

## CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

President :  
B. T. RANADIVE  
General Secretary :  
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3rd November 1973.

PRESS STATEMENT

CITU SUPPORTS STRIKE  
OF JUTE WORKERS

Com. B. T. Ranadive, President CITU has issued the following statement to the Press:

"The CITU welcomes the unity achieved by the 2.5 lakh Jute workers of West Bengal who are going on strike on 5th November in support of the demand for nationalisation of Jute Industry, export of raw Jute including Jute trade and fixation of minimum price of Jute at Rs.75/- - 80/- per maund. The fact that CITU, INTUC, AITUC, BMS, UTUC, and UTUC(Lenin Sarani), TUCU and NFITU have unitedly gave a call for this strike will ensure its cent per cent success.

The Jute millowners have minted crores of rupees by irregular means during the recent past. They however refuse to settle the dispute with the workers and defraud the raw Jute producers. The Central Government without taking the interest of producers into account has fixed Rs.57/- per maund as raw Jute price but the actual market price varies from Rs.25/- to 45/-. Therefore the solidarity of workers and peasants against the common exploiters is a happy development.

The CITU calls upon the working class to rally behind the Jute workers and growers so that the Central Government is forced to take steps towards nationalisation and fixation of raw Jute prices as demanded by the trade unions".

The News Editor

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For favour of publication

For Secretary