

October 9, 71.

Com. B.T. Ranadive, President CITU has issued following statement to the Press on murderous attacks on T.U. leaders in Durgapur.

" The Centre of Indian Trade Unions strongly condemns the dastardly attacks on comrades Ajit Mukherjee, Member Working Committee of the CITU, Sunil Chatterjee, General Council Member of Hindustan Steel Employees Union, Sasanka Majhi and Sisir Banerjee in broad daylight on 8th October 71 when they were waiting for a bus. The premeditated attack had taken place when police were said to be standing at a short distance in which Com. Sunil Chatterjee was killed and other seriously injured.

The gangsters in the afternoon again stabbed to death the AITUC worker Jiten Chowdhury and seriously injured the CITU worker B.C. Mukherjee. The CITU has reasons to believe that the police connived at this perpetration of Cossipore in Durgapur with the vile design of suppressing the workers struggles led by the CITU. It was clearly seen from the fact that a senior police officer refused to carry the wounded leaders to the hospital. The precious life of Comrade Sunil Chatterjee could have been saved if medical help would have been given time.

The cowardly attack on T.U. leadership in Durgapur is a clear indication that the authorities having failed to suppress the T.U. movement in Durgapur through police repression, are resorting to such gangster attacks under the police supervision. The press reports and the police version that the whole incident arose out of a clash between two parties is a mere smokescreen to cover the conspiracy to kill the leading T.U. comrades.

The police instead of attacking the guilty have arrested two CITU workers comrades parimal Sarkar and Parezh Maitra from which it is clear where the sympathies of the police lie.

The CITU congratulates Durgapur workers for launching protest through strikes and demonstrations and upon the working class of West Bengal to strengthen their struggle against the conspiracy of the Government to suppress their rising struggles through such attacks.

The CITU calls upon all the affiliated unions in India to raise their powerful voice of protest against the increasing murderous attacks with police encouragement against the Trade Unions and democratic movement in West Bengal.

The CITU pays its homage to the martyrs who laid their lives facing the gangster attacks and shares the grief of the bereaved members of the families of the heroic martyrs.

The CITU demands immediate arrests of the culprits and drastic punishment to the guilty officers.

To the Editor
for favour of publication

for Secretary.