



# THE WORKING CLASS

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE CITU

## Forward to the Mighty Mobilisation of the Working Class

- 18p  
Rockwell

## All India Day on November 3

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Bedoni  
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*P. Ramamurti, MP. General Secretary, CITU, Indrajit Gupta (AITUC), Sushil Bhattacharya (UTUC), Amar Chakravarty (TUCC), D. D. Vashisht (HMS), J. S. Dara (INTUC), Ram Naresh Singh (BMS) and Pritish Chanda (UTUC-LS) have issued the following statement on July 24 :*

**T**HE National Campaign Committee consisting of representatives of the 8 Central Trade Union Organisations which had convened the joint trade union convention at Bombay on June 4 last against price-rise and anti-labour policies of the Government, held its meeting in Delhi today. Shri Ram Naresh Singh, General Secretary of BMS, was in the chair.

The Committee noted that preparations for State level conventions are going ahead satisfactorily, the dates for such conventions have already been fixed up in a number of States and it is expected that conventions will be completed in all States by the middle of September, with the whole-hearted cooperation of the state units of the 8 Central Trade Union Organisations along with the 40 or more industrial & trade federations whose parent bodies participated in the Bombay Convention.

The Committee has today decided that an "all India Day" for highlighting the workers' demands and for protesting against the continuing violations of trade union rights will be observed on November 3, 1981, by holding massive united demonstrations in all State Capitals as well as industrial centres.

This will be followed up in the third week of November by a mammoth "Workers' March to Parliament" to serve notice on the Central Government to retract from its anti-people policies or to

face the united struggle of the working class in the form of an all India one day general strike whose exact date will be decided and announced later.

The committee noted with grave concern that during the 7 weeks which have elapsed since the Bombay Convention, a number of serious developments have further corroborated the urgent need for a mighty, united and country-wide mobilisation of the working class.

These include the Governments' shameless jacking up of prices of oil, petroleum products, cement, etc. thereby stoking further the fires of inflation; the reported decision to make arbitration compulsory by law in order to ban all strikes and to exclude so-called "losing" concerns from liability to pay the minimum statutory bonus; with-holding of 2 instalments of due D.A. from the Central Government employees; the brutal murder of TU leader Jayprakash at Modinagar; the detention of Dr. Samant in Bombay under the N.S.A. and banning of a workers' rally; and many other instances.

The Committee has also decided to make a joint representation to the ILO asking for it to institute an inquiry into the trade unions' complaints of gross violations of the rights of freedom of association and collective bargaining.

The Committee appeals to all trade unions, including those who were unable for any reason to participate in the Bombay Convention, to participate at all levels in order to ensure a mighty mobilisation of the working class for the success of the programme decided on. □

[See also Page Four]

OBSERVE AUGUST 17 AS BLACK DAY

# Assam Plantation Workers Fight Repression

**A** 3,000 strong rally demonstrated on June 30 before the district authorities at Dhubri. Hundreds of workers traversed several miles, to join the rally. Vimala Ranadive led a delegation and submitted memoranda to the Deputy Commissioner and the Superintendent of Police protesting against the incidents of arson, loot, rape of Zingi by the police officer Moinul Haque, arrests beating and pouring of urine in the mouth of the workers by Dilip Ghosh, the Manager of Krishna-Kali Tea Estate.

Later on a mass meeting was held, presided over by Putul Bora and addressed by Vimal Ranadive, Amal Ghosh Dastidar, General Secretary and A Sarkar, Secretary of the Assam State Committee of CITU.

Though the struggle for 8.33 per cent bonus was launched jointly the INTUC leadership settled their bonus behind the back of workers. They resorted to gangsterism and torture to coerce the workers to leave CITU and join INTUC. The police and the INTUC hoodlums dragged the workers to the managers' bungalows and beat them up severely. Women workers were raped and molested with a view to intimidate them. The police, the INTUC, the tea garden managers and the protagonists of the secessionist "anti-foreigner" movement made an open joint front to perpetrate barbarism on the workers and their womenfolk, while the government officials were sitting pretty as the audience.

Steeled with bitter experience the workers struggled unitedly

and eroded the influence of the INTUC to a near end in Goalpara. In 1975-76 CITU flag was in 10 gardens only. Now its red flag is fluttering in 60 gardens. Active workers are in hundreds, Tribal Women, young girls, in the forefront, are defending the red-flag. People are coming out to help the workers with money and grains. The lawyers have formed a committee to take up the cases of Zingi and others.

A Trade Union convention was held at Gauhati on July 5, presided over by Achyut Deka,

Convenor Joint Council of Trade Unions and attended by 141 delegates, representing various sections of the workers. The convention decided to send delegations to visit the estates and submit memoranda to the Government.

The CITU has made deep inroads into the plantation workers. The acts of the Government violate not only the International Standards on Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining, but also the U.N. Charter of Human Rights. The CITU has filed a complaint to the I.L.O. demanding its intervention and preservation of trade union and democratic rights of workers.

## *Double Column (D/E Box 24 pr.* **The CITU General Council to Meet in Howrah**

**A** meeting of the General Council of the CITU will be held at Bally, Howrah from August 21 to 24. B.T. Ranadive, President, CITU, will preside over the meeting.

The General Council will discuss the general report and the report on the activities and organisation since its last meeting held at Cannanore in September last. The achievements of the CITU during this period will be highlighted and a programme will be made to further united movement and industry-wise struggles. It will also consider the holding of the Fifth Session of the CITU and method of election of delegation to the CITU Session as per constitution amended at the Fourth Session of the CITU held in Madras.

The industry-wise meetings will be held on August 25.

The Working Committee of the CITU will meet on August 21 at 2 p.m. and the General Council meeting will commence at 4 P.M.

The address of the Reception Committee is as follows:

**Com. Hari Sadhan Mitra**  
11, Dharamtala Lane,  
Howrah-2 (West Bengal).

# CITU Criticises Prime Minister's Statement

**P.** Ramamurti, General Secretary, CITU, has issued the following statement on July 11.

The Prime Minister, in her press conference on 10th July, 1981 had rightly stated that the acquiring of F-16, latest and most deadly offensive aircraft by Pakistan has mounted tension in the Indian sub-continent. But she failed to pin point and castigate the real villain, viz., U.S. imperialism. In this context her trying to explain away the statement in the recent Joint Communiqué by the foreign ministers of India and Pakistan that every country has got the right to acquire arms for its defence has no meaning whatsoever. The External Affairs Minister of India had gone to Pakistan after the Pakistani Foreign Secretary Mr. Agha Shahi, had just returned from U.S.A. negotiating the deal for F-16 aircraft and it was known that a representative of President Reagan was coming to Pakistan, immediately after the return of Mr. Narasimha Rao, to finalise the deal. In these circumstances, it was absolutely necessary for our External Affairs Minister to explicitly state without any ambiguity that we are firmly and totally opposed to the induction of this offensive weapon into Pakistan.

Verbal protest however strongly worded lodged with the U.S. Government is futile. It is necessary to rouse the people of this country against this menacing challenge of U.S. imperialism to our independence, unity and integrity. This neither the Prime Minister nor her party is able to do because of her policies of increasing dependence on western aid, chiefly from America, from the World Bank, the IMF

and other international financial institutions largely financed by the United States.

Her flaunting doctored figures of inflation based upon wholesale prices of selected commodities is an insult to the people when retail prices of every essential commodity for the common man has sky-rocketed since her coming back to power in 1980. Prices of rice, cereals, pulses, edible oils, cloth, kerosene, sugar, etc., have nearly doubled in in these eighteen months. The Government itself, increased the price of Janata cloth by 75 to 83 percent only last week.

From the day after her Press Conference, the Government had announced a big hike in the price of petroleum products including kerosene and diesel. With the consequential increase in transport charges, the price of essential commodities will further rise.

The decision to import a million and a half tons of wheat, sizeable quantities of sugar and edible oils in a year of bumper harvest when only a few months ago the Minister for Agriculture boasted that the country has to export the surplus production in these very commodities, completely exposes the total mismanagement of the country's economy by this Government. The import of these commodities at fabulous prices when compared to the internal procurement price, the colossal waste of foreign exchange when the trade gap has widened alarmingly, is an admission of total failure to curb the anti-national and anti-social activities of the monopolists, foreign and Indian, the hoarders and black-marketeers who are holding the country's economy to ransom.

Her statement that she does not intend to topple the non-Congress (I) State Governments, particularly the left and left-democratic governments of West Bengal, Tripura and Kerala can carry no conviction. She has let loose a barrage of slander, threat and intimidation of these governments by her party-men from Cabinet Ministers downwards.

The rigging of elections in Garhwal Parliamentary constituency is an indication of the length to which she and her Party would go to maintain themselves in power by scuttling democracy and an inexorable drive to authoritarianism.

The CITU appeals to all Trade Unions, mass organisations, parties and individuals to rouse the people against these dangers to the country and take up the gauntlet to fight these anti-people, anti-democratic, pro-monopolist, pro-multinational and other vested interests. □

## Women Protest Against Price Rise

Meanwhile a meeting of several women's organisations including All India Coordination Committee of Working Women held on July 21 in New Delhi criticising the central government for recent hike in petroleum prices, called upon the women and their organisations to come together and resist these measures through continuous campaigns so that the government is forced to revise its wrong economic policies. □

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## The Working Class

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# Joint Trade Union Convention in States

<sup>30m</sup> IN a number of States the States level Campaign Committees have been formed and steps are being taken to popularise the programme chalked out by the National Convention of Trade Unions against price rise and anti-labour policies of the government held at Bombay on June 4.

The Rajasthan Campaign Committee has decided to organise the State convention on August 9 at Jaipur. However due to the flood in the area the convention might be postponed.

In Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar the State convention will be held on September 6 at Bhopal, Lucknow and Patna respectively. The Bihar Campaign Committee decided that the district level conventions will be organised by August 31.

## Struggle in J.V. Electronics, Faridabad

THE workmen, mostly women, secured a signal victory after a bitter struggle for 70 days. As soon as the workmen presented a charter of demands, the managements retaliated by dismissing five workers on their usual pay day on April 4.

Braving the blazing summer heat and hail storms, the workmen continued 'dharna' before the factory gate, which was round the clock to foil the game of the management to get in some seabs to do the work.

On the 57th day of dharna, the police swooped upon the workmen. To keep the formality, 4 police women were present, but

<sup>13m</sup> Karnataka Convention will be held on August 23 at Bangalore for which a committee has been constituted with S. Suryanarayana Rao and C. Nanjundappa (CITU), Babu Mathew and A. Subbarao (AITUC) and one representative each of HMS and BMS as convenors.

In a meeting on June 29 at Calcutta, West Bengal Campaign Committee was constituted with the representatives of CITU, UTUC, BPTUC, TUCC, HMS, BMS, 12 July Committee and Mercantile Federation. It decided to organise the State convention on August 30 at Calcutta and make it an effective instrument against the anti-democratic policies of the central government.

The Tamilnadu and Maharashtra conventions will be organised at Coimbatore and Pune

<sup>13m</sup> respectively, though the exact dates for the conventions have yet to be announced.

The steps are being taken in Haryana, Punjab, Assam, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Delhi to organise the conventions. Some progress in this direction has already been reported by several States.

The programme chalked out by the All India Convention, its resolution and declaration have been published in a number of languages and are being popularised in a massive way. Some federations who could not participate in all India convention have also joined now and are preparing for State level conventions along with other organisations. □

the SHO and other male members mounted a brutal assault on the working women of whom two had to be admitted to the hospital.

At the intervention of Kamgar Mahila Samiti, the CITU and other central trade unions held a massive gate meeting on June 3 and led a huge demonstration on June 9 extending solidarity support. The management had to come to a settlement on the main demands and the workmen returned to their jobs victorious, though some small items are yet to be ironed out.

## Coal Workers Demonstrate

<sup>12 pt Bhowakar Bhow</sup> More than 2 thousand coal workers demonstrated on July 10

in front of Mugma Area Office of the ECL in Dhanbad area. Led by Colliery Mazdoor Sabha of India (CITU) 21 workers went on relay hunger strike and D.N. Singh on indefinite strike in support of their demands which include regularisation of contract, temporary and casual workers and teachers in ECL, reinstatement of retrenched workers, housing and water facilities etc.

Led by CMSI, the workers of Khas Karnapura colliery, Syal, Hazaribagh, submitted through a mass demonstration a 6-point charter of demands to the management on June 30 which included electricity, water, coal, sanitation facilities and transport facilities for school going children of workers. □

# Govt. Employees Struggle for TU and Democratic Rights

**T**HE Central Government employees have been subjected to such rules under which it is not possible for them even to resort to peaceful demonstration without attracting punitive measures. They have no right to strike. For any trade union activity action can be taken against them.

The conduct rules are so vague that the bureaucracy can interpret any activity violative of the rules. The Classification, Control and Appeal Rules are such that the proceedings can be launched against the employees without sufficient reasons and without giving right of defence to the employees. It can ignore altogether the provisions of the Evidence Act. The opportunity which used to be given to the employees against the quantum of penalty has been recently done away with. In the Fundamental Rules a provision has been added under which for participating in any trade union activity involving even a short interval of 5 minutes of working hours, a central government employee would incur liability of automatic break in service, resulting in forfeiture of entire past service for certain purposes and pay cut for the entire day.

In other words it has been rendered impossible for the central government employees to demonstrate against any injustice or denial of any just demand. The Rule 5 of the Temporary Service Rules is nothing but a legislation of 'Hire and Fire' practice. On the other hand, the State Government employees of West Bengal have been granted same rights which other workers, covered by the Industrial Disputes Act, have been enjoying. The rule of break in service and

wage cut would not be applied against State Government employees of Kerala in event of strike with majority of the employees participating in it.

The agitations of the Central Government employees have been dealt with ruthlessly. Mass scale arrests, outright dismissals, termination of service and prolonged suspension followed by tiring enquiries and cumulative penalties have been freely used to deal with strike of Central Government employees in 1960, 1968 and 1974. The Central Government employees

have not been granted the right of collective bargaining.

With this background the Confederation of the Government employees has adopted a 6 point charter of demands and the programme of action. Similar charters have been adopted by the AIRF and AIDEF. The NFPTE is also preparing for struggle in case the government declines to implement the agreement regarding two promotions, and in support of their demand. The Confederation has called upon to organise Central Government employees into unions and associations where they are still

[On Page Twelve]

## CITU Condemns Repression on Simplex Workers at Bhilai

**P.** Ramamurti, M.P. General Secretary Centre of Indian Trade Unions has issued the following statement on July 23:

The CITU strongly condemns the reign of terror that has been let loose on the workers by the goonda hirelings Police combination at the behest of Simplex management at Bhilai, who have been utilising Contract Labour in perennial nature of job. The workers were subjected to severe exploitation in as much as they were forced to sign for higher wages fixed under the Minimum Wages Act although they were being paid even less than half in violation of all laws of the land. As soon as the workers submitted a charter of demands through a joint petition, the management came down with a heavy hand and dismissed several workers. When the workers protested by a tool-down strike demanding re-instatement of the dismissed leaders the police and goonda-hirelings of management swooped down upon the workers and started indiscriminate lathi-

charge, beating of the workers and arrests. P.K. Moitra, advocate, Vice-President of the Madhya Pradesh State Committee of CITU and many others have been arrested on flimsy grounds and their bail is being refused. While the goonda hirelings, perpetrators of murderous attacks even on the wives and other family members of the struggling workers are either moving about with impunity or are released on bail when the police is forced to arrest them for causing grievous injuries. Many workers viz Shri Dutnath, Shri Punam, Shri Latchi Ram, Shri Arun have suffered fractures and had to be admitted in hospital,

The CITU urges upon the Government of Madhya Pradesh to stop this brutal repression on these workers who come from the weaker section of the society and were being mercilessly exploited by the Contractors and the Simplex management, release all arrested leaders and ensure a negotiated settlement of the just demands of the workers. □

# CITU Delegation Visits USSR

**A**T the invitation of All Union Central Council of Trade Unions (AUCCTU) a delegation from the CITU consisting of M.K. Pandhe, Secretary, and Ramani, Vice-President, CITU, visited Soviet Union from June 9 to 16. The delegation was received by Trubnikov, Dy. Chief of International Department of USSR and C. Tughikov of the International Department. of AUCCTU.

The delegation during the stay visited Ulyanovsk, the birth place of Lenin. There was detailed discussion with Members of the Ulyanovsk Regional Committee on the function of the Regional Committee and the labour administration in the region. The delegation visited Demitrovgrade, a town having a big automobile components factory and discussed with the trade union there the working of the factory administration in USSR. They also visited the Kindergarten Schools run by the Trade Unions. The delegation visited State Experimental Farm employing about 1400 workers and discussed with the leadership of the union the working of the State Farm and the problems of trade union organisation. They visited a technical school run by the union and the farm administration.

The delegation visited Holiday Home run by the Trade Unions on the banks of Volga river and studied how the Soviet workers spend their vacations. They visited the cultural palace run by the Trade Unions, Children's Library and the Pioneer Headquarters.

The delegation paid homage to the memory of Lenin at the special memorial prayer on the occasion of birth centenary of

Lenin and visited a special exhibition arranged on the occasion depicting the history of the revolutionary movement in USSR.

Every where the delegation found a great affection in the hearts of the Soviet people towards the people of India.

On their return to Moscow the delegation had a detailed discussion with A.M. Subbotin, Secretary, AUCCTU, about the activities of the AUCCTU. The delegation also discussed at length the situation in India and the policies of the CITU on various national and international issues. Ananev, Dy. Head of the International Department and C. Tuzikov of the International Department, AUCCTU were present during the discussions.

Delegation handed over a presentation from the CITU to AUCCTU. Both sides agreed that the visit was fruitful and that the dialogue started between the two organisations should continue in future so that the fraternal relation can be further strengthened. □

## CITU Delegation to China

**A** 3 Member Delegation consisting of C. Cannan, Vice President, CITU, R. Umanath and Laxmi Sen, Members of the Working Committee of the CITU, left for China on July 21 via Rangoon. The delegation was invited by All China Federation of Trade Unions. The stay of the delegation in China will be for two weeks and the delegation will discuss with the Chinese Trade Unions problems of

mutual interest and steps to be taken to strengthen the fraternal relations between the CITU and ACFTU.

This is the first Trade Union delegation from India visiting China after a lapse of over two decades. The All China Federation of Trade Unions has also invited INTUC and HMS to send a delegation to China. □

## Settlement in Neyvelli Lignite Corporation.

A settlement has been reached in the dispute over incentive bonus in Neyvelli Lignite Corporation. All the seven unions including CITU, AITUC, DMK and INTUC had formed a Joint Action Committee and served strike notice. After long drawn negotiations the settlement was reached entitling the workers to an incentive bonus of 4 per cent as against 2 per cent offered by the management. □

## Memorandum to Sonepat D.C.

The Sonepat District Committee of the CITU has submitted a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner on July 10 and demanded justice to the workers of Hilton Rubber Factory, Rai, since due to the anti-working class attitude of the administration the workers are facing a lot of difficulties which is affecting the production also.

It also demanded the implementation of the settlements arrived at with the workers of Avon Cycle Factory and Amendum Bulb Factory, and an end to the anti-working class policy of converting factories into the police camps with a view to suppress the just struggles of the workers. □

# The Woes of the Rural Unorganised Labour

**A**FTER hibernating for one year, the Government hastily called the meeting of the Central Standing Committee of Rural Unorganised Labour on July 8, with a short notice of 4 days. Worse still, the note on the agenda did not relate to important decisions taken in the last meeting held on July 9, 1980. Minister of Labour chaired the meeting.

The CITU representative, Nrisingha Chakrabarty recorded a strong protest against holding the meeting in such a cavalier fashion, and pointed out that in the last meeting three important decisions were taken. It was decided that an in-depth study about the forest labour would be conducted as an element of bondage still existed. It was also decided that the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act should be amended suitably to provide machinery to monitor an integrated scheme of rehabilitation of bonded labour and also interstate-migrant labour pending which a Central Advisory Committee with representatives of trade unions would be set-up and a central legislation for Rural Unorganised Labour which had already been drafted and approved, would be introduced in Parliament at the earliest. He pointed out that no Statutory Committee can transact business without an account of implementation of these decisions which were accepted by the Government. He also pointed out that three important I. L. O. Conventions No. 95, 129 and 131 have not been ratified by the Government of India and the present Act on Bonded Labour does not fully comply with the I. L. O. standards.

The agenda papers and the general discussion which continued for some time revealed a shocking picture. Several Cong(I) ruled states like Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka etc. have not revised the minimum wage from 1974/1975/1976. Even in those in which some meagre increase has been effected since 1979, the real wages have fallen due to sky rocketting of prices. Besides there was no machinery to enforce even the meagre minimum wages fixed by the Government. The system of dearness allowance which gives some protection against price-rise has been introduced only in West Bengal and Kerala. An estimate shows that there are 2.5 million bonded labour, of whom only 1.25 lakhs have been identified. As in the earlier meetings, many expressed doubts as to whether the money spent for their rehabilitation has

benefitted them at all. It was also pointed out that the agenda papers laid more stress on education while employment through out the year happens to be the biggest problem in rural areas as 38.7 crores of people of whom 50 per cent are women live below poverty line. Similarly the biggest hurdle against organising rural labour is not lack of education but mounting repression by landlords in connivance with the police against the rural labour, particularly the harijans and tribals, who are subjected to murder, rape and arson when they organise themselves for land, better wages and end of social oppression. Closing the discussion, the Minister of State for Labour declared that the next meeting would be held in September with due preparation.

The meeting served a limited objective. It has, to some extent, exposed the hypocritical concern of the leaders in the Government about the rural poor. □

## Beedi, Cigar Workers on Path of Struggle

**T**HE beedi and cigar workers decided to launch a countrywide movement in an extended meeting of All India Beedi & Cigar Workers' Committee (CITU), held at Madras on June 20 and 21 presided over by Vimala Ranadive.

The minimum wages fixed in the States are as low as Rs. 4.50 a day. Only through organised struggles the workers have been able to achieve more wages fixed by the Governments in some States. In Karnataka, Tamilnadu and Kerala workers launched massive agitations and went on strikes, dharnas, etc. and got some increase in the minimum wages. The Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act has not been implemented in many States.

The employers have started giving the work to contractors and middlemen leading the workers to destitution.

The meeting decided to build up a movement for a national minimum wage of Rs. 12 per 1,000 Beedis and Rs. 20 per 1,000 Cigars. The other demands include D.A. as per Consumer Price Index, implementation of Provident Fund and E.S.I. Scheme, implementation of the Beedi & Cigar Workers' Act, abolition of contract system, implementation of Welfare Scheme, equal wage for equal work, etc.

All India Demands Day will be observed on August 25 with demonstrations, dharnas and rallies. The workers will also hold demonstrations before the State Assemblies during the next Sessions. □

# Tamilnadu Textile & Handloom Industry : Low Wages & High Workloads

**B**EFORE independence, the 'independent weavers', who owned the looms and worked themselves, were 84 percent while rest of them worked for wages. The majority of weavers could not withstand the economic onslaught and consequently became labourers. About 90 percent of the handloom weavers are labourers today.

In Tamilnadu, the number of textile mills was 67 in 1946 which increased to 212 in 1980. During the same period the number of spindles increased from 16 lakhs to 51 lakhs and the number of looms increased from 8,000 to 12,000. However, the number of workers reduced from one lakh 50 thousand in 1946 to one lakh 25 thousand in 1980.

To offset the increase in wages and dearness allowance won by the workers through united and bitter struggles in 1970s and to increase their already high profits, the managements have adopted new methods of exploitation. Earlier 12 to 18 workers used to handle 1,000 spindles from mixing to spinning. Now 3 to 4 workers are forced to do the same work. In Madurai Centenary mill one worker handles as many as 1540 spindles and in Coimbatore region this figure is 1400.

About 350 new mills in the name of waste cotton mills were started. In the State there are about 35,000 powerlooms whereas only 10,000 are licensed. In contravention of the Factories Act and Textile Control Act, these factories function as rivals to the handloom industry. The yarn and cloth produced in these powerlooms and waste cotton mills are being sold by the mill

owners as if they are produced in their regular factories itself. Through these illegal activities, the owners deceive the government of excise tax and pay poverty wages to the workers and deny them the benefits of PF,ESI, leave etc.

Majority of the workers are employed on temporary basis. They are made to work for several years and are denied legitimate benefits. They are forced to increase productivity and used as a tool to increase workload. They are also forced to work for two or three shifts and are paid single wages as against double overtime. This results in loss of new job opportunities. The work of permanent nature is given to the contractors to reduce the number of jobs, enforce wage cuts and increase exploitation.

The basic wages and DA are linked with maximum possible productivity. If the targets are not reached, wages and DA cuts are resorted to. The DA is to compensate the rise in prices and is linked to price index. In Salem Rajendra mills case, the Supreme Court has given verdict that wages and DA should not be linked to production and productivity. In Namana Samudram, Pudukottai mills cases the High Court had given the similar verdict. While implementing the second wage board recommendations a portion of DA was merged with the basic pay violating the Court verdicts. If the productivity goes down by 5 percent, the cut in basic wages which includes a portion of DA, amounts to 5 percent (in some cases even one and a half time that).

In a mill in the State, a worker looks after 36 looms and

the wages are withheld for work stoppages even if it is due to administrative reasons. In another mill, the productivity is calculated on the basis of 8 hours of machine productivity and 7 and half an hour work. On implementation, this formula results in 15 to 20 percent wage cut.

Ultra-modernisation has been done in 60 mills. Old machines have been renovated in about 120 mills. The speed of machines have also been increased consi-

derably. As a result, the workload has been raised very high. The production has gone up to the tune of 2.5 times. Safety standards have been thrown to the winds. The workers are denied lunch interval for even 15 minutes.

Because of the huge unemployment problems in the country, the workers are forced to accept low wages and high workloads and some times they have to bribe heavily to get a job. After joining, unable to cope

up with the heavy workload, many leave their jobs. One such worker in the State unable to bear the pressure from the parents ended his life. Some even deserted their families and ran away. Such is the intensity of exploitation.

The State Labour Department does not entestain the wage disputes as they are not classified as 'workers' under the definition given in the Industrial Disputes Act which has put the workers to further hardships.

The Tamilnadu Handloom Workers Federation (CITU) submitted a memorandum to the Committee on Wage Structure in Handloom Industry highlighting sorry state of the handloom workers in the State. The Federation demanded rise in wages of the workers and linking of the DA with the price Index. It urged upon the Committee that the wage earning handloom weavers should be well protected by the Wage Fixation Act and to see that they are not put to hardship because of the Act. □

## CITU Blames SAIL Management for Low Production

**I**N a meeting on production convened by Chairman, Steel Authority of India Ltd., on July 17 New Delhi, the CITU representatives strongly criticised the labour policy of the management in ignoring the just demands of the workers.

Referring to the proposal of Shri K. C. Khanna, Chairman SAIL, in his opening remark, that the coke oven department which is the heart of the steel industry should be exempted from strikes, the CITU representative, M. K. Pandhe, criticised the management for not creating any mechanism to solve the grievances of the workers in such a sensitive Department. He referred to the repeated efforts made by the employees in this department to sort out the grievances of the workers but ultimately the management refused to talk to the representatives of the Coke Oven Department. Under such circumstances the workers had no alternative but to resort to strike actions. In view of this,

the management was wholly responsible for these strikes and consequential loss of production.

Referring to the performance of SAIL, the CITU representative pointed out that there is no self-sufficiency in the matter of steel production and our country is importing every year Rs. 600 million worth steel items. Therefore, attempts must be made to make the country self-sufficient in the matter of steel as soon as possible. However, the management was not serious about it.

Referring to malpractices and corruption in the steel industry, the CITU representatives pointed out that 28.5 percent of the production of IISCO was untested or off-grade or is treated as defective by the management to sell it to interested parties at low price and thus make a margin of profit. Such malpractices are causing losses to the public undertaking. They also pointed out how the coal supplied

by the collieries were of the lower grade but admitted by the steel management as of higher grade in which crores of Rupees are swindled every year. The CITU demanded that immediate steps should be taken to stop such malpractices.

The representatives of INTUC demanded banning of "political strikes" in steel industry. The CITU and HMS representatives made it clear that such bans would not be acceptable to the genuine Trade Union Movement.

Regarding the health and safety of steel workers, the CITU criticised the callous attitude of the management which is adversely affecting the health of large number of steel workers and demanded that the management should immediately take steps to protect the health of workers in steel industry.

The Chairman, SAIL, had to announce constitution of a high-power Committee to go into

the questions within a month.

Regarding expansion of Durgapur steel plant, the representatives of CITU criticised the delay in the matter and demanded immediate action so that Durgapur Plant becomes self-sufficient.

All the Central Trade Unions demand a better machinery to sort out the grievances of the workers and settle the pending issues without any further delay.

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## All India Demands day by HSCL Workers

**T**HE All India Co-ordination of HSCL Employees' Unions and Association (CITU) has given a call for All India Demands Day to be observed on July 31.

About twenty five thousand workers and employees of the company were forced to take on the path of agitation because of the vindictive attitude of the management by retrenching a large number of employees at different units and remaining adamant to the long standing demands of the workers.

While unleashing total repression on the workers, the management has started appointing contractors and sub-contractors to do the job of the workers, even for the operation of the machines. The officers of the company have developed pecuniary relations with the contractors, while the company is running in loss.

The management have retrenched 555 workers and employees in various units of the company at Kudremukh, Hyderabad, Obra, etc. and allotted the works to different contractors.

A Sub-committee was formed to discuss the reinstatement of the retrenched workers. But the sub-committee could not function because of the negative attitude of the management.

All the unions in HSCL (CITU, AITUC, HMS, INTUC) submitted a joint Charter of Demands to the management on May 19 and observed one Demands Day on June 22 to

pressurise the recalcitrant management for a negotiated settlement.

The Joint Charter includes for no retrenchment, reinstatement of all retrenched employees, interim relief of Rs. 75, abolition

of contract system etc. But now, the vindictive attitude of the management has forced the workers on the path of an all India agitation. The Central Trade Unions have come forward to support the demands of the workers and observe July 31 as the All India Demands Day and further carry forward the struggle. □

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### Third Conference of Orissa State CITU

**T**HE Orissa State Committee of CITU held its 3rd Conference at Bhadrak from June 13 to 15. It was inaugurated by Kamal Sarkar, Secretary, CITU.

A Presidium of Shivaji Patnaik, Upendra Geja and Nitya Kishore Mohanty conducted the proceeding of the conference. Nirakar Jena, Chairman of the Reception Committee narrated how inspite of the attempts by Congress (I) to foil the conference, overwhelming support from the rural and urban populations made it a grand success.

Ajeya Rout placed the General Secretary's report. The Conference was attended by 94 delegates, 36 observers and 30 fraternal delegates. 31 delegates participated in the discussion. It was evident from the deliberations that the prestige of the CITU had increased and many workers from various industrial and mining belts wanted to join the CITU. The Conference gave a clarion call to mobilise all sections of workers, a peasantry and the toiling people to fight against the authoritarian policies of the Congress (I) Government which is trying to subvert the judiciary, press, the parliamen-

tary system and the trade union and democratic rights of the people.

The Conference adopted resolutions against price-rise, unemployment, retrenchments, closures, bonded labour, National Security Act, on nationalisation of monopoly Drug Companies, against attack on democratic and trade union rights, on opening of closed mills, on State Government Employees struggle, on the peasants' struggles, on protection of left-led Governments.

A procession of thousands of workers, peasants and students joined the Open Session on June 15, addressed by Md. Amin, Transport Minister of West Bengal and Kamal Sarkar.

Shivaji Patnaik and Ajeya Rout were re-elected President and General Secretary respectively of the State Committee. □

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# Labour Aristocracy in South Korea

**T**HE Chon Due Hwan military gangsters in South Korea are now ruthlessly suppressing even the slightest demand of people for right to existence and democracy. However South Korean Workers did not give up their fighting last year. They conducted a vigorous struggle to reject the government patronised kept unions and expel their leadership.

Condemning the chairman of the reptile Rochong (the General Federation of Trade Unions of South Korea) for his systematic treacherous act against the interests of labouring population, the workers of Tongil Textile Mill and other South Korean workers put up struggle in February last demanding "immediate resignation of the Rochong Chairman", and forced him to step out from his post. They continued to fight for the removal of his minions. Coal in Chongson district started their struggle for a wage hike and the expulsion of the company union branch chief in April last year, which developed into a riotous advance assuming an anti-"government" character assaulting puppet police station to capture several hundred weapons and occupying the puppet-administrative organs.

Their fighting was a powerful declaration that the company union was not a genuine organization for the workers, who would no longer accept its leadership, and at the same time, it was an eruption of their long-cherished desire to own a true trade union organisation representing their rights and interests.

The leaders of these kept unions are none other than the privileged classes and their henchmen who have degraded

to the status of labour aristocracy and ignored the workers' rights and interests.

The leaders of these kept unions are none other than the privileged classes and their henchmen who have degraded to the status of labour aristocracy and ignored the workers' rights and interests. They are the stooges of the military fascist clique.



Each time the workers rose in the struggle for existence and democracy, those stooges used to obstruct their struggle while taking sides with the puppet authorities and comprador enterprises. What is worse, they have rendered active service to the "Yusin" fascist rule in its attempt to suppress and stamp out all the labour movement by purging the nuclear workers of union ranks according to the scheme of the "Agency for National Security Planning" (for "Central Intelligence Agency").

It is also the paid leadership of the "trade unions" that have shouted themselves hoarse for the "cooperation between capital and labour" among the toiling masses.

The workers have denounced those hypocrites who have reduced themselves into henchmen of fascist dictators. The chairman of the "government"-patronized textile union named Kim having so-called "30 years service in the labour movement" is also a representative to the so-called "National Conference for Unification" that once existed as a

mouthpiece organ of the puppet fascist government. He took the lead in covering the military fascist clique's brutal suppression of the labour movement in South Korea. Even the South Korean publications throw ridicule on him as "a man of keeping his position by way of snubbing the sound demands with hopocrisy, violent language, menace and blackmail." When the workers

**Forward to the Xth  
World Trade Union  
Congress, Havana,  
1932**

*Spt. work  
labour*

launched the struggle demanding his "resignation", he was said to make threatening remarks that "in case of my forced retirement from chairmanship, I would crush down the textile union". It meant his solid footing under the patronage of the authorities.

According to the "Report on the Labour Question in South Korea" issued by a Japanese research institute, some of successive chairmen of the reptile Rochong "were found to be closely relating to the South Korean CIA."

These leaders misappropriated union funds collected from workers penny by penny. They are paid by the enterprisers for selling out the labour movement and live on lavish life.

As to the corrupt act of the chairman of an industrial trade union, a South Korean publication posed as follows :

"In October, 1979, when he came forward as a candidate for the Rochong chairman, he borrowed money of 5 million won from the branch office of the Cheil Bank on the security of a bankbook of 8 million won special fund of the head office of

textile union-which he spent away for drinking and other entertainment expenses. And yet, he pretended not to know about it, but rather placed its responsibility on a chief secretary and others."

It is a righteous struggle for South Korean workers to drive out the leaders of the kept unions, labour aristocracy and brokers who can never represent labour movement.

That's why the South Korean workers, inspite of the Chon Due Hwan homicidal fascist clique's wicked oppression of labour movement, have organized the "Committee for Promoting the Normalization of Trade Unions" and carry on a vigorous struggle to expel the reptile TU leadership and from their own genuine organisations. □

### Govt. Employees...

[From Page Five]

unorganised, constitute coordination committee of various organisations at taluk, district and State level in order to implement the call for sustained struggle in the broadest possible manner and hold state conferences to popularise the demands and mobilise the employees for industrial action, etc.

## Consumer Price Index Numbers

State/Centre	Base 1960			State/Centre	1981		
	Mar.	Apr.	May		Mar.	Apr.	May
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>				<b>Orissa</b>			
Gudur	420	422	433	Barbil	385	391	397
Guntur	437	447	475	Sambalpur	430	431	441
Hyderabad	433	438	446	<b>Punjab</b>			
<b>Assam</b>				Amritsar	427	442	445
Digboi	421	423	436	<b>Rajasthan</b>			
Doom Dooma	342	353	354	Ajmer	444	449	456
Labac	342	342	349	Jaipur	456	461	477
Mariani	349	356	353	<b>Tamil Nadu</b>			
Rangapara	354	351	358	Coimbatore	459	455	459
<b>Bihar</b>				Coonoor	432	437	444
Jamshedpur	395	400	405	Madras	410	412	420
Jharia	393	397	403	Madurai	430	432	446
Kodarma	422	427	426	<b>U.P.</b>			
Monghyr	446	438	442	Kanpur	405	412	420
Noamundi	406	404	397	Saharanpur	424	430	432
<b>Gujarat</b>				Varanasi	490	484	480
Ahmedabad	393	406	418	<b>West Bengal</b>			
Bhavnagar	418	438	442	Asansol	429	435	436
<b>Haryana</b>				Calcutta	385	397	399
Yamunanagar	457	467	456	Darjeeling	344	347	348
<b>J. &amp; K.</b>				Howrah	379	381	385
Srinagar	428	449	460	Jalpaiguri	338	342	346
<b>Karnataka</b>				Raniganj	404	412	415
Ammathi	451	452	457	<b>Delhi</b>	438	448	453
Bangalore	469	472	483	<b>Other Centres*</b>			
Chikamagalur	437	450	464	Berhampur ('49)	568	580	579
Kolar G.F.	445	451	460	Cuttack ('49)	523	536	541
<b>Kerala</b>				Jabalpur ('49)	557	578	592
Alleppey	432	441	445	Beawar ('51-52)	525	532	544
Alwaye	442	441	453	Tripura (1961)	382	394	401
Mundakayam	434	435	449	H.P. (1965)	313	317	320
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>				Goa (1966)	311	316	320
Balaghat	438	447	449	Bhilai (1966)	290	295	301
Bhopal	434	447	451	Bhilwara ('66)	278	279	285
Gwalior	438	455	464	Chhindwara ('66)	240	247	252
Indore	458	472	475	Kothagudem ('66)	279	286	292
<b>Maharashtra</b>				Rourkela ('66)	292	294	298
Bombay	423	435	442	All India ('49)	510	519	526
Nagpur	425	435	440	-do- ('60)	420	427	433
Sholapur	444	472	471				

Figures in bracket

indicate base year.

## Observe August 17 as Black Day

The National Campaign Committee of Central Trade Unions consisting of representatives of AITUC, CITU, HMS, BMS, INTUC, (DARA), UTUC, UTUC (LENIN SARANI). TUCC met in New Delhi and adopted the following resolution on July 28.

THE Essential Service Maintenance Ordinance 1981 promulgated on the eve of the

monsoon session of the Parliament is a most dastardly attack that the present Government has mounted on the Working Class since it came into power in January 1980. It has not only banned strikes in the Services Scheduled in the Ordinance but also has armed itself with powers to declare without reference to Parliament, any industry an essential

service, and thus has totally deprived the Working Class its fundamental right to strike. It is significant no obligation is placed on the employers who can play havoc with the jobs, wages, salaries and service conditions of the workers. This together with the provision of summary trial for violation of the Ordinance has turned the Indian Working Class

[On Page Fifteen]

# Samar Mukherjee Assails Policy of Victimisation

**I**N the last meeting of the Consultative Committee of M. P.s for Railway Ministry as well as in various communications, Samar Mukherjee, M. P., Treasurer, CITU, strongly criticised the policy of victimisation which has been started in the railways. He pointed out the situation has come to such a pass that the authorities penalise the staff without any opportunity of self defence making a mockery of the statutory rules on the subject.

The grievance settling machinery in the railways is not functioning properly despite pious wish expressed by the Railway Minister in the meeting of Chief Personnel officers held on May 29. While the unrecognised unions/associations, even if they have a majority following, do not have any channel of communication, the AIRF, the oldest and single biggest organisation of railwaymen have been driven to a situation to officially adopt a resolution in their working committee meeting held on May 25 stating that negotiating machinery has almost broken down.

This being the situation, resentment amongst the railway workers may often find expression in mass deputation etc. But the authorities penalise the workers by penal transfers in order to disrupt the trade union organisations. This is the manifestation of authoritarian trend in the bureaucracy.

Quoting from the notes of the meeting of Chief Mechanical Engineers in the Board's office in which the Member Mechanical is learnt to have stated that the

authorities have the right to transfer and that is unquestionable, he pointed out that the concept of the authorities violates not only the provisions of Industrial Disputes Act but also the I. L. O. Conventions No 87, 91 and 135. It was because of these violations that different High Courts and also the Supreme Court have accepted a number of writ Petition and granted ad-interim injunctions. The authorities, instead of changing their untenable policies have taken recourse to strengthening their legal machinery almost doubling the lawyer's fees so that they could brow-beat or at least influence that court and it becomes difficult for the railway workers to match the legal talent.

It is however noticed that judiciary has maintained its independent character and prominent members of the bar have come out to support the victimised workers. The decision of the Board therefore would result in wasteful expenditure from the exchequer, while the labour relations are likely to deteriorate. He called for a change in this policy.

## Railwaymen Move to Forge Unity

In a meeting held at Bombay on June 5, the 12 men Panel (Co-ordination Committee) decided to pursue vigorously the efforts to forge unity which were started last year. Efforts have started to form Zonal Panels and meetings have already been held in Eastern, South-eastern and N. F. Railways.

## Meetings, Demonstrations

A Convention of railway workers was held on July 7 at Rourkela under the auspices of Z.C.C.R to discuss the resolution adopted in the National T.U. Convention held at Bombay on June 4 and take steps for the implementation of the decision.

The Annual Meeting of the All India Coal, Ash and Transshipment Handling Mazdoor Union was held at Samastipur on July 3-5, which was attended by over 300 delegates. Samar Mukherjee, M.P. inaugurated the meeting.

On July 13, over 15 thousand railway workers demonstrated before the General Manager, Central and Western Railway in Bombay at the call of the Unions affiliated to AIRF. □

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## JUST PUBLISHED

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Foreword by  
**B.T. Ranadive**  
President, CITU

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## Bihar CITU Meets

A meeting of the Bihar State Committee of the CITU was held on July 17 to 19 at Patna. Md. Ismail, M.P., presided over.

The meeting criticised the Central government for recent hike in prices of petroleum products and said that with this prices of essential commodities would increase causing hardship to the common people. It called upon the workers to fight against price rise.

The State Committee demanded of the State government that the failure of conciliation procedure regarding TISCO contract labourers may be notified early in order to refer the matter to the Labour Tribunal.

It adopted several resolutions including on minimum wages, against wage freeze, etc.

Earlier on July 15, the State Committee Vice-President Hari Krishna in a statement condemned State Labour department for postponing the ballot for determining the majority union in Fire Bricks and Insulation Co. at Ranchi Road in Hazaribagh district in a desperate bid to save INTUC union. He called upon the workers to raise their mighty voice against this manipulation of the Bihar Labour Department.

## U.P. CITU Meets

THE meeting of the U. P. State Committee of the CITU which met in early July at Lucknow noted with grave concern the repressive and wage freeze policies of the government and deplored the managements and government for protecting INTUC unions which is a calculated move to crush other unions.

In a statement on July 7, the General Secretary of the Committee, Daulat Ram said that in

the State more than 125 activists of the CITU have been retrenched. The managements have adopted the policy of frequently resorting to the lay-off, closure, lockout, etc to crush the trade union movement in the State.

In a resolution the Committee strongly criticised the management of J.K. Rayon, Kanpur, which has resorted to illegal lay off from July 1. It condemned the government for its pro-management policy since instead of forcing the management to withdraw the lay-off it arrested 125 workers and sent them to jail.

Through another resolution the Committee greeted the workers of Electronic Components, Bulandshahar, who are on indefinite strike since September 29, 1980 in support of their demand that the government order regarding them should be implemented.

The Committee also decided to organise a protest week throughout State from July 26 to August 1, against anti-working class and repressive policies of the government.

Earlier on June 25, Daulat Ram General Secretary, State CITU, strongly condemned the government for recent rise in petrol prices as a result of which the prices of all essential commodities would rise leading the common people to a greater hardship. He called upon the working class to unite and fight against all attacks on their living conditions. □

## Delhi Workers Demand Better Wages

THE sixth conference of General Mazdoor Lal Jhanda Union (CITU) was held on July 1 in New Delhi. Ajit Bhattacharya presided over. Sushil Bhattacharya, M. P., General Secretary, Delhi CITU, inaugurated it. □

Through a resolution, the conference demanded minimum wages of Rs 500, Rs. 600 and Rs. 700 for different categories of workers and Rs. 150 as the dearness allowance. It adopted resolutions on abolition of contract labour system and against police repression among others.

Jogender Sharma, Secretary, Delhi CITU, while congratulating the delegates called upon the workers to fight against all repression and strengthen CITU. The conference elected a new executive committee with Ajit Bhattacharya as President and Puran Chand as General Secretary. □

## August 17

[From Page Twelve]

into bonded slaves. This is a prelude to planned attack on the wages, dearness allowance and other emoluments of workers by disarming them. The incapacity and inability of the Government with the present policies, to contain inflation and take the economy of the country out of the crisis and its policy of appeasement to the monopolies, big-business, Foreign-multi-nationals hoarders and other vested interest has directly led to this.

The Committee appeals to all the trade unions in the country irrespective of their affiliation, to immediately launch a massive movement of protest unitedly culminating in observance of August 17 the opening day of the next session of Parliament, as a 'Black Day' throughout the country and give a fitting reply to this attack. It also appeals to all the democratic forces to realise that this attack on the Working Class foreshadows attack on all democratic rights and support the protest movement.

The Committee directs all the State Units to make every effort to ensure that the 'Black Day' is observed unitedly on a massive and befitting manner. □

## Jute Workers' Massive Agitation

**T**WO lakh 50 thousand jute workers and employees of all the jute mills in West Bengal agitated in a massive way on July 16 demanding immediate implementation of the recommendations on grades and scales of pay for jute workers finalised by the State Labour Minister in terms of the industrywise tripartite settlement reached on February 22, 1979.

Jute workers belonging to Bengal Chatkal Mazdoor Union (CITU) and other organisations participated in the agitation irrespective of their affiliations. They submitted memoranda addressed to the Chairman, Indian Jute Mills Association, and National Jute Manufacturers Association (owned by central government) to the managers of various mills and reminded them of their earlier memoranda.

Since the managements have not come out to implement the settlement, jute workers are being deprived of their two year's increment amounting to Rs. 8 crores. On the other hand, the jute mills managements have launched fresh attacks on the workers effecting wage cuts, transfers and imposition of abnormal workloads. Several mills have been locked out while some have partially wound up their activities causing retrenchment of several thousand jute workers and employees. The earlier agreements are being abruptly violated.

The workmen demanded immediate implementation of the agreements, end to the lockout and wage cut and restoration of normal work. If the demands are not accepted, the jute workers would resort to bigger united trade union action including strikes. □

## Jute Workers Donate for Biharsharif Victims

The jute workers of Bally Jute Mill No 2, Calcutta, handed over Rs. 1,001 to Monorajan Roy, General Secretary, West Bengal CITU, in support of communal victims of Biharsharif in a meeting on July 2 in Calcutta. He called upon the workers to frustrate all conspiracies of the authoritarian Congress (I) against the working class.

## Petrol Price Rise Condemned

Shanti Ghatak, MLA, Convenor, All India Coordination Committee of Engineering Workers' Unions (CITU) while strongly condemning in a statement on July 15 recent rise in prices of the petroleum products, called upon the engineering workers in the country to organise mass protests against the ordinance on price hike and demanding its withdrawal.

## Tamilnadu Govt. Policy Hit 2 Lakh Handloom Workers

The Handloom producers in the State stopped productions protesting against the exorbitant rise in yarn prices, which rendered 2 lakhs handloom workers in the State jobless. Demanding reduction of yarn prices and full wages for the workers for the period of closure, the producers and workers launched joint struggles. They picketed the Government offices. Nearly 1,000 workers were arrested at Madurai. The Executive Committee of Tamilnadu Handloom Workers' Federation (CITU) set further programmes of demonstrations before Central Government offices and demanding proper

distribution of yarn to the weavers and Government take over of procurement of cotton.

The Government, however, reached a settlement with the producers on June 30, reducing the price of 10,000 bales of coarse count yarn to Rs. 109 per 5 kg. bundle from Rs. 132.

## Victory of Medimpex Workers

The workers of Medimpex Ltd. in Patna formed their union in June and affiliated itself to the CITU. The management, on the plea of shifting the factory, laid off 17 workers. The union launched vigorous movement, supported by the Bihar Branch of All India Chemical and Pharmaceutical Employees' Federation. In connivance with the management, the police terrorised the workers. But undeterred workers ultimately compelled the management to withdraw the lay off and recognise the union and pay full wages for the period of lay-off. The workers resumed duties from July 4. □

### Working Women & Plantation Workers Meetings

A meeting of the All India Coordination Committee of Working women will be held on August 24 at 3 p.m.

A meeting of the Working Committee of the All India Plantation Workers' Federation will be held on August 25 at 9 a.m.

The venue for these meetings would be the hall for the meeting of General Council of the CITU at Bally, Howrah, West Bengal. □

## Gruesome Murder of Jaiprakash in Modinagar

**T**HE leader of the HMS affiliated union of the Workers of the Modi Textile Mill, Modinagar, Comrade Jaiprakash was brutally murdered by the goonda gang hired by the management on June 29. Several workers received serious injuries.

It is learnt that Comrade Jaiprakash had gone to the mill gate to address a gate meeting of the workers and the workers were coming to join the meeting. The hirelings of the management armed with lethal weapons attacked the assembled workers and the chaos prevailed. Numbering more than 50 these goondas jumped on the HMS leader who had become the eyesore of the management because of leading the heroic struggle of the textile workers of Modinagar during 1979-80. He died on the spot.

It is not the first time that the Modis have resorted to such goonda activities to crush the trade union movement in the city. As far back as 1953, the workers had started their struggle in support of the demands but was crushed by Goojar Mal Modi with the help of goondas. Subsequently the struggles of the workers in 1957, 1967, 1974 and 1976 were also crushed brutally with the help of goondas in connivance with the State police and PAC.

The workers foiled the management's conspiracy to frustrate the struggle in 1977. The workers continued to fight and in 1979 as a result of the longdrawn struggle the workers received an award from Charan Singh, the then Deputy Prime Minister, who was the arbitrator. The award has not been imple-

mented, by the Modi management.

The activities of the CITU in the area were growing. More and more workers are joining CITU. The CITU had been supporting the struggle launched by the said union and many activists were actively working for its success. An agreement was signed with the HMS union by the management on June 26 only, since the workers had been demanding the implementation of the Charan Singh Aawad.

It has become a practice of

the managements of Haryana, Delhi and U. P. mills to use goonda gangs with a view to intimidate and terrorise the union leaders and activists in order to suppress the working class movement in these States.

Sushil Bhattacharya, MP, General Secretary, Delhi CITU, in a statement condemned this gruesome murder of Comrade Jaiprakash and called upon all workers irrespective of their affiliations to unite and protest against it and demand immediate arrest of the miscreants. □

## Yet Another Attack on Sirsa Textile Workers

**T**HE goonda hirelings of the management of the Gopichand Textile Mill, Sirsa in Haryana launched a new series of attacks on the workers in connivance with the police. On July 5, the workers were attacked by the goondas armed with lethal weapons in the factory compound. They threw two workers, Gaya Prasad and Subhash, into the furnace which resulted in serious injuries to the workers. Many other workers were seriously injured.

Instead of arresting the goonda elements the Bhajanlal police implicated 36 workers in false cases including Tek Chand Joint Secretary of Haryana CITU and a village sarpanch. Those farmers who helped the workers in their struggle and the shopkeeper where the workers used to drink tea were also implicated in the false cases. Tek Chand Gupta was not even present at that time since he was waiting for the State Chief Minister in Hissar Rest House in connection with a labour dispute.

The same day lockout was declared in the factory by the Sirsa D.C. and the workers who were working in the factory were forced to leave the factory. The DC declared Section 144 in the area and said that when law and order situation would improve only then it would be lifted. The police are having a heytime and terrorising the workers. So far more than 125 workers have been implicated in false cases.

It may be recalled here that these workers have faced brutal repression in last few months the reports of which have been published in earlier issues of the journal. The Hissar District Committee of the CITU has called upon the workers, employees, youth, farmers and other democratic minded people to unitedly fight against the anti-labour policies of the management and Haryana government and demand that the false cases be withdrawn, reinstate all retrenched workers, an end to the anti-labour policies and action against the goondas. □