

All - India Trade Union Congress
26TH SESSION

AITUC NAGAR, Coimbatore (January 5-12, 1961)

.....

Conf/1

January 5, 1961

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

S.A.DANGE'S REPORT TO

26TH SESSION OF THE AITUC

"After completing two five year plans, the workers in our country have only that much real wage as they had before the Second World War," said Shri S.A.Dange, M.P., General Secretary, in his report to the 26th Session of the AITUC. "That shows that it is only the exploiting classes that are appropriating the major portion of the wealth that is growing in the country."

In his 20,000-word report, Shri Dange noted that over the ten-year period 1951-1960, national income increased by about 42 per cent and per capita income by about 20 per cent, as stated in the Third Plan draft. The real wages of the workers in 1958, however, were only slightly above the 1939 level. In view of the continued price rise during 1959 and 1960, the report stated, the real wages of the workers cannot be said to have gone up during the period.

On the contrary, Shri Dange noted, the index of profits rose to 168.7 in 1958, with 1950 as 100.

Quoting the Census of Manufactures, 1956-57, Shri Dange pointed out that as against about Rs.196 crores paid as wages to 16.8 lakh workers, the workers in their turn, by their labour, contributed over Rs.468 crores, in terms of value added by manufacture.

Shri Dange also pointed out that for every rupee the worker got as his wages, he returned to the employer that rupee plus two rupees and thirtynine naye paise (239%). The worker not only reproduced his earning as wages but two and a half times more.

Examining the awards of wage boards and tribunals in the major industries, Shri Dange observed that "though in these industries, the wage rise awarded has neutralised the rising cost of living to some extent, on an all-India plane, for all workers as such, the real wages have definitely gone down."

Shri Dange noted that even the pre-war level of wages could be maintained by workers only as a result of the continuous fight of the Indian working class for dearness allowance to neutralise rise in prices, by means of strikes or collective agreements, tripartite decisions, awards, etc.

The workers, in the last fifteen years since the end of the war, by their struggles have made an advance on

several other counts, and these gains, he said, should be noted while examining the fall in real wages and when comparing the present and pre-war conditions.

These gains, Shri Dange said, were the 8-hour day, greater coverage of provident fund scheme, sickness benefits (although contributory), holidays and leave with pay, improved service conditions, right of the worker to demand neutralisation of rise in cost of living and in the struggle for standardisation of categories, grades and minimum wages.

The report dealt at length with the structure of wages in its five major aspects and laid down the five following tasks before the trade union movement:

- 1) The struggle for the sliding scale of D.A., with full neutralisation, in all organised industries, trades and professions, continues to be the central task on the wages front.
- 2) Wage Boards: To get Boards for the organised industries not covered so far. To fight for good awards, and for their quick decisions and applications.
- 3) Fight for raising and fixing the minimum and fixing the grades and proper differentials in all trades and industries and make collective agreements thereon.
- 4) Fight against rationalisation or productivity that leads to retrenchment, to greater workload and no commensurate rise in wages.
- 5) Fight for a general rise in basic wages and against high prices.

Reviewing the struggles of the working class since the 25th Session of the AITUC (December 1957), the report stated: "In the recent period, we have had to fight big battles for our just demands. And in these struggles, working class unity advanced further, both from below and from the top."

The report referred in this connection to the strike of the bank employees, of the workers in plantations, jute and cotton textiles and engineering industries as well as to the Central Government employees' strike of July 1960. The Central Government employees' strike was an event unprecedented in the history of our TU movement.

ECONOMIC SITUATION

Reviewing the economic situation, Shri Dange said:

"In spite of the pruning that the Second Plan suffered at one stage, because of the attitude of the imperialist countries and their capitalists, our production targets in certain vital lines have come nearer fulfilment. In certain lines, though there is no production yet on hand, foundations of absolutely new and vital industries have been laid. . .

"We the workers and trade unions, whose labour is the prime creator of all these things, should rejoice that we are overcoming our backwardness in which the imperialists left us and still want to keep us. Our workers, technicians, intellectuals and the honest sections of the industrialists have discharged their duty to the country and the people."

Shri Dange added: "But to say that is not enough. These production achievements had several drawbacks, several black spots, including treachery to the country's interests and people's welfare on the part of certain vested interests and their allies.

He then listed the activities of the foreign imperialists and investors which militate against our national interests. "The attack on our oil venture is so open and blatantly anti-national that those who have been trying their hardest to sabotage our oil sector should have been thrown out of the country and some of them sent to prisons as saboteurs."

But, Shri Dange said, "the Government of India divided within itself, some of whose ministers rightly want our independent oil industry to grow, while some others in the same Government oppose it and from within help those foreign monopolies, would not allow any drastic measures against the foreign oil monopolies."

Opposition to our industrialisation by the imperialists is, however, being successfully fought and in this, the disinterested and valuable aid from socialist countries, particularly the Soviet Union, is of immense help.

INDUSTRIAL SITUATION

Reviewing the industrial situation, particularly in coal and oil, Shri Dange pointed out that the "foreign imperialists and their friends in India among the big financiers and the ruling circles, entrenched in some of the key positions of the Congress ministries and public bodies, are doing everything to sabotage the State Sector of industry and the further rapid development of our economy, even in some parts of the private sector as in coal, unless the Government and the country agrees to their terms."

A demand for "de-nationalisation" is being boldly put forward by the foreign and Indian monopolists, as a price of their cooperation for full-fledged and rapid industrialisation. This is a serious and new danger to our country's economic policy.

Shri Dange said that it "is not our position that all private enterprise should or can be done away with in the present stage. But we have to see that the State Sector grows in extent and depth, that it embraces all the strategic lines of production, that nationalisation grows further and not that the State Sector is 'denationalised' as some propose."

The report stated that another serious danger to our economy is the failure to raise agricultural production to the required levels. The only corrective to the situation on the agricultural front is through land reforms and supply of capital to the peasant which alone can raise agricultural production to high levels.

Shri Dange said that "it is good to see that despite the criticisms of some monopolists like Tatas and others, the emphasis on heavy industry, engineering and metals, has not been given up" in the Third Plan Draft. But one has to be vigilant, Shri Dange warned, and see whether private sector steals from the public sector as was done in the second plan.

WORKERS AND THE PLAN

Shri Dange said: "Our trade unions will surely fulfil their duty to the people, where the Plan will work in national interest, and give efficient and honest work. At the same time, we cannot help raising the vital question as to who is gaining from all this prosperity, what is the share of the people and the workers in the vast wealth that they create."

Outlining trade union policy in this connection, Shri Dange remarked:

"In order to guard the interests of the country and the toiling people from the profiteering classes, who are robbing us of our labour and wealth, it is necessary to struggle. And that struggle has a two-fold aspect.

"One aspect is of general demands directed against the exploiters and their sources of power. Such demands are: extension of the State Sector of economy in strategic industries, land reforms in favour of the peasantry and State trading in foodgrains, nationalisation of banks and key industries like oil, jute, plantations and mines. In view of the record of the textiles and sugar millowners in robbing the people, it is time now to think of nationalising them also. Abolition of the stock exchange and speculative markets. . .

"For this, the working class along with its allies have to wage a political battle against the ruling classes.

"Another aspect of the necessary struggle is against the direct employer for day-to-day demands on questions of wages, bonus, dearness allowance and bonus and conditions of work.

"This day-to-day struggle is the constant daily task of the trade unions. By fighting for higher wages, D.A., bonus, etc., the worker fights for a larger share of the wealth, the goods which he is producing and which are the real national income, a share which the employer always wants to reduce in some way and for which the worker must always fight in the ways open to him."

+++
Earlier in his report, Shri Dange reviewed the international situation. The three significant features in the international situation are: the decisive advance of socialism, retreat of imperialism and the liberation of oppressed nations.

Shri Dange pointed out:

"A powerful Camp of Peace has arisen which consists of the socialist countries and also those which are not socialist but are neutral and peace-loving and opposed to war. India stands in this vast peace camp and, as such, is on the side of the socialist camp for purposes of peace and opposing war."

With such favourable circumstances, the report stated: "we should be able to campaign better and secure vaster masses for our cause of aiding the liberation movements, for popularising the achievements of the socialist countries, for international solidarity, for peace and socialism."

The reported noted with concern the developments in Congo and the military coup staged by the King of Nepal. Trade unions were called upon to "learn to act positively in defence of democracy." "We have to come to such a level

page five

of consciousness that the arrest of Lumumba or Koirala, the suppression of Parliament in Congo and Nepal, the attack on Cuba or Iraq ought to evoke a protest strike, in a few factories at least, at least for an hour, if not more."

Shri Dange said in the report that the "platform of the AITUC which is the platform of the internationalism of the working class, of unity and solidarity" and led by the World Federation of Trade Unions, must more and more campaign on these vital questions of peace, freedom and democracy and also act.

Concluding, the report stated:

"The AITUC has grown in strength and influence during these years. It is proud to have been in the forefront of the workers' struggles. It has some very fine collective agreements and achievements to its credit. It has built up strong, functioning, fighting unions and federations in various industries and trades. It has helped to advance unity in the TU movement and working class solidarity. Though not free from errors, the AITUC has followed a correct policy in relation to our country's interests and in relation to the interests of our class.

"Guided by the best sons of the working class, the AITUC will always be in the vanguard of the struggles of the working class for peace, freedom, democracy and socialism."

26th Session

.....
of the

All-India Trade Union Congress

.....

Aituc Nagar, Coimbatore (January 5 to 12, 1961)

Conf/2

January 5, 1961

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

M E S S A G E S

A large number of messages has been sent to the 26th Session of the AITUC which begins in Coimbatore on January 5, by trade union organisations of several countries as well as leading personalities and organisations in India.

The message sent by Agostino Novella, General Secretary, Italian General Confederation of Labour (CGIL) and also President of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), reads:

"Contrary to what we wrote to you in our last letter, the Secretariat of the CGIL will not be able, owing to a series of engagements and for many technical reasons, to send a delegate to attend your 26th Session, as our intention was. We are sorry that we are thus losing a fine opportunity to establish a direct contact with the Indian workers and their AITUC, but we are sure that we can all the same find a suitable way of making our fraternal relationship and our cooperation closer and stronger.

"The Italian workers and the Italian General Confederation of Labour (CGIL) during the current year 1960 (the message is dated December 24, 1960) have had to wage hard struggles for better living conditions as well as in defence of democracy and freedom for the whole country and in particular in the work places. These struggles have reached their bloody climax with the street fights which occurred in July against the attempts to re-introduce fascism at the very government of our Republic and against the consequent menace to the fundamental rights of the workers and of the Italian people.

"The workers have spearheaded it; and have therefore given it not only the character of a protest against the fascist menace, but also that of a determined demand to improve, with the defence of democratic rights, the living and working conditions of the workers. The large participation of young workers, who had in part up to that moment refrained from actively supporting other industrial struggles, has clearly demonstrated that to them the fight for the defence of democracy coincides with the fight for a better future, for the right to security of work and for a better life.

"We have stressed these points because we are aware that while the police here, in their attempt to stop this struggle and these demands, shot on the workers killing ten workers, you were fighting against the fusillade of the Indian police and your workers in Dohad were killed unmercifully. Your workers and our workers therefore died for the same reasons: the rights of the workers, a better future and democracy.

"Facts like these are not happening by chance. They are a desperate attempt to stop the working class action when it is in full swing and no other means are available.

In Italy, in fact, the whole trade union movement, which went through some bleak years, is now living in a period of great revival. The large, united struggles of last year; the Fifth National Conference of the Italian General Confederation of Labour; the July street clashes; the struggles now being fought by workers of different trades and by all the National Organisations, are a demonstration that all the attempts of monopoly capitalism to undermine the fighting power of the Italian working class have resulted only in strengthening its determination to attain better living conditions and a stronger democracy.

"These struggles aim at improving working conditions, solving the problem of unemployment, strengthening the bargaining power of the workers, carrying out a deep change of the general set up of our society for a larger economic and more democratic development of our country and for a general betterment of the living standards of people.

"We know that in India too, you are tackling problems and facing struggles of momentous importance which, in spite of major differences, have common aspects with our own. The solidarity between the Indian and the Italian workers is not an abstract one, and we therefore are pledging to make it ever more active and concretely operating.

"These struggles, in India as well as in Italy, have also strengthened the unity of the working class: new groups of workers have in fact joined the struggle, giving it a broader and deeper significance and a clear unitarian character. A stronger spirit of determination is therefore enlivening both the Indian and Italian trade union movements; a clearer consciousness of the aims of the struggle and a deeper sense of unity in an action which aims at improving social and economic conditions, at broadening and strengthening democracy, as well as at confirming the need of a peaceful coexistence through international disarmament, a definite settlement of the big international questions, for peace all over the world. As the whole mankind is interested to a fuller development and to the success of the struggle of the working class and of the peoples against the rule of monopoly capitalism and of imperialism.

"This is the spirit with which the Italian workers and their CGIL warmly greet your National Conference and wish you greater achievements in your struggles for social progress, democracy and peace," the message concluded.

MESSAGE FROM C.G.T., FRANCE

The message from the General Confederation of Labour (CGT), Paris, France, reads:

"On the occasion of the 26th Session of the ALTUC, in the name of the CGT and in the name of the workers of France, we send our warmest greetings; and through you, we send our greetings to the workers of India.

"We greet their struggles for better living and working conditions, in defence of their hard-won rights, for better economic and social conditions, for national and international unity, for general and total disarmament, and for peace and friendship amongst all peoples.

"Dear Comrades, we would have been happy indeed if our central trade union organisation could have sent a delegate to be present in your deliberations. Such a delegation would

so have been able to convey to the workers of India our wholehearted support to your just struggles. But the situation at present obtaining in France makes it necessary for every single member of our unions to remain in our country. Our trade unions are now entering a new phase in our struggle for united action of the working class against the employers, to combat the personal power of de Gaulle, and the actions of the extremists, for a negotiated peace in Algeria and for the revival of democracy.

"We send you our greetings once again for a most successful conference and to the workers of your country. Every single one of your victories is of encouragement to our own struggle for the common aims of workers of all countries.

"Long live the 26th Congress of the AITUC! Long live the friendship and solidarity of the workers of our two countries!"

The message was signed by Germaine Guille, Secretary, Confederation Generale du Travail (CGT).

MESSAGE FROM ALL CHINA FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS
(ACFTU)

The All-China Federation of Trade Unions, Peking, in a cable, stated:

"MUCH REGRET UNABLE ATTEND TWENTYSIXTH SESSION AITUC. OUR MESSAGE OF GREETINGS AS FOLLOWS:

"DEAR COMRADES, WARMEST FRATERNAL GREETINGS TO TWENTYSIXTH SESSION AITUC ON BEHALF ACFTU AND ENTIRE CHINESE WORKERS.

"IN RECENT YEARS INDIAN WORKING CLASS MADE CEASELESS EFFORTS FOR VITAL INTERESTS AND DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS, FOR OPPOSING IMPERIALISM AND SAFEGUARDING NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AND WORLD PEACE. CHINESE WORKERS WHOLEHEARTEDLY SUPPORT OUR BROTHER INDIAN WORKERS' JUST STRUGGLE AND REJOICE OVER EACH AND EVERY ACHIEVEMENT AND VICTORY THEY WON. CHINESE TRADE UNIONS HEARTILY WISH AITUC NEW AND GREATER SUCCESSSES IN LEADING WORKERS' STRUGGLES, STRENGTHENING WORKING CLASS UNITY AND ELEVATING CONSCIOUSNESS OF MASSES OF WORKERS.

"CHINESE WORKING CLASS WILL FOREVER STAND TOGETHER WITH OUR BROTHER INDIAN WORKERS AND JOINTLY STRIVE FOR STRENGTHENING CHINESE INDIAN PEOPLE'S FRIENDSHIP, STRENGTHENING WORLD WORKING CLASS UNITY BASED ON INTERNATIONALISM, OPPOSING IMPERIALISM, DEFENDING WORLD PEACE, SAFEGUARDING NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AND DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS AND FOR COMPLETE VICTORY OF WORLD WORKING CLASS STRUGGLE.

"WISH SESSION EVERY SUCCESS. LONG LIVE CHINESE INDIAN PEOPLE'S AND WORKERS' FRIENDSHIP AND UNITY! LONG LIVE WORLD WORKING CLASS UNITY!"

- Liu Ning-yi, President, ACFTU.

MESSAGE FROM KOREAN TRADE UNIONS

The General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, Pyongyang, in a cable stated: "WE WISH GREAT SUCCESS IN WORK OF YOUR CONFERENCE." The Korean trade unions regretted that they are unable to send a fraternal delegation to the AITUC Session due to unavoidable circumstances.

FROM CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS OF BULGARIA

T. Prahov, President, Central Council of Trade Unions in the People's Republic of Bulgaria, in a message said:

"On behalf of 1,500,000 workers and employees in the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Central Council of Trade Unions sends warmest fraternal greetings to the delegates of

the 26th Session of the AITUC and through them to all members of the AITUC.

"We follow with lively interest and are fully solidarity with your struggle for the improvement of the working and living conditions of the Indian working class and with your efforts for the consolidation of peace in Asia and the whole world."

The Bulgarian trade unions stated that the trade unions and working people in Bulgaria are defending with all their forces the cause of peace and with every new day, are increasing their achievements in the fields of economy and culture, in the improvement of their living conditions and the construction of socialism. In 1959 alone, industrial production increased by 26% over the previous year. In 1959, the message stated, "our industry produced in 30 days more than what was produced throughout the prewar year 1939. The rural economy in our country is almost 100 percent on cooperative lines and to a considerable extent, mechanised.

"Hand in hand with the increase of production goes also the improvement of the living standards of the working people, which is done by a systematic price cut and increase in wages. Upto date, in our country, we carried out 6 big price cuts. This year, the wages of the workers, employees and technical intelligentsia were increased by an average of 14 per cent.

"Social insurance embraces the whole working class, all contributions to it being done by the enterprises. Medical service and hospital care of the whole population in Bulgaria are entirely free of charge. The general mortality rate was reduced from 14.9 per thousand persons in 1945 to 7.8 in 1959, or almost half," the message added. Working women are entitled to four months' 100% paid leave and to two hours off daily for nursing the baby until it becomes eight months of age. Illiteracy in Bulgaria has been liquidated.

The message added: "In order to safeguard and develop further the successes achieved till now, we need first of all peace and that is why we fight with all our forces for the preservation of peace and support all peaceful initiatives of the USSR, the decisions of the Bandung Conference and the Panch Shila principles.

"We wish wholeheartedly the delegates of your 26th Session to take such decisions which will contribute to the achievement of the unity of the Indian working class, which is so necessary for the success of your further struggle in defence of the vital interests of the workers and of their trade union and democratic rights and liberties, for full economic independence of your homeland and for peace and friendship among the peoples on the basis of peaceful co-existence."

MESSAGE FROM CZECHOSLOVAK TRADE UNIONS

In a message to the 26th Session, the Central Committee of the Trade Unions of Workers in Mining and Power Generating Industries, Prague, Czechoslovakia, said that "it is a pleasure and an honour for us to send you, at least in this way, sincere fraternal greetings from our Central Committee, as well as from our members, workers in the mining and power generating industries of Czechoslovakia. Your session has an outstanding importance as it is held in the historical period in which progressive forces the world over consistently fight for the basic desires of mankind - for the maintenance of a lasting peace and for a peaceful co-existence of nations....

"We wish you every success in your negotiations for the strengthening of trade unionists' unity all over the world, in the fight for attaining and for the recognition of democratic rights."

(Contd.)

MESSAGES FROM TRADE UNIONS INTERNATIONALS

The Trade Unions International of Transport, Port and Fishery Workers, has sent a message of greetings to the 26th Session of the AITUC. The message said that "the AITUC has been boldly championing the cause of the Indian working class, giving good leadership to the workers' struggles for better living and working conditions, for the defence of trade union and democratic rights, for national progress and for peace and in untiring efforts to strengthen the unity of all sections of the Indian workers."

"We are confident that the decisions of the 26th Session of the AITUC will further strengthen the unity of the workers and will open new prospects before the Indian trade union movement and thus lead the Indian workers to win many more victories," the message added.

The Trade Unions International of Public and Allied Employees, Berlin, in its message, expressed the hope that resolutions adopted by the 26th Session of the AITUC will "contribute to the strengthening of the united action of the international working class and the solidarity of all working people in their common trade union struggle." "This struggle, jointly conducted by us, is to contribute to the trade union rights and democratic liberties and constantly to improve working and living conditions," the message said.

"Just as we in July 1960 demonstrated our deep solidarity with the Indian trade unions during their courageous struggles, in future we shall also support the struggle of the Indian working people and their trade unions by all appropriate means."

FROM I.L.O., GENEVA

The International Labour Office of Geneva sent the following letter to the AITUC: "On behalf of the Director-General, I wish to thank you for your letter of 10th November 1960 and for the invitation which you extend to the ILO to be represented at the 26th Session of the AITUC. I am glad to be able to inform you that the Director-General has designated Mr. V.K.R. Menon, Director, New Delhi Office, ILO to attend the Session."

Mr. Menon could not however undertake the visit to Coimbatore because of a programme in Calcutta in the first week of January. He however sent a message wishing the 26th Session all success.

+

Messages of greetings were also received from: The General Council of Trade Unions of Japan (SOHYO), Tokyo, Japan; All-Japan Council of Food Industry Workers Unions, Tokyo; Burma Trade Union Congress, Rangoon; Landsorganisationen i Sverige, Stockholm, Sweden; South African Congress of Trade Unions, Johannesburg; Union General de Obreros y Campesinos de Mexico, Mexico; Paucyprian Federation of Labour, Nicosia, Cyprus. Texts of these messages will be released later.

AITUC SESSION GREETED

Shri V.V.Giri, Governor of Kerala, in a letter to the Chairman, Reception Committee, states:

"I am glad that the 26th Session of the All-India Trade Union Congress is being held in Coimbatore from January 5 to 12.

"I wish the Conference all success."

+

The United Trade Union Congress (UTUC), Calcutta, in a message said:

"Your session is being held at a very critical time when there is a concerted and planned move for an onslaught on the fundamental trade union rights of the working class. The Government have glaringly flouted the decisions of the Indian Labour Conferences and the recommendations of the Second Pay Commission as accepted by the Government has been a negation of the principles unanimously adopted by all the parties including the Government. The employees have also now united to take advantage of the situation prevailing after the Central Government employees' strike and denying the workers their rightful claims.

"It is only through united struggle that we can stop this onslaught and our objective can be achieved.

"We hope that your Conference will chalk out a bold programme for forging that unity which is the crying need of the day. We assure you our wholehearted cooperation in any such efforts.

"Please convey our fraternal greetings to the comrade delegates assembled in your conference."

+

In a message, the All-India Kisan Sabha, greeting the 26th Session said that "the AITUC, being really the most representative organisation of the Indian working class has earned a place of high esteem in the eyes of all the members and workers of the All-India Kisan Sabha. Ever since its foundation, the AITUC has always stood in the forefront of the people's struggle for national independence, democracy and the well-being of the working class."

"On this occasion, I want to emphasise that fraternal relation between the AITUC and the AIKS must be raised to a high place in view of the emergence of the Indian agricultural labourers as an organised detachment in our struggle for national democracy and socialism. We hope that the 26th Session of the AITUC will give a proper lead to the agricultural labourers in their struggle for improving their condition of work and the living standards, the message added.

+

The All-India Peace Council in its message of greetings said: "We are confident that the strength, unity and solidarity of Indian working class will defeat imperialist interference in Laos, Cuba and Congo and play positive role in colonial people's struggle for freedom, disarmament and lasting world peace."

Dear Comrades,

On behalf of all of you and on my own behalf, I welcome Brother Sugiri and Mewald, the fraternal delegates from the mighty 101-million strong World Federation of Trade Unions - the bulwark of peace in the world and staunchest defender of working class interests.

Permit me also to welcome to this 26th Session of AITUC, the fraternal delegates from the trade unions of USSR, Hungary, Poland, Rumania, Mongolia, Netherlands and Ceylon. We are very much grateful to them for their presence here and hope their fraternal message based on their rich experiences in the TU movement will be of unlimited help to us in our deliberations.

I also welcome fraternal delegates and observers from trade unions and federations not affiliated to the AITUC but which have demonstrated solidarity with us by participating in our Session. We hope their participation in this conference will be ~~mutually~~ to our mutual benefit.

We are meeting today in our 26th Session after three years at a critical juncture. The historic strike of two million Central Government employees for five days in July 1960, in defence of their living standards, which had the sympathy of all sections of toiling masses, is still fresh in our memory. The AITUC, true to its glorious traditions of the past 40 years, supported this struggle and many of our leaders and functionaries were arrested in this connection. The call of sympathetic token strike of July 14, 1960, given by the AITUC, HMS and UTUC along with independent trade federations, was the first attempt at national level for expressing solidarity with struggle. It was not successful at all centres, though Calcutta, Coimbatore, Mangalore and partly Bombay responded to it.

In the face of rising prices, which the Government is ~~now~~ unable to check, organised working class has no other alternative than to demand rise in wages and D.A. (wherever being paid) and in case, it is denied, then to fight for it. The strike forced the attention of those in power towards this problem and right from the Prime Minister Nehru to all the Ministers of Central and State Governments, all started talking of doing something to check this rise in prices. Reduction in prices of cloth is being discussed. State Governments hurried up with their decision to increase long overdue wages of their employees, men in uniform in our Defence Ministry got increase in D.A., the arrears of Central Government employees were ante-dated from July 1959 instead of November 1959 and the amount of arrears paid without pre-audit. The decision on pay scales and grant of P.T.O. to industrial employees have been announced. The main issue of linking D.A. with the cost of living index has still not been conceded.

The way the Finance Ministry of the Government of India rejected the norms of fixation of minimum wages agreed by all—the Government, the employers and workers' representatives—in the 15th Indian Labour Conference, before the Dass Commission is likely to encourage other employers to flout tripartite decisions. This was evident to a certain extent when the unanimous report of the Textile Wage Board was not implemented by the millowners for more than six months until, under the leadership of the AITUC, the textile unions decided to protest and agitate and to go on a one-day token strike for its implementation. The Cement Wage Board report has met the same fate. The abnormal delay which the Labour Ministry and the Wage Boards cause - three years and more - in coming to decisions is most objectionable and highly detrimental to workers' interests. The Labour Ministry has not been successful in getting

these recommendations implemented expeditiously. Latest and most damaging instance of this delay is in deciding the personnel of Plantation Wage Board which took more than one year. Wage Board is being denied in other industries like engineering, transport, etc.

The utility of these Wage Boards will be very much restricted if the Labour Ministry is not able to move them quickly and ensure implementation of these decisions speedily.

In the last session at Ernakulam in 1957, we appealed to the working class to place their task of reconstruction of the country on the same footing as its defence of its rights and living standards. Most of the targets of the Second Five Year Plan have either been fulfilled or over-fulfilled. Some others are nearing completion. The national income has gone up. Production and productivity have gone up. Profits are mounting. Prices are also soaring high. What has remained stationery and even gone down is the living standard of the working class, who has produced the industrial wealth of the country. Even to retain the present standard of living in some industries, workers had to fight bitter battles against the combined strength of the employer and the Government with untold suffering and sacrifices. The Government of India has only now woken up to investigate - as if it is not already well-known - where has the increased national wealth gone?

Even today, the Government of India has not accepted the principle of linking D.A. or wages with cost of living index, even in the public sector. Employers in the private sector are apt to make it an excuse. The trade unions will have to fight hard battles to retain their present standard of living and to raise it wherever possible.

Tripartite agreements on rationalisation and closure have also been violated by the employers with impunity. The few textile mills that the Government took over - though after some agitation and long delay, resulting in forced unemployment of thousands of workers - have proved

beyond doubt that the closures were mala fide and due to mismanagement by the employers for which workers have to suffer heavily. The procedure for taking over of the closed concerns is still too cumbersome and needs revision to enable the Government to move quickly in the matter. Lack of interest on the part of some of the State Labour or Industries Ministers also caused avoidable delay. Exempting these concerns from the purview of labour laws as has recently been done in Rajasthan is paying premium on inefficiency and corruption of the employers.

During the last four years, tripartite machinery comprising of meetings of Indian Labour Conference, Standing Labour Committee, Industrial Committees, Development Councils, Wage Boards and informal and formal tripartite discussions have yielded some results in favour of the workers. These decisions give a moral backing to the working class in fighting for its implementation. There is still further scope for its better functioning specially as far as implementation work is concerned. There are elements both in Government circles as well as among the employers who have not liked the turn for the better in the functioning and the decisions of the tripartite conference and committees. Unless the Union Labour Ministry tightens up its supervision on the implementation of Acts, Awards, agreements and tripartite decisions in the letter and spirit, the fate of the tripartites as far as defending and furthering the interests of working class is concerned will not be safe.

The Code of Discipline and Code of Conduct adopted in the 16th Indian Labour Conference cannot be implemented faithfully and impartially in the conditions that exist today in the country, by the Ministers and Deputy Ministers with deep-rooted prejudices for one and against another and having vested interests in the day-to-day functioning of certain TU organisations. Lack of effective sanctions

against the employer violating the Code is another big weakness of the Code. While the workers and the trade unions suffer the penalty of violation of Code then and there, the employers can continue violating the Code without any immediate loss whatsoever. Unless this position is suitably rectified, any attempt by the Government to impose either the Code of Discipline or its sanctions through Governmental intervention will have to be resisted.

It would have been better if the Government of India and State Governments had made up their mind finally about the Code before its enforcement. The present spectacle of the Code not accepted in big public sector undertakings like railways, defence industries, GPWD, Reserve and State Banks, P&T and many other State concerns is not only against the assurances given by the Union Labour Minister at the 16th Indian Labour Conference but encourage employers in other sectors also to repudiate it in practice.

These three years have witnessed a number of attempts made by both the State and the Union Government trying to curb TU rights of workers. Attempt to extend power of Registrars to interfere in the affairs of the trade unions, amendment of State Labour Laws on the lines of the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, in M.P., the new rules of recognition of federations in U.P., amendment to the rules of Works Committee and banning of strikes of hospital employees in W.Bengal, proposed bills to ban strikes and outsiders in 'essential services' are some such measures. In practice, militant working class movement has been subjected to heavy and untold repression. In collieries, the lawlessness of the employers aided and abetted by the State Government, specially in Rajiganj belt, still continues. Police and court cases against trade union functionaries are still common, ^{Cases} ~~xx~~ in Gua mines, ~~Rng~~ Raniganj collieries, Jamshedpur, Dohad, Secunderabad, Dewas, Faridabad, are still going on.

The working class movement is now faced with tremendous difficulties. Combining the task of reconstruction of the country and defending their own interests under a sovereign Government was a very difficult task. Due to the vested interests of the employers and some of the foolish actions of the Government, often these tasks appeared to be in contradiction to each other. Thanks to the patriotism and the sense of class consciousness of the working class, on the whole, these tasks were carried on successfully.

We take this opportunity to salute the martyrs of working class at Jamshedpur, Madras, Dohad and other places. Their memory and martyrdom will ever illuminate our path in times to come.

Unity from below has been our slogan. It did succeed in many centres despite the deviations and attempts by rival TU organisations to create disruption. The Calcutta tramway strike and four General Strikes and the plantation workers' strike in West Bengal, Bombay General Strike of July 25, 1958, the united struggle of Central Government employees, bank employees' strike are some of the precious jewels of our trade union movement against the splitting and disruptive move of especially the INTUC in forming rival federations of petroleum, defence, bank and lately of P&T. The formation of a united textile union of Bombay and maintaining united unions at Indore, Kanpur, etc., are our positive achievements towards TU unity. In the circumstances that exist today in our country, we have to continue to organise the unorganised ones - both in the existing unions as well as in new industries and regions and build unity of working class from below, never missing a chance to unite at the top whenever opportunity affords. More and more day-to-day work, with creating class consciousness will help bring it about than mere exposure campaign.

Neither have I time nor do I desire here to discuss in details the happenings and achievements of the trade union movement in the last three years. Our General Secretary, Comrade Dange in his report and speech will do it. The chart at the end of the Struggle Diary of 1958-59 shows that AITUC unions have been in the forefront of struggles in defence of working class interests. In 1959-60 also, the trend in all probability will be the same. And, as you all know, this chart does not include the token strikes in which lakhs of employees have participated as also the struggles of independent federations and unions in which AITUC elements were quite active.

The AITUC unions also entered into several collective agreements and some long-term ones. Either through these agreements or awards and in other cases through struggles, many wages have gone up. No improvement in the standard of living or fall in it is due to the continuous rise in cost of living indices. Expansion of ESI and PF scheme has been ~~more~~ useful, though it is not functioning to the expectation. Industrial Housing Scheme, Bonus, holidays, fixation of minimum wages have been our gains.

Organisationally, AITUC has increased its strength in newer industries and new regions. We have got unions in all the three steel plants in public sector. In mines and port and dock, we have extended our strength. This we have done keeping in view our policy of maintaining the unity of the workers in a particular industry and opposing the disruptive policy of INTUC who have formed new unions and federations, just to claim a separate union and its membership. There has been marked improvement in the functioning of our State Committees and the Centre also. The regularity of meetings and discussions on organisation has helped us. It is true that in the field of organisation at every level, union, State Committee and Centre, there

is immediate need of more cadre, better office-functioning and coordination towards which I hope this conference will pay due attention.

The working class of India, along with other sections of the people had not shown enough awareness and activity in the tasks of maintaining world peace. Working class has been and will always remain with the peace camp and its sympathies are naturally towards the struggling people for national independence in the colonies of Africa, Asia and Latin America. What is needed is that this task which can be explained in a better manner in our country in the context of aid from the socialist countries which helps us not only to build up our basic industries but force even capitalist countries to come forward with aid. We should explain the difference in aid given by capitalist and socialist countries - one with political and economic strings with high rate of interest and ~~more~~ with an attempt to dictate us terms and sometimes even to make changes in our Plan. The aid from socialist countries is without any strings, in rupees, small interests, free technical aid to train Indians within the shortest possible period and in public sector. This aid could be possible because world peace was maintained during this period. If world peace is guaranteed in future, in which international working class has to play a major role in their respective countries, not only the horrors of nuclear war can be avoided but underdeveloped countries like India stand to gain more aid from socialist countries as a result of savings from the expenditure on armaments.

The year ahead poses serious problems for the working class.

The international situation places on them the responsibility for vigorous and more active fight for world peace and support to the liberation struggles along with the working class the world over.

In our own country, the Second Five Year Plan will be completed and the Third Plan will start. The Union Labour Minister had already forewarned us that the backlog of unemployment in the Third Plan will be more than the third. The labour policy is the continuation of what has been done in the Third Plan. Wage policy continues to be increase~~s~~ in wages pending upon productivity. The proposed bills banning strikes and outsiders first in the 'essential services' is still pending with the Government. All genuine and federations of Central Government employees stand unrecognised. The ESI Scheme is still working very unsatisfactorily. The speed with which construction of hospitals and expansion of the scheme to families is being delayed is just alarming.

The working class has defended and is prepared to defend Public Sector but a tendency towards 'de-nationalisation' is raising its head. Production is allowed to hamper simply because labour machinery does not move speedily and in time and employers and bureaucrats are allowed to make industrial disputes issues of law and order.

General elections to State Assemblies and Parliament are due to start in about a year's time. Representation of the working class have raised the voices in these legislatures in favour of workers. Small number in which they and their democratic allies were represented in most of these legislatures had limited scope of their work. The working class has on their own experience learnt about their friends and enemies. They have to be told what is in their interest and organised for this purpose - of course, maintaining unity of the class in the TU organisation.

To ~~take~~ face all these, our own organisation has to be geared up.

I am sure with the past glorious traditions of 40 years that our organisation is proud of, we shall be

able to face and continue defending working class interests, playing our important role in national reconstruction work and international working class responsibilities.

Long live working class unity!

Long Live International Solidarity of the Working Class!

Long Live AITUC!

1001.2
1001.2.1

LABOUR PARTICIPATION IN MANAGEMENT *Works Committees, Negotiating Machinery and Works Councils.*
.....

The Second Five Year Plan first mentioned of the Scheme of Labour Participation in Management in our country. Experts were sent to Yugoslavia and other ~~East~~ West European countries to study the functioning of Works Councils and such other bodies. A Seminar was held in February 1958 on the subject.

The necessity for such an experiment - with whatever content - arose more with the stress on industrialisation of our country in the Second Five Year Plan. What actually ^{the} bourgeoisie want under this slogan is workers' ^{consent} ~~operation with~~ management in maintaining capitalist production relations based on private profit ^{and their cooperation with the factory management in its methods of exploitation as to limit and} Organised working class is therefore ^{opposed} indifferent to such slogans and schemes. In France, when de Gaulle made such a scheme compulsory through statute, the French TU movement rejected and opposed it.

workers' struggle against them.

~~The sole aim of management under capitalist structure is to obtain maximum profit through the surplus value produced by the labour. The organisation of the industry and what is called management serve only the above purpose. It may be because of this that the scheme of labour participation in management was never given effect to in the Ahmedabad Textile Mills where the trade unions (INTUC) according to Gandhian principles made themselves believe that owners are only trustees and class struggle is not necessary.~~

~~Can any worker be a party to the exploitation of his own class?~~

~~Workers can ^{and do} manage & nationalised enterprises in a socialist society ^{where} it serves society and society alone and no one individually. ^{where they are in power in the Government and production is not done for private profit.}~~

The public sector
 participates in an
 no better principle than
 those of the private capitalists
 though here the profits
 go to the state. The
 Public sector, as at
 present run, ~~helps to~~
 helps in the main to
 build up ^{state} capitalist
 economy ~~is~~ ~~not~~
 and hence has no socialist
 approach either towards it
 - the workers or the public. It
 is mostly advised by
 influenced by ~~big~~
 big financial interests,
 & kept in a few cases
 such as Indian steel etc.
 that is why it is public sector
 which is excluded from the
 scheme of labor participation
 in management. Viz
 Railway, B.P.L.,
 Industries, LIC,
~~etc.~~ etc.

affairs

A question may then be asked: can such a scheme be successful in a nationalised undertaking ^{which is not run for private profit} and should not organised working class participate in it?

The public

It is very well known that what is being built in India under these Plans (which we no doubt support on the basis of two-pillar policy) is a capitalist society. We welcome expansion of Public Sector, support, fight for it.

Some of our Public Sector enterprises work on no profit basis, while others earn profit. Expansion of Public Sector helps to check the growth of monopoly capitalism to an extent and sometimes ensures comparatively rapid development of basic industry needed for the country in a planned economy. In our country, Public Sector industries are ^{not} always opposed by the capitalists though they are very much against reservation of ~~any~~ any sector or industry for public ownership. Bourgeoisie want to utilise the existing Public Sector enterprises in supplementing their structure and society, with power to keep a check and right to intervene whenever necessary. It continues attack on Public Sector to expose its inefficiency but does not demand its elimination at the present moment. After all, the owner of the Public Sector today is the capitalist State.

In these circumstances, the management of the Public Sector enterprises also tend to be capitalists in thought and action.

This scheme of Labour Participation In Management excludes most of the big Public Sector enterprises like Railways, Defence, P&T, etc., from its purview. Even in others, it does not make it compulsory for the management to accept and implement it.

the subjects which these Councils can deal with & elect the most vital parts management in every one of the following:

~~The rights of the workers in these Councils are nominal, viz.,~~

- i) to improve the working and living conditions of the employees,
- ii) to improve productivity,
- iii) to encourage suggestions from the employees,
- iv) to assist in the administration of laws and agreements

v) to serve generally as an authentic channel of communication between the management and the employees, and

vi) to create in the employees a live sense of participation.

The ^{managements} ~~employers~~ both in the Private Sector ^{& Public Sector} ~~and Public Sector~~ with a view not to leak out and interfere ~~in with their~~ in their tactics of ~~management~~ which gives them surplus value and of the Public Sector with a view not to allow workers to interfere with their bureaucratic structure of management ^{with the question of financial profits or wages or prices etc} have not liked and shown enthusiasm for this scheme. Various meetings, personal letters to the employers from Shri Nanda have not improved the situation and the Union Labour Minister himself has on more than one occasion expressed his displeasure with the progress.

What is the attitude of the AITUC towards this Scheme?

The AITUC does not believe there is any possibility in the capitalist society for real labour participation in the management. Nonetheless situation in our country is such that whatever machinery is available and can be likely to be utilised for the defence of workers' interests, AITUC will ~~and must~~ participate in it. We must specially try to utilise - to whatever extent possible (it is limited no doubt) in Public Sector enterprises to fight bureaucratic management and have a check on the wastages and corruption.

Generally, employers in both the sectors insisted on experimenting on this scheme ^{only when the concerns of the AITUC.} ~~where there is only one union and that too of the INTUC.~~ In Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd., Bangalore, ^{where} an independent union arrived at an agreement on labour participation in management ^{was allowed to} but it functioned ~~in~~ only in the sphere of improving the condition of the canteen and raising productivity. ^{When the Union & the Management clashed on the problem of wages and production} ~~till the arrogant Managing Director wished. Neither the Council has been~~ formally dissolved, nor any meeting called for the last about two years. Representations at all levels have no effect whatsoever. The break came because the union gave a Charter of Demands ^{at} and on which the Managing

work offence.
Director ~~did not agree~~. One of our plantations unions in W. Bengal also has an agreement on labour participation in management but ^{it is} ~~it is~~ not known what is its experience. *is not known.*

The AITUC rightly pointed out that before ^{long ago} ~~this~~ Schemes ^{any such of participation in mgt} ~~is given any~~ ^{are thought of, the mechanism of Works Committees should be fully developed.} ~~serious consideration,~~ The Works Committees should be made to function ^{every where, they should be elected democratically and allowed wider scope.} ~~properly, their working democratised and the scope clearly defined.~~

After raising it again and again in 15th and 16th ILCs, in the 17th ILC (1959) it was decided to set up a tripartite sub-committee to

discuss the functioning of Works Committees and suggest amendments to ~~it~~ ^{the} ~~its~~ ^{and rules with}

Provisions ^{of} Works Committee ^{is} very ~~very~~ loose in the I.D. Act and Rules. Its scope is not properly defined. It can ^{as such} discuss any subject which affect the industry. Elections are totally left to the sweet will of the management. ^{who is generally the manager} The Chairman has too wide powers.

Constituencies for the election are not clearly defined with the result that these are changed by the employers the way it suits them and nobody, not even the Government can interfere in it. The procedure of the meeting is not fixed. And last but not ~~the~~ least, there is no guarantee that even the agreed decisions of the Works Committee will be implemented.

In some plants, Works Committees are doing useful work as far as canteen and sports are concerned but they are not in a position to discuss the problems of wages, hours of work, victimisation, etc. *performance.*

Even with the above defects, ~~with peculiar condition of our industry where due to multiplicity of unions and no law for compulsory recognition of trade unions,~~ the AITUC has tried to ^{function in the} ~~work out~~ Works Committees and through the elected representatives of workers make use of it to defend and further the workers' interests to the extent possible. *But it has been an*

experience that whenever the elections to the work Committees the ~~best~~ representatives of the AITUC have got thinking of it. During the a majority, the management ~~submits~~ to their work or refuse to them to work. In some regions or industries where the AITUC is in ~~emb~~ and management ~~dislike~~ refuse to establish work

In U.P., when the Government found that the Works Committees are not fulfilling the purpose for which the employers wanted them to utilise they have suspended all Works Committees since 1950. Representation to the Union Government ^{has led to no result.} ~~against this gross violation of Code of Discipline on the part of the U.P. Government has remained unattended.~~

In certain other centres also, the State Government representatives have taken the same view in practice though no Government order as such withdrawing Works Committees has been issued.

In the B.I.R.Act region and in Tatas, the Works Committee is nominated by the 'representative' unions and therefore it is always in the hands of the INTUC.

In Public Sector, ^{the NDMC} the officials intervene in the Works Committees ^(very in local unions owned by the State and in the others) right from elections and in its day-to-day functioning and therefore make ^{absolutely} really ineffective.

The ^{sub-committee} has ^{in a} hurried ^{manner} come to certain conclusions in which the scope of Works Committee ^{has been} ~~is tried to be~~ restricted in the name of defining it and the chairmanship of the Works Committee is given to the employers, instead of allowing workers' nominees also to be the Chairmen on alternate occasions. Our representative on the Committee has submitted a note of dissent against the manner in which the sub-committee ^{has} functioned and the decisions ^{were} taken.

The ~~next~~ report of the sub-committee will come up for discussion in the next SLC or ILC.

The AITUC demands that following steps should be taken for the efficient functioning of Works Committees:

1. Works Committees should be allowed to discuss all issues concerning the plant. Agenda ~~fixed~~ from the workers' representatives in the Works Committee should be accepted and not left to the discretion of the Chairman.

2. Election of Works Committee should be done by all workers with no

The voting should be by cumulative method
reservations for anybody. ~~Each worker should have ten or as many total~~
~~number of workers' representatives votes.~~ The system of nomination to
the Works Committee be totally abolished. The election should be conducted
by the State/Central labour relations machinery except when the
employer and the TUs agree to conduct elections by themselves.

3. Chairman and Secretary's post should be changed from amongst
employer/worker representatives alternately, ~~whether it should be for one~~
~~year term or two to be decided mutually at local level.~~

4. Procedure regarding conduct of meetings should be clearly
defined; ~~the~~ workers' representatives should be given off time to do Works
Committee work from their duty hours. *and it should be supported by the factory.* They be given facility to move
in factory about ~~their constituency and the administrative office~~ in connection with
their work. Works Committee members should not be victimised for their
work or expressions in connection with Works Committee. *in connection* ~~works~~

5. Implementation of at least unanimous decisions of the Works
Committee be ensured through legislation.

A system of Standing Negotiating Machinery has been in force or was
introduced during this period - specially in Public Sector, in the Railways,
Defence and P&T Departments to discuss issues with the unions of the
employees. It was usually a three-tier system, the topmost being with
the Ministry/Railway Board, middle with the heads of departments at
regional levels and the lowest one with the immediate head at local level.
In these negotiating machineries, the representatives of the workers'
organisations had a ~~two~~ bipartite talk with their employers. These
machineries had no statutory authority but were based on mutually agreed
constitution or conventions.

was a form
— The Negotiating Machinery ~~also served the purpose~~ of recognition of
the Federation ~~of the workers~~ by the employers. Certain facilities in connection
with its work were given and the procedure of representation in writing
and through interviews was channelised.

Through ^{the} Industrial Disputes Act, ^{is} ~~though~~ applicable to industrial workers in the railways and the defence, it was in fact never applied in practice when industrial disputes arose, specially ^{on the question of} referring the issues to adjudication and tribunals. ^{It was a moot question as to what was the next} ~~The moot point was raised~~ when an issue remains ^{ed} unsettled at the top level negotiating machinery, ~~what~~ should happen. No doubt, the workers were free and entitled to give strike notice and resort to the last weapon in the armoury of working class. Attempts to have any kind of settlement through a third party in such cases was resisted by the Government as an employer as well as Government. Labour machinery ^{of the Government} was helpless in the case of ^{where the state is an employer.} these employers. This has been clearly borne out in the case of recent strike of the Central Government employees. A provision made in the Constitution or rules of the Negotiating Machinery that unsettled cases will be referred to Tribunal has never been adhered to. In the Railways, the one-man Tribunal of Shri Shankar Saran was not able to deliver the goods, due to the ^{obstruction} unhelpful attitude of the Railway administration.

Another big drawback in the functioning of the Negotiating Machinery (except perhaps in P&T) was that it did not meet regularly or even as provided in its constitution. It was the sweet will of the Minister ^{or the C.A.} that prevailed in the matter and in Defence department, of ten it met only once a year.

The representatives of the employing Ministries ^{often came to mass in} ~~not coming fully~~ ^{without any prepared points or material on which to base a decision on the points prepared with the points on the agenda was a big handicap.} As a result, a number of items ~~were~~ ^{remained pending} kept under consideration and then it took them ^{some} ~~very very~~ long time for a final decision.

Non-implementation of the agreed decisions of the Negotiating Machinery ^{constant} was another headache.

Despite the above drawbacks, the Standing Negotiating Machinery with its accompanying facilities, which conferred on the otherwise unrecognised unions and Federations ^a ~~de facto~~ ^{form of} recognition, ~~were~~ fully utilised by these trade

II

PLAN PRODUCTION

- GROWTH AND NEW DANGERS

In this year, the Second Five Year Plan is completed and the Third Plan, whose outline is already before us, begins to work.

The Planning Commission has given us an outline of the progress achieved in the Second Plan and also in the last ten years from 1950 to 1960. In these ten years, Indian economy has been growing, despite its ups and downs. The salient points of this growth ~~ix~~ are worth noting.

"Over the ten years 1951-1960, national income (at constant prices) will have increased by about 42 per cent, per capita income by about 20 per cent and per capita consumption by about 16 per cent." (Third Five Year Plan - Draft, p.17)

In agriculture, production will have gone up by about 40 per cent in these ten years.

The index of agricultural production (1949-50 = 100) as given by the draft is as follows:

INDEX OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION
(1949-50 = 100)

	1950-51	1958-59	1960-61 (expected)
All commodities	95.6	132.0	135.0
Food Crops	90.5	130.0	131.0
Other crops	105.9	136.0	143.0

PRODUCTION OF MAJOR CROPS

	1950-51	1960-61 (likely)	Percentage Increase
Foodgrains (cereals and pulses) (Million tons)	52.2	75.0	+ 43.7%
Oil Seeds (Million tons)	5.1	7.2	+ 41.0%
Sugar cane "	5.6	7.2	+ 29.0%
Cotton (Million bales)	2.9	5.4	+ 86.30%
Jute (Million Bales)	3.3	5.5	+ 64.0%

PRODUCER GOODS

	1950-51	1960-61 (likely)	percentage increase
Finished steel (mil. tons)	1.0	2.6	230%
Cement "	2.7	8.8	226%
Coal "	32.0	53.0	65.6%
Iron Ore "	3.0	12.0	400%
Diesel Engines (thousands)	5.5	33.0	500%
Fertilisers ('000 tons)	9.0	210.0	2300%

The percentage increases, no doubt, look astounding. But compared to our needs, the quantity as such is not very high. But the point here is that production has gone up and at a good rate, though it could have been better, of which we will speak later.

In the matter of consumer goods, only one or two items need be mentioned.

	1950-51	1960-61 (likely)	Percentage increase
Cotton textiles (mill. yards)	3720	5000	34.4%
Sugar (mill. tons)	1.10	2.25	104.0%
Bicycles (thousands)	101	1050	940%
Automobiles (Nos.)	16,500	53,500	

In textile production, which is one of the most essential things for life, the production of handloom cloth has increased from 742 million yards to 2,125 million yards. Khadi production will have gone up from 2 to 3.7 million yards. A number of medium and small scale industries have developed and the old countryside of India, which ten years ago knew only the plough, the bullock and the huts, is getting interspersed with small industries which though small, do introduce a new element in the old dormant village.

In spite of the pruning that the Second Plan suffered at one stage because of the attitude of the

imperialist countries and their capitalists, our production targets in certain vital lines have come nearer fulfilment. In certain lines, though there is no production yet on hand, foundations of absolutely new and vital industries have been laid. The stranglehold of the oil monopolists of USA and Britain is about to be broken, thanks to the aid given by the Soviet Union and Rumania. Heavy machinery manufacture, mining machinery and such others will soon be on the production line.

To be able to manufacture our own machines is the basic need of our country. In the Third Plan, we shall be able to do it, with the foundations now laid in the Second Plan.

We the workers and trade unions, whose labour is the prime creators of all these things should rejoice that we are overcoming our backwardness in which the imperialists left us and still want to keep us. Our workers, technicians, intellectuals and some honest sections of the industrialists have discharged their duty to the country and the people.

I have said "some honest sections of the industrialists" very deliberately. Many of them tried to mislead the Plan in the wrong direction. Many of them tried to sabotage production in one section or another. Many of them increased production in some lines because it paid them super profits. Of course, all industrialists are in the field because of profits. That is the law of all capitalism. Even the honest sections do it for profit. But many there are who really want the country's economy to develop, to be independent of foreign dependence and to be efficient. It is these sections of the bourgeoisie whom I included in the above compliment.

The first who merit denunciation are the foreign imperialists and investors, who have all along been holding us at ransom. They will spend millions on arms and armaments. But they refuse to give aid to our country unless we join their warmongering pacts, unless we give up our anti-colonialism, unless we change our peace policy, unless we give up our State Sector and cease to dream of becoming an industrialised nation. True, some of them ~~will~~ have helped with the Durgapur and Rourkela plants for iron and steel or with the Heavy Electricals, some with wheat supplies which are unsaleable in the world market, and so on. But all that help started coming in only when the Soviet Union and the other countries of the Socialist Camp offered unstinted help on low interest, in rupee terms, and of the best technique in the true socialist manner. The socialist countries' plants have been built according to schedule and are in production without difficulties because there is no corruption and negligence in what they have been doing for us in Bhilai or in oil or machinery enterprises. But Rourkela always breaks down somehow, somewhere. Durgapur goes on limping though we get reports of production also and big plans of their further expansion, even before the present phase is hardly completed. The attack on our oil venture is so open and blatantly anti-national that those who have been trying their hardest to sabotage our oil sector should have been thrown out of the country and some of them sent to prisons as saboteurs. But in the name of democracy, these saboteurs are ~~running~~ running their "free enterprise" at the cost of our people's interests.

The Oil Commission assisted by the Soviet Union and Rumania has found oil and is on the way to establish its own refineries. In the meanwhile, the Anglo-American oil monopolies were asked to reduce prices of

their products, as they had fallen in the world markets and their prices were robbing our economy. As the companies refused to be helpful, the Government imported crude oil from the Soviet Union at cheaper prices. Unfortunately, the selling agencies, pumps, storages are all in the hands of the Anglo-American companies. They refused to refine our imported oil in their refineries, refused storage facilities and did everything to sabotage the Government deal. Any Government, which is not under the pulls and pressures of foreign monopolists, would have taught a lesson to these companies and thrown them bag and baggage out of the country. The little Cubans did it and our big country could have done it. But the Government of India, some of whose ministers rightly want our independent oil industry ~~not~~ while some others in the same Government oppose it and from within help those foreign monopolies, would not allow any drastic measures against the foreign oil monopolies.

But the most astounding fact is that when the Government started selling the oil to the States, to the State-owned transport companies and such others, some of these States and public concerns hastily made contracts with the foreign companies to buy their oil and refused Government of India's imported oil. The excuse given was that the oil companies' quotations in the tenders were lower than the price quoted by the Oil India Ltd., i.e., the Government of India's Company. The BEST, the municipal-owned transport service in Bombay, bought the anglo-american oil, the Kerala State did the same. The excuse of lower quotation is a racket. The quotation of Oil India were revealed to the oil companies, by persons who are secretly allied with them and the companies, to defeat our oil policy and stop us from buying cheaper Soviet oil and break the anglo-american monopoly, quoted lower figures by a few naye paise. Some of those who

concern are reported to be ex-employees of the Burmah-Shell or other companies. Though we cannot say definitely that ^{they} may be helping their old masters, yet the situation does require attention and inquiry. The main culprits are, however, not these small men, but those who oppose our independent oil policy and State Sector and still insist on befriending the foreign monopolies.

Another field, which has caused tremendous harm to our growth are the vested interests in Coal. The coal industry has been a preserve of foreign capital, though of late, some Indian monopolists have been taken into partnerships by them to blunt Indian nationalist opposition and to secure concessions from the State. The Government of India rightly decided to develop coal in the State Sector and stop these companies from massacring coal seams by quick and unrestricted mining of good coal for quick profits.

This too was opposed by some of our own ministers and industrialists and strongly resented by the coal magnates. They bluntly said that the coal target would not be fulfilled. And it did happen that way. Neither in the State Sector nor in the private sector, did coal advance as was required. The private sector had a short fall of 3.5 million tons and the State sector of 9 million tons.

Not only production lagged, even the supplies to the factories failed. And it was a scene of shame that the ~~XXXXXX~~ ^{Railway} Ministry blamed the Mining Ministry for the failure by which the Bhilai plant had to hold up production and the Mining Ministry retorted back and exposed the ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Railway Ministry. The truth is that both the ministries have failed in their tasks. The reason is not that coal cannot be produced or that it cannot be transported or that there are no means for it. The real reason is that inside the Government, there are interests and elements who hate the public sector and want to see

back their hands as they wanted their demands to be fulfilled. The essence of this was higher prices, unrestricted field for expansion and large subsidies from the State. What they themselves would do would be to help in swallowing the profits that would fall in their hands.

The World Bank mission which is the inspirer of all these tactics of foreign and Indian reactionaries had the following to say on this question:

"The expansion of the private sector has been restricted as an act of Government policy, which has reserved the opening up of new areas to the public sector. Price control has also discouraged the private companies from investing more in the industry. It is possible to sympathise with some of the considerations underlying the Government's policy and yet to feel that the way in which this policy has been applied is contrary to the nation's economic interests. As the Mission sees it, the overriding need now is to get more coal quickly and other considerations should be subordinated to this purpose." (Commerce, October 29, 1960, p.750)

As a result of the deadlock that took place for want of coal in factories, the Government of India have now agreed to let the private sector all that it wants - larger fields of expansion, higher prices, subsidies and all that it wants, - larger fields of expansion, higher prices, subsidies and all that. The Commerce (October 22, 1960) wrote:

"By all accounts, the coal industry in the private sector has not been fighting a losing battle. That its pleas are just beginning to be heard is confirmed by the latest agreement at Calcutta, between its representatives and the Union Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel."

The Economists Panel of the Second Plan had long ago suggested that for the Plan to be successful, essential minerals like coal, ore, etc., should be in the hands of the State. It means that coalmining should have been nationalised and managed on a democratic ~~basis~~ basis with the aid of the workers. But such a policy was not to the taste of those who did not want to attack the entrenched positions of the monopolists. They tried to restrict their hold and side by side expand the State

Sector of production. The tactic failed with the result that the monopolists have come back in the saddle in the field of coal - one of the most strategic things for industrialisation.

I have only cited the example of oil and coal to show how the foreign imperialists and their friends in India among the big financiers and the ruling circles entrenched in some of the key positions of the Congress ministries and public bodies are doing everything to sabotage the State Sector of industry and the further rapid development of our economy, even in some parts of the Private Sector as in coal, unless the Government and country agrees to their terms. I cannot cover the whole field in this report.

Some sections of the big monopolists in the early days vehemently denounced the State Sector. But later on, when they found that rather than encroach upon their profits, it would, ~~be~~ in fact, help them to do jobs which for the time they were unable to do and that too with public money, they acquiesced. But only some have acquiesced, while others continue to snipe at it hoping to destroy it for good.

An innocent looking move was recently proposed in certain circles of the Congress Party and the Government of India - that some percentage of the shares of concerns in the State Sector should be sold to private investors. That would give money to Government and keep the sector open to competent supervision of the private industrialists who know things better. Even an official study group, headed by Mr. D. L. Mazumdar, Secretary to the Company Law Department was appointed to study the proposals and the group has recommended that "experiment" can be made in certain undertakings. And what lines were suggested for this sell-out? The Hindustan Machine Tools, the best going concern, some selected Transport Corporations. Even the Life Insurance Corporation is being mentioned.

This proposal is the most dangerous one and must be fought by all people, including the trade unions. The proposal is nothing but one of de-nationalising. The Commerce (November 12, 1960) wrote:

"By and large, however, a balanced approach of limited 'denationalisation' or 'privatisation' is discernible in the extracts from the group's report which appears to have leaked out to a small section of the press."

These sinister developments have not evoked that indignation and protest it should have from all those who do not want our State Sector to be sold out to the anti-national profit-hunters. There is a two-pronged drive to land India on foreign dependence in economic field and to keep it under the heel of unrestrained anarchic capitalist exploitation. These two prongs are the demand for an end of the Public Sector and sell-out and ^{if} that is not just now possible, to try for its restriction and ultimate failure. Second, to open the gates of India for penetration of foreign capital. The second campaign is blessed by the Finance Minister whose address to the concluding session of the Conference of Industrial Leaders organised by the National Productivity Council, is reported as follows:

"Mr. Desai said that there was wider recognition both at home and abroad of the scope of foreign business investment in India. The number of applications~~x~~ the Government had received for collaboration with foreign enterprises had increased in the last one or two years.

"Recent estimates of the net inflow of private long-term capital from abroad had also shown an increasing trend and indications were that the flow of foreign capital would be larger in the coming years."

(Times of India, December 19, 1960)

Similar sentiments were expressed by Mr. J.R.D. Tata at the Annual General Meeting of Tata Iron and Steel Co., on October 6, 1960. He said: "In this context, we welcome the shift in our country's policies towards foreign participation in industry. We have gone a long way from the days when such participation in industry was looked upon with suspicion and discouraged and this is obviously

One would ask if the help of the socialist countries is not listed as foreign capital. It is listed as loans to the Government of India. It is in a sense inflow of capital. But it is not inflow of "private" capital which is being very much sought after by the monopolists of the Indian big bourgeoisie and which is being referred to here. It is further stated: "In the coming years, private enterprise, whether Indian or foreign, would have ample opportunities for growth...."

It is not our position that all private enterprise should or can be done away with in the present stage. But we have to see that the State Sector grows in extent and depth, that it embraces all the strategic lines of production, that nationalisation grows further and not that the State Sector is "denationalised" as some propose.

Some may think that India is politically strong enough to take in foreign private capital and yet retain its political and economic independence. Yes, political independence may remain in form but its substance will get corroded and economic independence will not remain at all. Even a mighty industrialised nation like England has succumbed to the dictates of American capital. Now millions of workers there have awakened to the danger, the wholesale sell-out of British factories, the atomic bases in England and so on. India cannot resist the onslaught once it opens its flood gates to foreign capital and destroys its public sector to the dictates of foreign and Indian reactionaries.

In every public sector undertaking, in every large-scale concern, the trade unions must rouse the workers to the consciousness of this danger to our country and our economy. Greater the growth of monopoly capital, greater will be the attacks on our democratic rights, on our wages, on our freedom.

Another serious danger to our economy is the failure to raise agricultural production to the required levels. Because of this, we are getting slowly mortgaged to the American imperialists, from whom we buy wheat. We are already indebted for over 1000 crores to them under P.L.480 loans.

The failure in this sphere is again one arising from refusal to carry out fundamental land reforms in favour of the peasantry. All the heroic resolutions on land ceilings, cooperative agriculture, State trading in food grains have remained a dead letter. The bitter opposition launched against these resolutions, which were adopted under the pressure of the masses, was not countered by a sweeping mass movement, with the result that the peasantry has been left where it was, except in a few spots, where some ceiling laws have been nominally adopted. Even then, the ceilings are such that very little land is left for distribution to the peasant. A movement as in Maharashtra by the landless labourers got them a few thousand acres of fallow land and no more.

Land reforms and supply of capital to the peasant alone can raise agricultural production to high levels. ^{in production} The growth of diesel engines, fertilisers, channelled into the agrarian sector has led to some increased production, but that is limited to sections of landlords ("self-cultivating") and rich peasants. But they by themselves are incapable of raising the economy to a higher level. A joint movement of the working class and peasantry, of the trade unions and the Kisan Sabhas and agricultural labour unions is clearly called for to overcome the lag in the situation.

The perspectives that the Third Five Year Plan holds before us are more or less a combination of the Second Plan in the matter of allocations and relative priorities.

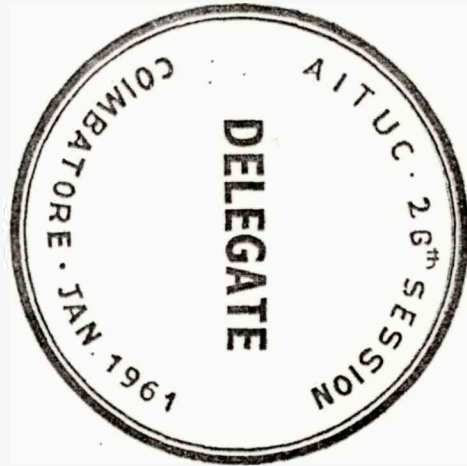
The Third Plan has given a little more weight to agriculture than before and a little less to transport and the total industrial head. But quantitatively and in money terms, the Third Plan is bigger. The Second Plan had laid down a total investment of Rs.6,750 crores, while the Third envisages investment of Rs.10,200 crores, an increase of 51 per cent. The investment in Public Sector will increase by 70 per cent and that in private sector by 29 per cent. One table giving an overall picture will suffice here.

.....

	PUBLIC SECTOR			PRIVATE	Total
	Plan	Current	Invest-	SECTOR	invest-
	Outlay	Outlay	ment		ment
Second Plan	4600	950	3650	3100	6750
Third Plan	7250	1050	6200	4000	10200

.....

It is good to see that despite the criticisms of some monopolists like Tatas and others, the emphasis on heavy industry, engineering and metals, has not been given up and the Public Sector has not been subordinated to the private. But one has to be vigilant and see whether private sector steals from the public sector as was done in the Second Plan and put it in difficulties. Our trade unions will surely fulfil their duty to the people where the Plan workers in their interest and give efficient and honest work. At the same time, we cannot help raising the vital question as to who is gaining from all this prosperity, what is the share of the people and the workers in the vast wealth that they create.



A
NOTE ON
SUBSIDISED
INDUSTRIAL HOUSING SCHEME

Since the introduction of the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme in 1952, there have been lots of changes in the industrial structure in our country. With the growing industrial activity, the need for better and bigger provisions for housing has also grown. It is therefore really scandalous to see that how slow and inadequate was the working of the Scheme in regard to meeting with the housing requirement of industrial workers.

This Scheme, as the name indicates, envisages the grant of financial assistance for industrial workers covered by Section 2(1) of the Factories Act, 1948 and mine workers other than those engaged in Coal and Mica mines and covered by Section 2(h) of the Mines Act, 1952. This Scheme consists of loans and subsidies that are given by the Central Government, to the State Governments, statutory Housing Boards, Industrial Employers and registered cooperative Societies of Industrial workers.

A review of the working of the Scheme shows that during the first Five Year Plan, the houses sanctioned for construction involved an expenditure of Rs.22.32 crores. But the actual amount disbursed was only Rs. 13.29 crores.

For the Second Five Year Plan, the original allocation under this Scheme was Rs.45 crores. But subsequent reappraisal slashed it to Rs.27 crores only.

However, the expenditure during the first three years of the Plan was only Rs.10.87 crores. For 1959-60, it was said that a sum of Rs.7.22 crores has been earmarked and thus Rs. 8.91 crores will remain to be spent during the fifth year of the Plan.

It is interesting to note that during the entire period from September 1952 to September 1959, although the total amount provided for all agencies was Rs.62.08 crores, the amount actually spent or utilised was only Rs.23.30 crores. In this amount, the quantum disbursed to the private employers was only Rs.98 lakhs.

From the latest figures available (as on September 30, 1960) which are shown in the appendix to this report, it will be seen that the allotted amount was not sanctioned and the sanctioned amount also was not disbursed.

It will also be seen that except Kerala Government, all other Governments failed to build the sanctioned number of houses. In Assam the employers are on complete strike and everywhere else they are lagging miserably behind the schedule. They have failed everywhere to construct the requisite number of houses even under this loan-cum-subsidy scheme.

The matter was taken into consideration by the Labour Ministers Conference in Nainital and subsequently in the Housing Ministers conference in Darjeeling in 1958. This conference of the Housing Minister, which was the third one, ascribed some pious hopes and called upon the employers to cooperate with the Scheme. A proposition was also put forward for the enactment of a Law in this connection should the Scheme fail to rouse necessary interest.

The fourth meeting of the Housing Ministers took place in November 1959 and it is reported that "it was felt necessary to consider specific measures, including legislative compulsion to meet the situation." But there it stood and since then although one year has passed nothing tangible has been done, as can be seen from the facts and statements.

It should be clearly understood that the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme not only failed to eliminate the housing shortage that was there at the time of its introduction, but also failed to cope up with the growing need of industrial workers that increased along with the development of industrial activity.

Despite employers non-cooperation and the sordid state of progress of this Scheme, the Fourth Conference of the Housing Ministers decided to leave the matter to the Government to consider it in all its aspects in consultation with the State Governments and the representatives of the All-India organisations of industrial employers and workers.

It is important to note in this connection that the Governments of Bihar and Rajasthan have reported to have ruled out any compulsion in this connection on the employers. It is a known story that these two Governments particularly do not want to displease the employers in any manner.

As regards the workers' cooperatives not coming up satisfactorily, it has been pointed out by the AITUC and also by others that the rules etc., in this regard are so defective that they do not allow the development of such Schemes. The attempts made by the trade unions in this regard just get lost in the usual red tape and the technicalities hinder necessary growth of impetus among the workers organisations.

Besides this, the AITUC also pointed out that the cooperatives should be helped by: a) allowing the workers share of 10% to be drawn as loan from the Provident Fund accumulations; and b) the State Government acquiring land and providing it to the labour cooperatives at cheap rates.

Despite all these, the position has not improved much. The acute housing shortage yet continues; day by day the need for housing is growing; workers still leave in thatched hutments or pay exorbitant rates to the private owners of houses; no steps yet taken to compel the big employers to provide their employees with quarters.

In big companies, the bulk of workers are still without any quarters. For example, the Tata Iron and Steel Company provides only 14,000 quarters for its 29,000 employees. The Tata Locomotive & Engineering Company provides 37% of its employees with quarters. The Tinsplate Company of India provides 27% of its employees with quarters.

In the newly built steel plants also many workers have not been provided with housing. In these of course, the temporary workers and workers employed through the Contractors have not been taken into account.

The AITUC had earlier recommended that the houses already constructed by the State Government under this Scheme should be allocated to the workers employed in small factories at the first instance. This was reasonable because the employers of such small factories may not have the necessary ways and means to finance housing projects. The AITUC also pointed out that the big employers should be compelled even by legislation to construct houses for their workers. It appears that no attention has been paid by the Governments in this regard. The AITUC also demanded downward revision of the rents charged on workers for houses constructed under this Scheme.

A P P E N D I X

State	H o u s e s		A m o u n t (Rs. in lakhs)	
	santioned	completed	Santioned	Paid
Andhra:				
State Govt.	5461	3818	174.58	1,12.52
Employers	717	157	17.63	2.58
Cooperatives	..	..	..	..
Assam:				
State Govt.	303	133	10.00	9.36
Employers:	..	..	..	..
Cooperatives	..	..	..	..
Bihar:				
State Govt.	6923	4090	262.68	175.67
Employers	1806	689	57.52	33.50
Cooperatives	..	..	..	..
Bombay:				
State Govt.	38135	28950	1501.69	1102.48
Employers	3533	1747	93.07	17.12
Cooperatives	1371	1103	31.17	21.21
Delhi:				
S.G./U.Admn	2528	1380	58.73	45.00
Employers	145	21	1.92	..
Cooperatives	58	58	1.04	1.04
Kerala:				
State Govt.	250	250	7.76	12.91
Employers	150	50	4.33	..
Cooperatives	..	..	..	..
Madhya Pradesh:				
State Govt.	5957	5331	153.80	151.70
Employers	1388	988	21.21	13.24
Cooperatives	115	13	3.17	..
Madras:				
State Govt.	2044	1854	82.96	66.87
Employers	1288	464	27.95	7.49
Cooperatives	1291	64	40.52	4.33
Mysore:				
State Govt.	4778	3847	143.24	98.23
Employers	4321	2247	72.78	15.01
Cooperatives	..	..	..	..
Orissa:				
State Govt.	1006	424	35.64	23.94
Employers	1077	1008	18.82	16.21
Cooperatives	..	..	..	..
Punjab:				
State Govt.	2774	1802	95.88	72.71
Employers	1556	1486	28.81	10.21
Cooperatives	374	132	10.71	3.29
Rajasthan:				
State Govt.	2540	1122	78.29	43.46
Employers	1064	1064	15.75	13.45
Cooperatives	..	..	..	..

<u>Uttar Pradesh:</u>				
State Govt.	25588	21148	795.58	680.57
Employers	946	536	21.70	7.74
Cooperatives	43	43	0.66	0.40

<u>West Bengal:</u>				
State Govt.	7760	4716	364.15	177.94
Employers	1946	886	40.45	6.51
Cooperatives	..	..	..	..

-:~::~:~::~:-

A B S T R A C T

All State Govt.	1,06,647	78,858	3706.25 & 58.73	2773.46
Employers	19,937 & 2,802%	11,343 & 2,274%	421.94 & 26.05%	143.06
Cooperatives	3,338	1,413	90.25	30.27
<hr/>				
	1,32,724	93,888	4303.22	2946.79
<hr/>				

& Out of 7,796 houses involving a financial assistance to the extent of Rs.122.55 lakhs, which were originally sanctioned by the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply, and subsequently cancelled and transferred to the State Governments for re-sanctioning under the revised procedure. 2802 houses involving an amount of Rs.26.05 lakhs are still to be re-sanctioned by the State Governments.

* The entry in the third column, second line (58.73) indicates Central Government expenditure.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

Year	No. of disputes	No. of workers involve	No. of man-days lost
1955	1166	5,27,767	56,97,848
1956	1203	7,27,767	69,92,040
1957	1630	8,89,371	64,29,319
1958	1524	9,28,566	77,97,585
1959	1531	6,93,616	56,33,148
1960 (Upto August)	948	5,10,294	32,61,459
January	141	73,891	4,23,077
February	133	62,075	4,12,797
March	126	47,700	4,70,258
April	92	37,770	3,31,511
May	127	37,675	4,14,789
June	154	65,783	390,425
July	125	168,407	7,48,651
August	50	16,993	69,951

INDEX NUMBERS OF INDUSTRIAL PROFITS

GROSS PROFITS INCLUDING DEPRECIATION (BASE: 1950 = 100)

Industry.	1955	1956	1957	1958
1. Tea Plantations	97.8	131.2	76.0	91.3
2. Coffee Plantations	82.5	126.3	71.6	89.4
3. Rubber Plantations	171.8	244.3	171.5	167.3
4. Vegetable Oil				
4. Coal	132.4	104.5	141.1	151.4
5. Vegetable Oil	189.3	136.2	92.9	220.2
6. Sugar	173.3	209.7	228.6	218.2
7. Cotton Textiles	145.2	143.2	71.7	81.5
8. Jute Textiles	62.7	22.2	84.4	131.9
9. Silk & Woolen Textiles	351.7	448.8	418.3	777.2
10. Iron & Steel	234.3	226.1	214.8	242.7
11. Engineering &	255.2	305.2	335.7	353.9
12. Chemicals @	151.9	176.4	212.7	235.5
13. Matches	95.5	90.2	89.0	110.4
14. Cement	168.9	154.9	160.5	177.0
15. Paper	181.5	188.2	216.2	271.9
16. Electricity Generation and supply	146.7	145.4	166.6	196.9
17. Trading	57.6	68.1	68.8	78.7
18. Shipping	217.5	377.8	444.7	321.0
All Industries	150.8	165.0	151.7	168.7

& Includes (1) Non-ferrous metals, (2) Transport equipment, (3) Electrical machinery and (4) Machinery other than transport and electrical.

@ Includes (1) Basic industrial chemicals, (2) Medicines and pharmaceuticals and (3) Other chemicals.

INDEX NUMBERS OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

Item	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
6 General Index	103.6	105.6	112.9	122.4	132.6	137.3	139.7	151.9
Coal	105.6	104.8	107.2	111.4	114.9	126.8	132.2	137.1
Iron Ore	106.3	99.9	107.8	116.7	116.1	126.3	156.3	212.2
Sugar	134.0	115.8	97.4	143.0	166.5	185.5	175.6	186.8
Tea	98.6	96.7	102.0	106.2	106.0	106.9	113.8	113.5
Vegetable Oil Products (vanas- pathi)	110.7	111.2	133.9	151.3	148.3	174.9	171.3	183.8
Cigarettes	93.8	85.9	92.4	106.4	122.6	134.7	139.1	150.0
Cotton Textiles	102.3	109.1	110.9	111.9	117.5	115.6	108.9	111.5
Jute Textiles	107.6	101.1	107.3	118.9	127.3	120.5	123.9	125.4
Footwear (Rubber)	98.9	104.4	135.4	151.4	156.6	160.0	159.1	170.4
Tyres	102.1	112.6	126.3	138.2	151.4	179.1	193.0	221.9
Matches	107.1	106.9	91.5	106.6	106.6	100.1	108.3	112.3
Soap	103.5	98.5	105.5	118.7	132.1	133.8	148.0	155.8
Rayon	175.6	213.2	241.5	280.2	355.8	459.8	644.0	724.5
Cement	110.7	118.3	137.6	140.4	154.2	175.3	189.9	213.6
Iron & Steel	102.2	95.7	113.2	113.3	119.4	119.3	119.1	163.1

Contd..... 2.

INDEX NUMBERS OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

(Continued)

Item	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Non-ferrous metals	80.7	85.2	126.5	123.7	124.7	151.7	166.5	205.7
Sewing machines	112.6	140.4	180.4	228.2	293.3	376.7	461.5	568.2
Electric Lamps	134.5	126.7	148.7	156.2	198.0	213.6	196.4	224.5
Electric Fans	92.0	94.0	112.4	132.8	159.5	246.9	299.1	341.4
Automobiles	68.7	62.5	64.9	103.7	144.3	143.4	120.3	163.8
Bicycles	172.4	231.2	325.8	429.8	581.0	691.8	798.6	867.0
Electricity, Gas, and Steam	104.5	113.1	127.0	144.5	164.1	184.9	209.0	248.5

VALUE ADDED/INPUT, OUTPUT, ETC.
(Biennial Average)

Part I:

Particulars	1946-47	1948-49	1950-51	1952-53	1954-55	1956-57
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1						
1. Value added by manufacture	226,81,77,618	295,01,81,433	315,57,12,579	324,64,04,264	397,16,68,990	468,32,83,220
2. Total Value of Input	446,41,98,986	669,84,19,617	851,86,46,294	828,73,15,955	951,20,99,552	1,200,71,84,783
3. Total value of Output	673,23,76,604	964,86,01,051	1,167,43,58,873	1,153,37,20,219	1,348,37,68,542	1,669,04,68,003
4. Total productive Capital	385,41,82,861	495,88,35,600	663,76,44,166	729,71,16,258	826,29,17,614	1,074,32,49,751
5. Persons other than workers	136,730	1,60,757	1,59,188	1,54,867	1,87,880	2,13,398
6. Workers	1,437,237	15,33,944	14,73,403	14,83,282	15,62,331	16,77,255
7. Salaries paid to Other persons	19,06,55,025	27,51,96,502	32,06,97,390	34,61,26,424	42,85,29,953	195,91,90,183
8. Wages paid to Workers	95,41,98,802	140,00,46,286	144,97,00,854	1,63,72,57,503	173,27,68,315	195,91,90,183

(Contd. on Page 2 as Part = II)

B 2 X
^S
 VALUE ADDED/INPUT, OUTPUT ETC.
 (Contd)

PART II

Particulars	1946-47	1948-49	1950-51	1952-53	1954-55	1956-57
1. Value added as percentage of value of input	50.8	44.0	37.0	39.2	41.8	39.0
2. Value added as percentage of value of gross output	33.7	30.6	27.0	28.1	29.5	28.1
3. Value added as percentage of productive capital	58.8	59.5	47.5	44.5	48.1	43.6
4. Value added:-						
a) Per person other than worker	16,589	18,352	19,824	20,963	21,139	21,946
b) Per worker	1,570	1,923	2,142	2,189	2,542	2,792
5. Value added as percentage of:-						
a) Salaries of persons other than workers	1,189.7	1,072.0	984.0	937.9	926.8	892.3
b) Wages of workers	237.7	210.7	217.7	198.3	229.2	239.0

TABLE SHOWING THE INDEX NUMBERS FOR REAL EARNINGS OF FACTORY WORKERS

(BASE = 1947)

	Average Annual earnings	Index of Money earnings	Index base shifted to 1947	Index of real earnings
1951	1,035.6	140.9	120.8	116.6
1952	1,112.2	150.9	118.3	127.6
1953	1,110.9	151.8	121.7	124.7
1954	1,111.3	151.8	115.8	131.1
1955	1,173.5	159.4	110.0	144.9
1956	1,208.1	162.6	120.8	134.6
1957	1,233.9	170.2	127.5	133.5
1958 (P)	1,282.4	176.8	133.2	132.7

Base: 1947

P. = Provisional.

ALL INDIA CONSUMER PRICE INDEX NUMERS

FOOD

GENERAL

	Base = 1949	Base = 1939	Base = 1949	Base = 1939
1951	104	370	105	372
1952	102	363	103	365
1953	109	388	106	376
1954	101	359	101	359
1955	92	327	96	342
1956	105	372	105	372
1957	112	397	111	394
1958	118	420	116	412
1959	125	445	121	431
60 *	125	445	123	438

100/2/3
A NOTE ON PRODUCTIVITY

By ?

Productivity
Productivity

1. WHAT IS MEANT BY PRODUCTIVITY?

Productivity is quite distinct from production. It is possible for production to increase while productivity may at the same time decline and vice versa.

Strictly defined, productivity means the ratio between input and output. If the output increases in relation to the input of resources, productivity is said to increase. Resources include not only human labour but also capital, machines, techniques, etc. But in the ultimate analysis, in a capitalist set-up, increase in productivity means increase in productivity of labour. The Japan Productivity Centre had to acknowledge that "productivity has been increased, but labour (workload) is intensified; wages remain as they were, hours of work are lengthened and unemployment poses a serious question."

2. PRODUCTIVITY AND THE T.U. MOVEMENT

Since productivity drive in a capitalist country is a device to increase the exploitation of the workers, the question may be posed: should not the TU movement oppose all productivity drives? The question is legitimate but cannot be answered in a short way.

India is industrially a backward country. Through the Public and Private Sectors, efforts are being made to develop it industrially. ^{Point} This development is ~~undoubtedly on capitalist lines~~ ^{based on capitalist relations of production and} and carries with it all the features of capitalism, ~~including~~ ^{including} exploitation of workers. ~~But~~ Should

the trade union movement therefore oppose it? ^{or should the workers play a part in the development of the national economy ~~as~~ as the economy of an X}

The answer which was given by the 25th Session of the AITUC was that we have to adopt a "two pillar" approach. The first "pillar" is the defence of the rights and interests of the working class and the second "pillar" is ^{helping the} ~~strengthening~~ ^{of the economy} development, specially in the Public Sector.

developed
newly
from
him?

Productivity drives also require this approach. We have to support what is necessary for development and at the same time, safeguard the essential interests of the workers. It is for this reason that the AITUC has consented to become a member of the National Productivity Council - the tripartite body which heads the productivity movement in India.

During recent years, there has been a considerable increase in the number of industrial and productivity consultants. These consultants concentrate mostly in time and motion study and job evaluation.

~~Through~~ Through these methods, efforts are made to set up norms and standards of efficiency and production which put an unbearable burden on the workers in relation to the plants, technique, wages, working and living conditions prevailing in India. Hence most of these efforts, as also the efforts at rationalisation and increase in workloads, have been stoutly resisted by the workers. Now, along with these methods, attention is being paid to have statistical quality control, standardisation of products, inventory control and similar methods which aim at increasing productivity per rupee and per worker and in approach and applicability are less objectionable from the point of view of the workers.

Hence in evaluating schemes of productivity, a differentiated approach will have to be adopted. While we will have to oppose such schemes which aim at increasing productivity by putting the burden on the workers, or mainly on the workers, we should lend support to measures which do not have adverse repercussions on workers.

✓ The tripartite agreement on rationalisation forms a basis for evaluating various schemes. It must be remembered however that rationalisation is only one of the methods of increasing productivity, although the method which, for the employer, is the easiest to choose and one which is most

with
at
Report
1955

1957

min
at
1955

generally applied. This agreement has been incorporated in the Charter of the National Productivity Council and has also been included in the recommendations of the Central Wage Board for Cotton Textile Industry.

Another method to which capitalists generally resort to is increase of workloads. Increase of workload is to be distinguished from rationalisation, which may, by simplifying processes, greater mechanisation, etc., actually reduce workload. Very often, through simple speed-up or by increasing the ^{number of operations or/and} amount and number of machines which ~~associate operations~~ an operative has to mind, it is sought to increase production and possibly productivity. While the TU movement may not oppose rationalisation, if subject to the agreed conditions, it can never agree to increased workloads.

A small point may be noted here, namely, that even if ^{physical} workload is lightened, it is ^{possible} conceivable that fatigue load may go up. With increasing automation comes monotony and also increasing nervous strain. Therefore, the TUs cannot judge a position simply from the point of view of workloads but must also see ^{what} the fatigue load is.

~~In conducting schemes for increasing productivity, we must pay particular attention to the specific conditions of our country. India has a huge unemployment problem and capital formation is low. For these two important reasons alone, techniques which are suitable for other more developed countries, even capitalist countries, may not be suitable for us. Again, wages are low; working conditions, lay-out of plant, etc., also are not favourable factors in most cases. All this has to be taken into account.~~

This brings us to an important question, and in fact, in the context of industrial relations, to the most vital question - any scheme for productivity must be introduced only after agreement with the workers. Collective agreement at the plant level is essential, since it is the actual worker in the shop who can best judge the effects of a particular scheme.

4

In the absence of trained personnel with the unions, the formal consent of union officials is not enough. The worker in the plant will have to be consulted all along. And even if there are such personnel with the unions, the workers as a whole must agree to any scheme. Before the assent~~ment~~ of the union can be valid or effective. The TU movement must therefore stress that for productivity to be really successful in our country, three things must be provided on the workers' side: A union which is really representative must be recognised: consent of the union must be taken for any productivity scheme: the workers concerned must also be consulted and consent obtained before any practical steps are taken. If the usual capitalist method of forcing ~~xxxxxxx~~ productivity by threats of closures or dismissals in the event of the workers' refusal will only lead to conflicts, retarding production.

ADD slip - 4 (R)

The formal consent of union officials is not enough. in the plant

In the absence of trained personnel with the unions, the worker will have to be consulted all along. And even if there are such personnel, the worker must agree to any scheme before assent can be given. The TU movement must therefore stress that the really representative union of the workers must be recognised and agreements arrived at between it and the management before any practical steps are taken.

network

The question of increasing productivity is closely linked with the question of sharing the gains of productivity. Recently, the National Productivity Council held a Seminar on this subject which resolved to set up a small tripartite committee to go into the question and submit its suggestions. The tripartite agreements on rationalisation have in a general way laid down that any gains of rationalisation must be equitably shared between the industry, the workers and the consumers. This general formula suffers from a basic defect, namely, that gains to the consumer can never be assured, specially in the private sector.

Specific application of the formula is a still more ticklish problem.

Another point which the trade unions must emphasise is that prices must be controlled. For, increase in productivity and sharing its gains is meaningless if all advance is to be wiped out by a rise in prices.

A very dangerous concept is now being mooted from various governmental and employer quarters, namely, that wages should be linked to productivity. The policy of wage-freeze met with serious, prolonged and stubborn resistance from the workers. The result was that it was conceded by the Government and the employers that wages required revision. An agreement was reached to appoint Wage Boards in selected industries and a few were actually appointed. A tripartite agreement was reached on the norms required for fixation of minimum wages. But then the translation of the norms into rupees would have meant a big increase in money wages. What happened to the agreements was seen in the Central Government

defeated

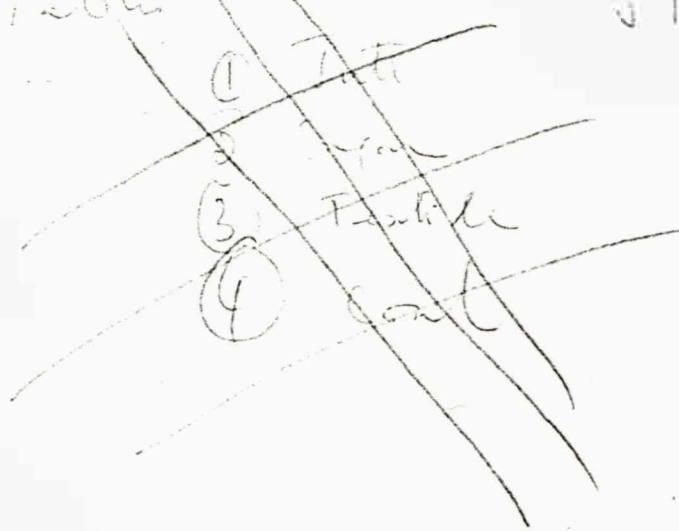
employees' strike. The working class had buried the idea of any freezing of wages through its strength. Now the slogan has come of linking wages to productivity, and more specifically, allowing any wage increase only when productivity increases.

We have attempted to give some analysis of productivity trends and real and nominal wages ~~below and~~ elsewhere in a different note. This will tell its own story. But the point to emphasise here is that a new turn is being given to the slogan of wage freeze by raising the slogan of linking wages to productivity. The trade unions must firmly reject this new slogan because not only is it faulty in theory - wages should be linked to cost of living and a rising standard of living - but also because in the context of rising prices, it means actually denying any advance.

~~TABLE~~

Table

PTO



Contd.

3. PRODUCTIVITY ORGANISATIONS IN INDIA - NPC AND LPCs

The productivity movement in India is headed by the National Productivity Council (NPC) - a tripartite body containing representatives of Government, employers and workers. It also has representatives of experts and technicians and other interests like consumers but the effective representation is only to the first mentioned three.

The NPC with its headquarters at Delhi seeks to disseminate information, help research into and training of experts, gather facts and exchange experience through in-country tours and sponsoring of teams and trainees abroad. It also aims at laying down broad principles for guidance.

Local Productivity Councils (LPC) have been set up in ~~xxx~~ the same pattern at various places and they have similar field of activity.

The organised bodies are of too recent a growth to assess their work properly. However, the general criticism can be made that the approach is technical and not human or social. They are more concerned about how to achieve greater productivity than how it is achieved.

4. PRODUCTIVITY TRENDS IN INDIA

Figures are not available about productivity trends either as a whole or in particular industries. Sometimes, such statistics as are there are conflicting. Generally figures are available for production, employment, etc. only and it is on this basis alone that some calculations can be made. These calculations can by their nature be only indications.

TABLE

1
2
3
4

5. SHARING GAINS OF PRODUCTIVITY

This question is of obvious importance. However, apart from the general proposition that any gains must be shared equitably among the employers and the workers, the exact working out raises many problems.

It may be stated, ~~that~~ at the very beginning, that it is well-nigh impossible to define exactly how much increase in productivity is due to any single factor. Productivity depends upon inter-action of many factors and it is difficult, if not impossible, to isolate one, in all the variables, and the result is due to their joint effort. Hence any attempt to share gains on the basis of ascribing increase to a single factor must be ruled out. However, the sharing of gains involves measurement of productivity in a broad way.

The second point is how to share the increase or gain. The employers argue that such gains must be shared equitably which, in fact, means appropriation of major portion by them. As opposed to this, the trade unions must advance the position that since wages are low and in many cases, still below the minimum level, till a fair wage level is reached, the gains must in the largest measure go to increased wages. This must be the first priority.

The employers argue that workers' share should also include, at least partially, improvement in working conditions which benefits not only the industry but also the workmen. Again, according to them, workers' share should include expenditure on "fringe benefits" like medical aid, leave provisions, housing, etc. These claims must be rejected. In conditions obtaining in our country, where wages are very low, and real wages are falling, the first priority must be wages and only after a fair standard has been reached, can be divert part of the workers' share towards other benefits.

A straight question which is being posed by the employers is that the system of time rates must be substituted by payment by results, i.e., piece-rates. For example, all the employers have argued out this point in their evidence before the Cement Wage Board, in the name of increasing productivity.

The system of piece-rates in India is very defective and detrimental to the interests of workers. There is no minimum fall-back wage; rates are changed often and to the detriment of the workers; there is no standardisation of patterns or materials, etc. Therefore, the trade unions must demand that these defects be first removed ~~where~~ ^{where} piece-rates already exist and that minimum monthly fall-back wages be fixed in all cases. As for extension of piece-rates, we should not consent to it.

Past experience of piece-rates bears this out. For example, in the ports and docks, the workers at first welcomed the idea because it meant an immediate gain in earnings. But soon afterwards, they found out that not only was this gain purely illusory but also the burden of work was too heavy.

A method of sharing gains of productivity which is often advocated is the various types of incentive schemes. Though these are popularly known as production bonus, efficiency bonus, etc., these are not in reality bonuses but a reward for increased effort. The point to grasp here is that production bonus, etc., should not become a means of keeping wages and rates at a low level. Wages at a minimum level must be guaranteed and any bonus, etc., must be extra over this level. Secondly, since such schemes involve extra effort, care must be taken to see ~~that~~ the level of workloads involved. If these two points are satisfactorily resolved, we can examine each scheme on its merits.

26. TASKS

In this background, let us briefly examine what are the tasks which the TU movement has to discharge.

1. It is clear that greater stress is being laid on productivity drives. The trade unions must equip themselves with technical knowledge of time and motion study, job evaluation, methods study, statistical quality control (SQC), inventory control, etc., in order to protect the vital interests of the workers. Along with this, we must equip the trade union organisers with detailed knowledge about incentive schemes. In the absence of this knowledge, defence of the workers' interests will become more and more difficult. For this purpose, the facilities offered by the NPC and the LPCs must be fully utilised.

2. The tripartite agreement on rationalisation, which is also incorporated in the NPC Charter, thus giving it a wider application covering all productivity methods and techniques, must be applied in practice. Today this is not being done. The TUs must carry on agitation for this and see that adequate sanctions are evolved.

3. The slogan of linking wages to productivity and hence making any increase in wages dependent and consequential ^{only} upon increase in productivity must be stoutly opposed. The analysis of productivity trends, wages, profits and prices shows clearly that while productivity has increased, real wages have fallen ~~down~~, profits have swelled and prices have gone up. The trade unions must therefore advance the slogan of defence of the real wages of the workers. This can be done only if prices are controlled, basic wages are raised ^{and} to neutralise the rise in the cost of living, ~~which has already taken place,~~ and D.A. is linked to cost of living indices.

4. The gains of increased productivity must be equitably shared. While this point is in a general way covered in the tripartite agreements on rationalisation and the NPC Charter, yet details have to be worked out. Apart from this, and in the light of previous experience of all tripartite agreements and formulae, is the question of evolving suitable sanctions and machinery for enforcement.

5. The question of recognition of unions representative of workmen and collective agreements with them is a vital one. The Seminar on Sharing Gains of Productivity recognised in a general way the necessity of collective agreements before any measure for productivity increase is introduced. But the real question of seeing that it is the genuine union which is recognised will remain and also of enforcing in practice that unions are taken into confidence before a scheme is introduced.

6. A test which requires immediate attention and also patience is to explain to workers the real nature of piece-rate work in India. As mentioned earlier, the drawbacks must be explained and this sometimes becomes difficult because the immediate monetary gains seem at first tempting.

Similarly, with regard to the incentive schemes, education of workers is necessary. Only then will we be able to guard the wage level and protect them from unbearable and ruinous workloads.

7. Our TUs ^{should} ~~must~~ participate in the Productivity Councils. ^{work of the} ~~Sometimes,~~ ^{There is no doubt, even} there is a great deal of apathy and hostility on their part. But in the given conditions and circumstances, we can safeguard the interests of workers better by utilisation of this forum and participation in its activities than by keeping out. Even proposed retrogressive measures can be better opposed by fighting them from the platform of the tripartite ^{combine} ~~along~~ with, rather than merely through, local action.

^{of the workers, their interests are threatened.}

1001.2.45

Note for discussion

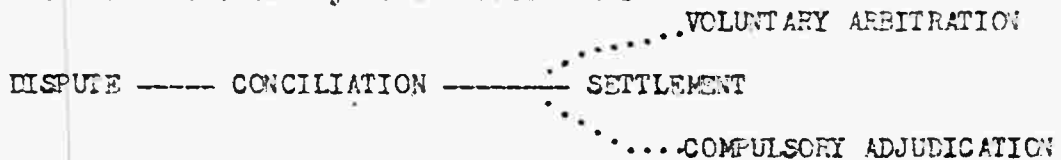
INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES ACT - A REVIEW OF ITS WORKING

by Satish Deemba
.....

The purpose of this note is not to suggest detailed amendments to various clauses of the Act nor to propose additions, but to focus attention on some of the principles and basic concepts in the light of thirteen years' experience of its working, to define the attitude of the TU movement towards these.

I

The object of the Act, according to its sponsors, is to provide a machinery for conciliation and settlement of disputes. As a last resort, recourse may be taken to voluntary arbitration or compulsory adjudication. In this context, it may not be out of place to note at the very outset that the Industrial Disputes Act is the first piece of legislation which defines strikes under certain conditions as illegal. The Scheme of the Act may be tabulated thus



The AITUC has maintained that the best way of settling disputes is through collective bargaining. Hence it has demanded compulsory recognition of the most representative union, on the basis of secret ballot of workers. The Kerala Industrial Relations Bill proposed by the Communist Government of Kerala, which had the support of the AITUC, recognised this principle. The suggestion has also found favour with the HMS, UTUC and eminent trade unionists like Shri V.G.Giri. But the employers, the Congress Government and the INTUC oppose this. However, this is the only basis on which disputes can be settled amicably, quickly and satisfactorily.

The AITUC has always been opposed to compulsory adjudication. In the Industrial Disputes Act, the discretion of whether to refer a dispute for adjudication or not, when to refer it, and what issues to refer rests with the appropriate Government and it cannot be compelled to exercise it in a particular way. In the present set-up, this has also meant exercise of this power to favour and bolster up INTUC unions and cases are not rare where the AITUC has been denied any access to the adjudication machinery or has been granted this only after prolonged delay and in a lame way. At the same time, this discretion has been used to cripple struggles, illegalise strikes and to land workers in endless litigation. For this reason, the AITUC has always demanded replacement of compulsory adjudication by voluntary arbitration.

The Madras Session of the Indian Labour Conference (July 1959) decided that recourse should be had wherever possible to voluntary arbitration. The AITUC welcomes this suggestion and though experience shows that employers, generally do not agree to this course in practice, voluntary arbitration is a much more fair and quicker way of solving disputes than adjudication.

As at present, adjudication means long delays. During all the time this dispute is pending before adjudication, strikes are ruled out on any matter. Combined with the meagre protection against victimisation of trade union leaders and almost non-existent protection against change in all service conditions (~~except those in dispute~~), adjudication for long periods means taking away all safeguards in the hands of the workmen for adequate protection of his organisation and conditions. At the same time, it means that conditions which he wants to change and on which he has raised a dispute will continue to exist till the adjudicator has given his decision. Frequent resort to High Courts and Supreme Court and long stay of proceedings are matters with which all trade unions have had to contend.

After the award has been obtained and even if the managements have not gone to higher courts by way of writs or appeals, starts the long and tortuous battle for implementation of awards. The Code of Discipline enjoins upon all to fulfil their obligations under awards. Some sort of Implementation Cells have been set up in States and at the Centre. In most States and at the Centre, Implementation and Evaluation Committees have also been set up to enforce the Code and to implement awards. But so far, all these have been of little use in securing speedy and just implementation of awards. The law, as laid down in the I.D. Act also is very faulty and entirely favours the employers as regards implementation and in the way in which it ~~is~~ is applied, since all legal initiative must come from the Government, it is still more biased in their favour.

The net result is that our experience of compulsory adjudication is not very happy and apart from the principle to which also the AITUC is opposed, the working of it has been altogether loaded against the interests of the workers.

The AITUC, experiencing the discriminatory attitude of the Government and hit by all the bureaucratic functioning and bungling of the governmental machinery raised the demand of voluntary adjudication, i.e., the workers must have the right at any time to take any matter to adjudication. The time has come when this slogan must be critically^{re-}examined.

The Government of India has declared its intention of banning strikes in the public utility services of the Public Sector and of providing machinery for compulsory arbitration. That is to say, so far as the Government employees are concerned, compulsory arbitration will be an alternative to strikes. The same will be in effect the position if voluntary adjudication is agreed upon. For, if the workers have the right to take any matter to adjudication on their own initiative, direct action is in fact eliminated. True, we stand for voluntary arbitration but this

means agreement of the employer to arbitration and arbitration has none of the drawbacks of adjudication. It is the end of litigation, not the beginning of a long series of court battles. ~~xxx~~ Besides, arbitration has its own logic of implementation of decisions. Adjudication is quite another matter. If free recourse was guaranteed, it would be a matter for the union alone to take steps. All the other attendant evils of compulsory adjudication would be there and the position for direct action would become intolerable. The backward worker would be easy to confuse, public sympathy would be difficult to elicit and the action itself difficult to justify since the alternative to direct action was always there namely reference in its own discretion of the matters to adjudication.

Hence the AITUC, in the light of the working of the I.D. Act should concentrate on demanding that there should be more frequent resort to voluntary arbitration and in case that fails, the workers should have the unfettered right to resort to direct action. This is not to say that there have not been many awards entirely or mainly beneficial to the workmen, but the matter is of wider import.

However, one particular matter requires a different treatment and that is the case of individual workers. At present, no individual dispute can be taken up unless it is converted into an industrial dispute. The AITUC has demanded the setting up of Industrial Courts to which any individual employee can have recourse directly or through his union. This suggestion has the support of the HMS and the UTUC but was shelved by the Standing Committee of the Indian Labour Conference because the INTUC was opposed to it.

At the 17th Session of the ILC at Madras, permission was given to the Madras State Government to set up such courts. There is no reason why this should not be extended to all States.

II

The I.D. Act applies only to workmen of an employer. It leaves out all those who are employers of contractors. A large number of workers is thus left out of its scope. This will apply not only in the case of the existant law regarding adjudication but also with regard to arbitration and Industrial Courts for individual complaints if the suggestion with regard to that is accepted. Without going into the larger question of abolition of contract labour, ~~what~~ what is needed is widening of the scope of definition of workmen to cover contractors' employees and therefore that of ~~employers~~ employer also to include contractors.

III

The Act seeks to maintain a superficial balance between the rights of the workmen and the employers and since this balance is superficial and a juridical fiction which does not, in fact, exist, the scales are heavily tipped in favour of the employers. The facts of capitalist society are more weighty than its legal pronouncements.

To take one example only, the Act equates lock-out and strikes, an equation which, in fact, does not exist. It illegalises strikes in public utility services unless certain conditions are fulfilled and it also illegalises strikes in all industries in certain circumstances. It imposes similar restrictions on lock-outs.

But can a lock-out and strike be equated? A strike is the last but legitimate weapon of the exploited working class to safeguard its rights and to improve its conditions. It is the refusal of the exploited to sell its labour power under the old conditions because their conditions are intolerable. A lock-out on the other hand is a weapon of the exploited to starve the exploited into submission. One is the weapon to exist; the other is the weapon to squeeze more.

The AITUC must continue to raise its voice for the removal of restrictions on the right to strike. The trade unions have come of age. They owe it to themselves to see that this right is not misused. But there should be

no legal coercive restriction of this right. Specially today when the right to strike is being taken away from a large section of the working class, the section which serves the biggest single employer in the country, the AITUC must make its position clear with regard to this and fight for the removal of curbs and restrictions on this right. The history of strike legislation and case law in India has been a history of ever increasing imposition of limits on the right to strike. This trend must be stoutly resisted and the juridical myth exposed.

.....

100/25

A NOTE ON WAGES

.....

M.K. Pandhe

The question of wages has been agitating the minds of workers since the beginning of the labour movement in the country. A large percentage of strikes in India were on the issue of wages and earnings of the workers.

Indian labour was considered as a "cheap labour" by the imperialist power. It was exploited in an inhuman manner during the early days of industrial development in the country. The Indian bourgeoisie also tried its utmost to exploit the working class in order to earn high profits. To fight against the concept of "cheap labour", our workers had given great battles and resisted successfully the attempts of the employers to keep the wage level down. In spite of all their efforts the wages of Indian workers were extremely low during the British regime.

With the advent of independence, a new hope was created in the minds of workers whose conditions had ~~deteriorated considerably~~ During the Second World War period, ^{The conditions of the workers had deteriorated to the extreme.} The index of real earnings ^{had fallen} fell to 73.2 taking 1939 as the base year. / It took ⁴⁵ nearly five years for ~~the~~ ^{real wage level from} ~~Indian working class~~ to reach the ~~standard of living~~ ^{that was in 1939.} The index number of real wages during the period 1947-1952 gives us the following picture:

1947	-	78.4
1948	-	84.4
1949	-	91.7
1950	-	90.1
1951	-	92.2
1952	-	101.8

in P. 2 1-6
para

The trend of ~~rising~~ real wages ~~was~~ continued ~~even~~ further and in 1954, the index of real wages was 102.7.

Therefore, ~~at~~ ^{in the} Ernakulam, it was ~~correctly~~ ^{correctly} pointed out ~~as follows:~~ ^{that}

"What we have really achieved is to overcome the heavy wage cuts of the war period and to secure a wage rise to neutralise the rising prices which soared even after the end of the war. The Indian big bourgeoisie even after securing power did not hesitate to fleece the working class and people for their selfish profits and the workers fought it back."

It is the purpose of this note to ~~xxx~~ study the wage trends after the 25th Session of the AIFUCO.

It ~~must~~ ^{has to be said} be admitted that up to date data is not available ^{to} to study the wage trends till 1960. The data regarding the average annual earnings is available only upto 1958 and hence index of real earnings also can be computed only upto that period. ~~hence~~ ^{hence} only a general trend can be pointed out, and not a definite conclusion about the wages of the Indian workers.

The major factor that ~~determines~~ ^{influences} the wage level of ~~the workers~~ ^{is} is the price trend in the country. The rising prices ~~wipe out completely whatever wage concessions workers have snatched away from the employers.~~ ^{counterbalancing force in workers to raise new wage claims} The failure of the Government to hold the price line has ~~recoiled~~ ^{harmless} against ~~the workers and the traders have taken full advantage of the rising prices to cheat the poor consumers.~~ ^{enriches the exploiters or state alone. The failure is seen in the table below}

The All-India Consumer Price Index number during 1956--1960 period went up from 105 to 123 (1949=100). The following table gives the annual rise of food index as well as the general index.

ALL INDIA CONSUMER PRICE INDEX NUMBER

	Food (1949)	General (1949)	General (1939)
1956	105	105	374
1957	112	111	395
1958	118	116	414
1959	125	121	431
1960 ⁺	125	123	438

(⁺Average for first 8 months)

The Consumer Price Index, ^{in 1960} taking the base as 1939 was as high as 445 for food and General Index was 438.

Thus during the first four years of the Second Five Year Plan, the Consumer Price Index showed ~~a more or less a~~ rising trend. ~~Even~~ the draft outline of the Third Five Year Plan has ~~admitted~~ ^{while admitting this points it as if rise in prices is inevitable accompanied} ~~that~~ "in the ordinary course, the progressive set up in investment which the Plan envisages is likely to exert an upward pressure on prices," The planners ^{therefore, can find it difficult} have only ^{an assurance} assured that the task of the policy would be to ensure that "prices, especially of essential consumer goods, remain relatively stable despite this pressure."

Planned
a priori
is
invaluable
left
in
in
as if
by controls
+ comp

The steep rise in the consumer prices has reduced the purchasing power during the last four years and the trend is likely to continue if drastic steps are not taken by the Government.

^{let us} ~~mean~~ means what the real earnings are
^{even if the money wages have gone up}

The trend about the real earnings since 1955 is given in the following table:

INDEX NUMBERS FOR REAL EARNINGS OF FACTORY WORKERS

(Base - 1947)

Year	Average Annual Earnings (Rs.)	Index of money earnings	Consumer Price Index (1947=100)	Index of Real Earnings	Index of Real Earnings (1939=100)
1955	1173.5	159.4	110.0	144.9	113.5
1956	1208.1	162.6	120.8	134.6	105.4
1957	1253.9	170.2	127.5	133.5	104.5
1958 (Provisional)	1282.4	176.8	133.2	132.7	103.9

As the table indicates, the real wages of the workers after 1955 shows a declining trend even though money wages have increased to some extent. It is also seen that the index of real wages in 1958 was little above the 1939 level.

This was as a result of the continuous fight of the Indian working class for neutralisation of rise in prices, including bipartite agreements, tripartite decisions, awards and Wage Board reports.

In view of the continued price rise during 1959 and 1960, the real wages of the workers cannot be said to have gone up during the period. Even though we take into consideration the wage rise received by the workers in various awards, report of the Central Pay Commission, Textile, Cement and Sugar Wage Boards, the wage rise was not enough to change the all-India trend. The real wages of the workers of those particular industries remained stationery, instead of going down as a result of the concession given by Wage Boards.

Though
~~it is true that~~ in these industries, ~~to certain extent,~~
 the wage rise awarded has neutralised the rising cost of living ^{to}
~~but not fully,~~ ^{some extent} and on an all-India plane for all workers, ^{as much}
 the real wages has ^{we} definitely gone down.

During the year 1958, even the money wages in industries like products of petroleum and coal, rubber and rubber products, electrical machinery, apparatus, appliances and supplies, transport equipment, electricity, gas and steam, furniture and fixtures and recreation services which resulted in bringing down the living standard still further during 1958.

That the real wages of the workers depreciated even after 1958 was admitted by Shri G.L.Nanda, Union Labour Minister, during the course of his speech in Lok Sabha on April 11, 1960, initiating the discussion on the demands for grants for the Ministry of Labour and Employment. He said:

"Between 1939 and 1947, the standard of living of the workers had declined by 25 per cent. By 1951, they had just recovered lost ground. By 1955, the real wages had increased by 13 per cent. But since 1956, when again prices started rising, their gains have been to an extent wiped out."

~~It has been reasonably claimed by the authorities~~ ^{has been} ~~that~~ ^{by students} following the wage trends in the country that considering the trend of reduction in the real wages of the workers, the real wage of the workers in 1960 would be almost ^{again} on the level of 1939, if not ^{below} less than that.

~~This is an important aspect of our wage problem which the trade unionists have to bear in mind.~~ After completing two five year ~~plans,~~ ^{year} plans, the workers in our country have only that much ^{real wage} ~~standard~~ as they had before the Second World War. ^{That shows} ~~that~~ it is only the exploiting classes that are appropriating the ^{major} ~~portion~~ ^{part} of the wealth that is growing in the country.

Does it mean that workers are producing less or employers find it difficult to run their industry profitably? ~~No~~, ~~Not~~ at all. On the contrary, as pointed out by a ^{study} ~~paper~~ on "Productivity: A Value aspect", based on the Reports of the Census of Manufacturing Industries, ~~that~~ since independence, workers have been increasingly producing more value for the employers. The biennial averages of the value added by manufacture and wages of the workers give us the following picture:

	Value added per worker Rs.	Value added as percentage of workers' wages
1946-47	1,578	237.7
1948-49	1,923	210.7
1950-51	2,142	217.7
1952-53	2,189	198.3
1954-55	2,542	229.2
1956-57	2,792	239.0

It can be seen from the above data that workers are creating value far more than the amount paid to them by the employers.

One has to note in this connection that the period 1948-49 and 1958-59, the national income in our country rose from ~~Rs. 8,670 crores~~ Rs. 8,670 crores to Rs. 12,480 crores, i.e., a rise of 26.9 per cent. The major share of this rise in the national income was usurped by the capitalist class, leaving the common man as poor as ~~it~~ ^{he} was before.

The calculations regarding profits prove that the profits of the employers are also mounting high. ~~Even~~ ^{if} the hidden profits are excluded, the Index of Profits as shown in the ~~attached sheet~~ ^{table} of the ~~company~~ ^{country} ~~index~~ ^{is} the growing ~~of~~ ^{of} profits earned.

Year	Index of profit in all industries
1954	150.8
1956	165.0
1957	151.7
1958	168.7

This gives lie to the claim of the bourgeoisie that the growing wage costs have created difficulties for the employers in running the concerns "economically".

A recent study conducted by the Indian Statistical Institute on the "Effect of Wages on Agricultural Prices" came to the conclusion that a 20 per cent increase in the wage cost in the large-scale manufacturing sector would increase price levels in agriculture by only 0.05 per cent, mining by 0.17 per cent, in large-scale manufacturing sector by 5.71 per cent, ~~xxx~~ in small-scale manufactures by 0.61 per cent and in the tertiary sectors by 0.28 per cent. This study has clearly thrown overboard the fallacy of wage-price spiral theory which is often advanced by the bourgeoisie to oppose any wage claims of the workers.

Therefore, trade union movement has to come forward for a campaign for a general rise in the wage level all over the country. This campaign has to be linked up with the campaign of checking the rising prices and bringing it down if possible which alone is a guarantee to maintain the real wage of workers and the possibility of any rise in them.

A SHORT NOTE ON WORKERS' EDUCATION

Trade Unions have (rightly) been called the schools of Socialism. It is through the struggles for a better living and working conditions that the workers know how to fight against the capitalist social order. Workers get convinced through these long drawn struggles that their conditions can be basically improved only through the changing of the social order and establishing a socialist society.

With the acceptance of planned economy by the Government and the country the role of the working class in this economy has also increased. The fruit ~~xxx~~ of the planned economy will not be enjoyed by the working class unless it is properly organised and brought into a struggle in defence of its conditions from the onslaughts of Capital.

The bourgeoisie after winning power in the country has made systematic efforts to strengthen its base among the working class. It has made all sorts of efforts to disrupt the ranks of the workers, foisting unions on the workers favourable to the bourgeoisie and signing agreements with such unions against the interest of the workers. On the top of this a vigorous ideological campaign was launched by the bourgeoisie among the working class with the purpose of creating illusions among the workers that for the sake of economic development of the country they should ^{suffer} face hardships and accept low rate of wages and inhuman working conditions.

Under these circumstances the trade unions have to take up the task of educating their cadre and the mass of workers in the principles of socialism and how the bourgeoisie is trying hard to disturb it in its own interest; in the principles and history of trade unionism, labour legislation and the task of the working class in the present period. Unless this is carried out vigorously the advance of the movement would be retarded and our trade unions would not be able to cope up effectively with the responsibility bestowed upon them by the working class in our country.

The fiteenth Indian Labour Conference agreed to establish a central board having semi-autonomous authority comprising of representatives from trade unions, employers, government and educational institutions. It was also agreed to provide instruction in (1) Trade Union consciousness (2) The purposes, functions and adminstration of trade unions (3) The conduct of union management relations and knowledge of the industry; and (4) The development of a mature individual and his role as a citizen.

The scheme prepared by a sub-committee to go into the details of an appropriate programme envisaged a scheme of training a hard core of teacher administrators who, on their turn would be put in charge of training teachers for carrying out the workers training programme throughout the country.

Accordingly, a six months training course for about fifty-seven top level instructors or teacher administrators was organised in Bomaby during 1958. Of these, 43 were absorbed in service. Fourteen, who had been nominated by trade unions reverted to their unions on completion of the training. AITUC had nominated 4 comrades for this course. AITUC was also allotted 17 lectures in this course. The teacher administrators under the board had been posted to man the workers education centres in different places namely, Bombay, Calcutta, Kanpur, Bangalore, Indore, Dhanbad, Hyderabad, Delhi, Alway and Nagpur.

~~The~~ AITUC decided to participate in the scheme with the idea of utilising the scheme in the interest of the working class. AITUC had no illusions that some spectacular results would be achieved by this scheme. However, the scheme, if implemented properly would result in giving some benefit to the working class.

The second training course was arranged in Calcutta and AITUC was given 3 nominees only.

It is expected that during the Second Five Year Plan ten more workers Education Centres will be established and after conducting 3 more teacher administrators' training courses there will be 130 teacher administrators in the service under the Board

AITUC nominees have been taken on the regional boards which supervise the work of regional schools.

and 45 will be trade union nominees. During the same period a sum of Rs. 60 lakhs has been provided for this scheme.

The inclusion of the employers representatives on the various committee is not a correct principle so far as workers education is concerned.

A sub committee also has been formed on Production of Literature. But since the last year no progress has been made by the committee.

There is a scheme of extending financial aid to such institutions and trade unions who undertake the task of imparting education to workers and trade union ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ officials. A provision for Rs. 2 lakhs every year has been made for this purpose. However not a single pie has been spent on this account.

The AITUC^a has submitted a scheme asking for grand fof ^{the} N.M. Joshi Memorial School but eventhough more than one year has passed the Govt. has noy yet communicated its discision to the AITUC.

The scheme prepared by the AITUC and submitted to the Govt: had the following salient features.

1. Establishment of the Central School and its officers.

There will be two centres of the Central School for training teachers and leading cadres every year. One will be in New Delhi and one in Bombay. This may later be extended to four centres, one in Calcutta add one in Madras State (Coimbatore).

2. Organisation of ten regional schools in a year.
3. Organisation of a Library and Research Centre at the Central School.
4. Publication of books, Pamphlets, Periodicals, etc.
5. Aiding affiliated unions to run education campeigns and co-ordinating such efforts at local and industrial levels.

The Board on which AITUC has one of its nominee - Com. Vithal Choudhary is bureaucratic, top~~x~~ heavy body. Naturally much less attention is given to the trade union opinion, dominated by Government and Employer of non T.U. elements ~~and~~ in function.

The Board and its State ^{boards} Bureau have failed to produce ^{any} tangible results during the last two years. These are discriminating against AITUC in nominating students in the classes. Employers in some cases ^{have} refused to give leave to the worker belonging to AITUC for attending these classes.

Therefore, to rely wholly upon the Governments scheme would not be desirable. The AITUC must have its own scheme of Workers' Education and necessary steps should be taken to implement it.

The Working Committee of AITUC at its session September 1957, in Delhi planned for the establishment of the N.M. Joshi Memorial School of Trade Unions.

The resolution stated " In view of the urgent necessity to institute organised workers education, the Working Committee of the AITUC decides that a permanent Central School of Trade Unions be established. It will train teachers for TU schools and also arrange TU schools for workers in various States. The Working Committee authorises the General Secretary to take all necessary steps to organise and establish such a School.

"The Working Committee of the AITUC decides that a fitting memorail should be raised to the late Comrade N.M. Joshi, one of the vetera~~n~~ founders of the trade union movement in India and so decides that the proposed Central School be named 'THE N.M. JOSHI MEMORIAL SCHOOL OF TRADE UNION'.

"The General Secretary will consult the Secretaries of the State TUC's in order to organise the syllabus and outline of education, taking note of the scheme evolved by the Workers' Education Committee of the Government of India."

The Working Committee meeting held at Darjeeling from May 29 to 31, 1958 discussed a programme for conducting trade union

school in the different regions. It was decided to hold four regional schools in Madras, Calcutta, Bombay and Delhi regions in October 1958^{and} organizers were appointed. However, these schools were not organised.

In the same meeting a committee was appointed to prepare syllabus for the ~~XXXX~~ T.U.Schools. The Committee was to meet from July 20^{the} 1958. The meeting however, began on September 28 and draft was prepared.

Another sub-committee was appointed to finalise the syllabus with Coms. Indrajit Gupta, Satish Loomba and A.C. Nanda. It was decided that these comrades will sit in the AITUC office for a few days and complete the job. The Committee met on ~~September 26, 1960~~ and dispersed with some discussions and distribution of work to meet ~~again~~ again on 12th and, as later~~er~~ decided, on 16th November. The members of the Committee again met and postponed to 25th November 1960. No meeting was held on 25th November as only Com. Indrajit Gupta was present in Delhi. Some of the drafts of lectures prepared by Com. Pandhe and gone through by the earlier Committee have been gone through by Coms. Indrajit Gupta and Satish Loomba. Com. Homi Daji also helped the Committee in a few lectures. Some of the lectures are yet to be revised and the sub-committee is yet to meet to finalise it.

The question of workers education was discussed at length in the General Council Meeting at Bangalore and it^{was} decided to take steps to expedite functioning and publishing of syllabus and holding T.U.Schools. The question again came up for discussion in the Working Committee meeting held at Delhi in August 1959, General Council Meeting held at Delhi in February 1960 and the Working Committee Meeting at Delhi in September 1960. It is not unfortunate that the school has yet not been able to start functioning.

Trade Union Schools were held in Giridih (Bihar) Bombay, Assam and during the year 1958. In 1959 General Engineering Employees Union, Bombay organised a school for the members of

PROGRAMME

.....
of the 26th Session
of the AITUC
Coimbatore, January 5 to 12, 1961
.....

January 5:

- 5 P.M. - Flag Hoisting at AITUC Nagar
by Com.A.S.K.Iyengar
- 5.30 - Address by Chairman, Reception Committee,
to 9.30 Com.Parvathi Krishnan, M.P.
- P.M. - Inaugural Address
by Com.M.Kalyanasundaram, MLA,
(President, Tamilnad Committee of AITUC)
- Presidential Address
by S.S.Mirajkar, President, AITUC
- Messages
- Address by Com.Sugiri,
Secretary, World Federation of Trade Unions

January 6:

- 9 A.M. to - Report by Com.S.A.Dange,
1 P.M. General Secretary, AITUC. (Plenary Session)
- 3.30 PM - Translation of General Secretary's Speech
to in various language groups and discussions
7.30 PM in Groups.

January 7:

- 9 A.M. - Discussion in Groups to continue.
to
- 1 P.M.
- 3 P.M. - PLENARY SESSION - Discussion on General
to Secretary's Report
- 7.30 P.M.

January 8:

- 9 AM to - PLENARY SESSION - Discussion on General
1 PM and Secretary's Report
- 3 PM to
- 7.30 PM

January 9:

- COMMISSION MEETINGS
- 9 AM to The following commissions to hold discussions:
1 PM and (1) On Tripartites, Code of Discipline, Labour
3 PM to Participation in Management, Works Committee,
7.30 PM etc. (Discussion to be initiated by
Com.K.G.Sriwastava, Secretary, AITUC)
- (2) On Social Security - (Discussion to be
initiated by Com.Indrajit Gupta, Secretary,

Jan.9
(Contd.)

COMMISSIONS (CONTD)

- (3) On Productivity, Bonus and Wages - (Discussion to be initiated by Satish Loomba, Secretary, AITUC)
- (4) On Trade Union and Democratic Rights - (Discussion to be initiated by Com.P.Ramamurti, Vice President, AITUC)
- (5) On Problems of Women Workers - (Discussion to be initiated by Com.Parvathi Krishnan, Vice President, AITUC).

Jan.9.
9 P.M. to
12 P.M.

- Commission on Organisation
(See note below)

January 10: PLENARY SESSION

9 A.M.
to 1 P.M.

- Reports on discussions in Commissions

3 P.M. to
7.30 PM

- Consideration of Amendments to Constitution
of the AITUC
- Resolutions

January 11:

9 A.M. to
1 P.M.

- Resolutions
- Report of the Credential Committee

3 P.M. to
7.30 P.M.

- Summing-up of Discussions on General
Report - by S.A.Dange

January 12:

9 A.M. to
1 P.M.

- Elections
- (Also first meeting of the newly-elected
General Council, if time permits)

4 P.M. - Procession

6 P.M. - Open Rally at the Stadium adjoining
AITUC Nagar.

NOTE: (1) Meetings of Industrial Groups should be arranged by comrades during nights. Programmes should be notified to the Central Office so that it can be announced on the mike for information of all concerned. Whatever decisions taken in these meetings should be communicated in writing to the Central Office.

(2) Delegates should choose to which of the five Commissions they should be taken to participate. The Commissions meet on January 9, but names of participants should be sent to the comrades in charge of initiating discussions by 8th January evening definitely. Delegates cannot participate in more than one Commission.

(3) The Commission on Organisation will consist of: the Secretariat of the AITUC plus five representatives from each State. Representatives from States should include President and General Secretary of the STUC. The venue of meeting of this Commission will be announced on 8th January.

(4) Other Commissions will meet in the Pandal and the nearby delegates' camp. The venue will be announced on the mike.

FOREIGN DELEGATES
ATTENDING 26TH SESSION OF THE
ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS
AT COIMBATORE, JANUARY 1961

1. All Union Central Council of Trade Unions, Moscow, USSR
 - i) Mr. Andrei I. Schevchenko, Secretary, ACCTU
 - ii) Mr. Ismail R. Rahmatov, President,
Tashkent Regional Council of Tus.
 - iii) Mr. Vadim S. Chulitsky, Interpreter
2. Central Council of Rumanian Trade Unions, Bucharest.
 - i) Mr. Alceu Costica, Secretary
 - ii) Mr. Hentor Gavrilu, representing international dept
3. Ceylon Trade Union Federation, Colombo
 - i) Mr. A. Jayasuriya, Member General Council CTUF
 - ii) Mr. K.A.D. Gunaratno
 - iii) Mr. V. Ponnambalam
4. Central Council of Polish Trade Unions, Warsaw
 - i) Mr. Wtt. Henke, Secretary
5. Central Council of Mongolian Trade Unions, Ulan Bator
 - i) Mr. Zandir-yn Dagma, Vice President
 - ii) Mr. Shagdarin Tsoamid,
 - iii) Miss L. Ider, Interpreter
6. Unity Trade Union Central, Amsterdam, Netherlands
 - i) Mr. Everhard Sip, General Secretary
 - ii) Mr. Jan Willem Verduin, Legal Adviser
7. Central Council of Hungarian Trade Unions, Budapest
 - i) Mr. Horn Dezo, Secretary
 - ii) Mr. Gedeon Pal, Dy. Editor-in-chief: NEPSZAVA
8. Confederation of Free German Trade Unions, Berlin, GDR.
 - i) Mr. Wolfgang Boyreuther, Member of the
Presidium
 - ii) Mr. Bernhard Schunko,
Head of International Dept.

Friends and Comrades,

It is my happy privilege today to extend to you all a very warm welcome on behalf of the Reception Committee of this, the twenty sixth session of the All-India Trade Union Congress, and of the thousands of workers of Coimbatore rallied under the banner of the AITUC.

When we were called upon to undertake the responsibility of organising the session of the AITUC, we readily took it up, no doubt, with a sense of pride, since we consider it no small honour to play host to this, the premier trade union organisation in the country. At the same time, we had some trepidation, for, we realised that it is no easy job to make all the arrangements for a conference of this magnitude. We have tried to do our best so that all the arrangements may be up to your expectations, and we are sure you will forgive any shortcomings on our part. For the past ~~two~~ months, all the Unions in this district have been working tirelessly but enthusiastically for the success of this session. With the help sent to us by other Unions of the AITUC throughout the State of Tamilnad, we have been able to collect the funds to meet the expenses of the session, and I am proud to tell you that every donation has come from the workers and the workers alone.

To our brother delegates representing the World Federation of Trade Unions and trade union bodies of other countries, who have come from abroad, I have a particular pleasure in welcoming them in our midst, for the Reception Committee considers it a great honour and privilege in according their humble hospitality to them.

The workers of Coimbatore, rallied under the banner of the AITUC, have always looked up to the World Federation of Trade Unions as the true representative of the working class of all countries, leading us forward to greater unity and success in our endeavours. At hours of trial and struggle, many have ~~been~~^{been} the inspiring messages and received practical help from them, which have given us courage and strength.

The presence of the delegates from ^{the} All Union Central Council of Trade Unions of the USSR reminds us over again, how much the working class in our country, in this very Coimbatore, are ^{ar} ~~not~~ not only by the victorious strides that the working people of the Soviet Union in building a new world free from exploitation. Int. 27-

out of foreign imperialist rule. Today the mighty steel plant at
Chennai stands out as a majestic monument of fraternal, selfless,
socialist assistance
for the friendly people of India - a never-ending source of
inspiration for the working class of our country. Here is the
shining symbol which our workers can proudly show before the
entire world that the victorious working class of the world is
ready to give to the peoples of the world.

Its delegates coming from the great trade union movements
of Ireland, of Romania, of Hungary, of the German Democratic
Republic and Mongolia convey our greetings, for their very
presence, for the first time at a session of the AIQUC, at this
gathering is one more proof of the unity of the working class of
the world.

From Ceylon we have pleasure in welcoming our comrades -
the ties and links of workers of Tamilnad with the workers of
Ceylon are perhaps the closest of any. They are our neighbours,
and the workers in our tea plantations and their plantations
are linked together by ties of blood and language. We hope that
this conference will mark another milestone in forging closer
links with our sister trade unions in Ceylon and thus strengthen
the fight for the defence of our independence and for the unity
of the workers of our two countries.

Friends and comrades, many of you might be visiting Coimbatore
for the first time, and we would like to say to you that our
city is known for the warmth of her hospitality. Delegates who
have come from all corners of our great country, we are sure, will
take back pleasant memories of their visit. Nestling in the lap
of the Nilgiris, Coimbatore is widely known as a health resort,
with its mild climate and its famous Siruvani water, one of the
best in the world.

As a centre of learning, Coimbatore can boast of the large
number of educational institutions. There are a number of colleges
here, including engineering and agricultural colleges.

One of the earliest centres of modern industry in South India
Coimbatore is often called the Manchester of the South. Textiles
constitute its principal industry. The first Mill having been

at this very Mill that the AITUC has one of its strongholds in the district. The workers of this Mill are the privileged bearers of a ^{rich} ~~great~~ tradition of great struggles. As you came into this hall after the flag hoisting, you would have noticed that one of the thirteen flags was raised in homage to the memory of the martyrs who were killed in a police firing outside these Mills during the struggle against victimisation in 1946. ~~XXXXX,~~

Today Coimbatore has about 80 ^{Textile} mills, with about 70 thousand workers. The AITUC-led Union, the Coimbatore District Mill Workers' Union itself can claim that it is the most influential of all the Unions amongst the textile workers. Founded in 1937, it is one of the very first AITUC Unions to be started in our State - today it has on its rolls over 15 thousand members, a large number of whom are women workers. This Union has a great record of fearless struggle in defence of the interests of the textile workers, and it has often given the lead in united action, embracing thousands of workers outside its own fold. The latest example of such successful united action is that for the implementation of the recommendations of the Textile Wage Board. ~~XXX~~

Next to the Mills workers Union, is that of the plantations in this district. Situated in the Anamali hills, in Valparai, these plantations employ over 55 thousand workers. Only eight years ago, in 1952, the first AITUC Union was born in this area, and today, this has emerged as the only organised trade union there with a membership of over 15 thousand. Many have been the ruthless ~~struggles~~ attempts to destroy this Union of ours - but all that was of no avail before the determination of the plantation workers and their unswerving loyalty to the AITUC. No act of terrorisation could dislodge the influence of our Union.

Not far from this city is Madukkarai where the giant cement combine, the ACC, has one of their principal factories. Here too, it is the Union holding high the flag of the AITUC that commands the confidence of the cement workers. The engineering industry has recently been coming up in this district and among the workers engaged in this industry the AITUC has built another

standard of production.

In this district, there is also a synthetic gem factory, a number of hosiery factories, sugar mills, and the Brooke Bond and other tea and coffee curing establishments.

I should not forget to mention that Coimbatore is also one of the major centres of the handloom industry in Tamilnad, and the handloom saris of Coimbatore have in recent years become most popular throughout the country with their fine texture and varied designs.

Many a struggle has ~~been~~ taken place in this district, particularly amongst the textile workers under the banner of the AITUC. One of the very first important struggles was that of the workers of firmware in 1940 for dearness allowance against the rising cost of living during wartime. In 1946, undaunted, the textile workers of this district faced a prolonged struggle against victimisation, while 1948 saw the 108-day long struggle against retrenchment and increased workload. The plantation workers of Palani have waged struggle against the attacks of the employers, and the firing ~~conducted~~ by the police on Republic Day in January 1957.

Such a record of struggle and sacrifice, of unrelenting fight in defence of their rights and interests that the workers of Coimbatore can proudly claim today is also an index of their loyalty to the AITUC, for it is the AITUC Unions which have stood at the forefront of these struggles in the last two decades. And it is no accident therefore that of the thirteen flags ^{today} enshrining the memory of Tamilnad's great working class struggles facing even martyrdom, as many as eleven represent Coimbatore's Roll of Honour, of those who have given their lives in face of not only police repression but of brutal goondalism resorted to by employers and their hirelings inside the working class.

Friends and comrades, in once again ~~expressing~~ welcoming you all to Coimbatore, permit me to tell you that the working people of Coimbatore will be following your important deliberations with ~~the~~ interest, for this session of the AITUC - meeting at the end of the Second Five Year Plan and while the Third Plan is being discussed

will be ~~taking~~ ^{dealing} momentous ~~issues~~ ^{decisions} of vital interest not only to the working class but of the nation as a whole. The lead that the AITUC will be giving to the country at this crucial juncture of the nation's history will be of decisive importance for the future of the cause of democracy and socialism in this great land of ours. The working people of Coimbatore, ~~steeled in battle~~ ^{hard} under the leadership of the AITUC, are ready to play their due role in this great ~~battle~~ ^{struggle}.

Long Live the AITUC !

Long Live the friendship and solidarity ~~between~~ workers of all countries .!

Long Live peace and friendship amongst all peoples !

January 5, 1961

100.3.3

AITUC DELEGATIONS

TO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND COMMITTEES

1958 - 1960

.....

- | | | | |
|--------|---|-------|---|
| 1. | May Day (1958) delegation to USSR | ... | Kallat Krishnan
Satish Loomba |
| 2. | May Day (1958) delegation to China | ... | S.C.Dutta |
| 3. | Administrative Committee, TUI Transport (Moscow - June 1958) | ... | Satish Chatterjee |
| 4. | International Conferences of TUI Textile and Leather (Sofia, July 1958) | ... | Sailen Paul
Arun Sen
Shiv Sharma |
| 5. | <i>International TU Committee for solidarity with Algeria (Prague, May 1958)</i> | ..... | Md. Elias |
| 65. | International Conference of TUI Metal & Engineering (Prague - Sept. 1958) | ... | Md. Elias |
| 76. | Stockholm Peace Conference (1958) | ... | Sudhir Ghose
Md. Elias |
| 87. | International TU Committee for Solidarity with Algeria (Sept. 1958) (Cairo - Sept. 1958) | ... | Parvathi Krishnan |
| 98. | International Conference of Agricultural & Forestry Workers (Bucharest - Oct. 1958) | ... | A delegation from All-India Kisan Sabha |
| 109. | Administrative Committee, Miners TUI (Dec. 1958) | ... | M.C.Narasimhan |
| 1110. | Fraternal delegation to Congress of Soviet Trade unions (Moscow - March 1959) | ... | T.R.Ganesan |
| 1211. | Executive Committee of WFTU (April 1959) | ... | S.A.Dange
K.G.Sriwastava |
| 13(62) | | | |
| 1412. | May Day delegation to USSR (1959) | ... | Homi Daji
Krishi Banerjee |
| 1513. | May Day delegation to China (1959) | ... | Mohd. Ismail
S.Y.Kolhatkar |
| 1614. | May Day Delegation to German Democratic Republic (1959) | ... | Indrajit Gupta |

- 13 15. Fraternal delegation to Congress of Yugoslav Trade Unions (April 1959) ... K.G.Sriwastava
- 19 16. ~~19~~ Fraternal delegation to Congress of Czechoslovak TUs (May 1959) ... M.K.Pandhe
Amar Sheikh
- 20 17. ~~17~~ International Conference of Workers in Commerce (Prague - June 1959) ... Haripada Chatter and two others f Bengal
- 17 18. International Committee for Solidarity with Algeria (Varna - May 1959) ... Indrajit Gupta
- 21 19. International Conference of Miners (Poland - July 1959) ... M.C.Narasimhan
T.B.Vittal Rao
- 22 20. International Conference of Public and Allied Employees (Leipzig - August 1959) ... Dr.A.M.O.Ghani
- 23 21. Delegation to participate in 15th Anniversary celebrations in Rumania (August 1959) ... M.Atchuthan
- 24 22. Working Group on Press and Publicity Work of WFTU (Prague - Sept.1959) ... M.Atchuthan
- 18 23. International Conference of Chemical, Oil & Allied Workers (Leipzig - May 1959) ... G.Sundaram
- 25 24. Administrative Committee, TUI Transport (Sofia - Dec.1959) ... Satish Chatterjee
- 27 25. Administrative Committee, TUI Metal & Engineering (Prague - Dec. 1959) ... Md. Elias
- 25 26. ILO Industrial Committee on Building, Civil Engineering and Public Works (Oct. 1959) ... N.N.Manna
- 29 27. Administrative Committee, TUI Oil & Allied Workers (Poland - April 1960) ... G.Sundaram
- 28 28. Administrative Committee, Public & Allied Workers (Berlin - Jan. 1960) ... Dr.A.M.O.Ghani

30	29.	ILO Petroleum Committee (Geneva - April-May, 1960)	...	T.C.N. Menon N.T. Sule
31	30.	May Day delegation to USSR (1960)	...	Moni Bhowmick
32	31.	May Day delegation to China (1960)	...	Parvathi Krishnan K. Krishnan
33	32.	May Day delegation to Czechoslovakia (1960)	...	Kartar Singh
34	33.	May Day delegation to GDR (1960)	...	S.M. Banerjee Raj Bahadur Verma
35	34.	UNESCO Study Tour to Indonesia (May 1960)	...	David Bhengraj Asha Ram M.C. Cheriyan <i>Krishna Chopra (refused)</i>
37	35.	Engineering Federation's delegation to USSR and Hungary (August 1960)	...	Md. Elias Robin Mukherjee M.S. Krishnan A.D. Gadkari
39	36.	4th Congress of Rumanian Trade Unions (October 1960)	...	Md. Elias
36	37.	Administrative Committee, Textile & Leather TUI (May 1960)	...	B.D. Joshi
38	38.	Trade Meeting on Leather (Budapest - October 1960) Sept.	...	Sailen Paul
40	39.	Seminar on Labour Legislation - WFTU/ILO - Warsaw, November 1960	...	K.M. Sundaram Sadhan Mukherjee
41	40.	Administrative Committee, TUI Public & Allied Employees (Moscow, November 1960)	...	Usha Gupta
42	41.	Administrative Committee, Metal and Engineering TUI (Prague Prague, December 1960)	...	Sadhan Mukherjee

NOTE: Due to non-availability of passport to ~~himself~~ our delegate, ~~himself~~ and other difficulties, Mahendra Sen, our representative in WFTU was authorised to attend the meetings of the International TU Committee on Algeria which were held in 1959 (in Prague) and in 1960 (in Havana, Cuba).

AITUC representatives on
international TU Committees *during 1958-60*

.....

Executive Committee of the World Federation of Trade Unions	-	S.A.Dange (alternate - Indrajit)
General Council of the World Federation of Trade Unions	-	Homi Daji (alternate - K.T.K.Tan mani)
Administrative Committee of Trade Unions International (TUI) of Metal & Engineering Workers	-	Md. Elias
Administrative Committee of TUI of Transport, Port and Fishery Workers	-	Satish Chatterjee (Since December 1959 elected as Secretary the TUI).
Administrative Committee, TUI of Chemical, Oil and Allied Workers	-	G.Sundaram
Administrative Committee, TUI of Commerce Workers	-	Haripada Chatterjee
Administrative Committee, TUI of Textile and Leather Workers	-	B.D.Joshi (alternate - Sallen Pa)
Administrative Committee, Miners' Trade Union International	-	Kalyan Roy, <i>Vice. President</i>
Administrative Committee, TUI of Food, Tobacco and Hotel Workers	-	K.L.Narasimham
Administrative Committee, TUI of Agriculture & Forestry Workers	-	N.Prasada Rao (<i>Kisan S</i> <i>- Vice President</i>)
Administrative Committee, TUI of Public & Allied Employees	-	Dr.A.M.O.Ghani (since resigned)

ON WFTU ASSIGNMENT

Note: Mahendra Sen and K.B. Panikkar are working on
WFTU assignment, the former at the WFTU Headquarters
in Prague and later as permanent WFTU representative
at ECAFE, Bangkok.

1003.3.4

AITUC Representation at
Tripartites (1958 - 1960)

.....

Indian Labour Conference:

- 16th Session (1958) - S.A.Dange, General Secretary;
Ranen Sen, Vice President;
K.T.K.Tangamani, Secretary; and
S.M.Banerjee
- 17th Session (1959) - S.A.Dange, General Secretary;
K.G.Sriwastava, Secretary;
Homi Daji and Renu Chakravartty
- 18th Session (1960) - S.S.Mirajkar, President;
P.Ramamurti, Vice President;
Indrajit Gupta, Secretary;
K.G.Sriwastava, Secretary;
M.Kalyanasundaram, and
S.M.Banerjee

Standing Labour Committee:

- 17th Session (1958) - Dr.Ranen Sen, Vice President; and
P.Ramamurti, Vice President.
 - 18th Session (1960) - Dr.Ranen Sen, Vice President; and
K.G.Sriwastava, Secretary
- (T.B.Vittal Rao and Y.D.Sharma represented the AITUC in the meetings of the Standing Labour Committee which considered the Labour Policy in Third Plan - in March and April 1960)

Sub-Committee on Workers' Participation in Management and Code of Discipline

- Meeting in March, 1958 - K.G.Sriwastava, Secretary.
- " Sept. 1958 - K.G.Sriwastava, Secretary.
- " Dec. 1959 - Indrajit Gupta, Secretary.

Sub-Committee on Amendments to I.D.Act.

Meeting in January 1959 - V.G.Row and Subramanyam

Tripartite Conference on Public Sector

January 1959 - S.A.Dange, General Secretary;
M.S.Krishnan and Shafique Khan

Tripartites on Coal Industry

1. Coal Award Implementation Committee (February 1958) - Kalyan Roy
2. Steering Committee on Safety in Coal Mines (March 1958) - Kalyan Roy
3. Conference on Safety in Mines (August 1958) - Kalyan Roy
(January 1959) - Kalyan Roy
4. Tripartite Meetings of Coal Mining interests (Aug.1958 and May 1959) - Kalyan Roy
5. Sixth Session of Industrial Committee on Coal Mines (Feb. 1959) - T.B.Vittal Rao and Kalyan Roy
6. Seventh Session of Industrial Committee on Coal Mines (April 1960) - T.B.Vittal Rao and Chaturanan Mishra
7. Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Advisory Committee - Chinmoy Mukherjee and B.N.Tewary (since 1960)
8. Committee on Safety Education and Propaganda (1960) - P.K.Thakur
9. Standing Safety Advisory Committee - Prasant Surman

Industrial Committee on Plantations

- 8th Session (1958) - S.A.Dange,
Parvatni Krishnan,
Monoranjan Roy
- 9th Session (1959) - Monoranjan Roy

Industrial Committee on Jute

- 1st Session (1958) - Indrajit Gupta,
Ghanashyam Sinha and
J.V.K.Vallabha Rao
- 2nd Session (1959) - Indrajit Gupta

Industrial Committee on Mines Other Than Coal (1st Session - 1958)

- M.C.Narasimhan,
T.B.Vittal Rao,
N.K.Bose,
Nakul Guha and
Amarlal Sharma

- Industrial Committee on Cement (3rd Session - 1960) - N.Satyanarayana Reddy, G.S.Dharadhar, and Sadhan Mukherjee
- National Council of Training in Vocational Trades - Vithal Chaudhari (till 1959) Nihar Mukerjee (from 1960)
- Central Committee on Employment - S.G.Patkar
- Minimum Wages Central Advisory Board - N.Satyanarayana Reddy
- Minimum Wages (Fixation and Revision) Committee - Indrajit Gupta
- Central Implementation and Evaluation Committee
- first meeting - 1958 - B.D.Joshi and ~~Satish Chatterjee~~ T.B.Vittal Rao
 - second meeting- 1959 - B.D.Joshi and Satish Chatterjee
 - Third meeting - 1960 - K.G.Sriwastava
 - Fourth meeting- 1960 - Somnath Lahiri and K.G.Sriwastava
- Tripartite Committee on Works Committees (1959) - Ram Sen
- Steering Group on Wages - K.T.K.Tangamani (1958-1959) M.K.Pandhe (1960)
- Planning Commission's Panel on Housing - Homi Daji
- Conference on Labour Research (Sept.1960) - M.K.Pandhe
- Seminar on Labour-Management Cooperation
- February, 1958 - Ali Amjad
 - March 1960 - M.S.Krishnan
- Development Council on Internal Combustion Engines - T.R.Ganesan
- Development Council on Bicycles - Niranjana Dikher
- Development Council on Automobiles - M.D.Mokashi
- Development Council on Oils & Soaps - Kallat Krishnan
- Development Council on Leather Products - A.C.Nanda

Development Council on Food Processing	-	G.R.Khanolkar
Development Council for Electric Fans, &c	-	P.Balachandra Menon
Rubber Board	-	Rosamma Punnose
Tea Board	-	D. P. Ghosh
Regional Advisory Board for Salt	-	T.N.Siddhant D.C.Mohanty
National Productivity Council	-	Satish Loomba N.K.Krishnan
Central Board for Workers' Education	-	Vithal Chaudhari
- Committee for Audio-Visual Propaganda (Workers' Education)-	-	M.K.Pandhe
Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund	-	Sudhir Mukhoti
Employees' State Insurance Corporation	-	S.Y.Kolhatkar
Medical Benefit Council of ESIC	-	Hrishi Banerjee

STATEMENT III

WORKING CLASS CONSUMER PRICE INDEX NUMBERS FOR DIFFERENT CENTRES

State	Monthly Average					
	March 1956	1955-56	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959- 1960
Assam						
Gauhati	93	87	99	104	101	99
Silchar	97	87	102	106	108	110
Tinsukia	108	101	114	118	119	116
West Bengal						
Calcutta	93	92	106	106	110	112
Kharagpur	101	93	105	109	113	114
Orissa						
Cuttack	105	100	108	111	117	121
Berhampur	105	97	111	109	116	115
Bihar						
Jamshedpur	104	99	108	118	123	126
Monghyr	88	81	91	99	102	98
Dehri-on-sone	93	85	99	106	105	100
Madhya Pradesh						
Jabalpur	99	90	102	108	110	108
Uttar Pradesh						
Kanpur	83	79	113	93	101	97
Delhi						
Delhi	106	101	112	112	117	119
Punjab						
Ludhiana	92	85	94	95	99	100
Rajasthan						
Ajmer	91	86	97	98	106	106
Gujerat						
Ahmedabad	93	89	101	104	115	124
Maharashtra						
Bombay	114	110	116	122	130	136
Sholapur	99	85	110	110	106	116
Jalgaon	96	86	103	104	110	116
Akola	95	83	94	97	103	111

Mothly Average

State	March 1956	1955-56	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60
Madras	105	100	113	117	126	135
Mysore	104	100	114	121	127	142
Bangalore	108	104	118	128	132	142
Kerala						
Trichur	109	107	113	113	121	130

PRODUCTIVITY

1. JUTE INDUSTRY

(BASE: 1951)

Year	Index of employment	Index of production	Index of productivity
1956	100.5	127.3	126.6
1957	94.3	120.5	127.7
1958	89.3	123.9	138.7

2. SUGAR INDUSTRY.

(BASE: 1951)

Year	Index of employment	Index of production	Index of productivity
1956	102.4	166.5	162.5
1957	107.6	185.5	172.3
1958	107.7	175.6	163.0

3. COTTON TEXTILE INDUSTRY

Year	Index of employment	Index of production	Index of productivity
1956	112.9	117.5	104.1
1957	113.7	115.6	101.6
1958	107.3	108.9	101.4
1959	107.0	111.5	104.2
1960*	107.0	113.6	106.1

PRODUCTIVITY

4. COAL INDUSTRY

(BASE: 1951)

Year	Index of employment	Index of production	Index of productivity
1956	100.1	114.9	114.7
1957	105.2	126.8	120.5
1958	108.8	132.2	121.5
1959	103.4	137.1	132.5

AVERAGE ANNUAL EARNINGS OF FACTORY WORKERS

(Rupees per workers)

Industry	1957	1958
Textiles	1243.3	1304.3
Footwear, other wearing apparel and made up textile goods	1308.1	1322.0
Wood & Cork (except furniture)	726.8	817.2
Furniture & Fixtures	958.6	759.7
Paper & Paper Products	1157.6	1199.9
Publishing Printing & Allied Industries	1217.5	1305.1
Leather & Leather Products (except footwear)	889.8	1032.0
Rubber & Rubber Products	1497.2	1382.3
Chemical & Chemical Products	1147.3.	1302.0
Non-metallic Mineral Products (except petroleum and coal)	835.3	886.2
Basic Metal Industries	1463.2	1527.9
Metal Products (except machinery transport equipment)	1145.4	1175.9
Machinery (except electrical machinery)	1189.3	1335.9
Electrical Machinery Apparatus, appliances and supplies	1437.9	1384.4
Transport Equipment	1481.5	1455.2
Miscellaneous Industry	1249.0	1214.7
Electricity Gas & Steam	1591.8	1570.2
Water & Sanitary Services	1147.5	1207.0
Recreation Services	1302.0	1116.6
Personal Services	488.4	589.6
All Industries	1233.9	1282.4

Draft ResolutionsO N G O A

The 26th Session of the AITUC reiterates the demand of the Indian working class for the early liberation of Goa, Daman and Diu and the return of these territories to the motherland. At a time when colonial liberation is on the order of the day and the United Nations Organisation as a whole is unanimously committed to the ending of colonialism, the continued existence of the Portuguese possessions on Indian soil is more an anachronism than ever before.

The AITUC pays homage to all the martyrs who gave their lives for the liberation of Goa and all those freedom fighters who are languishing in Salazar's jails. The AITUC is confident that the day is not distant when not an inch of our country's soil will remain under foreign domination.

The AITUC urges upon the Government of India to take all possible steps, inside and outside the UNO, to complete the liberation of Goa. The AITUC also demands that the former Portuguese possessions of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, now liberated by their inhabitants, be fully integrated in the Indian Union without further delay.

O N A L G E R I A

The 26th Session of the AITUC extends its fraternal greetings to the heroic people of Algeria who have been conducting their armed struggle for national liberation for over six years against the military might of the French imperialists backed by their NATO partners.

The war of national independence, waged by the Algerian people, despite terrible sufferings and sacrifices, is a just war and an integral part of the worldwide struggle for banishing colonialism from the face of the earth. It is, therefore, the duty of all those who cherish freedom, democracy and peace to support the cause of Algeria's freedom and express active solidarity with it.

The AITUC greets the formation of the Algerian Provisional Government led by Premier Ferhat Abbas as a historic landmark in the successful development of the Algerian struggle. It is conclusive evidence of the failure of the imperialists to beat down the victorious upsurge of the national liberation forces, despite all their modern weapons and overwhelming military superiority.

The AITUC demands that the French Government abandon its slogan of a "French Algeria", order an immediate cease-fire and open negotiations with the Algerian Provisional Government for concrete implementation of the principle of national independence which must be unconditionally recognised.

The AITUC urges upon the Government of India to reinforce its good work in the UNO on this issue by extending diplomatic recognition to the Algerian Provisional Government - a step which would give tremendous moral and political support to the cause of Algerian independence and help to expedite its realisation.

The AITUC is proud to be a member of the International Trade Union Committee for Solidarity with the Workers and People of Algeria. This Session calls upon the AITUC unions to intensify their work of mobilising all sections of the Indian working class in manifestation of support for the national liberation struggle of the heroic Algerian people.

O N C O N G O

This Session of the AITUC views with grave concern the deterioration in the Congo situation, which has resulted in the total suppression of the Congolese Parliament and of the elected Lumumba Government by the armed violence of pro-Belgian agents led by Col. Mobutu. Thus, the national freedom of the Congolese people and the sovereignty of their new-born Republic are sought to be wiped out by the Belgian colonialists who had earlier been forced to recognise the independence of their former empire of Congo.

The AITUC expresses its indignation at the manner in which the flag of the UNO has been permitted to shield the crimes and atrocities of the Belgian imperialists and their agents against the Congolese people, including the brutal arrest, torture and illegal detention of Premier Lumumba. The NATO Powers who command the majority in the organs of the United Nations have not only succeeded in crippling the Lumumba Government and the Congolese Parliament; they have encouraged the come-back of the old colonialists by conferring UN recognition on President Kasavubu while denying it to Mr. Lumumba's representatives. They have even suppressed the official report of the UN General Secretary's representative, Shri Rajeswar Dayal, which was known to be strongly anti-Belgian.

The Soviet Union and other socialist countries in the UN have stood firmly for Congo's independence and against foreign imperialist intervention in the garb of the U.N.

The AITUC considers these events in Congo, culminating in the establishment of the Belgian-inspired military dictatorship of Mobutu, as a serious threat to the independence and sovereignty of all Afro-Asian nations. The AITUC declares its firm support for the patriotic ideas, democratic principles and lawfully elected authority symbolised in the person of Premier Lumumba. It calls upon the workers and their trade unions to mobilise in solidarity with the Congolese people and to demand the early fulfilment of the following:

- 1) Release of Mr. Lumumba and all political prisoners from detention;
- 2) Creation of conditions for reconvening of the Congolese Parliament;
- 3) Immediate and unconditional withdrawal from Congo of all Belgian personnel without exception;
- 4) Disarming of the armed gangs of Mobutu by the U.N. forces.

O N C U B A

The 26th Session of the AITUC sends warm fraternal greetings to the Government and people of Cuba whose revolutionary actions have sounded the death-knell of Yankee imperialism in the Latin American continent.

The working people of India have been enthused and inspired by the bold measures of the Castro Government for defence of Cuba's national sovereignty, consolidation of her national independence and democratic reforms aimed at liquidating the grip of feudal landed interests and foreign monopoly capital over the Cuban economy. In particular, the nationalisation of U.S.-owned oil refineries, sugar estates and factories, and banks, has dealt a mortal blow at the basic sources of imperialist plunder and has shown the way forward to other under-developed countries faced with similar problems.

The AITUC strongly condemns the frantic attempts of the U.S. imperialists to bully and intimidate the heroic people of little Cuba and their revolutionary Government into submission. Threats of military intervention, economic boycott, breaking-off of diplomatic relations, provocative naval manoeuvres, employment of agents trained in subversion and sabotage, slanderous propaganda about Communist 'infiltration', etc., are some of the familiar weapons being brandished by the desperate rulers of Washington.

The AITUC is confident that all these conspiracies and attacks will crumble against the rock-like unity and determination of the Cuban people, and the Cuban revolution will march forward in triumph. The AITUC assures the people and Government of Cuba of the firm solidarity and support of the Indian working class and calls upon the United Nations Organisation to ensure the safeguarding of Cuba's independence and sovereign rights.

I

SOCIALISM ADVANCES,
IMPERIALISM RETREATS
NATIONS LIBERATED

We have just closed the year 1960 and are trying to look at the future that we have to shape. Each year, since the end of the World War, brings forth memorable events, which, in their total effect, advance history in favour of the working class, in favour of the people, in favour of socialism, peace, democracy and freedom.

You may remember that during the days of the Second World War, there were many good people in India, who were sorry that the Soviet Union, its people and its Red Army, was crushing Hitler and that it had accepted the alliance of Britain, France, America, in the anti-fascist war. India's millions, pining under the heel of British imperialism, would not relish the victory of the British imperialists in the war. True, they did not want Soviet Russia to be lost, but their main desire was to see that Britain was somehow defeated, - by whom it did not matter. They thought Britain's defeat in the war even at the hands of the fascists meant liberation of India and all subject countries. If Britain were saved, so they argued, there would be no freedom for us.

Britain was saved by the Soviet victory, France was saved and America became the richest and most powerful country in the world.

And yet what happened in the fifteen years after the war?

The victory of the British imperialists, of the French imperialists, of the American imperialists, did not help them to grow and develop their imperialism, to retain their loot of the world, to continue to hold vast millions in their colonies in subjection. Was it not a strange victory of imperialism by which the victors lose the essence of their loot, where the victorious imperialisms have to face defeat and shed of the chains by which they enslaved millions. Why this paradox?

It is because, the victory was not attained by the imperialists, but by the country of socialism. The victory of the Socialist Soviet Union directly led to the establishment of several socialist States in Europe and later to the victory of the Chinese Revolution. India too attained independence and many other countries of Asia and Africa began their battle for freedom and won it.

In the last fifteen years, since the war, about forty new sovereign States have arisen in Asia and Africa.

That continent of one hundred fifty million enslaved, tortured, looted by a handful of imperialist marauders and colonisers, described in the school texts of the imperialists as a land of barbarians, blacks and wild beasts, but from where they mined gold, diamonds, uranium, radium, ~~uranium~~ and got their cocoa and ivory, from where they captured the Africans and sold them in slavery, has now risen in revolt. After the First World War, several countries in Asia stepped into national revolutionary movements. But Africa was comparatively dormant except for Egypt, Morocco, etc. After the Second World War, the greatest event is the rise of free Africa. Over fourteen new sovereign States have come up there,

though even as yet the apartheid fascists of South Africa are unwilling to surrender to the forces of freedom.

Another vast belt on which the imperialists fattened was that of Latin America. There too, they are overthrowing the rule of American capital. The most outstanding event in that sphere in recent times is the Cuban Revolution.

What does this phenomenon mean?

It means that the might of the socialist camp has become a decisive force in the world arena by its economic, political, technical and social achievements. The economy of the imperialists is suffering from the usual crisis of capitalism, while the economy of the socialist camp is fast heading to become bigger and richer than that of the imperialist camp.

As a result of this and the growth of the national liberation movements of the countries ruled or controlled by the colonialist powers, the vast reserves on which imperialism grew and lived have crumbled.

Long ago, when the Soviet Union was born, we used to speak of one link in the imperialist chain being smashed.

Today, the imperialist chain has been broken all along the line. They may be holding a broken link here and there and trying to restore it by military bases, dictatorships and coups, but it is futile. The all-embracing chain is finished and cannot come back.

Such is the world in which we step in, in the year 1961. That should give us, of the working class and toiling people, a new confidence, a new sense of unity and solidarity and greater zeal to fulfil our tasks.

The imperialists are no doubt suffering defeat after defeat. The fiasco of their attack on Egypt, Syria, shows that their warmongering can be halted. They must now be forced into disarmament and to live in peace

with the freedom-loving world and try their luck or ill-luck, whether they can keep their own working class and people with them when it comes to peaceful competition with the socialist camp. But they still refuse to follow that road. Hence, while being confident that all the forces of peace including the mightiest of them, united under socialism, can halt and defeat the warmongers, we all have to campaign for peace in real earnest and in vigilance. We have to make people conscious of the horrors of the nuclear war, the atomic weapons, that can kill millions of people and devastate vast areas of civilisation. In our trade unions, we must educate the workers in the capacities for good and bad of the new forces of science, their use in the hands of imperialists for destruction and their use in the hands of the working class for socialism and better life. Only an enlightened class-conscious working class, with the help of other peace forces, can halt war, preserve peace and freedom and go over to socialism.

We in India have never been in the real theatre of war and hence we are not so keenly sensitive to the question of war and peace. But now in the atomic age, no country, even a neutral one or far away from the actual scene of war, can be saved from death from nuclear reactions. The advanced worker knows it but not yet the millions. To tell them is one of our tasks.

The imperialists are suffering defeat after defeat, but they will not give up their adventures. Apart from threatening a world war, they try to stage a comeback in new guise. They thwart the development of newly liberated countries, by imposing militarist dictatorships over them and suppressing the growth of parliamentary democracy in these countries and fulfilment of measures that are beneficial to the toiling people and especially

the vast masses of the peasantry. They still try by force of arms to defeat the national liberation movements. The French imperialists refuse to give up Algeria, the Belgians, aided by the American imperialists, refuse to give up Congo. The Americans are planning to overthrow the Cuban Revolution. While on one side, their puppets are suffering defeat in Japan, South Korea and Turkey, they are trying to set up new ones in Congo, in Latin America, Laos and so on.

Our workers and trade unions have campaigned for solidarity with the struggles of the people of Algeria, Cuba and Congo. But these campaigns have not been widespread as they should have been. We have not taken up the work in real earnest. For example, we have hundreds of trade union offices in our country. May I ask: in how many of them we have hung up maps to tell our workers, where Congo, Cuba or Algeria are? Why not have those maps in every office? Dr. Fidel Castro's portraits are seen all over in socialist countries. Lumumba is held a prisoner by the hivelings of Belgian-American imperialists. Are their faces seen on our walls in our trade union offices? Do their slogans appear on factory walls or in houses of even our advanced workers? Should not the unions do that simple job of education, which then can become the basis of further movements of solidarity?

Our workers are proud of the great socialist countries and their achievements: they speak of Soviet Union, and China and other countries. We are familiar with the idea of two camps - the Camp of Imperialism and the Camp of Socialism. But there is the third one now: the Camp of Peace. It consists of socialist countries and also those which are not socialist, but are neutral and peace-loving, opposed to war. If you take the map of the world and hold it to the worker, and show him how big the Camp of Peace is, which includes the mighty

sure of victory. Should not our trade union organisers carry such an eloquent symbol of peace, freedom and socialism everywhere, in processions, strikes, tribunals, offices, homes?

The Camp of Peace and the peace forces are, as you know, the following:

1. Soviet Union which leads the world in the decisive branches of science and technology.
2. The entire socialist camp, whose material and political might is on the side of peace.
3. Growing number of peace-loving countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America who are vitally interested in peace.
4. The international working class and its organisations.
5. The national liberation movement of the colonies and dependent countries.
6. The world peace movement.
7. The neutral countries who want no share in the imperialist policy of war.
8. Sections of the bourgeoisie of capitalist countries who take a sober view of things.

India stands in this vast peace camp and as such, is allied with the socialist camp for purposes of peace and opposing war. The Indian Parliament denounced the racists of South Africa and the massacre of Sharpeville. Nehru at the United Nations stood on the side of Congo and for the resolution calling for end to colonialism.

With such favourable circumstances, we should be able to campaign better and secure vaster masses for our cause of aiding the liberation movements, for popularising the achievements of the socialist countries, for international solidarity, for peace and socialism. Or is it that just because we have no conflict on some of these vital issues with the Government, we feel it superfluous to have

These questions should not be treated as remote to us. The military coup in Pakistan gave us a jolt near at home some time back but now we have almost got used to live by its side. In Pakistan, the Generals of the Army arrested the President and marched him off. In Congo, the President and the mercenary Colonel, fed by the American and Belgian imperialists and secretly aided by the so-called neutrality of the U.N. forces arrested the Prime Minister Lumumba, dissolved the Parliament and established a rule of terror and of the foreign monopolists, wanting the vast mining wealth of Congo. And now, in our north, in Nepal, a King, established on his throne with the support of Indian Army, has become a turn-coat, dissolved the Parliament, arrested the elected Prime Minister and legislators and ushered in a personal rule relying on the Army Generals.

The Indian democratic movement has not yet ~~reacted~~ reacted sharply to the events in Nepal. The Indian ~~democratic movement has xxxxxxxx~~ reactionaries favour the events in Nepal. It is known that the police and army in Nepal were built by the advisers from India. It is worth noting that Birla's journal, Eastern Economist, welcomed the coup in Nepal. It is at this very time that the President of the Indian Republic raised just casually the innocuous looking question, before a gathering of lawyers, whether according to the Indian Constitution, the President was bound to abide by the advice of his Prime Minister and the Cabinet. What a fantastic question to raise after ten years of the Constitution. Was it a suggestion that the Constitution places the President above the Cabinet and even the Parliament?

It would thus seem that the anti-democratic trends which elsewhere are overthrowing even bourgeois parliamentary democracies and establishing military dictatorships in the service of the monopoly profiteers are trying to

infiltrate in the Indian climate also. No doubt, the position of Pandit Nehru and his friends is holding these sinister forces at bay. But this very factor reveals the weakness of the position. The Congress regime is so ridden with factional squabbles, corruption, waste, anti-democratic measures, bureaucratic methods and the selfish aggrandisement of the monopoly profiteers and landowning elements that the masses are becoming apathetic to the question as to whom is in power. Parliament is used as an instrument by these anti-democratic interests to carry out their self-aggrandisement at the cost of the people and the country. Premier Nehru is unable to correct the situation merely by his goodwill or his personal influence, because he refuses to rely on the initiative of the masses and their capacity to manage things and curb the bureaucrats and the vested interests. The result is that this vast country of ours, interested in peace and progress, positively on the side of democracy and freedom and against imperialist adventurers, is unable to play a positive and bigger role in quickening the pace of freedom, democracy and socialism. The reactionaries who are yet not organised or strong enough to do the dirty work in India are carrying out their rehearsals in Nepal and elsewhere.

In such a situation, we cannot merely remain silent spectators or critics. Many look at these events with the remark that "it cannot happen here". Yes, it cannot if the masses and especially the working class and peasantry are roused to the sense of the danger, to the need to guard democracy in our country.

No doubt, ours is not a people's democracy. Ours is not even a national democracy like that of Cuba, which has firmly ousted the American imperialists and nationalised

all their undertakings, disarmed the reactionaries and given the workers, peasants and intellectuals full initiative and power to manage the country's government and economy. Ours is a bourgeois democracy where power is not with the masses but with the bourgeoisie, and its bureaucrats. Even then it is a bourgeois democracy based on parliamentary system and some democratic rights. It is not a personal or military dictatorship of capital. It still leaves elbow room for the masses to speak and act in defence of their interests. Hence it is necessary to protect and develop further this parliamentary democracy and not be indifferent to its fate on the ground that it does not serve truly the interests of the democratic masses. The trade unions have a role to play in protecting, using and further developing this parliamentary democracy so that it is not either overthrown by military and personal dictators or used by the monopoly profiteers for their narrow class interests.

In my visits to certain factories, in talks with officials and politicians including men in the military line, I have found in them a contempt for the parliamentary system that prevails in our country. Their pet slogan is that it is the politicians and political parties that have made a mess of the country. The factory and the country must be run like the military units. Then things will be done quickly, efficiently and better. This talking shop of Parliament and the "so-called democratic freedoms" are ruining the country. Strikes must be banned altogether, peasants must work and stop talking of land for the selves, the student must learn, obey and serve, and so on. There are, as you know, well-known leaders who support these sentiments and want a non-party Government and dissolution of all political parties. Their next step - dissolution of all trade unions or their complete subordination to the State administration. Such line of thinking is

dangerous to our freedom, to our people, to the workers, to the trade unions.

What is then our task in this sphere? No doubt, at present, the bourgeois landlord majority in the Parliament and State legislatures goes against the interests of the workers, peasants, the middle classes and even sections of the bourgeoisie on some issues which are beneficial to the monopolists. The remedy to cure this is not to bring into contempt the parliamentary system as such and thereby pave the way to its suppression. The remedy is to change its composition; that is, win it for the democratic masses. The trade unions are vitally concerned with this. It is not solely a task of the political parties but of the workers and the whole people in general.

* For this, the trade unions which are the broadest organisations of the workers must mobilise politically, act politically, while defending their day-to-day economic interests.

It is now a common practice now as was recently seen in several strikes, on the part of Government to send army units or armed police against the strikers, to terrorise them, even when they are peaceful strikes. The trade unions and workers must learn how to fraternise with the army people and the police ranks so that they understand what we are struggling for. Some say that army and police must be and are above politics. That is a false statement. The army and police officers, the topmost generals are highly skilled politicians, they themselves belong or have links with the capitalist-landlord classes. They do politics all their life. It is the ordinary soldier, the lower officers, drawn from the peasantry and poorer sections of the people who are debarred from politics, which means sympathising with their own brethren, the exploited masses. In strike struggles, these people begin to see things, they begin to think, while remaining loyal to their duties. The

task of the trade unions is to teach the workers how to fraternise with them so that they at least know what we are fighting for, that ours is a just cause in the service of the people and the country though it may appear to be expressed in the mundane terms of wages and work. It can make them see where the system is wrong.

We must also campaign among the Congressmen, their legislators who are not hardened reactionaries to see the danger to all of us, by the way things are going.

Unity of the working class and its action, even simple, vast, united, peaceful mass action, can many a time defeat the dictators and reactionaries. The united strike and action of the Japanese workers, students, intellectuals moving in millions and facing boldly the army, turned back Eisenhower and brought down the Government. The determined march of the students, workers and other citizens drove Syngman Rhee from South Korea despite his guns and his American supporters. The dictators are not always so invincible as some think and united mass action is not so ineffective as some maintain.

Our trade unions have to learn to act positively in defence of democracy. We have to come to such a level of consciousness that the arrest of Lumumba or Koirala, the suppression of Parliament in Congo and in Nepal, the attack on Cuba or Iraq ought to evoke a protest strike, in a few factories at least, for an hour or so. That would be the measure of our general political class consciousness. That would enable us to fight the reactionaries in our country also, when they act against the workers, against the people. Question is: shall we do it henceforth with plan and vigour?

Hence our duty to ourselves and to the international working class enjoins on us to organise, educate and act for the following:

To educate our workers -

1) About the advance in the economic, cultural, scientific fields made by the Soviet Union and its defence of peace, freedom and socialism;

2) About the advance made by the socialist countries and the power of the working class which has enabled them to do it;

3) About the national liberation movement and the strides it has made in Asia, Africa and Latin America and particularly the events in Cuba, Congo, Algeria and South Africa;

4) About the struggles of the working-class, in the imperialist countries such as USA, Britain, France, Germany, Ital., Japan, etc., against the capitalist monopolies;

5) About the disarmament, banning of atom bombs and the peace movement.

6) About the reactionary conspiracies which the imperialists and monopolists are hatching to turn the clock of freedom and democracy backwards, the capacity of the people to halt them on the basis of united action;

7) Against war, for peace;

8) For defence of democracy and freedom; against monopolists and dictators.

To teach our workers to act in solidarity and unity, to discharge the above tasks.

The platform of the AITUC which is the platform of the internationalism of the working class, of unity and solidarity, must more and more campaign for these issues and also act. ~~Let us win all the unions and workers for this.~~ Let us win all the unions and workers for this. The World Federation of Trade Unions shows us the way to do it. We, as its detachment, are confident of winning victory.

26th Session

of the

All-India Trade Union Congress

AITUC NAGAR, COIMBATORE

January 5 to 12, 1961.

A D D R E S S

By

Mrs Parvathi Krishnan, M.P.,
Chairman, Reception Committee

Friends and Comrades,

It is my happy privilege to-day to extend to you all a very warm welcome on behalf of the Reception Committee of this, the twentysixth session of the All-India Trade Union Congress, and of the thousands of workers of Coimbatore rallied under the banner of the AITUC.

When we were called upon to undertake the responsibility of organising the session of the AITUC, we readily took it up, no doubt, with a sense of pride, since we consider it no small honour to play host to this, the premier trade union organisation in the country. At the same time, we had some trepidation, for, we realised that it is no easy job to make all the arrangements for a conference of this magnitude. We had tried to do our best so that all the arrangements may be upto your expectations, and we are sure you will forgive any shortcomings on our part. For the past two months, all the Unions in this district have been working tirelessly but enthusiastically for the success of this session. With the help sent to us by other Unions of the AITUC throughout the state of Tamilnad, we have been able to collect the funds to meet the expenses of the session, and I am proud to tell you that every donation has come from the workers and the workers alone.

To our brother delegates representing the World Federation of Trade Unions and trade union bodies of other countries, who have come from abroad, I have a particular pleasure in welcoming them in our midst, for the Reception Committee considers it a great honour and privilege in accordng their humble hospitality to them.

The workers of Coimbatore, rallied under the banner of the AITUC, have always looked up to the World Federation of Trade Unions as the true representatives of the working class of all countries, leading us forward to greater unity and success in our endeavours. At hours of trial and struggle, many have been the inspiring messages and practical help received from them, which have given us courage and strength.

The presence of the delegates from the All Union Central Council of Trade Unions of the U.S.S.R. reminds us over and over again how much the working class in our country, in this very Coimbatore, has benefited not only by the victorious strides that the working people of the Soviet Union took in building a new world free from exploitation, but also helping our country to overcome its economic backwardness, born out of foreign imperialist rule. Today the mighty steel plant at Bhilai stands out as a majestic monument of fraternal, selfless, socialist assistance for the friendly people of India - a never-ending source of inspiration for the working class of our country. Here is the shining symbol which our workers can proudly show before the entire people that the victorious working class of the world is ready to give to the peoples of the world.

To delegates coming from the great trade union movements of Poland, of Rumania, of Hungary, of the German Democratic Republic and of Mongolia we convey our greetings for the very presence at this gathering is one more proof of the unity of the working class of the world.

From Ceylon we have pleasure in welcoming our Comrades - the ties and links of workers of Tamilnad with the workers of Ceylon are perhaps the closest of any. They are our neighbours, and the workers in our tea plantations and their plantations are linked together by ties of blood and language. We hope that this conference will mark another mile-stone in forging closer links with our sister trade unions in Ceylon and thus strengthen the fight for the defence of our independence and for the unity of the workers of our two countries.

Friends and Comrades, many of you might be visiting Coimbatore for the first time and we would like to say to you that our city is known for the warmth of her hospitality. Delegates who have come from all corners of our great country, we are sure, will take back pleasant memories of their visit. Nestling in the lap of the picturesque Nilgiris, Coimbatore is widely known as a health resort, with its mild climate and its famous Siruvani water, one of the best in the world.

As a centre of learning, Coimbatore can boast of the large number of educational institutions. There are a number of Colleges here, including engineering and agricultural colleges.

One of the earliest centres of modern industry in South India, Coimbatore is often called the Manchester of the South. Textiles constitute its foremost industry, the first mill having come into existence as far back as the end of the last century. And it is at this very mill that the MITUC has one of its strongholds in the district. The workers of this Mill are the privileged bearers of a glorious tradition of great struggles. As you came into this hall after the flag hoisting, you would have noticed that one of the thirteen flags was raised in homage to the memory of the martyrs who were killed in a police firing outside these Mills during the struggle against victimisation in 1946.

Today Coimbatore has about 80 Textile Mills with about 70 thousand workers. The MITUC-led Union, the Coimbatore District Mill Workers' Union itself can claim that it is the most influential of all the Unions amongst the textile workers. Founded in 1937, it is one of the very

first AITUC Unions to be started in our State - today it has on its rolls over 15 thousand members, a large number of whom are women workers. This Union has a great record of fearless struggle in defence of the interests of the textile workers, and it has often given the lead in united action, embracing thousands of workers outside its own fold. The latest example of such successful united action is that for the implementation of the recommendations of the Textile Wage Board.

Next to the Mill Workers' Union, is that of the plantations in this district. Situated in the Anamalai hills, in Valparai, these plantations employ over 35 thousand workers. Only eight years ago, in 1952, the first AITUC Union was born in this area, and today, this has emerged as the only organised trade union there with a membership of over 15 thousand. Many have been the ruthless attempts to destroy this Union of ours - but all that was of no avail before the determination of the plantation workers and their unswerving loyalty to the AITUC. No act of terrorisation could dislodge the influence of our Union.

Not far from the city is Madhukkarai where the giant combine, the ACC, has one of their principal factories. Here too, it is the Union hel in high the flag of the AITUC that commands the confidence of the Cement workers. The engineering industry has recently been coming up in this district and among the workers engaged in this industry, the AITUC has built another firm base. Textool produces textile machinery known throughout the country, maintaining a high standard of production.

In this district, there is also a synthetic gum factory, a number of hosiery factories, sugar mills and the Brooke Bond and other tea and coffee curing establishments.

I should not forget to mention that Coimbatore is also one of the major centres of the handloom industry in Tamilnad, and the handloom saris of Coimbatore have in recent years become most popular throughout the country with their fine texture and varied designs.

Many a struggles taken place in this district, particularly amongst the textile workers under the banner of the AITUC. One of the very first important struggles was that of the workers of Tiruppur in 1940 for dearness allowance against the rising cost of living during war time. In 1946, undaunted, the textile workers of this district faced a prolonged struggle against the victimisation, while 1948 saw the 108 day long struggle against retrenchment and increased workload. The plantation workers of Valparai have waged struggle against the attacks of the employers and faced the firing opened by the police on Republic Day in January 1957.

Such a record of struggle and sacrifice of unrelenting fight in defence of their rights and interests that the workers of Coimbatore can proudly claim today is also an index of their loyalty to the AITUC, for it is the AITUC Unions which have stood at the fore-front of these struggles in the last two decades. And it is no accident therefore that of the 13 flags today enshrining the memory of Tamilnad's great working class struggles facing even martyrdom, as many as 11 represent Coimbatore's

Roll of Honour, of those who have given their lives in free of not only police repression but of brutal goonism resorted to by employers and their hirelings inside the working class.

Friends and Comrades, in once again welcoming you all to Coimbatore, permit me to tell you that the working people of Coimbatore will be following your important deliberations with keen interest, for this session of the AITUC - meeting at the end of the second Five Year Plan and while the Third Plan is being discussed will be taking momentous decisions of vital interest not only to the working class but of the nation as a whole. The fact that the AITUC will be giving to the country at this crucial juncture of the National history will be of decisive importance for the future of the cause of democracy and Socialism in this great land of ours. The working people of Coimbatore steelled in battle under the leadership of the AITUC, are ready to play their due roll in this great crusade.

Long Live the AITUC !

Long Live the friendship and solidarity between workers of all countries !

Long Live peace and friendship amongst all peoples !

January 5, 1961.

1001.3.8
Dear Comrades, Friends and
Delegates.

Permit me to express the feelings of the entire Polish working class and to convey, on behalf of the Central Council of Trade Unions, to you to all the members of the great militant trade union organisation of the Indian working class - the A.I.T.U.C. - and to all the working people of your country most cordial, fraternal greetings and the best wishes for success in your struggle for the consolidation of national sovereignty and the development of your beautiful, great fatherland - India.

... working class is perfectly well aware of the difficult road, full of self-sacrifices which your people covered, a people with an old culture and rich historical traditions, of struggle against the foreign rule.

The Polish trade unionists want to express their feelings of sincere friendship and at the same their deep respect for your militant trade union organisation which, being a member of the World Federation of Trade Unions, serves indefatigable the cause of the consolidation and unity of the international trade union movement.

We fully appreciate the great merits of your trade union organisation and of the entire Indian working class and their contribution to the struggle of

3) all the progressive forces of the Indian nation, which adhere to the principle of fighting for an easing of international tension, for peaceful co-existence of countries with different social systems, who are in favour of the complete and universal disarmament, the preservation of peace, who actively oppose the cold war, colonialism and imperialism.

Dear Comrades.

Among the many important problems on which concentrates the attention of the working people in our country and throughout the world, that of lasting peace has been given priority. To-day the very existence and the future of mankind depend on peace.

The Polish people suffered the most terrible losses during the last war, started by the Nazi invaders. More than six million human beings lost their lives in our country during this war.

2) The Polish working class is perfectly well aware of the difficult road, full of self-sacrifices which your people covered, a people with an old culture and rich historical traditions, of struggle against the foreign rule.

The Polish trade unionists want to express their feelings of sincere friendship and at the same their deep respect for your militant trade union~~s~~ organisation which, being a member of the World Federation of Trade Unions, serves indefatigable the cause of the consolidation of unity of the international trade union movement.

We fully appreciate the great merits of your trade union organisation and of the entire Indian working class and their contribution to the struggle of

3) all the progressive forces of the Indian nation, which adhere to the principle of fighting for an easing of international tension, for peaceful co-existence of countries with different social systems, who are in favour of the complete and universal disarmament, the preservation of peace, who actively oppose the cold war, colonialism and imperialism.

Dear Comrades.

Among the many important problems on which concentrates the attention of the working people in our country and throughout the world, that of lasting peace has been given priority. To-day the very existence and the future of mankind depend on peace.

The Polish people suffered the most terrible losses during the last war, started by the Nazi invaders. More than six million human beings lost their lives in our country during this war.

4) Thirty - eight per cent of the durable national property was destroyed. That is why our people is fully justified watching with uneasiness the danger inherent already today in the reborn forces of aggressive militarism in West Germany, equipped with modern destructive weapons supplied by the Western powers belonging to N.H.T.O.

Five years ago the Paris treaty limited this army to the conventional weapons only; today rockets and all sorts of guided missiles are being produced in the German Federal Republic. Voices are raised more and more frequently about the transformation of N.H.T.O. army detachments into a "so-called" "fourth atom power" So you can see how meaningless the assurances of the peaceful intentions of the West German government are and why our people are convinced that it is their duty to arouse the vigilance of the entire world in regard to this serious danger ~~of~~ to peace, namely the West German militarism.

our people, our working class and
to them the whole progressive
public opinion of the world, most
firmly protest against the
acts of lawlessness committed by
raising the United Nations flag
the defenders of the colonial
regime in Congo. With indignation
condemn the new adventurous
acts in Laos, committed by
right-wing rebels, enjoying
armed help of the U.S.A.

Polish working class most
firmly condemns colonialism
its classical today already obsolete
regime, as well as all types of neo-
colonialism, combining the
economic dependence of economi-
cally less developed countries
with political dictation. We are
of the same opinion as stated
by Com. Dange in his report, that
the crimes of colonialism are
done once and for ever and that
there can today no longer be any
power on earth deprived of the
right of being a sovereign state.

6) Disarmament and a guarantee for lasting peace is the guiding line for all the countries of the powerful camp of socialism.

This policy encounters the full support of all the progressive forces in the world. The Indian people also make a great contribution to the cause of peace and cooperation among nations and the attitude adopted by India in regard to many key problems of international policy gained recognition throughout the world and strengthened its authority among the peoples of the Asian continent.

Our people which is building socialism, our working class and its trade unions consider the struggle for the consolidation of peace as the most important task in their efforts to bring about the development of the productive forces and to raise the economic potential of the country. This is after all, in the conditions of our system

7) free from exploitation, the only road to raise the standard of living of the community and thereby a road leading to the deepening of the superiority of the forces of peace over the imperialist forces of war. In this peaceful competition between ~~two~~ different systems participate all socialist countries, including Poland, a country which, after having thrown off the yoke of exploitation of native and foreign capitalists, has entered the road of a rapid all-round development.

During the twenty years of the rule of the bourgeoisie and landlords after the first war, the production of the main industrial articles in Poland was unable to surpass the level of 1913.

Today, after 15 years of the rule of the people's power, the per capita industrial production in Poland has increased eight times.

This was possible due to the fact that today the working people

8) is the master in its country.

The people are working for their benefit, and this means that everyone in Poland has work and earns his bread, and also has free access to education. Side by side with the growth of production improvement of the living conditions can also be noticed from year to year. During the last five years real worker's wages increased by 25-29 percent. The rapid raise in the standard of living is possible as a result of the rapid increase in the national income whose dynamic force can be best ~~seen~~ illustrated by the way it grew during the last 10 years. If we accept the 1949 level of the national income as 100, then it increased by 1959 to 226. This growth bases itself on the boisterous development of the fundamental branches of our economy. During the current year our mining industry passed 100 million tons in the extraction of hard coal annually, while

of the highest coal output before the war amounted to 38 million tons. We are at present at the threshold of a new five-year plan which will be a plan of the fundamental technical alteration of our economy, the expansion of our own raw material base and the further increase in the well-being of the population. Having in mind our demographic situation we provide in our plan the proper conditions for our youth entering the labour market, by creating approximately 800,000 new work places during the coming five-year plan. These are no easy problems but we are solving them successfully, because the entire working class, every working person is personally interested in the best possible economic results of the establishment in which they work.

The socialist countries not only develop their own economy at a rapid rate, but they also grant

207, to a much larger disinterested help to less developed countries, to raise themselves from backwardness and to liberate themselves from economic dependence from foreign monopolistic capital. The cooperation between socialist countries, and all other countries regardless their political and social structure, including the cooperation between Poland and India, is proof of the economic and political relations of a new type which taking shape, relations to which no strings are attached.

I can assure you, Comrades, that our working class ardently desires a further development of this cooperation for the mutual advantage of our peoples.

Love of peace, the joint efforts to consolidate the unity of the working people throughout the world, to bring about progress throughout the world, the deep consciousness of international solidarity - this is the firm

17) foundation on which our cooperation is based.

Dear Comrades - Delegates.

Please receive our assurance that just as until now, we shall continue to watch your daily work and your achievements with cordial feelings of friendship and fraternal solidarity on the part of the working people of People's Poland. We wish you, Comrades, that the deliberations of your conference may be most fruitful and from all our heart we wish you new successes in your struggle and hard work for the benefit of the working class of India of the people of India, for the victory of peace throughout the world.

26th Session of the A.S.T.V.C.

Comrade President,

I protest against the method of adoption of Comrade Secretary's report by a majority vote. You know there can be no compromise in political views held by different political parties working the A.S.T.V.C. When we are trying ~~held~~ to embrace different parties in this platform ~~and~~ to achieve trade union unity, then the question of majority or minority ~~should not~~ should not arise at all and such a report should be placed before the conference in which ~~there~~ all the constituent parties ~~may~~ have been unanimous. Otherwise the minority party may feel to be suppressed and may ~~have~~ feel disinclined to work in the A.S.T.V.C.

HOWRAH SMALL FACTORIES WORKERS' UNION

Regd. No. 3191.

Head office :—182, BELILIOUS ROAD, HOWRAH.

President :—Anadi Das.

Secretary :—Sanatan Mondal.

Dated, the

Ref. No.

We hope that henceforth
the report should be circulated before
and an earnest attempt will
be made to prepare a unanimous
report so that the parties still
outside the A.D.T.V.C. may be
persuaded to come & join A.D.T.V.C.

Courately yours

Anadi Das.

12.1.61.

Please read out this before the
conference delegates.

A T T E N D A N C E C H A R T

G E N E R A L C O U N C I L M E E T I N G

C O I M B A T O R E

O N 3 r d J a n u a r y , 1 9 6 0 .

Com. N.N. Manna
Com. B.D. Joshi
Com. Prem Sagar Gupta
Com. Charan Singh
Com. Moni Bhowmick
Com. Bhagat Singh
Com. Solomon Kr. Singha
Com. Chaturanan Misra
Com. Sunil Mukerjee
Com. Barin Dey
Com. Ali Amjad
Com. Purnendu Mazumdar
Com. Nirmal Bhattacharya
Com. Srinivas Misra
Com. Nirmal Kanti Bose
Com. D.C. Mohanty
Com. R.K. Haldulkar
Com. Govind Sriwastava
Com. Sarvate
Com. P.K. Thakur
Com. R.N. Upadhaya
Com. Mugal Beg
Com. Shiv Sharma
Com. Raj Bahadur Verma
Com. S.C. Dutta
Com. Satish Chatterjee
Com. Pannalal Pathak
Com. Satyapal Dang
Com. V.D. Chopra
Com. Rachpal Singh
Com. Shiv Narayan Vats
Com. Bhajan Singh

Com. Karan Singh
Com. Kalyan Singh
Com. Pijra Singh
Com. Mohan Punamia
Com. Hanuman Pd. Singh
Com. Thiam Megha Chandra
Com. M.S. Krishnan
Com. Umanath Naick
Com. B.N. Kuttappa
Com. Narayan
Com. N.K. Krishnan
Com. A. Nallasivam
Com. R. Umanath Rao
Com. V. Karmegam
Com. P. Virudhagiri
Com. S. Ramaswamy
Com. K.T. Raju
Com. A.S.K. Iyengar
Com. S.C. Krishnan
Com. E.M. Sundaram
Com. K. Ramani
Com. S.M. Ramiah
Com. K.S. Janaki Ram
Dr. Kannibirani
Com. K. Anandan Nambiar
Com. A. Govindaswamy
Com. R. Karuppannan
Com. J. Satyanarayana
Com. N. Satyanarayan Reddy
Com. J.V.K. Vallabha Rao
Com. M.V. Bhadrani
Com. Balaji Das
Com. K.L. Mhendran
Com. Laxmi Doss

Com. P. Satyanarayana
Com. Kamparti Nagiah
Com. M.V.N. Kaparthy
Com. N.V. Ranga Rao
Com. V.M. Govindan
Com. Gulabrao Ganacharya
Com. S.N. Bhalerao
Com. Samuel Augustine
Com. Vithal Chaudhari
Com. K.T. Sule
Com. P.K. Kurane
Com. B.N. Mukherjee
Com. Nagapurkar
Com. A.D. Gadkari
Com. Madukar Bise
Com. N.C. Sekhar
Com. K.K. Warrior
Com. P. Sankar
Com. George Chadayanmuri
Com. Rajagopalan Nair
Com. P. Ramalingam
Com. T.C.N. Menon
Com. P.G. Padmanabhan
Com. K.V. Surendranath
Com. J. Chittaranjan
Com. K.A. Rajan
Com. C. Kannan
Com. B.C. Bharathan
Com. Rossamma Punnoose
Com. P.A. Solomon
Com. K.B. Panikkar
Com. Mahendra Sen

Comp Bejoy Paul

Com. Robin Sen

Com. Biren Roy

Com. Robin Mukerjee

Com. Mansur Jilani

Com. Dhiren Mazumdar

Com. Chatur Ali

Com. Hrishikesh Banerji

Com. Abdul Hossain

Com. Ram Sen

Com. Dinen Bhattacharji

Com. Saroj Ghoshal

Com. Moni Bose

Dr. S. Bose

Com. Chauthmal

1. Tripartite Committee.
 ✓ Code of Discipline
 Code of Conduct. — U.
2. Labour Policy in 15th Five Year Plan. — TBV / 19.11
3. Organization. — U.
4. Productivity & wages & prices. — Sachin Kumar
5. Social Security.
 ESI, Pw. Act, Housing, Unemployment, etc.
6. Industrial Relations. — How 2001
 13th - (Cont'd state), To Act & Rules,
 7. Nom. Committee, Joint management committee, Workers' Council
 & Protective Measures. — K.G.
8. Iron & Steel & Engineering — 3 years.
9. Coal & Power Min. — 8
 2 Railway.
10. Plantation - Revenue etc.
11. Textile
12. Jute.
13. Cement.

Propositions for 25th Session

.....

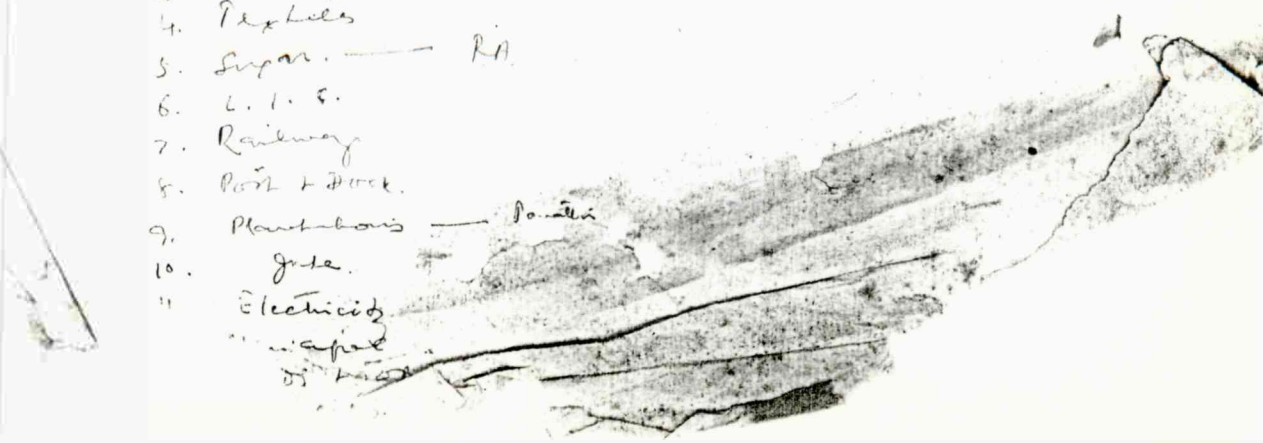
1. Harbours - Mary
2. River Boards - Bonus, D.A.
3. Productivity trends from
4. Code of discipline
5. Code of conduct
6. Joint and Discretion - Govt and our own
7. Labour laws
8. Amendment to Industrial Disputes Act
9. Arbitration Machinery
10. Local delegations
11. I.S.I.
12. Provident Fund and Workmen's Compensation act
13. Works Committee
14. Bill - Council and Negotiating Machinery
15. Cost of Living Index
16. New type Housing
17. Joint Management Council

Chand J. Allamanna W.C. Secy

Industry Reports:

1. Iron & Steel.
2. Engineering
3. Mining
4. Textiles
5. Sugar. — RA.
6. L.I.C.
7. Railway
8. Port & Dock.
9. Plantation — Jante
10. Jute.
11. Electricity
12. Paper
13. Dist. Ind.

Signs
power
collaboration
C.I.T.



PRESIDENT, GENERAL SECRETARY, WORKING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Com. S.S.Mirajkar,
President, AITUC,
New Municipal Quarters,
Opp.Koliwada Station,
Sion Road, BOMBAY-22.

Com. Kedar Das M.L.A.,
Vice President, AITUC,
Janshedpur Mazdoor Union,
Sakchi, JAMSHEDPUR.

Com. Hemant Kumar Bose, M.L.A.,
Vice President, AITUC,
249 Bowbazar Street,
CALCUTTA - 12.

Com. P.Ramamurthi M.P.,
Vice president, AITUC,
63 North Avenue,
NEW DELHI.

Dr. Ranen Sen M.L.A.,
Vice President, AITUC,
249 Bowbazar Street,
CALCUTTA - 12.

Com. S.S.Yusuf,
Vice President, AITUC,
11/47, Gwaltoli, KANPUR.

Com. Parvathi Krishnan, M.P.,
Vice President, AITUC,
10/21, Periaswamy Road,
R.S.Puram, COIMBATORE.

Com. S.A.Dange M.P.,
Irani Bungalow,
Khedgalli, Prabhadevi,
BOMBAY - 28.

Com. Satish Loomba,
Punjab Committee of the AITUC,
Dilkusha Building,
G.T. Road, JULLUNDHUR.

Com. Indrajit Gupta M.P.,
Secretary, AITUC,
15 - Dour Road,
CALCUTTA - 19.

Com. K.T.K. Tangamani M.P.,
Secretary, AITUC,
Mandian Asari Lane,
MADURA, Madras State.

Dr. Raj Bahadur Gour M.P.,
Secretary, AITUC,
1-8-1/60 Surya Nagar,
Chikkadpally,
HYDERABAD - 20, (Andhra).

Com. S.G. Patkar, M.L.A.,
Choukar Building,
Room No. 9,
Jerbai Wadia Road,
B O M B A Y - 12.

Com. T.B.Vithal Rao M.P.,
Treasurer AITUC,
11-2-319, Mylargudda,
SECUNDERABAD, (Andhra)

Com. P.Balachandra Menon M.L.A.,
Vice President, AITUC,
Kerala Trade Union Congress,
Plantain Grove,
TRIVANDRUM, Kerala State.

Com. Manoranjan Roy,
18 Mahananda Para,
SILIGURI, Darjeeling.

Com. Ajit Biswas,
8 Maharashi Debendra Road,
C A L C U T T A - 6.

Com. K.N. Joglekar,
No.1, Krishna Building,
Poibaodi, Parel,
B O M B A Y - 12.

Com. G. Sundaram,
Petroleum Workmen's Union,
Shramjeevi Awaz,
34, Sewri Cross Road,
Sewri, BOMBAY - 15.

Com. R.Sugathan M.L.A.,
President KPTUC,
Plantain Grove,
TRIVANDRUM, Kerala State.

Com. Shantaram Pai,
S. Kanara Trade Union Council,
Maidan Road, MANGALORE,
S. Kanara, Mysore State.

Com. S. Krishnamurthi B.A.B.L.,
Advocate, 6 Rajachar Street,
T.Nagar, MADRAS - 17.

Com. Ram Asrey,
18/50, Kurswan,
KANPUR, (U. P.).

Com. Md. Ismail,
West Bengal Committee of the AITUC,
249, Bowbazar Street,
CALCUTTA - 12.

Com. Sudhir Mukhoti,
18, Mirzapur Street,
CALCUTTA - 12.

Com. Anadi Das,
Vill. Shanpur,
DASSNAGAR, Dt. Howrah,
West Bengal.

Com. Shakir Ali Khan M.L.A.,
Itwari, B H O P A L.

Com. Kallat Krishnan,
Puthiyara,
KOZHIKODE - 4,
Kerala State.

Com. Magdum Mohiuddin M.L.A.,
Andhra Pradesh Trade Union
Congress,
1-8-44/5, Jawahar Nagar,
HYDERABAD, (Andhra).

Com. T.R. Ganesan,
Tamilnad Trade Union Congress,
6/157, Broadway,
MADRAS - 1.

Com. Lalit Burman,
Indian Mine Workers Federation,
Near Mack & Co.,
DHANBAD, Bihar.

Com. Sailen Paul,
Jagtola,
MAHESHTOLA,
24 Parganas, W. Bengal

Com. Md. Elias M.P.,
West Bengal Committee of the
A.I.T.U.C.,
249, Bowbazar Street,
CALCUTTA - 12.

Com. Sudhir Gosh,
West Bengal Committee of the
A.I.T.U.C.,
249, Bobazar Street,
CALCUTTA - 12.

Com. S.Y. Kollhatkar,
Block No.6, Ground Floor,
Tanibhai Nivas,
BOMBAY - 31.

Com. Homi Daji, M.L.A.,
24, Mahatma Gandhi Road,
INDORE, Madhya Pradesh.

Com. M.C. Narasimhan M.L.A.,
Karnatak Trade Union Congress,
50-Arcot, Srinivasachar Street,
BANGALORE - 2.

Com. K.L. Narsimhan M.P.,
Andhra Pradesh Trade Union
Congress,
Governorpet,
VIJAYAWADA, Andhra.

Com. V. Subbiah M.L.A.,
7 Vellala Street,
PONDICERRY.

Com. Ratan Roy,
Bihar Trade Union Congress,
Iangertoli,
PATNA - 4.

Com. Abdul Momin,
President,
Mayurbhanj Textile Workers Union,
BARIPADA, Mayurbhanj,
Orissa.

Com. Y.D. Sharma,
15 Gali Jogdhian,
Behind State Bank,
Chandni Chowk, DELHI.

Com. S.K. Sanyal,
Communist Party Office,
Tilak Statue, Mahal,
NAGPUR.

Com. Kumaranand,
Textile Labour Union,
BEANWAR, Rajasthan.

Com. A. C. Nanda,
89, U.B. Jawahar Nagar,
DELHI - 6.

Com. P.D. Gandhi,
Saurashtra Trade Union Council,
Bhojeswar Plot,
PORBANDER, Saurashtra.

Com. Aruna Asaf Ali,
Jamna Bhavan,
Asaf Ali Road,
NEW DELHI.

Com. Barin Chowdhury,
Assam Prov. Trade Union Congress,
Barpathar Mazjidpatty,
Mazjidpatty,
TINSUKIA, Assam.

Com. Bawa Kartar Singh,
Punjab Trade Union Congress,
Dilkusha Building,
G.T. Road,
JULLUNDHUR, Punjab.

Com. K.G. Sriwastava,
Secretary, AITUC,
4 - Ashok Road,
NEW DELHI.

Com. G. Sundaram,
No.21, Bhaveswar Sadan,
Plot No. 207, Sion East,
BOMBAY - 22.

LIST OF FOREIGN DELEGATES WHO HAVE
ACCEPTED INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE
IN 26TH SESSION OF THE ALL-INDIA
TRADE UNION CONGRESS (Coimbatore
- January 3 to 12, 1961)

++++++

1. From World Federation of
Trade Unions, Prague:
 - i) Mr. Sugiri,
Secretary, World Federation of Trade Unions
 - ii) Mr. Jaroslave Mewald,
General Secretary of the Trade Unions
International of Textile & Clothing Workers
 - iii) Madame Lisa Orlikova
Interpreter

2. From Central Council of
Mongolian Trade Union,
Ulan Bator:
 - i) Mr. Zandir-yn Dagwa
Vice President
 - ii) Prof. Shagdarin Tsegmid
 - iii) Miss. L. Ider,
Interpreter

3. Unity Trade Union Central,
Amsterdam Netherlands:
 - i) Mr. Everhard Sip,
General Secretary
 - ii) Mr. Jan Willem Verduin,
Legal Adviser

4. Central Council of Hungarian
Trade Unions, Budapest
 - i) Mr. HORN Dezö
Secretary
 - ii) Mr. GEDEON Pal,
Dy. Editor-in-Chief of Newspaper "Nepszava"

5. Confederation of Free German
Trade Unions, Berlin, German
Democratic Republic
 - i) Mr. Wolfgang Beyreuther,
Member of the Presidium
 - ii) Mr. Bernhard Schunke,
Head of the International Dept.

1001-3.10

Proposals made by the General Council

I. CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

- 1. S.S.Mirajkar
- 2. S.A.Dange
- 3. Indrajit Gupta
- 4. K.G.Sriwastava
- 5. P.Ramamurti
- 6. K.T.K.Tangamani
- 7. Parvathi Krishnan

II. CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

- 1. T.B.Vittal Rao
- 2. E.Krishnamurthy
- 3. Sudhir Mukhoti
- 4. K.N.Joglekar
- 5. G.V.Chitnis
- 6. Hrishni Banerjee
- 7. A.C.Nanda

III. RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

- 1. K.T.K.Tangamani
- 2. Indrajit Gupta
- 3. Satish Loomba
- 4. Y.D.Sharma
- 5. Homi Daji
- 6. Satyanaraya Reddy
- 7. B.S.Dhume
- 8. Anadi Das
- 9. P.Ramamurti

Kerala - B.1 Tharankal, Kottayam, Kerala
 Andhra -
 Panipat -
 Kanak -
 Bombay -

Sugar.

1

Employing nearly two lacs of workers and providing employment to millions others, sugar industry within about two decades has developed into one of the biggest organised industry meeting ^{the} needs and requirements of growing population of the country. Up to 1953-54 we imported about 6 lacs tons of foreign refined sugar, whereas now sugar has become one of source of earning foreign exchange.

Nearly 150 sugar mills, mainly concentrated in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in the last season produced over 24 lacs tons of white sugar and overfulfilled the targets of 2nd 5 year Plan, which was 22.5 lacs tons. By the end of the 2nd plan period we may well touch the high mark of 26 lacs tons (in 1960-61)

Re. Capital employed in the sugar factories all over India is nearly 30 crores of rupees.

The Table below gives an idea of the progress of the industry:

	(In Tons)
1950-51	11,00,500
1951-52	14,83,000
1952-53	12,91,400
1953-54	10,00,500
1954-55	15,80,000
1955-56	18,62,000
1956-57	20,26,100
1957-58	19,77,774
1958-59	19,18,192
1959-60	24,10,000

||

But this progress has not given relief to the employees or even to the cane-growing peasants. Even the Wage Board for sugar industry which was expected to give adequate relief to the workers producing super-profits has failed to provide any appreciable relief except standardising the facilities and concessions that were being enjoyed by a large section of the workers.

I was with this view since when the Sugar Wage Board came into existence in December 1952, the AITUC insisted whatever case it had working in sugar unions. In early 1958 comrades from U.P., Punjab, Hyderabad and Tamilnad held a meeting to discuss and prepare the uplifts of the questionnaire of the Wage Board.

After these consultations the uplifts were prepared by the AITUC centre and submitted before the Wage Board. ~~We demanded~~ In our evidence before the Wage Board, we demanded Rs. 110.00 as the need-based minimum for the whole industry and also indicated that the AITUC will allow regional variations in accordance with the duration and recovery percentage in each region. But in no case it will accept less than Rs 110.00 as minimum wage as the paying capacity of the industry permitted the cost.

In the year 1949-50 average all-India price of sugar was 28.50 Rs. and in the year 1959-60 it was at 46.00 per mt. in the market, despite partial control imposed by the Govt. of India. The cane-producing peasants too have been accorded no relief and too, despite repeated demands and support from State legislatures of U.P. and Bihar will get Rs 1.62 per mt. for delivery at the factory, gate and Rs 1.50 per mt. at mill-centres, even in season 1960-61.

It is thus clear that the sugar industry has become all very important not only for the trade union movement of the country, but also because of its position with regard to everyday requirements of the people and the importance it has for the cane-growing peasantry, it has acquired important position for the Democratic movement of the country.

(5)

At the Bangalore meeting of the General Council the matter of working in the industry was discussed and the General Council while drawing priorities of work industry-wise placed work in sugar industry at fourth place after Railways, steel and Engineering. At that time we had also decided that an All-India Federation be brought into being with the help of United China Front Majoran Federation which was an united front of work in UP for Socialists, PSP, Communists and independents.

After this meeting Com. Ravi Das undertook a tour of sugar factories in East U.P. and did some preliminary work as in this region we had not even the necessary contacts and cadres.

In the beginning of the 1959-60 season meetings of Maharashtra and U.P. comrades were held in November and December and decisions to organise work were taken in these meetings which were attended by

Com. S. A. Dange and Com. K. S. Sivastava. ⑥

1000 pamphlets covering the Ceph's 4-
Wage Board were printed and sold in
Hindi to U.P. workers.

Some attempts to coordinate the work
of Sugar Unions in Tamilnad were also
made but the work seems to have been
given up due to lack of cadre.

In Maharashtra, the Walchandnagar
Union has been organised with the help and
cooperation of AITUC and Republican elements
which is emerging as an effective force
compared to the HNS Union. A meeting
of Sugar Union comrades was held in October
which was also attended by Com. S. A. Dange.
Similar meetings were held in West U.P.
and Punjab to prepare for the Wage. The
workers to demand immediate decision on
Wage Board recommendations. In Punjab even
the INTUC Unions have moved with AITUC
Unions for this.

To-day we have 29 unions with
as against INTUC's membership of 63,999 in 91 unions.
21472 membership under AITUC fold of these.

It must be noted that in U.P. and Punjab
it is the INTUC which has strong hold over
sugar workers. In East U.P. though in
the shaded lanes, M.A. and H.M.S. have
general influence over the workers yet, they
are weak organisationally.

IV

The effects of the recommendations
of the Wage Board will be being felt deeply
and widely. For the first time a standardised
wage-structure has been recommended for
the whole industry. Categories have been
worked out according to the skills of work etc.
~~Many a concessions have been done away with
in the name of standardising wage rates.~~

What is W.B.'s recommendation with
regard to need-based minimum? Though
conceding in principle a National Minimum
Wage of Rs 60 - 1.65, the W.B. has not
gone much far than the existing wage in
the industry.

8

Madharashtra has been awarded slightly different wage scales - though in total wage there too not much has been given. In U.P. the existing wage-level is Rs 58.00 for unskilled workers. If the recommendations are given full effect, which is very likely due to the unanimous character of the Report, then the wage for unskilled worker must rise between Rs. 10.00 to Rs. 15.00. In Madharashtra the rise has to be between Rs. 5 to Rs. 10.00.

Here in this industry the WOB did not discuss much with regard to the paying capacity as such, but desired adequate wage-rise in the name totally misconceived bourgeois theory that 'a wage-rise in particular sector of economy will dislocate the rural economy of the country and wide disparity of incomes would arise'. This is totally unconvincing.

The method common to all WOBs and Pay Commission that seems to have been followed is to effect minimum wage-rise, which is impossible to deny

in view of the fact that cost of living has gone up and then ensure "peace" for the Third Plan. The Wage-Boards were won due to the labour drive in the First Plan, but they took the 2nd Plan period for their decisions and are ensuring "peace" by meagre increments.

The Pay Commission was bothered by dislocation of Plan-economy, the Textile WLB was bothered by a "crisis", and paying capacity, the Sugar WLB was concerned for rural economy - the net result being denial of adequate wage-rise and neutralisation of rising prices - They ~~followed~~ ~~different~~ ~~routes~~ ~~but~~ ~~the~~ ~~result~~ ~~was~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~, ~~that~~ ~~to~~ ~~offer~~ ~~a~~ ~~large~~ ~~rise~~ ~~to~~ ~~all~~ ~~classes~~. followed different routes, but the conclusions were the same - as if pre-mediated.

The Sugar WLB has denied retaining allowance to unskilled seasonal workers. It has denied Railway fare. It has taken away other facilities and concessions than were won after many

a struggle. The Bonus in The North, which was being given on the basis of negotiations through Government machinery, has been made dependant on profits of individual units. The apprehension is that the workers in this region may suffer due to this because Bonus Commission promised to be set up is still far away.

V

Now, that the WB recommendations are before us and also because they lay an extent standardise conditions of pay and work, a common all-India organisation led by the AZTUC has become imperative.

2. The sugar industry due to its being peculiarly in a position to affect lives of the millions of workers, peasants and consumers, provides an appropriate forum for AITUC intervention against profiteering and racketeering.

3. Re AITUC by effectively

11
intervening in this industry will become
leader of not only thousands of workers but
also millions of peasants engaged in sugar-
cane production and will unite workers and
peasants on a common platform against
capitalist loot, for nationalisation of sugar
industry.

Tripartites

.....

Tripartite conferences and committees representing employers, workers and Government were formed in India during the Second World War in 1942, on the pattern of the ILO. The purpose, as of the ILO, is to discuss issues concerning labour round the table, for arriving at agreed conclusions. These conclusions nonetheless are in the nature of recommendations to the Government, leaving them free hand either to accept them or reject them. This is the only forum where the organised working class is consulted by the Government and the employer at national (and now at State) level on our issues.

In all these committees, the dice is loaded against the working class as the representation to the three constituents is equal and it becomes very difficult to get anything passed by majority.

though difficult
Unanimity/is the best way of working it.

The task of these tripartite committees is made still more difficult because of division in the working class. The representation for the workers is divided (now according to verified membership) among the four central TU organisations. Very often they do not see eye to eye on various issues, though lately on some of the issues - may be from different angles - worker representatives in these tripartite committees have agreed on some issues. In a way, this is the only platform where representatives of the four central TU organisations in the country sit side by side on their issues.

Till the 14th Indian Labour Conference, except the one which discussed 'industrial truce' in 1948, none others merited any special attention. The conferences were used to announce labour policy of the Ministers and, if at all, to listen to what others have to say.

(ILC)

The character of the Indian Labour Conference changed from the 15th ILC held in July 1957 at Delhi. This conference, for the first time discussed wage policy, code of discipline, rationalisation, etc., and arrived at unanimous understanding. This was carried forward in the 16th ILC and the functioning of its various sub-committees and industrial committees have been utilized by the workers' representatives to arrive at agreements on national level in a particular industry or on general issues.

A short note on the various tripartite conferences and committees which took place during the year 1958, 1959 and 1960 and the important decisions taken as well as the AITUC representation is attached to this report. This will give an idea of the positive gains achieved, the points which were accepted but not yet implemented and the harmful suggestions which came up in these meetings, against working class interests and which were opposed successfully by the workers' representatives.

In these meetings, our main job was to suggest items and discuss points in the furtherance of working class interests, express opinions and sometimes support good suggestions coming from the Government (may be as a result of our earlier mass agitations, etc.) and oppose stoutly the retrograde measures brought forward either by the Government or employers (or sometimes suggested by our sister TU organisations).

The work in these committees require study of the subject matter, The experience of the working in centres, theoretical knowledge and knowledge of the industry and sometimes, the technique, are essential to be effective in these committees. Continuity of our representation on such work is also helpful. Along with experienced comrades, new cadres should be trained in this work as advisers, as this is one of the important aspects of work in the TU movement in this phase.

No doubt, there are serious defects in the working of these tripartite committees. There is no written constitution and procedure and mostly, it is based on the conventions and the expediency of the occasion.

One of the biggest defects is that there is no machinery to check up and make Government act even on agreed decisions. Delay is often abnormal. Also, when Government is the employer, it is still more difficult to get the decisions implemented. Though there are representatives of the various employing ministries and State Governments in these conferences and the Cabinet Minister (with joint responsibility) presides over it; often these ministries are in actual practice found not agreeing with the decisions and flouting them.

Nonetheless, the agreed decision of the tripartite gives us a good basis for putting mass pressure and if necessary, have agitation from below for getting it implemented. It helps us to get mass support for our demand.

Another difficulty is that except the ILC and the Standing Labour Committee (SLC), other committees do not meet at regular intervals. Here also, our representatives on these committees should take initiative in sending points of agenda and emphasising necessity of meetings. ~~Such~~ Instances of the non-functioning of other tripartites can also be raised in the ILC and the SLC.

The Code of Discipline and the Inter-Union Code of Conduct are the products of these tripartite bodies. These have become quite important in today's TU functioning and should therefore be discussed thoroughly.

There has been an understanding that by agreeing to the Code of Discipline, the AITUC or the trade unions have imposed upon themselves certain obligations. What is actually true is that certain obligations and procedure of conducting trade disputes have been codified and we have ourselves agreed to abide by them.

But we have however insisted that the whole basis of industrial relations today, as at any other time, be it the Code of Discipline, productivity, struggles or anything else, is based on recognition of the union which has got the backing of the majority of workers. Therefore, in the Code of Discipline, we have put certain conditions:

* Asked Government to ensure recognition of trade unions. We have not yet succeeded in getting accepted the method of ballot for determining which union has got the backing of majority of the workers. But another method of detailed verification of membership has been worked out and recognition of the trade unions is an integral part of the Code of Discipline.

* Where the employers refuse to recognise the union or negotiate with it, the union is not bound by the Code of Discipline.

* The Code of Discipline will also apply to the Public Sector or where the Government (Central as well as State) is the employer.

These assurances were given in the 16th ILC (Nainital, 1958) and then only the Code of Discipline was ratified by us.

There are, however, a number of drawbacks in the working of the Code of Discipline:

* While the Code is binding on all unions affiliated to the central TU organisations, a number of ~~employers~~ employers, irrespective of their affiliation to the central organisation of employers, refuse to accept the Code. Some such cases from Punjab only have been so far referred. From other centres, wherever such instances are noticed, this should be reported to the **F&I** Machinery and the AITUC.

* In some States, attempts have been made to impose legal sanction for alleged violation of the Code. The Code of Discipline is a voluntary agreement and should remain as such. Therefore, any attempt to insist on acceptance of the Code as a precondition for getting unions registered, refusal to refer cases to adjudication for alleged infringement of the

Code, non-intervention in strike struggles by Government for the same reason, etc., should be opposed.

* The "sanctions" for breach of the Code of Discipline, as they are suggested now, are one-sided. These have very adverse effect on the trade unions and the workers but not so against the employers. It is for this reason that at the last meeting of the Standing Labour Committee, we opposed the proposal to frame "additional" sanctions (including grant of powers to Government to impose penal sanctions) for breach of the Code. We stressed that unless effective sanctions for breach of Code by employers are worked out and implemented, the Code is likely to be worked out against the working class.

- The Implementation Machinery is often found prejudiced against the workers' case. It is also seen on other occasions that this body is helpless when faced with a defaulting employer. This is nothing unusual and even in the absence of the Code, we have to fight such manifestations.

The inquiry in the two cases, of which the report has been made available, i.e., in the case of Premier's Automobile strike and Bombay General strike of July 25, 1958, and the Calcutta Tramway strike, clearly shows the tendency to apportion blame to both the employer and the union, but more against the trade union. In the case of the Calcutta Tramway Strike Inquiry and then the Munnar Plantation Strike Inquiry, we insisted that assessors from the trade unions and employers' organisations should be taken in on the inquiry body. Experience shows that these assessors should first agree on the factual data before the inquiry, otherwise only certain facts to bring home a particular conclusion are considered while other important and relevant facts are just ignored. Examination of the State Ministers whenever they had anything to do with the strike will also be necessary.

In the year 1958, we referred to the E&I Machinery of the Union Government, 35 cases of breach of the Code of Discipline. In about six cases, their help was useful.

In the year 1959, only 18 cases were referred by us, out of which only in five cases fruitful results were achieved.

In the year 1960, 29 cases were referred and three were settled.

(State-wise break-up in respect of the reports made to the Central E&I Machinery is given separately).

It will be clear from the above that utilisation of the Code of Discipline in workers' interests has yet not gone in the consciousness of our organisers. Surely there have been much more cases of violation of the Code of Discipline but not reported. In the State sphere, some more cases might have been referred but still the overall picture will remain the same. In some States, the E&I Machinery and Committees have been formed late and therefore, we may not have been able to avail of them in the years 1958 and 1959 and in the case of Bombay State (Maharashtra) upto July 1960. Reporting of these cases in requisite details is an additional paper worker for which our unions are not very well equipped and this is one reason for the negligence. But this is not all.

Complaints against us for breach of the Code, both from Government and employers, are much more. Unions should be prompt in repudiating the false charges which have been often made. Otherwise, the impression is created that delay is intentional. Also unions must avail of the opportunity when the Labour Inspector or the RLC visits them for inquiry into cases of violation of the Code. Lack of interest in this often makes us appear guilty in these inquiries. Our complaints should be specific (and not general) and with as much details as possible. Reports should be made to the State level E&I Committee, in State-sphere cases and if no action is taken, the Central E&I Machinery should be approached.

The Code should be used by the Unions, wherever we are in majority, to immediately apply for recognition under its provisions and keep papers ready for the detailed and spot verification of membership.

The Code can also be used to report on all cases of non-implementation of labour enactments, awards and agreements.

Under the Code, unions can maintain the usage and conventions of the union regarding collection of union dues, holding meetings, etc.

Employers' interference in union affairs, their unilateral actions and unfair labour practices constitute a breach of the Code and should be reported.

If the employers refuse to negotiate, representations should be made immediately to the State or Central I&E Machinery and in case, they fail to redress the grievances within a reasonable period, the obligations under the Code will not remain binding on the union.

The Code enjoins the employers to have a Model Grievance Procedure in the establishment which will guarantee settlement of individual cases within a period of 90 days in all. Therefore, the setting up of the Grievance Procedure and its implementation should be insisted upon.

For the first time, the obligations of the employers have been codified and unions should make full use of it to see that these are implemented by them. Otherwise, cases should be reported to the I&E Committees and machinery.

In some of the Public Sector undertakings, some adverse changes have been made in the Code of Discipline. This should be resisted.

In Public Sector undertakings, the unions and federations should inform the Labour Ministry of their willingness to abide by the Code of Discipline and force the employers to agree to it. Initiative has to be taken by the trade unions in this regard.

Even when the Code of Discipline has not been accepted by the employers, the unions should send report to the State/Central Implementation Machinery, if there are instances of breach of the Code. This strengthens the hands of the Labour Ministry in getting these managements to accept the Code eventually.

Now, in almost all States, E&I Machinery has been set up. These should be made full use of. We must insist that the I&E Committees meet at least once in three months.

The Code of Discipline can be utilised both by the employers and unions against defaulters, even though it is recognised that difficulties in the way of the trade unions and workers are greater and more numerous. Employers have powers otherwise also. The task at the moment is to see - who utilises it against whom?

The Code of Conduct is, for all practical purposes, a dead letter. No meeting of the representatives of the four central TU organisations has been held since July 1959 (at the time of the Madras ILC). The Madras meeting was also inconclusive.

It is no doubt true that the Government itself as an employer and as Government has violated tripartite decisions. Both the Government and the employers try to emphasise only such parts of the decisions and the Code of Discipline as bind down the workers to certain obligations and repudiate others which bind them and are helpful to the workers. Nonetheless, it would not be correct to ignore the fact that through this media of tripartites, workers have got some advantages also. The struggle to turn these tripartite bodies to the advantage of the workers is hard enough but nonetheless worth fighting for.

COMMISSION FOR THE

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

A. I. T. U. C.
26th SESSION

COIMBATORE January 5th to 12th, 1961

FLAG HOISTING

SPEECH

by

Com. A. S. K. AYYANGAR



Dear Comrades, Brothers & Sisters,

The Flag of the A.I.T.U.C. just now unfurled by me on your behalf, is flying high aloft. It announces the beginning of the Mighty 26th Session of the A.I.T.U.C.

You know of course that the Great Organisation of the Indian Working Class the AITUC took its birth way back in 1920, in that City which rocked with a great political strike of the textile workers in 1903, protesting against the savage sentence of transportation to Mandalay of the Great Patriot, Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak, by the then British Rulers of India.

The Lion of the Punjab, the great Lala Lajpat Rai was the first President of the AITUC. Then followed a galaxy of stalwart Patriots and National Leaders of our country, men like C. R. Das, Jawharlal Nehru, N. M. Joshi, Subash Chandra Bose, V. V. Giri, S. A. Dange, Chakkarai Chettiar, S.S. Mirajkar and a host of others who were successively Presidents of this Mighty Organisation of the Indian Working Class—the AITUC.

Under this flag, countless class battles have been fought and won, and prolonged and bitter were the struggles waged by the Indian Working class for our National Independence and Sovereignty.

The Red flag of the AITUC is dyed red in the blood of countless martyrs, brave sons of the Indian Working class who fell holding this flag high aloft.

The flag of the AITUC is a symbol of the Hopes and Aspirations, of not only of the working-class of India, not only of the middle class employees, but the entire toiling teeming millions of our countrymen.

The flag of the AITUC is the harbinger of Socialism, is the forerunner of a better life for all and the beacon-light of all-round Progress and Peace.

It is the flag that sings to you the song of unity of working class, the flag that tells you the saga of the working-class of the world, organized under the banner of that Great Mighty World Organisation, the WFTU.

We are all proud of working under the ever galvanising influence of our General Secretary of the AITUC—a comrade whose life-story is inextricably woven with the annals of the AITUC—I refer to our illustrious General Secretary, Comrade S. A. Dange.

Comrades, the flag of the AITUC which is flying high aloft there was brought all the way from Madras, a distance of over 800 miles by volunteers of our trade unions in the city of Madras. All these comrades carried this flag proudly and came all the way on cycles to this Conference to hand over the Flag for to-day's Great Function.

The particular significance of this Flag is, that This Flag dipped in the blood of the countless martyrs of the Indian working class in the struggles then against British imperialism for national Independence and in the post-Independence period, for TU rights, peace & socialism, is further dipped in the blood of the six martyrs who fell victims to Police bullets at Madras on the very first day, the 16th June when the All India Port & Dock Workers went on a strike in 1953, demanding the implementation of the Recommendations of the Chaudhri Committee's report on the demands of Port & Dock workers.

The flag is thus hallowed with the blood and memories of the heroic sons of the working-class.

I thank you all, for the honour you have done me, in asking me to hoist the Great Flag of the AITUC at this Historic Conference, the 26th session of our Mighty Organisation—the AITUC; I consider it not as a personal one but as a tribute paid to the working-class of Tamil Nad, which incidentally is one of the strong units of the AITUC.

LONG LIVE THE AITUC.

LONG LIVE THE WFTU.

INDIAN WORKING-CLASS UNITY—ZINDABAD.

LONG LIVE SOCIALISM & WORLD PEACE.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

by

Com. M. KALYANASUNDARAM, M.L.A.



Dear Comrades, Brothers & Sisters,

The 26th Session of the AITUC, the unique organisation of the Indian Working class, commences in this industrial city to-day. I consider the honour conferred on me to inaugurate this session, as an honour conferred on the working class of Tamilnad. Only in this spirit, I have come forward to inaugurate this Conference.

We have assembled here to-day in this Pandal, erected in the CHIDAMBARAM PARK in Coimbatore city. Old memories of our peoples, heroism rush to our mind. In the struggle for freedom, the Tamil people gave birth to the hero V. O. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI and this Park has been named after this great hero. This city had stood in the forefront both in the freedom struggle and in innumerable struggles of the Working class of our country. Tiruppur Kumaran who stood by the National Flag and gave his life in the Freedom struggle, hailed from this district. In this heroic tradition, the working class of this area had fought many glorious battles, sacrificed scores of working class heroes in defence of trade union rights and built mighty unions under the flag of the AITUC.

Textile magnates and other employers with great influence in the ruling circles live in this city, and side by side through glorious struggles, conducted by it, the working class of this city has won the respect and support of the entire people of Coimbatore. In the municipality there are a number of Councilors from the ranks of the working-class and the chairman of the Coimbatore Municipality, Sri Boopathy is an ex President of the Coimbatore Mill Workers' Union of the AITUC. This indicates that the future belongs to the working-class and not to those who stand in opposition to the working-class.

Forty years back, on 31st October 1920, the AITUC made its appearance in our country's life. The birth of the AITUC is an important event in the working class movement and the democratic movement of our country. All these forty years the AITUC has served as the true leader and real friend of the Indian working class. AITUC has served in the cause of both nation-

nalism and Working class internationalism. Both the working class of our country and the Indian people are proud about the 40 years record of activities of the AITUC. An examination of the proceedings and resolutions and decisions of the previous 25 conferences of the AITUC will reveal that the part played by the AITUC for defending and extending trade union rights on the one hand and for winning and defending national independence and for developing national economy on the other hand is a glorious part indeed. The achievements of the AITUC in winning 8 hour working day, better wages, ensured bonus, dearness allowance to neutralise price increases, medical benefits, and trade union rights are really glorious achievements of which the Indian worker is justifiable proud.

The freedom struggle in the period 1857 to 1947 assumed various forms in various phases. Only in 1947 we were able to win our national independence. The year 1945 saw the defeat of fascism, the end of the second world war and the further victory of socialism in a number of countries. The freedom struggle in colonial countries reached new heights. In our country, the working class came forward to play a glorious part in the freedom struggle and demanded with the entire people "Imperialists, Quit India". The working class struggles rose in wave after waves, braving the tanks and guns of the imperialists. The Royal Indian Navy men rose in an uprising and turned the guns against the imperialists. The working class made it clear that 1946 was the final year in the freedom struggle of our country, and the blood of the working class and the people of India ran in streams in the cause of freedom. Against such national uprising, the tanks and guns of imperialists lost their power. The favourable world situation against imperialists on the one hand and the uprising of the working class and people of India on the other, forced the imperialists to quit India and our country became independent in 1947.

Because of the part played by the AITUC in the national struggle against British imperialism on the one hand and in the heroic struggles for bettering the livelihood of the workers of India on the other, the working class movement and the AITUC emerged as a strong force in the country's life. After independence, tasks of national reconstruction came before the people and working class of our country. All of us began to put our shoulders together in this task. But unfortunately at this juncture, certain forces were set at work sowing discord in the ranks of the working class with a view to weaken class unity and to weaken the AITUC and new trade union centres appeared on the scene.

All the same, the AITUC has been mobilising the working class and the trade unions to support every effort of the Govern-

ment which was in the interest of strengthening independence and national economy and weakening imperialist hold in all forms. As a result of this leadership of the AITUC, the AITUC has grown stronger and the movement for trade union unity also has grown in this period.

At Ernakulam, at the 25th Session of the AITUC, we adopted the Two Pillar Policy of "For the Nation and for the Class". Extending Public sector, building heavy industries, not to rely merely on getting aid from Western countries but also to seek the help of Soviet Union and other Socialist countries in building heavy industries, putting a ceiling on land ownership accepting to implement socialist aims—such were the progressive aspects of the second five year plan and we welcomed and extended our support to these aspects at our Ernakulam Session. But there we also expressed the doubts of the working class—how can a party dominated by monopolists, implement such progressive aspects of the Second Plan? In that Session, AITUC underlined the fact that curbing of monopolist interests, mobilising the support of the people and the working class are necessary for the success of the Plan and for the progress of our country. But due to the policies adopted by the Government of India, inflation and price rise resulted, on the one hand hitting the livelihood of workers, peasants and the entire population and on the other hand effecting the Second Plan also. The working class was forced to wage struggles against these. The Central Government employees waged a glorious struggle demanding wage increase and dearness allowance against rising prices. The Government not only failed to protect the standards of living of the people, but it resorted to Ordinance and repression to put down people's struggle for defending their standard of living. The aspirations of the toiling people cannot be so easily crushed.

Freedom and democracy are not mere words or slogans. The working class fights for the contents of freedom and democracy. The working class wishes to know for whom the police and prisons are meant. Are they protecting our intelligentsia and the working class and the peasantry who constitute 95% of the population, or are they meant for protecting the minority industrial, magnates, Plantation owners, landlords, speculators and profiteers and help them in exploiting the toiling millions and make the poor poorer and the rich richer. Are the Plans and schemes meant for bettering the peoples lot or for safeguarding the interests of exploiters? The working class demands answers to these questions. The toiling people constitute the nation. Freedom should mean the flowering of the condition of the people. Democracy means safeguarding the rights of the

people of the country. The AITUC fights for such real freedom and democracy. The AITUC has always served as a staunch friend of all sections of people fighting for their rights.

Realising that repression alone cannot defeat the struggles of the toiling people, the rulers try to propagate false theories and notions to weaken the morale of the fighting people. The speech of our Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on 7th July over the A. I. R. is a good example of this attempt. In the name of increasing production, speeding up, curtailing leave facilities, adopting direct and indirect methods for increasing work loads and similar attacks are being launched by employers, and the Government is encouraging them. In such a situation, the AITUC is arming the working class for defeating the barrage of false notions and theories spread by capitalistwalas, and for forging class unity and trade union unity in defence of the national economy and interests of the working class.

This Conference of the AITUC is going to charter a path for us for rapid development of our national economy, for democratising and strengthening the public sector, for rooting out corruption and inefficiency, for real industrial democracy, for putting an end to the moves of foreign imperialists, jeopardising our national economy, for stepping up determined action of the trade union movement in defence of the interests of national economy and the interests of the working class.

Peace, freedom, democracy and socialism are the banners of the working class. Uniting the World workers under this banner, in 1945 the World Federation of Trade Unions was formed. In order to fulfil the noble aspirations of mankind and to liberate mankind from war and exploitation, the AITUC lined up the Indian working class with the world Working class, by affiliating our trade unions with the W.F.T.U. Today tremendous changes had taken place in favour of the toiling people. The economy of the Socialist countries have grown by leaps and bounds. The total production of the capitalist world will be outstripped by the Socialist world in no distant date. This development is welcomed by the entire world and especially by the peoples of Africa and Asia. The Socialist countries have come forward to extend aid in a massive scale for developing and strengthening the economy of the under developed, newly liberated countries of Africa and Asia, and Latin America. The Soviet Union and Rumania are helping our country to explore our oil resources. The rich oil basin in the Cauvery delta is going to be explored with their help. The colonial rule in the world is crumbling. In the recent session of the United Nations, ten countries of Africa who recently won their national freedom were admitted as members of the U. N. All the same, imperialists are conspir-

ing to disrupt the freedom attained by Congolese people. The Algerian peoples' struggle for freedom is being brutally attacked. The struggle for freedom by these people are bound to win soon. To put it short, to-day the forces of peace, freedom and socialism have grown tremendously and the people of the world are today strong enough to prevent the outbreak of any war. The people are determined to defeat the imperialist conspiracies and march forward. In this great struggle for peace and progress, the W.F.T.U, with which we are affiliated stands in the forefront. Today the WFTU is 101 million strong. Under the glorious guidance of the WFTU the Indian working class led by the A.I.T.U.C., will take its rightful place in the struggle for Peace, Freedom and Socialism.

With such a background of heroic record and tradition, we have assembled here in the 26th Session of the A.I.T.U.C. Our Conference will deliberate for a week over the issues before our country and the world and its decisions will guide us in our tasks. The entire working class of our country and all sections of democratic people are eagerly looking forward to the decisions of this Conference.

It is not my purpose in my speech to go into details over the issues and tasks facing us. Our respected General Secretary Comrade **S. A. Dange**, whose life all these 40 years is intertwined with our glorious organisation, the AITUC since its inception, who is one of the pillars of the Indian Trade Union Movement, will detail the issues and tasks facing us in his report. So let me cut short my speech, wh ch has already grown longer.

I wish to say a few words on the special importance of this Conference. before concluding my speech. In this conference nearly 1,500 delegates have assembled. Differences of caste, creed, race, politics, religion and language have no place here. All of us are going to discuss issues to chalk out a better life for our people. At a time when disruptive tendencies are set at work by [interested parties to sow seeds of discord based on language, religion, caste and creed, in order to weaken the unity of toiling people, let our Conference shine as a challenge to all these disruptive tendencies. Whatever be the tongue we use, our ideas and goal are one, our path is one. We speak the tongue of the Indian working class. We chart the path of the Indian working class.

With these few words, I declare this Conference open.

Long Live A.I.T.U.C.!

Long Live the 26th Session of the A.I.T.U.C.!

Long Live the Unity of the Working Class!

அகில இந்திய தொழிற்சங்க காங்கிரஸ்

26-வது மகாநாடு

(கோவை 1961 ஜனவரி 5-12)

கொடியேற்று விழா உரை

தோழர் ஏ. எஸ். கே. அய்யங்கார்



அன்புமிக்க தோழர்களே,

சகோதரர்களே, சகோதரிகளே,

உங்களுடைய சார்பில் இப்பொழுது நான் ஏற்றி வைத்த ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி. யின் கொடி வானளாவப் பட்டொளி வீசிப் பறக்கிறது. அ. இ. தொ. சங்கக் காங்கிரசின் மகத்தான 26-வது மகநாடு ஆரம்பமாகிவிட்டது என்பதை இது அறிவிக்கிறது.

இந்தியத் தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தின் புகழ்மிகு ஸ்தாபனமாகிய ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி. 1920-ல் தோன்றியது என்பது உங்களுக்குத் தெரியும். மகத்தான தேசபக்தர் லோகமான்ய பாலகங்காதர திலகரை, அப்பொழுது, இந்தியாவை ஆண்டுவந்த பிரிட்டிஷ் ஆட்சியாளர்கள் பர்மாவிலுள்ள மாண்டலே சிறைக்கு நாடு கடத்தும் மிருகத்தனமான தண்டனை விதித்ததைக் கண்டனம் செய்வதற்காக 1908-ல் பஞ்சாலைத் தொழிலாளர்களின் மாபெரும் அரசியல் வேலைசிறுத்தம் உலுக்கியேடுத்த அந்த நகரத்தில்தான் அ. இ. தொழிற்சங்கக் காங்கிரஸ் ஸ்தாபனம் பிறந்தது என்பதை நீங்கள் அறிவீர்கள்.

பாஞ்சாலசிங்கம், புகழ்பெற்ற லாலா லஜபதி ராய்தான் ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி. யின் முதல் தலைவராகத் திகழ்ந்தார். அதன் பின்னும் ஒருவர் பின் ஒருவராக மகிமை பொருந்திய தேசாபிமானிகளும், நம் நாட்டின் தேசியத்தலைவர்களுமாகிய சி. ஆர். தாஸ், பண்டித ஜவாஹர்லால் நேரு, என். எம். ஜோஷி, சுபாஷ் சந்திர போஸ், வி. வி. கிரி, எஸ். ஏ. டாங்கே, வி. சக்கரைச் செட்டியார், எஸ். எஸ். மிராஜ்கர், இன்னும் பலரும், இந்தியத் தொழிலாளிவர்க்கத்தின் பலம் வாய்ந்த ஸ்தாபனமாகிய ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி. யின் தலைவர்களாக இருந்துள்ளனர்.

இந்தக் கொடியின் கீழ் எண்ணற்ற வர்க்கப் போராட்டங்கள் நடைபெற்றுள்ளன. வெற்றியும் பெற்றுள்ளன. அத்துடன் நம் முடைய தேச விடுதலைக்கும், அரசரிமைக்கும் கூட இந்தியத் தொழிலாளி வர்க்கம் மூர்த்தண்யமான போராட்டங்களை நடத்தியுள்ளது.

ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி. யின் இந்தச் செங்கொடி இந்தியத் தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தின் வீரப் புதல்வர்களினுடைய நல்வாழ்வுப் போராட்டங்களில் கொடியை உயரப் பிடித்துக்கொண்டு வீழ்ந்து பட்ட கணக்கற்ற தியாகிகளின் ரத்தத்தால் சிவப்பேறியுள்ளது.

ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி. யின் கொடி, இந்தியத் தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தினுடையவும், நடுத்தர வர்க்க ஊழியர்களுடையவும் நம்பிக்கைகள், அபிலாஷைகள் ஆகியவற்றினுடைய சின்னம் மட்டுமன்றி, நம் நாட்டின் பாடுபடும் லட்சோபலட்சக் கணக்கான, அத்தனை உழைப்பாளிகளுடைய ஆர்வ அபிலாஷைகளுடைய சின்னமுமாகும்.

அ. இ. தொழிற்சங்கக் காங்கிரசின் கொடி சோஷலிஸ அருணையத்தை ஏற்படுத்தும் கொடியாகும். எல்லோருக்கும் ஒரு மேம்பட்ட வாழ்க்கையைக் கொண்டுவரக்கூடிய முன்னோடியும், சகல துறை முன்னேற்றத்துக்கும், சமாதானத்திற்குமான ஒளி விளக்குமாகும்.

இந்தக் கொடி, தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தின் ஒற்றுமை கீதத்தை இசைக்கும் கொடியாகும். உலகத் தொழிற்சங்க சம்மேளனமேன்ற மகத்தான, வலிமை பொருந்திய உலக ஸ்தாபனத்தின் பதாகையின் கீழ் ஸ்தாபன ரீதியாகத் திரண்டுள்ள உலகத் தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தின் வீரம் செறிந்த வரலாற்றை எடுத்துச் செல்லும் கொடியாகும்.

ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி. யின் வரலாற்றுடன் பிரிக்க முடியாமல் பிணைந்துள்ள வாழ்க்கை வரலாற்றை உடையவரும், எப்பொழுதும் நம் அனைவருக்கும் ஊக்கமும், உத்வேகமும் அளித்து வரும் ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி. யின் மதிப்புக்குரிய பொதுக் காரியதரிசியுமாகிய தோழர். எஸ். ஏ. டாங்கேயின் தலைமையின் கீழ் வேலை செய்வதற்கு நாம் அனைவரும் பெருமைப்படுகிறோம்.

தோழர்களே, இப்பொழுது இங்கே வானளாவப் பறந்து கொண்டிருக்கும் இந்தக் கொடி 300 மைல் தூரத்திற்கட்பால் சென்னையிலிருந்து நம் தொழிற் சங்கங்களின் தொண்டர்களால் இங்கு கொண்டுவரப்பட்டதாகும். இந்தத் தோழர்களெல்லாம் பெருமிதத்துடன், சைகிள் ஜாதாவாக, இக்கொடியைத் தாங்கி வந்து, இன்றையக் கொடியேற்று விழாவிற்கு அதை இங்கு கொண்டு வந்து கொடுத்துள்ளனர்.

இந்தக் கொடியின் விசேஷ முக்கியத்துவம் என்னவெனில், ஏற்கனவே, பிரிட்டிஷ் ஏகாதிபத்தியத்திற்கெதிராகவும், தேச விடுதலைக்காகவும் நடைபெற்ற போராட்டங்களிலும், நாடு சுதந்திர மடைத்ததற்குப் பின்னால் தொழிற்சங்க உரிமைகளுக்காகவும், சமாதானம், சோஷலிஸத்திற்காகவும் நடைபெற்ற போராட்டங்களில் உயிர்துறந்த எண்ணற்ற தியாகிகளின் ரத்தத்தில் தோய்ந்து சிவப்பேறிய இந்தக்கொடி, துறைமுகத் தொழிலாளர்களின் கோரிக்கைகளின் சம்பந்தமான சௌதுரி கமிட்டியின் அறிக்கையிலுள்ள சிபார்சுகளை அழல் நடத்த வேண்டுமென்பதற்காக, 1958-ம் வருஷம் நடைபெற்ற அ. இ. போர்ட் அண்ட் டாக் தொழிலாளர்களின் வேலை நிறுத்தத்தின் முதல் நாளன்றே ஜூன் 16-ல்

சென்னையில் போலீஸ் துப்பாக்கிக் குண்டுகளால் வீழ்த்தப்பட்ட ஆறு தியாகிகளின் ரத்தத்தால் மேலும் சிவப்பேறியுள்ளது, என்பதாகும்.

இவ்வாறாக, இந்தக் கொடி தொழிலாளிவர்க்கத்தின் வீரம் செறிந்த புதல்வர்களின் ரத்தத்தினாலும், கிணைவுகளினாலும் புனித மடைந்துள்ளது.

சரித்திரப் புகழ்பெறும் இந்த மகாநாட்டில், நம்முடைய மகத்தான ஸ்தாபனமாகிய ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி.யின் இந்த 26-வது மகாநாட்டில், இந்த மாண்புமிக்க கொடியை ஏற்றுவிக்கும் பெருமையை எனக்களித்ததற்கு நான் உங்களனைவருக்கும் என் நன்றியைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன். நீங்கள் அளித்த இந்தப் பெருமை தனிப்பட்ட முறையில் எனக்கு அளித்ததாக நான் கருதவில்லை, ஆனால் ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி.யின் பலம்வாய்ந்த கீளையாகிய தமிழ்நாடு தொழிற்சங்கக் காங்கிரசின்கீழ் திரண்டுள்ள தமிழகத் தொழிலாளிவர்க்கத்திற்கு அளிக்கப்பட்ட ஒரு பெருமை என்றே நான் கருதுகிறேன்.

- ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி, நீடுழிவாழ்க !
- உலகத் தொழிற்சங்க சம்மேளனம் நீடுழிவாழ்க !
- இந்தியத் தொழிலாளிவர்க்க ஒற்றுமை நீடுழிவாழ்க !
- சோஷலிஸ்டும், உலக சமாதானரும் நீடுழிவாழ்க !

மகாநாடு துவக்க உரை

தோழர் எம். கல்யாணசுந்தரம் எம்.எல்.ஏ.



அன்பிற்குரிய தோழர்களே! சகோதரர்களே! தாய்மார்களே!

இந்தியத் தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தின், ஒப்பற்ற ஸ்தாபனமாகிய, அகில இந்தியத் தொழிற்சங்க காங்கிரஸின், 26-வது மகாநாடு, இன்று இம்மா நகரத்தில் தொடங்குகின்றது. இந்த மகாநாட்டை தொடங்குவதற்கும், பெருமையை எனக்கு அளித்துள்ளது, தமிழகத்தின் தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்திற்கு அளித்துள்ள பெருமையாகும், என்று எண்ணியே, இந்தப் பொறுப்பை நான் ஏற்றுக்கொள்ள துணிந்தேன்.

கோவை நகரத்தில், சிதம்பரம் பூங்காவில் நிர்மாணிக்கப்பட்டுள்ள, பந்தலில் நாம் இன்று கூடுகிறோம். பழைய வீர நினைவுகள் நம் மனக்கண் முன் வருகின்றன. விடுதலைப் போராட்டத்தில் தமிழ் மக்கள் தோற்றுவித்த ஒரு மாவீரன், வ. உ. சிதம்பரம் பிள்ளையின் பெயரைப் பெற்றுள்ளது நாம் கூடியுள்ள இந்தப் பூங்கா. விடுதலைப் போரிலும் சரி, தொழிலாள வர்க்க உரிமைப் போரிலும் சரி, முன்னின்றுள்ள ஒரு மாவட்டத்தின் தலைநகரில் கூடுகிறோம். “சுதந்தரக் கொடியை கையியினின்று பறிக்கவிடமாட்டேன்” என்று ஏகாதிபத்திய போலீசுடன் போராடி உயிரையே கொடுத்த, திருப்பூர் குமரன் தோன்றியது இந்த மண்ணில், அவன் வழிவாரிசாக, தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தின் புதல்வர்கள் பலர், உயிரைக் கொடுத்து, ரத்தம் சிந்தி, தொழிற்சங்க உரிமைகளைப் பாதுகாத்து, ஏ.ஐ.டி.யு.சி.-யின் கொடியை உயரப் பறக்க விட்டுள்ளனர் இந்த மண்ணில்.

ஆட்சி பீடத்தில் செல்வாக்குமிசைந்த பஞ்சாலை மன்னர்களும், தொழிலதிபர்களும், வாழும் இந்நகரத்தில், தொழிலாளி வர்க்கம் நடத்தியுள்ள வீரப் போராட்டங்கள் ஏ.ஐ.டி.யு.சி.-யின் அழியாத சரித்திரத்தில் ஒளிசூண்டுதல் போன்றனோடுகளாக விளங்கும். இந்த வீரப் போராட்டங்கள், தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தை, இந்த நகர மக்களின் செல்வாக்குள்ள தலைவனாக மாற்றிவிட்டது, என்று துணிந்து கூற விரும்புகிறேன். நகராட்சி மன்றத்தில் தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தின் செல்வாக்கு ஓங்கி நிற்கின்றது. ஏ.ஐ.டி.யு.சி.-ஐ பின்பற்றும், தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தின் புதல்வன், மீல் தொழிலாளர் சங்கத்தின் முன்னாள் தலைவர், தோழர் எம். பூபதி இந்த நகர மன்றத்தின் தலைவராகத் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்டிருப்பது, எதிர்காலம் தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தினுடையது, தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தை எதிர்ப்பவர்களுடையது அல்ல, என்று முடிவாகிறது.

40 ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்பு, 1920 அக்டோபர் 31-ம் தேதி ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி. தோன்றியது. ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி.-யின் பிறப்பு, இந்தியத் தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தின் சரித்திரத்தில் இந்திய ஜனநாயக இயக்கத்தில் ஒரு முக்கிய நிகழ்ச்சியாகும். இந்தியத் தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தின், உற்ற துணைவனாகவும், உண்மைத் தலைவனாகவும், இயங்கி வழிகாட்டி வந்துள்ளது. வர்க்க உணர்ச்சி, தேசபக்தி ஆகிய இரு பண்புகளுக்கும் ஊற்றாக விளங்குகிறது.

ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி.-யின் கடந்த 40 ஆண்டு வரலாறு இந்தியத் தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்திற்கும், இந்திய மக்களுக்கும் பெருமை அளித்துள்ள வரலாறு. இதற்கு முன்பு நிகழ்ந்துள்ள 25 மகாநாடுகளில் நிறைவேறியுள்ள தீர்மானங்களும், வகுத்துள்ள திட்டங்களையும், பரிசீலித்தால், அன்றாட நலன்களையும். தொழிற்சங்க உரிமைகளைப் பாதுகாப்பதுடன், தேச சுதந்திரத்தைப் பெறுவதிலும், பெற்ற சுதந்திரத்தைப் பாதுகாத்து தேச புணர்நீர்மாணத்திலும் தொழிலாளி வர்க்கம் ஆற்றியுள்ள பங்கு மகத்தானது என்பதைப் புரிந்துகொள்ள முடியும். சம்பளம், பஞ்சப்படி, போனஸ், வேலை நேரம், வைத்திய வசதிகள், தொழிற்சங்க உரிமைகள், ஆகிய அன்றாடப் பிரச்சனைகளில், கடந்த 40 ஆண்டுகளில், A.I.T.U.C.யின் சாதனை மகத்தானது.

1857-லிருந்து 1947-வரை நமது நாட்டில் ஏகாதிபத்தியத்தை எதிர்த்து, விடுதலைக்கானப் போராட்டங்கள், பல கட்டங்களில், பல ரூபங்களில் நடந்துள்ளன. ஆயினும் 1947-ல்தான் நாம் சுதந்திரம்பெற முடிந்தது. 1945-ல், இரண்டாம் உலக யுத்தம், பாசிலத்தின் அழிவில் முடிந்தது. சோஷலிய அமைப்பு புதிய பலம் பெற்றது. காலனி நாடுகளில் விடுதலை இயக்கம் புதிய வீச்சு பெற்றது. நமது நாட்டில் விடுதலைக் கொடியை தொழிலாளி வர்க்கம் உயர்த்தியது. 1946-ல் “வெள்ளையனே வெளியேறு” என்று தொழிலாளி வர்க்கம் போராடியது. வேலை நிறுத்தங்கள் அலை அலையாகத் தோன்றின. ஏகாதிபத்தியத்தின், பிரங்குகளையும், டாங்குகளையும் கூட கண்டு அஞ்சாமல் தொழிலாளி வர்க்கம், போராடியது. இந்திய கடற்படையினர், ஏகாதிபத்தியத்தின் மீது துப்பாக்கியைத் திருப்பினர். நமது நாட்டின் விடுதலைப் போராட்டத்தின், இறுதிக் கட்டம் 1946-ம் ஆண்டு, என்பதை தொழிலாள வர்க்கம் பறைசாற்றியது. தொழிலாளி வர்க்கமும், மக்களும் ஒன்று சேர்ந்து சிந்திய ரத்தம் ஆறாகப் பெருகியது. ஏகாதிபத்திய பிரங்குகளும், டாங்குகளும், சக்தியழந்தன. ஏகாதிபத்தியத்திற்கு எதிரான உலகச் சூழ்நிலை, ஒருபக்கம், இந்தியத் தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தின் போராட்ட எழுச்சி இன்னொரு பக்கம் நேருக்க, ஏகாதிபத்திய ஆட்சியாளர் வெளியேறினர், இந்தியா சுதந்திரம் பெற்றது.

ஒரு புறம் பிரிட்டிஷ் ஏகாதிபத்தியத்தை எதிர்த்து தேச சுதந்திரத்திற்காகவும், இன்னொருபுறம் பாட்டாளிகளின் வளமிக்க வாழ்வுக்காகவும் அஞ்சாது, அயராது போராடியதின் விளைவாக,

இந்தியத் தொழிற்சங்க இயக்கமும், ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி.-யும் வலுப் பெற்று நின்றது.

நம்நாடு சுதந்திரம் பெற்ற பிற்பாடு, தேசபுணர் நிர்மாண வேலைகள் இந்தியத் தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தையும், இந்திய மக்களையும் எதிர்போக்கி நின்றது. இதில் நாம் அனைவரும் அக்கரை காண்பிக்க முற்பட்டோம். ஆனால் துர்பாக்யவசமாக, இந்திய தொழிலாளர் ஒற்றுமையை பிளவுபடுத்தவும், ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி.-யை பலவீனப்படுத்தவும் ஒரு சில சக்திகள் தோன்றி, புதிய மத்திய ஸ்தாபனங்கள் ஏற்பட்டன.

ஆயினும், இந்திய சர்க்கார் எடுக்கும் நடவடிக்கைகள், ஏகாதிபத்தியத்திற்கு எதிராகவும், தேச சுதந்திரத்தை பலப்படுத்துவதாகவும், நாட்டுப் பொருளாதாரத்தை அபிவிருத்தி செய்வதாகவும் இருக்கும் ஒவ்வொரு நடவடிக்கையையும் தொழிற்சங்க இயக்கம் ஆதரித்து, அவற்றை செயல்படுத்துவதில் தீவிர பங்கு கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி. வழிகாட்டி வந்தது. இதன் விளைவாக ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி. பலம் தினை தினை வளர்ந்து வந்ததுடன், தொழிற்சங்க ஒற்றுமை இயக்கமும் இந்தக் காலகட்டத்தில் வளர்ந்துள்ளது.

“தேச முன்னேற்றம், தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தின் முன்னேற்றம்” என்ற இரு லட்சியங்களுக்காகவும் தொழிற் சங்கங்கள் போராட வேண்டுமென்ற இருதூண் கொள்கையை நாம் ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி.-யின் 25-வது எர்ணுகுளம் மகாநாட்டில் வகுத்துக் கொண்டோம்.

பொதுத் துறையில் பல தொழில்களை கட்டி வளர்ப்பது கனயந்திரத் தொழிற்சாலைகளை நிறுவுவது, இதற்கு அவசியமான உதவியை மேற்கத்திய நாடுகளிட மட்டும் நம்பியீராமல், சோவியத் யூனியன் முதலிய சோஷலிஸ நாடுகளின் உதவியை நாடுவது, நல்ல உடமைக்கு வரம்பு கட்டுவது, சோஷலிஸ லட்சியத்தை ஏற்று அமுல் நடத்துவது போன்ற இரண்டாவது ஐந்தாண்டு திட்டத்தின் முற்போக்கான அம்சங்களை எர்ணுகுளத்தில் நாம் வரவேற்றோம்.

ஆனால் ஏகபோக முதலாளிகளின் செல்வாக்கு மிகுந்த ஒரு கட்சி இந்த முற்போக்கான அம்சங்களை உண்மையில் நடைமுறையில் அமுலாக்க முற்படுமா என்ற தொழிலாளி வர்க்கத்தின் சந்தேகத்தையும் அன்று ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி. சுட்டிக் காட்டியது.

ஏகபோக முதலாளிகளைக் கட்டுப்படுத்தி, பொதுமக்கள் தொழிலாளர்கள் அனைவரின் ஆதரவைத்திரட்டி இயங்கினால்தான் திட்டங்கள் வெற்றி பெற முடியும், நாடு முன்னேற முடியுமென்பதையும் ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி. சுட்டிக்காட்டியது. ஆனால் இந்திய சர்க்கார் அனுஷ்டித்த கொள்கைகளின் விளைவாக, பணவீக்கமும், விலைவாசி உயர்வும் ஏற்பட்டது; தொழிலாளர்கள், உழைப்பாளி மக்கள், பொதுமக்கள் அனைவரின் வாழ்வும் பாதிக்கப்பட்டது.

2-வது ஐந்தாண்டு திட்டத்தின் குறிக்கோள்களும் பாதிக்கப்பட்டன. இந்தச் சூழலில் தொழிலாளர்கள் இந்த விளைவுகளை எதிர்த்துப் போராடவேண்டிய நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டது. விளைவாக உயர்வுக்கேற்ற பஞ்சப்படி, சம்பள உயர்வு கோரி மத்திய சர்க்கார் ஊழியர்களும் ஒன்றுபட்டு ஒரு மகத்தான போராட்டம் நடத்தினர். மக்களின் வாழ்க்கைத் தரத்தைப் பாதுகாப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் தவறிவிட்டது என்பது மட்டுமல்ல. வாழ்க்கைத் தரத்தை பாதுகாக்க தொழிலாளர்கள் போராடினால் அதை அவசர சட்டத்தின் மூலமும், அடக்குமுறையின் மூலமும் அடக்கிவிட விரும்பியது. மக்கள் அபிலாஷையை அவ்வளவு சுலபமாக அடக்கிவிட முடியாது என்பதை நான் வலியுறுத்திக் கூறத் தேவையில்லை.

சுதந்திரம், ஜனநாயகம், என்பவை வெறும் அலங்கார வார்த்தைகள் அல்ல, ஆழமான லக்ஷியங்கள் என்று தொழிலாளர் வர்க்கம் பறை சாற்றுகிறது. போலீசும், சிறைக்கூடங்களும், யாருக்காக? என்று கேட்கிறது தொழிலாளர் வர்க்கம். வயல்களிலும், தோட்டங்களிலும், தொழிற்சாலைகளிலும், அலுவலகங்களிலும், உழைக்கும், சமுதாயத்தில் 95 சத வீசுதமுள்ள மெஜாரிட்டி சமூகத்தினரைப் பாதுகாக்கவா, அன்றி ஆலை முதலாளிகள், தோட்ட முதலாளிகள், கொள்ளை லாப வர்த்தகர்கள், கீலப் பிரபுக்கள், ஆகிய சிறுபான்மையினர், பெரும்பான்மையான உழைக்கும் மக்களை கொள்ளையடிப்பதைப் பாதுகாக்கவா? என்று தொழிலாளர் வர்க்கம் கேட்கிறது. திட்டங்கள் போடுவதும், சட்டங்கள் செய்வதும், உழைக்கும் மக்களின் முன்னேற்றத்திற்கா? அன்றி, மக்களைச் சுரண்டுபவர்களின் முன்னேற்றத்திற்கா? தேசம் என்றால் எது? மக்கள் என்றால் யார்? உழைக்கும் மக்கள் தான் தேசம்; அவர்கள்தான் மக்கள். அந்த மக்களின் வாழ்வு மலர்வது சுதந்திரம்! அந்த மக்களின் உரிமைகளைப் பாதுகாப்பது ஜனநாயகம்! அத்தகைய மக்கள் சுதந்திரத்திற்காகவும், மக்கள் ஜனநாயகத்திற்காகவும் போராடுவது A.I.T.U.C. நல் வாழ்வுக்காக போராடும் சகல பகுதி மக்களின் உற்ற நண்பனாக ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. சி. பணியாற்றி வந்துள்ளது. சமீபத்தில் நடந்த மத்திய சர்க்கார் சிப்பந்திகள் போராட்டத்திற்கு தன்னுடைய ஆதரவைத் திரட்டி கொடுத்ததை நான் இங்கு குறிப்பிட வேண்டிய அவசியமில்லை.

அடக்குமுறையினால் மட்டும் தொழிலாளர் வர்க்கத்தை அடக்க முடியவில்லை என்று உணர்ந்த ஆட்சியாளர்கள், கொள்கைகளையும், கோட்பாடுகளையும் திரித்துக் கூறுகின்றனர். நமது பிரதமர் பண்டித ஜவஹர்லால் நேருவும் ஜூலை 7-ல் மத்திய சர்க்கார் ஊழியர்களின் போராட்டத்தை எதிர்த்து வாடுவையில் ஒரு பிரச்சங்கம் நிகழ்த்தியது இதற்கு ஓர் சிறந்த உதாரணம். உற்பத்திப்பெருக்கின் பெயரால், வேலை வேகத்தை அதிகப்படுத்துதல், விவசாய வசதிகளைக் குறைத்தல், இன்னும் மற்ற நேர்முக, மறைமுக வழிகளில் வேலைப்பளுவை அதிகரித்தல் போன்ற தாக்கு

தல்களை முதலாளிகள் கட்டவிழ்த்து விடுவதற்கு சாதகமான நிலையில் சர்க்கார் இயங்கி வருகின்றது என்று கூறினால் மிகையாகாது. இத்தகைய சூழ்நிலையில் முதலாளித்துவ கருத்துத் தாக்குதல்களையும் எதிர்த்து, தேச நலன், தொழிலாளி வாக்கத்தின் நலனை பாதுகாக்க தொழிலாளர் ஒற்றுமை தொழிற்சங்கஒற்றுமையை வளர்த்து, உறுதியாக ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. ஸி. போராடி வருகிறது. நம் நாட்டுப் பொருளாதாரம் துரிதமாகவும், உறுதியாகவும் வளர, ஊழல், எதேச்சாதிகாரம் களைந்தெறியப்பட்டு தொழில் வளர்ச்சி உண்மையான ஜனநாயக ரீதியில் வளர, மக்கள் வாழ்வு வளம்பெற, பொது அரங்கத்தொழில் வளர, தேசநலனுக்கு வீரோதமான அன்னிய ஏகபோகவாதிகளின் நடவடிக்கைகளுக்கு முடிவுகட்ட, தொழிற்சங்க இயக்கம் வருங்காலத்தில் மேலும் உறுதியான நடவடிக்கைகளை எடுக்க ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. ஸி.யின் இந்த மகாநாடு நமக்கு வழி வகுத்துத் தரப்போகிறது. உலக சமாதானம், சுதந்திரம், சோஷலிஸம், தேச புனரீரீமாணம், ஆசிய உன்பத லட்சியங்கள், தொழிலாளி வாக்கத்தின் பதாகை. அந்தப் பதாகையின் கீழ், உலகத் தொழிலாளி வாக்கத்தை ஓரணியில் நிறுத்த, 1945ல் ஒரு புதிய ஸ்தாபனம் தோன்றியது. அதுதான் உலகத் தொழிற்சங்க சம்மேளனம். யுத்த அபாயத்திலிருந்தும், சுரண்டல் கொடுமைகளிலிருந்தும், மனிதவர்க்க முழுமையையும் விடுவித்து, மனித வாக்கத்தின் உயரிய லட்சியங்களை நிலைநாட்ட, இந்தியத் தொழிலாளி வாக்கத்தையும், உலகத் தொழிலாளி வாக்கத்துடன். ஓரணியில் நிறுத்திய பெருமை எ. ஐ. டி. யு. ஸி. யின் பெருமை, இன்று உலக சூழ்நிலை உலக உழைப்பாளி மக்களுக்கு சாதகமாக பெரும் மாறுதல் அடைந்துள்ளது. சோஷலிஸ நாடுகளின் பொருளாதாரம் மிகப்பெரிய அளவிற்கு வளர்ந்துள்ளது; முதலாளித்துவ நாடுகளின் மொத்த உற்பத்தியை பின்னாக்குத் தள்ளி, சோஷலிஸ நாடுகள் உற்பத்தி முன்னணியில் நிற்கும் நாள் வெகு தொலைவில் இல்லை. இதை உலகமக்களும் ஆசிய ஆப்பிரிக்க மக்களும் ஆர்வத்துடன் வரவேற்கின்றனர். பின்தங்கிய நாடுகள் தொழில் வளர்ச்சியடைய, சோஷலிஸ நாடுகள் சகோதர உணர்ச்சியுடன் பிரம்மாண்டமான அளவிற்கு உதவிசெய்ய முன்வந்துள்ளன. நம் நாட்டில் தாவர எண்ணெய் கண்டுபிடிக்கவும் சோவியத் யூனியன், ருமேனியா உதவிசெய்துள்ளன. தமிழகத்தில் காவேரி பாயும் பிரதேசத்திலுள்ள எண்ணெயை கண்டுபிடிக்கவும் அவர்கள் உதவப்போகின்றனர்.

உலகில் காலனி அடிமை ஆட்சியும் நொறுங்கி வருகின்றது. சமீபத்தில் நடந்த ஐக்கியநாட்டு சபை கூட்டத்தில் சமீபத்தில் விடுதலையடைந்த பத்து ஆப்பிரிக்க நாடுகள் அங்கத்தினர்களாக சேர்த்துக்கொள்ளப்பட்டன. ஆயினும் காங்கோவில் ஏகாதிபத்திய வாதிகள் சுதந்திரத்தை சிர்குலைக்க சதி செய்கின்றனர். ஆல்ஜீரியாவில் சுதந்திரப்போர் வலுவடைந்து வருகிறது. இந்த சுதந்திரப்போராட்டங்கள் துரிதமாக வெற்றியடைவது திண்ணம்.

சுருங்கக்கூறின் உலகில் சுந்திர சமாதான சோஷலிஸ சக்திகள் இன்று என்றும்ல்லாத அளவிற்கு பலமடைந்துள்ளன. உலகில் யுத்தத்தை தடுத்து நிறுத்தக்கூடிய சக்தி உலக மக்களுக்கு ஏற்பட்டுள்ளது. ஏகாதிபத்திய வாதிகளின் சதிகளை முறியடித்து முன்னேற உலகமக்கள் இன்று கங்கணம் கட்டிக்கொண்டுள்ளனர். இந்த இயக்கத்தில் நாம் இணைந்துள்ள உலகத் தொழிற்சங்க சம்மேளனம் முன்னணியில் நின்று பணியாற்றிவருகிறது. உலக தொழிற்சங்க சம்மேளத்தில் இன்று 10 கோடி 10 லட்சம் அங்கத்தினர்கள் திரண்டுள்ளனர். இந்த மகத்தான உலகத் தொழிற்சங்க சம்மேளனத்தின் வழிகாட்டுதலுடன், இந்திய தொழிலாளர்கள், ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. ஸி. தலைமையில் உலக சமாதானத்தை பாதுகாக்கும் இயக்கத்தில் முன்னின்று பாடுபடுவது அவசியமாகும்.

நமது முன்னாள், பிரச்சனைகளையும், கடமைகளையும் பற்றி விரிவாக ஆராய்வது, எனது உரையின் நோக்கமல்ல. நமது மகத்தான ஸ்தாபனமாகிய ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. ஸி. தோன்றிய முதல் 40 ஆண்டுகளாக பங்கெடுத்து, அன்றுதொட்டு இன்றுவரை அதன் உயர்நாடிகளில் ஒன்றாகத் திகழும், நமது மதிப்பிற்குரிய பொதுச்செயலாளர் தோழர் எஸ். ஏ. டாங்கே, தனதுவிரிவுரையில், நமது கடமைகளைப்பற்றி விரிவாக எடுத்துரைப்பார்.

இந்த மகாநாட்டின் தனி முக்கியத்துவத்தைப்பற்றி, இன்னுமொரு வார்த்தை கூறக்கொண்டு எனது உரையை முடிக்கிறேன்.

இந்த மகாநாட்டில், சுமார் 1500 பிரதிநிதிகள் மொழி வித்தியாசமின்றி, இனவேற்றுமை இன்றி, சிறீவெற்றுமையின்றி, அரசியல் வேற்றுமையின்றி ஜாதி மத வேற்றுமையின்றி கூடி விவாதிக்கப் போகிறோம். மொழிவெறி, மதவெறி, ஜாதிவெறி ஆகிய வெறுகளைக் கிளப்பிவிட்டு, உழைக்கும் மக்களின் ஒற்றுமையைக் குலைக்க, முயற்சிகள் தீவிரமாக்கப்படும். இந்தக் கலா கட்டத்தில், நமது மகாநாடு இதற்கு ஒரு சவாலாக விளங்கட்டும். நாம் எந்த மொழி பேசினாலும், நாம் மொழியும் கருத்து ஒன்றே— நாம் வகுக்கும் வழியும் ஒன்றே; நாம் மொழிவது இந்தியத் தொழிலாளிவர்க்கத்தின் மொழி, நாம் வகுப்பது இந்தியத் தொழிலாளிவர்க்கத்தின் வழி.

வாழ்க ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. ஸி. !

வாழ்க ஏ. ஐ. டி. யு. ஸி. யின் 26வது மகாநாடு !

ஒங்கு தொழிலாளி வர்க்க ஒற்றுமை !

Speech of

COMRADE BEYREUTHER,

Member of the Presidium and
Secretary of the National Executive
Committee of the
Confederation of Free German Trade Unions,
German Democratic Republic

Dear Comrade President,
Dear Friends,

As the delegation of the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions, we are proud and happy to be in the position to transmit to you the most fraternal greetings of the 6.2 million union members of the German Democratic Republic.

Allow me, please, to express our sincere thanks for the invitation extended to the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions for their participation in your 26th Session. It was a great pleasure to us to accept your invitation, since the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions considers this visit an excellent opportunity to get acquainted with the working people of India, especially with the Indian working class, and with their struggle for the maintenance of peace, for united action of all Indian trade unions, for the defence and expansion of their democratic rights, and for the permanent improvement of the living conditions of all the working people. Although the distance between both of our countries amounts to several thousands of kilometres, we, as brothers of the same class, are so closely linked that every success gained in your struggle, for your aims, constitutes at the same time, a success for us. And every step forward made by us in the German Democratic Republic on our way to the victory of socialism is also a success for the Indian working class.

Both of our trade union organisations, the All-India Trade Union Congress and the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions, as members of the World Federation of Trade Unions, are fraternally united with the international working class. Our interests are common, as we are of the same flesh and blood. Our workers, like the Indian workers and peasants, want peace and they are fighting for peace according to the principle of peaceful coexistence. We are united by our common demand for the termination of nuclear armament, which is to be enforced on the imperialist governments, and for general and total disarmament. We demand that the governments of the imperialist countries shall use the financial means, which are now spent on armaments, for the improvement of the living conditions of the workers in their respective countries.

Consider, please, that only in West Germany, where the monopoly capitalism has reoccupied its old positions of power, where old fascists and militarists are again in leading positions of government, where today they are feverishly working - actively supported by American imperialism - for the preparation of a third world war which shall be carried on with nuclear weapons, that there alone in 1960,

about 12 milliards of Marks (i.e., about 3 milliards of American Dollars) were spent for the direct military preparation for war. With this money, they could build in West Germany, hundreds of holiday homes and sanatoria, which could be used free of charge by the West German workers, as we have realised it in the German Democratic Republic already since long. From this money, the real wages of the West German workers could be considerably increased, as it was made a basic principle of policy of the government of the German Democratic Republic since her very foundation. From this money, in case of sickness or accident, compensation could be paid to the West German workers upto about their net wages, as it is already realized in the German Democratic Republic. The highly developed West German industry would be in a position to place industrial plants and products at the disposal of economically under-developed countries. Under such conditions, for instance, the trade relations between India and West Germany could be developed on the basis of mutual benefit and of genuine mutual aid. This would mean the end of the neo-colonialist drive of the West German imperialists, which is now clearly to be seen in the negative balance in the Indian-West German trade of about four milliards of rupees to the disfavour of India.

But, in order to succeed in all this, it would be necessary to abolish in West Germany, the power of the former Hitler-generals, of racial instigators, and of supporters of neo-colonialism.

Dear Friends,

We in our German Democratic Republic have drawn the correct lessons from the two fateful world wars which were launched in history by an imperialist Germany. The new Germany, the German Democratic Republic, which was developed with the fraternal support and the unselfish aid of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, is now an inseparable part of the socialist camp. We are very proud to belong to the community of this one milliard of people, who, with the Soviet Union at the head, are purposefully building up socialism and communism. Thanks to the effective activities of the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions and under the leadership of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the former Germany of concentration camps and of barrack-yards became a blooming garden of socialism.

The workers of the German Democratic Republic have established for themselves a new and modern heavy industry. New factories of the engineering, shipbuilding, chemical and light industries were built, and atomic energy is to be used in our Republic only for peaceful purposes. All peasants in the G.D.R. united in the Agricultural Production Cooperatives and, equipped with the most modern machinery, they produce much more agricultural products for the people than ever before the war.

All these are heroic deeds of the working people, which they have fulfilled for themselves, in their own State, together with their workers' and peasants' government and within their trade unions after they were liberated from imperialism, fascism and militarism. These successes have led to the position that the German Democratic Republic, in respect of industrial production, occupies the fifth place among the European countries and ninth place in the world.

(Contd.)

We believe that an important help of the international working class, and especially also of the Indian people and their working class, for our struggle, consists in making a careful difference between the German Democratic Republic and the West German State of Bonn.

Today, there is only one State in Germany, which can claim to be the legitimate one - that is, the German Democratic Republic.

Why is that so?

The German Democratic Republic, and the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions have strongly engaged all their forces for the support of her development, for the first time in our history, is a real State of peace. We do not just talk about peace - all our deeds are serving to the benefit of the working class and their most urgent demand is to have peace. Without peace, it would be impossible to build up socialism. But what are the conditions like in West Germany? The militarist forces, who are today ruling there, have launched on German soil, the first world war - and they lost this war. They did not learn from this. Fifteen years after the first world war, fascism came into power in Germany, and immediately the fascists, together with the militarists, started to prepare for the second world war. They lost this one also. But this war threw the German people into disaster and millions of other peoples were killed. And the same militarists, who caused all this disaster, are today in powerful positions in West Germany and within the NATO. Once again, fifteen years have passed since their defeat and, once again, they try to turn back the wheel of history by preparing for a new nuclear war.

Is it possible that a State or a government could be legitimate if they lead their people to ruin and if they want to inflict biggest losses in men and material to other nations? Or can we call a trade union leadership legitimate who, like the leaders of the West German Confederation of Trade Unions, do not do anything against this policy of annihilating the nation and who do not lead the workers into action?

I believe we are of the same opinion with you - a State like this, a government like this, and also a Union leadership like this, can never be legitimate.

The touchstone for the legitimacy of a German State and its Government and also for the legitimacy of a trade union leadership is whether or not they do everything in order to maintain peace and to secure for the people a life of happiness and prosperity in fraternal community with other nations. But such a policy is to be practised in Germany only by one State - the German Democratic Republic and also by the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions. Our Unions are, therefore, at the same time, representing the interests of the millions of West German workers, employees and intellectuals, who are striving for the same aims and objects.

Therefore, it is only the name "German Democratic Republic", which at present is connected with justice, freedom, humanism and peace, because the policy of this Republic in words and deeds is in accordance with the vital interests of the German people and also of all the other peoples in the world.

We, dear friends, assure you never to rest one minute, in order to give effect to this policy for peace, for peaceful

coexistence, for general and total disarmament and for socialism. By this we want to make the whole of Germany in future to be a safe treasure of peace, of friendship with all nations in the world, of democracy, and socialism.

For the Indian working class and the All-India Trade Union Congress, we wish further great successes in their struggle for trade union unity and for the improvement of the material and cultural well-being of the working people of India.

Long Live the Indian working class!

Long Live the All-India Trade Union Congress!

Long Live the friendship between the working people of German Democratic Republic and India!

Long Live Peace!

26th Session of the AITUC

.....
Coimbatore

.....
January 1961
.....

Speech

of

COMRADE Dezső HORN,
Secretary,
Central Council of Hungarian Trade Unions

Comrade President, Comrade General Secretary,
Dear Comrades

It is a great honor for us and through us for the whole Hungarian trade union movement, for the Hungarian working class and for the whole working people of Hungary, to be present at the 26th Session of the All-India Trade Union Congress, the militant organization of the Indian working class.

We bring the sincere, hearty greetings of the Hungarian working people, to your beautiful city, to this fortress of the Indian textile industry and the Indian workers' movement, to the city of Coimbatore which - as we heard from the opening speech of Comrade Parvathi Krishnan - added so many glorious chapters to the history of the Indian trade union movement.

This is the first occasion when the delegates of the working class and trade union movement of free, socialist Hungary could visit your great country. This is the first opportunity that the delegates of the Hungarian trade union movement can make acquaintance on the spot with the life, work and experiences of the militant Indian working class. And this is the first time that the representatives of the Hungarian workers could make a friendly visit to their Indian working brothers.

We are proud that we can deliver at this Congress hall, the warmest greetings of the Hungarian workers to the best representatives of the Indian trade union movement.

Dear Friends, we are brothers as well. But we are living far away from each other. So permit me, dear Comrades, to propose a short report on the participation of this Session and through them to the entire Indian working class, on the achievements of the Hungarian working people.

Here I may remark that I can do this so easily because as a socialist country, we have nothing to hide. We in our country, anybody who is coming honestly at any time, our fundamental principle of our international relations is that our door is open to every sincere visitor who wants to see with his own eyes how the life and life in Hungary are.

When we studied the report of Comrade Dezső, and as we listened to his magnificent speech, it occurred to us, how very similar the things were in the history of the Hungarian and Indian peoples. The Hungarian people also knew for centuries the yoke of foreign oppressors, the Turks and the Hapsburgs. Our people also had been a victim of national oppression. The Hungarian people also experienced starvation, poverty and unemployment. And they also fought bravely and with firm determination for national independence.

(Contd.)

And the Hungarian working people also battled for a long time, to break the rule of the landlords, industrial magnates and imperialist oppressors.

Today, all this belongs to the past, all this is mere history today. In 1945, after defeating fascist Germany, the victorious Soviet Army, brought freedom to the Hungarian people. When Comrade Dange spoke about the changes which had taken place after the Second World War, when he spoke how the imperialist Great Powers were turned historically from victors to losers, when he stressed how the empires of colonialist Powers began steadily crumbling, how newly liberated peoples began to take their place on the stage of history, and when he spoke about the birth of new socialist countries of Europe and Asia - then Comrade Dange also spoke for us Hungarians.

Hungary is one of those countries which were liberated as a result of the Second World War. Our people could use their freedom and began to march on the road towards socialism, together with the other brotherly countries of the Socialist Camp, along the common road, towards the common goal - towards socialism.

This road, of course, was not and still is not, an easy one. It brought us not only successes and victories, but also defects and even some defeats. But even so, the Hungarian workers have achieved far more than any time of our history. We nationalised the industries, the wealth of our country became the property of the people, we crushed the hated system of big estates, economic and political power then came solidly in the hands of the people.

In Hungary today, there is working class rule, - and this fact itself speaks more than any long explanations. In the Hungarian Parliament, workers, peasants and the intelligentsia are sitting. All the means of production and the land as well belong to the people. Science, culture and arts are serving the cause of the people.

Exploitation has been crushed for ever. Poverty, starvation and unemployment have been abolished. From the land of three million beggars, - as it was once called in Europe - Hungary has become a well-developed industrial country, the socialist homeland of working people.

This is the reason why we are hated by all those who hate the people. They hate the working people because they love only their own profits. This is the reason why Hungary is hated by the imperialists and by the remnants of the old ruling classes. Therefore, they tried in 1956 to stir up a counter-revolution, because they hoped to regain their lost positions.

Some 40 years ago, in 1919, the imperialists and their lackeys, succeeded in crushing the first Hungarian Workers' State. Because, my dear friends, I have to explain it to you - and I do it proudly - that in 1919, after the glorious October Socialist Revolution, it were the Hungarian workers who followed the example of their Soviet brothers and hoisted the red banner of the Hungarian Workers' State. But because of the international situation at that time, our victory could be only temporary. The imperialists, according to their old custom, launched an armed intervention and defeated the first Hungarian Workers' and Peasants' State. After this, the dark shadow of counter-revolutionary terror fell for 25 years over our country.

(Contd.)

And the imperialists and their Hungarian agents thought that they could repeat in 1956, the events of 1919.

Only they have forgotten one most important thing. They have forgotten that during the past forty years, the world's picture has completely changed: I mean, the same change which Comrade Dange so impressively pointed out in his speech, namely, that the forces of peace and socialism, freedom and democracy, have definitely taken the upper hand all over the world. This has been proved also by the Hungarian events.

The nasty adventure of the imperialists, especially the American imperialists, was totally defeated, thanks to the brotherly help given to us by the socialist countries, and first and foremost, by the great Soviet people, and thanks also to the stubborn struggle of the Hungarian working people.

The so-called "Hungarian Case" on which the imperialist propaganda makes such a big noise became a boomerang to the imperialists. It proved only that the forces of peace and socialism, if they act united, can defeat any imperialist provocation.

Hungarian working class has in the past four years overcome very quickly all the damages and difficulties caused by counter-revolutionary elements. Led by the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and the Hungarian Revolutionary Workers' and Peasants' Government, our working people achieved new great successes in the building of socialism. And the Hungarian trade unions played an important and active role in all these achievements.

The basic duty of trade unions of Hungary is naturally the strengthening of our workers' State. Our trade unions organise and educate the workers to strengthen their socialist homeland, with their achievements in peaceful construction, and thereby also strengthen the socialist camp which is the decisive factor today in the further development of international affairs.

Hungarian trade unions take part in the making of every law or decision concerning the working people. They have a big role in shaping the economic plans, in the distribution of national income, in taking care of the working and living conditions of working people, their social welfare and their culture and education. Our trade unions educate Hungarian workers to take an active and effective part in all the tasks of the international trade union movement, under the banner of the WFTU, the great militant and experienced organisation of the international working class.

Unity and solidarity - this is the slogan of the noble banner of the World Federation of Trade Unions, this also is the slogan followed by the Hungarian working class.

Unity and solidarity make the workers invincible, as it has also been stressed in Comrade Dange's speech.

Unity and solidarity - this is our mightiest weapon. The Hungarian workers are struggling in complete unity for the most important tasks of international working class movement in our times: that is, for total and general disarmament, and for the complete abolition of the hated and shameful colonial system!

We, the Hungarian workers, deeply sympathise with the nations liberated from colonialist yoke, and the nations still waging a brave and glorious struggle for their national independence. We try to help and assist with our modest resources the working people of under-developed countries in the development of their national industries and their national economy.

Allow me, please, to stress in this connection, the successful development of Hungarian-Indian economic relations.

The Hungarian People's Republic closely follows with deep sympathy and greatest admiration the efforts of the Indian people to become economically independent within the shortest time by the rapid development of their industry and agriculture. Although Hungary is a small country as compared to India, yet she is well advanced in some fields of industry and is in a position to place at the disposal of our Indian working brothers, a considerable part of her well-advanced equipments and corps of experienced engineers and technicians, through the channels of foreign trade turnover and industrial collaboration. We are in a position to actively participate in the various developmental programmes under the Third Five Year Plan, by supplying the needed capital goods, industrial equipment, machine tools, dumpers, mining equipments, medicines, rubber goods and so on. By a mutual agreement, the complete documentation and technical know-how in respect of some of the traditionally developed Hungarian industries is also passed on to our Indian friends to enable the starting of such industries in India. Our industrial collaboration includes also the training of Indian experts in Hungary as well as the sending of Hungarian experts to India for the erection of factories and on-the-spot training of our Indian working brothers.

As you see, dear Comrades, dear Friends, even if we are far away from each other in the geographic sense, we are bound together by ties of friendship and mutual assistance. We are bound by the ties of international working class solidarity. And we are bound together by the ties of our common struggle for peace and social progress, the noble aims of the entire progressive mankind.

Unity, friendship and solidarity - that is the message which has been sent to you comrades by the Hungarian working class. We have come on this friendly visit to your beautiful country under this slogan. And, please permit me now again, in concluding my speech to repeat this message of unity, friendship and solidarity, to the 26th Session of the All-India Trade Union Congress, that noble organisation of the Indian working class.

Please allow me also, in the name of all Hungarian workers, to wish good work and good health to you, to all participants of the 26th Session of the All-India Trade Union Congress, and through them to the entire Indian working class.

Be successful in your further work and struggle for the benefit of the great Indian people, for the benefit of the Indian working class, the entire international working class, for peace and social progress all over the world.

Long live the 26th Session of the All-India Trade Union Congress!

Long Live the friendship between the Hungarian and Indian working class!

Report on Tripartites

.....

During the period since our Ernakulam Session, three tripartite Indian Labour Conferences were held, the 16th, 17th and 18th. The 17th and 18th Sessions of the Standing Labour Committee also met during this period.

The 16th Indian Labour Conference met at Nainital on May 19 and 20, 1958. The Conference had important items on the agenda and deliberated on the large number of closure of units, particularly textiles and the resulting unemployment. The question of textile closures had assumed serious proportions at the time. The AITUC pointed out ~~at~~ at the conference that in most of the closures in the textiles that were on record, the main reason was not trading loss. The main reason was fraudulent transactions on the part of the owners, quarrels among them over the share of the booty, the effects of which matured into closures. Only a minority of the closures were due to financial stringency or trading losses, which, however, were not indicative of a general crisis, as yet, in the economy.

Our stand was later explained in our publication, Sixteenth Tripartite thus:

"The AITUC refused to share the burden of the capitalist crisis. It refused to lend countenance to any schemes of wage cuts, because it is not the function of trade unionism to help capitalism out of the crisis of its own making and its system. The function of trade unions is to resist the onslaught of the crisis and defend the workers. It may succeed, it may not, in the given condition. But in principle, at least, it must tell the workers what it all means."

X. Our ~~case~~ ^{condition} is that the
Case should apply to that Russian sector
where control or state took. Therefore we
employers and that we can get process of
negotiations by the employees. The workers
be provision of work of the system would not be
business or the work was assigned to the
main labor market

① The new method think not
force proof - we face have a lot of losses holes
in the real assessment of the strength of union is
a step forward that the new working procedure
with bit of main measures is exchanged obligations
are allowed to be raised.

The conference decided to appoint a Committee on cotton textile closures. (The Committee presided over by D.S.Joshi, Textile Commissioner, submitted its report ~~in~~ two months later.)

The conference also adopted recommendations providing for two months' notice to be given by management before resorting to closures, steps to facilitate taking over of closed units by Government and for removal of lacunae in the provision for lay-off compensation.

The second subject which claimed the largest attention at the conference, next to closures, was that of industrial relations.

The Code of Discipline was formally ratified by all parties at the Nainital Conference. * The Code, as finalised, also provided for recognition of trade unions which satisfy the stipulated criteria. The Conference ~~also~~ recommended measures to make the work of evaluation and implementation of labour enactments, awards, agreements, etc., more effective. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Agreement was reached at the conference to revise the procedure for verification of membership of trade unions. made by the AITUC The proposal to provide for ballot to determine the representative character of the union was, however, not accepted. ©

The conference also discussed the position relating to Works Committees and adopted recommendations for improving the working of the ESI scheme, for raising the rate of PF contribution from 6-1/4 to 8-1/3 per cent and to provide that the ~~XXXXX~~ employment limit of 50 persons more prescribed under the E.P.F. Act should be reduced to 20 persons or more and that employees in commercial establishments should also

be covered.

The conference rejected the proposals for 'Union shop' and 'check-off' put forward by the Bihar Government. The move of the W. Bengal Government to impose statutory ban on strikes in hospitals, etc., was opposed. The conference ~~was of the view~~ that a convention should be established whereby the staff would not go on strike provided that an effective machinery for the speedy redress of their grievances was set up by the employer.

A day after the conference, ~~there~~ there was a meeting of the delegations from the four central trade union organisations, convened by the Union Labour Minister. An 'Inter-Union Code of Conduct' was adopted at this meeting.

+

The 17th Indian Labour Conference met at Madras in July 1959. The conference discussed mainly industrial relations, works committees, service conditions of domestic servants, and pay roll savings scheme, *

On the question of industrial relations, several attempts were made at the conference to put more curbs on trade union rights, permit the officialdom to interfere in the day-to-day running of the unions, ban formation of new unions which were not to official liking. Due to the opposition of the worker delegates, such attempts did not succeed as the Government wanted.

One such move was to give wide powers to the Registrars of Trade Unions. It was ~~later~~ decided that Registrars should have powers to inspect the account books, membership registers and minute books of the trade unions to verify the correctness of the annual returns.

and to have
Bengal Labour
force Statutory
strikes in
hospitals and
etc.

No agreement could be reached on the proposal to revive the Labour Appellate Tribunal, The conference ~~favoured~~ adopted a recommendation that "increased recourse should be had to mediation and voluntary arbitration and recourse to adjudication avoided as far as possible. Matters of local interest not having any wider repercussions should, as a general rule, be settled through arbitration." The conference also approved the "Model Principles for Reference of Disputes to Adjudication."

It was agreed to set up a small tripartite committee to examine the material on Works Committees and draw up guiding principles.

The conference held that it was not feasible to adopt any legislative measure for the regulation of the service conditions of domestic workers. The proposal for setting up a special employment office in Delhi for domestic workers was accepted.

The conference adopted a recommendation on Pay Roll Savings Scheme. The proposal was made by the Government that workers should authorise employers to deduct monthly from wages, certain amounts of money to be deposited in the Small Savings Scheme. The AIFUC opposed this move.

As we characterised it in our Working Committee held in August 1959, "on the whole the Madras Tripartite was not an advance but in fact a slight retreat for the working class. It could have been more serious but for the opposition shown by the trade unions."

Among the general recommendations at the conference was that "proposals involving any new major point of policy or

(by Government)
principle should generally be undertaken/after consulting the Indian Labour Conference or the Standing Labour Committee."

A committee of the conference met in Delhi on September 5, 1959, to finalise the conclusions and also reached agreement on representation at tripartite conferences, etc. x

+

The 18th Indian Labour Conference which met Delhi on September 24 and 25, 1960 had six items on the agenda, among which were: (1) Industrial Relations in Public Sector: (2) Industrial Accidents: (3) Sanctions under the Code of Discipline: (5) Extension of the Scheme of Joint Management Councils: and (6) The extent to which tripartite decisions would be binding on the parties concerned.

The conference, however, could discuss only one item: Industrial Relations in the Public Sector and that too, particularly on the Central Government employees' strike of July 1960.

The AITUC in a memorandum on this subject, circulated to the delegates, charged the Government of India with breach of the Code of Discipline in dealing with the strike, both as an employer and as Government. The AITUC demanded an inquiry into the strike under the Code; restoration of the recognition of the employees' unions and associations: and ^{that} the proposed bill to ban strikes and "outsiders" should first be ^{discussed in the} placed before the Indian Labour Conference, before introducing the same in Parliament.

There was virtual unanimity of opinion among the worker delegates when they expressed themselves against the Government's move to deny trade union rights to its employees. Even some

of the employer delegates and State Government spokesmen opposed the move to ban strikes in "essential services" *ban strikes*

~~The conference came to no conclusions. The Trade Union Minister who presided at the Conference, advised the conference that the views expressed at the conference would be conveyed to the Cabinet.~~

STANDING LABOUR COMMITTEE

The 17th Session of the Standing Labour Committee met in Bombay on October 28 and 29, 1958.

The Committee had quite a heavy agenda which mainly dealt with aspects of industrial relations in general, legislation to regulate working conditions in road transport industry, amendments to Industrial Dispute Act, etc.

The conduct of the strike by the Kerala plantation workers in October 1958 was raised by the INTUC delegate at the Committee meeting. He sought to accuse the AITUC for conducting ^{an unjustified} the strike. This allegation was shown as baseless by the AITUC delegate and it was pointed out that while the workers had resorted to a perfectly legitimate strike, the INTUC had betrayed them, striking a secret deal with the management. The Committee decided that an inquiry should be held on the strike from the context of the Code of Discipline.

On the question of evaluation and implementation machinery, the Committee recommended that Implementation Committees in the States should be fully representative of all parties concerned. Also that an analysis of the cases of appeals made after the abolition of Appellate Tribunal, to High Courts and Supreme Court against industrial awards should be undertaken by the Centre and State Governments in their respective spheres. *At this time should be a serious matter of the employees - workers organisations which should be taken into a view*

No agreement could be reached in respect of hours of work

*to reduce
privately
High Court
and
the*

*matter is
to be taken into
account.*

spreadover and payment for overtime work, on the proposed legislation for regulating working conditions in road transport industry. It was decided that ^{as per the 23rd session of the Committee} the matter should be examined further and a decision reached by the Central Government.

Workers' representatives opposed the proposal to grant exemption to factories re-starting under new ownership after closure from the provisions of the E.P.F. Act.

On ESI Scheme, it was decided that a Committee should be appointed to review the working of the Scheme and that the extension of the Scheme to the present coverable population should be completed by the end of the Second Plan. ^{Committee was appointed in 1952 and its report was submitted.}

The Committee also agreed to refer the proposals for amendment of the Industrial Disputes Act to a small tripartite committee.

There was a proposal to fix superannuation age for industrial workers. The Committee felt that since the question was closely related to that of retirement benefits, this should be considered along with proposals relating to an integrated social security scheme.

The Committee reviewed the progress of workers' participation in management and felt that units which had volunteered to set up joint management councils but had not done so, should set up these councils without further delay.

+

The 18th Session of the Standing Labour Committee was held in Delhi on January 5 and 6, 1950.

At this meeting, the AIPUC delegation made a statement outlining the series of instances of non-implementation of tripartite agreements by the Government. The statement cited

the letter of the Union Finance Ministry to the Central Pay Commission declaring that decisions of the tripartite conferences are not binding on Government. The AITUC delegation ~~stated~~ also stated that as a protest against the Government policy on tripartite decisions, the delegation would stage a walk-out. However, the AITUC delegation did not walk-out of the meeting on the assurance of the Union Labour Minister that all the points raised in the AITUC Statement would be discussed in the Committee.

Following the ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ discussion, the Committee came to the following conclusion:

"While it was agreed that the conclusions/agreements reached at tripartite bodies did not have the force of law, the same were morally binding on the parties concerned in the sense that they were under an obligation to make every effort to implement them or get them implemented."

On the proposed legislation for setting up ~~Wage Boards~~, the Committee was not in favour of the proposal to place Wage Boards on a statutory footing for the present. It was considered that the parties concerned should implement the unanimous decisions of the Wage Boards. If, however, it was found that the parties had failed to do so, Government should take ~~effective~~ steps to give effect to the recommendations statutorily, if necessary.

There was a preliminary exchange of views on the draft proposals on Labour Policy for inclusion in the Third Five Year Plan.

The Committee could not come to any agreed conclusion on the proposal to revive the LAT.

The proposal to amend the Code of Discipline to provide for specific period of notice for strikes and lock-outs was not agreed to. It was decided that this proposal should be deferred pending a review of the working of the Code.

The consensus of opinion in the Committee was not in favour of amending the Industrial Disputes Act, Sec.24(3), to provide that a lock-out declared in consequence of an illegal strike or strike declared in consequence of an illegal action, shall not be deemed to be illegal. It was agreed that the penalties under the law for non-implementation of awards, etc., should be enhanced and made more deterrent by making such non-implementation a continuing offence. The relevant labour laws should also contain specific provisions to enable speedy recovery of claims.

+

Labour

The Standing Committee met twice later to discuss the draft proposals on Labour Policy for inclusion in the Third Plan - on March 10 and 11, 1960 and April 26-27, 1960, and submitted its views on labour policy for consideration by Government.

+

There were smaller tripartite meetings, of committees set up by the Indian Labour Conference and Standing Labour Committee, during this period.

The sub-committee on workers' participation in management set up by the 15th Tripartite and Code of Discipline was convened thrice. The meeting on March 14 and 15, 1958 finalised the Code of Discipline, which was later ratified at the Nainital Conference held in May of the same year. The committee finalised the Model Grievance Procedure at its meeting on September 19, 1958.

The sub-committee was convened again more than an year later, on December 6, 1959, to consider a "Code for Efficiency and Welfare" proposed by the Union Labour Ministry. No agreement was reached at the meeting~~x~~ for formulating the "Code for Efficiency" and it was decided to collect data regarding various aspects of productivity and efficiency problems. It was also stressed that more intensive efforts should be made to secure better observance of the Code of Discipline by all parties.

The tripartite committee set up to examine amendments to the Industrial Dispute Act /met in Bombay on January 1, 1959 and came to certain conclusions. Suggestions for amendment of the Act, agreed at this meeting, were sent to the Union Labour Ministry but the Ministry has not moved in the matter till now.

TRIPARTITE CONFERENCE ON PUBLIC SECTOR

~~A tripartite conference on Public Sector Industries~~

(Corporations and Companies excluding Banking and Insurance) was convened by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, at New Delhi on January 21, 1959. The AITUC, at the conference, as well as earlier, criticised the exclusion of many sections of Public Sector employees such as P&T, Railways, Defence, Banking and Insurance, etc. The conference decided ~~in~~ that the Code of Discipline should be made applicable to public sector industries, with certain clarifications made at the meeting.

It was agreed that preliminary steps for creating the necessary atmosphere and for education should be taken for progressive introduction of the scheme of workers' participation in management in public sector industries.

In regard to Works Committees, it was decided that the matter should be examined in the light of suggestions made in the conference and on the basis of enquiry reports and placed before a future session of the Indian Labour Conference.

It was agreed at the conference that employers and employees in the Public Sector should be represented in the Indian Labour Conference. Details were to be worked out.

industrial committees

.....

COALMINING

Tripartite meetings were convened quite often in relation to the disputes in coalmining industry, since the 25th Session of the AITUC.

The Coal Award Implementation Committee met at Dhanbad on February 6 and 7, 1958. The Committee proved to be a failure in resolving the disputes and no agreement could be reached because of the adamant attitude of the employers. (The issues had to be taken up in subsequent tripartite meetings and at a tripartite meeting held on June 9, 1959, these were referred to arbitration. The Arbitrator gave his award on December 30, 1959.)

Following the Chinakuri colliery disaster in February 1958, the Government of India convened a tripartite Steering Committee on Safety in Coal Mines. The Committee met in Delhi on March 17, 1958. Subsequently the first Conference on Safety in Mines met at Calcutta on August 5 and 6, 1958. The conference recommended a number of measures to improve safety in mines, some of which have been incorporated in the Mines Act, since amended. The Second Session of the Conference on Safety in Mines was held at Dhanbad on January 29, 1959. The AITUC delegation walked out of this conference protesting against the scandalous manner in which the inquiry into the Chinakuri disaster was conducted.

Tripartite meetings of Coal Mining Interests ~~at xxx~~ were convened on August 3, 1958 and May 29, 1959 and at these meetings the period of operation of the Coal Award was extended, by agreement, by one-year periods.

Meetings of the Industrial Committee on Coal Mines were convened twice during this period.

The Sixth Session of the Industrial Committee met in Delhi on February 21, 1959. The AITUC delegation at this meeting drew the attention of the Committee to the glaring defects in the report of the Chinakuri Court of Inquiry and accused the Mines Department, the Court of Inquiry and the Andrew Yule Company (employers of Chinakuri mine) of collusion and suppression of the truth.

The Committee, among others, decided that "no new category of work should be brought under the contract system". A two-men committee was appointed to carry out a study and report on contract labour. (This Committee could not produce its report in time and the Government appointed a Court of Inquiry, in 1960, on this question).

It was decided to constitute sub-committees on Standing Orders in Coal Industry, water supply in coalfields and for discussing general problems concerning workmen in coal industry.

Recommendations were adopted on pit-head baths, creches, works committees, inclusion of malis, sweepers, etc. within the coverage of Coal Mines P.F. Scheme, on Gorakhpur Labour Organisation, etc.

The sub-committees of the Industrial Committee had four meetings in all. The sub-committee on Standing Orders which met at Calcutta on March 12, 1959, could not come to agreed conclusions. (The matter was referred to the Labour Ministry and the ~~finalised~~ Standing Orders were finalised by the Ministry in mid-1960). The sub-committee on "general problems" met in Delhi on April 15 and 16, 1959 but there was no agreement on issues. It was decided at the next meeting

of the committee held in Calcutta on June 9 and 10, to refer the 31 issues of dispute to arbitration (referred above). The sub-committee on water supply in coalfields met in Dhanbad on August 19, 1959 and made some general recommendations on the subject.

The Seventh Session of the Industrial Committee on Coal Mining was held on April 28, 1960. The workers' representatives made strong criticism of the failure of the Government and employers to implement the previous recommendations of the Committee. Among these were:

(1) Abolition of contract labour. It was decided to constitute a Court of Inquiry.

(2) Continuance of Gorakhpur Labour Organisation: At a tripartite meeting held on August 9, 1959, it was agreed that the Gorakhpur Labour Organisation will be abolished but its recruitment function will be taken over by the Employment Exchange organisation. Later, an Informal Committee of the Parliament ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ had a detailed inquiry on this subject and have made certain recommendations. This report, it was agreed, should be circulated. ~~XXXXXX~~

(3) Revision of Standing Orders for the Coal Industry: The Government assured that the Model Standing Orders would be published within three months.

(4) Water supply in coalfields. This question is to be examined de novo at the next meeting of the Industrial Committee, when some definite proposals could be formulated.

The Seventh Session generally approved the recommendations of the Miners' Boots Committee. (This Committee had finalised its report after a meeting held on November 4, 1959, at which representatives of employers and workers' organisations were

invited.)

At this session, the Government and employers proposed that the Coal Award, as amended by the Arbitrator's Award, should be extended for a period of three years. This was opposed by the workers' representatives who demanded constitution of a Wage Board in the coalmining industry. It was agreed that the case for constituting a Wage Board may be considered at the next meeting of the Industrial Committee.

The workers' organisations criticised the undue delay in holding the meetings of the various committees set up on the recommendations of the Safety Conference and in particular, Committee on Prevention of Dust in Coal Mines.

The Committee also considered the draft amendments of the Mines Act, 1952 arising out of the recommendations of the Safety Conference.

The workers' representatives raised the question of gratuity and old age pension for miners and urged that it should be considered independently. The Government, however, took the stand that this could be considered only along with the Integrated Social Security Scheme recommended by the Study Group on Social Security.

PLANTATIONS

The 8th Session of the Industrial Committee on Plantations met at Shillong on January 21, 1958. The Committee discussed the question of closures of plantations, wage board, amendment to the Plantation Labour Act, ratification of the Code of Discipline, etc.

On the question of taking over neglected and exhausted gardens closed down by management, the Government maintained that the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act could not be extended to plantations for legal difficulties and the matter should be left with the State Governments. The workers' representatives, however, pressed for central legislation to deal with such cases.

On the question of Wage Board and Code of Discipline, sub-committees were to consider the issue.

The sub-committee met in Delhi on April 25, 1958 and agreed to ratify the Code of Discipline. The Code was however amended to provide for seven days' notice, for strike or lockout. No agreement could be reached on housing or on wage board.

Tripartite committees on plantation bonus (for W. Bengal for the years 1957 and 1958) and Assam plantations) met at Calcutta on November 11, 1958 and later at Delhi on December 2, 1958. No agreement could be reached after discussions. The discussions dragged on ^{but} and at a later stage, it was possible to reach bipartite settlements on the dispute, ^{as a result of the discussions} after the Bonus sub-committee meeting held in Calcutta on October 24, 1959.

The 9th Session of the Industrial Committee on Plantations met at Calcutta on October 23 and 24, 1959. The Committee recommended the constitution of a Wage Board for the Plantation Industry. The Committee also discussed the employment position in plantations, housing, etc.

The decision on Wage Board was subsequently reviewed by the Committee at its meeting in Delhi on April 27, 1960. It was decided to set up three Wage Boards - one each for tea, coffee and other plantations.

A third meeting of the 9th Session of the Committee was convened in Delhi on August 3, 1960, to consider the proposal for amendment of the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour Act and the situation arising from the decision of employers to wind up the Tea Districts Labour Association and to close down all their recruitment and transit depots. The meeting adopted recommendations on these two questions.

The Committee was convened again, in a fourth meeting, at Calcutta on November 9, 1960, to consider a Government proposal to set up a National Tribunal instead of Wage Boards for the plantation industry. This proposal was rejected by the workers' representatives and the Committee reiterated its earlier decision to have three Wage Boards. But as again three members from workers' and employers' side on the Boards, it was decided to have two members each only.

JUTE

The Industrial Committee on Jute was convened for the first time in August 1 and 2, 1958. The Committee considered four items: closure of jute mills, rationalisation, reduction in the employment of women and wage board.

It was agreed that in all cases of transfer resulting from rationalisation or closure, six weeks' notice would be given and that State Government should be notified eight weeks in advance. Certain other safeguards were also agreed upon and a Special Committee on Rationalisation was to be constituted.

The Committee agreed generally that a Wage Board would be "the most appropriate machinery for reviewing the question of wages in the jute industry" but a decision on this was deferred. It was decided that the W. Bengal Government should conduct an inquiry into causes of reduction of employment of women.

The Special Committee on Rationalisation reached agreement at a meeting held on September 30, 1958 and laid down certain conditions for bona fide closures.

The Second Session of the Industrial Committee on Jute met at Calcutta on December 11, 1959. Agreement was reached at this meeting to set up a Wage Board for the industry.

MINES OTHER THAN COAL

The first meeting of the Industrial Committee on Mines other than Coal was held in Delhi on April 17-18, 1958. The Committee approved a draft Metalliferrous Mines Regulation and recommended constitution of the Manganese Mine Labour Welfare Fund. The proposal to constitute Welfare Funds for workers in iron ore and other mines, put forward by the AITUC, was not accepted by the Government.

The Committee also recommended that the Minimum Wages Act should be extended to cover all mines, - iron ore, manganese, limestone, clay, etc.

CEMENT

The third session of the Industrial Committee on Cement met in Delhi on August 2, 1950, nearly six years after the 2nd session. In spite of the long period since the last session certain main it was found that ~~its~~ recommendations of that meeting has not yet been implemented. This was particularly so on the question of abolition of contract labour, which was to be abolished by June 1956. Similarly, the report of the Central Tripartite (Technical) Committee appointed at the last session was pending adoption by the Industrial Committee. Employers pleaded at the fourth session that they should have some more time to examine the report.

On the question of work-load studies in cement factories, the workers' representatives pointed out that the Government resolution that the Wage Board's recommendation regarding wage increase in the second phase may be implemented after workload studies are completed was absolutely uncalled for.

It was proposed at the meeting that the period of operation of the recommendations made by the Wage Board should be five years. Workers' representatives opposed this proposal and wanted to make it not more than three years. The Government wanted the period to be five years also providing for review at the end of four years.

A central machinery was to be set up for clarification and interpretation of the Wage Board's recommendations, the composition of which was to be decided by Government.

The AIFUC delegation at the meeting pointed out that the employers were not implementing the recommendations of the Wage Board. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ (This has remained so till the time of writing this report).

OTHER TRIPARTITES ON INDUSTRIAL MATTERS

Two other tripartites on industrial matters were held during the period under review. One was the tripartite meeting on Automatic Looms held on December 22, 1958. The AIFUC did not participate in this meeting but sent a note, stating its views. A tripartite conference on petroleum dispute was convened by the Union Labour Minister in Delhi on January 19, 1959. The meeting did not help to appreciably improve the situation.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRAINING IN VOCATIONAL TRADES

During the last three years, two meetings of the National Council of Training in Vocational Trades were held - on May 12, 1958 and on August 29, 1959. The Council mainly discussed problems of apprenticeship training in India. In view of the unsatisfactory response from employers in the matter of apprenticeship training, the ~~Executive~~ Council has urged compulsory legislation for this purpose. A sub-committee of the Council met in Delhi on June 6, 1960 and made recommendations on procedure for conducting trade tests under the National Apprenticeship Training Scheme, period and courses for the training, etc.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT

The Employment Advisory Committee which did not meet for over five years was replaced by the Central Committee on Employment in 1959. So far, the Central Committee met twice - in May 1959 and in September 1960. At the September 1960 meeting, the AITUC representative urged the immediate attention of the Government to the problem of unemployment due to closure of factories and displacement of women in industry. Sub-Committees were set up to study and report on these two subjects.

MINIMUM WAGES CENTRAL ADVISORY BOARD

The reconstituted Minimum Wages Central Advisory Board met on August 2, 1960. The AITUC boycotted this meeting as a protest against the Government stand on tripartite decisions, particularly that of the 15th Indian Labour Conference on need-based wages, as revealed in the Pay Commission's Report.

The Minimum Wages (Fixation and Revision) Committee had three meetings during this period.

CENTRAL IMPLEMENTATION & EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The first meeting of the Central Implementation and Evaluation Committee was held in Delhi on September 20, 1958. This meeting recommended screening of cases by central organisations of workers and employers before appeals are preferred against awards in High Courts and Supreme Court. Government should attempt to bring about out-of-court settlement on those cases in which appeals were pending. The Committee recommended that neutral auditors may be associated as technical experts and assessors ~~at~~ to help Industrial Tribunals. It was decided to inquire into the Calcutta Tramway Strike from the context of the Code of Discipline. The Committee stressed that the E&I Machinery should take preventive action too, rather than confining itself to post-mortem examination of industrial disputes.

The second meeting of the Committee was held on August 13, 1959. This meeting discussed the report on the Premier Automobiles strike. Certain observations made in the report were criticised by the ~~workers'~~^{Employers'} representatives as wholly irrelevant and anti-labour. The Union Labour Minister, who presided, agreed to discuss these points with representatives of the ~~Employers' Federation~~. The Committee also made an analysis of appeals against awards in the Supreme Court, etc. It was agreed that voluntary arbitration should be encouraged. Following criticism about the composition of State level, E&I Committees, it was decided that Committee at State level should also be as representative as the

Central Implementation and Evaluation Committee.

In the third meeting of the Committee held on April 25, 1960, the report on Premier Automobiles strike was further discussed. The AITUC representative referred to certain objectionable remarks made in the report. It was decided that the matter would be separately discussed with the AITUC. The Committee held that the management of the Chapui Khas colliery has violated the Code.

The fourth meeting of the Committee which met in Delhi on October 14, 1960, mainly discussed the Report on Calcutta Tramway strike. The AITUC representative objected to the conclusions of the report. The decision on the recommendations of the Report was, therefore, postponed pending consideration of the basic question as to what strikes constitute a breach of the Code. The Committee also decided to proceed with the inquiry into the Kerala plantation strike of 1958.

TRIPARTITE COMMITTEE ON WORKS COMMITTEES

A small tripartite committee on Works Committees was set up by the Union Labour Ministry in 1959. The Committee met only once ^{on Nov. 26, 1959} but came to certain conclusions as to what should be the functions of the works Committees. The AITUC representative on the Committee objected to the haphazard study of the problem and the hasty decisions arrived at.

COMMITTEES ON MINES' SAFETY

A tripartite committee on safety education and propaganda was set up by the Union Labour Ministry in 1959. The committee had three meetings early in 1960 and finalised its report on the subject on July 27, 1960. Among other

recommendations, the Committee has suggested the constitution of a ~~Ministry~~ National Mines Safety Council.

Another Committee, the Standing Safety Advisory Committee, has also been set up by the Union Labour Ministry.

STEERING GROUP ON WAGES

The Steering Group on Wages which was set up in 1957 has had four meetings since, and has made some progress in compilation of data relating to wage structure, replacement costs, etc. The Group ~~xxxxxxx~~ initiated surveys on labour costs and material utilisation in jute, cotton textiles, cement and sugar industries; depreciation and replacement costs in industry; absenteeism in coal mines; effect of increase in industrial wages on farm prices, etc.

PLANNING COMMISSION'S PANEL ON HOUSING

The central TU organisations are represented on the Planning Commission's Panel on Housing. A meeting of the panel was held in Delhi on September 28, 1959 and the problem of housing was discussed in some detail.

CONFERENCE ON LABOUR RESEARCH

A tripartite conference on Labour Research was convened in Delhi on September 22, 1960. The conference considered proposals for coordinating labour research. It was decided to set up a Central Committee for Coordination of Labour Research.

SEMINARS

Seminars on Labour-Management Cooperation were held twice during this period - on February 4, 1958 and on March 8 and 9, 1960. The Seminars helped formulation of ~~px~~ schemes for joint councils of management to be established in

100/4.2

27

TAMILNAD

Tamilnad (Madras State) in 1957, had 3,24,617 workers in 4,956 factories, 11,902 in mines and 1,49,376 in plantations- thus totalling 4,85,895. The number of workers in 1958 was 3,26,305 in 5,117 factories.

The claimed and verified membership of the Central TU organisations in 1957-58 was as follows:

CLAIMED		VERIFIED	
Unions	Membership	Unions	Membership
ITUC	169	129	98,888
NTUC	53	44	54,784
MS	17	14	29,729
ITUC	206	142	96,489
NTUC	59	51	52,711
HMS	24	18	26,543

UTUC had claimed 13,673 members in 33 unions in 1958-59 but on verification, the figure came down to 1,953 in 15 unions.

Thus, our membership has been more than the total membership of INTUC, HMS and UTUC in both the years, 1957-58 and 1958-59. In 1959-60, we have claimed a membership of 1,34,934 in 199 unions, the major claims being in Textiles (31,421), Railways (16,634), Plantations (16,160), Port & Dock (7,170) and Tobacco (6,042). Our membership in Mining, chemicals, Building and Port & Dock has gone up. We have maintained our position in Sugar, Cement and Municipal & Local bodies. It has gone down in Cotton textiles, Engineering, Transport and Tobacco. We are strong in Textiles in Coimbatore and Madurai but weak in Madras city. The only Railway union affiliated to AITUC

Labour

is in this State- the S.R. Railway Union. *has decided to merge in the (2) State Railway Union with the Government.*

The INTUC has claimed 82,028 members in 76 unions in 1959-60, their major claims being in Plantations (28,678), Textiles (26,263), Transport (6,491) and Cement (3,141).

HMS has claimed a membership of 42,149 in 28 unions. Its largest claims are in Textiles (29,170), Engineering (3,692) and Port & Dock (2,581).

The UTUC has claimed 5,166 members in 19 unions.

STUC held its 6th Conference in February, 1960. Since this Conference, the Working Committee has met six times and the General Council twice. Apart from this, the STUC has called representative meetings of TU leaders in various towns. Thus in the last two years, the meetings of TU representatives of Motor Transport, hand-loom, Municipal and Local bodies, Textiles, Hotels, Tannery, Sea Divers and Sugar factories have been held, which discussed the problems concerning the industry and workers' conditions and TU organisation. Apart from this Tamilnad Motor Workers Conference was held in October, 1959; Municipal and Local Board Employees Conference in February, 1960; Hotel Workers Conference in May, 1960; Plantation Workers Conference in June, 1960 and Textile Workers Conference in August, 1960 were also held. Such TU representatives' meetings and conferences had gone a long way in strengthening the TU movement and its organisations.

In 1959, the struggle of 22,000 Harvey Mill workers at Madurai, Tuticorin and Vikramasingpuram, against rationisation; of textile workers in Coimbatore for reopening of Kaleswarar Mills and of Indian Express workers are worth mentioning. The STUC and unions in Tamilnad did commendable work in organising relief in connection with the ^{se}struggles.

About 10,000 workers in the Kundah Project area (Nilgris), observed strike from April 15 to May 3, 1960, demanding hill allowance and permanency, etc. Police repression was let loose on the workers and hundreds of them were arrested. After the strike the workers have won some wage-increases.

~~XXXXXXXX~~ One day state-wide strike of the textile workers was observed on May 24, 1960, demanding implementation of the Textile Wage Board recommendations. The strike call jointly given by TNTUC and HMS and was responded by about 90,000 textile workers out of 1,20,000. In June, 1960, a settlement was signed by the Southern India Mill Owners Association and the representatives of AITUC, TNTUC and HMS on the implementation of the Textile Wage Board recommendations.

In support of the Central Government employees strike, there was a successful ^{of the workers} ~~state-wide-strike~~ on July 14, 1960. *at Government of*

In August 1960, a settlement of bonus for 1959 for tea and coffee plantation workers of the State was arrived at benefiting about 62,000 workers to the tune of about Rs. 20 lakhs.

About 5 monthly and fortnightly journals are being published by our Textile, Harbour, Railway, Highway and Plantation unions besides the monthly "Trade Union News" by the STUC.

STUC has been able to sell more than 2000 copies of the outline History of AITUC in Tamil. *It has also published 15 journals up to now. 2 are AITUC journals in C.P.S.*

The STUC has collected about Rs. 1000.00 in Central Government Employees Relief Fund.

STUC has a centre and a small team also for STUC

(4)

30

T. V. S.

work. Contact with the Centre is regular, though we cannot
always be benefitted fully because of the reports being in Tamil.
The unions in this State also pay affiliation fees ^{in their companies} in larger
numbers.

Com Mirajkar, President, AITUC toured Tamilnad
in November, 1960 and also attended the STUC's General
Council meeting. Com Mirajkar had also attended the STUC's
Conference held earlier.

Com Dange, General Secretary, AITUC, attended
the STUC Working Committee meetings held in Madras in
July, 1959. Com Dange also attended the Coimbatore Textile
Conference in 1959.

100/43

UTTAR PRADESH

31

Out of a total labour force of 2,86,711 in this State in 1957, the big chunk of 2,82,987 were workers employed in 1977 factories and 3,596 plantation workers. In 1958, though the number of factories increased to 2,244, the labour force employed therein was reduced to 2,78,178, mainly because of closures and lock-outs in textiles.

Claimed and verified membership of the Central TU organisations in 1957-58, was as follows:

	Unions	CLAIMED		Unions	VERIFIED	
			Membership			Membership
AITUC	66		39,827	17		5,074
INTUC	161		60,456	99		40,800
BMS	96		30,946	17		5,078

Figures for 1958-59, were as follows:

AITUC	78		20,971	44		10,746
INTUC	196		76,799	156		61,947
BMS	40		25,740	23		10,157

INTUC had verified membership of 1,947 in 3 unions and 6,859 in 18 unions in 1957-58 and 1958-59 respectively.

In 1957-58, we lost a membership 14,475 because our 89 affiliates did not submit annual returns. We also lost a membership of 4,198 because three unions could not prove their affiliation with AITUC. In 1958-59, the situation with regard to submission of annual returns, improved but still there were 9 unions with a membership of 2,408, which did not submit the annual returns. In 1958-59, 17 unions with membership of 5,078 failed to produce records at the time of verification.

In 1959-60, we have claimed a membership of 26,209

The state committee office has been reorganised as far as office work is concerned, functioning well. We receive copies of all circulars sent to the unions, as well

unions, the major claim being in sugar (6,082).

In 1959-60, IITUC has claimed 11,350 members in textiles (4,312), jute textiles (2,719), Engineering (1,45

unions, the major claims being in sugar (10,757), Cotton In 1958-59, IITUC has claimed 36800 members in 47

Printing (8,459). IITUC has gone down in Textiles. employees (5,781), Engineering (5,308), Building (4,508),

has also claimed strong position in selected a professor of which 37,557 alone come from 58 unions in sugar. IITUC

has claimed a membership of 22,152 in 207 in 1958-60, out IITUC, the biggest organisation of the state,

opportunities and possibilities are immense. years, there is a vast field to be covered where the

are in a comparatively better position than the previous only 290. In sugar, another important industry, though we

6,126 leather workers in Kanpur, we have a membership of handloom weavers - 'Bunker', has totally collapsed. Out of

leather, printing and glass industries. The organisation also in cotton textiles, has gone up. It has gone down in

Building, Municipal & Local bodies and to a little extent plantations (1,040). Our membership in Sugar, Engineering,

Engineering (1,573), Construction & Building (1,311), Sugar (6,944), Cotton textiles (2,552), Transport (2,117);

to any Central IU organisation. Our major claims are in Corporation employees in KANPUR are also not affiliated

Chini Mill handloom Federation and the Joint Federation of is not affiliated to any Central IU organisation. Baited

in 102 unions. Textile union in Kanpur being a joint union

22

~~SECRET~~ The Regional Office at Beirut has become the rallying centre of our unions in Western U.P., specially of Sugar Industry in which our work and influence is growing. This is inspite of the fact that functioning of this office suffered as a result of STUC General Secretary's illness for 6 months, who had himself moved to this region. Possibilities exist to strengthen our base in this part of U.P. from this office if a ~~senior~~ capable with organisational capacity take charge of it.

action of

report

1948/49

replies to our letters. Our link is this State with the union is ~~very~~ weak.

The Working Committee of the STUC met in May and again Com S.A. Dange, General Secretary, AITUC, met TU functionaries in a meeting in Lucknow in December, 1959, and discussed priorities of work and organisation. In December, 1959, comrades working in Sugar Industry met at Mansoorpur. Com Dange and Com K.G. Srivastava from the Centre attended this meeting. U.P. being a quite big state, this meeting decided to set up a regional office for the Western ^{area} part of Meerut. The Regional office at Meerut since its opening about a year before, has been generally functioning well and as a result we have been able to make an advance amongst the Sugar workers of Western U.P.

A meeting of the Working Committee of the STUC was again held in May, 1960, which decided that the Conference of the STUC, which was already overdue, would be held in August, 1960 at Ferozabad. But the Conference could not be held in August also because of ^{unforeseen} ~~unforeseen~~ circumstances developed at Ferozabad after the Central Government employees strike. However, a Regional Conference of the STUC, covering unions of Western U.P. was held at Saharanpur in June, 1960. Com K.G. Srivastava, Secretary, AITUC, attended the Conference.

In the five important towns of the State, viz., Meerut, Allahabad, Benaras, Agra and Lucknow- called "W.P. towns", our position is not satisfactory. In Benaras, it is reported that TUs are functioning but they have no link with either the AITUC or STUC centre, no TUR copy is purchased, no affiliation fee paid. In Allahabad in none of the industries we have affiliates. In Meerut, the textile union remains independent; ~~and~~ we are weak in leather and

chemicals. In jute our union is suffering weak in its day-to-day work. We have improved a little in Engineering. In Lucknow we have only one or two affiliated unions. Agra's leather industry ~~is not organised~~ ^{is not organised}.

UPTUC ~~is an~~ ^{is} an "approved federation" in the State, according to the rules framed by the State Government. INTUC and its Sugar Federation are also registered. FMS is not. However, INTUC & FMS get representation in tripartite committees. We are represented only in State Evaluation & Implementation Board, which is not functioning effectively and properly. In other tripartite committees of the State, we suffer discrimination.

The textile workers' strike of June 14, 1960 was very successful at Saharanpur. About Karpur, where there is an independent united textile workers' union, we have not reports about their movement.

In a Tripartite Conference held in June, 1960, at which the President of the STUC was also invited to attend an agreement was arrived at on the implementation of the recommendations of the Textile Wage Board. The then Chief Minister of the State was accepted as arbitrator to decide over the matters arising out of the implementation of the Wage Board recommendations. Arbitrator's decision is yet to be published.

STUC published two booklets, in Hindi and Urdu on the Textile Wage Board recommendations.

In January, 1960, there were demonstrations, bus strike and general strike by the workers of Rihand Dam Construction demanding better working and living conditions. The workers were let down by force-arrests, lathi-charge and firing. About 800 were arrested, 5 dead and several injured.

In June, 1960, there was ~~xxxx~~ a strike in a tea-

135

estate in Dehradun which was settled within a few days.

In November, 1960, several hundred Government Roadways workers ^{under the leadership of 10000 men} went on strike protesting against the cut in their existing facilities and derogatory change made arbitrarily in their service conditions by the Government.

A sum of about Rs.750. has been received from the State on account of Building Fund out of a quota of Rs.7,40

The immediate task before the STUC is to mobilise the Sugar workers of the State for implementation of the Sugar Wage Board recommendations. Coordination between the unions at district or regional level, and between unions and centre is also to be developed. Conference of STUC should also be held without further delay.

(22)

A State Conference of of the employees belonging to educational institutions administered by the Universities and the Education Board, U.P., was held at Varanasi in February, 1960. Com Raj Bahadur Gour, Secretary, AITUC, attended the Conference.

The first State Conference of Metal & Engineering workers was held at Varanasi on December 24 and 25, 1960. Com Mohd. Iqbal, General Secretary, National Federation of Metal & Engineering Workers attended the Conference.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

61

According to 1957 figures there were 1,175 factory workers in 4 factories, 129 miners and 133 plantation workers, in all 1,437 workers. In 1958, the number of workers in 15 factories.

This unit of ours is functioning under Punjab STUC.

In 1958-59, we had claimed 964 members in 5 unions and got verified 173 in 4 unions.

In 1959-60, we have claimed 1,459 members in 7 unions, the major ones being Transport (784) and Building & Public works (384).

INTUC, in 1958-59, had claimed 861 members in 8 unions and got verified 904 in 8 unions. In 1959-60, they have claimed a membership of 1,381 in 11 unions, the major claims being in Building & Public works (426) Engineering (300) and Local bodies (259).

NMS and UTUC do not exist.

Com. Raj Bahadur Gour, Secretary, INTUC, toured this area in 1959.

In December, 1958, Himachal Transport Workers Union (HTWU), Simla, has reported to the Himachal Pradesh Administration that 1,000 workers had been made as, 1st and 2nd house rent allowance 20% of 3.75, 2nd house rent allowance 10% of 3.75.

MANIPUR

In 1957-58, we had ~~claimed~~ claimed one union with 65 members, although in verification this was not taken into account, as the union was not registered.

Thereafter the situation improved and 1958-59, we claimed a membership of 1,815 in 2 unions, but on verification got only 77 in one union.

In 1959-60, we have claimed a membership of 1,677 in 3 unions, Motor Transport (1,346) and Engineer (331).

Other Central TU organisations do not exist in this territory, though there are one or two unions under the influence of Lohia Socialists, yet independent of any Central TU organisation.

1001-4-5

WEST BENGAL

(36)

This highly industrialised state in 1957, had 3,432 factories with 6,88,092 workers besides 1,14,069 workers engaged in mines and 2,02,446 in plantations, i.e., 10,04,607 in all. In 1958, though the number of factories increased to 3,687, the working force of these factories was reduced to 6,86,000.

The claimed and verified membership of the Central TU organisations in 1957-58 was as under in the State.

	CLAIMED		VERIFIED	
	Unions	Membership	Unions	Membership
AITUC	240	2,42,346	182	1,58,683
INTUC	167	3,01,557	102	1,57,125
HMS	49	65,015	19	39,035
UTUC	97	87,015	80	47,298

The figures for 1958-59 read as follows:

AITUC	216	2,38,956	155	1,45,002
INTUC	169	2,84,740	120	1,79,459
HMS	75	80,338	44	53,865
UTUC	113	98,102	75	51,971

In 1958-59, we lost a membership of 19,559 because 29 unions failed to submit the records at the time of verification. We also lost a membership of 4,228 because 6 unions did not submit their annual returns. IM lost a membership of 16,966 because registration of 6 units was found cancelled.

In 1959-60, we have claimed a membership of 2,52,048 in 306 unions, major claims being in Plantations (87,459), Textiles-Cotton (20,398), Jute (31,896), Woollen & Silk textiles (1,179), Engineering (46,781), Iron & Steel (16,502), Transport (18,800), Coal mining (14,914), Chem-

to be reduced to a great extent if proper attention is paid and serious efforts are made to this effect.

In jute, mines and plantations, there is ^{a wide} gap in our membership and the organised workers, which can be reduced to a great extent if proper attention is paid and serious efforts are made to this effect. With the formation of the new Port & Dock Workers Union in Calcutta, it is hoped that the situation in this sector would improve and our influence as well as organisation would be strengthened.

Leather and Municipal & Local Bodies

Account for

In 1959-60, IAWUC has claimed 8,53,579 members in 135 unions, the major claims being in Transport (67,169), Textiles (51,974), Iron & Steel (15,441), Plantations (42,788), Reparries and leather (7,219), Salaried employees and professional workers (9,949).

It has also claimed a membership of 89,186 in 30 unions in the major claim being in Plantations (30,240), Coalmines (18,000), Engineering (16,500) and Textiles (9,907).

The IAWUC has claimed a membership of 1,17,946 in 135 unions, the major claims being in Textiles (51,904), Plantations (32,908), Printing & Publishing (6,216), Port & Dock (14,992), Mining (10,000), Iron & Steel (3,717).

During the last three years, practically all the major industries have been affected at one time or another. Plantations, jute, and other textile, engineering, mines and so on have had also had a large number of struggles, strike in small-scale industries and all units, whose workers do not enjoy even the standardised conditions prevailing to some extent in the larger and organised sectors.

A number of extremely prolonged and bitter strikes lasting between 2 to 4 or 5 months, took place. Outstanding instances were the Iron Longal Chagola, Orient Fan, President Jute Mill, Turbar, I.A.S., Bengal Iron, J.N. Steel and Berg Bhawal struggles.

(38)

A noteworthy struggle of an unusual type was the prolonged stay-in-strike by the India Fan Factory workers. The Company wanted to close down the concern. But the workers virtually occupied the factory for several weeks and ultimately succeeded in getting the Central Government to take it over and resume production with all the workers.

There was a State-wide general strike in protest against rise in food prices on June 26 and September 3, 1958. The unions also participated in the movements in this connection.

90,000 teachers of West Bengal went on strike on April 30, 1959 for wage-increase.

Another feature of this period has been the growth of workers trend towards mobilisation and action on an industry wide basis. There have been successful token general strike action in the plantations, jute and cotton textile industries for wage-increase, appointment of a Wage Board and implementation of Wage Boards' awards, respectively. About 2 lakh jute workers went on one day token strike on December 14, 1959, demanding increase in wages. The call for this strike was given by all the unions affiliated to INTUC, IWS, UTUC along with AITUC.

45,000 workers of West Bengal went on 1 day token strike on May 30, 1960 demanding implementation of the Textile Wage Board recommendations.

An attempt was made by the State Government to enact a bill banning strikes in hospitals. This was against the decision of the 16th Indian Labour Conference, ^{and was withdrawn} and was withdrawn.

The Bill introduced in the State Assembly to curtail the right of taking processions has been described as a Black Bill and was opposed by the Working class vigorously, as it was intended for restricting all democratic movements generally.

~~the STUC Scheme~~
~~and for its~~
~~submitted a~~
~~its~~
~~com~~
~~a several~~
 Dange, General Secretary, ~~has~~ ~~discussed~~ ~~organizational~~ ~~matters~~. ~~Several~~ ~~times~~ ~~and~~ ~~discussed~~ ~~organizational~~ ~~matters~~. ~~Whether~~ ~~functioning~~ ~~is~~ ~~possible~~ ~~if~~ ~~a~~ ~~team~~ ~~of~~ ~~cadres~~ ~~is~~ ~~evolved~~.

The STUC Centre is active as far as coordinating

Asansol belt, which is growing day by day, demands more serious attention. This region is to be reorganised with a senior comrade and working guidance of STUC Centre.

the situation will improve now.

****Monthly reports of the STUC are not received by the Centre and there is no regular correspondence by the STUC centre. Copies of STUC's circulars, etc. have also not been endorsed to AITUC Centre.

The STUC Mass Conference has called upon the unions and workers for mass mobilisation on the question of adequate D.A. linked to the Cost of Living Index on a sliding scale system, atleast for all the major and organised industries in the State.

So far as collection of AITUC Building Fund is concerned, this STUC has put up the weakest and the poorest performance.

[Handwritten notes and scribbles at the bottom of the page]

MADHYA PRADESH

(19)

In 1957, there were, in all, 2,30,722 workers in Madhya Pradesh, comprising of 1,54,738 in 1743 factories and 75,989 in mines. In 1958, the number of factory workers was 1,61,059 (provisional) in 1,872 factories.

The claimed and verified membership of AITUC and INTUC for the year 1957-58 was as follows:

	CLAIMED		VERIFIED	
	Unions	Membership	Unions	Membership
AITUC	30	25,216	10	4,534
INTUC	51	59,826	23	34,423

Figures for 1958-59 were as follows:

AITUC	45	20,183	13	5,103
INTUC	62	65,343	33	44,788

In 1958-59, HMS had also claimed 6,194 members in 4 unions and got verified ~~for~~ 3,372 in 3 unions.

In 1958-59, situation as regards submission of annual returns by our unions, improved a little, but still we lost a membership of 8,921 in 22 unions because of non-submission of annual returns. We also lost 2,778 members because 3 unions were found to be unregistered.

In 1959-60, we have claimed a membership of 27,943 in 64 unions. Our largest claims being in Cotton Textiles (6,928), Mines (3,949) and Tobacco (4,881). The union of Textile workers in Indore, in which our comrades are working is an independent union, not affiliated to any Central TU organisation; We have improved a little in Building & Public Works, Municipalities and local bodies, Mining, Tobacco and maintained in Tobacco.

In 1959-60, INTUC has claimed a membership of 66,640 in 66 unions, their major membership coming from Textiles (37,067), Mining (16,273) and Cement (2,297). HMS has claimed in 1959-60, 6,207 members in 4 unions- Textiles: 3030, Bhilai Steel Works: 1700 and Coal mining: 1471. The UTUC has claimed for the first time in the State in 1959-60, two unions with a membership of 869 (Coal mining-719).

Second Annual Conference of the STUC was held in June, 1960. Com S/S/ Mirajkar, President, AITUC, attended the Conference. In the Conference, which was attended by 114 delegates representing 52 unions in various industries and centres in the State, a detailed written report of trade union activities and TU situation was submitted by Com Homi Daji, General Secretary, STUC, ~~with~~ covering a period of 2 and a half years since the 1st Conference. The report mentioned the trend that despite rapid industrialisation by

Madhya Pradesh.

~~///~~ In 1958, a State Motor Transport Workers Federation was formed, but it did not function. Now after with the introduction of Motor Transport Bill, efforts should be made to revive the federation, ~~on the issue of early passage of the Bill and its immediate enforcement.~~

in major and consumers' industries, the unemployment was increasing seriously.

The Conference demanded of the M.P. Government issuing of ordinance in order to secure minimum wage in Beedi and Transport industries, as the employers have been keeping the issue in High courts and Supreme Court for over two years.

The Conference decided to publish a monthly Journal "Mazdoor Samachar" with effect from July, 1960. But to our knowledge this decision has not been put into practice.

The Conference also instructed its affiliated unions to send their respective annual returns before July 15th 1960 to the Registrar of Trade Unions and also copies to the AITUC, STUC and Verification Officer. The AITUC has not received copies of annual return from any union.

During 1959, there were two state-wide movements- one against the M.P. Industrial relations Bill, in September, 1959 and the other, the Strike of State Government employees from December 10 to 20, 1959.

In April, 1960, there was a movement of the workers of Bhilai Steel Project against the retrenchment offensive

~~During~~ In April, 1960, some of our workers comrades belonging to Dewas Mill Mazdoor Union (Red Flag) were involved in a murder case that took place as result of the INTUC and company goondas on our workers. Now those comrades have been acquitted by the Court.

were also cancelled. But the problem of retrenchment is still facing the workers.

The M.P. Government passed the Trade Unions (Madhya Pradesh Amendment) Act, 1959, giving very wide and arbitrary powers to the Registrar.

The STUC is represented in the State Evaluation & Implementation Committee and Labour Advisory Board. In ESI, PF and Workers' Education Committees, the right of representation has been solely given to the INTUC.

Rs.250. were given by AITUC to STUC towards help to Dewas comrades, who were implicated in a murder case.

~~Every week~~ In the year 1960, monthly reports for only four months have been received, and that too, in the month of September, 1960.

Monthly reports are not received from the State. A letter should be sent to the Registrar to get to the employers. There is some improvement in the monthly reports to the committee.
Mishra
Tilgadh

(17)

MAHAGUJRAT

The Mahagujrat STUC came into existence in a Conference held at Surendranagar in March, 1959.

As yet we do not have separate figures about the labour force in Gujrat. These figures are included in the Bombay State.

In 1958-59, we claimed separately for Gujrat, a membership of 12,764 in 44 unions and got verified 8,263 in 32 unions. Our unions are in textiles (Cotton & woollen), transport, mines, cement, oil mills, building and municipalities- specially in the area of Saurashtra.

The INTUC and HMS had claimed a membership of 1,63,101 in 137 unions and 10,582 in 10 unions, respectively, in this part of the State for 1958-59.

In 1959-60, we have claimed a membership of 13,284 in 49 unions, the biggest being in Textiles (5,160) and Mining (1125).

In 1959-60, INTUC and HMS have claimed 1,65,253 in 136 unions and 10,968 in 10 unions respectively. The largest membership of INTUC comes from the Textiles (1,34,782).

Ahmedabad is our weakest base and INTUC's strongest.

Meetings of the General Council and Working Committee of the STUC were held in April, 1960 and October, 1960, respectively. The General Council meetings was attended by Com Raj Bahadur Gour, Secretary, AITUC. The General Council decided to strengthen the STUC Centre and shift the same to Ahmedabad. It also decided to engage a lawyer comrade to help the unions in labour cases. A decision to publish a TU bulletin was also taken with atleast 1,000 subscribers to start with. But to our knowledge none of these decisions have been implemented.

Bombay State Transport Employees Union decided to call a convention of State Transport workers of Gujrat, Saurashtra and Kutch in June, 1960, to protest against and prepare for a fight against the apprehended retrenchment and wage-cut of State Transport workers by the Government. The convention would not be held and we have also no reports about the conditions of the State Transport workers.

Our representatives were not taken by the Government in the State Labour Welfare Advisory Board. The Government has recently set up the State Implementation & Evaluation Committee in which our representative along with those of INTUC and HMS have been taken.

AITUC Centre distributed a sum of Rs.150. to each of the families of the victims killed in police firing at Bohad during the Central Government employees strike. Com Mirajkar President, AITUC, ~~did~~ went to Dohad and distributed the sum. The STUC Centre which was functioning well for quite a long time after its formation seems to have been

from Baroda

Mahagujrat (Contd.)

(18)

The STUC endorses to the Central Office copies of ~~the~~ circulars it issues to the unions in Gujrati language. The Report of the General Council meeting was received in Gujrati, but no report has been received of the Working Committee meeting held in October last.

K E R A L A)

(14)

Kerala had a total working force of 3,30,655 in 1957. Of this 1,54,741 were employed in plantations and 1,55,305 in 1,653 factories, more or less equally divided in both. In 1958, the number of factory workers was 1,66,182 in 2,144 factories.

Calimed and verified membership of the Central TU organisations for the year 1957-58 was as follows:

	CLAIMED		VERIFIED	
	Unions	Membership	Unions	Membership
AITUC	486	2,32,690	200	76,453
INTUC	36	27,687	21	12,726
UNMGC (utcu)	50	28,961	30	6,180

The figures for 1958-59 were as follows:

AITUC	454	2,21,912	156	40,190
INTUC	35	26,587 (26,587)	21	12,726 (15,151)
UTUC	59	34,467	34	8,956

MMS is a negligible force in the State.

In 1957-58, we lost a membership of 36,515 in 103 unions due to non-submission of annual returns. In 1958-59 the number of our unions, which did not submit annual returns, increased to 110 and thus we lost a bigger membership of 39,516. In 1957-58, a membership of 24,500 was cut because in case of 70 unions could not be proved. In 1958-59, this number increased to 34,601 in 81 unions. In 1957-58, 43 unions with a membership of 32,833 did not show the records at the time of verification, while in 1958-59, this number increased to 52,551 in 70 unions. In 1958-59, registration of 25 unions with a membership of 12,532 was found to be cancelled.

[affiliation

So. One of the all over Kerala (61,662). Fed. (2,3835) Apn. (14,77) and 5.70. (11,530).

In 1959-60, we have claimed a membership of 2,10,434 in 349 unions. We have largest number of small unions in the state so much so that membership in this State though only 21% of our total claim, the percentage of number of unions is 33. In the year 1959, there was a general tendency of membership campaign not being speeded up. In Plantations, though we are the biggest force, and membership has increased in 1959-60 (61,662), still there is wide gap between the employed workers and those organised in our unions.

In Textiles, Engineering, Building, Tobacco and a number of Miscellaneous industries, our membership has gone down this year. We have improved our position in Agricultural labour.

In 1959-60, INTUC has claimed 69,557 members in 55 unions, their largest being in plantations (32,171) and

In 1959-60, UTUC has claimed a membership of 39,542 in 73 unions. Their largest membership comes from Food & Drinks (18,605). The UTUC has considerably gone down in Plantations.

HMS had only two unions with 815 members as per verified figures of 1958-59. In 1959-60, they have claimed 7,355 in 6 unions, the largest being in Plantations (5,346).

The Conference of the STUC was held at the time of our Ernakulam Session. The next Conference which was decided to be held in May, 1960, was not held. Instead General Council of the STUC met in May, 1960 and expressed its strong protest against the labour policy of the Coalition Ministry and called upon all workers and trade unions of the State to agitate for the demands, like, speedy passage of Kerala Industrial Relations Bill presented by the Communist Ministry; reversal of the policy of the Coalition Ministry towards toddy-tappers cooperatives and other cooperatives and switch on to policy of encouragement of such societies; proper representation of AITUC in Government sponsored committees on the basis of verified membership.

The STUC Working Committee meeting was held in February 1960, which discussed besides other matters the functioning of the STUC Centre. But still the STUC centre is in the bad state of affairs as is evident from the fact that during the last twelve months, not a single monthly report has been sent to AITUC centre.

In 1959, The STUC had submitted a memorandum to the Coalition Government regarding implementation of the labour policy which the Communist Government was following since 1957; demanding setting up tripartite Plantation Board to discuss bonus: for the defence of agricultural workers who were being attacked for political reasons, for maintaining cooperatives of toddy tappers and reopening of Sitaram Mills. On the last two issues, a deputation of Com Chadayamuri, Secretary of the STUC and Com TCN Menon, M/P/, met Union Ministers at Delhi in December 1959.

A good number of unions, specially in agriculture remain unregistered. For the smaller unions, it also becomes difficult to pay all dues to local council, STUC, AITUC, the trade federations, besides functioning the union itself. Often the unions bypass the STUC in favour of trade federation. The net result is that AITUC loses its verified membership to the extent of 68% in this state.

The AITUC has got influence over the workers and this fact was shown during the period when Communist Ministry was in power and specially in the general strike on August 1, 1959

(Kerala)

Over 60,000 workers engaged in cashew Industry in the State went on a token strike on June 27, 1960, demanding enforcement of the minimum wages fixed by the State Government. The strike was called jointly by the AITUC, UTUC and ITUC unions.

The workers had to again go on strike from July 11 to July 21, 1960, to get the minimum wages fixed by the Government. The strike ended following a tripartite settlement.

KERALA (Contd.)

16

against the Central intervention in dissolving the the legislature and dismissing the Ministry. But this general influence of the ~~work~~ AITUC over the workers is not reflected in the verified membership in the State because of organisational weaknesses of the ~~SEUC~~ Centre.

In July, 1960, an agreement in respect of textile workers of the State was arrived at, in which it was decided that wages, workload and duties of the workers obtaining in Coimbatore mills would be introduced in textile mills of Kerala. No further reports have been received by us in this connection and we do not know how the agreement has been implemented specially in the light of Wage Board recommendations.

In Tripartite bodies, INTUC is given equal status with the AITUC though its verified and claimed membership is much less than ours. We donot get reports of the tripartite meetings.

It is to the credit of the unions in the State that busy as they were in the fresh elections, they collected a sum of Rs.7,030.50 for building Fund against the quota of Rs.58,172.

①

ANDHRA PRADESH

In 1957, the total number of workers covered by Factories Act and in mines was 1,97,440 in 3,802 ~~in~~ factories and 44,865 in mines. In 1958, the number of factories workers was 2,21,954 in 4,875 factories.

Our membership, claimed and verified, for the year 1957-58 and 1958-59 was as follows:

YEAR	CLAIMED		VERIFIED	
	Unions	Membership	Unions	Membership
1957-58	89	85,208	39	36,669
1958-59	83	77,060	44	48,312

The membership of INTUC, which is next to us in the State, was as follows:

1957-58	67	52,323	18	4,645
1958-59	92	82,500	58	18,644

For the year 1959-60 we have claimed a membership of 78,898 in 92 unions, while the INTUC has claimed 52,465 in 88 unions.

In 1958-59, we lost 14 unions with a membership of 12,543 for not submitting annual returns as against 40 unions with a membership of 26,008 in the previous year for the same reason. In 1958-59, we also lost 5 unions with a membership of 3,117 which failed to produce the records at the time of verification. This year the position as regards submission of annual returns has improved.

We have improved our membership in Tobacco, Building, Municipalities & Local Bodies and personal services and maintained in Sugar and mines and gone down in Cement. In Port & Dock formation of united unions not affiliated to ~~any~~ any Central TU organisation has brought down our membership.

For 1959-60 the biggest claimers of INTUC have been in Tobacco (10,996), Textiles (7,477) and Engineering (3,693). HMS has claimed 6000 in Sugar and 2,134 in Engineering.

The State Committee held its annual conference at Guntur in May, 1959, which was attended by Com Dange, General Secretary of the AITUC. The State TUC Working Committee met in July and again in November 1959. The Working Committee again met in April, 1960. A meeting of the General Council of the STUC was held in December, 1959. Reports of these meetings are not received regularly by the AITUC centre. Monthly reports are also not sent by STUC.

The protest strike called on July 21, 1959 against the

#

Organisation of agricultural workers and affiliation of their unions with the AITUC is a possibility in this State.

The integration of the working of STUC as far as Andhra and Hyderabad regions of the State is concerned, can only be achieved with a team comprising of the representatives of the two regions functioning under STUC centre.

undemocratic action of the Central Government in intervening in Kerala was ~~very~~ successful. Another call for strike against the sharp rise in food prices on 31st August, 1959 did not succeed.

The employees of the State Government observed 'Quit Work' Day' on February 27, 1959 as a protest against the report of the Pay Committee.

'Protest Day' against the Anti-labour policies of the State Government was observed on January 31, 1960. The STUC also run campaigns in the beginning of 1960 against rise in prices of food grains, and for implementation of All India Tripartite decisions and also implementation of agreement between the State Government and their employees in respect of revision of pay scales.

In 1960, two trade union schools were organised under the auspices of the STUC.

During the whole period since our last Conference INTUC has always been taking a policy of offensive and disruption with active support of the State Congress against us. INTUC has been consistently trying to organise rival unions in almost all the centres where AITUC has been strong. In this it is financed and guided by the State Congress. ~~HMS is not only keeping away with us but actually working against us.~~ Com Dass of Praga Tools Corporation Employees Union was murdered by ~~his~~ HMS goondas.

In the Tripartite Committees of State level, the AITUC is represented but with much less representation, considering the verified membership of the different TU organisations. ~~No reports of these tripartite meetings, when held, are sent by STUC to the Centre.~~ Similarly, cases of non-implementation of awards, agreements and labour enactments received in the Central Office were very few.

Despite decisions having been taken to tone up the organisation of the STUC centre and visits and tours conducted by important leaders of STUC in a number of industrial areas, ~~no~~ qualitative change seems to have taken place in the functioning and organisation of STUC centre. ~~It was reported that the whole time has been spent in~~

With the offensive of the INTUC on, vast field of unorganised sections of labour still available, the membership drive of unions not taking strides, the State Committee has important and urgent work to attend, if it has to maintain its lead over INTUC in verified membership.

Com Parthasarathy, General Secretary, Praga Tools Employees Union, Hyderabad, which has recently affiliated itself to AITUC, has been ~~not~~ nominated for participating in Productivity Team on Machine building under USSR aid.

(10)

D E L H I

Delhi had, in 1957, 57,737 workers in 834 factories. In 1958, the number was 59,399 workers in ~~914~~ 914 factories.

Claimed and verified membership of AITUC and INTUC was as follows in 1957-58.

	CLAIMED		VERIFIED	
	Unions	Membership	Unions	Membership
AITUC	17	41,292	13	14,238
INTUC	35	10,263	20	7,901

The figures for 1958-59 were as follows:

AITUC	25	37,282	25	26,208
INTUC	32	14,644	8	5,563

In 1957-58, the claimed and verified membership of HMS was 10,263 (6 unions) and 850 (1 union) respectively. HMS claimed in 1958-59, 46,439 members of which 43,296 was the claim for their Union in Northern Railway alone. HMS got the verified membership of 41,143 in this ~~very~~ year.

We are the biggest trade union force in the city. In 1959-60, we have claimed 45,260 members in 30 unions, the major claims being in Textiles (16,218), Building & Public Works (8,378), Engineering (2,417), Chemicals (2,187), Municipal & Local bodies (2,025), Salaried employees (2,856) and Personal services (5,101). Our membership has increased in Petroleum Industry as a result of affiliation of Petroleum union. In Textiles, we have more or less, our position. We have also gone up in Municipal & Local bodies, Building and Engineering though there is yet vast scope in all these spheres. We have also improved our position in Personal services.

In 1959-60, the INTUC's major claims in their total membership of 15,133 have been in Textiles (4,938) and salaried employees (4,354).

In 1959-60, HMS has claimed a membership of 46,847 in 5 unions. Their biggest membership claim being Railways (45,000 members in one union).

The STUC Working Committee met in May, 1960.

On June 7, 1959, thousands of workers went in procession to the Prime Minister's House under the auspices of the Delhi TU action committee to voice their protest against the mounting offensive of the employers.

The struggle of the Ajudhya Mill workers, which has been reported full in the TUR was a remarkable struggle in Delhi.

Employees of educational ~~institutions~~ institutions launched a movement in March, 1960 under the ~~auspices~~ leadership of University & College Karmchari Union for better service conditions and recognition of the Union. The movement was

1
X² The recent affiliation of Praga Tools Employees
Union with AIEUC is an important event in the sphere of
expansion of work in Engineering industry in the State

Organisations of agricultural workers' unions and
their affiliation with the AIEUC is an

1001.4.11

3

ASSAM

According to figures available for 1957, Assam State had 1,050 factories, employing 72,415 workers; 5,29,528 workers were engaged in plantations and 4,721 in mines. In 1958, the number of factory workers was 75,378 in 1085 factories.

Our membership, claimed and verified and that of the INTUC were as follows in 1957-58.

YEAR	Unions	CLAIMED		VERIFIED	
			Membership	Unions	Membership
AITUC	10		22,439	9	8,400
INTUC	29 Not known		2,49,037	24	2,17,248

Membership, claimed and verified, of the three Central TU organisations for 1958-59 was follows:

AITUC	12		11,264	10	9,857
INTUC	18		2,52,607	14	2,15,079
HMS	6 Not known		7,449	4	2,226X

For 1959-60, we have claimed a membership of 13,628 in 16 unions. INTUC has claimed for 1959-60 a membership of 2,22,082 in 16 unions, HMS 7,449 in 6 unions and UTUC 431 in 2 unions. The largest membership of INTUC is in plantations (2,14,382) as against ours 8701.

The STUC held its Conference in March, 1959 at Dibrugarh. The STUC General Council met on September 11-13, 1959 and then again in May, 1960. Complete reports of these meetings are not received by the Centre.

The STUC had decided to publish a Bulletin, but to our knowledge, this decision has not been fulfilled.

The State Committee decided to have one Union of plantations workers on State-basis, and also to observe "Demands Week" in September, 1959. But so far we have not been able to build unitary organisation for the plantation workers in the State.

In Assam collieries, our Union though bigger than the INTUC affiliate, not only was not recognised by the management, but bypassed also in negotiations and agreements. The State and Central Government were active on the side of the management. The area was kept out of the LAT Award on Coal Disputes and separate agreement, very defective, was negotiated with the INTUC union. Our union had to go on strike from January 15, 1960. to

No strike has been heard of the mine since then.

ASSAM

X An agreement was arrived at between the INTUC
and the Assam Tea planters relating to bonus for 1957
and 1958 ~~in October 1958~~ for tea garden workers in
Assam in October, 1959.

Engineering Works for implementation of an agreement between the management and the Union and other demands, ⁱⁿ March 1960.

The attack on the trade union ~~movement~~ rights of the workers in Assam, and open discrimination both by the employers as well as the Government against the AITUC unions are the main problems in the growth of the healthy TU movement in the State. In Assam at the position of the AITUC is weak, it has not been possible either to defend the TU rights effectively or check discrimination. The General Council of the STUC in its meeting held in ~~April~~ ^{May}, 1960 considered over the situation and decided that steps should be taken by all unions to send concrete cases of violation of the Code. The meeting also decided to draft a memorandum containing all such concrete cases and to organise a state-wide campaign on the basis of the same. The meeting also decided certain organisational steps for strengthening the STUC Centre.

But these decisions could not be put into practice as in June, 1960 inspired by the vested interests, communal tension increased and took the shape of linguistic riots in July, 1960, causing great misery and sufferings to the people. Our movement and organisation also suffered a lot. All other things drowned in the linguistic riots. Some of our trade union functionaries were dislocated during the riots.

Our State Committee and its affiliates campaigned for restoration of peace and amity among the people and worked for rehabilitation of evacuees created by linguistic riots.

Several AITUC unions outside Assam donated in the Assam Relief Fund for riot-affected people. AITUC Centre also donated Rs. 1,000/- to this effect.

The STUC has not been able to run any campaign on the State level since the outbreak of the riots. A minor strike action took place in October, 1960 when 800 workers of ~~the~~ a mills struck work demanding Puja bonus and annual increment, etc.

Com Manoranjan Roy, General Secretary, Bengal STUC had attended the May General Council meeting of the Assam STUC.

Special and foremost attention should be given to the plantations and transport industries. The STUC Centre is also to be organised.

Special attention has to be paid to the transport industry in the plantation area.

(5)

BIHAR

According to 1957 figures, in Bihar, the total number of workers employed in 4,511 factories was 1,80,240. 2,40,863 workers were engaged in Mines and 1,083 in plantations. In 1958, the number of workers employed in 4,904 factories was 1,83,238.

Membership, claimed and verified, was as follows

1957-58

	CLAIMED		VERIFIED	
	Unions	Membership	Unions	Membership
AITUC	52	82,915	34	10,914
INTUC	77	1,23,883	50	94,479

1958-59

AITUC	46	63,806	31	20,358
INTUC	83	1,44,093	63	1,15,908

The verified membership of HMS in 1958-59 was 9,591 in 10 unions and that of UTUC was 8,425 in 17 unions.

Out of our verified membership of 1958-59, 11,900 was in coal mines (8 unions) and 5,577 in Iron & Steel (1 union). In the State our membership campaign has been weak in almost all the industries, notably in Iron & Steel and mines. We are nowhere in the Sugar Industry in the State, which is second only to U/P/ in whole of India. 69,893

In 1959-60, we have claimed a membership of ~~1,38,757~~ 1,38,757 in ⁵⁵90 unions, biggest claims being in Coal mines (26,905) and Iron & Steel (23,605).

In 1959-60, the INTUC has claimed ~~1,38,757~~ 1,38,757 members in ⁵⁵90 unions. Their membership is bigger in Mining (59,986), Iron & Steel (28,711), Metal (13,447), Sugar (6,938) and Glass & Potteries (4,891). HMS has claimed 21,192 in Mining and 6,542 in Sugar while UTUC has claimed 19,329 in all (36 unions), their major claims being in Murulidih mines (8,025), Motipur Sugar Factory (1,017) and Patna Corporation (1,801).

The Fifth Conference of the STUC was held at Jamshedpur in April, 1959. A meeting of the General Council of the STUC, decided to be held in March, 1960, did not take place for certain reasons. Since then there is no information of any meeting of the General Council or the Working Committee of the STUC.

The biggest organisational problem of the State Committee had been to manage the Jamshedpur Mazdoor Union, after the arrest and detention of the leading comrades in the so-called 'conspiracy case', since May 1958, and a large number of

Closure of jute mill in Katihar presented a crisis for the workers in the industry.

In the Public sector colliery National Coal Development Corporation, our affiliate is the largest union but still not being recognised by the management. Application for recognition made under the Code of Discipline is pending.

In Dhanbad two new unions have been affiliated. In the private sector collieries of Dhanbad, Jharla and Hazaribagh districts, still there is scope for expansion of work.

There was a proposal to take out a weekly TU paper for STUC. For sometime a comrade was allotted to work in STUC centre but as far as AITUC centre is concerned, it did not make any qualitative change. It is not known if that comrade is still there.

criminal cases in that connection. The arrest of the majority of ~~workers~~ leading comrades was a serious blow to the whole TU work in Bihar and the defence of the cases has imposed a very heavy burden on the State TUC and the Centre. Com Kedar Das, General Secretary, JMU, has been released on bail. ^{in 1960} The question of reinstatement of ^{the majority of} about 400 workers discharged during the May Strike is still pending solution.

In the collieries there were a few strikes in 1959, e.g. in Kusunda (March 6-31), Kirkend and New Marine Collieries (March-June) against victimisation and violation of Mines Act, etc.

On January 31, 1960, there was a strike by 3,400 workers engaged on the Ganga Bridge Project against retrenchment. In February, 1960, there was a strike of workers of Bihar Cotton Mills, which ended with the publication of the Textile Wage Board Recommendations and their acceptance by the Government.

In Navamundi Iron Ores mines about 4,000 workers went on 2 days strike in February, 1960 under the leadership of a faction of INTUC opposed to John. After the strike was withdrawn, the management (TISCO) entered into an agreement with INTUC led by John in respect of wages and other matters. The agreement covered about 21,000 mine workers employed by TISCO in Bihar and Orissa except the coal-miners employed by them.

Almost all the Mica factories in the State were closed by the owners against imposition of multi-point Sales Tax, leading to unemployment of about 40,000 factory workers and 75,000 home splitters for about 36 days (March 15 to April 21, 1960). Bihar Mica Mazdoor Sangathan, affiliated to AITUC campaigned for immediate settlement of the question as a result of which the workers got some lay-off relief from the employers and the Government.

At Patna about 3000 Corporation employees led by UTUC union observed strike from 12th April to 18th April, 1960 in support of their demands of revision of wages, D/A/ and implementation of award & agreement, etc. The strike took place despite being declared illegal by the Government and concluded with the Government's assurance against victimisation and referring the demands to a Tribunal.

(BOMBAY) MAHARASHTRA (7)

The following

Bombay State, including Gujrat had in 1957, 10,620 factories employing 10,75,944 workers. 33,350 workers were employed in mines bringing the total to 11,09,924. In 1958, though the number of factories increased in the State (Gujrat included) to 10,995, the number of workers employed therein went down to 10,60,677.

Claimed and Verified membership of AITUC and INTUC for the years 1957-58 and 1958-59 were as follows:

1957-58

	CLAIMED		VERIFIED	
	Unions	Membership	Unions	Membership
AITUC	132	2,62,137	63	52,161
INTUC	241	3,37,161	268	2,23,704

1958-59

AITUC	241 129	99,284	88	49,481
INTUC	252	3,52,609	204	2,43,791

In 1957-58, HMS had a verified membership of 79,701 in 53 unions and in 1958-59 it had a verified membership of 83,556 in 55 unions.

This clearly shows that during the two years for which the verified figures are available, our membership had gone down while that of INTUC and HMS has increased. The UTUC had a verified membership of 8,236 in 1958-59.

In 1958-59, we lost a membership of 6,351 because registration of 6 unions was found to be cancelled and a further membership of 21,056 was lost because 11 unions failed to produce the records and 4 unions produced incomplete records. Our Bombay Textile union having merged with the new Independent union, we lost its membership of 65,000.

In 1959-60, the respective claims of the 4 Central TU organisations in the State (only Maharashtra) have been as under:

AITUC	120 unions	92,699
INTUC	117 unions	2,40,268
HMS	59 unions	2,07,823
UTUC	1 union	8,236

Our biggest claims have been made in Engineering (17,872) and Cotton Textiles (10,732). INTUC strongholds are in Textiles (1,03,982), Transport (89,541). HMS strongholds are in Railways (1,12,289), Engineering (16,544), Port & Docks (22,538), Silk Textiles (15,014) and Cotton Textiles (8,424). The membership of UTUC comes only from the United Seafarers Federation, Bombay.

In 1958, over 5,000 workers of Premier Automobile Bombay, went on general strike which lasted for 101 days, beginning from April 22, 1958. The strike arose out of the withdrawal of the recognition of the union by the management. The strike was called off on July 29, following a settlement between the management and the union. ~~The Union Labour Ministry enquired into the matter.~~

The workers of Bombay organised a massive demonstration on July 25, 1958, against the anti-labour policy of the Government, in support of the struggle of Premier Automobile workers and to halt the ruthless offensive of the employers particularly in Textile industry. On July 25, life in Bombay came to a standstill when more than five lakhs workers of all trades and services observed a token general strike, at the call of United Action Committee of Trade Unions.

Union Labour Ministry conducted an enquiry under Code of Conduct into the above general strike of Premier Automobiles and token strike of July 25.

In 1958, a united union of Bombay Textile workers- Girni Kamgar Union- was formed. Emergence of this united union is an important landmark in the trade union movement of the State.

Third National Conference of the Indian Association
for Afro-Asian Solidarity was held on December 2 to 4, 1960 at
Bombay. A Workers ~~Conference~~ Convention was also held as a
part of the proceedings of the Conference. Our STUC and its
affiliates actively worked for the popularisation ^{of} and
preparation for the Conference and participated in it.

~~Detailed report of the Conference has not been sent to the
Centre by the STUC.~~

#

11/1
Recognition rules under the Code of Discipline have been utilised by the State Labour Ministry in this State to withdraw recognition from two of our unions, Level Brothers Employees Union and the Godrej & Boyce Workers Union, the former by not correctly following the procedure of verification and the later because of a strike. Neither the Implementation machinery at the State level, nor that of Centre have been able to undo the wrong done to these unions.

Woollen Textiles, cement, to some extent, sugar, ship/repairs.
 We have been able to maintain our position in Petroleum
 and chemicals. Membership campaign is generally weak.

The STUC held its 5th Annual Conference in February, 1960. The Working Committee met in August, 1960. The General Council meeting of the STUC, decided to be held in November, 1960, was postponed because of certain reasons

STUC ~~has~~ published a booklet in Marathi explaining to the workers about the recommendations of the Textile Wage Board and their tasks.

In May 1960 an All India Textile Conference was convened by Girni Kamgar Union, Bombay to discuss and decide about the situation created by the non-implementation of the Wage Board recommendations. In the mean time Rashtriya Mill Mazdoor Sangh (INTUC) and the Mill Owners' Association, Bombay entered into an agreement in May 1960 with regard to the implementation of the Textile Wage Board's recommendations. After the implementation of the wage rise, as recommended by the Board, the Mill owners started increasing workload. Girni Kamgar Union gave a call of the Protest Strike on June 12, 1960 against the employers' Offensive of increasing workload. The strike was not complete.

State Tripartite Evaluation & Implementation Committee was set up in May, 1960 in which INTUC, AITUC and HMS are equally represented. ~~But we do not get the reports and decisions of the meetings of this Committee.~~

A meeting of TU workers in Sugar factories of the State was held in April, 1960 at Poona to take stock of our position in the ~~Sugar~~ Sugar belt and plan future work. Com Dange also attended this meeting.

India wide Solidarity Strike of July 14, 1960 in sympathy of Central Government Employees' Strike, was successfully observed in Bombay. On September 2, TU Rights Day was also successfully observed in Bombay under the auspices of STUC. HMS seperately observed the Day.

Com Robert Gomes of KMU has been selected for the Productivity Team to USSR on Textile Industry. Com Khanolkar, General Secretary, Dyes & Chemical Workers Union, Bombay, has been nominated as AITUC representative on the Development Council for Food processing

On the recommendation of
 some newly some
 the defunct union was
 dropped for AITUC

(3)

9

STUC, though, the functioning of the STUC centre seems to have improved a little, yet the organisational situation remains far from satisfactory. STUC has not been able to expand its work and organisation outside Bombay. Even in Bombay city, the STUC has no control of its own on the trade union movement.

Recently, the Working Committee of the AITUC, on the /Credential/recommendations of STUC and Standing/Committee of AITUC, dropped 14 unions of Maharashtra from its list.

Punjab, a land of small-scale industries, nonetheless had 99,147 workers in 2,307 factories besides 1,565 workers in limestone and slate mines and 6,766 in tea plantations. The total, thus, was 1,07,478 in 1957. In 1958, the number of workers was 1,03,981 in 2,643 factories.

The claimed and verified membership of AITUC and INTUC was as under in the year 1957-58:

	CLAIMED		VERIFIED/	
	Unions	Membership	Unions	Membership
AITUC	61	48,235	39	17,585
INTUC	74	27,239	49	16,653

The figures for 1958-59 read as follows:

AITUC	65	47,801	44	18,114
INTUC	94	30,893	80	15,371

The verified membership of MMS in 1958-59 was 421 in 3 unions. UTUC is non-existent in Punjab.

In 1958-59, we lost a membership of 1,760 because 8 unions did not submit their annual returns and also 1,467 because 3 unions did not show the records at the time of verification.

In the State our membership has increased in Iron & Steel, Transport, Cement, Leather Goods and gone down in Building & public works, Textiles, Engineering and Sugar. We are still a negligible force in plantations.

In 1959-60, we have claimed still lesser membership than previous two years i.e., 36,579 in 82 unions, the major claims being in Cotton Textiles (9,014), Woollen textiles (4,206), Engineering (5993), Transport (4,176) and Iron & Steel (2,656)

In 1959-60 the claim of INTUC is 33,302 in 111 unions. They claim as their strongholds in Textiles (5,813), Building (5,285), Transport (4,712), Salaried employees (3,344) and Paper (2,283).

MMS has claimed 700 members in 8 unions.

Punjab STUC is amongst the very few STUCs which have been sending their monthly reports regularly to the Centre. The STUC is functioning well. The meetings of the Working Committee and General Council are held regularly and we get reports of the same, but in Urdu. We also get the copies of the circulars of the STUC in Urdu. There is a team ~~of~~ for STUC work. ~~and recently it has been strengthened~~ The unions being small

and the local leadership not yet fully trained in the complicated legal and TU machinery of day-to-day functioning they have to rely on the State Committee ^{personnel} more than what ordinarily should be.

24

The last Conference of the STUC was held in December, 1959. Com Palfvati Krishnan, Vice-President and Com K/G/ Srivastava, Secretary, AITUC, participated in it.

The State TUC also held for the first time a State level conference of metal and engineering workers in 1959. Com Mohd. Elias attended it on behalf of the AITUC.

All India Woollen Textile Workers Conferance was held in January, 1960 at Dhariwal. Coms. S/S/ Yusuf, Vice President, Coms Raj Bahadur Gour, Satish Loomba and K/G/ Srivastava, Secretaries, AITUC, participated in it.

The last meeting of the working Committee of the STUC was held in April, 1960.

The State Committee runs a TU journal in Urdu. * - 1

STUC has got representation in State tripartite bodies, but discrimination is shown in the sense that though it has large membership than the INTUC, the later is given larger representation than the former.

On 30th and 31st August, 1959, protest-days were observed against the discriminatory policy of the State Government.

20th. December, 1959 was observed as protest day against the anti-labour policy of the State Government and against rise in food prices.

As a result of electricity cut during the early period of 1960, a large number of ~~mill~~ factories workers were affected. A serious situation arose in Ludhiana due to lock out in the textile mills throwing out of employment over 5,000 workers. The STUC launched a campaign against ~~against~~ this cut and was succesful in getting some relief for the affected workers in the form of interest-free loan.

* - 2 There was a strike in June, 1960 by about 2,500 workers of Jagjit Cotton Mills, Phagwara for implementation of the Wage Board recommendations and against victimisation. #

Punjab, being mainly a land of small-scale industries, a Sub-committee of STUC studied various specific problems of small-scale industries and the workers employed in those industries, and made appropriate recommendations to STUC which on the basis of these recommendations formulated certain demands and called upon the unions and workers for a signature campaign for fulfilment of those demands.

#-1
The STUC organised TU lectures for two days
in December, 1960.

In June, 1960, five persons were killed as a
result of police firing in the industrial town of
Faridabad. The firing was resorted to by the police
when industrial workers residing in the refugee tenements
protested against the action of these premises. A
complete general strike was observed in Faridabad on
June 29, 1960 against the police firing.

#-2
PUNJAB.

Our affiliate, Hissar Textile Mills Workers
Union, entered into an agreement with the management
of the mills of the recommendation of the Textile Mills
Board recommendations.

Punjab

retrenchment of
Large-scale / Bhakra Nangal workers took place in 1959-
60. The workers formed an Anti-Retrenchment Committee
in which workers of all shades of opinions were repres-
ented.

Orissa.

In September, 1960, about 53 persons including
Sua N.P. Bose, General Secretary, Keonjhar Mines & Forest
Workers Union (Garbil), were arrested in connection with
a murder case that occurred between the workers and
the hired goondas of the company. The workers of Gudia
(Keonjhar) area started organising themselves under the
MFW Union in order to achieve their just and minimum
demands. The employer, failing to demoralise the workers
by organising a rival union with the help of goondas
and black to go and illegally retrenching about 500
workers, brought a famous goonda leader from Calcutta.
After the arrival of this goonda leader, organised
assaults and acts of violence started. Day after day
organised hooliganism went on and more attempts at
provocation were made and this reached the climax on
September 26, 1960, when a clash between the workers and
the goondas occurred and the imported goonda leader died
in the melao. The arrested persons have not yet been
granted bail.

O RBISA

In September, 1960, following a strike notice served by the
Rourkela Steel & Mining Mazdoor Congress, the manage-
ment of the Rourkela steel project agreed to reinstate
37 workmen whom they had retrenched. Since the other
demands of the union were subjected to conciliation
proceedings, as per a notice served on the union the
day before the scheduled date of strike (thus making
the projected strike illegal), the Union withdrew the
strike notice.

We have made a headway in the Rourkela
Steel Works both among the construction workers as
well as the operatives.

Orrisa State had 343 factories employing 24,730 workers in 1957 and 50,491 in mines. In 1958, the number of workers in factories (350) was 25,974.

The claimed and verified membership of AITUC and INTUC and HMS for the year 1957-58 was as under:

	CLAIMED		VERIFIED MEMBERSHIP	
	Unions	Membership	Unions	Membership
AITUC	I9	27,489	II	6,696
INTUC	I3	16,006	IO	10,692
HMS	IO	6,406	8	9,749

(From Page 16) - Figures for 1958-59 were as follows:

AITUC	I4	16,006	IO	10,692
INTUC	I3	19,096	IO	15,464
HMS	I2	13,389	9	5,131

The UTUC had nil in the above two years.

Our membership has gone down in mines other than coal and been maintained in Cotton textiles. In 1959-60 we have claimed 11,991 members in 15 unions of which Mining other than coal (5,492) and Cotton textiles (3,313) constitute the major portion.

The INTUC has claimed 19,249 in 14 unions, their largest being Mining (17,932-11 unions). The HMS claim is 7,455, with 3220 in coal mines and 1,700 in Iron & Steel. This year the UTUC has also claimed 1,520 in Mining only.

We are represented on tripartite committees in the State and we get reports of such meeting from the STUC sometimes.

A meeting of the Working Committee of the STUC was held in February, 1960, which decided that the Conference of STUC would be held in May, 1960. But the Conference was not held because of organisational weakness.

The STUC in cooperation with Kisan Sabha and other democratic organisations successfully organised a protest demonstration on March 24, 1960 before the Orrisa Assembly against rise in prices of essential commodities and Government failure to check the same and also against imposition of Sales Tax.

In April, 1960 there was a strike in Barbil Iron & Manganese mines under the leadership of our affiliate, demanding revision of wages, three month's bonus and recognition of the Union. The employers resorted to lock-out.

* There was also a strike in June, 1960 by workers of Railway, Building, Road, Site formation, Public health and other divisions of the Hindustan Steel Limited, Rourkela, demanding payment of Rs.75. p.m., confirmation of service and better working and living conditions. As a result of the strike some of the demands were conceded. #

As a result of the decision of the State Labour Advisory

Board, in which our STUC is also represented, State Implementation and Evaluation Committee enquired into the conditions of workers at Rourkela and submitted a report which gives a very bad picture of the working and living conditions of the Rourkela workers. The Report was discussed in the July meeting of the State Evaluation & Implementation Committee, in the presence of Dy. General Manager of ~~Rourkela~~ Hindustan Steel Ltd., Rourkela, who assured that the conditions would be improved within a short period. The meeting also decided that HSL would submit a compliance report in the next meeting of the Committee for consideration. We have recd. no information about the said compliance report

In July, 1960, our affiliated Orrisa Textile Mills Mazdoor Union was recognised by the management and it entered into an agreement with the management of Orrisa Textile Mills with regard to the problems relating to D/A/ etc., arising out of implementation of the Wage Board recommendations.

In August, 1960 this very Union collected about Rs.25,000. from the textile workers when the later received their arrears of wages as a result of implementation of recommended wage increase ~~xxxxxx~~ under the July agreement. But it is also to be noted here that this Union has as not as yet paid anything to the AITUC Building Fund, or Central Government employees Relief Fund or even its AITUC affiliation fee.

The STUC has not sent us the monthly reports. No circulars have been ~~issued~~ received and it appears that STUC centre as such is not functioning at all.

With Rourkela steel plant and the mines area around it, this State TUC has to seriously think about the strengthening of the Centre if it has to keep pace with growing industrialisation and fulfil its responsibilities toward the working class.

(25)

R A J A S T H A N

Rajasthan is an industrially backward state with only 49,199 workers in 545 factories and 20,464 workers in mines and quarries in 1957. The number of workers, in 1958, was 53,075 in 634 factories.

In 1957-58, we had claimed a membership of 13,613 in 18 unions and the verified figure was only 1,739 of one union in Beawar. The rest of the unions were scored out as none could supply us the registration numbers. The situation improved considerably in 1958-59, when we claimed 12,150 members in 35 unions and got verified 8,094 in 19 unions.

In 1957-58, the INTUC had claimed 12,150 in 24 unions and the verified figure was 4,384 in 13 unions. In 1958-59 the claim of the Intuc was 17,473 in 42 unions and the verified membership was 9,076 in 18 unions.

In 1958-59, the verified membership of HMS was 740 in 4 unions out of the total claimed 2,657 in 6 unions.

In 1958-59, UTUC had a verified membership of 337 of one textile union at Pali (Marwar).

In 1959-60, we have claimed a membership of 15,218 in 60 unions. The biggest claims are in textiles (4,799), Mining & Quarrying (2,095), Transport (2,705) and Building (1,392). Our membership has gone up in Road transport and Mining & quarrying but gone down in Textiles and Engineering.

In 1959-60, INTUC has claimed 26,270 members in 54 unions, the largest membership being in Textiles (4,705) Engineering (3,445), Mining (3,377), Transport (2,223), Cement (2,677), Local bodies (2,140), Agriculture (1,290), Chemicals (1,155) and Personal services (1,200).

HMS has claimed 1,398 in 4 unions. The largest being 822 in Gypsem Mines, Bikaner.

The UTUC has claimed only one Union with 301 members of Textiles, Pali.

The STUC Centre was reorganised in a meeting of activists held in May, 1959. Com Raj Bahadur Gour, Secretary, AITUC attended the meeting. 2nd Conference of STUC was held in April, 1960, which was inaugurated by Com Dange, General Secretary, AITUC.

The Conference besides other matters decided that a State-wide union of Mine workers would be organised and the existing affiliated unions would merge in the same and branches would be set up at all District centres.

There was a ^{necessary} token strike of textile workers on May 20, 1960, in response to the call given by the STUC, demanding implementation of the Textile Wage Board recommendations

*2 Com: Sakin Bhabha
44: 11/10/60
Subsequent meeting
in 11/10/60*

and ~~closure~~ reopening of the closed mills. ~~The strike was successful.~~

The Labour Commissioner, Government of Rajasthan, held that the token strike of May 20, 1960, constituted a breach of the Code of Discipline and the State Government ordered sanctions under the Code on our affiliates, which was yet another example of the discriminatory policy of the State Government against the AITUC. *However, this was a logical*

In May-June, 1960, there was a strike of mine workers in Ramganjmandi and a Polishing Factory demanding ~~fixed~~ *higher* wages and ~~better~~ working conditions as provided under law. *The strike continued for about 45 days despite police repression and arrest of so many workers.*

*and reinstate
ment of some
dismissed
workers.*

The Working Committee of the STUC met in June, 1960, and took specific decisions to strengthen the organisation and working of the STUC in the mines and quarries. The Working Committee also decided to launch a state-wide membership drive among the Mine and Mineral workers of the State in November, 1960, so as to fulfil the target of 10,000. In the absence of report from the STUC we are not in the knowledge of degree of success attained by the STUC in its advance amongst the mine workers.

The Working Committee also decided to ~~to~~ observe "Protest Day" on July 6, 1960, against the Government sanctions on AITUC unions and for defence of trade union rights. ~~We have also no report about the observance of the Protest Day.~~

STUC could not put into-practice its decision to bring out a Hindi Bulletin "Shramik Sandesh". *STUC centre is not able to keep regular contact with the AITUC Centre.*

A sum of Rs. 740. was given by the STUC to Com. Dange towards Building Fund at the time of the STUC Conference. The quota of STUC is Rs. 3,403.

*STUC centre is still weak
and a whole time worker is not there
to further it.
with confidence*

K A R N A T A K

(12)

Karnatak (Mysore) had a total labour force of 2,91,093 in the year 1957- I, 12,618 in 1,278 factories, 52,048 in mines and 1,26,427 in tea, coffee and rubber plantations.

In 1957-58, claimed and verified membership of AITUC and INTUC were as follows:

	CLAIMED		VERIFIED	
	Unions	Membership	Unions	Membership
AITUC	36	47,926	23	25,092
INTUC	23	22,251	16	12,651

In 1958-59, the figures were as under:

AITUC	39	35,883	22	23,505
INTUC	30	22,622	15	14,057

HMS also claimed in 1958-59, a membership of 11,985 in 16 unions, but on verification got only 119 in 2 unions. INTUC does not exist.

In the year 1959-60, we have claimed a membership of 48,326 in 84 unions. Obviously, it is an improvement from the previous year. We have increased in Textiles, Engineering, plantations, Tobacco, Cement and personal services. We have maintained our position in Mines.

In 1959-60, INTUC has claimed 23,437 members in 33 unions the largest being Textiles (9,361), Sugar (4,175) and Mines (4,248),

In 1959-60, HMS claimed 14,395 members in 21 unions, major ones being Engineering (4,400), Sugar (1900) and Tobacco (1800).

The Engineering unions in Bangalore, viz, Hindustan Aircrafts, Hindustan Machine Tools, Bharat Electronics and Indian Telephone Industries have nited unions not affiliated to any Central TU organisation. INTUC has set up rival unions in Machine Tools and Air Craft Factory.

The Executive Committee of the STUC met in November, 1959 and decided to reorganise the STUC; the STUC collect Building Fund, have a strike on December 4 against rise in food prices and agitate for a uniform legislation for the whole state. But in absence of any report from the STUC, we do not know how far these decisions were implemented. The Working Committee of STUC again met in June, 1960 and discussed organisational problems of STUC. Certain decisions were taken to tone up the organisation which, again in the absence of any report we are bound to presume, were not put into practice.

The PTUC Conference which was already overdue, was decided to be held in September, 1960. But the same was again

in June, 1960 postponed. The STUC decided to hold a convention, on a small scale, of workers in Minor Engineering Industry. The AITUC has no report whether the convention was held or not.

A formal tripartite meeting on violation of Code of Discipline was held in May, 1960 in which two of our representatives also participated. Since then there is no further report in this connection.

The STUC is represented on State Labour Advisory Board, State Minimum wage Advisory Board, Evaluation Board, ESI Committee, Housing Advisory Committee (under the Plantation Act). but we donot get regular reports of the meetings of these committees, mainly because of the weakness of the STUC Centre.

The only report that the STUC Centre sent to AITUC was in June, 1960. Com Raj Bahadur Gour and Com Parvati Krishnan visited the State and attended the STUC Executive Committee meetings. Decisions taken to reorganise the STUC have not been implemented.

Com Parvati Krishnan

M A N I P U R

In 1957-58, we had ~~claimed~~ claimed one union with 65 members, although in verification this was not taken into account, as the union was not registered.

Thereafter the situation improved and 1958-59, we claimed a membership of 1,315 in 2 unions, but on verification got only 77 in one union.

In 1959-60, we have claimed a membership of 1,677 in 3 unions, Motor Transport (1,346) and Engineering (331).

Other Central TU organisations do not exist in this territory, though there are one or two unions under the influence of Lohia Socialists, yet independent of any Central TU organisation.