

PRESS STATEMENT

4th April 1973.

ON CENTRAL PAY COMMISSION REPORT

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

"The long awaited recommendations of the Third Pay Commission is a mockery of the entire wage fixation machinery.

By awarding Rs.185/- as the minimum wage, the Third Pay Commission has rejected the demand for need based minimum wage to the Central Government employees. When the Pay Commission itself worked out Rs.314/- as the need-based minimum wage as per norms laid down by the 15th Indian Labour Conference decisions, it has torn as under this formula by cutting down the size of the family, dietary requirements etc. to make the wage level at Rs.196/- per month. This atrocious device will only enable other wage-fixing authorities to keep the wage level of the workers appallingly low. If this is allowed to succeed, it will only give an alibi to introduce wage freeze through back door.

What the Central Govt. employees have now received is just another dose of interim relief. Though the Commission has characterised this as a pay rise, it only partially neutralises the recent rise in prices. Moreover while granting this paltry rise, the Commission has arbitrarily imposed an increase in half an hour's work on the staff in the Administrative offices and curtailed certain other existing facilities available to the employees.

While the higher officials have been granted sumptuous additional allowances, which at times amount to more than the minimum wages of the lowest paid workers, the Class III and IV employees have been destined to live on the poverty line.

The CITU while strongly condemning the recommendations of the Commission appeals to all sections of the Govt. employees to come together and launch a countrywide struggle so that the Govt. is forced to grant a decent wage standard for which their movement has been agitating since long".

The Editor

For favour of Publication

MK PANDI
(andhe)
Secretary.