

8th ALL INDIA CONFERENCE
of
CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

Condolence Resolutions

**B.T. RANADIVE NAGAR,
PATNA
3-7 March, 1994**

Com M Basavapunniah

This 8th Conference of CITU held on 3-7 March, 1994 at B T Ranadive Nagar, Patna expresses its deep grief at the sad demise of Com.M Basavapunniah on 12th April, 1992 at the age of 77 years. He was a member of the Polit Bureau of the CPI(M) and one of the stalwarts of the Communist movement of the country.

Born on 14th December, 1914, Com.MB, as he was affectionately called by the comrades, plunged into the freedom movement right in his student days. He was attracted to Marxism in early thirties and joined the Communist Party of India in 1934. Due to his firm conviction and excellent organising capacity Com MB rose from one position to another in quick successions. Thus starting his work as a communist organiser in the Guntur district committee of the CPI in 1936 he became the District Secretary in 1940 and became a member of the AP State Secretariat in 1943. In 1938 he was elected to the central Committee of CPI and in 1950 to the Polit Bureau of the Party. He held the position in the CPI(M) since its formation till his death.

Comrade MB's invaluable contribution to the Indian Communist movement came in the form of steadfast adherence to the revolutionary ideology of Marxism-Leninism and its liberating influence. He was relentless campaigner against all deviations in the Indian as well as international communist movement.

As a member of the CPI(M) Polit Bureau, since its foundation, Comrade MB was a leading participant in formulating the party's ideological position. He served as the editor of the CPI(M)'s central organ, the People's Democracy. Comrade MB was a unique communist leader. For the development of the communist movement he worked with tireless energy even at his advanced age. He was pillar of strength to the party in sorting out its tactics in the most complex situations.

Com MB took keen interest in the working class movement in the country. He participated in the Goa convention in 1970 which took the decision of formation of CITU and also attended the foundation conference of CITU held in Calcutta.

The Conference pays its respectful homage to the departed leader.

Comrade Monoranjan Roy

This 8th Conference of CITU held at B T Ranadive nagar, Patna on 3-7 March, 1994 expresses profound grief at the passing away of Comrade Monoranjan Roy, one of the outstanding leaders of the working class movement of the country. Comrade Roy breathed his last on 13th June, 1992 after suffering from massive heart attack while addressing a meeting at the CITU office at Calcutta. He was the vice president of the CITU and president of the West Bengal State Committee of CITU.

Born in October 1909 Com. Roy joined the freedom movement at his boyhood and was imprisoned for eight years in 1930. He came to the lime light of the trade union movement in 1945 and occupied the position of the General Secretary of BPTUC in 1960. In the formation of CITU he played an important role and when the CITU was formed in 1970 he was elected as Secretary and later on Vice President. He was the General Secretary of the West Bengal State Committee of CITU since its formation, till the last State Conference. His contribution in organising the plantation workers in North Bengal will always be remembered.

A firm believer in Marxism-Leninism, Comrade Roy stood with those who fought revisionism and played active role in the formation of the CPI(M) in West Bengal. He was elected as a Member of the Central Committee and West Bengal State Secretariat of CPI(M). He was elected to the West Bengal assembly in 1962 and also elected Member of the Rajya Sabha in 1969.

Comrade Monoranjan Roy's eventful life had been a symbol of dedication to the cause of the toiling people mingled with outstanding organizational acumen, which through almost seven decades of his activities left memorable impression in the democratic movement of the country. The leader of many working class struggles Com Roy's militant trade union life will always be source of inspiration for the trade union movement of the country.

The conference pays its respectful homage to the departed leader.

Comrade Kamal Sarkar

This 8th Conference of CITU held at B T Ranadive Nagar, Patna on 3-7 March, 1994 deeply mourns the demise of Com Kamal Sarkar who passed away after prolonged illness on 9th June, 1992 at Calcutta at the age of 79 years.

Comrade Kamal Sarkar's eventful life as an active organiser of trade union movement spread over almost six decades led him to face repression and imprisonment both during British rule and during post independent period. Most illustrious events of his trade union life is his leadership in the struggles of the industrial workers of Calcutta and 24 Parganas. He was most popular amongst the jute, engineering and textile workers. His outstanding contribution in the trade union movement of the jute workers under the banner of Bengal Chatkal Mazdoor Union and All India Jute Workers' Federation shall always remain unforgettable.

Besides being an outstanding leader of the working class movement, Comrade Sarkar was also a proficient writer both in Bengali and English. For about a decade from 1952 comrade Sarkar was in charge of the Labour desk of the daily organ of undivided CPI--Swadhinata. He wrote many articles on different problems of the working class movement.

Comrade Kamal Sarkar's life is a testimony of struggle and sacrifice for the cause of toiling people. His life style exemplifies uninimitable simplicity of a born and uncompromising crusader and builder of working class movement.

Comrade Kamal Sarkar's sad demise is a irreparable loss to the working class movement of the country. The conference pays rich homage to the departed leader.

On Condolence

The Eighth Conference of Centre of Indian Trade Unions being held at Patna during 3-7 March 1994, offers its respectful homage and condolence to those leading personalities of working class and the democratic movement who passed away since our last conference in February 1991.

We have lost three of Working Committee members, Com.Jamini Shaha, Com.K K Roy Ganguly (West Bengal) and Com.O J Joseph(Kerala). Six of our General Council members, viz Com.A D Shastri(Maharashtra), Com.K George(Andhra), Com.Swapan Bose(West Bengal), Com.Bhag Singh Sajjan(Punjab) and Motilal

Sharma(MP) and A B Jha have also departed from us. Com.Biren Dutta, former General Secretary of the Tripura State Committee of CITU and our Working Committee member, Com.J K Bose, Secretary of our All India Coal Workers' Federation, Dr A B Sawant, Vice President, Maharashtra State Committee of CITU and Com.S K Bisoi, vice president, Orissa State Committee of CITU are no more with us. Com.Anandan Nambiar, a notable leader of Railway workers and former member of our Working Committee and an able Parliamentarian is also no more with us.

Several important leaders of revolutionary movement are no more with us. Notable among them are Com.M Basavapunnaiah, Member of the Polit Bureau, CPI(M), Com.Achintya Bhattacharya, Com.Satwant Singh, Members of the Central Committee of the CPI(M) are no more with us. Three outstanding revolutionaries in West Bengal, Com.Prabhas Roy, Com.Ganesh Ghosh, Com.Sukumar Sengupta have departed from us.

Com.Abdulla Rasool, outstanding leader of the All India Kisan Sabha, Com.P K Kunjachan, General Secretary, All India Agricultural Workers Union, Com.M K Kelu, veteran kisan leader from Kerala and Com.Janaki Amma, a veteran leader of the democratic women's movement in Tamilnadu have breathed their last in this period.

Several other important trade union leaders in India have left us since the last conference. Notable among them are Com.S A Dange, freedom fighter and long time General Secretary of AITUC, Com.Bhalchandra Trivedi, vice president, AITUC, Com.T N Siddhanta, Secretary, AITUC, Com.Samerendra Kundu, vice president, HMS, Com.KM Mathew, General Secretary, All India Defence Employees Federation, Com.Bhau Phatak, HMS leader in Motor Transport Industry and Com.Paritosh Banerjee, leader of the AIRF are no more with us. Shri V G Gopal, vice president, INTUC and Shri Bindeswari Dubey, former president of INTUC are no more with us. During this period, Com.Gopen Chakraborty, freedom fighter and a leading figure in the communist movement of Bengal in the fifties also passed away.

In this period Shri Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Minister and Cong(I) president, was assassinated by LTTE extremists on 21st May, 1991. Com.Bishwanath Mukherjee, a well known freedom fighter and CPI leader, notable film director, Shri

Satyajit Ray and Utpal Dutt, famous playwright and actor, INA hero Col P K Shaigal have passed away in this period. We express our deep sense of sorrow at the passing away of these leaders. We have also lost Debiprasad Chattopadhyay the outstanding Marxist philosopher, and we pay respectful homage to his memory.

We must also remember thousands of the innocent people who died in the tragic earthquake in Killari and Latur districts of Maharashtra.

In the international field the well known ANC leader Com. Oliver Tombo died on the eve of the successful negotiated settlement of South Africa. Com. Ibrahim Zakaria, president of the World Federation of Trade Unions, who played a notable role in WFTU for decades passed away in this period. Com. Andrei Gromyko, a notable Soviet statesman and former foreign minister of USSR died in this period. Comrades Madan Bhandari and Jeeva Raj Ashrit two prominent leaders of Communist Party of Nepal (UML) died on 16th May 1993 in a mysterious car accident. We pay our homage to these valiant leaders.

The conference offers heartfelt homage to the departed leaders and prominent personalities and remembers with heavy heart the valuable contributions made by them for the cause of the toiling people and mankind in the country and all over the world and pledges to carry forward the ideals.

On Homage to Martyrs

The 8th Conference of the CITU being held at Patna during 3- 7th March 1994 pays its heartfelt homage to the leaders and activists of trade union, peasants, agricultural labour, student and youth movements and democratic movement as a whole both within the country and abroad, who laid down their lives in the struggle against exploitation and also against divisive and communal forces, championing the cause of toiling people and unity of the people and integrity of the country.

The conference respectfully remembers those brave workers of Dalla Cement factory who were shot dead by UP police while opposing the privatisation of public sector cement plants. 17 workers of Banarhat tea plantation workers in West Bengal were brutally killed by the gangsters on 15th June 1993. Nearly twenty workers were shot dead by police of the BJP govt of Madhya Pradesh in Bhilai on 1st July 1992 when the police opened fire on the peaceful demonstration of the workers demanding arrest of the murderers of Sankar Guha Neogi, a leading TU personality.

The gruesome murder of Com.Sankar Guha Neogi by the gangsters hired by the employers gave rise to condemnation through out the country.

Five workers of Nellimarla were killed in police firing in Andhra when they were demanding lifting of the lock out, two leading brik-kiln workers of Haryana died in police firing during their agitation for higher wages. Several comrades in Punjab, Tripura, West Bengal, Bihar and Kerala were killed during working class and peasant struggles and the conference pays its respectful homage to all the martyrs.

The Conference also remember respectfully those comrades of the trade unions, peasants, students and youth movements and the democratic movement as a whole who laid their lives in fighting against the communal and divisive forces and to defend the unity and integrity of the country. Thousands of innocent people have been killed in the nationwide communal carnage that broke out after the 6th December 1992 demolition of Babri Mosque by the communal gangsters and on subsequent occasions. We pay our condolences for those innocent victims of the communal holocaust.

This conference pays respectful homage with heavy heart to the memory of Com.Kris Hani, General Secretary, South African Communist Party and the leader of the African liberation movement who was brutally murdered by rightwing extremists giving rise to wave of condemnation through out the world. We also remember respectfully all those heroes of the international working class movement who martyred themselves in the struggle against exploitation and in defence of the right of the common people. We pay our homage to the memory of those martyrs who were killed by Yeltsin regime while defending the Russian Parliament.

While paying homage to the departed leaders and martyrs let us take a pledge to carry forward with determination the unfinished task they left before us till the achievement of our cherished goal.