

## **Dr. Raj Bahadur Gaur, Hyderabad**

Dr. Raj Bahadu Gaur was born on 21st July 1913 in Gowlipura, Hyderabad City, now in Andhra Pradesh. His father's name was Rai Mahboob Rai Gour. Raj Bahadur Gaur's forefathers lived in Faizabad district of U.P. His grandfather came down to Hyderabad in around 1850, and was in royal service. Raj Bahadur's mother came from Benaras district of U.P. He still has a large number of relatives in U.P. His father worked in Salarjung State.

Raj Bahadur Gaur was first married to Sanjogita of Azamgarh district in 1939. But this kdid not kwork as he was involved in politics. He later married Brij Rani in 1948. After primary education, he passed 6th standard from Shalibanda Middle School in 1932. He matriculated from Govt. High School, Chaderghat in

1936 in first division. He joined the Osmania Medical College in 1938, enjoying both a freeship and a scholarship. He competed his MBBS in September 1943. He simultaneously had tremendous literary tastes.

In Osmania Medical College, Raj Bahadur became the Vice-President of the Union in 1941.

### **Entry into Politics:**

State Congress started Satyagraha for civil liberties and popular govt. in 1937-38. Raj Bahadur Gaur was attracted to it, and even offered to go to jail. But in the Satyagraha was called off. Consequently, the youth got frustrated and started looking for new path. It was around this time that Comrades' Association was formed. Raj Bahadur joined the Communist Party in 1939. At one time he had attended Arya Samaj meetings too, but ideological exchanges resulted in drifting away from it. In the meantime, he had begun reading marxist literature.

In 1941 Raj Bahadur got into Andhra Mahasabha and joined its city branch. He was also associated with the student movement, organising solidarity movement in Medical College. He participated in several other student political activities. He attended several AISF conferences.

### **In Trade Union Movement:**

Raj Bahadur got in touch with the TU movement in the city of Hyderabad when railway strike took place in 1940. He was associated with the Old Mills' Union (Hyderabad Spinning and Weaving Mills Workers' Union) in 1943. He also got associated with the

DBR mills around the same time. He went to Warangal and Nanded even as a student, when the textile workers struck in 1942. Raj Bahadur Gaur was associated with Shahbad Cement Workers' Union, Allwyn Metal Workers' Union in 1944 and MSK mills workers' union, Gulbarga, 1946. In addition, he was associated with a number of other unions at several places in the state. He was an active organiser, and later leader, in the City Trade Union Movement.

In the meantime, the idea of a Central Trade Union Organisation was gaining ground since Aurangabad Labour Conference in 1938. Raj Bahadur had attended it as a student. Ultimately, a committee was formed in 1945 at a meeting of TU leaders in Aurangabad.

All Hyderabad Trade Union Congress was formally inaugurated by N.M. Joshi in August 1946 in Secunderabad. Raj Bahadur was arrested, after sometime, in November 1946 and sent to Hyderabad Central Jail. But he, along with Jawed made a sensational escape from the jail via Osmania Hospital,

He ultimately went to Guntur, where a strike of the municipal workers was going on. He attended the 2nd Congress of the CPI in Calcutta in Feb. 1948. By the decision of the Congress, party and TU organisations went underground, and Raj Bahadur too began to function from the underground. He did a lot of work to help the famous Telangana armed struggle going on at that time. He took to Rajkondo Hills in 1950, and was arrested April 1951. Before this, he remained in contact via Dr. Jaisoorya with the govt. to negotiate withdrawal of armed struggle. He was in favour of negotiated withdrawal of the struggle.

Raj Bahadur was released in May 1952 after he was elected to the Rajya Sabha, Dr. Radhakrishnan insisted on his release.

He relinquished the general secretaryship of the State TUC. At the same time, after 1952, he remained closely associated with the movement. He was elected secretary of the AITUC in 1958 in Ernakulam. Before this, he was the Treasurer of the AITUC. He was elected the president of Singarani Collieries workers union in 1963. He became the vice-President of the AITUC in 1986. This post he relinquished in Madras session of the AITUC in 1990.

After Makhdoom's death in 1969, Raj Bahadur was elected President of APSTRC Employees' Union. He was also the president of Andhra Pradesh Bank Employees Federation since 1956. He was elected General Secretary of the A.P. State Council of AITUC around 1962.

He has traveled all over the country abroad extensively in connection with the TU work. At present he is holding no posts in the TUC.