

Gram : CITUCENT

PHONE: 23-1113

CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS
172, Lenin Sarani, Calcutta - 700013

PRESS STATEMENT

20th February 1974

CITU SUPPORTS DOCTORS
AND ENGINEERS STRUGGLE

Com. B. T. Ranadive, President CITU has issued the following statement to the Press:

"The CITU congratulates over 10,000 junior doctors in 9 States for their strike since February 17 for better allowances and service conditions. After prolonged fruitless discussions with the callous authorities these doctors were left with no other alternative but to go in for direct action. The Union Health Ministry instead of appreciating the genuineness of their grievances resorted to vindictive measures against the junior doctors. The entire responsibility for the inconvenience caused to the thousands of patients therefore fully lies on the authorities and the Government. The CITU urges upon the Government to immediately accept the demands of the striking doctors and settle the dispute.

The CITU also fully supports the indefinite cease-work by 7500 doctors and engineers of West Bengal from 21st February demanding appointment of technical and medical officers as heads of Government departments and public sector undertakings and higher pay scales. The CITU welcomes the unity achieved by the doctors and engineers under the leadership of Confederation of the officers of the Technical and Medical services of West Bengal and condemns the hostile attitude taken by the West Bengal Government towards these reasonable demands.

The CITU appeals to all the trade unions to rally behind the engineers and doctors and bring pressure on the Government to accept their just demands".

The News Editor

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for Secretary

Centre of Indian Trade Unions.

Central Office

172, Lenin Sarani,

Calcutta-13.