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Cir. No. 19 / 2017

31st October, 2017

To

All the Zonal/Divisional/Regional/State Units,

Dear Comrades,

MARCH ON TO "MAHAPADAV" at New Delhi- NOVEMBER 9-11, 2017

The Joint National Convention of Central Trade Unions and Industrial Federations, held on August 8, 2017 in Delhi gave a historic call for a massive "Mahapadav" (sit-in Dharna) near Parliament from November 9-11, 2017.

The Mahapadav is a massive resistance by the workers to the onslaughts on their life and living conditions, on their basic rights at the workplace, on their fundamental right for a decent and dignified life.

The BJP government's aggressive implementation of neo-liberal economic policies have created huge income inequalities in the society. It is on record that the richest 1% own nearly 58% of nation's wealth while nearly 87% of the wage earners earn less than Rs.20,000/- per month. Around 85% of the workers are in the unorganized sector that generates nearly 60% of the GDP. These workers are deprived of welfare schemes. The rising unemployment is a cause of worry for the educated youth. There is a decline of nearly 89% in direct government jobs. The Modi government promised 2 crore jobs per annum while in the reality there is decline in jobs. Around 25% of the people are still below poverty line with earnings of less than \$2 per day.

The Congress government initiated the neo-liberal economic policies followed by successive governments and presently the policies are implemented with bullet speed by the Modi led government. This is the reflection of the desperation of the big Corporates, to protect their profits by increasing exploitation of workers and toiling masses using the ruling classes.

Every single promise of the BJP government fell flat. The ill-conceived initiatives of demonetization and hurried implementation of GST have wreaked havoc in the lives of the workers, small and medium entrepreneurs and traders. The GST has led to increase in the taxes and rise in the prices of most of the commodities used by the common people including essential items like medicines.

The working class and the toiling people have to be vigilant against the machinations of the ruling classes and fight against the policies that are responsible for their miseries. It has to unite all its forces irrespective of caste, religion, region, gender etc., and defeat the anti-people and anti-national policies of this government.

The 10 major Central Trade Unions gave a 12-point of Charter of Demands which are outlined below:

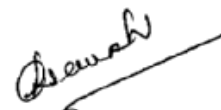
- Containing price rise through universalization of public distribution system and banning speculative trade in commodities;
- Containing unemployment through concrete measures for employment generation;
- Strict enforcement of labour laws and stringent punishments for violation of Labour Laws;
- Universal Social Security cover for all workers;
- Minimum wage of Rs.18,000/- per month with provisions of indexation;
- Stoppage of disinvestment and strategic sale in Central/State public sector undertakings;
- Against Labour Law Amendments;
- Against FDI in key sectors like – Insurance; Railways & Defence ;
- Removal of ceiling on PF; Bonus; Gratuity etc.;
- Ratifications of ILO conventions C-87 & C-98 ; (Right to organize and collective bargaining)
- Assured Pension to all workers;
- Stop contractorisation of works of permanent nature.

The AIIEA being the partner in the joint convention held at Delhi endorsed the above 12-point Charter of Demands. Therefore, AIIEA calls upon all its units to organize lunch hour demonstrations on 9th November, 2017 the day of commencement of Mahapadav at New Delhi. We are also happy to inform that some of our units from Northern Zone and North Central Zone will participate in the Mahapadav.

The November 9-11 'Mahapadav' should be a milestone in the history of the joint trade union movement of the country; and a milestone in the struggle towards freedom from all exploitation.

With greetings,

Comradely yours,



General Secretary.