

CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

Meeting of the General Council

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**11 - 14, July 2014
Bellary, Karnataka**

CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

General Council Meeting

11 - 14 July 2014

Bellary, Karnataka

AGENDA

1. Condolence Resolution
2. Presidential Address
3. Report of the General Secretary
4. Review of Post election situation and our task
5. Verification of membership of Central Trade Unions
6. Resolutions
7. Report of the Credential Committee
8. Concluding remarks

PROGRAMME

11.07.2014	10.00 am – 11.30 am	:	INAUGURAL SESSION Flag Hoisting & Homage to Martyrs Welcome Address Presidential Address
	12.00 – 1.30 pm	:	GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING Condolence Resolution Introduction of General Secretary's Report,
	03.30 pm - 07.00 pm	:	Fraternal Greetings, Resolutions, Discussion on General Secretary's Report
12.07.2014	9.30 am -01.30 pm	:	Discussion on General Secretary's Report
	03.30 pm - 8.30 pm	:	Discussion on General Secretary's Report
13.07.2014	9.30 am -01.30 pm	:	Discussion on General Secretary's Report
	03.30 pm – 07.00pm	:	Discussion on General Secretary's Report
	07.00pm	:	Secretariat Meeting
14.07.2014	9.30 am -02.00 pm	:	Report of the Credential Committee, Reply to Discussion, Adoption of Reports, Resolutions, Concluding Remarks.
	05.00pm	:	Rally and Public meeting
(Tea Breaks : 11.30pm - 12 noon & 05.00 pm - 05.30 pm) (Lunch Break: 01.30 pm to 03.30 pm)			

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General Council Meeting

11 - 14 July 2014

Bellary, Karnataka

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Dear Comrades,

On behalf of the Secretariat of CITU and of my own, I welcome you, the general council members and also special invitees to the first meeting of the General Council elected in our 14th Conference at Kannur.

I would like to convey our greetings and thanks to the Reception Committee here and also to the Karnataka state committee for shouldering the responsibility of hosting this meeting at this important juncture.

After our 14th Conference in April 2013, the working committee met in Jaipur, Rajasthan on 27-29 August. During the intervening period between the meetings of the working committee and this general council, two Comrades who played a leading role in our organisation passed away.

Com R Umanath, our beloved leader, who played a leading role in the foundation of CITU, passed away on 21st May. He played an important role in building up CITU and guiding various trade unions during his active public life of nearly 70 years. While paying homage to his memory, I also put on record, my gratitude to him for the personnel attention and guidance to me through out the period, I had an opportunity to work with him.

Com. K.L. Bajaj, our vice president breathed his last on 18th April. He was also associated with CITU, in various capacities, since its foundation, and was one of our senior leaders, committed to the cause of the working class. Let us pay our homage to the memory of our beloved Comrade Bajaj.

During this period, working class in the country lost some leading personalities who had contributed much to the cause of its well being. Humanity lost some eminent people who had excelled in various fields of creative activities. We pay our homage to all of them.

We pay homage to the Martyrs, especially from West Bengal, who had fell victims to the brutal attacks of the goons of the ruling Trinamool Congress and others.

We take this opportunity to greet those, who continue to resist these ghastly attacks to defend the democratic rights of the people.

We express our profound grief over the huge loss of lives in the attacks by the divisive forces, in natural calamities, in the accidents at work spots and also in the road and rail accidents.

Comrades,

We are meeting, within two months of the conclusion of the general elections to the 16th Lok Sabha. We are all aware of the results of this huge electoral exercise which has resulted in a further rightward shift in Indian politics.

The UPA, which ruled the country for 10 years, got fully washed away in many states. It is the BJP and the NDA that have gained from this alienation of the Congress. BJP obtained 282 seats on its own and has formed the government along with its allies in the NDA.

Having come to power, with the full support of Indian corporates and International investors, the government has started working upon its agenda of speeding up 'reforms'. The covert and overt activities of organisation like the RSS also played a major role in the victory of BJP.

The results of these elections are a serious set back for the working people of the country. Left Parties, which were always in the fore front of the struggles of the people have lost heavily in the elections, with the lowest ever strength in the Lok Sabha. However, the Left parties retained both the seats in Tripura with increased margins. We congratulate the Comrades of Tripura, for their magnificent victory. We also greet our Kerala comrades where the LDF doubled its seats won in the last elections.

CITU had, well before the general elections, cautioned the working people of the country about this dangerous outcome and called upon all our unions and committees to propagate the alternative policies projected by the Left parties among the masses. These were the very same policies which we have been focusing on in all our conferences and documents. These policies were the basis of the 10 point charter of the joint trade union movement on which many historic struggles were conducted.

I am sure, that this general council meeting will go deeper into these issues and make proper assessments of our shortcomings and weaknesses that were witnessed in the process of these elections. We have to rectify these at the earliest in order to meet the challenges before us successfully.

It is also noteworthy that all the central trade unions, which were jointly leading the struggles on a common charter, have decided to continue the united movement in this period of increasing attacks on the working people.

Ominous are the signs, within few days of NDA coming to power. The unilateral moves to amend various labour laws, further increases in the price of petroleum products, increases in the railway fares and freight rates all point out to the policy directions of the 'stringent measures' of the NDA government.

CITU has to be prepared fully in the coming days to meet all these offensives.

Comrades,

We had in our Kannur conference and again in our Jaipur working committee meeting noted the

serious impacts of the economic crisis in the capitalist system. Even to-day, the crisis continues. All the reports of IMF, World Bank and other international organisations point to the severe impact of the crisis.

The latest is the report on US economy, which has contracted by 2.9% in the first quarter of this year. This according to the report is the worst performance in five years. Dearth of public expenditure is shown as one of the major reasons for the situation in USA.

The world could not recover from the severe loss of jobs. Unemployment and increasing disparities accompanied by further austerity measures by various governments have resulted in struggles, all over the 'developed world'.

International Labour Organisation in its 'World of Work report 2014', pointed out that 'over the next five years there will be an estimated 213 million new labour market entrants – 200 million in developing countries alone'. It also noted that youth unemployment as a serious offshoot of the present crisis. In some countries in Europe, youth unemployment has crossed 50%.

The same report points out the precarious nature of those who are working. It notes that '839 million workers in developing countries are unable to earn enough to lift themselves and their families above USD 2 a day poverty threshold'.

While in this year's report, ILO concentrates on developing countries and emerging economies, various other reports point out to the situation in Europe.

Spain is a sample of the European situation, where unemployment rate has increased by 3.18% between 2011 and 2013, and 6,73,900 permanent jobs have been lost. Part time employment is being encouraged alongwith making part time employees to work overtime. The numbers of such employees rose by 2,65,600 to 24,24,100 while full time employment contracts decreased by 13,57,400. Youth unemployment in Spain has reached 56%.

Almost every country in the region is in the same situation, but with varying degrees of the crisis. Migration continues to be a major issue. Millions move out of their homes in search of jobs and are forced to work even in 'war zones'. Added to this is the largest ever migration due to local wars, which is now assessed to be more than 5 crores.

Increasing disparities

During the last few months, the question of increasing disparities has become the point of serious discussions. Even Pope Francis has been regularly raising this issue. Pointing out to the increasing accumulation of wealth, he said just a month ago – 'we have placed money in the center, the god of money. We have fallen to the sin of idolatry, the idolatry of money'. He also said 'I think we are in a global economic system that is not good'.

While these were the views of a Pontiff, the religious leader of 120 crores of Roman Catholics, in the academic platforms all over the world serious discussions are being held on 'rising inequality'. This was on the basis of a serious study – 'Capital in the 21st Century' by Thomas Piketty, a Professor in Paris School of Economics. This study on inequality has created, what some people

have described as 'Pikettymania'. Studying the data mainly for the last 200 years he has concluded that 'worsening inequality is an inevitable outcome of free market capitalism'. He says that, 'the idea that unrestricted competition will put an end to inheritance and move toward a more meritocratic world is a dangerous illusion'!

IMF Chief Christine Lagarde says – 'Seven out of 10 people in the world today live in countries where inequality has increased over the past 3 decades'. If we put along with this another data which says – 'the world's richest 85 people own the same amount of wealth as the bottom half of the population'.

There are many recent studies which expose this reality in various parts of the world - most of the countries in OECD, (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development – the rich nation's club) and the so called emerging economies like Brazil, China and India. On India, an OECD study says – 'Inequality in earnings has doubled in India over the last few decades, making it the worst performer on this count of all emerging economies. The top 10 percent of India's wage earners now make 12 times more than the bottom 10 per cent up from the ratio of six in the early 1990'.

The IMF chief says 'In India, the net worth of the billionaire community increased 12 fold in 15 years, enough to eliminate the absolute poverty in this country twice over'.

Let us not also forget that the policy prescriptions of IMF, World Bank and others are the main reasons for this vulgar accumulation of wealth!

Attacks on workers

Various governments, in different parts of the world, with the exception of the democratic governments in Latin America, have been on the offensive against the working people.

The following table illustrates how the public employees in European countries have been under attack.

Wage cuts, freezes hitting public sector workers

	Pay Cut	Pay Freeze	Other measures
Belgium			Proposed replacement of seniority advancements with bonuses. Employment in central government fell by 12% between 2009-2011.
Czech Republic	10% cut in wages in 2011	Until 2014	
Denmark		No real wage increase in 2010	Removal of seniority bonuses in 2011

Germany		6.3% wage increase between 2012-2014 for 2m public sector employees	
Estonia	Cut in basic pay-off around 6%; larger reductions In public administration Between 2008 and 2010	2009 and 2010	Abolition or reduction of performance related supplements and other additional payments
Ireland	At least 5%, 10% for new recruits		
Greece	A series of on-going pay reductions and a new pay structure	Pay freeze for public sector workers earning more than Euro 2,000 per month (2009)	Reduction and subsequent elimination of 13 th and 14 th monthly salary and new pay structure with a total effect of minimum least 15 -20% pay reduction. Complete change of collective bargaining system and shift to elements of incentive pay. In 2011 increased working hours from 37.5 to 40 hours per week. Planned reduction in employment of 150,000 (20%) by 2015
Spain	5% pay cut in 2010	2011 and 2012	In 2012 increase in working hours from 35 to 37.5 hours per week and increased contact hours for teachers.
France		Pay scales frozen For 2 years	Replacement of 1 in 2 staff that leave the public sector
Italy	5% on salaries over EUR 90,000, 10% over EUR 150,000 for 2011-2013	Wages frozen at 2010 level for 2011-2013 with possible extension to include 2014.	Collective bargaining suspended 2010-2012 workforce attrition; only 1 in 5 workers replaced in 2011-2013 period with possible extension until the end of 2014.

Cyprus	Proposed in 2011	3 years	
Latvia	15% in 2009; 2010 pay cut by 20% for higher paid & by 15% for lower paid.		As part of package agreed with the IMF: introduction of single remuneration system for those in central & local government institutions which cut pay in 2010 by an average 5% compared to 2009
Lithuania	Cut of 15%	Until 2012	
Hungary	Cut by 7% in	Pay freeze since 2009	Abolition of 13 th month salary (8% of annual salary) replaced By lower flat rate payment for Public sector workers (2009/ 2010) 7000 government job cuts Announced in 2012
Netherlands		No wage agreement Concluded in central Government since 2011- wage freeze	Placed job reductions in central government by 2015 Ending of LIFO principle in 2012 making it easier to dismiss central government workers.
Poland		For two years	Teachers excluded from Pay freeze (pay has increased)
Portugal	5% pay cut in 2011; for 2012, 13 th and 14 th month payments suspended for medium and high salaries, despite a challenge in the Constitutional Court	2 year pay freeze from 2011 to 2013	Reductions in health benefits
Romania	25% temporary cut in 2010 partly restored under new pay system	2012	The new pay system introduced in 2012 eliminates a range of bonuses and abolishes the 13 th month pay

Slovenia	4% in 2011; additional cuts of 8% on average in 2012	2011 and 2012 (six months)	
Slovakia	Pay bill cut by 10% in 2011		Teachers and some other groups are not affected by paycuts
Sweden		No-wage Moderation	Reductions in employment of staff on fixed-term contracts.
United Kingdom	Cuts in premium payments and allowances, especially in local government.	2010-2012 some exemptions for lower paid	Cap on pay rise of 1% planned for 2013/14 large reductions in employment underway- in excess of 10% between 2010-2015.

Contrast this to the huge 'compensation' that the CEOs and high officials are getting. While the average wage in France is 25,500 Euros annually and wage freezes and cuts were implemented, CEOs in France got 20 to 37% hike to reach even 2.9 million, 3.4 million and 3.7 million Euros. In Italy, Telecom Italia's CEO gets 8.2 million Euros. Income disparities are increasing in various countries.

In USA too real wages for most workers have virtually stagnated since 1970s. Income disparities are also increasing. Incomes of top 1 per cent have risen 165 per cent and of the top 0.1 per cent by 362 per cent. The contrast between the 99 per cent and the one percent has actually turned into 99.9 per cent versus 0.1 per cent.

Today, working people are on the streets all over the developed world demanding justice. Last few months have seen big struggles including strikes in Europe and also in USA.

There is a severe attack on the collective bargaining rights of workers. The number of collective agreements is going down. In Spain, 6016 agreements were signed in 2007 which came down to 4585 in 2011 and 2094 in 2013. The first quarter of 2014 saw only 571 agreements. Before the crisis, nearly 12 million workers were covered by agreements but today it is only 2.7 million. There was a rule which meant that if a new agreement is not arrived at, the existing agreement will continue to be in force till the new one is signed. Now, this has been limited to one year, which means that even the existing benefits can be denied after that period.

In Spain, in the first 2 months of 2104, there were 184 strikes involving 56,693 workers according to the employers' organisation. In 2013, more than 5 lakhs of workers participated in 1259 strikes. On 15th May 2014, France witnessed one day strike involving 5.5 million employees, causing severe disruption to transport including air and government offices. Workers were protesting against the attack on their conditions of employment.

Thousands of municipal workers in Italy including teachers and social workers went on strike against proposed wage cut of 200 Euro (\$271) a month, as part of an austerity drive.

In the US, the struggle for increasing the minimum wage to \$15 from 7.25 per hour is gaining momentum. In Seattle in the USA, the working class could achieve the demand of \$ 15 per hour through united campaign and pressure on the state government. It is estimated that this would lift 25% of the working poor from that status. According to data from OECD, US worker toils, on an average 4.6 per cent more hours than a Canadian worker, 21 per cent more hours than a French worker and 28 per cent more hours than a German worker.

Noted Nobel Laureate Joseph Stiglitz said 'America has become the advanced country not only with the highest level of inequality but one of those with the least equality of opportunity'. Not only Europe and the USA, various countries in other continents are also witnessing strikes and struggles.

One important long drawn strike during this period was the five months' long strike by Platinum Miners in South Africa. This strike in the Platinum mines of MNCs caught international attention because of its political overtones during the recent elections in South Africa. This is reported to be the longest strike by miners in South Africa.

Workers returned to work after a wage settlement on 25th June. This will give an increase of 1000 Rand (\$95) for two years and 950 Rand for third year to the workers whose basic salary is less than 12500 Rand. Companies reported a combined loss of 24 billion Rand (\$ 2.27 billion) and workers wage loss is assessed to be 10.6 billion Rand.

Brazil witnessed a series of agitations against the huge expenses incurred for the world cup 2014 which is now going on and the 2016 Olympics to be held in that country. This despite the fact that Brazil is a country that embraces football as a way of life!

Certain political developments

I do not intend to go into details of all the political developments.

Imperialism continues its all out efforts to strengthen its foothold in every part of the world.

The results of the so called war against terrorism and the direct and indirect invasion of sovereign countries are being experienced by us. The way Iraq is being taken over by hard core fundamentalist forces, unleashing a sectarian war is the result of the US-British invasion. The same forces control large areas of Syria also today. But Syrian government is still controlling the country's administration. Afghanistan, Yemen and even Pakistan's travails are the result of imperialist intervention. The way US imperialists have been playing one country against the other and violating all international norms has created such a situation.

Iraq: Chilling reports of massacre are pouring out of Iraq. Hundreds of civilians are gruesomely killed by the militants of Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS). ISIS is an outfit created, funded and armed by the US to destabilise the region. The declared goal of ISIS is the creation of an Islamic state in Syria (and Iraq) and the return of the Islamic caliphate, which ended after the fall of the Ottoman Empire in 1924. In an offensive that took the world by surprise, the ISIS militia ran amok

over vast swathes of Iraqi territory, taking over Mosul, the second most important city of Iraq. Less than 100 kms away from Baghdad, they are engaged in a severe battle with the Iraqi armed forces, joined by the Shiite civilians who were called to take up arms in defence. Irrespective of whether the USA sends its troops to Iraq for full involvement or not, it should be noted that what is happening in the region is to serve the interests of the US. Armed invasions and meddling in the internal affairs of various countries dovetail these strategic interests. Secular states in the region, Iraq, Syria and Libya, were dismantled and sectarian animosity was fuelled, threatening the very existence of these states. The US wanted weak states in the region to establish its unchallenged hegemony over the region and its resources. The US always looked at West Asia, Afghanistan, and Pakistan as 'stepping stones' for extending its influence into the 'former Soviet Union'. How the US invasion of Afghanistan and its intervention in Pakistan ruined these countries is well known. With 'constructive chaos' unleashed even in Ukraine, the signals are indeed ominous.

Egypt: After the coup against the elected government of President Mohammed Morsi, the Army General has officially become the President of the country. The offensive against the Muslim Brotherhood by the Army General led government continues after the elections and the attacks are extended to various other democratic sections. Army has utilised the anger of the people against the Brotherhood government to take over and it is now back to the Mubarak government era. For the working people and democratic sections, it is back to square one.

Ukraine: Ukraine witnessed some of the worst forms of sectarian protests in the recent period, with a section of the people wanting their country to be part of the European Union. The US and other EU powers are actively behind these people as they intend to expand the influence of NATO to the borders of Russia, which saw this as a threat and opposed the move. The pro EU protests were infiltrated by neo-fascist groups that targeted substantial sections of the Russians living in Ukraine. The elected president was ousted in a coup and he fled to Russia for asylum. Attacks were carried out on communists and trade unions and their offices were burnt. Russia sent its forces to Crimea, where it hosts its navel fleet on the Black Sea. Majority of the Russian population living in the region declared their independence from Ukraine in a referendum and voted to join Russia. What followed was a US backed violent attack on Russians in the Eastern regions of the country. The country is now in the midst of a civil war with the neo-fascists virtually unleashing a reign of terror in the country. In a sparsely participated election recently, the country elected a new president who he is known for his pro-EU stance. Russia has cut gas supplies to the country citing a dispute over gas pricing. Latest reports indicate that the Ukrainian government had offered to talk with Russia.

Latin American countries, especially Venezuela is undergoing serious problems with the covert operations of US imperialists. Provocative activities are continuing, while the Maduro government reiterates its commitments to follow the pro-people policies of Hugo Chavez. In the other countries of Latin America too pro-people democratic governments face many hurdles but are unitedly moving ahead.

E.U. Elections: In the background of deepening economic crisis and sufferings to the toiling masses, the results of the elections to the European Parliament are noteworthy. European electorate delivered millions of new votes to eurosceptic and anti-austerity parties. These elections witnessed a slightly increased voter turnout to elect 751 members of European Union Parliament (MEPs). The EPP (European People's Party, a conservative grouping consisting mainly of the Christian Democrats) won 214 MEPs with 28.40 percentage of the vote, down from 274 and 35.77 percentage they had

secured in 2009. Similarly, the S&D group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats won 191 MEPs with 25.43 percentage of vote, down from 196 MEPs and 25.59 percent. The GUE/NGL group (European United Left/Nordic Green Left) consisting of the communist parties and other Left/Green parties increased their tally from 35 MEPs and 4.57 percentage vote in 2009 to 45 MEPs and 5.99 percentage of the vote. The right-wing parties too succeeded in hijacking huge numbers of those votes with populist xenophobic policies. The reasons for these results are clear. This is a vote against the European Commission's interference in the sovereign affairs of their countries. It is a vote against their national governments, which are pursuing the austerity measures prescribed by the EU. It is an expression of people's anger against the attacks launched on their livelihoods, privatisation of assets, cuts in various social welfare measures and increase in taxes. The vote is also an expression of indignation against the mounting unemployment, which even today hovers above 19 million, throughout the continent. It is also against the preference accorded to the corporations over the people, by both the European Union and various national governments, irrespective of whether they are governed by the social democrats or the conservatives. The far-right parties, which improved their performance in these elections, did not attack the neo-liberal economic policies responsible for the current deplorable state of affairs. Instead, they targeted immigrants, particularly the Romas and Muslims, as the reasons for the unemployment and job losses. They openly professed racial hatred and their strong liking to 'national socialism', the philosophy espoused by Hitler.

Neighbouring Countries: Pakistan continues to be under threat of terrorist groups. The recent attacks on government installations including the airports indicate the seriousness of the situation.

Bangladesh is also facing a critical situation. General elections were held but opposition parties boycotted the elections. Awami government continues to be in power. Fundamentalist Jamat-e-Islami and opposition BNP are working together against the government.

In Nepal, even after the recent elections, the Constituent Assembly's functioning is blocked on the issue of who will lead a commission to go into the irregularities in election. All the hopes of a democratic constitution in the near future are evaporating.

In Sri Lanka, issues relating to equal rights of Tamil speaking population, decentralisation of power and demand for inquiries into the mass killings of civilians continue to be unsettled. Recent attacks and killings of Muslims in Sri Lanka, by Buddhist extremist organisations have added to the miseries of the people. The dispute over fishing between India and Sri Lanka is also continuing and workers continue to get imprisoned on both sides.

It is important to note that fundamentalist forces and also imperialist agencies are involved in covert and overt operations in all these neighbouring countries. We should continue to stress on the need for the government strengthening cordial relations with all the neighbouring countries.

Comrades,

With the Modi government, a government which is under the command of RSS as well as committed to speedy implementation of neo-liberal policies at the behest of Indian and International investors, the working people of the country are bound to face serious attacks. Every section of the toiling masses will be under attack as the government will be under pressure for 'Pay back' for all the help

and support they got during the elections. With the government looking at labour laws as a hindrance to job creations and all benchmarks in labour rights being pulled down, we will have to be prepared for mobilising all sections of workers in the struggle.

It is of great importance that all the central trade unions are untied not only on the common charter but also against the efforts to amend labour laws as also on many other policy issues.

The unity, which was reflected in the pre-budget discussions with the Finance Minister and also in the meeting with the new Labour Minister on 24th June, has to be further strengthened.

As we had been stressing in our conferences, CITU will have to carry forward this message to grass root level and build up unity and actions at that level.

Various divisive forces are becoming active now and all designs of disrupting and damaging the unity of the working people and people at large have to be combated effectively. The struggle against the communal and divisive forces cannot be conducted in isolation from our struggle against the neo-liberal offensives. These struggles have to be linked in such a way that the working people and other down trodden sections are educated and united on these issues.

Our interventions have to be more effective and appropriate on issues of social oppressions. Trade unions cannot fail to respond to the savage attacks on women. No part of the country is an exception to these crimes being committed against women.

Comrades,

Accidents at work spots continue to be a serious issue before us. Thousands of lives are lost in these accidents. Issues related to these accidents and occupational health and safety issues should be taken up by us as a serious agenda. Added to these are the road and rail accidents, which are also increasing.

Dear Comrades,

More than everything else, we have to take note of the fact that with the serious impacts of neoliberalism spreading among the masses and the ideological understanding among the working class getting weakened, we have to be more proactive. It is time for us to have a close introspection on the way of our functioning at all levels and all other related issues. All out efforts are required to strengthen the class orientation of our organisation. The situation today demands serious introspection and also effective interventions.

I am sure that the discussions in the general council will pave the way for rectifying our weaknesses. Let us reiterate our tasks formulated in the 14th Conference to 'reach the unreached' and to 'intensify class struggle'.

Comrades,

I will be failing in my duty, if I do not remind you about the call by WFTU for the observance of its Foundation Day as a Day of Action against unemployment.

This is an issue of great importance to every section of working people in each and every country. Let us, along with our brothers and sisters all over the world, raise our voice on 3rd October for eradication of unemployment.

Before I conclude, I would once again convey my greetings to all of you and thank the reception committee.

Long Live CITU
Long Live the Working Class Unity.
Forward to Unity and Struggle

- A.K. Padmanabhan
President

CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

General Council Meeting

11 - 14 July 2014

Bellary, Karnataka

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

The General Council of CITU is meeting about eight months after the Working Committee met in Jaipur.

At the outset, we pay our tributes to Com R Umanath, one of the stalwarts of the working class movement and a veteran freedom fighter who passed away on 21st May 2014 at the age of 93. A lifelong revolutionary, his entire life was a commentary of struggle and sacrifice for the cause of the country and its toiling people. He remains a constant source of inspiration for all of us.

Comrade K L Bajaj, vice president of CITU passed away on 18th April 2014 in Mumbai. He was one of the senior leaders of CITU and trade union movement of the country. We pay tributes to him.

We salute the numerous cadres and supporters of the Left parties in West Bengal who embraced martyrdom braving the brutal attacks of the TMC goon with the active support of the police and the state administration in the run-up to the elections to the Sixteenth Lok Sabha that continue unabated even now.

The socio-political economic situation throughout the world as well as in our country has changed significantly during this period. This has a direct bearing on the working people and the working class movement as well. The General Council has to analyse and review the situation as well as the role played by CITU and the working class movement as a whole to protect the interests of the working class in this situation. We have to identify our weaknesses and shortcomings as well as the challenges unfolded by the new situation to decide our political-ideological-organisational and movemental tasks.

The Presidential address has dealt with the developments in the international arena. Suffice it to note here that in the face of deepening crisis of the world capitalist order, the imperialist forces led by the USA are getting increasingly aggressive and interventionist, intruding upon the sovereign rights of many nation states, particularly the developing countries. International finance capital and the world corporate lobby are using all the agencies and instruments in their hands including huge finance to subjugate the economies of the developing countries and influence their policy-making to serve the interests of world corporates and finance capital. Such aggressive attempts of the imperialist forces and the multinational corporates greatly impact the situation in our country as well.

1. NATIONAL SITUATION

1.1.1 The working committee meeting held in August 2013 in Jaipur dealt at length with the situation facing the country and the working people in the context of the ensuing 16th Lok Sabha elections and formulated the tasks before CITU and the working class movement for strengthening the Left. It

called upon the working class to defeat both Congress and the BJP led alliances. CITU also called for a resolute fight against the fascistic Trinamool Congress in West Bengal in the electoral battle in support of the Left candidates.

1.1.2 But the results of 16th Lok Sabha elections make it clear that we have not been able to put these tasks effectively into practice although there are some other factors too behind the disastrous election results. The elections have resulted in an altogether ominous situation. On the one hand, BJP under Narendra Modi gained an absolute majority to rule the country for the next five years with just 31 percent votes and on the other, there is severe weakening of the Left in the Parliament with the lowest ever seats of only 12 in the Lok Sabha. The right-wing has thus taken over the governance of the country. This is going to have a serious bearing on the life and livelihood of the common people, the working class in particular. Its political and social ramifications are no less alarming and worrying.

1.1.3 There is a sharp decline of the Left throughout the country. Not only did it not get any seats except in Tripura, Kerala and West Bengal, but it has also lost severely in terms of votes compared to the 2009 elections in all the states. It is only in Tripura that their share of votes has increased. The Left could improve the number of seats in Kerala although it could not realise its full potential. Besides, what is alarming is the increase in the vote share of BJP in the state. The Left suffered a severe jolt in its strong bastion of West Bengal, the setback being even more severe than in the 2011 Assembly elections. No doubt, the results of the 16th Lok Sabha elections in West Bengal are largely distorted owing to the unprecedented violence and terror being perpetrated on the Left parties, their supporters, on the trade unions and other mass organisations by the TMC goons and the state administration during the last 34 months. Incidents of booth capturing and rigging have been reported in many places in the state. Nevertheless, the Left suffered a setback which is more severe in terms of the drastic erosion in its mass base as well as the sharp rise in the share of BJP's votes across the state, even in the traditional Left strongholds and the working class belts.

1.1.4 This warrants a serious review and introspection on the role of the working class movement and the CITU in particular on the basis of the tasks that we had formulated in this connection. The General Council has to make a self critical examination on the implementation of these tasks with all seriousness.

1.1.5 The results reveal that the massive anti congress wave was encashed in most of the major states barring five, by the BJP and its allies. Many people in these states, including the workers and employees, believed that their livelihood problems would be effectively addressed by a Modi led government. This was despite the fact that BJP propagates the same policies. The BJP and other political adversaries of the Left were largely successful in camouflaging their politics and class bias while projecting their development model before the electorate. They could convince the people that the economics of development that they were advocating are independent of their pro corporate, pro big business political bias; that the problems of people and the economy could be addressed by 'strong and good governance' alone by the likes of Modi. This depoliticised projection of their development model, which tantamount to a fraud on the people, could not be politically countered by us effectively everywhere.

1.1.6 Keeping in view the seething anger of the people against the Congress, the corporate class, both domestic and foreign, have thrown their weight behind the BJP. The corporate-controlled

media worked overtime to create Modi hype in the country. A concerted effort was made including by a section of intellectuals to project the entire electoral battle as being a fight between the Modi-led BJP and Rahul Gandhi led Congress alliances, seeking to restrict peoples' options between these two. This was consciously done to pre-empt any debate on the policy issues causing price rise, unemployment, poverty and the overall decline in the economy etc. This, along with unprecedented use of money-power could successfully create a distorting impact on the entire electoral process.

1.1.7 This was a conscious and deliberate design to put in place a regime with absolute loyalty to the corporate class, which can more cruelly bulldoze any dissent and resistance to the neoliberal loot and plunder through price rise, unemployment, repression on labour and the transfer of national assets to private hands. Marginalisation of the Left is integral to this project of the corporate class. This clearly reflects an aggressive as well as desperate political strategy of the capitalist class to address its own crisis.

1.2 CITU's Pre-Poll Observations

1.2.1 CITU noted the increasing isolation of the Congress led UPA government from the people due to its misrule and the miseries imposed by its policies. The continuing price rise, increasing job losses and unemployment, growing industrial sickness, explosion of corruptions and scandals were all the inevitable results of the disastrous pro-corporate neoliberal path. We also noted that the BJP was trying to take advantage of this discontent though it was also a proponent of the same disastrous policies.

1.2.2 In successive meetings – of the general council, working committee and in the 13th conference - that were held after the 15th Lok Sabha elections, we have been consistently noting the speedy rightward pro-imperialist shift in political, economic and foreign policy regime. We have asserted that this was creating a fertile ground and paving the way for the complete corporate takeover of the country's governance in the midst of deepening economic crisis. Accordingly, the 14th Conference of CITU set the task of 'heightening the united struggle of the working class against the neoliberal policy regime along with independent campaign to expose the politics of the pro imperialist neoliberal order in order to combat the rightward shift in the politico-economic policy regime'. The 14th Conference also called upon CITU unions to intensify campaigns and agitations not only on their own demands, but also to expose the policies of the ruling class and the politics and the protagonists behind such anti people policies.

1.2.3 The 14th Conference also called upon the entire organisation at all levels to prepare itself organisationally to ensure that the campaign reaches the entire working people in all the sectors. It called upon all its state committees and industrial federations to equip the union level committees politically, organisationally and intellectually to effectively discharge this task and project the alternative policies formulated by the Left parties. It gave the call to 'reach the unreachable', to take this message linking it up with the day to day experiences of the workers and the people.

1.2.4 The Jaipur Working Committee meeting of CITU in August 2013 reiterated the same in the context of the parliament elections.

1.2.5 But we were not able to carry out this most important task effectively and convincingly as

envisaged. We were not able to effectively expose the communal and disruptive politics of the pro-corporate BJP and its damaging impact on the unity and rights of the toiling people. We could not establish convincingly enough before the people that on economic policy matters, both BJP and Congress are on the same page. If anything, the BJP is more aggressive on this aspect. Our experience of NDA regime is a testimony to that. For example, we failed to expose the fact that it was the BJP led NDA government that amended the Essential Commodities Act to allow speculation in commodity market; it was the BJP led NDA government that deregulated the fuel prices which led to the perpetual price rise of essential commodities facilitating windfall gains for commodity market speculators. This crime is a joint venture of BJP led NDA and Congress led UPA. It was only the Left parties that strongly opposed these measures. All the other parties including Trinamool Congress floated along with them. We failed to carry this message convincingly to the mass of the people.

1.2.6 Our task was to bring into focus the policy issues and expose the pro corporate neoliberal policies and simultaneously expose the communal BJP and other bourgeois parties supporting the same neoliberal policy regime. Our task was to focus the dirty communal ploy of BJP/ RSS and their agencies to divide the people and the workers and create disruption in the society for their narrow political gain. Our task was to effectively expose the fact that the BJP was merely blaming the Congress for 'policy paralysis'; it was not opposing the policies themselves but in fact batting for the same more aggressively.

1.2.7 The criticism of 'policy paralysis' in Congress regime as articulated by BJP is based on Congress government's failure to go full steam with the deregulation of financial and insurance sectors, total privatisation of PSUs and infrastructure, allowing FDI in all sectors without any restrictions etc. This so called 'policy paralysis' of the Congress regime, resulting in slowing down and/or partial halting of neoliberal reforms process is, to a considerable extent, due to the pressure of the united trade union campaigns and struggles, both at the sectoral level and on national plane. But the BJP cleverly utilised this achievement of the joint trade union movement, howsoever temporary or partial it may be, to project it as a 'policy paralysis'; it was able to convert the discontent among the people against the impact of the policies into a mandate to implement the very same policies more aggressively. We have miserably failed to reap the political benefits of our achievements in stalling the neoliberal policies due to the weaknesses and inadequacies in taking up independent campaigns with a focus on class issues.

1.2.8 This shortcoming or failure was the result of lack of proper class orientation in our understanding and organisational approach in the campaign among the mass of the workers. This allowed our class enemies to march away with success on the hollow promises of development and good governance, with even sections of the traditional Left voters getting influenced by their campaign. Class orientation is an essential prerequisite in this crucial political battle against the conspiracy of the capitalist class to depoliticise the burning issues before the people and de-ideologise the main force struggling against the neoliberal policies -the working class. In the process of electioneering this conspiracy has gained tremendous all round momentum under the direct supervision and monitoring of the corporate class and the corporate-run media which we could not counter effectively. The weakness in our class orientation resulted in our campaign being superficial, unable to convince even our membership and their families in most of the places even where Left parties contested. We led many struggles and mobilised millions of workers on their livelihood related demands, but could not politicise them and raise their consciousness. We failed to act as a class to combat the conspiracy resulting in a substantial loss of support from our class itself.

1.2.9 The entire CITU has to own the responsibility for this serious shortcoming in our class orientation despite identifying the tasks and reiterating the same repeatedly. CITU Centre failed to regularly monitor, pursue, associate with and ensure its effective implementation by its state level leadership and federations. This is reflected in the weaknesses and shortcomings at the lower levels of the organisation in preparing and equipping the CITU cadres at the union level appropriately to reach the entire section of the working people with a clear class approach and to enable them to correctly recognise their friends and foes.

1.2.10 Although CITU cadres in almost all states took initiative to campaign for the Left candidates in the elections, collected huge funds, published campaign materials in lakhs and circulated through their affiliated and friendly unions, and also carried out campaign among the workers, this could not go beyond a certain limit. It was not effective enough to win over the confidence of the common workers and their families in support of the Left candidates as revealed by the elections result. The crucial task of unleashing political initiative at the union level committees to carry the politics and message of the working class and the Left to the mass of the workers and their families remained unfulfilled to a great extent. General Council members from all the states and federations must deliberate on this aspect and give their observations and opinion.

1.2.11 This aspect of our task needs to be emphasised because now the situation is entirely different. Never before was the capitalist class so aggressive in their plan to regimematalise the entire electioneering process to manufacture a decisive verdict in favour of the extreme right wing BJP on the one hand and to marginalise the Left on the other. This was necessary for them as the Left is the only bottleneck in their game plan of bulldozing the people as well as the democratic institutions through their neoliberal machinations. This aggressiveness also demonstrates the depth of the crisis that the entire capitalist order is engulfed in and their desperation to come out of it at the cost of the workers and the people in general.

1.2.12 These attempts of the corporate class to marginalise the working class movement and the Left are destined to continue with more vigour in the days to come. It is only the working class movement and the Left that have the potential to combat these attacks. It is for this reason that the maligning campaign against the Left through the corporate run media continues, in different ways, throughout the country even after their severe weakening in the elections. The entire focus of the malicious campaign is to belittle the Left's vision on the policies and to project them as irrelevant. It is for this reason alone that despite decimating into only two seats in West Bengal, the attacks on the Left parties and supporters including common people are continuing with greater brutality. The number of Left cadres killed after the election results were declared is increasing in every passing day. Many CITU offices were attacked and ransacked and many CITU cadres were attacked and severely injured besides being implicated in false and fabricated cases. Our comrades are bravely combating those attacks and holding their ground.

1.3 Ominous Indications

1.3.1 The post election situation thus has thrown a big challenge before the working class movement. The new regime, with the BJP itself having absolute majority in the Lok Sabha is destined to pursue the policies of deregulation, privatisation and incentivisation of the corporate and big-business lobby, both domestic and foreign more aggressively. The BJP's election manifesto minced no words on this. While referring to promoting investment friendly atmosphere, the manifesto talks of 'no tax-

terrorism' which in no way means any tax relief to common people but just the opposite. It means further largesse of tax-concession/relief to the big-business and corporate houses which have been already enjoying a huge default in payment of direct taxes to the tune of Rs 5.10 lakh crore as on December 2013 over and above a tax concession of more than Rs 3 lakh crore every year. The Presidential address to the joint session of the Parliament also indicated the same. Such state sponsored pilferage from national exchequer has, naturally, to be compensated by a bigger burden on the mass of the people in the form of higher tax-burden, cut in subsidies and welfare expenditures and in the expenditures on public utility services in order to keep the fiscal deficit within limit.

1.3.2 Privatisation of national assets is their priority agenda. Even before the Ministry was formed, the blue print for privatisation of the banking sector in the form of the recommendation of the P J Nayak Committee appointed by Reserve Bank of India, has been made ready and widely publicised in the national media. Similar exercise is in the offing for the insurance sector also. The energy sector which includes coal, petroleum and electricity, the life line of a modern economy, which is at present dominated by the public sector companies, is being sought to be put on auction in the name of promoting investment. All these neoliberal measures, to which the BJP commitment in its manifesto itself, if translated into action, will mean takeover of the entire national economy by private capitalists lobby, both domestic and foreign. This will be detrimental to our national self reliance and growth. It will also jeopardise the rights and livelihood of the entire working people. The centrally funded welfare schemes like ICDS, mid-day-meal scheme, and scheme pertaining to health, education and other public utilities will also be dismantled and/or privatised for which initiatives have already been unleashed by the UPA regime itself.

1.3.3 And lastly, on Labour, the BJP manifesto batted for ensuring flexibility in labour relations and overhauling of labour laws, obviously in favour of the employers' class signalling a more repressive labour policy regime. The BJP-led government in Rajasthan has already announced its project to empower the employers with the unfettered right to 'hire & fire' as well as impose more restriction on the formation and registration of trade unions and the right to recognition. The proposed amendment of Industrial Disputes Act is aimed at empowering the employers to retrench freely in all establishments employing up to 300 workers instead of 100 at present. Factories Act is sought to be changed by way of enhancing the threshold limit of employment from 20 to 50 pushing more than fifty percent of the factories out of coverage of labour laws. The Contract Labour Act is being sought to be amended for completely freeing the principal employer from any responsibility of the contract labour. It is significant that the charter of demands on neoliberal reform measures put forward by the big-business associations like FICCI and others published in national dailies almost fully coincides with the BJP manifesto in content and many places even in language.

1.3.4 The pattern of governance that is being evolved by the Narendra Modi government is also indicative of a gradual onslaught on the parliamentary democratic set up itself. Prime Ministerial office appears to be arrogating to itself all authority of the government indicating a super imposition of a presidential form of governance on the parliamentary democratic framework. This portends ominous signals of authoritarianism.

1.3.5 Use of communal and divisive issues is integral to the ideology and operational methods of BJP. They will not hesitate to resort to divisive and disruptive routes to tackle any kind of dissent or democratic expression of popular discontent in a fascistic manner. Their past track record establishes that beyond doubt. It must not be lost sight of that during entire electioneering process, the BJP and

various RSS led agencies did not hesitate to instigate communal divisive slogans on the line of 'religion', 'ethnicity', so called 'infiltration from Bangladesh' etc in various sensitive segments and areas viz., in West Bengal, Assam, UP etc aiming divisive polarisation in votes. It is but natural that the BJP/RSS led Govt in power will not miss to utilise, as well as instigate, the divisive and disruptive components in the society and polity in all available opportunities to divide and polarise the people on communal lines. The recent communally charged incidents in Pune and in some other places and the bogey on review of article 370 of the constitution raised from the PMO itself are the pointers to such ominous symptoms. This, again, is a big challenge before us.

2. ECONOMIC SITUATION

2.1 The economy is in the midst of critical situation. Price-rise and aggravation of unemployment are continuing unabated. GDP growth rate is on a consistent decline since 2010-11.

2.2 Agriculture is in severe distress, despite the increase in agricultural production compared to last year. Overwhelming majority of the agricultural population, including medium, small and marginal farmers and agricultural workers are facing heavy indebtedness and consistent decline in their earnings. This is provoking a mass exodus of people from agriculture joining the army of unemployed and underemployed.

2.3 Industrial economy is also facing decline. Manufacturing witnessed an absolute decline in growth in the last quarter of the previous financial year and the trend is continuing. This is getting reflected in the closures and suspension of operation in many industries. The entire burden of such closures and shutdown are passed on to the workers while the employers continue to enjoy their wealth.

2.4 For example, within a span of a year, three major manufacturing units in West Bengal—all under big corporate houses - witnessed closure/shutdown pushing thousands of workers in total distress. They are Birla's Hindustan Motors, Ruia's Jessop and Dunlop and M/s Duckback. The concerned corporate houses have still been making huge profits as a whole but particular manufacturing units are being targeted to be closed or shut-down or made sick in response to the market situation of the products and the whole burden is passed on to the workers, both regular and contract workers. The ongoing phenomenon of cutting down production in the jute-mills in West Bengal, or the incidence of shut-down/closure is the reflection of the faulty pro-MNC policy of the Central government on the one hand and design of the mill-owners on the other to pass on the entire burden onto the workers with the active support of the state government. And through this process, resources generated by the jute industry are being siphoned off by the private mill-owners for other profitable ventures. Attempts are also being made to close numerous other manufacturing units and grab the vast landed property for real estate business. Under neoliberal policy regime, such trend of converting manufacturing units into real-estate ventures reveals a kind of perversion in the industrial economy militating against productive employment generation. In Tamilnadu, the Nokia's manufacturing unit employing around 8000 workers is also in the process of being closed, while M/s Microsoft has taken over the Nokia Company as a whole. Not only that following crisis in Nokia, all its ancillaries and supplier units in an around the Nokia factory have started shutting down leading to huge job-losses to mostly young workers. Similar experiences in other states are also there. Comrades are requested to put forth such examples to enrich the report.

2.5 Following the elections, increase in investments by foreign institutional investors has become a

trend which is being loudly applauded by media and the neoliberal lobby. Though this has to some extent eased the pressure of current account deficit, FII can no way be considered as stable and consistent, neither does it generate jobs.

2.6 One issue needs to be noted and understood in particular in this respect. Often, the closure and sickness of industries are attributed to declining market, lack of competitiveness, backward technology etc and the whole burden of miseries shifted onto the workers and the national economy. But the fact is that the incidents of closures, shut-down of industries, particularly those in private sector are actually instruments for transferring and/or shifting capital to more profitable ventures, totally unconcerned of the workers losing their livelihood. That is how capitalism operates; under neoliberal order such machinations have become all the more common particularly in the background of the overall crisis. Workers alone have to bear the brunt while employers continue to get richer through sickness/closure/shut-down exercises.

2.7 In the background of such gloom in the economy, the concrete steps going to be taken by the new government have started becoming clear even before presentation of its first budget. Steep all round hike in railway fares across the board, 14.2% hike in passenger fare, hike in monthly ticket rates for regular commuters, mostly working people, 6.5% increase in freight and 3% surcharge on freight users and AC passengers etc-all through executive order exhibited a kind of arrogant cruelty towards mass of the common populace. Active moves are afoot to increase the cooking gas price, price of natural gas and increase in user charges of other essential public utility services as indicated by the repeated statements by the Prime Minister on the so called "tough measures" to be undertaken. The budget that is going to be placed on the eve of the commencement of our general council meeting will make the picture clearer. CITU must gear itself to develop effective and united resistance against the anti people and anti worker measures.

3. STRUGGLES DURING INTERVENING PERIOD

3.1 Joint trade union 'March to Parliament' on 12th December 2013 was one of the major initiatives after our Working committee meeting held in August 2013 which comprised of intensive months long campaign activities in all the states across the sectors. Around 2.5 lakhs workers from all over the country participated in the March to Parliament on 12th December 2013 jointly called by all the central trade unions. Major mobilisation was made by CITU and AITUC and the federations associated with them. Other constituent central trade unions participated with token mobilisation. As per reports collected from the states and various federations, CITU mobilised 72609 workers. Participation was from all the states including sizable numbers from southern and far eastern states. Major mobilisations were from adjoining states in 'Hindi speaking' areas including Maharashtra. Besides that, the independent federations associated with us viz., the federations of Central Government employees, State Government Employees, BEFI, AIEA and BSNLEU mobilised around 15,865 employees. State wise participation from CITU is circulated separately.

3.2 The Joint platform of Central Trade Unions also decided to hold state/district level mobilisations on the same day, in states which could not mobilise workers to Delhi. As per reports received at the Centre, such mobilisations have been organised in a big way in Kerala, West Bengal and Tripura. In Kerala 1,11,800 workers participated in the rallies/demonstrations in 14 centres with INTUC participating in all districts except Kollam, Idukki and Kannur. In West Bengal, demonstrations/processions were organised in 13 districts with a total participation of 59,900. In Tripura, 34,585

workers participated in 74 centres. In Assam out of 27 districts, demonstrations were held in 21 districts in which around 9000 workers participated. Rallies were reported to have been organised in all the districts of Tamilnadu but details are not available. A joint demonstration was also organised in Jamshedpur in Jharkhand. There are no reports from any other state.

3.3 Several important struggles have taken place during the intervening period after the working committee meeting of CITU, in which CITU took noteworthy initiative. It must be noted that as immediate response against the all round steep hike in railway fares and freight charges, CITU has taken noteworthy initiative in organising demonstrations, rail/road-blockade etc in most of the states in the country. We are yet to receive all the reports on such initiative from the states and the exact number of workers mobilised in such programmes. Comrades are requested to please give those details in-writing in this session itself.

3.4 The workers of Japanese multinational company Toyota in Karnataka were on month-long strike during March-April 2014. The company declared lock out and later withdrew it by insisting *that* the workers sign a good-conduct undertaking like Maruti as condition for resuming work. Workers refused and continued with strike braving victimisation. While the independent union led the strike, CITU organised solidarity actions and also took up the issue with the state labour department. The state labour department also intervened in that direction and the company ultimately was compelled to retreat by taking back the condition of good-conduct undertaking for workers resuming work.

3.5 Other important struggles were: 11 days' strike by workers of five mini-hydel projects and 10 days' strike in one Chanju hydel project at Chamba district, and cement workers' strike during October-November 2013 –all in Himachal Pradesh; 4 days' strike by Road Transport workers in Haryana in January 2014; the indefinite strike by Mumbai Transport workers paralysing bus services in Mumbai city for two days on 1-2 April 2014 against imposition of unilateral adverse changes in service condition. Maharashtra state government had to retreat by withdrawing such unilateral change. The electricity workers of Andhra Pradesh had also organised successful agitation on demands of the workers even in the midst of disturbance stricken situation owing to unrest on bifurcation of the state.

3.6 13 lakh central government employees staged two days countrywide strike in February 2014; 10 lakh bank employees went on a two days' countrywide strike on 10-11 February 2014.

3.7 All scheme workers, the anganwadi, mid-day-meal and Asha workers in particular have been on agitation including strike action in almost all the states on their demands during the intervening period. The anganwadi workers in Maharashtra and mid-day-meal workers in Karnataka have been able to achieve some of their demands as well. The anganwadi employees in the then united Andhra Pradesh went on an indefinite strike and conducted massive mobilisations in an adverse political situation and managed to extract concrete proposals on increase in their remuneration. Our Anganwadi union in West Bengal also have organised number of protest-mobilisations both in districts and also at Kolkata against forcible retirement of anganwadi workers and helpers.

3.8 During the intervening period, in almost all the states, CITU committees and federations and unions have been busy in organising various agitations and mobilisations at the state and district level. Most notable had been the initiative of Kerala state committee in rallying the workers from almost all segments in a number of demonstrations and squatting before the state secretariat and

district level administration against the policies of the government and pressing for demands of the workers. Details are being mentioned in separate activity report.

3.9 Against the closure/shutdown of major industrial units like Hind Motor, Jessop, Duckback etc and the phenomenon of cut-down production and shutdown in jute mills in West Bengal, CITU took initiative to organise joint convention of all trade unions on 3rd June 2014 which was followed by massive joint procession of workers in Kolkata on 11th June 2014. Programmes of agitations are also taking place at CITU's independent initiative in the districts affected by such closures and shut down.

3.10 We must note here the praiseworthy initiative by the Tamilnadu state committee of CITU to organise solidarity campaign in support of the struggle of Maruti Suzuki workers in the process of which they could raise Rs 5 lakhs for supporting the Maruti Suzuki Workers Union at Manesar, Haryana.

3.11 We should also take note of the severe attacks and intimidations our comrades in West Bengal are facing from the TMC led goons and antisocial elements since last October 2013 and also in the run up to the election campaign and even after declaration of election results. Many cadres and our sympathisers were killed and thousands are ousted from their areas of work and residence. Several hundreds of our comrades and activists have been implicated in false cases and many of them were even jailed for months together having been booked on non-bailable cases. The Police has been actively patronising such attacks shamelessly. After the declaration of election result, intensity of such attack has increased targeting the working people, both in towns and rural areas. Livelihood of the people are being attacked by way of ousting thousands of small farmers from their land; evicting contract workers in thousands in several industries and replacing them with new set of workers with lower wages in connivance with the contractors; blockading functioning of numerous small cooperatives and self-help groups through terror and violence; and even forcibly closing down small shops and similar small businesses through violence and extortions—all designed to maintain an atmosphere of terror and fear among the people at large and prevent any opposition to the reign of extortion and loot by the TMC goons with the active support of administration. The main purpose behind such attack is to marginalise and eliminate Left, it being the only potential opponent to the regime of loot and plunder under stewardship of the corporates either through TMC in West Bengal or through BJP at the centre. There is urgent need for organising widespread countrywide campaign against such fascistic attack on the democratic movement and the Left in West Bengal. CITU must take up the task of organising solidarity actions in all the states with due seriousness.

4. REVIEW OF CERTAIN IMPORTANT ORGANISATIONAL TASKS ALREADY UNDERTAKEN

4.1 We must draw conclusions from the review of the role played by CITU and the working class movement and the shortcomings flagged therein, both in respect of class orientation in our agitations, struggles and campaigns, and also in respect of organisational preparedness. Organisational preparedness and initiative to develop agitations and struggles is integrally linked with the comprehensiveness of our understanding of the situation, the tasks arising therefrom and the seriousness of our effort to take such understanding to the lowest tier of the organisation.

4.2 Precisely on these premises, the 14th Conference of CITU had formulated its main political organisational focus:

*Carry the unity achieved in the trade union movement at the macro-level to lowest level to unify the entire class

* Intensify class struggle

*Fight on our demands must be integral to our simultaneous and conscious effort to expose the policy regime, as well as the politics behind such policies and their protagonists

*prepare and equip the union/unit level committees and leadership to reach the unreached, i.e., to our entire membership and also the workers beyond that.

4.3 In order to achieve these objectives, CITU conference had identified certain specific organisational and movemental initiatives to be undertaken with all seriousness: For example:

1. To stress upon building our organisation and leadership in the organised sector, both public and private, where we are facing a decline. There is severe unrest among the workers in this sector owing to neoliberal process of mass scale contractorisation and casualisation of work and various other factors. There is popular misinformation campaign by our class enemies and also the media that trade union movement is limited to organised sector comprising 8 per cent of the workforce. Sometimes some of our comrades also fall prey to such understanding. But the fact is that the trade union movement has been losing its intervening and striking capacity in the modern organised sector which constitutes the nerve centre of the capitalist system. Without effective presence of the trade union movement in these strategic and sensitive sectors, and without bringing the workers in these sectors to the frontline of the leadership of the working class movement, we cannot even inch forward to our objective of fighting out the exploitative system. On the other hand, lack of our organisational presence in the major organised sector establishments means that large sections of the modern working class are falling prey to the machinations of our class enemies in various ways. This is leading to the erosion of the striking and intervening capacity of the trade union movement as a whole.

Moreover, under neoliberal order there have been drastic changes in the profile and composition of workforce in the organised sector, both in private and public sector, introducing a dichotomy and elements of discrimination and disunity through mass scale contractorisation and casualisation of work in various forms and nomenclatures. The basic task is to organise the contract workers in trade unions through the initiative from within the industry and integrate their movement with the movement of entire workforce of the concerned industry. These problems need to be addressed by the trade union movement in this sector for the sake of enhancing overall intervening capacity of the trade union movement in the country.

During the intervening period we could not make any visible effort in this regard. CITU centre's effort to take some initiative in this regard in some of the weaker states in Hindi belt could not draw much response even from our own leadership in those areas. Even in our stronger areas, we could hardly make any visible advance to strengthen and advance our support base in the private organised sector and also in PSUs from our position prevailing at the time of the 14th conference. It appears we are yet to internalise the understanding and conclusions derived from our own conference in all tiers of our organisation, from top to bottom. The issue needs to be seriously debated in the General Council to liberate our own understanding and activities from the captivity of formalism and ritualism. We have to overcome such handicap through conscious and consistent effort at all levels.

2. We also stressed upon the urgency to qualitatively change our organisational approach in our work in the unorganised sector which constitutes 70 per cent of our membership. We focused on the task of regular and organised renewal of our membership in this sector with a conscious attempt to develop leadership from within the unorganised sector itself. Such conscious initiative for renewal of membership will help in cementing our organisational strength in otherwise fragile and unstable situation prevailing in the unorganised sector and also develop a stable and equipped leadership from within so that CITU organisers can be relieved to take initiative in other unreached sections of the vast unorganised sector.

We also emphasised the need to focus on developing movement on occupation specific issues and prepare the organisation and leadership in that direction. We also stressed on specific task of enrolling majority of our membership in the unorganised sector in various welfare schemes in vogue and use such initiative as an instrument to reach out to all our members in a regular manner, reach out to the unreached and also develop leadership and whole-timers from within the unorganised sector. We could do precious little in this regard. We have to carry forward this task with all seriousness.

3. We stressed upon the urgency of taking focused initiative for intervening on social issues and problems arising out of identity politics from our class platform itself. In this respect also some experimental initiative were taken by CITU Centre to involve some of the weaker states in this matter. Initiative was taken to involve one federation also in this task. One meeting on the tribal workers' issues was planned by the centre in consultation with the concerned state committees with the representatives of the unions of sizable tribal membership from Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh at Ranchi. But most of the concerned state committees did not show due seriousness either in ensuring meaningful representation in the delegations to the meeting or in sending the required information and reports. In the absence of response from the states, CITU centre too was handicapped in calling another meeting. Though the meeting of tribal workers in the plantation sector in the north eastern states provided rich inputs and experiences, the leadership of the All India Plantation Workers' Federation could not provide the detailed note requested for the follow-up initiative. That initiative too could not be effectively followed up.

4. Despite being pioneer in realising the importance of organising and developing cadres and leaders from among working women and taking initiatives in this regard, there are several shortcomings and weaknesses in our work among working women. CITU centre took initiative to organise a workshop to overcome these shortcomings. However many of our state committees did not take either the workshop or its conclusions with due seriousness. As part of our efforts to take up social issues, we need to pay more attention to the tasks outlined in the 14th conference

5. We have tried to develop broad based movements against the government's moves to dismantle welfare programmes and public services through privatisation. The 'Save ICDS' campaign involving AIKS, AIAWU and AIDWA was one such initiative the importance of which was explained in the Jaipur working committee meeting. However, very few state committees of CITU have taken up this task seriously. Some of the state conventions were held just as a formality. No sustained efforts have been made to pursue and involve the other mass organisations and ensure a broad movement against privatisation of ICDS. The political importance of the programme has been missed by most of our state committees.

4.4 The basic problem still pertains to our shortcomings to assimilate the tasks being undertaken within ourselves so that initiative in that regard can break the barrier of formalism and ritualism and they can be meaningfully carried down to the lowest tier of the organisation. Without this common workers cannot be involved in the political organisational battle both physically and mentally. We must pursue the movemental and organisational tasks undertaken by the 14th Conference of CITU with all seriousness which has gained much greater relevance in the changed political situation.

5. TASKS AHEAD

5.1.1 We must continue with our initiative to widen and strengthen united platform of trade unions. We have to keep the movement unified and through this process consistently work for unifying the working people at sectoral and grass root level. In the face of assumption of power by a communal fascistic team with extreme rightwing characteristics, the unified working class alone can meet the challenge of the situation. No doubt, the onslaught on the working people inevitably launched by such extreme right wing regime will create ground for the oppressed people from all affiliations coming together. But that cannot be automatic and spontaneous. We have to take conscious initiative to harness that opportunity and work for widening and strengthening the unity already developed among the trade unions by consciously carrying it down to sectoral, industry and workplace level.

5.1.2 Even after change of the political regime all the central trade unions could jointly submit their memorandum to Finance Minister on the occasion of pre-budget consultation meeting held on 6th June 2014. All the Central Trade Unions voiced their strong oppositions to the policies of deregulation and privatisation and demanded strong action to contain price rise, proper implementation of labour laws and make proper budgetary provision for the welfare of the working people etc. The move of the BJP government in Rajasthan to introduce 'HIRE & FIRE' through amendment of Industrial Disputes Act and impose restriction on registration of trade unions was vociferously opposed by all Central Trade Unions including BMS. Such opposition could be voiced even inside Parliament.

5.1.3 In the meeting between the Union Labour Minister and the Central Trade Unions held on 24th June 2014, all the CTUOs spoke in one voice urging upon the Labour Minister for a directional change in approach and policies so that the legitimate interests of working people as well as the national economy are protected and taken care of. They unanimously stressed that the national assets and resources should be harnessed for the benefit of the majority of the populace. Trade unions conveyed their strong opposition to the policy of opening up all sectors to 100% FDI, reckless deregulation of strategic sectors and natural resources of the economy including the financial sector, aggressive disinvestment of PSUs and privatisation of crucial public utility services etc. Jointly reiterating their ten-point demands and demanding early action by the Government to settle those demands, the central trade unions also expressed their strong resentment over the unilateral moves to amend the labour laws in favour of the employers.

5.1.4 Such joint initiatives by the trade unions at the state level are also increasing. In West Bengal all the Central Trade Unions held joint convention against closure of industries. This was followed by a joint procession by all trade unions on 11th June 2014 at Kolkata. In Kerala too, similar joint actions by all trade unions led to effective interventions on many issues facing the working class. Port workers' federations have jointly decided to hold national convention as a part of their 'Save Major Ports Campaign'. In other states also such initiative has to be taken by our state committees and major federations.

5.1.5 The Modi Government is going to bring down a much bigger onslaught on the people and the economy in the coming days, several indications of which has already started pouring in. Total deregulation of strategic and sensitive sectors of the economy like finance, infrastructure, defence, energy, coal and other natural resources and a massive programme of disinvestment are going to be undertaken for which PSUs have already been short listed. At the same time, active move is afoot to bring about pro-employer changes in major labour laws; the basic design is to move out a big section of factories/establishments out of the purview of all basic labour laws by increasing the threshold level of employment for the purpose of coverage on the one hand and empowering the employers to hire & fire at will on the other. We have to keep ourselves prepared for resistance struggle and cultivate and strengthen the united platform of trade unions not only at national level but at the sectoral level as well.

5.1.6 And along with every joint move, CITU unions have to undertake independent campaign among the common workers for success of such joint movement and utilise these independent campaigns to expose the policy regime including the politics behind those policies. We must note that the joint struggle is not an end in itself but an access and means to achieve numerical and qualitative transformation of the working class. Our goal is to achieve a change of correlation of forces in our favour. Independent initiative for exposure of the policy regime and the class politics behind them is the essential prerequisite. Without such independent campaigns it will not be possible to develop a unified understanding among the grass root level workers on the issues facing them and the policies and politics responsible for them.

5.1.7 Moreover a strong and consistently expanding CITU is the essential prerequisite for keeping the united movement on track and carrying united movement to further height towards the struggle for reversal of policies. Independent activities and mobilisations on specific workplace related issues linked with the policy issues by CITU is of crucial necessity to prepare the ground and bring a sense of class unity at the grass root level. And our independent initiative should also be consciously directed towards raising the political ideological consciousness of the workers at large.

5.1.8 Our aim is to create real awareness about the anti-people policy regime and the politics behind those policies among the mass of the working people. That will lead the united trade union movement on demands of the workers to a higher stage and convert it into united workers' movement for reversal of the policy regime which will bring about qualitative change in the entire content of the united struggle.

5.2 Proposed Programmes on independent Initiative

1. Along with united trade union movement on common issues, CITU unions, federations and the friendly and associated unions must strive to pick up the most sensitive issue among the common charter of demands for independent campaign with special intensity. The contract workers' issue is one such aspect which will attract the imagination of the mass of the workers in the most sensitive sectors of the economy and build a bridge between the movement of the organised and unorganised sector. The demand for same wage and benefits as regular workers for the contract workers in the establishment is at this stage the most popular demand which can unify the most crucial segment of the workers in the entire productive economy and rally them in the struggle. CITU must take initiative to popularise this campaign in all the industries and establishments both in public and private sector which can create condition for this aspect to be taken up by the united trade union movement with

focused attention. Since contractorisation and outsourcing is the most major instrument for the capitalist class for maximising profit, heightening united struggle on this issue will bring about a new dimension in the working class struggle.

To start with, we propose that all CITU units along with other activities must dedicate themselves to organise an intensive campaign on the demands of contract workers, on the demand for same wage and benefit for same work during the month of August. This campaign must cover all industrial establishments, both in public and private sector, and must culminate in massive state level demonstrations during mid September. Immediately after this General Council meeting, all round initiatives must be unleashed in all the states for an effective campaign on these demands.

2. In order to develop and strengthen link between the trade union movement with the mass of the people and the society, our unions and federations functioning in the area of public utility services or in services having direct interface with people must undertake initiative to involve beneficiaries in their activities. As already mentioned Jaipur working committee of CITU has decided to take initiative to develop a joint campaign with AIKS, AIAWU and AIDWA with the active involvement of AIFAWH, against privatisation of ICDS. This has to be continued with much more seriousness and efforts keeping in mind its political significance for expanding our influence at the grass roots level.

We propose that similar initiatives must be taken in the electricity sector. Our federation EEFI should involve the beneficiaries in the campaign against deregulation and privatisation. To start with efforts should be made by CITU centre and EEFI to involve AIKS as representative organisation of the peasants to be followed up with joint activities of CITU, EEFI and AIKS at the state level. The CITU state committees must take the initiative at the state level. Similar initiatives need to be undertaken also in other public utility services where we have functional unions. Municipal workers' unions should take similar initiative at the state/area level in this regard.

3. Keeping in view the offensive of the neoliberal policy regime under the new govt at the centre, CITU should take urgent initiative in activating the unions in public sector and prepare them for forthcoming struggles against disinvestment and so called restructuring.

4. CITU state committees should also take up the campaign on the demands of the scheme workers for implementation of the recommendations of the 45th ILC. AIFAWH and the all India coordination committees of ASHAs and mid day meal workers have decided to observe All India Demands' Days on this along with their other demands. All CITU state committees must ensure their effective implementation.

5. All state committees should conduct Mid Term Review of the implementation of the tasks of the 14th conference of CITU with effective preparations from their respective state centres.

6. ON ORGANISATION

6.1.1 We must seriously introspect and find out the basic organisational reasons behind our shortcomings and failure in involving our entire membership and common workers in the discharge of our movemental and political organisational tasks formulated by ourselves in our own CITU forums.

6.1.2 In successive CITU forums we did concretely analyse the situation; emphasised the urgency for a conscious class orientation in our work demonstrating the assertion of the working class in every event we intervene; concretely identified the issues to be taken up and carried down to the mass of the workers as well as the main focus; we have laid down the activities to be undertaken in concrete terms in all tiers of the organisation with the clearly identified goal of equipping and activating the union/unit level leadership in order to reach our membership in entirety and the mass of the workers beyond that.

6.1.3 But we could not translate the same in action effectively enough even in our stronger areas. In many places, the understanding formulated and the tasks undertaken continue to remain a captive of formalism. Have we ever reviewed seriously to what extent we have been able to carry our understanding and the tasks arising therefrom to our next tier of leadership and make them take similar initiative further down below? Do we regularly monitor the entire process up to the union/unit committee level? Have we ever reviewed seriously in concrete terms, in each campaign initiative, how much of our membership and common workers could be reached by our union level and area-level leadership in their respective constituencies? And this respect, review means assessment of the quality of our campaign and its impact and also quantification of our reach to the workers in concrete terms. Let us admit, we, right from the centre to bottom are still a victim of generalisation syndrome in respect of reviewing our work which handicaps us in making even an effective review on the exact impact of our work, both in terms of quality and quantity. This resulted in our failure and/or inadequacy in making collective assessment of the situation in our own constituencies in every trying moment including the last electoral battle.

6.1.4 Let us try to introspect upon this aspect with one of the specific tasks as an example. Do we seriously undertake the reporting in proper manner on the deliberations, formulations and the tasks decided in various CITU forums up to lowest tier of our leadership and activists and monitor the process of dissemination of the same to common workers through them? Have we ever made an assessment in concrete terms as to how and to what extent decisions taken and its background and context either in CITU working committee/general council, or state committees or even district committees or federations are being communicated and explained to the members at the lowest level and its coverage? How many leaders are involved or made to involve in that reporting process? The CITU Centre sent the text on points of reporting on 14th conference of CITU to all the states. A few state committees translated that in regional languages and circulated among the leadership for the purpose of reporting, as per reports received at centre. And to what extent such reporting could reach to the CITU membership in the least, has never been ascertained, assessed and quantified at least by the CITU Centre. We failed to do that. And for an organisation like ours, reporting means not only conveying the decisions and tasks but also explaining the political-ideological understanding behind such decisions to ensure unleashing of initiative at the lowest level for implementation of decision/tasks and also carrying the understanding among the workers. And through this process only we can ascertain and assess the ground level realities vis-a-vis the tasks undertaken by us and identify concrete steps needed to be taken to improve and advance as well as filling up the gaps.

6.1.5 We understand we are yet to adopt ourselves with this scientific process formulated by ourselves, which is failing ourselves even to harness the fullest potential of our own strength. And the root of such shortcomings lies in the understanding and practice of democratic functioning at various levels of organisation. Here democratic functioning is not merely a functional procedure but

the most powerful instrument to involve and activate our entire leadership at all levels and also to unleash initiative at the bottom-most level of the organisation. We are yet failing to unleash initiative at the bottom level committees to the required extent and generate confidence among them on CITU's approach and programmes owing to our own functional inadequacies and lack of collectivity and thereby failing to reach even our membership in entirety with our programmes and understandings.

6.1.6 On this crucial aspect, the 14th Conference of CITU emphasised that "This can be realised only by making democratic functioning at all levels more and more effective ensuring participation and involvement of the widest possible sections of workers in all activities, including decision making and implementation." Precisely we are still suffering from serious deficit in this regard owing to which major section of workers and even a sizable section of our membership are not identifying themselves as a class. To put it more directly CITU is failing to involve the working class with its politics.

6.1.7 The 14th Conference of CITU also observed, "The root of continuing shortcomings in the democratic functioning of the organisation/unions and persistent lacunae in overcoming this weakness in many places lies in the lack of our realisation of the political ideological significance of democratic functioning as an instrument to build up CITU consistent with its constitutional commitment as leader of the entire working class. This weakness in democratic functioning severely impedes the pursuit of the most crucial task of raising the consciousness of the workers through intense political organisational work at the grass root level along with widening mobilisation in movemental activities. On the other hand, weakness in democratic functioning at various levels of organisations gives rise to the pernicious trend of personalisation of leadership instead of collective functioning which in turn provokes various types of corroding practices including corruption creating alienation among the mass of the common workers."

6.1.8 We have to seriously consider and scrutinise at all levels to what extent we are still continuing to remain a victim of such culture of personalisation. We have to overcome all trends standing in the way of prioritising our focus to empower and equip the class with politics, consciousness and right to assert, to unleash initiative at the lowest level and preparing the class at the workplace to assert with a class approach. We have to rise above the trend of generalisation in respect of organisational tasks and initiative and consciously build up collectivity in all our work at all levels of organisation with a clear focus on equipping and empowering our union level leadership to organise and lead the class. Without this, we can in no way reach the unreached and win the confidence of our own class.

6.1.9 At all levels of organisation, we have to take more concerted and conscious initiative to ensure that the collective understanding developed and concrete tasks formulated in the CITU forums is carried down to the lowest tier of the organisation including union level committees and made them undertake concrete organisational initiative to propagate the same to their members and workers in general. Implementation of this basic organisational task has to be monitored and followed up by the leadership at the respective level with a regular organisational arrangement for reporting back. The CITU Centre and the State Committees and federations have to take up this task with all seriousness from this General Council itself.

6.1.10 The offensive of neoliberalism is not limited in the economic front alone but also on ideological

plane as well. Along with the offensive in the economic front, the capitalist class also works overtime through media and various other agencies to de-ideologise the main combatant force-the working class in various ways to keep them away from collective initiative and struggles. Feudal remnants in the society and social backwardness flowing from and engineered by the same makes a fertile ground for the people to fall prey to such ploy of deideologisation and divisiveness. The deceptive game of projecting the economic problems and related policies as just the governance related deficit to hoodwink and confuse the people is an integral part of that conspiracy. The recent election results reveal that the ruling class succeeded to a great extent in their depoliticisation and de-ideologisation project to a great extent. They have also been successful in utilising the divisive elements and forces in their favour. And the most alarming feature of the present situation is that the ideological vacuum sought to be created by capitalist class is being invaded by the so called Hindutva forces in power. This General Council must deal with all seriousness this aspect of the ongoing offensive and must draw concrete programmes to combat such ideological offensive by this extreme right-wing divisive clique in power. The need of the hour is to launch an intensive educative and ideological exercise to prepare our leaders and activists up to the grass root level to fight back such deideologisation drive of the ruling class among the working people. This must continue simultaneously along with our other movemental activities and we have to prepare our organisation and structure our initiative in that direction.

6.1.11 Following bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh in to two states and birth of new Telengana state, the CITU state organisation was also restructured. Two separate state committees viz., AP State Committee and Telengana State Committee have been formed. All the state level unions have also been bifurcated accordingly. Both the state committees are now functioning from Hyderabad for the time being and ultimately the AP State Committee will shift to a separate office in Andhra Pradesh area.

6.2 Membership Position

6.2.1 We are yet to receive the affiliation fees and annual returns in full for the year 2012 as compared to 2011 from all the states. Of the annual returns and affiliation fees received till 13th June 2014 from the states for 2012, only Assam, Kerala and Tripura crossed their 2011 membership level; Bihar, Odisha and UP could not reach even half of their 2011 position; Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Uttaranchal and West Bengal are far behind their 2011 membership. From Jharkhand, out of 27 unions, annual returns/affiliation fees have been received from only one union for 2012. We understand, in West Bengal, membership collection and other formalities are facing serious hurdles owing to terror and violence in many areas. But, what about the other states? The situation reflects tardy coordination between the state leadership and our unions and also lack of seriousness on task of membership collection, maintenance of records and also on the need for submitting annual returns on time and remitting those to state and all India centre and regular monitoring of this most important task by the state leadership.

6.2.2 We are in June 2014 and we should have received by this time the annual returns and affiliation fees for 2013. But we did not, barring a few states, that too partially. State committees must make special effort to complete the submission of affiliation fees and annual returns for 2012 and also expedite submission of annual returns and affiliation fees for 2013. A separate statement on latest position has been circulated.

6.3 CITU Journals

6.3.1 Circulation of CITU Journals is stagnating at an unsustainable level. It is clear that CITU Journals are not reaching even the office bearers of our affiliated unions as the state wise individual subscriptions of the journals reveals. Circulation of the 'Working Class' is 4846 out of which 3864 are affiliation-copies; subscribers copies are only 820. The subscription of CITU Mazdoor is least in the Hindi-speaking states most of whom do not have any state level journals. Out of 3780 subscribers, 1629 go to Himachal alone and 370 go to West Bengal. The circulation of the "Voice of Working Women" and "Kamkaji Mahila" is no way better either. Should this situation continue? CITU Journals have to be popularised not only among CITU unions and members but also among our friendly and associated unions and federations and this task is integral to our tasks of political campaign. And neglect of the task of regularly reading and subscribing the journals, increasing its circulation at least to cover the union level committee members including leadership of our friendly unions/federation tantamount to lack of realisation of the political task itself. Are we are going to take up this task with due seriousness?

7. CONCLUSION

7.1 Notwithstanding a sense of hope and expectations among large sections of the people centring the election results, we must be clear on the grim reality that the economy is in crisis, the capitalist system itself is in deep crisis and the attack and onslaught on the working people are inevitable under neoliberal dispensation. Even then the political cohorts of neoliberalism in power cannot remain comfortable since the crisis will continue to be a terminal one with its inevitable impact on the people at large leading to further upsurge in peoples' discontent with the passage of time. The onslaught on peoples' rights and livelihood is the very essence of the neoliberal process in the midst of crisis and that is the politics of neoliberalism. We must be fully prepared and ready to initiate and lead campaigns, agitations and struggles among different sections of the workers and the working class as a whole whenever such disillusionment and discontent starts setting in among them.

7.2 No doubt there has been a severe set-back in elections, nevertheless, we cannot leave the battlefield, nor is there room for demoralisation. No doubt right-wingers call the shots for the time being since the irrefutable Left alternative with its political message could not be reached effectively to the mass of the people through conscious initiative of reaching the unreached by the working class movement.

7.3 The logic of the alternative policy platform formulated by the Left is irrefutable and time-tested. If it can be reached to the toiling people linking with their concrete everyday experiences, they will definitely respond. That is our class task to combat and defeat the right-wing anti-people offensives and onslaughts. As the class based militant organisation of the working class, CITU must take the lead in taking this policy platform to all the unreached sections of the working class.

7.4 The working class movement in the country have already developed all in united platform and have been fighting for their ten-point demands since last five years which are fully consistent with the alternative policy platform formulated by the Left. We must preserve that platform and strengthen and widen it further. That is most crucial task. We must draw a lesson from our recent experience. We must take serious initiative with a continuity to carry forward the united movement to further

height. We must also build up united resistance to every onslaught on the workers as well as the national economy that would be inevitably offing from the new regime in the days to come. Simultaneously CITU must continue its campaign from its independent platform to unify the common workers at the grass root level and expose the politics of neoliberalism to heighten their consciousness.

7.5 Let us prepare and equip ourselves up to the workplace level and every habitation to fight and combat the forthcoming right-wing onslaught led by communal-fascistic force in governance. The people will definitely rally with us if we could reach them at their doorsteps. It is possible to reach the unreached with the alternative to anti-people neoliberalism, and we must work for that. What is necessary is that this crucial task must touch the consciousness of all of us at all levels up to the workplace-level leadership which is still wanting. We can and will definitely overcome.

Long Live working class Unity
Long Live CITU
Workers of the world unite

Tapan Sen
General Secretary

CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

General Council Meeting

11 - 14 July 2014

Bellary, Karnataka

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

(After the Jaipur Working Committee meeting of CITU)

The implementation of the major calls of the Working Committee meeting in Jaipur in August 2013 has been self critically and critically dealt with in the General Secretary's report.

During this period, there has been some improvement in sending reports by the state committees. However there are still some state committees which do not send any reports of their activities at all. There are also instances when no detailed reports of major and important struggles are sent on time, even by some state committees which generally do send reports occasionally. Similarly though there is improvement in sending reports of some important all India calls like general strike, most of the state committees do not send reports of observance of important annual events like May Day, CITU Foundation Day, International Women's Day etc, immediately.

The CITU Secretariat which met on 14 – 15 June 2014 reiterated the importance of sending timely reports, particularly immediately after any state level campaign/ struggle etc and after the state committee meetings. An office bearer of the state committee needs to be given the responsibility of maintaining communication with the all India centre – sending regular reports, photos etc, by the 15th of every month as well as immediately after the state committee meetings. This will help in publishing the reports in our monthly journals too.

The period after the working committee meeting of CITU in Jaipur was marked by two important events. One was the March to Parliament on 12th December 2014. The other was the campaign in the elections to the 16th Lok Sabha, for the defeat of Congress and BJP, strong advocates and practitioners of neoliberal policies and in support of the Left parties that advocate alternative pro poor policies. In addition, many campaigns and struggles on local issues were held in most of the states under the leadership of CITU and its affiliated unions during this period, including in Andhra Pradesh which witnessed serious political turbulence and bifurcation of the state.

In the midst of intense election campaign, all our state committees observed May Day. Independent and joint rallies were held on the occasion. Efforts were made in some states to utilise May Day also for election campaign, as the Election Commission allowed processions etc on the Day.

CITU Foundation Day was observed in the CITU centre as well as all over the country.

Almost all the state committees of CITU have observed Com Jyoti Basu's birth centenary in different forms. Kerala state committee decided to organise 3 seminars in Kozhikode, Ernakulam and Thiruvananthapuram as part of the observation of Jyoti Basu's birth centenary. Besides, seminars and rallies etc have also been planned in the state in all the districts during October – November. The state committee has also decided to publish a souvenir on the occasion.

The West Bengal state committee decided to celebrate the birth centenary of Jyoti Basu in a befitting manner. Programmes were held in all the centres of CITU in the state on 8th July marking the commencement of the birth centenary. It has also been decided to publish a book with articles by eminent trade union and political leaders.

A seminar was organised by the Andhra Pradesh state committee of CITU in Hyderabad on 10th August to commence Com Jyoti Basu's birth centenary.

International Women's Day this year was observed by CITU focussing on the demands of equality in all aspects, safety for all working women, effective measures to curb all kinds of violence against women and the passage of Women's Reservation Bill. Though International Women's Day was organised in almost all the states, the initiative of the state committees of CITU was not uniform and reports have not been received from all the state committees. Meetings, seminars, conventions, demonstrations etc were organised on the Day. In some states efforts were made to involve the fraternal trade union organisations of state and central government employees, bank and insurance employees, teachers etc. It was observed along with AIDWA in several states.

The general secretary's report deals in detail our role in the elections. Here we will confine to the reporting of other important activities in different states based on the reports sent by the state committees.

12th December March to Parliament and Related Programmes

Around 2.5 lakhs workers from all over the country participated in the March to Parliament on 12th December 2013 jointly called by all the central trade unions. Major mobilisation was made by CITU and AITUC and the federations associated with them. Other constituent central trade unions participated with token mobilisation. As per reports collected from the states and various federations, CITU mobilised 72609 workers. Besides that, the independent federations associated with us viz., the federations of Central Govt employees, State Govt Employees, BEFI, AIIEA and BSNLEU mobilised around 15,865 employees.

A camp for the stay of participants was organised at Ramlila maidan from 9th December 2013.

The Joint platform of Central Trade Unions also decided to hold state/district level mobilisations on the same day, in states which could not mobilise workers to Delhi. As per reports received at the Centre, such mobilisations have been organised in a big way in Kerala, West Bengal and Tripura. In Kerala 1,11,800 workers participated in rallies/demonstrations in 14 centres. INTUC participated in all the districts except Kollam, Idukki and Kannur. In West Bengal, demonstrations/ processions were organised in 13 districts with a total participation of 59,900. In Tripura, 34,585 workers participated in 74 centres. Rallies were reported to have been organised in all the districts of Tamilnadu but details are not available. A joint demonstration was also organised at Jamshedpur in Jharkhand. There are no reports from any other state.

The working committee emphasised the importance of intensive campaign to highlight the major demands and approaching wider sections of workers and people both jointly and independently. All the state committees were requested to send detailed reports of the campaign.

However, not many states responded to this request though most of the state committees made preparations for wide campaign. As per reports received in centre, Delhi state committee printed 2.5 lakh leaflets, 16000 stickers besides posters and wall writing; gate/street/mohalla meetings were organised in the districts; 57500 leaflets/notices, 4600 posters and other materials were printed by Tamilnadu state committee which organised district/industry level campaign; 8 district level meetings were held in Uttar Pradesh; 8000 leaflets and 10000 posters were distributed; UPMSRA published 2000 posters. Although state wide campaigns were also organised in Punjab, Haryana, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and some other states, no detailed reports have been received from them. As a result, no proper assessment of the reach and coverage of our campaign and its impact on the workers and people all over the country can be made.

Other activities

All India Convention of Working Women

The tenth convention of All India Coordination Committee of Working Women (AICCCWW) (CITU) was held on 29th September to 1 October 2013 in Puri, Odisha. 262 working women from 20 states and large number of industries and sectors including steel, coal, electricity, IT, insurance, banking, state and central government departments, BSNL; public and private transport including as auto drivers; construction, brick kilns, handloom, garments, home based work; traditional industries like coir, cashew, fisheries, plantations, beedi, different central government schemes like ICDS, National Rural Health Mission, Mid Day Meal Programme, National Rural Livelihood Mission, National Child Labour Project, etc; domestic workers; employees of private hospitals, shops; street vendors participated in the convention. 13 CITU state presidents / general secretaries and 4 CITU state office-bearer-in-charges of working women participated in the convention as per the decision of the Jaipur Working Committee meeting of CITU.

A rally was held on 29th September on the occasion. Around 8,000 working women along with thousands of men workers, from all over the state participated.

The convenor's report was unanimously adopted by the convention which also adopted a charter of demands as the basis for the campaign among working women. It was decided to launch a 3 month long countrywide campaign focussing on equal wages, maternity benefits and crèches, constitution of complaints committees against sexual harassment in all establishments and districts, provision of separate toilets and rest rooms at all work places and minimum wages of not less than Rs.10000. Certain organisational tasks to strengthen CITU's work among working women were also recommended.

A 34 member AICCCWW (CITU) was constituted. Odisha state committee of CITU made good arrangements for the successful conduct of the convention

A national workshop on CITU's work among working women was held at BTR Bhawan in Delhi on 29-30 January. 28 CITU leaders from 12 states and central office bearers, including 17 women participated in the workshop. The CITU secretariat reviewed the workshop and ratified the tasks proposed in the workshop. It has decided that CITU state committees must form its women sub-committees to monitor implementation of the tasks among working women; to allot the responsibility to one state office bearer; to subcommittees in all CITU affiliated unions with considerable women

members and to constitute coordination committees of working women at state and in districts, wherever possible. It was also decided to review the progress periodically at national and states.

All India Road Transport Workers' Federation

The working committee of AIRTWF met on 30th January 2014. It decided to continue the joint struggle and also called upon its members to actively campaign for the defeat of the Congress and BJP and in support of the Left parties. A draft leaflet for election campaign was sent to all the state committees to be translated into local languages. Meetings of South West, North East, East and North zonal committees were held. Solidarity was extended to the striking workers of BEST in Mumbai and the workers of Haryana Roadways. Around 1000 auto workers, owners and service providers participated in a convention organised in Patna.

All India Federation of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers

Black Day was observed by anganwadi employees all over the country on the All India Demands' Day on 10th July, at the call of AIFAWH. Anganwadi employees in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, J&K, Karnataka, M.P., Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh participated in demonstrations, dharnas etc organised on the day wearing black dress, carrying black flags, wearing black badges and in several places blackening their faces with soot. In Kerala the Day was observed on 19th July. In Andhra Pradesh three days' strike was started on 8th July. Effigies of the Union Minister for Women and Child Development were burned protesting against privatisation of ICDS as part of ICDS Mission. The demands of implementation of the recommendations of the 45th ILC, minimum wages, pension and other social security benefits, recognition as workers and freedom of association were raised. 2.7 lakhs anganwadi employees in 210 districts in 18 states were reportedly on the streets on the Demands' Day despite the attempts of the administration and the police to sabotage the programme in several states. Lathi charge and arrests were held in 3 places in Karnataka, 2 places in Punjab, in Chattisgarh and Haryana. In Andhra Pradesh around 5000 anganwadi employees were arrested in different districts. 10 lakhs leaflets in regional languages and 50000 booklets in Hindi were distributed as part of the campaign for the Black Day.

All India Coordination Committee of Mid Day Meal Workers

Around 2000 mid day meal workers from 9 states – Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, UP and Uttarakhand - participated in a dharna near Parliament on 13th February 2014 demanding implementation of the recommendations of the 45th Indian Labour Conference, payment of remuneration for all the 12 months, six months paid maternity leave, safety, medical insurance etc. Demonstrations on the same demand were held at the state level on 10 – 17 February.

States

1. Andhra Pradesh

The state has been bifurcated with a new state of Telangana coming into existence from 2nd June this year. Before the bifurcation the state witnessed several agitations on both sides, with attempts

being made by vested interests on both sides to create animosities between those belonging to the Andhra and Telangana regions. In this difficult circumstances, CITU, which stood for a united state of Telugu speaking people, took up the task of preserving the unity of the working class of both the regions as its priority.

Even when the divisive agitations were at their peak CITU state committee was able to bring class issues into the fore. Several state wide struggles, including indefinite strikes, were launched by workers in different sectors including gram panchayat workers, municipal workers, ASHAs, village servants, Gopalmitras, PACS (Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies) workers, municipal workers etc. Not only were the strikes successful, but they also helped in the expansion of CITU and its unions. CITU got new cadres in the Telangana region. Members of almost all the CITU affiliated unions, particularly among anganwadi employees, municipal workers, road transport corporation employees, electricity employees etc in both the regions withstood the pressures of the divisive forces to join their agitations and refused to join their agitation.

The state conference decided to concentrate on organising the workers in different industrial clusters and to start with cadre allocation, study of the conditions of the workers and agitating on their specific issues. The efforts were reviewed in the state committee and it was found that there was some progress only in Hyderabad metropolitan area and in Visakhapatnam and North Andhra to some extent. It was also noted that in Medak, Hyderabad, Mahboobnagar, Visakhapatnam, Srikakulam and Vizianagaram districts there was positive results.

In Medak district the number of unions affiliated to CITU which remained stagnant at 47 for the last several years has increased to 77. A regular trade union school is being organised and classes are being held every Sunday. Importance was given to organise the contract workers. Minimum wages of workers in 315 industries in 15 clusters were studied and agitations and strikes were organised. 3500 workers of Lakshmikanta spinning mill in Sadasivapet went on one day strike after which management came to a settlement. 3 days' strike was held in Venkateswara tyres. 300 workers on Akshayapatra in Patancheru went on a 2 days' strike. Contract workers in Crown Beers in Kondapur went on a 2 days' strike demanding 8 hours work and achieved it.

In Hyderabad South Zone our efforts in 9 industrial clusters helped in establishing contacts with workers in 94 industries though no new union could be formed yet. We were able to intervene in workers' issues in Katedan and Autonagar areas. In Hyderabad North Zone we were able to form 3 new unions. Efforts are also being made in Hyderabad Central Zone. In Mahboobnagar we conducted surveys and submitted memoranda to PF Commissioner and Factories' Inspector. The inspection by PF Commissioner in 4 factories in the cluster became a point of discussion among the workers. Survey was conducted in 256 industries and 10000 leaflets were distributed. As a result of our agitation, compensation was paid to 2 workers who died in an industrial accident. Study circles are being organised in 8 industries with the participation of 110 workers. In Visakhapatnam we have established contacts with workers in Atchutapuram SEZ and Paravada Pharma city. 425 workers of the total 650 in Hetero Drugs in Atchutapuram SEZ joined CITU.

In Srikakulam and Vizianagaram districts Pharma and Chemical Industries are coming in large scale in Ranasthalam (Srikakulam) and Pusapatirega (Vizianagaram) clusters. Cluster committees were formed there and unions are being established in important companies. Campaigns were organised

on bonus issue throughout the industrial area and 3000 contract workers in Aurobindo Pharma achieved Rs.5000 bonus.

29 beedi clusters were identified in the state. Regular work on local issues is going on in some clusters in Nizamabad, Medak, Adilabad and Warangal Districts. Agitations took place in Nizamabad, Karimnagar and Adilabad Districts on local issues. Due to the gherao of collector and DCL offices, the two months lockout of Thakur Saudekar beedi company was lifted. The necessity for improving our work among beedi workers in Nizamabad and Karimnagar and for starting our work among beedi workers in Mahaboobnagar and Kurnool Districts is noted.

In the coal belt clusters, phase wise struggle were organised for implementing the wages, bonus and other statutory provisions approved by Coal India to all the workers. A convention was held on 10th September at Godavari Khani in which 510 workers participated. 130 workers participated in the 48 hour hunger strike organised on 19th & 20th September. A dharna was held on 25th September in which 385 workers participated. Dharnas were also held at the offices of the 4 general managers demanding incentive to the contract workers. Campaign was organised against disinvestment as per the call given by coal India federation.

It was decided to conduct general body meetings in all mandal centers in August 2013 to explain the political situation in the state and the stand taken by CITU. These meetings were held in 925 mandal centers (roughly in 83% of the total mandal centers in the state). Total 73,574 workers have participated.

Again in September, study circles were held on the fall of the rupee, in 574 mandal centers (51%). This reveals the large difference between August & September. Campaign for the monthly journal "Karmika Lokam" was held in 182 mandal centers only; no campaign was held in 18 Districts.

In most of the districts there are CITU mandal committees. Mandal committees have not been formed only in 117 mandals. But only 100 mandal committees are meeting regularly. 231 mandal centers in 17 districts are having registered local unions. This is only 20% of the total mandal centers. CITU offices were established in 308 mandal centers. Priority has to be given for establishing offices in mandal centers. It was decided to study and make plan for each and every mandal having a whole time / part time cadre

6 Lakhs leaflets were distributed among the workers in the state exposing the opportunistic stand of the ruling class parties on the issue of the division of the state. 64,000 leaflets were distributed on the issue of PFRDA. Seminars were organised on PFRDA in several towns in the state. It is decided to establish "Forum for Workers Education" to hold seminars every month for the industrial clusters workers in the 4 districts belonging to Hyderabad Metropolitan Area. Seminars were held in the 13 clusters in Medak district in September on PF Act and in 10 clusters in October on the implementation of Bonus Act. Seminars and study circles were held in mandal centers on the gas & diesel price rise. Seminars were held for middle class employees in Guntur, Mahaboobnagar, Kurnool and Anantapur districts.

CITU state committee gave a call to organise a state wide campaign on minimum wages in September. But it was not held as expected. 2,47,000 leaflets were distributed in 109 sectors and 126 clusters. General body meetings were held in 28 unions and 93 sectors. Districts conventions were held in 5

districts, Industrial Conventions were held in 10 districts. Dharnas were held at DCL offices in 11 districts with total participation of 2133 workers. 30,450 booklets were sold. Even in the districts where the survey took place, activities in continuation are not there. Over all, the opportunity for mobilising working class on the issue of minimum wages was not fully utilised.

CITU played the key role in organising the state wide joint strike of the municipal workers from 21st to 24th October 2013. Joint Forum that was formed with 10 unions of municipal workers on the occasion of the general strike on 20 - 21 February 2013 was activated and state level convention was held in July. Our union organised independent activities like signature campaign, badge wearing, hunger fast, March to collector offices etc in August. Again on behalf of Joint Forum, representations, negotiations were held with the Government and Labour Department. Since there was no clarity in the settlement of demands, the joint forum decided for strike from 21st to 24th October. AITUC informed that it would participate in the strike only in Greater Hyderabad and not any where else. CITU gave notice for strike throughout the state. Ultimately other unions except AITUC also joined. The strike was held in 12 municipal corporations and 121 municipalities in 23 districts with the participation of 55430 workers. In several places workers belonging to AITUC and TRS also joined the strike. Workers affiliated to AITUC participated in the strike in 17 municipalities in 9 districts. Some issues were settled. This strike helped in our expansion and in enhancing our prestige among workers and officers. It is to be noted that this state wide strike of municipal workers took place in spite of the regional movements.

Electricity employees' strike - 28 unions and associations of APGENCO, APTRANSCO and 4 DISCOMs formed APPE JAC in November 2013. In January 2014 the entire JAC collectively submitted a charter of demands to the management. This charter of demands was based on the charter of demands of the CITU affiliated United Electricity Employees' Union.

The entire JAC also insisted on equal wage for contract labour. Our earlier campaign on this demand made the other larger unions rethink their stand and fall in line with us.

The passage of the AP Reorganisation Bill, the resignation of the then chief minister and imposition of President's rule in the state and the bifurcation of the state created confusion among sections of the electricity workers. Despite this all the unions and associations stood firm and pressurised the management on finalising the wages of the contract labour along with that of the regular employees. The JAC decided to go on strike from 6.00 a.m. on 25th May. All the generation companies including VTPS, KTPS, and KTPP were shut down with electricity generation going down by 3900 MW. Many areas in the state reeled under darkness. The management agreed to increase wages by 27.5% to regular employees and by 10% to contract labour (now hiked by another 5%) on 26th May, which was accepted by the JAC, which showed flexibility because the new governments in the two states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana were to be sworn in, in the first week of June.

The CITU state committee, which met on 1-2 November 2013 discussed work among working women as a specific agenda on the basis of a written note. It was decided to conduct such discussions in all the district committees and also within all the major unions. A state level sub committee was formed with the general secretary of the state committee of CITU as the convenor and four women state office bearers as members. All the district committees of CITU were called upon to conduct wide campaign on the specific demands of working women and hold demonstrations in all the district headquarters. The state coordination committee of working women was directed to prepare

a concrete plan for the campaign involving the women's sub committees of fraternal trade union organisations.

Around 1.6 lakh anganwadi employees went on strike from 17th February under the banner of Andhra Pradesh Anganwadi Workers and Helpers' Union demanding increase in their remuneration, pension, gratuity, and opposing privatisation. It is significant that anganwadi employees from both the Andhra and Telangana regions joined the strike totally despite the ongoing sectarian divisive movements in the state.

Indefinite hunger strike at the state capital and district headquarters were organised in which the president/ general secretary of district committees of CITU and the leaders of the project committees joined. The general secretary of the state committee of CITU joined the indefinite hunger strike in Hyderabad. The fasting CITU and union leaders were forcibly evicted on the third day. The police removed the tent. Demonstrations and rasta roko were organised at mandal level against police high handedness.

In addition 50 – 200 anganwadi employees from each project participated in relay hunger strike on each day at the district collector's office in each district. Militant demonstrations, road blocks, human chains etc were organised at the mandal level. Meetings of the beneficiaries were also organised in many anganwadi centre areas.

CITU unions of the workers in construction, municipalities and others are organising solidarity demonstrations in districts and mandals in support of the struggling anganwadi employees.

The union called a general body meeting inviting the project presidents and general secretaries from all the districts to decide the future course of action amidst the confusion created by the passage of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act. But the anganwadi employees were firm on continuing the strike.

A massive rally was organised on 23rd February in which around 30000 anganwadi employees participated. They seized the state assembly in Hyderabad despite the police attempting to block their entry by road and train. The chief minister who assured that he would increase the remuneration betrayed by resigning without issuing any order. The strike was continued and the union met the governor and the administration several times. Ultimately the strike was suspended when the chief secretary openly announced before the media that they were sending a proposal to increase the remuneration of anganwadi workers, helpers and the workers in the mini anganwadi centres by Rs 800, increment and also for a lump sum amount on retirement.

Other sectors - State wide agitations were organised in the sectors midday meals, ASHA, IKP Animators, VRA, Urban Health Centers, PACS, Computer Teachers, Gopala Mitra, Field Assistants, Security Guards, Medical Rips, Building Workers, and Beverage Hamalis during this period. In RTC, other unions participated in the regional agitations. The members of the same APSRTC employees Union (AITUC) in Telangana region have earlier participated in Telangana agitation and in Seemandhra have participated in Samaikyandhra agitation as per the calls given by their leaders. Our unions decided not to participate in these divisive agitations and implemented it. In spite of the Samaikyandhra agitation, our union in 108 health services went on strike for 35 days state wide,

from July 18 to August 23, despite ESMA and dismissal of 356 workers and sending to Jails. Finally management came down and agreement was reached without any loss.

AP State Agricultural Cooperative Societies Employees' Union affiliated to CITU and AP Rytu Sangham (Kisan Sabha) jointly picketed the regional office of NABARD in Hyderabad on 23rd September against the recommendations of the Prakash Bakshi committee. Around 3000 PACS employees participated. Earlier a joint state level convention and joint round table meetings in all the district headquarters were held on 19th August.

The workers of Ananta Lakshmi Textiles in Tanuku (West Godavari) were on strike in August.

Jyotibasu Centenary Celebrations were inaugurated on 10th August at Sundarayya Vignana Kendram.

A joint procession of central trade unions was organised in Hyderabad on 25th September as per the central call. 6000 out of the total 10,000 participants were from CITU.

An amount of Rs 453032 was collected from workers for Uttarakhand Relief Fund and sent to all India Center.

Classes were held for 35 BSNL comrades for 3 days and for 8 Singareni comrades for 4 days at the NPR study centre. Classes are being held every day regularly without fail at the Keval Krishna regular school started in Sangareddy in Medak district in December 2012. Total 1135 industrial workers from 991 sectors, in addition to over 350 activists from other mass organisations attended. On important Hindu festivals, anganwadi employees from Muslims and Christians communities attended. When the cooks were on leave during festivals, those attending the classes cooked food themselves. On other festival days classes were held for whole timers. These classes helped in the development of internal leaders for the industrial unions, district wise and state wise unions. For the industrial workers, classes are being held on Sundays on democratic functioning. The centre was constructed from donations collected from workers alone. Efforts have been made for teacher training also.

2. Assam

A state level joint convention to 'Save ICDS' was held in Guwahati on 7th October at the initiative of Assam state committees of CITU in which representatives of AIDWA and AIKS also participated. A declaration on the issues and programme of holding similar conventions in districts within December 2013 was adopted.

The 5th Conference of Assam Rajyik Anganwadi Karmi Aru Sahayika Santha affiliated to CITU was held in Barpeta on 20th October. Around 7000 anganwadi employees, mid day meal workers and ASHAs from various ethnic groups participated in the rally. The delegates' session was attended by 267 delegates from 22 districts representing 32300 members. A 75 member state committee including 17 office bearers was elected in the conference.

The union observed Demands' Week on 13 – 17 February by organising processions and demonstrations in front of the DC offices and sending memoranda addressed to the Prime Minister demanding minimum wages, regularisation and pension for all. It organised demonstrations in front

of deputy commissioners' offices in districts and in front of director of social welfare office in Guwahati on 6th May 2014.

A state wide strike was led by the union demanding additional remuneration from the state government, construction of pucca buildings, regular supply of nutritious food and stoppage of privatisation. 90% of the anganwadi employees in the state, much beyond the organisational strength of the union joined the strike. Project level demonstrations were held in front of the offices of the Child Development Project offices in 23 out of the 27 districts in the state in which thousands of workers participated. A massive demonstration in which around 2000 anganwadi employees participated was held in Guwahati in front of the office of the Director, Social Welfare of the state. The Director made some assurances.

CITU state committee organised a state level rally in Guwahati on 21st January on the problems of the working class in the state. Around 20000 workers from different sectors, large numbers of them women, participated in the rally. Later a procession was taken out and memorandum with 14 point charter of demands addressed to the chief minister was submitted to the Deputy Commissioner of labour. The demands included minimum wage of Rs 10000, controlling price rise, industrial development of Assam and those of the contract and scheme workers. The rally created enthusiasm among the workers in the state.

3. Bihar

A massive procession of workers and other sections of the people was jointly organised in Bhagalpur by CITU, AITUC, BMS and AICCTU on 3rd September 2013 protesting against the trifurcation of the state electricity board, handing over of electricity distribution to private companies, increase of electricity tariff etc. The procession culminated into a rally in front of district magistrate's office.

The massive demonstration held by Bihar State Electricity Board Field Kamgar Union (CITU) against victimisation and change of policies by the new private corporations that acquired the generation, transmission and distribution companies formed after trifurcation of the state electricity board generated spontaneous response from all sections of the employees. Efforts were made to develop a united movement and a massive joint demonstration was held in front of the head office of the state electricity board on 13th September 2013. Police resorted to brutal lathi charge outside and inside the office building injuring 60 employees including a woman and arrested seven people. The employees-officers-engineers jointly gave call of lightening strike in protest engulfing the entire state into darkness which forced the government to hold discussion; sign agreement and issue notification. This was the first time in 8 years that the Nitish Kumar government held discussions with the employees. The 17 organisation struggle platform signed a five point agreement that included – departmental enquiry and punishment for those responsible for the lathi charge, apology by the concerned managing director, continuation of the existing service conditions of the employees with all benefits, upward revision of wages of the contract employees and hold further bipartite discussion on the problems of the employees.

Thousands of teaching and non-teaching staff, including large number of women, of the special national child labour project (NCLP) schools of Bihar participated in a massive procession and rally in Patna on 13 November. The demands included absorption of the staff of the NCLP schools into regular schools and immediate payment of arrears; implementation of the assurances of the union

labour secretary in this regard; minimum wage of not less than Rs 10000, social security benefits including pension, gratuity etc to all NCLP staff.

Patna district conference of the anganwadi employees' union was held on 1 September in Patna.

Thousands of mid day meal workers from three districts - Saharsa, Supaul and Madhepura – participated in a militant demonstration and gate meeting in front of the divisional commissioner's office on 24th January under the banner of Mid Day Meal Workers' Union demanding regularisation of their jobs, pay-scales, payment through bank, appointment letters to the cooks, etc.

4. Delhi

Dharnas were held in front of the different factory gates of Allied Nippon in Sahibabad Site 4 demanding reinstatement of the victimised workers on 4-5 September. The dharnas held in the morning were followed by rallies that moved in the entire industrial area and culminated in a mass meeting in front of the company gate.

Meetings of industrial workers in Rajendranagar industrial area, in Meerut Road, Jhilmil industrial area, Patparganj were held in September 2013 and demonstrations were held in front of the Labour Commissioner's office.

The workers of Narula's Corner House in Noida went on 3 days' strike and staged dharna demanding payment of annual increment that was due for the last 2 years, dearness allowance and bonus/ex-gratia.

A convention of women workers was organised by the Delhi state CITU on 6th January 2014 to discuss the all India campaign on the demands of working women, to discuss the functioning of the state coordination committee of working women and to build joint movement on the issues of working women. Women workers and employees from hotels, factories, ASHAs, anganwadi employees, school teachers, Jal Board employees etc from Delhi, Noida and Ghaziabad participated in the convention.

5. Haryana

The construction workers' union and Brick Kiln workers' union jointly organised district level dharnas as preparation for the state level demonstration in Rohtak on 19th August. Block level joint public meetings preceded these dharnas. The demands included speeding up of workers' registration into the construction workers' welfare board, separate infrastructure for the board, sheds in labour markets, Rs 15000 minimum wage, increase in the compensation in case of accidental death and its payment to non registered workers as well and smart cards to all the workers

Bhawan Nirman Kamgar Union, Haryana organised four zonal workshops on organisation at Hisar, Rohtak, Kurukshetra and Mahendragarh. 212 block level functionaries of the union participated.

A Jan Suvwai (public hearing) was organised on 30th August near Jantar Mantar in New Delhi on the repression being perpetuated on the Maruti Suzuki workers. Hundreds of workers from the Manesar plant of Maruti Suzuki, participated with their families. Leaders of political parties, trade

unions, organisations of peasants, agricultural workers, women, students, youth, eminent educationists, intellectuals and others heard the repression let loose by the Haryana administration violating not only labour laws but also democratic and human rights.

Haryana Gramin Chowkidar Sabha organised a rally and public meeting in Rohtak on 12th September demanding minimum wages, social security and other benefits. A memorandum was submitted to the chief minister through the deputy commissioner. The union decided to hold another rally at Jind on 10th November.

A largely attended workers meeting was held in Gurgaon on 15th September demanding effective enforcement of labour laws in Gurgaon-Dharuhera industrial belt and to solve all the outstanding issues and demands of the workers of Binaula, Maruti at Manesar, American Institute at Gurgaon, Power Train at Manesar, Hero etc.

Thousands of workers under the banner of Industrial Workers Union, Panipat (CITU) organised a massive procession and demonstration in front of the office of the deputy commissioner of Panipat on 16th September demanding implementation of labour laws, minimum wages and social security benefits. A memorandum was submitted to the chief minister through the deputy commissioner.

A state level convention of employees and teachers of Haryana government was held on 5th October in Rohtak to plan a state wide struggle programme against the anti worker anti people policies of the state government and on the long pending demands of the state government employees and teachers.

The state conference of Haryana Tourism Karamchari Sangh was held on 10-11 September. A massive state level joint rally of workers and agricultural workers was organised by the Haryana state committees of CITU and Agricultural Workers' Union in Jind on 9th November. Around 30000, mostly workers, participated of which around 40 percent were women. The rally highlighted the demands of the workers from different sectors, particularly minimum wages, social security benefits and effective implementation of labour laws. On the same evening the foundation stone for the office of the state committee of CITU in Rohtak to be named Prabhat Bhawan was laid.

Workers of Haryana Roadways went on 4 days complete strike on 20 - 23 January 2014 paralysing road transportation in all routes of Haryana protesting against the state government's order giving permits to 3519 private buses. All 3850 road transport buses stopped plying at the united call of all transport unions led by Haryana Roadways Workers Union. The workers also demanded regularisation of jobs of casual workers, filling up of vacant posts, medical allowances etc.

At the call of CITU state committee demonstrations were organised on 21st January 2014 in solidarity with the striking state government employees. Hundreds of workers from different CITU affiliated unions participated in different places.

Workers of the Manesar-based firm Munjal Kiriu, the biggest supplier of auto parts to Hero Motocorps and Maruti Suzuki India in the Gurgaon industrial area, went on strike on January 14 following an assault on 65 suspended workers protesting at the factory gate by 20 company-hired thugs.

A state level convention of mid day meal workers was held on 7 January 2014 in Rohtak. Around

100 mid day meal workers participated. The convention decided to organise demonstrations all over the state on 10th January, to conduct 24 hour padav on 29 – 30 January in front of the DC offices and to join the strike of the government employees on the first day.

A public meeting followed by a procession of crèche workers and helpers and tailoring instructors under the banner of Crèche Workers and Helpers' Union, Haryana affiliated to CITU was held in Rohtak. A memorandum addressed to the chief minister was submitted.

Widespread protests were held all over the state against the misbehaviour of the chief minister against the delegation of ASHA workers' union affiliated to CITU led by the general secretary of the state committee of CITU, which went to present a memorandum as per the appointment given by him. Militant demonstrations were held and effigies were burnt all over the state which compelled the chief minister known for his arrogance to invite the union leadership, virtually retract his earlier insulting words, accept the memorandum, and assure of favourable actions. An increase in remuneration was also announced.

12th conference of All Haryana Power Corporation Workers Union was held at Gurgaon on 22-23 March attended by 266 delegates and 299 observers coming from 57 units of the corporation in different parts of the state.

6. Himachal Pradesh

A dharna was held in front of the private Tenzin Hospital in Shimla on 18th September 2013 against the illegal dismissal of 14 workers of the hospital. Police resorted to brutal lathi charge injuring several of them. This was followed by the arrest of 14 workers including the president, treasurer and secretary of CITU state committee, Jagat Ram, Ramakant Mishra and Vijender Mehra.

In Rampur, 2000 workers went on strike for three days by taking mass leave. Workers of VCS school in Shimla organised a dharna on their demands.

The workers of JP Cement plant in Baga in Solan district went on a total strike on 16th December. Around 1200 workers marched in a procession from the factory gate with a single demand of registration of their union, the J. P. Himachal Cement Plant Workers Union. The procession culminated in a huge public meeting. Truck operators and local people extended their support to the strike.

The strike was held to protest against the machinations of the labour department and the management to thwart the efforts of the workers to form a CITU affiliated union since the last around four years. Earlier CITU state committee held a five days dharna in front of the labour commissioner's office in June 2013; 300 workers gheraoed the labour commissioner's office in September; more than 700 workers held a demonstration in front of the state government secretariat in November 2013. Several trade unions including those of hotel workers, and mass organisations including SFI, DYFI and AIDWA joined the demonstrations in solidarity.

The union achieved registration after this prolonged struggle and submitted a charter of demands on which the workers went on strike on 20 – 22 February. With the help of the local toiling people the workers defeated the attempts of the management to bring workers from their other plants in UP, MP and Bhutan. The management was compelled to participate in conciliation and sign a

tripartite settlement on absorption of workers, wage increase, promotion policy, leave facilities etc on 26th March 2014.

The workers of Tangnu Ramai and Shimla Project were on strike for one month and compelled the management to concede to their demands. The workers union in Sawda-Kuddu Hydro Project organised a successful demonstration and *Rasta Roko* on 11th April demanding payment of wages.

10th conference of Himachal Pradesh State Anganwadi Workers and Helpers Union was held in Shimla on 29 March 2014. The conference elected 45 members working committee and 15 members secretariat with Indira Thakur as president, Saroj Sharma as general secretary and Ramakant Mishra as treasurer.

7. Jammu and Kashmir

A demonstration of anganwadi employees was held by the CITU affiliated Jammu and Kashmir Anganwadi Workers and Helpers' Union in Srinagar on 4th September 2013. The demands of regularisation increase in remuneration and other benefits were raised. The union again held a demonstration in Srinagar on 8th October to put pressure on the state government.

10 leaders of J&K Construction of Four Lane Road and Tunnel Workers' Union (CITU) were victimised when the 2000 workers under the leadership of the union resorted to an indefinite strike on 27th October 2013 against the 12 hour working day without over time wages, and demanding local recruitment as per the MoU, union recognition and trade union rights including the right to hold meetings at the gate.

The RLC (central) held conciliation meeting on 31 October and fixed next date on 2 November. But on 1st November, at the instance of the multinational company the police resorted to brutal repression to sabotage these meetings and conciliation. Lathi charge and tear gas were used injuring several workers; more than 200 were arrested; the president of the union was arrested from his residence. The police again resorted to lathi charge on the other workers and family members who gathered and staged protest demonstration. Several people including women were beaten up mercilessly and arrested.

Joint protest demonstrations were organised in different centres of the state on 2nd November which were addressed by leaders of several trade unions including CITU, AITUC, BMS, NZIEA, BEFI, and Employees' Joint Action Committee etc. Political parties also supported the struggle of the workers and demanded immediate release of the arrested workers. CITU general secretary wrote to the chief minister of the state and the chairman of NHAI

A massive rally in which thousands of workers participated was held in Chanani on 30th January 2014 protesting against government's high handed attitude and demanding reinstating all victimised workers, withdrawal of false police cases, overtime payment, minimum wages, implementation of labour laws etc.

Anganwadi employees who organised a demonstration on their demands in Anantnag were also brutally lathi charged by the police in which an office bearer of CITU state committee leading the

demonstration was injured. Protest demonstrations were held in several parts of the state including in Jammu against the lathi charge. Hundreds of workers participated in these demonstrations.

On 5 April, hundreds of building and other construction workers held day-long rally in Jammu demanding CITU's representation in the construction workers' welfare board; to make registration of construction workers simplified and time bound, speedily settlement of claims and payments through cheque.

The state committee extended support to the Banihal - Quazikund tunnel workers' strike led by the CITU affiliated union since 15th April 2014, and condemned the adamant attitude of the construction company Navjug. The union raised demands for compensation for death due to accident at workplace; safety measures; first aid; fixation of working hours and over time payment; minimum wages; effective implementation of EPF; tunnel, winter and other allowances; leave benefits; social security; and facilities like safe drinking water, transportation and canteen.

8. Jharkhand

CITU Singbhum district committee organised a public meeting in Jamshedpur on 15th September as part of country-wide campaign against repression on democratic rights of the workers and other sections of the people in West Bengal.

Ramgarh district conference of CITU was held in Ramgarh on 11th September 2013. 115 delegates participated.

A demonstration of contract workers of Pipewar project of Central Coalfield Ltd was held in Chatra district under the leadership of NCOEA. Hundreds of contract workers participated forcing the management to implement all the points agreed upon in an earlier agreement with NCOEA (union) (CITU) in 2012.

Around 1000 workers participated in a rally and demonstration organised by CITU state committee in front of the head office of Mecon Ltd, a government of India undertaking. A demonstration was later organised in front of the office of the DLC in Ranchi demanding regularisation of jobs; social security; housing, medical facilities, children's education, leave facilities as per law, maternity benefits for women workers and negotiated service settlement with the unions. The management assured to take positive steps within a month.

The state committee organised a dharna in front of the Kanke police station in Ranchi demanding withdrawal of false cases filed against 15 innocent villagers at the instance of the land mafia and criminals who tried to forcibly occupy the land of a tribal, but were driven away by the villagers. Around 400 tribal villagers participated in the dharna held on 9 January.

Dharna and demonstration were also organised by CITU state committee in front of the Birsa Agricultural University head office on 24 January on the demands of the 350 casual and contract workers. A memorandum was submitted to the Director who assured to take appropriate action shortly. CITU formed Birsa Agricultural University Contract Workers Union.

9. Karnataka

As the culmination of the sustained campaign by the CITU state committee on a 27 point charter of demands, a massive rally was held in front of the Vidhan Sabha in Bengaluru on 23rd January. It was one of the largest workers' mobilisations in Bengaluru. 33465 workers participated from different sectors and different parts of the state. The labour minister Parameswara Nayak along labour secretary, labour commissioner and other officials came to the spot to receive the memorandum. The major demands scrapping of ESMA; holding state labour conference annually; Rs.10000 minimum wages; regularisation of contract labour and abolition of the system; PDS to all; free house sites; demands of scheme workers and to stop privatisation of ICDS and mid day meal schemes; demands of beedi workers, head load workers, municipal workers; transport workers auto drivers; plantation workers, gram panchayat workers; effective enforcement of labour laws etc.

Before the rally, 15 days state-wide campaign jathas were held. 12.8 lakh handbills were distributed and 30000 posters were pasted.

The chief minister called a meeting on 27 January in which a CITU delegation comprising all the office bearers of CITU state committee participated. Along with the chief minister, labour minister and secretaries of finance, education, labour and other officials were present. The government agreed to immediately issue notification increasing the remuneration of the mid day meal workers. The chief minister directed the principal secretary to put up a note and assured of the cabinet's approval of reinstatement of the 117 anganwadi employees who contested elections and were compelled to resign though they could not win and the government notified the judicial magistrate as the Employees' Compensation Authority under the Minimum Wages and Employees' Compensation Act. It was also agreed to hold another meeting soon after getting feedback from concerned departments.

About 250 contract workers of central PSUs - BEML, BSNL, VISL, BEL, HLL, HPCL, BPCL and IOC – staged dharna in front of Dy. Chief Labour Commissioner (C) in Bangalore on 17 February.

A meeting was held with the CITU delegation and the Dy. CLC on the problems of BSNL contract workers including removal of 284 contract workers from jobs in BSNL units in Belgaum for forming a union; paying wages less than the minimum wages etc. This was followed by a tripartite meeting at Hubli on 19 February on the problems of contract workers of BSNL units at Belgaum, Shimoga, Raichur and Hubli attended by management of BSNL and union leaders on victimisation, irregular payment of wages and less payment than minimum wages, etc. The union deferred indefinite dharna on assurance of the Dy. CLC

2400 workers of the Japanese multinational company Toyota Kirloskar at Bidadi industrial area near Bangalore were on a month-long struggle in March-April 2014. The union submitted a charter of demands for wage revision on 7 March, 2013. But, during more than a year, 48 rounds of bilateral discussion and 7 rounds of conciliation meeting before the DLC failed to come to any negotiated settlement as the Japanese car multinational's management had been aggressively trying to impose unbearable workload on the workers.

On 16 March 2014, the management declared illegal lockout in the plant and suspended 30 workers including 2 office bearers, 12 executive committee members and 16 other activists. All the workers

protested. The joint meeting, called by the state labour minister ended in futility. Then the management lifted the lockout on 24 March, but did not allow the workers to report to their duties insisting to sign a 'Good Conduct' undertaking by each worker. The union and the workers refused and continued with strike braving victimization. CITU had extended support to the struggling workers led by the independent union. CITU leaders and workers visited the pandal of the workers who were on relay-hunger-strike and expressed solidarity and extended support.

CITU organised solidarity action and also took up with the state labour department. The company ultimately was compelled to retreat by taking back the condition of good-conduct undertaking for workers resuming to work and the state labour department also intervened in that direction. The struggle ended with the workers joining duties on 22nd April.

10. Kerala

More than 25000 workers participated in the joint trade union rally held in Thiruvananthapuram on 25th September as per the decision of the national joint trade union convention held in Delhi. Around 2500 workers from the state participated in the March to Parliament on 12th December. Conventions were held at state, district and local levels for the success of the programme. Pamphlets and leaflets were distributed in large numbers and posters were displayed all over the state. Jathas were also held in all the districts in which 115441 workers participated. At Kannur, Idukki, and Kollam, INTUC did not participate in the March. BMS and STU actively participated in all the districts. Prior to this a joint picketing of district and taluk civil supply offices was held by the Left trade unions on 7th September, against price rise.

Anganwadi Workers and Helpers Association (CITU), Kisan Sabha, KSKTU, Mahila Association and CITU jointly held a state level convention on 11th November in Thiruvananthapuram. 267 participants attended the convention. District conventions were held at Kasargod, Kannur, Malappuram, Kottayam, Ernakulam, Kollam, Thiruvananthapuram and Pathanamthitta.

ASHA workers' union organised demonstrations against price rise all over the state on August 31.

All the CITU affiliated unions in various traditional sectors jointly organised a massive campaign during November – December demanding protection to the traditional industries. On 4th November a massive convention was held at Kollam to inaugurate programme. 8886 workers participated. Later, conventions were held in all districts. Two state level Jathas, one starting on 15th from the north and the other on 16th December from the south, were held to create awareness of the difficulties faced by traditional workers. The jathas culminated in Alappuzha on 21st December 21 with a massive public meeting. Around 10000 pamphlets were distributed. 27th December was observed as 'Traditional Sector Protection Day' by holding public meetings all over the state. On 30th December a March to Secretariat was held in which more than 15000 traditional workers participated.

A 'March to Secretariat' was organised by our cashew workers' union demanding revision of minimum wage, improvement of the working condition, PF pension, increase the Welfare Fund pension to Rs.1000/ etc on 15th November. Two jathas were organised prior to this. Trade unions and officers organisations in IRE, KMML and TTP organised a secretariat march on 4th December demanding protection of these public sector industries and retention of mining of mineral sand in the public sector.

KSEB Contract Workers organised Dharna before Vyduthi Bhavan on 7-11 September and rallies at district level on 5th September demanding publication of list of contract workers, confirmation of workers joined till 2004 as per court directive, 25% reservation for contract workers in PSC appointments etc.

Kerala State Road Transport Employees' Union (CITU) organised state level jathas culminating in a huge rally at the state secretariat on 7th December, against the move of the state government to privatise KSRTC.

Private Bus Transport Workers Federation organised marches to government secretariat and district collectorates on 27th August demanding revision of fares, an integrated transport policy, strengthening of welfare board functioning etc.

Kerala Water Authority Workers organised a 'Two Day Akhanda Satyagraha' in front of Water Authority headquarters on 2-3 December demanding wage revision and against the moves of state government to weaken the water authority.

Consumerfed workers organised secretariat march on 11th December demanding protection of Consumerfed, a major co operative public distribution institution in Kerala.

KMSRA organised 5 day dharna in front of Kerala government secretariat on 2-6 December against FDI in the pharmaceutical sector. Two jathas were organised prior to the dharna.

Cooperative sector workers organised marches to income tax offices on October 27, against some directions detrimental to the cooperative sector. They have organised March to NABARD office against Prakash Bakshi Committee Report on September 7.

KTDC Employees organised March to KTDC head office on 28th October demanding confirmation of contract workers, rectification of anomalies in wage, payment of wage arrears to contract workers etc.

Construction workers' union organised a 20 days' state level jatha that culminated in Thiruvananthapuram on 9th October. Around 50000 workers participated in the secretariat march. Head load workers led by our union struck work on 5th November 2013. Two jathas starting from Kasargod and Waynad started on 27th October and culminated in Thiruvananthapuram on 4th November. Fishermen Workers Federation organised secretariat picketing on 7-11 October demanding debt relief fund as sanctioned by the Debt Relief Commission, subsidised kerosene in sufficient quantities, subsidised diesel, stop reclamation and water pollution etc. Around 400 volunteers participated on each day and faced arrest. State level rallies were organised as part of this agitation. Artisans Union organised demonstrations at taluk offices on 27th September against sabotaging of welfare schemes. Auto Consultant Workers organised a march to the office of Commissioner of transport on October 8, raising various demands.

Plantation workers organised a march to the residence of state Labour Minister on 7th October against sabotaging of plantation workers welfare scheme. Thousands of workers participated in the march to secretariat organised by the Goods transport workers' federation on 11th November. Three jathas were held in October as part of the campaign.

Security Workers Federation organised rallies and dharna before labour commissioner's office demanding approval of charter of demands, implementation of minimum wage declared by state government in 2010, one month salary as bonus etc.

International Action Day was celebrated befittingly all over Kerala. Hundreds of workers participated in the rallies, public meetings, seminars and other programmes held on the occasion in various parts of the state. More than 1400 workers participated in the seminars. The trade unions of road transport workers, electricity employees and bank employees took active role in organising the various programmes.

CITU extended support to the strike of the bank employees on 18th December.

A joint meeting of representatives of Balanandan Research Foundation and state office bearers of CITU took place in Kochi on 19th September. It was decided to organise meetings of each sector and conduct workshops.

A meeting of representatives of different state public sector unions and the public sector sub committee of CITU state committee was held in Thiruvananthapuram on 26th September. 51 union representatives from 30 industries participated in the meeting. The Balanandan foundation was also entrusted with the task of giving recommendations for protection and revival of state public sector enterprises.

A state convention of women members of Kerala Road Transport Employees' Association affiliated to CITU was held in Thiruvananthapuram on 4th September 2013. A charter of demands for the women workers of KSRTC including retiring room with toilet facilities for women workers in every depot, clean ladies toilet in every bus stand for women conductors, single seat for conductors, 45 days leave for hysterectomy as in the case of government employees etc was formulated and submitted to the government and the management.

The fifth women's conference of Kerala State Electricity Board Officers' Association was held on 5th October 2013 along with the 18th state conference of the association. 150 elected women delegates from different districts participated in addition to the 550 male delegates who were attending the conference.

A state convention of women members of Kerala Medical & Sales Representatives Association (KMSRA) was held in Trissur on 26 October.

The state coordination committee of working women organised special conventions of working women as part of the campaign for Lok Sabha elections in Kasargode, Kannur, Kozhikode, Malappuram, Trissur, Ernakulam, Pathanamthitta, and Trivandrum districts. District level meetings of anganwadi employees, ASHAs and national postal savings agents were held on the occasion.

Working women squads campaigned by visiting households and at work places. Sector specific family meetings were also organised which were joined by women and children in large numbers. Beedi, cashew, coir all traditional industries organised family meetings and street corner meetings. Toddy, head-loader and railway workers organised family get-together. LIC, electricity, water authority,

road transport and other sectors unions issued leaflets concerning the issues of their industries which were widely campaigned among women workers.

A convention of unions affiliated or close to CITU in central public sector undertakings was held in Kochi on 10th October. Representatives of union from FACT, HMT, HOC, HIL, Kochin Port, NTC Mill, ITI Palakkad, BSNL, HLL, IRE, BPCL, IPCL, KRL, Airport, Construction and Contract Workers Union and Railway participated. The crisis being faced by central public sector institutions in the state was discussed and it was decided to organise campaign and agitation programmes. The issue of the rampant contractualisation and casualisation in these institutions was also discussed.

30 delegates participated in the tenth convention of AICCWW in Puri. District conventions have been held and the reporting of the tenth convention of AICCWW was done. Demands' Day was observed and memorandums were submitted to the district collectors in all districts.

The 39th state conference of KSRTEA was held on 23-24 September in Kottayam. The first state conference of Kerala State Auto Taxi Workers Federation was held on 3-4 October 3-4 in Ernakulam. The 14th conference of Kerala Water Authority Employees Union was held on 8-10 October in Palakkad. The union set an example by bearing the entire expenditure of providing drinking water connection to a tribal village in the district that was inaugurated by its general secretary on 9th October.

National Savings Scheme Agents Association held a one day workshop on the problems faced by the NSS and the solutions on 6th November.

TU classes for state office bearers, district office bearers, federation president and secretaries were held in two batches at EMS Academy, from 6-8 October and 22-24 October with the participation of 122 and 91 delegates respectively. District level classes are being held.

Jyoti Basu Birth Centenary celebrations are being held from 8th July 08 2013 to 8th July 2014. Trade union classes for the office bearers of CITU and its affiliated federations at all levels have been organised. A souvenir was also published.

The CITU membership in Kerala was 1449280 in 2011; it went up to 1501574 in 2012.

For Uttaranchal Flood, Rs.466348 was collected and remitted. For Odisha cyclone victims, Rs.51800 was collected and remitted.

11. Madhya Pradesh

CITU state committee organised a continuous agitation by its state unions and the supervisors of women and child welfare department from 8 to 19 July ending with a massive demonstration in front of the chief minister's residence by the contract and casual workers. Despite rains, 5200 workers joined in this campaign. During the period daily meetings were held by different unions on different days at Sahjani Park followed by 'March to Assembly' and submitting memoranda. Village chowkidars, supervisors of the Women and Child Welfare department, daily wage workers, gangmen, anganwadi employees, e – earning employees, ASHAs and USHAs, medical and sales representatives, building

construction workers, head load workers, and contract workers in the different public and private sector mines and production units participated in this agitation.

A district level convention of pensioners and workers demanding social security was organised in Ujjain. Around 1000 workers and pensioners participated in the convention and later marched on the streets.

12. Maharashtra

522 delegates, including large number of women from deferent industries and centres in 11 districts of Maharashtra - Mumbai, Nashik, Aurangabad, Pune, Shindhu Durg, Nagpur, Satara, Thane, Sangali, Jalna and Raigad – attended a state level convention of contract workers under CITU banner on 26 October at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) township in Raigad district. The convention decided to campaign on 11 point charter of demands adopted in the convention, to hold demonstrations in all districts headquarters on 1 December; to organise a 'Long March' from all the districts in January culminating in a mass rally at Hutatma Chawk in Mumbai on 15 January.

A meeting of workers of Dubai Port World, which was illegally locked out since 13th October was also organised in JNPT port city, on 26th October.

Around 5000 beedi workers, majority of them women, from different parts of the state participated in a 2 days dharna and public meeting in Azad Maidan in Mumbai on 28 – 29 January 2014. Around 1000 workers courted arrest. The issues of minimum wages, pension, housing etc were raised by the CITU affiliated unions that organised the programme. A delegation met the state labour minister, the Speaker of the state assembly, the labour secretary, the labour commissioner and submitted memorandum and warned on intensification of movement including Rasta Roko on or after 12 February if their demands were not met. The labour Minister assured to revise minimum wages soon and to hold tripartite meeting to resolve other demands.

A meeting was organised by CITU Maharashtra state committee in Mumbai on 1 August to pay homage to Comrade Samar Mukherjee.

Anganwadi Karmachari Sanghatana (CITU) played an important role in the sustained and militant struggle of the anganwadi employees under the banner of Maharashtra Rajya Anganwadi Karmachari Kriti Samiti, the joint platform of all the six major unions of the anganwadi employees in the state. Around 2 lakh anganwadi employees joined the indefinite strike on 8th January 2014 demanding retirement benefits, increase in remuneration and putting a stop to privatisation. All the 90000 anganwadi centres and 20000 mini anganwadi centres in the state remained closed. The strike started with a rally in Azad maidan in Mumbai in which around 15000 anganwadi employees participated. More than 1000 of them broke police barricades and resorted to rasta roko facing police lathi charge.

Demonstrations, dharnas, rasta roko, jail bharo etc were held all over the state. Around 25000 anganwadi employees participated in these forms of struggle every day. Relay fast was started from 20th January in Mumbai and the district headquarters. The Joint Action Committee of Trade Unions in the state held a rally in Azad Maidan in support of the demands of the striking anganwadi employees on 22nd January.

The chief minister held discussions but did not give any concrete assurance as a result of which the agitation continued. On 23rd January again the chief minister met the union representatives and reiterated his assurances. The Kriti Samiti decided to continue the strike but suspend the demonstrations in Mumbai. District level demonstrations resumed as the cabinet failed to take it up as an agenda in its meeting on 29th January.

More than 25000 anganwadi employees from all over the state joined a massive rally in Mumbai and refused to disperse till the government fulfilled its assurances. They stayed in Azad Maidan the entire night with more anganwadi employees joining the next day. Ultimately the cabinet was compelled to decide Rs 1 lakh and Rs 75000 to anganwadi workers and helpers as one time retirement benefit, which was announced by the chief minister. Subsequently the government decided to raise the remuneration by Rs 950 per month for the anganwadi workers, by Rs 500 for the helpers and by Rs 450 for the workers in the mini anganwadi centres.

13. Odisha

The workers in the central public sector units held demonstrations in solidarity with the coal workers and observed anti disinvestment Day at different industrial centres in the state on 23rd September.

On 29th November, joint demonstrations were organised protesting the death of 3 workers in the industrial accident in Bhushan steel in Angul. Activists of CITU, AITUC, HMS, BMS, INTUC, AICCTU and AIUTUC participated. Later a joint trade union delegation met the labour minister and submitted a memorandum demanding immediate action against the owner of the plant and adequate compensation for the victims' families. Earlier, a fact finding team of central trade unions leaders visited the explosion site on 19 November and found utter lack of safety measures in the factory.

About 20,000 sales promotion employees (medical and sales representatives) resorted to statewide complete strike on 15 January protesting against state government's illegal order imposing blanket ban on the entry and work of the medical representatives in government hospitals and medical colleges threatening the jobs of thousands of medical representatives in the state. The strike was wide and unprecedented in all districts and centres. The Odisha Sales Representatives Union (OSRU) also filed a writ petition in the High Court of Orissa against the government's order which has been admitted for hearing.

Earlier a state level convention on 'Right to Work' was held at Bhubaneswar on 28th December. The convention adopted resolution in support of the demands and the strike. District strike conventions were attended and supported by the central trade unions, industrial federations / unions, IMA, chemists & druggists organization.

The medical representatives observed demands days wearing badges on 13-14 January, staging dharna at different places, holding street corner meetings and distributing handbills and bringing out rallies submitting memorandum to the chief minister through the district administration. All state units of FMRAI and its subunits expressed solidarity on strike day and sent letters to the chief minister.

The workers of the Text Book Production and Marketing Corporation went on strike from 6th January under the leadership of Text Book Press Mazdoor Sangha (CITU) demanding regularisation of their

jobs etc. The workers were being treated as casual workers despite working uninterruptedly since the last 20 – 25 years. The state government invoked ESMA against the workers on 20th January. CITU Odisha state committee condemned the action and demanded early negotiation with the striking employees and settlement of their just demands.

CITU Leader Laxman Munda, vice president of the CITU Odisha state committee and leader of the United Mines Mazdoor Union was elected as MLA in the recently held elections defeating the BJD, Congress and BJP candidates.

More than 1 lakh workers engaged in mining, loading and transportation of iron ore lost their jobs due to the closure of the iron ore and manganese mines in the state following the Supreme Court's order on renewal of operations. CITU state office bearers including Laxman Munda went on a hunger strike and held dharna in front of the state assembly from 27th May. CITU organised demonstrations in front of the offices of the deputy director of mines in Joda and Koira on 23rd May. It called upon solidarity actions by CITU affiliated unions all over the state, demonstrations in front of state government offices and submission of memorandums.

The Padadip Bandar Sramik Union affiliated to Water Transport Workers' Federation of India of the CITU, was elected as the number one union to represent workers, replacing the HMS union in Paradip Port Trust, WTWFI Union is No.1 in Paradip Port Trust. Out of 1675 votes polled, PBSU got 556 votes. INTUC got the 2nd position and a seat in the Trust HMS union was relegated to the 4th position.

14. Punjab

700 ASHAs and Facilitators staged state level dharna in front of the office of the Director of Rural Health Mission at Mohali on 4 October demanding minimum wages and social securities. As none came to receive the memorandum the agitating workers started marching to the office of DC Mohali causing huge road blockade. The SDM was compelled to come to the meeting place and receive memorandum assuring appointment with the minister on appointed day.

1500 workers of Chandigarh Transport Undertaking went on complete strike on 9th October and held a rally in protest against the anti-worker policies of Chandigarh administration and against purchasing low floor buses consuming more diesel and as the major reason for road accidents.

700 contract drivers and CITU activists held a procession in Balachaur in Shahid Bhagat Singh Nagar district under the banner of Swaraj Mazda Contract Drivers Union (CITU), and staged dharna in front of SDM office on 9th October demanding implementation of the 2011 settlement with the CITU union, against violation of labour laws and against the conspiracy of management-contractor-local MLA nexus to break CITU union.

Around 2000 workers and employees, including large number of women, of Chandigarh Union Territory and Municipal Corporation from about 18 departmental unions including in electricity, water supply, transport, health, roads, horticulture, maintenance, etc; under the banner of Coordination Committee of Government & MC Employees and Workers of U.T. Chandigarh; staged massive dharna in front of local stadium demanding regularisation of jobs, EPF, ESI and pension,

job to next of kin removing 5% ceiling; filling up vacant posts; stop privatisation/corporatisation, abolition of contract labour system and outsourcing etc.

The Anganwadi Mulajam Union, Punjab held an inspiring month long 'Save ICDS jatha march'. The jatha march started at Jalianwala Bag on 7th November and culminated at Khatkar Kalan, the village of Bhagat Singh on 3rd December. A rally was organised in Jalianwala Bag in Amritsar to mark the inauguration of the jatha. A massive rally was held on 5th December in Chandigarh to mark the conclusion.

The jatha covered 5000 kms traversing 20 out of the 22 districts and 106 out of the 153 blocks in the state. It held 43 rallies and public meetings in which around 25000 anganwadi employees, workers and other sections of the people participated. The jatha received very good response from the anganwadi employees all over the state and helped the union organisationally also. 350 young Anganwadi workers and helpers were identified for development as cadres.

The union organised a rally and dharna in front of the office of the ICDS Director in Chandigarh demanding enhancement of remuneration and pension. More than 500 anganwadi employees participated in the demonstration, defying sec 144.

Ludhiana district committee of CITU held a massive rally on 17th January to highlight the various issues of workers and the people in general. Around 2000 workers from MNREGA, brick kiln, construction, anganwadi, Asha, Mid-Day-Meal workers etc participated. Around 5000 workers and other toiling people joined a 120 hour continuous protest demonstration in front of the deputy commissioner's office in Ludhiana on 20 – 24 January, despite the rains and cold wave conditions. Effective implementation of minimum wages, MNREGA, action against sand mafia creating scarcity, control of the prices of construction materials etc were raised. Large sections of brick kiln owners, truck operators and traders supported the agitation. Food materials were collected from the villages and cooked by 500 volunteers, mainly mid day meal workers.

A public meeting was organised in Ropar on 5th May to observe the birth anniversary of Karl Marx. The Anganwadi Mulajam Union, Punjab also organised a special meeting in Cheema Bhawan in Chandigarh on the occasion.

The state conference of Lal Jhanda Bhatta Mazdoor Union was held in Ludhiana on 3rd June. 153 delegates from all over the state participated. The general secretary's report was unanimously adopted and a new committee with Satpal Bharti as president and Tarsem Jodhan as general secretary was elected. Around 1000 brick kiln workers participated in the rally that preceded the delegates' session.

A joint meeting of representatives of anganwadi employees, unions of supervisors, ministerial staff, CDPOs and Pos was called by CITU state committee on 19th May to discuss the problems of ICDS and those connected with it. Around 120 employees participated. It was decided to form a state coordination committee and formulate a joint action plan. The next meeting was held on 27th May in Bhakna Bhawan in Chandigarh. As per the decision of the meeting, demonstrations were held in 60 sub divisional centres in the state in which around 30000 anganwadi employees, supervisors and ministerial staff participated. The CITU affiliated Anganwadi Mulajam Union, Punjab took the initiative to bring all the unions together on the demands of separation of the Directorate of ICDS from the

Directorate of Social Security, universalisation of ICDS and its strengthening and keeping the salaries of the ICDS staff including anganwadi employees and others under the Non Plan head of the Budget.

15. Rajasthan

CITU affiliated Paramanu Bidyut Karamchari Union, Rawat Bhata won the election for recognition through secret ballot and became the only recognised union and bargaining agent in the Atomic Power Plant at Rawat Bhata in Rajasthan defeating with substantial margin of votes the hitherto recognised BMS union, and also INTUC union of the ruling and main opposition parties in the election bound Rajasthan. CITU union got - 43.5 %, BMS - 31.6% and INTUC - 24.3% votes.

The state conference of the construction workers' union was held on 1st March in Jaipur in which 206 delegates from 13 district participated. A charter of demands and a programme of action were unanimously adopted. The union organised demonstrations in front of the district administration all over the state on 31st March and submitted a 21 point charter of demands.

The leadership of the Jaipur district construction workers' union visited new construction site of Parivahan Bhawan (Road Transport Corporation office) where 6 construction workers died in an accident. They condemned the lack of safety measures and demanded adequate compensation and government jobs to the dependents of the victims.

16. Tamil Nadu

Massive joint trade union demonstrations were held on 25th September in 7 centres in the state. Around 12140 workers participated all over the state out of which CITU mobilised around 6000. 75400 leaflets, 5200 posters were published by CITU.

Around 1800 workers from Tamil Nadu participated in the 12th December joint trade union 'March to Parliament'. Joint trade union rallies were organised on the same day in all the districts in the state but the participation was not good. The other trade unions did not show much interest. CITU brought out 57500 notices, 4600 posters for this programme.

After a protracted struggle, the Supreme Court directed that secret ballot should be conducted in Foxconn. This itself was a victory for the workers who joined CITU in 2010, leaving the DMK led union. Election through secret ballot was held on 6th November in which the CITU led union won.

Around 5000 workers of the state public sector units participated in the demonstrations held in 42 centres under the banner of co-ordination committee of state PSU unions on 8 October. They were demanding 20% bonus and 10% ex-gratia.

Hundreds of tailoring workers, mainly women and men low-paid tailors in government co-operatives, from 12 districts participated in a demonstration in front of the office of the Director of Social Welfare at Chennai on 8th October demanding wage revision. Later a delegation met the minister-in-charge and submitted a charter of demands. Even when the conciliation on the charter of demands was pending, the management of the MNC Nokia Siemens dismissed the general secretary and 4 other leading functionaries of CITU union. The union filed a case in the labour court. Overwhelming

majority of the workers went on 35 days strike under CITU banner. When they returned to work, management refused entry of 100 workers inside the factory. Workers picketed the officer forcing the management to relent.

100 regular workers of Fenner in Kancheepuram joined CITU and went on 14 days strike for wage revision. They were supported by 150 contract workers. The management assured wage revision before 31st October.

CITU supported the struggle of the dismissed workers of Hinduja Foundry. 227 of them who completed more than a year's service were absorbed.

Hunger strike was held in Madurai and a demonstration in Chennai in support of the Tasmac employees.

TWAD employees conducted dharna before the head office in Chennai on 4th October. A convention of contract workers in Chennai Corporation was held in Chennai on 5th October. A demonstration was held in front of Oil Bhawan in Chennai on 10th October against disinvestment.

Around 50000 beedi workers under the banner of the state beedi workers' union participated in the all India strike on 19th November.

CITU fought against the illegal lockout of Tuticorin Alkalis Chemicals and Fertilisers Unit.

A struggle of occupying social security labour offices in the district headquarters was held on 17th December demanding streamlining of the functioning of the unorganised workers' welfare boards. More than 10000 workers participated.

CITU actively intervened and guided the struggle of the Chennai airport employees against privatisation.

Thousands of bullock cart drivers held demonstrations in different centres against denying permission to extract sand to them.

A meeting of the leaders of CITU unions in 7 cement factories was held in Chennai on 5th September. It was decided to stage demonstrations in all cement plants on 15th October.

The workers of the co-operative spinning mills achieved interim wage rise of Rs1800 per month effective from January 2013. Due to our efforts a 3 year settlement on wage revision was signed. Negotiations for wage revision for the workers in electricity board, tannery, salt pans and private sugar factories were held. In transport, CITU is insisting for talks with all the trade unions and has organised 3 days' relay hunger strike on 19-21 December demanding Rs 3000 as interim monthly relief.

2000 power loom workers participated in the state convention of power loom workers held in Pallipalayam on 4th September. A state convention of leading union functionaries of Aavin plants was held in Chennai on 5th October. 110 leading activists of the union participated. South Indian Lorry Transport Workers special convention was held at Trichy on 29 and 30th September.

International Day of Action was observed as per the call of WFTU on 3rd October. Demonstrations were held in Chennai on the day in which workers and employees from DREU and other middle class organisations participated. 400 medical representatives participated in the state level dharna by TNMSRA in Chennai.

Joint demonstration of CITU, AIKS, AIDWA and AIAWU were held on 29th October on the demand to 'Save ICDS'.

9 delegates from the state participated in the national workshop on organising workers in the organised sector held in Hyderabad on 30 – 31 October.

Membership enrolment was held through squads in several districts, for renewal as well as new recruitment. It was decided to complete renewal of membership by March 2014.

Two meetings were held to discuss organising the thousands of teachers and staff at private educational institutions.

Demonstrations were held by the state public sector unions affiliated to CITU on 8th October demanding 25% bonus

Jyoti Basu's centenary year was observed through conducting hall meetings in several centres. A marathon was organised in Tuticorin in which around 1000 students participated.

3 day trade union classes were conducted by the CITU state committee in Virudhunagar on 9-11 November for CITU state committee members and district presidents and working women district convenors. 106 out of 151 targeted cadres participated. History of Indian trade union movement, contemporary capitalism, current tasks, political economy of Indian development since freedom and dangers of communalism were the topics.

88 leading women functionaries of CITU from 21 districts participated in a workshop held in Dindigul on 5-6 September. Special training classes were organised for CITU representatives in co-operative societies in handloom, electricity board, local bodies and Neyveli Lignite Corporation. Tasmac Employees' Federation organised a 2 days' trade union workshop on 25 – 26 October in Coonoor in which 53 union activists participated. A state level trade union class was held by the construction workers' union in Madurai on 3 – 4 December in which 150 activists from 27 districts participated. The auto workers' federation, transport workers' union, loading and unloading workers' federation also organised trade union classes. In Madurai urban district classes were held on 8 subjects for 126 selected comrades.

2 day workshop was conducted in Chennai in October in coordination with ILO. 53 comrades took part.

33 delegates from Tamilnadu took part in Puri All India Working Women Convention. District level conventions are being held now

Rs 31800 was collected towards Uttarakhand Flood Relief Fund and sent.

CITU won one position in Chennai Railway Coaching Factory recognition election.

854 workers / legal heirs of workers on the now closed Buckingham and Carnatic (B&C) Mill in Chennai received Rs.25000 to Rs.50000 each as relief under Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS) on 19 October. The minister assured to pay to the remaining workers also. The relentless pursuit by CITU leadership inside and outside the Parliament over several years, ultimately made this possible

Tamil Nadu state committee of CITU built the 'venmani Thyagikal Ninaivalayam' in memory of the Venmani martyrs. The grand memorial, which was constructed through collections from workers, employees, agricultural workers and other sections of the people, was declared open on 9th March 2014. This memorial will be turned into a venue for training cadres of class oriented organisations and will be maintained as a symbol of worker-peasant unity, ever commemorating the selfless sacrifice of the martyrs who laid down their lives in the struggle against feudal oppression

17. Tripura

The 13th state conference of CITU was held in Dharmanagar town on 1-3 September. A massive public meeting of workers was organised on the occasion on 1st September. 537 delegates, including 137 women, attended the conference. 41 delegates including 14 women participated in the discussion on the general secretary's report after which it was unanimously adopted. 101 member general council including 10 women was unanimously elected with Manik Dey as president, Pijush Nag as working president and Sankar Datta as general secretary.

More than 350 working women from different sectors including ASHAs, mid day meal workers, anganwadi employees, handloom weavers, daily wage workers, tailoring workers, handicraft workers, ayas, government employees, teachers etc participated in a meeting organised by the state coordination committee of working women in Agartala on 21st November 2013.

Dharnas were held in front of the All India Radio in Agartala and in front of the offices of the central government in the sub divisions on 26th and 27th November on the demands of the scheme workers including ASHAs, anganwadi employees and mid day meal workers.

The CITU state council met on 4-5 May which discussed the role to be played by the working class in the ensuing panchayat elections and also took up agitational programmes on the demands of pump operators, rickshaw pullers, on EPF, pension etc. A massive public meeting was held on the occasion.

Rallies of scheme workers were held in different parts of the state and in Agartala on 20th February 2014 demanding Rs 10000 as minimum wage, social security benefits, regularisation, and stop to privatisation and also violence against women. In Agartala a massive procession was held which culminated in a public meeting. CITU committees and the committees of the respective unions led the demonstrations.

18. Uttar Pradesh

A demonstration of anganwadi employees was held on 1st October 2013 in front of the district magistrate's office in Moradabad at the call of the union to protest against privatisation of ICDS and handing over the job of cooking food to NGOs. Around 1000 anganwadi employees participated. Protest demonstrations were also held in Gonda, Bareilly and other places.

CITU along with AIDWA and DYFI joined the dharna and fast for communal amity, peace and national integration on 2nd October in Kanpur.

The Uttar Pradesh Chini Mill Mazdoor Sangharsh Samiti comprising CITU, HMS, BMS, INTUC, NFITU and AITUC organised a joint March to the state assembly on 11th November on the 27 point charter of demands of sugar mill workers. Thousands of sugar mills workers representing 102 sugar mills in the state from 21 districts participated. The charter of demands was submitted to the principal secretary of labour of the state government by a six member delegation which demanded immediate reopening of Basti Sugar mill. This was preceded by joint dharna/ demonstrations in front of the sugar mills gates on 7th October and in front of the regional labour commissioners' offices on 22nd October.

Through efforts of the IEF Employees' Union (CITU) which is the only union in Duncan Fertilisers of Kanpur, 1250 workers, 350 working and 900 retired were paid the salary arrears for the period from 2006 to 2013, when the factory remained closed. The company resumed production in 2013.

Kanpur district committee of CITU organised a condolence meeting on 12th January to pay homage to Comrade Daulat Ram, the former general secretary of the CITU state committee.

19. Uttarakhand

Around 2 lakhs state government employees in its 57 departments went on a state wide indefinite strike on 17th October on their specific demands.

CITU local committee made the necessary arrangements for the stay of the West Bengal coordination committee of central government employees who came to distribute relief material for the victims of the floods in Rudraprayag.

20. West Bengal

The attacks and intimidation of CITU cadres and members in West Bengal by the TMC led goons and antisocial elements has been continuing and have escalated since last October 2013, in the run up to the election campaign and even after declaration of election results. Many of our comrades and our supporters were killed and thousands are ousted from their areas of work and residence. Several hundreds of our comrades and activists have been implicated in false cases and many of them have been jailed for months together having been booked on non-bailable cases. The Police authority has been actively patronising such attacks shamelessly.

However in the midst of such physical attacks including murders the state committee has been seriously trying to take up the various issues of workers in different sectors.

The port and dock workers under the leadership of CITU held a day long demonstration in front of the Port and Dock office in Kolkata on 4th September on the demand to 'Save Kolkata and Haldia Dock systems'. Around 700 workers participated.

The handloom workers of Nadia district achieved 16% increase in their wages after prolong struggle. Around 7000 workers, half of whom are women, would be benefited out of this agreement reached between the employers and CITU's Nadia district committee.

A state level convention of working women was organised in Kolkata on 9th September 2013. 220 working women from different sectors including ICDS, Asha, electricity, beedi, bank, insurance, municipal health, coal, plantation and others participated. The convention elected a 71 members state committee with Gargi Chatterjee as convener and Ratna Dutta and Chhobi Ghatak as joint conveners. A Sramojibi Mahila Mancha was newly constituted in the convention

The convention decided to organise a massive rally on 24 September at Rani Rasmoni Road in Kolkata in protest against ruthless attacks on women's jobs, income and security; against sexual harassment at work places; and for equal wage. Around 6000 working women from 16 districts participated in the rally. They represented working women from different sectors like ICDS, Asha, Mid-Day-Meal, para teachers, municipality health service, hawkers, construction, hospitals & nursing homes, beedi, jori, domestic help, port, electric supply, Kolkata municipal corporation, and the leaders from state government, bank, BSNL employees etc.

The Federation of West Bengal Beedi and Tobacco Workers' Unions (CITU) led a successful strike on the demands of beedi workers including minimum wages on 26th September. Beedi workers in several districts including Murshidabad, Malda, Uttar Dinajpur, Purulia, Birbhum and Bankura participated in the strike while a 'Demands' Day' was observed in the other districts. The beedi manufacturers held negotiations with the unions and raised the wage to Rs 100 per thousand beedis. In Nadia it was raised to Rs.120 / one thousand.

Joint Action Committee of Beedi Workers, West Bengal (JACBW) of the central trade unions (CTUs) organised dharna in Kolkata on 1st October. Despite inclement weather more than 5000 beedi workers participated in the dharna and public meeting. A delegation of all the central trade union leaders met the Governor and submitted memorandum on the issues of the beedi workers.

CITU mobilised large numbers of workers for the rally against Imperialist aggression held in Kolkata and Siliguri on 1st September. Hindustan Steel Employees' Union in Durgapur organised anti-war, anti-imperialism peace rally on 1st September in which around 3000 school children, women, youths, workers and others participated.

A three member team of West Bengal coordination committee of central government employees distributed relief materials on 27th October to the victims of the devastating floods in Uttarakhand. 300 packets consisting of rice, atta, cooking oil, sugar, and warm clothing etc worth over Rs 5 lakhs were distributed

Farakka Super Thermal Power Station Workers' Union affiliated to CITU won the elections to become the sole bargaining agent of the workers, securing more than 55% votes of the workers in NTPC, Farakka in West Bengal. This election was significant as the general secretary of the union could not function openly and was prevented from entering Farakka under Congress-police attack and false case for his arrest.

Workers affiliated to BSNL Casual Mazdoor Union, West Bengal circle, Kolkata Telecom Contract Workers Union and workers from telecom factory participated in a huge rally in Kolkata on 25th November demanding equal wage for equal work, payment of regular wage, social security and regularisation of contract workers. A deputation met the state chief labour commissioner and submitted a memorandum on violation of labour laws by the management.

A meeting to pay condolence to Comrade Kali Ghosh, former general secretary of West Bengal state committee of CITU and its national office bearer and Comrade Mrinal Das, former office bearer of the state committee of CITU was organised in Kolkata on 9th January 2014.

West Bengal state committee of CITU gave shelter to the family of a minor girl who was abducted, gang raped and later set on fire by the culprits. The girl was the daughter of a taxi driver who is a member of CITU affiliated union. This incident caused serious outrage all over the country. Demonstrations were organised all over the country condemning the ghastly incident.

A state convention of cement workers' unions was held in Raniganj on 23rd February 2014. 95 delegates from 25 small, medium and large cement plants in Burdwan, Bankura, Purulia, West Medinipur, Birbhum, Murshidabad and Howrah districts in West Bengal attended. The West Bengal Cement Workers' Federation was constituted in the convention with Abul Hasnat Khan as president, Nikhil Mukherjee as working president, Nishit Chowdhury as general secretary and Haradhan Sain as the treasurer.

In West Bengal all the Central Trade Unions held joint convention against closure of industries and that was followed by joint procession by all trade unions.

Jyoti Basu birth centenary was celebrated at state and district levels through a series of organisational, social and cultural activities. A book was published by the state committee of CITU with articles from important political and trade union leaders.

May Day was observed throughout the state in different ways in different places. The traditional joint mass trade union rally was organised in Shahid Minar in Kolkata. Special issue of Shramik Andolan was published on the occasion.

The Foundation Day of CITU was celebrated at the state centre, in all the district headquarters and industrial hubs through flag hoisting, mass rallies, blood donation camps and other social activities.

Most of the CITU organisers and members participated in the election campaign. 30000 posters, 70000 joint appeals to all the trade unions, 2000 booklets on talking points, 50000 bulletins, 1 lakh brochures on Madhyamgram rape and murder case of a taxi driver's daughter were published. In addition 25 lakhs leaflets by the district committees and industrial federations, 2 lakhs coloured folders, 1 lakh posters 15000 flex hoardings, and 50000 stickers were issued. 2500 wall writing, 1000 processions, 10000 workers group meetings and general body meetings were conducted.

The CITU state committee has seriously taken up organisation of ILO sponsored meetings on Core Labour Standards for construction workers. State and district level conventions were held on the issues of contract workers.

The ICDS and Paura Swastha Karmi Union have taken up agitation programmes against the state government's decision to retire them without any compensation. Conventions of unorganised sector workers were held at the district level.

A programme was taken up to improve the standard of the CITU state committee's monthly journal 'Shramik Andolan'.

The state committee is making efforts to develop joint movement with all the central trade unions. A state level convention was held on 3rd June demanding state government's intervention to open all the closed industrial units in the state. A mammoth rally was organised on the same demand on 11th June in which all the central trade unions including AITUTU participated.

The meeting of the state general council of CITU held on 11 – 12 June 2014 self critically reviewed the election results. It emphasised the need to develop joint struggles and isolate those who try to divert the workers from the path of class struggles. It was decided to strengthen united movements on the demands of opening closed industrial units and revamping of sick units and also on the demand of revitalising the public sector units in the state.

The state council resolved to expel Lakshman Seth from all elected posts in CITU on the grounds of serious breach of CITU policy and organisational discipline.

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 31st MARCH 2013

AUDITORS' REPORT

We have examined the Balance Sheet of Centre of Indian Trade Unions as at 31 st March, 2013 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 31.03.2013 and
2. In the case of the income and expenditure account, of the excess of income over expenditure for the year ending 31-03-2013

CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH, 2013

LIABILITIES	RUPEES	RUPEES		ASSETS	RUPEES	RUPEES
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>				<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>		2,282,527
Opening Balance	30,942,085			(As per Schedule attached)		
Add: Excess of Income	2,502,041	33,444,126				
Expenditure Account				<u>INVESTMENTS</u>		
				Fixed Deposits with Banks		41,000,000
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES & PROVISIONS</u>				<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
a) Current Liabilities				<u>LOANS AND ADVANCES</u>		
Audit Fee Paable	83,754			a) Current Assets		
<u>SPECIAL FUND</u>				Balance with Banks	6,885,640	
Tsunami Victim Relief Fund	3,984,812			Cash in hand	23,464	
Com.P.R.Fund	18,053,576			Bank Gurantee	12,114	6,921,218
ASHA Workers Fund	42,460			b) Loans & advances		
Mid Day Meal Fund	24,764			(Advances recoverable in		6,237,751
Bihar Flood Relief Fund	66,550			cash or kind for which value		
Staff Payable Welfare Fund	122,500			to be received.)		
Int.Coal Mines Workers Fund	618,954					
		22,997,370				
		56,441,496				56,441,496

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 : 24/09/2013

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

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH, 2013

EXPENDITURE	RUPEES	RUPEES	INCOME	RUPEES	RUPEES
Communication Exp.		124,917	Sale of Magazines		615,972
Magazine Expenses		1,158,408	Publication A/c		24,542
Meeting, Rally, & Seminar Expenses		1,522,861	Affiliation Fee		5,820,010
Misc. Exp.		24,584	Bank Interest		2,741,727
Travelling & Conveyance Exp.		343,429	Donation		306,357
Vehical Expenses		127,664	Misc. Receipts		5,485
14th Conference Exp.		42,789	Interest on FDR		639,809
Gzb. Flats Developments Exp.		437,750	Mahapadav Nov-12 Receipts		471,925
Bank Charges		3,987	WFTU		134,335
Building Maintenance		48,663			
Electricity & Water Expenses		632,518			
Com. P. Rammuty T.U. School Exp.		21,000			
Education Allowance		19,500			
Kamkaji Mahila Binding		2,425			
Kamkaji Mahila Misc. Exp.		30			
Kamkaji Mahila Postage Exp.		8,438			
Kamkaji Mahila Printing Exp.		35,640			
Medical Exp.		172,369			
NP, Period & Books Exp.		19,278			
Office Upkeep Expenses		16,139			
Publication Expenses		49,453			
Relief & Subsidy		47,000			
Rent, Rate & Tax		16,125			
Repair & Maintenance-Elec.		5,716			
Service & Maintenance		100,312			
Staff Welfare Fund		7,200			
Stationery & Printing		143,594			
Audit Fees		28,090			
WFTU Affiliation Fees		126,900			
Depreciation		148,553			
Tea & Tiffin Exp.		54,553			
Wages & Allowances		1,718,000			
Bad Debt		985,436			
Excess of Income over Expenditure tfd. to		2,502,041			
Balance Sheet					
		10,695,362			10,760,162

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 : 27/09/2013

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, 2013

RECEIPTS	RUPEES	RUPEES		PAYMENTS	RUPEES	RUPEES
OPENING BALANCE				Communication Exp.		124,917
Cash in hand	98,908			Magazine Exp.		1,158,408
Cash at Banks	7,447,916	7,546,824		Meeting, Rally & Seminar Exp.		1,522,861
Sale of Magazines		615,972		Misc. Exp.		24,584
Publication A/c		24,542		Travelling & Conveyance Exp.		343,429
Affiliation Fee		5,820,010		Vehicles Exp.		127,664
Bank Interest		2,741,727		14th Conference Exp.		42,789
Donation		306,357		Gzb. Flats Development Exp.		437,750
Miscellaneous Receipts		5,485		Bank Charges		3,987
Interest on FDR		639,809		Building Repair & Maintenance		48,663
Mahapadav Nov-12 Receipts		471,925		Electricity & Water Exp.		632,518
WFTU		134,335		Com. P. Rammuty T.U. School Exp.		21,000
FDRs		11,000,000		Education Allowance		19,500
Com. P. R. Fund		1,610,847		Kamkaji Mahila Binding		2,425
ASHA Workers Fund		19,000		Kamkaji Mahila Misc. Exp.		30
Mid Day Meal Workers Fund		10,964		Kamkaji Mahila Postage Exp.		8,438
Other Loan and Advances		121,193		Kamkaji Mahila Printing Exp.		35,640
				Medical Expenses		172,369
				NP, Period. & Books Exp.		19,278
				Office Upkeep Expenses		16,139
				Publication Expenses		49,453
				Relief & Subsidy		47,000
				Rent, Rate & Tax		16,125
				Repair & Maintenance-Electrical		5,716
				Service & Maintenance		100,312
				Staff Welfare Fund		72,000
				Stationery & Printing		143,594
				WFTU Affiliation Fees		126,900
				Tea & Tiffin		54,553
				Wages & Allowances		1,718,000
				Fixed Assets		118,408
				Investment		16,000,000
				Bad Debts		945,436
				CLOSING BALANCE		
				Cash in hand	23,464.00	
				Cash at Banks	6,885,640.00	6,909,104
		31,068,990				31,068,990

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 : 24/09/2013

AUDITORS' REPORT

As per our report of even date attached.

For B.M. SHARMA & ASSOCIATES CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Sd/-
(B. M. SHARMA)

Partner

STATEMENT SHOWING STATEWISE MEMBERSHIP AS PER ANNUAL RETURNS RECEIVED TILL 01/07/2014

State	Unions Submitting Returns			Position of membership according to Annual Returns					
	2011	2012	2013	2011	Female	2012	Female	2013	Female
Andaman & Nicobar	9	0	0	3443	183	0	0	0	0
Andhra Pradesh	702	637	0	665459	207548	522217	188220	0	0
Assam	82	75	1	106731	54298	106996	61534	1029	0
Bihar	22	7	1	48357	17365	27230	16204	8132	52
Delhi	77	68	4	60315	6757	42513	1906	168	14
Goa	6	0	0	443	3	0	0	0	0
Gujarat	24	0	0	24974	10172	0	0	0	0
Himachal Pradesh	55	49	10	44019	23413	41965	21161	36156	20381
Haryana	49	34	14	106569	36269	99106	36680	87004	26256
Jammu & Kashmir	8	7	1	7102	767	6296	438	1300	0
Karnataka	154	137	43	229227	110972	223548	123666	29095	7286
Kerala	851	825	281	1512781	529378	1547994	533217	571675	209567
Madhya Pradesh	91	48	0	57226	24492	39179	22702	0	0
Maharashtra	133	95	11	154513	78085	133913	65483	11382	4714
Orissa	81	53	5	174557	62726	57646	8427	620	135
Punjab	69	42	16	135511	40802	109893	27730	98460	31416
Rajasthan	108	81	35	58259	3947	42181	2129	14213	671
Tamilnadu	606	598	187	547308	154320	522172	153381	166219	49568
Tripura	39	38	0	197204	76311	203848	76965	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	85	50	0	30235	960	19194	527	0	0
West Bengal	1195	1015	434	1423132	354796	1182310	310582	650898	228180
Uttarakhand	42	36	31	45703	13618	37006	8857	29497	7207
Chhatisgarh	14	7	1	21274	3471	17027	1103	12712	395
Jharkhand	27	13	0	146304	40529	122689	38560	0	0
Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	4529	3915	1075	5800646	1851182	5104923	1699472	1718560	585842

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)			
1995	3523	2784050(358188)			
1996	3645	2805127(435285)			
1997	3804	2917200(506097)			
1998	3502	2881478(483373)			
1999	3929	3296808(550583)			

State-wise Circulation of CITU Journals
AS ON July 2014

States	The Working Class		CITU Mazdoor		The Voice of the Working Woman	Kamkaji Mahila
	Affiliation 2012	Jul-14	Affiliation 2012	Jan-14	Jul-14	Apr-Jun 2014
Andaman	0	9	0			
Andhra Pradesh	637	881	637	1	440	
Arunachal						
Assam	75	116	75	14	33	
Bihar	7	4	7	55	6	
Chhatisgarh	7	20	7	448		110
Delhi	68	77	68	145	108	100
Goa		7				
Gujarat		1		24	1	
Haryana	34	2	34	234	3	1
Himachal Pradesh	49	2	49	353	1	
Jammu & Kashmir	7	6	7	54	1	
Jharkhand	13	3	13	84	2	5
Kerala	825	926	825		873	
Karnataka	137	274	137		77	10
Sikkim						
Maharashtra	95	72	95	164	41	151
Madhya Pradesh	48	12	48	391	1	200
Manipur						
Meghalaya		1				
Mizoram						
Nagaland						
Orissa	53	159	53	6	1	
Punjab	42	5	42	82	4	785
Puducherry					2	
Rajasthan	68	5	68	210		
Sikkim						
Tamilnadu	505	687	505		754	
Tripura	38	44	38		140	
Uttar Pradesh	50	24	50	480	4	10
Uttarakhand	36	1	36	100		
West Bengal	1015	1473	1015	364	140	
TOTAL	3809	4811	3809	3209	2632	*1372

* In addition to this around 500 copies are taken by Haryana and MP Anganwadi and Asha unions regularly and paid issue by issue

Centre of Indian Trade Unions
State wise quota and Participation in the 'March to Parliament'
12-Dec-13

SI No	Name of the state	Participation on 23-Feb-11	Quota for 12-Dec-13	Participation on 12-Dec-13
1	AP	1500	4000	1500
2	Assam	550	1000	840
3	Bihar	3000	5000	1700
4	Chattisgarh	513	2000	555
5	Delhi	4900	10000	6308
6	Gujarat	1600	1000	1100
7	Haryana	12547	15000	10000
8	HP	1000	1000	603
9	J & K	0	300	20
10	Jharkhand	1000	7000	1200
11	Karnataka	2597	5000	500
12	Kerala	1500	2500	2500
13	MP	5160	15000	5600
14	Maharashtra	8650	6000	7000
15	Odisha	3500	10000	1400
16	Punjab	15000	25000	20000
17	Rajasthan	4500	10000	3000
18	Tamil Nadu	4000	3000	1800
19	Tripura	47	500	70
20	UP	3305	5000	2813
22	Uttarakhand	1065	500	1300
23	West Bengal	2000	2500	2800
		77934	131300	72609

Mobilisation of Fraternal Unions

AIIEA	2000
BEFI	465
State Govt employees	8000
Central Government Employees	4300 +
BSNL	1100
Total	15,865

CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

General Council Meeting

11 - 14 July 2014

Bellary, Karnataka

CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION

Com R Umanath

The general council meeting of CITU being held at Bellary, Karnataka on 11-14 July 2014 pays respectful homage to Com R Umanath, veteran freedom fighter, a stalwart of the working class and communist movement who passed away on 21 May 2014.

Com Umanath was a life long revolutionary in his more than seven decades of political and public life. He was a frontline organiser and leader of numerous struggles braving atrocities and attacks by the British rulers as well as the rulers of independent India. He was imprisoned for nine and half years in jail and spent underground life for seven years.

Com Umanath was one of the founders of CITU. He led the CITU as the general secretary and president of its Tamil Nadu state committee and as its national vice-president during 1987-2010. He always insisted on inculcating revolutionary consciousness among the workers and trade union activists and contributed in formulating its organisational document popularly known as the Bhubaneswar Document.

Com Umanath was a member of CPI (M)'s central committee since 1978 and a member of its Polit Bureau during 1991-2012. He was elected to the Lok Sabha in 1962 and 1967 and to the Tamil Nadu state legislature in 1977 and 1980.

Com KL Bajaj

The general council meeting of CITU pays its respectful homage to the veteran trade union leader and CITU's all India vice president Comrade KL Bajaj who passed away on 18 April 2014. He was 79. Com Bajaj served CITU as general secretary and later president of its Maharashtra state committee. He played a very important role in developing the joint trade union movement in the state.

Com Kali Ghosh

The general council meeting of CITU expresses its profound grief on the demise of Comrade Kali Ghosh, veteran leader of CITU, on 28 December 2013. He was 83. Com Kali Ghosh became a full time trade union activist in his early days and began organising various sections of workers in West Bengal, and led many struggles of workers.

He had authoritative knowledge in laws. He had written many books on issues related to labour including on labour laws. He functioned as the general secretary of West Bengal state committee of CITU from 2003 to 2012 and continued as one of its secretaries thereafter. He functioned as one of the national secretaries of CITU for almost two decades and continued in its national working committee till the end.

Com Mrinal Das

The general council meeting of CITU pays respectful homage to the sudden demise of Comrade Mrinal Das, national working committee member of CITU and one of the secretaries of its West

Bengal state committee, on 4 January 2014 due to heart attack. He was 66. Comrade Mrinal Das joined the student movement in his early days and later he joined trade union movement. He devoted himself to organising the unorganised sector workers and led many of their struggles. He wrote many booklets for organisers of the unorganised sector.

Com Daulat Ram

This general council meeting of CITU expresses its shock and grief at the sudden demise of Comrade Daulat Ram, an outstanding working class leader of Uttar Pradesh, on 1 January 2014. He was 67. It pays respectful homage to his memory. Son of a textile worker, Com Daulat Ram was groomed in the atmosphere of bitter struggles of textile workers in Kanpur and started working among students and youth while being closely associated with the workers' movement in Kanpur.

He played an important role in organising the glass-bangle workers in Firozabad, leading militant struggles braving atrocities by the police and employers' goons. Comrade Daulat Ram was general secretary of Uttar Pradesh state committee of CITU and a member of its national working committee for many years.

The general council meeting of CITU pays respectful homage to Com Wager-UI-Wahad, vice president of Rajasthan state committee of CITU who passed away on 8th November 2013.

The general council meeting of CITU pays respectful homage to Com Suman Sanzgiri, Vice President of Maharashtra state committee of CITU who died on 7th Jan 2014.

The general council meeting of CITU pays respectful homage to Com Haridas Malakar who passed away on 22nd March 2014. He was a working committee member of CITU for decades and a secretariat member of West Bengal state committee of CITU.

The general council meeting of CITU pays respectful homage to Com Amitava Basu, a senior leader of the Left and Democratic movement in West Bengal.

The general council meeting of CITU pays respectful homage to Comrade Barada Bhattacharya, a veteran leader of the central government employees' movement in the country, who passed away on 13th May 2014.

The general council meeting of CITU pays respectful homage to all the leaders, cadres and activists of CITU and CPI (M) leaders who were killed in violent attacks by Trinamool goons during and after the general elections of 2014.

The general council meeting of CITU pays respectful homage to Com Umraomal Purohit, former general secretary of HMS and a veteran leader of the trade union movement in the country, who died on 27th February 2014.

The general council meeting of CITU pays respectful homage to Com Parvati Krishnan, one of the senior most leaders of AITUC who died on 20th February 2014.

This meeting of the general council of CITU pays respectful homage to Com SS Theagarajan, national vice president of AITUC and a senior trade union leader of Tamilnadu who died on 23 November 2013.

The general council meeting of CITU pays its respectful homage to Com Dr Shanti Patel who passed away on 13 June 2014 at the age of 93. He was a leader of HMS and also one of the senior most trade union leaders of the country. He played an important role in building united movement of the port and dock workers.

This meeting of the general council of CITU pays its respectful homage to Com Shyamali Gupta, a leader of the women's movement. She led the All India Democratic Women's Association as its general secretary and later as president.

The general council meeting of CITU pays respectful homage to Sushmita Bandopadhyay, a Bengali writer who was killed at Paktika in Afghanistan by Haqqani network on 12th September 2013.

The General Council meeting of CITU pays respectful homage to Dr Narendra Dabholkar, a rationalist campaigner, political activist, social-reformer and editor of *Sadhana*, a popular Marathi weekly.

The general council meeting of CITU mourns the death of people who died in the Phailin cyclone in Odisha in October 2013 and the death of the 31 people who were killed by Bodo extremists in Kokrajhar on 2nd May 2014.

The general council meeting of CITU expresses shock and grief at the death of 19 people in Nagaram village of East Godavari district in Andhra Pradesh who perished when an underground gas pipeline of GAIL leaked and caught fire on 27th June 2014.

The general council meeting of CITU also expresses its anguish and serious concern at the death of hundreds of workers who die in industrial and work place accidents every day in different parts of the country and the world. It pays homage to the memory of all of them.

INTERNATIONAL

Tribute to Nelson Mandela

This meeting of the general council of CITU pays its respectful homage to Nelson Mandela, icon of the struggle against apartheid and former President of South Africa, who passed away on 5 December 2013 at the age of 95. He was one of the most respected and loved figures of the 20th century and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993.

This general council meeting of CITU pays respectful homage to Com Bob Crow, who was elected member of the Presidential Council of WFTU, who passed away on 11th March 2014. He was a militant leader of the Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers (RMT) Union of England.

The general council meeting of CITU pays respectful homage to Gabriel Garcia Marquez, a Nobel Prize winner who died on 17 April 2014. He was not only one of the world's best novelist and writer but also a revolutionary. He was exiled from his country, Columbia several times for his political convictions and was denied US visa for his criticism of US military interventions in different countries including Vietnam and Chile. He was also an unflinching supporter of the Cuban revolution.

The general council meeting of CITU pays respectful homage to Dr Maya Angelou, the celebrated poet, writer, singer and actress who died on 28 May 2014. She was a fierce civil rights' activist and an international feminist of the Black Left.

On Martyrs

The general council of CITU salutes all the martyrs who had sacrificed their lives in defence of democracy, Left ideology and people's rights. It expresses solidarity with the fighting comrades all over the world.

We salute the numerous cadres and supporters of the Left parties in West Bengal who embraced martyrdom braving the brutal attacks of the TMC goon with the active support of the police and the state administration in the run-up to the elections to the Sixteenth Lok Sabha that continue unabated even now.

This general council meeting of CITU pays its respectful homage to all the leaders, cadres and activists of the working class and democratic movement who have laid down their lives facing police atrocities or murderous attacks by reactionary forces in different parts of the country and all over the world. They will continue to be a constant source of inspiration for the CITU and the working class in their struggle against exploitation and for the cause of the people.

CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

General Council Meeting

11 - 14 July 2014

Bellary, Karnataka

NAME OF THE STATE	Time allocated (In Minutes)
Andaman & Nicobar	10
Andhra Pradesh	25
Assam	20
Bihar	20
Chhattisgarh	20
Delhi	20
Goa	10
Gujarat	10
Jammu & Kashmir	10
Jharkhand	20
Haryana	20
Himachal Pradesh	20
Karnataka	30
Kerala	50
Madhya Pradesh	20
Maharashtra	20
Manipur	10
Orissa	20
Punjab	20
Rajasthan	20
Tamil Nadu	40
Telengana	25
Tripura	30
Uttar Pradesh	20
Uttarakhand	20
West Bengal	60
Industrial Federations/co ordination committees*	150
CITU Centre	15
Total	765

*(Anganwadi, Beedi, Coal, Construction, Electricity, Fisheries, LIC Agents, Oil, Plantation, Road Transport, Steel, Water Transport, Mid Day Meal, ASHA, Working Women)