CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

Meeting of the Working Committee

DOCUMENTS

1. Agenda & Time Table
2. Presidential Address
3. General Secretary's Report
4. Report on Activities
5. Condolence Resolution
6. Accounts for the Year 2016 - 17

14 - 16 July, 2017
Shimla, Himachal Pradesh

Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU)
Working Committee Meeting
14 - 16 July 2017, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh

AGENDA

1. Condolence Resolution
2. Presidential Address
3. General Secretary's Report
4. Future course of campaigns and struggles
5. Amendments to the CITU Constitution
6. Any other issues with the permission of the chair

.

PROGRAMME

14.07. 2017	10.00 am	:	Flag Hoisting & Homage to Martyrs
	10.15 am - 11.45	:	OPEN SESSION Welcome Address Condolence Presidential Address
	11:45 am - 12:15 pm	:	Tea Break
	12.15 pm – 1.30 pm	:	Introduction of General Secretary's Report
	1.30 pm	:	Lunch
	04.00pm - 05.30 pm	:	Discussion on General Secretary's Report
	05.30 pm - 6.00 pm	:	Tea Break
	6.00pm - 8.00 pm	:	Discussion on General Secretary's Report
15.07.2017	9.30 am -11.00 am	:	Discussion on General Secretary's Report Resolutions
	11:00 am - 11:30 noon:		Tea Break
	11:30 noon - 1.00 pm	:	Discussion on General Secretary's Report Resolutions
	1:00 noon		Lunch
	03.00 pm – 5:30 pm	:	Discussion on General Secretary's Report

	5:30 pm - 6.00 pm	:	Tea Break
	6.00 pm - 7.00 pm	:	Discussion on General Secretary's Report
	7.00 pm – 8.30 pm	:	Secretariat Meeting
16.07.2017	9.30 am -11.00 am	:	Discussion on Future Tasks
	11.00 am - 11.30 am	:	Tea Break
	11.30 am - 1.30 pm	:	Reply by General Secretary Report of the Credential Committee Adoption of Reports Concluding address by President
	01.30pm	:	Lunch

****

Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU)
Working Committee Meeting
14 - 16 July 2017, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Dear Comrades,

On behalf CITU I greet the working class of Himachal Pradesh and thank them through the Himachal Pradesh state committee of CITU for hosting this meeting of the CITU Working Committee, the first after our 15th conference in Puri. I salute the workers of the Shong Tong hydel power project in Himachal Pradesh who have been heroically fighting since over a year facing severe state repression and victimisation. The management and the congress led state government have resorted to such inhuman attacks on the workers like burning and bulldozing of their houses, foisting false criminal cases, arrests, imprisonment etc. The CITU state committee with the support and solidarity of the working class in the state as well as from all over the country, has been able to secure bail for 77 workers by paying Rs. 3 lakh for each worker. But, 20 workers are still in jail. We salute all these workers fighting to uphold the basic rights of the working class.

We congratulate the working class of West Bengal, the activists and cadres of CITU and the left parties, who have been heroically resisting the attacks on their basic democratic rights by the Trinamool goondas with the active support of the TMC led government and its administration. Around 900 people including many CITU activists and cadres were injured, around 100 of them seriously, when the police attacked the joint march to 'Nabanna' the West Bengal government secretariat in Kolkata, focussing on the demands of the common people.

We congratulate the working class of Kerala, the activists and cadres of CITU and the democratic movement bravely fighting the heinous attacks of the RSS and its various outfits. We also congratulate the working class and all sections of the toiling people of Tripura who are determined to thwart the attempts of the RSS and its outfits including the BJP who are trying to disrupt the unity of the people, the tribals and the non tribals in this sensitive state in the north eastern region, to reap political benefit in the elections to the state assembly, due early next year. We congratulate the workers all over the country who are fighting against the attacks on their livelihoods and their hard won rights by the employers and the governments in their service.

We congratulate the farmers of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and other states in the county, who are in militant struggles demanding remunerative price for their produce, debt relief and opposing rise in the cost of inputs for agriculture like electricity etc. We condole the death of the six farmers in Madhya Pradesh who were killed in police firing by the BJP government. In Rajasthan the farmers launched big struggle against the hike in the price of electricity and compelled the BJP state government to withdraw the hike. In Maharashtra, the farmers went on a unique strike refusing to bring their produce to the cities and forced the BJP –Shiv Sena government to concede their major demands. It is encouraging that farmers in several states are coming out in struggles on their demands. CITU all over the country has to be more active in extending all support and solidarity to their struggles, at all levels and in all forms.

We also extend solidarity to the dalits who have been raising their voice against the increasing atrocities being committed on them, since the BJP assumed power at the centre. The attacks on dalits, minorities and women have risen alarmingly in different parts of the country, particularly after the victory of the BJP in the recent assembly election. In Shabbirpur in Uttar Pradesh, the houses of dalits were burnt, their properties were destroyed. Many dalits were injured. This was soon followed by the attacks on dalits who were returning from a meeting of Mayawati, by people belonging to the 'Hindu Yuva Vahini'. One person was killed and many more were injured in the attacks. While strongly condemning such attacks, we should also actively take up the issue of social oppression by mobilising all sections of workers, irrespective of their caste, religion or gender.

The developments during the last over seven months since our 15th conference, have vindicated our analysis and understanding of the situation at the international and national levels.

Global Crisis

The world economy continues to be under the grip of the global economic crisis.

At the Spring Meetings of the World Bank and the IMF, Christine Lagarde, the Managing Director of the IMF declared 'Spring is in the air and spring is in the economy as well'. This was based on a tentative recovery in the US. But the data, released within a few days, show that the US economy has once again slowed down. Even the recovery that was recorded earlier was only feeble. The 'annual' growth rate in the first quarter of 2017 was only 0.7% compared to 2.1% in the previous quarter. It was 0.8% in the corresponding quarter of 2016 and 2.0% in the corresponding quarter of 2015. It is said to be the worst performance of the US economy since the first quarter of 2014. What is significant is that this slowdown is due to the slowdown in household spending, which recorded the lowest growth since 2009. According to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), annual growth rates in the G7 were stagnant – 1.8% in Germany, 1.1 in France, 1% in Japan. Economic growth in China and India has also started to slow down. The ILO report 'World Employment and Social Outlook – Trends 2017' says, 'The forecasts for growth for 2017 have continually been revised downwards over recent years (from over 4.6% forecast in 2012 to 3.4% forecast in 2016) and there is a persistent elevated uncertainty about global economy'. The reality is that the global crisis is not abating; it is getting accentuated.

As we have noted in the 15th conference, the capitalist class continues its attempts to come out of this crisis by further intensifying its attacks on the working class and the toiling people in order to protect and increase their profits. It is as if international finance has launched an undeclared war on the working class. Cuts in wages, benefits including basic social security benefits and other hard won rights of the working class, are being imposed on the workers in many countries in the name of 'austerity measures'. There is increase in unpaid labour, particularly of women.

Widening Disparities

This has resulted in the unprecedented pace in the growth of inequalities across the world. Despite the huge increase in productivity and the enormous wealth created by the workers, this wealth is increasingly cornered by a few. The Oxfam report on inequalities 'An economy for the 99 percent' released in January 2017, exposes the myth of the 'trickle down' theory put forward by the advocates

of neoliberalism. It shows that inequalities have increased enormously during the last 30 years, since the advent of neoliberalism. Look at these glaring facts mentioned in the report:

- 8 men, 6 of them from the USA, today own 50% of the world's wealth, i.e. the same wealth as 362 crore people who constitute the poorest half of humanity in the world.
- Last year world's richest 62 billionaires owned the same wealth as half the world's population
- Between 1988 and 2011, the incomes of the poorest 10% increased by just $ 65 per person while the incomes of the richest 1% increased by $ 11800 per person, i.e. 182 times as much

The Oxfam report says that since 2015, the richest 1 per cent has owned more wealth than the rest of the planet. It predicts that 'Over the next 20 years, 500 people will hand over $2.1 trillion to their heirs — a sum larger than the GDP of India'. The richest are accumulating wealth at such an astronomical rate that in just 25 years, there might be the first USD trillionaire in the world. To grasp the enormity of this figure, let us put it in another way – it will take 2738 years for a person to spend $1 trillion if one spends $1 million (approximately Rs 6 crores) every day.

According to the Economic Policy Institute, huge increases in the incomes of the CEOs in the 1980s, 1990s and 2000s was one of the major factors that led to the doubling of the income share of the top 1% and the top 0.1% of US households from 1979 to 2007. The fortune of Bill Gates who left Microsoft in 2006 has risen by 50% (by $25 billion) since then. From 1978 to 2013 CEO 'compensation', adjusted to inflation, increased by 973% while the growth in a typical workers' wages was only 10.2% over this entire period. The CEO – worker wages ratio was 20:1 in 1965, 29.9:1 in 1978 and 122.6:1 in 1995. It reached the highest to 383.4:1 in 2000. It was 295.9:1 in 2013, still much higher than that before 2000. Facebook was excluded from this as the 'compensation' of its top executives was much higher. The report says that if Facebook is included, the CEO to worker's 'compensation' ratio becomes 510.7:1.

The obnoxiousness of the system which promotes such disparities and appropriation of wealth generated by the working people by a few big corporates becomes even more glaring when we note the deprivations of the people who generate this wealth:

- Across the world, 2.5 billion people do not have access to sanitation facilities
- 1.3 billion people do not have access to electricity
- 780 million people do not have access to clean drinking water
- 3.5 million children die of hunger every year
- Around 800 million people are long term malnourished
- More than 4 billion people still lack access to the internet

The big corporates have been adopting different methods to appropriate wealth. The cost of wages is being brought down by various means. Permanent jobs are increasingly being replaced with what are called 'non standard work arrangements', 'precarious' or 'vulnerable' jobs. Use of mechanisation, automation, and of robotics is increasing at a faster pace. Huge amounts of taxes are evaded with the active connivance of the governments. Natural resources and public enterprises are grabbed or handed over to them by corporate friendly governments at throw away prices. Agriculture is made unviable. Peasants and petty produces are forced to part with their produce and land at cheap rates.

The attempts at profit maximisation have assumed the predatory nature of primitive accumulation.

Permanent jobs are going down and vulnerable forms of employment have been rising across the world. The ILO 'World Employment and Social Outlook – Trends 2017' says that 140 crores people or over 42% of the total workers across the world in 2017 are in such 'vulnerable' or 'precarious' jobs. According to the report, one in two workers (i.e. half of the total workers) in emerging economies and four out of five workers (80%) in the developing countries are in such jobs. We have to note that governments in many countries are amending their labour laws to legalise such loot by the employers.

The IMF World Economic Outlook 2017 shows that between 1991 and 2014 the share of labour declined in 29 out of the 50 largest economies and in 7 out of the 10 major industries in the world. The number of workers earning less than $3.10 a day(approximately Rs 200 a day) is expected to increase by 30 lakhs per year in the developing countries in the next two years.

The Guardian has recently noted that 'As of 2015, a typical production worker in the US earned about 9% less than a comparable worker in 1973. Over the same 42 years, the American economy grew by more than 200 times, or a staggering $11 trillion.' This divergence between wages and productivity drove wealth inequality. But it also presented a problem for producers facing the declining purchasing power of their customers, the workers not getting wages they need to drive or at least sustain continued growth in consumption.

Inequality is a feature of all class societies. Under the capitalist system, the extent of inequality varies according to the balance of power in the class struggle between labour and capital. Through its organised strength and struggles, working class tries to bring down disparities though exploitation still continues as long as the system exists. Neoliberalism attacks the basic rights of the working class including its right to organise; it seeks to weaken trade unions. By weakening the organised strength of the working class in its struggle against capital, neoliberalism has increased inequalities to unprecedented levels.

Alarming Unemployment; Artificial Intelligence and Robotics

Another aspect, inherent in the capitalist system that has become more glaringly visible today is the alarming levels of unemployment, particularly youth unemployment.

The 'World Employment and Social Outlook – Trends 2017' notes, 'Long term unemployment in North America and Europe increased compared to the pre crisis levels. In Europe, the share of unemployed people who had been looking for a job for more than 12 months or longer reached 47.8% in the second quarter of 2016 compared to 44.5% for the same period in 2012. More than two thirds people of this group were unemployed for over two years in the second quarter of 2016'. It is estimated that the total number of unemployed in the world will be more than 200 million in 2017.

According to some eminent economists, 86% of manufacturing job losses in the US between

1997 and 2007 were the result of rising productivity, compared to less than 14% lost because of trade. It is apprehended that large numbers of jobs will be lost in the near future due to the rapid advances in technology like robotics, sensors and Artificial Intelligence etc. A frequently cited 2013 Oxford Martin School study has suggested that 47% of US jobs were at high risk from automation

and in 2015, a Mc Kinsey study concluded that 45% of the activities that workers do today could already be automated if companies choose to do so' (WEF)

According to the International Federation of Robotics, sale of industrial robots rose by 8% in 2015, surpassing for the first time, 240000 units globally. It estimates that between 2015 and 2018 1.3 million new industrial robots will be installed in factories around the world. Advanced technologies like Industry 4.0 or Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT), Internet of Robotic Things (IoRT) etc are being used. By these technologies, robots can sense the conditions, collect data and understand it, feed it to the back end so that decisions on how to act can be made in real time.

These technologies are being used in automotive industry, electronics, medical, pharmaceutical, aerospace, and some other areas. 'Colloborative robots' are said to be playing a vital role in proliferation of automation in the small and medium enterprises. These will allow a part of a process to be done by robots and a part by a human. ABI Research estimates that the collaborative robots market will exceed $1 billion by 2020. The market share of collaborative robots in Asia Pacific region is estimated to increase from 19% in 2015 to 57% in 2020. 'Robots can now navigate indoors and outdoors with high precision in people's environments or unstructured environments; they can move through hospitals, hotels, through warehouses and distribution centres'.

Robots today can perform a variety of jobs. They can milk cows, pick fruits, load trucks, serve around 120 coffees in an hour, run an entire hotel, make decisions for managers, write corporate reports, teach children science and maths, edit articles, compose music, stitch up soft tissues in surgeries entirely independent of human control, lay bricks and produce modular houses. Several major automobile manufacturers including Ford, BMW, Audi etc have announced that self driving cars will appear in the market by 2020-21. NuTonomy, a self driving taxi startup, which held trials of self driving cars in Singapore and some other cities, has announced that it would provide self driving taxi services in Singapore by 2018 and in 10 cities around the world by 2020. Singapore is reported to be planning to run trials of autonomous cars, autonomous buses, freight trucks etc in the next three to five years. Maruti Suzuki has now around 5000 robots in its Manesar and Gurgaon plants together, at least one robot for every four workers. Robots are deployed in the weld shop, paint shop and the press shop, which are fully automated. Manual work is done mostly in car assembly.

Robots, which can read emotions, express empathy and act like day to day companions are now being 'adopted' into some Japanese homes and even 'enrolled' in schools.

Here are some examples of white collared jobs that have been affected by robots:

- Goldman Sachs 'employs' Marcus, a fully automated lending platform that is part of an industry wide artificial intelligence make over, displacing human beings in equities 'sales, trading, and research'
- Fukoku Mutual Life Insurance is turning over policy payouts to IBM's Watson Supercomputer, which has 6000 corporate clients ranging from Hilton Hotels to Whirlpool and Visa
- Coca Cola is planning using robots to create advertisements with automated narratives; AI is already creating commercial music and jingles
- Nestlé is planning on equipping more than 1,000 Nescafé sales outlets in Japan to inform their customers about their different products through a robot named 'Pepper', which is already deployed in many airports and banks.

- Jeff Bezos, CEO of Amazon, who bought Washington Post used 'Heliograf' to write stories about the 2016 Rio Olympics and then changed it to cover the 2016 US election campaign

The 'Smart Tissue Autonomous Robot' (STAR) recently outperformed a human surgeon in a test of skill related to stitching soft tissues

Microsoft's co founder Bill Gates, eminent scientist Stephen Hawking, business magnate, inventor and founder CEO of companies like SpaceX, Tesla Inc etc Elon Musk, have warned about the dangers of Artificial Intelligence and robots. 'The development of full artificial intelligence could spell the end of human race' Stephen Hawking told the BBC.

But before that hundreds of thousands of human beings will lose their jobs. According to a report by Obama's White House in 2016, this is an economy where 'an 83% chance that workers who earn $20 an hour or less could have their jobs replaced by robots in the next five years' and 'those in the $40 an hour pay range face a 31% chance of having their jobs taken over by machines'.

Oxford paired with Citibank in 2015 to produce a fuller picture of the global threat to jobs. In 'Technology at Work', researchers found that 75% of the world's robots are 'geographically concentrated' in just five countries – China, Germany, Japan, Korea and the US. Of those, China is by far 'the fastest growing market' with 'most significant room for future growth'. In fact, they determined that 'on an average 57% of jobs are susceptible to automation' but 'the number rises to 69% in India and 77% in China'. China today leads the world in the production of industrial robots.

The rise of these technologies, Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things, robotics, automation etc is being called the 'fourth industrial revolution'. These are expected to transform production and services in a big way in the next two decades. They will have a huge impact on employment. CITU has to study these developments closely and formulate appropriate strategies to protect the interests of the workers and the youth of our country.

Tax Evasion

Evasion of huge amounts of taxes has also become another source of amassing wealth by the corporates.

It is estimated that the amount of tax evaded by the big corporates to the poor countries is around $ 100 billion every year. With this money 124 million children who are not in school can be provided education; death of six million children can be prevented every year by providing proper health care. Again, the governments in the present capitalist system are more interested in helping the big corporates and business houses evade taxes and increase their wealth by providing more concessions to them on the pretext of promoting 'ease of doing business', than in ensuring basic necessities to their citizens who voted them to power. In India, the tax evasion by corporates is to the tune of Rs 6.59 lakh crore, the NPA is said to be over Rs 12 lakh crores; in addition the concessions and tax exemptions provided to them every year amount to around Rs 5 lakh crore.

Surging Struggles

Today discontent against the impact of the neoliberal policies is also growing around the world. In many countries workers are coming out in bigger struggles against the attacks on their working and living conditions, against the so called 'austerity' measures being implemented by the governments and against the curbing of their rights and benefits. Huge strikes and mobilisations

are taking place in many countries in Europe including Greece, France, Spain, Italy, Portugal, England etc and in the United States as well.

Greek workers struck work on May Day. In addition, hundreds of thousands of workers in Greece went on strike on 17th May against the new round of austerity measures that were to be placed in the Parliament for approval. The Greek trade union PAME organised series of mass demonstrations against NATO's 'Noble Jump' military exercise in Romania and the use of Greek territory for the transit of NATO troops. In a unique initiative PAME held discussions within the ranks of the armed forces about the participation of Greece's armed forces in the 'Noble Jump' exercise in Romania. The armed forces expressed their indignation and protested to the government through open letters and statements. In their statements, the soldiers said 'We are soldiers who have come to serve our homeland and not to serve those who have transformed the Mediterranean into a sea of dead children; those who have shed the blood of the peoples. We are soldiers, not servants'. They set up road blocks in the Egnatia highway impeding the transit of Albanian military vehicles, which were heading to Romania through Greece. The NATO forces were forced to retreat from the tolls on a national highway in Northern Greece which was also blocked.

In France the workers went on strike against the employment law reforms that intend to make laws more flexible and cap severance payment when retrenching workers. The railway workers were on struggle against the cut in protective benefits including their rest periods. The changes in labour laws reduce the week end rest from 52 per year to 30 per year.

In the UK a series of protests were held by different sections of workers. The National Health Service (NHS) staff organised demonstrations demanding increase in allocation for health services and against privatisation. Industrial workers organised huge protests against the austerity policies of the Theresa May government, in the name of preparing for Brexit. The Labour Party, whose manifesto 'For the Many Not for the Few' called for renationalisation of railways, Royal Mail, the water system etc, which were privatised by the earlier governments and increase in State support to the working class etc, received huge support from the youth and the workers. It is reported that 64% of youth aged less than 25 years came out to vote compared to the 43% two years back. Two thirds of them voted for Labour. It is now universally acknowledged that this manifesto was the most important reason for the resurgence of Labour Party in these elections. Thousands of people protested against the decision of Theresa May to continue in power with the support of the Democratic Unionist Party, a fundamentalist party of North Ireland.

In Spain, the workers launched protests against the EU imposed reforms; wild cat strikes were held by the port workers in several ports against privatisation of ports.

In Portugal, the working class extended its solidarity to the Maruti workers of India. The Trade Union Federation along with the Portuguese Communist Party forced the Portuguese government to pass a resolution in support of the Maruti workers who were sentenced to life imprisonment.

The transport workers of Italy struck work throughout the country against the decision of the government which benefits the corporates like Uber, and for social security to the workers.

The workers across sectors and industries in the USA conducted huge protest demonstrations demanding increase in minimum wages, protection of pension, and against cuts in social welfare.

They also demanded increased taxation of the rich. Workers in General Electric, of fast food chains including Mc Donald etc participated in big demonstrations. Most significant protest demonstrations were organised by women, a follow up to the huge march organised on the day of inauguration of Trump's presidency. On the International Women's Day a call was given to stop all paid and unpaid work done by women, which met with huge response. Thousands of taxi drivers demonstrated in front of the New York airports against Trump's order barring citizens from seven Muslim countries from entering the US.

In Brazil widespread protests of workers are being organised against the curtailment of their job security and rights, increase in the age of retirement and the attacks on pension. Workers in Argentina also held big demonstrations against the cut in pensions and withdrawal of social welfare measures. In Mexico, workers held massive demonstrations against the attacks on their rights.

Workers in South Africa held protest demonstrations against corruption, transfer of the private sector losses to the government funds etc. They also demanded strengthening of the public sector. Large processions were held against privatisation of the transport sector in Namibia.

In Japan, Zenroren along with youth organisations and other independent unions conducted nationwide demonstrations demanding national minimum wage and increase in minimum wages. In many industries workers went on strike on these demands.

An international poll conducted in 16 countries in March 2017 shows that 73% of people were worried about losing their jobs and 80% say minimum wage is not enough to live on. Large proportion of people feels that the governments are working more in favour of the corporates than in the interest of the people. Despite unprecedented technological advances and huge wealth creation, large sections of working people were marginalised and face an insecure future. 80% people said that the economic system favours the wealthy rather than being fair to most. The income of 80% of people was either stagnant or falling. One in two (49.9%) don't have enough money for basic essentials or are barely getting by. 85% people felt that it was time to rewrite the rules of the global economy.

Discontent against the capitalist system is growing among the youth in many countries, particularly the advanced capitalist countries. A study conducted last year by Harvard University found that 51% of young citizens between 18 and 29 in the USA, the bastion of capitalism, do not support capitalism. Only 42% said that they were in favour of the present system. Even older people were hesitant to support the capitalist system, which found majority support only in the age group of those above 50 years. The survey also found that around a third of people supported socialism. In 2011, the Pew Research Centre found that around half of the people were dismayed with the free market system. It is reported that large numbers of people are showing interest and becoming members of the socialist organisations in the US. They have reported huge increase in their membership after Trump assumed power.

Another survey conducted in the UK by the international internet based market research firm YouGov also noted such discontent against capitalism among the youth. It found that 36% British people viewed socialism favourably while only 33% had a favourable opinion of capitalism. On the other hand, 39% of British people had a negative opinion of capitalism while only 32% saw socialism in negative light. The survey found that more young people favoured socialism than capitalism.

Need to Strengthen WFTU

However, in most of the countries, major sections of the working class are yet to become conscious of the exploitative nature of the capitalist society and the need to change it. The class collaborationist unions and other organisations working among the workers in several countries try to confine their struggles to some immediate benefits. At the global level it is only the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) which is trying to organise workers with a class approach and with a proper understanding of the role of the working class in ending all exploitation. The seventeenth congress of WFTU was held with the slogan 'Struggle – Internationalism – Unity' and 'Forward for the attainment of the contemporary needs of the working class, against poverty and wars generated by capitalist barbarism'. As a central trade union affiliated to WFTU, we have to extend whatever help and support we can, to strengthen WFTU. CITU cadres associated with various TUIs of the WFTU have to play an active role through exchange of information related to the conditions of the workers in various countries and their struggles, extend solidarity and develop international working class solidarity. We have to play a more active role in strengthening WFTU in the Asia Pacific region. This will help strengthen the struggle against neoliberalism and capitalism, of which it is the latest phase, at the global level.

Lack of Credible Left Benefits Rightist Forces

But in the absence of an organised credible Left alternative in many countries, the right wing forces are taking advantage of the discontent. This is witnessed in the election of Trump as president in the US.

Trump was able to utilise the anger among the US white workers against liberalisation and globalisation policies by masquerading as a critic. He was able to gain their confidence by criticising off shoring of jobs, trade deals like NAFTA, TPP etc and promising to make the US economy work for working class Americans. By raising the issues of racism, nationalism etc to garner support of white workers he projected the Muslims, people of colour and migrants as their enemies.

Attacks on migrants, Indians, Afro Americans and Latin Americans have increased in several parts of the US after Trump assumed power. An Indian software professional has been killed and another seriously injured. Immediately after assuming office he banned people from seven Islamic countries from coming into the US. This was met with widespread opposition both within and outside the US and was struck down by a court. Trump's restriction of H1-B visas created uncertainty for large numbers of Indians working in the USA. He also cut down budgetary allocations to various welfare schemes, cut down taxes for the rich and increased military expenditure. He has withdrawn the US from the Paris accord on climate change accusing India and China of getting undue benefits and concessions.

Several right wing parties are gaining popularity and electoral victories in different countries in Europe. In Germany the far right anti immigration party, the Alternative for Germany (AfD), in Denmark the Danish People's Party (DPP), in Switzerland, the Swiss People's Party (SVP), in Italy, Lega Nord, in Poland the Law and Justice Party, in Slovakia, the neo Nazi People's Party of Our Slovakia (L'SNS) have gained influence among the people. One of the important reasons for the rise of the right wing forces in many countries in Europe is the betrayal of the social democratic and other left parties, which have abandoned their pro worker and pro people stand, to advocate

neoliberalism. When in power, they have implemented the same, including the so called 'austerity' measures. As a result, these parties are getting decimated. But at the same time, the left parties which have been consistently opposing the neoliberal policies have gained strength, as — in France, in Greece etc

Imperialist Interventions

Despite its weakening economic power, the US continues the attempts to establish its global hegemony through its military strength. After Trump assumed power, the US launched military attacks on Syria on the pretext of use of chemical weapons by Syria. Three years after Obama officially declared US exit from Afghanistan, the US military dropped America's most powerful non nuclear bomb, the 'mother of all bombs', on ISIS targets in Afghanistan. US along with its Saudi Arabian allied air force mounted attacks resulting in the death of hundreds of civilians in Yemen. The European countries hailed these attacks as indicating Trump's seriousness to fight terrorism. The role of US imperialism in promoting and supporting terrorism and fundamentalism, since the days of Cold War, in its attempts to undermine the Soviet Union, is today well acknowledged. Now Trump has claimed that it was his call to end financial support to terrorist groups that had led to Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Egypt to isolate Qatar, accused of funding terrorist groups. The real reason is that Qatar is being punished for not toeing the US line on Iran. Thousands of migrant workers, including Indians working in Qatar are facing difficulties and uncertainty due to the ban on air, land and sea travel to the country.

The victory of Trump has emboldened the Israeli government which has mounted air strikes on Syria on the pretext of fighting terrorists. A recent report of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia stated that Israel was pursuing apartheid policies in Palestine. But Israel, with the support of the US has managed to get the report withdrawn. The Assistant Secretary General responsible for the report resigned against this. Israel is also building more colonies in Palestine. It is forcefully building permanent settlements in the occupied Palestine despite the UN Security Council calling it a 'flagrant violation of international law'. At present there are 196 illegal Israeli settlements in West Bank. Israeli Parliament has passed an Act legalising the grab of Palestine property. 7000 Palestinians are detained in Israeli prisons including 300 children. CITU stands in solidarity with the Palestinian people heroically fighting Israeli aggression and occupation and for their just demand of Home Land.

US imperialism has intensified its attempts to regain its control over Latin America. It has increased its interventions in the region, particularly in countries where there are progressive governments. Trump is reversing even the limited improvement in the relations between Cuba and the US by imposing restrictions on travel, hitting tourism in Cuba. Even under the Obama regime, though diplomatic relations were restored, the inhuman economic sanctions have not been lifted. USA continues to occupy the Cuban territory of Guantanamo Bay. Socialist Cuba and its people continue to bravely fight against the US sanctions with the overwhelming support of the people all over the world. It has reiterated its determination to march ahead in the socialist path. The CITU congratulates the people of Cuba and expresses its solidarity to their struggle against the continued US interventions in their region. It supports the demands of the Cuban people that the USA immediately lift all sanctions, return its territory of Guantanamo Bay and pay full compensation for the losses the country suffered due to the over five decades of US sanctions.

Following Trump's election, the right wing reactionary forces in Venezuela were encouraged to intensify their attacks against the Maduro government. Using their control over the National Assembly they are trying to block and reverse all the pro people measures of the government. People are suffering due to severe shortages of food and other essential commodities due to the US sanctions and the opposition's activities. The government is mobilising people in large numbers against the opposition machinations and US interventions. People are also coming out in struggles against US interventions and the right wing forces in other countries in Latin America like Brazil, Argentina etc. The victory of Lenin Morena defeating the right wing candidate in Ecuador has given confidence to their struggles.

China's Initiatives

In the context of the unabated global economic crisis, the decision of China to focus its economic thrust on increasing domestic demand appears to be yielding results. It was able to create13.14 million new urban jobs during 2016. A large number of college graduates are able to find employment, which has reached record high in recent decades. Urban unemployment in 2016 came down to 4.02%, the lowest in several years. Personal per capita disposable income increased in real terms by 6.3%. 12.4 million people were lifted above the poverty line during this year.

Inequalities, which have hugely widened in China since it adopted the policies of 'reform and opening up', started falling. A recent research by economists from Cornell University and Peking University concluded that after rising dramatically in the 1990s and 2000s, there has been a small but steady reduction in income inequality in China since 2010. The researchers state that government interventions like increase in minimum wage and social security benefits have contributed to this reduction in inequalities. China has taken up the Belt Road Initiative (BRI) project that aims to connect and promote new economic and trade ties between countries in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas. This will link countries and regions representing 60% of the population of the world. Along with China, this project is expected to benefit the countries involved in it through new investment, infrastructure and connectivity and job creation. 29 countries attended the meeting of the forum in Beijing but India did not participate on the pretext that the China Pakistan Economic Corridor, a part of the BRI passes through Gilgit, a part of Kashmir under Pakistan's control since 1947.

Situation in India

In India, income inequalities are rising at a faster rate. The gap between the rich and the poor is worse than the global average. The top 1% of people in India own wealth equal to that of the bottom 58.4%. Just 57 billionaires in India have the same wealth ($216 billion) as that of the bottom 70% of the population in the country.

The transfer of wealth from the poor to the rich, the motive of the neoliberal policies, has been hastened by the BJP government led by Prime Minister Modi, which the RSS certified as being on the right path. As one report points out, the rich in India, under the BJP regime, are literally 'feasting' on the poor. Between 2014, when the BJP government assumed power at the centre and 2016, when it completed two years rule, India's total wealth increased by Rs 17 lakh crores. The top 1% of the population appropriated this entire increased wealth. In addition they have also taken away Rs 13 lakh crore belonging to the bottom 99% of the population. As a result, while the wealth of the bottom 99% fell from Rs 110 lakh crore to Rs 97 lakh crore, the wealth of the top 1% increased by

Rs 30 lakh crore from Rs 216 lakh crore. 'The CEO of India's top information firm earns 416 times the salary of a typical employee in his company'.

Primitive accumulation by the corporates is facilitated by the policies of the government. Land of peasants is being grabbed and handed over to the corporates and real estate sharks by different state governments, in the name of development. They are forced to sell off their land and abandon agriculture by making agriculture unremunerative, through increase in the cost of all inputs and denying them remunerative prices. Poor peasants and agricultural workers, deprived of their livelihood are compelled to migrate to the urban areas in search of livelihood. They contribute to the further swelling of the huge unorganised sector workforce that provides providing cheap labour to the employers.

An indication of the blatant attitude of the government to pamper the super rich and neglect the others is also visible in the Smart Cities Mission of the government. The government announced with much fanfare the development of 100 cities in the country as 'smart cities'. However, according to a report in a leading newspaper, data obtained from the Ministry of Urban Development show that of the total Rs 1.31 lakh crore proposed to be spent on the 59 cities from 2015 to 2020, Rs 1.05 crore, or over 80% of the funds will be spent on Area Based Development component (ABD). That is, 80% of funds will be utilised to develop small pockets, which comprise only 2.7% of the total area of these 59 cities with modern facilities like wi fi hotspots, sensor based public lighting etc while less than 20% of the funds will be utilised to develop the rest over 93% of the area where the overwhelming majority of the people live.

According a new report by the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), about 31% of the world's 689 million 'multidimensionally poor' children live in India. Out of India's 21.7 crore children, 49.9% were multidimensionally poor in 2011-12. A child is said to be 'multidimensionally poor' when it lacks at least a third of ten indicators related to health, education and standard of living.

The BJP in its election manifesto 2014 promised to create 2 crores jobs per year. But, despite all the huge hype about job creation through 'Make in India', 'Skill India', 'Start Up India' etc, employment generation in India has been dismal. Around 10 lakhs new jobs that are required every month in India for the youth joining the labour force. However, according to the government's own data, by the Labour Bureau, only 2.31 lakh new jobs were created across eight labour intensive sectors in the nine months till December 2016.

According to the fifth annual Employment Unemployment Survey of the Labour Bureau for 2015-16, at the all India level, around 77% of the households were reported to be having no regular wage/ salaried person. Unemployment rate in India has reached a five year high of 5% in 2015-16 with the figure significantly higher at 8.7% for women according to a report by the Labour Bureau. More serious is the problem of precarious, unstable and insecure employment, as the poor, who do not have any social security cannot afford to remain unemployed.

The Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) was launched by the Prime Minister in 2015 to train 2-4 million youth. But around two years since its inauguration, the skills development ministry itself said that only 18% of the youth who got training under the first phase of this programme found jobs. This is reported to be a revision from its initial figure of just 5%.

While new job creation has been tardy, tens of thousands of employees are either already losing jobs or are predicted to lose jobs in the next few years.

The IT sector, which employs 3.9 million people, has recently been in the news for large scale retrenchments.

The international agency McKinsey has projected that nearly 50 % - 60% of the current employees in the IT sector will turn redundant over the next 3-4 years. Infosys, Wipro, Cognizant, TCS, Tech Mahindra etc are reportedly considering retrenchment of over 60000 workers. Infrastructural giants like L&T and others have already downsized their workforce considerably. It is said that the IT services industry is passing through an uncertain time as the growth of digital technologies like cloud based services, is happening at much faster pace. Large number of middle level IT employees aged 35 and above and having 10-12 years of experience are being targeted. Finding a new job will be much more difficult for them.

It is said that automation, particularly, robotic automation will increase in the coming days as robots will be able to perform jobs that human being do now. More than Trump's directives to 'bring back American jobs' this may be the major factor motivating US companies to reduce off shoring jobs to countries like India.

During the last several years, many poor families in the rural areas, small peasant families, OBC, SC families etc have spent all they had in the education of their young children who saw jobs in the IT software sector as a means of achieving upward mobility. While the young from middle class families now look at jobs in banking, finance, consultancy etc, the children from the poorer sections will be the most adversely affected with the shrinkage of jobs in the IT sector. There is serious concern and unease among the IT employees. Unlike in earlier occasions, many of them are now thinking in terms of coming together and getting organised. CITU should help and guide them in getting organised.

However, IT is not the only sector affected by job losses. According to a report in the Business Line in February 2017, the mergers in the telecom industry could lead to massive job losses in the next year or so. The major impact will be at the middle and lower levels, mostly the call centres, BPOs and other support functions that employ around 1.5 lakh people. Around 30% of the employees will be at the risk of losing their jobs.

Leave aside taking effective measures to create decent jobs, the government is not even taking measures to fill up the lakhs of jobs in its various departments. According to data tabled in the Lok Sabha by the Human Resources Development minister in December 2016, 18% of teachers' posts in government primary schools and 15% is secondary schools are vacant all over the country. In terms of numbers this amounts to total vacancies of 10 lakh teachers' posts – 9 lakh in elementary schools and 1 lakh in secondary schools. In some states, particularly those with low literacy rates like Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh etc half or more teachers' posts are vacant.

According to the report 'Task Force on Safety' published by the Railway Board in January 2017, around 1.5 lakh vacancies were there in safety category alone. This not only denies employment opportunities for the youth, but the safety of the rail passengers is also compromised by the government. In addition the report states that there are 40% vacancies in keymen posts and vacancies in pivotal posts in engineering, drivers etc were well over 20%.Nearly 2 lakh permanent vacancies in banks have been outsourced to contractor employees, instead of being filled up.

Rising in Discontent

This situation is leading to increased discontent among various sections of the workers. The seven months since our conference has been a period of intense struggles including strikes for workers and employees in different sectors. The BSNL employees, the medical representatives, the central government employees, the workers, mostly women working in the different schemes of the government of India like the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), the National Health Mission (NHM), and the Midday Meal Programme etc have gone on magnificent strikes. Thousands of public sector workers in steel, BEML, Dredging Corporation etc which have been targeted for strategic sale struck work.

The workers in the state transport corporation in Haryana went on massive strikes involving tens and hundreds of thousands. There were total strikes by the transport workers in Kerala, Assam and Bihar. The workers in the entire country, particularly in the industrial areas of Gurgaon in Haryana held demonstrations against the life imprisonment handed over by a local court to the Maruti workers. The anganwadi employees in Karnataka launched a militant struggle on their demands. The construction workers, railway employees, defence employees, central government employees, state government employees etc have conducted demonstrations at the national and local level. State and central government employees held a national convention on NPS in Delhi and decided to conduct countrywide campaign and struggle on the issue. The EPS pensioners also held demonstrations in Delhi and many other parts of the country. We congratulate all of them for their contributions to strengthen the class struggle. However, as pointed out by our 15th conference, this discontent remains against the impact of the neoliberal policies. It needs to be converted into struggles for the reversal of the policies.

The government has been totally ignoring the discontent among the workers and employees. It is continuing to attack the hard won rights of the workers including social security. The latest Code on Social Security, the third code in the process of codification of labour laws, has been placed in public domain. The proposals, if enacted into a law, will dismantle the entire social security infrastructure including PF, ESI etc without any guaranteed social security benefits for the workers.

CITU has to formulate effective plans to create awareness among the workers and to mobilise their growing discontent into proper channels, to link up their day to day issues with the policies of the government and expose the politics that promote such anti worker policies. This message has to be taken to all the workers, to all sections of the workers, up to the grass root level. We have to 'reach the unreached' with this message, as the 15th conference reiterated.

Communal Offensive

The victory of BJP in UP and Uttarakhand assembly elections and the formation of BJP led governments in Goa and Manipur has emboldened the BJP to pursue its pro corporate neoliberal policies more aggressively. In fact the results of these elections show that the parties in power in all the five states suffered setbacks. The people were angry at their deteriorating conditions, due to the policies that were being implemented, which were the same. Though BJP got majority in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, the Akali BJP coalition was defeated in Punjab; in Goa and Manipur it could form governments only with the support of some regional parties. However, the BJP and the

corporate media have been projecting this as an endorsement of the people to the policies being pursued by the Modi government.

This victory has also emboldened the RSS to pursue its communal divisive agenda more violently, with the active support of the BJP government and the administration at the centre and in many states.

Kashmir is an example of how the BJP government is handling the situation and the real concerns of the people of the region to further its communal divisive agenda with an eye to garner electoral gains. The lives and livelihoods of common people and the poor are getting worse because of the turmoil in the state. Our comrades in Jammu and Kashmir, particularly in the Kashmir valley are working under very difficult conditions. Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh says that the government had a permanent solution to the Kashmir problem. But, the manner in which the government is dealing with the unrest in the Kashmir valley indicates that the solution it has is only use of brute force to suppress political dissent. This is further deepening the alienation of the people in Kashmir, particularly the youth. The outburst of anger among the people against the total neglect of the state by the Modi government was visible in the huge participation of youth, children and women in the protests since the killing of Burhan Wani. The extent of alienation is reflected in the lowest voter turnout of 7% in the by election to the Srinagar Parliament constituency compared to the heavy turnout in 2014. The election to the Anantnag Parliament seat had to be postponed due to the poor turnout.

The incident of a civilian, 26 year old Farooq Ahmad Dar, who works as embroider of shawls, being tied to the front of an army jeep and paraded through 17 villages as a human shield during the Srinagar by poll, evoked anger and resentment across the country. But the government supported the action. The defence minister Arun Jaitley compared the situation in the valley to a 'war zone'. General Rawat called it a 'dirty war' and justified the action being an 'innovation' necessary to fight such dirty wars. Even while an enquiry into the incident was in progress the army honoured Major Gogoi who ordered the heinous act, with a commendation. While RSS leader Subramanian Swamy called for depopulation of Kashmir and sending Kashmiris to refugee camps in Tamil Nadu, VHP leader Pravin Togadia suggested 'carpet bombing' of Kashmir!

Instead of addressing the grievances and problems of the people in Kashmir, the BJP government is seeking to promote jingoism talking of war with Pakistan, and rousing sentiments of 'nationalism' to divert the attention of the people. The government should understand that there can be no permanent solution by muzzling the voices of people and suppressing them through brutal force. We should demand that the government find a solution to the issue by immediately starting negotiations with the people of Kashmir. We should try to create awareness about the real situation in Kashmir among the workers and mobilise their support to the demand for solution to the problem through negotiations.

The attacks on dalits and minorities by the cow vigilante groups have increased in the recent period in many states, particularly those under the BJP rule. Pehlu Khan, a cattle trader from Haryana who was transporting cattle with all the necessary documents, was attacked by the cow vigilantes in Rajasthan and later succumbed to injuries. A group of officials from Tamil Nadu who were transporting 50 cows with all the necessary papers, under the 'Rashtriya Gokul Mission' launched by the BJP government to conserve and develop indigenous bovine breeds, were attacked.

Attacks on the Peasantry

The BJP government found a unique way of celebrating its three years in office, by attacking the livelihood of the farmers and the right to choice of food for millions of our people. It has imposed a ban on the sale of cattle for slaughter in cattle markets across the country by notifying amendments to the rules under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act. Bulls, cows, bullocks, buffaloes, steers, heifers, calves and camels are defined as cattle. The small and medium farmers, already reeling under the agrarian crisis that has gripped the country under neoliberalism, will be the worst affected by this notification. They will not be able to sell their unproductive cattle which in turn will deprive them of the money required to buy new animals. In addition, very few farmers in our country have the necessary documents to prove that they are engaged in agriculture. It will become extremely difficult for them to procure draught animals for agriculture and other domestic purposes. Being unable to sell their cattle in the markets, they will be forced to sell to big traders and corporates who will buy them at the farmers' door steps at throw away prices. This is yet another attempt by the BJP government to enrich the big traders and corporates at the cost of the poor.
In addition to the farmers, the beef export industry worth Rs 26685 crores and the large numbers of workers employed in it will also be badly affected. The leather industry, which provides employment to 25 lakh people, mostly from the weaker sections of the society, will also be seriously affected. Large numbers of women, around 30% of the workers in the leather products sector will be among those affected.

The rampant handing over of grazing land to the industrial houses by many state governments across the country has reduced the pastoral land. Cows are seen eating plastic around garbage bins in almost every city in the country. Large number of cows die due to eating plastic. Over 20-30 kg of plastic is reportedly recovered from the stomachs of cows while skinning after their death.

Increasing Authoritarian Tendencies

The BJP government is also increasingly displaying authoritarian tendencies. It is bypassing Parliament. It is amending laws through notifications. It is avoiding tripartite consultations in labour related matters and resorting to unilateralism.

Contrary to its loud claims of cleansing the system of corruption, it incorporated provisions in the Finance Bill 2017 to amend the Companies Act deleting clauses that to some extent limit corporate funding to political parties. The limit of 7.5% of net profit in the last three financial years and the requirement to disclose the name of the political party to which contribution has been made are removed. Corporates can now pay unlimited amounts through the Election Bonds Scheme.

The attempt to eliminate CITU from the JBCCI (Joint Bipartite Committee for the Coal Industry) in coal was thwarted by the united trade union movement. INTUC has now been arbitrarily barred by the government from all the tripartite forums at the national and international level. The government issued orders curtailing the basic trade union rights of railway employees by debarring safety category staff working in the erstwhile GP of Rs 4200 to Rs 4600 from being union office bearers. Members of SC/ST Welfare Association of BSNL (a welfare association, not a trade union) were barred from becoming members of any other trade unions. The relevant order was kept in abeyance only after strong protest from BSNL Employees' Union.

The government is promoting unions affiliated to BMS, its fellow member of the Sangh Parivar, in all bipartite and tripartite forums, even when it does not have the minimum required membership. The managements in Port, Postal, BSNL etc have been directed to include BMS representatives in the bipartite and negotiating bodies.

Any opposition to the government's stand is being termed as 'anti national'. The left parties, which have been consistently opposing the anti people policies of the government are being particularly targeted. An RSS leader in Madhya Pradesh went to the extent of announcing a bounty for killing the Kerala chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan. The RSS cadres have been attacking offices of left parties in different states.

Atrocities against women, rape, gang rape, sexual harassment at work place, child abuse and sexual assaults on children continue to be reported from almost every day from different parts of the country. Retrograde and regressive ideas about women are being promoted by the RSS including its women's wing, the Rashtriya Sevika Samiti. While the actual culprits in such heinous crimes go unpunished, the so called 'anti Romeo squads' formed by the UP government under Adityanath have been harassing men and women seen together and resorting to moral policing. CITU committees have to raise the issues of violence against women and children. Our unions have to address the issues of sexual harassment and discrimination against women at workplace by involving all our members, men and women.

Convert Challenges into Opportunities
Unify the Class Strengthen Struggles

As our 15th conference pointed out, the present situation, globally and nationally, poses serious challenges to the working class movement. At the same time, given the growing discontent and anger among the workers and the total failure of the capitalist system to provide any relief within the framework of the system, the present situation also presents immense possibilities and opportunities for us to present the alternative to the present exploitative system. This will be possible only if we take the call to 'reach the unreached' and 'link up the day to day issues of the workers with the policies of the government and expose the politics that drive these policies'.

This requires strengthening joint struggles and independent campaigns and struggles. CITU has to take initiative to ensure that the momentum of joint campaigns and struggles is not only maintained but also gathers pace. Strengthening our independent campaigns and struggles, taking our campaigns to workers beyond our membership is a prerequisite to strengthening joint struggles. This working committee has to prepare a concrete road map for our independent campaigns encompassing the major problems of the workers as well as other sections of people like peasants, agricultural workers, the unemployed workers etc. We also have to make serious efforts to strengthen unity of the workers by exposing the divisive and disruptive forces of communalism, casteism etc. Our struggles on the immediate day to day demands of the people should be combined with our struggle to protect and strengthen working class unity.

I am sure the working committee will deliberate upon the present situation and the conditions of the working class in depth, review our activities as per the direction of the 15th conference and formulate concrete action plan to unite the class and strengthen the struggles.

Let us base our review on a self critical and critical approach to identify the shortcomings that create hurdles in our advance, overcome them collectively at the earliest and make CITU a strong militant all India organisation of the working class.

Comrades,

This year is the centenary year of the Great October Revolution, it is the bicentenary year of the birth of Karl Marx, the great philosopher and one of the greatest thinkers humanity has ever produced; it is the 150th year of publication of 'Capital' his greatest work that lifted the shroud of exploitation inherent within the capitalist system; and it is the 170th year of 'Communist Manifesto' one of the most inspiring works of Marx and Engels that gave the clarion call 'Workers of the World Unite!'. Let us utilise this opportunity to take the message of working class unity and struggles in ending all kinds of exploitation, to all the toiling people in the country.

Long Live CITU!
Long Live Working Class Unity!

Hemalata
President

Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU)
Working Committee Meeting
14 - 16 July 2017, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Dear Comrades,

The Working Committee of CITU is meeting after about seven months since the 15th Conference was held in November 2016 in Puri.

1.1 The analysis of the socio political and economic situation and the trends highlighted in the report of the 15th conference of CITU still remain valid; during the intervening period the same trends of development continue to be in play, albeit with increased intensity. The report will deal on the developments and trends during the intervening period and concentrate on our immediate movemental and organisational tasks.

1.2 The international situation has been dealt by the presidential address; the presidential address has also dealt on certain aspects of national developments, particularly the aggravation of unemployment situation and the communal divisive onslaught on the society and outlined our tasks. This has given a definite and focused guidance as to how we should collectively address the emerging situation with a class approach and formulate our collective intervention.

1.3 International arena continues to witness the same aggravating trend in the crisis of world capitalist order; a distinct trend of terminal slowdown continues with the entire burden being transferred on the mass of the working people worldwide. Unemployment is increasing; this is accompanied by job losses; wages and social security benefits are being cut in real terms; there is massive underutilisation of capacity in most of the industries; this is accompanied by closures and shut-downs. All this is resulting in increasing impoverishment of masses and emergence of most obscene levels of economic inequality, no way permissible in a civilised society.

1.4 Working people all over the world, both in the developed and developing countries, are responding to these attacks through organised protests in various forms. But at the same time, because of the failure of the weakened Left to provide an alternative economic order with distributive equity, the right wing forces were able to take advantage of the growing discontent and unrest among the people against neoliberalism. In many countries there is a notable rise of rightwing forces in the political arena. Of course there are a few silver linings indicating the prospect of louder challenges to the imperialist driven neoliberal policies in the days to come as reflected in victory of pro-left party in Equador, resistance to US interventions in some countries of Latin America, strengthening of Labour Party in recent elections in the UK, precisely on the platform against 'austerity' and 'privatization' etc. But they are still too feeble to become a serious challenge to neoliberalism.

1.5 The emergence of rightwing forces in the political arena worldwide is having its natural reflection in more aggressive and interventionist machinations by the imperialist forces in political, economic and military fronts.

1.6 The incidents of US military inventions have increased in number during the intervening period; attacks on Palestine got intensified; Syria in particular and Middle East as a whole continue to be theatres of US interventions with increasing intensity. On the other hand, attacks on immigrants are on the rise at the active initiative of right wing forces. Terrorist activities are also on the rise, which, besides creating disruptive impact on society, also pave the way for more aggressive military intervention by the imperialist forces in the name of containing terrorism. Simultaneously, imperialist powers also continue to subjugate the economies and markets of the developing countries in the interest of their own corporates, forcing upon various deals and agreements in order to capture the markets and destroy the manufacturing capabilities of the developing countries. It is precisely in this background that we have to analyse and understand the developments in the national arena and decide our course of action.

2.0 NATIONAL SITUATION

2.1.1 The 15th Conference of CITU clearly noted the unambiguous rightward shift in the economic, political and foreign policies which started during the UPA regime itself and reached its ominous height with the BJP led Narendra Modi government coming to power in 2014. Last three years regime of BJP is a commentary of its increasing pace in the pursuit of the same right wing policies in all the fronts, shamelessly compromising national interest and interests of the people. Unbearable burdens, miseries and deprivation are being imposed on the people through this process. The democratic rights of the people even to express dissent are being curtailed leading to increasing attacks on workers, peasants, students, and women and also on dalits and tribals. A situation of terror and insecurity is being created among the people, particularly on the oppressed sections of society. Worst kinds of communal and divisive onslaught on the society are being launched by the RSS and its different outfits, by continuously spreading venoms of disharmony in the society, with active and indulgent patronage from the government. Autonomy of all democratic institutions including universities is being severely curtailed. They are being filled with active RSS followers through shameless political interference in their normal democratic governance.

2.1.2 This pernicious trend took a more ugly turn after BJP's massive victory in Uttar Pradesh assembly election and its success to form governments in Goa and Manipur, although by foul means. This has emboldened the Modi regime to become more aggressive in the pursuit of anti-people policies in economic, political and social fronts. It has also made them more arrogant and aggressive in their pursuit of the communal divisive machinations on the society. This is a matter of grave concern for the democratic forces and the working class movement in particular.

2.2 Communal-Divisive Onslaught on the Society

2.2.1 As our 15th Conference noted in clear terms, 'Use of communal and divisive issues is integral to the ideology and operational methods of BJP. It does not hesitate to use these to divert the attention of the people from their real day to day issues. It does not hesitate to resort to authoritarian and fascistic measures to tackle dissent and democratic expression of discontent. The past record of BJP and its mentor, the RSS, establish this beyond doubt..... Not a single day passes without

some leading light of the BJP – its ministers, MPs or MLAs, or leaders of the RSS making inflammatory comments to rouse communal passions and create communal polarisation. 'Ghar wapsi', 'love jehad' 'gau raksha' etc are some such criminal ploys. Innumerable incidents of organised attacks on minorities, vandalisation of places of worship including churches have taken place all over the country, particularly in states where elections are due'.

2.2.2 Post- UP-assembly elections scenario demonstrates that such communal divisive machinations assumed more arrogance and are taking place at alarming frequency. In the name of 'gau-raksha' and other related agendas, the RSS outfits are increasingly interfering in public life, targeting the minority community and the Left in different parts of the country aimed to create terror among the targeted sections of people with tacit support of the government machinery. Incidents of physical onslaught on the dalits also have increased in almost all parts of the country, particularly in the BJP ruled states. The most such recent heinous incident is the lynching of the brothers from a Muslim family travelling in a train from Delhi. The boys were attacked in open day light in Ballabhgarh station after chasing them from the train alleging that they were 'beef eaters'. One of the brothers, Junaid, a boy of 15 died due to the stabbing while the other two have been grievously injured. The house of a Muslim family was burnt in Giridih district of Jharkhand on the plea of finding a dead cow outside his house. Within 48 hours a lynch mob killed a Muslim meat trader in Manuwa village in Hazaribagh district of Jharkhand. In Saharanpur in Uttar Pradesh, houses of dalits were burnt by a gang belonging to the so called 'upper caste' people.

2.2.3 According to media reports, there were 32 cases of mob attacks on Muslims by the so called 'gau rakshaks' since May 2014; 23 persons including women and children have been killed. While 11 attacks took place between June 2014 and December 2015, the pace of attacks escalated in 2016 which recorded 12 cases. 9 such attacks have already occurred in the six month period of 2017. The attacks on the cow vigilante groups are not confined to Muslims. There have been at least 26 incidents of cow vigilantes attacking non Muslims, mainly dalits and adivasis, killing 5 and injuring at least 74, which attracted the attention of the media. Many more such organised attacks by cow vigilante gangsters obviously go unreported (Source: Times of India, 30th June 2017)

2.2.4 Such attacks, as a demonstration of the so called arrogance and militancy of the 'Hindutva' forces are taking place during almost all religious occasions. These are attempts to create and maintain an atmosphere of terror and insecurity particularly among the poorer sections of population with a sinister design to make them passive onlookers and prevent any opposition.

2.3 Rise of Authoritarianism - Suppression of Dissent

2.3.1 These attacks are also meant to divert people's attention from the attacks of the neoliberal agenda, which the BJP government is implementing at a faster pace. Large sections on people, entitled to different welfare schemes, government funded health and education and even statutory programmes like food security are being excluded in the name of targeting by insisting upon Adhar linkage and other measures. Such exclusionist strategy through multipronged measures and conditionalities has led to exclusion of more than 30 per cent of the entitled population from the coverage of Food Security Act. In the background of such atmosphere of terror and insecurity created through the attacks not only on dalit, minorities etc but also on dissenting students and professors in the universities, which are dominating public attention and debate, the government is pushing through their economic policy of mass scale privatisation and liberalisation of the economy

shamelessly compromising national interests. At the same time, mass scale contractorisation and casualisation of workforce is being promoted in total violation of the law of the land to deny proper wages to workers. The Constitutional rights of dalits, adivasis for reservation in government and public sector jobs is thus stealthily being taken away.

2.3.2 Their communal divisive strategy of cultivating multi-pronged polarization in the society is the main instruments in sustaining their class-rule in favour of corporate capital, both domestic and foreign. And the most ridiculous part of the story is that, in support of all their misdeeds and crimes, be it on economic policy or social and political front, they never fail to invoke nationalism branding all their opposition as anti-national, although each and every policy drive of the government is against the national interest and national integrity. This is not getting exposed adequately.

2.3.3 On the whole, the political scenario reflects an emerging authoritarian and fascistic trend on the part of the BJP government at the centre and many of the states undermining and bulldozing democratic processes and institutions. The working class movement must develop comprehensive realisation on such most heinous enemy of the people and the country among the mass of the people with all seriousness and commitment, if the situation is to be saved and change of correlation of forces has to be brought in.

3.0 ECONOMIC SITUATION

3.1.1 Economic slowdown is continuing with no sign of recovery. The employment generating investment is not practically taking place. Employment is actually declining even in employment intensive sectors. Besides, whatever employment is there is of low quality, with low wages, no social security, degenerating work-place safety, and denial of all rights even to complain collectively.

3.1.2 The degeneration of employment situation has two components. One, the continuing economic gloom, and squeezing market resulted in severe underutilisation of capacity in most of the industries. This is leading to increasing shutdown, closures, layoffs etc. As a result, there is loss of employment even in labour intensive segment of industries and services. Second, in the midst of such economic gloom, maximization or sustaining of profit by the employers is taking the route of minimising labour cost by, inter alia, shifting to more and more capital intensive technology, besides the usual route of contractorisation and outsourcing. And this is reflected in the sharply declining employment potential of every investment being made particularly in the manufacturing sector and even in the service sector. For example, as per the Economic Survey of the industrially advanced state of Karnataka for the year 2015-16, the analysis of the data on investment vis-à-vis employment creation in the projects with a capital investment above Rs 3 crore, revealed that the investment of Rs 7.4 lakh could create, on an average, one job in 2006-07. This has increased by 60 times in 8 years to Rs 4.5 crore in 2014-15. This has been the general trend in general in most manufacturing and service sector investments under neoliberal format.

3.1.3 The result is immense rise in labour productivity accompanied by drastic decline in new employment besides lay-off and retrenchment. The trend already gained momentum during the 11th Plan Period (2007-2011) when in the background of annual GDP growth of 7.5%, the growth rate of employment was merely 0.7%. During BJP regime the situation of employment-regression aggravated further. Recent reports by the media reveal that 'Engineering, procurement and construction major Larsen & Toubro had announced shedding of 14000 jobs in the first half of FY

2017, HDFC Bank has also reduced its workforce by over 10000 in the second half of FY 2017, in the IT segment, the country's largest private sector employer, some estimates have pegged the job losses at over 50000 (*in some major IT companies alone this year)*....Tata Motors has reduced its managerial workforce by up to 1500 people domestically" (Live Mint, 23-05-2017). The Economic Survey (2015-16) of the Maharashtra government reported closure of 48000 industrial units in the most industrialised state in the country. Around 3000 factories employing around 25000 workers are reported to have been closed in Telangana. There are similar reports from other industrialised states also. If these developments are read with the official estimate of only 2.3 lakh employment generation in 2016-17 in eight labour intensive sectors published by the Labour Ministry, it becomes clear that employment generation turned negative during the three years of BJP regime calling the bluff to its claims of providing 2 crores jobs every year. Such a reality is further substantiated by the fact that during 2013-15, 26 million jobs were lost in agriculture alone.

3.1.4 Every segment of the economy, manufacturing and services alike is facing consistent decline. This is also reflected in severe underutilisation of country's electricity generation capacity. Out of total electricity generation capacity of 3,30,260 megawatt as in April 2017, the generation in the peak hours is hardly crossing 1,69,503 megawatt in 2016-17 despite the fact that around 35% of country's rural households do not have access to electricity. On the other hand electricity consumed by industry marked a consistent decline even in the industrialised states.

3.1.5 Growth in gross fixed capital formation dipped by a factor of 10 between 2015-16 and 2016-17, from 6.1% to a shocking 0.6% in 2016-17. The trend is further substantiated by the phenomenon of decline in off-take of non-food credit from the financial sector institutions including banks. This implies that the corporate sector is not investing in new production. Growth in gross value added (GVA) at basic prices – a measure of actual production – has slipped from 7.8% in 2015-16 to 6.7% in 2016-17.

3.2 Demonetisation Onslaught

3.2.1 The intervening period has also witnessed demonetisation drive by the government by withdrawing Rs 500/- and Rs 1000/- notes, amounting to around 85% of the currency in circulation with effect from 8th November 2016. This step was touted to be meant for curbing black money in circulation. The details of our observation on this demonetisation are mentioned in the resolution adopted in our 15th Conference. Thereafter, CITU published a booklet on the disastrous impact of demonetisation on the economy and the people and the utter falsity of the government's claim on curbing black money. Hence we are not dealing on the issue in detail except giving our observation in brief, particularly in respect of government's real intention behind demonetisation.

3.2.2 Demonetisation had put mass of the people in immense miseries. Particularly agricultural economy which basically operates on cash transactions was grievously hit. The earnings and livelihood of marginal, small and even medium farmers who constitute overwhelming majority of the farmers were the worst affected. Similarly the unorganised sector and its workers and the small scale industries were also badly affected. It is estimated that more than million workers in the unorganised sector lost their earnings and livelihood during the two and half months following the announcement of demonetisation. This had visible negative effect on economic growth and employment. Even the All India Manufacturers Organisation (AIMO) representing 3 lakh, small and medium and large scale enterprises had to admit in public that 'There were 35% jobs losses and

50% dip in revenue in the first 34 days since demonetisation. It has also projected a drop in employment of 60% and loss in revenue of 55% before March 2017. Medium and large scales industries including foreign companies engaged in export oriented activities reported 30% job losses and 40% revenue fall; this is likely to be 35% and 45% respectively by March' (Indian Express, 9-1-2017). And precisely same projection was reflected in the official growth data for 2016-17. In reality loss of livelihood and earning during the period following demonetisation is much more and the workers, farmers, agricultural workers and even small traders were the hardest hit. Besides mass of the common people had to pass through nightmarish ordeal during the three months period following demonetisation just to get the currency in hand changed to legal currency through banks. This led to death of more than hundred people including 12 bank employees owing extreme overburden of work and resultant stress in the face of long unending queues before the banks.

3.2.3 The government sought to propagate that, notwithstanding temporary difficulties being faced by the people, in the long run demonetisation will be beneficial for all and the national economy and the scourge of black money would be curbed to a great extent. We have to admit that the government succeeded in making a large section of people believe in that myth. This also speaks about our failure to carry to the people the real face and intention of the demonetisation drive.

3.2.4 Government's claim to curb the black money through demonetisation has been proved to be a bluff. As per all reliable estimates, hardly 3 to 5% of the entire black money, estimated to be almost half of the country's economy on the average, is in cash. Even after three years rule, the government could not bring back anything of the huge black money stashed abroad in foreign bank accounts. So far as domestic economy is concerned, as per their own estimates a sizable part of the demonetised currency amounting around 3 lakh crore (out of Rs 15 lakh crore demonetised) should not have come back to banking system. But as per Reserve Bank of India estimates immediately after 30th December 2016 almost 98% of the demonetised currency came back to banking system. And till 31st March 2017, i.e., the period available to the NRIs for exchange the currency at their disposal, entire currency would come back, even more may come back to banking system. That means, whatever black money had been there in cash, would become white and legal, and that was precisely one of the objectives of the Modi government camouflaged behind its so called crusade against black money.

3.2.5 Secondly, it is the farmers and workers, small traders and micro and small industries who suffered a huge loss in the form of loss of earnings and livelihood and loss of revenues through a compulsion of distress sale of their produce and commodities, just to keep themselves somehow survive. This compulsion was imposed by the demonetisation, facilitating a huge transfer of resources to big corporate and traders. We can say, demonetisation came as a onetime big bonanza to landlord corporate lobby at the cost of loss of earning and livelihood of the mass of the common populace. This was also another objective of the government - to benefit their masters' constituency.

3.2.6 Third, following demonetisation, the government has been forcing the people to go for digital transactions and curb cash transactions to the maximum extent; the government is pursuing this project of massive digitisation of transactions by imposing several restrictions/ conditions/ charges on cash withdrawals/transactions. Every digital transaction entails a transaction charge and/or service charge over and above the market value of the products/ transactions leading to imposition of additional burden on common people. Taking advantage of the new scenario digital transaction

platforms are mushrooming, mostly with foreign collaboration. When production and businesses in the real economic sectors are facing a gloom, the day to day transactions, which people need to make just for survival, are being converted into profit making instruments of business in favour of private corporates, both domestic and foreign. Given the situation that more than 30% of human habitats/villages have no bank branches in their vicinity, forcing digital transactions even for day to day transactions will lead to exclusion of large number of people, particularly in the rural areas from the normal economic process.

3.2.7 In this background, the main focus of the ongoing economic policy machination of the BJP government has been privatisation on the one hand and contractorisation and informalisation of the workforce on the other. This means, in the background of their incapacity to expand investment and economic activity, the policy is focused more aggressively towards transfer of the national assets as well as suppressing the labour cost –all in favour of big corporates, both foreign and domestic.

3.3 Privatisation Onslaught: wholesale Privatisation of National Economy

3.3.1 Privatisation in all its facets never before got such momentum. It appears that the government is in a hurry to dedicate the entire national economy and assets to the service of private corporates, both domestic and foreign. NITI AYOG has listed almost all profit making PSUs for strategic sale obviously with government approval. It has simultaneously been pushing through disinvestment of shares during the intervening period till conclusion of strategic sale. All loss making PSUs and also small profit making units are being pushed towards closure. During the span of three years, as a preparatory to their wholesale privatisation programme, the government has stripped most of the profit making PSUs of all their reserves and surpluses generated by the workers. The PSU managements are compelled to declare huge extra dividends not matching with the profit level, to buy back their own shares lying with the government and various other means. Such snatching away of reserves and surpluses meant for reinvesting in technology up gradation and capacity expansion, which is a continuous process in all industrial establishments to remain competitive and efficient all through, has weakened most of the PSUs to combat the market volatility. This was done deliberately to lower the market value of the PSUs to the advantage of their prospective buyers in the private corporate sector. Along with such privatisation drive of PSUs under central government, the same government is taking legislative measures to hasten up privatisation of state transport corporations as well as the major port infrastructures of the country.

3.3.2 Privatisation exercise has already started being processed In steel industry targeting ASP, SSP and VISL, NALCO in the Aluminium sector, Bridge & Roof Co in engineering and Bengal Chemical & Pharmaceuticals Ltd and Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd in pharmaceutical and Air India in aviation sector.

3.3.3 It is noteworthy that for Air India privatisation, the finance minister of the country has taken an aggressive lead when Air India, after long years of losses, all due to the bungling of the successive governments at the centre, has started making operational profit; privatisation is being pushed through chosen private buyer route with a huge concession of writing off Rs 30000 crore debt burden. The most dubious intent of the government is exposed by the fact that 90 per cent of loss of Air India is due to huge interest burden of previous debts. Despite this precarious situation, Air

India never failed to regularly pay the bank dues as per payment schedule. Had the same facility of writing off old debt been extended to Air India, it could have come out from the losses in no time.

3.3.4 Financial sector of the economy, still dominated by the public sector institutions has also become a prime target for privatisation through multi pronged routes. The nationalised banks, as an outcome of continuing gloom in the economy, are reeling with huge loan default by the big corporates to the tune of several lakh crores. 88.4% of the banks' NPA (unpaid bad loan) are from large corporate borrowers with loan portfolio of above Rs 5 crore numbering around 100 odd entities. Out of this 12% NPA are from 12 large corporate borrowers. Instead of taking stringent measures or allowing the banks to take stringent measures to recover such bad loans, the government is making a plea of bad financial health of the banking system owing to large NPA to pave the way for weakening them further and creating ground for privatisation. Recently, the government is planning to introduce a Bill called Financial Resolution & Deposit Insurance (FRDI) Bill 2017 to pave the way for settling up a Financial Resolution Corporation armed with such provisions to deal on bankruptcy of the banks, insurance companies and other financial entities and their viability to function. This would practically put the financial institutions on the dock for the loan default burden and not the corporate entities which consumed the loan but did not pay back as per contract. This will pave the way for even closure of banks, cooperative banks etc at least partially bringing them under the grab of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016 making them easy prey for privatisation. The perversion in the government's approach has gone to such nefarious height that instead of taking action on the handful of corporate defaulters and penalising them for breach of contract, the victim of default and the breach of contract are being targeted for victimisation.

3.4 Defence Sector Privatisation

3.4.1 The most dangerous exercise is being made in the railways and the defence sector. The ordinance factories in the defence production sector are being deliberately pushed towards low capacity utilisation and then to inevitable closure by taking away 182 products out of total 273 from them for production in private sector. Accordingly the government has started issuing licenses to private players. Immediate impact of this is that seven out of 41 Ordinance factories will have no jobs in their hands; 14 more ordinance factories will become redundant to the tune of at least 50 per cent of their production capacity. Around 50000 workers out of 1.10 lakh workers in the ordinance factories will be threatened of being rendered surplus. In addition, the small arms manufacturing ordinance factory units are being directed to enter into Private-Public Partnership (PPP) arrangement, meaning thereby allowing the chosen private players to utilise the infrastructure set up by the ordinance factories with investment from national exchequer. Why such a derogatory and disastrous exercise? The ordinance factories never failed to deliver the requirements of our army, naval and air force ensuring strict maintenance of quality. Rather some of the ordinance factory products mainly those comfort items like uniforms, mosquito nets, shoes etc were outsourced on earlier occasions to private players. But all of them are to be brought back to ordinance factories network owing to private suppliers' failure to ensure quality and delivery on time.

3.4.2 Certain high value products like combat aircrafts, helicopters, submarines and some other critical equipments so long being produced by the defence PSUs are being offered to private corporate sector on a nomination basis. BEML, a Maharatna PSU has been made the first target for strategic sale. Already two joint venture companies are reportedly formed. One Dassault Aviation, France, in partnership with Reliance Infrastructure Ltd to supply Rafale fighter Jet aircraft a part of

which will be supposed to be manufactured in India. Second, Lockheed of USA and TATA to partly produce F-16 fighter jets. Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd would be pushed to die a natural death. All these are being exercised in the name of their 'Make in India' programme. In reality, the entire game plan is to destroy the entire defence production infrastructure, the country has built up through last six and half decades to serve one of the biggest armed forces and ensuring country's security preparedness, in favour of private corporate sector who have neither any exposure nor competence and expertise to produce those items. Ultimately the foreign armament and equipment industry would dominate the defence production scenario and country's security preparedness will be made wholly dependent on foreign armament industries. Such direly anti national game plan is being sought to be given shape by the Modi Govt while chanting nationalistic slogans.

3.5 Privatisation of Railways

3.5.1 The government has already finalised the programme of complete privatisation of railways, the cheapest public transport in the country utilised by crores of people. A Railway Development Authority (RDA) has already been constituted through executive order. The RDA will provide access to private train operators in both passenger and goods segment to run trains on existing tracks. Fares and freight charges will be decided by RDA but such fares and freights have to cover up cost of such operations. Concept of subsidising traffic of essential commodities and also on passenger transport through monthly system will be ultimately given a go by. Private operators will be allowed access to all existing infrastructures like yards, sheds and workshops for maintenance of their coaches, wagons and engines etc. Thus the blue print of privatisation has been drawn.

3.5.2 As immediate measures, railway station management is being pushed in PPP mode, which in essence will be privatisation of revenue earning segments of the railway station management. Already tender has been floated for 23 railway stations including Delhi, Howrah, Mumbai, Chennai, Bangalore, Secunderabad etc. The private contractor will be named Station Facilitation Managers (SFM), who will be responsible for station development and also commercial development in the station and land attached to that. To start with, activities like train operation, ticketing, passenger and goods movement, overhead tractions, signal and telecommunication, track related work will remain with the railway authority. The SFM will employ its own employees and existing railway employees in the station and related jobs will be transferred elsewhere. The Contract will be given to SFM in lieu of lease premium and lease will be for 45 years.

3.5.3 The production units under railways such as Locomotive factory at Chittaranjan, coach factory at Kapoorthala and other places having integrated production system are being practically pushed toward redundancy. At this moment they are suffering from low capacity utilisation since their products also are being simultaneously imported making indigenous manufacturing capacity idle. This is the real face of 'Make in India'.

3.6 Agrarian crisis got aggravated

3.6.1 Agrarian crisis is continuing whether there is good crop or crop failure, so far as the condition of the majority of the farming people, mostly small and marginal farmers besides agricultural workers are concerned. Only crop failure makes things more severe and critical. The most pervert feature of the agrarian policy of the successive governments under neoliberalism is that even in the event of good crops owing to nature's bounty, condition of the overwhelming majority of the

farmers continues to be miserable. This is reflected in continuing farmers' suicide in increasing numbers, large scale transfer of farm land from the small and marginal, sometimes medium farmers, practically at distress rates in favour of landlords and corporate lobby. There is huge migration of rural folk to towns and cities in search of non-farm occupation. Such perversion of the policy regime attained cruel momentum under the Narendra Modi regime.

3.6.2 Peasants' suicide has been increasing. In 2015 alone, 12602 persons associated with farming committed suicide, a 42% increase compared to 2014. The BJP ruled states viz., Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan accounted for 7723 suicides, i.e., 61.28 % of the total suicides. The Minimum Support Price announced by the government, in the background of inflationary pressure on the prices of essential inputs and utility services, fails to cover even the cost of production. The Narendra Modi government has shamelessly gone back from its election time commitment of ensuring a minimum support price to farmers as per recommendation of the Swaminathan Commission, i.e., 50% over the cost of cultivation. Along with direly below-cost minimum support price, the procurement machinery/agencies throughout the country have been made practically non-functional and often, late-starter just to favour and enable big landlord-cum money lenders cum corporate traders to snatch the produce of poor farmer at a distress price. Added to this, the ban on trade of cattle imposed recently by Modi government, made the poor and small farmers lose their supplementary source of income to manage crisis and emergencies. By prohibiting farmers from carrying their cattle to mandis for sale, the government is compelling them to sell cattle at their door steps to big cattle traders at a distressed price. The much touted Pradan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (crop insurance) has virtually become an instrument to squeeze the already distressed farmers further. According to a report published by the Ministry of Agriculture, last year, Rs 21500 crore has been collected by the insurance companies-all private insurance companies - as premium; insurance claim of Rs 4270.55 crore has been received which is less than 20% of the premium collected; but actual claim paid out to farmers was only Rs 714.14 crore which is 3.3% of the premium earned by the insurance companies and 16.7 % of the total claims. What else can be called atrocious loot on the poorest segment of the population? Such is the intensity of perversion among the policy-makers to squeeze and suck the single largest segments of population engaged in agriculture from all sides just to serve their masters and donors among landlords/ traders/corporate lobby.

3.6.3 Agriculture is being made deliberately unviable, thereby making the livelihood of the overwhelming majority of the rural population unsustainable. This is leading to people deserting agriculture in increasing number to join the vast army of informal sector unemployed and underemployed. The small, marginal and even a section of medium farmers are also being compelled to part with their farming land to corporate landlords and corporates at their dictated prices, speeding up the process of another form of primitive accumulation in favour of capital, looting and plundering the rural economy and rural folk.

3.7 Drastic Cut in Welfare and Social Sector Expenditure

3.7.1 The 15th conference of CITU pointed out in detail how social sector spending and allocations to various welfare schemes are being consistently curtailed. In fact budgetary allocation on agriculture and allied activities, social sector expenditures and allocation under MNREGA, ICDS, Midday meal, ASHA and other welfare schemes have been consistently declining in real terms and also as percentage of GDP.

3.7.2 In the background of agrarian crisis and farmers' suicides and drastic decline in the days of jobs available to agricultural workers, the stagnation in MNREGA allocations and decline in real terms means promoting starvation in rural areas. Despite it being a statutory right to every rural household to get 100 days work in a year, average days of work created through MNREGA has gone down to less than 50 days. Owing to cut in allocation, this national average has been further falling. Added to this is the huge non-payment of wage running to the tune of Rs 20000 crore at times. It appears, the government of the day is eager to altogether dump MNREGA, which has been achieved by the people after long years of struggle.

3.7.3 Equally retrograde is the drastic cut in allocation for ICDS along with passing on the responsibility of revenue expenditure of ICDS to the state governments. Along with conspiracy is afoot to gradually privatise and dismantle ICDS. The government of India is also trying to abdicate its responsibility of implementing the Midday meal programme and National Health Mission (NHM). The midday meal programme is sought to be handed over to various corporates and corporate backed NGOs. Such a policy deprives crores of poor women and children, mostly belonging to agricultural workers, poor peasant and unorganised workers' families of the minimum basic benefits of nutritious food, health and education services that these schemes have been providing. In addition, the jobs of around 60 lakh workers, most of them women will also be under threat if these schemes are privatised or dismantled. The BJP led government has been totally apathetic to the demands of these workers since assuming office. It has failed to address even a single demand of these workers during the last three years of its rule.

4.0 ATTACKS ON LABOUR RIGHTS

With the same exclusionist strategy, the government has been working overtime to overhaul the existing labour laws. The Factories (Amendment) Bill has already been introduced in Parliament. Further, the government has drafted the Code on Wages Bill and Code on Industrial Relations Bill, which are aimed to dilute or eliminate whatever protective provisions were there for labour in the existing labour laws. The Payment of Wages Act, Minimum Wages Act, Payment of Bonus Act and Equal Remuneration Act have been merged into the Code on Wages and the Trade Unions Act, Industrial Disputes Act, Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act and the Standing Order Act into the Code on Industrial Relations. Both the Code Bills were approved by the Cabinet and are now awaiting introduction in Parliament. The evil intention behind these Code Bills in to push overwhelming majority of the workforce out of the purview of any legislative protection. The details of these Bills have already been elaborated in earlier reports and a booklet has also been published by CITU on these.

4.1 Code on Social Security Bill

4.1.1 The third and latest of the four proposed Codes is the draft Code on Social Security posted in the website of Labour Ministry. The Labour Ministry held a briefing session for the central trade unions on this draft Code. It is the latest innovation by the Modi government aimed at dismantling the existing social security structures, usurp the entire fund at the disposal of various central funds like the EPF, ESI, CMPF, Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Fund etc amounting to around Rs 12 lakh crore under the control of the National Council of Social Security. The proposed National Council of Social Security, to be chaired by the Prime Minister, will propose social security benefits under a universal omnibus scheme (schemes are not devised as yet) to be delivered by

the social security boards at state level under the state governments. The main purpose is to grab the huge funds at the disposal of EPF, ESI, CMPF, Construction Workers cess collection etc plus whatever will be collected under the new arrangement from unorganised sector workers under the single central authority without any tripartite participation and make them available for speculation to satisfy the finance capital lobby.

4.1.2 The draft Code on Social Security amalgamates 15 central labour laws relating to social security. These include the Employees State Insurance Act, the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, the Employees Compensation Act, the Maternity Benefits Act, the Payment of Gratuity Act, the Unorganised Workers Social Security Act, the Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Act, the Beedi Workers Welfare Cess Act, the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, the Iron Ore Mines, Manganese Ore Mines and Chrome Ore Mines Labour Welfare Cess Act, the Iron Ore Mines, Manganese Ore Mines and Chrome Ore Mines Welfare Fund Act, the Mica Mines Labour Welfare Cess Act, the Limestone and Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, the Cine Workers Welfare Cess Act and the Cine Workers Welfare Fund Act.

4.1.3 The government is promoting the new code under the slogan of universal social security for all including rickshaw pullers. But the devil of this dubious proposition lies in details. Employers' contribution for the unorganised sector workers, which is uncertain, has been fixed at 17.5%; the workers' contribution will be 12.5%. In the event of absence of employers, i.e., for self employed and a large section of unorganised sector workers, workers have to contribute 20% of their income. Government will have no responsibility of funding at all; it will only manage the fund. The benefits under the new dispensation, for the unorganised sector workers in particular, are yet to be decided; nobody knows whether the multi-dimensional benefits available under ESI and EPF etc to the subscribers will continue as it is, or continue at all, not to speak of improving the same.

4.1.4 It is obvious that the new proposals in the Code on Social Security code have been brought forth with a dubious intent. In the initial stage the government will take credit for putting in place an arrangement for universal social security despite complete withdrawal of government's obligation for funding. Then, the burden of contribution on unorganised sector workers would be huge and unbearable so that many of them will stand automatically excluded. Thirdly nothing is known about what benefit they will get, whether that will cover superannuation fund, pension, medical care while in service or after etc. Fourthly, the idea of administering the scheme through state boards is simply non workable as is evident from the experience of construction workers welfare scheme. On the whole, unorganised sector workers will have to purchase their own social security but even if purchased, delivery of benefits through state government machinery is any body's guess. At the same time, the organised sector workers will lose heavily in terms of their EPF and ESI benefits once these are merged with the whole. Only central government will gain the sadist pleasure of making the entire fund accessible for speculation.

4.1.5 The working class movement will have to expose the real face of the conspiracy embedded in the proposal of Code on Social Security and resist such disastrous exercise. The trade union movement must put forth alternative proposal on the making social security right universal for all sections of workers, both organised sector and unorganised sector. A separate social security scheme for the unorganised sector workers including the self employed should be formulated with a separate funding arrangement to be raised through a cess on corporate sector and big businesses. Simultaneously proper infrastructure to administer and enforce the schemes must be put in place

throughout the country, preferably under a centrally monitored authority with its offices in the states, having an infrastructure like EPFO and ESI, dully empowered to inspect and enforce. Without these social security schemes for the unorganised sector workers will remain a mere slogan as in the case of existing welfare schemes. In addition, instead of dismantling EPF and ESI, coverage of these schemes should be widened by lowering the threshold level of employment in establishments and putting in place a strong inspection mechanism under EPFO and ESI to bring the entire organised sector's entitled but yet-uncovered workforce under the coverage of EPF and ESI. The number of such uncovered but eligible workers is no less than the number of present subscribers under both the schemes.

4.1.6 A booklet on the Draft Code on Social Security Bill has already been prepared and the draft sent to all the state committees and federations for translation in local languages and wide circulation among the workers. Our leading comrades must read the booklet thoroughly to prepare themselves for unleashing intensive campaign to expose the government's nefarious design among the widest section of workers. Even after a month since the draft of the booklet has been sent, CITU Centre is yet to receive any feedback from the state committees. Comrades must concretely inform about the measures taken by them for its wide circulation among the workers.

4.2 Continuing Repression on Trade Union Movement

4.2.1 Attacks on trade rights have gained momentum. The government decided to deny INTUC, one of the major central trade unions in the country, representation in all national tripartite forums and also in official delegation to ILO conference on the plea of some pending court cases by a faction in coal industry. CITU and other unions except BMS protested against the same both in writing and also in the meeting of the Standing Labour Committee held on 10th May 2017. It is nothing but a conspiracy to divide the trade union movement and shamelessly patronise BMS, the RSS wing of workers' organisation. Entire trade union movement have to jointly resist such conspiracy.

4.2.2 Along with the hectic attempts to change the labour laws altogether in favour of the employers class, the onslaught on the implementation of labour laws is continuing. In fact violation of all basic labour laws is not being done by employers alone, it is being promoted by the government machinery throughout the country by most of the state governments with the active support of the central government. Factually, more than 90 per cent of the labour related disputes reflected through trade union agitations as well as in pending disputes in the labour department's grievance redress machineries are all pertaining to just implementation of the existing labour laws pertaining mostly to payment of minimum wage, working hours vis-à-vis overtime wage, leave facilities, safety at workplace etc. Wherever workers collectively voiced their demands for nothing more than implementation of the laws of the land, repressive measures are unleashed on the workers and their unions with the active support of the state administration. But, in most of the cases, workers and their unions carried on their struggle braving such victimisation and repression and also facing the criminal charges being inflicted on them by the police machinery in collusion with the employers. This is the scenario through which the government is pushing through its policy of 'ease of doing business' and the entire state machinery - the executive, the legislature and in many cases the judiciary - have joined this bandwagon of ensuring ease of doing business.

4.2.3 There are numerous such incidents at the workplaces all over the country. Two cases, which expose how the state machinery under neoliberal regime seeks to eliminate trade unions, altogether

in authoritarian manner, deserve special mention. One is the case of Maruti Suzuki workers in Haryana. Their struggle started with only demanding recognition of their union which was sought to be killed at the registration stage itself by the then Congress government in the state. Through months' long united struggle comprising the regular workers, contract workers and even the apprentices and with the support of the entire trade union movement, the Haryana government was compelled to register their union and the management was compelled to start dealing with them. But with a beastly vengeance a conspiracy was hatched by the Japanese management and with the help of the bouncers appointed by them violence was organised in which one general manager was killed. Despite the fact that workers were in no way involved in his killing, the police resorted to mass scale arrests of workers after the incident in 2012. Around 200 workers including the union leaders were arrested. This was followed by dismissal of 500 regular workers. For the last five years, the workers were languishing in jail. After long four years, 13 workers were punished with life imprisonment on murder charge, 14 others have been imprisoned for five years and the rest have been acquitted. All the trade unions vehemently protested against that biased judgment and countrywide solidarity action was organised in support of the Maruti workers at the main initiative of CITU. Now the Maruti union is going to challenge the vindictive judgment in High Court.

4.2.4 Now in the same state of Haryana, the same type of vindictive attacks on the workers against formation of trade unions, are being repeated under BJP rule. In AISIN Automotive Ltd in Rohtak district, the initiative to form trade union was sought to be thwarted by the employer government nexus in the same manner. Registration of the union was denied and 20 workers including 4 women who took initiative to form the union were summarily dismissed. When other workers protested against the dismissal, rest of the 700 workers were also sent out of the factory, directing them to join work only after giving a written undertaking not to join any union. The mass of the workers started peaceful dharna at the factory gate against the dismissal. Other trade unions in Haryana and democratic organisations extended their support to the struggling AISIN workers. On 31st May police brutally lathicharged the workers and arrested 300 workers including 35 women and put them in jail. The struggle of the AISIN workers is still continuing. Whatever happened in Maruti a few years ago, is being repeated by the Japanese employer with the support of the Haryana government as its subordinate.

4.3 Increasing Incidents of Workplace Accidents

4.3.1 Incidents of workplace accidents leading to death and severe injuries of the workers have increased during this period. Majority of the workers involved are contract workers. Most of the accidents were due to neglect of basic safety arrangements by the employers and also gross violation of standard operating procedures to maximise production and profit. Steel plants, engineering and chemical factories and mines are the major locations of industrial accidents, although other workplaces like fireworks factories also are occasional incidents of accidents.

4.3.2 The most ghastly of such accident was at the Lalmatia coal mine in the Rajmahal area in Jharkhand under Eastern Coalfields Ltd (ECL) on 29th December 2016. 22 workers were buried alive and died owing to the collapse of huge accumulated overburden of coal. The mine under ECL was outsourced to Gujarat based contractor who forced the workers to work in mines despite huge accumulation of overburden in the mouth of the mine beyond permissible limit and in gross violation of the safety norms. The All India Coal Workers' Federation (CITU) visited the spot and

after a detailed enquiry demanded cancellation of the outsourcing contract and punishment of the contractor besides payment of compensation to the families of the deceased workers.

5.0 SURGING UNITED STRUGGLES

Despite all repressions, threat and intimidation by the authorities and the governments concerned, in various sectors united struggles by the workers are surging ahead.

5.1 Countrywide Struggles of Farmers

5.1.1 Most notable and welcome development is the increasing phenomenon of farmers' struggles all over the country. These spontaneous outbursts of farmers' anger arose out of the unimaginable distress, hardship and loss of earnings imposed on the overwhelming majority of the farmers by the aggravating agrarian crisis owing to the brazenly anti farmer and anti people policies of the government as has already been mentioned. The most common demands are remunerative prices for all farmers' produce in line with the recommendation of Swaminathan Commission, active government procurement machinery, loan waiver and withdrawal of the ban on cattle trade etc, besides others.

5.1.2 These spontaneous protests led to the formation of the broad based platform of farmers' organisations in different parts of the country. On 16th June 2017, a joint meeting of 130 farmers organisations formed "Akhil Bharateeya Kisan Sangharsh Samanvaya Samiti" to continue united countrywide struggle on farmers' issues at the national level.

5.1.3 Spontaneous agitation by farmers demanding remunerative prices and complete loan waiver in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra, all BJP ruled states and other places have attracted the attention of the entire nation. Instead of considering their just demands, the concerned state governments branded them as politically motivated and tried to suppress them through state repression. In Mandsaur, Madhya Pradesh, four farmers were killed by police firing.

5.1.4 In Maharashtra, the state wide farmers' struggle was more organised drawing the solidarity and support from mass organisations and other sections of society. After failing to suppress the struggle by force, and in the face of call by farmers' organisations for a state wide rail-roko and rasta roko on 13th June, the state government was compelled to open dialogue with the agitating farmers' organisations on 11th June 2017. A settlement was arrived at inter alia, on loan waiver to all holding less than five hectares of land based on the criteria to be jointly decided by a committee with equal representation of farmers and government. The chief minister agreed to lead a delegation of farmers' organisations to the Prime Minister to insist on Swaminathan Commission recommendation of fixing minimum support price to cover the cost of production plus 50%. There have been militant mobilisations and agitations by farmers in Rajasthan and Haryana also almost during the same period.

5.1.5 It is notable that at the initiative of West Bengal committee of All India Kisan Sabha and other farmers' organisations, a massive march was organised on 22nd May 2017 before the "Nabanna" the headquarter of the state government on basic demands of the farmers. The march drew participation of lakhs of people. Other mass organisations including CITU also joined the protest march in solidarity. The state police under the TMC government brutally attacked and lathi charged

the peaceful processions approaching "Nabanna" from different directions without any provocation and severely injured several people including the old and women. One person died later in the hospital due to the injuries. This led to spontaneous upsurge of protest mobilisations throughout the state on the following days.

5.1.6 The rising farmers' struggle against the same anti people and anti farmer policies of the Narendra Modi government is a very positive development in the people's struggle against the neoliberal policies in our country. The working class movement must thickly involve itself in these struggles. The advancement of farmers' struggle would strengthen the working class struggles as well in a big way. CITU must take serious initiative in that direction.

5.2 Working Class Struggles

5.2.1 During the period since our 15th conference in November 2016, many important struggles took place in various sectors and many more are in the offing. In general the call for observance of Demands Day on 22nd December 2016 on 'equal pay for equal work' was widely observed in almost all the states as per reports gathered by CITU Centre. The call for protest day against demonetisation was also observed throughout the country both on 3rd January 2017 independently by CITU and on 28TH January 2017 jointly with other central trade unions.

5.2.2 On the call for month long independent campaign from 1st May 2017 to 30th May – May Day to CITU foundation Day - reports were received from a few states only. May Day was observed widely in all the states as per reports received at the centre. On 30th May 2017, in most of the Hindi speaking states district level and state level rallies were organised. But not much reports were received on how the month long campaign was organised, whether the draft of the booklet 'The Journey from May Day to October Revolution' was translated, how many copies were published and circulated, what kind of programmes were undertaken for the ideological campaign, besides programme of campaign on general demands etc. Very few states provided the necessary details which can reveal how much seriously our state committees have taken one of the most important decisions adopted by our 15th Conference.

5.2.3 Just to recall, the 15th conference adopted a resolution on the observance of centenary year of October Revolution with a particular focus on the journey from the May Day, a mile stone in the struggle for social justice to Great October Revolution accomplishing establishment a state of complete social justice by establishing socialism. It was decided that CITU centre will publish a booklet for the campaign on the theme and the same will be translated in local languages and circulated widely as part of the month long campaign. It was also decided that the campaign should also focus on general basic demands of the working class with the objective of exposing the present neoliberal capitalist order while carrying on educative campaign on Great October Revolution and its relevance for Indian working class movement. We are yet to receive any serious report on the same. This is urgently required to assess whether, after detailed discussion in CITU secretariat, we have been able to convey the seriousness of this task or for that matter the task of ideological campaign as such, or we are still failing on that front. The issue must be discussed threadbare in the working committee to give the CITU secretariat appropriate guidance.

5.3 Scheme Workers' Struggle

5.3.1 During the period under review, the scheme workers in general and the anganwadi employees, mid-day-meal workers and ASHAs in particular were in the midst of consistent activities, mobilisation and struggles almost every month throughout the country, either in one state or the other. This speaks about organisational agility of our federations of anganwadi and mid-day-meal workers and the Coordination Committee of ASHA workers.

5.3.2 Most notable had been the countrywide strike action by all scheme workers on 20th January 2017. The strike action was massive in 23 states and more than four lakh scheme workers were on the streets in all the states militantly demonstrating against the policy of the central government and demanding recognition as workers with the statutory minimum wage and social security benefits.

5.3.3 Another notable event was the 2 day long padav (day and night) by midday meal workers on 10-11 November 2016 at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi in which over seven thousand workers participated from all over the country.

5.3.4 The anganwadi employees observed 'dhoka diwas' (Day of Betrayal) throughout the country on 26th May 2017, on the occasion of completion of three years by the BJP regime, to expose its betrayal in not implementing its promise to anganwadi employees given through its election manifesto. This was observed in all the states through mobilisation of thousands of anganwadi workers and helpers and burning the election manifesto of BJP.

5.3.5 Special mention is to be made on anganwadi workers and helpers' victorious struggle in Karnataka demanding hike in their honorarium, under the leadership of the CITU union; from a mobilisation of more than 10000 workers at Freedom Park, Bangalore on 22nd March 2017, strike action started along with continuous day and night stay-in for about more than fortnight under pressure of which the state government had to agree for hike in the remuneration of anganwadi workers and helpers by Rs1000/- and Rs 500 respectively in addition to the Rs 1000 and Rs 500 announced by it earlier in its budget 2017-18. The struggle which continued with a firm determination till the end facing arrests and other types of repression enthused not only the anganwadi employees but the entire working class and democratic movement in the state.

5.4 Other Notable Struggles

5.4.1 During the intervening period there have been a number of struggles including strike actions in crucial sectors of economy.

5.4.2 The road transport workers have been in the midst of consistent campaign and agitation in various states against the hectic hike in fees and premium and also against the Motor Vehicle Amendment Bill which is designed to impose draconian measures on the transport workers in the name of penalties on the one hand and pave the way for destroying state owned transport services, wherever they are still existing, on the other. As per available reports, there have been strike actions by the transport workers in Assam, Bihar, Kerala besides agitation and militant mobilisation in many other states. The contract workers of Punjab Roadways-PUNBUS staged three days strike on 17-19 May 2017 compelling the authority to concede their demands. The most crucial indefinite strike action by Haryana roadways workers from 10th April 2017 which lasted for three days finally

compelled the BJP government in Haryana to withdraw its decision on issuing permits to 4200 private operators in state transport operating routes. The state transport employees of Tamil Nadu also have gone for massive state wide strike on 15-16 May 2017 on the pressing demands of both retired workers and those in employment.

5.4.3 Further, the All India Road Transport Workers' Federation is planning to intensify its struggles against the draconian Motor Vehicle Amendment Bill which has already been introduced in Parliament and passed by Lok Sabha. This is going to be a very crucial battle. There is spontaneous response from workers beyond the periphery of unions. Already Road transport workers unions in Rajasthan have formulated their course of actions which includes and three days joint dharna at Jaipur on 18-20 July 2017 to be followed by two days statewide strike on 19-20 December 2017 against privatisation of state owned passenger transport organisation. All our state committees must take serious note of this and make serious efforts to establish contact with the transport workers in general where federation does not have units, and rally them into forthcoming struggle.

5.4.4 The bank employees and officers have gone on countrywide joint strike action on 28th February 2017 at the call of United Forum of Bank Unions (UFBU), which was almost total. The strike was organised demanding stringent action against corporate loan defaulters who have put the country's banking system in crisis. The UFBU has also decided to again go on countrywide strike in banks on 22nd August 2017 to be followed by two days dharna at New Delhi on 15th September and again strike action on October/November against banking sector reforms plan of the government designed for ultimate privatisation. The All India Regional Rural Bank Employees' Association observed countrywide strike on 30th June 2016 against privatisation and on some other demands.

5.4.5 The medical and sales representatives have gone on countrywide strike on 3rd February 2017 demanding cost based pricing of all drugs and framing of rules defining service conditions of medical and sales representative within the framework of Sales Promotion Employees Act.

5.4.6 The central government employees have staged massive strike action throughout the country on 16th March 2017 demanding filling up of all vacancies instead of deploying contract workers and also demanding implementation of commitment made by the government to employees' organisations for upward revision of minimum wages for the central government employees, restoration of all allowances and other demands. Now after the government finally came out with its decision on those issues, much against the interests of the employees, the Confederation, besides holding immediate countrywide protest demonstrations is planning for further action programmes.

5.4.7 The All India State Government Employees' Federation and the Confederation of Central Government Employees have also decided a series of campaign and agitation programmes against the New Pension Scheme.

5.4.8 Under the united platform of tea garden workers' unions, workers of all 300 tea gardens in Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri and Alipurduar districts in West Bengal went on 2 days successful strike on 12-13 June 2017 demanding increase and enforcement of statutory minimum wage. The strike was called after the state government backtracked from its earlier commitment of a negotiated settlement on these demands. To break the peaceful strike, the state government unleashed police brutalities hounding and dragging the workers from their residential colonies and gardens, resorting

to lathi-charge on workers' procession, mass scale arrests and slapping false cases under non bailable sections. Many workers including large number of women were severely injured. However, the government failed to break the strike due to the determined resistance of the workers. At several places militant workers demonstrations forced the police to release arrested workers from the police stations.

5.4.9 Contract workers under Delhi municipal corporations staged a militant three days strike on 16-18 January at the initiative of CITU and finally compelled the Municipal Authority to extend all the statutory benefits to the contract workers and also commit to decide on regularisation of the contract workers within a time frame.

5.4.10 Contract workers of Singareni Collieries in Telangana have staged 10 days strike at the call of CITU demanding implementation of minimum wage decided by High Power Committee appointed by the Ministry.

5.4.11 There have been many more struggles in both organised and unorganised sector industries. One of the important initiatives was on the issue of 'equal wage for equal work'. In many sectors, trade unions are taking up the issue for campaign and agitation. Notable has been the initiative taken by the Electricity Employees' Federation of India (EEFI) in organising a massive convention on contract workers' issue in the electricity sector at Mavalankar Hall, New Delhi wherefrom a detail memorandum on the issue 'equal pay for equal work' was submitted to Labour Secretary, Government of India. In response to the same, the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) called a conciliatory meeting along with management of central Power Sector PSUs. Management was given a questionnaire to furnish details of their contract labour deployment. It is expected that further meetings will be held based on their response.

5.5 Struggles in Public Sector

5.5.1 As we have noted, aggressive privatisation of all CPSUs have become the main focus of Modi government's economic regime. As decided by the 15th conference, CITU took active initiative in activating public sector unions in the struggle against privatisation and also involving all central trade unions and independent PSU unions in this struggle.

5.5.2 The employees and executives of BSNL staged near total countrywide strike on 15th December 2016 against the partial privatisation drive and the government's conspiracy to weaken BSNL. They are again going in for a countrywide strike action on 27th July 2017 on their wage revision issue.

5.5.3 All India Convention of all public sector unions affiliated to all central trade unions (except BMS) was held on 29th January 2017 at Bangalore. A large number of PSU unions affiliated to INTUC, AITUC, CITU and HMS and also many independent unions were represented in the convention. The Convention was preceded by a massive 10000 strong demonstration by BEML workers (public sector workers in their respective uniforms) on 28th January 2017 against the govt decision to put BEML, a defence sector PSU on strategic sale. The demonstration was addressed by the leaders of all central trade unions including G Sanjeeva Reddy (INTUC), H Mahadevan (AITUC), Tapan Sen (CITU) and others.

5.5.4 The Convention discussed threadbare the Modi government's desperate bid to privatise almost all strategic sector CPSUs and close down the loss making ones and stressed upon the need for intensifying united campaign in every public sector units in preparation to resistance struggles against privatisation. It was decided to observe 30th March 2017 as All India Protest Day against privatisation; it was also resolved that in the public sector units in which privatisation process has already started, concerned unions must jointly formulate aggressive agitation including strike action while other public sector unions should organise visible solidarity programmes to these struggles.

5.5.5 In pursuant to above decisions, meetings of state level coordination committees/conventions of public sector unions were organised in a number of states like Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Telangana, Odisha both independently and in some states jointly with other unions. CITU centre also sent two sets of leaflets on this privatisation issue, one for widely circulating among public sector workers and another to be circulated among other section of workers by state CITU, to create awareness among the working class as a whole about its far reaching implications and impact on the entire people and the society. We have not received any report as of now as to what has been done with those draft leaflets. It appears, we are yet to bring ourselves to this basic realisation at all levels of our organisation.

5.5.6 However, pursuant to the decision of the All India Convention, the all India Protest Day was observed on 30th March 2017 in many of the PSUs, though not all.

5.5.7 In the PSU City of Bangalore as well as Mysore, a consistent and continuous programme of broad based campaign, both among the PSU workers and the people in general, against privatisation was adopted at the initiative of Joint Action Front Bangalore, in which CITU is a partner. The campaign which was conducted from February onward through numerous campaigns activities culminated in almost total strike in all the units of BEML, in Bangalore, Mysore, KGF and Palakkad in Kerala on 30th May 2017. Bandh was observed in Kolar district.

5.5.8 In public sector steel industry comprising SAIL and RINL, Vizag, a series of campaign cum agitations were organised in all the steel plants and mines at the initiative of Steel Workers Federation of India (CITU). This led to a number of joint campaigns and agitations along with steel unions of other affiliations. Agitation was against the government decision to privatise three special steel Plants under SAIL, viz., Alloy Steels Plant, Durgapur, Salem Steel Plant, Tamil Nadu and Vishweswarayya Iron & Steel Plant (VISL), Karnataka. All India Joint Convention of Steel Workers were organised in Bhilai Steel Plant in January 2017, wherefrom a series of programmes were taken up. All these campaign and agitations culminated in almost complete strike in all the three plants targeted for privatisation on 11th April 2017. On the same day solidarity demonstrations were held in other steel plants and mines. It may be noted that the workers of Salem Steel Plants have already gone on strike thrice against the privatisation move, first in September 2016, second on 2nd April 2017 and third on 11th April. Now in the joint meeting of steel trade unions held on 11th June 2017 in Kolkata, it was decided to hold a dharna mobilising thousands of steel workers before Parliament on 9th August 2017 preparations for which are going on.

5.5.9 On 11th April 2017 the employees of Dredging Corporation of India have also observed strike against the government decision to privatise DCI.

5.5.10 The workers of Kochi Shipyard observed total strike in March 2017 against privatisation. Similar massive strike action was also organised in NALCO, Odisha in June 2017.
5.5.11 In Port & Docks, all the trade unions have jointly opposed the new Major Port Authority Bill, which is meant to open the door for privatisation of major ports in the country. Intensive campaign and agitation was organised in all the major ports in the country against the Bill. Moves to privatise Bengal Chemical & Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Hindustan Antibiotic Ltd and Bridge & Roof Co Ltd have already started. Some agitations were organised in these areas also but our comrades there are yet to conceive any strike action, which is the need of the hour. In Air India, all the unions jointly submitted a memorandum to the Minister opposing privatisation and are planning agitation programme.

5.5.12 In Coal industry, all trade unions including the BMS affiliated ones have jointly decided to go for three days strike on 19-21 June 2017 against management's decision to merge CMPF with EPF and closure of mines and demanding expeditious wage settlement. In the face of countrywide preparation in all the mines in the country and the tempo generated by it, the Coal Ministry and CIL management held talks with the unions, agreed to reverse their decision on CMPF and committed to examining the cases of mines closure at company level in association with the unions and expedite the wage negotiation process in a time bound manner. Hence the strike was deferred by three months.

5.5.13 In the defence production sector, targeted for destructive privatisation, the All India Defence Employees; Federation, along with other federations has already adopted a series of agitation programmes. It started with 'one hour stay out' on 24th May 2017 in which around 4 lakh employees of ordinance factories, DRDO and MES offices throughout the country participated. They are holding relay dharna near Parliament since 3rd July which is scheduled to continue up to 15th August 2017. Various programmes are being organised at state level also. Our state committees must take initiative to actively associate with those programmes and extend solidarity.

5.5.14 On anti privatisation struggle, we must have clear unified perception. Privatisation of PSUs is not merely an onslaught against public sector workers. It is an attack on the basic fabric of our national economy; it is an attack on self reliance, country's manufacturing capability and is an instrument of transferring huge national assets to private hands, domestic and foreign. It is an attack on the entire people, an onslaught on SC/ST's right to reservation in jobs. It is an attack on the entire society. Hence struggle against privatisation cannot be considered the responsibility of public sector workers only and left to them alone. Entire trade union movement has to get involved fully in this struggle. Rather working class movement has to take initiative in rallying the mass of the people in the struggle against privatisation.

5.5.15 Till now, we have been unable to develop this realisation in our own organisation despite the fact that the privatisation drive by Modi government has already taken a rabid anti national character. This is reflected in our failure to raise the anti-privatisation struggle to the required height which may enable us to build peoples' resistance at the factory gates and spread it to gradually cover the entire toiling population and make it a national issue. Till now, our initiative is mainly limited within PSU employees, that too where we have active organisations, which is small compared to the total number of PSU employees.

5.5.16 But, this is not only an organisational failure but also perceptional deficit even within our organisation as a whole regarding the role of public sector not only in the national economy but also in the social sector, community development and also in the entire democratic set-up. We have to overcome this deficit in understanding about the real face of the attack on the PSUs covering all the strategic and core sector of the economy and what wholesale privatisation means for the both the economy and the society and also for mass of the people. The exercise for overcoming this deficit must start from home, within the organisations at all levels so that effective all out initiative can be taken to develop a powerful resistance movement against desperate privatisation move, which is in fact in essence, the privatisation and corporatisation of the entire governance threatening democracy as well.

5.5.17 It is therefore crucially important to develop a wide and strong movement to defend public sector which has become a forefront issue of economic foundation of the country now and has the potential to emerge as a significant political issue going much beyond the public sector workers; we have to take initiative to campaign about the importance of saving the public sector focusing on the brazenly anti national character of the BJP government's drive to sell public sector among the non public sector workers and the common people as well; this is not something that should be left to the public sector workers alone.

5.5.18 The working committee of CITU has to seriously ponder over how to overcome this severe deficit in our class understanding regarding the anti privatisation struggle and prepare the CITU Committees at all level to discharge our urgent task.

A separate activity report is being circulated along with this report.

5.5.19 Conferences

The 10th Conference of All India Road Transport Workers Federations took place on 4-6 June 2017 in Visakhapatnam. The Electricity Employees' Federation of India (EEFI) is going to hold their conference on 18-20 August 2017 at Hyderabad; the Conference of Petroleum and Gas Workers Federation of India is taking place on 19-20 August 2017 at Kochi.

6.0 FUTURE COURSE OF STRUGGLES

6.1.1 After 2nd September 2016 strike, joint meetings of central trade unions were held several times to review the situation and explore future course of joint actions. A countrywide protest day was observed against demonetisation on 28th January 2017 at the call of this joint platform. Some common idea of joint countrywide programme could be arrived at after many rounds of discussions although complete unanimity on those ideas is yet to be developed. Meanwhile a meeting of all major federations in the strategic and core sectors of the economy including independent federations was held on 30th May 2017 for the purpose of consultation. The central trade unions again met on 2nd June 2017 and decided to hold the national convention of workers on 8th August 2017 at Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi wherefrom next course of joint programme will be announced. So far as the programmes are concerned it was conceived that after a process of state level and district level joint conventions and other campaign programmes during August/September, a three days continuous (padav) relay dharna will be organised in the national capital sometime in November. Different batches of workers from different parts of the country will participate in the dharna every

day. A general announcement on countrywide strike action may be made after the padav in appropriate time to be decided afterwards.

6.1.2 Till now, there is yet no total unanimity among the central trade unions on the issue of three days continuous dharna (padav), but it is expected that differences can be ironed out in due course. However, the crucial point to note is that, given the organisational situation of various central trade unions, CITU has to shoulder maximum responsibility to ensure maximum mobilisation on all the three days. All our state committees and federations must prepare in advance to ensure mobilisation for the padav as per the quota that will be decided once the programme is finalised.

6.2 Independent Initiative by CITU

6.2.1 To create ground for successful implementation of the joint programmes, and also maintain continuity in the trade unions interventions, independent campaign and agitation by CITU is of crucial necessity. This is also required to communicate our views on different issues impacting the workers, the toiling people in general and the society as a whole, to the mass of the workers. This would help us to put in practice our two major slogans – 'reach the unreached' and 'link up issues with policies; expose politics behind the policies'; this should harness the possibility of developing more militant country wide struggles.

6.2.2 Please recall, successive meetings of CITU have been deciding that along with joint activities and agitations, independent activities of CITU must continue to be undertaken preceding and succeeding joint activities and that in all such independent initiatives and campaigns, the primary committees of CITU and committees of our affiliated units must be actively involved, planning and implementing the campaign at the grass root level. This involvement at every tier needs to be monitored by the state committees to develop a practice of quantified review of activities and of the involvement of committee members and common workers.

6.3.3 The CITU secretariat meeting of 26-27 May 2017 chalked out a programme of independent campaign for June – July 2017. It was decided that the issues for this independent campaign must include the 12 point charter of demands jointly formulated by the entire trade union movement as well as the following issues of large sections of workers, peasants, agricultural workers, and the common people in general so that the sphere of joint actions can be broadened beyond the boundaries of the trade union movement:

- Workers' status for the scheme workers with minimum wages and social security rights
- No to privatisation of PSU and public utility services
- Remunerative price for the farmers at cost plus 50 per cent as per Swaminathan Committee recommendations
- No forcible acquisition of land; effective implementation of the Land Acquisition Act 2013
- Waiving farmers loans, particularly of small and marginal farmers; urgent drought relief; protection and promotion of animal husbandry chain
- Effective implementation of MGNREGA; 200 days work in a year for all card holders applying for work; payment of state minimum wage
- Against removal of kerosene oil and sugar from the public distribution system
- Ensure safety for women at workplace; constitute complaints committees against sexual harassment at all work places and in areas for the unorganised workers; provide separate

toilets and rest rooms for working women; six months paid maternity leave for all women workers; crèches in all establishments where women are working; equal wage for women workers doing the same or similar job as men

- o Reservation in private sector
- o Effective measures to stop caste discrimination and social oppression, atrocities against dalits and minorities
- o Against communalism and divisive forces

6.3.4 The CITU Secretariat has also conceived of the idea of holding an All India Convention on Unemployment in view of the unemployment situation assuming an alarming proportion, impacting both the trade union movement and the society. Effort must be made to organised the Convention at the earliest.

6.3.5 It was also decided that while campaigning against communalism and divisive forces we must expose the multifaceted polarisation among people and the real face of communalism in dividing the toiling people, diverting their attention from their real problems to benefit the exploiting classes and their partners in the government; we must have a class approach to the issue of communalism and social oppression

6.3.6 Effective preparations must be made to take this independent campaign to the lowest level; depending on the local situation the burning issues and demands at the local level should be added based on a class approach.

6.3.7 This requires activisation of our lowest level committees and equipping the leadership of our primary unit committees; the state and district committees must plan the details of the preparation. The CITU secretariat decided that all our committees up to the lowest level should meet by 15th June to plan the campaign and the measures taken by the state committees for effective implementation of the above independent campaign should be reported in this working committee meeting. I request working committee members to give concrete and detailed report about what they have done for this in their respective states.

6.3.8 Our independent campaign should also lead to strengthening our relations with the peasants and agricultural workers and developing joint movement in the future, in consultation with the leadership of AIKS and AIAWU. The three organisations, CITU, AIKS and AIAWU have sent a joint appeal to meet and plan joint activities at the state level, and that initiative must be carried forward. A new culture of our organisational and movemental initiative has to be imbibed with the conscious initiative of our leadership.

6.4 Initiative against Communal Divisive Onslaught

6.4.1 As we have already noted, while the communal divisive offensive has reached alarming proportions with increasing influence of the RSS under the BJP regime, our response to it is highly inadequate. Often this is confined to statements or interventions after some incidents of communal attack. We must take this task with due priority including it as part of our day to day activities and linking it up with the need for united struggles on the demands of the workers. This campaign exposing the real face of communalism in dividing toiling people and diverting attention from their real problems for the benefit of the exploiting classes has to be taken up to the grass root level. We

must consciously strive to build a different kind of pro worker, pro people polarisation in society – between the exploited masses on one side and the exploiter classes and their political mentors in governance on the other. This understanding has to be developed among all our activists and committee members at all levels of our organisation.

6.4.2 If carried on effectively up to the grass root level, our campaign against communal divisive designs of the BJP and RSS should help us make anti communal anti divisive programmes an agenda of the united trade union movement, which is the need of the hour
Only through this process of well planned organised independent initiative of campaign and interventions, we will be able to effectively advance towards implementing the call of our 15th conference—to reach the unreached and also to expose the policies and politics of the exploitative regime.

6.5 Roadmap to Future Programme

6.5.1 We have already noted the prospect of future course of joint trade union struggle in the coming months – the National Convention on 8th August 2017 followed by the three days dharna in Delhi sometimes in October/November 2017. Efforts should be made for a countrywide general strike sometimes early next year.

6.5.2 Simultaneously our independent campaigns, agitations and struggles should also continue side by side with all seriousness in the following *objectives*:

- Intensifying sectoral struggles against privatisation, contractorisation and other issues and sectoral demands. Our industry wise federations, both affiliated and associated must make focused efforts in this direction. On privatisation issue, prospects of establishment based strike must be seriously explored which may go a long way in halting the privatisation in some cases as we have experienced on many previous occasions. Such sectoral struggles should be able to attract other trade unions also to develop broader sectoral unity of the workers
- Independent initiatives should also be taken regionally in cities, towns, suburbs, blocks and villages where we have direct contacts with the toiling people beyond our trade union periphery. Our initiatives should lead to the development of broader unity and local struggles at the district, block and wherever possible village/area level on common issues. Priority should be given on making common cause with peasants' and agricultural workers' organisations.
- This should be a continuous effort in line with our pursuit of class politics, on the basis of class ideology
- These initiatives should be linked with our observance of the centenary of the Great October Revolution

6.5.3 Consistent efforts to follow the roadmap suggested above along with joint struggles will help in educating our comrades and activists in a big way and help in expanding the base of CITU. At the same time we should continue our work with an immediate goal of demonstrating our independent strength to invigorate our cadres and create bigger confidence throughout the organisation, our fraternal trade unions, the entire trade union movement as a whole as well as all sections of toiling people. This should also lead to intensification of the struggle against the neoliberal policies of the

BJP led government and expose its anti people character. As conceived by the CITU secretariat, we have to organise a massive two lakh strong demonstration before the Parliament sometimes during the second part of 2018. Along with our fraternal trade unions we have mobilised around one lakh workers in the joint march before Parliament in 2011. With serious and consistent preparations starting from NOW itself, we can definitely achieve this target of mobilising two lakh in the March before the Parliament in the second half of 2018.

7.0 On CITU's MORE PROACTIVE ROLE IN WFTU ACTIVITIES

7.1.1 CITU has been playing an important role in WFTU, particularly since it joined WFTU as an affiliate. Swadesh Dev Roye, national secretary of CITU and also a Deputy General Secretary of WFTU, has been assigned the responsibility of the Trade Union Internationals (TUIs) in different sectors, which are inseparable operational parts of the WFTU. This is not merely a personal responsibility but of the entire CITU. We have to collectively own and discharge this responsibility effectively and contribute whatever we can to strengthen WFTU and the class based trade union movement globally. This requires strengthening of CITU Centre in terms of human power and resources. CITU working committee must take a serious view on it.

7.1.2 Several industry wise and service sector federations, affiliated and associated with CITU, are also playing important role in their respective TUIs. They are in transport, steel, govt employees, banks, telecom, electricity, petroleum, construction etc. Their support has to be harnessed in an organised manner in discharging this task.

7.1.3 These industry wise federations are required to take more proactive initiative in developing and cultivating closer bilateral relations with the respective TUI affiliates; they have to collect and update information/ developments relevant to the working class movement including conditions of workers, forthcoming attacks etc and disseminate the same to our entire movement; they have to follow the movements in the respective sectors in particular in other countries and send solidarity messages in support of those struggles. These struggles have to be widely publicised among the workers of the concerned sector in the country as well as all sections of workers. Their interventions and activities should be regularly communicated to including CITU centre and WFTU headquarters. They should also prepare documents/ papers on the status of the working class movement globally in the respective sectors, including trends and orientation in different parts of the globe and make it the collective property of the entire movement. If these are successfully done, we may be able to identify unions globally with whom we can develop special relationship based on ideological cohesion.

7.1.4 CITU has also to take initiative to activate WFTU in the Asia Pacific region with more closer and more frequent interaction with the WFTU affiliates in the region with the support of the industry/ sector wise federations. Side by side, our federations should make serious efforts in hosting meetings of respective TUIs in India, preparing through a process of intensive industry/sector based campaigns on workers' issues, on global experiences and raising resources from workers in the said process. CITU has also to consider hosting global meet of TUI leaders in India.

7.1.5 CITU Working Committee has to seriously consider this crucial aspect of discharge of our international responsibility and decide concretely to strengthen CITU in all respects.

7.2 106th International Labour Conference

7.2.1 The 106th International Labour Conference of ILO held in Geneva 5-16 June 2017 discussed four topics - a) Labour migration, b) Employment and decent work for peace and resilience, c)Follow up of strategic objective of fundamental principles and rights at work, d) Abrogation of six conventions. Amitava Guha, working committee member represented CITU as a part of the official delegation to ILO conference.

7.2.2 For the first time ILO discussed the jeopardised human right and doomed future of work and employment in the war infested countries. CITU representative participated in the working group on Fundamental Principles at Work. It evaluated the situation worldwide after the last evaluation made in 2012. There was not much progress thereafter; the conference recommended tasks for ILO HQ and the governments of countries.

7.2.3 CITU has been following up the complaint it filed to ILO against violation of Convention 81 on Labour Inspection against the inspection system of government of India. The case was heard in 2015 and the issue came up again in this conference before the Committee on Application of Standard due to persuasion by CITU. The government was so disturbed that they hurriedly sent report two days after the conference started. This issue came up for hearing before the Committee on the last day. Apart from CITU who led the discussion, trade unions from Brazil, Australia, and Malaysia also spoke on the issue. Government of India's recent steps to completely finish labour inspection system was thoroughly exposed before the international communities. Government prayed that this complaint of CITU should be dropped by Committee on Application of Standards. This was not accepted. Instead the Committee asked Indian government to provide detailed information with all possible data about labour inspection in SEZs, directed the government to conduct inspections in the presence of workers and increase resources for disposals at both central and state inspection machineries. Importantly the Committee directed that the government of India while amending the labour laws should keep conformity with the ILO conventions.

8.0 ORGANISATIONAL TASKS

Certain Important Organisational tasks have to be considered by the Working Committee.

8.1 National workshop on 'Sexual harassment at Workplace'

8.1.1 As per the decision of the 15th Conference, the national workshop on 'Sexual harassment at Workplace' was held on 25-26 February 2017 at Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

8.1.2 The workshop was to be attended by president/ general secretary of CITU state committees, state office bearer in charge of working women, women working committee members of CITU and convenors of the state coordination committees of working women and convenors of women's sub committees of the federations with large number of women.

8.1.3 55 comrades from 15 states (Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal), all India centre and one federation participated in the workshop. The president and general secretary of CITU along with two other office bearers from CITU centre

participated in the workshop. There was no representation from Assam, Delhi, Gujarat, J&K, Jharkhand, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand.

8.1.4 President/ general secretary of CITU state committees participated only from Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Punjab, Telangana and West Bengal. Male office bearers attended from Kerala, Chhattisgarh and Tamil Nadu and also from CWFI. One male office bearer attended from Andhra Pradesh on the second day. No male office bearer attended from UP and Maharashtra. No women attended from Haryana.

8.1.5 The issues of sexual harassment at workplace and within the organisation were presented separately in two separate sessions. The discussion on sexual harassment at workplace and our approach in dealing with it was held on the basis of a written note. The discussion on sexual harassment within the organisation was held on the basis of oral presentation.

8.1.6 The discussions were, on the whole, free and frank. Many forms of sexual harassment, and gender discrimination came up in the discussion. The discussion reflected the experience of the sexual harassment and gender based discriminations prevalent in the society and the workplace in particular and the organisational response to combat the same. But at the same time, the deliberation also reflected the prevalence of patriarchal attitude and discrimination against the women comrades within the CITU organisation also in many places, which is no doubt a matter of serious concern and need to be fought back and addressed by CITU as a whole. (The report on issues came up in the discussion on the harassment within organisation is given separately as **Annexure 2**)

8.1.7 The CITU secretariat held on 26-27 May 2017 discussed the report of the workshop. On the basis of the recommendations of the workshop, accepted by the CITU secretariat, the following tasks should be taken up:

1. Similar workshops should be held at state level involving the president/ general secretary of CITU district committees, women members of the state committee or council wherever it exists, district convenors of the coordination committees of working women, women office bearers of district committees of CITU where no district coordination committee of working women exists and convenors of women's subcommittees of state level unions to sensitise the CITU cadres. Similar exercise has to be taken up at the district level wherever district committees of CITU exist.
2. Joint campaign along with the women's sub committees of fraternal trade unions – AISGEF, CCGEW, Postal, BEFI, AIIEA, BSNLEU, FMRAI etc
3. Conduct a survey on the existence of complaints committees against sexual harassment at work place in
    a. government and public sector
    b. Private sector and
    c. Unorganised sector
4. Awareness campaign among men and women members of CITU affiliated unions/ fraternal trade union organisations in the offices, factories, establishments and different sectors in the organised/ unorganised sectors

5. Demand for effective mechanisms to prevent and deal with the issue to be included in the charter of demands of the CITU unions

6. A hand book to be prepared for the activists on 'sexual harassment at workplace'

8.1.8 All state committees of CITU and industrial federations should take up this campaign with utmost seriousness and importance.

8.2 On Working Women

8.2.1 The three tiered All India Coordination Committee of Working Women (CITU) has been constituted as per the decision of the 15th conference changing the structure of AICCWW (CITU). The first tier comprises all national women office bearers of CITU, the second all women members of the CITU working committee and the third all women members of the CITU general council. Convenors of state coordination committees of working women from states where there is no women member in the Working Committee and General Council of CITU and one woman state level office bearer from states where ccww has not been formed will also be members of AICCWW (CITU). AR Sindhu will function as the convenor of the AICCWW (CITU). Such coordination committees of working women have to be constituted at the state level in all states within three months and at the district level wherever possible. The concerned CITU committees should ensure that all these ccww at different levels meet a day before the meeting of the respective committee of CITU.

8.2.2 Women's sub committees must be constituted in all unions and federations of CITU having men and women members

8.2.3 The CITU commission paper 'Working Women – A Class Perspective' must be discussed in the state committees of CITU and the state ccww to develop a correct understanding about our work among working women, as decided by the 15th conference of CITU

8.2.4 CITU state committees should also plan a campaign on specific demands of working women taking initiative to involve women's subcommittees of fraternal trade union organisations and AIDWA. As per the reports available, no state committee of CITU has made serious efforts for the implementation of this campaign planned in March April 2017. This should be properly planned and implemented

8.3 On specific issues of dalits and the need to address them from CITU platform

8.3.1 One of the important objective for which CITU fights, as per its constitution, is 'for the abolition of discrimination based on caste, like untouchability, on sex and religion, in relation to employment, wages and promotion'

8.3.2 The CITU commission paper 'Casteism and social oppression' adopted in the 10th conference of CITU has said 'The working class, as the most modern class in the society has the responsibility and the potential to fight this social evil of casteism and unite the entire toiling people in the fight against the class enemies. It is the task of the working class movement to integrate the growing consciousness against social oppression with the common struggle of all toilers against class exploitation'.

8.3.3 The working class movement must go beyond its day to day struggle in workplace and play a pro active role in developing the struggle of rural proletariat and poor peasants to forge a vibrant and visible workers peasants alliance in action'.

8.3.4 This should have been our priority task since large sections of the most exploited of the society are also the most socially oppressed. However, we have not been able to take up the issue of social oppression of dalits from our platform with due seriousness.

8.3.5 We have again discussed 'Social Issues' in a commission in our 14th conference where we have noted the different specific problems faced by the socially oppressed sections like dalits, adivasis, minorities and women. In the commission paper adopted in the conference we have noted 'But this genuine discontent is being distorted and channelised into expressions that disrupt and undermine class solidarity and unity. It is the duty of CITU to channelise this discontent into common class struggle. The impact of the neoliberal policies on their living and working conditions has to be patiently explained to them and sustained efforts have to be made to integrate them into the united working class movement. CITU has to take the lead in fighting against all forms of social discrimination and oppression of these sections in order to achieve unity of the working class and the ultimate emancipation of all sections of toiling masses from all exploitation. We have to ensure participation of all sections of workers, including those belonging to the upper castes, if these socially oppressed sections of workers are to join the mainstream trade union struggle and to strengthen the unity of the working class'.

8.3.6 This requires discussion of the issue as a separate agenda in our committees, identifying the specific problems they face and a general campaign to create awareness on their conditions and raise their genuine demands. All our members must be sensitised to the issues of workers from the socially oppressed sections. Their problems have to be taken up from the union platform on a regular basis. Serious efforts have to be made to identify, train, develop and promote activists from these sections and promote them to leadership positions of the union and CITU. In addition, the sectors where these sections are largely concentrated should also be identified and strategies worked out to organise them (14th conference commission paper).

8.3.7 We have made some feeble efforts in this direction after the 14th conference by organising a meeting of tribal activists of our unions from the eastern states in Ranchi. However, all the concerned state committees did not take proper interest in sending their representatives to the meeting. CITU centre too did not effectively follow up the issue, except directing the state committees to organise similar meetings in their states to identify their specific issues.

8.3.8 The 15th conference has again reiterated the need to address this issue seriously from the CITU platform. It has also decided to organise a meeting of municipal workers' unions/ safai karmacharis unions' leaders at the national level as they comprise sectors with large number of dalit workers.

8.3.9 The situation since the Modi government assumed power at the centre has deteriorated. The government has fast tracked privatisation process. Contractorisation has already become rampant under the neoliberal regime. These deny the SC/ST sections of their constitutional right to reservation. This issue needs also to be focussed.

8.3.10 In some states CITU activists, as representatives of the committees of CITU and its affiliated unions in the states, have been active in organisations fighting caste discrimination, untouchability etc. However, we have to seriously examine whether their presence and activities there have helped in creating/ developing class consciousness in the dalits, adivasis etc. It is often observed that some of our cadres working in these organisations are themselves increasingly influenced by caste consciousness instead of developing class consciousness among the others. This trend will be harmful for class unity and should be curbed. It can be curbed only by taking up the specific issues of these sections from the trade union platform and mobilising all sections of workers against any type of social oppression.

8.3.11 To develop such an understanding a meeting on the issues of dalits is being proposed to be held at the earliest. CITU cadres, preferably state level office bearers working among/ belonging to dalit sections of society should participate in the meeting.

8.3.12 CITU is organising municipal workers/ safai karmacharis in many municipalities/ villages in several states. To share the experiences of these unions and explore the possibilities of developing some coordination/ regular contact among these unions, a meeting of the leadership of our unions among municipal/ municipal corporation workers and safai karmacharis is also proposed to be held on the next day of the meeting on the issues of dalits.

8.4 On Migrant Workers

8.4.1 Owing to agrarian crisis along with industrial recession, inter-state migration has increased phenomenally in the recent decade, besides intra-state migration from village to cities. Migrant workers are among the worst exploited sections among the working class. As with the other laws, the Interstate Migrant Workers' Act which provides some protection to them is not implemented. It is seldom enforced; nor are the workers aware of it. CITU state committees have to take initiatives to organise the migrant workers and formulate appropriate strategies for it.

8.4.2 Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are the largest migrant sending states. Many workers from Uttar Pradesh go to Maharashtra, Delhi, West Bengal, Haryana, Gujarat and other states. Migrants from Bihar also go to the same states, but most of them go to Delhi and West Bengal. Other migrant workers sending states are – Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha.

8.4.3 In the recent period large numbers of migrant workers from West Bengal, Assam etc are going to work in states like Kerala, Karnataka, and Telangana etc.

8.4.4 Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata are the largest destination cities for migrant workers. Significant numbers of workers from drought prone areas in states like Telangana, Karnataka, Maharashtra etc migrate seasonally to work in brick kilns, construction, tile factories, crop cutting operations – rice harvesting, sugar cane cutting etc. According to a study 90% workers in the construction industry are internal migrants.

8.4.5 While longer term migration is male dominated, circular / seasonal migration are most prevalent among the poorest and tribal populations and tend to have a more even balance of men and

women. Comparatively longer term migration or semi permanent migration is seen among workers employed in industrial clusters in several states. They are mostly contract workers.

8.4.6 Major problems being faced by migrant workers are: Lack of access to basic needs like identity documents – ration cards, Aadhar cards, voter ID cards etc, housing etc; discrimination as they have no local support; they are often kept segregated, face difficulties due to language barriers, suffer from political exclusion; their children often do not have access to education and often are compelled to work as child labour.

8.4.7 The numbers of migrant workers working in industrial clusters, hotels and restaurants, brick kilns, construction, as rickshaw pullers, auto and taxi drivers etc has seen a huge increase in the recent period. In many of these sectors in several states we have unions. We have decided to take up organising workers in the road transport and industrial clusters and construction as a priority. So it is necessary to pay special attention to organise the migrant workers working in these sectors.

8.4.8 It is not easy to organise the migrant workers because of several reasons – they do not stay in the same place; they do not understand the local language; they are not aware of organisation; they are scared to get organised and fight for their rights as they have no job security and also do not have local support; their relationship with the middlemen/ contractors from whom they get some advance pay or look for support often prevents them to think of getting organised

8.4.9 However, our own experience including in the brick kilns of Haryana, industrial clusters of Telangana and other states show that if we pay special attention it is possible to organise them and lead struggles to improve their conditions and carry them in mainstream trade union movement.

8.4.10 It is necessary to evolve strategies to organise them, educate them and raise their consciousness through which it will be possible to spread the message of CITU to the places of their origin also. While organising them attention needs also to be paid to gradually bring them out of the influence of casteist and communal forces and create class consciousness among them.

8.4.11 In sectors where there are large numbers of migrant workers, it is necessary:

- The organisers of the union should learn their language and be able to communicate with them
- If necessary, help of any supporters/ sympathisers knowing their language should be taken
- CITU literature should be made available to them in their own language; help of the CITU state committees from the origin states/ CITU centre may be taken for this
- Efforts should be made to get them identity documents – voters cards, Adhar cards, ration cards etc, which is not an impossible task, if serious efforts are made.
- The specific problems like provision of anganwadi centres, mobile crèches for construction workers, enrolment into schools, housing etc should be taken up by our unions
- Issues of harassment by local police needs to be address
- Other avenues, depending on the local situation.

8.5 Young Workers

8.5.1 Given the situation facing the trade union movement and age-profile of our leadership in

almost all tiers of organisation and particularly at workplace/industry level, the need for our urgent initiative for attracting young workers into the organisation as activists and promoting the eligible among them to leading position can hardly be exaggerated. In many industries, both in private sector and also in public sector recruitment has taken place during last ten years, union activities face serious problems owing to our failure to attract younger workers in the union activities sufficiently and in many places. The unions turned virtually defunct. In the unorganised sector also, in certain occupations, problem of young workers not taking that active part in union activities affected our capacity of mobilisation.

8.5.2 There is a general perception that, nowadays young workers have turned selfish and they do not want to give time in collective activities and remain occupied on their self interests. This is far from truth. We should not pass on the burden of our failure on to the common workers. In many cases, particularly in organised sector, trend of continuing in leadership of the union even long after retirement has indirectly retarded our organisational initiative to involve the young workers more in the union activities with prominence.

8.5.3 14th conference of CITU, while pointing out the deficit in our organisation stressed upon the task of taking special initiative to attract the young workers in unions with a special focus of developing them to leadership position. The issue was again discussed in the general council meeting of CITU held in Bellary in July 2014. A brainstorming meeting of young workers in leading positions of various unions of CITU was held in New Delhi on 14th November 2014. Around 70 comrades from 15 states representing various industries in public sector as well as private sector attended the daylong meeting. The deliberation was mainly by those young workers expressing frank opinion on their experiences in union work and their opinions on the reasons as to why we are failing to draw the young workers in the union activities sufficiently. The discussion was frank and many suggestions as well as reasons surfaced. Besides pointers to general lack of awareness about the role of trade unions, scare for victimisation, lack of consciousness and influence of consumerism, their opinion also mentioned about the lack of patient hearing from the leadership, inappropriate and sometimes intolerant response to the problems being raised by the young workers, neglect to young workers' aspirations while preparing charter of demands etc. There are cases where failure of the leader to reply to or explain properly the questions raised by the young workers is being sought to be covered up by intolerance and arrogance. They have also suggested for regular education programmes for the young workers covering their area of concerns.

8.5.4 The report of discussion was sent to all state committees and federations with a request to hold similar meetings at the state level in a regular manner to make them speak frankly their mind and accordingly take conscious initiative to draw them in more active role in the trade union work. But this task could not be followed up in most of the states. At least, CITU centre does not have any such report. This task also needs to be followed up seriously. Our leadership at all level need to be sensitised in that direction.

8.5.5 Another thing needs to be noted. The established senior leadership of the union must have to change consciously their style and approach and make some preparation while interacting with the young workers who are much more sensitive and in many cases more informative and knowledgeable. CITU leadership should realise that it is the trade union movement which needs the participation and involvement of young workers more than the young workers who are yet to realise the need for a union at the initial stages.

8.6 Observance of the Centenary year of Great October Revolution

8.6.1 15th Conference of CITU has given a call to plan observance of the centenary year of Great October Revolution through intensive and ideological education programme to be undertaken extensively to cover the entire organisation up to grass root level. The centenary year also almost coincides with 150th year of publication of 'Das Capital' and 200th birth anniversary of its author Karl Marx. The ideological education campaign should also focus on developing awareness among the workers about the bankruptcy of the capitalist system and its inefficacy in addressing the basic problems of mankind and the society. It should also expose the politics upholding the capitalist system among the entire organisation and through them among the working class and the common people. State committees, federations and the affiliated unions have to undertake concrete programmes on such ideological education. Members are requested to report about the initiatives already taken in that direction.

8.7 Updating the Bhubaneswar document on organisation

8.7.1 The 15th conference of CITU has decided to 'reorient our work as per the guidelines of the Bhubaneswar Document on organisation and organise a national workshop on organisation to review its implementation and update the Bhubaneswar Document'.

8.7.2 Accordingly, while concretising the tasks of the 15th conference, the meeting of the full secretariat of CITU held in December 2016 decided to initiate an exercise to update the Bhubaneswar Document by preparing a proper questionnaire to collect concrete information from all state committees and national federations on the present state of organisational functioning with the office bearers in charge of different state committees and industries taking the responsibility to collect proper information. The matter was again discussed in the CITU Secretariat meeting on 26-27 May 2017. As decided by the Secretariat, it is now proposed that

- The questionnaire should be finalised by end of July 2017 and sent to all the state committees and industrial federations for collection of information
- All the state committees and industrial federations should send concrete details sought in the questionnaire by the end of August 2017
- Prepare a note on the basis of the information collected
- Conduct a national workshop to discuss the note along with the tasks related to organising the unorganised sector workers and contract and casual etc workers in early October 2017
- CITU centre to prepare a draft on the basis of the discussions in the workshop and updating the political industrial situation in the country and the current organisational condition of CITU
- Draft to be finalised in the CITU general council meeting to be held in the end of the year

8.8 Amendment to CITU Constitution

8.8.1 The CITU Secretariat in its meeting held on 26-27th May 2017 decided to incorporate certain amendments to CITU Constitution in consideration of the urgent organisational need. The issues

pertain to increase in affiliation fees, incorporation of provisions on district committees and area level committees and their rights and responsibilities, with due consideration for maintaining democratic functioning of the unions. The proposal for amendments is given in details in **Annexure -1.**

8.8.2 In the Annexure-1, proposed changes are mentioned in ***bold italics and underlined*** to replace the words mentioned in ***bold italics***.

8.8.3 Comrades are requested to give their opinion on the same. Finalised proposal for amendment will be presented before CITU General Council to be held by the end of the year for final adoption.

8.9 Membership Drive and expansion of CITU Organisation

8.9.1 All our movemental initiatives and activities must get reflected in our organisational expansion. Membership drive should be an integral part of *our activities*. We have seen that big section of workers from various sectors viz., transport, small and medium factories and service establishments, who are not yet unionised or not organised under CITU joined in a big way in all the agitations and action programmes during the last couple of years. Around 40 per cent of the workers who joined the last two countrywide strike actions were not organised in any unions sponsoring the strike calls. But it is a sad fact that, in most of the states, we are yet to take serious and focussed initiative to draw those sections of workers in the organisation. We have to overcome this shortcoming. Expansion of organisation is a matter of conscious effort of continuously exploring all possibilities emerging along with our agitations, struggles and other activities. For example, in the event of recent phenomenon of rising unrest among the IT sector employees owing to reported move of retrenchment, possibility of organising them in trade unions is emerging. Accordingly CITU Secretariat has called for making all out efforts in that direction with the help of contacts already developed among them. Similar efforts should also be made by all our state committees in the unorganised segment of transport sector, and in the industrial clusters, where spontaneous response was noticed during last two general strikes.

8.9.2 All our movemental initiatives and activities must get reflected in our organisational expansion and membership drive is an integral part of that. 15th Conference of CITU had taken a moderate target of increasing the CITU membership to 80 lakh at the time next Conference and adopted a year-wise state-wise target from the conference itself. The membership target for the year 2017 is circulated in **Annexure 3.** All the affiliated unions, state committees and federations are requested to take initiative of membership drive simultaneously with all other activities in order to achieve the target.

9.0 CONCLUSION

Comrades,

9.1 The 15th Conference of CITU, held in November 2016, has charted the course of multi-pronged movemental and organisational tasks before the working class movement in general and CITU in particular, to meet the tremendous challenges not only before the working class but the entire people and the entire nation as such.

9.2 Under the extreme right reactionary polity in governance, guarding and serving the interest of

the imperialist forces and the exploiting classes under their umbrella, everything in this country is under attack-livelihood and rights of toiling people, unity of the people and integrity of the nation, and ultimately the democracy as a whole. National productive assets are under sell out. Our struggle is against such all out anti national depredation by the ruling classes.

9.3 The working class has to take the lead in building the resistance against the tyranny of the dire anti national policies on economic, social and political front by the government at the centre and the poisonous attempts of the various RSS outfits to tear apart society into pieces, to divide society on non-issues.

9.4 The recent successes of this brutal enemy of the nation in misleading the people are no doubt demoralising. They are a matter of serious concern. But at the same time, the silver lining is the emerging struggles of different sections of the toiling people including the surging struggles of the farmers in different parts of the country. These struggles particularly in the saffron heartland assure us and create confidence about the unfolding opportunities for decisive combat.

9.5 It is in this background and context that the Working Committee of CITU has to present a concrete roadmap before the working class of the country and particularly for the CITU committees, cadres and activists to effectively implement the call of the 15th Conference: 'Reach the unreached', 'Link up issues with policies and expose the politics behind these policies'. This road map should be able to carry the working class and the people to heightened struggles for a determined combat against the anti people and anti national depredation of the exploitative regime being steered by the worst enemy of the humanity and civilisation.

We will definitely overcome.

With greetings,

Tapan Sen
General Secretary

Proposed amendments to the CITU Constitution:

(Words marked in ***bold italics and underlined*** are proposed to replace the words marked in ***bold italics***)

Constitution
Of the
Centre of Indian Trade Unions

Name

1. The name of the organisation shall be CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS (to be designated the abbreviated form as the CITU)

2. The flag of the CITU will be red in colour with hammer and sickle in centre in white colour, with the letters CITU vertically on the left

AIMS AND OBJECTS

3. (A) The CITU believes that the exploitation of the working class can be ended only by socialising all means of production, distribution and exchange and establishing a Socialist State. Holding fast the ideal of socialism, the CITU stands for the complete emancipation of the society from all exploitation

(B) The CITU fights:

(a) Against all encroachments on the economic and social rights of workers and for enlargement of their rights and liberties including the right to strike, for winning, defending and extending the freedom of the democratic and trade union movements
(b) For the recognition of trade unions on the basis of secret ballot
(c) For the progressive improvement of wages, for reduction of working hours, for provision of decent housing and improvement of the living conditions of the workers
(d) For security of full employment, right to work, and against the hazards of unemployment
(e) For full and adequate social security legislation to protect the workers and their families against sickness, accident and old age, providing adequate maternity insurance and pensions for widowed ***mothers (wives/ women)*** and dependent children, and every other type of social security, for effective control of the worker subscribers over the Provident Fund and ESI Corporations
(f) For equal wages for equal work
(g) For the abolition of discrimination based on caste, like untouchability, on ***sex (gender)***, and religion, in relation to employment, wages and promotion
(h) For the protection of the democratic rights of the minorities

(i) For formation through election, of committees in factories, workshops, business houses and other places where collective work is performed, with a view to control conditions of work in these places
(j) For proper vocational training
(k) For elimination of illiteracy
(l) For helping workers organise unions where none exists, for rallying the workers in a single union by uniting the rival unions in one industry

(C)

(a) In the fight for the immediate interests of the working class, the CITU demands:

i) Nationalisation of all foreign monopoly concerns who barbarously exploit our working class
ii) Nationalisation of all concerns owned by Indian monopolies and big industry who garner huge profits at the expense of the workers, who exploit the people by pegging prices at high level and who dictate the anti labour and anti people policies of the government

(b) The CITU fights against the repressive policies of the government towards the democratic and trade union movements; it fights against its economic policy of safeguarding the interests of capitalists and landlords and piling burdens on the common ***man (people)*** and the working class through increasing taxation and inflation; it fights for replacing the present bourgeois landlord regime by a democratic regime of the people.

(D)

1. For this purpose:

(a) The CITU while supporting the democratic demands of other sections of the people seeks the help of other democratic forces and organisations in the common fight to replace the present bourgeois landlord regime by a democratic regime of the people.
(b) The CITU raises its voice against the growing dependence of our economy on American and other foreign monopoly capital and piling up of foreign debts which is leading to severe exploitation of the working class and creating a dangerous situation for national freedom

2. The CITU promotes relations of solidarity with the peasants and agricultural workers in the fight for land, against usury and rent and high taxation and lend every help for the forces of agrarian revolution, to support in full the struggle of the agricultural workers for higher wages and decent conditions. The CITU believes that no lasting improvement in the economic conditions of the working class is possible without a complete liquidation of the feudal land relationship, and ending the monopoly of the big landlords.

3. It promotes international solidarity and unity with the workers of other countries in the common fight for socialism, promotes fraternal relations and deep bonds of unity with workers and people of socialist countries

4. It helps people in their fight against imperialist domination and aggression and renders all assistance to national liberation movements against imperialism

5. The CITU fights for the maintenance of world peace, against all imperialist plots for unleashing world war, against nuclear war and for the abolition of all nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction

6. It fights for peaceful coexistence between states belonging to different social systems

7. It fights for a foreign policy based on friendly relations with neighbouring countries, opposing war and supporting peace and national liberation movements

8. The CITU cooperates with international trade union organisations for the furtherance of the common aims of the trade union movement

9. It firmly adheres to the position that no social transformation can be brought about without class struggle and shall constantly repel attempts to take the working class along the path of class collaboration

DEMOCRATIC FUNCTIONING

4.

(a) To achieve its purpose the CITU will constantly endeavour to build united activity with other central organisations and of unions and organisations affiliated and not affiliated, in the struggle for common objectives
(b) The CITU considers that the democratic functioning of the organisation at all levels and of its constituents is essential to achieve its objectives
(c) The democratic functioning of the organisation requires strict adherence to the provisions of the Constitution regarding periodic meetings of CITU bodies, to the discharge of the obligations of their responsibilities and the collective functioning of the various bodies under the Constitution
(d) The minority view point in the CITU bodies, should have the right of free expression, and should be given adequate representation in all its bodies. This will be ensured by the method of cumulative voting
(e) The CITU bodies at the centre have the responsibility of ensuring that the state committees and other bodies that may be elected, function democratically, according to the rules laid down, ensuring free expression within the organisation, for all sections.
(f) The state committees of the CITU will ensure that the constituent unions function democratically, according to their Constitutions and take up all complaints about non democratic functioning with the parties concerned

(g) The decisions of the bodies of the CITU shall be taken by a simple majority. A two thirds majority will be required if the issue concerns amendment of the Constitution or the establishment of modification of its programme. Normally elections to the bodies of the CITU will be held on the basis of cumulative voting

COMPOSITION OF THE CITU

5. The CITU consists of:

i. The affiliated unions
ii. The delegates assembled at the triennial or special session of the CITU conference
iii. The General Council
iv. The Working Committee ***or the General Council (Omit)***
v. The state conferences, the state committees and state councils
vi. The district committees

THE CITU CONFERENCE

6.

1) The General Session will meet once in every three years. The session will be called the CITU Conference. It is the highest organ of authority in the CITU and all bodies of the CITU derive their authority from it
2) The Conference will consist of the delegates elected by the constituent unions in accordance with the rules under the Constitution and the office bearers of the CITU will have the same status as the elected delegates
3) The functions and powers of the CITU Conference are as follows:

a. Adopting the programme and the general policy of the CITU, making such changes in them as are considered necessary in the interests of the working class
b. Discussion and adoption of the report presented by the General Secretary, discussion and adoption of such other reports that may be presented by the General Council on the questions on the agenda
c. Examination and discussion of questions put to the Conference by constituent state committees and constituent unions
d. Pass resolutions on current questions affecting the working class
e. Take decisions on affiliations of unions, on disaffiliation and other type of disciplinary actions
f. Election of the Office Bearers
g. Election of the General Council ***(add - according to the rules prescribed)***
h. The Conference will fix its own agenda
i. It will modify or amend the present Constitution
j. ***It will elect the General Council according to the rules prescribed (delete clause)***
k. It will pass the audited statement of accounts

l. It will take any other decision consistent with the programme and the Constitution of the CITU

SPECIAL SESSION

7. A special session of the CITU Conference, in between two triennial sessions may be called by the General Council or on a requisition from unions representing one fourth of the total strength of the membership of the CITU

ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO CITU SESSION

8.

a. For the General or Special Session of the CITU, the affiliated unions shall be entitled to elect delegates on the basis to be decided each time by the General Council prior to the Conference taking into consideration possibility of making arrangements for the total number of delegates and need for protecting the interests of smaller unions

b. To ascertain the number of delegates which an affiliated union is entitled to send to the CITU ***(add Conference)***, the basis shall be the number of paying members existing on the register of the union, as disclosed in the balance sheet of the union, for the calendar year prior to the session of the CITU, duly certified by the auditor

c. An affiliated union shall furnish to the General Secretary of the CITU the names and addresses of the delegates two weeks before the date fixed for the session of the CITU

d. Delegates' cards will be issued on production of a certificate of election by the ***Secretary or President of the union concerned (add – or the General Secretary or President of the concerned State Committee)*** and on payment of a delegation fee of ***Rs 2 per delegate, or (omit)*** an amount fixed by the Working Committee

e. No person who is not an office bearer or a paying member or an honorary member of the affiliated union, shall be entitled to be elected as a delegate to the ***CITU (add Conference)***

f. Proposals from the constituent unions on the agenda of the General Session of the CITU must be signed by the President or the Secretary of the union sending them and must reach the General Secretary of the CITU at least two weeks before the time fixed for the ***meeting (change to Conference)*** of the CITU

g. At the session of the CITU, the official business shall be given priority over other business

THE GENERAL COUNCIL

9.

A. The General Council shall comprise i) Office Bearers, ii) 425 other members elected by the ***General Session of the (omit)*** CITU Conference as per norms noted below:

The 425 seats as above will be distributed among the State Committees of the CITU in proportion to their respective membership strength to the total membership of the CITU forming the basis of election of delegates to the ***general session of the (omit)*** CITU Conference

(Explanation: This 425 shall include 125 members of the Working Committee, as in Section 10 (1))

(Aa) The delegates from each State shall elect the member(s) from the respective state as per number determined as at A above

(Aaa) The names of members of the General Council elected as above shall be approved by the ***general session of the (omit)*** CITU Conference.

B. Powers and Responsibilities of the General Council

a) The General Council, following its election by the Conference, will elect the Working Committee. The General Council will be the highest authority between two ***sessions (Conferences)*** of the CITU

b) The General Council will implement the policies and resolutions of the Conference, will review the situation in the trade union movement from time to time and take all necessary steps to further the policies of the organisation, to defend the interests of the working class and unify its ranks

c) It will examine and discuss reports presented by the General Secretary and other office bearers on behalf of ***the Working Committee (add – or the Secretariat of CITU)*** and take appropriate decisions. It will examine whether all CITU bodies are functioning democratically according to the Constitution and take appropriate steps to remedy weaknesses

d) It will set up work plans for CITU committees to expand trade union work, bring fresh workers within the organisation and help the workers to build united unions and unity in the trade union movement

e) It will coordinate the activities of the affiliated unions all over India, endeavour to develop common actions. It will render help and guidance to working class strikes, conducted by affiliated or non affiliated unions, develop solidarity actions among workers of different industries and states and among workers and employees

f) It will approve the statement of accounts submitted by the Treasurer

g) It will take urgent steps in the interest of the movement wherever necessary
h) It will affiliate new unions and has the right to disaffiliate defaulting unions according to the rules of the Constitution

i) The General Council will popularise the objectives of the CITU. It will take concrete decisions to fight against the anti labour and anti people policies of the ruling classes and the government

j) The General Council will fix the date and venue of the triennial ***session of the CITU Conference (change as – Conference of CITU)*** or authorise the Working Committee of the Secretariat to fix the date and venue of the ***session (change as Conference)*** and convene it

k) The General Council will have the right to call a special session in between two sessions of the Conference

l) The General Council can fill the vacancy of an office bearer whenever it will arise

m) It will amend the Constitution in case of emergency

THE WORKING COMMITTEE

10.

1. The Working Committee of CITU shall comprise:

a) Office Bearers and b) 125 members elected by and out of the General Council from each state in the same manner and proportion, as described in Section 9 (A) (ii) (a) (c). The names of members of the Working Committee elected as above shall be approved by the meeting of the General Council

2. The Working Committee shall meet at least once a year

3. In between two sessions of the General Council, the Working Committee will act on behalf of ***Council (change as General Council)***, exercise its authority, except in relation to the amendment of the Constitution, and discharge all its responsibilities

4. The decision of the Working Committee will have to be placed for endorsement before the next session of General Council

5. On a requisition from the unions representing one fourth of the total membership of the CITU, the Working Committee shall take steps to call a special session of the CITU within two months of the receipt of the requisition for purpose of transaction of the business mentioned in the requisition

OFFICE BEARERS OF THE CITU

11.

1.

a) The office bearers of the CITU shall consist of:

i) A President
ii) A General Secretary
iii) Vice Presidents
iv) A Treasurer and
v) Secretaries

(Explanation: The number of vice presidents and secretaries will be decided by the Conference at each session)

b) The office bearers shall be elected by the triennial ***session of the (omit)*** Conference, after having received nominations duly proposed and recommended by one or more delegates. Nominees must be persons who are elected delegates at the session or retiring office bearers

2.

a) The President shall preside over the meetings of the General Council and the Working Committee. The outgoing President shall preside at the General Session and any session that may be held during ***his (his/her)*** term of office
b) The President along with the General Secretary and the Secretariat bear the responsibility of executing the decisions of the Working Committee and the General Council; maintain close contacts with the State units, to ensure collective functioning at all levels, to popularise CITU policies and explain these in relation to current issues

3. A Vice President shall preside over the meeting of the General Council or the Working Committee in the absence of the President. All the Vice Presidents will act as members of Presidium during General and Special Sessions of the CITU to assist the President in conducting the deliberations

4. The General Secretary is responsible for the activities of the CITU in between two sessions of the Working Committee. ***He (He/She),*** in consultation with the President and the Secretaries may take urgent decisions to further the work of the organisation. Such decisions are to be endorsed by the Working Committee or the General Council whichever meets earlier

5. The General Secretary shall present to the CITU Conference a report of the work done by the General Council and Working Committee during the period between two Sessions. The report should also contain details of the activities of the State units. It should specifically report on the collective and democratic functioning of the organisation at all levels and detail out steps to be taken to develop the organic unity

of the organisation. Besides, it should deal with current problems of vital interest to the movement and suggestions to meet them in full conformity with the policies and programmes of the Constitution. The General Secretary or the Secretariat will also submit reports of work to the periodical meetings of the Working Committee and the General Council

6. Treasurer is responsible for the maintenance of proper accounts of all the fund of the CITU and keeping them in safe custody. ***He (He/She)*** shall ensure that the CITU funds are spent in accordance with the decisions of the Working Committee and as per the direction of the General Secretary or the Secretariat. ***He (He/She)*** shall get the accounts audited every year and submit them before the Working Committee and the General Council for approval. ***He (He/She)*** will also present a statement of accounts and balance sheet duly certified by auditors to the Conference of CITU

7. The Secretaries shall assist the General Secretary in carrying out his responsibilities.

8. The President, the General Secretary, all the Secretaries and office bearers constitute the Secretariat of the CITU

9. In case of emergency or when either the General Council or Working Committee cannot be convened decision on important questions may be taken by circular to the members of the Working Committee

NOTICE FOR MEETING

12.

1.

a) Notice of (the time, place and agenda) meetings of the Working Committee, the General Council and the triennial or special session of CITU shall be issued by the General Secretary and in his absence by one of the Secretaries

b) For the meeting of the Working Committee and the General Council, at least 15 days notice shall be given and for ***the Session of (omit)*** the CITU Conference, at least one month's notice shall be given.
c) Full two months' notice is necessary for changes in the Constitution and programme of the CITU
d) Emergency meeting of Working Committee can be called by giving a notice of 7 days
e) These provisions apply in relation to the meetings of the state conferences and state committees. The Secretary of the state committee will issue the required notices

2. The quorum at the ***Session of the (omit)*** CITU Conference and at the meeting of the General Council, the Working Committee, the State Conferences, State

Committees and Councils, shall be one third of the members of the delegates or members of the respective bodies.

STATE COMMITTEES

13.

a) The State Committees and State Councils (wherever they exist) of the CITU constitute vital link between the CITU central bodies and the activities of the constituent unions

b) The State Committees and Councils are directly responsible for guiding the constituent unions and their activities in the state in defence of the interests of the working class, implementing the CITU policies and expanding the trade union activities, for rallying workers to build one union in one industry by uniting rival unions.

c) The State Committees and Councils have the responsibility of coordinating the activities of the affiliated unions in the state, working for joint actions with non affiliated organisations and keeping the central office informed of their activities

d) The State Committees and Councils have the responsibility of propagating the political objectives and policies of the CITU as described in Section 3

e) It is their responsibility to ensure collective and democratic functioning in the State and constituent unions so that close ties are evolved between different unions and between members and leaders of each union. It is also their responsibility to see that minority opinion is given freedom of expression and proper representation in the elected bodies

f) Corresponding to the CITU Conferences, there shall be held every ***two years (three years)*** at least a conference of delegates of all the unions in the state, affiliated to the CITU. The Conference will elect a State Council corresponding to the General Council which in its turn will elect a State Committee. In case the State Conference feels that a Council is not necessary, it may directly elect the State Committee

g) The State Conference will elect such office bearers as it may think fit, apart from a ***(add President)*** Secretary and a Treasurer

h) The State Conference will lay down the basis of representation on the State Council ***(and/)*** or the State Committee and the number of members for the Committee and the Council

i) The State Conference will:

   i. Take decisions to implement the policies of the CITU Conference, General Council and Working Committee; ensure the implementation of these policies and report on violation, if any, by unions
   ii. Discuss and adopt the report of the Secretary
   iii. Adopt the statement of accounts submitted by the Treasurer
   iv. Discuss immediate issues including the policy of the state government and take appropriate decisions. It will discuss questions affecting all India movement, labour legislations and policies of the government of India and take decisions and suggest actions to the General Council
   v. Take all measures to coordinate the activities of constituent unions,

develop one union in one industry, and take steps to initiate and guide the struggle of the working class in the state; and develop solidarity actions with the workers in other states

vi. Recommend unions for affiliation to the General Council in accordance with the rules laid down in the Constitution; it will also recommend disaffiliation of unions to the General Council on the ground enumerated in the Constitution

vii. Actively popularise the political objectives of the CITU and take decisions for appropriate political action where necessary. In particular it will make special endeavours to build close ties with kisan organisations and support the struggle of the poor peasants and agricultural workers for land and decent wages

j) In between two sessions of the State Conference the ***State Council (State Council or the State Committee where the Council does not exist)*** will function as the leading body in the State and fulfil all the responsibilities and all the powers of the State Conference ***except in relation to the amendment of the Constitution of the State Committee (delete)***

k) The State Committee will function between two sessions of the State Council and discharge all its responsibilities and have all its powers

l) The State Committee will meet at least once in two months and the Council once in four months

m) The State Committee will consider all applications for affiliation from the State and forward them to the CITU office with its recommendations. Such applications shall be forwarded by the State Committee to the General Secretary within a period of two months from its receipt by the Committee

n) The State Council may frame bye laws for its functioning consistent with the provision of the Constitution

o) The State Committee or Council may also permit the formation of District, City or Regional Councils ***(add or Committees or block/ village level coordination committees)*** wherever necessary for the coordination of the activities of the trade unions in the area and for carrying out the objectives of the CITU

DISTRICT AND LOWER LEVEL COMMITTEES (New section to be included)

14.

a) The State Committees should form District Committees wherever there are sufficient number of unions in the district and the objective conditions to form such a committee exist. The criteria for forming district committees, i.e. the number of unions, membership in the district should be decided by the concerned state committee

b) The District Committees constitute the most important link between the State Committees, State Councils and the unions

c) The District Committees should function under the guidance of the State Committee

d) The District Committees should coordinate movements of the unions at the district level

e) The District Committees are largely responsible for execution in the

districts of all decisions taken at the all India and state level by the CITU

f) The District Committees should play a major role in consolidating organised trade unions in the district and guide them

g) The District Committees have the responsibility of propagating, at the district level, the political objectives and policies of the CITU as described in Section 3

h) The District Committees are directly responsible for identifying and developing CITU cadres in the district

i) It is their responsibility to ensure collective and democratic functioning in the District and constituent unions so that close ties are evolved between different unions and between members and leaders of each union in the district.

j) Corresponding to the CITU State Conference, there shall be held every three years at least a conference of delegates of all the unions affiliated to the CITU in the district. The Conference will elect such office bearers as per the guidance of the State Committee apart from a President, Secretary and a Treasurer. It will also elect a District Committee

p) The State Committee or State Council may also permit the formation of City, Block, Regional or Village Coordination Committees wherever it thinks necessary. The function of all such lower level committees will be to develop coordination between the activities of the trade unions in the area and carrying out the objectives of the CITU.

AFFILIATION OF UNIONS

15. a) The CITU may affiliate to itself any bonafide trade union which satisfies the following conditions:

i. The trade union seeking affiliation shall make an application in prescribed form

ii. It shall pay ever year affiliation fee and special levies as provided in these rules

iii. It shall send a copy of its Constitution, a list of office bearers, and a copy of the statement of accounts for the calendar year giving an average paying membership, duly audited by an auditor, and such other information as the General Secretary of the CITU may require

iv. The application for affiliation shall be forwarded through the State Committee concerned wherever such a Committee exists, to the General Secretary, CITU. ***Such applications shall be forwarded by the State Committees to the General Secretary within a period of two months from its receipt by the Committee (repetition; omit),*** with its remarks regarding the eligibility of the union for affiliation, under the Constitution of the CITU

v. The minimum fee which a union desiring affiliation henceforward to the CITU shall charge its members, shall not be less than ***three rupees per year (Six rupees per year),*** to be collected either monthly, quarterly, half yearly or yearly

b) The Working Committee of the CITU shall have the authority to accept or reject any application for affiliation from a trade union, provided, however, that an aggrieved union has the right to appeal to the General Council or Special Session of the CITU

AFFILIATION FEES

16. Each affiliated union shall pay to the CITU:

a. An affiliation fee at the rate of ***One Rupee (Re 1) per member per calendar year subjected to the minimum of Rs 40/- (Two Rupees (Rs 2) per member per calendar year subjected to the minimum of Rs 100/-***

b. The annual subscription of the journal, ***The Working Class (The Working Class or CITU Mazdoor and/ or The Voice of the Working Woman/ Kamkaji Mahila)***

c. Such other amount as may be fixed by the General Council and/ or the State Committee in order to facilitate the functioning

d. All three contributions vide a, b and c above area inseparable part of affiliation fee

17. i. The affiliation fee shall be paid by the 30th June each year. However, if the ***session (Conference)*** is held before June 30th, the affiliation fee for the year shall be paid before the ***session (Conference)***. If in the case of any union there is difficulty in ascertaining the full membership for the year, because of early payment, the previous year's membership may be accepted as the membership for the ***Session (Conference).*** The special contribution or levy shall become payable as and when fixed in each case. Non payment of the affiliation fee that has become due shall disqualify the defaulting union from voting at or participating in the ***meeting (conference)*** of the CITU or any of its constituent bodies, until the payment is made; provided that the Working Committee may in special cases for reasons to be recorded, remove the disqualifications

ii. A union when disqualified for non payment of the affiliation fees may be re affiliated on payment of the arrears and the current fees

iii. In case a union is disqualified, within the meaning of clause i, a period of not less than 12 months, the General Secretary may issue a notice to the union concerned, to make good within three months, all dues at the date of notice. In case the union fails to pay all such arrears, demanded within the time given, it shall be liable for disaffiliation. The General Council may, for reasons to be specified, waive the whole or part of these arrears in the case of specified unions

ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

18. Delegates and advisors of various national and international conferences and meetings shall be ordinarily elected at meetings of the General Council or the Working Committee whichever is in session. In case of emergency, or when either the General Council or the Working Committee cannot be convened, decisions may be taken by circular to the members of the Working Committee

INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATION

19. The CITU may be affiliated to such international bodies as have the same or similar objectives

FINANCE

20. The funds of the CITU shall be kept in a bank and the Working Committee shall have the power to nominate such persons from among the office bearers of the CITU, one of whom must be the Treasurer, who may be authorised to open and operate such bank accounts.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

21.

a. The General Council shall have the power to disaffiliate any union which fails to pay its affiliation dues or which is wilfully working against the interests and the Constitution of the CITU

b. The General Council shall have the power to remove any office bearer guilty of anti working class action. It shall have the right to take similar action against any member of the General Council guilty of the above actions. Before taking such action the person concerned shall be given an opportunity to explain ***his (his /her)*** conduct

c. The State Committees and other bodies shall have similar rights in relation to their members

d. The individuals or unions concerned have the right to appeal to the CITU Conference or the State Conference, against the action taken by the General Council or the ***State Council (add or the State Committee)*** respectively

e. The General Council shall have power to decide by a two third majority to dissolve or reorganise a State Committee or State Council if it is functioning against the policies of the CITU or is unable to discharge its responsibilities because of inactivity or any other cause. Before taking such action, the General Council shall convene a meeting of the State Committee or State Council to give a hearing to its members. Within six months of taking such action, the General Council shall convene a Conference of the unions of the State to elect State Committee and/ or State Council

BYE LAWS

22. The General Council shall have the power to make bye laws, not inconsistent with the Constitution

Annexure 2

Issues that came up in the
National Workshop on Sexual harassment at Workplace
25-26 February 2017, Chennai

Many incidents of harassment and discrimination against women cadres within the organisation were reported in the workshop. Though sexual harassment is not widely prevalent at the state level, it does exist, which itself should be alarming for a revolutionary class organisation like CITU. Besides, it was noted that disciplinary action had no deterring impact on its incidence, at least in one state.

What were widely prevalent at all levels, were the discrimination, mental harassment and lack of dignified treatment of women, from state level to down below.

Issues that were reported

1. Discrimination:

    a. Women cadres and leaders are almost always assigned the responsibility of sectors like scheme workers where all or almost all the workers are women. Such stereotypes need to be broken
    b. While providing two wheelers for conveyance; it is said that permission is required from the state committee to buy motor cycle for women cadres, while no such rule is practiced in the case of male comrades; while male comrades are given motor cycles, women cadres are given bicycles; often they are asked why they should be provided vehicles, they can take an auto
    c. Often they are not paid travel allowance
    d. There is discrimination in the allowances paid to women full timers
    e. Even in public meetings where large numbers of women are mobilised, women leaders are not invited to the dais, they are not allowed to speak
    f. They are not taken for negotiations, even when they are taken they are not allowed to speak
    g. Discrimination in promoting women cadres to higher positions in the organisation
    h. Recruiting women full timers generally is never discussed
    i. Casteist remarks are also made sometimes

2. Incidents of nepotism exist within the organisation

    a. those who work hard but are critical of the leadership are sidelined; those having good relation with the leadership are promoted
    b. Women cadres coming from families of leaders get preferential or better treatment; they get easily established in the organisation

3. Other types of harassment of women:

    a. Comments like 'You women always cry like that'

b. Unwelcome comments about women's dress, hair style, the way they talk, behave etc are made in the name of being friendly and informal

4. Single women are particularly treated in an objectionable way. Unnecessary curiosity is shown in the personal life of single women.

5. Sexual harassment:

    a. Incidents of sexual harassment reported to the higher committees are not taken seriously
    b. It is very difficult to convince and prove particularly when senior leaders or leaders from higher committees are involved; in such cases the stand taken is often dubious
    c. Women cadres are not allowed to raise them in the committees or in front of others; asked to resolve the issue by talking to each other, maintaining secrecy
    d. Even when action is taken against the culprit, the victim is treated in such a way that she is forced to leave the organisation
    e. Women cadres are eager to learn from male leaders about different aspects of work in the trade unions; this is taken advantage of by some male leaders

6. There have been incidents of sexual harassment, particularly of women cadres working in the unorganised sector by district leadership. The types of sexual harassment that were reported in the meeting were:

    a. Use of mobile phones and social media to harass women cadres
    b. Making vulgar comments about women cadres in public after drinking
    c. Sending indecent letters about women cadres as an expression of unhappiness at her being promoted to a higher position in the organisation
    d. Vulgar language on the pretext of cutting jokes
    e. Misbehaving after drinking at the time of rallies, on the way to rallies and meetings etc
    f. Character assassination of women in the higher committees compelling several women to leave the organisation

7. Physical attack by the wife of a male full timer on a woman full timer, because she travelled pillion on his bike, was reported. Male cadres do not create awareness among their family members about their work; while many male comrades go to temple on the pretext of respecting the beliefs of their family members, they never try to bring them to the meetings called by CITU or other mass organisations

8. Women cadres in the organisation are treated with insensitivity
    a. The fact that women have to bear triple burden is often not taken into consideration
    b. No support when they face problems in the family, even in crisis situations; they are asked to take leave from full timership till the problem is solved and consider rejoining later

c. Families of many women cadres do not support our ideology; calling meetings on festival days creates problems and pressure on women cadres; meetings are often inordinately delayed into night creating difficulties for women

9. Feudal attitudes towards women have high prevalence among CITU leadership, more so at the district and lower levels

a. Opinions of women comrades are not given due importance in the committees; often they are not heard and shouted down, they are not allowed to speak; men often busy themselves with their mobile phones or other electronic devices when women speak in the committees; they are asked to confine themselves to women related issues and not talk about organisation and issues related to other sectors like organised sector
b. Intolerance against women cadres who speak frankly
a. Issues specific to women workers are not allowed to be raised in the committees; women are told to discuss among themselves and decide; they are called 'your issues'
b. The decisions from CITU centre related to working women are not even communicated to the lower committees; no efforts to implement them
c. During meetings women cadres and committee members are given the responsibility of cooking, serving, cleaning etc making it almost impossible for them to attend the meeting
d. The ccwws are sought to be 'controlled' by male leaders; women are not allowed to function independently
e. Many senior leaders feel that women are not fit to work in trade unions; active women cadres who want to work more are discouraged; if some woman comrade continues, it is apprehended that some male opponent must be behind her; women cadres are not trusted
f. Critical comments are treated as 'opposition'
g. Women practicing traditions and customs are glorified; women cadres who do not practice them are treated with disrespect
h. In an incident of physical assault, the culprit was made a member of enquiry committee on an issue from another district
i. Derogatory remarks against women
j. Mental harassment is more prevalent than sexual harassment

10. Suggestions that were made:

a. Sensitisation and training for male comrades
b. Many of our male comrades have to be told that they should look at the face of women while talking to them
c. National leadership need to monitor the situation

Annexure 3 - Membership targets taken in the 15th Conference

Sl no	State	2011	2015	2016	2017
1	Andhra Pradesh	667474	405674	500000	600000
2	Assam	106731	110812	150000	200000
3	Bihar	48357	47695	55000	60000
4	Chhattisgarh	21274	28740	32000	35000
5	Delhi	60315	35938	40000	45000
6	Gujarat	24974	17297	20000	25000
7	Haryana	106569	107594	115000	120000
8	Himachal Pradesh	44046	36871	40000	45000
9	Jammu and Kashmir				
10	Jharkhand	146304	141401	150000	170000
11	Karnataka	229025	260526	270000	290000
12	Kerala	1512830	1798174	1830000	2000000
13	Madhya Pradesh	57226	53067	58000	65000
14	Maharashtra	154623	194343	215000	25000
15	Odisha	174610	103028	110000	120000
16	Punjab	135511	142731	160000	175000
17	Rajasthan	58084	59641	65000	70000
18	Tamil Nadu	549805	502201	550000	600000
19	Telangana	-	268332	350000	400000
20	Tripura	197204	272644	300000	330000
21	Uttar Pradesh	30268	30754	33000	37000
22	Uttarakhand	45703	17527	22000	25000
23	West Bengal	1424782	1338954	1500000	1700000
	Total	5806703	5988820	6565000	7137000

Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU)
Working Committee Meeting
14 - 16 July 2017, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh

ACTIVITY REPORT

(Since 15th Conference held on 26-30 November, 2016)

JOINT TRADE UNIONS PROGRAMMES

Countrywide TUs Joint Agitation against Demonetisation

10 central trade union organisations gave call for countrywide joint protest against demonstrations in state capitals / district headquarters / industrial centres on 28 January, 2017 protesting against demonetisation.

In **Kerala,** on 28 January, 2017 CTUOs jointly organised protest march to Raj Bhavan with 7,000 workers participation and in front of central government offices in all district headquarters with thousands of workers participation in each of the districts. In **Bihar**, central trade unions and employees' federations jointly held protest march at Patna marching from Bhagat Singh Chowk near Gandhi Maidan to the RBI office converting into a mass meeting addressed by state CTUOs leaders.

Solidarity Day with Maruti Suzuki Workers

10 CTUOs – INTUC, AITUC, HMS, CITU, AIUTUC, TUCC, SEWA, AICCTU, UTUC and LPF – jointly gave call to stage demonstrations at workplaces / industrial centres on 5 April, 2017 in solidarity with the Maruti Suzuki workerss; for unconditional release of imprisoned Maruti workers and reinstatement of all victimised workers.

WFTU denounced the sentence of life to 13 workers and of 5 years jail to four more workers of Maruti Suzuki. WFTU expressed solidarity with Maruti Suzuki workers and greeted the initiatives of CTUOs for the solidarity action on 5 April 2017.

Haryana: A huge protest rally against Maruti Suzuki judgement was organised at Kamala Nehru Park in Gurgaon by the Gurgaon-Rewari Trade Union Council on 5 April, 2017 joined by 55 unions of the area. To express solidarity with the Maruti Suzuki workers, national leaders of central trade unions including CITU national general secretary Tapan Sen, MP; HMS national general secretary Harbhajan Singh Siddhu; INTUC national vice president Ram Chandra Kondiya, former MP; AITUC national secretary D. L. Sachdeva with Giri and AIUTUC national secretary Satyaban attended the rally and addressed public meeting. They condemned government-management nexus who conspired to deprive the workers from their Constitutional and legal rights and, in the process, allowed Maruti Suzuki management to dismiss en masse innocent 546 permanent and about 2500 contract workers. The workers and their families were also subjected to huge state repression. Trade Union Council of Gurgaon Rewari handed over a joint memorandum of demands on Maruti Suzuki to the SDM of Gurgaon.

Demonstrations were held in all district headquarters in which thousands of workers participated.

In **Punjab,** protesting against court verdict and in solidarity with struggling workers of Maruti Suzuki, joint rallies and demonstrations were held in Amritsar, Ropar, Nangal Dam and in Ludhiana. In **Delhi,** CTUOs jointly staged demonstration in front of Haryana Bhawan in New Delhi. A memorandum was submitted addressed to the chief minister of Haryana. In **Rajasthan,** joint rally and demonstration were held in front of the state labour commissioner's office at Jaipur. A joint memorandum was submitted to the labour commissioner addressed to the President of India and the chief minister of Haryana. CITU also held demonstrations and public meetings at Sikar, Bikenir, Sriganganagar, Hanumangarh, Bhilwara, Udaipur, Kota and Chittorgarh. In **Uttar Pradesh,** a joint trade union dharna was staged in front of Vidhan Sabha Bhavan in Lucknow. A memorandum, addressed to the chief minister of Haryana, was submitted to the attending magistrate. A joint dharna was also staged at Ramasray Park in Kanpur. In **Uttarakhand,** a CITU delegation submitted memorandum to the prime minister through the state administration in Dehradun. In **Bihar,** a demonstration jointly by INTUC, AITUC, CITU, HMS, AICCTU, AIUTUC, TUCC and AIMU was staged in front of government secretariat in Patna. A memorandum was sent to the prime minister through the state administration. In **Tamilnadu,** a convention was held in Chennai, attended by CITU, AITUC, LPF, AICCTU, AIUTUC and WPTUC. In view of high profile assembly by-elections in the state, the statewide solidarity day was observed by staging demonstrations in most of the district headquarters and in the state capital Chennai on 13 April, 2017. In **Telangana,** Maruti Suzuki solidarity meeting was held in Hyderabad on 7 April. In **Andhra Pradesh,** CITU, INTUC, AITUC, HMS, TUCC, IFTU, AICCTU, YSRTUC brought out joint rallies in several district headquarters including Vijayawada and Rajahmundry. A candle light procession was brought out at Anantapur. In **Kerala,** protest rallies were brought out and public meetings were held in all district headquarters on 5 April except Thiruvananthapuram and Trissur for other programmes; and in Malappuram district due to Parliamentary by-election.

Joint Meeting of CTUOs

A joint meeting of the central trade union organisations (CTUOs) was held in New Delhi on 2 June, 2017. Having noted, the noted the central government's anti-workers and anti-people policy assaults, violation of labour laws, aggressive pro-corporate labour laws amendments, attacks on trade union rights, mass scale contractorisation and casualisation of the workers, privatisation of PSUs, cut in expenditure on welfare schemes and denial of minimum wage and social security benefits to scheme workers, reckless entry of 100% FDI and of corporates in strategic sectors like railway, defence, port & dock and coal, non-implementation of 15th ILC recommendation on minimum wage; and their adverse impact on the workers and the people's livelihood, increasing unemployment and price rise; further, having noted suggestions made in the consultation meeting with the major federations of the employees of all sectors, industries and services in their national convention of 30 May, 2017 in New Delhi and the ongoing sector-wise united struggles and expressing solidarity with these struggles; and condemning the central government for not implementing its commitment to the NJCS of central government employees on their wages, allowances and service related issues; decided to hold **Workers National Convention in New Delhi on 8 August, 2017** to decide future course of joint actions on these issues.

On Social Security

ESI: ESIC meeting was held on 18 February, 2017 attended by Prasanta Nandi Choudhury from CITU. The meeting took several important decisions. 1. A worker, covered by ESI, will be entitled to opt for 2 dispensaries in any parts of the country instead of same state; (Useful for migrant workers) 2. In case of accidents and medical emergencies, the workers may seek direct admission at tie-up hospitals; 3. For retired worker, OPD treatment at cost Rs.10 per month / benefit ceiling Rs.1,600 has been raised to cost Rs.50 per month / benefit ceiling Rs.21,000.

EPF: The meeting of the CBT of EPFO was held on 30 March, 12 April and 30 May, 2017 attended by A. K. Padmanabhan on behalf of CITU. Following are some important conclusions.

• **On Government's Attempt to Reduce Employer's Contribution:** In the meeting, there was total opposition by TU representatives on the labour ministry's proposal to reduce employer's contribution from 12% to 10%. Employers' representatives also felt it as illogical at this point of time and state governments' representatives also took similar stand. Government dropped the Agenda.• **On Making Employees Contribution Optional upto Rs.15,000 wage in Apparel and Made-Up Sector:** Proposed by the textile ministry, approved by the cabinet and put in the agenda for amending the EPF scheme. This was vehemently opposed by all the T.U. representatives. The issue is deferred. • **On Raising EPFO Fund Investment:** Government's proposal to increase EPF investment to 15% in stock market was opposed by CITU and AIUTUC, and AITUC in writing in absentia; BMS and INTUC did not oppose. Decision was taken in increase it to 15%. • **On EPF Pension above Ceiling Wage:** On Supreme Court's judgement on increased pension for those who contributed on wages above the ceiling, decision has been taken for those who are directly under EPFO. EPFO is trying to deny the increased payment to those who are in *Exempted* establishments. CITU is consistent that they cannot be treated separately. It is pending for further discussion. • **PF to Scheme Workers:** EPF for 61.50 lakh Anganwadi, Asha and Mid-day Meal workers, the proposal of 10% contribution was accepted by TUs; but concerned ministries are yet to convey their decision on employers' contribution; labour ministry will pursue. • **Unorganised Sector Workers:** Despite having separate legislation, the Government is delaying on the plea of identification of workers and sectors for giving them registration number for inclusion in the Social Security Schemes. • **Raising Salary Ceiling:** The issue of increasing the salary ceiling from Rs.15,000 to Rs.25,000 is pending with finance ministry. • **Proposal to merge CMPF with EPFO:** On raising this issue by CITU in the CBT meeting, it was clarified that there was no discussion with EPFO by the coal authorities in this regard. • **Restoration of Commuted Value of Pension:** CITU has consistently been taking up this for the last 3 years. Now, EPFO conceded that *"the issue was approved by CBT in its 206th meeting held on 11.03.2015. The issue was sent to Labour Department on 17.08.2016 and matter is under correspondence".* Labour Secretary assured to look into the issue urgently. • **Scheme for Housing:** Scheme for withdrawal from PF for housing has been notified on 12 April, 2017 for housing project, taken up by a society. An agreement between

HUDCO and EPFO exists. • The proposal of medical coverage of EPF pensioners under ESI is pending with ESIC for response. • On 'Exemptions to Establishments' for allowing internal trusts to run EPF, some criteria are finalized. Only after 5 years of contribution to EPF, those establishments having more than 500 workers and having Rs.100 crores as corpus will be given exemption. • Last year, the maximum amount was raised to Rs.6 lakhs for those who die in service; this year meeting introduced minimum assured amount of Rs.2.5 lakhs. • On implementation EPF for contractor workers in railway, two meetings have been held. Steps for implementation will continue. • The proposal for EPF for railway porters are being taken up with railway authorities.• New scheme to extend a loyalty cum life benefits to members on retirement was introduced on pilot basis for 2 years. • CITU has proposed agenda on improvement in EPS which includes increase in minimum pension; bringing back commutation, return of capital and 12 months average to fix the pensionable salary from the present 60 months; and demanded to stop deducting the commutation amount from pension, even after the full amount has been recovered.

CTUOs Boycotted Labour Ministry Meeting

10 CTUOs boycotted the meeting called by the union labour ministry on 1 May, 2017 and in a joint statement stated the reasons. The ministry had sent invitation to the central trade unions for attending *'an event to celebrate 'International Labour Day'.* However, the programme, given, showed launch of schemes by the EPFO / ESIC. The boycott was in protest against the BJP government's continuous attacks on the hard earned rights of the working class of India in the name of "ease of doing business" and making mockery of the tripartism. The meeting was also against unilateral declaration of schemes from ESIC / EPFO when the government is moving to dismantle these in the name of "Social Security Code", the statement said.

CITU'S INDEPENDENT PROGRAMMES

CITU's Country-wide Protest against Demonetisation

In response to the call of CITU, thousands of workers brought out rallies, staged demonstrations and held public meetings on 3 January, 2017 to protest against the sufferings of the workers, peasants and other toiling sections due to demonetisation. In **Delhi-NCR**, workers brought out processions, staged dharnas and demonstrations, distributed handbills, held public meetings, submitted memoranda through the district administration and burnt effigy of the prime minister at several industrial areas, workers' residential places and at markets in Gaziabad industrial area, Meerut Road and Gaziabad main city; Noida; North, South and North West Delhi. In **Haryana**, raising demand for compensation of jobloss and for availability of sufficient currency to the public, CITU organised a rally, held public meeting and burnt effigy of Modi government at Rohtak. In **Uttar Pradesh,** CITU staged dharna and held public meeting in front of Ambedkar statue **in** Lucknow and in some other district headquarters. In **Uttarakhand**, CITU unions brought out rallies, staged demonstration and held public meeting in front of district administration in Dehradun; and at Vikasnagar subdivision staged demonstration and submitted memorandum to the prime minister through the ADM demanding compensation for the job loss. In **Jharkhand,** DVC Shramik Union

held meeting at Maithan. In **Odisha**, CTUOs organised joint march in Bhubaneswar. In **Kerala,** protest rallies and public meetings were held in 11 districts. In **Tamilnadu, c**entral trade unions - CITU, AITUC, AICCTU, LPF, INTUC and HMS - jointly staged demonstrations in all districts on 23 November against demonetisation; under the banner of *Action Committee Against Cash Deficiency*, the platform of 23 organisations of CITU associated middle class employees unions and other class and mass organisations, jointly launched statewide public campaign on 29-30 January, 2017 and organised statewide massive human chain programme on 31 January, 2017.

CITU Foundation Day Programme

Hindi speaking states' meeting in New Delhi had decided month long campaign on workers' demands and state level rallies on CITU foundation Day. In **Madhya Pradesh:** During May, campaigned extensively on workers demands and against communalism. During this campaign, labour rights conventions and rallies were organised at Rewa, Indore, Gwalior, Jabalpur, Singrauli and a joint meeting and rally at Neemach. May campaign culminated in a rally in Bhopal which was addressed by CITU all India vice president A. K. Padmanabhan as the main speaker. In **Chhattisgarh:** After two month long extensive campaign on 15 point demands during April–May by organising workers' general meetings, gate meetings and distributing handbills; culminated in a state level demonstration, holding a workers rally and public meeting, addressed by CITU national vice president J. S. Majumdar as main speaker. After the meeting an impressive procession was brought out and memorandum for the chief minister was submitted to the SDM. In **Jharkhand:** Workers from different sectors joined a state level march to Shram Bhavan at Ranchi submitting memorandum to the state labour commissioner on 18 point demands. In **Punjab:** Thousands of industries' and sectors' workers joined CITU's state level *Kirtee Lalkar Rally* at Grain Market in Chandigarh. The women workers were more in the rally. The rally was addressed by CITU national vice president Raghunath Singh and national secretary Usha Rani and other state leaders. The rally adopted a 12 point charter of demands and decided statewide road blockade on 29 June, 2017 and on scheme workers demands to hold district level dharnas and demonstrations.

Tamilnadu: Outside Hindi states, Tamilnadu state committee observed CITU foundation day as People's Unity Day in all districts by hoisting CITU flag and holding conventions, workshops and campaign against communalism. A public meeting was held in Coimbatore to commemorate birth centenary of CITU's founder member K. Ramani. Based on CITU's 15th conference commission paper on communalism, a note was prepared by the state centre for the campaign. A blood donation camp was organised by CITU Tiruvarur committee.

INDUSTRIES & SECTORS

Coal

Rajmahal Coal Mine Disaster: Tragic mine accident took place on 29 December, 2016 in Rajmahal area of Eastern Coalfields Ltd. Team of All India Coal Workers Federation (CITU) conducted spot enquiry and submitted its report making DGMS, ECL management and its contractor company responsible for the death of over 50 migrant workers, officially reported 22 workers, and for laxity in rescue operation. On that basis CITU General Secretary Tapan Sen wrote to the union coal minister on 4 January, 2017 for action against the contractor company; enquiry by an independent agency; adequate compensation and job to dependents of the deceased workers.

Proposed 3 Days Strike: On 9 May, 2017 all 5 recognised coal workers federations of CITU, AITUC, INTUC, HMS and also of BMS jointly served strike notice to coal ministry and the

managements of CIL and SCCL on behalf of about 3 lakh permanent, 2.5 lakh contract workers of CIL and about 60,000 permanent and 50,000 contract workers SCCL for 3 days strike on 19-21 June in pursuance of 7 point charter of demands.

Government, Management Backtracked; Strike Deferred: Following successful conciliation meeting before the Dy CLC (C) in Kolkata attended by the Dy Secretary of the Ministry of Coal, management of Coal India Ltd and representatives of all 5 federations on 18 June, 2017 and in view of the written understanding signed by all parties; the proposed 3 days coal workers strike, supported by all unions of coal industry, has been deferred for 3 months. In respect of 7 points demands, the government backtracked from proposed merger of CMPFO in EPFO; on non-implementation of NCWA-IX agreed points, continuation of existing CMPF pension, deployment of contract workers and their wages would be discussed in JBCCI-X; on early settlement of NCWA-X government assured efforts to finalise NCWA-X within next 2 months; on closure of mines case by case would be discussed in respective company / area level JCC and outcome of the discussion would further be discussed in the office of the labour commissioner; it has further been agreed that decision taken in the bipartite level cannot be altered by any other committee of the management unilaterally.

Road Transport

Countrywide Protest against Increasing Fees and Penalties: At the initiative of All India Road Transport Workers' Federation (AIRTWF) of CITU; transport workers and operators started countrywide agitation to protest against the huge increase in motor vehicles' different fees. On 29 December, 2016 the union transport ministry issued notification increasing 100% to 800% fees. In **Kerala**, there was complete transport strike. At Thiruvanthapuram on 18 January, 2017 a huge joint trade unions protest march to Raj Bhavan culminated into a mass meeting. In **Karnataka**, demonstrations were held at Bellary and at other places. In **Tamilnadu**, big protest rallies were held on 12 and 18 January, 2017. In **Telangana,** statewide protest demonstrations were held on 19 January, 2017. In **Andhra Pradesh**, a Joint Action Committee for Protection of Transport Industry (JAC) was formed with 52 unions and Truck Operators Association. At the call of the JAC, thousands of workers and small owners participated in protest demonstrations throughout the state on 24 January, 2017. In **Assam**, a big demonstration was staged in Guwahati on 6 February, 2017. In **Bihar,** daylong protest demonstrations were held on 30 January, 2017. In Patna auto rickshaws went on strike on 3 February, 2017. Demonstrations were staged in **Odisha, West Bengal and Tripura.** In **Maharashtra**, handbills were distributed and posters were pasted. In Madhya Pradesh, auto rickshaw union organized demonstrations. At Gwalior auto rickshaw observed Bandh on 8 February, 2017. In **Jammu & Kashmir**, 2 days scheduled strike on 23-24 February, 2017 was deferred after intervention of and assurance by the chief minister. AIRTWF delegation met the joint secretary of the transport ministry on 30 January, 2017 and submitted memorandum. The joint secretary assured that penalty prior to notification date of 29 December, 2016 would not be collected. On that a clarification notice was issued on 3 February, 2017.

10th Conference of AIRTRWF: 10th AIRTWF conference, held in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh on 4-6 June 2017, started with a 5000 strong workers procession culminating into a rally and public meeting inaugurated by CITU national vice president A.K. Padmanabhan. 596 delegates and observers from 17 states attended the conference inaugurated by CITU general secretary Tapan Sen. AIRTWF website was launched by CITU president K Hemalata. The conference demanded a separate Unorganised Workers Welfare Act for the private transport workers, social security like PF, ESI, insurance, etc benefits for all transport workers, resting facilities for the

drivers etc. The conference unanimously elected Shyamal Chakraborty as the president, K.K. Divakaran as general secretary, R. Lakshmaiah as deputy general secretary and Chandrasekhar Pillai as treasurer.

Haryana Road Transport Workers Successful Strike & Victory: Under joint leadership of all 8 unions including Haryana Roadways Workers Union of CITU, thousands of workers of HRSTC went on lightening strike on 10 April, 2017 demanding of the government to immediately rescind its decision to allow private bus in 273 routes. The strike continued facing government's repression including suspension of 120 unions' leading functionaries. CITU and its AIRTWF called for countrywide solidarity action. CITU unions and other mass organizations organized solidarity programmes throughout the state. After 4 days strike, the unions and the government reached to an agreement with the government agreeing to scrap new transport policy, that gave permits to private operators, and withdrawing suspension of 120 employees.

Bihar Road Transport Strike: Protesting against road transport safely Bill and against already increased various fees and penalties, one day successful road transport strike on 27 March, 2017 jointly by all unions in road transport sector in the state, affected the road transport system in the entire state with all the buses remaining stranded in the major bus depots; and in most districts autos were also off the roads as the CITU affiliated auto unions in 11 districts took the lead. Other CITU workers came out on the street in solidarity with the striking transport workers. Bihar unit of AIRTWF and Bihar State Motor Transport Federation led the movement.

Assam Complete Road Transport Strike: Against Motor Transport Act and Safety Bill, workers of entire road transport sector went on 24 hours statewide strike on 25 April, 2017 paralysing the public transportation system in the entire state. The strike call was given by four unions in road transport sector.

Tamilnadu State Road Transport Workers' Complete Strike: Tamilnadu state road transport corporation workers resorted to complete statewide strike on 15-16 May, 2017. Road transport workers unions of CITU, AITUC, LPF, HMS and of other trade unions jointly gave call of strike for immediate payment of all dues to retired employees; depositing all deducted amounts from the workers to the respective authorities; immediate negotiation and settlement of 13th wage agreement due since September 2016; wages and service conditions at par with other state PSUs; and allocation of fund by the government to the road transport corporation to meet its budgetary deficit. The strike was unprecedented and total throughout the state with 22,000 buses stationed in depots. Even the workers belonging to the ruling party's union also participated in the strike. The government was forced to hold urgent negotiation with the unions and announcing Rs.1250 crore funding to meet the dues of the already retired employees and in writing, further, assured to discuss and settle with the unions other demands within next 3 months following which the strike was called off.

Central PSUs

All India Convention of CPSUs and Joint Struggle: Large number of unions of INTUC, AITUC, CITU and HMS, except BMS, and several independent unions attended in the all India CPSU unions' convention against strategic sale, sale and privatisation of CPSUs on 29 January 2017 in Bangalore. A massive 10,000 rally of PSU workers preceded the convention addressed national leaders G. Sanjeeva Reddy of INTUC, H Mahadevan of AITUC, Tapan Sen of CITU and others. The convention decided to observe 30 March 2017 as All India Protest Day against privatization; affected PSU-wise unions joint agitation including strike and solidarity action by other PSU workers. In **Kerala, Andhra, Tamilnadu, West Bengal, Telangana** and **Orissa** state level coordination committee /

convention of public sector unions were held. CITU centre also sent two sets of leaflets on privatization one for PSU workers and the other for other workers. All India Protest Day was observed on 30 March 2017 in many PSUs.

Steel

National Convention of Steel Workers: United front of the steel workers unions held a national convention at Bhilai to jointly oppose the move of Modi government to privatise three premier steel plants of SAIL at Salem, Bhadrawati and Durgapur. The convention was addressed by CITU general secretary Tapan Sen and other CTUOs leaders.

Steel Workers Strike against Strategic Sale: On 11 April, 2017 all permanent and contract workers of the three strategic steel plants of SAIL – Alloy Steel Plant (ASP) at **Durgapur** in West Bengal; Salem Steel Plat (SSP) at **Salem** in Tamilnadu and Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant (VISP) at **Bhadrawati** in Karnataka - went on a daylong strike in protest against the strategic sale of these three PSU steel plants. The strike was led jointly by all trade unions including of CITU, INTUC, HMS and AITUC. The workers of the SAIL's other steel plants at **Bokaro** in Jharkhand, **Rourkela** in Odisha, **Bhilai** in Chhattisgarh and **Vishakhapatnam** in Andhra Pradesh and of iron ore mines in **Jharkhand, Odisha and Chhattisgarh** went for solidarity action staging dharna and demonstration. Salem Steel Plant's workers also resorted to earlier strike this year on 2 April.

A joint meeting of steel trade unions, held on 11 June 2017 in Kolkata, decided to stage Dharna before Parliament by thousands of steel workers on 9 August 2017.

Port & Dock

Against Port Privatisation: Against Major Port Authority Bill 2017 designed to privatise major ports, Port & Dock unions launched campaign and agitation in all the major ports.

Cochin Shipyard Workers' Strike against Privatisation: 6000 plus permanent, contract and casual workers of Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL) in Kerala were on strike on 28 March, 2017 led by Cochin Shipyard Joint Action Front (CSJAF), the joint platform of all trade unions in CSL including of CITU, INTUC, AITUC and CSEU. BMS did not join the strike convention, but served strike notice separately. The strike was the culmination of series of resistant agitation by the workers with their families including 143 days continuous dharna and other mass protests.

Defence

Agitation against Privatisation: All India Defence Employees Federation, along with other federations, launched series of agitation programmes starting with 1 hour stay-out on 24 May 2017 participated by around 4 lakh employees of ordinance factories, DRDO and MES offices followed by black flag demonstrations in front of defence establishments on 8 June, 2017 and burning effigy of privatisation on 22 June. In the next stage they will stage relay dharna before Parliament on 3 July – 15 August, 2017.

Other CPSUs

Strike against DCI Disinvestment: In response to the call of CITU-affiliated DCI Non-executive Employees' Union (NEU), Dredging Corporation of India (DCI) employees were on strike on 11 April, 2017 in protest against Centre's decision to go for its strategic sale.

Strike and Bandh against BEML Privatisation: Called by Joint Action Front (JAF) of CPSUs in Bangalore, all regular and contract workers and majority of the executives of Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) joined the total strike on 30 May, 2017 in its corporate office and four plants in **Bangalore, Mysore, Kolar** and **Palakkad** against the 'strategic sale' of BEML. In support people resorted to total bandh in Kolar and partial in Mysore and total in Palakkad. In Bangalore CITU-affiliated BEWU members in Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) went on solidarity strike. The strike was preceded by month-long campaign and agitation.

Against Air India Privatisation: In Air India, all the unions jointly opposed the privatization move of Air India through a memorandum submitted to the minister and planned agitation.

Scheme Workers

Countrywide Joint Strike: CITU's 15th Conference call for joint strike of scheme workers on 20 January, 2017 was successful in 23 states despite governments' threats and threat by TMC's hoodlums in West Bengal; and estimated over 4 lakh scheme workers came out on streets in huge demonstrations and rallies in state capitals and district headquarters demanding recognition as workers, minimum wages, pension and other social security benefits and adequate allocations for the schemes.

Joint Protest: **AIFAWH, MDWFI and AICCAW in a jointly observed protest day on 2 February, 2017 by staging demonstrations, burning of effigy etc. Jointly a March to Parliament was organised and effigy of the prime minister was burnt at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi.**

Meeting on Social Security Benefits for Scheme Workers: Union Labour Ministry called a meeting of central trade unions on 19 January, 2017 to discuss on providing social security benefits for scheme workers. Secretary, joint secretary of labour ministry and officers from ESI and EPF were present. Among central trade unions CITU, BMS, AITUC, HMS, AIUTUC, AICCTU and TUCC representatives attended. INTUC was not invited. CITU president K. Hemalata represented CITU. CITU said, Anganwadi workers and helpers, ASHAs and midday meal workers cannot be considered as 'unorganised sector' workers. The schemes are of central government and implemented by the state governments; the government appoints them, decides their work and working conditions, pays them remuneration and takes disciplinary action; and being 'retired' by the government; hence should be treated as government employees. 45th ILC discussed the issues of scheme workers as a special agenda and made concrete recommendations that the scheme workers be recognised as workers, be paid minimum wages and provided with social security benefits including pension. It was the labour ministry's responsibility to ensure implementation of the recommendations of the 45th ILC. The ministry should have also provided the concrete proposals of the 'High level committee' constituted on the issue. The midday meal workers are paid remuneration only for 10 months in a year. Social security should include maternity benefit and pension etc also, not just ESI and PF. ASHAs and midday meal workers should also be provided paid maternity leave of six months. All the benefits under ESI Act should be provided to the scheme workers, not partial benefits. The contribution for ESI and PF should be borne by the government. All the trade unions expressed similar views. The secretary concluded by saying that she would discuss with the finance ministry on the basis of the views expressed by the trade unions and recommend what was practicable.

Pharmaceuticals

Countrywide Strike of Medical and Sales Representatives: Nearly 2 lakh Medical and Sales Representatives resorted to a day's successful countrywide strike on 3 February, 2017 demanding

zero GST on medicines, being life saving and most essential commodity; cap on all medicine prices; TU rights and legislation related to their working conditions.

Banking

Countrywide Complete Strike of Banks Workers, Officers: At the joint call of United Forum of Bank Unions (UFBU) and United Forum of Regional Rural Bank Unions (UFRRBU); bank workers and officers, inclusive of regional rural banks and co-operative banks, resorted to complete countrywide strike on 28 February, 2017 demanding criminal actions against the corporate loan defaulters and fixing responsibility of bad loans on top bank executives; compensation payment for extra hours work during demonetisation; against neoliberal banking reforms, outsourcing, and infringement on labour laws and rights; and other employees related issues. Employees of RBI and NABARD held solidarity demonstrations at all centres. CITU congratulated the bank employees for this successful strike and conveyed solidarity.
UFBU meeting, held on 28 June, 2017 in Mumbai, decided countrywide agitation of bank employees including strike on 22 August, 2017; dharna before the Parliament on 15 September and 2 days strike in October / November, 2017 against FRDI (Financial Resolution & Deposit Insurance Bill 2016), cleared by the union cabinet on 14 June 2017, and against similar moves of the central government aimed at merger and privatisation of PSBs.

Central & State Governments

Against Betrayal, Central Govt. Employees Strike: At the call of the Confederation of Central Government Employees and Workers (CCGEW) and defying Government's order threatening break in service, suspension and dismissals in addition to no-work no-pay; about 13 lakh central government employees went on nationwide strike on 16 March, 2017 in protest against the betrayal of the Group of Ministers (GoM) of NDA government not keeping its assurance to the National Joint Council of Action (NJCA) of the central government employees on 30 June, 2016 on formation of High Level Committee within 4 months to negotiate and settle the issues arising out of implementation of 7th CPC report including minimum pay, fitness formula, allowances etc. On the basis of that assurance, the central government employees' federations deferred the notified joint indefinite strike from 11 July, 2016. CITU extended solidarity with the central government employees' strike.
State Government Employees Parliament March: All India State Government Employees Federation (AISGEF) organised Parliament March and mass dharna on 2 March, 2017 in New Delhi, joined by thousands of state government employees coming from almost all states in India, demanding withdrawal of NPS and conversion of post-2004 employees in EPS; regularisation of contract and casual workers; equal pay for equal work; filling up vacant posts including in reserved categories; and on people's demands. CITU general secretary Tapan Sen addressed the rally.
Joint Convention of State & Central Govt. Employees: Thousands of different levels AISGEF and CCGEW functionaries met in a joint national convention in New Delhi on 10 June, 2017 demanding scrapping of NPS and conversion of post-2004 employees in EPS; regularisation of all contract, casual and temporary employees; and equal pay for equal work. The convention was inaugurated by CITU general secretary Tapan Sen.

STATES

Bihar

Joint Trade Union Convention: A joint trade union convention on *'Recent Situation of the Working Class and Our Tasks'* was held at local Ministerial Club in Gaya on 30 April, 2017 joined 93 leading functionaries from 13 trade unions and associations of workers and employees.

Joint Demonstration by Anganwadi Employees: About 7000 Anganwadi employees belonging to Bihar Rajya Anganwadi Sevika-Sahayika Sangh of CITU and Anganwadi Sevika-Sahayika Karamachari Union of AITUC jointly staged a day long state level demonstration in front of the chief minister in Patna and held public meeting. This demonstration was the culmination of 40 days continuing indefinite strike by AITUC union and staging demonstration on 8 April in blocks and 20 April in districts submitting memoranda by CITU union.

Gujarat

Scheme Workers Rally: A 15000 strong state level rally of Anganwadi and ASHA workers, coming from 28 districts, at Gandhi Nagar in Ahmadabad on 5 December, 2017 in response to the joint call of CITU affiliated Gujarat Anganwadi Karmchari Sangathan and Asha Health Workers Union demanding wage increase, minimum wage, social security benefits and other state level demands. On this occasion, several leaders and members of BMS union joined CITU union.

Jharkhand

Anganwadi Employees Mahapadav: Organised by Jharkhand State Anganwadi Sevika–Sahayika Sangh of CITU, hundreds of ICDS employees staged their 24 hours state level Mahapadav before the state assembly at Birsa Chowk in Ranchi on 30 May pursuing their demands which was inaugurating by AIFAWH president Usha Rani.

Delhi-NCR

Municipal Contract Workers Victory: After 3 days work-boycott in all 12 zones and indefinite demonstration, dharna and hunger strike by hundreds of contract workers of three municipal corporations of Delhi during 16–18 January 2017; the North Delhi Municipal Corporation Commissioner, who is also the nodal officer of all three municipal corporations of Delhi, held discussion with the leaders of the agitating union of CITU. An understanding was reached in which administration assured to provide all statutory benefits and revised service condition to all Breeding Checkers (DBC) employees in all 3 municipal corporations; and to hold further discussion on union's suggestion for regularisation.

Haryana

Mines Workers Agitation: Supported by CITU and other mass organisations, political parties and elected representatives thousands of mines workers and villagers of Bhiwani district held public meeting, brought out procession and staged demonstration in front of the deputy commissioner on 15 February, 2017 and submitted memorandum demanding continuation of their livelihood by

mining activities in the stone quarries which the BJP state government replaced by handing over to companies working with machines.

MDM-ASHA Workers Joint Agitation: On 11 February, 2017 CITU's Asha and mid day meal workers unions staged joint demonstrations in front of the residences of BJP ministers and MLAs and submitted memoranda in most of the districts demanding wage increase. Haryana government increased remuneration on the basis of 7th CPC report, but left-out the scheme workers.

Led by CITU, thousands of MDM and Asha workers held a state level March from Panchkula to Haryana Vidhan Sabha in Chandigarh and staged demonstration. On way, heavy police force tried to prevent their march and resorted to lathi charge which was condemned by CITU and the unions. Morcha and demonstration continued till evening demanding wage increase. The delegation met the chief minister, WCD and health ministers who assured to consider the demands within 15 days.

Lakhs of Workers Protest against Biased Judgement in Maruti Suzuki: More than 1.5 lakh industrial workers of the Gurgaon and neighbouring areas resorted to lunch boycott and thousands of workers of 6 major plants of Maruti Suzuki resorted to one hour's protest strike on the same day on 18 March, 2017 soon after Gurgaon session court awarded punishment to 31 workers holding them guilty in 18 July 2012 violence case in the multinational automobile company Maruti Suzuki's plant at Manesar in Gurgaon; 13 of them, all of whom were the committee members of Maruti Suzuki Workers Union, Manesar, with life imprisonment under Sec.302 and Sec.304 of IPC; 5 years of rigorous imprisonment to 4 other workers; and 14 other workers imprisonment for the period they spent in judicial custody under trial and were released. 117 other workers, who spent nearly 3 years in jail and lost job, were acquitted. This judgement angered lakhs of workers in the entire industrial area and evoked wave of sympathy for the incarcerated Maruti Suzuki workers.

Through a statement on 20 March, CITU expressed its deep distress and anguish on the verdict and expressed solidarity with the Maruti-Suzuki workers.

On Bhagat Singh's martyrdom day on 23 March, 2017, CITU state committee observed *'Sankalp Divas'*. CITU state committee has significant contribution in building joint movement in solidarity with fighting Maruti Suzuki workers holding rallies, bringing out jathas, organising public hearing, staging demonstrations, dharnas and hunger strikes etc. In a meeting, chaired by CITU state president Satbir Singh, an all trade union joint committee was formed at Gurgaon to extend support to Maruti Suzuki workers and solidarity with their movement.

Over 8000 workers of 80 unions from over 200 factories across Gurgaon, Rewari, Alwar, Faridabad and Noida held a mass rally on 23 March, 2017 at Gurgaon organised by the joint front of trade unions at Gurgaon. On behalf of CITU, its national secretary A. R. Sindhu addressed the rally.

Himachal Pradesh

Scheme Workers Joint March to Vidhan Sabha: Thousands of Anganwadi, MDM and Asha employees, defying government's threats, jointly brought out a state level procession and staged 4 hour-long sit-in and demonstration in front of the Vidhan Sabha in Shimla on 7 March, 2017 demanding immediate wage increase and for other demands. Delegations met the WCM and health ministers who gave assurances on their demands.

One Year of Shong Tong Karchham Hydel Project Struggle: To commemorate one year of their heroic struggle, workers of Shong Tong Karchham Mazdoor Union and of JSW Hydel Project Union and local villagers brought out a joint rally and held public meeting in the district headquarter.

Odisha

Strike & Agitation against Nalco's Privatisation: Employees and workers of Nalco's plants, mines and refinery at Angul and Damanjodi and of corporate office at Bhubaneswar were on 24 hours strike on 6-7 June 2017 against central government's decision of disinvestment and privatisation of Nalco, a profit making Navratna PSU. The strike call was given by Nalco Co-ordination Committee of all unions supported by officers association. The strike was also against supply/sale of aluminum to private owned Vedanta Company. Earlier, unions staged dharna at Angul and Damanjodi on 19 April, 2017 wearing black badge and CITU Bhubaneswar local committee staged demonstration in front its corporate office on 25 April, 2017.

Construction Workers Joint Demonstration: Construction workers unions of HMS, INTUC, AITUC, CITU, BMS, AICCTU, AIUTUC and other independent unions, forming Co-ordination Committee of Nirman Sramik Unions, joined by thousands of construction workers, staged demonstration before the labour commissioner cum member-secretary of construction workers welfare board on 24 April, 2017 in pursuance of 14 point demands.

Joint Agitation of CITU, WWCC and AIDWA: CITU, its Working Women Coordination Committee (WWCC) and AIDWA jointly staged district level demonstrations and submitted memoranda to district administration at Rourkela and Balasore and submitted joint memoranda in deputation to district administration of Nayagarh, Jagatsinghpur, Ganjam and Jharsuguda on 10 April, 2017 on working women's demands.

Punjab

Campaign for 29 June Statewide Protest: State committee launched statewide month long campaign to make CITU's National Protest Day on 29 June successful throughout Punjab. On 18th day of the campaign, it was an impressive rally in front of Hero Cycle factory gate; on 19th day the rally was held at the gate of Swaraj Mazda factory joined by over 1000 workers; and rally was held by CITU workers at Asron Industrial Area in Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar district.

Rajasthan

CTUOs Joint Rally: About 15,000 workers, mainly of CITU and AITUC, and of INTUC, HMS, RCITU and AICCTU, held a state level joint rally in Jaipur on 25 March, 2017 in pursuance of their 14 points demands.

Brick Kiln Workers 'Mazdoor Bhavan' Inaugurated: CITU national president K. Hemalata inaugurated Rajasthan's biggest brick kiln workers union's - 'Int Bhatta Labour Union (CITU) – central building *Mazdoor Bhavan* at SriGanganagar on 23 April, 2017 in presence of thousands of workers. It was 6 years effort in completing the construction of this building facing difficulties due to recession in the brick kiln industry since 2014 and closure of 40% of the brick kilns. On this occasion an impressive meeting was held next to the building premises.

Tamilnadu

CITU's Statewide Campaign and Massive Rally: After 4 month long extensive campaign by district committees and state level unions, a massive 25,000 workers strong state level rally was held in front of the government secretariat in Chennai on 4 April, 2017 in pursuance of 13 points demands of the workers and the people of the state led by CITU national and state leaders including

its national vice president A. K. Padmanabhan, state president A. Soundararajan and general secretary G. Sukumaran, treasurer Malathi Chittibabu. At the police barricade it was converted into a public meeting. A delegation led by Soundararajan met the chief secretary and submitted the demands.

Successful Struggle in a MNC Company: In the multinational Haworth Company at Sriperumbudur, contract workers strike on 5-9 December, 2016 and at CITU's initiative all 15 leading functionaries of the union, who were dismissed for the formation of the union, were reinstated and all contract workers were regularized.

Hospital Workers Strike: After indefinite strike of the workers and staff of Meenakshi Medical College Hospital, Kancheepuram and intervention of CITU with ALC, the management withdrew suspension of 8 office bearers, leading the movement, and held negotiations with CITU which led to calling off the strike.

Telangana

CITU's Historic Mahajana Padayatra: Pursuing workers and people's basic issues, CITU state committee organised historic 5 month long *Mahajana Padayatra* in 2017 overcoming all obstacles created by the state government. In this programme, 2 lakh handbills and 1 lakh badges were distributed among about 5.69 lakh of workers in about 40 sectors; 25,596 workers joined Padayatra and 84,500 workers joined public meetings. In preparatory campaign 241 round table meetings were held in 25 districts.

Singareni Collieries Contract Workers Strike: 20,000 contract workers of Singareni collieries went on indefinite strike from 15 March, 2017 under the Joint Action Committee of all contract workers unions demanding coal India wages, bonus, equal wages for equal work and implementation of labour laws. Management did not attend conciliation meeting; instead, the management and administration launched attacks of the workers; imposed Sec.144; posted police in all mines and offices; arrested leaders at night from their residences and bringing outside labour under police escort to break the strike. Undaunted, the workers carried on the strike and shifted agitation in front of district collectorate.

Tripura

CITU 14th Tripura State Conference: 3 days 14th Tripura state conference of CITU on 12-14 February, 2017 in Ambassa town began with a massive open session and public meeting addressed by the chief minister Manik Sarkar as the chief guest, CITU general secretary Tapan Sen, its state president and minister Manik Dey and West Bengal state general secretary Dipak Dasgupta. 523 delegates attended the conference inaugurated by Manik Sarkar and addressed by Tapan Sen, CITU Assam state general secretary Tapan Sharma and Dipak Dasgupta. Shankar Prasad Datta placed general secretary's report with tasks for future. 45 delegates, including 14 women, participated in the discussion on the report. The conference elected 48 members state executive committee with 22 office bearers re-electing Manik Dey as the president, Pijush Nag as the executive president and Sankar Prasad Datta as the general secretary.

West Bengal

Peasants-Workers-People's Historic March: Initiated by Left-led peasants and agricultural workers organisations and joined by CITU and other trade unions and mass organisations 2 month

long statewide campaign in all districts culminated into one lakh people's March to *Nabanna,* the state government's secretariat on 22 May, 2017 from 5 locations in Kolkata and Howrah in pursuance of 18 points demands on the burning issues of workers, peasants and other sections of the people. The authoritarian TMC government blocked all roads to Nabanna with steel barricades, water cannons, armoured vehicles with special police force; and the police resorted to brutal lathi charge, fired teargas shells and used water cannons not even sparing the leaders, elderly and the women injuring more than 900 protesters including leaders of CITU and of other organisations; 450 of them needing hospitalization. Several journalists were also injured. Despite police attacks, push and pull continued for more than 2 hours at all police barricades. The resurgent people were determined to fight against the authoritarian regime.

Entire state rose in protest next day staging rallies and protest demonstrations. In Kolkata, a large procession marched from Lenin statue. Opposition legislators strongly protested inside the assembly.

In a statement on 24 May, 2017 from Athens, WFTU expressed solidarity with the protesters, supported the demands and condemned government's repression.

6 central trade unions - CITU, INTUC, AITUC, TUCC, UTUC and AICCTU – and national and state federations brought out protest rallies in all districts and in Kolkata on 2 June, 2017 and launched massive campaign on the 18 point people's demands at all work places and workers residential areas during 1 – 7 June. 2017.

Tea Garden Workers' Successful Strike & Police Brutalities: Under the united platform of tea garden workers' unions, workers of all 300 tea gardens in Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri and Alipurduar districts were on 2 days successful strike on 12-13 June, 2017 demanding increase and enforcement of statutory minimum wage. The strike was called after the state government backtracked from its earlier commitment of a negotiated settlement on these demands. To break the peaceful strike, the state government unleashed police brutalities hounding and dragging the workers from their residential colonies and gardens, resorting to lathi-charge on workers' procession severely injuring many including large number of women and mass scale arrests slapping charges under non-bailable sections. But, the government failed to break the strike and determined resistance of the workers. At number of places militant workers demonstrations forced the police to release arrested workers from the police stations.

CITU condemned TMC government for such repression; and congratulated the tea garden workers and their unions for their successful strike and heroic resistance to police assault.

Joint Protest in Kolkata on Bridge & Roof: On 10 February, 2017 all trade unions jointly held a protest rally in front of Bridge & Roof Co's corporate office in Kolkata joined by the workers, engineers, officers of the corporate office and of its establishments in Kakdeep, Haldia and Palsit in Bardhaman district. After the meeting the workers-officers-engineers jointly resorted to blockade of Little Russell Street.

State Conference: 13th CITU West Bengal state conference, held at Barrackpore on 13-15 May, 2017, began with a open session and workers rally addressed by CITU general secretary Tapan Sen, CPI(M) state secretary Suryakant Misra, CITU state president Shyamal Chakravorty and general secretary Deepak Dasgupta and other state leaders. The conference was attended by 1172 delegates and 79 observers including 205 women. The conference came to the conclusion with the call for building statewide intense movement for social security of unorganised sector workers and on contract workers demands for regularisation and equal pay for equal work. The conference elected 345 members secretariat, 140 members working committee, 35 members secretariat with Subhas Mukherjee as president and Anadi Sahu as general secretary.

districts of **Bihar**; 4 districts of **Madhya Pradesh**; in several districts of **Telangana, Assam** and of **Karnataka**; and state level demonstration in front of the Assembly at Bhubaneswar in **Odisha.**

Joint Call of CITU, AIKS, AIAWU: CITU, AIKS and AIAWU leadership in a joint meeting on 16 June, 2017 in New Delhi; reviewed joint implementation of workers-peasant solidarity day on 19 January, 2017 and discussed the current situation of acute agrarian distress and the surging peasant struggles and joint movement. The meeting appreciated intervention of the AIKS against the killing of the farmer Pehlu Khan; its leadership role in the peasants struggle in many states including in Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Haryana; and its role in building joint movement on immediate issues. The joint platform of Akhil Bharateeya Kisan Sangharsh Samanvaya Samiti (All India Peasant's Struggle Coordination Committee) of 130 peasant organisations is formed with a core group of 11 organisations including AIKS on demands of remunerative price (and procurement) and loan waiver. The AIAWU has also planned series of campaign and actions including holding a national convention on employment and wages by 15 September 2017 on agricultural workers' demands.

The meeting strongly felt the urgent need of joint interventions and initiatives at all levels, especially at the grass root, on common burning issues of the peasantry, agricultural workers and workers in general; and decided to hold joint state level meetings of state leadership of CITU, AIKS and AIAWU before June end to plan future joint activities.

Farmers Struggle

CITU Supported, Joined Farmers Struggle: CITU supported AIKS and others in the Bhoomi Adhikar Andolan leading the surging countrywide farmers' struggle and their call for nationwide protest on 16 June, 2017 demanding implementation of Swaminathan Commission's recommendation on MSP, comprehensive loan waiver for farmers including the lowest strata, withdrawal of notification on ban on cattle trade and resignation of Shivraj Singh Chouhan government in Madhya Pradesh for killing of six innocent farmers. CITU called upon the workers to join the nationwide farmers Protest Day on 16 June, 2017.

Countrywide Farmers Protest: At the call of AIKS and other organisations, farmers, joined by CITU workers and other toiling sections, observed countrywide Protest Day on 16 June, 2017 by resorting to road blockades and picketing; burning effigies, bringing out rallies; staging demonstration etc. In **West Bengal,** Protest Day was observed in all 355 blocks; In **Kerala,** roads were blocked in all districts and effigies were burnt. In **Tripura**, at every point thousands attended the protests. Across **Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Odisha, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Tamilnadu, Jharkhand** the peasants came on the streets. In **Madhya Pradesh,** police arrested 1500 farmers in different parts of the state including state AIKS secretary. In **Rajasthan**, massive protests were held and the collectorate was gheraoed in Sikar. In **Haryana,** dharnas and protests were organised since 14 June in 9 districts. In some districts collectorates were gheraoed. In **Punjab**, road blockades were organised across the state and protest continued for next 7 days. **Bihar, Assam, Jammu & Kashmir** observed Protest Day on 14 June and **Andhra Pradesh** and **Karnataka** on 12 June. Processions, effigy burning and protests were held in different places of **Uttar Pradesh**. In **Telangana** in all districts road blockades were organised jointly by Telangana Rythu Sangham and All India Agricultural Workers' Union.

Against Communalism

Against Killing of Pehlu Khan: On 8 April, 2017 a CPI(M) investigating team with its PBM Subhashini Ali; CITU Tripura state general secretary Shankar Prasad Dutta, MP; Badrudduja Khan,

MP from West Bengal; All India Kisan Sabha president Amra Ram with others visited Behror in Alwar district of Rajasthan where so called *gau rakshaks* attacked on 1 April, 2017 the dairy farmers of Haryana and brutally killed one of them, Pehlu Khan. The team met the officials in the local police station including the investigating officer DSP and district officials. After investigation, the CPI(M) team demanded that the administration secure cattle purchase receipts with other details of the concerned dairy farmers from the Jaipur Haatvada, organized by the Jaipur municipal corporation; arrest and filing murder cases against the attackers and pursue expeditiously for their exemplary punishment; adequate compensation and rehabilitation of Pehlu Khan's family; other injured victims be released, compensation be paid and their livestock be returned; "Hindu Chaukis", on the Jaipur-Delhi highway be removed; take strong and effective measures against the vigilante groups and punishment to those who participate and support vigilantism.

Contribution to Alwar Victims: AIKS collected donation from all over the country and on 24 May, 2017 contributed from this collection Rs.10 Lakh to the family of Pehlu Khan, who was killed, and Rs. 4 Lakh to Rafeeq, who was injured, as relief to the victims of vigilante group's attack in Alwar district of Rajasthan on 1 April, 2017.

CITU in AIKS' communal amity meetings: Responding to AIKS-led programme of communal amity meetings on 30 April, 2017, CITU gave call to all its state committees "to extend solidarity and support to the peasantry by directing CITU unions to join the AIKS at local level for fund collection and also the communal amity meetings on 30 April, 2017 in good numbers."

States' Joint Programmes

Assam: Workers–Peasants Joint Rally: Jointly organised by the Assam state committees of CITU and AIKS, thousands of workers and peasants held a huge state level joint rally in Guwahati, on 26 February, 2017 addressed by AIKS national leader Ashok Dhawale and veteran state leader Hemen Das, CITU and All India Plantation Workers Federation general secretary Jiaul Alam and state leaders of CITU and AIKS. The rally demanded that till alternative residential arrangements made, there shall be no eviction from wild-life sanctuaries; permanent solution to flood and subsidence; remunerative prices for agricultural produce; against anti-worker labour laws amendments; scheme workers be recognised as workers, to stop PSUs disinvestment etc.

Tamilnadu: Workers' Strike and People's Bandh on Peasants Distress: Facing severe drought, adding to the already distress conditions of the farmer, under debt 200 farmers and agricultural workers in the state committed suicide. Supporting 42 days struggle of the farmers for their demands to declare Tamilnadu as drought affected, waiving farmers' loan, compensation to families of farmers who committed suicide; and condemning both central and state governments; all trade unions of Tamilnadu jointly gave call to the working class for a day's strike on 25 April, 2016. Political parties - CPI(M), CPI, DMK, VCK Congress – gave call for statewide bandh. Traders Association also supported. It was total strike and bandh associated with demonstrations, dharnas etc in the state.

INTERNATIONAL

UITBB Asia-Pacific Leadership Conference in Kerala

TUI Constrction (UITBB) Asia-pacific regional leadership conference was held at Thrissur in Kerala on 10-12 December, 2016 attended by delegates from Vietnam, Japan, Cyprus, Indonesia, Nepal, Bangladesh and India. Kerala State Construction Workers Federation leaders participated as fraternal delegates. The conference was inaugurated by CITU national secretary Elamaran Kareem.

Construction workers problems in the Asian-Pacific countries were discussed. Resolutions for social security, minimum wages, against discrimination towards women employees, equal wage for equal work, legislation for job security, rights of migrant employees, ban on nuclear weapons etc were adopted.
42 delegates attended the UITBB executive committee meeting on 11 December, 2016 addressed by CITU general secretary Tapan Sen. A huge colourful rally of construction workers of Thrissur and nearby districts was held. The public meeting was addressed by chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan and others.

WFTU International Day of Solidarity with the Struggle of Palestinian People

WFTU's International Day of Solidarity with the Struggle of Palestinian People on 30 March, 2017 was jointly organised by its affiliated central trade unions in India - CITU, AITUC, AIUTUC, AICCTU, TUCC, UTUC – with the Embassy of Palestine at B. T. Ranadive Bhavan, New Delhi. AITUC secretary Vijayalakshmi welcomed the participants; CITU general secretary Tapan Sen placed the declaration of the meeting; the Ambassador of Palestine delivered his speech. The leaders of the WFTU's CTUOs in support of the declaration stating that the solidarity with Palestinian people is also a fight against imperialism; condemned the role of USA in backing Israel for intensifying its aggression on the people of Palestine; and expressed continued solidarity of the trade unions in India with the people of Palestine. The declaration was adopted unanimously. CITU national secretary and WFTU Deputy General Secretary Swadesh Dev Roye gave vote of thanks.

May Day Rally in Havana: CITU was represented by its president K. Hemalata and secretary S. Dev Roye in May Day 2017 rally in Havana. The Cuban Workers Trade Union Centre (CTC) has reported about 8 lakhs people's participation in Havana and 6 million in the entire country. General secretary of CTC alone made a brief speech before the rally started.
On 2 May, 2017 an international solidarity meeting was held in the International Convention Centre in Havana attended by more than 1000 delegates from across the world. George Mavrikos, general secretary of WFTU addressed the meeting. Hemalata conveyed solidarity on behalf of CITU.
WFTU Presidential Council Meeting: The first meeting of the presidential council of WFTU, after its 17th Congress, was held in Havana on 3-4 May, 2017. 55 members from across the world attended including K. Heamalata and S. Dev Roye. 40 participants spoke on the report presented by general secretary George Mavrikos. Hemalata spoke on behalf of CITU. Swadesh Dev Roye, deputy general secretary of WFTU and in charge of the Trade Union Internationals (TUIs), presented a report about the functioning of the TUIs. The meeting decided to organise international conferences of young workers in November, 2017 in Rome and of women on International Women's Day, 2018 in Panama; celebrate the centenary of the Great October Revolution by organising seminars on three important topics – 'The rights achieved by the working class in socialism', 'The leading role of the working class in emancipation of society' and 'The overthrow of socialism and the impact on the people due to the changes in the international correlation of class forces'. WFTU has decided to focus on trade union training and education in 2018.

WFTU Asia Pacific Regional Meeting

2 days meeting of WFTU Asia-Pacific Region Organisation (APRO) Meeting was held in Chennai on 19-20 May, 2017, participated by trade union leaders of WFTU from India, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Srilanka, Nepal, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Iran; WFTU leaders from its headquarter in Athens and

of the region and of some federations. The meeting analysed the existing situation; identified the issues of coomon concern of the workers of the region; and adopted 7 point action programmes including observation of May Day, WFTU Day on 3 October, International Women's Day on 8 March; solidarity programme in support of garment, textile and allied workers; campaign and mobilisation against casualisation, contractorisation, outsourcing etc; formation of Asian Women Workers Forum and sustained campaigns on their specific demands and forum for domestic workers; platform for young workers on their related demands; observation of Centenary of October Revolution and bicentinery of Karl Marx; and campaign against embargo on Cuba and closing down of US prison in Guantanamo Bay and handing over of the land to Cuba. The also decided to set-up a regional sub-committee to carry APRO activities.

Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU)
Working Committee Meeting
14 - 16 July 2017, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh

CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION

The CITU working committee being held on 14-16 July 2017 at Shimla pays homage to the leaders of the working class, the left and democratic movement and the progressive cultural personalities who left us during this period.

The CITU working committee pays its homage to South African liberation movement's veteran leader Ahmed Kathrada who died on March 28, aged 87. Kathrada was one of the 11 original defendants at the 1963-64 Rivonia trial, alongside ANC President Nelson Mandela and General Secretary Walter Sisulu. He was imprisoned for 26 years on the notorious Robben Island prison off Cape Town alongside scores of ANC leaders. He later dedicated himself to the cause of Palestinian freedom and Palestinian prisoners detained in Israeli prisons.

The CITU working committee pays its homage to Comrade Raghubir Singh Hooda, former secretary of CPI (M) Haryana state committee and a veteran advocate, who passed away in Rohtak on February 21. Comrade Hooda had to face police repression several times including detentions under MISA during emergency.

The CITU working committee deeply mourns the passing away of Comrade R Govindarajan, a senior leader of the All India Insurance Employees Association (AIIEA), and editorial board member of the 'Marxist' (Tamil) monthly magazine of the Tamil Nadu state committee of the CPI (M), who breathed his last on February 18, 2017.

One of the senior leaders of Durgapur steel workers' movement, Sunilkanti Naryan Choudhury died on 12 December, 2016 after prolonged illness. He was also one of the founder leaders of the Steel Workers' Federation of India and played an important role in building the united movement of steel unions both in Durgapur and in different parts of India. The CITU Working Committee meeting being held on 14 – 16 July 2017 at Shimla pays homage to his memory.

The CITU working committee pays its homage to eminent scholar Prof Javeed Alam who passed away in the early hours of December 5, 2016 after a brief illness. Born in 1943 in Hyderabad he came from a family which was deeply involved in the Telangana armed struggle led by the Communist Party against the feudal oppression of the Nizam and for land distribution to the peasantry.

The CITU Working Committee expresses profound grief at the demise of workers who died in Rajmahal Coal Mine disaster on December 29, 2016. The CITU Working Committee pays homage to all the workers who have lost their lives in accidents at the workplace in different parts of our country and other parts of the world.

The CITU Working Committee pays homage to the farmers who have lost their lives in Mandsaur of Madhya Pradesh and in different parts of the country during recent farmers' agitation.

CITU Working committee expresses anger and concern over the increasing mob lynching of muslims and dalits in the name of cow protection, by RSS led Hindutva hooligans. We mourn the deaths of Pahlu Khan, a cattle farmer from Haryana who was murdered in Alwar Rajasthan. We express deep anguish at the mob lynching of Junaid, a teenager in a train in Ballabhgarh, Haryana.

The CITU Working Committee condoles the demise of all those who have lost their lives in natural calamities, recent communal violence and terrorist attacks.

On Homage to Martyrs

The CITU Working Committee being held on 14 – 16 July 2017 at Shimla pays homage to the martyrs who lost their lives in the battle for justice for the downtrodden, world over.

We pay homage to the comrades of West Bengal who lost their lives in the brutal attacks of the government of West Bengal during the march to Nabanna on 22nd May 2017.

The Working Committee also pays homage to the comrades who fell to murderous attacks in West Bengal, Kerala and different parts of the country, while defending the interests of the working class.

Zafar Hussain, a CPI (ML) activist was lynched by the Rajasthan municipal officials for objecting to taking pictures of women defecating in open. We pay homage to him.

The Working Committee pays homage to all those who laid down their lives for the betterment of downtrodden people and in the fight against imperialism.

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 31st MARCH 2016
AUDITORS' REPORT

We have examined the Balance Sheet of Centre of Indian Trade Unions as at 31 st March, 2016 and the Income & Expenditure account and Receipt and Payment account for the year ended on that date which are in agreement with the books of account maintained by the said institution.

We have obtained all the information and explanations and in our opinion, proper books of account have been maintained by the above named institution so far as appears from our examination of the books subject to the notes on accounts.

In our opinion and to the best of our knowledge, and according to information given to us, the said accounts read with the Notes on Accounts give a true and fair view:-

1.In the case of the Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the above named institution as at 31.03.2016 and
2.In the case of the income and expenditure account, of the excess of income over expenditure for the year ending 31-03-2016

CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH, 2016

LIABILITIES	RUPEES	RUPEES		ASSETS	RUPEES	RUPEES
GENERAL FUND				FIXED ASSETS		2,853,179
Opening Balance	39,908,415			(As per Schedule attached)		
Add: Excess of Income	1,285,502	41,193,917				
Expenditure Account				INVESTMENTS		
				Fixed Deposits with Banks		48,854,071
CURRENT LIABILITIES &						
PROVISIONS				CURRENT ASSETS,		
a) Current Liabilities				LOANS AND ADVANCES		
Audit Fee Payable	83,755					
SPECIAL FUND				a) Current Assets		
Tsunami Victim Relief Fund	3,984,812			Balance with Banks	5,047,488	
Com.P.R.Fund	19,806,249			Cash in hand	59,926	
ASHA Workers Fund	111,218			Bank Guarantee	12,114	5,119,528
Bihar Flood Relief Fund	66,550			b) Loans & advances		
Int.Coal Mines Workers Fund	618,954			(Advances recoverable in		10,906,278
Odisha Flood Relief Fund	56,800			cash or kind for which value		
Uttarakhand Flood Relief fund	1,526,358			to be received.)		
J & K Flood Relief Fund	284,443	26,539,139				
		67,733,056				67,733,056

Note : Figures have been rounded off to the nearest of rupee.

For CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

AUDITORS' REPORT
As per our report of even date attached.
For B.M. SHARMA & ASSOCIATES
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Sd/- Sd/- Sd/-
(PRESIDENT (SECRETARY) (TREASURER)

Sd/-
(B. M. SHARMA)
Partner

Place : New Delhi
Dated : 13th September 2016

CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH, 2016

EXPENDITURE	RUPEES	RUPEES		INCOME	RUPEES	RUPEES
Communication Exp.		126,849		Sale of Magazines		879,695
Magazine Expenses		1,051,137		Publication A/c		11,917
Meeting, Rally, & Seminar Expenses		555,908		Affiliation Fee		6,318,064
Misc.Exp.		39,676		Bank Interest		188,655
Travelling & Conveyance Exp.		413,677		Advertisements		45,000
Vehicle Expenses		179,731		Misc.Receipts		58,301
Bank Charges		1,076		Interest on FDR		7,642,275
Building Maintenance		56,412		Gzb.Flats Developments		753,204
Electricity & Water Expenses		75,914				
Com.P.Rammurty T.U.School Exp.		73,146				
Kamkaji Mahila Magazine Exp.		23,850				
Medical Exp.		213,556				
NP, Period.& Books Exp.		43,275				
Office Upkeep Expenses		25,213				
Publication Expenses		27047				
Relief & Subsidy		3,400,000				
Contribution to Nepal Earth Relf.		689,245				
Repair & Maintenance-Elec.		2,473				
Service & Maintenance		371,908				
Staff Welfare Fund		247,600				
Stationery & Printing		136,402				
Conference A/c		2,106				
Depreciation		212,874				
Tea & Tiffin Exp.		57,869				
Education Allowance		26,000				
TDS		29,120				
Donations		4,428,246				
Wages & Allowances		2,073,900				
Ground Rent		27,399				
Excess of Income over Expenditure tfd.to Balance Sheet		1,285,502				
		15,897,111				**15,897,111**

Note : Figures have been rounded off to the nearest of rupee.

For CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

Sd/- (PRESIDENT)

Sd/- (SECRETARY)

Sd/- (TREASURER)

Place : New Delhi

Dated : 13th September2016

AUDITORS' REPORT

As per our report of even date attached.

For B.M. SHARMA & ASSOCIATES

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Sd/-

(B. M. SHARMA)

Partner

CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH, 2016

RECEIPTS	RUPEES	RUPEES		PAYMENTS	RUPEES	RUPEES
OPENING BALANCE				Communication Exp.		126,849
Cash in hand	4,377			Magazine Exp.		1,051,137
Cash at Banks	7,539,882	7,544,259		Meeting, Rally & Seminar Exp.		555,908
Sale of Magazines		879695		Misc.Exp.		39,676
Publication A/c		11,917		Travelling & Conveyance Exp.		418,267
Affiliation Fee		6,318,064		Vehicles Exp.		179,731
Bank Interest		188,655		Loan and Advances		5,051,080
Donation		612,692		Staff Welfare Fund		117,000
Miscellaneous Receipts		58,301		Mid Day Meal Workers Fund		70,794
Interest on FDR		2,875,968		TDS a/c other than CITU		53,951
Investments		11,775,957		Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund		3,000,000
Staff Welfae Fund		58,500		Com.P.R Fund		88,832
Com.P.R.Fund		227,024		Bank Charges		1,076
ASHA Workers Fund		20,100		Building Repair & Maintainance		56,412
Other loan & Flood Relief fund		444,091		Electricity & Water Expenses		82,677
Gzb.Flats Developments		753,204		Com.P.Rammooty T.U.School exp.		73,146
Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund		2,310,755		Education Allowance		26,000
Sale of Vehicle		70000		Kamkaji Mahila Expenses		23,850
Refund of Excess electricity bill paid		6,763		Medical Expenses		213556
Reliefs and subsidy		3,000,000		Newspapers, Period.& Books Exp.		43,275
Travelling and Conveyance		4,590		Office upkeep Expenses		25,213
TDS a/c other than CITU		53,951		Publication Expenses		27,047
				Relief and Subsidy		6,400,000
				Repair & Maint.-Electrical		2,473
				Service and Maintainance		371,908
				Staff Welfare Fund		247,600
				Stationery and Printing		136,402
				Conference a/c		2,106
				Tea & Tiffin		57,869
				Wages		2,073,900
				Fixed Assets		703188
				Investments		10500000
				Ground Rent		27399
				Donation		258750
				CLOSING BALANCE		
				Cash in hand	59,926.00	
				Cash at Banks	5,047,488.00	5,107,414
		37,214,486				37,214,486

Note : Figures have been rounded off to the nearest of rupee.

For CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

Sd/- Sd/- Sd/-
(PRESIDENT (SECRETARY) (TREASURER)

Place : New Delhi
Dated : 13th September 2016

AUDITORS' REPORT

As per our report of even date attached.
For B.M. SHARMA & ASSOCIATES
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Sd/-
(B. M. SHARMA)
Partner

State	Unions Submitting Returns			Position of membership according to Annual Returns					
	2014	2015	2016	2014	*Female*	2015	*Female*	2016	*Female*
Andaman & Nicobar	9	9	0	3966	*166*	6101	*621*	0	*0*
Andhra Pradesh	693	668	1	433278	*204506*	417029	*152832*	40	*0*
Assam	64	72	0	112144	*70540*	113001	*59777*	0	*0*
Bihar	12	15	1	40960	*2237*	58305	*15664*	742	*0*
Delhi	75	72	2	62341	*5931*	35938	*2307*	100	*0*
Goa	5	2	0	232	*0*	104	*0*	0	*0*
Gujarat	20	20	0	15088	*3654*	17297	*4411*	0	*0*
Himachal Pradesh	65	62	0	38572	*16033*	37514	*15857*	0	*0*
Haryana	35	35	25	102800	*35890*	107534	*31125*	94406	*29951*
Jammu & Kashmir	14	15	0	14948	*1944*	16775	*4475*	0	*0*
Karnataka	166	162	48	257065	*133789*	260988	*148969*	38061	*22547*
Kerala	889	882	763	1697353	*570075*	1799575	*607697*	1832101	*616753*
Madhya Pradesh	81	84	0	49742	*20116*	53067	*23073*	0	*0*
Maharashtra	148	149	27	189493	*76879*	207021	*83641*	85822	*61015*
Odisha	89	82	2	111920	*45567*	105375	*35160*	240	*15*
Punjab	72	74	9	121287	*53587*	142731	*65971*	24368	*20776*
Rajasthan	127	120	0	58212	*4971*	59729	*606*	0	*0*
Tamilnadu	598	630	257	480855	*126887*	498471	*130738*	187014	*43445*
Tripura	39	36	27	260531	*73407*	275392	*90687*	212848	*77014*
Uttar Pradesh	80	71	0	30496	*1668*	31202	*2277*	0	*0*
West Bengal	956	891	1	1071905	*287161*	1312709	*396486*	15703	*0*
Uttarakhand	27	25	0	17495	*4385*	17527	*5075*	0	*0*
Chhatisgarh	11	11	1	27752	*2579*	28855	*2985*	12302	*331*
Jharkhand	30	31	0	135790	*43133*	141401	*45228*	0	*0*
Telangana	334	304	0	221493	*81731*	266901	*105336*	0	*0*
Manipur	0	0	0	0	*0*		*0*	0	*0*
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Total	**4639**	**4522**	**1164**	**5555718**	**1866836**	**6010542**	**2030998**	**2503747**	**871847**

Year	No. of Unions	Membership	Year	No. of Unions	Membership
1983	1854	1890993	2000	3771	3126943(646678)
1984	2005	1575655	2001	3787	3150673(600407)
1985	1717	1716457(132536)	2002	4168	3463920(679712)
1986	2412	1844273(209348)	2003	3913	3333568(636718)
1987	2350	1680884(206482)	2004	3985	3544622(728891)
1988	2618	1919280(264507)	2005	4088	3990685 (898239)
1989	3114	2425000(247388)	2006	4764	4133893 (916292)
1990	2934	2095550(245060)	2007	4606	4781681(1150108)
1991	2783	2088218(291228)	2008	4485	5173363(1292838)
1992	3343	2381012(321620)	2009	4737	5015260 (1357910)
1993	3156	2371405(306344)	2010	4528	5224207(1552748)
1994	3198	2470131(261980)	2011	4564	5863221(1857520)
1995	3523	2784050(358188)	2012	4550	5422358 (1785052)
1996	3645	2805127(435285)	2013	4807	5398847 (1757813)
1997	3804	2917200(506097)			
1998	3502	2881478(483373)			
1999	3929	3296808(550583)			

Sl.No	State	Memb.2013	Build.Fund Quota	Received Fund	Fund dues
1	Andaman	3296	Rs.6,592.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.6,592.00
2	Andhra Pradesh	279851	Rs.559,702.00	Rs.200,000.00	Rs.359,702.00
3	Assam	109618	Rs.219,236.00	Rs.60,000.00	Rs.159,236.00
4	Bihar	18816	Rs.37,632.00	Rs.10,000.00	Rs.27,632.00
5	Chhatisgarh	32673	Rs.65,346.00	Rs.54,976.00	Rs.10,370.00
6	Delhi	56464	Rs.112,928.00	Rs.85,186.00	Rs.27,742.00
7	Goa	476	Rs.952.00	Rs.952.00	Rs.0.00
8	Gujarat	15024	Rs.30,048.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.30,048.00
9	H.P.	46635	Rs.93,270.00	Rs.100,000.00	Rs.0.00
10	Haryana	96147	Rs.192,294.00	Rs.50,000.00	Rs.142,294.00
11	Jammu & Kashmir	11350	Rs.22,700.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.22,700.00
12	Jharkhand	136380	Rs.272,760.00	Rs.50,000.00	Rs.222,760.00
13	Karnataka	235815	Rs.471,630.00	Rs.289,000.00	Rs.182,630.00
14	Kerala	1558456	Rs.3,000,000.00	Rs.3,000,000.00	Rs.0.00
15	M.P.	50523	Rs.101,046.00	Rs.16,694.00	Rs.84,352.00
16	Maharashtra	174868	Rs.349,736.00	Rs.327,556.00	Rs.0.00
17	Odisha	134784	Rs.269,568.00	Rs.88,857.00	Rs.180,711.00
18	Punjab	141935	Rs.283,870.00	Rs.40,000.00	Rs.243,870.00
19	Rajasthan	62869	Rs.125,738.00	Rs.88,927.00	Rs.36,811.00
20	T.N.	512047	Rs.1,024,094.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.1,024,094.00
21	Telangana	238000	Rs.476,000.00	Rs.500,000.00	Rs.0.00
22	Tripura	246406	Rs.492,812.00	Rs.350,000.00	Rs.142,812.00
23	U.P.	25443	Rs.50,886.00	Rs.10,000.00	Rs.40,886.00
24	Uttarakhand	31271	Rs.62,542.00	Rs.21,995.00	Rs.40,547.00
25	W.B.	1150514	Rs.2,301,028.00	Rs.1,000,000.00	Rs.1,301,028.00
	LIC Agents Union	36721	Rs.73,442.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.73,442.00
	Total	**5406382**	**Rs.10,695,852.00**	**Rs.6,344,143.00**	**Rs.4,360,259.00**

Association of SAIL Employees	Rs.30,000.00
BAPSU Staff Union, Ranipet, W.B.	Rs.10,000.00
Well Wisher	Rs.400,000.00
Hindustan Steel Emp.Union, Durgapur, W.B.	Rs.10,000.00
Total	**Rs.450,000.00**
Grand Total	**Rs.6,794,143.00**

DT.30-06-2017

P RAMAMURTY FUND (STATES)

NO	STATE	MEMBERSHIP		QUOTA		FUND RECEIVED		FUND DUES		TOTAL DUES
		2008	2014	2008	2014	2008	2014	2008	2014	
1	Andaman	2992	3966	Rs.14,960.00	Rs.19,830.00	Rs.5,600.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.9,360.00	Rs.19,830.00	Rs.29,190.00
2	AP	444695	319327	Rs.2,223,475.00	Rs.1,596,635.00	Rs.2,346,399.00	Rs.61,462.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.1,535,173.00	Rs.1,535,173.00
3	Assam	71991	112144	Rs.359,955.00	Rs.560,720.00	Rs.15,000.00	Rs.2,923.00	Rs.344,955.00	Rs.557,797.00	Rs.902,752.00
4	Bihar	24762	33691	Rs.123,810.00	Rs.168,455.00	Rs.25,560.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.98,250.00	Rs.168,455.00	Rs.266,705.00
5	Chattisgarh	21712	27752	Rs.108,560.00	Rs.138,760.00	Rs.83,435.00	Rs.4,060.00	Rs.25,125.00	Rs.134,700.00	Rs.159,825.00
6	Delhi	36877	62341	Rs.184,385.00	Rs.311,705.00	Rs.96,687.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.311,705.00	Rs.311,705.00
7	Goa	677	232	Rs.3,385.00	Rs.1,160.00	Rs.1,206.00	Rs.2,179.00	Rs.1,160.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.1,160.00
8	Gujarat	14849	15088	Rs.74,245.00	Rs.75,440.00	Rs.1,000.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.73,245.00	Rs.75,440.00	Rs.148,685.00
9	Haryana	67255	102800	Rs.336,275.00	Rs.514,000.00	Rs.140,030.00	Rs.100,000.00	Rs.196,245.00	Rs.414,000.00	Rs.610,245.00
10	HP	40523	38572	Rs.202,615.00	Rs.192,860.00	Rs.20,000.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.182,615.00	Rs.192,860.00	Rs.375,475.00
11	J & K	4372	14948	Rs.21,860.00	Rs.74,740.00	Rs.1,240.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.20,620.00	Rs.74,740.00	Rs.95,360.00
12	Jharkhand	99503	135790	Rs.497,515.00	Rs.678,950.00	Rs.6,500.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.491,015.00	Rs.678,950.00	Rs.1,169,965.00
13	Karnataka	161580	256514	Rs.807,900.00	Rs.1,282,570.00	Rs.684,628.00	Rs.300,000.00	Rs.123,272.00	Rs.982,570.00	Rs.1,105,842.00
14	Kerala	1269686	1664928	Rs.6,348,430.00	Rs.8,324,640.00	Rs.5,252,575.00	Rs.8,535,000.00	Rs.885,495.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.885,495.00
15	MP	31516	49650	Rs.157,580.00	Rs.248,250.00	Rs.157,580.00	Rs.15,000.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.233,250.00	Rs.233,250.00
16	Maharashtra	113732	188997	Rs.568,660.00	Rs.944,985.00	Rs.568,660.00	Rs.834,633.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.110,352.00	Rs.110,352.00
17	Odisha	108780	111838	Rs.543,900.00	Rs.559,190.00	Rs.75,763.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.468,137.00	Rs.559,190.00	Rs.1,027,327.00
18	Punjab	79000	121287	Rs.395,000.00	Rs.606,435.00	Rs.136,247.00	Rs.100,000.00	Rs.258,753.00	Rs.506,435.00	Rs.765,188.00
19	Rajasthan	41432	58084	Rs.207,160.00	Rs.290,420.00	Rs.84,090.00	Rs.100,000.00	Rs.123,070.00	Rs.190,420.00	Rs.313,490.00
20	Tamil Nadu	522146	480855	Rs.2,610,730.00	Rs.2,404,275.00	Rs.1,221,150.00	Rs.5,000.00	Rs.1,389,580.00	Rs.2,399,275.00	Rs.3,788,855.00
21	Tripura	161049	260531	Rs.805,245.00	Rs.1,302,655.00	Rs.453,668.00	Rs.739,000.00	Rs.351,577.00	Rs.563,655.00	Rs.915,232.00
22	UP	32432	30496	Rs.162,160.00	Rs.152,480.00	Rs.42,994.00	Rs.50,000.00	Rs.119,166.00	Rs.102,480.00	Rs.221,646.00
23	Uttarakhand	20102	17495	Rs.100,510.00	Rs.87,475.00	Rs.22,200.00	Rs.26,710.00	Rs.78,310.00	Rs.60,765.00	Rs.139,075.00
24	West Bengal	1799140	1071224	Rs.8,995,700.00	Rs.5,356,120.00	Rs.2,000,000.00	Rs.1,000,000.00	Rs.6,995,700.00	Rs.4,356,120.00	Rs.11,351,820.00
25	Telangana	0	221748	Rs.0.00	Rs.1,108,740.00		Rs.661,462.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.447,278.00	Rs.447,278.00
26	Mizoram	2560		Rs.12,800.00			Rs.0.00	Rs.12,800.00	Rs.0.00	Rs.12,800.00
27	Manipur						Rs.0.00		Rs.0.00	Rs.0.00
28	LICAOI other than Kerala		31999		Rs.159,995.00		Rs.0.00		Rs.159,995.00	Rs.159,995.00
	TOTAL	5173363	5432297	Rs.25,866,815.00	Rs.27,161,485.00	Rs.13,442,212.00	Rs.12,537,429.00	Rs.12,248,450.00	Rs.14,835,435.00	Rs.27,083,885.00

CIRCULATION List of All Journals (June 0217)

Sl. No.	State	The Working Class	CITU Mazdoor	The Voice of the Working Woman	Kamkaji Mahila
1.	Andaman	9	10	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1034	0	1	0
3.	Andhra Pradesh	0	3	70	0
4.	Assam	135	21	22	0
5.	Bihar	10	124	23	0
6.	Chhattisgarh	17	390	2	260
7.	Delhi	56	179	142	152
8.	Goa	9	0	0	0
9.	Gujarat	1	27	2	0
10.	Haryana	7	297	3	202
11.	Himachal Pradesh	33	939	1	35
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	10	51	1	1
13.	Jharkhand	6	156	2	0
14.	Karnataka	494	0	55	0
15.	Kerala	1019	0	1095	1
16.	Madhya Pradesh	0	397	0	201
17.	Maharshtra	121	185	82	375
18.	Manipur	5	0	0	0
19.	Meghalya	1	0	0	0
20.	Odisha	197	42	0	0
21.	Punjab	7	130	0	800
22.	Rajasthan	16	418	1	0
23.	Sikkim	1	0	0	0
24.	Tamilnadu	740	0	965	0
25.	Telangana	107	1	0	0
26.	Tripura	50	0	170	0
27.	Uttar Pradesh	39	554	4	0
28.	uttarakhand	4	187	0	0
29.	West Bengal	1558	110	128	0
	Total	**5686**	**4221**	**2769**	**2073**

*Affiliation subscription for The Working Class is 4729 and for Citu Mazdoor is 1038