

COPY

ALL INDIA FORWARD BLOC
117 South Avenue, New Delhi

5th July 1958

Comrade S.A.Dange,
General Secretary,
All-India Trade Union Congress.

Dear Comrade,

I do hereby tender my resignation from the Vice-Presidentship of All-India Trade Union Congress and the Presidentship of Bengal Provincial Trade Union Congress, according to the decision of the Seventh Plenary Session of All India Forward Bloc held at Baghora, District Betul, M.P.

In this connection, it would not be out of place to enumerate the following facts and incidents to make the controversy and contradictions lucid and clear.

The AITUC bears many glorious and militant records since its inception in the year 1920. Its history is an illustration of how a small group of trade unions can grow into a power organisation destined to lead working class movement, upto 1947, by the joint endeavour and united and composite leadership, keeping unity in diversity of opinions and views. But the sectarian role of a particular party, i.e., C.P.I. has made the united platform split. Important leaders like Com.N.M.Joshi, Com.R.S.Ruikar, Com.Mrinal Kanti Bose had been forced to resign from the AITUC. The result has given rise to other three new Central Trade Union organisations, i.e., INTUC, HMS and UTUC thus shaking and weakening the very foundation of working class movement in India. After a few years, the CPI, the dominating factor in the AITUC realised their faults and defects and changed their sectarian views and reactionary labour policy. Subsequently with an apology to the said leaders and with a view to attaining greater unity and strength, an attempt was made for a composite conciliation of all trends of political thoughts and views inside AITUC by mutual cooperation and agreement. Again in 1956 we observed a drift of the CPI leadership in AITUC from the cooperative attitude towards the sectarian views and policies of their own. Within two years, the policy of converting the AITUC into a CPI platform became conspicuous and complete. AITUC, the premier organisation of the working class in India with a glorious past tradition have now completely failed to perform their duties to close up the ranks and to bring solidarity among the working class in the country. This, quite naturally, created dissatisfactions and contradictions amongst the different political trends in the AITUC. In closing my statement, I would like to point out the fundamental differences prevailing amongst the constituent parties in the organisation on the following issues;

1. Trade Union unity among the Central TUs into one united organisation.
2. Formation of one Union in one industry and to stop the rivalry among the small organisation.
3. Economic development and the safeguard of all working class under the Second Five Year Plan.
4. Selection of International delegates and selection of office-bearers of the Central TUC.

We expected that all differences and misunderstandings would be brought to an end at the last Ernakulam Conference and so sent some important members of our Party for their participation. The said Conference, instead of giving the correct lead, made the situation worst, specially when CPI leadership who are admittedly dominating factors in the organisation tried to impose the political line of the CPI in the trade union front deviating from the fundamental mutual agreement, without showing the least respect towards the views and opinions of other parties, thus leaving no scope for further co-operation.

In the circumstances, our Plenary Session at Baghora held on the last May 1958, had no other alternative than to decide to come out from AITUC due to the undemocratic and non-accommodative stand of the present CPI leadership.

As I am submitting my resignation/with great reluctance though and under inevitable circumstances which I cannot help, I express my sincere thanks to the comrades with whom we fought side by side with our shoulders together for the last twenty years in the teeth of several critical predicaments.

I believe in working class unity in spite of all odds. I am never a pessimist and shall be ever willing to lend my hand of cooperation on a broadbased TU organisation, whenever such occasion and opportunity will arise.

Thanking you,

Yours comradely,

Sd.

(Hemanta Kumar Basu)

Copy forwarded to:

Com.Indrajit Gupta,
Gen. Secy., BPTUC

ALL INDIA FORWARD BLOC

102
Sri Hemanto Kumar Bose, M. L. A.
Chairman

Sri R. K. Haldulkar,
General Secretary

Phone No. : 33757

117, SOUTH AVENUE,
NEW DELHI.

Ref. No.

Date 5th July 1958 :

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General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress.

Dear Comrade,

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The A. I. T. U. C. bears many glorious and militant records since its inception in the year 1920. It's history is an illustration of how a small group of Trade Unions can grow into a powerful Organisation destined to lead working class movement, upto 1947, by the joint endeavour and united and composite leadership, keeping unity in diversity of opinions and views. But the sectarian role of a particular party, i.e. C.P.I. has made the united platform splitted. Important leaders like Com. N. M. Joshi, Com. R. S. Ruikar, Com. Mrinal Kanti Bose had been forced to resign from the A.I.T.U.C. The result has given rise to other three new Central Trade Union Organisations, i.e. I.N.T.U.C., H.M.S., and U.T.U.C., thus shaking and weakening the very foundation of working class movement in India. After a few years, the C.P.I., the dominating factor in the A.I.T.U.C., realised their faults and defects and changed their sectarian views and reactionary Labour Policy. Subsequently with an apology to the said leaders and with a view to attaining greater unity and strength, an attempt was made for a composite conciliation of all trends of political thoughts and views inside A.I.T.U.C. by mutual co-operation and agreement. Again in 1956 we observed a drift of the C.P.I. leadership in A.I.T.U.C. from the co-operative attitude towards the sectarian views and policies of their own. Within two years the policy of converting the A.I.T.U.C. into a C.P.I. platform became conspicuous and complete. A.I.T.U.C., the premier organisation of the working class in India with a glorious past tradition have now completely failed to perform their duties to close up the ranks and to bring solidarity among the working class in the country. This, quite naturally, created dissatisfactions and contradictions amongst the different political trends in the A.I.T.U.C. In closing my statement, I would like to

point

ALL INDIA FORWARD BLOC

Sri Hemanto Kumar Bose, M. L. A.
Chairman

Phone No. - 33757

Sri R. K. Haldulkar,
General Secretary

117, SOUTH AVENUE,
NEW DELHI.

Page No. 2.

Ref. No. _____

Date _____ 1958 .

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Thanking, you,

Copy forwarded to:-
Com. Indrajit Gupta.
Gen. Secy.
B. P. T. U. C.

Yours Comradely,
Hemanta Kumar Basu
(Hemanta Kumar Basu).

102

August 12, 1958

Com. Hemanta Kumar Bose,
All India Forward Bloc,
117 South Avenue,
New Delhi.

Dear Comrade,

We acknowledge receipt of your
letter of 5th July 1958.

We regret to learn about your
decision.

The matter will be placed
before the Working Committee of the
AITUC at its next meeting.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

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

- 2 - 102

and import of a corresponding quantity from Pakistan.

4. Organisation of ~~co-operatives~~ marketing co-operatives by the State Govts. to undertake purchase of jute and to advance money against jute to the growers.

The Convention ~~further drew~~ attention, by a resolution drew attention of the Govt. to the hardships and sufferings of the workers caused by frequent instances of misuse of the Provident Funds by the employers and the dilatory working of the Govt's administrative machinery or demanded

1. that - the machinery for recovery proceedings and prosecutions in all cases of defalcation of P.F. monies be made more effective and rapid, and penalties for such offences be substantially enhanced.
2. that the loan provisions under the P.F. scheme be liberalised.
3. that all employees be compelled to arrange for constitution of properly elected P.F. Trustees Boards, and their regular functioning and the procedure for such election be laid down immediately by the India Govt.

A resolution on works
Committee protested against the employers
uncooperative attitude towards the
works Committees in jute mills. It,
~~was~~ therefore, urged upon the Govt. to take
effective steps for inspection and implement-
at. of works Committee functioning. It
called upon all jute workers and their
elected representatives in works Committees
to fight determinedly and unitedly
for the defence of their rights and
resist employers violation of them.

102

December 22, 1958

Dear IG,

Ref. copy of your letter of 16th
inst. to Shri Hemanta Kumar Basu.

Com.Dange is of the opinion that
at this stage it is not advisable to
take up such matters and we need not
press for a reply from him.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G. Sriwastava

(K.G.Sriwastava)

20 DEC 1958

अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन काँग्रेस

ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

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

4, ASHOK ROAD,
NEW DELHI.

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

Dt: 16-12-1958.

Sri Hemanta Kumar Basu,
Chairman,
All-India Forward Bloc.

My dear Hemanta Babu,

In view of the forthcoming meeting of the General Council of the A.I.T.U.C. at Bangalore from January 14th to 18th, 1959, before which your resignation letter will be duly placed for consideration, I am directed to seek clarification from you on the following points :

- 1) We have not received any letters of resignation from any other members of the Forward Bloc Group who are members of the executive bodies of the AITUC and/or State T.U.C.'s. May we, therefore, assume that the comrades concerned continue to remain in the AITUC ?
- 2) We have not received any intimation from the Unions of your group to the effect that they wish to disaffiliate themselves from the AITUC. May we, therefore, also assume that the Unions led by your group continue to remain affiliated to the AITUC, and will pay up their arrears of affiliation dues as soon as possible ?
- 3) As you probably know, the Labour Ministry of the Govt. of India is at present conducting a verification of membership of all unions affiliated to the AITUC, INTUC, HMS and UTUC. Since only such affiliated unions will be recognised by the Govt. for purposes of official verification, may we please know whether the unions of your group wish to be included in or

excluded --

11

102

xx S.S.Mirajkar

August 12, 1958

Dear Com.IG,

Copy of Hemanto Bose's letter
of resignation is enclosed, with reference
to my letter sent to you yesterday.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G. Sriwastava

(K.G.Sriwastava)

Explanatory note:

The reason why I intend to raise a discussion on this report is that there is a lot of discontent prevailing among the insured employees against the working of the corporation.

The points I wish to raise in the discussion are as follows:

(1) The inadequate medical aid provided to the insured employees in the various centres, specially in Calcutta, Bombay and Hyderabad;

(2) The delay in the construction of hospitals for the insured employees in the various centres, specially in Calcutta, Bombay and Hyderabad;

(3) The inordinate delay in the extension of the medical benefits to the families of the insured employees;

(4) The need to provide for the payment of sickness benefits to the employees at the factories instead of at the corporation office; and

(5) Discrimination against All-India Trade Union Congress in giving representation in the standing Committee, and Medical Benefits Council.

157-2

(10)

New Delhi

13.5.55.

RAJYA SABHA

Dr. Com. Srinivasulu

Please find enclosed herewith:

- (1) replies to my starred question No. 614 concerning manufacture of civilian material in Ordnance factories;
- (2) replies to my unstarred question concerning mechanisation of textile industry.

As regards first question we have to pursue the matter in relation to

- victimisation of Secy. in Nilgiris
- possibility of reducing the cost of manufacture of Amber Charke in Dhapur and Jubbalpur.

As regards the second question we have to get information from unions concerned, if

There was a fall in employment
of weavers.

Earlier the Labour Minister
had told me in answer to a
Supplementary that when licence
for mechanisation is granted
care is taken to see that no
worker is rendered unemployed.

Please find the necessary
material and let me know
how to pursue the matter.

Yours faithfully
Raj Bahadur Gome

To be answered on the 11th September 1957.

MANUFACTURE OF CIVILIAN MATERIALS IN
DEFENCE INSTALLATIONS

*614. DR. R.B. GOUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received suggestions from the Defence Employees Federation or individual unions and leaders of the Federation, concerning the manufacture of civilian material in Defence installations

(b) if so, what are the most important of these suggestions; and

(c) what action has been taken thereon ?

SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH.

(a) Yes.

(b) The most important suggestions related to the manufacture of Amber Charkhas in Rifle Factory, Ishapore/Gun Carriage Factory, Jabalpur, the possibilities of production or expansion of production of Sulphuric acid, Nitric acid, Nitrocellulose, Acetone, Diacetone alcohol, Brake Fluid, Activated Charcoal Gelignite and Gun Cotton Slabs, in Cordite Factory, Aruvankadu Army Boots, leather, textile and engineering goods in Harness & Saddlery Factory, Kanpur.

All the suggestions received from various sources were examined in detail and implemented, wherever and to the extent, practicable.

11 - 9 - 57.
Uncorrected - Not for publication.

DR.R.B.GOUR: Is it a fact that the Cordite Factory at Aruvankadu submitted a memorandum making suggestions for the utilisation of the surplus machinery in that factory, and the net result of it is that the Secretary has been dismissed for disclosing official secrets?

SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH: If there is any specific case, it may be brought to our notice, and we shall look into that?

DR.R.B.GOUR: Does the hon. Minister mean to say that what I have said is not specific?

SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH: I shall take notice of it.

DR.R.B.GOUR: The hon. Minister just now said that a suggestion has been made that Ambar Charkhas could be manufactured in the factories at Jabalpur and Ishapore. Have the Government of India accepted the suggestion and have they taken any decision on that?

SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH: That, I presume, refers to the manufacture of Ambar Charkhas in the Rifle Factory at Ishapore and Gun Carriage Factory at Jabalpur. This matter has been gone through and it has been found that the cost of manufacture is too high in this particular case because of the very high technical persons involved there and the general high level of salaries. Everything taken into account, it has been found that the cost is too high.

DR.R.B.GOUR: In view of the fact that men and machinery and also the materials are available in these two factories for the manufacture of Ambar Charkhas, may I know whether the Government

A.V.
F.7 (Q.No.614 contd.)

76

11 - 9 - 57.
Uncorrected - Not for publication.

thought it advisable to discuss with these Units
as to how the cost of manufacture could be brought down?

SHRI K. RAGHURAMIAH: Government takes every consideration
into account.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a suggestion for action.

(Ends)

To be answered on the 12th September, 1957.

Weavers employed in textile mills fitted with automatic looms

1578. DR. R.B. GOUR: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 323 in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd August, 1957 and state:

- (a) the names of the textile mills, State-wise, which are
 - (i) completely fitted with automatic looms; and
 - (ii) partly fitted with automatic looms; and
- (b) the number of weavers employed in each of these mills before and after the introduction of automatic looms ?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: (MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY)

(a) and (b): A statement is attached. However, no figures are available about the weavers employed in the mills before the introduction of automatic looms.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) and (b) of Unstarred Question No.1578 to be answered in the Rajya Sabha on 12th September, 1957.

1) List showing the names of textile mills, Statewise, which are completely fitted with automatic looms, with the number of workers employed in the weaving section including the preparatory department, after the introduction of automatic looms.

Sl. No.	Name of the textile mill.	No. of workers employed in the weaving section including the preparatory department.
(1)	(2)	(3)

DELHI

1. Swatantra Bharat Mills, Delhi. 931

U.P.

2. Lord Krishna Textile Mills, Saharanpur. 720

MADRAS.

3. Kothari Textiles Ltd., Singanallur. 368
4. Coimbatore Kamala Mills Ltd., Singanallur. (All looms idle)
5. Coimbatore Murgan Mills Ltd., Coimbatore. 87
6. Radhakrishna Mills Ltd., Peelamedu. 175
7. Trimurthy Mills, Udamalpet. 73

MYSORE

8. Bangalore Woollen, Cotton & Silk Mills Co., Ltd., Bangalore. 2,330
9. Kapila Textile Mills Ltd., Nanjangud. 424

2. List showing the names of textile mills, Statewise, which are partly fitted with automatic looms, with the number of workers employed in the weaving section including the preparatory department, after the introduction of automatic looms.

Sl. No.	Name of the textile mill.	No. of workers employed in the weaving section including the preparatory department.
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AHMEDABAD CITY

1. Ahmedabad Jaibharat Cotton Mills Co. Ltd. 1,163
2. Ahmedabad Mfg. & Calico Printing Co. Ltd.)
Mill No.1 } 3,162
3. Do. Mill No.2 }

4.	Aryodaya Spg. & Wvg. Co.Ltd.,	1,316
5.	Ashoka Mills Ltd.	1,288
6.	Commercial Ahmedabad Mills Co. Ltd.	831
7.	New Commercial Mills Co. Ltd.	1,209
8.	New Maneckchowk Spg. & Wvg. Co.Ltd.	896
9.	Sarangpur Cotton Mfg. Co.Ltd. Mill No.1)	1,565
10.	Do. Mill No.2)	
11.	New Rajpur Mills Co. Ltd.	638
12.	Shri Ambika Mills Co. Ltd. Nos. 1 and 2	1,585
13.	Vijaya Mills Co. Ltd.	1,014
14.	Vikram Mills Ltd.	981

BOMBAY CITY

15.	Bombay Dyeing & Mfg. Co. Ltd.	1,924
16.	Century Spg. & Mfg. Co. Ltd.	6,752
17.	Colaba Land and Mill Co. Ltd.	1,101
18.	Hind Mills Ltd.	1,715
19.	Elphinstone Spg. & Wvg. Mills.	1,417
20.	Finlay Mills Ltd.	1,233
21.	Hindusthan Spg. & Wvg. Mills Co. Ltd.	1,167
22.	Beharilal Ramcharan Cotton Mills Ltd.	1,686
23.	Standard Mills Co. Ltd. No.2	1,158
24.	Phoenix Mills Ltd.	1,444
25.	Poddar Mills Ltd.	788
26.	Raghuvansi Mills Ltd.	257
27.	Simplex Mills Co. Ltd.	1,745
28.	Standard Mills Co. Ltd. No.1.	2,091
29.	Swadeshi Mills Co. Ltd.	2,301
30.	Swan Mills Ltd.	875

BOMBAY REST

31. Vishnu Cotton Mills Ltd., Sholapur.	1,999
32. Navjivan Mills Ltd., Kalol.	927
33. Keshav Mills Co. Ltd., Petlad.	762

MADHYA PRADESH

34. Deepchand Mills (Binod Mills), Ujjain.	729
35. Jiyajirao Cotton Mills Ltd., Gwalior.	3,361

DELHI

36. Birla Cotton Spg. & Wvg. Mills Co. Ltd.	2,553
37. Delhi Cloth and General Mills Co. Ltd.	3,801

PUNJAB

38. Technological Institute of Textiles, Bhiwani.	920
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UTTAR PRADESH

39. J.K. Cotton Spg. & Wvg. Mills Co. Ltd. Kanpur.	1,532
40. Laxmiratan Cotton Mills Co. Ltd., Kanpur.	1,469
41. General Fibre Dealers (Shri Vikram Cotton), Lucknow.	473
42. Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. Ltd., Kanpur.	3,842

BIHAR

43. Buxar Central Jail, Buxar.	80
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WEST BENGAL

44. Bangeswari Cotton Mills Ltd., Serampore	865
45. Dhakeswari Cotton Mills Ltd., Calcutta.	573
46. Kesoram Cotton Mills Ltd., Calcutta.	3,745
47. Buckingham & Carnatic Co. Ltd.	3,916
48. Laxmi Mills Co. Ltd., Pappanaikanpalayam.	298
49. Shri Meenaxi Mills Ltd., Madurai.	136
50. Somasundaram Mills Ltd., Coimbatore.	279
51. Shri Venkatesa Mills, Venkatesa Post Office.	210

PONDICHERRY

52. Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. Ltd.	537
53. Shri Bharati Mills S.A.	360

157.3

Calcutta
15/1

Dr. Ka.

Your letter just received

1) The review is written & being typed. It should be ready tomorrow & I shall post you a copy immediately. It may be a bit too lengthy for the Record - it is really meant for the N.A. monthly. You can prune it suitably.

2) I am afraid we can't have much of a programme here on the 18th, as all the industrial districts are having their party conferences. This was a factor I overlooked.

3) Re: the cadres' meeting, it can't be held for the same reason. We have asked SAT

to spare a day for it on his way back from Shillong. He has not replied yet.

4) The other meeting is being fixed up on 19th afternoon. If you don't come + SAD also refuses to attend (depending on his mood!), I shall have to face some very nasty music. So please do try to come.

yours,
P.P.

विभक्त
पोस्ट कार्ड

17वाली 58

केबुल पसा



K.C. Srivastava

All-India Trade Union Congress

4. Ashok Road

NEW DELHI.

CEMENT UNIONS

- Andhra (1) Andhra Cement Co. Employees Union,
Satyanarayanpuram, VIJAYAWADA
- (2) Krishna Cement Works Employees Union,
KRISHNA CEMENT WORKS P.O., Mangalagiri, Guntur Dt.
- (3) Asbestos & Berites Workers' Union,
CUDDAPAH
- (4) Manchariel Cement Factory Workers Union,
MANCHARIEL (Andhra)

- Bihar (1) A.C.C.Rajanka Limestone Quarries
Mazdoor Union,
'Rajbhawan', P.O. JHINKPANI, Singhbhum, Bihar
- (2) Chaibasa Cement Mazdoor Union,
'Rajbhawan', P.O. JHINKPANI, Singhbhum, Bihar

- Gujerat (1) Cement Employees Union,
Sardar Vallabhbai Road,
FORBANDAR (Saurashtra)

~~(2)~~

- Mysore (1) Shahabad Cement Factory Workers Union,
SHAHABAD, Dn.

- Kerala (1) Travancore Cement Workers' Union,
Nattakom, Kottayam

- Punjab (1) Bhupendra Cement Workers Union,
Surajpur (Punjab)

- Madras (1) Coimbatore Cement Workers Union,
Madukkarai, COIMBATORE, Madras State
- (2) Thalayuthu Cement Workers Union,
Thalayuthu, Tinneveli

NOTE: Re. (1) Asbestos & Berites Workers Union, Cuddapah;
(2) Manchariel Cement Workers Union, Manchariel, Andhra
(3) Bhupendra Cement Workers Union, Surajpur, Punjab
(4) Thalayuthu Cement Workers Union -
- these unions appear in our list of 1953 but have not paid
affiliation fees or sent delegates to the 25th Session.
Therefore, these may be checked up with Com.Satyanarayan Reddi.

157-4

Punjab Chini Mills Mazdoor Federation (Regd.)

Precident :- Satish Loomba
Senior Vice President:- Om Parkash Aganihotri
Vice President:- Mewa Ram
Vice President :- Vidya Parshad
Vice President:- Ajit Ram Dhiman

Head Office :-
YAMUNA NAGAR
(Distt Ambala)

General Secretary:- Piara Singh Deosi
Organizing Secretary:- Tara Chand Anand
Propaganda Secretary:- Baba Kartar Singh
Treasurer:- Maha-ha Ratti Ram

Jullunder

Ref. No.....

Dated... 17.1.1958

Com K.G. Srivastwa,
Secy. AITUC,
Delhi.

Recd on
20.1.58

Dear Comrade,

I shall be coming to Delhi on 24th and shall be available till 27th morning. During this period I can regularly attend office for 2-3 hours daily. If there is any work for me, ~~please~~ I shall be able to attend to it.

2. We have finalized arrangements for the working committee meeting on 15th-17th April. We have shifted the venue to Nangal-Bhabra Dam as that would be better both from the point of view of the working committee members being able to see a project of highest importance and also from that of arrangements, besides being a good working class centre. I would suggest that agenda for this meeting along with short notes on each item be worked out and circulated to all working committee members.

3. I sent a telegram to Com Dange at his Bombay address asking him to let me know when he would be available for consultation at Delhi re: some important matters which have developed at Amritsar. In case he is available on any date from 24th to 27th Jan. please let me know by return of post.

With regards,
Yours faithfully,
Satish Loomba.

Feb 11 1958

Dear Com.Satish,

I have sent you a letter yesterday.

2. The Central Wage Board for Sugar has started moving. There is a feeling among our comrades working in Sugar to meet and discuss and jointly make representations.

Just now Andhra Sugar Workers Federation is having its Conference.

The United Chini Mill Mazdur Federation of Shibbanlal Saxena in which our comrades are working is having its Session at Deoband (Saharanpur) on 14, 15 and 16 February. They have written to us for co-operation before the Wage Board.

I feel it would be useful for you to attend this conference - may be on the last day to gather information for your report and fix up some programme with them so that a further meeting for detailed discussion is fixed up.

In case you ^{agree, OK} can wire us, so that we may inform the Federation.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G.
11/12
(K.G.Sriwastava)

P.S.

The change of the venue of the Working Committee meeting from Simla to Bhakra-Nangal is not agreeable to a number of our office-bearers and members of the Working Committee. You please review and let us know the final decision. If arrangements cannot be done at Simla, the venue may have to be changed to some other State.

11/12

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE
All India Trade Union Congress

249, BOWBAZAR STREET, CALCUTTA-12

President :

Sri Hemanta Kumar Bose,
M. L. A.

Vice-Presidents :

Dr. Ranen Sen, M. L. A.
 J. b Md. Elias, M. P.
 Sri Sudhir Mukhoti
 Janab Md. Ismail
 Dr. Sushil Bose
 Sri Anadi Das

General Secretary :

Sri Indrajit Gupta

Secretaries :

Sri Manoranjan Roy
 Sri Hrishii Banerji
 Sri T. N. Siddhanta
 Sri Saroj Ghosal
 Sri Manindra Bose
 Sitaram Sett

Treasurer :

Sri Nirode Chakravarty

Dated, 11th Feb. 1958.

Com. K. G. SRIVASTAVA,
 AITUC OFFICE.

Dear Comrade,

(1) I suggest a Circular be issued reminding unions that industry-wise reports have to be prepared in time for the Working Committee Meeting.

Hence, those trade groups which met at Ernakulam and appointed Convenors should be listed in the Circular, and those which did not or could not do so should be reconstituted (provisionally) with the same names that were decided at the Working Committee meeting last September. All should be asked to get together, either physically or by correspondence, and prepare at least the main points of their reports by, say, March 31st.

(2) Is the Working Committee venue finalised? If so, you should circularise it also and the final dates.

(3) The same Circular may remind the PTUC's to send in their suggestions, by February end, for delegates to May Day celebrations abroad.

(4) Please try to expedite despatch of the remaining receipts for affiliation fees.

(5) What about my air-ticket refund? Any chance?

Greetings,

Comradely yours,

Indrajit Gupta

102

February 19, 1958

Dear Com.Nanda,

The Ernakulam meeting of the Working Committee took certain decisions on the preparation of trade reports and you were entrusted with the responsibility of preparing the report on MUNICIPALITIES. As you will remember, the Working Committee fixed 31st March 1958 as the last date for receiving the reports in the central office.

Please let us know when we may expect the report from you.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G.
1958
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

February 19, 1958

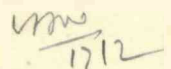
Dear Com.Sudhir Makhoti,

I hope you are preparing the report on the LEATHER industry, as per the decision of the Working Committee on trade reports. As you will remember, the Working Committee had stipulated that the Reports should reach this office latest by March 31, 1958.

Please let us know when we may expect your report on the Leather Industry.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,


(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

February 19 1958

Dear Com.Satish Loomba,

The Working Committee which met at Ernakulam on December 30 had taken certain decisions on Trade Reports and I hope you remember that you have been entrusted with the preparation of the report on SUGAR INDUSTRY. As per the Committee's decision, the reports should reach the central office by 31st March 1958.

Please let us know early when we expect the report from you.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G.
1958
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

February 19, 1958

Dear Com.Vittal Rao,

I hope you remember the decision of the Working Committee which met at Ernakulam on trade reports, and that you are to write the report on COAL MINES. The reports should reach us by March 31, 1958, latest.

Please let us know when we may expect the report from you.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G.
1912
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

Feb 19, 1958

Dear Com. Monoranjan Roy,

You will remember the decision of the Ernakulam meeting of the Working Committee on trade reports and that you are to write the report on PLANTATIONS. As per the Committee's decision, the reports should reach us latest by March 31, 1958.

We shall be much obliged if you will let us know when we may expect the report from you.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

vmr
13/2
(K.G. Sriwastava)
Secretary

Feb 19, 1958

Dear Com.Sundaram,

I hope you will remember the decision of the Working Committee on preparing trade reports and that you are to write the report on OIL AND PETROLEUM. As agreed earlier, we should get the report latest by March 31, 1958.

We would like to know when we expect the report from you.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

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

February 19, 1958

Dear Com.Joglekar,

You will remember that as per the decision of the Working Committee, you have to write the report on RAILWAYS and that this should reach us latest by March 31, 1958.

Will you kindly let us know when we may expect the report from you?

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Handwritten initials
TSIL
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

February 19, 1958

Dear Com.Patkar,

You will remember that the Working Committee which met at Ernakulam had entrusted you with the responsibility for preparing a report on the TEXTILE Industry and also decided on the last dateline for getting the report - March 31, 1958.

Please let us know when we may expect the report from you.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

mm
19/2
(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

102

February 15, 1958

Dear Com.Satish,

We have sent you today the following telegram:

"COMRADE DANGE AVAILABLE FOR CONSULTATION
STOP ALSO WANT FINALISATION WORKING
COMMITTEE MEETING ARRANGEMENTS"

2. The Secretariat which met yesterday decided to nominate you on the National Productivity Council. The other AITUC nominee on the Council is Com.N.K.Krishnan, President, Coimbatore District Textile Workers Union.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G.
15/2
(K.G.Sriwastava)

Com.Satish Loomba,
Secretary, AITUC,
Jullundur.

----- S.S.Mirajkar

Feb 24, 1958

Dear Com.Mirajkar,

This is with reference to the letter you must have received by now from Com.Shantaram Pai, South Kanara Trade Union Council.

Com.Dange is of the opinion that you should attend the 6th Conference of the South Kanara Trade Unions on the 17th and 18th March. They should however be asked to pay you air fare one way for the trip and if they do so, the return fare shall be borne by the AITUC.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

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

File in
137

Feb 24 1958

Dear IG,

On the 6th of this month we received a copy of a letter addressed to the Regional Director, ESI Corp, Calcutta, from the Jay Engineering Workers' Union. The Union referred to about 800 workers having been deprived from any benefit under the ESI Act, according to a "recent circular of the A.M.O."

Since the letter gave no further details as to the "recent circular", we wrote to them on the 7th inst., asking them to send details. So far, no reply has been received.

If what the Union alleges is correct, then this is really a serious matter. Will you therefore ask them to let us know immediately as to what the position is, so that we may take it up with the Corporation and the Ministry?

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

WTS
24/2
(K.G.Sriwastava)

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :
SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.Genl. Secretary :
SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA249, BOWBAZAR STREET
CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 25/2/1958

Dear Dange,

Yours of the 23rd.

(1) Re: your suggestion of phasing out relief for Chinakuri, I think your idea is a good one, + Ramen + Jyoti agree (both of them visited the place). However, I have not been able to consult Kalyan yet. By this time, you have got Parvathi's report too. We should decide in the light of all these.

I shall do my best to do a short report for the WFTU, along with photos.

(2) Our Working Committee here met & decided to suggest the following names for May Day delegations :

Ismail
Sudhir Ghosh (F.B. Marxist)
Anadi Das (RCP)
Hishi Banerji
Robin Mukherji

This is not strictly in order of priority, of course. Everything

(2)

depends on how many can be included from Bengal for one country or another. The F.B. fellow has already applied for a passport & is very eager to go, badgering me about it every day. RCP1 keeps reminding me that they never yet got a place in any delegation. As for our own folk, Ismail must be sent & if one more can go I think Hrish's case should be considered. He is an old T.V. Dada.

I am enclosing also a letter from Barin which speaks for itself. He expressed his eagerness to go when we met at Ernakulam & I promised to press his case which is certainly a deserving one. I am replying to him to hang on & not apply till the formal selection is made. But I would request you to expedite a decision by March first week. The available office-beavers & Sectt. members in Delhi should decide.

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :

SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.

Genl. Secretary :

SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET

CALCUTTA-12

(3)

Dated, 195

(3) Re: your proposed meeting for consultations on 4th:

Somebody from Burdwan will definitely go. I presume you are informing Jamshedpur direct & ensuring that they attend. One or two from Docks here will also be sent, though the notice is very short.

As for Ranen + me, he says his going is out of the question due to the Assembly session. As for me, I am bogged in a number of engagements too. I find that I cannot possibly reach Delhi by train before 4th night + must be back here by 8th morning latest (this is also only possible by cancelling the less important engagements). So if the meeting is to be definitely on the 4th, I can't attend unless I go from

here by the night plane on 3rd. But that seems hardly worth the expense. So you better leave me out. If the other comrades go, that will serve the purpose. Don't worry about "obstruction" & all that, since they never bother their heads about "purely" T.V. matters, & anyway there is no question of struggle vs no-struggle involved!

Anyway, please cable your final confirmation of date & directions not later than 28th. Are you sure people from Vizag, Cochin, Madras, etc. can attend?

(4) We had a moderately successful general Council meeting for 2 days. About 80 unions were represented. I shall send a proper report & copies of resolutions when typed. We have decided at last to try out a mass demonstration on E.S.I. side on March 20th. Also, a mass signature campaign for 2-3 months to demand a State Act for T.V. recognition by ballot.

P.S. Narayan Choukey's exposure material re: Kharappur workshop has been sent to you by hand. Hope you got it O.K.

Y
Indrajit

*Barin Choudhury
1937 File*

Tinsukia (P.O.)
Dist- Lakhimpur
A s s a m .

To Com. - Indrajit Gupta,
Secretary, A I T U C .

16 FEB 1958

Dear Comrade,

Perhaps you have learnt by this time that Com. SAD's promised programme for coal and Oil fields of Assam did not materialise. He returned from Shillong, and, of course told us that next time he would fix up time for that. So, this time I had no personal contact with him, and I could not keep from him any certificate or such thing regarding my passport for going to May Day Celebration in USSR.

Now, as you told me when I had been to Calcutta I should submit petition for the Passport in time, and, alongwith the application for passport I should attach a letter from AITUC stating that I am in the delegation that would go abroad for attending the May Day celebration. I think you as the Secretary of AITUC can issue such letter for attaching with the application. You please send it in my Tinsukia address.

Then, please also let me know whether the form of Guarantee should also be filled up and submitted along with the application ~~and~~ for the Passport. The question arises because the expence is borne by the party who gives the invitation. Hence clarification is necessary before I submit the application.

Please reply at an early date.
With greetings

Fraternally Yours

Barin Choudhury

(Barin Chowdhury)
General Secretary,

Assam Provincial Committee of
All India Trade Union Congress.



JESSOP WORKERS GREET CHAGLA REPORT, DEMAND NATIONALISATION.

Published
in TOR
March

On February 27th., a mass meeting of workers of the ^{well known} ~~large~~ engineering factory of Messrs. Jessop & Co. was held at Dum Dum. The meeting was organised by the Jessop Mazdoor Union which was formed in 1955 as a result of a merger of the two unions which had existed previously, one affiliated to the AITUC and the other to the UTUC. The new united union is an autonomous one, among its prominent office-bearers being Sri Indrajit Gupta, General Secretary of the ^{Bengal Branch of the AITUC} ~~AITUC~~ and Sri Jatin Chakravarty, Secretary of the Bengal Branch of the UTUC.

This union now commands the alleg^{iance}~~ance~~ of the overwhelming majority of the nearly 6000 workers and employees of Jessop's, but is denied recognition. Nevertheless when the management tried to victimise about a dozen union leaders in 1956, there was a complete strike for 26 days and eventually it was with the Jessop Mazdoor Union that Haridas Mundhra personally ~~had to negotiate~~ a settlement, ~~and to reinstate~~ ~~all but two of the workers.~~ At the meeting on February 28th, the resolution on nationalisation was moved by Indrajit Gupta who also referred in this connection to the false claim made in Parliament by the Union Law Minister, Sri Ashoke Sen, to the effect that, while he was a Director of Jessop, he had settled the Strike and got a bonus of 5 months for the workers. The truth is very different. The strike was against victimisation and not on the bonus issue, ~~during it, Sri Ashoke Sen was nowhere on the scene and never met the workers;~~ and the annual bonus which the workers get is on the basis of a formula evolved as long ago as in 1953 by an agreement between the management and the then UTUC union, ~~when Sri Ashoke Sen was nowhere on the scene.~~ ~~It appears that Sri Ashoke Sen, not content with trying to save his skin from implication in the LIG-Mundhra scandal, also dishonestly wanted to pose as a "champion" of the workers.~~ The Union is shortly going to submit a memorandum to the Prime Minister and M.P.s on the grim reality of labour conditions in Jessop's ^{factory} ~~and the necessity to nationalise it~~

(Resolution enclosed)

RESOLUTION ON NATIONALISATION OF JESSOP & CO.

This general meeting of the workers of Jessop's while congratulating MR. Justice Chagla on the forthright public inquiry carried out by him into the L.I.C. transactions in Mundhra-held shares, expresses its grave concern at the Commission's findings. These findings show that Sri Haridas Mundhra in co-operation with high Government Officials has been misusing large quantities of Jessop shares for the purpose of speculation on the share-market and individual profiting.

We, the workers, are also deeply concerned to find, from the reported proceedings of a recent court case, that even the share-holders of Jessop's have been deceived by the directors acting in mutual collusion, who have without authority used an amount of 77/- Lakhs from the Jessop Funds to purchase shares in Richardson & Cruddas-- another Mundhra concern.

Since the days of the British regime in India, the workers of Jessops had been demanding that this concern should be nationalised as soon as independence was achieved. The need for nationalisation was never as acute as it is to-day. The Jessop works are fully booked up for years ahead with vital Government Orders for different 5 years Plan Projects. While the company is earning huge profits and its funds are being squandered for speculative and profiteering purposes, industrial peace is also constantly under threat due to the utterly reactionary and anti-union Labour policy of the management.

This meeting draws the attention of the Government and the public to the fact that about 6000 workers and employees of ~~xxxxxx~~ Jessop are paid extremely low wages and a negligible amount of annual bonus which represents a tiny fraction of the enormous profits earned. They do not get any incentive bonus or even Dearness allowance linked with the cost of living. Trade Union rights do not exist; the Jessop Mazdoor Union which commands the support of the overwhelming majority of workers, is not only denied recognition but the management even refuses to participate with it in conciliation proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Act. No elected works committee has been formed up to date.

In view of all the above circumstances, this meeting is of opinion that in the interests of the country and of the workers immediate steps should be taken to bring the management and conduct of Jessops under the direct ownership and control of the State Sector and the Scrutiny of Parliament.

This meeting welcomes the demand for nationalisation of Jessop raised in the Loka-Sabha by the leader of the opposition, Sri S.A. Dange, and also the Prime Minister's statement welcoming the idea as worthy of consideration.

This meeting, therefore, requests the Government of India not to delay in the matter any longer but to Nationalise Jessops and thereby convert it into a valuable public asset.

Sd/-Kedar Nath Pundey,

President,
of the meeting,
27.2.58.

JESSOP MAZDOOR UNION:

Dum Dum, Calcutta-28.

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :
SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.

Genl. Secretary :

SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET
CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 15th March 1958

Dear K.L.,

Yours of the 13th.

Much as I would like to attend the World Peace Council meeting, I have grave doubts of my ability to do so. The reason is a purely personal one. My old mother (75) is suspected to be suffering from cancer & if that is confirmed in 2-3 days' time, she may have to be sent to Bombay or Vellore for treatment & I may even have to go with her. In fact, this sudden misfortune has made everything most uncertain for me, & there is a chance I may even have to miss Amritsar & Chandigarh. You can understand how depressing all this is for me.

However, if things turn out less serious than is apprehended,

I may try to come to Delhi for the Peace Council. In that case, I shall inform you definitely by, say, the 19th.

Our demonstration on E.S.T. side is on the 20th evening. So, in any case, I would not be able to leave here before the 21st. When does the meeting start on 22nd? And who pays my fare?!

freelings.

Indrajit.

P.S. If the W.C. meeting venue is finalised at Chandigarh, why the delay in circularising it?

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE
All India Trade Union Congress

249, BOWBAZAR STREET, CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 28th March, 1958.

President :

Sri Hemanta Kumar Bose,
M. L. A.

Vice-Presidents :

Dr. Ranen Sen, M. L. A.
 Janab Md. Elias, M. P.
 Sri Sudhir Mukhoti
 Janab Md. Ismail
 Dr. Sushil Bose
 Sri Anadi Das

General Secretary :

Sri Indrajit Gupta

Secretaries :

Sri Manoranjan Roy
 Sri Hrishu Banerji
 T. N. Siddhanta
 Sri Saroj Ghosal
 Sri Manindra Bose
 Sri Sitaram Sett

Treasurer :

Sri Nirode Chakravarty

Dear K. G.

(1) Thanks for the cheque. But why Rs. 290/= ? Please clarify. Rs. 200/= is the subsidy for February and March which I had already paid. What is the 90/- for ?

(2) We had a thundering "Demands Day" on the 26th - about 50,000 in the rally and very militant demonstration from different offices and factories. A report ~~is being sent~~ has been sent.

(3) Can you please do something for me ? The Labour Ministry still owes me about Re.100/- as remaining balance on account of T.A. for the 15th Labour Conference. Eight months have passed since then (which is usually long even for the Govt.) and I have written a reminder to the Labour Dept. Secretary, but nothing doing so far. You must be having "Dosti" with some of the smaller fry of the Dept. who deal with these mundane matters ! Could you please give them a reminder on my behalf ? I was relying on getting this cash to cover my expenses to Amritsar !

Creetings,

Comradely yours

P. G.

102

..... S.S.Mirajkar

March 23, 1958

Dear IG,

Your note of 18th March.

2. BPTUC G.C. resolutions and list of donors have been received. The latter appears in the TUR of March 20th issue.
3. Yes. W.C. meeting stands cancelled. Circular has been issued and also announced in TUR.
4. Yes. You meet Shri Krishnamurthi and help him.
5. I am enclosing herewith the draft of the Code of Discipline meeting. I presented the resolution of the Ernakulam session to the Committee and the reply of the Labour Minister dealt with each point. Right of strike is assured. In the case of unrecognised unions if they are not given the right of representation or recognition, normal rules apply.

Please let me have your views on the Grievance procedure as we have to submit our suggestions within a month.

I personally feel that ~~kk~~ we should get some positive line about the position of unrecognised unions. The Labour Minister in the meeting said that if they are not given this right to represent or negotiate; code of discipline cannot be applied to them. In this note they write that "necessary consequences" meaning thereby normal rules will apply.

As regards recognised unions even today under the rules or Standing Order, most of the provisions of the Code of Discipline are applicable.

Com.Dange is likely to meet Shri Nanda in a day or two when I propose that we should try that the actual words he uttered in the meeting should be put in the minutes.

6. Re. the minimum wage of Re.116 you have worked out, I have some protest as a "vegetarian". You give meat and egg to the Non-Vegetarians and they get in addition 10 oz. of milk. The unfortunate vegetarian gets no equivalent allotment, but in fact his milk has been reduced to 8 oz.!

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

(K.G.Sriwastava)

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :

SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.

Genl. Secretary :

SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET

CALCUTTA-12

Dated, March 18th 1958

Dear K.Ci.,

① I am sorry I cannot attend the World Peace Council meeting. Under the present circumstances, I think it is not advisable for me to leave Calcutta just now.

② Copies of the BPTVC General Council resolutions, & Rs 435/- in cash for the Cma defence fund, have been sent through SAD.

③ He told me the W.C. meeting would most probably be postponed. Personally, I would not be sorry! Anyway, I hope the decision will be communicated to W.C. members soon.

④ We are planning a good demonstration on the 27th.

The meeting of representatives of different centres & federations here was very well attended. Even your friend Krishnamurthy turned up -

but not as an authorized representative of course. He is pestering me to meet him to discuss his union matters! Should I?

(5) The Press news about Code of Discipline being ratified "at last" by the ATVC is causing a lot of confusion + complications here. The position needs to be clarified immediately through either a Press statement or circular to unions, or both. I mentioned this to Dange but could not discuss it in detail. Please remind him. This is urgent.

Yours,

P.C.



WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :

SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.

Genl. Secretary :

SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET

CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 30/4/1958

Dear Dange,

(1) Your letter re: TISCO received. It will be communicated to Kedar + Co. We are trying to bring them here for a consultation; along with Burnpur people, probably on the 2nd or 3rd. I shall wire you when the date is confirmed. Can't you possibly come down just for this discussion? It would ensure a proper decision, & you need not go to Jamshedpur if you don't want to. Please consider this, in view of the urgency.

I have been opposing a continuous strike all along. My stand was - one-day token strike on a date immediately after expiry of the notice. I am against allowing a lengthy gap between expiry of the notice & going on strike, as it will give unnecessary

157.8

SAD
 Telephone re.
 Jamshedpur sent.
 Wrote to TISCO circular

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WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :

SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.

Genl. Secretary :

SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET

CALCUTTA-12

(2)

Dated, 195

scope to others to manoeuvre & intimidate, & thus complicate the situation. But it seems Kedar & Co., thinking in terms of a continuous strike, have decided to wait ("prepare") for 2 weeks after the expiry of notice & then go into action.

However, it seems they have not yet finally announced whether it will be one-day or continuous. Please try to come for the discussion. A false step may ruin everything that has been built up so ardently.

(2) If Working Committee meeting is finally decided for Darjeeling on May 30th, 31st, & June 1st, (& Monoranjan tells me it is), please confirm whether you can inaugurate our Young Workers' Conference on the 6th June, on your way back from Darjeeling.

(3) It seems Ranen has written to you asking to be included in the delegation for

(3)

Date,

Nainital conference. I came to know subsequently! Anyway, if he is so keen to go I have no objection to being dropped.

(4) You sent some message through Promode Das Gupta about names for UNESCO - he couldn't explain exactly what it was, & I understand Ranen has sent off 2 names without consulting anybody. I don't mind you using these 'informal' channels in order to ~~avoid~~ forestall objections - but at least the BPTC should also be informed formally about it. At present, I know nothing about either the job or the nominations.

In haste,

y

Indrajit

157.9

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~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ S.S. Mirajkar

May 5, 1958

Dear Indrajit,

Your letter of 2nd May.

You know we have to give good lectures at the school and you are one of the good lecturers.

There is no question of the P.C. intervening because the thing is accepted all round.

You have only to give thought to writing the synopsis and then find time to lecture when dates are fixed.

Only I must have the synopsis with me to be sent to them before 10th or 12th May. You need not come to Delhi for writing the synopsis.

I will write to Jyoti or meet him.

Your time table will be adjusted with the Working Committee meeting.

Yours fraternally,

(S.A. DANGE)

Dear Indrajit

You tell of
2nd May.

You know we
have to give good
lectures at the school
and you are one
of the good lecturers.

There is no
question of the P.C.
intervening because
the unit is accepted

all round.

You have only
to give thought to
working the synopsis
& then find time
to lecture when
dates are fixed.

Only I must
have the synopsis
with me to be sent
to them before
10th or 12th May.
You need not
come to lecture.

for working the
syndicate.

I will write
to you or meet
soon.

Your time
table will be
adjusted with
the next meeting

SAD

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :

SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.

Genl. Secretary :

SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET

CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 2nd May, 1958.

Dear Dange,

(1) I hope you have by now received my letter of April 30th. That very day I sent a courier to Janshedpur with your letter, but he has not returned yet. We hope to have a consultation meeting within 2-3 days.

(2) Your letter re: Workers' Education Scheme came as a bombshell! I had never imagined myself in the role of a lecturer there. But how do you expect me to leave everything at a moment's notice + rush to Delhi for a week? I could not possibly do it without getting the PC's sanction to be relieved from numerous Party + T.U. commitments. It would mean completely readjusting the whole month's programme. However, if you consider my coming to Delhi as essential, I would request you to write to Tyoti immediately.

It is also not clear from your letter whether the actual delivery of the Leclure has also to be done this month in Bombay. If so, how can I possibly adjust that with the Working Committee meeting? It would mean being out of Calcutta practically the whole month.

(3) I have already written to you that I have no objection to being replaced by Ranen for the Navini Tal Conference.

Yours,

Indrajit

P.S.

Another thing - if Jamshedpur & Bownpur strikes do come off, it would not be advisable for both Ranen & me to be out of Calcutta at the same time.

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :
SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.

Genl. Secretary :

SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET

CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 6th May 1958

Dear Sange,

As Nikhil is just leaving for Delhi, I am scribbling off a few lines through him re: the latest situation in Jamshedpur & Burnpur. I have returned just an hour ago after 2 days in Jamshedpur, where I addressed the rally of about 20,000 on the 4th & also a good meeting of the Ministerial Staff. Burnpur leaders were brought to Tata yesterday & we had a joint discussion also.

We have decided that for the present, i.e. before the Tata strike of 12th, Burnpur

will continue preparations for one-day strike but not announce any date & publicly state that the Rs 10/- increase is not

(2)

satisfactory because it is not being given with retrospective effect. However, this is for only tactical reasons to keep up the pressure in favour of Tata workers. Burrupur, in any case, can't go on strike on the 12th.

After the 12th, my advice was that Burrupur should manoeuvre, press for further clarifications re: D.A., etc. but avoid strike, as it would be an unnecessary risk. Taher seems to agree. Bejoy Pal also. Only Chandraselhar was of the view that a strike is necessary on the 19th or so, because workers (according to him) have become more confident as the result of the 10/- increase & the 15% Prod. bonus increase for the Iron section means

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :

SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.

Genl. Secretary :

SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET

CALCUTTA-12

③

Dated, 195

actually, no gain in practice. However, no hasty decision will be taken, & we can review the Burupur position again after seeing what happens on 12th at TISCO. You write to them also.

There has been some confusion over dates, due to lack of elementary coordination between the two centres. Tata people have been giving their workers to understand that Burupur would strike simultaneously, while Taher says he had told Kedar that Burupur could not be ready by 12th & he was expecting that Jamshedpur would defer their strike date by a week or so to coincide it with Burupur. However, that is all in the past now.

Date:

195

Now, re: Jamshedpur position. Mass tempo & morale are very high. Organisation is weak & not properly planned out yet. There are wild rumours being spread, of course, about dangers of all-out repression, mass discharges, etc. but it is not cutting much ice. My own view is that ^{direct} repression may be less than is generally expected, & the main attempt will be to take selected batches to work under escort & then let loose a Press barrage to the effect that the strike has failed. Kedar's estimate (sober enough) is that 70 to 75% minimum will strike.

Decisions I took along with them yesterday were

All India Trade Union Congress

President :

SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.

Genl. Secretary :

SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET

CALCUTTA-12

(5)

Dated, 195

briefly :-

① The Union is replying to the Bihar Govt's "illegal" strike proclamation by stating that the 12th strike ^{will be} limited to issues not covered by Tata-John agreement + hence is perfectly legal. This was my idea + I think it is a tactical move which will not prejudice the wages question. I put it across in both the mass meetings + it went down well. Of course, whether the Govt. accepts this as "technically" correct or not is another matter, but it gives us an argument to hurl back.

I found that it was only this "illegal" question which was really troubling the majority of workers + putting us on the defensive; hence, I suggested

This, the comrades have accepted it, & a letter is going to the Govt. stating explicitly that on 12th we are confining our demands to the uncovered issues, i.e. D.A., recognition, & some minor ones.

(2) A Press conference will be held tomorrow to explain our stand & also to reply, point by point, to the lengthy & tendentious statement of the Co. — have you seen it? The full text was in "Indian Nation" yesterday.

(3) A broad organisational plan was worked out re: volunteer arrangements, picketing, security measures, etc, etc. The whole of this part hinges on Navesh Dutt, & if he is picked up

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :

SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.

Genl. Secretary :

SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET

CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 195

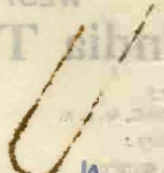
⑦

They will be in a mess. I have tried to impress the need of simple precautions against arrest on all the leaders, without hampering their normal mobility, but don't know how far they will observe them. They are all out to become "martyrs" at the first opportunity!

This is all for the present, except that the UNANIMOUS view & demand is that you must go there just once before the 12th. Will you please try? It would give the workers just the finishing boost to their morale & guarantee success. Please do try to come on

208, BOWBAZAR STREET
CALCUTTA-12

(8)



Date of the or even 10th.
your telegrams are all
received & approved.

In haste,
Indrajit

P.S. Please note I have
missed the P.C. meeting
in order to go to Jam'pur!!
What about that workers'
Education business? Do
you really insist on my
visiting Delhi just now?

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :
SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.
Genl. Secretary :
SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET
CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 9th May 1958

Dear K.L.

① I hope you are issuing another circular to Working Committee members containing the instructions which Monoranjan Roy gave re: train timings from Cal. to Darjeeling, need to bring warm clothes, etc. etc. We must know by the 3rd week of May, how many people to expect, how many will go via Calcutta & how many via Katihar, ~~soon~~. Please ask them to inform BPTUC direct by May 21st.

② I do not know what made you suggest Hish's name for the E.S.T. Medical Benefits Staff Council. He is not suited for the job & quite ignorant about the subject. Unfortunately, your letter proposing him was opened in his presence & since he himself did not think it was a wrong choice (!), it was rather awkward & we had to

okay, it is in order, to avoid any hard feelings. In future, please consult us for names before suggesting. We could have given somebody much better fitted for this job. He will make a mess of it.

(3) In spite of your being so busy, I am venturing to remind you once again about the air-ticket refund?! If you can spare a few minutes, could you please take the ticket round to the KLM office in Connaught Circus + let us at least know what they say? They cannot just tell us to go through Globe since the latter has closed its doors? And since, as S.A.D. said, we are not responsible if KLM's agent is a crook, why should not KLM make it up to us now? If you are too, too busy, will you at least write them an official letter giving the particulars + let us see what they reply? It seems a pity to lose so much money without even trying to recover it. And one year will be up soon.

y
Indrajit

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :

SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.

Genl. Secretary :

SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET

CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 12th May 1958

Dear K.C.

Just received yours of the 10th re: Bombay T.V. School.

As usual, these sudden "firmans" mean a complete upset of one's plans & programme! Com. Dange had specifically written to me that my lectures would be adjusted so as not to clash with our ATUC meeting. Now, from the timetable sent by you, am I to take it that you want me to go to the school & miss out the Working Committee? I would like clear instructions on this point. Obviously, I cannot lecture in Bombay on the 28th & reach Dangeeling before our meeting ends.

Secondly, I had suggested to

Dange that the "synopsis" should be prepared at the AITUC office.

(a) because it is impossible for me to do at such short notice in the midst of day to day work, & (b) because, in a new venture of this sort, some of you could at least have discussed at Delhi the content of our lectures, whereas here I am completely in the dark & on my own, & I do not feel the necessary confidence to lecture in this peculiar set-up.

Now, what to do? I am not too keen on missing the Working Ctee. Hence, I suggest you confine my lecturing to "Propaganda & Field Work" only, & let others handle the other two subjects which require much more time to read up & prepare. Alternatively, the dates should be altered to next month.

Please let me know, after proper consideration, what is to be done. Please don't try to avoid the difficulties & don't spring things on me at the 11th hour! I am writing to Dange in Bombay also, in case he is there.

Indrajit

May 15, 1958.

Dear Com. IG,

Your letter dated 7th May to Com. Dange.

2. Yes, our offer of paying Rs.200/- for the translation in Bengali of Leipzig Report stands. We shall pay it at Darjeeling.

3. Re: your suggestion of changing date of young workers conference, Com. Dange is at present not in a position to accept the assignment of inauguration. He will write to you after Nainital Conference.

Can you send some instances of irregular functioning of Works Committees and also your suggestions, if any to Com. Dange at Nainital.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

V. K. G.
15/5
(K.G. Sriwastava)

Secretary.

INDRAJIT GUPTA
CARE COMMUNIST
CALCUTTA

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM SENT TO TAHIR HUSSAIN QUOTE I THINK IN VIEW OF
INCREASE IN DEARNESS ALLOWANCE AND PRODUCTION BONUS THOUGH INADEQUATE
WE SHALL BE JUSTIFIED IN CALLING OFF THE NOTICE OF STRIKE AND GIVE
A TRIAL TO THE CONCESSIONS ANNOUNCED STOP CONSULT COMRADES AND
LET ME KNOW YOUR DECISION UNQUOTE PARA FOLLOWING TELEGRAM SENT TO
JAMSHEDPUR QUOTE INDIAN IRON BURNPUR HAS ANNOUNCED INCREASED DEARNESS
ALLOWANCE AND PRODUCTION BONUS WHICH CHANGES SITUATION THERE STOP
BUT SINCE TATAS REFUSE TO FOLLOW POLICY OF CONCESSIONS YOUR DECISION
ONE DAY PROTEST STRIKE CORRECT AND SHOULD BE ADHERED TO UNQUOTE
PLEASE CONVEY THESE TWO MESSAGES TO JAMSHEDPUR AND BURNPUR BY TRUNKCALL
IMMEDIATELY

DANGE

157-11

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

249, BOWBAZAR STREET, CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 7th May, 1958.

President :

Sri Hemanta Kumar Bose,
M. L. A.

Vice-Presidents :

Dr. Ranen Sen, M. L. A.
Janab Md. Elias, M. P.
Sri Sudhir Mukhoti
Janab Md. Ismail
Dr. Sushil Bose
S. Anadi Das

General Secretary :

Sri Indrajit Gupta

Secretaries :

Sri Manoranjan Roy
Sri Hrishik Banerji
Sri T. N. Siddhanta
Sri Saroj Ghosal
Sri Manindra Bose
Sri Sitaram Sett

Treasurer :

Sri Nirode Chakravarty

Dear Com: Dange,

(1) Your letter of the 5th reached me today. I never meant that there was any question of the P.C. "intervening" in the school business. The point is that I happen to be a member of the P.C. Sectt. and do some party work in addition to T.U.! I have, for example, been allotted a number of reporting-back meetings on the party congress. Hence, I said that P.C.'s consent would be necessary if I was to cancel this programme. However, if I don't have to go to Delhi now, the question does not arise.

To-day is the 7th. It is quite impossible for me to prepare any synopsis and send you by the 10th or 12th. That requires some time and relief from other jobs to collect and read material, etc. which is not possible in the daily routine here. So I suggest that some bare points of an outline syllabus be prepared and sent from the A I T U C office, and I shall certainly work up the details before the actual lecturing has to be done, which please try to see is not fixed before the Working Committee meeting.

(2) Hope you got my letter sent by hand through Nikhil. Don't worry about anything you may read in the Press re: Burnpur. Your instructions will be followed, and you need not send any more telegram on the same points

(3) The Bengali translation of your Leipzig Report is ready at last (!) and I am arranging for its publication through NBA. They are doing the costing, etc. at present. I think not more than 1000 to 1500 copies should be printed. But please let me know immediately whether your original offer of Rs. 200/= stands or not? The fellow who eventually translated it will also have to be paid a nominal amount.

(4) K.G. writes you can't inaugurate our Young Workers' Conference on June 5th because of a previous engagement on that date at Bangalore. We are prepared to alter our date to suit your convenience. You have to pass through Calcutta in any case on your way back from Darjeeling. So we can fix it on 3rd or 4th if you agree. Please confirm quick.

(5) Please note that, contrary to our usual practice, we have yesterday sent Rs. 200/= direct to Kedar Das for Gua defence fund. I did this only because having met all the people concerned at Jamshedpur, including Negeswar Prasad and other Counsel, it appeared that some cash was immediately necessary to meet very heavy commitments. Hope you will not mind this. *Any further collections will be sent to AITUC as usual.*

Greetings,

Yours comradely,

Indrajit Gupta

*Yes, the 5000
will be given.
8/5/58
Re. 700 - submit up
after 11 am/12*

The INTUC-affiliated Allwyn Metal Workers' Union, with the total backing of all the workers, is now intensifying its struggle for two months bonus and Rs.8 increase in D.A. and an equal amount in basic wage.

What the union is demanding is by all means the minimum and most reasonable. The recommendations of Shri Hanumantha Rao Committee are applicable to the workers of Allwyn and for that matter Sirpur Paper and Sirsilk workers besides others, which has recommended Rs.35 as basic wage and Rs.45 as D.A. on the price index of 1955 when the cost of living index was at the lowest ebb in the last one decade. Even if further rise in the cost of living is not neutralised, these workers will get Rs.80 per month, if the recommendations are implemented. At present they are getting Rs.26 as basic wage and Rs.26 as D.A., i.e., Rs.52 all-inclusive. If the workers demand is conceded, the total wage and D.A. would only come to Rs.68, i.e., Rs.12 less than what Hanumantha Rao Committee had recommended. Is this not a just demand? Should not the management concede it without struggle to maintain industrial peace and harmony?

One of the demands of the workers is the implementation of the Industrial Tribunal's award of 1954. This Tribunal has awarded 7 days casual leave to workers which the management persistently refusing to implement - thus violating it continuously? To what extent the Government is indifferent in implementing its own enactments is clear from this very fact that since last four years, the Government has not even prosecuted the Allwyn management for dishonouring the award of the Industrial Tribunal?

Another demand of the workers is the restoration of 12 paid festival and national holidays, which the management has arbitrarily reduced to 9.

The company increased its monthly production to an average of Rs.12 lakhs since 1956, whereas its production in 1955 was at an average of only Rs.3½ lakhs per month. This huge rise in production is firstly due to increased workload, secondly, improved technical assistance of one or two newly-appointed engineers. Margin should also be given for proper distribution of work and better organisation on the part of the management. And little addition to the labour force and proper placements should not be discounted. Is it wrong for the workers to demand their share in this increased production - if not the total share, at least a reasonable part of it.

The last year's profits of the Company are placed at Rs.9,26, after meeting all expenses of the management, probably the highest ever recorded by this concern in the last ten years. The management promptly allotted Rs.3 lakhs to clear income-tax and dues on the profits officially shown. It has also handed over Rs.92,689 to the managing agents as commission. The depreciation has bagged Rs.86,000. Our ruling party the Congress, has its own share of Rs.28,000. Birlas who robbed the workers have not hesitated, in their 'best interest' to hand over Rs.28,000 to the Congress. The Congress in this "donation" behind the back of the workers to retain its power in order to serve the "best interest" of Birlas. In all these allotments, the actual producer - the workers - neither the say nor has the information. Even after all these allotments - moral or immoral - the Birla still have a surplus amount to the tune of Rs.4,16,537.

It is from this surplus amount that the workers are demanding their own share. In fact, they entitle to claim their share from the total amount of Rs.9,26,890. Even after conceding the workers' demand of two month bonus, the Birlas will have about Rs.3 lakhs in their hands as their 'share'. Should they not part willingly one-fourth of what is left over to the workers whose hard labour is mainly responsible for these earnings of the Company?

It is claimed that the wage bill has gone-up by about Rs.60,000 per month due to rise in wage and D.A. of all workers, when compared with 1955 wage bill. This is however not a fact. The wage bill might have increased due to addition of supervisory staff to undesirable proportions. From this Rs.60,000 the supervisory staff alone claimed more than Rs.36,000 for the 1955 total monthly wage bill of this section of employees was only about Rs.14,000 and whereas it has now gone up to about Rs.50,000 per month. The remaining Rs.24,000 may be accounted for addition to the labour force and few technicians.

There was a big publicity that the Allwyn workers got a rise of 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ % in their wage and D.A. as a result of the long-term agreement which the management and the INTUC leadership entered secretly without even the knowledge of the workers. It is true that the wage and D.A. have been increased by 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ % - thus making a total of unskilled workers monthly earnings to Rs.52, which means an increase of Rs.7 per month. This is what the workers got by agreement.

But what is not publicised is the withdrawal of the production bonus as a result of which, in terms of money, each worker has lost more than what he had gained due to rise in wage and D.A.

The system of production bonus was introduced by Shri Tara-purwala to secure more production. The method of calculation was 25% of the earnings over and above Rs.3,80,000 monthly will be paid to the workers in proportion to their basic wage, as production bonus. During that period the production has never gone above Rs.5 lakhs per month. And on this production every worker got a minimum of Rs.8 and a maximum of Rs.12 per month. An unskilled worker, for example, gained Rs.7 per month due to rise in wages and lost Rs.8 per month due to withdrawal of production bonus. By this agreement, let the INTUC leaders explain who gained and in whose interest it was signed? Had not this agreement been brought into force, on the present production each worker would have got a minimum of Rs.18 per month and a maximum of Rs.45, which means a clear monthly loss of Rs.10 to the lowest paid worker. This agreement was reached by the then union leaders without even the knowledge of the workers not to speak of their ratification.

The Allwyn workers, as the workers in Sirpur Paper Mills and Sirsilk Mills, have rightly on the one hand refused to bind themselves to the agreement to which they were never a party and on the other hand, thrown out the leadership that signed such anti-working class agreements with Birlas.

The Birla management induced both the groups in INTUC to enter with them into secret agreements at Allwyn and Sirpur Paper and Sirsilk Mills. The INTUC that is divided into two warring groups popularly known as G.Sunjeevan Reddy and T.Anjiah groups or to put it rather correctly, between the Chief Minister and Ranga-Cheena Reddy Groups of Congress.

Anjiah Group denounced the agreement reached by Sunjeevan Reddy with Birlas at Sirpur Paper Mills and Sirsilk and charged as "betrayal of workers cause". And Shri Sunjeevan Reddy condemned the agreement signed by Anjiah ~~xx~~ at Allwyns by characterising it as "betrayal of workers faith". Such were the agreements in reality, secretly signed by these groups separately at separate companies but with the same Birla Brothers.

But the workers of these Companies have not only denounced these agreements and refused to honour them but also ousted leaders of both the groups from their respective unions.

Allwyn workers defeated Shri Anjiah with the thumping majority in their union elections and elected another INTUC man who is a worker in the Company and who pledged to stand by the workers and promised to make no secret agreements. The union also continues its affiliation with INTUC but the executive of the union reflects all shades of opinions. The AITUC followers like Rajiah and Ramaniah were denied even the membership by the previous leadership but now they are the important office-bearers in the Union. The Union has become active and enjoys the support and confidence of the workers, which was certainly not the case till now. That is why the leadership of the union with the sanctions of the workers are pressing for the acceptance of their demands by the management. Recently a successful stay-in-strike was conducted for 12 days with cent-per-cent participation of the workers.

Having disowned Shri Sunjeevan Reddy, the workers of Sirsilk elected Com. Makhdoom Mohiuddin as the President and Shri P. Gopinath as General Secretary of their newly-formed union. Afraid of defeat, this section of INTUC refused to hold the elections of the union. Under the new leadership of the union, the workers of Sirsilk Mills with renewed vigour are forging unity on the common demands with Sirpur Paper Mills workers who are still under the INTUC fold. Such are the results of secret and anti-working class agreements.

In its own 'best interest' will the Birla management draw the inescapable lessons from these developments? In their "best interest" will the INTUC and Birla management desist henceforth, at least, from reaching the agreements behind the back of the workers? In its own "best interest", should not the INTUC, at least now, agree to the principles enunciated by the AITUC that no agreement entered into by any trade union leader should be treated as valid unless the workers ratify it?

The entire trade union movement, irrespective of their affiliations, we are sure, will extend their full support to the workers of the Allwyn or for that matter, Sirpur Paper and Sirsilk Mills who are now under the leadership of their respective unions struggling to wrest the just demands from the unwilling hands of mighty Birla.

Is it too much to expect from the Andhra Pradesh Government whose Chief Minister paid tributes to Birlas as "efficient management" and "serving the nation" and thus served the "best interest" of Birlas to shed the callous indifference towards the 8000 workers employed in Allwyn, Sirpur Paper and Sirsilk Mills and move in the matter with a view not to cover further what has been concealed so far but to exert its pressure on the Birla managements to concede the just demands of the workers. This is what the best interests of the workers under Birla managements demand.

157.13

S. S. Mirajkar.



TEL: { 26-3951—Mayor's Room
26-3954—After Office hours
63978—Residence.

CORPORATION HALL,

BOMBAY, 30th May 1958

Dear Dange,

I gave you the other day all the material in connection with the Municipal workers and you promised to issue a statement relating to their demand of ~~Rs~~ 5/- as increase in the dearness allowance. You also said that the said statement would appear under the joint signature of S.M. and yourself. I find that you have done nothing in the matter.

The Municipal Mazdoor Union has decided to go on a strike from the 13th June onward and Mr. Fernandes has been carrying on a Campaign for the strike. He has been also saying that Dange and S.M. are supporting their demand.

Will you please, therefore, give your consideration to the matter and issue a statement in consultation with S.M. Joshi? I hope you will treat this as an urgent matter.

With greetings

yours sincerely,
S. S. Mirajkar

not noted
A.D. (G)
M.M.
588

102
"Locksley",
P.V. Swaney Road,
A.S. Puram,
Coimbatore

28.5.58

Dear Com. R.G.,

1. I have sent a telegram intimating my inability to attend the Working Committee meeting. A crisis has come up in one of the Mills here - the Kaleeswarar Mills - employing nearly 2500 workers which is one of the bases of our union in Coimbatore. There is every likelihood of the Mills closing down altogether - internal crisis in the management. So I am unable to leave. Added to this is also a critical position in this Division of the Southern Railway where they are going in for mass transfer to try and break the Union. I have to meet the Division Superintendent etc. in this connection. Hence due to these crises I am unable to leave so I am afraid I cannot reach Darjeeling for the meeting. Please explain these to Com. Dange. I did not write earlier as I was trying my best to get away, but could not succeed.

2. I did reach Bombay in time and gave the lectures that I was down for. The synopsis could not be sent before hand as I had no address to which to send it. Meanwhile, the students asked me to include some of what I had said in the lectures itself in the synopsis and then send it on, so I am doing that and will let you have a copy of it when I send it tomorrow. The lectures went off fairly well.

The comrades who are attending the school met me beforehand and gave me some hints which were useful. Most of the students - the direct recruits know very little about TU movement, apparently so one has to make it as elementary as possible. I met the girl students also and made friends with them though one could only spend a few minutes with them.

Please let me know when you return to Delhi re. the Working Committee decisions and also if possible send me a set of papers. Particularly one of the comrades here wants whatever material is ready on the Industrial Committee on mines other than Coal.

With greetings,

Pawar

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र

एक पत्र के अन्तर्द्वारा न. लिखिए

BY AIR MAIL
via MADRAS, CALCUTTA.



Com. K. G. Sawastava

Secretary, All India Trade Union Congress

4 Ashok Road,
New Delhi

~~1. Darjeeling Zilla Chamber~~
~~Workers Union~~

~~DARJEELING~~

~~West Bengal.~~

नीसरा मोड़

No. 10 postman

21/5

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता :-



↑ पढ़ना मोड़ ↓

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :
SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.
Genl. Secretary :
SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET
CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 12th June 1958

Dear K.C.,
Yours of the 9th on Industrial
Committee on Jute.

I am sending herewith
my Memo. for suggested Agenda.
As our typist is ill, & I
don't want to risk further delay,
I am sending the original note
& would request you to please
send me back a copy after
you have had it typed.

I don't know whether
Andhra + U.P. people will send
you anything. Don't wait too
long for them. The INTUC H.Q.
has circularised its Unions
here at least 10 days ago, &
they have already sent in their
suggestions.

y
Indrajit

SUGGESTED AGENDA FOR FIRST MEETING OF THE INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE ON JUTE

I. APPLICATION TO THE JUTE INDUSTRY OF THE AGREED DECISIONS OF THE FIFTEENTH INDIAN LABOUR CONFERENCE ON RATIONALISATION.

~~[Note]~~: The Committee should consider whether the agreed decisions of the 15th Indian Labour Conference in respect of Rationalisation are being properly adhered to or not, and, if not, what ^{specific} steps should immediately be taken to ensure such adherence.

It is the contention of the Unions that the agreement on minimum conditions for rationalisation is being systematically violated by the I.J.M.A. In particular, the safeguard against retrenchment of existing employees is being by-passed by drawing an invidious distinction between "permanent" + "non-permanent" workmen. There is no mechanism for mutually acceptable assessment of workload and no provision for equitable sharing of the benefits of rationalisation which is being carried out for the last 9 or 10 years.

Further, the government should also satisfy itself whether the rationalisation schemes of the IJMA actually serve the real economic interest in the present conditions of the country, or not.]

II. WAYS + MEANS OF AVOIDING CLOSURES.

~~[Note]~~: Since March 1957, about a dozen jute mills in West Bengal have been closed down, affecting nearly 25,000 workers of whom only a small proportion have been absorbed in alternative jobs in other mills. The Industrial Committee should consider how to deal with closures due to (a) financial mismanagement, + (b) the employers' rationalisation policy of deliberately closing down certain so-called "uneconomic" units + concentrating production in modernised

units.
 This latter process is now being intensified and more closures are apprehended. The Committee may consider their impact upon the already chronic problem of mass unemployment in West Bengal, & the desirability* of reopening & operating mills closed due to financial mismanagement in the light of recommendations of the 16th Indian Labour Conference may also be considered.]

* of prohibiting this type of planned closure.

III. APPOINTMENT OF A WAGE BOARD FOR THE JUTE INDUSTRY.

[Note: A scientific revision of the wages structure, including the questions of Dearness Allowance + Bonus, is long overdue. The existing wages structure was framed 10 years ago by the Industrial Tribunal & subsequent minor modifications have not altered the basic fact that the minimum wages paid by the Jute industry fall far short of the norm agreed upon at the 15th Indian Labour Conference. Further, the wage structure is divorced from all considerations of job evaluation based on skill, intelligence, work-load, etc.

In West Bengal, the Dearness Allowance is paid at a flat rate & bears no relation to fluctuations in the cost of living indices. The last Tribunal Award (1955) actually reduced the D.A. by Rs 4/14 p.m. on the plea of a "downward trend" in the cost of living! Subsequent admitted rises in the cost of living, particularly in 1957, have never been compensated for. Consequently the jute workers' real wages have sharply declined.

The industry in West Bengal pays no Bonus in any shape or form. Mills in Andhra + U.P., however, are known to have paid Bonuses. The need for ^{fixing} some minimum quantum of Bonus in order

to fill up partially the wide gap between existing wages + even the minimum wage norm suggested by the 15th Labour Conference is a pressing one. For all the above reasons, the Industrial Committee should seriously consider the question of early appointment of a Wage Board for the Jute Industry.]

IV. RETRENCHMENT OF FEMALE LABOUR

[Since 1948 there has been a steady reduction in the employment of women in the jute mills + since 1951 this has been aggravated. The number of women employed in 88 Jute mills in West Bengal has declined from 30,415 in 1951 to 19,569 in 1956. Despite special permission given to the industry by the State Government to employ women for longer hours in mills undergoing modernisation, the employers are deliberately retrenching women in order to save on maternity benefit costs, etc. The Industrial Committee may consider this question with a view to checking this harmful trend.]

V. MEASURES FOR STRENGTHENING THE INDUSTRY'S STABILITY.

[Note: ~~Three~~ Four of the most chronic maladies affecting the industry are (a) instability of prices + supplies of raw jute; (b) rigidity in lines of production; (c) over-dependence on particular countries for overseas markets + fluctuations in selling prices of jute goods; + (d) top-heavy administrative structure + management expenses.

It is suggested that the Industrial Committee may study these problems more intensively, set up Sub-Committees for that purpose, + consider the advisability

of more energetic governmental action in the following directions :-

- (a) State purchase of raw jute, guaranteeing a fair price to the primary growers & stable supply at fair prices to the mills;
- (b) Diversification of production, & manufacture of new lines which would also help to develop the domestic market;
- (c) Taking over of the export trade in jute goods by the State Trading Corporation or other State agencies, in order to develop markets in new countries & ensure stable supplies at firm prices;
- (d) A high-power commission to inquire into the managerial side of the industry's working, with a view to possible reductions in top-heavy expenses.]

Recd
16/6/58

1-8-1/60 Suryanagar
Hyderabad. 20.
13.6.1958

Hydrabad K.G.

Received your letter.

I don't know how I could help Elum Joti Comrades. I am leaving for sugar factory in Bodhan tomorrow. I shall be arriving in Hyderabad on 16th and leaving for Jamshedpur on 17th.

I shall be returning to Hyderabad only on 28th June.

As regards Jamshedpur fund, I was surprised at your

Circular. I have already paid the amount. Com. Achyutan must have paid you the money.

Another point:

There are Legislative Council elections on 22.6.58. I am a voter in graduates' constituency. If you desire I shall leave for Elum on 17.6.58 and come back on 22.6.58 to Hyderabad, visit here and go to Jamshedpur on 22.6.58 reaching there on 26.6.58. Inform soon.

Yours faithfully
Nai Bahadur

51/58

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न लिखिए



Can. K. S. Srivastava
Secretary AITUC
4. Ashok Road
New Delhi

तीसरा मोड़

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता :-

Dr. Raj Bahadur Gaur
M.P.
1-8-1/60 Surayanagar
Hyderabad 20.



दूसरा मोड़

पहला मोड़

पहले काट कर भेजना

Camp: Shakarnagar

15.6.1958

Dear Com. Freevastava

I received your letter regarding
Janshedpur and Kaghanagar
yesterday when I was leaving for
Shakarnagar. ~~you know~~

I am going to Janshedpur on
17th and reaching there on 19th.
I shall be there for the evening.
But I do not know how I could
help. Any way I shall try.

I shall also go to Patna to meet
P.C. Madan.

I am coming to Delhi for a
day. I shall be leaving for
Hydrabad on 26.6.58 to
reach Hydrabad on 28.6.58.

But how could I go to
Kaghanagar?

Kaghanagar Comrades had
come to Hydrabad. They met
Com. Makhdoom, President of
their Union.

I shall meet Makhdoom in
Hydrabad on 17th morning,
get the details from him and
post them to you.

The IN+UC Union in Kaghanagar
is holding Conference on
21-22 June. Vasawada is
coming. Chief Minister
and Irrigation and Power
Minister of Andhra Pradesh
are also going there to give
them a boost up.

I shall write to you later.

~~Smt~~

I went to Tirodi Conference.
I am sending you the report
on 17th.

We have to take up the
Narayan case
seriously.

They are organising a
major demonstration in
Baleghat on 8th July.

Yours faithfully
Raj Bahadur Gonn

File
18/5

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रक्विये



Com. K. G. Srinivasana
Secretary AITOC
4 - Ashok Road
New Delhi

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता :-

Dr Raj Bahadur Gonn P.O.
108-1/60 Suryanagar
Hyderabad 20.



पत्रों को भेजने के लिए

Copy of letter from Shri R.L.Mehta,
Joint Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment

dated New Delhi,
June 12, 1958

Dear Shri Sriwastava,

Kindly refer to your letter of June 9, regarding an inquiry into the causes of the strike at TISCO, Jamshedpur last month. The study that this Ministry intends to make is not in the nature of an inquiry, but an objective evaluation of the circumstances that led to the strike of May 12 and certain subsequent events with particular reference to possible breaches of the Code of Discipline. In this connection, I shall feel grateful if you will kindly inform the officers of AITUC and, particularly, of your affiliate, the Jamshedpur Mazdoor Union, who are likely to be of help in this study, to contact me in Jamshedpur. I shall reach Jamshedpur on the 19th morning and shall stay there till 23rd evening. I am endorsing a copy of this letter to Shri S.A.Dange, your General Secretary.

Yours sincerely,

Sd.

(R.L.Mehta)

June 18, 1958

Dear Com.Indrajit,

Your letter of 15th June.

2. Yes. I have received the reportage of Com.Sadhan Mukherjee and it is awaiting Com.Dange's return here.

Thinking
3. We have sent you yesterday an airpacket containing the statement we submitted to Shri R.L.Mehta, Jt. Secretary, Ministry of Labour. I hope you got it. In it I requested you to go to Jamshedpur if possible when the inquiry is being held. We want to submit more details of individual cases which the Union represented to the management and did not receive replies, as instances of violation of Art.6 of the Bihar Convention.

Secondly, we have to deal with the cases of harassment now going on. Details are needed. How many workers taken in? How many out? For what reason? Charge-sheets on how many and those suspended.

I spoke to Shri Mehta at the airport about the harassment and hardship in general terms and the necessity to stop this in the interest of industrial peace. We wanted to represent to the Bihar Government and the Union Government about these but in the absence of concrete cases, it becomes difficult.

I am sure you will impress upon comrades in Jamshedpur and those who visit there to collect such cases and send them on to us, even though they might have made local representations.

4. I have replied to Com.Renu to reach there on 26th evening and written to Jamshedpur also. The programme of MPs is being concretised depending upon receipt of their replies. Even for replies I am chasing them.

5. I feel it would be better if Com.Siddhanta comes here and finish the job by staying for a few days. Delhi is very hot these days and I would suggest (if it does not cause much delay in your printing the ESI material) that he may come here when the heat wave abates.

6. I hope by now you have got the copy of agenda for Industrial Committee on Jute sent by us to the Ministry.

7. The KLM has passed a credit note to Globe Travels and wrote to us that refund cannot be made direct. Globe says(as usual) that he will clear the dues by the end of the month.

Yours fraternally,

mm.
18/6
(K.G.Sriwastava)

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE
All India Trade Union Congress

249, BOWBAZAR STREET, CALCUTTA-12

Dt: 15th June, 1958.

Dear K.G. SRIVASTAVA,

1) Sadhan Mukherjee has sent you a reportage article on the Jamshedpur struggle, which Dange had probably asked him to write for an AITUC booklet. I have gone through it - it will be quite useful for most people who don't know the background and actual sequence of events. However, if you do intend to publish it, please see that the language is properly edited, Sub-headings put in, and so on. The AITUC appeal for funds should be put at the end.

2) Re: Labour Ministry's inquiry into Jamshedpur affairs, please inform whether you want us to help in any way. Or is Dange personally taking the whole responsibility? We have called Dr. Misra here for discussions on the 17th/18th.

3) Elias is back and is issuing a detailed Press statement. A copy will be sent to you for use in TUR.

4) M.P.'s further programme needs to be concretised and adjusted. Renu can go either end of this month or middle of July, depending on who else is available when. So please inform us quick, as she has to combine her visit with Gua.

5) Now, what about Siddhanta's going to Delhi for editing the E.S.I. material? Is it at all possible for you to send the stuff here through someone who may be coming to Calcutta? That would save Siddhanta's train fare as well as his health. You would also send the Ernakulam resolutions which I am prepared to edit. However, if Siddhanta's going is absolutely essential, let me know.

6) Hope you received my agenda proposals for the Industrial Committee on Jute.

The following---

President :

Sri Hemanta Kumar Bose,
M. L. A.

Vice-Presidents :

L. Ranen Sen, M. L. A.
Janab Md. Elias, M. P.
Sri Sudhir Mukhoti
Janab Md. Ismail
Dr. Sushil Bose
Sri Anadi Das

General Secretary :

Sri Indrajit Gupta

Secretaries :

Sri Manoranjan Roy
Sri Hrishu Banerji
Sri T. N. Siddhanta
Sri Saroj Ghosal
Manindra Bose
Sri Sitaram Sett

Treasurer :

Sri Nirode Chakravarty

June 18, 1958

Dear Com.I.G.,

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the D.O. letter received from Shri Mehta about the scope of the inquiry. From this as well as press reports, it is very clear that the object of the investigation is to see how far the Code of Discipline has been followed or in case of breach, who is responsible.

As such, they say that going on the spot is only to help to contact parties concerned expeditiously. They do not want to go into the merit and demerit of demands. It is only to find out the methods employed to get the demands conceded.

We have given them our statement (you must have got it by now) justifying our union's actions for getting the demands conceded and attacking management, Government of Bihar and also the Government of India for not following the Code and conventions.

In my view, the only thing that can be done on the spot is, firstly, to give more instances, if possible about our just actions and secondly, to refute the explanations given by the management and Government of Bihar, which have not been covered in the statement. What these will be I cannot visualise.

This is the first inquiry of the type for which no procedure has been laid down anywhere.

I have reserved our right to submit additional statements. In fact the one submitted is only for the period upto 15.5.58. This we propose to do after hearing from Dr.Mishra, you and Dr.Raj Bahadur as well as talking with Mr.Mehta on his return.

L. S. M. G.
Com.Sadhan Mukerjee's note though received late was useful in checking up facts. *L* The other things I managed to get earlier here. Dr.Mishra's dismissal notice is still not there. In fact the material from JMU with us is upto 19.5.58.

Statement on Port & Dock, as you must have seen, has been issued by S.A.D. from Bombay. It is being reproduced in TUR. I hope it ~~satisfies~~ ^{meets} your point.

Message from SAD depends upon his coming here before he goes abroad, if at all. Things are quite uncertain about him.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K. G. Sriwastava
19/6
(K.G.Sriwastava)

Bhopal

26.6.58.

102
Dear Com. Srinivasava,

Here in Bhopal there is a lock out in a textile mill. I have got to take a hand in settlement of the matter. I am seeing the Governor this evening.

A meeting of activists is arranged at 5 P.M. to report on jamshed pur and other matters.

There is a public meeting in the night.

I met a local D. V. Kavya Shri Ram Panjwani. I discussed with him the jamshed pur question of legality of May 12 strike. He agreed with me that

1. for withdrawing demands fresh notice not required.
2. These demands in whose respect the strike was illegal have been withdrawn the strike remains legal.
3. No reply from either from Lalram Secy or Management to 6th May letter means they accepted the position.

under ordinary law if objection is not raised, the notice is taken as sufficient.

I have asked him to prepare a case law on these points and send it direct to you.

I hope this would be useful.

Greetings.

Yours fraternally

Raj Bahadur Gome.

File

110

27/5

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE
All India Trade Union Congress

249, BOWBAZAR STREET, CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 21st June, 1958.

President :

Sri Hemanta Kumar Bose,
M. L. A.

K.G. SRIVASTAVA,
AITUC,

Dear K.G.,

Vice-Presidents :

Dr. Ranen Sen, M. L. A.
Janab Md. Elias, M. P.
Sri Sudhir Mukhoti
Janab Md. Ismail
Dr. Sushil Bose
Sri Anadi Das

(1) Your letters of 18/6, as well as Air Packet of 17/6.

(2) We had discussions here with Dr. Mishra on 18/6 and he returned to Jamshedpur the same night. Since then I have not received any news from him. Nor is there any sign of Raj Bahadur. Unfortunately, I could not go to Jamshedpur for the Mehta inquiry, as my mother's operation was on the 19th and these East 2-3 days I have had to be busy with that.

General Secretary :

Sri Indrajit Gupta

(3) The AITUC note to Mehta reached my hand only today. It is not clear from your letter whether a copy was sent direct to Mishra or not. In any case, there is no point in sending him this copy now. I have written to him to send you immediately a detailed report of whatever talks he had with Mehta, on the basis of our discussions here.

(4) Please note another change in the list of delegates for the conference of Young Workers.

Com. Bhowani Roy Choudhury is to be omitted, as he cannot go.

Com. Pingaksha Mazdumdar, victimised worker leader of G.E.C. (Engineering) is to be included. He has submitted his passport application.

More later.

Greetings,

Yours comradely,

K.G.

Secretaries :

Sri Manoranjan Roy
Sri Hrishu Banerji
Sri T. N. Siddhanta
Sri Saroj Ghosal
Sri Manindra Bose
Sri Sitaram Sett

Treasurer :

Nirode Chakravarty

Amended

June 30, 1958

Dear IG,

Yours of 28th June.

2. We have not received money, except for small bits, from Unions for Jamshedpur Fund. Due to the confusion created by the two appeals published in the New Age, some unions have sent money direct to the JMU and later on our reminders, told us about it. The danger in this process is first, that whatever amount is received will all be spent and nothing will be left for paying the lawyers, etc., at a later stage. Secondly, there is the question of accounting. Even in the case of Gua when Com. Kedar Das and Ali Amjad were out, all these happened and at a later stage, we had to centralise it. We have sent cheques for lawyers fee but intimation has been received that lawyers have not been paid in full. There is demand for more money. Unless ~~those~~ comrades come out, nothing can be known about it. We asked for its accounts. They might have kept it but we did not get in in spite of telephonic requests even. I do not in the least mean any suspicion but this is only lack of organisation and proper check up.

When the case starts in the Sessions, we will have to foot a huge bill. I am afraid if all the amount is handed over just now, either we will have to go in to find new resources or give up best defence.

In view of the above, I would suggest that if you feel that JMU is badly in need of money (and they will always be till the case continues), you can give them a sum of Rs.500/- in this instance. The rest may be remitted to this office. The details may be sent to us for printing in TUR.

I have written several personal letters to centres for collecting funds for JMU. I hope the money will come in July. May be some tour will have to be organised for this besides appeals and letters.

Sailen Paul has written to us and we are replying to him separately.

Re. Sukumar Datta - You may issue him the necessary letter. *We have asked him to pay full fare.*

We read in the papers that there has been a recent tribunal award in Textiles there. Please let us have details at your earliest.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

hmv
36/6
(K. C. Sainatham)

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :

SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.

Genl. Secretary :

SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET

CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 27th June, 1953

Com: K. G. SRIWASTAVA,
 Secretary,
 All-India Trade Union Congress,
New Delhi.

Dear Comrade K. G.,

You have perhaps received a letter from the Secretary, the G.E.C. Staff Union of Calcutta. The Secretary, Shri Sukumar Datta wants to go to the Working Youth Conference as delegate. He will bear all expenses. To enable him to get Passport, only a letter of AITUC accepting him as a delegate is necessary.

I hope you would intimate him early copy to us.

With greetings,

Yours comradely,

Indrajit Gupta
 Genl. SECRETARY.

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :

SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.

Genl. Secretary :

SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET

CALCUTTA-12

(2)

Dated, 195

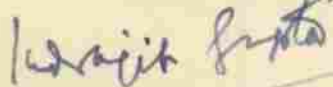
7. The following have been elected delegates to the WORKING YOUTH CONFERENCE:

1. Pashupati Ghosh) Both workers of Jay
2. Subhas Sarker Roy) Engineering Works.
3. Bhowani Roychoudhury: Garden Reach Textile Workers' Union.
4. Bhagwan Das: Worker of Kesoram Cotton Mills.
5. Sisir Mitra: Calcutta Tramway Workers' Union.
6. One from Asansol: Name to be sent later.

These five will submit application for Passport by Wednesday, the 18th. In regard to TUI Textile Conference, Comrade Arun Sen, Secretary, Garden Reach Textile Workers' Union (Kesoram) has already applied for passport. He intends ~~to go to the~~ first to go to the Stockholm Peace Conference and from there he will go to attend the TUI conference at Sofia.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,



(INDRAJIT GUPTA)

55 Gurgaon Road
Bombay - 4 . 25 . 6 . 58

K. J. K. Jangamani, M. P.,

Dear K. G.,

I took the 2 Lectures separately to

the two classes on 23rd + 24th on "Collective Bargaining" +
"arbitration + adjudication". Met our Teacher Administrators Suren
Basu + Gidhi. Suren + Basu are in AITUC office.

Chari said he got communication to go but he will
lecture on "TU Legislation" but no letter to AITUC. He will
deliver lecture but still write to him. I visited Petrole workers
Union where is housed Lever Bros, Godfrey ~~cross~~ ^{and Suren + Petrol} Finishe
unions. Some problems were posed. Reported to vital
about classes. Kolkatar was helpful. Could not meet
Chhina or Patker. I & S. A. D too gave ~~me~~ ^{me} ~~into~~ ^{into}. S. A. D
will be there now. I hope you would have met ASK there
I leave today for Madras first govt to tell the 7/11 for ~~selection~~ ^{selection} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~11/12~~ ^{11/12}

P-3

2010 June T.V.R. is

Good - V. Chakravarthy &
Dargudly decisions



K. G. Sairasth

Secretary

A. I. T. V. C.

4 Asoka Road

New Delhi

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE
All India Trade Union Congress

249, BOWBAZAR STREET, CALCUTTA-12

President :

Sri Hemanta Kumar Bose,
M. L. A.

Vice-Presidents :

Mr. Ranen Sen, M. L. A.
 Janab Md. Elias, M. P.
 Sri Sudhir Mukhoti
 Janab Md. Ismail
 Dr. Sushil Bose
 Sri Anadi Das

General Secretary :

Sri Indrajit Gupta

Secretaries :

Sri Manoranjan Roy
 Sri Hrishii Banerji
 Sri T. N. Siddhanta
 Sri Saroj Ghosal
 Sri Manindra Bose
 Sri Sitaram Sett

Treasurer :

Sri Nirode Chakravarty

Dated, 28th June, 1958.

To
 Com. K.G. SRINIVASTAVE,
 Secretary, AITUC,
 NEW DELHI.

Dear K.G.,

(1) Your letter of 25th, Dr. Mishra is writing me frantic letters for cash. So I think whatever collections are made here from time to time should be sent directly to Jamshedpur, instead of to you. Is that okay? We will, of course keep you informed of the amounts remitted.

(2) Please note that Sailen Paul who is going to the Leather TUI Conference (passage paid) at Prague, wants to attend the Working Youth Conference also, and for this he wants an AITUC credential. If there is no objection to this, please send a letter for him, or authorise me to issue one.

(3) Out of the list of delegates sent to you, the only ones who have actually submitted their Passport applications so far are:

1. Pashupati Ghosh.)
2. Subhas Roy.) FOR WORKING YOUTH.
3. Pingaksha Mazumdar.)
4. Arun Sen.) FOR STOCKHOLM & TEXTILE T.U.I.
5. Sukumar Datta. (G.E.C. Employees' Union, not affiliated to us) about whom I have written to you separately - for Working Youth.

Greetings,

Yours comradely

Indrajit Gupta

(INDRAJIT GUPTA)

General Secretary.

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE
All India Trade Union Congress

249, BOWBAZAR STREET, CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 3rd July, 1958.

President :

Sri Hemanta Kumar Bose,
M. L. A.

Vice-Presidents :

Dr. Ranen Sen, M. L. A.
 Janab Md. Elias, M. P.
 Sudhir Mukhoti
 Janab Md. Ismail
 Dr. Sushil Bose
 Sri Anadi Das

General Secretary :

Sri Indrajit Gupta

Secretaries :

Sri Manoranjan Roy
 Sri Hrishhi Banerji
 Sri T. N. Siddhanta
 Sri Saroj Ghosal
 Sri Manindra Bose
 Sri Sitaram Sett

Treasurer :

Sri Nirode Chakravarty

Com. K. G. SRIVASTAVA,
Secretary, AITUC.

Dear K. G.,

Your's of the 30th.

(1) Noted the postponement of the Delhi T.U. School meeting. Debaprasad Ghosh (Plantations) wants to know whether its is essential for him to attend or not. Please inform.

(2) Please also note that we have now secured, through Elias, all the relevant documents re: E.S.I. Scheme. Hence, it is no longer necessary for Com. Siddhanta to go ~~the~~ to Delhi for the editing. He will complete the job here by the 3rd week of this month.

(3) As suggested by you, any amount over Rs. 500/= collected by us for Jamshedpur will be remitted to you. We will report the direct remittances to you also.

(4) Copy of our Textile tribunal award is being sent through Elias.

(5) To-day a telegram has been sent to you that the applicants for Passports to working youth conference, namely, Pashupait Ghosh, Subhas Roy, Pingaksha Mazumdar, Sukumar Datta, and Arun Sen (he is not being accommodated by the Peace People), have all collected the necessary money (Rs. 1500/=) for their passage.

We have no news of Haripada Chatterjee, of Motion Picture Employees' Union.

But Ajit Pal, a former T.U. whole-time organiser (he is at present running a shop), is ready and eager to go. He already has a passport for Czechoslovakia (got it at the time of the World Youth Festival), and can contribute Rs. 2000/=. Can you accommodate him? I can recommend him as a sober and responsible comrade with considerable T.U. experience. Please reply quick.

Greetings,

Indrajit Gupta
(INDRAJIT GUPTA)

Bhopal
26.6.58.

157-18
102
Dear Com. Sriwastava,

Spent a very busy day here. The Labour situation here is very bad. The unrest is universal - Textiles, Manganes, Bidi and so on.

It was therefore decided that I should speak to the Governor on all these problems. The accompanying note is submitted to Governor. The same was released to the Press Conference.

In the evening I spoke to about 25 active T. U. workers on Naimital and Darjeeling decisions and also on Jaunshed pom.

In the night there was a public meeting.

I had discussions with Com. Khoskar and Shakti Athi Khan on

- Problems of PTUC Centre and Diji
- Industrial problems of Manganes
- Textiles, Road transport.

About PTUC Centre, they have decided that Com. S. D. Munkaji of Jabhal pom should be brought over to Bhopal for PTUC office centre. Only Diwaker would replace here when he comes. And they want that

AITUC should see whether Com. Diwakar could come soon.

Re. Com. Daji: The position is very tight. He is Assembly leader. And lot of work as M.L.A.

Then Indore is his constituency. There are 26,000 labour. He is the leader not only of working class but the entire town. He has to look to Indore Party too. There is no alternative even and above this, he has to see important legal cases.

It is therefore impossible to spare Daji for PTUC work.

AITUC may have to think of relieving him of Honorary Panel and as regards WFTU, they say he is only an alternate member to Tanjore.

The financial position of PTUC is bad. Unions do not pay.

I have suggested that PTUC Executive should meet. Someone from AITUC will come. Discuss all the problems.

On the situation in Orissa and Mangalore they would submit a memorandum to Madhya Pradesh Govt.

Road Transport Conference is to be held in Jabalpur on 21-22 July 1958.

Next.
I am going to Jabalpur.

They want you to go. If you are not going to Jabhalpur, I can go. But in that case I shall reach Bdrha for Education Sub-Committee work on 23.7.58. In that case you write to me at Bdrha address and also in form Jabhalpur.

As regards New Bhopal Districts, it is a clear case of breach of agreement by management. I am sending you a copy of agreement. The case of rationalisation and work load is in the Tribunal.

You therefore write to Nanda about this breach of agreement and code.

Yours
Raj Bahadur

Sincerely,

Yours faithfully,
Raj Bahadur G. S.

157.17

Dr. Raj Bahadur Gour,
Member Rajya Sabha,

102

1-8-1/60 Suryanagar

602-HIMAYATNAGAR,

HYDERABAD-20

Dated 4. 7. 1958.

Dear Com. Grewalwala,

Received your letter.

Did Sampalmai R.L. Mehta in Delhi?
What are the impressions? In my opinion
we have to submit on case ~~for~~ the
post fixing incidents and the ~~on~~ criminal
cases. And the case for future. ~~is~~ If
this is done by the office, ~~or~~ by Com.
Sampal, let me have an idea of the points
raised.

Are you ~~coming~~ ^{going} to Jubbulpore?

You have not replied to my letter from
Bhopal.

On 28-30th June there was the
Andhra Pradesh (LTD) workers' Conference
in Throuaganla in Ongole. I had been
there.

About 250 delegates from 24 branches
representing 16000 members attended
the Conference. Fifty of them were

women. Fraternal delegates from other tobacco unions attended.

Com. K. Ma Venkiah, President Kisan Sabha hoisted the flag. He later he addressed the delegates on the 'Crisis' in tobacco trade created by the British monopoly manipulations. He detailed at length the difficulties of tobacco growers and merchants.

Com. Vinaya Devi, Vice chairman of Eluru Municipality inaugurated the Conference.

Com. K. L. Nara Simham B.P. presided.

The Conference discussed the situation arising out of threatened closure of depots and utmost meant and decided to mobilise the workers against this.

The delegates felt that foreign monopoly and lack of manna was the biggest impediment in the way of the growth of the industry.

Com. K. L. Nara Simham was elected the president. Com. Balaji Das was elected general secretary and

602-HIMAYATNAGAR,
HYDERABAD-1

Dated 195 .

Dr. Raj Bahadur Gour,
Member Rajya Sabha,

Com. J. S. Ganarayan is another Secretary.

Sports and cultural programme were organised on behalf of the Union. And the Conference, in reality, gave presented the picture of a "festival" of Wacco workers.

I think from this you make out a small news for TUR as well.

Greetings

Yours faithfully
Raj Bahadur Gour.

July 26, 1958

Dear I.G.,

Yours of 22nd July. Thanks.

2. The Ministry had objected that our delegate can have only one Adviser. We have represented to the Minister that the number of Advisers should not be so strictly restricted but the Delegates be allowed any number of advisers subject to prior intimation being given and accommodation in the meeting place is available. I am expecting a reply any moment.

I met Com.Ghanshyam Sinha the other day at Kanpur and he is collecting money to proceed to Calcutta. Only if the Ministry does not allow ~~the~~ two Advisers, he will have to be dropped.

3. List of collections for Tisco has been published in the latest TUR. You must have seen that on our request, 'Bank Mazdoor' and 'Petroleum Worker' have appealed to their unions to collect Jamshedpur Aid Fund. Insurance Worker may also do it. Bank unions have assured me of good response. We are trying to do whatever is possible through correspondence but tours are also necessary.

4. SAD is back in Bombay. He is lecturing in the Bombay TU School on 28th and may come here thereafter.

Up till now, the programme of 10 August stands.

5. I had been to Globe and am pressing for the refund. There is a ray of hope of some recovery. I may be able to tell you when you come here for the Curriculum Committee meeting.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

*Wrote
26/7/58*
(K.G.Sriwastava)

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE
All India Trade Union Congress

249, BOWBAZAR STREET, CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 22nd July 1958.

To
 Com. K. G. Srivastava.

Dear K.G.,

- 1) Received the file of Ernakulam resolutions. I will attend to them bit by bit.
- 2) Re: Your letter of July 10th, enclosing the INTUC suggestion for amendment of sub-clause 3 of section 24 of the I.D.Act, I think we should support it.
- 3) I have received all the papers for the Jute Industrial Committee meeting and am preparing for the same. But I have not had any confirmation from Com. Ghanshyam Sinha as to whether he is coming or not. Could you give him an official reminder? If he does not come, I shall have to fix up another adviser from here.
- 4) How is the TISCO aid collection going? I hope you will publish the list of collections in T.U. Record. We hope to send you a few hundreds by the beginning of August. Burnpur-Kulti and Dalhousie Square collections will of course go straight to Jamshedpur.
- 5) Tangamani came here but did not contact me or BPTUC office! I presume he has left by now. A packet addressed to him from you is accordingly being redirected back.
- 6) Does our Delhi programme of August 10th stand? Biren Roy may not be able to go in view of the Calcutta bye-election on 24th. What about Debabrata Ghosh? Is it essential for him to go if he is only to prepare notes on Plantations? If necessary, Com. Siddhanta can also be included for the school preparations - he would be extremely useful.
- 7) What about my dispute with Globe & K.L.M? Time is running out. Please prod them again.

Greetings,

Indrajit Gupta
 INDRAJIT GUPTA.

President :

Sri Hemanta Kumar Bose,
 M. L. A.

Vice-Presidents :

Dr. Ranen Sen, M. L. A.
 Janab Md. Elias, M. P.
 Sri Sudhir Mukhoti
 Janab Md. Ismail
 Dr. Sushil Bose
 Sri Anadi Das

General Secretary :

Sri Indrajit Gupta

Secretaries :

Sri Manoranjan Roy
 Sri Hrishik Banerji
 Sri T. N. Siddhanta
 Sri Saroj Ghosal
 Sri Manindra Bose
 Sri Sitaram Sett

Treasurer :

Sri Nirode Chakravarty

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लोक-सभा-सदस्य

- 5 AUG 1958



13/3 North-South St.,
R.S.Puram,
Coimbatore

August 5, 1958

Dear Com. K.G.,

I have been down with flu the past few days and got up only today and am still very weak. Looking through all the papers that were still pending I was horrified to find that I have not yet sent you the comments asked for on the Amendment to Plantation Labour Act proposed by Govt. In any case, it does not matter overmuch, because as far as we are concerned we have nothing to object to in the proposed amendment. As there are no piece-rate workers in Madras State the problem of piece rate workers does not affect us, and as far as the suggestion for others is concerned it is alright.

I had written to Janshedpur to the address given by you that I would be unable to come immediately due to being ill. I shall go there after reaching Delhi - if Doctor allows I propose to leave here on the 5th or 6th - I hope that will materialise.

Greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Pawar Kishore

File

11/11/58



INDIAN POSTS AND



TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

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Date

Hour

Minute

Service Instructions

Words

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DANCE 4 ASHOK ROAD NEW DELHI

H.

M.

YOUR TELEGRAM STOP STATE UNDERTAKINGS AND PRIVATE

CONCERNS DISREGARDED CONCILIATION MACHINERY STOP

AWARDS SETTLEMENTS SECURED AFTER HUGE SACRIFICE

LEFT UNIMPLEMENTED STOP COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT REFUSE

PROSECUTING SUCH EMPLOYERS STOP IN CHANDANATHROPE

DISPUTE EMPLOYER ABSENTED FROM ALL CONFERENCES STOP

18-6-57-4,01



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C

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0-5/53]

MGIFPAh.-279-18-6-11-100 Bks.

GOVERNMENT SENT POLICE AND MAGISTRATE TO SHOOT DOWN
 WORKERS IF THEY PICKETTED REMOVAL CCC50))) OF M.
 GOODS FROM FACTORY LOCKED OUT WITHOUT NOTICE
 STOP REMIND LABOUR MINISTRYS APRIL COMMUNICATION AND
 YOUR REPLY WORKERS OBSERVE STOP GOVERNMENT EMPLOYERS
 FLOUT CODE = SREE ANTAN NAIR =

*Send copy to Sanyal
 along with certificate for N.H.
 2-8-54
 [Signature]*

August 11, 1958

Dear I.G.,

Your letter of 5th, 7th and the ones sent through Com.Renu.

2. Yes, we have received Hemanta Basu's resignation. Copy is sent herewith. Haldulkar has also resigned his presidentship of the M.P.State Committee and withdrew his mines union from AITUC. Yet SAD has not replied to them.

3. SAD is back here this morning. We are raising Jamshedpur issue. I am sorry our booklet could not be issued as SAD has not been able to go through it.

About Mehta's report, I am told a tripartite meeting is likely to be called. We will press for it, after seeing today's reply in Parliament.

4. The curriculum sub-committee meeting has been postponed as SAD's programme is at present uncertain. His return here today was not programmed. We do ~~not~~ want to hold this meeting as early as possible but in the presence of SAD. I hope you agree.

5. Yes, issue letters re. passports to those whom you have recommended for going abroad. In fact, our final selection largely depends upon firstly those getting passport and secondly, collection of Rs.1500/-.

6. ESI material has been received. It is being typed.

7. Information from Globe will follow in the next letter.

8. Total collection for Gua is said to be Rs.813.30 and you say that Rs.720 was sent to Jamshedpur in several instalments. We would like to know who received money there. As you are aware, we did not get account of Gua Fund from Jamshedpur even though we asked for it earlier.

We are issuing receipts for money received by us. Please remit the balance of Jamshedpur Fund collections.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Wane
11/11/58
(K.G.Sriwastava)

P.S. I was too busy with the Federation Working Committee, Negotiating Machinery and appearing before the Pay Commission all these days. So could not reply you earlier.

Wane
11/11/58

157-21

7/8/58

8 AUG 1958

Dear K.C.,

(1) Re: my report on July Industrial Committee meeting, please note that in Para 4, Line 4., after the words "recent trend towards...", the next word should be "united" + not "mild" as has been wrongly typed.

(2) Have you received Hemanta Basu's resignation letter? He has not sent us a copy, though his statement has appeared in several papers. If you have got his letter please send us a copy. His statement is causing considerable confusion here in T.V. + Left circles, & we have to decide whether to reply or not. Has S.A.D. expressed any views on this?

(3) Will SAD be back in time for opening of Parliament? What about raising the Jamshedpur issue? Who will do it? We have discussed it here with Renu, & we are cabling to SAD. to ask whether she should move an adjournment motion in his absence, or wait for him. In case she is to do the job on the opening day, she must be properly briefed - that is all-important. What about our Memo. to Mehta Committee - are you multiplying copies for MP's? I met Mehta here - he has submitted his report long ago but said it was not likely to see the light of day. Should we press for it?

[Signature]
P.S.

5781 vis

4. 1. Postpavement
2. An Pavement
3. Post hole - 6-8"
4. photo

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August 15, 1958

Dear Com.IG,

On going through the main conclusions of the Industrial Committee on Jute, we find in regard to closure of jute mills that "the Committee reviewed the existing position ^{and} felt that the problem of closure was not as serious as in certain other industries in that it did not involve loss or production or employment and production were transferred to other units."

In our memorandum on the same subject, it was stated that "since March 1957, about a dozen jute mills in W.Bengal have closed down, affecting nearly 25,000 workers of whom only a small proportion has been absorbed in alternative jobs in other mills."

There is thus an apparent contradiction between our assessment and that of the Industrial Committee and we would therefore like to have a clarification from you, especially if the worker representatives agree with the Committee's conclusions.

This point has not been sufficiently covered in your note on the Committee meeting and hence this letter.

2. We note that you have given letters of nomination to intending delegates from Bengal for the Metal & Engineering Conference. I feel that besides Com.Elias, Bengal should have not more than one delegate to the Conference. However, please ~~xxx~~ keep us informed about the passport position and collection of passage money. The stipulated amount should be remitted to us at the earliest so that arrangements for passage can be made at this end, in time.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Km
15/iii
(K.G.Sriwastava)

16.	Calcutta Tramway Workers' Union	Rs.	101'00	✓
17.	K.D. Chatterjee (Asansol)	Rs.	10'00	✓
18.	Garden Reach Textile Workers' Union	Rs.	60'00	✓
19.	Oberoi Grand Hotel Karmachari Union	Rs.	10'00	✓
20.	Bengal Mariners' Union	Rs.	30'00	✓
21.	M.M.C. Employees' Union	Rs.	25'00	
22.	Raniganj Refractory and Ceramic Workers' Union	Rs.	50'00	
23.	Bengal Distillery Mazdoor Union	Rs.	14'25	
24.	Texmaco Workers' Union	Rs.	20'00	
25.	Rice & Dal Mill Workers' Union	Rs.	25'00	

813'30.

The total upto date collection in this Fund amounts to Rs. 813'30.
Out of it a sum of Rs. 720'00 in several instalments was sent to Jamshedpur.

A sum of Rupees ~~720'00~~ ^{ninety three (93'00)} only is being sent on this account.

Please acknowledge receipt.

J A M S H E D P U R F U N D (Additional Donors)

1.	Makers' Union	Rs.	5'00
2.	Jay Engineering Workers' Union	Rs.	200'00
3.	East India Pharmaceutical Works Employees' Union	Rs.	20'00
4.	Bengal Waterproof Workers' Union	Rs.	51'00
5.	British Paints(I) Limited Employees' Association	Rs.	15'00
6.	Hindusthan Motor Workers' Union	Rs.	14'00

305'00

Comradely yours

T. N. Sengupta
SECRETARY

separate
Please send receipts for Jamshedpur
& find amounts received by you.

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE
All India Trade Union Congress

249, BOWBAZAR STREET, CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 8th August, 1958.

President :

Sri Hemanta Kumar Bose,
M. L. A.

Vice-Presidents :

Dr. Ranen Sen, M. L. A.
 Janab Md. Elias, M. P.
 Sri Sudhir Mukhoti
 Janab Md. Ismail
 Dr. Sushil Bose
 Sri Anadi Das

General Secretary :

Sri Indrajit Gupta

Secretaries :

Sri Manoranjan Roy
 Sri Hrishii Banerji
 Sri T. N. Siddhanta
 Sri Saroj Ghosal
 Sri Manindra Bose
 Sri Sitaram Sett

Treasurer :

Sri Nirode Chakravarty

To
 The General Secretary,
 All-India Trade Union Congress,
New Delhi.

Dear Comrade,

1. Sending herewith a second list of unions which have donated to Jamshedpur Fund. This is in addition to the list published in the T.U. Record of July 20, 1958 for an amount of Rs. 716'33. Out of the total upto date collection of Rs. 1021'33 a sum of Rs. 500/- has been sent to Jamshedpur and a sum of Rs. 17/- was spent on account of some incidental expenses. A sum of Rs. 500/- (five hundred only) is being sent herewith.

2. The final list of unions who have donated to the Gua defence Fund is given below:

1.	Bharat Enamel Union	Rs.	13'75	
2.	Sur Enamel Workers' Union.....	Rs.	13'50	
3.	Lower Grade Employees' Union ...	Rs.	15'00	
4.	Bharat Electrical Industries Workers' Union	Rs.	20'00	
5.	B. Misir	Rs.	2'00	
6.	Reserve Bank Employees' Association....	Rs.	10'00	
7.	Voltas Bros. Employees' Union ..	Rs.	75'57	
8.	Calcutta Corporation Workers' Union	Rs.	70'00	
9.	Kanu Sanyal (Siliguri)	Rs.	34'20	
10.	A. Mukherjee	Rs.	50'00	✓
11.	Jay Engineering Workers' Union..	Rs.	101'00	✓
12.	Motor Transport Workers' Union..	Rs.	8'03	✓
13.	Calcutta Electric Supply Cor- poration Mazdoor Union.....	Rs.	20'00	✓
14.	All-India Bata Shop Managers' Union	Rs.	30'00	✓
15.	Bengal Chatkal Mazdoor Union(Cossipur).....	Rs.	5'00	✓

27 AUG 1953

FIRST MEETING OF INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE ON JUTE

- by Indrajit Gupta.

The first meeting of the Industrial Committee on Jute was held in Calcutta on August 1st & 2nd. It was presided over by the Union Labour Minister, Sri Gulzarilal Nanda, while the Commerce & Industries Minister, Sri Manubhai Shah was also present in view of the jute industry's key position in India's export trade.

The setting up and regular functioning of the tripartite Industrial Committee has been a longstanding demand of the Jute workers, who have been subjected over the last 10 years to a merciless offensive in the name of rationalisation and modernisation. But the India Government has been content all these years to give the powerful employers' organisation, the Indian Jute Mills Association (IJMA), a free hand in matters of labour policy, while the production and distribution aspects of the industry have also been left uncontrolled.

During Sri V.V. Giri's tenure of office as Labour Minister, he practically admitted to a workers' deputation that his efforts to convene the Industrial Committee on Jute were being frustrated by the opposition of other Ministers which did not want to "interfere" with the IJMA's policies and practices. As for the West Bengal State Government, it has proved consistently helpless and servile in its dealings with the IJMA monopolists.

Sri Nanda, therefore, deserves credit for at least having convened the Committee's first meeting, however belatedly. Two main factors were, however, responsible for this : firstly, the present acute crisis of foreign exchange, of which jute exports are the principal earner; and secondly, the recent trend towards ^{limited} mild agitation by the jute workers' unions in West Bengal, x irrespective of affiliation and including the INTUC, thereby reflecting the tremendous mass discontent which is smouldering below the apparently calm surface of labour, numbering over 2 lakhs in nearly 100 Mills.

The Agenda before the Industrial Committee, as suggested by the AITUC and drawn up by the Labour Ministry, comprised four items, viz: (1) Closures of Jute Mills; (2) Rationalisation; (3) Reduction in the employment of women; and (4) Appointment of a Wage Board. A fifth item - measures for the stabilisation of the Jute industry itself - was proposed for inclusion by the AITUC but was not accepted by the Government.

It becomes obvious from Sri Nanda's opening address that the Government was committed beyond redemption to the basic policies of rationalisation and modernisation as the sine qua non of the industry's existence, and was not prepared to consider seriously

any alternative policy. Within this framework, however, Sri Nanda called for "a fair deal to the workers", proper implementation of safeguards for the workers' interests, and observance of the "essential condition" that not a single person at present in employment should be rendered unemployed. These assurances, however welcome, lose some of their practical utility in view of the fact that the complement of labour has already been reduced by nearly one lakh since 1949 !

The discussions which followed, however, showed that the labour representatives were in no mood to accept the IJMA's broad rationalisation policy for as the last word and the ultimate panacea for the industry's admitted difficulties. They repeatedly raised the question of alternative or additional measures to protect the industry's interests against the IJMA's purely profit-seeking and narrow outlook.

For example, Dr. Mrs. Maitrayee Bose (INTUC) stressed the need for more energetic action to ensure diversification of production and exploration of new markets, particularly in the Socialist countries, while Sri Kali Mukherji, also on behalf of INTUC, made a powerful plea for the setting up of an expert Committee to investigate into the managerial and financial side of the industry in view of the suspicious discrepancies revealed in the trading results of different mills.

Sri Rajani Mukherji (HMS) suggested that Government should send an independent trade delegation abroad to make a first-hand study of the jute markets, instead of relying on the IJMA's reports.

Sri Indrajit Gupta (AITUC) raised a whole series of questions which appeared to provoke and irritate the IJMA and Government spokesmen considerably. He wanted to know how, in the absence of any control, the government was going to guarantee that the lower cost of production consequent on rationalisation would really be reflected in cheaper selling prices and would not simply be pocketed by the employers as higher profits ? He quoted specific instances of how the IJMA artificially rigged up price prices whenever they tended to decline. He claimed that the real problem was not one of high but unstable prices, and therefore government should give priority to the task of suppressing the rampant speculation in the raw jute trade in finished goods prices.

Sri Gupta also exposed the false bogey of Pakistani competition, pleaded for State purchase of raw jute and State handling of the export trade, condemned the jute mills' practice of maintaining large funds in the name of "dividend equalisation", and demanded that rationalisation be banned in mills where there is prima facie evidence of malpractices, dishonest accounting methods, and wastage of resources.

The IJMA representatives, Chairman J.I. Jamieson & Vice-Chairman D.P. Goenka, contented themselves with repeating the same old hackneyed capitalist arguments justifying the slogan "Rationalise or Perish". Sri Manubhai Shah, however, conceded that there was a case for investigation into the working of certain mills and promised to pursue the matter further.

After the general discussion was over, the Committee took up the specific points on the agenda and reached certain conclusions on the basis of suggestions made by Sri Nanda after hearing the complaints of the Labour representatives.

The final recommendations may be summed up as follows: -

(1) The general principle that rationalisation must not result in unemployment of a single person at present employed was restated, thereby limiting its scope to the non-filling of actual vacancies which arise from time to time;

(2) In case of modernisation leading to closure of mills, managements must give 6 weeks' notice to workers and 8 weeks' notice to the Government;

(3) Termination of employment on "medical" grounds and for superannuation should not be utilised to get rid of workers for rationalisation purposes;

(4) The lists of Badli (substitute) workers should be closed immediately and furnished to the State Government;

(5) Similarly, the lists of women workers should be closed immediately, and no further reduction in the strength of women workers should take place;

(6) In order to ensure implementation of the above safeguards, the State Government should appoint a special tripartite committee and also a special Officer; this machinery will also deal with workloads, etc.

(7) The steps outlined above should be applied in appropriate form to jute mills outside West Bengal also;

(8) Pending appointment of a Wage Board, which was accepted in principle, the India Government will collect further relevant statistical data on the basis of a questionnaire, and at the end of 3 months another tripartite meeting would be held to consider ways and means of granting some interim relief to the jute workers, with special reference to Dearness allowance, housing, and welfare amenities.

(Incidentally, Sri Nanda was shocked to hear the revelations made about the condition of jute workers' housing, and warned the employers that if they sat tight in this matter the Government would be forced to adopt compulsive measures.)

The bulk of the recommendations do no more than aim at checking some of the more blatant of the unfair labour practices which are being carried on indiscriminately by

the employers for years together, resulting in total insecurity of service, maintaining excessive numbers of badli@s, large-scale retrenchment, and intensification of labour. Whether even the modest recommendations made by the Industrial Committee will be implemented or not is the crux of the question. It will depend upon the sincerity of the Government in seeing that decisions made are carried out, and upon the vigilance of the jute workers and/ their unions and, above all, their united struggles and mass pressure.

One outstanding and hopeful feature has been the close identity of views, mutual co-operation, and joint front shown at the committee meeting by the representatives of all 4 T.U. Centres. If this unity can be maintained and developed in the field of day to day union activity and mass movement, a new chapter may open for the long-exploited jute workers.

The AITUC was represented on the Industrial Committee by Indrajit Gupta as Delegate, and J.V.K. Vallabh Rao, M.P. (ANDHRA) and Ghanshyam Sinha (Kanpur) as advisers.

.....

- 7 AUG 1958

Calcutta
5/8/58

102

Dear K.L.,

1) Just received your letter re: postponement of Syllabus meeting. I hope it won't be an indefinite postponement!

2) BPTVC office must have sent you a copy of my report on the Jute Industrial Committee meeting. It did not produce anything very effective. However, before you print the report in TV. Record, please insert the following lines (which were omitted from the typed

copy) in a suitable place before the last 2 or 3 paragraphs :-

"The question of appointment of a Wage Board for the Jute industry has been shelved for the present. The Commerce & Industry Ministry was known to be dead opposed to it, while even Sri Nanda took up the line that the time was not "opportune" for a Wage Board - in the workers' own interests! The labour representatives had to be content with a rather vague assurance that some sort of "interim relief" would be considered in 3 months' time".

3) List of intending delegates for the Engineering T.V.I. Conference is being sent to you. If there is delay in final selection, should I issue authorisation letters to enable them to file their passport applications? otherwise, it will be too late.

4) Siddhanta has completed the editing of E.S.I. material. I shall send it to you along with Jamshedpur cash as soon as possible. But I have not touched Ernakulam resolutions yet!

5) Now that my going to Delhi is postponed, I shall eagerly be waiting to hear good news from you re: Globe. Don't forget!

Y
P.S.
C.

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये



K. C. Srivastava

All-India Trade Union Congress

4. Ashok Road

NEW DELHI.

नीसरा मोड

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता :-



102

August 22, 1958

Dear Com.KG,

A cryptic cable from Moscow received yesterday gave the good news for SAD - a grand daughter born on 20th. I had transmitted the information by wire to Jamshedpur and I hope he has got it. In case the telegram has not reached him, here is the text of the cable:

"B MNDx 1105 MOSCOU 19 20 1415
LTx - DANGE 4 ASHOKROAD DELHI

HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS TO GRANDPA DEE STOP ROZA
AND DAUGHTER VERY WELL BANI NATASHA = ZEENA"

2. As you know, we had a letter from the Coal Price Revision Committee asking for our views. I am enclosing copy of a letter from the Coal Controller about the venue of the meeting. I hope you will fix up somebody there itself.

3. Com.Iyengar has written to say that he agrees with Com.Dange.

4. Sinha ^{was to} ~~is~~ meeting the Electricity Board re. power load today. But somehow he couldn't.

5. Just now I heard that Com.Dange had gone to Ahmedabad yesterday or so. The news came in Maratha. That would mean further change in programme.

6. Enclosed is a letter from Shri R.L.Mehta to Com.SAD on East Jemehary. Instead of taking action on our complaints, they seem to take the offensive against us. Since you are right there, you could get all the facts to send a proper reply.

7. Raj Bahadur is going today to Kanpur. Your lectures have been fixed on 28th and 30th. But then, today a letter has come from Shri R.C.Paliwal saying that the UP MES Workers Union is holding its 5th Annual Conference at Dehra Dun from 29th August to 2nd September. Did you know about it already?

Since it takes six days, as I found it today, to get a letter from Jamshedpur, I am sending this letter to Asansol, in the hope you will get it by the time.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

(M.Atchuthan)

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :
SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.
Genl. Secretary :
SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET
CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 4th September 1958

Dear K.C.,

Received your letter of Sept. 2nd.

(1) The progress at this end in checking up our membership is rather slow, despite our efforts, mainly due to preoccupation of so many T.U. leading cadre with campaigns on Tram strike, food movement, retrenchment & lay-offs, etc. However, we shall send you by the 9th the amended figures of as many Unions as possible, & certainly of the bigger & more important ones.

(2) Re: the Syllabus committee meeting from 28th. There is no other difficulty except that Ram told (not confirmed) that the National Council is likely to meet down South in the first week of October. If so, it would clash in my case with the Syllabus programme which is for 10 days. Could you please check up with PHQ & see if any adjustment of dates would be necessary? Are you calling only these 6 people for the present?

(3) I shall apply for my passport as soon as possible though I am sure a "normal" one will not be forthcoming. Has globe backed out again?

(4) What is the position re: passports for the Engineering fellows? Any chance? They are badgering me daily.

(5) I wrote to Dange re: Amar Mukherjee who has got his passport renewed & wants to go for treatment. He could also have attended the Engineering conference. But I don't know if Dange will do anything about it before he leaves for Moscow.

(6) Sadhan is going to Delhi & will give you the latest reports. I am afraid the situation is fast deteriorating, & the indefinite postponement of SAD's visit will only worsen matters. Cannot we at least continue to send 1 or 2 MPs on visits during the Parliamentary session itself? Some of the more blatant excesses of the Bihar Govt. machinery should at least be exposed publicly & taken up. Please consider this.

(7) How did the Kanpur school go? I hope they did not curse me too much for letting them down!

Y.
P.f.

102
September 5, 1958

Dear I.G.,

Yours of the 4th Sept. Thanks.

2. Yes, the Sectt meeting on 29th August has decided to restrict the Syllabus Committee to only 6 persons, as now the drafts are supposed to be coming from our trainees at Bombay. And also that a big crowd at this stage would not fulfil the object.

The N.C. is, as far as I know, expected to meet at Hyderabad on 8th October 1958. SAD has also to go there and may be some more. So no clash is expected. Yet I would ask others if they agree to ante-dating it by 2-3 days.

3. Globe has backed out and this time we have not gone to him to remind. Legal notice will be the reminder.

4. Yet there is no sign of passports for Engineering Conference. We are trying. Let us wait and see.

5. Re. Amar Mukerjee, SAD said he could decide on it after his return from the European tour. He also felt if a trip now would be advantageous, since the treatment would then be in a period of extreme winter.

6. We have given stress on slogans in Jamshedpur. SAD will visit there after his return from Moscow in the third week of September. In Parliament, we are raising it off and on. Com.Raj Bahadur will visit Jamshedpur on 14th inst. and as agreed with JMU representatives, I am arranging one more MP on 28th or so.

Food movement, Kerala, Ahmedabad do not seem to leave these MPs free. It is becoming more difficult to make them agree to go anywhere.

7. Kanpur School was just o.k. Why ~~don't~~ you write a letter to Ram Asrey?

8. Jute Committee: You must have received the summary of proceedings of the First Session of the Industrial Committee on Jute, ~~with~~ dated 1st Sept. 1958.

Please say if the summary is faithful.

There is a proposal to publish it in a booklet form. What do you say?

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G.S.
(K.G.Sriwastava)

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :
SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.
Genl. Secretary :
SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET
CALCUTTA-12

1958 SEP 1958

Dated, 8th Sept. 1958.

Dear K.C.,

① Herewith sending a list of amended membership of as many Unions as could be contacted up to today. You should submit the amended figures (i.e. membership as actually shown in the latest Annual Returns) even in cases where these are less than the figures claimed by you in the original list - this follows from the CUC's circular on process of verification (ref: "Sixteenth Piparkhile")

I am sorry we could not type these amendments. Siddhanta has been collecting them up to the last minute before catching tonight's air mail.

Bejoy Pal who promised to send us the Asansol/Bourmpur

amended list by today has failed.
Anticipating that, I had asked
him to send the list direct to
you by tomorrow. So you may
receive it from him.

(2) The proceedings of the July
Industrial Committee are not
satisfactory at all, apart from
actual distortions, the most
glaring of which I have already
submitted to the Ministry with a
copy to you. Hope you got it
by now.

(3) The Syllabus programme & N.C.
meeting would mean my
going direct from Delhi to
Hyderabad & being away from
here for a pretty long stretch!
However, nothing can be changed
now until S.A. returns from
Moscow. We may be heading
towards a general strike here
by the end of the month,
which would be an added
complication.

P.S. The total
in respect of memberships
Eng. Union this time be
should corrected. Y

Y
Rajm
VMO
11/11/47

September 12, 1958

The Joint Secretary,
Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation Mazdoor Union,
249 Bowbazar Street,
Calcutta-12.

Sub: 3rd Conference of Metal & Engineering TUI

Dear Comrade,

Your unsigned letter No. MU/FO/1 dated 19th August 1958 addressed to General Secretary, WFTU, and copy endorsed to us was received by us on 10th September 1958. From the envelope we find that it was posted in Calcutta on 9th September only. I do not know why, if the original letter was sent to the addressee on 19th August, the copy to us was so much delayed in your office.

The letter is unsigned but I reply to it taking it to be a genuine one. In case it is not genuine, this reply stands cancelled.

2. You have stated that you were not given information about the Metal & Engineering TUI Conference by the AITUC.

This is quite incorrect.

1) AITUC issued a circular to all Trade unions in Metal & Engineering industries on February 19, 1958, informing them of the proposed conference and reproducing an Appeal of the TUI in this connection.

2) In the TRADE UNION RECORD dated February 20, 1958, which your Union, as an affiliate of the AITUC, gets a copy, the news about the Metal & Engineering TUI Conference was published on page 12, col.2.

3) Again, under the heading "Decisions of the Working Committee", on pp.8-9 of TUR dated June 20, the resolution of the Working Committee re. the conference was published.

Two circulars were issued in this regard to the STUCs in July and August 1958 and they in turn must have contacted the Unions in the trade in W.Bengal.

The office of the W.Bengal STUC is in the same building in which your office is situated, and with the least effort you could make contact with them to find ~~about~~ out about the circulars or TUR copies, if you never had the same in your possession.

You might also be in the know that we are publishing circulars for all unions in the TUR and therefore, careful reading of the TUR is a very important task for all our affiliates.

In the light of the above, the start of your letter under reference to our supreme world organisation, is in bad taste.

You are perfectly justified in giving any suggestion to the WFTU or its trade departments. Only it would have carried greater weight if it had gone from the national centre after due consideration and consultation with other unions in the

page two

industry.

I would suggest that you place this letter before the Executive Committee of your Union and allow Com.Indrajit Gupta or his nominee to explain our viewpoint to them.

With warmest greetings,

Yours fraternally,

*Wrote
sep 12*

(K.G.Sriwastava)
Secretary

List of unions affiliated to
AITUC in the PAPER INDUSTRY

1. Bengal Paper Mills Mazdoor Union,
P.O. Ballavpur, Raniganj.
2. Bharat Board Mill Workers Union,
Tessore Road, Calcutta 28
3. Himayala Paper & Board Mills Mazdoor Union,
33 Kaliaharan Ghosh Road, Calcutta
4. Howrah Paper Mill Mazdoor Union,
80 Dawnagazi Road, Bally, Howrah
5. Paper & Board Industries Workers Union,
155 Rai Bahadur Road,
Calcutta 34
6. Paper Products Kamgar Union,
Station Road, Billimora, Bombay.
7. Punalur Paper Mills Workers' Union,
Punalur, Kerala

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE
All India Trade Union Congress

249, BOWBAZAR STREET, CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 29th August, 1958.

President :

Sri Hemanta Kumar Bose,
M. L. A.

To
Com. K. G. SRIWASTAVA,
AITUC.

Dear Comrade,

30 AUG 1958

Find enclosed copy of a letter received by one of our paper mill unions from the Orient Paper Mills Sramik Congress (HMS ?).

It is not known to us how many of the 12 unions mentioned in this letter are AITUC-affiliated or at least include some pro-AITUC people. This should be checked up by you, and wherever possible the comrades concerned should immediately be written to by AITUC to respond to the Sambalpur letter.

I think the federation idea is a good one and the initiative taken from Orissa should at least be explored seriously, and proper contact should be established between the different unions irrespective of affiliation.

Our Bengal unions in this list are Nos. 1, 2, 4, & 6 of which only one is formally affiliated to AITUC but the rest would also co-operate in any move for a genuine federation.

Please arrange to contact the other centres and also send us your directions, if any. If we have any further unions not mentioned in this list, they should also be asked to contact Sambalpur re: the proposed meeting.

Greetings,

Comradely yours,

P. N. Chakravarty

Indrajit Gupta

Vice-Presidents :

Dr. Ranen Sen, M. L. A.
Janab Md. Elias, M. P.
Sri Sudhir Mukhoti
Janab Md. Ismail
Dr. Sushil Bose
Sri Anadi Das

General Secretary :

Sri Indrajit Gupta

Secretaries :

Sri Manoranjan Roy
Sri Hrishu Banerji
Sri T. N. Siddhanta
Sri Saroj Ghosal
Sri Manindra Bose
Sri Sitaram Sett

Treasurer :

Sri Nirode Chakravarty

ORIENT PAPER MILLS SRAMIK CONGRESS

HEAD OFFICE
BRAJRAJ NAGAR.

Branch Office
Sambalpur
(Orissa)

Ref. No. 214/58.

Dated, the 7th Aug. 1958.

To
The Presidents,
General Secretaries, of all paper Trade Unions,

Dear Sirs,

We since long past, are observing the disparity in wages and other concessions to all the workers of Paper Trade in different concerns throughout India. At this age, when everything is talked about in terms of Standardisation, if we remain callous about the matter and try to skip over it, then the Managements will get the upper hand in dealing with all the problems allied to the workers. They are sometimes too adamant to agree to the handy the ~~xxxx~~ mostly illeterate workers of one place. But when there are ways and means by which we can very easily cope with the Management's such ulterior methods, then why we sit idle and give these capitalists more and more chances for fattening their capital with our toil blood.

Viewing all these we at Brajrajnagar are very earnest to start a Confederation of Indian paper Trade Unions which will remain throughout its existence a non-political body of representatives of all Trade Unions and will serve the purpose of doing common good to the workers in this trade by giving valuable suggestions and help from time to time. It is only through our common effort that this confederation will flourish and ~~xx~~ cherish the desire of the workers who are working for the country's good in this trade.

As we want to convene a meeting of all the Presidents and Secretaries of these Unions at a time suitable for all, we earnestly request all concering to give their reply to our this letter at the earliest and they may be pleased to mention the time and date which will suit them so that we will be able to arrange for it. Most likely the venue for this initial meeting will be Brajrannagar and all will be paid travelling allowance and free fooding and lodging for the period at the Union's office.

Hope to hear from you all at the earliest. Thanking you.

Yours truly,

SD: ILLEGIBLE
General Secretary.

- To.
- ✓1. Secretary, Bengal Paper Mills Mazdoor Union, Ballavpur, Raniganj.
 - ✓2. Bengal Kagazkal Mazdur Union, 10, Basti Lane, Kakinada. (Kakinada)
 3. General Secretary, Sirpur Paper Mills Workers Union, Sirpur, Hyderabad.
 - ✓4. Secretary, Titagarh Paper Mills Employees Union, Titagarh.
 5. The Secretary, Dalmianagar Mazdur Savasangha, Dalmianagar.
 - ✓6. The Secretary, Indian Paper & Pulp Workers Union, Hazinagar.
 7. The Secretary, Andhra Paper Mills Workers Union, Rajmundry.
 8. The Secretary, Star Paper Mills Workers Union, Saharanpur.
 9. The Secretary, Mysore Paper Mills Labour Association, Phadravati.
 - 10. The Secretary, Punalur Paper Mills Workers Union, Punalur, Koda
 11. The Secretary, Sharee Gopal Paper Mills Workers Union, Jagadhri.
 12. The Secretary, Nap Newsprint & Paper Mills workers Union, Napanagar.

CIRCULAR TO STUCs

Sub: Federation of Trade Unions in Paper Industry

We understand that the Orient Paper Mills Sramik Congress, Brajraj Nagar, Orissa (not affiliated to AITUC) is trying to convene a conference of unions in the Paper Industry, with a view to explore possibilities for the formation of a Federation of trade unions in the industry.

The Orient Paper Mills Sramik Congress has addressed letters to different unions, including certain of our affiliates, calling for a meeting of Presidents and Secretaries of Unions to be held at Brajraj Nagar (Orissa) and has called for suggestions to fix a suitable date for the meeting.

The ~~xxxx~~ proposal for the formation of an Industrial Federation, which as the Brajraj Nagar union ^{State} should remain a "non-political body of representatives of all trade unions and serve the purpose of doing common good to the workers" is certainly a welcome move. The STUCs are therefore requested to direct unions in the Paper Industry to ~~xxxxxxneeded~~ establish contact with the Orient Paper Mills ~~Sra~~ Sramik Congress and explore possibilities for the formation of a united Federation_x in the industry.

With greetings

BR

10/10/70

102

Sept 11, 1958

Dear Com.IG,

Ref. your letter of 29th August on the proposal of Orient Paper Mills Sramik Congress to form a Federation.

We are sending a circular to STUCs on the question.

From our lists we find that only seven unions in Paper Industry are formally affiliated to us. A list of those unions is enclosed. Of the seven, only the Nos. 1 and 7 have been contacted by the Orient Paper Mills Sramik Congress. ~~Ram~~ You could suggest it to them through our Union in Bengal to invite others also.

It appears that the Sramik Congress' idea is to form a Federation of unions in industries manufacturing paper only and not include those in paper products as cartons, hardboards, etc. Paper Industry could cover the second category as well.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G. Sriwastava
sep 11

(K.G.Sriwastava)

Encl:

The Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation

10 SEP 1958

Mazdoor Union

(REGD. No. 395)

249, BOWBAZAR STREET,
CALCUTTA-12.

Dated, 19th August '58.

Ref. No. OUR MU/FO/1
YOUR

To
The General Secretary,
World Federation of the Trade Unions.

Dear Comrade,

I am advised by my Executive Committee to write to you that we were never informed by the All India Trade Union Congress about the international Conference of Metal & Engineering Workers held under your auspices and also no delegate was ever elected from the Electrical workers to participate in the said Conference, although we are affiliated to your Organisation and are in the metal and engineering group. We have never received any report of the said Conference. We donot know whether any discussion was at all held on the problems of electrical workers in these conference.

I, therefore, take this opportunity to acquaint you with a proposition to convene an international conference of the representatives of the Trade Unions of the electrical workers affiliated to your organisation with a view to discuss the common problems of electrical workers and to take decisions in the matter and to cement the friendly and brotherly relations of the electrical workers of all countries.

You will agree that the tremendous importance of the electricity in the lives of the peoples, in food, in industry, in agriculture, in entertainment - indeed in every aspect of present-day Society and continuing development of electricity, enhanced in its importance with every new scientific development and discovery - more than justifies the formation of a separate group for the electrical workers.

In view of the above, I would request you to please place this letter before your Executive Committee and to discuss on our proposition and to convey to us your decision in the matter.

With best wishes and warmest greetings,

Fraternally yours

Copy forwarded to :

Sd/-

✓ The General Secretary, A.I.T.U.C.,
for information.

(HAREN MOHHERJEE)
Joint Secretary

The General Secretary, West Bengal Committee of
A.I.T.U.C., for information.

19 SEP 1958

PHONE : 34-2044

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :
SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.

Genl. Secretary :
SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET
CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 18th Sept 1958

Dear K.C.,

Received all your letters, & messages, etc. via Raj Bahadur.

(1) He gave me to understand there may be some alteration in venue & date of the syllabus committee meeting. The N.C. is after all to be in Madras. It is quite a problem to adjust. However, will you please let me know by Saturday, if possible, whether the original schedule (i.e. from 28th at Delhi), stands or there is any likelihood of change of either dates or venue, or both?

(2) The train situation has become very critical & complex. The report sent through Raj should not be printed immediately as it may be outdated by the time you publish. Anyway, by tomorrow or so, we will know whether we call it off or have to continue.

(3) Your letter to the Electric Supply union has been handed over to them. They may write to you again.

Incidentally, for your information, I happen to be President of that union! They showed me their letter to WFTU after posting it, so there was nothing to be done. The two Secretaries are rather difficult people to handle. Should they write again to INTUC, I would suggest you reply in the same tone.

(4) Our membership claim seems to have precipitated a major furore. When do you expect to receive the INTUC lists?

(5) Monoranjan will be back on 20th from Dooars. I shall see that he sends a report on the strike.

(6) Why this sudden "stringency" in the case of the plantation TUI delegates? It is obvious none can go on these terms.

(7) I am trying to apply for my passport by the end of this week. Have you served legal notice on globe? Personally I still can't understand why our claim should not be directly on KLM - globe is their agent & why should we be concerned with the latter's misdoings?

y
Jg.

28 SEP 1958

PHONE : 34-2044

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :

SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.

Genl. Secretary :

SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET

CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 25th Sept 1958

Dear K.C.,

Received your telegram re: Syllabus meeting. I hope you had earlier received mine re: the case against me. As far as that is concerned, arrangements have been made to obtain a few days' time. What is Bannerji doing?

I am afraid I can't manage to come to Delhi just now. The first meeting of the Special Committee to implement the Tule Industrial Committee's decisions has been called on the 30th & I can't miss that. Then, if we are to leave for Madras on 5th, obviously the Delhi programme can't be squeezed in by me. So I would suggest that the Syllabus meeting be held with those available, & then the draft be circulated once to the others for their suggestions, before finalisation. I have not been able to

apply for passport yet, as I was busy
these last few days with arrangements
for my case. Hope to do it in a
day or two.

Is SAD back?

Y
Pf.

157.25
K. J. K. Tangamani, M. P.,

6/157 Broadway
Madras-1. 3.10.58

102
Dear K.G.,

Hope you must have received my note on T.U. legislation posted at Itarsi & handed over the same to the comrade concerned. Since I had clearance work to be done throughout the day on 1st I could not go over to AITUC office as promised.

Since yesterday K.A. Nair is on H.S. here in front of S. Ry General Mess office. Prior to that Nair, Kalyanswar, BSK Jeyar & TR Ganesh led a procession of 4000 workers to the H.S. spot. KAN was profusely garlanded & H.S. started.

The demands have
appeared in full in
the Madras papers.
They deal with
transfers, arrears of
wages, replies to
reps., frudo to form
T.V. of workers choice etc.
Repts will be sent to
you regularly.

Yrs Jesty
K.T.K.T.



K. G. Srivasta

Secretary

A. J. T. U. C.

4 Asoka Road

New Delhi

157.26
102
- 8 OCT 1958

1-8-1/60 Suryanagar
Hyderabad. 20.
6. 10. 58

Dear Com. K. G.

After receiving your wire I had a trunk call from Nellore. Then I proceeded to Nellore. Here K. L. and I met the RLC and also the collector.

The strike has been with drawn. The workers must be resuming to-day.

But if the management plays monkey tricks, we apprehend trouble. We have taken all precautions that workers are not provoked. We have warned them

insufficiently. Com. Ramkotiiah vice-president of the Union and Sr. Subbiah the former secretary are on the spot.

We have asked the RLC and the collector to prevent employers from doing any thing.

Further victimisation and break in service might be resorted to. But the Govt. has shown the inclination to help the workers against reprisals.

They ~~can~~ may want workers to join the RSS Paper Union Bharatiga Rice Mazdoor Samithi.

Our workers are sound

and send and shall
with stand all tricks
and provocations.

Now you contact the
CLC and the LTI and
give the information
of with Sawal. Formal
letters are going from
the Union.

Res Ok.

Reaching Delhi on
10.10.58.

Yours fraternally
Raj Bahadur Gora

Exp. Prop. Delivery
अन्तर्देशीय पत्र
1958
इस पत्र के अन्दर कृपया न लिखिये



619

Com. K. G. Srivastava

Secretary AITUC

4. Ashok Road

New Delhi

पुस्तक
पुस्तक

पुस्तक पोस्ट

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता :-

Raj Bahadur Gora

1-8-116 Gyan nagar

Dehra dook



13 OCT 1958

Parvathi Krishnan, M.P.,
MEMBER, CENTRAL SILK BOARD.

Tel. No: { New Delhi: 45818
Coimbatore: 1353

13/3 North-South Street,
R. S. Puram,
Coimbatore
9.x:58

Dear Com. K.G.,

You must be wondering why I have not yet written to you since leaving Delhi. I am afraid ever since I arrived in Madras and then came on here I have not had a single moment to sit down and write even a post card as to how things are. On arriving home there were also some domestic problems that needed immediate attention - the cook had to go home as his mother-in-law was on her death bed, etc. etc. so amongst other things I have had to manage the cooking and other household jobs as well! It is only today that at last something seems to be moving and I am able to sit down and write.

1. No. the railways - I met Kalyanasundaram as soon as I arrived, and meeting the Sectt. was not possible. But I had discussions with him and did what I could. I am not in a position to write it all down at the moment, but will tell you more when we meet. Anyway, the hunger strike had started and is still going on, and they are hoping for some successful outcome. The police have not interfered and everything in Madras seemed to be fairly peaceful. The whole lot have swung into action over the hunger strike, so let us see what happens. I see from the papers that AKG and Bhuresh have also been busy with statements, letters and telegrams. I hope their intervention will be of some help. Anyway it did not seem necessary for anyone to go to Delhi immediately. I cannot say much more.

2. I also met the Labour Commissioner in Madras in connection with the Kaleswarar Mills affair. It seems the Government of Madras is not very willing to take over the Mills - for a multitude of reasons, and all the while they talk of still further 'examining' the proposition. I had left a statement for AKG and Bhuresh and others to issue after seeing the Minister - it has appeared yesterday. Meanwhile, after arriving here I found that C. Subramanian was busy doing a 'paga yatra' in his constituency so we tracked him down in an out of the way village late at night and had some talks with him. We also met the Administrator appointed by the High Court, who is doing his level best to get some finance. After considering all the details, I had discussions with the comrades here also. There was an Executive meeting held on Sunday where they decided to call off the satyagraha for the time being. That has been done, and we are now busy trying for release of the satyagrahis. The position is that they will probably be out today on personal bail, and the withdrawal of the case against them has to be taken up with the Government - the Collector is not in a position to do it. There is a likelihood of the Administrator himself reopening

the Mills in a few days - so he gave us to understand, and has said that in a day or two he will call on the Unions to discuss with him some of the problems concerning labour. In any case he is quite confident that liquidation will not come about. But nothing is yet certain about it. There are quite a number of hurdles still to be overcome. I will be leaving for Madras tonight and after getting there, will again try to meet all the Government officials concerned as well as the Minister - but it is difficult to say what will be the outcome. I'll have further discussions with NKK when he comes out today and then write to you if anything needs to be done in Delhi about it.

With greetings,

Parvati

Mads.as.

13. x. 58.

Dear Com. K. G.,

Received your letter re. telephonic conversation with Nanda. Com. Ranen is just leaving for Calcutta and will write to you from there.

① You must have heard that Lungevstake has been called off - will write in detail after getting details from them of the correspondence.

② Acc. to Ranen, Nanda's interpretation re. Nairtal discussions and application of Code of Discipline etc. ~~is~~ to railways, etc. is correct.

In haste,
Greetings,

Yrs.

Pravath.

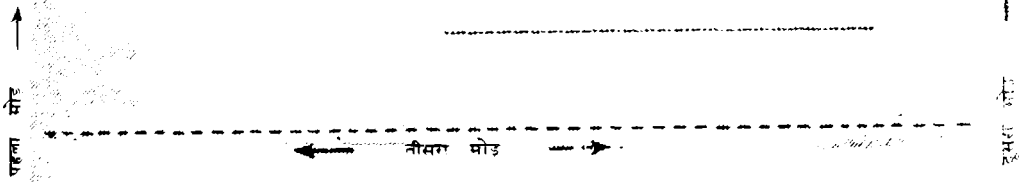
अन्तर्देशीय पत्र

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न लिखिये

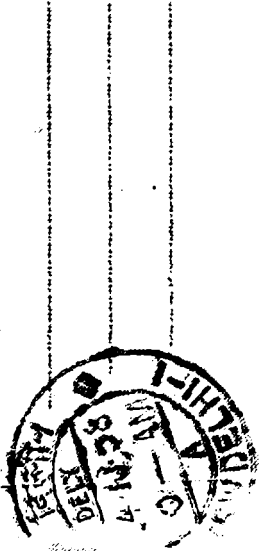


BY AIR MAIL

Com R. V. Sivasubramanian
4 Ashok Road
New Delhi



भेजने वाले का नाम और पता :-



- 4 NOV 1958

Confidential

3rd Nov. '58

Com. K. G.

Byhans

I shall be glad if you kindly let ~~me~~ us know your opinion & suggestion on the following points vis-a-vis affiliation of our Union with A.I.T.U.C.

Yes, I am writing this after consultation with Com. Indrajit Gupta.

- (1) The affiliation cannot be shown before 31st March 1958 as the Annual Return ^{already submitted} ~~does not~~ not show the Affiliation Fee.
- (2) What time should ~~be~~ there be shown for affiliation, obviously by a back-dated resolution. Please specify the ~~time~~ period, - month, ~~preferably~~ after ~~such~~ ~~report~~
- (3) What steps should now be taken by us to get the Affiliation Certificate of A.I.T.U.C. so that we may present the same at the time of verification by Govt.
- (4) After getting your advice we shall send the resolution properly signed by Taher Hussain

General Secy in our Union Pad.

Please advise on all technical &
other points, so that we may not have
any difficulty at the time of
verification.

I would expect the reply
to my query through Renée de
when she returns on the night

Please do the needful.

With greetings,

Courteously yours

Krish

Please destroy after reading.

- 4 NOV 1958 157-27

PHONE : 34-2044

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :

SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.

Genl. Secretary :

SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET

CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 3rd Nov. 1958.

Dear K.C.,

(1) Snehangshu is leaving Delhi for Moscow on the 5th. He will be staying at the Ambassador Hotel, Delhi on the 4th + 5th. Therefore, if you want to send anything to S.A.D., you can contact Snehangshu - I have spoken to him already.

(2) Please issue a Press statement immediately re: Barin Dey. His condition is really serious. He was taken from jail to Tata hospital, then back to jail, & then again back to hospital. But they will neither release him on parole, nor transfer him to Bankipore jail where there is a good hospital. His blood pressure

is so high that his life is really in danger. You might also consider writing a letter to the Bihar Govt. about it.

(3) My next date is fixed for the 13th. This time the magistrate has demanded a certificate from a Govt. doctor or medical college, failing which he will issue a non-bailable warrant! Such a certificate will, of course, be available, but the point is whether I should accompany it or not this time. I am consulting our lawyers & will decide accordingly. I have also asked Jagannath to come here for a general discussion regarding Jamshedpur problems, but don't know whether he will. Any news of Banerjee?

(4) How goes the Syllabus?! I suppose poor Pandhe is toiling away at it. He has done quite a good job. Any news from S.A.D. about the lecture drafts sent to him for finalising?

(5) Have you submitted the

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :

SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.

Genl. Secretary :

SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET

CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 195

(3)

principles re: 'democratic functioning'
to Nanda? Please send me a copy
when it is ready.

(6) We had a moderately good
Foundation Day meeting.

Nothing big could be planned as the
Puja holidays went on till the 29th &
30th leaving no margin for preparation.
"Swadhinata" ran a good campaign
with a special editorial, photos of
past Presidents, translation of our
manifesto, etc.

(7) Murari will send you a report
on Ichapore, if he has not
already. A new situation has now
arisen there, with the new committee
entirely in our control & the
INTUC people non-cooperating. May-
-be this time they will form a
real union.

Yours,



157.28
K. J. K. Jangamani, M. P.,

10 NOV 1958

6/157 Broadway

Madras - 1. 7-11-58.

Dear K. A.,

NICK was here + Kaleswarar Mills matter was settled yesterday before Industries Minr. Bakavarabala. Govt will file the requisit before High Ct on 12th. For 2 mths workers will get work on rotational basis + afterwards No. will be fixed; freedom given for voluntary retirement etc. At Vandavur Standard Mills 800 workers were on strike since 5th Bth after chaggett ofst workers and for Bonus for Deepavali. Police entered yesterday + evicted them' Lathi charge - several injured + 4 admitted in the hospital - MG have served termination notice on all the 800 TRGanes + I met the Labor Commisn today on this matter. Simon Paul will be meeting the Dt. Collector. In the city there is intense acrimony for getting bonus for Deepavali which was 10th. You must have received telegr sent yesterday re Kaleswarar.

I am in the city till
16th & will reach Delhi
17th morning. TNTUC
Ex. is on 18th & 19th
I will be able to attend.

Yours truly

KTK D. Muni

102

पोस्ट कार्ड

साथ का कार्ड जवाब के लिए

केवल पता



Com.

K. G. Srinivasa
Secretary

A. I. T. U. C.

4 Asoka Road

New Delhi

17 NOV 1958

Phone : 34-2044

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

157.29
All India Trade Union Congress

249, BOWBAZAR STREET, CALCUTTA-12

President :

Sri Hemanta Kumar Bose,
M. L. A.

Vice-Presidents :

Dr. Ranen Sen, M. L. A.
ab Md. Elias, M. P.
Sri Sudhir Mukhoti
Janab Md. Ismail
Dr. Sushil Bose
Sri Anadi Das

General Secretary :

Sri Indrajit Gupta

Secretaries :

Sri Manoranjan Roy
Sri Hrishi Banerji
Sri T. N. Siddhanta
Sri Saroj Ghosal
Sri Manindra Bose
Sitaram Sett

Treasurer :

Sri Nirode Chakravarty

14.11.58

Dear Com. Dange,

You were supposed to be returning on the 11th but we have not heard anything definite yet. Anyway, I am writing about a specific matter, assuming that you are back in Delhi by now.

Our nominee - Krishna Bose - has completed his training course under the Workers Education Scheme & has returned here. His problem now is, what to do? You remember that when we sent him off to Bombay six months ago, he gave up his NBA job at practically 24 hours' notice & went off. Naturally the NBA management did not like

this & will probably refuse to consider taking him back. On the other hand, is there anything we can offer him immediately which would help him (economically) & also be useful for our own education plans? As far as Bengal is concerned, the earliest we can organise TV schooling would be mid-February when the Party conferences, etc. would be over.

If NBA can be persuaded to re-employ him, they would insist on a guarantee that he does not "desert" them again at the call of the TVC! In that case, his whole training would have been wasted. On the other hand, now that his financial & family commitments have again come to the forefront, he would naturally be inclined to accept any job. I have not advised him anything yet without consulting you.

Please give the matter some thought & let me know your suggestions. Can you utilise him in any way at the ATVC centre itself?

Hope you are fully recovered now,

y
Indrajit

The ATVC centre cannot take over him. These trainees were supposed to be useful in their zones to the

40 Shri M.G. Wad,
Sita Sadan.
Behind Plaza Cinema
Bombay 28.
16. 11. 58.

Dear Com. K. G. Shrivastava,

I reached here yesterday
in the morning.

To day I had been to the
R.L. Trust Bldg where I met
Com. K.M. Sundaram. I came to
know from him that Com. K. G.
Basu, a trainee from Bengal to
the Teachers' Administrators Training
Course, had left ~~Bombay for Calcutta~~
without taking prior permission of
the Administrator. He even did not
care to inform Com. Vitthal Chou-
dhari nor to the B.S.T.U.C. This
certainly has created a bad
impression about the A.I.T.U.C.

If I am not incorrect, he even
did not inform this ^{to West B.T.U.C.} even before
leaving the course. I think it

would be better if you inform
West Bengal T.U.C. about it and
ask explanation from Com. Basu
~~about it~~. Com. Sundaram
could not give any ^{satisfactory} explanation
about his behaviour to the
authorities here. ~~Com. Sundaram~~
~~has added a good impression~~
~~about ~~the~~ in ~~the~~ ~~course~~.~~

I have told Com.
Sundaram about the verification
of the membership and he said
told me that he would do
the needful in the matter.

I have not yet been
able to meet Com. Chitris.
However, I will try to contact
him in MMU office tomorrow.
I will also ask Com. Patkar
to return Giris book.

Comrades in Bombay
are inquiring about Com. Dange.
They are very much eager
about his coming here.

IB

Please convey my best regards to Coms. Achutan, Dayanand, Krishnan and others.

With fraternal greetings,

Yours Comradely,

M. K. PANDIT

P.S.

I am going to Com. D.'s house in the evening today.

About my documents I will inform you within 2-3 days.

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये



Com. K. G. Shrivastava

4 Ashok Road

New Delhi

NEW DELHI

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता :-

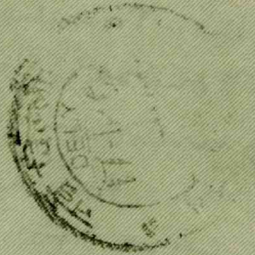
Shri M. K. Pandit

40 M. G. Road

Sita Sadan

Tinokpe Road

Bombay 28.



Copy of letter from Com.Pandhe
re. Com.Krishna Bose

Bombay, Nov.16.

"Today I had been to the R.L.Trust Bldg where I met Com.K.M.Sundaram (another student in the TU School). I came to know from him that Com.K.J.Basu, a trainee from W.Bengal to the Teachers' Administrators Training Course, had left the course without taking prior permission of the Administrator. He even did not care to inform Com.Vithal Choudhari nor the BSTUC. This ~~impression~~ has certainly created a bad impression about the AITUC. If I am not incorrect, he even did not inform this to West Bengal TUC even, before leaving the course. I think it would be better if you inform West Bengal TUC about it and ask explanation from Com.Basu. Com.Sundaram could not give any satisfactory explanation about his (Basu's) behaviour to the authorities here."

November 19, 1958

My dear Indrajit,

Your letter of 14th November.

The AITUC centre is not in a position to engage the services of Krishna Bose who was sent to the TU School in Bombay. I may make it clear that when the nominations were made, it was made explicit that after training, the comrades from various States should be helpful to their own areas and there was no undertaking that the AITUC centre would engage them for Central work.

As far as his position in the NBA, I would not say anything now in this letter. You know the way in which the whole matter was handled as regards the nominee from Bengal was concerned. So I would not go into it.

I would draw your attention to a report I have received from Com.Pandhe who was one of the four in the School. It appears that Com.Bose left without informing the officer of the School or anybody else. Even if he was in a hurry, he should have given information. This sort of behaviour is highly objectionable. I am copying out to you the letter which Com.Pandhe has written to us.

As regards other matters which you had raised in the previous letter, I think we should soon meet and discuss.

The treatment over there has done me some good though there is no complete cure for the disease. I hope I shall be able to do some work for some time now.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

(S.A.DANGE)

WEST BENGAL COMMITTEE

All India Trade Union Congress

President :
SRI HEMANTA BOSE, M. L. A.
Genl. Secretary :
SRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

249, BOWBAZAR STREET
CALCUTTA-12

Dated, 15th Dec. 1958

Dear K.C.,

Sending herewith copies of the resolutions adopted at a Jute workers' Convention organised by the BPTNC yesterday. About 250 delegates from different mills, including members of Works Committees + P.F. Trustee Boards, attended. S.A.D. was among those who spoke. Com. Bankim Mukherji presided. You can make a short report of this for T.V. Record.

Copies of the resolutions are also being sent to the relevant departments of the Central & State Govts.

yours,

P.G.

R E S O L U T I O N

1. While welcoming the decisions of the Industrial Committee on Jute as a step forward in the struggle of the jute workers for their legitimate rights and demands, this conference expresses its concern at the failure of the Govt. and the IJMA to co-operate with the trade unions for rapid and effective implementation of the said decisions.

2. The Conference hopes that the special Committee on Rationalisation set up by the State Govt. will expedite its work and will devise an effective machinery for guaranteeing uniform implementation in all the jute mills of the agreed decisions regarding minimum period of notice in all cases of closure, modernisation or rationalisation; sealing of the budli lists; no reduction in complement except through natural wastage; no misuse of medical examination or superannuation by the management; and no reduction in the existing complement of women workers.

3. In this connection, this conference feels that for the effective and uniform implementation of the above decisions in such a far-flung and vast industry, it is essential to have joint implementation committees at unit-level, which would function under the over-all supervision of the Special Officer already attached to the Special Committee on Rationalisation.

4. In the meantime, this conference calls upon the workers' elected representatives in the Works Committees of jute mills to realise their new responsibilities and to act as vigilant sentinels of the tripartite decisions, to fight for their honest implementation, and to report promptly to the Unions all cases, actual or suspected, of non-compliance and evasion by particular managements.

5. This Conference further expresses grave concern at the continued rise in prices of almost all essential commodities of life in West Bengal, and the utter inadequacy of the jute workers' existing emoluments to maintain even a bare minimum standard of living. Taking into account the high profits and improved financial conditions of the jute mills, and consistent with the recommendations of the Industrial Committee on -----contd....

Jute, this Conference strongly urges upon the Central and State Governments to take the following immediate steps : -

- (1) Appointment of a Wage Board for the Jute industry;
 - (2) Restoration of the Rs. 4/14/- p.m. reduction in D.A. (effected by the last Tribunal's award), by way of immediate interim relief pending the wage Board's decisions;
 - (3) In the event of no Wage Board being set up in the near future, D.A. to be increased from the existing Rs. 32/8/- p.m. to Rs. 40/-/- p.m. and to be linked with the cost of living at the rate of Re. 1/- for every 5 points rise or fall in the official ~~existin~~ index;
 - (4) Introduction of a Bonus Scheme for the Industry in consultation with the ~~industry~~ unions, subject to a minimum annual bonus equal to one month's wages irrespective of profit or loss.
-

3
ON CRISI/OF RAW JUTE PRICES

This convention of Jute workers views with grave alarm the continuing steep fall in raw jute prices which has brought economic disaster to millions of jute cultivating farmers in West Bengal, Bihar and Assam. The downward trend is still continuing. Market prices in Calcutta have fallen below even Rs 20/- per maund, which reflects the terrible plight of the primary growers who have been forced to sell to the middlemen at prices far below their minimum cost of production.

This unprecedented slump in the raw jute market is also spelling ruin for thousands of jute dealers and traders, who have thereby been placed completely at the mercy of the monopolist buyers - the Indian Jute Mills Association. Taking advantage of this year's bumper crop of jute and mesta the millowners are deliberately holding off from the market and thus forcing prices still further down.

This convention protests against the complacent and callous attitude of the India Government, as revealed in the Lok Sabha statement of Sri Lal Bahadur Sastri on December 8th, in which he has deliberately minimised the gravity of the crisis, failed to appreciate the sufferings of millions of peasants, refused to take any new measures to arrest the falling prices, and completely dittoed the reactionary line of the profiteering millowners.

The jutemill workers cannot but be deeply concerned at the plight of the poor peasants, and also at the prospect that this year's depression is bound to lead next year to under-production and high market prices, without, however, ensuring a fair return to the primary grower. This convention, therefore, urges upon the Government of India and the State Governments concerned to reverse their present disastrous and pro-employer policies and to adopt the following immediate measures in the national interests:-

- 1) Statutory fixation of a minimum price for purchase of jute from the growers so as to guarantee a fair margin of profit to them;
- 2) Compulsion on the millowners to maintain at least 3 to 4 months stocks of raw jute with the mills;
- 3) Permission to export up to 200,000 bales of Indian jute and to import a corresponding quantity from Pakistan in view of the ample supplies available in both countries;
- 4) Organisation by the State Governments of marketing co-operatives to undertake purchase of jute and to advance money against jute to the growers, so as to help stabilisation of prices and give relief to the cultivators.

PROVIDENT FUND

This convention of jute workers draws the urgent attention of the Government to the hardships and sufferings of the workers caused by (a) the growingly frequent instances of misuse and embezzlement of Provident Funds by the employers, (b) the present dilatory and defective working of the Government's own administrative machinery in respect of Provident Funds.

As a result, workers are increasingly being deprived of the effective benefits of Provident Fund both as a measure of old-age security and as a source of financial assistance in emergencies which cannot be met especially by such low-paid workers as in the Jute Industry.

This Convention, therefore, demands :-

- (a) that the machinery for recovery proceedings and prosecutions in all cases of defalcation of P.F. monies be made more effective and rapid, and penalties for such offences be substantially enhanced;
- (b) that the loan provisions under the P.F. Scheme be liberalised;
- (c) that all employees be compelled to arrange for constitution of properly elected P.F. Trustee Boards, and their regular functioning, *the procedure for such election be laid down immediately by the India Govt.*

WORKS COMMITTEES

This Convention of Jute Workers regrets to find that the mill managements with few exceptions, continue to adopt an uncooperative and obstructive attitude towards the legally constituted Works Committees in their respective mills. The elected representatives of the workmen who seek to voice and fight for the genuine interests of their constituents are in most cases not being permitted to function effectively, as such.

It is found that the employers do not convene regular Works Committee meetings at least once a month, as required by the Statute; do not consult the worker members in drawing up agenda and sometimes try in various ways to intimidate Works Committee members into accepting the management's point of view.

This convention protests against these and other undemocratic and unfair labour practices which amount to subversion of the legal powers and functions of Works Committees. Moreover, it is regrettable that complaints on this score made to the Labour Directorate of the State Government generally fall on deaf ears and do not produce any remedial action.

This Convention reminds the Govt. that in the absence of recognition of trade unions, the Works Committees are at present the only Statutory machinery available in the Jute Mills for day to day bi-partite handling of grievances, settlement of disputes and consultation on all matters affecting working conditions. But the effectiveness of this machinery depends entirely on the employers' spirit of cooperation, in the absence of which Works Committees are rendered impotent and a premium is placed on the labour unrest. Government should, therefore, take effective steps for inspection and implementation of Works Committee functioning in the interests of industrial peace.

This Convention calls upon all jute workers and their elected representatives in the Works Committees to fight determinedly and unitedly for the defence and exercise of their rights, to expose and resist employers' violation of them.

Cable : "AITUCONG"

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

157-82

अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन काँग्रेस
ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

Telephones : 48771
43414

4, ASHOK ROAD,
NEW DELHI.

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

102

October 22, 1958

Dear Com.Dange,

Enclosed herewith are two more ^{lectures} lectures. We hope you could revise them and return early.

We intend publishing the draft syllabus soon. There is too much pressure from units. Otherwise they have started holding schools without us and our syllabus.

2. Also enclosed is Shri Nanda's letter re.R.L.Mehta's report. Myself and Indrajit are of the view that we must insist on the publication of the report.

A draft reply is being sent. If you agree, please sign and send us.

3. Com.Indrajit came here and stayed for a week. He revised the syllabus.

Hope you are improving in health and so also is Tai.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G. Sriwastava

(K.G.Sriwastava) 12

 INTRODUCTION TO WORKERS' EDUCATION SCHEME

Since Independence, TU movement in India become stronger in moral and political influence - Tremendous growth in membership and number of unions - millions coming under our flag - But movement cannot go forward without sound organisation and education of rank and file.

Workers' Education - a neglected task by the TUs - Apathy in the ordinary members results in weakening the union activity - pressure of work on leading comrades while large section of cadre remains inactive. A militant worker in strike is not necessarily a TU worker.

Broad features of workers' education in different countries - ultimate objective of socialism accepted generally - Immediate social objectives of working class differ from country to country.

(a) In advanced capitalist countries - private ownership and production for profit at the root of all workers' problems and struggles.

(b) In socialist countries - building socialism, consolidating the position of working class as the ruling class.

(c) In Independent but under-developed countries - building the national economy, raising the living standards and taking steps to strengthen the premises for ultimately going over to socialism.

(d) In colonial and dependent countries - winning the independence of the country and defence and advance of living standards of the working people.

(1) Workers' Education must, therefore, aim at heightening workers' consciousness regarding the above social objectives - in the case of India, this would apply to (c) above.

(2) Workers' Education must also aim at clarifying the basic differences in ideological approach between reformist trade unionism, whose outlook is restricted within the framework of the present economic and social order and revolutionary trade unionism which aims at solving the workers' problems by structural changes in the present order and building of a new order.

*

AITUC School at Nagpur in 1953 - a first attempt by a central organisation in India to teach its leading workers - The idea of running schools on regional basis did not materialise. Some local unions on their own organised classes but no central machinery as such existed.

Government of India decided to constitute a semi-autonomous authority comprising representatives from TUs, employers organisations, Government and educational institutions. A Central Board established and invested with launching the Workers' Education Scheme - A Central School organised in Bombay since May 1958 to ^{train} ~~teach~~ Teacher-Administrators - Ten Centres in India where teachers will be trained. They will in turn teach the workers in factories. Paid leave to be given to the worker attending classes. All candidates attending classes to be sent by TUs - Government decided to spend Rs.60 lakhs during the Second Plan period.

AITUC Working Committee decision on N.M.Joshi Memorial TU School - Four zonal schools will be held in Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Delhi regions - TU functionaries to be trained to conduct classes of union members -

AIMS AND OBJECTS OF OUR EDUCATION PROGRAMME

1. To teach the workers in the principles of trade unionism.
2. To make the members of the unions conscious of their rights and responsibilities so that they are made conscious participants in union activities.

3. To explain to the workers the legal machinery which will enable them to fight for the facilities that the employers have denied them in spite of legal provisions and for introducing better legislation.

4. To give a general background of the TU movement in India and the world as well as the industrial development in the country.

5. To acquaint the workers with the tripartite machinery in India and abroad.

6. To train the workers in the problems of TU functioning.

7. To educate the workers in their tasks and responsibilities in the present period.

8. To strengthen inner-democracy in the TUs by equipping worker militants to rise to the level of active functionaries - thus overcoming the basic organisational weakness of over-dependence on a few, educated "outsiders" and perennial shortage of cadres to cope with increasing and many-sided jobs.

(NOTE: The connection between TU education and TU democracy must be stressed - at present, worker functionaries are very few, even the "intellectual" functionaries have not been given proper TU training - Our course is meant to serve the needs of both, with necessary adjustments.)

CAPITALIST SOCIETY

General character of any society determined by the prevailing mode of production, i.e., (1) technical methods used in the relations of production, e.g., whether ox-drawn ploughs or tractors, hand-spinning wheels or automatic spindles, human power, water power or electricity; (2) Relations of production - relations between men and relations between classes, depending upon the existing property system. The development of any society depends upon the relationship between the classes inside the mode of production.

Meaning of the capitalist mode of production: (1) Capitalism is a system of commodity production, i.e., things produced for market (in contrast with production of things for the direct use of the family or village, as in ancient times or in some peasant communities); (2) In capitalist society ownership of the means of production (land, factory buildings, machinery, etc.) are in the hands of a minority class; (3) The majority of the population is divorced from the means of production and their only means of getting a living consists in hiring themselves out for a wage to the capitalists - "Capitalism is commodity production at the highest stage of development, when labour power itself becomes a commodity".

Profit motive is the driving force of capitalist production - with the help of developed technique and division of labour, human labour can produce more than its own subsistence requirement - This is the surplus created by labour during the course of production - Therefore the antagonism between wages and surplus value is the root of conflict between a capitalist and workers.

Two main social systems before the dawn of capitalist era - (1) Slavery and (2) Serfdom.

(1) Slavery - The slave was the property of the master, who ~~and~~ lived on the difference between what the slave produced and what was need to feed, cloth and house the slave. In this society, the surplus was a small one.

(2) Seffdom: A serf was allotted some land from which he fed himself and his family - The landlord had a right to make use of the surplus labour for cultivating his own estate - This was the basis of feudalism.

Certain conditions had to arise between capitalism could appear:

1) Development of trade and hence of production for market;

2) Accumulation of money capital in the hands of merchant capitalist;

3) Sufficient improvement in the means of production so that investment in production would yield sufficient profit;

4) Small producers had to be diverted from land so that they had no other way of getting a living except by working in the factories.

In the earliest stage of capitalism, production was still done by hand. The capitalist gathered workers together under one roof to work under his direction. The invention of power-driven machinery was an important milestone. It involved the cooperation of many workers in common machine process. Since complex machinery and buildings were now necessary, larger capital was needed to start production. With the heightened productivity of labour, the possibilities of capital to earn surplus value widened.

To give maximum scope for developing new factory industry, two things were necessary - (1) ever-expanding markets;

(2) possibility of competition among the capitalists.

In competition each individual capitalist is himself ruled by market price - If he sells at a higher price than his rivals, his customers would desert him - Hence each capitalist tries to undersell his competitors to get a larger share of the market. There is a continual drive to improve the forces of production by introducing more and better machinery. But at the same time, as the productivity of labour is increased, human labour is displaced. Unemployment gathers in the wake of technical progress. (i.e. reserve army of labour) - Surplus created by labour is used in further opening of factories. "The workpeople are thus continually both repelled and attracted, hustled from pillar to post."

A capitalist tries to increase his profit by two ways
(1) Increase in the hours of work or workload. There are limits to this, since longer hours result in fatigue and illness and, after a point, react unfavourably on efficiency.
(2) With the help of technical improvements, more can be produced per day. This reduces cost of production and gives more profit to the employer.

But this improvement requires two conditions: (1) A large capital in the hands of an employer as more complex machines are used. (2) Large portion of the fixed capital (machines and buildings) in the total capital.

The medium-sized firm becomes the giant firm, large companies and corporations replace the one-man business and partnership. Banks and financial institutions get more closely interwoven with industry and accentuate the tendency towards centralised control. In place of hundreds of capitalists competing against one another, the market becomes dominated by a single giant or by a group of giant firms. Large firm absorbs the small or drives it to the wall. Thus, the way is prepared for competitive capitalism to pass over into monopoly-capitalism. (Examples of amalgamation and combination of concerns in India and other countries).

Contradiction in capitalist society - while production is organised in larger and larger units, employing ever larger number of workers and production becomes more and more social, ownership remains individual and gradually concentration of capital takes place in fewer and fewer hands. Side by side, as a result of capitalist exploitation, impoverishment of the working class grows increasingly - Their purchasing power dwindles - And when under capitalism production is not subjected to central social control, there is periodical crisis of overproduction. Cyclic periods of expansion and contraction in production are called booms and slumps. Society becomes stagnant.

Capitalism tries to come out of the crises by reducing wages, increasing workload and closing down factories - huge army of unemployed workers as a result of decline in economic activity. Capitalism's efforts to solve crisis by resort to armament production and war.

Capitalist society has become a fetter ~~to~~ ^{on} economic progress and increase in the ~~standing~~ standard of living of the working class. Replacing this order by the socialist order is only solution to put an end to the evil society.

India's acceptance of socialistic pattern of society - an important step towards social progress. Workers can be made conscious about it only when they are explained the reactionary nature of capitalist society.

COPY

No.LM/D-3102/58

MINISTER FOR LABOUR

New Delhi, the October 18, 1958

My dear Dange,

My attention has been drawn to the editorial in the "Trade Union Record" of October 5, under the caption "\$20,000 from America". At the first meeting of the Central Evaluation and Implementation Committee held on September 20, 1958, I announced that since the Code of Discipline was ratified formally only at the Nainital Conference, the sanctions provided in it would apply to breaches which took place after this ratification and not before. This has been interpreted by the "Trade Union Record" as "an ingenious method" by which Government have sought to protect itself and the Tas from, what it describes as, "apparently uncomfortable findings" of R.L.Mehta's report on the Jamshedpur strike.

Since this strike took place before the Code became formally operative, I thought it was only correct to take it ~~was~~ out of the purview of the Code. But if the AITUC desire that the strike and the various events connected with it be examined in the light of the Code, I would not have the least objection. If not, the least that the journal can do is to give the facts now and correct the wrong impression that has been created.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd.

(G.L.Nanda)

अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन काँग्रेस
ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

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

October 1958

Dear Shri Nandaji,

Thank you for your D.O. letter No.LM/D-3102/58 dated 18th October 1958.

2. The AITUC would like the inquiry into the observance of the Code of Discipline by either party in the Jamshedpur struggle being placed before the Tripartite Committees and Conferences.

As has been made clear in para 2 of our note on the subject, Shri Naval H. Tata accepted the Code of Discipline and even recommended it for being implemented. The principles of the Code of Discipline were agreed to in the 15th Indian Labour Conference and that too was accepted by all the three sections of Tripartite Conference. Major portion of the Code of Discipline was accepted by all the parties. Only the AITUC and HMS had pointed out certain items for clarification which was done from time to time - the last one being in your opening speech at the 16th Indian Labour Conference.

The AITUC had ratified it with the three provisos - two of which were clarified in the March 1958 meeting of the Sub-Committee on Code of Discipline in Industry and the last one at the Nainital Conference.

2. To clarify the publication referred to by you in the "Trade Union Record" of October 5, I propose, if you agree, to print your letter in the journal with only the following sentence as Editor's note: "The AITUC desires that the report of the Mehta Inquiry should be placed before the Tripartite body."

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Shri G.L.Nanda,
Minister for Labour,
New Delhi

(S.A.Dange)