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**M.C.NARSIMHAN-**

He was a BSC with 2 years in Civil Engineering degree in 1941 to 1943. It was during that period that he came into contact with the underground communist movement in Karnataka that was being led by M.S.Krishnan. It was under his leadership that M.C.Narshimhan participated in the Quit India movement. During that period he also edited a small paper. After the Quit India movement was over he along with other friends and comrades joined the Vishveshvaraya Engineering College and started the AISF there it was during that period that he became a member of CPI. There in 1942-43 period M.C.Narshimhan under the leadership of one comrade N.U.Upadhya became a whole timer and started work for collection for the Bengal Famine under the AISF. In 1943 M.C.Narsimhan

became a whole timer and came into touch with two TU leaders of Kolar Gold Fields(KGF).

In 1945-46 he was among those of the AITUC who organised a 2 month general strike at KGF. The strike was anti-British. Next he organised the domestic workers of the British employees then in India. It was after this that M.C.Narsimhan as a result of their TU work in Kolar Gold Fields that the British government externed them from Mysore and so he landed in Bangalore and started TU work from there. There he started work among Textile workers till he was detained in 1948 as a result of the 'armed struggle' line of the CPI against the Nehru government. From 1948 to 49 he was jailed. After his release in 1949 and relaxation on the CPI he went back to the KGF mine workers most of whom were Scheduled Castes and formed the SC Association and SC Federation. M.C.Narsimhan got elected as MLA from 1957 to 1962. Then from 1962 to 1968 he became member of Legislative Council. As M.C.Narsimhan continued his TU and political work he organised many unions in many sectors like textiles, plantation workers in Chikmangloor and Haassan. Then he became office bearer of various unions like – Davagere Cotton Mill Employees Association, Siddheshwara Mill Employees Union, Sri. Ganesh Textile Mills Association, Shankar Textile Mill Association, Chigatheri Mills Association, Anjaiah Mills Association. Then M.C.Narsimhan became President of Davangere Municipal Council which is now a corporation. Then he was also office bearer of the Mysore Kirloskar Employees Association. Then he was leader of various unions in South Kannara in Manglore area like Tile workers, Cashew workers, Hotel workers, Beedi workers. The other unions were in Belgaum i.e India Aluminium Company, and under it Pot Room Workers Union. In Mysore he was associated with Engineering and Textiles. In M.S.K.Mills in Mysore. In 1970s M.C.Narsimhan got associated with the Karnataka State Transport Corporation workers and their struggles. The other companies whose unions he led were like the Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), MICO spark plugs company, Indian Tobacco Company (ITC). As regards TU movement in Karnataka M.C.Narsimhan said Congressmen were its pioneers even before Communists got in but later with Congressmen getting more interested in state power most of the TU movement passed into the hands of either Socialists or Communists. M.C.Narsimhan is now working as a senior lawyer in the High Court and apart from that he is still associated with many unions at the ripe old age of over 80 years and is very healthy and continues to come daily to the TU office. He remains hopeful about the destiny of the TU movement and the working class. The current phase of downturn will not go on forever. He still believes that

revolution will come in India. In that sense he seemed an optimist with a lot of zest for life even when he is above 80.

 M.C.NARSIMHAN, Bangalore.

M.C.Narsimhan's interview is also one of the more significant interviews like Parvati Krishnan and K.C.Matthews as he was also a freedom fighter who got involved in the Quit India movement. His narration is important in terms of the fact that it gives important light to the struggle of the mine workers of the Kolar Gold Fields which was a big gold mining area under British Indian companies. He got involved in the KGF workers struggle along with leaders like K.S.Wasan and B.M.Govindan and Upadhaya. He talked about the Mysore Mill Labour Association. Then he talked about his work with plywood workers, silk workers. Narsimhan also talked about his election as MLA from the KGF constituency area. He narrated also the struggles of the many textile mill unions with which he was associated. Then the Kirloskar union, the plantation unions, Cashew unions, hotel workers unions, beedi workers unions, all across Mysore, Bangalore, Hubli, Davagere, Gulbarga and other industrial towns of Karataka. Then the engineering unions, aluminium unions, BEL union, MICO, ITC and a whole lot of other unions. Narsimhan's narrative of the TU movement is moving and engaging in its breath and depth.