case of closures of viable units and that can be made viable concrete proposals will have to be worked out in each case. The community should also be involved in the movement for reopening of such factories.

contd..2/-

VIABILITY POSITION OF SICK|WEAK UNITS-END DECEMBER,1987

(Rs. crores)

Category	Sick SSI Units		Non-SSI Sick & Weak Units		Total	
1. Viable units	12484 (6.1)	389.50 (21.7)	613 (33.3)	1838.53 (41.3)	13097 (6.4)	2228.03 (35.6)
2. Non-viable units	186834 (91.5)	1284.99 (71.5)	847 (46.1)	1726.95 (38.7)	187681 (91.0)	3011.94 (48.1)
3. Viability not decided	4941 (2.4)	122.82 (6. 8)	379 (20.6)	893.61 (20.0)	5320 (2.6)	1016.43 (16.3)
4. TOTAL	204259 (100)	1797.31 (100)	1839 (100)	4459.09 (100)	206098 (100)	6256.40 (100)
5.(a) Units under nursing programme.	8470 (67.8)	287.48 (73.8)	381 (62.2)	1198.45 (65.2)	8851 (67.6)	1485.93 (66.7)

The number of employees registered with the employment exchange , has been growing and is now nearly 3.4 crores. The employment has not shown any mark growth. In the organised private sector in 1985-86 workers employed numbered 73.7 lakhs which rose marginally in 1988-89 to 74.7 lakhs. While in the public sector it was 21.54 lakhs in 1985-86 it fell to 22.09 lakhs in 1988-89. Thus as compared to 1987-88 there was a marginal fall of 0.23 percent. Thus the trend of new employment is rather bleak.

The workers have gone into sustained struggles against closures and lockouts, in many centres. Notably

- The workers of Goa went on a one-day strike and dharna on 15th January against closures of factories and non working of mines. Workers were assaulted and 12 workers were injured.

- Baroda also organised a one day strike against closures.

- Goa mine workers again went on strike against arbitrary and illegal retrenchment and closures.

- The Kanpur Textile workers organised successful 'Rail Roko' from February 22 to 26, 1989 against the orders of industrial tribunal's award for mass retrenchment.

In their fight against closures particularly in the private sector the trade unions have been showing ressillance and flexibility. In many cases before the BFIR our trade unions have had to adopt flexible attitude to secure reopening of the closed units. While fighting closures determinedly sometimes after years of struggle the workers get exhausted and have to retreat for securing the reopening of the closed mills.

Sickness in textiles mills continued unabated in 1989-90. According to an annual report released here on Thursday, about 35 spinning mills closed down due to sickness upto December 1989. The number is the highest in last 10 years.

The number of closures of composite mills in first nine months of 1989-90 was 56 against 59 last year.

The total number of employees affected were 165,084 against 185,855 last year.

While lacs of industries are closed, the total assets of 101 Giant Companies rose by 20.2 percent from Rs. 30,000 crores in 1987-88 to Rs. 36,060 crores in 1988-89. Sales increased from 25,888 crores in 1987-88 to Rs.31,069 crores. The profits rose by 34 percent to Rs. 3,171 crores. Four giant companies had assets exceeding 1000 crores.

Profitability Ratios

	1987-88	1988-89
Gross Return on total capital employed	7.9	8.8
Gross Return on Net Sales	9.5	10.5

The Top five (Total Capital Employed)		Rs. Crores
1. Reliance Industries	-	2411
2. Tata Iron & Steel	-	2055
3. Tata Engineering	-	1191
4. Larsen & Toubro	-	1057
5. J.K. Synthetics	-	974

Net Sales		Rs. Crores
1. Tata Iron & Steel	-	1668
2. Tata Engineering	-	1883
3. Larsen & Toubro	-	1085
4. Hindustan Lever	-	843
5. Reliance Industries	-	834

Gross Profits before Depreciation but after interest

		Rs.Crores
1. Tata Iron & Steel	-	276
2. Reliance Industries	-	166
3. Tata Engineering	-	131
4. Larsen & Toubro	-	116
5. Hindustan Lever	-	102

Top Ten in terms of Retained Profits - 1988-89

		Rs. Lakhs
1. Tata Iron & Steel	-	11038
2. Tata Engineering	-	4850
3. Gujarat State Fertilizers	-	3861
4. Reliance Industries	-	3308
5. Grasim Industries	-	2906
6. Century Enka	-	2825
7. Larsen & Toubro	-	2600
8. National Organic	-	2589
9. Brooke Bond	-	2354
10. Bajaj Auto	-	2187

Top Ten in terms of Net Profits -1988-89

Name of Company		Rs. Lakhs
1. Tata Iron & Steel	-	15655
2. Reliance Industries	-	7937
3. Tata Engineering	-	7924
4. Hindustan Lever	-	4900
5. Gujarat State Fertilizers	-	4876
6. Larsen & Toubro	-	4335
7. National Organic	-	4029
8. Grasim Industries	-	3967
9. Brooke Bond	-	3707
10. Tata Chemicals	-	3579

According to the Economic Times Survey, the results of 128 private sector companies for the half-year ended September 31,1989 show a substantial rise of 22 percent in net sales and gross profits have risen by 39 percent and net profit showed a smart rise of 50 percent.

Unorganised Workers:

The task of organising and fighting for the pay-scales and working conditions of unorganised workers was stepped up by our trade unions. A number of mass actions were organised for higher payscales and better living conditions. On 23rd September 1989 the N.C.C. organised a big All-India Convention of unorganised workers at Delhi which gave a call for observance of October 17,1989 as an "All-India Day to demand minimum wages above poverty line for unorganised workers and social security". The day was observed throughout the country.

Construction Workers:

One section of the unorganised workers which have come up remarkably well is the construction workers Federation. It has led various struggles including the two year-long struggle of N.P.C.C. workers. They have also held Bureau meeting of the Trade Unions International of Building & Construction Workers in New Delhi.

The Powerloom Workers in Bombay struck work for 42-days against closures and other demands.

The Biri Workers in Ahmednagar, Sangamner, Akola, etc. in Maharashtra went on strike on June 30,1989 against closures and other demands.

Anganwadi Workers organised a massive rally at Bangalore on June 8, 1989. The Anganwadi-Balwadi workers in Maharashtra held its all Maharashtra Conference in Bombay on 14 May 1989. This was followed by an All-India Dharna at the Boat Club on 21st March 1990 of about 2000 Anganwadi and Balwadi workers. This is a new addition to the unorganised sector of workers. All States should take up this work of organising the Anganwadi workers in right earnest. In Maharashtra Anganwadi workers held their meeting in Aurangabad on 21st May 1990.

The Engineering Workers of U.P. went on a 3-day strike from 28th to 30th August 1989. This was jointly sponsored by AITUC, CITU, HMS, UTUC and HMS.

In Punjab 25,000 industrial workers went on a token strike on 16th December 1989 for minimum wages, abolition of contract system and permanancy of service.

-5000 Bidi workers offered stayagraha in Bhopal before assembly for increase in Minimum Wages.

On May 16, Bidi Workers of Ahmednagar went on a strike.

On May 23, 1990 FCI workers from Punjab held a massive dharna on Boat Club against Contract System.

The All-India Textile Workers Federation submitted a detailed memorandum to the Textile Minister regarding the problems of textile workers. The Left Trade Unions organised a two days Conference of textile workers at Kanpur. Left and other Trade Unions jointly organised a one day Conference of Textile workers at Bombay.

They also held the international meeting on hazards in the textile industry.

AGAINST COMMUNALISM

As per the call of the AITUC General Council workers observed 15th August against communalism and for national unity and integrity. At many centres conventions have been organised during this period. But we cannot but accept that our work has lagged behind the needs of the situation. Our trade unions must take up this work more seriously and consistently to counter the evil designs of the communal forces who have not only grown aggressive but are on rampage. This has also affected large sections of the working class.

ALL INDIA STRIKE: Six all-India trade union organisations viz. AITUC, CITU, TUCC, HMS, UTUC, UTUC(LS) gave call for industrial strike on August 30, 1989 to coincide with the call for Bharat Bandh given by opposition parties. The AITUC working committee was convened and approved to give the call. The BMS opted out of this call on the ground that its policy is not to join up with political calls. However, it called for protest demonstrations on that day. The call met with mixed success. Many of our important industrial centres did not respond favourably because of various factors including political factors. This should call for serious self-criticism.

Elections to Parliament brought a new government to power at the centre. The government has made many promises including a new industrial law and participatory management. A committee has been appointed for drafting a new labour law. The law for participatory management has been introduced in budget session of the Parliament, and will be discussed at the next session. But the government is pledged to the elective system of choosing representatives which is welcome sign. A Bipartite Committee to draft a new law on Industrial relations and the Trade Unions has been formed. The Government is also committed to bring forth legislations to regulate conditions of work of construction workers and of agricultural workers.

Since the budget and hike in petrol prices and earlier hike in railway freight and fares in Railway budget, the prices are continuously on the rise with no sign of abatement.

The new industrial policy of the National Front Government, as announced by Shri Ajit Singh on June 1st, carries still further forward the former Congress Government's basically pro-Big Business and profit-oriented, elitist policies.

It is no wonder that the policy announcement has been enthusiastically welcomed by the chiefs of FICCI, ASSOCHAM and other employers' organisations. It is also to be noted that this is one area in which the Congress(I) "opposition" has neither criticised nor attacked the Government.

The policy is designed to open up a large new sector of industry to free enterprise at the cost of the public sector, to permit foreign equity participation upto 40% automatically, to delicence new units upto an investment of Rs. 25 crores in non-backward areas and Rs. 75 crores in backward areas and to increase the investment limit for the small-scale sector to Rs. 60 lakhs and upto Rs. 75 lakhs.

While generally supporting the intention to reduce bureaucratic controls and red-tape procedures, our Party is opposed to giving a further free hand to Big Business to go in for profit-oriented production for elitist consumption, without any obligations towards fuller employment and self-reliance.

The Indian monopolists are now pressing for still further concessions, viz. autoamtic enhancement of foreign equity upto 51 per cent, doing away with MRTP and FERA regulations, and stricter legislative curbs on labour. In other words, they want to give foreign capital a dominant control in industries of their own choice and to divert production to so-called "small-scale" units which are nothing but ancillaries of the big concerns.

This policy is against the national objective of strengthening the public sector, developing self-reliance, and preventing concentration of wealth in a few hands to the detriment of the public interest, as laid down in the Directive Principles of the Constitution.

Immediately on the formation of the new government the AITUC was the first to give memorandum seeking new labour laws and fighting the ceiling on Bonus and raising the ceiling of Income Tax. Our deputation also met the ministers concerned.

The CPSTU gave a call for direct action on DA on 24th May which was widely observed by wearing of badges, dharna and rallies, etc. Meanwhile the government, unilaterally gave an indecent burial to the D.A. Committee and unilaterally announced the D.A. of Rs. 1.90 per point rise in the Cost of Living Index. This was unanimously rejected by all central trade unions. Ultimately, the government had to bow to the pressure of the workers and again referred the problem of DA to the revived D.A. Committee.

Certain other important development in the field of T.U. movement needs to be mentioned:

- The All India Defence Employees Federation took out an impressive Morcha before the Parliament on 8th August 1989 against privatisation in defence industry.

- On 20th September 1989 Central Government employees took out an impressive rally to demand parity of wages with the public sector employees.

WORKING WOMEN:

We have been able to make some headway in organising the working women. Some centres held working women's conventions. Kerala and Andhra Pradesh held state conference. This was followed by an all-India signature campaign which was submitted to the Rajya Sabha by Comrade Indrajit Gupta.

- Primary and Secondary Teachers went on countrywide strike from November 16th, 1989 for the implementation of Chattopadhyaya Commission Report.

- Bank employees went on a successful strike on 11th August 1989 and 15th May 1990 for their demand which was a complete success.

- Press workers in J & K went on a strike on June 18,1989.

- 10,000 Food & Civil Supplies workers in J & K went on a strike and forced the Government to withdraw the order of handing over public distribution service to private sector.

- 7,000 Electricity workers demonstrated in Orissa demanding withdrawal of enhanced electricity tax on consumers. This is important because workers went into action in support of the common people's demand.

- Sugar workers throughout India held continuous movement for their wage rise including dharnas, one-day token strike, etc. The Wage Board appointed by the government gave an award giving very low wages. But the struggle of workers in different states forced the owners to accept higher wages than given by the Wage Board. - from an increment of Rs.40 given by the Wage Board the workers secured as much as Rs. 134.

OFFICERS' MOVEMENT:

A very important in this period is the movement of the officers of the public sector undertakings and their drawing closer to trade union movement. They had no service conditions and no forum for redressal of their grievances. About 52,000 public sector officers went on a mass casual leave on July 11, 1989 and one-day strike on August 20,1989, by IOC Officers. On 29th May more than 50,000 officers went on a one day's strike.

- The Oil Sector Officers went on one-day strike recently. This is a new development and the trade union movement must attend to it carefully. The officers have a dual role. On the one hand they are workers while on the other hand they are supervisors and are likely to come in conflict with workers. The workers must understand this dual role and establish rapport with them.

THE STRIKE OF TELCO.

The long drawn strike of TELCO workers in Poona once again brought home the rottenness of Industrial Relations System which foists unrepresentative Union of the employee with the blessings of employers which denies the right of the real representative unions to represent the demands of the workers. One can hope that the new labour legislation under consideration will do away with this system.

State Trade Union Conferences have been held in Himachal Pradesh, Assam, Haryana, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Orisa and are due in Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Some state committees have not held their conferences for years. Delhi is a big delinquent. We would request these states to hold their conferences as early as possible to rejuvenate the State T.U.Committees and bringing in the younger blood.

This has been a period of turmoil - victories and setbacks in the international sphere. A mechanical foisting of a particular model of socialism by 'Command Administrative System' has alienated the people. Of course the imperialists took advantage of this. But it is a fact that so-called revolutionary could not put up any resistance. The scenario in Europe is changed for the present. But one can hope that forces of socialism will be able to reassert in times to come.

For us trade unionists the cardinal lesson is that the trade unions are the first and foremost defenders of the interests of the working class. When they give up this role they addicate their essential functions, opening up their ranks to the opportunists and reactionary forces, they get alienated from the working class.

However it is a matter to rejoice to note that in the new international situation some gains have been made.

Afghanistan stands rock-like against forces of destabilisation, Namibia has gained its independence, Mandela had to be released after 27 years of incarceration, and the democratic movement had swept the dictatorship in Nepal.

However the scenario nearer home is bleak. Punjab problem is nowhere near solution. In fact the ambivalent attitude of the government has worsened the situation and encouraged the terrorists. In Kashmir the sin of omissions and commissions over years of misrule, underdevelopment and undemocratic methods have led to a situation of militant insurgency which is being fostered by the inimical neighbouring and foreign countries. The working class cannot afford to be a passive spectator but have to go into action in a big way to maintain the nation's unity and integrity.

Trade Unions face many problems arising out of new developments in industrial scene. Pension is becoming an increasingly urgent demand in the organised sector.

The Industrial Minister has categorically declared that the Government will not go for any new Nationalisation. Privatisation is being increasingly introduced in vital sectors like Airways. It is also introduced in consumer goods industries. What should be our attitude to the introduction of Technology? Foreign capital is being inducted. Can it be totally avoided?

The last General Council of the AITUC formulated that technology should be selective not repetative and demanded a national code for the introduction of technology together with the trade unions and retraining the workers to handle the new technology. This has to be reiterated. The approach paper to the 8th Five Year Plan seeks to give new direction to planning. It seeks to introduce industrial development in the rural areas. It also formulates that consumer industries should be mainly in the small sector. It lays correct stress on mass production of wage goods mainly in the small and medium sectors. The new industrial Policy announced on 1 June carries forward the policy of liberalisation with further relaxation of restrictions on Indian and foreign capital. The new Industrial Policy favours foreign equity capital upto 40 percent to be allowed unchecked i.e. irrespective of the area in which

it is brought in. The Planning Commission as for restricting foreign capital in areas where local know how is not available. There is also a move to induct private sector for reopening and running the closed mills, factories what should be our approach. Particularly in the present resource constraints faced by the Government. These are issues on which the trade union movement has to adopt a flexible attitude. Old rigid mores of thinking will not help to solve some of the problems.

New Delhi,
6th May 1990.

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NOTE ON PENSION SCHEMES

In almost all the public sector undertakings it is agreed that pension scheme will be introduced. In some undertakings it is also agreed that workers and management will each contribute two percent of the wages. In coal earlier it was planned that the family pension contribution out of Provident Fund which includes share of employer, employee and the Government at 1.16 percent each will also be included but the Government rejected.

The Government is planning to introduce a pension scheme under the provident fund scheme and three schemes are under discussion.

The All India Bank Employees Association has been offered Central Government pension scheme provided the employers contribution to the ProvidentFund goes to the pension fund. The C.I.T.U. and B.M.S. are arguing there that pension should be third benefit. In State Bank of India pension scheme existed earlier which is lower than the Central Government scheme. Subsequently the Gratuity Act was legislated and that had to be paid as per law. But the other Bank employees get higher rate of gratuity as it is based on an agreement.

The Electricity Board employees of Andhra Pradesh and also the Rajasthan Road Transport Corporation employees have opted for Central Government Pension Scheme. The Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation and the A.P.S., R.T.C. have gone for pension scheme based on 2 percent contribution each by the employers and the employees.

While discussions are going on in the provident fund board, there have been some discussions in the Sub-Committee in BHEL, and the joint committees in SAIL and Coal. In Indian Oil some scheme is worked out. But the B.P.E. has informed the managements that the Government is working out some scheme.

That scheme naturally also depends on what the Provident Fund Board decides because whatever is decided by the Provident Fund Board will be applicable to all the workers covered by the Provident Fund Act.

The first option available is to opt for the Central Government scheme. The benefits will be that the pension rates have been increased and D.A. is increased with the increase in the cost of living. The pensioner can immediately commute one-third of the pension and gets two thirds of the pension. If he lives beyond 15 years the full pension is again restored. Then there is the family pension and dependants pension etc.

The only condition will be that the contribution of the employer shall go to the Pension Fund. If a member has already drawn wither whole or part of the managements contribution, he will have to reimburse it in instalments in the remaining service or grom gratuity. But the worker will get pension for his full service.

L.I.C.PENSION SCHEME

L.I.C. has two pension schemes. One is that every month the contribution of both the management and the workers is deposited and depending on the amount and the years of service the pension rates are fixed.

The rates are calculated on the basis of accumulation plus 11 percent interest.

The second scheme is that the contributions are deposited with the trust which can earn interest upto the rate of 12 percent. In case of retirement or death the total amount standing in the name of the member is deposited in the name of the member and pension is paid on the basis of the amount is deposited and for the period for which pension is stipulated i.e. 5 years, 10 years, 15 years etc. It is not possible to earn higher interest as the amount is to be put in secured deposits.

The details of both these schemes are available.

In provident fund is considering a pension scheme inclusive of family pension or dependants pension.

1) Eight and one third percent being contributed by the management shall go to the pension fund. If the P.F. rate is increased to 10 percent the remaining 1.67 percent

will be deposited in the Provident Fund. The Government's contribution of 1-17% will remain in the Provident Fund.

The apportioned corpus of the employees family pension fund will be transferred as corpus to the pension fund and earn 8½ percent interest. The future contributions will attract 11 percent.

New entrants

An employee reaching the age of 60 years with 20 years of service will get pension between Rs. 1000 to Rs. 1500/-. Age of retirement below 60 but 20 years service may get about Rs. 1250/-. Age of retirement 60 years but service between 10 years and 20 years will get about Rs. 600/-.

Existing Pensioners

Future service pension

Age less than 50 years - $1/_{75}$ of pensionable salary per year of pensionable service Rs. 333 to Rs. 1500 per month.

Age between 50 and 55 - Rs. 300 p.m.

Age over 55 - Rs. 200 p.m.

On the basis other details such as family pension, dependants pension etc. have been worked out.

The expert group of the P.F. Board submitted two schemes 1) Minimum benefit scheme and

2) Maximum benefit scheme.

Minimum benefit scheme:

The scheme is proposed to be financed by a contribution of 5% per month from the date of commencement of the scheme, out of employees, employers and Government towards the family pension scheme @ 1.16% of pay for each i.e. a total of 3.50%.

The employers and Government contribution to the deposit linked insurance scheme (amounting to 0.75%) and the remaining 0.75% would have to be realised from employers and employees as additional contribution. The initial corpus of the fund for financing the scheme is to be created by diversion of the existing family pension

scheme and deposit linked insurance scheme.

This scheme envisages payment of retiring, disablement and family pension.

The proposed rates of retiring pension under this scheme are as follows:-

Age at the time of commencement of the scheme.	Rate of Pension
a) 50 years or less	16% of salary subject to a Minimum of Rs.200/- and Maximum of Rs. 400/-.
b) between 50 to 55 years	13% of salary sub. to a Minimum of Rs.200 and Maximum of Rs.325/-.
c) Over 55 years.	10% of salary subject to Minimum of Rs.200/- and Maximum of Rs. 250/-.

Maximum Benefit Scheme

For existing members	Rate of Pension
a) 50 years or less	33% of salary subject to Minimum of Rs.200/- and Maximum of Rs.825/-.
b) between 50 to 55 years	25 percent of salary with Minimum of Rs.200/- Maximum of Rs. 625/-.
c) over 55 years	20% of salary with Minimum of Rs. 200/- and Maximum of Rs.500/-.
For new members	Minimum of Rs. 500 and Maximum of Rs. 1250/-.

The financing of this scheme will require a contribution of 8.33% from the date of commencement of the scheme out of which 4.25% will come from the existing contribution and the balance of 4.58 percent will have to be realised as additional contribution from employers and employees.

The initial corpus by diverting the family benefit scheme and the deposit linked insurance.

The above schemes should be discussed and suggestions given to the Comrades on the Committees.

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BRIEF REPORT FROM KARNATAKA

In the last assembly elections held in the State Cong(I) came to power with a huge majority (Almost 184 MLAs out of 222 seats). With in this brief period, due to the expansion of the State Cabinet the Labour Minister is changed. Therefore, the Government has not come with its labour policy as such.

The Government has announced that it will privatise the public sector industries which are working under loss. Its implementation has already started. For instance, Karnataka Soaps & Detergents Ltd., is one of the oldest Public Sector Company, which is likely to become the victim of this policy. The Government wants to hand it over to Private Sector. We have been fighting against this along-with HMKP.

Another servicing industry viz., Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation is also being slowly privatised. Now nearly 70% of the passenger traffic is nationalised. During the period of Janata and Janata Dal Government because of our continuous pressure there was an expansion of the industry. But now the Government is giving permits to the Private Bus Operators in a massive way. Against this policy the AITUC affiliated to KSRTC Staff & Workers Federation has launched a state wide movement. On 19th February 1990 at 13 Divisional Centres, in the state, a day long Dharna was observed by the transport employees. This programme got good publicity in the press.

Though the Government has not pronounced its labour policy, still by some of its action the trend is discernable. As soon as this Government came to power, in its first cabinet meeting it announced that about 3000 appointments to the posts of teachers made by the local bodies under the dispensation of erstwhile state Government would be abolished. Naturally this came under attack from us and other trade unions. As a result of this the Government could not implement it. The State Government employees numbering more than 3 lakhs went on indefinite strike from 15 February 1990 demanding implementation of assurance given to their Association by the Government during the President's rule. These demands consist of parity in payment of HRA, CCA to Government employees on par with their counter parts of the Central Government, guaranteed

promotion, and so on. The strike was total in the entire state and was indeed unprecedented in its depth and sweep. Right from Peons upto Gazetted Officers and even Ministers Chauffeurs went on strike. The strike was absolutely peaceful. After 5 days the Government terrorised the Government employees leaders and the strike was called off. Under great resentment the employees reported back for work not before manhandling the state leaders. Police had to resort to lathi charge to save the leaders from the mass of employees. The demands however were not settled. Then the Power Corporation Engineers served a strike notice on the Karnataka Power Corporation. The Government of Karnataka banned the strike under ESMA.

In respect of the closed mills there is no effort on the part of the Government to reopen. In the matter of minimum wage sector, the new notifications were due for the last 2 years. We have been pressurising the Government to reconstitute the Advisory Board. But still as on date of sending this report, Board has not come into being. On 23rd and 24th of April 1990, our Plantation Workers Union organised a Dharna before Vidhana Soudha (Secretariat Building) demanding constitution of the Board and implementation of the settlement arrived at between the Planters Association and Trade Unions.

The Government has announced on the floor of the Assembly that it will stop sale of Toddy w.e.f. 1st July 1990. As a result of this nearly 50,000 Toddy Tappers, Vendors and other Staff will loose their jobs. What is to be noted in this is, this is an area where there is no investment of even a copper from the Government. Toddy trees are the nature's bounty. The Toddy tappers, tap toddy and sell it. The Government gets huge revenue. Still the Government has decided to stop the sale of toddy on the ground that adulterated toddy is being sold. As a protest against this policy of the Government, under the ageis of our Toddy Tappers Association more than 15,000 workers drawn from different parts of the State observed a Bangalore Chalo on 23.4.1990 and staged a massive demonstration before the Secretariat Building. The Government has given a vague assurance, but till now nothing in concrete has emerged.

Our Anganwadi workers Union participated in the Delhi convention of the Anganwadi workers. It has also implemented the programmes given by the All India centre. Our Anganwadi unit of Shimoga District staged a day long Dharna of nearly 500 women before the State Secretariat Building on 17.3.90 demanding a COD inquiry into the reported suicide of Smt. Sharadamma an Anganwadi worker.

May Day Centenary Celebrations were held all over the State. However, we have to make an observation, that the usual tempo was missing.

As per the call of AITUC, on August 15th 1989, hall meetings were held in some centres to observe the day of National Unity and Integration. Again as per the call of AITUC we had prepared a contigent for demonstration in Ayodhya on 7.11.1989. This did not subsequently materialise for obvious reasons. In the matter of closure of industries nothing worthwhile could be done. However, due to efforts of our Davangere unit (Chitradurga District Council) 3 closed textile Mills viz., Anjaneya Textile Mills, Sri Ganesh Textile Mills and Siddeswara Textile Mills could be reopened and about 1700 workers in all got the lease of life. We have agreed to freezing of DA at the pre-closure level. During this period of reportage, in Ramanagaram a suburb of Bangalore, the workers of Sri Chamundi Silk Mills numbering 700 went on 10 months strike and entered the factory after the settlement. Equally so the Government Silk Workers went on strike for 70 days (No. of workers 700).

By and large there have been settlements in a number of small units.

Beedi Industry in the State is in doldrums due to the steep rise in prices in Beedi leaves. Our State Beedi Federation is yet to meet to take stock of the situation.

Some of the Mini Cement Plants closed in Gulbarga and Chitradurga district are not reopened.

In respect of developing BKMU organisation in the state we have taken a decision to put 4 full timers in the rural areas. The State Committee of the BKMU is on the job. We are also preparing to hold a State Conference of the BKMU in Hubli shortly.

Our State Committee, opposing the higher salary limit for ESI has sent a protest letter to the Central Labour Minister.

Whatever quotas have been given to us in respect of the Workers Education programme has been duly met with.

We have submitted a memorandum to the State Labour Minister on 15th May 1990 in respect of some of the immediate problems that are agitating our minds, The memorandum contains as follows: (1) CLOSURE OF INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS (2) REVISION OF MINIMUM WAGES UNDER MINIMUM WAGES ACT (3) ADJUDICATION MACHINERY (4) IMPLEMENTATION OF CONTRACT LABOUR REGULATION, ACT, 1970 (5) EXEMPTION FROM EMPLOYEES STATE INSURANCE (6) NON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AWARDS AND PROVISIONS OF ACTS ETC. (7) EXEMPTION UNDER SECTION 9-A OF INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES ACT (8) AMENDMENT TO INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES ACT TO COVER TEACHERS IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS (9) EXEMPTION OF OPERATION OF I.D.ACT ETC. IN THE CASE OF MYSORE ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY, BANGALORE (10) MODEL STANDING ORDERS UNDER INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS STANDING ORDERS ACT (11) FACILITIES TO THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

On the organisational front, we recently, formed the District unit of the AITUC in Chikmagalur District. We have cleared to the AITUC centre, our quota of Rs.1 lakh to the AITUC Building Fund. At any given moment from the State centre we have reacted to the situation by issuing Press Statements. Normally we get good publicity in the press.

So far our relations with CITU is concerned it is none too happy. At the time of sending this report we are fighting CITU and BMS in Kirloskar Company - Harihar consisting of 3200 workers. Perhaps, in Harihar Gwalior Rayongs of Birla where 2500 workers are working, shortly we will be fighting CITU in the Union Elections.

So far as affiliation are concerned after the last AITUC State Conference we have remitted Rs.48,801.75 as affiliation fee . Still we are to collect affiliation fee from 119 unions.

We believe, in view of the ensuing AITUC Conference, our continued efforts to collect affiliation fees will give us good results.

We are holding the Sixth Conference of AITUC of the State some time in the month of November 1990 at Mysore. We are also holding the Third State Conference of the KSRTC Staff and Workers Federation in Hubli by the middle of December 1990. Probably in the month of July, 1990, we are holding the District Conference of Bangalore District Council. In respect of amendments proposed to the AITUC constitution shortly we will give our views.

Sd/-ANANTHASUBBA RAO
General Secretary.

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BRIEF REPORT FROM ANDHRA PRADESH

The State AITUC Working Committee met on 9.9.89 and reviewed the 30th August Bandh. It concluded that while the Bandh in the State was successful, the general strike was only partial. It gave a call for statewide Dharnas, in important centres, on 19.10.89 demanding 1) Industrial development of the State, 2) Revision of minimum wages for the unorganised sector, 3) against closures and lock-outs, 4) against Privatisation, and 5) for communal harmony.

The Unorganised Workers Convention held in September at Delhi in which about 60 AITUC delegates from Andhra Pradesh participated, also called for observance of Demands Day on 17.10.89. In Hyderabad and a couple of other places Dharnas, meetings were held on both the days, i.e. 17th and 19th October. In many other places both were clubbed and observed on 19th.

The State AITUC General Council met at Vijayawada on 25-26 February 1990. It discussed on holding District T.U.Conferences, organising the unorganised, clearance of affiliation dues, on Central Verification, holding of T.U. classes, etc. It also decided to hold Dharnas, processions etc. on 22.3.90 in as many centres as possible 1) against electricity cut, 2) against closures and lockouts, 3) for Rs.1250/- minimum wages and VDA, 4) permanency to NMRs and Contract labourers, 5) immediate revision of textile wages, etc. Accordingly Dharnas, meetings etc. were organised in about 30 centres.

The working committee met on 3.4.90 and planned for widely celebrating May Day Centenary. It also decided to hold Working Women's conventions at Hyderabad, Visakhapatnam and Guntur.

May Day was widely observed this year, in about 60 centres. Only in Kurnool, AITUC and CITU jointly celebrated. On this occasion own offices were inaugurated by our unions at Yerraguntla, Tanuku and Andhra Paper Mills Workers Union at Rajahmundry.

During this period conferences were held of the Singareni Collieries Workers Union and the Visakha Steel Workers Union. The conference of A.P.Cine Employees Federation was also held at Visakhapatnam (the federation is led by AITUC but also includes unions of other affiliations).

Regarding affiliation, 130 unions have cleared affiliation fees upto 1989 or 1990, and 198 unions have cleared upto 1988. We have sent lists of unions - district-wise - to responsible comrades in the districts. We have also sent circular to all affiliated unions directly informing them of their affiliation dues, and about the AITUC Conference at Madras as also the preparations they have to do for the Central verification.

Sd/- K.SRINIVAS RAO
Secretary.

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REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSAM STATE COMMITTEE OF A.I.T.U.C. SINCE JUNE, 1989 TILL MAY, 1990.

Since the last meeting of the Working Committee of A.I.T.U.C. held at Bombay on 2-6-89 the following developments have taken place.

1. Com. Diponkar Dutta, General Secretary and Com. Ananta Burman, Secretary of the Assam State Committee attended the meeting of the General Council at Bombay held on 2nd - 4th June, 1989.

2. A meeting of the General Council of the Assam State Committee was held on 29-9-89 at Guwahati. The meeting discussed the progress of the plan adopted to form new unions in Assam. It was found that only 6 new Unions were formed in and around Guwahati and it was decided to fulfil the target. The meeting decided to held the 9th State Conference sometimes in February, 1990 at Duliajan. The meeting also decided to raise fund for State Centre besides adopting Resolutions urging Government to fix Minimum wage as per declaration of the Chief Minister, Assam.

3. On 28.7.89 the Chief Minister, Assam declared that Government would fix minimum wages per day at Rs. 25/- for unskilled workers, Rs. 27/- for semi-skilled workers and Rs.30/- for skilled workers. When the proposals came before the minimum wage Advisory Board, the representatives of the A.I.T.U.C.(General Secretary) rallied all the workers representatives behind the rate announced by the Chief Minister though the representatives of the management submitted dissenting note. The minimum wages at revised rates were fixed in respect of 25 Industries and draft Notification in respect of 4 more Industries have been published as per announced rate of the Chief Minister. Some of the important Industries are Shops & Establishment, Eating Houses, Construction, Cotton Textiles, Hair Cutting, Bidi, Cement based Industry, Bucket making and Aluminium, Jute Bailing, Horticulture, Sericulture, Malaria, Brick making, Saw Mills, Printing and Petroleum distribution etc.

As regards Tea plantation, Government appointed a Committee is advise what should be the wage for the employees employed in Tea Plantation Industry. Government included a representative from A.I.T.U.C. but unfortunately he could

not attend the initial meetings. The General Secretary attended the final meeting on 31.1.90 and 1.2.90 at Dispur. In the said meeting the A.I.T.U.C. representative fought alone and demanded that the minimum wage including cash and kind component should not be less than Rs. 25/- per day. The management maintained that in addition to Rs. 13.10 (as on 31.10.89) per day, they were also supplying free fuel, tea leaves and rice and atta etc. at concessional rates besides providing other fringe benefit worth Rs. 16/- per day. After great debate the Cash value of non-statutory benefits have been fixed unanimously at Rs. 7.53 which means that daily wage is Rs. 13.10 + 7.53 = Rs. 20.63. Thus A.I.T.U.C. demanded that the enhancement of Rs. 4.37 to make it Rs.25/- per day. It was also agreed that in lieu of V.D.A. there should be a lump-sum wage rise in the 2nd and 3rd year and A.I.T.U.C. demanded that wage should be go up by Rs. 1.25 per day in the second Year and Rs. 1.25 per day at the third year. But the representatives of I.N.T.U.C. and Sram Parishad demanded the hike of Rs.3/- at the first year and Rs. 1.50 for second and 3rd year each.

The Chairman of the Committee eventually recommended a hike of Rs.2.20 for the first year and Rs. 1.15 for the second and third year each. A.I.T.U.C. submitted a Note dissent which was circulated to local papers.

4. During the period under review the Annual Conference of Assam Bagicha Karmi Union, Motor Transport Workers Union, Wood Workers Union, O.N.G.C. Workers Association, A.S.E.B. Tranport workers Union, Dibrugarh District of A.I.T.U.C. were held.

5. During this period 2 new unions in Silchar, One at Karimganj, one at Nalbari, One at Sibsagar, One at Nowgong One at Dhubri and two at North Lakhimpur have been formed. Process are under way to form One new Union at N.T.C. Unit of Guwahati.

6. A meeting of the working Committee was held on 22.2.90 to decide the venue and the date of the State Conference.

7. The 9th Conference of the Assam State Committee was held at Sibsagar on 28th - 29th April, 1990. Due to bad weather the representatives of certain Unions could not reach Sibsagar. Com.Chaturanan Misra inaugurated the Conference.

8. The State Conference set the tasks to expand in Tea, Oil, Coal, and Plywood. Industries in the State. The Conference also decided to set up Unions of un-organised labourers in every District Head Quarter. The other taks are: intensify peace movement: Rally secular forces against communalism; Struggle for implementation of labour laws etc.

9. May Day was jointly celebrated with I.N.T.U.C., H.M.S., A.I.C.C.T.U. (IPF) and APBEA. The CITU did not join us.

10. O.N.G.C. workers Association of Sibsagar was formally recognised by the Commission on 20.4.89.

11. Preparation for verification of Oil India Ltd. is going on.

12. A whole time workers from amongst the Tea Garden stock was appointed with monthly wage of Rs. 300/- p.m. for one year to begin with for organising A.I.T.U.C. Union in the Tea Gardens for the North Bank of Brahmaputra.

Sd/-Dipankar Dutta
General Secretary.

.....

OUR PROPOSALS ON T.U.ACT & I.D. ACT.

I. REGISTRATION:

1) 10 percent of the workers or 100 whichever is less should be members, so as to apply for registration.

2) No craft unions or caste unions.

II. OFFICEBEARERS CONNECTED WITH INDUSTRY

1) 25 percent of the officebearers can be outsiders i.e. non-workers.

2) ex-employee should be treated as employee.

III. TRADE UNION DISPUTES

The Intra union disputes should be democratically settled by conducting election through secret ballot. If 20% of the Members so demand the Election can be held under the supervision of the Registrar of Trade Unions or his nominee.

IV. DISQUALIFICATION:

There should be no disqualification for conviction under I.D.Act. The restrictions on strike are unjustified.

V. The officebearers and members of the executive may be elected for a period of two years.

B. I.D. ACT.

i) BARGAINING AGENT :

The union should be in existence for one year. Craft unions shall not be bargaining agents.

ii) The unions should have a minimum membership of 10 percent to be represented on the bargaining council.

If a union has a membership of 75 percent, it shall be the sole bargaining agent.

iii) All the Trade Unions with 10% membership and above shall be represented on the bargaining council in proportion to their strength.

iv) Any agreement to be valid should be signed by members of the bargaining Council in all representing 75 percent of the workers.

v) Bargaining Councils should be set up in all industries and establishments.

vi) The employers representatives shall be selected by the employers organisations for Industrial Bargaining Councils.

vii) a) a sole bargaining agent can sign agreements on general issues while the other unions express their views on general issues. But on issues related to their members they will have the right to represent and also reach agreements.

II. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTE

In the case of discharge, or dismissal or any other individual grievance the worker should have the right to directly go to the Labour Court.

In case of general disputes collective negotiations and the right to strike should be ensured.

II) Government should have no right to prohibit strikes.

Strikes and lockouts cannot be equated.

Lockouts and closures should be banned.

III. Industrial Relations Commissions should be constituted with a high court judge and panel of employees and Trade Union leaders.

IV. STRIKES

It the negotiations fail the workers should have the right to strike.

No difference between public utility and non-public utility.

C) 1) Vaydoot under Central Government.

2) All the employees except those who have the right to dismiss shall be treated as workers.

The definition of worker should also be amended so as include all. At present workers unskilled, skilled and technical and clerical are workers and hence supreme court held that teachers are not workers.

The provisions of the Act should come into operation on a notified date all over the country.

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PROPOSAL FOR FURTHER AMENDMENTS TO THE I.D.ACT.

I. Changes in the definition of the term "appropriate Government" in the I.D.Act, 1947.

Under the I.D.Act,1947,'appropriate Government' in relation to any industrial dispute concerning various industries specified in Section 2 (a)(i) thereof is the Central Government while in relation to any other industrial dispute, the "appropriate Government" is the State Government. Under the existing provisions, the Central Government is the appropriate Government in relation to an industrial dispute concerning "Indian Airlines" ,"Air India Corporation" and the "International Air Ports Authority of India". However, an industrial dispute concerning the "Pawan Hans Limited", the"Vayudoot" and the "National Airports Authority" falls in the state sphere. For the reasons indicated below, it has been suggested that these Organisations may also be brought under the central sphere.

(a) The Offices of Vayudoot Airlines and those of the Pawan Hans Ltd., are located all over the country. Since these establishments fall under the state sphere, any settlement brought about through the intervention of the state conciliation machinery is not binding on the employees of the said Airlines, namely, "Vayudoot" and "Pawan Hans Ltd.", employed in other states. If all the employees of the airlines are brought in the central sphere, industrial peace will be maintained by one agency, viz., Central Government and there will be no need to raise separate disputes in every state on the same issue.

(b) The National Airports Authority is entrusted with activities of managing all the airports of India except the International airports at Bombay, Madras, Calcutta and Delhi. The main functions of the Authority are air traffic control and provision of airport facilities. If the newly-created domestic services like "Pawan Hand Ltd." and "Vayudoot" are brought within the purview of the Central Government, it will be in the fitness of things if the National Airports Authority is also brought in the central sphere so that the whole of air transport service in India falls within the jurisdication of the Central Government; more so, when the activities of National Airports Authority are integral, incidental and complementary to the activities of the airlines.

(c) Another difficulty faced by the Central Industrial Relations Commission Machinery with regard to the jurisdiction under the I.D.Act is that the establishments mentioned under section 2(a)(i) fall in the central sphere only to extent of establishments of the principal employers, whereas State Government is the appropriate Government in respect of the contractors' establishments in the establishments of the Principal employers. The position becomes anomalous when a dispute pertains to the workmen employed both by the principal employer and by the contractors in the same establishment. It is understood that such disputes are frequently raised. As the activities in which contractors are engaged are incidental and complementary to the main activity of the principal employer, it might be expedient to bring contractors' workers also in the central sphere along with the workers employed in the establishments of the principal employers.

II. Change in the definition of the term "workman" in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

Section 2(s) of the I.D.Act, 1947, definess the term "workman" so as to exclude, among others, supervisory personnel drawing wages exceeding Rs. 1600/- p.m. This definition was revised by the I.D.(Amendment) Act, 1982 and came into force with effect from 21.8.84. Wages have risen considerably since then, both in public and private sector, as a result of the Fourth Pay Commission's Recommendations, wage settlements etc. so much so that even supervisors at lower levels are deprived of the benefits of this social welfare legislation.

As wages are increasing day by day in all spheres of Industries and the salary limit of Rs. 1600.00 per month in the I.D.Act has become unrealistic, it has been suggested that this wage limit in the case of supervisory staff be raised to at least Rs. 2500.00 per month so as to extend the benefit of the I.D. Act to supervisory staff at lower levels. In the Payment of Bonus Act,1965 and the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, and other Acts also this limit has already been raised to Rs.2500.00 per month. In a judgement dated 28.10.1987, the Central Administrative Tribunal, principal bench, Delhi had also recommended that the limit of Rs. 1600.00 per month in the case of the supervisory staff needs a change.

D.ENFORCEMENT OF AMENDMENTS TO THE TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926 AND THE INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES ACT,1947

The Industrial Relations Bill, 1978, provided for the following commencement Clause:

"It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification, appoint and different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Act and for different States and any reference in any such provision to the commencement of this Act shall, in relation

to any State, means the date on which that provision comes into force in such State.

Provided that where any provision of this Act has not been brought into force in any State before the expiry of a period of three years from the date on which this Act receives the assent of the President, such provision shall come into force in such State on the date on which the aforesaid period of three years expires."

The Trade Unions and the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 1988 provided for the following Clause:

"The provisions of Part B shall come into force

(a) in relation to Trade Unions whose objects are not confined to one State, on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint; and

(b) in relation to other Trade Unions, on such date as the State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

The provisions of sections 15,16 and 17 of Part C shall come into force at once and the remaining provisions of Part C shall come into force -

(a) in relation to any industrial dispute concerning any industry referred to in sub-clause (i) of clause (a) of section 2 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint; and

(b) in relation to any other industrial dispute, on such date as the State Government may by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

(Part B of the Bill provides for certain amendments to the Trade Unions Act,1926 while in Part C are incorporated amendments to the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

The proposed Sections 15 and 16 substitute long title and preamble to the I.D.Act for a new long title and a new preamble. The proposed Section 17 seeks to amend section 1 of the Industrial Disputes Act to re-name it as the Industrial Relations Act.)

E. List of some of the points for consideration.

A. Trade Unions Act, 1926

Registration of Trade Unions:

i) What should be the criteria for registration of a trade union of workmen?

ii) Whether registration of a trade union based on caste or community be prohibited?

II. Proportion of officebearers to be connected with the Industry:

i) What should be the maximum percentage or the number of office bearers of a registered trade union from among non-workmen?

ii) Whether an ex-employee should be treated as an insider for this purpose?

III. Trade Union Disputes:

i) Is there any need to provide for resolution of inter-union and intra-union disputes in the Bill?

ii) If so, what should be the definition of the terms "trade union dispute" and the mechanism for resolution of such dispute?

IV. Disqualification for being office bearers of trade unions:

What should be the period for which a member of an executive or an office bearer of a registered trade union may be disqualified in the event of his conviction for any offence under the proposed Act/I.D. Act, 1947?

V. Appointment of members of the Executive and other office bearers of a trade union:

What should be the period of appointment of office bearers/members of an executive of a registered trade union?

B. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES ACT, 1947

I. Identification of collective bargaining agents and establishment of bargaining councils.

i) What should be the criteria for eligibility of a registered trade union to be a bargaining agent?
(For example, a minimum period of operation, the question of craft-wise unions).

ii) What should be the percentage of membership/support for a trade union to be eligible for being a bargaining agent in an establishment/industry?

iii) What should be the scheme of recognition of trade unions for the purpose of collective bargaining?

a) Should there be a 'bargaining council' irrespective of the strength of membership/support of individual trade unions or should there be a sole bargaining agent if a trade union has more than a certain percentage of membership/support of the workmen?

b) What should be the strength of membership/support enjoyed by a trade union for being certified as -

1. a sole bargaining agent in an industrial establishment/industry where more than one registered trade union is functioning?

iv) Should there be a principal bargaining agent in a bargaining council, being the trade union having the largest membership/support of workmen in an establishment/industry? If so, what should be the strength of membership or support enjoyed by a registered trade union for being certified as a principal bargaining agent in a bargaining council?

v) Whether the concept of bargaining could/should be applied universally to all industrial establishments or be restricted only to industrial establishments employing at least a minimum number of workmen?

vi) How will the employers' representatives be identified for negotiating an industry-wise settlement? Similarly, how would the bargaining council be constituted at the industry level having regard to the fact that the dates of verification of strength of membership/support of trade unions in different establishments may be different?

vii) What should be the rights, obligations and functions of:-

a) a sole bargaining agent;

b) a bargaining agent and a principal bargaining agent in a bargaining council;

c) a bargaining council at the establishment/industry/state/national level?

viii) What should be the scope of the settlement reached at different levels of bargaining, namely, establishment/industry/state national level?

ix) When a bargaining agent is disqualified, how would the resultant vacancy be filled, particularly when the sole bargaining agent is disqualified?

x) The 1988 Bill stipulates that a registered bargaining council will be empowered to sign a settlement with the employers on behalf of the workmen.

What happens, if one or more bargaining agents refuse to sign the settlement?

xi) What should be the method of ascertaining the representative character of a trade union for the purpose of recognition?(viz. secret ballot, verification, check off). In case the method of secret ballot is favoured, should be electorate include all workmen or unionised workmen only?

xii) Who should conduct verification of the strength of membership of trade unions or ascertain the support of workmen enjoyed by trade unions in an establishment/industry?

xiii) What should be the period of recognition of a bargaining council/agent?

xiv) What should be the criteria for determining the size of the bargaining council in an establishment/industry?

II. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

i) Grievance settlement Authority and Direct reference of individual disputes for adjudication to Labour Courts

The 1988 Bill provides for direct reference of all individual disputes to Labour Courts:-

a) Whether the scope of such reference should encompass all individual disputes or be limited only to disputes concerning dismissal, discharge, retrenchment or termination of service?

b) Having regard to the fact that the rules for setting up of Grievance Settlement Authorities as envisaged in Section 9-C of the I.D.Act, 1947 could not be framed so far and also that it is proposed to provide for direct reference of individual disputes for adjudication to Labour Courts, whether the setting up of Grievance Settlement Authorities is still considered necessary?

ii) Power to issue orders prohibiting strikes/ lockouts and regulating terms and conditions of employment pending settlement of disputes.

The proposed Section 10-B in the 1988 Bill empowers the appropriate Government to issue orders regulating the terms and conditions of employment generally pending settlement of disputes.

Whether such power of the appropriate Government be subject to any restriction; if so, what should be the nature of such restrictions?

III. Industrial Relations Commission(IRC)

i) The 1988 Bill envisages setting up of benches of IRCs comprising one judicial member and one technical member. The Law Commission, on the other hand, has advocated a participatory model for setting up of IRCs in which the President drawn from the judiciary, will be assisted by an equal number of members drawn from the ranks of union leaders and employers' organisations.

a) which one of the above two models for setting up of IRCs is considered more appropriate?

b) what should be the mechanism for selection of the President as well as the members of the IRCs both at Central and State level?

c) what should be the qualifications of the non-judicial members of the IRCs?

ii) The Law Commission has recommended that in the event of a conflict between the decisions of the State IRCs, the matter can be withdrawn by the IRC at the Centre to be decided by it. The decision of the Central IRC will be binding on all State IRCs and Labour Courts. The 1988 bill does not contain any such provision.

Should any provision on the lines of the above recommendation of the Law Commission need be incorporated in the Bill?

IV. Strikes and Lockouts

i) Keeping in view the need to bring down the incidence of strikes/lockouts in the country, what should be the appropriate preconditions for resorting to strike/lockout in an establishment/industry?

ii) what should be the nature of such conditions in case of a public utility service?

C. Proposals for further amendments to the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

Changes in the definitions of the different terms in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

(i) Whether the suggestions to make the "Central Government" as the "appropriate Government" in the case of "Vayudoot", "Pawan Hans Ltd.", "National Airports Authority" and contractors' workers in the establishments of the principal employers covered by section 2(a)(i) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 may be accepted?

ii) Whether having regard to the increase in wages since 21.8.1984 when the wage limit in the case of supervisory personnel was last revised to Rs. 1600.00 p.m., there is justification for upward revision of the existing wage limit and if so, what should be this limit?

D. Enforcement of amendments to the Trade Unions Act,1926 and the Industrial Disputes Act,1947.

It has been pointed out that the 1988 Bill provides that each State Government which is the appropriate Government under the Industrial Disputes Act can appoint by notification a date on which the provisions of part (c)(other than sections 15,16 and 17) will come into force. This implies that different State Governments may specify different dates for enforcement of different provisions of the Bills. Moreover, it will be open to the States to introduce certain provisions of the Bill while omitting others. This may result in a situation of confusion particularly in respect of establishments which have units in more than one State and for which the State Government is the appropriate Government. It has, therefore, been suggested that the entire provisions of the Bill should be enforced simultaneously in all the States on a date to be specified by the Central Government.

Whether a maximum time limit may be provided in the Bill for enforcement of the various provisions of the Bill as was provided in the I.R. Bill, 1978 so as to ensure that all State Governments enforce the various provisions within a reasonable time?

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June 23, 1990.

Dear Comrade,

The Working Committee of the AIRWC is meeting on the 7th & 8th June 1990. As an important agenda will be the proposed I.R. Bill & T.U. Act in which you too are interested and your views will help us. You are specially invited to attend the meeting.

With greetings.

Yours fraternally.

(HOMI DAJI)
Secretary.

① General Secretary,
" L.I.C.
" G.I.C.
" AIBEA

Cons. O.P. Gupta, Cons. G.L. Dhar
Cons. Chandrashekar.

N. E. BALARAM

314 V.P. House,
New Delhi.

Telephone:3782485.

To

The Manager,
Kerala House,
New Delhi.

Dear Sir,

We desired to use your hall for a meeting on 7th & 8th June,1990. Kindly give us permission for the same and book the hall.

With regards,

Yours faithfully,

(N.E. BALARAM)

32

125 Periaswami Road
R.S.Puram
Coimbatore 641002

27 January 1990

Dear Indrajit,

I was quite surprised to receive your post card about the note for the petitions committee. I had sent you the note and all the papers you had given me more than ten days ago. However, fortunately I have a copy of the note I had sent - so I am sending it now and by registered post since I have no faith in the postal service now !

I have received a telegram from the finance ministry as follows :

> "FINANCE MINISTER WILL BE HOLDING PRE-BUDGET MEETING TO DISCUSS THE ECONOMIC SITUATION AND INVITE SUGGESTIONS (.) THE MEETING WITH TRADE UNION LEADERS IS SCHEDULED FOR SEVENTH FEBRUARY 1990 AT 10.30 AM (.) CONFERENCE ROOM NO. 72 NORTH BLOCK CENTRAL SECRETARIAT NEW DELHI (.) YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND (.) GRATEFUL FOR A LINE IN CONFIRMATION (.) GOVT WILL REIMBURSE AIR FARE IN RESPECT OF PARTICIPANT FROM OUTSIDE DELHI (.)"

I am writing to confirm as soon as I get the air ticket which will be tomorrow as I have to arrange the money for the ticket ! A mere Rs. 4400/-

I am arranging to reach Delhi on 5th February in the evening as I presume there will be a meeting of the AITUC members who have been invited to the meeting on 6th February. I hope so. I will turn up at the office at 10 a.m. on the 6th February.

With greetings,

Parvathi

February 5, 1990.

Dear Com. Parvathi Krishnan,

Comrades from Cuddapah District want you to inaugurate the Cement Workers Union Office at Yerraguntala on 1st May 1990.

The workers of Coramandal Cement Factory and other two Cement factories contributed ed Rs. 1,10,000 for the office.

I request you to give your consent so that they can proceed with the preparations.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

(K.L.Mahendra)
Secretary.

Comrade Parvathi Krishnan,
Secretary, AITUC,
125 Periaswamy Road,
COIMBATORE.

11.1.90.

Dear Com.Parvathi,

Comrade Indrajit Gupta had asked you to prepare a note on working women to be given to the Petitions Committee. This to remind you to send the note to us in duplicate early as the Committee wants to complete the work early.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

(HOMI DAJI)
Secretary.

Com.Parvathi Krishnan,
Secretary,AITUC,
125 Periaswamy Road,
R.S.Puram,
Coimbatore 641002.

W/C file

Corrected

32

AITUC RESOLUTION ~~(DRAFT)~~ adopted by the emergent meeting of working committee held on 11 Apr. 1989.

The Working Committee expresses its strong condemnation of the anti-working class and anti-people policies being pursued by the Rajiv Gandhi Government.

The unemployment situation in the country is going from bad to worse due to increasing closures, lock-outs, and retrenchment in the name of industrial "sickness" and so-called, restructuring by the capitalists, and privatisation by the public sector. More and more regular jobs are being farmed out to contract labour who are paid very low wages.

The working people are groaning under the burden of rising, prices of essential commodities. Millions of workers in the unorganised sector are deprived of their due minimum wages and are denied all legal protection. A fraudulent consumer price index has been imposed by Government despite opposition by all trade union centres.

Implementation of land reforms has been put in cold storage; the number of landless rural people is growing every year; small and marginal farmers are denied remunerative prices for their produce and remission of loans which they cannot repay.

Atrocities on S.C., S.T. and women are reported almost daily.

National unity and minority rights are seriously threatened by communal and separatist forces whom the Central Government and Congress(I) have failed to confront. No solution to the Punjab problem is being seriously attempted, while indiscriminate killings go on.

Instead of transferring more powers to the States, the existing powers of the State Governments are being encroached upon.

Undemocratic laws like NSA, ESMA, and Emergency provisions (anti-terrorist and disruptive activities, etc.) are being misused to suppress trade union and democratic struggles. The proposed new industrial relations and trade union amendment bills have not been withdrawn despite trade union opposition.

The Report of the CAG has exposed how the country's security is jeopardised through corrupt defence deals with foreign armaments manufacturers such as Bofors.

In order to resist and reverse these disastrous policies, the trade union movement is called upon to organise massive, country-wide mass protest actions, if the rights

and interests of the people are to be safeguarded.

At the same time, it is clear that these policies are inextricably bound up with the existence of the present Central Government, and no basic changes can be expected without dislodging it from power.

~~Hence,~~ The trade unions' policy have issued a call for an all-India strike action on the above issues, ~~and the call by~~ Some political parties have also given a call for ~~for~~ a "Bharat Bandh", demanding the Prime Minister's resignation, ~~are not contradictory but complementary to each other.~~ The situation has been further galvanised by the mass resignation of over 100. Opposition members from the Lok Sabha on 24.7.89 in protest against the Government's cover-up of the corrupt Bofors deal.

In this situation, the AITUC Working Committee calls upon the working class to unitedly carryout a countrywide industrial general strike on August 30, 1989, demanding the following:

1) Immediate end to closures, lock-outs, and retrenchment, and reopening of all closed factories;

2) Make the "Right to Work" a fundamental right under the Constitution;

3) Curb price rise, and guarantee a minimum living wage for unorganised labour, including the agricultural workers;

4) Implementation of land reforms, and remunerative prices and loan remissions for small and marginal farmers;

5) End atrocities on S.C., S.T. and women;

6) Stop discrimination against non-Congress State Governments and encroachment of the states' existing powers;

7) Defence of national unity, protection of minority rights, and isolation of communal and separatist forces;

8) Resist imperialist pressures on the Indian economy and their blackmailing tactics;

9) Punish those who have gambled with the country's security through corrupt defence deals like that of Bofors.

.....

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS
24 Canning Lane, New Delhi -1.

President: Chaturanan Mishra, MP
General
Secretary: Indrajit Gupta, Ex.MP

Telephones: 387320
386427

= =

21st August 1989.

To

All State Committees of the AITUC,
All Officebearers of AITUC.

WORK-DIVISION AMONGST AITUC OFFICEBEARERS AND FUNCTIONARIES

Comrade	Indrajit Gupta	General Supervision - International, Port & Dock.
"	Parvathi Krishnan	Plantation, Working Women, Copper
"	Homi Daji	Help Com. I.G., B.H.E.L. Aluminium, Finance and Affiliations - Paper
"	T.N. Siddhanta	Trade Union Record, Publications, Cement, Sugar, Chemical and Fertilisers, I.L.O. and T.U. Education.
"	A.B. Bardhan	Electricity, Defence (With Com. K.G. Shriwastava) Gas & Petroleum (With Com. Y.D. Sharma) Handloom & Powerloom, N.T.P.C. (with Com. Y.D. Sharma).
"	Gaya Singh	Steel, Engineering, Non-coal (with Comrade Sanyal).
"	Mahendra	Road Transport, Coal, Unorganised Sector - (Bidi with Com. Ratnakar) (Construction with Com. Deshkar) (Minus Powerloom & Handloom)
"	K.G. Shriwastava	Defence (with Com. A.B. Bardhan) and Pacific Region.
"	B.D. Joshi	Textile Federation.
"	Sanyal	Non-coal (with Com. Gaya Singh), representations etc. to Govt.

Homi Daji

(HOMI DAJI)
Secretary

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS, 24 Canning Lane, New Delhi-1.

President: Chaturanan Mishra, MP
General Secretary: Indrajit Gupta, Ex-MP
Telephones: 387320
386427

To: All State Committees of AITUC

14. 8. 1989

AITUC RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE EMERGENT MEETING OF WORKING COMMITTEE HELD ON 11 AUGUST 1989.

Dear Comrade,

The Working Committee expresses its strong condemnation of the anti-working class and anti-people policies being pursued by the Rajiv Gandhi Government.

The un-employment situation in the country is going from bad to worse due to increasing closures, lock-outs, and retrenchment in the name of industrial "sickness" and socalled, restructuring by the capitalists, and privatisation by the public sector. More and more regular jobs are being farmed out to contract labour who are paid very low wages.

The working people are groaning under the burden of rising, prices of essential commodities. Millions of workers in the unorganised sector are deprived of their due minimum wages and are denied all legal protection. A fraudulent consumer price index has been imposed by Government despite opposition by all trade union centres.

Implementation of land reforms has been put in cold storage; the number of landless rural people is growing every year; small and marginal farmers are denied remunerative prices for their produce and remission of loans which they cannot repay.

Atrocities on S.C., S.T. and women are reported almost daily.

National unity and minority rights are seriously threatened by communal and separatist forces whom the Central Government and Congress(I) have failed to confront. No solution to the Punjab problem is being seriously attempted, while indiscriminate killings go on.

Instead of transferring more powers to the States, the existing powers of the State Governments are being encroached upon.

Undemocratic laws like NSA, ESMA, and Emergency provisions (anti-terrorist and disruptive activities, etc.) are being

misused to suppress trade union and democratic struggles. The proposed new industrial relations and trade union amendment bills have not been withdrawn despite trade union opposition.

The Report of the CAG has exposed how the country's security is jeopardised through corrupt defence deals with foreign armaments manufacturers such as Bofors.

In order to resist and reverse these disastrous policies, the trade union movement is called upon to organise massive country-wide mass protest actions, if the rights and interests of the people are to be safeguarded.

At the same time, it is clear that these policies are inextricably bound up with the existence of the present Central Government, and no basic changes can be expected without dislodging it from power.

The trade unions' have issued a call for an all-India strike action on the above policy issues. Some political parties have also given a call for a "Bharat Bandh", demanding the Prime Minister's resignation. The situation has been further galvanised by the mass resignation of over 100 opposition members from Lok Sabha on 24.7.89 in protest against the Government's cover-up of the corrupt Bofors deal.

In this situation, the AITUC Working Committee calls upon the working class to unitedly carryout a countrywide industrial general strike on August 30, 1989, demanding the following:

1) Immediate end to closures, lock-outs, and retrenchment, and reopening of all closed factories;

2) Make the "Right to Work" a fundamental right under the Constitution;

3) Curb price rise, and guarantee a minimum living wage for unorganised labour, including the agricultural workers;

4) Implementation of land reforms, and remunerative prices and loan remissions for small and marginal farmers;

5) End atrocities on S.C., S.T. and women;

6) Stop discrimination against non-Congress State Governments and encroachment of the states' existing powers;

7) Defence of national unity, protection of minority rights, and isolation of communal and separatist forces;

8) Resist imperialist pressures on the Indian economy and their blackmailing tactics;

9) Punish those who have gambled with the country's security through corrupt defence deals like that of Bofors.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

(T.N. SIDDHANTA) Secretary.

AITUC RESOLUTION (DRAFT)

The Working Committee expresses its strong condemnation of the anti-working class and anti-people policies being pursued by the Rajiv Gandhi Government.

The unemployment situation in the country is going from bad to worse due to increasing closures, lock-outs, and retrenchment in the name of industrial "sickness" and so-called, restructuring by the capitalists, and privatisation by the public sector.

The working people are groaning under the burden of rising, prices of essential commodities. Millions of workers in the unorganised sector are deprived of their due minimum wages and are denied all legal protection.

Implementation of land reforms has been put in cold storage; the number of landless rural people is growing every year; small and marginal farmers are denied remunerative prices for their produce and remission of loans which they cannot repay.

Atrocities on S.C., S.T. and women are reported almost daily.

National unity and minority rights are seriously threatened by communal and separatist forces whom the Central Government and Congress(I) have failed to confront. No solution to the Punjab problem is being seriously attempted, while indiscriminate killings go on.

Instead of transferring more powers to the States, the existing powers of the State Governments are being encroached upon.

Undemocratic laws like NSA, ESMA, and Emergency provisions (anti-terrorist and disruptive activities, etc.) are being misused to suppress trade union and democratic struggles. The proposed new industrial relations and trade union amendment bills have not been withdrawn despite trade union opposition.

The Report of the CAG has exposed how the country's security is jeopardised through corrupt defence deals with foreign armaments manufacturers such as Bofors.

In order to resist and reverse these disastrous policies, the trade union movement is called upon to organise massive, country-wide mass protest actions, if the rights

and interests of the people are to be safeguarded.

At the same time, it is clear that these policies are inextricably bound up with the existence of the present Central Government, and no basic changes can be expected without dislodging it from power.

Hence, the trade unions' call for an all-India strike action on the above issues, and the call by some political parties for a "Bharat Bandh", demanding the Prime Minister's resignation, are not contradictory but complementary to each other. The situation has been further galvanised by the mass resignation of over 100. Opposition members from the Lok Sabha on 24.7.89 in protest against the Government's cover-up of the corrupt Bofors deal.

In this situation, the AITUC Working Committee calls upon the working class to unitedly carryout a countrywide industrial general strike on August 30, 1989, demanding the following:

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8) Resist imperialist pressures on the Indian economy and their blackmailing tactics;

9) Punish those who have gambled with the country's security through corrupt defence deals like that of Bofors.

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ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

24 Canning Lane,
New Delhi-1.

President: Chaturanan Mishra, MP
General Secretary: Indrajit Gupta- Ex-MP.

28 July, 1989.

MEETING OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE ON 11th AUGUST '89.

Dear Comrade,

An emergency Working Committee meeting will be held at AITUC Office on 11th August at 3.00 p.m.

You are requested to attend the same without fail.

AGENDA:

(1) To consider the proposal of Bharat Bandh on 30th August 1989.

We hope considering the importance of the agenda you will ensure your presence at this very important meeting.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Indrajit Gupta

(INDRAJIT GUPTA)
General Secretary.

Homi

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Coimbatore
28 April 1989

Dear Comrades Indrajit and Homi,

I had been to Delhi for the wage negotiations of Hindustan Copper Limited and had come to the AITUC office hoping to meet both or either of you, but unfortunately, could not do so. The points I wanted to discuss with you were :

1. The women's commission of the WFTU had suggested that the WFTU should issue an appeal for the Vth international conference on working women to be held in Sofia. I inquired from Ramdhari and Bulu but neither of them was aware whether such an appeal has reached the AITUC, though Ramdhari had a vague recollection about it. Please do go through your papers and if you have received it I think it should be sent to the state committees to be translated and printed and used widely during the signature campaign of the petition to parliament.

2. As I had learnt, we are to be given only one ticket to the conference. Of course this is hardly adequate and I feel also indicates a lack of seriousness regarding the conference which I could sense earlier also. However, if it is only one ticket we have to manage a couple more. Usually we have an invitation to send comrades for a holiday to Bulgaria and it is usually about August/September. If such an invitation is there for this year also you might consider adjusting the dates with the Bulgarian comrades and select two suitable woman comrades who can then stay on for the conference.

3. Comrade Bulu expressed to me that she felt it would be a good opportunity to have an all-India convention on working women in Delhi at the time of presenting the petition to parliament. I had not given much thought to it. However, I asked her to go into the mechanics of it (i.e. budget provision for accomodation, feeding, etc.) and give it to the secretariat so that you could take a decision on it. My own reaction is that what should be concentrated on is the demonstrations at the state capitals on the same day which I had included in the note I sent earlier. I personally feel that those actions would yield more results as it would entail organising the working women at the base on a larger scale in support of the petition. At the stage that the movement is today, such demonstrations would be more representative, and would entail mobilising rank and file workers. I had discussed this with Homi at Calcutta. A similar demonstration or dharna would of course be organised at Delhi also on that day. If we go in for an all-India convention, then leading cadre would be drawn away from the states who should be involved in the state capital demonstrations. I hope you will consider the proposal from all angles, including financial. Sending delegations to Delhi would involve heavy expenditure for the state committees. The matter can be finalised at the meeting of the general council in June.

4. I also wished to apologise to Homi for being absent on the 20th meeting. Being the season of school holidays in the south, I could not get any reservation at all for coming there. I did want to be there as I had some points to make which could not be sent by post. I heard from Comrade Mahendra of the decisions/outcome of the meeting. Some of the points I had in mind appear to have been raised and discussed. In any case I can discuss these with you when we next meet.

With greetings,
Pasu a Nair

Comrade Indrajit Gupta M.P.
General Secretary
All India Trade Union Congress
24 Canning Lane
NEW DELHI 110001

April 27, 1989.

To

All office-bearers of AITUC.

Dear Comrade,

A meeting of the office-bearers of the A.I.T.U.C. will be held at Bombay on 1st June '89 at 4 P.M. All office-bearers are requested to reach in time. They will be met at Dadar Station by T.U.C. Volunteers. Even then it would be better to inform the Maharashtra State T.U.C. of the train of your arrival.

The Agenda of the meeting will be:

(1) The General Council meeting and concretisation of programme of action.

(2) Division of work between Secretaries

(3) Election of Treasurer and Secretary.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Homi Daji

(HOMI DAJI)
Secretary.

Address of Maharashtra State Committee, AITUC
17 Dalvi Building,
Dr. Ambedkar Road, Parel Naka,
BOMBAY 400012.

Cable : "AITUCONG"

Telephone : 386427
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अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन कॉंग्रेस
ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS
24, CANNING LANE, NEW DELHI - 110001

President : CHATURANAN MISHRA M.P.
General Secretary : INDRAJIT GUPTA M.P.

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April 27, 1989.

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Yours fraternally,

Homi Daji

(HOMI DAJI)
State Secretary.

Address of Maharashtra T.U.C

Maharashtra State Committee of the AITUC,
17 Delvi Building
Dr. Ambedkar Road, Parel Naka,
BOMBAY 400012.

Telephones: 413 3673 and 413 1608.

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February 8, 1989.

Dear Comrade Parvathi,

Hope you are free now.

As per decision of the Working Committee you are to send a note on the Working Women's movement on which the States are to take actions and build up their organisation for a militant movement. Hence please send it immediately so that we can circulate it to the States. Also send a draft of the proposed petition to Parliament. So that the same can be submitted by May.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

(HOMI DAJI)

INTUC turns govt's critic

NEW DELHI, Jan.12.

Among the central trade union organisations, the Congress-sponsored Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC) has turned the staunchest critic of the government's policies on labour.

It demonstrated its intentions at a recent pre-Budget meeting of labour leaders called by the finance minister, Mr.S.B.Chavan, where its critical tone was sharper than the others,the leftists included,according to details available here today.

Intuc roundly critised the Direct Taxes (Amendment)Bill 1988, rising prices, stagnant wages, low dearness allowance,stalled wage negotiations in the public sector, policies of the Bureau of Public Enterprises, growing unemployment and industrial sickness.

Opposing the Direct Taxes Bill, it said the amendment seeking to bring all allowances and benefits granted for the performance of duties into the ambit of the term income as well as the provision to give the amendment a retrospective effect,are "draconian." It said there has been no let up in the price spiral. The consumer price index has been consistent in its upward trend. The index, with 1960 as the base year, shot up from 329 in 1978 to around 800 in October 1988. The rate of inflation in October was 9.7 per cent and "Sri Lanka is the only Asian country to register a higher rate of inflation."

The "Annual practice" of increasing the administered prices of coal, steel, petroleum products, railway passenger fare and freight, has the chain reaction of adding to the prices of essential commodities.

"Because of the government's pursuit of adhocism in its wage policy, there is utter chaos in the wage situation in the country." There is wise disparity in the wage structure from region to region,from sector to sector and even within an industry.

The recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission and their acceptance by the government have made the situation "more chaotic." There is now the report of the Misra Committee with regard to the wage structure of a section of the public sector employees.

"All these are due to the failure of the Union government to formulate definite policies and control prices. A realistic wage policy that would strike a balance between the wage in the organised and unorganised sectors has become imperative."

The wage negotiations in all public sector industries, particularly in the core sector industries like coal,steel and BHEL are "exasperatingly dragging on "because of the "uncalled for interference of the Bureau of Public Enterprises." The government, it said, will do well to advise BPE against such "back seat driving."

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The BPE should be brought back to function under the control of the finance ministry and the INTUC's demand for revamping BPE to include experts in various disciplines of management-labour expert not exluded- should be conceded without delay.

"The Bureau should be rid of bureaucratic control.", INTUC declared.

The problem of unemployment and underemployment has been growing alarmingly year after year. Though the thrust of the Seventh Plan and the economic policies is on poverty alleviation and employment generation,there has been no "Appreciable headway" on the employment front which is due to the "lack of a national policy on employment."

The gravity of the unemployment problem is being aggravated by the increasing incidence of sickness in industries and consequent closures and joblessness.

INTUC said there can be no two opinions that higher productivity is the need of the day. "But we cannot subscribe to the loud talk of productivity-linked wages for workers as if labour alone is responsible for improving productivity involves a number of factors and linking wages to productivity in our country is not practicable."

From THE ECONOMIC TIMES, DELHI, dated JANUARY 13, 1989.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

24-Canning Lane,
New Delhi-1
Dated 13-1-1989.

To
All Office Bearers.
All State Committees.

Reminder regarding Subscriptions to T.U.Record/AITUC Samvad.

Dear Comrade,

This is to remind you of the decision of the Working Committee that every union must send the annual subscription of Rs.20/- for either T.U.Record or AITUC Samvad. Without this affiliation shall not be granted. Please inform all Unions accordingly and ensure compliance.

It was also decided that all members of the General Council of AITUC will enroll as subscribers of either of the journals.

Please ensure that they do so.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

(Homi Daji)
Secretary.
