

337/35

All India Trade Union Congress
CENTRAL OFFICE
NEW DELHI

4

Closed

File No.

~~35~~

Subject

WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING CIRCULARS (AITUC)
of General Council

Period

JANUARY 1980 TO Dec 1981

Working Committee of General Council



AITUC DIGITAL ARCHIVE - 2021

Folder Code: 4 File No. 337 S. No. _____

Digital File Code: _____

File Title: Working Committee Meeting Circulars

Year: 1980-81 / /

Metadata:

Scanned:

Note: _____

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

Telegrams:
"AITUCONG"

24 Canning Lane
New Delhi 110 001

Telephones : 386427
387320

President : S.A.DANGE

General Secretary: Indrajit Gupta M.P.

CIRCULAR

28 October 1981

To All Working Committee members
All State Committees

Dear Comrades,

As decided at the time of the last meeting of the general council, this is to remind you that an emergent meeting of the Working Committee of the AITUC will be held at the AITUC office, 24 Canning Lane, New Delhi on Tuesday, 24 November 1981 at 10 a.m.

The agenda will be : Review of 3 November protest day and 23 November demonstration.
Future campaign and tasks.

All members are expected to come to Delhi for the March on 23 November and to attend the meeting of the working committee without fail.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

for
T. S. Indrajit
(Indrajit Gupta)
General Secretary

Circular

28 October 1981

To All members of the Working Committee
All State Committees

ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR 23 NOVEMBER MARCH

Dear Comrades,

The arrangements for the 23 November March to Parliament are underway. The AITUC is making the necessary arrangements for housing the participants in Delhi from the morning of 22 November to the morning of 24 November. Volunteers will be present at the railway stations and bus terminal to guide the participants to the place where they will be staying.

STUCs are requested to send details of the number coming from their respective states and the timings of the trains/buses to reach this office by 12 November at the latest.

Please note that it will be quite cold in Delhi at that time and all comrades should be instructed to be equipped with sweaters and blankets.

The cost of arranging the accomodation, etc. will be terrific. With present prices all arrangements for success of the march have gone up. The AITUC, apart from meeting the expenses for AITUC participants also has to contribute to the common expenditure of stage, mike arrangements,

etc. Therefore, all STUCs and major unions should contribute whatever they can towards the expenditure and also remit the money on account of the 25-lakh fund and sale of EPTU stamps which were distributed at the time of the general council.

Demonstrators coming from areas and states near Delhi should reach on 23 November morning. The procession is scheduled to start at 10 a.m.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

T. N. Dwivedi
for (Indrajit Gupta)
General Secretary

CIRCULAR

28 October 1981

To
All State Committees.

We are sending herewith the manuscript of a central campaign booklet on the ESMA. The AITUC centre is publishing it in English only. You are requested to publish it in your local languages and sell it widely. This should be done as early as possible and as part of the preparations for the 23 November demonstration at Delhi.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

T. N. Dwivedi
for (Indrajit Gupta)
General Secretary

Enc: Manuscript

D E F E A T
E S M A

Defend Workers' Basic Right of Strike

- by Indrajit Gupta, MP.
General Secretary,
AITUC.

On Sunday, July 26th, 1981, near about midnight, just as the President of India was about to fly to London to attend the wedding of Prince Charles, he signed the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance which had been prepared by the Indira Gandhi Government.

The Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha had already been summoned by the same President to hold their session from August 17th, i.e. only 3 weeks after the Ordinance came into force.

Why could not the Government wait for 3 weeks and bring a regular Bill before the Parliament as soon as it assembled? What was the desperate hurry to issue an Ordinance, which is an extraordinary measure? What were the circumstances which made it so necessary and urgent for the President to take immediate action?

To these questions, the Government has given no satisfactory reply or explanation till today. It has simply followed up the Ordinance by a Bill, which was duly passed, with the help of the Government majority, in both Houses between September 15th and 17th after marathon, all-night debates in which the opposition parties put up powerful and united resistance.

In the debates, the Bill was thoroughly exposed and the Government was on the defensive throughout. No minister could effectively answer the arguments of the Opposition. But, in the end, the Government's $\frac{2}{3}$ majority voting machine won the day.

Has the Government majority-support for this "Black Act" inside Parliament, the same backing outside also? Are the majority of workers in the country also in favour of a total ban on strikes?

Now the time has come for the working class and its trade unions to give a reply.

What are the main provisions of the Act?

MODIFICATIONS MADE IN THE BILL

As is known by now, certain changes were made in the Bill and now provisions have been incorporated which were not there in the Ordinance. These changes made do not however, deflect in any manner the blatantly anti-working class character of the legislation.

Two new clauses have been incorporated - clauses 8 and 9, with regard to lockouts and lay-offs in so-called essential services, as an after-thought and a show of impartiality.

The definition of "essential service" has been further amplified to specifically include

- (a) Service in any establishment or undertaking dealing with the production of goods required for any purpose connected with defence,
- (b) Water supply in any Union territory or cantonment area,
- (c) Service in any establishment or undertaking dealing with the production, supply or distribution of coal, power, steel and fertilizers.

OBJECTS AND REASONS ADDUCED FOR THE LEGISLATION

The statement of objects and reasons given by the union Home Minister Zail Singh, who introduced and piloted the Bill in Parliament states to say:

"There have been diquieting trends likely to affect the maintenance of essential services in some vital sectors of the economy. It was considered necessary that the essential services should be maintained In the interest of the continuance of production essential for national security and defence as well as for the economy, it was felt that discipline and operational efficiency had to be maintained for the overall national good and public welfare." Hence the Ordinance, then the Bill and now the Act.

With all these reasons cited, such an Ordinance and its promulgation can be justified at all times and in all circumstances. It is therefore no consolation for the working class and the trade union movement that the life of the Bill is for four years for the present.

WHAT "ESSENTIAL SERVICE" MEANS?

Including the additions made in the Bill,
"Essential Service" will mean:

- (i) Any postal, telegraph or telephone service, including any service connected therewith;
- (ii) any railway service or any transport service for the carriage of passengers or goods by air or any other transport service for the carriage of passengers or goods by land or water with respect to which Parliament has power to make laws;
- (iii) any service connected with the operation or maintenance of aerodromes, or with the operation, repair or maintenance of aircraft, or any service in the International Airports Authority of India constituted under section 3 of the International Airports Authority Act 1971;
- (iv) any service in, or in connection with the working of, any major port, including any service connected with the loading, unloading, movement or storage of goods in any such port;
- (v) any service connected with the clearance of goods or passengers through the customs or with the prevention or smuggling;
- (vi) any service in any establishment of, or connected with the armed forces of the Union or in any other establishments or installations connected with defence;
- (vii) any service in any establishment or undertaking dealing with the production of goods required for any purpose connected with defence;
- (viii) any service in any section of any of any industrial undertaking pertaining to a scheduled industry on the working of which the safety of such undertaking or the employees employed therein depends.

Explanation - For the purpose of this sub-clause, the expressions "Industrial undertaking" and "scheduled industry" shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in clauses (d) and (i) of section 3 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951;

(42 industries are listed in the schedule of the IDR Act, 1951 -- I.S.)

(ix) any service in, or in connection with, the working of any undertaking engaged in the purchases, procurement, storage, supply or distribution of foodgrains;

(x) any service in, or in connection with the working of, any system of public conservancy, sanitation or water supply, hospitals or dispensaries, in any Union territory, cantonment area or undertaking owned or controlled by the Central Government;

(xi) any service in connection with or in relation to banking;

(xii) any service in any establishment or undertaking dealing with the production, supply or distribution of coal, power, steel or fertilizers;

(xiii) any service in any oilfield or refinery or in any establishment or undertaking dealing with the production, supply or distribution of petroleum and petroleum products;

(xiv) any service in any mint or security press;

(xv) any service in connection with elections to Parliament or to the Legislatures of the States;

(xvi) any service in connection with the affairs of the Union, not being a service specified in any of the foregoing sub-clauses;"

And then sub-clause (xvii) of sub-section (1) of clause 2 gives blanket power to the government to declare "any other service" to be an essential service for the purpose of this Act.

DEFINITION OF "STRIKE"

"Strike" has been defined in the Act as "the cessation of work by a body of persons while employed in any essential service acting in combination or a concerted refusal or a refusal under a common understanding of any number of persons who are or have been so employed to continue to work or to accept work assignment, and includes- - - - -"

(i) refusal to work overtime where such work is necessary for the maintenance of any essential service;

(ii) any other conduct which is likely to result in, or results in cessation or substantial retardation of work in any essential service."

With this wide definition, any form of agitation by the workers, even without a strike, can be brought within the ambit of "retardation of work" and thus attract the penal and other provisions of the Act.

"LOCK OUTS" AND "LAY-OFFS" NOT DEFINED

No definition has been provided in the Act of "lockouts" and "lay-offs". The definition in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 of "lockouts" and "lay-offs" will be applicable for the purpose of this Act.

As is well-known, lockouts, closures and temporary closures also are used as weapons by employers to beat down workers. And employers will certainly resort to closures to avoid lockouts and thus circumvent the provisions of the Act.

The Act does not provide any safeguard against such likely eventualities.

PROHIBITION OF STRIKE

The Central Government may, by general or special Order prohibit strikes in any essential service specified in the Order.

Upon the issue of an Order - - - - -

(a) no person employed in any essential service to which the Order relates shall go or remain on strike;

(b) any strike declared or commenced whether before or after the issue of the Order by persons employed in any such service shall be illegal.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION AND PUNISHMENT

Any person, - - - - -

(a) who commences a strike which is illegal under this Act or goes or remains on, or otherwise takes part in, any such strike; or

(b) who instigates or incites others to participate in any such strike;

Shall be liable to disciplinary action (including dismissal). In addition, any person taking part in any such strike shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both.

And for instigation or incitement to participate in any such strike, imprisonment may extend to one year, or fine which may extend to two thousand rupees, or punished with both.

For those who knowingly expends or supplied any money in furtherance or support of a strike which is illegal under this Act, imprisonment may extend to one year, or fine may extend to two thousand rupees, or both.

ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT AND SUMMARY TRIAL

Section 10 of the Act says that "notwithstanding anything contained in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, any police officer may arrest without warrant any person who is reasonably suspected of having committed any offence under this Act," and further, according^{to} Section 11, "all offences under this Act shall be tried in a summary way".

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES ACT, 1947 SUPERSEDED

Section 12 of the Act says: "The provisions of this Act and of any Order issued thereunder shall have effect notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, or in any other law for the time being in force".

This Act with its wide coverage, penal provisions, summary trial etc. will be used as a weapon to brow-beat the working class, intimidate and terrorise them. The Sword of Damocles will be hanging over the head of the working class reducing collective bargaining to a farce and employer's veto to be the rule of the game.

The working class will certainly refuse to be cowed down and will not shirk confrontation if the government and the employers so choose and that becomes inevitable.

It is the history and experience of the working class movement.

This Ordinance, then Bill, then Act have been brought, according to the Government, because there have been "certain disquieting trends likely to affect the maintenance of essential services in some vital sectors of the economy".

Asked repeatedly to spell out clearly what these "disquieting trends" are, the Home Minister had no reply. He certainly could not claim that "too many" strikes were taking

place. The figures for 1979 and 1980 show that the total man-days lost came down from 43.84 million to 12.91 million. But while the man-days lost due to strikes was 82% in 1979, it came down to 54% in 1980. On the other hand, man-days lost due to lock-outs went up from 18% in 1979 to 46% in 1980.

Was this the "disquieting trend" which moved the Government? Were they worried about the sharp increase in percentage of lockouts and closures? Obviously not. Because the Ordinance signed by President Sanjiva Reddy on July 26th does not contain a single word about lock-outs or closures! It was a 100% anti-strike Ordinance, and was enthusiastically welcomed by the big monopoly employers and the Chambers of Commerce.

Later on, as an after thought two new clauses were added to the Bill, giving Government power to prohibit lock-outs and lay-offs in the so-called "essential services". But not a word has been included about the deliberate "closures" of hundreds of factories all over the country by unscrupulous and anti-social employers.

The Act is consciously and comprehensively aimed at destroying the workers' right to strike. Its restriction to "essential services" is meant to create an illusion, because Government has also taken the power to declare "any other service" an essential service for the purpose of the Act.

Power to impose a blanket ban on strikes is a threat to the workers' basic right to fight exploitation. Such a threat, in legal form, was not there even during the darkest days of the Emergency.

It means the workers can be deprived, by Government order, of their only weapon with which they can defend themselves against the employer's wage-cuts, victimisation of active trade union workers, retrenchment, cuts in bonus, D.A., etc. If the right to strike is abolished, it will benefit none but the already powerful forces of organised capital which stand behind the ruling party.

Bitter experience has taught the workers that under this regime no employer is even punished or deprived of his living for having locked-out or closed down his factory.

But the locked-out worker loses his only means of livelihood and is faced with immediate starvation for himself and his family, and even with death in case of prolonged stoppages. So strikes and lock-outs cannot be treated as the same. The right to strike, in a capitalist society, is the right to survive and live. The right of lock-out is the employers' right to starve the workers into submission.

* Through the Parliamentary debates on this Black Ordinance and Bill, the Government's spokesmen did not utter a single word against the dishonest and profiteering employers who sabotage and disrupt production, even in such essential establishments as those manufacturing textiles, cement or sugar, or in mining. All their anger and threats were reserved for the workers, for workers' strikes, and for so-called "irresponsible" trade union leaders.

* This is the first time that a legislation dealing with strikes, lock-outs, or "essential services" has been prepared and piloted, not by the Labour Ministry, but by the Home Ministry. The threat of the police "danda" to crush strikes is the main thing in it, and not how to avoid strikes by timely settling of the workers' grievances and disputes.

* This Act reduces the right of collective bargaining to a farce. With the threat of a strike-ban hanging over the heads of the workers during any negotiations, the entire process can be dictated by the employers and the Government, which is itself now the biggest single employer.

It was forcefully pointed out in Parliament that such a blanket banning of strikes goes directly against the stand of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) on collective bargaining, and Government of India is a member of the ILO. But such considerations make little or no sense to the Police Minister!

* Why, then, this unseemly haste on the part of the Central Government? Is it because just at this time, the Government was negotiating for a record loan of Rs. 5,800 crores from the US-dominated International Monetary Fund (IMF)? Did they want to assure their future creditors that their loan would not be a risky one because of workers' unrest and too many strikes? There is, of course, no proof that this was so. But, at the same time, it is worth noting that not a single

Minister has cared to deny the Opposition's charge that the Black Act is a gesture to the IMF.

* But the real motives of the Government should be understandable to any worker, even if he belongs to the INTUC!

After its return to power in 1980, the present regime has totally failed to honour its election promise of controlling prices and preventing them from rising further. In 1980-81, as compared with 1979-80, wholesale prices have risen by 11%, and consumer prices by 13.7%. These are official figures; the common man, going to the market every day for his essential commodities, knows that the reality is much worse.

As AITUC General Secretary, Indrajit Gupta, said in the Lok Sabha on September 15th: "They know very well that under their dispensation, prices are going to rise much further. Mr. Venkataraman has admitted as much. Prices will rise much more. They cannot control the prices because they have no will to control the prices. And the more the prices rise, the more the people will suffer, the more there will be unrest, agitations, perhaps strikes also because they are going to impound a part of the dearness allowance and freeze the wages and, therefore, they want to take pre-emptive action. Before the people's agitation comes they want to silence it by this type of draconian Bill. That is why this Bill has been brought."

The price rise is constantly eating into the real wages of the workers and employees. Now in the name of checking "inflation" the Government wants to impose a wage-freeze, impound 50% of DA, and cut bonuses. But meanwhile, the big business houses are allowed to swell their assets and distribute unrestricted dividends out of their profits; black-money operators are permitted to change their black-money into "white" without any penalty; big merchants, wholesale traders, and hoarders are allowed to go on creating artificial shortages and sky-rocketing prices; the government banks go on giving credit of hundreds of crores to these same anti-social sharks.

Why should the working class be asked to pay the penalty for the failure of those who are ruling the country and mismanaging the economy?

*That is why the National Campaign Committee of the Central Trade Unions is conducting a joint, country-wide mass campaign against the new Black Act of the Congress Government and against its anti-labour and pro-management policies;

*That is why all the trade unions, irrespective of their affiliation or political creed, must raise their powerful voice of protest and resistance against this attack on the workers' right of strike, and see that it remains on paper;

*The Bombay Convention of trade unions held on June 4th, 1981, had decided to place in the forefront of its campaign the issue of combating the price-rise which affects all sections of the working people, and of mobilising them in fraternal support of the working class. This perspective must be always pursued, while fighting against the attack on trade union rights.

* Workers' Unity in 1978-79 stayed the hands of the then Janata Government from proceeding with its reactionary Industrial Relations Bill

* Workers' Unity in 1981-82 will force the Congress Government to respect the workers' rights and will render the Black Act impotent!

FORWARD TO THE WORKERS' MARCH ON PARLIAMENT-NOVEMBER 23
FORWARD TO ONE-DAY, ALL-INDIA GENERAL STRIKE!

(November 1, 1981)

.....

A L L I N D I A T R A D E U N I O N C O N G R E S S

24-Canning Lane, New Delhi - 110001. Tel: 386427/387320
Telgram: "AITUCONG"

President: S.A.DANGE GEN: SECRETARY: INDRAJIT GUPTA.MP.

=====

Dated: 27th Sep: 1981

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

THE General Council of the All-India Trade Union Congress met in New Delhi on September 23 to 25, 1981 and reviewed the developments since the 31st Session of the AITUC held at Visakhapatnam last year.

THE meeting was presided over by a presidium consisting of the Vice-Presidents present viz. J.Chittaranjan, M.S.Krishnan, Md.Elias, Chaturanan Mishra, B.D.Joshi and Homi Daji. In Condolence Resolutions, the General Council mourned the death of M.V.N.Kaparde, General Secretary, Andhra Pradesh State TUC; Prasanta Datta, General Secretary, Calcutta Port & Dock Workers' Union; Kedar Das, Veteran Trade Union leader of Jamshedpur; K.Kumariah, Coal Miners' leader at Singareni Collieries, Andhra Pradesh; Jai Prakash, HMS leader of Modinagar; Bal Dandavate; President of HMS; Moses, Vice-President of Madhya Pradesh TUC; Shyam Behari Singh, Coal Miners' leader in Asansol (West Bengal).

THE General Council also mourned the death of Com.Bupesh Gupta, S.A.VikramSinghe, Communist and working class leader of Sri Lanka; Pandit Sundarlal, K.D.Malaviya, Robert Sands and 9 other IRA activists who died of hunger strike, Madam Sun Yat-Sen, General Omar Torrijos of Panama and P.B.Gajendragadkar, former Chief Justice of India.

Indrajit Gupta, AITUC General Secretary submitted a report on the developments since the 31st Congress of the AITUC held last year, in the international and national spheres and indicated the tasks in the coming period.

THE aggravation of the international situation by the stepping up of arms race by the Reagan Administration, its decision to produce the neutron bomb, arming of Pakistan, aggression on Angola by the South African racist regime, US intervention against the people of El Salvador came in for discussions at the general council and emphasis was laid on the urgency of mobilising the workers against imperialist conspiracies, against the manufacture of neutron bomb etc.

THE economic and labour policies of the Government came into sharp focus during discussions in the Council particularly with regard to the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance which has now become a law banning strikes in so-called essential services, the attack on trade union rights in different states, beginning of wage-freeze in the shape of the proposal to impound DA of Central Government employees, the continuing rise in prices of essential commodities, more and more reliance of the Government of India on huge loans from imperialist agencies such as IMF, appeasement of monopolies and traders.

THE Council hailed the resolution and decisions of the united trade union convention held in Bombay on June 4 last and resolved to carry forward the united struggle and draw in other sections of the toiling people in the united movement.

THE General Council called upon the working class and trade unions to implement the decisions of the National Campaign Committee of Trade Unions to hold state conventions wherever such conventions have not yet taken place, to observe the ALL INDIA "PROTEST AND DEMANDS DAY" ON NOVEMBER 3, to mobilise tens of thousands workers, employees and other sections of the working people, particularly agricultural labour, students, youth, women and others for Delhi March on November 23 before the Parliament and to get prepared to carry out any other programme including an all-India one-day general strike that the National Campaign Committee might decide.

THE General Council severly condemned the promulgation and subsequent enactment of the draconian Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance imposing blanket ban on strikes and agitations in so-called essential services and called upon the working class to intensify their struggles demanding withdrawal of this thoroughly anti-labour legislation which has been brought forward to gratify the Indian and International Monopolies.

THE General Council called upon the trade unions to organise the vast number of workers in the Minimum Wages Sector who number millions and who are condemned to sweated labour and pitifully low wages, as well as contractors' workers in the public and private sectors, and launch struggles for betterment of their wages and service conditions.

THE General Council drew attention of the workers and trade unions to the Jamshedpur riot enquiry commission report and called for

vigilance and fight against the communal forces which are trying to divide the working class and the toiling people.

THE General Council adopted a large number of resolutions on both International and National issues and some of the main resolutions are attached for information and publication.

Indrajit Gupta

(INDRAJIT GUPTA)

G E N E R A L S E C R E T A R Y

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING 23-25 SEPTEMBER

ON AMENDMENT OF LABOUR LAWS

Although no specific amendments to some of the labour laws viz., Industrial Disputes Act, Indian Trades Union Act, Employment & Standing Orders Act, have so far been brought before the Parliament, the General Council of the AITUC noted the intention expressed both in the Parliament and outside, by the Ministers in the Ministry of Labour of bringing in amendments to these legislations. There has been no discussion with the trade unions on the specific amendments that the Government intends to bring in. But the proposals circulated in connection with the several times postponed national labour conference as part of the agenda of the said conference, are essentially retrograde seeking to put further restrictions on the formation and functioning of the trade unions and also trade unions rights including the right to strike.

The General Council calls upon the trade unions to oppose such reactionary amendments to the labour laws which the Government has decided to sponsor.

The General Council of the AITUC reiterates the demands put forward by the 31st Session of the AITUC last year to amend the I.D and other Acts to provide for:

1. Extension of the definition of "industry" to cover all wage and salary earners without discrimination and distinction on account of occupation and place of work.
2. Compulsory recognition by means of secret ballot.
3. Abolition of salary ceiling and nature of work for being defined a 'workman'.
4. The right of individual cases of termination of service to be taken directly to labour courts.
5. No compulsory arbitration or adjudication, except when demanded by the trade unions.
6. Annulment of all restrictions on the right of strike and trade union work inside and outside the factories and in the industrial townships and of the recently passed draconian legislation for banning strikes in so-called essential services.
7. The right of trade unions to take disputes directly to courts and tribunals when they so desire.

The General Council calls upon the workers and trade unions to remain vigilant and to intensify the united countrywide movement which has been launched since the Bombay Convention of June 4, 1981.

The general council calls on all state committees and affiliates to take up these demands and launch a determined campaign to achieve them. All steps should be taken to ensure the widest participation in this campaign through holding gate and shift meetings, through organising state-wide conventions and presentation of memoranda to government.

ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE RAMANUJAM COMMITTEE
ON PROVIDENT FUND SCHEME

The general council of the AITUC views with grave concern certain retrograde recommendations made by the Committee set up to review the working of the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme under the chairmanship of G. Ramanujam. While the recommendations regarding the composition of the Central Board of Trustees giving greater and proper weightage of workers' representatives, the extension of the coverage of the Act to all establishments employing 10 or more persons, that the Act be amended so that all penal provisions apply to exempted establishments also, that in case of liquidation and closure the employers' share may also be paid to the subscriber out of the Special Reserve Fund without waiting for its recovery, etc. - all reflect the long standing demands of the working class and merit immediate implementation, these become nullified by the other retrograde recommendations.

The general council of the AITUC specifically opposes the major recommendation on decentralisation and removing departmentally run public sector undertakings out of the purview of the EPF Act. Other retrograde recommendations include the continuation of the infancy period, and making only the employer's share the first charge on the assets of establishments taken over by the government or going into liquidation, etc.

The proposal regarding decentralisation particularly, if implemented, would virtually amount to handing over the scheme to be run by the employers on the lines of the now exempted establishment. The experience, by and large of the exempted units has shown that malpractices and mishandling of money belongs to the workers is a common phenomena. The picture of arrears of the exempted establishments is a telling fact to illustrate how the scheme has operated against the vital interest of the workers in a large number of exempted establishments.

In pursuance of the decision of the working committee, the AITUC had addressed a letter to the Minister of Labour demanding that a meeting of representatives of all central trade union organisations be held to discuss the recommendations of the Ramanujam Committee before legislation is undertaken to give effect to them. Though more than four months have gone by there has been no response from government.

The general council of the AITUC is of the firm opinion that while immediate effect should be given to the recommendations of the Ramanujam Committee which have been unanimously endorsed by the Central Trade Union Organisations.

The general council calls on all unions to take up this issue and organise a broad campaign, drawing in all sections of the trade union movement into it to achieve this demand.

The trade unions and the working class should fight back any further inroads on the rights of workers to social security benefits.

AGAINST THE NEUTRON BOMB

US president Ronald Reagan's decision to go in for full production of the neutron bomb has evoked the most widespread protest throughout the world. It is the overwhelming opposition in all countries that had compelled the former US administration to suspend the production of this most inhuman weapon. Reagan's decision is nothing short of driving the world closer to the abyss of nuclear catastrophe. It has now become doubly serious since the manufacture of components for the neutron weapon is already underway. All that is now required is to assemble and deploy the bombs. These weapons will be placed at the disposal of many second-string commanders, thus multiplying the risk of their use as so-called 'tactical weapons'. Combined with the NATO decision to place new US strategic missiles in Europe, this decision of Reagan greatly increases the accumulation of nuclear weapons and adds a new and more dangerous dimension to the arms-build up by the United States.

In face of this grave new danger, it is absolutely imperative for all to act to save humanity from the perils of a nuclear catastrophe. The movement against the manufacture of the ~~next~~ neutron bomb is growing in all countries. The forces of peace have become more capable now to prevent production of the neutron bomb if they act in time. Through united actions the Carter administration had been compelled in 1977 to abandon plans to manufacture the dread weapon and desist from the employment of Pershing II and Cruise missiles.

The general council hails the powerful movement that has built up spontaneously by all peace-loving and right thinking people. Unprecedented popular manifestations against the criminal policy of Reagan have already taken place, such as the long march from Copenhagen to Paris on the initiative of women's organisations, the W. Berlin demonstration, the massive march to Washington and so on.

The government of the USSR has acted promptly demanding the US should scrap the production of the neutron bomb and putting forward positive proposals for disarmament and a halt to the arms race. World public opinion has come out in support of these positive actions of the Soviet government. They have also made it clear that they would not stand by with arms folded if the US, ignoring world opinion, went ahead with the production of the bomb.

In face of the grave danger of President Reagan's decision it is more urgent than ever for the working class of our country to act and participate in fullest measure in all actions against the production of the bomb. Demonstrations have already been held in various parts of the country and in front of the US Embassy in Delhi to voice the protest of the peace-loving people of our country. But the battle is not yet won.

The general council of the AITUC fully endorses the demand put forward by the World Peace Council addressed to President Reagan demanding that he rescind the decision to go ahead with the production of neutron weapons and enter into Summit negotiations regarding Eurcstrategic missiles and return to SALT process.

The general council of the AITUC calls on all affiliated unions and the working class to take up this vital demand and organise the widest possible campaign in cooperation with all forces of peace in the country demandin:

NO TO NEUTRON BOMBS AND ALL NEUTRON WEAPONS !
NO TO US CRUISE AND PERSHING MISSILES !
START NEGOTIATIONS FOR DISARMAMENT !

.....

O N B O N U S

Barring restoration of the minimum bonus of 8.33 percent in the Payment of Bonus Act, no other amendment has been effect to do away with the retrograde provisions incorporated during the Emergency in 1975-76 and to further improve it in respect of coverage and eligibility and also quantum of bonus. The collective bargaining right of the workers has not yet been restored. Attempt is continuing to deny workers the guaranteed minimum Bonus and employers, in one industry or another, are trying to introduce productivity linked bonus which the AITUC has consistently opposed.

The General Council reiterates the demands put forward by the 31st Session at Visakhapatnam last year.

1. Minimum bonus to all unconditionally and to raise the quantum
2. Radical change in the present bonus Act including the computation chart.
3. Pending that, beyond the statutory minimum of 8.33 percent, bonus should be left to be determined by collective bargaining.
4. The various ceilings contained in the Act should go.
5. The choice of linking bonus above the statutory minimum to profits or production or productivity should be left to the workers and the basis should be decided by collective bargaining.

* * * * *

ON ESSENTIAL SERVICES MAINTENANCE ACT

The general council of the AITUC expresses its strongest condemnation at the passing into law of the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance.

This draconian Act takes away the fundamental right to strike of the workers both in the public and private sectors in the name of maintenance of production in Essential Services. It is sheer hypocrisy to say that the Government has only acquired the power to ban the strikes and that it would not be used against the workers. History and experience has amply exhibited that when the bourgeois rulers are given such powers they have been used mercilessly to attack the working class and take away their democratic rights and suppress the trade union movement. When the definition of 'strike' has been made so wide that any worker who for genuine reasons is not able to work is brought under its ambit, when the police are given such sweeping powers to arrest any worker without warrant and on suspicion, the diabolical intentions of the Government to beat down the working class and snatch away their rights are crystal clear considering that the Act provides for severe punishment of summary dismissals, huge fines and imprisonment for one year, this measure is more intended to strike terror in the working class using the strong arm of law, instead of governing industrial relations in a proper manner.

The general council of the AITUC considers that the real reason for bringing in such an Act is to appease the US dominated International Monetary Fund who have laid down the most objectionable and derogatory conditions, namely, wage freeze, use of the funds mainly in the private sector etc. if they have to grant the 5½ Billion dollars aid which the Government has sought for. Unable to solve the mounting crisis, created by its own policies which are in favour of the capitalists, the Government of Indira Gandhi is, on the one side, bartering the interests of the country by getting funds from the I.M.F. on conditions which no country with self-respect should accept and on the other, attacking the working class and seeking to snatch away their hard won rights by enacting measures such as the Essential Services Maintenance Act.

It is a matter of shame that the ruling party has chosen to push through such an undemocratic measure despite the united and powerful protest of the entire opposition in the Parliament. It is a matter of satisfaction that the working class of the country is agitating powerfully against this measure immediately after the Ordinance (ESMO) was promulgated and expressed in unmistakable terms its strong resentment at this Ordinance, through united conventions, demonstrations, processions, observance of Black Day on August 17, bandhs in Kerala, West Bengal and proposed bandhs in other states etc. The general council of AITUC urges upon the President of India to take note of the universal resentment of the working class of the country and refuse to give his assent to this Black Act.

The AITUC while expressing happiness at the united movement that has already been launched, appeals to the trade unions and working class to make the programme of action chalked out by the National Campaign Committee of the central trade union organisations, namely observance of protest day on November 3, 1981, and Delhi March on November 23 a mighty success. It also calls upon all its affiliates to fully participate in the programmes of action chalked out by the N.C.C. at the national level as well as at the state level and see that the government is forced to withdraw this anti-working class Act.

.....

ON MINIMUM WAGES IN SCHEDULED EMPLOYMENTS

The general council of the AITUC expresses its grave concern on the deplorable wage and service conditions of millions of workers covered by the Minimum Wages statute.

Taking the country as a whole, even on government's own admission, 25,27,74,000 or more than 50% of our rural population is labouring below poverty line. 5,18,39,000 or more than 38% of the urban population live below poverty line. Less than 50% of these toilers are covered by the establishments mentioned in the Minimum Wages law schedule.

Firstly, the Minimum Wages are not regularly periodically revised.

Secondly, those revised and fixed are deplorably low.

Thirdly, there is no adequate machinery to enforce the wages statutorily fixed.

Forthly, whatever machinery is there, it is inefficient and even corrupt.

Fifthly, due to certain defects in the Act, and loopholes deliberately left in the modifications, the wages notified are stayed for years by the courts.

But the experience is that where better wages are fixed and enforced, the employers tend to shift the establishments to neighbouring states where the wages are low.

Only some states like Kerala, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Punjab, Haryana, and West Bengal and in some cases in Bihar and U.P. the Cost of Living Allowance is also paid in terms of Section 4 of the Minimum Wages Act. In other places, and even in cases where the Central Government fixes the Minimum wage, no cost of living allowance is given to compensate to any extent the rise in the prices.

The General Council notes that this sector of workers are moving in joint actions to secure a just minimum wage.

But the Government of India that swears by the well-being of weaker sections of people has been doing little to ameliorate the suffering of these hard hit working people.

The Minimum Wages fixed by the Central Government are lower than those fixed by some state governments.

The Government of India is refusing to allow Cost of Living Allowance or automatic adjustment of Minimum Wages every six months.

It insists on paying only 70% of the fixed minimum wage to the physically handicapped.

The recent meeting of the Labour Ministers, presided over by the Union Labour Minister, has proposed that poverty line wage be secured for this sector, and that too in phases.

The "Poverty Line Wage" (on the basis of 2400 calories in rural areas and 2100 calories in urban areas) works out at 427 Consumer Price Index in April 1981 to Rs. 342.64 in rural and Rs. 395.6 in urban areas for four consumption units.

The AITUC has demanded Rs. 400/- and a number of State Conventions of Trade Unions in this sector have demanded Rs. 500/- as a minimum wage on April 1981 Index and Cost of Living Allowance over that fully compensating the rise in prices.

The economic activity in the sector is handicapped because of the taxation and other economic and fiscal policies of the Government. Lack of financial infrastructure facilities, and marketing assistance and above all inflationary situation go against this sector and seriously cripple it. The employers want to pass on the burdens arising out of all this, on to the workers by denying them adequate minimum wages and cushion against high prices.

The Minimum Wages Law of 1948 is also out of date and needs to be amended to meet the needs of the times.

The AITUC general council demands that:-

1. (a) bring in a number of employments that are not covered;
(b) make Cost of Living Allowance mandatory;
(c) Lay down the criteria for an adequate minimum wage;
(d) make the enforcement machinery adequate and efficient; and
(e) make the punishment for non-implementation or mal-implementation very stringent.
2. The minimum wage should in no case be less than Rs. 400/- and in the range of Rs. 400/- and 500/- depending on the nature of employment.
3. Cost of Living Allowance should be made compulsory to compensate the rise in prices.

The AITUC general council congratulates the trade unions for their struggle to improve the Minimum Wage level in scheduled employments and calls upon the trade unions to further intensify the united struggle in this, the most down-trodden, sector of workmen.

.....

IN SUPPORT OF BOMBAY CONVENTION AND
===== UNITED MOVEMENT =====

This meeting of the general council of the AITUC hails the Nation/Convention held at Bombay on 4 June 1981 as a significant event in the history of the trade union movement. TU organisations and industrial federations represented there spoke in one voice expressing their determination to fight unitedly against the anti-people, anti-working/policies of the government. The Congress (I) Government has during its terms of office failed to redeem a single promise to alleviate the sufferings of the common people. Prices have continued to rise and inflation rate is steadily shooting up. The delegates gathered at Bombay in their speeches reflected the growing realisations that the working class would have to combine with all sections of the toiling masses and common people, as the struggle for their demands was an integral part of the common struggle against governments' pro-monopoly, pro-multinationals, and pro-landlord policies.

The Bombay convention gave a resounding call to the working class to mobilise all their strength to observe an all-India Demands Day, a massive march to Parliament and to prepare for a country wide one-day strike. Immediately after the convention steps were taken in all states to prepare for state-wide conventions with all the organisations which participated at Bombay taking part in full measure.

In the meanwhile, Government promulgated the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance (which is now in the process of becoming an Act). The unity achieved at Bombay resulted in the resounding success of observance of 17 August 1981 as Protest Day. unitedly throughout the country at the call of the National Campaign Committee set up at Bombay. This unity was further reflected most effectively on the floor of both houses of Parliament when the hated bill came up for discussion. The general strike in Kerala, the bandh in W. Bengal & Tripura, and the proposed bandhs in other states, have carried this unity forward.

The state conventions planned after the Bombay convention have now been completed in almost all the states. The experience in all these conventions is that the unity forged at Bombay has met with enthusiastic response from all sections of the working class and has created the possibilities of further united actions to achieve the demands set out in the Bombay resolution.

The National Campaign Committee has called on all constituent organisations to take steps to observe 3rd November as all-India Demands Day through/the country and stage demonstrations before state government offices, district headquarters, etc. These demonstrations will be a preparation for a massive march to Parliament on 23 November.

It is unfortunate that in some states the unity seen at the Bombay convention has not been fully reflected due to certain continuing differences. The general council of the AITUC appeals to all unions, organisations and federations to shed their reservations and play their full role in achieving all-round unity without which we cannot succeed in the struggle to win our demands. The AITUC is confident that no effort will be spared towards achieving such unity of action.

The general council of the AITUC calls on all affiliated unions to take all steps to make 3rd NOVEMBER and 23rd NOVEMBER a resounding success. The unions should also take steps to draw in all other organisations for the common demands of checking price rise and for an effective public distribution system, for effective steps against blackmarketeers, hoarders and speculators, for take-over of wholesale trade in foodgrains and nationalisation of certain consumer industries like textiles drug, sugar, for remunerative prices to the farmers and assured adequate wages to agricultural labour. If the workers are to succeed in their fight against the attacks on their own rights and working and living standards it cannot be done in isolation from the other sections of the people fighting for these demands which are common to one and all.

The general council of the AITUC calls on all unions to be prepared for the final call of the national campaign committee after the march to parliament for the country-wide one-day strike. It is only through a sustained, determined and united action that government will be forced to heed the voice of the working class and toiling masses.

FORWARD TO UNITED DEMONSTRATIONS ON 3rd NOVEMBER
1981:

FORWARD TO THE UNITED MARCH TO PARLIAMENT ON 23rd
NOVEMBER 1981:

.....

RESOLUTION ON EXPLOSION IN CRACKER UNIT IN
SIVAKASI

Nearly 60% of hand made matches and entire crackers fire works are manufactured in and around Sivakasi and Kovilpatty of Tamilnadu. Many thousands of workers mostly women and children are employed. Due to vacillating policies of the Government of India, thousands of mushroom factories have sprung up in the last few years. Even huts and cow-sheds have been converted into factories. This endangers the life of workers and one evidence is the recent explosion in fire works factory near Sivakasi killing 31 persons. It is hightime, the Government of India Constitutes a high level committee to enforce measures to improve the working condition in these factories. The General Council of AITUC calls upon the Government of India and the Government of Tamilnadu to take up the issue of child labour and to enforce the existing laws relating to Child and Women labour in these industries who are cruelly exploited. It is also resolved to reconstitute the licensing pattern for match works and to bring forth the existing factories under them for a better working condition and a better living condition.

.....

RESOLUTION ON SERVICE CONDITIONS OF WORKERS ENGAGED
IN LOADING AND UNLOADING OPERATIONS

The general council is of the opinion that the Government of India have not taken adequate steps to bring the service conditions of the workers engaged in loading and unloading operations in New Mangalore, New Tuticorin and Paradip on par with their counter parts in Dock Labour Boards. On the other hand the Management in collusion with the INTUC is encouraging and abetting a closed shop system in New Mangalore Port. Attempts

are made to smash the AITUC union by taking recourse to goondaism etc.

Further without ensuring security of service and minimum guaranteed wages, attendance allowance, weekly rest day etc. introduction of mechanical services in cargo handling in these ports has reduced the employment and consequently wages.

The general council therefore demands that the benefits such as minimum guaranteed wages, Attendance allowance, paid weekly rest day, P. F. which are being enjoyed by the workers under various Dock Labour Boards should be extended to the workers engaged/cargo handling operations in New Mangalore, New Tuticorin and Paradip.

/in

.....

U.S. ARMING OF PAKISTAN

The general council of the All-India Trade Union Congress views with great concern the U.S. decision to arm the military regime of Pakistan with latest F-16 bombers, tanks and all. This decision of the U.S. is a part of the global strategy of the U.S. in particular its strategy in Indian Ocean and South and West Asia.

Arming of a discredited military usurper regime in Pakistan is aimed at creating a puppet regime capable of dancing to the Imperialist tunes in the area - a substitute for the Reza Shah Iranian regime in this part of the world. A US armed military rule in Pakistan would be a mill-stone round the neck of the people of Pakistan. They would be ground down as they are already under unprecedented inflation, stagnation in economy and total suppression of democracy.

The dictator is armed by US only as a source of constant threat to the neighbours including our country. Arming Pakistan is ruling out Peace on our borders, and an end to the Simla Pact, era of detente between our two countries.

The AITUC general council calls upon the entire trade union movement and all the peace loving democratic forces to condemn this U.S. move and rally in defence of Peace in this area, for friendly relations among all the countries in this part of the world and to clear the Sub-Continent of all Imperialist influences - arms as well as multinational economic plunder.

.....

ON DA AND CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The general council of the AITUC notes the adamant attitude of the government in continuing the process of the compilation of a fresh working class family income and expenditure survey in the country "with a view to derive weighting diagrams, for the compilation of a new series of consumer price index numbers on base 1981-100"

From the outset the AITUC had demanded that prior to undertaking such a survey the government should first implement the recommendations of the Rath Committee for correction of the existing series based on 1960. The workers continue to be deprived of crores of rupees due to the faulty index of 1960 series. This is all the more reprehensible in a period of rapid price rises. The workers/thus being doubly penalised;

/are

on account of faulty index on which DA is adjusted and secondly, on account of the fact that full neutralisation is denied.

After detailed examination the Rath Committee had come to the conclusion that many defects had arisen as trade unions had not been actively associated with income and expenditure survey, that the markets selected for collecting of prices had in many instances no relation to those actually patronised by the working class, that the units for which prices were collected did not correspond to the units which working class usually purchase, etc.

Hence one of the unanimous recommendations of the Rath Committee was the setting up of a permanent tripartite machinery to monitor price collection at the state level and a central committee to be associated with the preparation of any fresh series.

All these were given the go-by^{by} the Janata government at first, and later the Congress (I) government. The AITUC has made it quite clear that no fresh series can be compiled following the procedures that existed hitherto.

The past has shown clearly that in all cases when the trade unions had taken up this issue, the criticism made by them have been borne out by facts and workers have achieved some gains as in Bombay, Ahmedabad, etc. In spite of this government continues in the same old manner.

The general council of the AITUC strongly protests against this obdurate attitude of the government and demands that government implement the recommendations of the Rath Committee for correction of the current indices based on 1960 forthwith and take steps to set up the requisite fully representative tripartite machinery to supervise the preparation for a fresh series.

.....

ON AMENDMENT TO THE GRATUITY ACT

The act ensuring gratuity was put on the statute book to provide workers money commensurate with their years of service at the time of retirement. However, a recent judgment of the Supreme Court has nullified the operation of the Act by stipulating that workers should be in service for 240 days for each year of service to be entitled to gratuity according to their years of service. This has affected a large number of workers who are being denied the amount due to them for having less than the 240 days due to various factors, whether illness, lockout, closure, lay-off, strike, etc. The employers, including those of the public sector, have not delayed in taking the undue advantage of the judgement.

The general council of the AITUC demands that government immediately bring forward amending legislation to make explicit what was intended originally in bringing forward such a measure and ensure that workers are not made to suffer and their social security benefit eroded in this manner.

The general council calls on all state committees and affiliated unions to take up the campaign for amendment of the Gratuity Act and address memorandums and telegrams to the government to achieve this demand.

.....

✓

RESOLUTION OF JAMSHEDPUR RIOT ENQUIRY
COMMITTEE

The Jamshedpur Riot Enquiry Committee report has fully confirmed the general allegation made by many people that the riot at Jamshedpur was the creation of R.S.S., Jan-Sangh (Present BJP) and B.M.S. on the one hand and the Jamaat-e-Islami on the other. The Commission found that RSS Chief Sri. Deoras and the local BJP, M.L.A. Sri. Dinanath Pandey were directly responsible for provoking riot.

The commission also found that the administration failed to tackle the situation.

The commission **has** recommended that the Bihar Military Police be immediately reformed and reorganised having representation of different religious groups, and that the activities of RSS & Jamaat-e-Islami be banned in all public places particularly the educational institutions.

The findings of the commission are great lessons for all the secular forces particularly those who advocate joint working with such communal organisations. These organisations when they were in power, could totally paralyse the administration by rousing communal feelings, as it happened at Jamshedpur or previously at Ranchi during the days of the S.V.D. Government.

This meeting of the general council of the AITUC calls upon the Government to immediately act upon the recommendations of the commission and launch prosecutions against all the named persons and the organisations.

The meeting also asks its affiliates to educate the working class about the findings of this commission.

.....

COLLIERY MAZDOOR SABHA

(Affiliated to I. M. W. F. & A. I. T. U. C.)

REGD. No. 3449

G. T. ROAD, ASANSOL (BURDWAN)

General Council

Ref. No.

Dated 22nd Sept. 1981 .

To

Mr General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress.
New Delhi.

Dear Comrade:

A serious situation has developed in Ranigang area of Collieries due to murder of our one Comrade. The murderers are linked with CITU. As now they have been giving them protection. As I am not in a position to attend the Council meeting. So I am sorry for my inability.

Greetings

Cordially yours
B. N. Tewary.
Member A. I. T. U. C.
General Council

CWU

CONSTRUCTION WORKERS UNION

(Regd. No. : NGP/2030)

AFFILIATED TO AITUC

Head Office : Parwana Memorial, 44 Kingsway, Nagpur.

Ref. : CWU

Date

My dear Comrade Indrajit Gijli

Being busy with Party fund collection drive and mobilisation of Rally for Comrade Rajeshwar Das. I and other members of General Council from Nagpur are unable to attend the general council meeting.

Hence, this information.

Thanking you

Coverdely yours

M. M. DESHIKAR

22-9-81

(M. M. DESHIKAR)

(General Council file)

शाप (नं. 924/29)

भागलपुर जिला समिती
आखिल भारतीय ट्रेड युनियन काँग्रेस
घंटाघर, पानीतंकी, भागलपुर

Bihar TUC

क्रमांक - 21-2-29

w.p.c.

दिनांक 25 AUG 1961

भागलपुर जिला समिती, ए० आई० टी० यू० सी० के सचिव-
मंडल की **आगत 24-C-29** को जो एपी० डूबे (अध्यक्षता) की
अध्यक्षता में सम्पन्न बैठकने भुवनेश्वर सिंह "भुवन" को ऐतक तथा
उधसे लखवू इकाईयों के सभी पदों से निष्कासित कर दिया। इस
संबंध में जिम्मा पत्राव सचिव मंडल ने स्वीकृत किया :->

०० भागलपुर जिला समिती, ए० आई० टी० यू० सी० का सचिव-
मंडल ऐतक कार्यालय पर हमला करने की साजिश करने, ऐतक विशेष कार्य
करने, मजदूरों के साथ अप्राकृतिक आचरण करने, ऐतक कार्यालय द्वारा
ब्रह्म गये स्वपक्षीकारों का जबाब गली देने, दी गयी विद्यापत्तों का बराबर
उल्लंघन करने एवं कोष के दुरुपयोग के ~~कारण~~ आरोप में भुवनेश्वर
सिंह "भुवन" को ए० आई० टी० यू० सी० एवं उधसे लखवू सभी इकाईयों
के पदों से निष्कासित करा है।।

०० सचिव मंडल सभी इकाईयों एवं आम मजदूरों
से अपील करता है कि वे एकतावधु होकर संगठन विशेष कार्य
का मुकाबला करें और ऐतक के कंडे को कुलंद रखें।।

वेवा में,

महासंजी, ए० आई० टी० यू० सी०,

गई दिल्ली-

को मुख्यालय एवं आवागमन

को आई हेतु उपयुक्त।

प्रधान सचिव,

भागलपुर जिला समिती
आखिल भारतीय ट्रेड युनियन काँग्रेस
पानी तंकी, घंटाघर भागलपुर-2

All India Trade Union Congress

(Regd. No. 1852)

Central Office
24, Canning Lane
New Delhi-110001.

MANIPUR STATE COMMITTEE
BIR TIKENDRAJIT ROAD
IMPHAL-795001.

Ref. No. MSC/GC/MEETING/81

Date. 19.9.81.

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



Dear Friends,

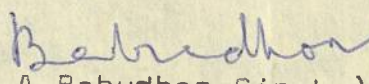
Re: Ensuing General Council Meeting
at New Delhi from 23rd September
to 25th September, 1981.

We write you informing our position on the three day session of the General Council of All India Trade Union Congress.

Because of certain trouble at our end the two members of Manipur on the General Council will not attend the proposed meeting.

We, therefore, request you to record our spiritual presence in the meeting and intimate the decisions for our information.

Yours faithfully,


(Shri A. Babudhon Singh)
Secretary.



ए ट क

राजस्थान स्टेट रोडवेज एम्प्लोईज यूनियन

Rajasthan State Roadways Employees' Union

(पंजीकृत एवं मान्यता प्राप्त)

सम्बद्धता : "ए.आई.टी.यू.सी." एवं "एन. एफ.आई.आर.टी.इन्क्यू." नई दिल्ली

प्रान्तीय कार्यालय

सिधी कॉम्प, बस स्टैंड, जयपुर-302006

क्रमांक : RSREU/SPL-2/81

दिनांक 17.7.1981

TO:

COM. Indrajit Gupta,
General Secretary,
"AITUC",
24-Canning Lane,
New Delhi-110001.



Dear Comrade,

Thank you very much for kind intimation dated 4th July, 1981 for General Council meeting to be held on 13th, 14th and 15th August, 1981 at Madras.

I am sorry to mention here that the decision about my detailed protest withdrawing my name from General Council, which I tendered on 31st October, 1980 at Vishakhapatnam, against the manner adopted by the Presidium of 31st Session of AITUC, in obtaining approval in respect of proposed General Council in undemocratic way on 30th October, 1980, has not yet been conveyed to me.

Owing to this reason I find difficult to attend the General Council meeting as after withdrawal the name I do not exist as General Council member.

With kind regards.

Yours faithfully

[M.L. YADAV]

PRESIDENT

S. C. KRISHNAN, B.A.
VICE - PRESIDENT, A.I.T.U.C. (TAMIL NADU)

RECEIVED
20 SEP 1981
A.I.T.U.C.

PHONE : 846020
49, GURUVAPPA CHETTY STREET,
MADRAS - 600 002.

17th Sept., 1981

Comrade Indrajit Gupta,
General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress,
No.24, Canning Lane,
NEW DELHI-110001.

Dear Comrade,

I hope Com. Bardan would have explained to you about the reasons for my absence on 14th. Eight of us, including our President Thiru P.E. Eapen, had reserved tickets to and fro New Delhi. Because of the situation consequent to introduction of Spot Billing with our agreement, we had to be here.

Now, with the High Court Interim Stay on DMK Union and CITU Union petitions, my presence to reply to all our comrades from the Branches is necessary. The case is posted for 21st and is likely to last 4 days. Because of this situation, I request you to kindly excuse me for not attending this session of the General Council of A.I.T.U.C.

Rest in person.

Yours fraternally,

S. C. Krishnan

Encl: 'EXPRESS' Cutting on
Interim Stay.

(S.C. Krishnan)

Copy to Com HBB for AITU copy.

17.9.81.

HC: stay on spot billing applies to all

By Our Staff Reporter

Mr. Justice Padmanabhan in the High Court on Wednesday clarified that the court's earlier order staying the Electricity Board's spot billing system, was applicable to all the unions in the Board, and not merely to the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board Workers' Progressive Union, which had filed a writ petition seeking to quash the new system.

The court had on Sept. 4 granted interim stay restraining the Board from introducing the system.

His Lordship observed that it had been brought to his notice by the petitioner union that an interpretation was sought to be given that the interim injunction applied only to petitioner. He said he would make it clear that there was an order restraining the Board from implementing the impugned proceedings until further orders. The order was, therefore, applicable to all (the various unions).

His Lordship said the writ petition would be taken up for hearing on Sept. 21.

Type 45

KRINDUL

494556

Dear Comrade Bailadila

BASTAR

15.9.81

RECEIVED
19 SEP 1981
A.I.T.U.C.

Lal Salami


As regard meeting
of General Council
of AITUC to be held
on 23rd Sept to 25th
Sept. I am unable

to attend at Delhi.

I am busy due to
the preparation of works
Committee election
in Deposit-14 Kindul
and verification in
Deposit-5 Bachelin
Bailadila Complex.
In addition to other
political activities it is
not possible to

attend the 1st meeting
of G.C. I am sorry
that I have failed
this time.

yours Comradely


Indrajit Singh

Bastar
(M.P.)

INLAND LETTER CARD

U.P.C.



Gen. Secretary A.T.C.
24 - Canning Lane
Kasturba Ghand Road,
New Delhi.

पिन PIN

तीसरा मोड़ THIRD FOLD

इस पत्र के भीतर कुछ न रखिए NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

प्रेषक का नाम और पता :— SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS :—

पिन PIN

TELEPHONE : 63271

KERALA STATE TRADE UNION COUNCIL

SUGATHAN MEMORIAL, TRIVANDRUM-14

President P. BHASKARAN

General secretary K. A. RAJAN M. P.

19-9-1981.

Copy of resolution passed in the working committee meeting of the K.S.T.U.C. held at cochin on 24-8-1981.

Resolved that Com.R.V.Ramankutty Warriar, Secretary, District Trade Union Council, Trichur may be nominated to the General Council of A.I.T.U.C.

R. RAVINDRAN

Secretary

R. Ravindra

To be treated as a permanent invitee

(Passed in G.C. meeting on 25/9/81)

AITUC Gen Council

All India Defence Employees Federation

(Recognised by Govt. of India)

COORDINATION COMMITTEE NAGPUR AREA

Com. R. K. Ganguli

Working Committee Member
AIDEF

★

Convenor

AIDEF Coordination Committee
Nagpur Area

★

President

Joint Action Committee
All Central Govt. Employees Union
(Rail, Defence, P & T & Others)

★

President

Ordinance Employees Union
Ambazari

★

President

Ordinance Factory
Mazdoor Union
Chanda

★

President

Supply Depot Karmachari Union
Kamptee

★

President

Inspectorate Mazdoor Union
Chanda

★

General Secretary

Defence Workers Union
Kamptee

★

General Secretary

MES Workers Union
VMG Area
H. O. Nagpur

★

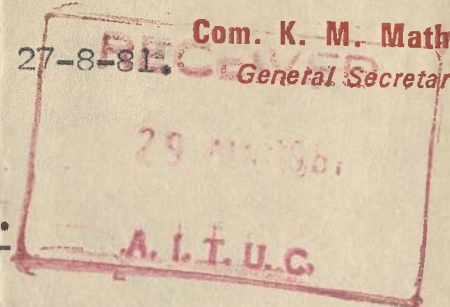
Address :- C/o Parvana Bhawan Kingsway, NAGPUR.

Com. S. M. Banerjee
President

Com. K. M. Mathew
General Secretary

Ref. : AIDEF/CC/NA/F-81 Date : 27-8-81.
129/81.

The General Secretary,
All Trade Union Congress,
24 Canning Line, New Delhi.



Dear Comrade,

We are in due receipt of the intimation about the scheduled AITUC General Council meeting, at New Delhi, from the 23rd to the 25th of September, 1981, (both dates inclusive).

2. At the Same time, we would like to inform you that a six-day convention of the AIDEF has been scheduled to be held, at Jabalpur, from the 23rd to the 28th of September, 1981. Being the regional organiser for the Nagpur Area, the presence of the undersigned is obligatory at that convention.

3. Under the circumstances, the undersigned takes this opportunity to express his sincerest apologies for his inability to attend the scheduled AITUC General Council meeting at New Delhi, due to clashing of dates. In spite of his cordial wish to participate in this highly significant occasion, the very circumstances of coincident overlapping of schedule makes it physically impossible for him to be present.

4. The undersigned has, therefore, ^{no} option under the circumstances but to ask for your benign indulgence for his involuntary absence at such an important gathering. He, however, assures most heartily that he would try his utmost to make up for this lapse at some more suitable opportunity in future. Until such auspices, he seeks to be excused in view of his current engagement with the AIDEF.

With Greetings,

Yours Comradely,

Copy to :

Com. A B Bardhan President (R K GANGULY)
MRTUC, Nagpur.

General council member,
AITUC.

ORDINARY

1st August 1981

To

GENERAL SECRETARY
ALL STUCS

GENERAL COUNCIL POSTPONED INFORM YOUR STATE MEMBERS

Tel: 386427

Sent: at 2.15 p.m

INDRAJIT ~~Indrajit~~

(SENT TO 22 TUCs Except Delhi.)

All India Trade Union Congress

24 Canning Lane New Delhi-1 Tel 387320/386427/ "AITUCONG" /

President: S. A. Dange General Secretary: Indrajit Gupta MP

To

All General Council Members,
A I T U C

1st August 1981.

Dear Comrade,

Due to the promulgation of the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance, and the joint call of the Central trade unions to organise country-wide protest demonstrations on August 17th, it has been decided to postpone the meeting of the AITUC General Council which had been fixed for August 13th to 15th at Madras.

I regret the inconvenience caused, particularly to our Madras Comrades.

The postponed meeting of the General Council will now be held at Delhi on September 23rd, 24th and 25th, 1981. The meeting will commence on ~~Sept.~~ 23rd at 4 p.m., and will be preceded at 3 p.m. by a meeting of the Working Committee. The agenda in both cases will be the same as was circulated earlier. The exact venue of the meeting can be ascertained from the AITUC office in due course.

Greetings,

Indrajit Gupta
(Indrajit Gupta)
General Secretary .

.....

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

24 Canning Lane New Delhi 110001 Tel. 387320/386427/ "AITUCONG"
President : S A Dange General Secretary : Indrajit Gupta MP

To

All General Council Members, AITUC

1st August 1981.

Dear Comrade,

Due to the promulgation of the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance, and the joint call of the Central trade unions to organise country-wide protest demonstrations on August 17th, it has been decided to postpone the meeting of the AITUC General Council which had been fixed for August 13th to 15th at Madras .

I regret the inconvenience caused, particularly to our Madras comrades .

The postponed meeting of the General Council will now be held at Delhi on September 23rd, 24th and 25th, 1981. The meeting will commence on ~~Sept.~~ 23rd at 4 p.m. and will be preceded at 3 p.m. by a meeting of the Working Committee. The agenda in both cases will be the same as was circulated earlier. The exact venue of the meeting can be ascertained from the AITUC office in due course .

Greetings,

Indrajit Gupta
(Indrajit Gupta)
General Secretary .

.....

L. T

1st August 1981

K. G. SRIWASTAVA
FESYMOND
P R A G U E

AITUC GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING POSTPONED

AITUCONG

TEL : 386427

Sent: at 11.30 a.m.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

24 - Canning Lane, NEW DELHI - 110001, Tel:387320/386427
: "AITUCONG"

=====
President: S .A .DANGE Gen .Secy., INDRAJIT GUPTA . MP
=====

Dated:- 20th JULY 1981

To
All General Council Members

Dear Comrade,

Ref:- General Council meeting to be held in
Madras on August 13, 14 & 15, 1981
.....

In continuation of our circular letter dated
4th JULY 1981, intimating the dates of the meeting of the
General Council, the following further informations are given:-

1. Accommodation has been arranged at
Yogalakshmi Kalyanamandapam, Dr.Radhakrishnan Road, Madras.
Boarding arrangements also will be made there itself. The
meeting of the working committee and the general council will
also take place here. Thus, lodging, boarding and meeting
are arranged at the same premises. All comrades will be ex-
pected to contribute Rs.10.00 per head towards food charges.

2. Volunteers will be available at the railway
station throughout 13th August to receive the council members
and transport them to the Kalyanamandapam.

3. Those who want their tickets for return
journey to be booked, should remit the required fare in
advance by money order to Com.A.M.Gopu, whose address has
already been furnished in our earlier circular.

If any council member wants separate hotel
accommodation at his own cost he should write to Com.Gopu
for the same.

We hope you would attend the meeting.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally

Parvathi Krishnan
(PARVATHI KRISHNAN)
S E C R E T A R Y

अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन काँग्रेस
ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

24, CANNING LANE, NEW DELHI - 110001

President : S. A. DANGE

General Secretary : INDRAJIT GUPTA, M.P.

13. 7. 1981.

To

All Working Committee Members.
A I T U C

Dear Comrades,

Further to our Circular dated 4.7.81 intimating the meeting of the AITUC General Council at Madras on August 13th to 15th, this is to inform you that a meeting of the Working Committee will be held on August 13th at 3 p.m. immediately prior to the General Council.

The agenda will consist of:-

- (1) Approval of the minutes of the last Working Committee meeting
- (2) Agenda for the General Council meeting
- (3) Any other business with the permission of the Chair.

Kindly make it a point to attend.

Greetings,

Indrajit Gupta
(Indrajit Gupta)
General Secretary.

ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय

INLAND LETTER

[Empty rectangular box for recipient address]

SENDER'S NAME :

All India Trade Union Congress
24, Canning Lane
NEW DELHI - 110001
अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन कांग्रेस
२४, केनिंग लेन,
नई दिल्ली-११०००१

3 D. M.
of the WORKING COMMITTEE for the CONGRESS
for the session of 1971-72
General Committee

WORKING COMMITTEE FOR THE CONGRESS
1971-72

ALL - INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

24, Canning Lane, New Delhi-1, Tel .387320/386427/"AITUCONG" .

President: S .A .DANGE General Secretary: INDRAJIT GUPTA MP.

Dated : 4. 7. 1981.

To

All General Council Members,
A. I. T. U. C.

Dear Comrades,

The General Council of the AITUC is being summoned to meet on August 13th, 14th and 15th, 1981, at Madras. The meeting can not be held in Delhi at that time due to accomodation problems. Please make it a point to attend.

The meeting on 13th will start at 4 P.M.

The agenda for the meeting will be :-

1. Main developments since the last Working Committee meeting, and our tasks;
2. Specific tasks arising out of decisions taken at the Bombay Convention of Central TU's and Federations;
3. Preparations for the 10th W.F.T.U. Congress;
4. AITUC Fund Campaign;
5. Consideration of applications for affiliation;
6. Any other item with the permission of the chair.

You are requested to arrange from now for your railway booking to Madras. For the return journey, you must give sufficient prior intimation for your reservation requirements, etc. to:-

Comrade A. M. Gopu
General Secretary
Tamilnadu State Committee of the AITUC
Broadway
MADRAS 600001.

(Telephone number : 21088 Telegraphic Address :
" THOZHISANG ")

The Tamilnadu Committee will make all the arrangements for the meeting and stay of comrades. All members of the general council will have to pay a sum of Rs. 10.00 towards the food expenses for all three days. All other details will be sent to you shortly.

Greetings,

Indrajit Gupta
(Indrajit Gupta)
General Secretary .

All India Trade Union Congress
24, Canning Lane, New Delhi-110001, Tel.387320/386427/"AITUCONG"

President: S. A. Dange General Secretary:Indrajit Gupta .MP.

Dated: 12. 6. 1981.

To

ALL STATE COMMITTEES and WORKING COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

Dear Comrade,

Enclosed please find herewith a copy of the Resolution adopted at the Convention held in Bombay on June 4. Also enclosed a copy of the joint circular issued by the central trade unions in this regard.

From the Resolution you will find that immediate task in states is to organise statewide joint conventions in the central pattern, and to form state campaign committees. This has to be completed by August. In this regard, our state committees should from now on take initiative to consult other central trade unions and industrial federations for holding the State Convention in all states and union territories. The agricultural worker's organisations also should be associated.

Secondly, the Resolution adopted at the Bombay Convention has to be published in regional languages and distributed amongst the workers.

Please send us report about the steps taken by your State Committee in this regard.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Enclo: as above (two)

1) Resolution

(2) Joint Circular.

T. N. D. D. D.
for GENERAL SECRETARY.

:ooOoo:-

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

IMPORTANT & URGENT JOINT CIRCULAR

TO ALL CONCERNED

Dated: 12 June 1981

Ref: Decisions of the 4th June National F.U. Convention held in Bombay Against Price Rise and Anti-Labour Policies of the Government.

Dear Comrades,

The National Trade Union Convention Against Price Rise and Anti-Labour Policies of the Government was held in Bombay on 4th June 1981. Over 3,000 delegates belonging to 8 Central Trade Unions and about 40 industrial federations participated in the Convention. The main resolution adopted in the Convention is enclosed herewith

As the Convention has decided that there should be regional and State-wise conventions all over India during the next three months it is therefore necessary to take immediate steps to make preparations to hold these Conventions by the end of August 1981. The State Committees or local units of participating organisations should approach each other immediately so that widest possible unity can be achieved to make these conventions a grand success.

The convention has decided to organise a massive march to Parliament in the winter session so that the voice of the working class is powerfully raised. It has given a call for observation of one day **Protest & Demand Day all over the country to popularise the demands.**

It is, therefore, necessary that maximum publicity is given to the decisions of the Convention among the mass of workers, and efforts are made to popularise the programme adopted by the Convention, so that even unions which, did not or could not participate in the Convention could be drawn in the programme. To facilitate this, the Declaration which was placed before the convention should be translated in State/Regional languages and be used to educate the masses. The success of the one day strike action depends upon the widest possible circulation of this document as well as the decisions of the Convention through holding of joint meetings, rallies and Conventions at all levels.

Organisational meetings should be held as soon as possible so that a programme is prepared for joint campaign at all levels. The National Campaign Committee which met at Bombay on 5.6.81 decided that agricultural workers should also be associated with the programme.

The Convention has also decided to constitute similar state level campaign committees. The participating organisations should take necessary steps to contact each other as ^{early as} possible so that such committees are formed in all the states and the National Campaign Committee be informed about the same for proper appraisal.

With Greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Sd/-P. Ramamurti
General Secretary (CITU)

Sd/-D.D. Vaishit,

General Secretary (HMS)

Sd/-Y.D. Sharma,

Secretary (AITUC)

Sd/-O.P. Agni
Secy. B.M.S.

Sd/-P. Chanda
General Secretary UFUC (L.S)

Sd/-J.S. Dara
President INTUC.

Sd/- S. Bhatt Acharya
(INTUC)

Issued by:

(Narsingha Chakrabarty)

Secretary-CITU
On Behalf of National Campaign Committee

✓

NATIONAL TRADE UNION CONVENTION AGAINST PRICE-RISE
AND AGAINST ANTI-LABOUR POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT

Bal Dandavate Nagar, Bombay, June 4, 1981 .

R E S O L U T I O N

1. This National Convention of Central Trade Unions and Industrial Federations, is meeting at a time when the working class throughout the country is facing all-round attacks on its wages and other emoluments, and on the trade union and democratic rights secured through decades of bitter struggles and heroic sacrifices.
2. The entire working people are groaning under the ever-mounting weight of rising prices and ever increasing unemployment.
3. The Government led by Smt. Indira Gandhi has miserably failed to hold the price line despite all the tall promises made by her during the 1980 Lok Sabha elections. The whole sale price index has shown a rise of nearly 17% between March 1980 and March 1981, and the same trend still continues and even more so in the case of retail prices. The daily necessities of life like sugar, pulses, edible oils, cereals, cloth, kerosene, domestic coal, soap etc. are going beyond the reach of the common man.
4. Galloping prices are further aggravated by the Government's own policies of putting more and more burdens on the working people while appeasing the monied and propertied classes.
5. The biggest component of the Government's indirect taxes is the excise duties on essential commodities. Deficit financing is mounting from year to year. Government controlled prices of articles like coal, steel, petrol, railway fares and postal charges are periodically raised in the name of getting resources. Industrialists, speculators and smugglers are allowed to amass huge amounts of black money which are utilised to manipulate the market through hoarding and profiteering. The latest concession to these anti-social forces is the scheme of Bearer Bonds.
6. Instead of taking steps to reduce economic disparities by attacking the profits and privileges of the monopolists and other exploiting strata, the Government is deliberately permitting still further concentration of economic power to take place.
7. In sharp contrast to this the Government is aggressive by advocating a "rationalisation" of the wage structure, meaning there by a reduction of higher wages to a lower standard. While there is no action taken to raise the miserably low wages prevalent in many sectors, particularly in the agricultural and "Minimum Wage" categories, the worker in organised industry is being threatened that unless he accepts increased work-load he should not claim higher wages. And in the name of controlling "inflation", the workers' emoluments like D.A. and bonus are sought to be scaled down or frozen.

8. The Bureau of Public Enterprises under the Ministry of Finance has issued directive to the Public Sector managements virtually imposing a wage freeze on the workers. Naturally, the private sector employers are not lagging behind. They are being assisted by the fraudulent cost of living index figures compiled by the Government itself in open defiance of the Rath Committee's recommendations. Every rise in prices is thereby leading to further erosion in the worker's real wages.
9. The condition of contractors' and migrant labour, of women and child labour beggars description.
10. The struggles of peasants for remunerative prices and of agricultural workers for higher wages are sought to be ruthlessly suppressed.
11. Faced with the rapidly spreading discontent of the toiling people and the rising tide of their resistance, the Government and employers have launched desperate attacks on the trade union rights and struggles.
12. The National Security Act is being shamelessly utilised against trade unionists and striking workers, despite all assurances to the contrary. In State after State ruled by the Congress (I), new laws are being enacted seeking to prohibit strikes and declare them as 'illegal'. Summary dismissals, charge-sheets, suspensions, transfers, compulsory retirements and even exterminations of trade union activists have become the order of the day.
13. Hundreds are arrested and implicated in concocted criminal cases. Hired goondas of the employers have been physically assaulting, injuring and even killing trade union workers and even raping women-folk of striking workers, to all of which the police turns a blind eye.
14. Firing and lathi-charges are daily occurrences, from which even Government employees and public sector workers have not been spared.
15. Events prove unmistakably that the Government had decided to throw to the winds the sanctity of agreements and collective bargaining, and to impose on the employees whatever wages and conditions it arbitrarily decides. Such is the lesson of the L.I.C. and G.I.C. and of the prolonged struggle of the workers of the Bangalore-based public sector industries in the course of which the Government sought to defy even the Supreme Court's directives and did not hesitate to impose a lock-out in 4 public sector units in order to crush the workers' rights.
16. The question of recognition of trade unions is purposefully kept pending by the Government although all trade unions other than the officially patronised INTUC of Congress (I) have demanded that it should be determined by the democratic process of secret ballot of the workers.
17. Basic ILO conventions like "Freedom of Association" and "Right of Collective Bargaining" and others are not yet ratified.
18. The Supreme Court's decision on widening the definition of "Industry" to include Educational and Hospital Employees is not yet implemented. On the contrary, attempts are being made to further restrict the rights of University & College teachers.

19. The Government's labour relations policy is heavily loaded in favour of Congress-I led unions, even where these are patently not representative of the majority of workers. Official consultation with other trade unions is fast becoming nothing but a "window-dressing", as seen, for example, in the case of selection of workers' delegates to the I.L.O.

20. This Convention further expresses its grave concern at the attempts being made by the reactionary vested interests to divide the workers on the basis of caste, religion, language, regionalism etc. and to instigate fratricidal strife in the ranks of the working class, so that its unity is disrupted and weakened and its attention is diverted into wrong channels. It is, therefore, imperative that the trade unions should sharpen their vigilance and activity, and fight consciously for defending and strengthening the unity of the working class without which the Trade Union movement cannot survive.

21. This Convention warmly greets the lakhs of workers and employees, in public and private sectors alike, who have conducted heroic struggles during the past year to protect their working and living conditions and to safeguard their trade union and democratic rights.

22. Experience shows that isolated struggles of different sections of workers are frequently suppressed by the collusion of the Government, employers and state machinery. It is, therefore, of paramount importance that the working class prepares itself for a country-wide united movement against the price rise and to reverse the Government's anti-labour policies. The concerted might of the organised working class must seriously take up the challenge posed by the Government's attempts to wipe out all past gains of the labour movement.

23. This convention calls upon the entire working class of India to rally together in the fight against the price rise and press for the following demands:

- (1) Sale of all essential commodities such as foodgrains, edible oil, cloth, sugar etc. at subsidised prices through network of shops in public distribution system under the control and supervision of popular committees by ensuring adequate and uninterrupted supply of these commodities.
- (2) Remunerative price to the peasants and higher wage to agricultural workers.
- (3) Stringent measures against black-marketeers, hoarders, smugglers, speculators and officials protecting them. In this anti-price rise movement, the trade unions should enlist the active support and co-operation of other sections of the consumers and toilers.

24. This Convention further calls upon the working class to unite for the following economic demands and for trade union rights:

- 1) Need-based minimum wages on the basis of norms laid down by the 15th Indian Labour Conference ;
- 2) Full neutralisation of the rise in cost of living. Removal of ceiling of Rs. 1.30 per point rise in price index (1960) base arbitrarily fixed by the B.P.E.;

- 3) **Amendment of the Payment of Bonus Act** providing Bonus for all workers without ceiling and precondition;
- 4) **Enactment of legislation for agricultural workers'** wages and job security;
- 5) **Ban on retrenchment and closures;** Introduction of unemployment allowance to the unemployed;
- 6) **Withdrawal of all victimisation measures against workers and T.U. activists ;**
- 7) **Rectification of fraudulent cost of living indices;**
- 8) **Recognition of T.U.s. through secret ballot;**
- 9) **Full guarantee of collective bargaining and T.U. rights without any discrimination;**
- 10) **Repeal of National Security Act and other repressive measures;**

25. The Convention therefore calls for holding similar statewise and regionwise conventions all over the country in the next 3 months so that the main issues focussed in this Convention are popularised among all sections of the working class. For this purpose similar statewise campaign committees should be set up.

26. This Convention, taking into account the need for a prolonged and sustained movement with an ever-widening mass base, resolves that the state wide conventions should be held with the clear perspective of further follow-up actions which would include:

- 1) Observance of an all India Protest and Demands Day;
- 2) A massive Workers' March to Parliament; and
- 3) A country-wide, one-day Token Strike in all sectors of industry.

27. The Convention authorises the National Campaign Committee to fix suitable dates and time schedules for the above, and other necessary programmes so as to ensure the most effective mobilisation of the Working Class and other toiling sections.

28. The combined might of the united working class and the toiling masses in the country side will be such a formidable force that it can bring about a change in the anti-working class, anti-people, promonopoly promultinational policies of the Government.

All-India Trade Union Congress

24, Canning Lane, New Delhi-110001, Tel.387320/386427/"AITUCONG"

President: S A. Dange

General Secretary:Indrajit Gupta.MP.

CIRCULAR No. 2/81

Dated: 13. 4. 1981.

To

All State Committees and members of the Working Committee

ON DECISIONS OF WORKING COMMITTEE

Dear Comrades,

A meeting of the Working Committee was held at New Delhi from 6-8 April 1981. The resolutions adopted at the meeting are enclosed herewith.

The working committee also took certain important decisions in respect of campaigns and work in the coming period,

1. PROTEST DAY AGAINST US ARMS AID TO PAKISTAN

The committee called on all unions to observe April 23, 1981 as a day of protest against the US arms aid to Pakistan and in defence of India's sovereignty and independence. This should be done on as wide a scale as possible and made the occasion to expose the global strategy of the US-Peking axis particularly in this region.

2. MAY DAY

It was decided that May Day this year should be observed as DEFENCE OF TRADE UNION RIGHTS DAY.

- a) The May Day appeal of the AITUC is enclosed herewith. This should be translated in all regional languages and distributed on as wide a scale as possible.
- b) Every effort should be made to approach all other trade unions for united May Day rallies and demonstrations. Although the central trade unions were not prepared to give a united call for observance of May Day at the State level it may be possible in some states and centres to draw in other organisations including the units of independent federations.

3. ALL INDIA CONVENTION OF CENTRAL TRADE UNIONS

At its meeting on 23 March, the central trade unions (with the exception of the INTUC) decided to hold an all-India convention in the first week of June in Bombay to discuss and chalk out future programmes. The final dates and exact venue and quotas for different trade union centres will be decided shortly and details will be sent to you. In the meantime, state committees should plan for the convention and give it the widest possible publicity. All state committees should take steps to ensure the participation of the full quota allotted to them. The Maharashtra State committee will arrange accommodation, etc. for the delegates representing the AITUC and its federations.

4. ON PROPOSALS OF THE RAMANUJAM COMMITTEE

The Ramanujam committee on the working of the EPF scheme has submitted its report to the government. While some of the recommendations such as increase in the number of worker and employer representatives in the Central Board of Trustees

and the decrease in the proportion of the government representatives is a long standing demand of the AITUC, the major recommendation on decentralisation is a most reactionary one and would result in virtually handing over the working of the scheme to the employers. The letter written to government on this is enclosed herewith. All state committees should immediately see that this issue is taken up and a wide explanatory campaign amongst the workers carried out. The Minister of Labour has already announced in Parliament that the government proposes to bring in legislation based on recommendations hence the matter is of great urgency. Our representatives on the Central Board of Trustees have already registered their opposition to this in the last meeting of the CBT. Many INTUC unions at the local level have also come out in opposition. A united movement should be built up to oppose acceptance of the proposal of decentralisation - the campaign should be on the lines of the enclosed letter to government.

5. AFFILIATION FEES

The working committee has directed all state committees to take up the matter of payment of affiliation dues for 1980 and complete it by the end of October (i.e. foundation day of AITUC). Major unions should be asked to pay the dues as early as possible as soon as the 'E' forms are completed. The practice of paying dues only at the time of the session results in both state committees and the AITUC centre not receiving the total dues. Regular payment of dues annually will ensure that the finances of the state committees and the centres are established, and all efforts should be made to collect affiliation dues annually.

6. 25 Lakh Fund Drive

The working committee decided to give a call for a fund of Rs. 25 lakhs. One-rupee coupons will be printed by all state committees in the regional languages. The AITUC centre will receive 40%, state committees 30% and the unions 30% of the amounts realised. State committees should immediately discuss and plan this fund drive and decide on their quotas. The fund should be completed by October 31st 1981 and a special fortnight can be observed in each state during which office bearers and central leaders of the AITUC will be available for mass meetings at important industrial centres where purses can be presented to them. The design for the coupon will be uniform and is enclosed herewith.

This fund should be taken up in all seriousness and comrades should realise the importance of the fund. The coming period is one where AITUC will be called upon more and more to shoulder responsibilities to meet the offensive on the working class and financial stability is a must to fulfil this responsibility. Hence the raising of the fund will be the fittest rounding off of the 50th anniversary year.

7. CONFERENCES ON MINIMUM WAGES

A plan of a series of conventions in each zone on minimum wages has been planned. The categories of workers covered by the Minimum Wages Act are already conducting strikes & struggles for higher wages linked to the cost of living. It is urgently necessary to organise & lead this movement which has immense potentialities. The Working Committee has decided that specific responsibility for coordinating and preparing the zonal conventions should be as follows :-

Andhra Pradesh STUC for South Zone (Andhra Pradesh,
Tamilnadu, Kerala, Karnataka)
Maharashtra STUC for Western Zone (Maharashtra, Gujarat,
Madhya Pradesh)
Punjab STUC for Northern Zone (Punjab, Rajasthan,
Haryana, Delhi, Himachal)
Bihar STUC for Eastern Zone (Bihar, West Bengal,
Uttar Pradesh, Orissa,
Assam)

All State committees should get in touch with the state committees responsible in their respective zones and take steps to see that these conferences are completed as early as possible and the issues taken up for the widest possible campaigning and action.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Indrajit Gupta

(Indrajit Gupta M.P.)
General Secretary

NOTE FOR SPECIAL ATTENTION OF STATE COMMITTEE SECRETARIES AND WORKING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. Trade Union Record: You will recall that the general council of the AITUC had decided that all general council members should be subscribers to Trade Union Record and all state committees also. You are therefore requested to take steps to ensure the implementation of this decision.
2. EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND: The Central Board of Trustees has set up a subcommittee to examine the working of exempted establishments of the Provident Fund Schemes. As you are aware there are many irregularities leading to serious defalcation of funds in some of these establishments. All state committees are requested to send details which they have to

Comrade Parduman Singh
Textile Mazdoor Ekta Union
Putlighar
AMRITSAR

He is a member of the general council of the AITUC and is the Chairman of the sub-committee.

Indrajit Gupta
(Indrajit Gupta)
General Secretary

AITUC MAY DAY APPEAL 1981

- * DEFEND TRADE UNION & DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS !
- * BEAT BACK GOVERNMENT'S ANTI-LABOUR OFFENSIVE !
- * DEFEAT IMPERIALIST CONSPIRACIES AGAINST
PEACE & SECURITY !

* * * * *

Brother Workers !

MAY DAY - the great day of international working class solidarity - is coming this year in a situation full of grave dangers and great opportunities.

The dangers are both external and internal. The working class - in its own class interests as well as in the interests of our country's security and sovereignty - has to go into action without delay.

War clouds are gathering on India's borders. The American imperialists, having been routed in Vietnam and Iran, are now desparately trying to destroy the young Afghan revolution of the workers and peasants. For this purpose, Pakistan under the military dictatorship of General Zia-Ul-Haq, is being built up as the main imperialist base in this region.

Raising the false bogey of Soviet "threat", the Americans and Chinese are pouring modern arms into Pakistan and even helping the military regime there to develop a nuclear bomb. But who is the real target of all these destructive weapons of aggression? In the past, it was always India. Once more, the danger is looming large.

The American imperialists are also feverishly building up their naval and air bases in the entire Indian Ocean, from the Persian Gulf in the west to Bangkok in the east. The island of Diego Garcia, to the South of India, has been converted into a floating US base for submarines, long-distance bombers and nuclear missiles. Whom are all these aimed at?

While India is sought to be encircled from outside, inside the country reactionary forces are at work to divide and disrupt the unity of the toiling people by using slogans of casteism, communalism and regionalism. Fratricidal riots and enmities are being instigated.

In Assam, Manipur, Mizoram and other north-eastern areas, foreign arms are pouring in to equip insurgent groups who even preach secession from India.

The country's security and national integration are threatened by a vast global conspiracy of the US imperialists and their Chinese accomplices.

At just such a time, when the country can only be defended and saved by firm anti-imperialist and anti-war policies, the Indira Gandhi Government has unfortunately taken the suicidal step of dividing and weakening the country's peace forces. The Indian Government takes a luke-warm attitude towards Soviet President Brezhnev's bold proposals for peace and disarmament, which have been widely welcomed by all peace-loving people in the world, and which are in the interests of national independence and security.

At just such a time, when the country's economic progress and development need to be strengthened a hundred-fold,

the Indira Gandhi Government is carrying on : naked policies of helping and encouraging the exploiting classes and vested interests in our society--the monopoly capitalists, the big traders, profiteers and black marketeers, the speculators and landlords.

Can the country be strengthened and defended by leaving the toiling people at the mercy of the capitalists, the corrupt bureaucrats, and the feudal exploiters?

Prices of all essential commodities continue to shoot up. There is no limit on the profits and dividends of the big business houses, Indian and foreign.

Black money is allowed to be converted into "white". Unemployment is spreading across the country like a cancer. Peasants are deprived of remunerative prices for their produce. Millions of landless labourers are treated like serfs, especially the Harijans and tribals, and subjected to inhuman atrocities.

At just such a time, the Government of India has launched a big new attack on the working class, on its wages, living standards and its right to strike.

In the name of fighting "inflation", while the capitalists and traders go scot-free, the workers are being subjected to wage restrictions, to freezing of the D.A rates, to making bonus dependent on "productivity". The Government is refusing to honour its own past agreements, and is flouting even the judgements of the High Courts and Supreme Court.

All this has led to the recent mighty struggles of the Bangalore public sector workers, the LIC employees, the Loco railway staff, the contractors' labours of TISCO and others. The workers are fighting with unity and determination to defend their existing benefits and facilities, and for adequate protection against ever-rising prices.

Trade union rights, and even the elementary right of collective bargaining, are today under serious attack. New laws are being made to tie the workers hand and foot. The National Security Act is being used to suppress the toilers' struggles. Police firings, lathi-charges and arrests are everyday occurrences. Goonda gangs of the private employers are brutally attacking peaceful strikes and agitations.

Brother workers ! The AITUC calls upon you, wherever you are, to unite and observe MAY DAY this year as the Day of defending TU and democratic rights, of beating back the anti-labour offensive of the Government and capitalists, of defeating the aggressive conspiracy of the US-Chinese-Pakistani axis against the security and sovereignty of our country.

Defend your class unity and solidarity against the evil forces of casteism, communalism and regionalism. Only united you can fight the common exploiters and build a new life for your children. Divided and disrupted, you will be helpless victims of the capitalists and profiteers.

Make "workers' unity", "trade union unity", the ringing slogan of MAY DAY, against the imperialists, the monopolists, the multinationals and their agents. Workers' unity must rapidly open the way for "worker-Kisan unity", for a mighty fighting front of all those who toil and sweat to produce the nations wealth in our factories and fields. They must become the real masters of our country who will one day make the revolutionary change from Capitalist to Socialist society, and end the exploitation of man by man.

Brother Workers ! The revolutionary and progressive forces of the world are on our side in this historic battle. On this MAY DAY, the Indian workers extend their solidarity and fraternal greetings to the workers and people of the countries of victorious socialism, of the glorious Soviet Union, Vietnam, Kampuchea and Afghanistan, to the heroic freedom fighters of South Africa, Namibia, El Salvador, Nicaragua, to our brothers and sisters in Pakistan oppressed by the military dictatorship, and to all others fighting for peace, democracy and freedom.

" LONG LIVE MAY DAY "

Workers of the World- Unite

(A I T U C)

* * * * *

ENCLOSURE II

TEXT OF LETTER TO GOVERNMENT ON RAMANUJAM COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATIONS.

13 April 1981

Dear Shri Tiwari,

I write to draw your attention to one of the major recommendations of the committee set up to review the working of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation which have given rise to serious misgivings and even opposition from many sections of the trade union movement.

In response to the demand of the trade unions, committee was set up under the Chairmanship of Shri.G.Ramanujam to review the working of the EPF Organisation with special reference to the problem of mounting arrears of provident fund contributions and to go into the existing regulatory and penal provisions of the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions, Act 1952, and the scheme framed thereunder and to suggest amendments considered necessary.

The committee has since submitted its report to government and the report has also been considered by the Central Board of Trustees at a recent meeting held specially for this purpose.

The AITUC is broadly in agreement with a number of recommendations made by the committee, especially in respect of the composition of the Central Board of Trustees and delegating more powers to it, the tightening up of penal provisions in case of default, liberalisation of benefits of Family Pension Scheme and Employees' Deposit Linked Scheme, etc. But we have strong reservations on some of the other recommendations, and particularly on the recommendation in respect of decentralisation.

It would appear that this recommendation of the committee is based on the conclusion that the working of exempted funds is more satisfactory from the point of view of both employers and workers. This is contrary to facts. The arrears in respect of exempted funds as on 31-3-1980 was Rs.14.28 crores and that of unexempted funds, Rs.24.61 crores. But a significant feature is that while 73 exempted establishments were in default of Rs. one lakh and above with a total amounting to Rs.11.43 crores in the case of unexempted establishments, the number with arrears of Rs. one lakh and above were as many as 337 with a total of only Rs.5.25 crores. The exempted establishments have also been guilty of serious irregularities resulting in large scale defalcation of provident fund monies. They have been paying interest on these amounts at a lower rate than required. A number of other shortcomings have also been revealed which you would see from a perusal of the preliminary report of the sub-committee set up by the Central Board of Trustees to examine the working of the provident fund schemes in exempted establishments.

The recommendation of the committee headed by Shri.Ramanujam, if implemented, would result in virtually handing over the running of the scheme to the employers which goes against the very essence of this social security measure. What is required is to take steps to ensure the more efficient working of the scheme, prompt settlement of claims, of disbursing loans and advances etc. The procedures have to be streamlined and a sub-committee set up by the Central Board of Trustees had already made recommendations on these matters which merit serious consideration. The recommendation on decentralisation of the

....2/-

Ramanujam Committee will only result in entrusting crores of rupees in the hands of employers in the form of imprest money—experience of the past has clearly shown that this would only militate against the interests of the workers.

There are many more "aspects" to this question which I am not going to in detail here. There are also other recommendations which are not acceptable to us but I am not listing them here. In the recent meeting of the Central Board of Trustees to which I have referred above, our representatives, Shri Diwakar and Shri Parduman Singh have made our position quite clear.

The AITUC therefore requests you to immediately convene a meeting of all central trade union organisations to consider these recommendations. Before Government proceeds with steps to bring forward amending legislation to the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1951 it is imperative that the viewpoint of the trade unions should be heard and an opportunity given to them to express themselves on the recommendations made by the Ramanujam committee.

Since the matter is also urgent, I hope you will take steps to convene such a meeting at as early a date as possible.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,
Sd/- Parvathi Krishnan

Secretary.

Shri.N.D.Tiwari
Union Minister of Labour
Shram Shakti Bhavan
Rafi Marg
NEW DELHI 110001.

ENCLOSURE III

DESIGN FOR RE.1 COUPONS FOR Rs. 25-Lakh FUND
(To be printed by State Committees in respective regional languages)

* 'Workers of the world unite ' *
* **T** *
* **U** *
* **C** *
* ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS *
* (Founded : 31 October 1920) *
* 60th ANNIVERSARY YEAR : 1980-81 *
* Rs. 25 Lakh Fund *
* Rupee One *
* General Secretary *
*State Committee *

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE AITUC WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN NEW DELHI ON 6-8 APRIL 1981:

Greetings to Public Sector Workers:

The Working Committee of the AITUC congratulates the 1,25,000 Public Sector workers of Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kalamassery, Nasik, Koraput, Lucknow, Barrackpore, Naini and Rai Bareilly who conducted a glorious united strike for 80 days, which was the longest and first of its kind in the recent history of the TU movement of our country.

The working Committee notes that this strike was a sequel to the refusal of the managements of HAL, BEL, BEMI, ITI, HMT, ECIL, MIDHANI and Bharat Dynamics, and the Government of India to honour their own commitments and settlements entered into in 1978. Though the settlements clearly stated that the Managements would increase the Minimum Wages, Dearness Allowance and make necessary consequential adjustments if there was such an increase in industries such as Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., though the managements also agreed in principle the necessity to make modifications, still in practice they refused to implement the settlement. The Government of India in pursuance of its obnoxious policy of wage freeze conducted itself in a diabolical manner as to throw to the winds all norms of proper negotiations, collective bargaining and just settlement. On the other hand they used police repression, tear gas and lathi charge including firing killing three persons. They connived with goondas and anti-social elements who in the name of the INTUC and Youth Congress (I) physically attacked the workers and their leaders. Hundreds of workers were arrested and beaten up in order to suppress the strike. Language and caste differences were sought to be fanned by the INTUC in order to split the workers. Despite all their dicty machinations and manouvers despite Police repression, the Bangalore based Public Sector Workers under the leadership of the Joint Action Front remained determined and united and foiled all the attempts to break the strike. They went back to work at the call of the Joint Action Front on the basis of the assurances of the Chief Minister of Karnataka to all party leaders and legislators that a settlement would be brought about and that there would be no victimisation. By their courageous and bold stand, by their prolonged disciplined and united struggle these workers have exhibited that no amount of repression, or splitting activities can cow down their determination to fight for their rights. They have blazed a new trail in the trade union movement of the country by their unique exhibition of unity and discipline, by their expression of Solidarity with the Kisans who marched for more than 350 kilometers from Nargund to Bangalore for their own justifiable demands like remunerative prices, cancellation of loans, wages for agricultural workers, etc. and by their heroic fight against the wage freeze and anti-working class policies of the Government of India.

The Working Committee of the AITUC warns the Government of India that industrial relations in these vital public sector industries will get further marred unless the assurances held out by the Chief Minister of Karnataka to all the party leaders and members of the legislature that the issue would be solved by mutual discussions at the highest level are not implemented. It urges upon the Government of India not to dilly dally but settle the disputes by negotiations at the highest level.

The Working Committee while greeting the Bangalore based Public Sector workers calls upon them to strengthen and expand the already achieved unity so that they could face the future with greater courage and determination.

Police Repression in Ghaziabad

The Working Committee of the AITUC strongly condemns the reign of terror let loose by the U.P. Government on the industrial workers of Ghaziabad.

The District Officials and the police, who are in open collusion with the factory owners and their goondas have made the AITUC and its affiliated unions a special target of their attack. They used NSA to arrest and detain District AITUC Secretary Comrade Than Singh Tyagi, launched a campaign of intimidation and harassment against AITUC activists.

After the token strike on 31st March, 1981 by the Engineering workers of Ghaziabad, the magistracy and the police became furious and threatened to close down the District AITUC office.

On 3rd April, when Comrade Bhogendra Jha, M.P. had gone to Ghaziabad on behalf of the AITUC to study the situation, in the context of attack in April 1 last and was having discussion with local AITUC leaders, the police came and brutally attacked him and other AITUC leaders to disrupt or stall the enquiry. The injured leaders including Comrade Bhogendra Jha, MP, Comrade Ghanshyam Sinha, Comrade Jitendra Sharma and Comrade Sukhbir Tyagi were treated in a Delhi hospital. The police has arrested several AITUC activists on trumped up charges and issued warrants of arrests against many others. The police also sealed the AITUC office which was opened only on April 9.

The working committee of the AITUC demands that the Government of U.P. must take stern action against the guilty magistracy and police officials, release the arrested workers, withdraw warrants for arrests and the Government must stop attacking the workers at the behest of the factory owners and put an end to the reign of terror let loose in Ghaziabad and guarantee civil liberty for normal trade union activity.

.....

On Firing on Tobacco Growers of Nippani

The Working Committee of the AITUC strongly condemns the police firing on the agitations on Tobacco Growers and peasants of Nippani, Karnataka, killing 19 persons and wounding more than 600 peasants.

These tobacco growers have been conducting campaign since the last 3 months demanding that fair and remunerative price be given for tobacco and given relief to thousands of tobacco growers. The Government of Karnataka instead of solving the problem by conceding the demands of the tobacco growing peasants is attempting to appease and protect the tobacco merchants who have been exploiting and fleecing the peasants from years by brutal police repression.

The AITUC Working Committee while lending wholehearted support to the peasants who have been conducting a sustained agitation and struggle urges upon the Government of Karnataka to (a) concede the just demands of the tobacco growers (b) grant adequate compensation to the families of those who were killed in police firing (c) conduct a judicial enquiry into the police firing and punish the guilty.

The AITUC calls upon all its affiliates to lend all support to the struggling peasants.

On Tisco Contractors Workers' Strike

Ten thousand Contractors' workers of Tata Iron & Steel Company, (TISCO) Jamshedpur have gone on strike since 11th February 1981 for the implementation of contract labour (abolition and Regularisation) Act 1970 read with the tripartite agreement dated 7th August 1979 made in this Connection which was signed also by the TISCO representative along with others. Out these ten thousands more than 5 thousands workers are Tribal and two thousand female workers. They are likely to be permanent as they are working on permanent and percnial jobs and it is because of this that the management of TISCO refuses to implement this tripartite agreement whereas all other companies have implemented this agreement.

The state government and the Central Government have so far refused to implement this act as it relates to TISCO and on the other at their orders the CRP arrested more than one and half thousand peaceful stay-in-strikers including female workers and forcibly taken them off to Jungles some 40 to 50 kilometres away from the working place and some 800 workers and their leaders including 125 female workers are jailed. When the local peasants came in the workers' support they too were stopped at the railway stations by the CRP. Against the Contract Labour Act unregistered persons are illegally allowed to work in place/striking workers though the Bihar Labour Department, has given in writing to the district administration that this is unfair labour practice.

This meeting of the Working Committee condemns the state and central government for siding with the TISCO management and expresses full sympathy with the striking contractors' workers of TISCO. The working committee calls upon the government to intervene immediately and see that the Contract Labour (abolition and regularisation) Act read with the tripartite agreement is immediately implemented.

The working Committee condemns the repressive measures adopted to supress the contractors' agitations.

/ workers ::::: :::::

On Anti-reservation Agitation in Gujarat

The Working Committee of the AITUC views with grave concern the attacks on the harijans going on for a considerable time in Gujarat. In fact, the agitation has been launched by those who are against reservation for the scheduled caste and backward classes people who have been suffering socially and economically for centuries on account of caste.

The working class must be all the more concerned at the continued attacks on harijans and scheduled tribes which divides the working people on caste basis and weaken their class organisations and class battles.

It is apprehended that such strife may spread in other states also which will be disastrous for the trade union and democratic movement and unity of the working people.

The working Committee reiterates its principled position of support to the policy of reservations for the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

The Working Committee hopes that good senses will ultimately prevail and a settlement will be possible to resolve the present impasse in Gujarat.

The Working Committee calls upon all trade unions to guard against any disruption of the unity of the working class and fight against and organise resistance to such agitations on castebasis.

: : : : :

In Support of LIC Employees' Struggle

The Working Committee of the AITUC warmly congratulates the LIC employees for their magnificent united strike from April 2 against the Ordinance which has now been put into the statute book, subverting the Supreme Court judgement and right of collective bargaining.

The Supreme Court has in its latest judgement ordered for payment of bonus in terms of 1974 agreement, but the Government has not yet made its intention clear as to the implementation of the said judgement of the Supreme Court. As such the responsibility of continuance of the strike in the LIC lies solely on the Government and its ambivalence.

The Working Committee demands immediate declaration by the Government for payment of bonus in terms of the Supreme Court judgement.

The AITUC Working Committee underlines the fact that the attack on the LIC employees in the shape of cuts in DA and bonus is a prelude to a general wage restraint if not wage freeze to be imposed on the working class and an attack on the right of collective bargaining and the independence of judiciary. The government seeks to force a pattern of industrial relations by putting a curb or by denying fundamental rights of the working class.

The Working Committee calls upon all unions to further strengthen at all levels the unity of central trade unions and industrial federations forged in the recent period and to carry forward the struggle against attack on rights and benefits and in defence of TU rights.

The Working Committee further calls upon all unions and the working class along with other central trade unions to observe April 15 as solidarity day with the striking LIC employees through meetings and demonstrations all over the country.

: : : : :

POLICE REPRESSION IN KHETRI, RAJASTHAN

The Working Committee of the AITUC strongly condemns the brutal and barbarous police repression launched by the Rajasthan police in Khetri against the workers of Hindustan Copper Ltd and their families.

The leaders and activists of the AITUC have been made special targets of the police attack. Scores of Workers were dragged to the police station and beaten up. Even the women and

children of workers have not been spared. Thirteen persons have so far been arrested of whom ten are active workers of the Khetri Tamba Shramic Sangh (KTSS) affiliated with AITUC. Nearly a hundred workers including twenty leaders of the KTSS have been either suspended or terminated.

This repression has been launched following workers' protest against demolition of their huts on 5th March by the police and police complicity in not taking action against a sarpanch whose truck injured two students by rash driving on 10th March, 1981, one of whom died on the spot and the other is lying in hospital in a serious condition,

The Working Committee of the AITUC demands an end to the police terror let loose in Khetri, release of all the arrested persons and reinstatement of all suspended or terminated workers. The Committee also demands that action be taken against the truck owner and the police officials concerned and a public inquiry be held into the incidents that have taken place in Khetri since 5th March 1981.

.....

Against Application of Rule 14 (ii) against Railway Employees

The Working Committee notes with serious concern that a large number of railway employees in all the zones are being removed from service under rule 14(ii) of the Discipline and Appeal rules of the Railway in recent months. During the agitation of the loco running staff a few weeks ago, more than 500 members of the running staff have been removed under this rule and an equal number have been forcibly retired from service.

There are also a large number of loco staff who are either under arrest or on suspension from duty. This reactionary Rule was widely used against the railway employees during the strike of 1974.

The Working Committee demands withdrawal of such an arbitrary rule. The Working Committee demands of the Government to take steps to end all such victimisations and restore normalcy on the railways in the interest of rendering efficient service to the public.

.....

U.S. Arms Supplies to Pakistan

The Working Committee of the AITUC expresses grave concern at the plans of the Reagan administration to pour arms into Pakistan worth 8 billion dollars including modern and sophisticated bombers. Pakistan is also going ahead with its plans to have nuclear arms and the Reagan Administration is also supporting these plans.

This, coupled with the U.S. arms build up in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf region, seeks to bring the world and this region to the brink of conflagration. Besides, the US and NATO partners are holding out open threats of military intervention against national liberation movements, for example, in Angola, El Salvador, Nicaragua, etc.

The latest peace-proposals announced by President Brezhnev of the USSR, although widely welcomed by all right thinking persons and governments, have been spurned by the Reagan administration. Instead, it is stepping up arms build-up in all parts of the world, and trying to convert Western Europe into a base for stationing strategic missiles aimed at the Soviet Union.

The Diego Garcia base in the Indian Ocean is being greatly strengthened making it the biggest US air and naval nuclear base in this whole region. Bases or "facilities" are also being secured from other countries in this region.

The renewed US plans to provide Pakistan with modern weapons under cover of "Soviet threat" has brought the danger to India's doorstep.

The US-Pakistan military arrangements along with the US-Peking-Islamabad axis are indeed a threat to peace in the sub-continent. It is also reported that in the name of "facilities", Pakistan is providing military bases to the USA. The US administration is also not hiding its intention to continue to supply arms to Afghan counter-revolutionary gangs through Pakistan. In fact, Pakistan is being groomed to take the place of Iran under the late Shah as the main gendarme of US imperialism in this part of the world.

The military dictator of Pakistan, on the other hand, has throttled all democratic voice in Pakistan and has mounted increasing offensive against the people of Pakistan who are fighting for restoration of democracy.

The working class and the organised trade union movement can ill-afford to ignore the grave danger posed to India's sovereignty and territorial integrity by the all-out arms build up by the USA. The working committee calls upon all unions and workers to remain vigilant against pro-imperialist forces in this country who are trying to belittle the danger posed by the US-Peking-Pak axis, and to observe a country-wide protest day on 23 April 1981 against the US arms aid to Pakistan through meetings and demonstrations unitedly with all those who stand for the defence of India's sovereignty and independence.

.

ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

24, Canning Lane, New Delhi-1, Tel. 387320/386427/Cable: "AITUCONG"

=====

President : S.A. Dange

General

Secretary : Indrajit Gupta M.P.

FOR WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING, 6 - 7 APRIL 1981

NOTE ON THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS ON DIFFERENT ITEMS
OF THE AGENDA FOR THE NATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE .

1. The note is based on the agenda papers circulated in connection with the National Labour Conference scheduled to have taken place in October last year, but postponed due to the change of the incumbent of the Union Labour Minister. The National Labour Conference has now been convened in the third week of May. Although no fresh proposals or agenda have been received, the proposals circulated earlier will in all likelihood stand.

2. Out of the fifteen items of the Agenda put forth for NLC no details and/or proposals in respect of three items were received. Dealt with below are the proposals made in regard to the other twelve items:

3.(a) Verification Vis-a-vis Ballot

The last verification of membership of the Central trade union organisations took place as on 31 December 1968. Since then the stalemate over the procedure for determination of membership continues because of the boycott of verification procedure by AITUC and HMS.

The INTUC as in the past has continued to stick to its position in favour of verification of membership while the other central Trade unions including the AITUC have been reiterating their stand in favour of secret ballot. The INTUC meanwhile has opted for the check-off system as an alternative to verification as secret ballot, which the other TUs have rejected.

Several meetings at the Labour Ministry have taken place during the last few months specifically on this issue both at the level of Minister as well as at the Secretary's level. But the stalemate continues.

Other TUs agreed to go into various problems attending the secret ballot and try to resolve those on mutually agreed basis if the INTUC accepted in principle secret ballot as the method to determine the respective strength of those claiming to be central organisations. But the INTUC continues to be allergic to the very principle of secret ballot.

On the resolution of this stalemate depends representation not only on the National Labour Conference, but also in ILO, other tripartite committees, industrial committees, etc.

The whole issue of the method of determination of membership of the Central trade Union organisations and the criteria of their representation at the national level as well as ILO will come up before the NLC.

Meanwhile, government furnished an incomplete list in 1979 and this year in respect of claimed membership of different central TUs.

CLAIMED MEMBERSHIP AS PER RETURNS SUBMITTED TO THE REGISTRARS
OF TRADE UNIONS

		<u>1977 (Lakhs)</u>	<u>1978 (Lakhs)</u>	<u>* Maharashtra</u>	<u>Total (1978)</u>
INTUC	-	23.88	17.36	3.67	21.03
AITUC	-	13.07	10.85	0.93	11.78
HMS	-	8.53	6.32	2.59	8.91
HMP	- 10.75	2.22	0.94	0.29	1.23
UTUC	-	1.74	2.26	0.03	2.29
UTUC (L.S.)	-	3.85	10.37	Nil	10.37
CITU	-	8.18	8.78	0.25	9.03
BMS	-	8.59	10.78	2.20	12.98
NLO	-	2.03	2.46	--	2.46
MFITU	-	2.25	4.64	--	4.64
TUCC	-	0.34	0.90	--	0.90

* Maharashtra figures are not for 1978, but for 1979.

None of the central trade unions has, however, accepted the correctness and the authenticity of the figures supplied by the state registrars of trade unions.

(b) Amendment to Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, Trade Unions Act, 1926 and the Industrial Employment (Standing orders) Act, 1946.

The main proposals of the government as indicated in the agenda papers are:

(i) "..... an effort to evolve a comprehensive law on industrial relations, on account of divergence of views on some of the basic aspects, was likely to take time", so amendments have been proposed in the three principal laws.

(ii) Redefinition of the term "Industry" "taking note of the Supreme Court's judgement." But the actual redefinition and coverage has not been indicated particularly if hospitals etc., educational institutions, etc. will be covered or not.

(iii) Coverage of supervisory personnel drawing wages upto Rs. 1600/- p.m. has been proposed.

(iv) "Measures for streamlining the procedures for registration and cancellation of registration of trade unions" will be introduced. Whether in the name of streamlining the procedures, further restrictions will be imposed on the formation and functioning of the trade unions as were sought to be done through the notorious Industrial Relations Bill (IR Bill) of 1978, has not been elaborated, nor the actual measures contemplated have been indicated.

(v) The IR Bill introduced in it a new kind of disputes-trade union disputes, to be statutorily decided through tribunal and litigation. The present Government also proposes to provide for "a machinery for resolving trade union disputes", and probably it will be copied from the IR Bill.

(vi) Negotiating Agent for purposes of collective bargaining.

The proposed minimum qualifying membership for recognition as a negotiating agent is 30% of the workmen in an establishment, and 25% of the workmen in an industry in a local area.

But how the membership will be determined?

"The membership of the contesting registered trade unions in an establishment or industry may be determined through a system of 'check-off' which will be available to all registered trade unions." Then again it is said that "where there is no check-off system, and the unions in a particular industry or establishment are not willing to adopt it, the membership of the trade unions may be determined by election through secret ballot open to all workmen," and the election in such cases is to be held under the auspices of industrial tribunal, which again in both the cases will issue certificate of recognition.

One condition of de-recognition cited in the proposals is "any illegal strike, as determined by a Labour Court on a reference made to it by an appropriate government."

(vii) Strikes and lockouts

The proposals have almost been copied from the notorious IR Bill. Only change is that instead of a complete embargo on strike in respect of so-called public utility services, restrictions proposed now are uniform irrespective of the nature of the undertaking. It is proposed that "every strike in an industrial undertaking, whether the undertaking be a public utility service or not, may be preceded by (a) bipartite negotiations for a period of 30 days

(b) strike ballot supported by 2/3 of the total number of workmen in the undertaking/industry"..... and then

(c) 14 days' notice . The right of strike will not be formally denied, but resorting to legal strike will virtually be made impossible.

(viii) Unfair Practices

In this respect also the proposals follow the provisions of the notorious IR Bill, and the list of so-called unfair practices has almost been copied from that Bill, as is provided for in the Maharashtra Act. The proposals also include that "Whenever a Court of law establishes that the office-bearers of a trade union were responsible for any violence or physical duress, they may be disqualified from holding any such office for three years."

(ix) Government's overriding authority

In course of a dispute the government will have overriding power to impose interim measures with regard to terms and conditions of employment and "prohibit the continuance of strike or go slow." The proposal is to amend the ID Act to incorporate such a provision.

(x) Proposal has been made to debar the personnels of Railway Protection Force, the Border Security Force, the CISF or the personnels deputed from the Territorial Army and Home Guard units, etc.

"from becoming members of trade unions and participating in strikes, etc."

(xi) Protection for office-bearers of Trade Unions

Proposal is confined to the office-bearers of only a recognised union who would have "protection from acts such as dismissal, termination of employment, changes in the conditions of service and connected matters as long as they are office-bearers and for a further period of three years immediately after relinquishing such office."

(xii) Chapter V B of the ID Act relating to lay-off, retrenchment etc.

The proposal is for reducing the qualifying number of workers from 300 to 100. Small-scale industry workers will have no protection if the qualifying number is not further reduced.

(xiii) It is proposed to make a provision in law "that closure of establishments would be legal only where employers have paid to the workers their wages, allowances and other amounts due to them under the provisions of laws." There is no mention about recovery of PF dues.

Secondly, for the employer whether the closure is legal or illegal, is not of much import unless provisions are made to make non-payment of legal dues as a cognisable offence and the amounts realisable from the personal assets of the personnels of the corporate body.

(xiv) Managerial and Supervisory Personnel

Like the provisions of the Bill introduced in 1978 along with the IR Bill, the proposals being made now are the same. They will be provided some avenue to ventilate their grievances, but they will not have any trade union right or right of strike.

4. WORKERS' PARTICIPATION IN MANAGEMENT

It has been stated that "the recommendations of the Committee (21 - member Committee set up during the Janata regime) are receiving consideration of the government."

The WLC is asked for further suggestions, if any, in this regard.

The position of all the trade unions including INTUC have been put forth in the unanimous report of the committee of Trade Unions set up by the Industry Minister of the Janata Government. The report is unanimous in respect of

(a) Method of determining representation in various councils or committees under the scheme.

(b) Scope and functions of the committees at different levels from shop councils upwards.

The position of the AITUC in this regard has been that such participation should be confined at present to public sector undertakings.

5. LEGISLATION FOR BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

The proposed central legislation seeks to regulate the employment, conditions of service and provide for the safety, health and welfare and other matters relating to construction workers.

The major provisions of the proposed legislation are:

- (a) Applicable to every establishment i.e. work of building/ engineering construction where ten or more workers are working with the aid of power or 20 or more without the aid of power.
- (b) Daily hours of work -- eight and 48 hours a week.
- (c) Weekly holidays, overtime wages at double rate and annual leave with wages for work of 240 days or more in a Calendar year computed at the rate of one day for every 20 days of work for adult and 15 days for adolescents.
- (d) Safety officer in establishments where 500 or more workers employed and safety inspector in establishments with 250 or more workers.
- (e) Reporting of accidents mandatory.
- (f) Insurance coverage for construction workers by their employers and payment of compensation in cases of accident.
- (g) Children below 15 to be disallowed as construction workers.
- (h) Women workers' hours of work to be restricted between 6 AM to and 7 PM. Their Maternity leave, six weeks before and after delivery.
- (i) Existing laws such as ID Act, Payment of Wages Act, Workmen's Compensation Act, Maternity Benefits Act etc. to be made applicable to building and construction workers.

The NLC has been asked to give its comments on the draft legislation.

6. INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEES - THEIR REVIVAL:

These committees have remained defunct and were not reconstituted as the question of representation of Trade Unions has remained unresolved.

The NLC has been asked (a) to consider which of the Committees listed below should be convened on a priority basis during the next one year, (b) whether any addition or deletion be made in the list of industrial committees.

The list of Industrial Committees :

1. Building & Construction	--	Last meeting	Dec. 1972
2. Cement	--	"	April, 1966
3. Coal mining	--	"	Nov. 1969
4. Cotton Textiles	--	"	May, 1967
5. Jute	--	"	July, 1968
6. Mines other than Coal	--	"	Nov. 1968
7. Plantations	--	"	July, 1970
8. Tanneries and Leather goods Manufacturers .	---	"	Nov. 1970
9. Iron & Steel	--	"	Oct. 1969
10. Chemical	--	"	March, 1966
11. Road Transport	--	"	Feb. 1966
12. Engineering	--	"	Aug. 1966
13. Metal Trades	--	Newly Set up .	
14. Electricity, Gas and power	--	First and Last Meeting	May, 1967
15. Banking	--	Last meeting	March, 1968

7. APPRENTICES AND THEIR EMPLOYMENT

The extant Act, the Apprentices Act, 1961 makes it obligatory for certain establishments, both in private and public sectors, to engage apprentices with a view to imparting practical training. But there is no obligation of the employers to absorb the apprentices after training against the regular vacancies arising in the establishments where they have undergone the training.

It is now proposed to amend the Act to make 50% reservation of the vacancies in the establishment for the trained apprentices.

8. BRINGING WELFARE OFFICERS IN PRIVATE INDUSTRIES UNDER STATE GOVERNMENTS

The subject was discussed at the State Labour Ministers' Conference held in July 1980. State governments of Kerala and Tamilnadu preferred to have Welfare officers under the Factories Act appointed by State Governments, and the management to pay the officers. The other state Governments were in favour of status quo being maintained.

9. REDUCTION OF OVERTIME WORK

The State Labour Ministers' Conference Standing Committee in its meeting held in September 1980 could not come to any unanimous conclusion.

In various laws like the Factories Act, Mines Act, etc, the hours of work including overtime work are already restricted and specified in the respective legislations. Overtime work is prevalent more to meet the employer's interests than of the workers. If for no other reason, than for the sake of health and safety, overtime work needs to be restricted, particularly in hazardous jobs.

10. NATIONAL AWARDS FOR TRADE UNIONISTS

The main purport of the proposal is to introduce some kind of award for such trade unionists who serve more the cause of employers than of the workers - Trade unionists who render "positive function" in the productive mechanism, contribute to maintenance of industrial peace and harmony, are constructive and so on.

And such awards are proposed to be given by the Central Government every year, and when? On the 1st May.

11. JAPANESE INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS SYSTEM

A question may be legitimately raised as to what inspired the Government to introduce this item in the Agenda relating to Japan. And astoundingly what we are supposed to be guided by in regard to Japan? The report of the OECD, the monopolies and multinationals club covering 24 developed capitalist countries. The report which the NLC is asked to consider, says that the Japanese workers are docile and submissive and seldom go on strike or strike of any long duration. Secondly, why the Government is attracted by Japan? In Japan, excepting private enterprises, strike in public and governmental sectors, in local bodies, schools etc. are totally banned. As a matter of fact as a sequel to the railway strike in 1979, the Sohyo President who is the leader of the railway union, was jailed.

It is factually incorrect to say that "the political characteristic of labour movement has gradually declined" in Japan and "the trade union movement has become more realistic." It is far from truth. The major Japanese trade union organisation, Sohyo, is dominated by the Socialists and politically oriented towards them.

This apart, in respect of industrial relations in Japan, condition of workers and other allied matters the Japanese trade unions are struggling against the denial of right of strike and against the effects of economic crisis which have also engulfed Japan.

CONSTRUCTION OF A FUND FOR ASSISTANCE TO WORKERS
IN THE EVENT OF CLOSURE

The proposal is that "the Fund may be financed by contributions from employers as well as employees at rates to be specified"

Even if such a Fund is created, the contribution should be made by the employers and government, and not by the employees.

ALL - INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

Tel : 387320/386427
President: S.A. Dange

24, Canning Lane, New Delhi-1.
General Secretary: Indrajit Gupta

April 6, 1981

For MEMBERS OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE

NOTE ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE
EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND REVIEW COMMITTEE

.....

A committee with G. Ramanujam as Chairman was constituted to review the working of the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme with special reference to the problem of mounting arrears of provident fund contributions. The memorandum presented to the committee by the AITUC was circulated amongst all members of the general council at the meeting held in Srinagar in July 1980.

The committee submitted its report to the government in December 1980. The report has since been discussed in the Central Board of Trustees also and Government is now preparing legislation based on the recommendations. The AITUC has to take note of the implications of the main recommendations made by the committee and particularly the one in regard to decentralisation. This recommendation is given as an annexure to this note.

Decentralisation

This recommendation is probably based on the conclusion arrived at by the committee that the working of exempted funds is more satisfactory from the point of view of both workers and employers. The committee however has not given any facts or figures on the basis of which they have come to this conclusion. The actual position is contrary to this conclusion. According to the latest annual report of the EPF Organisation for the year 1979-80 the arrears in respect of exempted funds are Rs. 14.28 crores and those of unexempted funds are Rs. 24.61 crores. As many as 73 exempted establishments which were in arrears of Rs. 1 lakh and above, totalling Rs. 11.43 crores as against Rs. 5.25 crores in respect of 337 exempted establishments with arrears above Rs. 1 lakh. In respect of interest as many as 217 exempted establishments were paying interest to the subscribers at a lesser rate than 6% and 1131 at a rate less than 8.25%. It has also been reported that the Board of Trustees of exempted establishments do not meet regularly and in many cases such boards have not been constituted. In many cases there are violations in respect of the number of participating units in a common provident fund, for instance, Birlas have more than 70 establishments participating in a common provident fund. Another factor to be taken note of is that in cases of closures of exempted establishments, workers will also not be paid their claims and pensions under the Family Pension Fund resulting in great suffering to the workers and their dependants.

Hence the implementation of this recommendation will lead to large scale arrears not only in respect of contributions but also in respect of imprest monies. Crores of rupees will remain with the employers as imprest monies for settlement of claims, disbursement of loans, etc. This money will be used by the employers for their own purposes - there are innumerable examples

of the employers' malpractices in respect of workers' contributions which need not be enumerated here as they are well known.

It is indeed strange that the review committee which was formed to study ways and means of reducing the mounting arrears of EPF scheme has made a recommendation to virtually hand over the scheme to the employers.

At the meeting of the Central Board of Trustees, our comrades, Comrades Diwakar and Parduman Singh stoutly opposed this proposal and brought forward facts and figures in support of our demand that the system of exempted establishments should itself be done away with and all funds of the provident fund scheme brought under one centralised scheme. Finally, the suggestion of Shri Hoshing (INTUC) representative that the figure of 100 be raised to 500 was accepted by the Board of Trustees with our comrades dissenting and this is now before the government.

We have to realise that this recommendation of the review committee militates against the very basis of the EPF Scheme and has been made to benefit the employers. The argument will be used that this will result in better functioning of the scheme, and such decentralisation will ensure prompt settlement of claims and applications for loans and advances. But the figures given above show how far this is from the reality. The AITUC has consistently demanded decentralisation of the work of the EPF organisation which would result in opening and running a wide network of local offices to ensure prompt settlement of claims. The centralisation that exists today and the bureaucratic manner in which the organisation is run results in these inordinate delays. Delay in submission of returns by the employers also leads to such difficulties. Hence the suggestion for wider network of local offices which will be delegated powers for disbursement of monies in respect of claims. Such a network will also gear up the inspection of EPF accounts. The answer to these delays is not by placing more and more monies in the hands of the employers.

The AITUC has to take up this matter in all seriousness and decide on how to mobilise the working class to oppose implementation of such a recommendation which is fraught with serious consequences.

The Employees' of the EPF Organisation have also raised their voice against this particular proposal and also provided more details of the manner in which it will militate against the workers, giving more details of arrears in exempted establishments.

INFANCY PERIOD

The Central Board of Trustees, with the employers dissenting, had recommended as far back as 5.12.77 that the infancy period should be abolished. This was introduced in the Act when it was first passed as far back as 1952. The AITUC has demanded that there should be no infancy period and the contributions should be 10% from the very outset.

PROVIDENT DUES OF WORKERS IN NTC MILLS

The committee has not agreed to the demand of the AITUC and other unions that government be directed to clear the dues of workers of the NTC mills. Since they are morally bound to do so, especially the amounts of employees' share which the employers had failed to deposit. This demand should be taken up also and not lost sight of.

Damages

The Committee has recommended that the system in respect of levy of damages at present extant should be "replaced by a system of levy of interest at a prescribed rate in proportion to the period of delay and the amount of provident fund arrears".

The AITUC should oppose this recommendation. The levy of damages as at present has been upheld recently by the Supreme Court. This recommendation will only result in amounting up of arrears as the penal interest does not ensure payment of arrears. We have recommended that the penalty provisions should be strengthened, and recovery of arrears and penalties ensured.

Other recommendations

The committee has accepted some of the proposals put forward by the trade unions including increasing the number of employer and worker representatives on the Central Board of Trustees and bringing down the number of official representatives so that the proportion is 1:1:1. Similarly also in respect of the regional committees. They have also recommended greater powers and responsibilities be given to these regional committees.

.....

We should demand immediately that government should call for a meeting of representatives of the central trade union organisations to discuss the recommendations of the review committee before finalising the legislation. We should also discuss with the other central trade union organisations and come to a common stand. Of course the INTUC cannot be expected to join with us on this matter since Ramanujam was the Chairman of the review committee. However, the INTUC in Tamilnadu has already opposed the major recommendation on decentralisation. Hence, it will be possible to build a wider unity at the state level on this issue. Unless the AITUC undertakes a systematic campaign on these issues, the government will go ahead with the amending legislation and will result in the EPF scheme being gradually handed over to the employers.

.....

APPENDIX

Recommendation on decentralisation

Establishments having 100 or more employees shall be required to maintain the provident fund, Family Pension, and E.D.L.I. in respect of their employees and also be responsible to pay their claims on the following conditions:

- (a) Each establishment shall have a Board of Trustees for the three Funds and this Board shall meet periodically.
- (b) The contributions and other amounts due to the funds shall be transferred by the establishments to the respective Boards of Trustees within one week after the close of each month.
- (c) Those monies shall be deposited by the Boards of Trustees in the State Bank/any nationalised Bank which shall in accordance with the procedure to be prescribed transfer the same to Reserve Bank of India.
- (d) A notice shall be displayed on the notice board each month that this has been done. The Scheme shall spell out duties and responsibilities of Trustees in such establishments.

(e) the Reserve Bank of India shall be responsible for investment of all the funds; in the case of Family Pension Fund it will be credited to the Public Account of the Government of India.

(f) The accounts of the individual subscribers shall be maintained by the concerned Boards of Trustees and a monthly account shall be rendered to the EPF Organisation which shall maintain the accounts of establishments.

(g) The EPF Organisation shall also arrange to place the Boards of Trustees of each establishment with adequate funds to meet the claims on account of loans, advances and final withdrawals. The Boards of Trustees will operate the funds as an imprest amount.

(h) A pass book shall be issued to each subscriber by the Board of Trustees and entries shall be made therein of all the contributions received and interest credited and of all the withdrawals as and when made.

(i) The system of grant of exemptions from the Scheme will continue if any establishment by mutual agreement between the management and the employees wish to have a different scheme not less favourable than the Statutory Scheme. Even in such cases, the responsibility for investment of Funds shall be transferred to the Reserve Bank of India.

(j) In all other cases, the EPF Organisation shall be responsible for maintenance of the accounts of the subscribers for payment of dues, as well as investment of the funds.

(k) In case of failure of an exempted establishment or an establishment which is authorised to maintain its own accounts to observe the conditions under which they are authorised to operate the funds or accounts for three consecutive months, the exemption or the arrangement under which the establishments have been authorised to operate the accounts, etc. shall be cancelled and the EPF Organisation shall take over the same.

(l) Establishments having less than 100 employees shall also be allowed to maintain their own accounts on request by mutual agreement between the Management and the employees. Contrariwise, if requests are received after mutual agreement between the Management and the employees in the case of establishments employing 100 or more persons that their accounts be maintained by the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation; the Organisation shall take over the same.

(m) The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation shall strengthen its inspection services to ensure that the suggested procedures are fully observed.

(n) The existing arrangement for payment of the Family Pension through Post Offices shall continue.
(As a result of decentralisation there will be three types of establishments covered by the EPF and MP Act, 1952.

(i) Unexempted establishments i.e. establishments having less than 100 employees and provident funds of which are administered by the EPF organisation.

(ii) Exempted establishments i.e. establishments which are granted exemption on the ground that their employees are in receipt of benefits which are less favourable than those under the Act and the Scheme; and, /are

(iii) Establishments having 100 or more employees which under the scheme of decentralisation are required to administer the provident funds of their employees through Boards of Trustees.

Such establishments will also be called "exempted establishments".)

8. Consequent on our recommendation, the role of the EPF Organisation will undergo a change. It will have supervisory functions and an audit type of control in respect of provident funds establishments employing 100 or more workers. The Organisation will arrange frequent inspections of these establishments to see that the provident fund accounts are maintained properly and that the amounts to be transferred to the Reserve Bank of India are transferred promptly and regularly.

10. Employers of establishments which maintain their own accounts will not be required to pay administration charges but will pay inspection charges only at such rates as may be fixed from time to time by the Government of India

11. If, however, any establishment required to maintain its accounts, fails to observe the conditions prescribed, the EPF Organisation will take over the function and it will be required to pay the administration charges at rates prescribed in the Scheme.

12. The foregoing recommendations regarding decentralisation of work may be given effect to by 31st March 1982.

=====

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

U.S. ARMS SUPPLIES TO PAKISTAN

The Working Committee of the AITUC expresses grave concern at the plans of the Reagan administration to pour arms into Pakistan worth 8 billion dollars including modern and sophisticated bombers.

This, coupled with the U.S. arms build up in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf region, seeks to bring the world and this region to the brink of conflagration. Besides, the US and NATO partners are holding out open threats of military intervention against national liberation movements, for example, in Angola, El Salvador, Nicaragua, etc.

The latest peace proposals announced by President Brezhnev of the USSR, although widely welcomed by all right thinking persons and governments, have been spurned by the Reagan administration. Instead, it is stepping up arms build-up in all parts of the world, and trying to convert Western Europe into a base for stationing strategic missiles aimed at the Soviet Union.

The renewed US plans to provide Pakistan with modern weapons under cover of "Soviet Threat" has brought the danger to India's door steps.

The US-Pakistan military arrangements along with the US-Peking-Islamabad axis are indeed a threat to peace in the subcontinent. It is also reported that in the name of "facilities", Pakistan is providing military bases to the USA. The U.S. administration is also not hiding its intention to continue to supply arms to Afghan counter-revolutionary gangs.

On the other hand, the Diego Garcia base in the Indian Ocean is being greatly strengthened making it the biggest U.S. air and naval nuclear base in this whole region. Bases or "facilities" are also being secured from other countries in this region.

The working class and the organised trade union movement can ill-afford to ignore the grave danger posed to India's sovereignty and territorial integrity by the all-out arms build up by the USA. The Working Committee calls upon all unions and workers to remain vigilant against pro-imperialist forces in this country who are trying to belittle the danger posed by the U.S.-Peking-Pak axis, and to observe a countrywide protest day on April 23, 1981 against U.S. Arms Aid to Pakistan through meetings and demonstrations unitedly with all those who stand for the defence of India's sovereignty and independence.

ooooooo

ON ANTI-RESERVATION AGITATION IN GUJARAT

The Working Committee of the AITUC views with grave concern the fratricidal caste war going on for a considerable time in Gujarat. In fact, the agitation has been launched by those who are against reservation for the scheduled caste and backward classes people who have been suffering socially and economically for centuries on account of caste.

The working class must be all the more concerned at the continued fratricidal strife which divides the working people on caste basis and weakens their class organisations and class battles.

It is apprehended that such fratricidal strife may spread in other states also which will be disastrous for the trade union and democratic movement and unity of the working people.

The working committee hopes that good senses will ultimately prevail and a settlement will be possible to resolve the present impasse in Gujarat.

The working committee calls upon all trade unions to guard against any disruption of the unity of the working class and fight against and organise resistance to such agitations on castebasis.

oooooooo

IN SUPPORT OF LIC EMPLOYEES' STRUGGLE

The working Committee of the AITUC warmly congratulates the LIC employees for their magnificent united strike from April 2 against the Ordinance which has now been put into the statute book, subverting the Supreme Court judgement and right of collective bargaining.

The Supreme Court has in its latest judgement ordered for payment of bonus in terms of 1974 agreement, but the Government has not yet made its intention clear as to the implementation of the said judgement of the Supreme Court. As such the responsibility of continuance of the strike in the LIC lies solely on the Government and its ambivalence.

The Working Committee demands immediate declaration by the Government for payment of bonus in terms of the Supreme Court judgement.

The AITUC Working Committee underlines the fact that the attack on the LIC employees in the shape of cuts in DA and bonus is a prelude to a general wage restraint if not wage freeze to be imposed on the working class and an attack on the right of collective bargaining and the independence of judiciary. The Government seeks to force a pattern of industrial relations by putting a curb or by denying fundamental rights of the working class.

The Working Committee calls upon all unions to further strengthen at all levels the unity of central trade unions and industrial federations forged in the recent period and to carry forward the struggle against attack on rights and benefits and in defence of TU rights.

oooooooo

CABLE: "AITUCONG"

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

24, Canning Lane, New Delhi, 110001. Tel. 387320/386427

President : S .A . DANGE
General
Secretary : INDRAJIT GUPTA M.P.

Dated: 11. 3. 1981.

To

All Working Committee Members

Dear Comrades,

As you may have heard by now, the International Conference on Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, which was due to be held in New Delhi from April 3rd to 5th has been indefinitely postponed by its convenors.

However, the dates of the Working Committee meeting of the AITUC will remain unchanged, i.e. April 6th and 7th. The meeting will begin at 2.30 p.m. on April 6th, and may continue in the morning on April 8th also. Please make your travel arrangements accordingly.

Ofcourse, no railway concession will now be available for which we are sorry.

Please bring detailed reports with you (if you have not sent them earlier) of the response to the joint call for one-day strike on March 11th in public sector units.

Greetings,

Indrajit Gupta
(Indrajit Gupta)

ooooooo

Cable : "AITUCONG"

Telephone : 387320
386427

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

24 - Canning Lane,

NEW DELHI - 1.

=====
President : S. A. DANGE

Gen: Secretary: INDRAJIT GUPTA

Dated: 2-3-81

To

All Working Committee Members

URGENT

Dear Comrades,

A meeting of the Working Committee of the AITUC will be held on April 6th & 7th, 1981 at 24-Canning Lane, New Delhi. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. on April 6th, 1981.

The Agenda before the Working Committee will be:-

1. Developments since Visakhapatnam Session - National & International work.
2. New anti-worker offensive of the Government and employers, and TU struggles and tasks in this period;
3. Next phase of united trade union campaign and movement.
4. Organisational problems.
5. Any other business with the chairs permission.

Please note that, as been publically announced earlier, the International Conference on Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, sponsored by the World Peace Council, the W.F.T.U & other international mass organisations is being held in Delhi from April 3rd to 5th. There is no need to elaborate on the great significance of this Conference. It is decided that approximately 100 delegates, from various Indian trade unions should also attend this Conference.

You, as a Working Committee member of AITUC, are requested to make it a point to attend the International Conference from April 3rd & to stay on for the Working Committee meeting immediately afterwards.

Arrangements have been made whereby delegates to the Conference will get special train travel concession of return journey for single fare. So we are sure you will take advantage of this facility.

Kindly confirm your participation so that necessary arrangements can be made in good time.

Indrajit Gupta
Yours fraternally
(INDRAJIT GUPTA) GENERAL SECRETARY

Cable: "AITUCONG"

Telephones: 387320, 386427.

A L L - I N D I A T R A D E U N I O N C O N G R E S S .

24, C a n n i n g L a n e

New Delhi - 110001.

=====
President: S. A. DANUE

24.2.1981.

General Secretary: INDRAJIT GUPTA M.P.

Circular - 1/81

To

All State TUC's & Working Committee
Members.

Dear Comrade,

Please find enclosed the joint statement issued by 4 trade union centres, following the meeting held on 22.2.1981 along with a number of central federations.

Needless to say, the AITUC, its State Committees and affiliated unions should be in the forefront of implementing the agreed programmes, especially for March 3rd and 11th, we should be serious about it.

You should immediately contact the other Central TU's in your State on the basis of the enclosed statement and persuade them to take a joint programme. But this need not prevent our Unions from taking independent initiative and going ahead.

Please note that both the UTUC's were also invited to the meeting on 22/2, but neither of them turned up.

All public sector unions should be mobilised for the success of the March 11th strike.

Please send us reports of your campaign and results.

Greetings,

Indrajit Gupta
(INDRAJIT GUPTA)
General Secretary.

Enclo: As Above

Resolution adopted at a Meeting of Central Trade Unions & National Federations of Workers held at New Delhi on February 22, 1981.

This meeting of the AITUC, HMS, CITU, BMS and TUCC and National Federations of Workers in Banks, Insurance, Railways, Defence, Oil, Fertiliser, Coal, Steel, Newspaper, Port and Dock and other industries expresses grave concern at the deliberate policy of confrontation adopted by the Government of India towards the working class and the trade union movement of the country which has necessitated a review of the developments by the entire T.U. movement in order to protect the interests of the working class.

Though the ^{Government} spokesmen talked about throwing Bhoothalingam Panel Report into the dust bin, the Government has already taken several steps to implement the same notorious report, rejected by the entire working class. The Government has non-chalantly disowned the commitment contained in the agreements made with the trade unions in Bangalore-based industries which left no other alternative for them but to go on indefinite strike since 26th December last and the strike is still continuing. The Government adopted a high and mighty attitude during the recent negotiations with the trade unions and the most reasonable proposals made by them were rejected by the Government in the most arrogant manner. The longdrawn strike of the 1,25,000 workers in the ITI, HMT, HAL, BEL, BHEL, ECIL, MIDHANI and other establishments in Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kalamassery, Nasik, Koraput, Kanpur, Lucknow, Barrackpur etc. has thus become a challenge to the entire T.U. movement in India. This meeting sends its greetings to the heroic workers of Bangalore and other centres and congratulates them on their exemplary spirit of unity and solidarity.

In several other public sector undertakings such as BHPV, HCL, Hindustan Teleprinters the Government agreed to pay the wages at par with BHEL, yet although one year has passed after signing of this BHEL agreement, the Government failed to implement it. The workers of Hindusthan Cables are on indefinite strike since 5th February 1981 on the demand of implementation of a similar clause in their agreement, but the Government refused to pay any heed to it.

The Ordinance on LIC is an open subversion of the Supreme Court Judgement and makes a mockery of the judiciary in the country. The Ordinance which empowers the Central Government to unilaterally determine the wages and service conditions of LIC employees, shuts out collective bargaining, a fundamental right of trade unions. The Notification already issued by the Government reducing D.A and withdrawing employees' right to Bonus bears eloquent testimony to the Government intentions. In a similar move the Government, by a Notification, has already unilaterally and adversely changed the service conditions of GIC employees with effect from 1.1.1977.

The National Security Act has also been recklessly used against the trade union leaders and workers during several struggles despite categorical assurance that it would not be used against them.

The vindictiveness of the Government during the workers' struggles is on the increase. In the recent loco running staff agitation about 500 workers were

p.t.o.

summarily dismissed from service while an equal number was compulsorily retired. A reign of terror was let loose by arrest of large number of workers while several were forced to go underground. Even wives of workers were arrested and kept in police lock-up. Workers of Bharat Electronics, Ghaziabad, have been brutally lathi-charged and arrested on February 19 even before they had gone on strike. HAL workers at Lucknow were also lathi-charged injuring 35 workers.

Under these circumstances, unless the trade unions come together and launch a powerful movement to repel these growing attacks on the livelihood of the working class and on the T.U and democratic rights, the conditions are likely to worsen considerably in the forthcoming days. The Central Trade unions and national federations therefore call upon the trade unions of all affiliations to unitedly resist the offensive and immediately prepare for actionsⁱⁿ support of the demands:

- For reopening of negotiations with the representatives of unions in Bangalore-based industries.
- For withdrawal of Ordinance on LIC and scrapping of the gazette notification on GIC.
- For reinstatement of all victimised Railwaymen and immediate release of all arrested railwaymen under various Acts.
- For restoration of unfettered T.U. rights including right to collective bargaining and
- For putting an end to the wage freeze offensive.

This meeting, therefore, appeals to all trade unions to observe the following programme of actions so that the Central Government is forced to reverse its policies and the livelihood of our working class is properly protected.

1. 27 February 1981 - Dharna before the Prime Minister's House in New Delhi by the leaders of Central Trade Unions and representatives of Delhi Unions and Members of Parliament.
2. 3 March 1981 - Joint Demonstrations, meetings, badges wearing etc. by unions of all affiliations in all industries and establishments in public and private sectors.
3. 11 March 1981 - One day All India strike in public sector undertakings in support of the above demands.

This meeting appeals to all the unions in India to contribute funds liberally to the striking workers in Bangalore-based industries so that they can continue their struggle till they achieve their demands.

For further reviewing the situation and deciding the programme of action this meeting decides to hold an All India Convention of trade unions of all affiliations in New Delhi before the end of April. This meeting hopes that the workers will respond to this appeal magnific-ently and make the convention a grand success.

Indrajit Gupta
(Indrajit Gupta)
Genl. Secy.
AITUC

Shanti Patel
(Shanti Patel)
Genl. Secy.
BMS

M.K. Pandhe
(M.K. Pandhe)
Secretary
CITU

O.P. Aghi
(O.P. Aghi)
Secretary
BMS

Dated: 29 December 1980

To,

The General Secretary,
State Committee of the AITUC

Dear Comrade,

We have not yet received from you the list of addresses of comrades elected to the general council at the 31st session at Vishakapatnam. Please send the list of addresses without fail within a week to enable us to prepare the addresses. Any delay in this will also result in delay in communications addressed to members of the general council reaching them in time.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Parvathi Krishnan

(Parvathi Krishnan)
Secretary.

Sent to the following :

1. Goa → *Received.*
2. Meghalaya → *Received.*
3. Manipur
4. Madhya Pradesh → *Received*
5. Maharashtra → *Received (incomplete)*
6. Karnataka → *Received.*
7. Kerala → *Received*
8. Orissa → *Received.*
9. Uttar Pradesh → *Received*
10. Assam → *Received*

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

To

6th May, 1980.

ALL WORKING COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

Dear Comrades,

Working Committee of AITUC shall meet at Srinagar
(Kashmir) on 3rd July, 1980 at 10.00 a.m. The exact venue
shall be intimated by the J & K State Committee.

The following agenda will be discussed :-

1. Confirmation of minutes of last meeting.
2. Setting up of Committees.
3. Preparation of General Council Meeting.
4. Any other matter with the permission of President.

With Greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G. Sriwastava

(K.G. SRIWASTAVA)
General Secretary.

A. I. T. U. C., NEW DELHI.



To

March 17, 1980.

All G.C. Members & State Committees.

Dear Comrade,

Working Committee Meeting of AITUC was held in Delhi on 4 - 5th March, 1980 under the presidentship of Com. S. A. Dange.

At the outset Com. S. A. Dange unveiled a portrait of Com. S. S. Mirajkar, the veteran of T.U. movement, in the AITUC Office.

After discussion of the developments since the last meeting, the working committee took the following decisions :-

(1) Anti-price-rise day to be observed on March 18, 1980 all over the country alongwith other T.Us for some immediate relief.

This includes :-

- de-hoarding and deterrent punishment to the guilty;
- strengthening of distribution system with price control;
- rationing of kerosene and sale at ration shop of exercise books for children, medicines, soaps etc.;
- nationalization of sugar industry and
- food for work programme to be continued and extended in rural areas.

(2) Demands day to be observed on April 15, 1980 on the following demands :-

- I. In terms of Rath Committee Report on consumer price index, immediate correction of 1960 = 100 series of indices and setting up of Tripartite Committees at the national and regional levels;
- II. Industrial relations law to be immediately amended in respect of:
 - a) definition of 'Industry' to cover all employees irrespective of industry or occupation or place of work;
 - b) abolition of any salary ceiling for being workmen;
 - c) compulsory recognition of unions by means of secret ballot;
 - d) right of individual dismissal cases to be taken directly to labour court;
 - e) there should be no compulsory arbitration and adjudication; and
 - f) all restrictions on trade union rights and work of T.Us including restrictions on right to strike to be annuled.

Contd...2/-

These demands were submitted to the Labour Minister on February 7, 1980 when we met him and he promised to do the needful. But as we see, only promises are being made and no concrete steps for its implementation has so far emerged. Unless there is a united agitation, even these non-controversial demands are not conceded.

(3) a) May Day this year should be observed as 'Solidarity with Afghan Revolution Day'. Badges with the following inscriptions should be prepared either locally or at State level and worn by all workers.

- * Solidarity with Afghan Revolution
- * Hold the price line
- * Stop atrocities on Harijans and agricultural workers.

Even where united May Day rallies or processions are being held, (and other T.U.s don't agree with it), our workers should put on these badges.

Please send a sample badge to AITUC Office.

b) The following telegram should sent^{be} by EACH AND EVERY TRADE UNION to the Afghan Trade Unions:

"PRESIDENT AFGHANISTAN TRADE UNIONS CHAWKE DEMAZANG
KABUL:

" (Union's name) _____ expresses full
solidarity struggle defence independence and
April Revolution

(Sender's Name)"

Copies of the same should be endorsed by post to AITUC and State T.U. Centre. This is a must.

c) Sale of 60th Anniversary badges should be organised.

These can be obtained from AITUC Centre or State T.U. Centre well in advance on cash payment @ Re. 0.50 per badge for tin badges and Re. 1/- per badge for Aluminium badges.

(4) 101st Birth Anniversary of Late Com. N.M. Joshi should be celebrated on June 5, 1980 all over the country by holding meetings and paying tributes to Com. N.M. Joshi, one of the founders of T.U. movement and AITUC.

(5) To honour the 60th Anniversary of AITUC, all Unions will try to increase the membership of their unions. An average increase should be to the extent of 25 to 40% in each State. Sufficient attention is usually not paid to enrolment of membership for various reasons. Various forces are at work to bring down AITUC by all means. This challenge has to be met and special attention should be paid to this work, right from now onwards.

STUC should fix up detailed targets and check it from time to time. One of the Secretaries should be made in-charge of this work. Reports be sent to the centre.

(6) The 31st Session of AITUC will be held at Vishakapatnam from October 26 to October 31, 1980 coinciding with the 60th Foundation Day of AITUC. STUC conferences wherever not held should be completed by 31st August, 1980.

Payment of affiliation fee for the year 1979 should be made in advance, on which the representation will be based.

(7) Federation Conference wherever due should preferably be completed before AITUC Conference.

(8) Working Committee sent a cable congratulating victory of patriotic front of Zimbabwe.

(9) A letter congratulating Steel Workers of Britian for their long-drawn strike and preparation for general strike in Britian for May 14, 1980 was sent.

(10) Various resolutions passed in the meeting are reproduced in T.U.R. of March 20, 1980.

(11) Comrades, over 2000 workmen of Chiriburu Mineral Mines are without work and earnings since over two years. They are Adivasi workers and a good number are women. Private sector management has closed the mines and our efforts to re-open it with Bihar State and Central Government have not yet succeeded. They need support not only monetarily but even of clothes, medicines, vitamin tablets, powder milk etc. Unions are requested to send it to Com. Mazumdar at the following address:-

Com. P. Mazumdar,
United Mineral Workers Union,
Chiriburu,
P.O. LOTAPAHAD,
Singhbhum District,
Bihar State.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

K.G. Sriwastava

(K.G. SRIWASTAVA)
General Secretary.

March 4, 1980.

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

The two-day meeting of the AITUC Working Committee began in New Delhi today (4th March) with S.A. Dange, President of the AITUC in the Chair.

The meeting began by paying homage to S.S. Mirajkar, former President of the AITUC, who passed away recently and by unveiling of the portrait of S.S. Mirajkar by S.A. Dange, his life long colleague. The Working Committee also condoleed the death of Jay Prakash Narayan, Chandra Singh Farhwali, Priya Gupta, Maniben Kara, Ramon Bengrji, Madan Mohan, Bira Singh, Mahan Chatterji. Among the international personalities whose death was condoleed by the Working Committee are Dr. Agostino Neto, President of Angola, Ludvik Svoboda, former President of Czechoslovakia, Prof. MIS Burnop, President, World Federation of Scientific Workers, Nassim Amin, one of the founders of Sudanese TU movement and Nguyen Luong Bang, one of the leaders of the Vietnamese struggle for liberation.

The Working Committee will discuss in its two-day meeting the questions of bonus, industrial relations, rectification of Consumer Price Index, rising prices, increasing atrocities on harijans and agricultural workers, tasks in defence of Afghan revolution. The meeting will also take programme in connection with the observance of the 60th anniversary of the AITUC this year, 31st session of the AITUC scheduled to take place at Vishakhapatnam in October next.

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION.

To

The News Editor,

NEW DELHI.


SECRETARY.

CABLE : "AITUCONG"

TELEPHONES : 386427
387320

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS
24, CANNING LANE, NEW DELHI-110 001.

Dated : Feb.4, 1980

To

All Members of Working Committee,
ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

Dear Comrades,

The postponed meeting of the working committee of AITUC will be held in AITUC Office on Tuesday, March 4, 1980 at 3.00 p.m. It will continue on March 5, 1980 also. The dates have been fixed in consultation with the available members of the working committee in Delhi. The agenda remains the same as circulated earlier.

You are requested to attend.

Yours fraternally,

K. G. Srivastava
(K. G. SRIWASTAVA)
GENERAL SECRETARY

January 23, 1980

Dear Comrade Vithal Chaudhari,

Thanks for your letter of January 13,
1980.

AITUC meetings should be more often, so that we can learn from the experiences all over India is indisputable. But I may assure you that if this could not be translated into practice, it is not because of AITUC Secretariat. Even this meeting of the working committee had to be postponed.

You will agree that the working committee should discuss and prepare for the general council meeting and not be a formal affair and hence working committee meeting was called before general council meeting.

However, we have no objection to reading out your letter to the working committee when it meets.

Hope you are doing well.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Me

(K. G. SRIWASTAVA)

Com. Vithal Chaudhari,
Vice President, National Fed. of Metal & Engg.
Workers of India,
'Krupa', Block 12, Bombay-400 016.

VITHAL CHAUDHARI

Vice-President
NATIONAL FED. OF METAL & ENGINEERING
WORKERS OF INDIA

Gen. Secretary
GEN. ENGG. EMPLOYEES UNION

'Krupa' Block No. 12,
Bhagat Galli, Mahim,
Bombay-400 016.
Phones: 456713 / 441608

RECEIVED
19 JAN 1980
A. I. T. U. C.

Date 13th Jan '80

My dear K. J.

- I read in New Age the announcement of a Working Committee meeting of AITUC that it will be held on 30th + 31st inst to consider
- i the present situation on the industrial front,
 - ii to review the recent W.C. struggles;
 - iii plans for preparations for 31st session of AITUC,
 - iv 60th Anniversary celebration of AITUC ---

All items are important; more important because we (W.C.) will be meeting immediately after the national elections of the greater magnitude. It is bound to consider the national political situation and the ~~and~~ previous tasks confronting the Working Com.

Don't you think, that General Council meeting should have been called at such time and not confine deliberations only to premises of Working Committee? It was high time to call this meeting even in terms of half an year that has elapsed since last G.C. term. You are doing great injustice to members of the G.C. and to the organisation by not giving opportunity to participate in and discuss on subjects of such significance. I strongly disapprove of this!

V. Chaudhary

Imp: You may kindly read this letter in the W.C. meeting.

Cable "AITUCONG"

Telephones : 386427
387320

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

To 11th January, 1980.

All Members of the Working Committee/State Committees

Dear Comrades,

The meeting of the Working Committee convened for 30th January 1980 is postponed due to unavoidable reasons. Fresh dates when fixed will be intimated later on. Inconvenience caused is regretted.

2. The badges for 60th anniversary of A.I.T.U.C. in Aluminium and Tin are ready and available @ one rupee and 50 paise respectively, but on cash payment. Selling prices can be fixed by the State Committees, and by selling the badges the State Committees can augment their funds also. Orders with money should be sent without delay. We will also accept orders from the individual unions. Charges for sending by post will be extra.

With greetings, *Happy new year.*

Yours Comradely,

K.G. Shrivastava

(K.G. SHIVASTAVA)
General Secretary.

Cable "AITUCONG"

Telephones: 386427
387320

A L L - I N D I A T R A D E U N I O N C O N G R E S S
24, Canning Lane, NEW DELHI- 1.
N O T I C E.

To

31st December, 1979.

All Members of the working Committee

A meeting of the working committee of the A.I.T.U.C. will be held in the A.I.T.U.C. Office on Wednesday, January 30, 1980 at 10.00 a.m. to discuss the following agenda. The meeting may continue on 31st January.

A G E N D A:

- (1) Confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting;
- (2) Setting up of resolution and credential committees;
- (3) General discussion on T.U. Development;
- (4) Preparation for the 31st Session of A.I.T.U.C.;
- (5) Preparations for the celebration of 60th Anniversary of the AITUC;
- (6) Resolutions; and
- (7) Any other subject with the permission of the Chair.

You are cordially invited to attend. Please inform the arrival date, time and train.

Those comrades who want reservation for their return journey should send money and indicate three trains of their choice/preference by which they want to undertake the return journey.

P.S. 60th Anniversary Aluminium and Tin Badges are ready. It will cost @ Rupee one and fifty paise respectively. Please bring money to take these badges for your stock.

K.G. Sriwastava
(K.G. SRIWASTAVA)
General Secretary.

State