



ALL INDIA BANK EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

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TO ALL OUR UNIONS & MEMBERS:

Dear Comrades,

Against
Central Government's continued anti-worker attitude
Central Trade Unions call for
Protest Day on 3rd July
&
Non-Cooperation and defiance for 6 months

Units are aware that in the face of Central Government's continued anti-worker attitude and many State Governments also subverting the labour laws, Central Trade Unions gave the call for All India Protest Day on 22nd May, 2020 and this programme was observed enthusiastically by the working class. AIBEA also gave the supportive programme of Black Badge Wearing and all our units have implemented the same.

Since there was no step or initiative from the Government to discuss and find amicable solutions to the problems faced by the workers in the present situation and rescind their anti-worker labour reforms, a meeting of the Central Trade Unions was held on 3rd June, 2020 and the meeting came to the inescapable conclusion that our protests have to be continued and carried forward with larger mobilization and participation.

The meeting decided and accordingly gave the call for All India Day Protest Day on 3rd July, 2020 and Non-cooperation movement from 3rd July for 6 months.

We furnish herein the text of the Declaration adopted in the meeting for the information of our unions and members.

It will be observed that Government continues to ignore the genuine demands of the workers and trade unions but at the same time, concessions and comforts are given to the Corporates. Government, both at the Centre and in many of the States are also trying to push through the anti-worker labour reforms. Hence broader, united and intensified resistance against these measures is the need of the hour. We welcome the approach of Central Trade Unions and fully endorse the same.

Yours comradely,

C.H. VENKATACHALAM
GENERAL SECRETARY

Central Trade Unions call for 3rd July as Nation Wide Protest

The Central Trade Unions (CTUs) in their meeting on 3rd June 2020 congratulated the workers for responding enthusiastically to the nation-wide protest call demanding immediate halt to changes in labour laws, abrogating the rights won over after a struggle of 150 years among other demands. The meeting took, serious note of the continuous aggressive attack on the workers' rights ignoring all the representations to the Government on the matter including the nationwide protest on 22nd May 2020.

The Government not only failed in getting its own advisories implemented in regard to payment of wages to workers, no retrenchments to be carried during lockdown period, rather withdrew its own decision in face of the case in Supreme Court by the employers of some companies.

The Government did not heed to the demand of cash transfer of Rs. 7,500/- to all non-income tax paying households including unorganized labour (registered or unregistered) for the months of April, May, June, neither the demand for Government support to pay the wages of workers of MSMEs for these three months. The ration to all working people for at least six months to be made available universally also did not find favour with the Government. Neither our demand for workers safe journey home paid attention to.

The Supreme Court had to take cognizance finally asking the Governments of Centre and States not to demand passenger fares from workers, give them proper shelter and food till they are transported to their homes. Nineteen High Courts had taken cognizance of workers, frontline fighters and hospital services etc during this period.

We re-iterate that the Central Government chose the cover of COVID-19 to pursue its agenda of disinvestment and privatisation of Public Sector Enterprises, 100 percent FDI in core sector, steps in favour Corporates of Indian & Foreign brands to usurp natural resources and business of the country while camouflaging the slogan of Aatam-Nirbhar Bharat.

The earlier decisions and those taken during COVID-19 on Defense, Coal, Space science, Atomic energy, Insurance, Banks are being pursued with vigour. The decision of DA freeze of 48 lakh Central Government Employees and DR freeze of 68 lakh pensioners is not withdrawn despite vehement opposition from Government employees and CTUs.

In this back ground various sections are now in agitation mode. While welcoming the sectoral struggles which are developing CTUs support the programmes taken up by Defense federations and those in the coal sector.

The scheme workers, ASHA, Anganwadi, MDM who are in the front ranks among the front fighters working at the community level are agitated for their demands for safety measures not being addressed appropriately and neither they are provided proper health care on falling sick from COVID-19 infection, nor the social security coverage being extended to the families who are succumbing to the disease Doctor.

Similarly Doctors, Nurses, Safai Karamcharis, have been in the protests now & then in various parts of the country on similar demands. The CTUs support all these agitations on their just demands.

We re-iterate that the so-called 20 lakh crore package of the Government is mainly the loan guarantee to various sectors and it is only between 1 to 1.5 percent of GDP, the actual on the ground. Even there the earlier announced budgetary allocations and welfare schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi, Construction Workers Welfare Board and District Mineral Funds etc are substantial part of this actual package.

The workers who have reached back to their villages would need work, so there is dire need of additional amount to cover these workers also along with the existing needs of rural labours. But the sum announced was paltry in face of demand at the ground level.

Now with the opening up of some industrial units the complaints are that all workers are not being taken back, a small percentage is finding their place back in jobs and that also on reduced wages.

The jobless are more than 12 crore and if we add the daily wagers/ contract/casual, it is more than 24 crores who are out of livelihood at present. The MSMEs themselves reporting that 30% to 35% units may not be in position to start their activities. The unemployment rate is already reached 27%.

ILO has said in its report that 40 crore people would be more poor. Accounting to some scientists & medical experts, that India is faced with stark reality, that malnutrition would increase, that hunger deaths would become reality, that there is real threat of depression resulting in suicides amongst workers.

Modi Government has wrongly dealt with the problem of COVID 19 as law & order issue instead of treating it medical emergency. It has caused immense miseries to millions of workers, farmers and other vulnerable sections of the society. Whereas Government firmly stood with the Corporates & big business.

A Government which has scant regard to the workers' right does not deserve to be co-operated.

We the workers / employees and trade unions need to do everything possible to be in solidarity with each other, unitedly face the disease taking all precautions necessary, stand with each other to defend our rights of unionization, collective bargaining, decent working condition, wages & future securities etc.

Government has not co-operated with the vast majority of our masses, in dire need in the crises which was not of their own making. It has defied its constitutional obligations.

Hence we the trade unions in this back ground decide to **observe 3rd July 2020**, another **Nationwide protest by the workers and employees** of formal & informal economy, maintaining & observing health advisories for COVID-19.

In preparations of the nationwide protest, to generate awareness about the changes being made in labour laws, the **State level joint meeting / seminars / conventions** may be held.

We ask the Government to immediately hold Indian Labour Conference to dwell upon the issues of job losses, wages, job security, the migrant workers their journey to home and return journey to those who desire to join back their work.

We declare that if nothing tangible is done on our demands then from 3rd July 2020 - the Nationwide protest Day, we would be in Non co-operation and defiance of this Anti-workers, anti-farmer, anti-people and Anti national Government for six months.

INTUC AITUC HMS CITU AIUTUC TUCC SEWA AICCTU LPF UTUC

Together with the Federations and Associations of various sectors