

AITUC DIGITAL ARCHIVE - 2021

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of AITUC, Ernakulam

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Conf-2

December 12, 1957

The Prime Minister
and Minister for External Affairs,
Government of India,
New Delhi.

Dear Sir,

The 25th Session of the All-India Trade Union Congress is going to meet in Ernakulam from 25th to 29th December 1957.

We invited the Central Trade Union organisations of many socialist and capitalist countries to send fraternal delegations to attend the Session.

Accordingly, many of the countries invited have expressed their desire to send such delegates. They have applied for visas to the Indian Embassies in the respective countries to come to India.

I had informed long ago the External Affairs Department about this and had requested them to be good enough to issue the visas in time so as to enable them to be in India before 24th December. But I am not yet aware if they have done so or not. Some of the countries have asked for the visas as far back as November 10th.

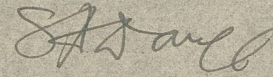
Since the granting of such visas might be referred to you, I am writing this letter for your personal attention.

I need not tell you that many other organisations in India have been granted such facilities to enable foreign delegates to come to their Conferences. I hope the AITUC will not be denied that facility.

Page two

I am appending herewith the names of delegates and the countries from which they come, for your ready reference.

Yours sincerely,



(S.A. DANGE), M.P.
General Secretary

LIST

From USSR

- (1) Mr. Ivan Gureev, Secretary, All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, Moscow
- (2) Mr. Nabi Abdullaev, President, Uzbek Republican Committee, Agricultural Workers Union, USSR.
- (3) Mr. Vadim Chulitsky - Interpreter

From CHINA

- (1) Mr. Liet Dehangsheng, Vice President, All-China Federation of Trade Unions
- (2) Mrs Lin Peiming - Interpreter

From FRANCE

- (1) Mr. Robert Hernio, Member, Administrative Commission, Confederation Generale du Travail, Paris

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From Indonesia

- (1) Mr. Ruslan Widjayasastra, General Secretary, SOBSI, Djakarta

From HUNGARY

- (1) Mr. Miklos Simogyi, President, National Confederation of Free Hungarian Trade Unions
- (2) Interpreter to Mr. Simogyi.

From WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

- (1) Mr. G. Casadei, Secretary, World Federation of Trade Unions, Prague;
- (2) Mr. Ma Chun-ku, Secretary, World Federation of Trade Unions, Prague;
- (3) Interpreter to the delegation

(Visas may be released at Peking or Prague)

From CZECHOSLOVAKIA

- (1) Mr. Vaclav Koukol, Secretary, Revolutionary Trade Union Movement (ROH) Prague.
- (2) Mr. Vladimir Dvorsky, an official of the trade unions and Interpreter

From RUMANIA

- (1) Mr. Popescu Nicolae, Member, Presidium, Central Council of Trade Unions, Rumania
 - (2) Mr. Hinter Gavrilă, Interpreter
- (Visas may be released at BELGRADE)

From North KOREA

- Two delegates (names not yet available)

From:-

J. Stone & B.I.C. Worker's Union.
3/2, Ekbalpore Lane,
Calcutta. West Bengal.

To
The Presidium and Delegates,
A.I.T.U.C. Conference,
Eranakulum, Kerala.

Dated 24/12/57

Dear brothers,

We are really sorry in failing to attend the so very important Conference of the A.I.T.U.C. now in Sessions at Eranakulum. The strike struggle of the 500 workers of J. Stone Ingot Company a British Company against victimisation of 7 Union leaders is lasting for 70 days against heavy odds and this struggle has prevented us from joining your Conference

The dispute arose in connection with the Bonus movement before the last pujas, an issue conciliated by the Labour Dept. Govt. of West Bengal.

The Company in violation of the conciliated matter suspended 7 leaders of our Union on 16/10/57, asking permission of dismissal from the Engineering Tribunal. The workers protested against this attack of the company by staging a Sil-down strike and subsequently the Company by asking the workers to sign a declaration before allowing them to enter the factory threw the workers in this strike struggle.

The workers are leading a peaceful struggle, but the Company failing to break the moral and unity of the workers have managed to launch police offensive on the workers on false grounds. So far 105 police cases have been filed against the workers and workers are being arrested from the streets and residences every day and night to terrorise the strikers.

The morale of the striking workers is very high and

and they are determined to fight to the last in face of repression and all difficulties . The Labour department of the West Bengal Govt. is only watching and not intervening.

We would request the Delegates in Session to think over the present feature of the T.U. movement that the management attacks the Union leaders on the plea of violation of standing orders, the Labour Dept. poses a neutrality, the police comes in the picture for the rescue of the Company whenever the workers launch movement for winning their legitimate demands. The strike struggle in such cases becomes inevitable and the police offensive disturbs the peaceful atmosphere.

Lastly we would request the Conference to take a resolution against the encroachment of T.U. rights, police offensive and the attitude of the Labour Dept. as in our case.

We will also hope that the Delegates of the Conference will send us monetary help in order to enable us to conduct the police cases and relief work.

Fraternally yours,

Ram Surat Singh

Secy.
J. Stone & B.I.C. Workers' Union.

Madras State Bank Employees' Federation

(Registered Under The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926.)

Address Communications to
GENERAL SECRETARY

12/13, Angappa Naicken St.,
(Top Floor)

Ref:

Madras-124th December, 1957.

The Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress,
ERNAKULAM.

Dear Comrade,

On behalf of the thousands of bank employees of the State of Madras we extend to the delegates for the twentyfifth Conference of the All India Trade Union Congress our warm and fraternal greetings.

Owing to the fact that last lap of this month keeps all the bank employees quite busy with the annual closing work, we are unable to depute anybody from our organisation either as a fraternal delegate or as an observer to this historic session. We deeply regret that we are indeed missing a very unique opportunity.

The bank employees, in particular, as every other strata of working class, are deeply indebted to the A.I.T.U.C. for the readiness with which it expressed solidarity with all the struggles waged by the bank employees during the last ten years and more. If the bank employees with their various forms of organisations in the different states could face the combined offensive and repression of the bankers and government, it was only due to the inspiration and strength, both moral and material, they got from the other Central organisations, especially the A.I.T.U.C.

Today when the A.I.T.U.C. holds its Silver Jubilee Session, the bank employees are rejoicing that further vistas will be opening for the strengthening of the working class movement in the country and for forging greater and more real unity between the workers organised under the four Central T.U. organisations.

(contd.).

Madras State Bank Employees' Federation

(Registered Under The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926.)

Address Communications to
GENERAL SECRETARY

- : 2 : -

12/13, Angappa Naicken St.,
(Top Floor)

Ref:

Madras-24th December, 1957.

We once again convey to your Conference the fraternal greetings of the bank employees of the Madras State and wish the Conference all success.

Yours fraternally,

n. Sampath

GENERAL SECRETARY.

MEMORANDUM

From

CHAH MAZDOOR UNION

Regd. No. 269.

(AFFILIATED TO A. I. T. U. C.)

P. O. BORBHETA, JORHAT;

To

The General Secy,

A.I.T.U.C.

Camp at Erneculan, 25th Open session.

No. 648/57

Date 23-12-57.

Dear Comrade,

We have duly received the circular on 25th annual conference of A.I.T.U.C. and also we have undergone through the report of the same in the last issue of the ^{Trade} ~~CHAH~~ union Record". Accordingly, we have elected Com Sah Sayeed Hussain, Com Monoranjan Dasgupta and Com Durlabh Mahanta as delegates to the conference, but the first two comrades had to busy with the local party conference and other trade union works and the rest delegate who is a new comer to the trade union work did not proceed alone to Kerala. However we very much regret our inability in participating the conference and we extend our heartiest greetings to the conference and wish the conference a success.

We have remitted the affiliation dues and W.F.T.U. levy amounting to Rs 25/- twenty five only per M.O. and it is duly received by the H.Q. We have a total membership of 743 at the year ending 31st March 57.

We fully endorse the view with A.I.T.U.C. of ^{proposed} amending the constitution so that it may suit the changing situation of the country.

Com Mani Bheumik who is proceeding ^{to} Kerala will report on the various problems confronted by our organisation and we hope the conference will pay proper attention to them while discussing the report on TEA.

With greetings.

Yours Comradely.

Secretary,

CHAH MAZDOOR UNION

Southern Railway Employees' Sangh

(REGISTERED, RECOGNISED & AFFILIATED TO N. F. I. R)

T. V. ANANDHAN,
President.

G. L. NARASINGA RAU,
General Secretary

Ref. No. ESC ^{MS} 57

Central office :
37, UNITY HOUSE,
PERAMBUR
(MADRAS)

23rd Decr. 1957.

The Chairman,
Reception Committee,
25th Annual Conference of
the A.I.T.U.C.,
Ernakulam,
Kerala State.

Dear Brother,

I am so glad to be in possession of your invitation for the twentyfifth annual conference at Ernakulam.

I will be more glad to learn if your Conference can take up a bold step to unite all the working class organisations in the country.

When Russia and America can explore to come together, it is not difficult for us, Indians, to find out a way.

Wish your Conference all success in its attempt for unity,

Yours fraternally,



PRESIDENT.

श्री राज्यपाल



उत्तर प्रदेश

(2)

राज्यपाल शिविर

उत्तर प्रदेश

December 2, 1957.

On the occasion of its twenty-fifth Session, I send my greetings and good wishes to the members of the All India Trade - Union Congress. The Congress having attained its Silver Jubilee year, its members must be full of wisdom based on experience and I am sure the coming Session will be marked by a spirit of self-imposed discipline and a sense of high responsibility.

The members of the Congress know my views on the Trade Union Movement in India. While every worker has a right to expect living wages and better conditions of service in an undertaking, he must always remember that duties and responsibilities precede rights and privileges. Workers have the right to form democratic trade unions at the rate of one union in one industry, with cent per cent membership and must always be reasonable in their demands. They must always be conscious of the fact that they are citizens of the great Republic of India in the progress of which they have their full part to play. The employers in their turn must recognise the importance of the Union of workers. With mutual consideration and courtesy, they must maintain industrial peace and create the enthusiasm necessary for industrial progress. I have always advocated the formation of joint standing machinery at all levels for the settlement of any differences.

I hope the twenty-fifth Session of the All-India Trade Union Congress will give a lead which would be in the best interests of the country as a whole, of which the workers are certainly a part.

(V. V. Giri)



TRADE UNIONS INTERNATIONAL OF METAL AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES
(TRADE DEPARTMENT OF THE W. F. T. U.)

UNION INTERNATIONALE DES SYNDICATS DES INDUSTRIES METALLURGIQUES ET MECANIKES
(DÉPARTEMENT PROFESSIONNEL DE LA F. S. M.)

UNION INTERNACIONAL DE SINDICATOS DE LAS INDUSTRIAS METALURGICAS Y MECANICAS
(DEPARTAMENTO PROFESIONAL DE LA F. S. M.)

МЕЖДУНАРОДНОЕ ОБЪЕДИНЕНИЕ ПРОФСОЮЗОВ МЕТАЛЛУРГИИ И МАШИНОСТРОЕНИЯ
(Производственный отдел Вфп)

Adresse: Rue Janska 100, PRAGUE (Tchécoslovaquie)

Telephone: 67856 - 60563

Adresse telegraphique: UISMM - Fesymond Prague

PRAGUE December 5th, 1957

No. 734.

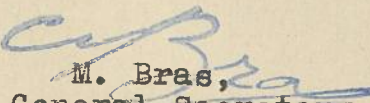
Brother S.A. Dange,
General Secretary,
All-India Trade Union Congress,
4, Ashok Road,
NEW DELHI.

Dear Brother Dange,

In the name of its 10 million members, the Secretariat of the Trade Unions International of Metal and Engineering Industries sends warm greetings to the 25th Session of the All-India Trade Union Congress which is scheduled to meet from 25th to 29th December 1957 at Ernakulam.

We wish you and the people of India every success in your work and struggle for unity, for improved living and working conditions, and the economic development of your country. We feel sure that the efforts made by the A.I.T.U.C. in the interests of the people of India will bear fruit.

With fraternal greetings,


M. Bras,
General Secretary.

TRADE UNIONS INTERNATIONAL OF PUBLIC AND ALLIED EMPLOYEES
(TRADE DEPARTMENT OF THE W. F. T. U.)

**UNION INTERNATIONALE DES SYNDICATS DES TRAVAILLEURS
DE LA FONCTION PUBLIQUE ET ASSIMILES**
(DEPARTEMENT PROFESSIONNEL DE LA F. S. M.)

**UNION INTERNACIONAL DE LOS SINDICATOS
DE TRABAJADORES DE LOS SERVICIOS PUBLICOS Y SIMILARES**
(DEPARTAMENTO PROFESIONAL DE LA F. S. M.)

**МЕЖДУНАРОДНОЕ ОБЪЕДИНЕНИЕ ПРОФСОЮЗОВ
ТРУДЯЩИХСЯ УЧРЕЖДЕНИЙ И ПРЕДПРИЯТИЙ
ОБЩЕСТВЕННОГО ОБСЛУЖИВАНИЯ И РОДСТВЕННЫХ
ИМ ПРОФЕССИЙ**
(ПРОИЗВОДСТВЕННЫЙ ОТДЕЛ ВФП)

**INTERNATIONALE VEREINIGUNG DER GEWERESCHAFTEN
DER WERKTATIGEN DES OFFENTLICHEN DIENSTES UND VERWANDTER BERUFE**
(BERUFSABTEILUNG IM WGB)

Berlin O 17, den 4.12.1957

Fritz-Heckert-Str. 70

Telegrammadresse: UNSYFO

Telefon: 6749 82

Bri. Tgb. Nr.

Brother
S.A. Dange
General Secretary of the
All India Trade Union Congress
4, ASHOK ROAD

New Delhi

Dear Brother Dange!

We thank you for the invitation to the 25th session of the All-India Trade Union Congress in Ernakulam. Unfortunately we are unable to accept this invitation at this time. Our T.I.U. is presently occupied with preparing a Conference of Experts on Automation and its effects on the post, telephone and telegraph services.

As you know our Trade Unions International of Public and Allied Employees comprises state, municipal, postal, telecommunications and hospital workers. We maintain relations with Indian trade unions and with various workers of these categories. In order to strengthen these relations we think that it would be of great value if one or two representatives of our Secretariat made a visit to these colleagues next year. If this were possible we should also like to strengthen our relations with Indonesia, with Brother Haryowisastro, Vice-President of our T.U.I.

Dear Brother Dange, we would be obliged if you would give us, on the basis of your experience, information as to whether there are, in your opinion, possibilities and prospects for such a mission.

Perhaps we will meet at the next WFTU Executive Committee meeting which will presumably be held in January or February 1958 and have an opportunity to discuss this matter.

We apologize for our inability to accept your invitation to the Congress and enclose a message with the request that you pass it on to the Congress.

Fraternally yours,

Paul Wolff
Paul Wolff
General Secretary

TRADE UNIONS INTERNATIONAL OF PUBLIC AND ALLIED EMPLOYEES
(TRADE DEPARTMENT OF THE W. F. T. U.)

**UNION INTERNATIONALE DES SYNDICATS DES TRAVAILLEURS
DE LA FONCTION PUBLIQUE ET ASSIMILES**
(DEPARTEMENT PROFESSIONNEL DE LA F. S. M.)

**UNION INTERNACIONAL DE LOS SINDICATOS
DE TRABAJADORES DE LOS SERVICIOS PUBLICOS Y SIMILARES**
(DEPARTAMENTO PROFESIONAL DE LA F. S. M.)

**МЕЖДУНАРОДНОЕ ОБЪЕДИНЕНИЕ ПРОФСОЮЗОВ
ТРУДЯЩИХСЯ УЧРЕЖДЕНИЙ И ПРЕДПРИЯТИЙ
ОБЩЕСТВЕННОГО ОБСЛУЖИВАНИЯ И РОДСТВЕННЫХ
ИМ ПРОФЕССИЙ**
(ПРОИЗВОДСТВЕННЫЙ ОТДЕЛ ВФП)

**INTERNATIONALE VEREINIGUNG DER GEWERKSCHAFTEN
DER WERKTÄTIGEN DES ÖFFENTLICHEN DIENSTES UND VERWANDTER BERUFE**
(BERUFSABTEILUNG IM WGB)

Berlin O 17, den
Fritz-Heckert-Str. 70

3.12.1957

Telegrammadresse: UNSYFO
Telefon: 67 49 82
Brl. Tgb. Nr.

Mr. S. A. Dange
General Secretary
All-India Trade Union Congress
4, Ashok Road
New Delhi, India

Dear Comrade,

On behalf of more than 6 million members, the Secretariat of the Trade Unions International of Public and Allied Employees greets the 25th Session of the All-India Trade Union Congress and wishes it success in the accomplishment of its tasks of bettering the living and working conditions of Indian workers, defending and extending trade union and democratic rights, forging unity among all sections of the Indian working class and preserving world peace.

We know that the All-India Trade Union Congress, meeting this month in that history-making state of Kerala, will be equal to the great tasks incumbent upon it and that, in the spirit of the decisions of the Fourth World Trade Union Congress, will go from strength to strength and from victory to victory in the years that lie ahead. The Indian working class will win its victories in the knowledge that it has the fraternal solidarity of the workers throughout the world.

Fraternally yours,

Paul Wolff
Paul Wolff

General Secretary



copy-4
HOTEL, CLUB & RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES UNION OF N.S.W.

188 George Street,
SYDNEY. AUSTRALIA.
4th December, 1957.

Mr. S. A. Dange,
General Secretary,
All-India Trade Union Congress,
4 Ashok Road,
NEW DELHI. INDIA.

Dear Friend,

We wish to extend very best wishes for successful deliberations at your 25th Session of the AITUC. Would you kindly convey fraternal greetings to all delegates assembled.

It would have given us the greatest pleasure to have a delegate to represent us at Ernakulam. We could then have had a first hand report and the benefit of on the spot observations of your country and of the conditions of your people. Unfortunately, this is not possible at present and we will have to forego the pleasure.

We would like to inform your session that the women workers in Australia are at the moment very pleased with the development of their campaign for Equal Pay and better working conditions. Our national trade union body, the A.C.T.U., has decided to hold a two day conference in Sydney on 20th and 21st March, 1958 to consider Equal Pay, Wages and Working Conditions of Women. This would draw delegates from the whole of our country. In association with delegates from unions, we are to be allowed to invite observers from women's organisations. This is the first time in the trade union history of Australia that a conference of this type has been agreed to.

Greetings and best wishes,

Yours fraternally,

F. Davis

(Miss) F. Davis,
Secretary.

NO NEEDS
May I send personal greetings to your daughter, yourself + other delegates incl. at WFTU Congress. Regards Geo Davis

To open cut at top

BY AIR MAIL

AEROGRAMME

10d POSTAGE 10d



AUSTRALIA

MR. S. A. DANCE,

GENERAL SECRETARY,

ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS,

4 ASHOK ROAD,

NEW DELHI. INDIA.

First fold here

Second fold here

FROM: F. Davis,
Secretary,
H.C.R. Union,
188 George Street,
SYDNEY. AUSTRALIA.

If anything is enclosed, letter will be sent by ordinary mail.

Waha,
Nov. 12, 1957.

Dear Comrade,

Here is a message from the Guyana, United
Land Tenants Association, Trinidad & Tobago, for the
ASTUC session in December, 1957.

With greetings,
Yours fraternally,
Michael R. Jew.

Caribbean

UNITED LAND TENANTS ASSOCIATION

8 Mon Chagrin Street
San Fernando,
Trinidad B.W.I.

23rd October 1957.

The General Secretary,
All India Trades Union Congress

Dear Brother,

On behalf of the United Land Tenants Association
I greet your Congress and wish you success in your deliberation.
We ~~ha~~ve no doubt that out of your constructive criticism and
self-criticism will come decisions for greater achievements in the
name of peace, progress and friendship with all peoples.

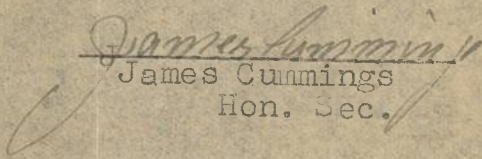
Forward to a successful Congress

Long live the All India Trades Union Congress

Long live the unity of the workers

Long live the Republic of India.

Yours comradely


James Cummings
Hon. Sec.

huppiz 15-10-1957

General Secretary of All-India Congress
of Trade Unions,

Dear Comrade,

In the name of the executive
Committee and all P.T.T workers I thank you very
much for your kind invitation to attend your
Congress to be held in December this year.

I assure you that our Trade Union will
do its best to send a representative which
we consider as an important factor in
strengthening fraternal relation between all
the working people of the world.

Please accept our brotherly greetings
and we hope every success to your
mighty Congress

Yours sincerely

Hassan Gasm Elbad

President of the P.T.T Employees Trade
Union of the Sudan

Leipzig,
15. 10. 1957.

Dear Comrade,

I have received with thanks and gratitude your kind invitation to attend your Trade Union Congress, which will be convened at the end of December.

I should like to inform you that I have already sent your invitation to our general federation in Cairo. The federation is to decide on such invitation. But I am sure that you will receive a reply at a proper time.

Wishing you every success in your work, and great success to your congress I remain

Yours faithfully

Hamid Keir

Egyptian delegate to 4th
World Trade Union Congress.

السيد رضى مؤتمرات قبايات كل الهند
٤ - أشهر لورد وادنيو دالري

جميع ضميمه به سندوب بحال جميع عمال
الهند بنود لري . واز جو كجيو عمال الهند
والعالم العاده والقدم في كل الحرب القاه
تقا تصليق دعوتك الترميه كصنو
اشماع مؤتمرات قبايات كل الهند الذي سيقدم
في تاريخ دليد ١٩٥٧ واز ستر للز اتحاد
العام بصون للعمال بالقاهره وكونها
لتر اذا طاه به نجله ارسال سندوب
اتم لا وانه سون ليلاكم رده بالقاهره
كفتايات
مع نجاتي الخاصه

طردت

١٩٥٦

١٥ / ١١

سندوب بحال
صريح المؤتمر
الرابع

S-A-DANGE Esq.
GENERAL SECRETARY
ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS
4, ASHOK ROAD, NEW DELHI.

I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR SOLIDARITY INVITATION
FOR A-I-T-U. CONGRESS -

PLEASE ALLOW ME TO GREET YOU WARMLY
AND THROUGH YOU THE MILLIONS OF WORKERS WHOM
YOU HONESTLY REPRESENT, AND GREET ON BEHALF
OF MY TRADE UNION WORKERS YOUR PROPOSED MIGHTY
CONGRESS -

I WILL DO MY BEST, SOON I ARRIVE HOME
TO SEND A DELEGATE TO THE CONGRESS.

I, ON BEHALF OF ALL THE SUDANESE
WORKERS WISH YOU A GREAT SUCCESS IN YOUR
FIGHT FOR BETTERING CONDITIONS OF LIVING FOR WORKERS
FOR CRUSHING IMPERIALISM AND FOR ELASTING PEACE.

YOURS FAITHFULLY

~~W. D. D.~~
HASSAN BALLAL

GENERAL SECRETARY

INTERNATIONAL AERADIO LTD. STAFF TRADE
UNION -

P.O. BOX 516 - KHARTOUM SUDAN - AFRICA

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS
IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

POSITANO STR. 8

TEL. 7-57-01

IV-19199

Sofia, December 10 1957

S.A. Dange
General Secretary
All India Trade Union Congress
4, Ashok Road
New Delhi
India

Dear comrade Dange,

We thank you very much for your invitation to our organisation to send fraternal delegates to the 25th Session of the All-India Trade Union Congress. We regret that your letter arrived too late and we could not make the necessary arrangements to send our representatives.

Enclosed we are sending you a message of greetings of the Central Council of Trade Unions to the 25th Session with the request to be read to its delegates.

With best wishes for successful work of your Session

Fraternally yours

(G. Micheva) *G. Micheva*

International Department Head

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

POSITANO STR. 8

TEL. 7-57-01

Sofia, December 10..... 1957.

To the 25th Session
of the All-India Trade Union Congress
Ernakulam (Cochin)
State of Kerala India

Dear comrades,

On behalf of the workers and employees of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Central Council of Trade Unions sends heartfelt fraternal greetings to the delegates of your 25th Session and through them to the Indian working class.

Today millions of people in the world, irrespective of race, nationality, religious and political belief, fight for a better life and peace. They irrefutably prove to be a mighty force able to frustrate the insane plans of the imperialists and to remove the danger of a new destructive war, hanging over the whole of mankind.

The heroic people and the working class of India, who have abolished colonial slavery for ever and have won their national independence and state sovereignty, and at present are developing their national economy and industry and are fighting for a better life of the millions of Indian working people, take an important place in this magnificent struggle for peace, since only a life in peace will enable them to reach their goal.

The Bulgarian working people with the help of the Soviet Army Liberator, 13 years ago liquidated with fascism and capitalist exploitation and now exert all their efforts and capacity in the construction of socialism in their country.

From a backward agricultural country Bulgaria was transformed into a developed industrial-agricultural country. Today the volume of industrial production compared with 1939 marks an increase of 6.5 times. We have successfully introduced new branches of industry—chemical, engineering, electrical etc. Instead of the 1,300,000 small agricultural households in the past, now 3,158 cooperative farms comprise 86.5 per cent of the arable land. The introducing of mechanisation and agrotechniques in rural economy has led to

an increase in yields and contributes to the improvement of the material standards of the Bulgarian peasants.

The Bulgarian trade unions participate in socialist construction, mobilising the working people for the fulfilment of the production plans and to take part in socialist emulation. Simultaneously they help the people's government to systematically improve the material and cultural standards of the working people. As a result, from 1952 to 1956, the real wages of workers and employees increased by 65 per cent. In 1957, the low wages and family allowances were increased. Peasants were also given old age pensions.

Recently the People's Assembly approved a new law, according to which old age pensions were increased considerably at a reduced term of service. Some amendments of the existing Code of Labour aiming at its improvement were also approved. For instance the paid maternity leave was increased from 3 to 4 months.

Medical treatment in our country is entirely free of charge for the whole population. The 7 years course of primary education is also free.

The acquisitions of the Bulgarian working class are due to the circumstance that the state power is in the hands of the working people, headed by the Bulgarian Communist Party, which has no other interests than the interests of the people. These acquisitions can be safeguarded and extended only in peace.

That is why the Bulgarian working class and trade unions fighting like you for their happiness and welfare, wish to leave in peace and friendship with all peoples, irrespective of their social and economic systems and to strengthen international workers' solidarity and unity. They follow with a feeling of fraternal solidarity the struggles of the Indian working class for the overcoming of the economic backwardness of India, due to the long colonial yoke, as well as the successes in the improvement of the status of the Indian working masses.

We greet the convening of the 25th Session of the All-India Trade Union Congress in the State of Kerala, where the working people took the power in their hands.

Dear comrades, from all our heart we wish you success in the work of your 25th Session. We are convinced, that the decisions of your Session will contribute to the consolidation of the unity of the Indian working class in the fight for better living and working conditions for the working people.

We wish you also success in the further development of

the national economy of India, in the struggle for the safeguarding of peace in Asia and the whole world and for consolidation of the friendship between the working people and the peoples of all countries.

Long live the friendship between the Indian and Bulgarian working class!

Long live International Workers' Solidarity!

Long live World Peace!

Central Council of Trade Unions in the People's Republic
of Bulgaria



T. Prakhov
(T. Prakhov)

ALL INDIA INSURANCE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

9A. HARALAL DAS STREET, CALCUTTA-14

President : Rajni Patel, M.A. (Cantab), Bar-at-Law

General Secretary: Chandrasekhar Bose

DECEMBER 20, 1957.

The General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress,
4, Ashok Road,
NEW DELHI.

Dear Friend,

We are in receipt of your letter inviting us to attend the twenty-fifth session of All India Trade Union Congress and we thank you very much for the same.

Our organisation, which is a comparatively young trade union, has always endeavoured to learn from the vast experiences of older unions and the Central Trade Union organisations. We have on many occasions sought advice and help from your organisation also. We remember with gratitude the help and assistance we have received from the AITUC and its affiliated units in the past and we hope and doubt not that we will be receiving the same in future also.

Our organisation, though young, is having to shoulder a heavy responsibility being the representative organisation of the employees of the biggest financial institution in the country under the public sector. We have to evolve a correct policy combining the fight for contributing to the growth of national economy by ensuring success and proper functioning of the nationalised concerns and the defence and furtherance of the interests of the employees. We hope that AITUC will pay attention to the problems of workers and employees of the undertaking in public sector, which is expanding gradually.

The ever rising prices of necessities of life have put the wage earners to a very difficult and critical condition. Demand for immediate wage increase to the extent of 25% and fixing a national minimum wage of Rs.100/- per month have been voiced by AITUC and other Central Trade Unions also. Dissatisfaction at the Govt.'s labour policy is also wide-spread. Desire for united movement has also been voiced by many trade union including AITUC. Our third Annual General Conference held at Madras from 29th November to 2nd December, 1957, has also passed a resolution urging upon Central Trade Unions to take effective steps to forge unity in action to safeguard the interests of the working people. We would request you to discuss this problem in all seriousness and sincerity at the Conference and to evolve an effective programme and line of action for unity among the central trade unions, in as much as ~~to create~~ continued division among them gives handles to create divisions in existing united organisations including ours.

contd...

ALL INDIA INSURANCE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

9A, HARALAL DAS STREET,
CALCUTTA-14.

Telephone: 24-1583
Telegram: BIMAKARMI
Calcutta

(2)

We are sorry that the General Secretary shall not be able to attend the Conference personally as we had our Conference very recently and we are very busy with post-Conference work. We are, however, requesting our Working Committee member from Trivandrum Shri T. K. Bhaskaran and Sri Krishna Iyer, President, Trivandrum Division Insurance Employees' Association to attend the Conference.

Hoping that this twentyfifth session of the AITUC will give a lead to the entire working class of India in their battle for national developments, living wages and democratic rights, and forging complete unity and wishing the Conference grand success.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Boze
GENERAL SECRETARY.

THE ALL-INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION

S.GURUSWAMI
General Secretary
President.

Mylapore, Madras.4.
December 26, 1957.

The General Secretary,
All India Trade Union Congress,
Ernakulam.

Dear Friend,

Thanks for your kind invitation dated
5th instant to attend the twenty-fifth
session of the A.I.T.U.C.

Please convey my heartfelt greetings
and best wishes for the success of the
Congress.

Working Class movement has become the
victim of cold war policies and it should
be our common endeavour to restore solidarity
and unity among the workers to combat the
machinations of the reactionaries, to defend
the common interests of the workers and to
secure the success of the Second Five Year
Plan.

Yours fraternally,

S. Guruswami

(S.GURUSWAMI)
President,
A.I.R.F.

*Please convey my fraternal regards
to Com. G. Casadei of the WFTU.*

S. Guruswami



GREETINGS

To, The A.I.T.U.C. 25th Annual Conference.
From, Comrades in Central Tail Madurai.
Dear Comrades,

Please allow us to express our hearty greetings to this historic session. Historic because we are in the threshold of an interplanetary age. The recent scientific advance of the first working class state has put the imperialists and reactionaries in Consternation.

And also historic because the proud Indian working class has put the working class leaders to power, though limited, in Kerala state through ballot-box.

Taking advantage of the favourable international situation and assimilating the valuable experiences of the working class in Kerala, the historic session, we hope, will come to conclusions and resolve resolute decisions to boldly lead the working class not only for their wage increase and welfare but also for becoming the vanguard of the socialist forces in India, which are striving to smash the imperialist and feudal remnants and build the nation into a strong edifice under the foundation of industrialisation and Co-operative agriculture.

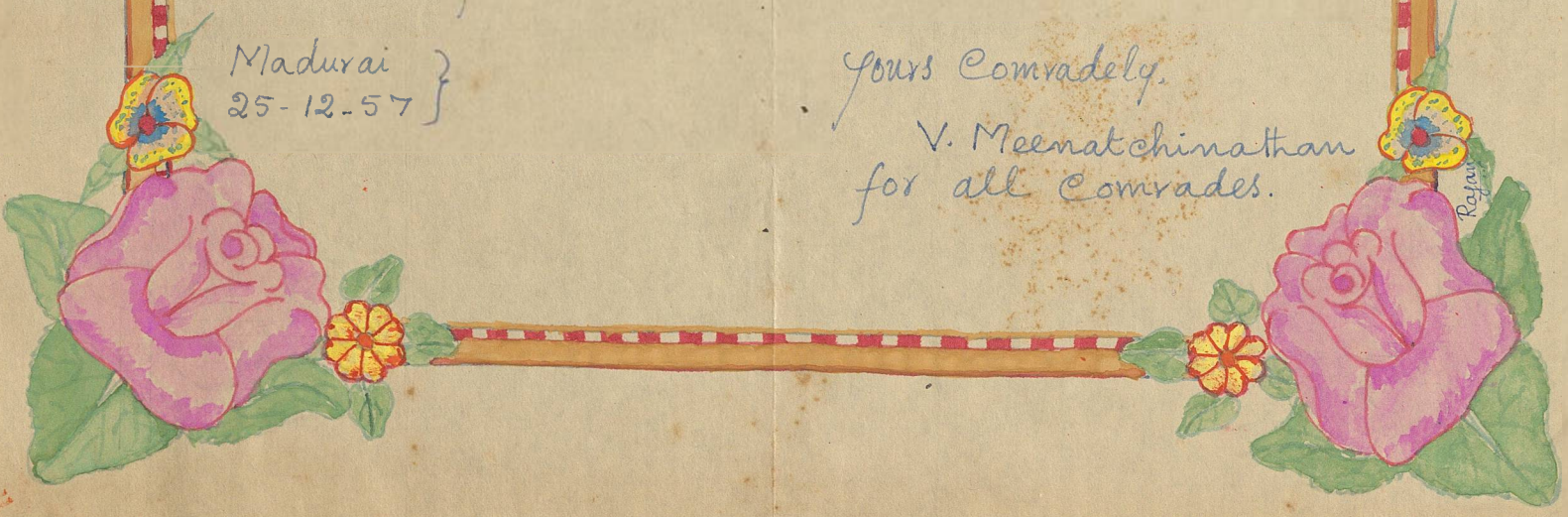
Lastly, we hope, you will all agitate continuously to bring us to your fold and thus quench the tantalising thirst of us to serve the people in this historic period.

We once again heartily greet the 25th annual Conference.

Madurai }
25-12-57 }

Yours Comradely,

V. Meenatchinathan
for all Comrades.



Message from the PRESIDENT

Dear Comrades,

I am deeply sorry that owing to my physical ill-health and weakness, I am unable to attend the Conference. However, please accept my good wishes for the success of the Conference. One thing only I shall stress in this short message.

You must strive by all means to bring about Trade-Union Unity and solidarity. It may not be possible to achieve organisational unity but take every available opportunity for concerted action on a common minimum wages. At present it is said that workers are being taken as partners in the Management of business in some industries. I cannot say how far this has been successful; anyhow, it is to be hoped that real representatives of workers elected by themselves will be chosen on the Board of Managements. Again conveying to you my good wishes and sanguine expectations that the Conference may be crowned with success. I bid farewell to you for the present.

Hoping to meet you on some future auspicious occasion.

INQILAB ZINDABAD !

Yours Truly
in the cause of LABOUR,

V. Chakkarai Chetti
23.12.37
(V. CHAKKARAI CHETTI)
President.

ALL INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

ALL INDIA INSURANCE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

9A, HARALAL DAS STREET, CALCUTTA-14

President : Rajni Patel, M.A. (Cantab), Bar-at-Law
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DECEMBER 20, 1957.

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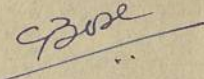
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Hoping that this twentyfifth session of the AITUC will give a lead to the entire working class of India in their battle for national developments, living wages and democratic rights, and forging complete unity and wishing the Conference grand success.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,



GENERAL SECRETARY.

c.c. to :

The General Secretary,
Trivandrum Division Insurance Employees' Association,
TRIVANDRUM, with a request to request Comrades Iyer and
Bhaskaran to attend the 25th Session of the AITUC
scheduled to be held at Trivandrum from 25th to 29th
current.

Sri Rajni Patel, President, AIIEA, Bombay,
for information.

GENERAL SECRETARY.

MESSAGE OF GREETINGS
TO THE
25TH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE AITUC

BY
LIU CHANG-SHENG
VICE-PRESIDENT,
ALL-CHINA FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

Dear Comrades and Friends,

I deem it a great honour in having the opportunity to attend your important Session as the representative of the Chinese workers and trade unions. I bring to your Session the warmest fraternal greetings of all the members of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions and the whole of the Chinese workers. At the same time, I extend through you our deepest fraternal regards and best wishes to the diligent, courageous and intelligent Indian workers and people.

the
China's friendship with the people of her great neighbour, India, is beyond description by words. For thousands of years, the friendly co-existence and the economic and cultural exchanges between the Chinese and Indian peoples have long cemented us firmly together. Both our countries have experienced the same circumstances. During the past one hundred years and more, both of us had been subjected to the severest oppression by colonialism. It was only through our blood-shedding and protracted struggles that we have won our independence. In the struggle for achieving and safeguarding national independence, the peoples of China and India have all along been giving support to and sympathy with each other. The victory of the anti-colonial struggle has furthermore marked a new chapter and brought about ~~marked~~ developments in the ~~new~~ friendship of our two peoples. Through the mutual visits of the state leaders and of representatives of mass organizations of our two countries, through the renowned Panch Sheela jointly initiated by the Prime Ministers of our two countries and the convocation of the Bandung Conference, the mutual understanding, solidarity and cooperation between the peoples of China and India have been further strengthened. Today the slogan "Hindi Chini Bhai Bhai" is known to every citizen in China. The Chinese people, from the bottom of their hearts, have a deep love for the Indian people. We feel rejoiced at every achievement made by the Indian people. We have pledged ourselves to exert unremitting efforts for the development and consolidation of the friendship between the Chinese and Indian peoples. We are very grateful for the support given us by India in the international sphere. The great friendship and solidarity between the one thousand million peoples of China and India is a very important force in the defence of peace in Asia and the world.

Over the past few years, great developments have been registered in the friendship between the trade unions of our two countries. Fraternal exchanges have been maintained between the Chinese trade unions and the national trade union centres of India, the AITUC, INTUC, NCTU and ITUC. Progress has also been made in our fraternal contacts with the independent federations of India including railway, post and telegraph, teachers, bank, insurance, port and dock, sugar and petroleum. Since the foundation of the People's Republic of China, the Chinese trade unions have gladly received 124 delegates representing the various trade union centres and independent federations of India. Among these, 32 delegates

many were sent by the AITUC. We are especially happy over the fact that among the distinguished guests of the Chinese trade unions, there were outstanding leaders of the Indian trade union movement including Comrade Dange, AITUC General Secretary; Comrade Yusuf and the late Comrade S. P. Banerjee, the Vice-Presidents; as well as a number of other AITUC comrades. They have brought to the Chinese workers the deep friendship of our Indian brother workers, and conveyed in return the Chinese workers' sincere friendship and deep regards to the Indian workers.

During the same period, upon the invitation of various Indian trade unions, the Chinese trade unions have also sent delegations ~~to India~~ to India for fraternal visits here. It is very obvious that continuous development and consolidation of friendship between the Chinese and Indian trade unions bears a highly important significance on the promotion of solidarity among the trade unions of Asia and Africa and of unity of the international trade union movement.

and defending the vital interests of the workers.
The Chinese workers hold in high esteem the militancy displayed by the Indian working class in safeguarding world peace, consolidating their national independence ~~and~~ developing the national economy. The AITUC which has a glorious tradition has been and is still making active and great efforts for these lofty aims and for further unity of the Indian trade union movement. We are very happy to see that our Indian brother workers have already achieved great successes in these aspects. Likewise, we have also witnessed the efforts made by India in fulfilling her Second Five-Year Plan, developing national industry and striving for economic independence. Since the day of India's independence, the ranks of her workers have registered unprecedented growth and their levels of organisation and consciousness have been greatly raised. The working class is playing a momentous role in all aspects of India's state affairs and ~~social~~ ^{national} life.

The Indian trade union movement holds an important position in the international trade union movement. In the present ~~up~~ ~~surge~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~trade~~ ~~union~~ ~~movement~~ ~~in~~ ~~countries~~ ~~which~~ ~~have~~ ~~won~~ ~~or~~ ~~are~~ ~~striving~~ ~~for~~ ~~national~~ ~~independence~~, ~~the~~ ~~Indian~~ ~~trade~~ ~~union~~ ~~movement~~, ~~the~~ ~~Indian~~ ~~trade~~ ~~unions~~ ~~have~~ ~~made~~ ~~great~~ ~~efforts~~ ~~in~~, ~~and~~ ~~are~~ ~~promising~~ ~~greater~~ ~~contributions~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~struggle~~ ~~for~~ ~~promoting~~ ~~international~~ ~~trade~~ ~~union~~ ~~unity~~.

occupies a very important place.

The Chinese workers rejoice at every achievement made by their Indian brother workers. We are greatly enthused to see you marching in full confidence towards greater successes. We heartily wish the Indian trade union movement grow ever stronger and that the unity of the Indian working class will be more and more strengthened.

On this occasion of your glorious Session, I am glad to tell

you that the Chinese working class has also achieved great successes in their socialist construction. The industrial and agricultural production of our country have registered great advances and the First Five-Year Plan for development of our national economy has been fulfilled and over-fulfilled. The backward state of our economy and culture, a heritage left over by old China, is undergoing new changes day by day. Through efforts made during the past few years, China has been transformed from the previous position of having only a weak and disjointed industry to a country equipped with industries for the manufacture of airplanes, motor-cars, modern machine tools, power generating units, and metallurgic and mining machinery. The progress of our productivity at a high speed is ensured by the socialist system of our country.

But the present economy of China is still lagging behind the advanced countries of the world. We have to exert stupendous efforts in order to bring about a basic change in the backward and poor basis of our economy. In view of this, the Chinese working class and the entire Chinese people are striving in the spirit of perseverance and thrift to build our country, within a not too long period, into a socialist state possessed with a modern industry, a modern agriculture and a modern science and culture. We have already put forward the call to reach or surpass Britain's level in the output of iron and steel and other major industrial products in fifteen years' time. The Chinese working class is advancing in big strides towards this great goal.

On the basis of developing production, the material and cultural well-being of the Chinese workers have been ameliorated during the past few years. The average wage level of our workers and staff members in 1957 is 42.8% percent higher than that of 1952. Labour insurance has been widely implemented to provide benefits for the broad masses of the workers. The state has constructed for the workers a large number of living quarters, sanitoria and clubs. The problem of unemployment, an inheritance from the old society, has in the main been disposed of. The working class has really become the master of the country. The exploitation, suppression, miseries of hunger and starvation which the Chinese workers suffered before liberation are now gone for ever. But improvements in the living conditions of the workers are still lagging behind practical needs. We should, on the basis of developing production, bring about corresponding elevation in the living standards of our workers.

We are now on the eve of launching our Second Five-Year Plan for development of the national economy. In high spirits the working people of our country are now ready to initiate this new militant task. Earlier in this month, the Chinese trade unions held their Eighth All-China Congress. It summed up the trade union work since the Seventh Congress in May 1953 and discussed and specified the tasks of the Chinese workers during the period of the Second Five-Year Plan. The Congress stressed the necessity of

perseverance and thrift and unity with the entire Chinese people in the cause of building up a socialist New China. Accepting our invitation, fraternal trade union delegates from many countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, America and Australia, including the delegate of AITUC, attended our Congress. Their presence has given us great encouragement in our work.

Our Eighth Congress also discussed the international activities of the Chinese trade unions. In the course of the past few years, we have established friendly contacts on a broad scale with trade union organisations of different political inclinations in Asia, Africa and the world over. We will continue to do our best to develop and consolidate our established friendship with the trade unions of other countries. We would also like to develop friendly contacts with the trade union organisations of any country with which we are not yet in contact. We shall work for unity with the working class of all countries to defend world peace and promote mutual solidarity. The Chinese trade unions ~~take as their~~ ~~primary objective~~ the development and consolidation of friendly relations with the various trade union organisations of India.

attach great importance to

Dear Comrades and friends, I think that at present both the trade unions of China and India have a common aspiration and goal, and this is: to make unremitting efforts for safeguarding Asian and world peace and opposing colonialism, consolidating national independence, developing national economy, ~~for~~ further developing Sino-Indian friendship and for promoting friendship and solidarity among ~~Asian and African~~ ~~countries~~. defending the vital interests of the workers.

Trade unions of the world particularly in the

Allow me once again to avail this occasion to extend my heartfelt and warm ~~greetings~~ to the delegates to this Session, to the leading comrades at all levels of the AITUC. ~~and to the~~ ~~workers~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~various~~ ~~countries~~ ~~and~~ ~~regions~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~world~~. May I wish you all good health and new successes in your work.

Greetings

I am especially grateful to Comrade Dange, General Secretary of the AITUC for his kind invitation.

Long live the friendship between the peoples of China and India!
Long live the friendship and solidarity between the workers and trade unions of China and India!
Long live world peace!
Hindi Chini Bhai Bhai!

Give A Lead to the Country

V. V. GIRI'S MESSAGE

On the occasion of its twenty-fifth Session, I send my greetings and good wishes to the members of the All India Trade Union Congress. The Congress having attained its Silver Jubilee year, its members must be full of wisdom based on experience and I am sure of the coming Session will be marked by a spirit of self-imposed discipline and a sense of high responsibility.

The members of the Congress know my views on the Trade Union Movement in India. While every worker has a right to expect living wages and better conditions of services in an undertaking, he must always remember that duties and responsibilities precede rights and privileges. Workers have the right to form democratic trade unions at the rate of one union in one industry, with cent per cent membership and must always be reasonable in their demands. They must always be conscious of the fact that they are citizens of the great Republic of India in the progress of which they have their full part to play. The employers in their turn must recognise the importance of the Union of Workers. With mutual consideration and courtesy, they must maintain industrial peace and create the enthusiasm necessary for industrial progress. I have always advocated the formation of joint Standing machinery at all levels for the settlement of any differences.

I hope the Twenty-fifth Session of the All India Trade Union Congress will give a lead which would be in the best interests of the country as a whole, of which the workers are certainly a part.

RAJYAPAL SIVIR
December 2, 1957.

V. V. Giri,
SREE RAJYAPAL,
UTTAR PRADESH.

Tasks Before the Session

Greetings from General Secretary

You have undertaken a very onerous task in preparing to hold the 25th Session of the **All-India Trade Union Congress** in your State. This Session has to deliberate on matters which are of great importance to the working class and to the country as a whole.

The developing economy of our country and the difficulties that it is confronted with because of the activities of the foreign monopolists and their Indian partners, raise very important problems before the trade union movement. While helping to build the economy of the country, the working class has to defend its own interest against the attacks of those who look after their own profits.

The Session will also have to consider other important problems like the fight against colonialism and the fight for protection of democratic rights and the preservation of peace.

I am sure your Reception Committee will do all that is needful to enable the delegates to carry out their deliberations with all the conveniences that are possible in the conditions prevailing.

With Greetings,

S. A. DANGE,
General Secretary,
A. I. T. U. C.

New Delhi,
December 5, 1957.

UTTRA PRADESH

DECEMBER 5, 1957



MAGYAR NÉPKÖZTÁRSASÁG KÖVETSÉGE
LEGATION OF THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

10/11 PUSA ROAD
NEW DELHI
PHONE : 45135

24th December, 1957.

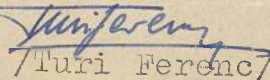
Dear Sir,

I am sorry to inform you that Mr. Miklós Somogyi, Chairman of the Council of the Hungarian Trade Unions on his way to your Congress became ill in Peiping and could not come to attend your meeting. He has sent a message to you on the occasion of this congress. Please find it enclosed.

May I request you to let me know when will you read his message on the conference.

Thank you,

Yours faithfully,


Turi Ferenc

Charge de Affaires ad. i.

To the Chairman of the
ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS
K E R A L A
Ernakulam.

Friends,

Permit me to present the sincerest greetings to your Congress from the people of Hungary, from the Hungarian labourers organized in the Trade Unions and from the Hungarian Council of Trade Unions.

I deeply regret that I can not personally be present at this important occasion. I would have been extremely pleased to report personally to you about the brotherly feelings of the organized Hungarian workers, on who's behalf I was about to come to you. While in India we could have had a glance into the life of your ancient people having such a glorious past and could have paid our respects to the comrades taking part in the deliberations of this Congress. And after the personal contacts we could have taken home experiences useful in our country as well. Unfortunately I fell ill on my way to India. Now I am in Peking and my health does not permit to proceed, therefore I am obliged to express the solidarity and friendship of the Hungarian workers to the Indian working people by the means of this letter.

Permit me to refer to the high consideration of the Hungarian organised workers in connection with the struggle of your trade unions and in connection with the results of your struggle. We know the difficult circumstances your Trade Union has to face in working and this fact increases our appreciation. We know very well what popularity your Trade Union's bravery and consistency in the fight for the wider rights, for better living standard for the progress of the people and for the preservation of peace have reached among the people of India.

I know very well if everything goes well we can have the luck to be with you as your guest in the conference.

You had certainly expected from us to give a first hand account of last October's Hungarian events. We were ourselves keen to do so mainly because the most varied opinions spread all over the world some of them in accordance with the facts and some not. I hope you will not mind that I am trying now to report to you this way and help thereby that the true situation should be known to you.

To begin with: our country used to be a depressed poor land, the people of which suffered from the exploitation of big land-owners, capitalists and bankers. The majority of the population was composed of peasantry and most of these peasants had no land of their own, suffered in utter misery and often had nowhere to dwell and were earning their daily bread as workers on the big lands and were blown about here and there by the wind of their faith. But our industrial workers was also not much better. Apart from strenuous and poorly paid work under difficult conditions in the factories, the proletariat in the country used to be struck by unemployment as well. Out of a total factory hands varying between 6,5 to 7 lakhs, the unemployed were not less than 3 lakhs at that time. You can see from this data that what a big portion of the Hungarian working class was struck by this situation. As to the Hungarian intelligentsia they were subject to material and moral humiliation and their creative power could not develop freely. This was the past of the masses in Hungary and this past was swept away by the liberation of the country which came about by the victories of the Soviet Army at the end of World War II. The chains of the Hungaria-n nation were broken, the people became free and could at last raise their heads again.

Years of peaceful development followed by which the representatives of the people came into power within the Hungarian Parliament, crowned by the union in 1948 of the two workers' parties: - the Communist Party and the Party of

Social-Democrats. Henceforth it was clear that the working class is in power in Hungary, in close alliance with the peasantry. As the people's power strengthened, developed changes in favour of the people took place in the economic, political and cultural life of the country. I am certain, you are fully aware of the economic, political and cultural changes which followed this development and therefore I am only summarizing them.

A land reform was completed whereby the land became the property of the toilers enabling our peasants to emerge from their ancient misery and at present a part of these peasant land-owners unite their efforts, lands and equipments in the form of cooperatives. The workers became the masters of their factories and thus the values produced by the factories could contribute to the cultural development of the nation, the health of the people, the architecture, art and science of the country, could contribute that resort places were built where the workers had rest and careles, recovery in the free time. The decisive majority of the intelligentsia joined the people in these efforts because serving the people they became free of material dependance and a broad network of scientific and research institutes ensured rich possibilities for the development of their creative powers. The wealth of the country increased, the welfare and the culture of the people steadily improved, that is to say, we were proceeding on the way of constructing socialism. In these one can summarise the achievement given by the people's power, the people's democratic system to our nation.

It would have been impossible to bring about these achievements without cancelling the priveleges of that minority which enjoyed the advantages of the previous system of exploitation in our country, and so it happened but the landlords and capitalists, unable as they were to continue their leisurely life based on the exploitation of others, could not forget these facts and cherished hatred in their

hearts against the people who no longer worked for the increase of their profit but for their own welfare. The internal enemies of the people only waited for the occasion to stab the system of the people in the back and restore their rule. This is what followed in October 1956.

However, the internal enemies of the people, would have never had enough strength to overthrow the rule of the people. They only served as toils in the hands of the international imperialism which could never forgive our country that it liberated itself from the bonds of capitalism, that it ceased to be the hunting ground of the international capitalism. The events in Hungary were only a part of the planned attack against socialism, against the international movement of working class. The attack was led by the same imperialism the face of which became so familiar to you during the last centuries which is the enemy of freedom and independence of all peoples. It must be pointed out sincerely that the international imperialism could make use of those mistakes and errors which we ourselves made in the course of constructing socialism. In this respect I have to add for explanation that our working class passed an unknown way and had to learn and **acquire** the task of governing the country, the complicated task of directing political and economic life during few years. Perhaps it should be a miracle not make mistake in these circumstances. We have to admit frankly that we could not always harmonise the interests of the individual and the society. We did not always take into account the thoughts and desires of the people. The Hungarian Trade Unions while being a part of the good results of the constructive work in our country, have also to admit the responsibility in the errors committed.

The imperialism and the internal enemies of the people succeeded for a short while in October to create confusion in the working class itself. This specially applies to that part of the factory hands which originated from the previous ruling class and the new labourers coming from the

peasantry and the younger generations and lacking a healthy class consciousness. But it must be pointed out that the statement that the major part of the Hungarian working class was unfaithful to the people's power was not true at all. Just the contrary when the working class realised that the power of the people is in danger even the confused elements quickly followed the path of the revolutionary workers-peasants' Government. And the conscious part of the working class did not hesitate at all to take arms for defending the achievements of their freedom.

A remarkable and most unfortunate role was played by the imperialistic propaganda. While in fact it was inducing counter-revolutionary revolt, it never revealed these aims open, but simulated that it only wanted to correct the mistakes which were made in the construction of socialism. Imagine that the "Voice of America", the so-called Radio Free Europe and the complete choir of the press of the imperialists spared no effort day and night in order that the socialism in Hungary should become perfect. This is no less a miracle than if a tiger of the jungles of Bengal instead of devouring its victim would take it gently by the hand and lead it back to the mother. Do you think such miracles happen in the jungles of Bengal? As to myself I have never been to those jungles but have had plenty of occasions to see the hazardous jungles of imperialism and can safely state that such miracles do not happen there either. The fact that the international imperialism was obliged to conceal its aims by talking above the perfection of socialism, this only proves again the force of socialism as an ideal and a political system. Nobody in Hungary would have followed anyone who would have openly disclosed that his aim was the restoration of capitalism.

I should like to point out here that the Soviet Union being the real friend of our people was ready to give armed assistance on the request of the Hungarian Government to crush the counter-revolution and save the power of the people.

The propaganda shouts about Soviet intervention while in reality a brotherly aid was extended to the Hungarian people which itself turned against the counter-revolution and saved thereby the independence of the Hungarian nation. The Government of the Soviet Union paid special attention not to intervene in the internal affairs of our country and did nothing beyond the fulfillment of a request sent to them by the Hungarian Workers' and Peasants' Government which was established on the 3rd November, 1956. Not only the Soviet Union, but all the brotherly socialistic countries, the whole international progressive working class movement helped in those days our people in distress. Our people is thankful for this support.

I should like to use this occasion to express the gratitude of our people for the most valuable moral support which our people experienced on behalf of the peoples of India, the organised workers of India.

Dear comrades, let me add that our people led by the Hungarian Socialist Worker's Party, the Workers'-Peasants' Government succeeded in curing most of the wounds made by the counter-revolution. It can even be stated that our economic and political life is now free of most mistakes of the past and is developing in a healthier way than before. For instance our industry - excepted its one or two branches ~~xxx xxx-October~~ reached or overpassed the pre-October level, - in the factories of the Ministry of Metallurgy by 104.4%, in the workshops belonging to the Ministry of Heavy Industry by 96,9% and in the light industry by 103,4% the level of August 1956 was approached, reached or overpassed, as regards the per capita production's value. The same development can be observed in the agriculture as well as in the whole economy of the country. The importance of this is not only economic. It proves that the majority of the people supports with deeds the policy of the Party and the Government. Nevertheless, we have to work hard

for years to come to recover the damages caused by the counter-revolution amounting to 220 crores of Forints. We are also obliged to draw the conclusions of this immense lesson. I think this is imperative not only for us but for the whole international working class movement.

I should like to conclude by wishing great success to your Congress, wishing from all our heart that your resolutions should promote the case of the Trade Unions, ensure victory to the fight of the labourers, general progress of the people of India and peace between the peoples. I feel this is mainly assured by the presence of experienced and excellent representatives of the movement.

Dear Comrades, many thousands miles, deep oceans and high mountains are between your country and ours. Our peoples, however, are near to each other because they are united by the common goal: the preservation of the peace of humanity, the progress, welfare and cultural development of the peoples. We are all fighting for the free and happy life of human society, for socialism and this binds us together. Simultaneously with this letter, I am sending to you the banner given to me by the organised labourers of Hungary in order to present it to your Congress. Please consider this flag as symbol of the warm affections of the Hungarian organised workers, the Council of the Hungarian Trade Unions. Long live the eternal friendship of the Indian and Hungarian organised working people, the Indian and Hungarian Trade Unions, the peoples of India and Hungary.

Miklós Somogyi

Chairman of the Council of the
Hungarian Trade Unions.