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CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

172, Lenin Sarani,
CALCUTTA -13
7th May, 1971

PRESS STATEMENT

ON PROPOSED PREVENTIVE DETENTION ORDINANCE

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

The Centre of Indian Trade Unions strongly condemns the decision of the Government to promulgate Preventive Detention Ordinance which assumes arbitrary powers to detain any person without trial.

Though this draconian measure is proposed to be taken on the plea of curbing activities of Pak infiltrators its actual purpose is to suppress the trade union and democratic movement.

Though the Indira Gandhi Government was prevented from re-enacting the measure last year due to the pressure of the people, it is being introduced again as soon as her Party obtained decisive majority in Parliament. This fully exposes the fictitious character of the socialist pretensions of the ruling Congress which asked for clear majority in the name of introducing progressive measures.

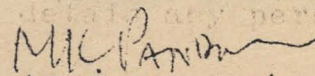
The Government is seeking to introduce these hated measures in view of the mounting discontent among the people and their rising struggles against the anti-people policies of the Government. Instead of meeting the just demands of the people the Government now wants to outright suppress their struggles by assuming more sweeping powers than provided in the earlier Act.

The C.I.T.U. calls upon the trade union and democratic movement to join hands for defeating the conspiracy of the Government to further curtail civil liberties. The C.I.T.U. has issued the following statement to the press:

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION

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Calcutta


(M.K. Pandhe)
Secretary