



# **WFTU**

## **ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL OFFICE**

**(World Federation of Trade Unions)**

C/o : AITUC Bhawan, 35-36, D.D.U. Marg, Rouse Avenue, New Delhi - 111 002.(India)  
● E-mail ID : c.srikumaraidef@gmail.com

**Pampis Kyritsis**  
General Secretary

**C.SRIKUMAR**  
Deputy General Secretary

WFTU/Asia Pacific Office/Circular/26/2023

Date : 24.07.2023

To,

**All the WFTU Affiliated Unions**

of Asia Pacific Region

**Forwarding of WFTU statement on Solidarity Campaign with People of Cuba**

WFTU Affiliates of Asia Pacific Region are reminded that they should observe 26<sup>th</sup> July in their Country as "Solidarity Day with the People of Cuba". In this regard the Statement issued by the WFTU Secretariat along with the poster is forwarded herewith for your information and publication in the respective countries. Photographs and videos from the Solidarity programmes may please be forwarded to WFTU Headquarters and Asia Pacific Regional Office through E-Mail.

**WFTU solidarity campaign with the people of Cuba**

18 Jul 2023

In accordance with the 2023 Presidential Council's unanimous decision the World Federation of Trade Unions is organizing a solidarity campaign with the people of Cuba, on the occasion of the 26th of July, the anniversary of the attack on the Moncada Barracks in Santiago de Cuba, spreading the strong internationalist message that Cuba is not alone.

The 26th of July marks the beginning of the revolutionary attempt to overthrow the dictator, Fulgencio Batista, which gave hope to workers all over the world and showed that the people can defeat the exploiters and can create a society free from exploitation. For decades now the Cuban people have been leading and remain a militant example in the struggle against imperialism.

On this day we commemorate the revolutionaries who fought to expel the enemies of the peoples, building for decades an ironclad proof that another society is possible. Their sacrifices should be always remembered and should light nowadays struggles of the working class all over the world against capitalist barbarity.

Decades have passed since the triumph of the Cuban revolution, and the people of Cuba are still fighting against imperialism and its interventions, blockades, and sanctions. The capitalists are raging against revolutionary Cuba which proves that the workers can fight and win them, proves that the working class can accomplish its historic cause and can build a human-centered society free of man-by-man exploitation. A society that, regardless of the sanctions and the embargos, sends help, solidarity, doctors, and medicines to other nations instead of troops and bombs. A society whose growth and development are serving people's needs and not multinationals' speculation. The heroic people of Cuba have overcome all adversities, difficulties, and attacks over the years and will continue to resist.

**OCF Workers Union, SM Banerjee Maaligai, OCF Road, Avadi, Chennai - 600 054. (India)**

● Mobile : +91 94441 80885 ● Whatsapp : +91 94210 81035

WFTU denounces the new unacceptable attack of the European Parliament against Cuba. The new resolution of the European Parliament escalates the EU's attempt to attack and undermine the achievements of the Cuban people, a people that for more than 6 decades has been suffering from the criminal blockade of the USA imperialism and its allies.

At the same time and while the class-oriented trade unions clearly and strongly condemn the murderous blockade, standing on the side of the Cuban people and expressing their unconditional support and solidarity, ITUC and ETUC although they hypocritically speak of human rights and freedoms, with their actions or silence, they are aligned in practice with the imperialist interventions of USA and EU against the unbowed Cuban people.

The WFTU and its millions of workers join their voices with Cuba, demanding an immediate and unconditional end to the embargo and the return of Guantanamo to the Cuban people. The international class-oriented trade union movement unequivocally condemns the current suffocating embargo and the interventionist maneuvers of the USA since the very beginning of the Cuban socialist revolution. We support the Cuban People in their struggle against these unacceptable actions with all our strength and energy, with every means we have at our disposal.

We demand the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the criminal blockade that for 6 decades has been creating serious problems for the economy and the lives of the Cuban people. We support the right of the Cuban People to decide for themselves, freely and democratically, about their present and future, without the intervention of the imperialists.

We call on our affiliates all over the world to express their solidarity and support, by organizing protests and demonstrations in front of American embassies and consulates, under the slogans of the World Federation of Trade Unions:

**Stop the blockade now !**

The Secretariat



## **Convention against Privatization of Electricity and Railways organized by CITU in India**

The CITU one of the Major Affiliate of WFTU in India organized a Convention against Privatization of Electricity and Railways on the 18<sup>th</sup> of July 2023 at HKS Surjeet Bhawan, New Delhi. A Declaration was adopted against the present Government of India's Policy on Privatization of all Government and Public Sector including the Electricity and Railways. The Convention demanded the following:

- 1) Stop Privatization of PSUs and Public Services; Scrap National Monetization Pipeline (NMP).
- 2) Ensure affordable electricity to all as a Right. Withdraw the Electricity Amendment Bill (2022); scrap all moves of market-based reforms in electricity-distribution sector including "smart meter" schemes.
- 3) Fill up all vacant posts in Indian Railways. Ensure safety of passengers through adequate expenditure on safety and maintenance; scrap the exercise of splitting of Railway-management in different autonomous parts to facilitate private sectors' entry and harming synergy of this mammoth transport network.
- 4) Scrap privatization / outsourcing / contractorisation of crucial railway operational including ticketing and maintenance services/work.
- 5) Tax the Super Rich - Enhance Corporate Tax and Introduce Wealth Tax to mobilize resources for strengthening public transport, health, education and other public services.

The Convention also decided various campaigning and action programmes in the coming days. Photographs from the above convention are published herewith.





## **Seminar on Duty –Rest Imbalance of Loco Pilots and Railway Safety held on 23<sup>rd</sup> of July 2023 at Chennai, India**

Loco Pilots like any other Railways in Indian Railways are the important one among the Safety Category to play Pivotal role to ensure Safety in Railways. However the Loco Pilots of the Indian Railways are working under stress and strain due to longer duty hours up to 14 hours per day. Due to this accidents are increasing day by day and the victims are the Loco Pilots. Many committees appointed by the Indian Railways have admitted the fact that the work of Loco Pilots is extremely arduous in nature and attending such duties continuously for longer hours is harmful to their physical as well as mental health and unsafe to the travelling public and likely to cause deleterious consequences. Two Loco Pilots were recently dismissed from Service without holding any inquiry. In this backdrop the All India Loco Running Staff Association conducted a seminar on Rest Imbalance of Loco Pilots and Railway Safety held on 23<sup>rd</sup> of July 2023 at Chennai, India. The seminar was inaugurated by Retired Judge of Madras High Court Justice K Chandru. The seminar was addressed by Comrade C Srikumar, Deputy General Secretary WFTU and National Secretary AITUC, Comrade A K Padmanaban, Vice President CITU and many other comrades. Comrade K Parthasarathy Joint Secretary General of AILRSA presented a paper for discussion in the Seminar which dealt in detail about the problems being faced by the Loco Pilots. The Seminar concluded with the note to intensify the struggle for protecting Indian Railways from Privatization and also to secure standard working conditions for the Loco Pilots. Visual from the seminar is published here.







With Greetings,

Yours Comradely,

**(C.SRIKUMAR)**

Deputy General Secretary

Mobile No. : +91 9444180885

Whatsapp No. : +91 9421081035

Copy to :

**The General Secretary,**

WFTU

..... for information please.