

Organ of Federation of Medical And Sales Representatives' Associations of India

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8th January All India Strike Nationwide Campaign



Strike : Mobilization in front of Labour Commissioner, Kanpur.



Strike : Graffiti on Wall in Kerala by KMSRA



Strike: Special GB meeting at Mandi HPMRA.



Strike : Notice submitted to commissioner of Labour, Hyderabad.

With the objective of making the All India Strike on 8th January, 2020 a complete success, FMRAI members throughout the country have taken active role in organizing pre-strike campaign programmes amongst the common

people independently and jointly with other fraternal organizations. This has been organized with a view to ensure total paralysation of the sales promotion activities across the country on the day of strike. Numerous street corner meetings,

special strike conventions, wall writing, posters have been pasted by the members across the country. Thousands of strike notices have been submitted to the managers in the field by the sub unit leadership during the month.

Mass Casual Leave and Dharna Mass action in Alembic

The sales promotion employees of Alembic across the country resorted to protest against the management on 18th December, 2019 against all the unfair labour practice of the management and against the violations of the laws of the land. Despite desperate attempts of the management to cause

disruption in this mass action, it was tremendous success throughout the country. Huge number of field workers working in all the divisions and in different designations across the nation participated in the Mass Casual Leave programme. Large number of them attended the dharna organized in different cities before the establishment of the company. The field workers of Alembic demanded immediate recognition of the Grievance Committee, reversal of all the transfer orders including that of the All India convener and the recent transfer orders, stopping harassment and victimization of the field workers on the question of sales



MSMRA Demonstrate at Alembic's Mumbai Office on 9th December.

performance, forceful implementation of the STP, MTP and other newer work systems related to mobile reporting system, non-payment of annual increment, marginalization of the senior field workers, coercion upon the field workers for participating in all forms of unfair trading and manipulated sales, deduction of wages, etc.. State and sub unit council subcommittee carried out all the activities prior to the day of the programme including submission of the Notice of Industrial action to the executives of the company. The state council committees of Alembic in different states

► To Page 3

To move forward and faster

All India Council Subcommittee meeting plans the future tasks



Council Subcommittee was placed by Pranab kr. Ray, Convener, All India Council Subcommittee.

He emphasized upon the importance of collective movement in resisting the current onslaught, especially when the Central Government is trying to make all labour laws more flexible in favour of the corporate. More vigorous movements has to be built against the employers who are consistently violating the existing labour laws and adopting all sorts of unfair labour practices. The meeting reviewed the implementation status of the task taken in All India Council Subcommittee meeting held on 4th August, 2019 at Nagpur and noted the suggestions for future of movemental programmes in the area of concerns of Council Movement.

It has been observed that many improvements have taken place in the area of implementation of the programmes by majority of

► To Page 3

The All India Council Subcommittee meeting was held on 15th December, 2019 at Kolkata. The meeting was planned to review the activity carried out during the period and to decide the future united movements to face the present situation of increasing attacks on council movement. The meeting was attended AICSC members and state council subcommittee conveners. Ramesh Sundar, President, FMRAI, presided over the meeting.

The meeting was participated by 29 All India Conveners, 14 Joint All India Conveners with representation from 10 State council subcommittees. General Secretaries of three state units of FMRAI were also present in the meeting. Most of the All India councils were represented in the meeting. On present situation in relation to trade union rights, recognition of FMRAI and attacks on organization, a note on behalf of the core committee of All India

New Year 2020

Warm greetings to all our readers

FMRAI greets all readers, field workers and all well-wishers across the country on arrival of New Year, 2020.

Wish that the intense struggles of the people, of the peasants, of the workers, of the women, of the students and youth and those of the field workers will bring about just changes.

Wish that the people will re-claim dignified life that is equal, safe, peaceful and prosperous.



Forthcoming GCM will be held at Mysuru. In the mean time FMRAI is ahead of one lakh yet another year, the third consecutive year.

The government admitted in Lok Sabha on 9th December, 2019, that ‘prices of 20 of 22 key food items rose steadily in 2019’. Union minister, responding to a question in the House attributed such increase to shortfall in production, increased transportation costs, lack of storage facilities and artificial shortage created by hoarding and black marketing’(Times of India, 11th December, 2019). Prices of most of the items listed under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (ECA) are increasing relentlessly. Prices of fertilizer, rice, pulses, wheat, sugar, molasses, milk, meat, fish, potato, onion, edible oils, fruits, vegetables increased very sharply during the year. Prices of petroleum and petroleum products increased by Rs 6 or Rs 7 across the country between 30th December, 2018 and 30th December, 2019. As the prices of cattle fodder increased, so increased the milk prices. Prices of the fertilizers increased impacting the cost of production of the crops, including food crops. Onion price increase kept no bounds. It is not intelligible how 26% reduction in onion production in one harvesting season, has triggered 400% increase in onion prices (in some places retail price increased to the tune of 1000% or 10 times in just 4-5 months). While all these essential commodities are covered under the Essential Commodities Act and the dominant object of the act is to secure adequate production, distribution and availability of essential commodities at fair prices ‘in the interest of the general public’, the government did little (except declaring stock holding limit on onion) to invoke the act in appropriate manner thereby allowing hoarding and speculative trading in large number of essential commodities and food.

Increase in food prices is extremely upsetting as it is very closely related to hunger and malnutrition. The study report published in The Lancet (issue December, 2019, Vol 3, titled, ‘The burden of child and maternal malnutrition and trends in its indicators in the states of India’) found that ‘malnutrition was the predominant risk factor for death in children younger than 5 years of age in every state of India in 2017, accounting for 68.2% ...of the total under-5 deaths, and the leading risk factor for health loss for all ages...’. The study also underscores that malnutrition is also a major cause of overall disease burden, loss of life years due to ill-health, disability and major cause of early death. The study also found that the prevalence of low birth-weight in India in 2017 was 21.4%, Child Stunting

Editorial

The winter of protest and resistance

39.3% (low height for age), Child Wasting 15.7% (low weight for height), Child Underweight 32.7% , Anaemia in children 59.7% , Anaemia in women 15–49 years of age 54.4%.

But, even the low food prices are no guarantee for food, if the population is bereft of basic income. Unemployment, diminishing wage and unavailability of universal basic income deprives the population of food and nutrition. Good crop or affordable price alone does not prevent hunger. The Famine Inquiry Commission Report on Bengal constituted by British rulers in 1944 and prepared by their officials after Bengal Famine during 1943-44, observed that: ‘even in normal times, however, considerable numbers among the poorer classes live on the margin of subsistence, because they do not grow enough food and do not earn enough money to buy the amount of food they need. Food shortage in this sense may, and does, exist even when crops are good and prices low and stocks are abundant, and are exported. It is the result, not of a shortage in the total supply of food, but lack of purchasing power in the hands of the poorer classes, that is, of their poverty’. It is unfortunate that the observations made after an infamous famine under British rule surprisingly fits to the current time in independent India.

In absence of universal basic income and in the face of declining purchasing power, the common citizens cannot buy even the essential commodities including medicines. In such a context, any increase in medicine prices hurts the citizens. But the government has hiked the ceiling price of 12 essential drugs (involving 21 scheduled drug formulations) by 50 per cent which was notified by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) on 13th December, 2019. These medicines are BCG vaccine, Benzathine Benzylpenicillin, Chloroquine, Dapsone, Furosemide, Metronidazole, Ascorbic Acid, Co-trimoxazole, Pheniramine, Prednisolone and Clofazamine.

According to Livemint the manufacturers sought to discontinue the production of these medicines on the ground of high cost of production and therefore Standing Committee on Affordable Medicines and Health Products (SCAMHP) under Niti Aayog has recommended a one-time price increase to the extent of 50% for these 12 medicines. NPPA reportedly noted in its meeting that ‘while ensuring affordability, access cannot be jeopardized and the life-saving essential drugs must remain available to the general public at all times’.

There is no doubt that these medicines like BCG Vaccines(TB vaccines), Chloroquine (anti-malarial), Dapsone or Clofazamine (both are anti-leprosy), metronidazole(anti-bacterial, anti-amoebic), are essential medicines and are of great importance in view disease pattern prevalent in our country.

The fact remains that large number of bulk drugs and penultimate are imported from China (out of all imported bulk drugs and intermediates, 68% comes from China) and other sources even if India has as enough of production capability and technology, as to ‘make in India’ all these medicines (active pharmaceutical ingredient, API). Spree of senseless liberalization , including import liberalization, creation of level-paying field for the multinational drug manufacturers, willful destruction of enormously-sized and world-famous public sector drug companies like IDPL and HAL, government-sponsored discouragement to the indigenous bulk drug manufacturers in private sector has damaged and continue to damage indigenous production of bulk drugs and further compromising self-reliance of the country in bulk drug production making the country’s common people dependent on bulk drugs imported from foreign land.

In the present instance imports have been costlier following certain regulatory issues in China, from where it is imported. This situation has led to increase in manufacturing costs and reduces return on investment. But drug companies are not interested to put people over profit. No matter how desperately a leprosy patient needs Dapsone or Clofazamine, it will not be produced (its formulation) unless it is sufficiently profitable. It is not difficult to imagine that the NPPA has been caught in a paradoxical situation and the government and its bureaucrats now have contradicted its own faulty argument that they had advocated for introducing the market-based pricing policy (as against cost-based pricing policy) during notification of DPCO 2013. Now, they justify the upward revision of ceiling prices on the basis of cost of production. This vindicates the argument of FMRAI and other organizations that all along are demanding restoration of production-cost-based price control on medicines.

Price rise of essential commodities and hike in medicines prices is making life further difficult for common man. But there are several other burning issues too. The different sections of organized workers are already in the streets, organizing protests and preparing for further resistance. 8th January strike kick-starts a new page of

working class struggle. Farmers and agricultural labourers are no longer ready to suffer in silence and they are pouring down to the streets of the state capitals and district headquarters with resolve in their faces. Women organizations and working women (remarkably the Anganwadi workers) are organizing militant mobilization in search of dignity, self-respect and livelihood. When education is being reduced to a commodity for business and profit, students are fighting a just battle for their right to education. Large scale unemployment has made the students and youths extremely aggrieved and indignant.

But students and youth of this country, especially the students from higher educational institutions, has made this winter a winter of protest. Students from at least 50 reputed universities across the major cities in the country, came down to streets with the copies of Indian constitution in their hands. They raised slogan for freedom from casteism, feudalism, communalism and patriarchy. This time they are indignant not for having been denied of any of their own demands but for upholding the letters and spirit of the constitution. They take to street for safeguarding the very democratic, secular principles of the country.

The ruling dispensation and a section of electronic media had showed the students in bad light even long before these protests broke out. Now during these spontaneous protests by the students, the vilification campaign has further increased. But, the protest actions by the students have earned backing of the peace loving citizens of the country and received solidarity from across the globe. Working class comes to stand by the students’ protest, so does the field workers’ movement. The common people, the intellectuals, the professionals across religion, culture, language and ethnicity are joining with students and the protest is spreading to newer and news cities and towns of the country and becoming larger and larger.

The working class and the field workers movement is not unmindful that the unity of the people is being challenged in the name religious identity. Hate campaign, with planned employment of the mainstream media and social media, is being organized by the ruling elites to mask the distress of the people in neoliberal days. This organized hate campaign targets a section of poor citizens on the basis of their religious faith and falsely discredit, defame or dishonor them. These targeted sections of people are now being portrayed as monstrous ‘enemy of the people’. This hateful propaganda and rabidly communal discourse combined with fake

news is vitiating the atmosphere of the country. The age-old amity among the people is being damaged and unity of the oppressed masses is being seriously undermined.

Now, when the students have come out of their reading room to read the dimmed faces of their fellow citizens, these communal discourses and hate campaign are being materially challenged. Now the time has come when the fight against neoliberalism, against corporate plunder, against theft of labour, against government-sponsored attack on employment, wages and livelihood, against attack on self-reliance of the country, against attacks on rights and liberties should go hand in hand with the struggle against attacks on constitution, democracy and secularism. Those who contemplated (with utter pessimism) that defeat of humanity is irremediable and endless now should feel guilty of their loss of faith. Now the mobilization of the students, youth and the common people proves beyond doubt that the words, like ‘democracy’, ‘secularism’, ‘unity in diversity’, are not lifeless nouns or empty phrases but are living ideals and values.

The year ends. The biting winter will not corner the poor people forever. The protest that has started in this winter will keep lasting influence in casting the future of India. Further course of events may unfold that will prove that no number of bullets and no amount of blood spilled over to the streets, can deter these amazing young men and women from calling a spade a spade. The season of protest and resistance is not over yet. Brutal police force cannot maim protests which are both peaceful and powerful. The arrogance of the ruling classes is no longer the signs of their strength, but of their desperation and fear. Each authoritarian step and each instance of dictatorial hostility only snap the thin veil of their brand of nationalism that is both aggrandizing and hateful. Such state sponsored violence further exposes them to their bones.

One can see, without any great degree of insight that a new India is budding. A new India is tempering itself into steel in the face of lathi-charge, tear gas, arrests and false litigations. With large participation of workers, peasants, students and youth a new India is taking birth in the streets of Delhi, Aligarh, Lucknow, Mumbai, Pune, Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Trivandrum, Patna, Guwahati, Kolkata against corporate mechanization, falsehood, hate campaign and divisive politics.

It is the might of the people that can and that will, decide the future of this nation. It is the might of the people that creates epic and triumphs over darkness. Field workers too, will claim their share of glory by joining these struggles.

Protect SPE Act FMRAI Meets Parliamentary Standing Committee

In pursuance of the demand to protect Sales Promotion Employees (Conditions of Service) Act and oppose OSH & WC Code, the state units of FMRAI including FMRAI secretariat members continued to meet the members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee. The Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee Shri Bharatruhari Mahatab was met twice on 7 and 14 November 2019 by OSRU state unit and the leader of the opposition of Lokshabha Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury by the Baharampur sub unit of WBMSRU on 14 November, 2019. Apart from these deputations, a delegation team from Bareilly sub unit of UPMSRA

met Shri Santosh Gangwar, Central Labour Minister on 8 December, 2019 at his residence and handed over the demands in black and white. The delegation team discussed about the changes in labour laws, particularly the SPE Act and its adverse impact on the sales promotion employees. The honourable minister gave a patient hearing to the demands and assured to look into the matter. Recently, FMRAI was invited to meet the Parliamentary Standing Committee on 20 December, 2019 where Santanu Chatterjee, General Secretary and Partha Rakshit, Treasurer appeared before the committee members, expressed concern and placed a submission in this regard.

► from Page 4

OSRU GCM at Jeypore

laws, he stated. The neoliberal economic path aggressively pursued by the present government has been disastrous for common people of the country. In such a perspective, the conscious unity and assertive intervention of the working class and the masses has become necessary. While appreciating the relentless struggle waged by the field workers' movement in the country, he called upon all to work for complete success of all India strike on 8th January, 2020. Manoj Kumar Chowdhury, Secretary, FMRAI, inaugurated the delegates session. Four commissions, on Organisation, on Council & Related Movement, on State Related Movement and on Policy Related Movement was formed in the GCM and these commissions thoroughly discussed the GCM documents (General Secretaries report and treasurers report) reviewed programme implementation, made observations on deficiencies and also made suggestions and recommendations. In the plenary session the General council members from Districts and Bases from across the state discussed, critically observed, amended and suggested upon the

GCM documents. Resolutions for making 8th January, 2020 strike a great success; for working towards the unity, amity and communal harmony, on organizing struggle and strongly pursuing the State Related Demands and against regressive and pro-employer changes in Labour Laws were placed and adopted unanimously. On the second day of the GCM the summary of discussions and recommendations of the commissions were placed in the plenary session. Pranab Kumar Ray, Secretary, FMRAI, in his deliberation underscored the importance of broadening and intensification of the council and related movements, along with the movements involving all other demands of the field workers movement in the country. The implementation of programmes, involvement of maximum number of members in programme implementation and bringing all field workers within the ambit of the organization and making them member will take field workers movement and organization to a newer height, stated he. Satya Brata Mohapatra, General Secretary and Ashutosh Dash, Treasurer, responded to the

TNMSRA : Convention of Other Industries' Fieldworkers

State level Convention of Other Industries fieldworkers was held at Salem on 15 December, 2019. D.Ravi,Vice President of TNMSRA presided over the meeting and Palani delivered the welcome address. Sasikumar, Secretary, TNMSRA, briefed about the outcome of All India Other Industries Sub Committee meeting held at Nagpur. The convention was greeted by Narendran (Ayurveda), Ramgopal (Ayurveda), Jayaprakash (Veterinary), Kannan (FMCG) S.K.Thiyagarajan (District vice President-CITU) and Srinivasan

(Vishwanathan Medical Agencies). M.M Haneefa, Secretary, FMRAI and all India core committee member of Other Industries addressed the gathering. Prabakar Devadoss, General Secretary, and Dilip Menon Assistant General Secretary of TNMSRA explained regarding the benefits of ID Act, Minimum Wages Act, Maternity Benefit Act, Gratuity Act, Bonus Act & Workmen's Compensation Act. Around 150 fieldworkers from Salem, Dharmapuri, Erode, Chennai, Namakkal and other places of Tamil Nadu attended the convention. Fieldworkers of many

leading companies of Ayurveda, Siddha, Homeopathy, Unani, Veterinary, Poultry, OTC and FMCG participated and gave their views on the demands like job security, legal benefits, appointment procedures under employers, minimum wages, working hours & victimization issues through tracking & surveillance etc. Many field workers who attended the convention assured to enroll their membership. Wide print & electronics media coverage were visible as this was first convention in the state.

CITU condemns CAB

CITU condemns RSS-led BJP's Modi government for getting the discriminatory Citizens' Amendment Bill (CAB) hurriedly passed by the Parliament and converting it as an Act after immediate Presidential assent. This is the blackest act in the country's legislative history. It is an attack on the secular, democratic and equality based inclusive foundation of the Constitutions of India; an assault on the humanity perpetrated by the communal forces guided by fascist ideology to change the basic character of India's

Constitution towards 'Hindu Rashtra'. The working class, who are already battling against the aggressive neoliberal policy regime; must rise to the occasion and defeat the BJP government's machination to divide the people and suppress their movement against economic and social exploitation and repression. Despite CAB becoming a law its implementation can be defeated by the people through united struggle at every stage and in every front. People are already on the street in different parts of

the country opposing the CAB and the Act. Trade union movement must take the lead. CITU calls upon the workers and united trade union movement in general and CITU units and the unions in particular to unitedly launch countrywide movement to defeat implementation of BJP government's Citizenship Amendment Act; and join all other sections of the toiling masses in the countrywide democratic movement against it.

(Tapan Sen)
General Secretary, CITU

► from Page 1

All India Council Subcommittee

the state council subcommittees, while the all India council networking structure has been entrusted to coordinate with their members for making improvement in their participation with a view to strengthen the united forum of Councils. This method has been endorsed by the participants given the fact that the present situation calls for united movemental platform that is primarily focused on collective movement. This is necessary for facing the present situation and effectively countering attacks on council movement. The meeting confidently decided to make further improvement in functioning of the state and sub unit council subcommittee and the All India Council Committee of 47 companies to build a stronger movemental platform. The discussion mainly took place to analyze the activities carried out across the country on the movemental tasks decided and carried out during the year 2019. Expansion of councils in some of the companies in specific will be the prime objective in developing the council organizations to achieve,

advance and defend the Rights of the field workers. Santanu Chatterjee, General Secretary FMRAI, while summing up, appreciated the activities carried out through council subcommittee in different States / Sub units during the period. He explained the changes and impending changes the NDA government is trying to make in the labour laws including the attempts of repealing of the SPE Act, 1976, which was achieved through the struggle and sacrifice. He also made occasion to mention the various programmes implemented by different states units of FMRAI for protecting the SPE Act and in order to mount pressure on the Central Government in this matter. Explaining the demands of 8th January, 2020 All India Strike, he underscored the significance of completing the tasks and the importance of carrying out activities by the organised sector field workers for complete success of the strike.

All state council subcommittee will hold the state/sub unit council subcommittee meetings to complete the task taken in 4th August, 2019 (Nagpur) AICSC meeting and to further gear up the council subcommittee in all 384 sub units to put resistance to the organised companies, especially in the background of unfair labour practices, sales related harassment and violation of laws of the land. The meeting decided to finalize the programmes in Mysore GCM, 2020 for further and more intensified movements.

Obituary



Rajendra Kumar Shukla, a field worker of Avantor Pharma based at Sultanpur and a member of UPMSRA passed away on 11th

December, 2019 due to injuries in road accident on 04/12/2019. FMRAI deeply condole his death and express condolences to his bereaved family.

Vipin Dubey a field worker of Absurg Pharma based at Ambedkar Nagar and a member of UPMSRA passed away on 24th November, 2019. FMRAI deeply

condole his death. UPMSRA Basti Unit handed over Rs. 62,000 to his family on 25th December, 2019.



Tungnath Pandey a field worker of Vetoquinol India Animal Health based at Allahabad and a member of UPMSRA breathed

his last on 9th December, 2019 due to heart attack. FMRAI deeply condole his death and conveys condolences to the grieving family members.

Sushil Bharti a field worker of Sun Pharma based at Lucknow and a member of UPMSRA succumbed to death on 9th December, 2019



due to injuries in a road accident on 30th November, 2019. FMRAI deeply condole his death and conveys condolences to the family.

► from Page 1

Alembic

conducted sub unit meetings with the SPEs and briefed them about the different grievances, issues and inspired them and explained to them the necessity of relentless struggle. Dharna and demonstration was conducted at Guwahati, Patna, Ranchi, Raipur,

Gorakhpur, Lucknow and Ernakulum. Sub unit council meetings of Alembic field workers were also conducted on the day and memorandum was submitted to the stockists of the company in many sub units by council subcommittee and Alembic field workers jointly.

GSMRA : State Conference



9th State Conference of GSMRA was held on 22 December 2019 at Rajkot. Vice-president of FMRAI, Navin Gupta, inaugurated the conference. He explained regarding the labour reforms through amalgamation of 44 labour laws into 4 codes and its disastrous effect on the working class in general and on the sales promotion employees in particular. M.N. Dattani, General Secretary and Satyapal Singh

Vaghela, Treasurer of GSMRA presented the General Secretary and Treasurer's report. During placement of report Dattani briefed about the present political impediments in the state of Gujarat and its implication on the council movement in the entire state. Delegates attending the conference discussed on the reports and both the reports were unanimously adopted. Gyaneshwar Chaudhary,

WCM, FMRAI addressed the delegates and emphasized on the development of organization and unity of the fieldworkers. The conference was also greeted by Sanjeev Khandelwal, Joint General Secretary of FMRAI. He highlighted about the relentless struggle of the fieldworkers movement in different companies to uphold their trade union, legal and collective bargaining rights. 90 delegates from across the state participated in the conference from 9 subunits. The conference gave a clarion call for one thousand membership of GSMRA and took resolution to make the General Strike on 8 January, 2020 a huge success. The conference unanimously elected M.N.Dattani, Ritesh Shukla and Satyapal Singh Vaghela as President, General Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

Forthcoming GCM of FMRAI

KSM & SRA organizes Jaatha in Karnataka campaigning people's demands

The state working committee of the KSM & SRA took decision of conducting a state level Jatha to cover all the sub units of the State to spread the message of FMRAI General Council Meeting and the Demands on Rational Drug Policy including removal of GST on essential medicines and medical devices. The campaign to Protect SPE Act was another area as the Central Government is bent on labour reformsthereby jeopardizing the rights of the sales promotion employees in particular and the working class in general. The Jaatha was planned in phases. Phase 1.Starting from Mysuru covering Hassan, Mangalore, Udupi, Shimoga and Mandya.Phase 2. Starting from Raichur, covering Bagalkote, Bijapur(Vijayapura), Kalaburagi and Bidar. Phase3. Starting from Bengaluru, Covering Davanagere, Tumkur, Ballari and Kolar.Phase 4.Staring from Hubballi, Covering Sirsi, Karwar, Belgaum and Gadag. The 1st Phase of the Jaatha was flagged off from Mysuru on 11 November, 2019 by Dr. K JaveedNayeem, Chairman Reception Committee, in presence ofVaralakshmi, State President, CITU, K N Umesh, Secretary-CITU, L M Peshwa, President - KSM & SRA,BalajiRao, President, District CITU, G Jayaram, General Secretary, District CITU and many other leaders and cadres of democratic movement of Mysuruthrough DolluKunitha the traditional beating of Drums. At Mysuru, the Jaatha passed through many industrial areas at Nanjangundand reached Hassan on



the night of November, 11. Subsequently, the Jaatha travelled through Mangaluru, Udupi, Shimoga and Mandya on 12, 13, 14 and 15 November, 2019 culminating at Hassan. The well-wishers at Hassan, Shimoga and Mandyagenerously donated funds to carry forward the movement of peoples' demands and make FMRAI GCM a success. Phase 2 of the Jaatha was flagged off at Raichur on 23November, 2019by DrVasundhara, a leading Gynaecologist of Raichur in presence of L.M Peshwa, President-KSM & SRA, Gururajdesai, Vice President-KSM & SRA and many other leaders and members of Raichur. Many doctors at Raichur and Bagalkote were very enthusiastic to receive the Jaatha and contribute financially for the success of the FMRAI GCM. The Jaatha proceeded to Bagalkote, Bijapur, Kalaburagi and Bidar on 24,

25 and 26 of November, 2019. At all the places the Jaathagot excellent responses from the members and the common people. Third Phase of the Jaathacomenced from Davanagere instead of Bengaluru, on 11 December, 2019. The Jaatha travelled through Chitradurga, Ranebennur and Ballary on 12 and 13 of December, 2019. The Jaathagot immense response at all places specially fromBallary. Pamphlets distribution and street corner meetings took place. At all the places, pamphlets were distributed and street corner meetings were held. The Jathaas a part of campaign has witnessed vibrant reciprocation from the members of KSM& SRA in particular and from allsections of the society in general. This will pave the path to a successful FMRAI GCM in the month of February, 2020.

General Council Meeting of MPMSRU



General Council Meeting of MPMSRU was held on 21 and 22 December, 2019 at Chindwara, Madhya Pradesh. The GCM was inaugurated by the Chairman of the Reception Committee Dr. P R Chandelkar. President of MPMSRU Sanjay Singh Tomar presided over the meeting and gave presidential address. Shailendra Sharma, General Secretary, MPMSRU, presented the General Secretary's report in the plenary session and the Treasurer's report was also placed in the session. Three commissions were formed i.e. on Organisation, Policy Level Movement and Council Related Movement. Discussions on reports were placed by 33 GCMs and from the commissions in plenary session. Resolutions on 8 January, 2020 All India Strike, Membership, against Newer Forms of Attack and on State Related Movement were unanimously adopted. Ramesh Sunder, President FMRAI attended the GCM on both the days

and addressed the meeting. The demands of the ensuing Strike on 8 January in the present political context and other issues pertaining to the field workers movement were elaborated by him. He also explained regarding the council movement and programmes initiated against the newer forms of attack. Different fraternal trade unions and mass organizations extended cooperation and support to make the meeting a grand success. The General Council Meeting was attended by Bank Employees Association, Insurance Employees Association, BSNL, Postal, Pensioners Samaj, State employees union various other fraternal trade union leaders, IMA and MPCDA of Chindwar. The reports of General Secretary and Treasurer were unanimously adopted. General Council Meeting was attended by 68 GCMs and 9 observers representing 21 different units of MPMSRU.

OSRU GCM at Jeypore



The General Council meeting of OSRU was held at Jeypore (Koraput) on 21st and 22nd December, 2019. The auditorium and the locality were named after Fidel Castro (Manch) and Saheed Laxman Nayak (Nagar). The General Council meeting was inaugurated by Janardan Pati, President, CITU, Odisha state. Janardan Pati while explaining the context of the General Council

meeting made reference to the struggles of the workers in different sectors and industries and those of the entire working class in the country. The attacks of the employers on the working people are being further emboldened and encouraged by the Central Government by its retrograde policies and the pro-employers changes in the labour

► To Page 3