

## **AITUC - PROFILE**

### **PROFILE - ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS**

The documents relating to the aims, objectives, origin, growth, the organisation and the functions of the All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC), are briefly summed up below, based on the reports of the Conferences, Publications and Reports/Souvenirs published by the AITUC.

#### **\* AITUC Manifesto – 1920**

“The time has come for you to assert your right as arbiters of your country's destiny. You cannot stand alone from the stream of national life. You cannot refuse to face the events that are making history today for India. You are the mass of the population. Every movement on the political chess board, every step is the financial or economical arrangements of your country, affects you more than it affects any other class. You must become conscious of your responsibilities. You must understand your rights. You must prepare yourself to realise your destiny.

Workers of India ! Your lot is a hard one. How will you better it? Look at the slaves of Assam tea plantations, now become desperate. Their real daily wages are less than three annas a day prescribed under government acts, They are often victims of brutal treatment, working under the lash of unlimited hours, while some of these plantations pay 20 to 40 percent dividends. They are death and starvation dividends and it is you, your wife your children who are the innocent unoffending victims. We call upon you to realise the meaning of this exploitation and offer by special levies from the members of each union what help you can do to Mr. C F Andrews who is fighting at Chandpur the battle of these semi-slaves.

Workers of India ! The earth is your common heritage. It is not specially reserved for professional politicians or the Simla bureaucrats, or the mill-owning plutocrats. When your nation's leaders ask for Swaraj you must not let them leave you out of the reckoning. Political freedom to you is of no worth without economic freedom. You cannot therefore afford to neglect the movement for national freedom. You are part and parcel of that movement. You will neglect it only at the peril of your liberty.

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Workers of India! There is nothing in the nature of your union membership to prevent you from joining the Indian National Congress. You will continue to suffer as your Assam comrades are suffering from upholding the cause of freedom. Your masters will go out of their way, as Sir William Vincent has done, to threaten those of your leaders who happen to be non co-operators for an alleged attempt to sow disaffection amongst the workers. You have nothing to fear. It is not a crime to create a repugnance of brutal treatment, of conditions of semi slavery and of the horrible exploitation of women and children. You know well enough that it is the influence of these very leaders which has kept the place and affected a settlement in almost every big strike in India during the past twelve months in spite of every attempt of the employers. Your cause is the cause of humanity. It cannot suffer through misrepresentation.

Workers of India! There is only one thing for you to do. You must realise your unity. You must solidly build your organisations. Do not look for salvation to the Factory Act. The law cannot give your unity. The law cannot create in you the spirit of brotherhood. That must be your own work. Spoliation of the workers is the cry of the capitalists in field and factory. Let unity and brotherhood of man be your watchwords. Your salvation lies in the strength of your organisations. Cling fast to them. Cast all weakness from you and you will surely tread the path to power and freedom”.

### **\* Origin of AITUC :**

On October 31, 1920 at Bombay, All India Trade Union Congress was formed in a conference presided over by Lala Lajpat Rai. The reasons and factors that led to the formation of AITUC are evident from the Manifesto, given above. The participants included Motilal Nehru, Jinnah, Annie Besant, Vithal Bhai Patel and 801 delegates from all over the country.

**Source :** The aforesaid details on the origin of AITUC and its history upto the year 1956 are available in the booklet entitled “ History of All India Trade Union Congress, 1920 – 1956”, published by “Harbour Thozhilali” (Harbour worker), Madras, in October 1956. This booklet in Tamil is scanned and stored in CD running to 32 pages.

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### **First Conference of Madras Presidency Trade Union Congress (MPTUC) :**

The MPTUC held its first conference on July 4-6, 1943 at Coimbatore.

The conference was presided over by V. Chakkarai.

Ms. Santha Bale Rao, Vice President of the AITUC hoisted the flag. Message received from N M Joshi, General Secretary of AITUC greeting the conference was read out.

Total number of Unions affiliated to the MPTUC at that time was 48 and the total number of members was 70,000. 107 delegates from 36 unions participated in the conference .

Resolutions relating to various demands of the Railway, Textiles, Beedi, Press and Handloom workers were passed in the conference.

The new office bearers who were elected in the conference were :

President	:	V. Chakkarai (Binny Workers' Union)
Vice Presidents	:	P.R.K. Sarma (WIMCO Workers' Union) Vijayakumar (Visage Workers' Union)
General Secretary:		P. Balachandra Menon (Thiruvannur Mill Workers' Union)
Assistant Secretary:		E.C. Bharathan, Abdul Rahiman
Treasurer	:	Krishnasamy (Tramway Union)

### **Second Conference of MPTUC :**

The MPTUC held its second conference on December 23 - 24, 1945, at Madurai.

The conference was presided over by V. Chakkarai, who stressed the need for strengthen the trade unions and the unity of the working class.

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P.Jeevanandam hoisted the flag and addressed the gathering recalling the tradition and history of the red flag.

Welcome Address was given by KTK Thangamani and Special Address by S.A. Dange.

The most important among the **Resolutions** passed was the one on unemployment the gist of which is reproduced below :

After the war 1300 workers from South Indian Railway, 10,000 workers from Kochi and Visakhapatnam Ports, large number of contract workers engaged in war related production activities and 20 lakhs sepoys from the Army out of which 11/2 lakhs from Madras Presidency were to be retrenched. The conference demanded that

- all workers should be retained without any reduction in their income;
- that workers should not be victimised for their Trade Union activities;
- that no worker should be retrenched without the proposal to do so was considered by the Tripartite Committee;
- weekly working hours should be reduced to 42 hours, then to 40 hours and the number of shifts should be increased;
- every worker should be entitled to 15 days' continuous leave with salary;
- overtime work should be completely stopped;
- work for laying infrastructure for irrigation, transport, electricity etc., should be implemented; and
- that unemployment dole should be given for those persons who were unemployed for more than 6 months continuously.

The new office bearers who were elected in the conference were :

President	:	V. Chakkarai
Vice President	:	Krishna Pillai (Kerala) P.R.K. Sarma (Madras)
General Secretary	:	P. Balachandra Menon
Assistant Secretary	:	R. Ramanathan Sangunni
Treasurer	:	V.S. Somasundaram

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Executive Committee : A.S.K. Ayyangar (Madras)  
Sugathan (Travancore)  
V. Subbaiah (Pondicherry)  
Jeevanadan (Kovai)  
Karuppusamy (Kovai)  
Kuppusamy Naicker (Madras)  
Seetharama Naidu  
Ummar  
chathu Nair

### **Third Conference of MPTUC :**

The MPTUC held its third conference on October 27 - 28, 1951 at Coimbatore.

The conference was Presided over by V. Chakkarai.

Work Report was read out by the acting Secretary K. Murugesan.

The special addresses were delivered by S.A. Dange and Aruna Asaf Ali.

The important events that were discussed in the conference were :

- Peoples' Demands Day in Princely State observed on 09-06-1946
- Anti-Oppression Day observed on 13-10-1946.
- Anti-Oppression Day observed on 17-10-1946 against the Nizam
- Industrial harmony day observed on 25-10-1946
- Travancore Day observed on 3-11-1946
- Coimbatore Day observed on 30-11-1946
- Workers' Basic demands Day

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### Incidents of Police firing between Second and Third Conferences:

Place	No. of deaths by Police firing	No. of injured persons	No. of deaths engineered by employers
Madras	1	200	-
Golden Rock	5	202	-
Coimbatore	12	150	1
	2 (including women)		
Vikramasingapuram	7	50	1
Madurai	1	130	1
Karivallur	2	50	-
Ellarini	5	50	-

### Police Cases foisted against workers :

Place	Type of Cases	No. of Cases
Golden Rock	Rioting	302
„	Miscellaneous	30
„	During strike	1200
Coimbatore	Murder	157
„	Miscellaneous	110
Vikramasingapuram	Conspiracy, Rioting	105
Salem	Rioting	25
Allathur	Murder, Rioting	37

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**The important among the resolutions that were passed in the conference included the following :**

- On the growing Famine
- On the crisis in the economy
- On the Black-laws favouring employers and Government
- On retrenchment, workload, victimisation of workers
- On the need for working class unity
- On Living wage, Bonus, Housing and Medical Allowance
- On workers' representation in the first general election
- On the role of Tamilnadu workers in Industry, Art and Language
- On Trade Union rights and Rights of citizens
- On the release of political leaders and political prisoners
- On world peace
- On Imperialism

This conference paid homage to the following martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the cause of the people and the working class.

- Manavalan, Marri, Palanisamy, Perumal, Thillaivanam, Eraniyan, Sivaraman, Rajuvaikaran, Arumugam, who were shot dead by the police;
- Twenty-two Kisans and workers, who were killed in Police firing on 11-2-1950 in Salem Jail
- Lakshmi, who died in Madras Jail
- I.V. Subbaiah, who died while fasting, in Vellore Jail
- Balu, who was hanged to death in Madurai Jail, despite protest from workers and public.

It was resolved to observe 20-5-1951, as Martyrs Day.

The following office bearers were elected in the conference :

President : V. Chakkarai

General Secretary : K.T.K. Thangamani

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### **Fourth Conference of TAMILNADU TRADE UNION CONGRESS: (TNTUC)**

The fourth state conference of the TNTUC was held on March 27- 28, 1954, at Memorial hall, Madras. The General Secretary K.T.K. Thangamani delivered the Welcome address.

The flag was hoisted by Sriramulu. The conference was presided over by V. Chakkarai. In his presidential address, V. Chakkarai stressed the need for unity among the working class like the Soviet trade unions which could defeat Hitler. He further advised the workers to carry on their struggles till they succeed.

The inaugural address was delivered by Satyapriya Banerjee. M. Kalyanasundaram delivered the special address highlighting the constitution and the importance of World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU). The WFTU then consisted of 8.86 crore members.

The work report was presented by K.T.K. Thangamani, the General Secretary.

45 resolutions were passed in the conference.

The total number of delegates who attended the conference was 218, out of which 144 were those fighting against retrenchment, victimisation and closure of factories and 74 were fraternal delegates from Tamilnadu, Bangalore, Kolar Gold Field and Malabar.

The following persons were elected as office-bearers.

President	: V. Chakkarai Chettiar
Vice Presidents	: M. Kalyanasundaram T.S. Ramanujam S. Krishnamurthy
General Secretary	: K.T.K. Thangamani
Secretaries	: K.S. Janakiraman K. Murugasan K. Ramani



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Treasurer : A. Govindasamy

Executive Committee : A. Srinivasan  
S.P. Aandi  
P. Karuppannan  
T.R. Ganesan  
Simon Paul  
K.S. Parthasarathy  
A.Nallasivan  
Karuppaiah  
C. Govindarajan  
Sivagnanam  
Kothandaraman  
Ramaiah  
Matheesan  
Narayanasamy Chettiar  
Balasubramanian

### **FIFTH Conference of TNTUC**

The fifth conference of the TNTUC was held on June 12 – 14, 1956 at the Bose Maidan, Salem.

The welcome address was delivered by G. Samuel, the chairman of the reception committee.

The flag was hoisted by P. Jeeva, who spoke about the red flag and the justification for the workers to go on strike. He deplored the attitude of the Indian Government which tried to suppress the workers through their police. The Government Report revealed that between the years 1947 and 1952, police firing had been ordered more than 100 times in which more than 1500 persons were killed. He also said that between 1949 and 1951 the AITUC Unions were declared illegal and their leaders were hunted. The congress Government, the bureaucracy and the employers divided the workers by forming Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC).

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The president V. Chakkarai could not attend the conference as a result of his ill-health and the message sent by him was read out in the conference.

The work report was presented by K.T.K. Thangamani.

The total number of delegates were 246, out of which four were women. The number of fraternal delegates was 45.

The total membership of TNTUC at that time was 79,800. The following office-bearers were elected in the conference :

President : V. Chakkarai

Vice Presidents : M. Kalyanasundaram ( also Working President, since the President was unwell)  
A.S.K. Ayyangar  
S. Krishnamurthy  
P. Ramamurthy

General Secretary : K.T.K. Thangamani

Assistant Secretaries : T.R. Ganesan  
K.M. Sundaram  
K. Ramani

Treasurer : S.C. Krishnan

Executive Committee : N.K. Krishnan  
K.R. Ramasamy  
Maduram  
Arumuga Mudaliar  
T.A. Narayanasamy Chettiar  
K.S. Govindasamy  
Simon Paul  
G. Samuel  
A. Srinivasan and 15 others.

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### **SIXTH Conference of TNTUC**

The sixth conference of the TNTUC was held on February 19-22, 1959 at St.Mary's Hall, Madras.

A.S.K. Ayyangar welcomed the gathering.

K.N. Chinnaiyan hoisted the flag.

R. Venkataraman, the Labour Minister inaugurated the conference.

V.G. Row, President of Electricity Workers Union inaugurated a Photo Exhibition tracing the history of various struggles of the working class movement.

M. Kalyanasundaram, President of TNTUC, in his presidential address hailed the members for their sacrifices in strengthening their trade unions. He pointed out that the employers were encouraged to victimise the workers since they had the support of the state police.

T.R. Ganesan, the General Secretary, presented the work report running to 56 pages. He pointed out in his report that out of the 900 registered trade unions in Tamilnadu, 209 unions were affiliated to TNTUC. Out of the total of 4,50,000 members in the 900 registered trade unions, 2,60,000 were members of TNTUC, 70,000 were members of INTUC, 13,000 were members of HMS and 50,000 were members of trade unions which were not affiliated to any of the central unions.

500 delegates attended this conference.

The following office-bearers were elected in the conference.

President : M. Kalyanasundaram M.L.A.

Vice Presidents : 1. A.S.K. Iyengar  
2. K.T. Raju  
3. N.K. Krishnan  
4. Samuel  
5. S. Krishnamurthy

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General Secretary	: T.R. Ganesan
Assistant Secretaries	: 1. K.M. Sundaram 2. K.S. Janakiraman 3. R. Umanath
Treasurer	: M.K. Ranganathan
Executive Committee	: A. Srinivasan S.C. Krishnan Dr. Kannabiran P.V. Giri K.S. Chinnaian Ramanathan K.R. Ramasamy K.Ramani Mohan Kumaramangalam A. Balasubramaniam Ramaiah C. Govindarajan Ramanujam V. Karmegan Thangaraj Adinarayanan A. Nallasivan Sudalaimuthu S. Krishnan K. Ananthan Nambiar

### Details of industrial disputes :

Year	Total no. of Disputes	Conciliation	Adjudication
1946	1290	1261	29
1947	2561	2489	72
1948	4602	4540	62
1949	4734	4627	107
1950	6557	6477	80

### Strikes in Tamilnadu between 1951 – 1959 :

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<b>Year</b>	<b>No. of strikes</b>	<b>No. of workers participated</b>	<b>No. of man-days lost</b>
1951	198	1,02,880	6,72,099
1952	220	86,913	2,49,167
1953	122	54,734	3,12,342
1954	137	65,123	1,38,577
1955	189	67,007	1,93,206
1956	212	82,726	4,61,072
1957	247	71,685	7,19,633
1958	237	90,765	7,42,267
1959	200	86,788	10,53,267

**Note :** Andhra was bifurcated from Madras Presidency in 1953 and became a separate state. Areas in Madras Presidency, where Kannada and Malayalam were the languages, were united with Mysore and Kerala states respectively in 1956.

Source : The aforesaid details relating to the first six state conferences of the AITUC (initially called MPTUC, later changed to TNTUC) are contained in the document entitled "TNTUC – Veera varalaru" in Tamil with 32 pages, which has been scanned and stored in the CD.

### **SEVENTH Conference of the TNTUC**

The seventh state conference of the TNTUC was held on August 1-2, 1970 at Madras.

K.M. Sundaram, The General Secretary of TNTUC presented the work report.

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The main features of this report were :

- the seventh state conference was held after a long gap of 11 years. This was due to the reasons that most of the leaders and activists were imprisoned during 1962-63 and that the left movement faced a split in the year 1964.
- The international situation was characterised by a major economic crisis in the USA, thereby losing its political authority in the rest of the world and facing the anger of its own people demonstrating against the war on Vietnam and Cambodia. On the other hand, the WFTU had registered a remarkable and consistent strength.
- In India the two general elections in 1962 and 1967 had resulted in major shifts in the political scene, leading to the split in the Congress party.

The important struggles during this period included the following :

- Central Government employees strike throughout India in July 1960.
- One day's token strike by the Central Government employees on 19-9-1968.
- Agitations by LIC employees throughout the country against "automation".
- Bank employees strike against section "36-AD".
- Textile workers struggles in Coimbatore.

This report also focussed on the ESI Act, National Commission on Labour, Wage Boards constituted for various industries, Nationalisation of Banks, the labour policies of Central and State Governments, other Central Unions like the CITU, HMS, INTUC, etc.,

This report stated that as on 31-12-1968, about 109 unions were affiliated to the AITUC with a total membership of 99,402.

Source : The aforesaid details are contained in the document entitled "AITUC – Tamilnadu Trade Union Congress, Seventh Conference – General Secretary's Report", with 34 pages in Tamil, which is scanned and stored in the CD.

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### **AITUC – Tamilnadu Special Conference**

This special conference of the AITUC, Tamilnadu was held on September 9-10, 1972 at Coimbatore. The main features of the report of the General Secretary are as follows :

- There was a need for conducting the special conference due to the changes in the political, economic and trade union movements in the country and the state.
- The major struggles during this period included the following –
  - victimisation of five workers of India Cements, Sangagiri and the subsequent strike to reinstate these workers.
  - Beedi workers strike in February 1972, in North Arcot District demanding higher wages.
  - Strike by workers of Madurai Mills in July 1971.
  - Strike by plantation workers of Valparai in May 1972.
  - Strikes in hosiery units of Tirupur, and Tank factory (Heavy Vehicle Factory: HVF) at Avadi.
  - More than a year long strike since October 1971 in the Simpson Company, Madras.
- This report also focussed on the status of various industries, National Council of Trade Unions and the Central and State Government Policies.
- According to this report, out of the 2033 registered trade unions in Tamilnadu, 200 unions were affiliated to the AITUC.

Source : The aforesaid details are contained in the document entitled “Report of the General Secretary”, published by Janasakthi Press, Madras on 9-9-72 at Coimbatore. This document with 20 pages in Tamil is scanned and stored in the CD.

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### **EIGHTH CONFERENCE OF THE AITUC, TAMILNADU**

The eighth state conference of the AITUC- Tamilnadu was held on August 14-15, 1975 at Salem.

The General Secretary K.M. Sundaram presented the Work Report which highlighted the following features :

- The world situation marked by the growth and expansion of multi-national corporation.
- The Indian situation where “Emergency”, was declared on 25/26-6-1975. The AITUC welcomed the proclamation of emergency in the country.
- The important struggles that were listed in the report included the following –
  - 20 days All India strike by Railway workers in May 1974.
  - Dock labourers strike in January, 1975
  - Textile workers strike in Tamilnadu in February, 1974
  - Sugar factory workers strike in the state
  - Strike by Madras Cinema Studio workers
- The strength of the AITUC unions in the state and the participation of its state and the participation of its leaders in the various committee constituted by the Government have been given.
- The conference passed resolutions which are given below :
  - In support of proclamation of “emergency” in the country.
  - On the Industrial Relations Bill
  - On the Public Distribution system
  - On the Public sector
  - Demanding nationalisation of sugar factories and foreign during companies.

Source : The aforesaid details are contained in the document entitled “Report of the General Secretary” presented in the eighth conference of the AITUC – Tamil Nadu, running to 36 pages in Tamil, which is scanned and stored in the CD.



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### **NINTH Conference of the AITUC, TAMILNADU**

The ninth state conference of the AITUC-TN, was held on September 14 – 16, 1980, at Madras.

This conference was presided over by M. Kalyanasundaram, the State President of the AITUC.

The General Secretary's report was prepared and presented by K.T.K. Thangamani and A.M. Gopu.

The main features of the report were as follows :

- the international situation was analysed in the background of the remarkable contribution of the socialist countries to the production, the growing inflation and economic crisis in the capitalist countries, the increasing defence expenditure of the members of NATO and the increasing number of US Naval basis in world waters.
- the national situation was analysed in the background of the aftermath of emergency situation proclaimed in 1975, the growing inflation and economic crisis, the anti-labour policies of the Central Government and the indications of the industrial growth towards a capitalist economy.
- In the aforesaid situations it was perceived that the trade unions should strive to achieve the unity of the working class to face the adverse situation.

This report also gave details about the functions of the state and district level committees of the AITUC-TN and stress the need for improving the level of cadres, level of functioning and activities.

The following office-bearers were elected in the conference :

President : M. Kalyanasundaram

Vice-Presidents : K.T.K. Thangamani  
K.M. Sundaram  
N. Karuppusamy  
S.C. Krishnan  
A. Govindasamy

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General Secretary	:	A.M. Gopu
Secretaries	:	R. Dakshinamoorthy R. Karuppaiah Dr. G. Kannabiran V. Ramachandran D. Gnanaiah
Treasurer	:	R. Ganesan

The executive committee consisted of 26 members.

Source : The aforesaid details are contained in the Souvenir released in connection with the ninth conference of AITUC-TN, entitled "Tamilnadu AITUC, Ninth Conference, Madras". The relevant details are contained in page numbers 5-23 and page number 93 of the Souvenir in Tamil, running to 96 pages , which is scanned and stored in the CD.

### **TENTH Conference of AITUC – Tamilnadu**

(the relevant documents are not yet available)

### **ELEVENTH Conference of AITUC – Tamilnadu**

The eleventh state conference of the AITUC-TN, was held on May 13-15, 1988, at Tanjavore.

P. Uthirapathi hoisted the flag.

M. Katthamuthu welcomed the delegates on behalf of the reception committee.

The conference was presided over by K.T.K. Thangamani, State President.

The General Secretary A.M. Gopu, presented the Work Report.

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The treasurer T.R.S. Mani submitted the "Income and Expenditure report".

The conference was inaugurated by Homithaji, one of the All India Secretaries of the AITUC.

The notable among the resolutions passed in the conference are as follows:

- The Central Government was urged to contain terrorism in Punjab and find a peaceful political solution to the issue.
- to participate in the "Bharat Bandh" on March 15, 1988, alongwith other left trade unions and Kisan organisations.
- to resolve the issue of the 3,600 workers of Standard Motors Company, who were facing closure.
- to protect textile, handloom, silk-weaving workers by providing them with subsidies, minimum wages and other benefits of labour welfare legislations.
- to provide relief for toddy workers and agricultural labourers.
- to provide security of employment to garment workers, loading and unloading workers, women workers, co-operative workers, match-factory workers, construction workers and hotel workers.
- to increase the wages of plantation, beedi and sanitation workers.

On the last day of the conference, that is on 15-5-1988, in the post lunch session, "**Working Womens' Conference** was held, in which about 500 delegates participated. This conference was presided over by Meenakshisundarathammal, State President of the NFIW, (National Federation of Indian Women). Padmavathy welcomed the delegates. The following persons addressed the conference:

- K.T.K. Thangamani, State President, AITUC-TN.
- Parvathy Krishnan, Secretary, AITUC.
- Booluroy Chaudhary, Central Committee-AITUC.
- VasanthaRathnavelu, State Secretary-in-charge, NFIW-TN
- Meenal Sethuraman, Secretary-AITUC-TN

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- Mala Pandian, Vice-President, NFIW-TN
- K. Subbalakshmi, District Secretary, NFIW-Tanjavore
- A.T. Rukmani
- R. Pitchaiammal

This conference of the working women discussed a charter of demands to be pursued in the future, which included

- right to employment opportunities
- right to equal wages
- right to social security legislations
- right to education
- right to access technological progress
- right to form trade unions

The following office-bearers were elected in the eleventh state conference of the AITUC-TN :

President	:	K.T.K. Thangamani
Vice-Presidents	:	V. Subbaiah and 8 others
General Secretary	:	A.M. Gopu
Secretaries	:	K.S. Somu and 6 others
Treasurer	:	K. Parthasarathy
Executive Committee	:	R. Ganesan and 28 others

Source : The aforesaid details are contained in the document entitled “AITUC- Eleventh Tamilnadu State Conference – Souvenir”, running to 46 pages IN Tamil, which is scanned and stored in the CD.

## **TWELFTH Conference of AITUC – Tamilnadu**

The twelfth state conference of the AITUC-TN, was held on June 15-16, 1990, at Pondicherry.

The conference was presided over by K.T.K. Thangamani, President of AITUC-TN. The General Secretary’s report was presented by A.M. Gopu. This report initiated a discussion on the following issues :

- the international situation, where democratic forces were gaining ground

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- the national situation, where a coalition government of National Front in power.
- the major political issues relating to Kashmir, Punjab and Assam.
- the growth of communal and divisive forces
- the economy of the state and the status of textile, engineering, chemical, fertilizer and other industries

This report also focussed the need to utilise the infrastructure in the Integral Coach Factory and Perambur carriage Works to the maximum, to expand the Heavy Vehicle Factory at Avadi, to lay broad-gauge railway line between Dindigul and Madurai, to increase the export of handlooms, textiles.

The General Secretary's report urged the State Government, to constitute workers' committees, advisory committees, tripartite committees to settle current issues.

Source : The aforesaid details are contained in the document entitled "General Secretary's Report", presented in the twelfth conference of AITUC-TN, running to 44 pages in Tamil, which is scanned and stored in the CD.

### **THIRTEENTH Conference of AITUC – Tamilnadu (the relevant documents are not yet available)**

### **FOURTEENTH Conference of AITUC – Tamilnadu**

The fourteenth state conference of the AITUC, Tamilnadu, was held on October 2-4, 1997, at Erode.

S. S. Thyagarajan, the General Secretary, presented the Work Report. This report consisted of three parts.

The first part of the report focussed on -

- the impact of finance capital as a result of globalisation
- the impacts of liberalisation and privatisation

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- the process of structural adjustment programme in India
- the political situation in the Centre and the State and their policies towards labour.

The second part of the report listed the various struggles and agitations including the following –

- the programme of the National Programme of Mass Organisations (NPMO) opposing the “Dunkel Draft”, disinvestment in public sectors etc.,
- joint struggles of Central trade unions, in support of Railway employees, Beedi workers and textile workers.
- the struggles led by AITUC-TN, in support of construction workers, Bricklen workers and transport workers

The third part of the report gave details about –

- the functioning of the Executive Committee, General Council and District Committees
- the efforts taken by the State leadership of the AITUC-TN, in organising educational camps for the benefits of the workers, with the help of the Central and State Governments.
- the participation of the representatives of the AITUC-TN, in the national and international conferences.

The following office-bearers were elected in the conference :

President	:	S. C. Krishnan
General Secretary	:	S. S. Thyagarajan
Treasurer	:	R. Parthasarathy

Source : The aforesaid details are contained in the document entitled “Draft Report” presented in the fourteenth conference of AITUC-TN, running to 52 pages in Tamil, which is scanned and stored in the CD.