

ଦୁର୍ଗାଚରଣ ମହାନ୍ତି

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D. C. Mohanty

General Secretary,  
Utkal State Committee  
All India Trade Union Congress.

Gopabandhu Nibas  
Badambadi,  
Cuttack-1

at 7/4 Asstt. Rd.

Ref.

A. I. T. U. C.  
Received... 41.2.3... 7/9/66  
Replyed... 134

Date 4/9.

I am herewith a news  
letter - Please see that these  
are published in TVR and  
New Age. You please send  
a copy to New Age.

I am going away  
today.

Hope to meet you  
soon.

With greetings  
Drabhabally  
D. C. Mohanty

Struggling <sup>Orissa</sup> workers' <sup>glorious</sup> struggle

Important Concessions achieved.

The workers of ~~the~~ Orissa led a glorious struggle during the last month and achieved important Concessions.

The Press workers of Cuttack were at the forefront of the struggle - ~~for~~ 1500 workers of 86 ~~print~~ printing Presses including those of 8 five Oriya daily papers of Orissa and one English daily from Cuttack demanded a ~~new~~ enhanced wage scale and a flat D.A. of Rs 40 ~~per month~~ per month.

The Printers Association and all other employers refused to accept the demand of the union.

The union gave the ultimatum that if the demands were not accepted by the end of July the workers would resort to direct action - ~~The~~ ~~Government~~ The Govt in the Labour department intervened and Conciliation was started. Then also the employers only did not accept the demands and

came out with the threat the cost of all materials in the newspaper industries in particular and in the printing industry in general has gone up making it impossible to accept a rise in the wages -

~~As a~~ The union decided on a protest one day strike on 17th August and if ~~nothing~~ ~~was~~ the demands are still not accepted would resort to an indefinite strike. The Govt and the employers including including the newspaper proprietors such as Biju Patra, Han Krishna Mahatab, Radhanath Rath ~~and~~ joined together to foil the

workers' struggle - ~~But~~ The Govt referred the  
 wages dispute of wage to a Tribunal and  
 the notice of the same was served ~~at midnight~~  
 on the President's union at midnight of  
 16th August. The workers protested against this  
 anti-working class move by a complete  
 strike of all the 86 presses <sup>including</sup> 5  
 Oriya Dailies and one English daily press  
~~Haravonax~~.

The strike was a complete success and  
 no newspapers came out on the 17th - ~~The~~ The  
 workers staged a militant demonstration  
 and a mass meeting in the evening. Coms  
 D.C. Mohanty, R.C. Ram M.P., Sadananda  
 Mohanty and others addressed the rally.

~~The~~ After the strike the  
 Labour Commissioner called ~~an~~ a  
 meeting of the presses owners and the  
 representatives of the union for an  
 amicable settlement - The talks failed  
 and the workers union decided that all  
 workers shall ~~work~~ do only one unit  
 of work. It may be noted here that usually  
 workers work do two units of ~~work~~ work.  
 As a result of this decision some of the  
 papers could come out - ~~The~~ ₹

Birin Patraik's paper 'Kalings'  
 was the ~~first~~ to come to an agreement  
 with the union. They accepted a D.A.  
 of B 35.00 per month per worker and  
 agreed to abide by the decisions of  
 the Tribunal on wage scales. This meant  
 a rise of B 12 to B 20/00 per month in  
 the D.A. per month -

~~After some~~ a day  
 Dr. Nahtab himself took the  
 initiative in coming to an agreement  
 with the union. ~~The~~ The D.A. was agreed

at Rs 35/- per month. The 'Samaj' ~~is~~ under the  
editorship of Sri Radhanath Rath accepted the ~~same~~ DA,  
at a minimum of Rs 35/- per month ~~and~~ a ~~minimum~~  
rise of Rs 10/- per month in its existing DA, which  
ever is higher. Biren Mitra's paper 'Janasakti'  
after two days of closure was forced to accept the  
same DA. The only daily paper 'Matrubhumi'  
has not yet accepted the DA, and the  
same ~~is still~~ has been forced to suspend  
publication. The Press workers are still hero-  
cally carrying on the struggle defying all  
types of manuvres by the Press owners and  
the different political parties.

The ~~press~~ workers in the PSP's  
press have also joined the struggle and  
the PSP leaders with all the love for  
the working class have stoutly  
refused to concede the demands as long  
as the workers cling to the Red flag -

From  
Barsua Mine workers achieve  
successful  
struggle  
Rs 21/-00 increment ~~and~~

The ~~press~~ 1500 workers of Barsua  
Iron Mines of Hindustan Steel have  
achieved a big gain - an  
increase of Rs 21.00 per month in their  
wages with effect from 1st April 1966.  
The Barsua Iron Mines Mazdoor  
Union affiliated to the AITUC secured  
a charter of demands on the manage-  
ment demanding ~~rise~~ increase  
in DA pending the <sup>final</sup> recomman-  
dations of the Wage Board and  
bonus etc.

~~The~~ The management  
showed a sullen attitude towards

the demands and the union decided to go on a token strike on ~~25th~~ 25th Aug if the demands are not ~~com~~ accepted by 24th. The Asst Labour Commissioner ~~fixed a conciliation and fixed the date~~ on 26th. The ~~union~~ The IATU and the management jointly tried to ~~to~~ frighten the workers of dire consequences if they resort to a strike on 25th. But all this misfire and the workers rose like one man against these threats - The IATU lost whatever small support it had amongst the workers.

The Govt at last intervened and the Asst Labour Commissioner intervened and fixed the conciliation on 26th. The union decided to give a chance to the management and ~~to~~ the Govt and therefore postponed the strike on 25th.

~~In the~~ ~~conc~~ The management of HSL did not sit ~~in~~ the conciliation meeting as they considered the did not recognize the Mazdoor union - However ~~then~~ after a strenuous negotiation through the ~~As~~ ALC the management accepted the increase of Rs 8/- in the DA and the payment of Rs 13/- towards interim relief recommended by the Wage Board with effect from 1st April 1966.

~~The conciliation was adjourned~~

The ~~the~~ HSL declared a ~~one~~ bonus of 4 P.C. as per the Bonus Act. As regards other demands the conciliation was adjourned to another date.

The workers held a <sup>mass</sup> meeting at about 11 P.M. in the night and ~~to~~ decided to withdraw the strike notice and decided to ~~to~~ launch another struggle if the other demands are not met. ~~The~~ Coms D. C. Mohanty and H. Behera President and Secretary respectively of the union addressed the meeting