

CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

President :

B. T. RANADIVE

General Secretary :

P. RAMAMURTI

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16th December, 1970

Press Statement

B.T. Ranadive, President of the C.I.T.U. has issued the following statement :

The CITU considers that the Supreme Court judgment on the issue of Princes' Privy Purses and their derecognition will only serve to bolster the reactionary feudal forces in Indian society. It is no surprise that the leaders of the extreme reactionary parties in India are hailing it as a triumph of their outlook and ideology. The judgment which upholds Princely privilege goes against the current of democratic opinion and the aspirations of the people who seek abolition of economic inequality, privilege and exploitation. The verdict of the Supreme Court shows the immediate and urgent to overhaul the machinery of the Court so that it functions in tune with the developing aspirations of the people. The people cannot allow their will to be thwarted by seven or nine judges appointed by them. The main source of mischief is the so-called fundamental right to hold property. It is time this right is drastically curtailed so that big property holders get no protection under it. The CITU calls upon all democratic parties to press for immediate legislation to abolish princely privy purses and privileges.

(Parmeshwar Singh)
for

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION=

To

The Editor,

_____, Calcutta.