

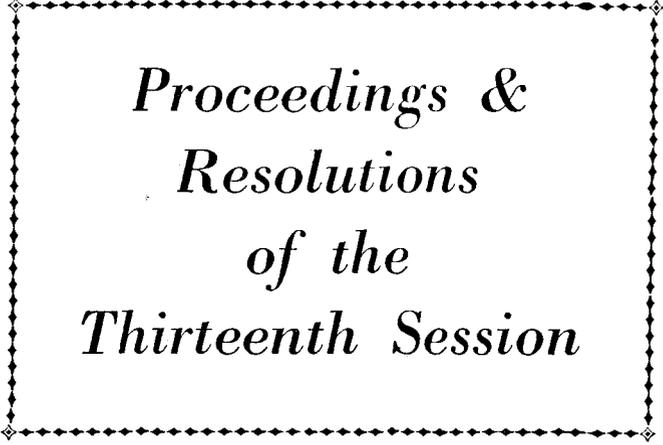
ALL-INDIA KISAN SABHA

*Proceedings &
Resolutions
of the
Thirteenth Session*

Dahanu, May 17 - 22, 1955

Eight Annas

ALL-INDIA KISAN SABHA



*Proceedings &
Resolutions
of the
Thirteenth Session*

Dahanu, May 17 - 22, 1955

Eight Annas

CONTENTS

PROCEEDINGS	1
MESSAGES	8
RESOLUTIONS	15
1. On Kisan Martyrs	15
2. Condolences	15
3. On Andhra and Telangana Representation	15
4. On the President for the New Year	16
5. On Refusal of Visa to Foreign Delegates	16
6. On the Restrictions to Hold the Mass Rally	16
7. On the Liberation of Goa, Daman and Diu	16
8. On the Struggle of the Textile Workers of Kanpur and Amritsar	18
9. On Rural Indebtedness and Credit	19
10. On Land Acquisition	25
11. On Peace	29
12. On Growing Tax Burdens	32
13. On the Prices of Agricultural Commodities	37
14. On Evictions and For Land	41
15. On Ceylon Indians	45
16. On Repression and Civil Liberties	46
17. On Receipts and Expenditure	51
AIKC RESOLUTIONS	52

June 1955

PROCEEDINGS

The 12th Session of the All-India Kisan Sabha (AIKS) which was held at Moga decided to hold the 13th Session in April, 1955 in Maharashtra or, if the Maharashtra Provincial Kisan Sabha (MPKS) was not prepared to hold it, in Bihar. Though the time between the two Sessions was short, such a decision was taken in order to normalise the holding of the Annual Sessions and the enrolment time for membership, as well as to review the work done on the lines of the decisions taken at Moga. The Maharashtra PKS decided to hold the Session in May, at Dahanu, in Thana District, a small coastal town near the Warli area.

The Central Kisan Council (CKC) met 6 times during the session, but the attendance was not satisfactory, only half the number of members attending. The following members were present:

(1) Indulal Yajnik, (2) Nana Patil, (3) N. Prasada Rao, (4) Jagjit Singh Lyallpuri, (5) B. Srinivasa Rao, (6) Baba Gurmukh Singh— all office-bearers — and (7) Achintya Bhattacharjee, (8) Bhowani Sen, (9) H. K. Konar (10) Master Hari Singh, (11) H. S. Surjeet, (12) Chowdhary Ghasiram, (13) Thakurbhai Shah, (14) S. G. Sardesai, (15) S. V. Parulekar, (16) Tulsidas Jadhav, (17) K. A. Keralec-yan, (18) E. M. S. Nambudiripad, (19) E. Gopalakrishna Menon, (20) Y. V. Krishna Rao, (21) Ramachandra Misra. Shri. Bankim Mukherjee and Shri. Sankardayal Tiwari attended the CKC meetings on special invitation. (Shri. Kashinath Jadhav arrived late and could not attend).

The new CKC which met immediately after its election, was attended, besides the above, by Shri. B. D. Deshmukh and Shri. Rajendra Deshmukh from Marathwada.

The first item taken up by the CKC was the irregularities in the payment of membership fees. The General Secretary had reported that Rajasthan PKC had not paid

even the previous year's membership fees and Telangana Kisan Sabha had not paid the arrears of Rs. 200 towards membership fees of the same period. He had also reported that some PKSs had not yet paid their membership quota for the year and that Andhra and Telangana PKSs had not enrolled members this year for the reason that all the Kisan Sabha workers were engaged in the general elections in Andhra, which fell just in the period of the enrolment campaign. The CKC took a serious view of the failure on the part of the Rajasthan and the Telangana PKSs in not paying even last year's dues and censured them and demanded their immediate payment. It also criticised the PKSs who had not paid the membership fees for this year in time and called upon them to pay the whole membership fees before they participate in the Delegates' Session. (All the defaulting PKSs who were attending the Session, except Rajasthan, paid up their membership fees before the 19th, i.e., the first meeting of the Delegates' Session. Rajasthan had cleared off last year's arrears and paid only Rs. 80 towards the current year's fees and requested time till August to pay the rest. The CKC gave the necessary permission.)

The CKC next discussed the question of representation to Andhra and Telangana in the Session. It decided to recommend to the Delegates' Session the proposal that in view of the special circumstances in which these two provinces could not enrol members this year, they should be allowed to send delegates and AIKC members, on the basis of last year's membership.

The next question discussed was about the resolutions to be put before the Session. Apart from others, the following were decided upon to be moved:

- (1) On Taxation and the Taxation Enquiry Commission's Recommendations.
- (2) On Falling Prices.
- (3) On Rural Indebtedness and Rural Credit.
- (4) On Land Acquisition Acts.
- (5) On Evictions and for Land.

- (6) On Peace (which should include the Bandung Conference and the Far East situation).
- (7) On Development Plans.

The CKC discussed the draft resolutions that were placed before it on all these issues except the last one and made various changes in these drafts. The final drafts were then prepared and placed before the Delegates' Session.

A discussion had taken place on the issue of development plans, but as it was found that no conclusions could be arrived at on the approach of the Kisan Sabha towards these plans, the issue was left open and so no resolution on it was placed before the Delegates' Session.

Discussion had taken place on the question of betterment levy also. Some members held that where the actual development had taken place, we should not oppose betterment levy wholesale but should demand the exemption of uneconomic holdings from such levy. They gave the instances, where peasants themselves were coming forward to contribute towards a part of the cost of the construction of irrigation projects, which really benefited them and which they themselves were demanding for long. But other members argued that we should oppose betterment levy falling on the holdings of all peasants, irrespective of whether they were economic or not and were also of the opinion that if on the plea that those who could pay should pay we wanted exemption only for uneconomic holdings, peasant unity and struggle against landlordism would be disrupted. So, as the question was important and could not be clinched in such a short time, it was finally decided to defer the discussion.

Shri. S. V. Parulekar, Chairman of the Reception Committee, informed the CKC of the obstacles put forward by the state, district and local officials in the way of holding the Session. The District Magistrate had refused permission to hold the open rally or to have cultural shows. The local officials demanding of the house-owners who had lent their houses for the Session, to remove the thatched sheds, etc., constructed for the purpose; the police were going round the villages threatening the people and spreading various

rumours and so on. The question of what to do, if the refusal to hold the rally and use the loudspeakers, etc., were persisted in, was considered and it was decided to send the General Secretary and the Chairman of the Reception Committee to Bombay to meet the Government for getting permission, and to hold the rally in a neighbouring plot, if still the permission were refused.

DELEGATES' SESSION

The Delegates' Session started at 2 p.m. on 19-5-55, with Shri. Indulal Yajnik presiding. 184 delegates attended the Session. The Chairman of the Reception Committee, Shri. S. V. Parulekar, welcoming the delegates and visitors, informed the delegates of the difficulties they were encountering in holding the Session. Next, the President formally opened the proceedings of the Session with a rousing speech. Resolutions on Martyrs and Condolences were moved from the Chair and adopted.

Next, the recommendation of the CKC regarding the representation of Andhra and Telangana PKs in the Session was taken up for consideration. This was objected to by some delegates. They held that, since there was no constitutional provision for continuing last year's membership when fresh enrolment was not done, it was wrong to give representation on the basis of previous year's membership. Finally, on the proposal made by Shri Bankim Mukherjee, it was decided that not more than 20 delegates might attend the Session from each of the two provinces.

Then proposals for the election of the new president were called for. Shri. Harkishen Singh Surjeet proposed the name of Shri. Nana Patil, which was seconded by Shri. N. Prasada Rao. There being no other proposal, Shri. Nana Patil was declared elected as President for the next year amidst thunderous applause.

A resolution on the refusal of visas to fraternal delegates from Poland and Indonesia was passed.

The next question taken up was the resolution condemning the action of the Bombay Government in refusing

permission to hold the open rally. Shri. T. S. Jadhav suggested that since we were still intending to approach the Government for seeking permission, the language should be moderate. Certain other delegates also suggested the same and so the resolution was suitably amended and passed.

Messages received from fraternal organisations were read. Shri. Mithabhai Parsana, Treasurer of the Saurashtra Khedut Sangh, personally greeted the Session on behalf of the Khedut Sangh.

The Annual Report was next submitted by the General Secretary, with an introductory speech. He had pointed out, how in various provinces, where serious planning out of work and campaigning had been done, the movement had progressed and how the main organisational task today was building up the organisation as a militant, fighting organ of the kisans and agricultural labourers and for that, how the primary units had to be built up and how the functioning of the Kisan Sabha should be democratised. The first day's Session ended with that.

The discussion on the report took the whole of the morning session on 20-5-55. Representatives from almost all provinces attending the Session, spoke on the report, supplementing it. In fact, a lot of information regarding the problems facing the provinces or the work done, which was not given in the report or was inadequately dealt with, was given in these supplementary reports. The main criticism of the report was that though it gave a description of the work done in the provinces, it did not pose the problems facing the kisans or the experiences gained from the struggles carried on in the intervening period. Shri. Hari-krishna Konar from Bengal reported that in Bengal, a large number of Kisan Sabha workers did not agree with the resolutions passed at Moga on the question of ceilings and agricultural labour organisations.

In the evening session, Shri. Indulal Yajnik moved the resolution on peace, which was seconded by Shri. Bhowani Sen. The resolution on solidarity with the working-class struggles in Kanpur and Amritsar was moved by Sri. Ban-

kim Mukherjee and was supported by Shri. Madhavarao Gaekwad. Both these resolutions, with slight amendments, were passed unanimously.

Then the resolution on tax burdens was moved by Shri. S. G. Sardesai and seconded by Shri. Sankardayal Tiwari and Dalip Singh Tapiala. Some amendments moved were accepted by the mover and the resolution, as amended, was unanimously passed.

The evening session closed at 8-30 p.m.

The next sitting started at 8 a.m. on 21-5-55 with greetings by Shri. Bapurao Jagtap, President of the Bombay Provincial Trade Union Congress. Shri. E. M. S. Namboodiripad moved the resolution on rural indebtedness and rural credit, which was seconded by Shri. Nikunj Behari Chowdhary. A number of amendments which were moved were accepted by the mover and those rejected were not pressed and the resolution was unanimously passed.

The next resolution taken up was on land acquisition moved by Shri. Harikrishna Konar and seconded by Radhakrishna Bohra. With some amendments, the resolution was unanimously passed.

Shrimati Godavari Parulekar, the beloved leader of Warlis, next moved the resolution on Goa, which was seconded by Shri. Sardesai and Shri. Purushottam Naik. In the course of their speeches, they announced the decision of the Maharashtra PKS to send a batch of volunteers to offer satyagraha in Goa. Immediately, the delegates from Marathwada announced that the Marathwada PKS would also send a satyagraha batch soon to go to Goa. The resolution was passed amidst great applause.

The afternoon sitting, the last of the Session, was held at 4 p.m. The resolution on the question of prices was moved by Shri Harkishen Singh Surjeet, which was seconded by Shri K. Gopala Rao. Chowdhary Ghasiram also spoke on the resolution, describing the deplorable plight in Rajasthan. The resolution was unanimously passed, after incorporating some amendments.

The other resolutions passed were: on evictions and

for land moved by Shri. Jagjit Singh Lyallpuri and supported by Shri. Madhavan Pillai, Sunil Sen and Bha irav Bha-
rateeya; on the question of Ceylon Indians, moved by Shri.
Palaniappan and seconded by Shri. Sankaranarayanan; on
repression moved by Master Hari Singh and supported by
Swami Kumaranand, Bhau Saheb Deshmukh and Sankara
Narayanan Thampi.

Next, the statement of accounts was moved by the Ge-
neral Secretary and passed.

The Delegates' Session closed at 9-0 p.m. amidst thun-
derous slogans.

On the evening of 22nd a huge procession, culminating
in a big rally on the beach was held, 95% of those attending
being Warlis. The meeting was addressed by Shri. S. V.
Parulekar, Godavari Parulekar, Baba Gurmukh Singh,
Nana Patil and Bankim Mukherjee. Peace signatures on
the spot were collected totalling about 5000. The rally
concluded with cultural programmes by the Bombay Squad.

MESSAGES

*From TRADE UNIONS INTERNATIONAL OF
AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY WORKERS
(TD of WFTU)*

Dear brothers,

The 13th Session of the All-India Kisan Sabha is being held in a period during which new victories have been won by the peoples on the front of peace.

The success of the history-making A-A Conference in Bandung shows that the people's determination of peace is an immense strength capable of banning colonialism and barring the way to the war policy of international imperialism.

The Indian workers have given to this fight a great contribution whose concrete expression we find in the policy of peaceful co-existence prosecuted by your great country.

Experience shows that improvement of the workers' living conditions and their social and cultural elevation are closely tied to international relaxation, to the reduction of war expenses and to free development of the economic and cultural relationships between all peoples of the world.

In the actual world situation the workers' essential task is fighting for peace and we are certain that the AIKS will do its utmost so as to make the population of the Indian countryside worthily represented in the World Assembly of Peoples for Peace to be held in Helsinki and that it will give its tremendous contribution to the collection of signatures against the use of atomic weapons.

Land hunger and the constant threat of evictions, the insupportable burden of ground rent and taxes, the lack of rural credits and the crisis of the farm products' prices, increase of wages and full employment are the immediate

problems whose solution is waited for by hundreds of millions of peasants and agricultural workers in India.

This solution can be achieved only through a constant and consistent united struggle by all concerned masses in close alliance with the working class and with all peace- and progress-loving forces.

The resolutions adopted by the 12th Annual Session of the AIKS showing a just direction to the organisational problems and demands are decisively proving that the AIKS is at the head of the peasant masses and rural poor in India.

The agricultural workers and peasants of the entire world wish that the wide influence and popularity enjoyed today by the AIKS be concretely expressed in a great and united mass organisation of the workers on the land leading the millions and millions of peasants and agricultural labourers of India toward victory.

Forward toward victory of your demands!

Forward toward progress, well-being and peace!

Yours fraternally,
Ilio Bosi
General Secretary.

From DPP SARBUPRI, DJAKARTA, INDONESIA.

ON BEHALF OF 500,000 PLANTATION WORKERS OF SARBUPRI SEND WARMEST GREETINGS TO YOUR CONFERENCE STOP WE HOPE GREAT SUCCESS FOR BETTER LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS COMMA FULL NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AND WORLD PEACE STOP MARSASUKARTO OUR DELEGATE IS UNABLE TO ATTEND CONFERENCE BECAUSE HE DOES NOT GET VISA FOR INDIA

From AGRICULTURAL WORKERS' AND EMPLOYEES' UNION, MOSCOW, USSR.

DEAR COMRADES ON BEHALF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS AND EMPLOYEES SOVIET UNION WE SEND FRATERNAL GREETINGS DELEGATES 13TH SESSION AND ALL THOSE WORKING IN AGRICULTURE OF INDIA STOP SINCERELY WISH CONFERENCE SUCCESS IN WORK DIRECTED AT FURTHER STRENGTHENING ORGANISATIONS AGRICULTURAL WORKERS COMMA DEFENCE VITAL INTERESTS OF TOILERS INDIAN VILLAGE AND ESTABLISHMENT THEIR UNITY COMMA PRESERVATION AND CONSOLIDATION PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP AMONG NATIONS STOP ON BEHALF OF PRESIDUM S EGURAZDOV PRESIDENT CC AGRICULTURAL WORKERS AND EMPLOYEES UNION.

**From AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST WORKERS' TRADE UNION,
WARSAW, POLAND**

ON OCCASION OF YOUR THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION WE SEND YOUR DELEGATES AND THROUGH THEIR INTERMEDIARY ALL AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST WORKERS OF INDIA OUR HEARTIEST FRATERNAL GREETINGS AND EXPRESSION OF OUR SOLIDARITY STOP POLISH TRADE UNION MEMBERS WATCH WITH GREAT INTEREST THE INCREASED ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF FREE INDIA IN THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE AND PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE COMMA THE EVER TIGHTENING PEACEFUL AND FRATERNAL COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES TO OUR MUTUAL ADVANTAGE STOP ON BEHALF OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF OUR AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST WORKERS ON BEHALF OF THE POLISH PEOPLE WE WISH YOU GROWING UNITY OF ALL WORKERS IN DEFENCE OF THEIR INTERESTS COMMA IN THE STRUGGLE FOR BREAD AND WORK COMMA FOR PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP AMONG PEOPLES OF ASIA AND AMONG ALL PEOPLES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD STOP WE INFORM YOU AT THE SAME TIME THAT THE ANNOUNCED VISIT OF OUR DELEGATION COULD NOT BE REALISED OWING TO LACK OF ENTRANCE VISA FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION STOP KAZIMIERZ NOWICKI CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST WORKERS TRADE UNION IN POLAND

From RUMANIAN AGRICULTURAL WORKERS, RUMANIA.

DEAR BROTHERS WE WISH YOU FULL SUCCESS OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRTEENTH SESSION TO STRENGTHEN THE UNITED ACTION OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS AND OBTAIN BETTER LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS STOP ON THIS OCCASION WE ASSERT OUR FRATERNAL SOLIDARITY WITH YOU AND EXPRESS FRATERNAL SOLIDARITY WITH YOUR RESOLUTE STRUGGLE ALONGSIDE ALL INDIAN PEOPLE FOR DEMOCRACY PROGRESS AND WORLD PEACE STOP POPESCU CHAIRMAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE RUMANIAN AGRICULTURAL WORKERS.

**From TRADE UNION OF AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY WORKERS,
BULGARIA**

CENTRAL COMMITTEE TRADE UNION OF AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY WORKERS OF BULGARIA GREET'S CORDIALLY DELEGATES TO THE ALL INDIA KISAN SABHA SESSION AND WISHES YOU FRUITFUL WORK FOR THE WELFARE OF INDIAN WORKING PEOPLE AND FOR CONSOLIDATION OF WORLD PEACE STOP KLISSAROV PRESIDENT

*From TRADE UNIONS FOR LAND AND FORESTRY,
BERLIN.*

Dear brothers,

We have received your invitation to the 13th Congress of the All-India Kisan Sabha, Dahanu. This invitation pleased us very much and we wish to express to you our heartfelt thanks.

We look upon this invitation as an expression of the mutual fraternal feelings existing between the working people of your great and beautiful country and the working people of the German Democratic Republic.

We would like very much to be able to accept your invitation to send a delegation to your important conference. Unfortunately the shortage of time makes it impossible for us to obtain an entry visa into your country.

In spite of this we are convinced that the present difficulties should not prevent us from strengthening and extending our friendly relations.

The Secretariat wishes your Congress, in the name of the land and forestry workers of our organization, the greatest success and sends you fraternal greetings in the struggle.

May your Conference represent a further step forward in your struggle for unity, democracy, prosperity and for the maintenance of peace among the peoples.

Yours fraternally,
Svihalek (Chairman)
Central Board of the Trade Union
for Land and Forestry

*From THE NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF LAND,
ROME, ITALY.*

Dear brothers,

On behalf of the two and half million Italian farm workers, share-croppers and small growers organised in the National Confederation of Land, we are sending to the 13th Annual Session of your organisation our warmest greetings.

The agricultural workers of Italy are engaged in a hard struggle for better wages, social security and full employment, for agrarian reform and for the defence of their products. Therefore, they are looking with profound sympathy and solidarity at the fight you are carrying on in India for the same aims.

In the certainty that your Session will constitute an important milestone in the Indian agricultural workers' and

peasants' struggle for national independence, well-being and peace, the agricultural workers of Italy send your Session their fraternal wishes of best success.

Yours fraternally,
For the National Confederation of Land
Ledo Tremolan ti,
General Secretary.

From CYPRUS FARMERS' UNION, NICOSIA, CYPRUS

Dear brothers,

On the occasion of your 13th Annual Conference, the Central Committee of the Cyprus Farmers' Union of the agricultural workers and peasants of Cyprus, are sending to you the warmest fraternal greetings.

We wish your Conference the best success in your fight for better living and working conditions, for land reform, for the development of a peaceful economy.

We are sending our warm and fraternal greetings to all agricultural and forestry workers and working peasants of India who are carrying on every day the big battle to bar the way to imperialism and to ensure well-being, freedom and peace.

With the guidance of our TUIAFW and the international solidarity of the agricultural and forestry workers and the working peasants, we will ensure a lasting peace and better life to all working peoples of the world.

Long live the 13th Conference of All-India Kisan Sabha!

Long live the working peasants of India!

Long live our TUIAFW!

*Long live the international solidarity of the peasants
of all the world over!*

*Long live peace and friendship among the peoples of
all the world over!*

With best wishes,

Fraternally,
Chambis Michaelides
General Secretary

From ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS, DELHI.

Dear Comrade,

On the eve of the Annual Conference of the AIKS, the AITUC on behalf of the Indian working class sends its warmest greetings to the peasant masses and agricultural workers of our country through your organisation. In its struggle for land reforms, for fixing a ceiling on land holdings, against eviction, for fair prices for agricultural commodities, etc., the peasantry of our country can rely on the support and solidarity of the Indian working class. The certain gains that had been won both by the workers and peasants were possible because of the unity and struggle of the masses organised in trade unions and kisan sabhas.

The AITUC wishes the Conference every success in its efforts to further strengthen its organisation and mobilise the peasantry in order to effect radical land reforms in our country. The AITUC once again expresses its warmest greetings to the AIKS.

With greetings,

Fraternally yours,
Secretariat.

*From NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDIAN WOMEN,
DELHI.*

In our agricultural country, the kisan holds a very important position and as the producer of the food for the nation, should have all the advantages, such as food, clothing, shelter, education and medical aid. When we ask for the rights of women and work for the defence of children, we always remember our kisan sisters and their children, who form the bulk of our population, and have always taken a prominent part in the struggle for their rights and also shouldering the responsibilities of work along with their husbands in the fields.

We wish you all success in the work you are doing for these, who are the backbone of our country and send you our greetings.

Anasuya Gianchand,
Joint Secretary.

*From GENERAL ENGINEERING EMPLOYEES' UNION,
BOMBAY*

Dear Comrade,

We have to inform you that we have been able to enrol about 400 workers belonging to General Engineering Employees' Union and General Kamgar Union as Reception Committee members. We also hope that we will be able to muster few more workers as the members of the Reception Committee within a short time that is at our disposal. We wish to inform you that about 20 workers from different factories and office-bearers of our union would be attending the Conference as delegates.

We are, in our day-to-day propoganda, trying to put before the working class of Bombay the importance of this Conference and most of all the important role which the working class and the peasants will have to play in the days to come. We are very glad to inform you that the workers of Bombay have every feeling of appreciation for the great and tremendous problem which this Conference has set itself to solve in the interest of the peasants, the working class and all the working masses as a whole. We wish your Conference a grand success and trust that your Conference will be successful in keeping proper and correct perspective on the lines of which the working masses in co-operation with the peasants should march to achieve the cherished goal of socialism. We once again express our fraternal feelings and greetings, and wish the Conference all success.

Yours fraternally,
M. V. Gopalan,
Organising Secretary.

Messages of greetings were received from the following also:

Shri N. M. Joshi, veteran trade union leader;
Bombay State Mithagar Kamgar Federation;
All-India Peasants' and Workers' Party.

RESOLUTIONS

I. On Kisan Martyrs

The Thirteenth Session of the All-India Kisan Sabha is profoundly grieved at the death of Comrade **Gotu Sahai**, Secretary, Madhya Bharat Kisan Sabha, Comrade **Devi Das** of PEPSU and Comrade **Ummar Kutty** of Atoli (Malabar) who were murdered by the landlord goondas and pays homage to the memory of these glorious martyrs and pledges to fulfil the noble cause for which they laid down their lives.

The Sabha at the same time condemns the action of those responsible for the murders and demands due punishment for their nefarious action.

II. Condolences

The Thirteenth Session of the AIKS deeply mourns the death of the following Kisan Sabha workers who faithfully served the great cause of the kisans of India and the Kisan Sabha and offers heartfelt sympathies to their bereaved families.

1. Nityananda Choudhury (Kisan and labour leader of Bengal)
2. Satyen Majumdar (Eminent democratic journalist and one of the Vice-Presidents of the Bengal Kisan Sabha at the time of its birth.)
3. Mohan Bhujan Pathari Pradhan (Orissa)

III. On Andhra and Telangana Representation

Taking into consideration the extreme organizational difficulty of Telengana and Andhra Provinces in enrolling primary members in time, this Session decides that all representatives of Andhra PKC and Telangana PKC who have come to attend this Session from Andhra or Telangana or who may arrive later be allowed to participate as full dele-

gates. The number would not exceed 20 for each of the two provinces.

IV. On the President for the New Year

This Session elects Shri Nana Patil as the President of the All-India Kisan Sabha for the next year.

V. On Refusal of Visa to Foreign Delegates

The Thirteenth Session of the AIKS condemns the action of the Government of India in refusing visas to the fraternal delegates from Indonesia and Poland who wanted to attend this Session.

The Session demands from the Government of India a change in this policy by which opportunity for fraternal exchange of peasant delegations is denied.

VI. On the Restrictions to Hold the Mass Rally

This Session of the AIKS demands of the Government of Bombay that it immediately withdraws the totally unjustifiable and unwarranted order of the District Magistrate, Thana, in refusing permission to hold the mass rally at the place at the beach for which permission had been asked for.

VII. On the Liberation of Goa, Daman and Diu

This Session of AIKS greets the people of Goa, Daman and Diu whose struggle for liberation from the yoke of Portuguese colonial rule, and to rejoin India is ever gaining momentum. Goa, Daman and Diu are indivisible parts of India. The people of these territories are Indians and it is their inalienable right to assert their independence and freedom to rejoin India. But the Portuguese colonialists far from recognising this right, are invoking the aid of the NATO powers in their struggle to crush the freedom struggle of the people of Goa. Large contingents of foreign colonial troops have been imported into these territories, military bases are being built with the aid of foreign imperialist powers. Hundreds of Goan and Indian satyagrahis

and freedom-fighters have been flung in jail; some have been sentenced to 20 to 30 years of transportation and several including women satyagrahis brutally beaten and manhandled. The recent firing on satyagrahis and the wounding of several of them, the beating and manhandling of Shri N. G. Goray and the 70-year-old veteran freedom fighter Senapathi Bapat are the latest examples of this Portuguese fascist terror.

This Session of the AIKS declares that the Indian people will not tolerate this state of affairs and fully supports the ever-growing united efforts of the Indian and Goan people to break the shackles of Portuguese colonial rule. But the Indian Government instead of directly aiding the Goan people in this struggle for freedom has on the other hand banned Indian citizens from entering Goa. This thoroughly indefensible ban has proved a great obstacle in the way of developing the popular efforts for Goa's liberation, which in consequence has only helped the Portuguese colonialists.

This Session of the AIKS demands that this ban be immediately lifted and declares that the time has now come for the Indian Government to take firm and direct action for the liberation of these Portuguese pockets.

The Session congratulates the Warli peasants of Nagar Haveli and of the neighbouring parts, who in their thousands played a heroic role in wiping out Portuguese colonial rule in this enclave and in liberating the peasants there from the yoke of serfdom and semi-slavery.

The Session is confident that the peasants of Belgaum, Ratnagiri, Thana and Saurashtra on the border of Goa, Daman and Diu will follow the glorious example of the peasants of Nagar Haveli and render similar aid to the people of the Portuguese pockets.

The Session extends its full support to the liberation struggle of the people of Goa, Daman and Diu and to the united efforts made by all Indian political parties to give aid to the same and calls upon the peasants of India to enthusiastically participate in this struggle and give full support to the liberation struggle.

VIII. On the Struggle of the Textile Workers of Kanpur and Amritsar

The Thirteenth Session of the AIKS sends greeting of fraternal solidarity to the textile workers of Kanpur and Amritsar who rose in heroic united struggles against the attack of rationalisation and victimisation launched against them by the profit-hunting capitalists.

The Congress Government of Uttar Pradesh, instead of forcing the owners to negotiate with the workers, have on the other hand supported the owners in their drive for rationalisation, launched a round of repression and mass arrests against the workers. The terror and repression let loose by the UP Government went beyond any limit. The workers' bustees were raided by the police and they were brutally lathi-charged, an arrested worker's wife was even violated and no action was taken against the guilty policemen. This Session condemns such vile and brutal repression and demands that it be stopped forthwith, the guilty policemen be brought to book, and the arrested workers and their leaders be released and be treated as political prisoners till their release.

This Session also demands that the Government intervenes in the dispute so that negotiations are opened between the workers and the employers for the settlement of the just demands of the workers.

The Congress Government of Punjab, in the same way, rushed to the aid of the profit-hunting owners. The police of Punjab have arrested a thousand workers and their leaders and have wounded scores of workers in wanton lathi-charges and tear-gas attacks. This Session demands of the Government of Punjab to put a stop to this repression, release the arrested persons and compel the owners to accede to the just demands of the workers including the reinstatement of victimised workers.

The Session congratulates the workers of Kanpur who have forged exemplary unity of the workers of all political and trade union affiliations, in their heroic struggle against

the employers' offensive of work-load and in defence of their living standards.

The Session congratulates all the workers of Amritsar who unitedly rushed to the assistance of the workers of one textile mill who were fighting against victimisation. The Session especially congratulates the peasantry of the neighbouring rural area who rendered fraternal assistance to the striking textile workers of Amritsar in the form of grain and food worth several thousands of rupees, thus creating a splendid example of worker-peasant unity. This Session specially feels proud of the thousands of peasants assembled in defence of the brave workers and the 25 peasants who courted arrest along with the workers.

The Session extends its full support to the workers of Kanpur and Amritsar in their struggle against the capitalist offensive and for the improvement of their living conditions, for their democratic and trade union rights.

IX. On Rural Indebtedness and Credit

The problem of rural indebtedness and the need to provide timely and cheap credit for the rural poor are of great importance today because the steep fall in the prices of agricultural commodities is enhancing the burden of rural indebtedness and making it increasingly difficult for the rural people to secure credit. They are of importance also because of the growing rural unemployment which affects the agricultural labourers, share-croppers and even poor peasants.

The problem of rural indebtedness used to attract the attention of the Government and non-official publicists in the 1930s when, because of the urgency caused by depression, most of the Provincial Governments had to come out with various measures of immediate relief to the indebted peasants.

This problem was stated to have been, to a very large extent, solved in the years of war and inflation when agricultural commodities rose in value, and, in consequence, the peasants were supposed to have been able to make con-

siderable profit. But, as some of the detailed investigations conducted at that time had made it clear, this war-time gain was not shared by the entire peasantry, but accrued only to well-to-do peasants and landlords. The Madras investigation conducted by Dr. Narayanaswami Naidu, for example, pointed out that, while the debt burden of landlords and well-to-do peasants was reduced, that of agricultural labourers and poor peasants increased in the years of war. This was natural in an economy where a handful of landlords, traders and moneylenders control the major part of the marketable agricultural produce.

The 1952 recession, particularly the recent fall in the prices of cash and food crops, still further accentuated the position of rural indebtedness, affecting as it did all sections of the people who depend on agriculture, or occupations akin to agriculture, for their means of livelihood. This has drawn the attention of all those who are interested in the welfare of the rural people to this problem. The pressure of people has become so strong that, in some States, the Government had to take measures to alleviate the distress of the indebted peasantry (e.g., moratorium in Madras).

Recent investigations, conducted by a Committee of the Reserve Bank of India, showed that the total amount of rural indebtedness is about Rs. 900 crores. The experience of Kisan Sabha workers shows that this is an underestimation. Furthermore, the major part of the debt is owed to moneylenders who resort to various measures, legal and illegal, to exploit their debtors, the majority of whom are landless labourers, share-croppers, tenants and peasants with uneconomic holdings.

The AIKS and other organisations interested in the welfare of the rural poor, have continuously drawn the attention of the Government and the public to the fact that the problem of rural indebtedness is inseparably linked with the problem of ending the landlord-moneylender exploitation of the peasants, agricultural labourers and handicraftsmen. Only by ending the system under which the major part of what the rural poor produce is taken away from them by way of landlords' rent, moneylenders' inte-

rest, traders' profit and various oppressive taxes of the Government, can a real and lasting solution of the problem of indebtedness be found. The Kisan Sabha and other democratic organisations have also made it clear that the solution of the problem of rural indebtedness requires the freeing of our rural economy from the iron grip of the imperialist world market.

The 13th Session of the AIKS notes that, while these basic aspects of the problem are still neglected by the Government and allied agencies, they have recently been forced, under the pressure of circumstances, to recognise the importance of the problem of rural credit and even to come out with outspoken criticism of the existing structure of rural credit. For example, the Report of the Committee of Direction appointed by the Reserve Bank of India in order to conduct an All-India Rural Credit Survey, sums up the present position as follows:

"Today, the agricultural credit that is supplied falls short of the right quantity, is not of the right type, does not serve the right purpose, and by the criterion of need (not overlooking the criterion of credit-worthiness), often fails to go to the right people. The moneylender in most places, including the low economy or subsistence areas, and both he and the trader in the cash crop or more commercialised regions, provide the cultivator with all but a small proportion of the rural credit actually obtained by him. Somewhere near 3 per cent of the total requirement is met by co-operatives, and a like proportion by Governments. Commercial banks hardly come into the picture. The moneylender takes no account of purpose and charges as high a rate of interest as he can; the trader lends or advances for production but pays as low a price as he can. The small fraction of credit supplied by co-operatives tends to follow ownership of land; it could be related to produce, if produce were channelled through co-operatives; but co-operative marketing is weak, undeveloped and in quantitative terms insignificant. Co-operative credit is more developed; but, even so, much the larger part of the cultivating population is still outside its ambit. The loans which the Gov-

ernment advances are, like co-operative loans, found on investigation to gravitate to the big and large cultivators in preference to the medium and small. Neither co-operatives nor Governments have adequate supervisory arrangements to ensure that such little accommodation as they give is utilised for productive purposes."

The AIKS is of the opinion that the analysis made by the Committee of Direction is totally inadequate. For:

Firstly, it does not even pose the problem of the huge existing burden of debt lying on the shoulders of the rural poor, not to speak of making proposals for scaling it down.

Secondly, the Report does not relate the question of rural credit to the main social-economic problem of freeing the rural poor from the exploitation and oppression of landlords; it does not take account of the fact that no solution can be found for the problem of rural indebtedness and credit, unless the present system of landlord-tenant relationships are fundamentally altered with a view to enabling the peasants to appropriate to themselves the major part of the value which they produce.

Thirdly, and finally, the Report does not envisage that organised action of the class conscious peasantry, agricultural labourers and handicraftsmen through which alone can the exploitation of the landlord, moneylender and the trader be ended and rural poor enabled to enjoy the fruits of their labour. It relies on the bureaucratic machinery to solve the problem of rural credit.

The AIKS, however, notes that the Report of the Committee of Direction makes certain proposals which, if implemented, will be an improvement on the existing position, though they fall far short of the actual requirements of rural credit. These proposals are mainly the following:

1. The formation of a state bank through the amalgamation of the Imperial Bank of India and the existing state-owned or state-associated banks in various States. This proposal has already been accepted by the Central Government and the Parliament has adopted a legislation for the setting up of a state bank. It is expected that 100

new branches will be opened within five years with a view to provide credit for rural areas.

2. The formation of five National Funds, to be formed out of annual allotments by the Government of India and the Reserve Bank of India of not less than Rs. 12 crores, over and above initial non-recurring allocation of another Rs. 10 crores. These National Funds, formed by Government of India and the Reserve Bank of India, are to be supplemented by similar funds formed by the State Governments and Co-operative Banks at various levels.

3. Setting up of organisations at the all-India, State, District and Primary levels for provision of credit as well as for organisation of co-operative marketing, processing, societies, etc. These organisations are: a National Co-operative Development and Warehousing Board and a National Warehousing Corporation at the Centre; a Co-operative Bank, a Warehousing Company and a Co-operative Marketing Society at the State level; Co-operative Banks, Marketing Societies and Land Mortgage Banks at District level; and Agricultural Credit, Land Mortgage and Grain Banks, as well as Marketing Societies at the Primary level.

The Scheme is thus one of relatively expanding credit on the one hand and extending the network of co-operative organisations on the other.

The programme does not, of course, touch even the fringe of the problem of rural credit, because the allocation of Rs. 12 crores per year by the Central Government and the Reserve Bank of India, even when supplemented by similar allocations by the State Governments and Co-operative Banks, fall far short of the annual rural credit requirements, calculated at Rs. 750 crores per year. The network of co-operative organisations proposed to be set up will also, under the present circumstances, be so much dominated by landlords, moneylenders, traders and a handful of well-to-do peasants that the mass of rural poor will be deprived of even the meagre allocations made by the Government and the co-operative movement for helping them. Above all, it does not offer any solution for the pro-

blem of existing indebtedness whose solution is of crucial importance today.

Nevertheless, the allocation of even this much of cash by the Central and State Governments, the Reserve Bank and the co-operative movement, together with the setting up of co-operative organisations at the Central, State, District and Primary levels, is of great importance for the peasant movement: strong and properly functioning organisations of the peasantry and other sections of the rural poor can utilise the co-operative organisations, proposed to be set up under the scheme, in order to provide various forms of relief to the rural poor.

The 13th Session of the AIKS, therefore, calls upon all units of the Sabha to take initiative and:

(a) popularise the proposals made by the Government and allied agencies for the expansion of rural credit and for expanding the network of co-operative organisations in order to prepare the peasantry for taking full advantage of whatever facilities are now proposed to be provided by the Government and allied agencies.

(b) Study and work out concrete plans of organising Agricultural Credit Societies, Grain Banks, Land Mortgage Banks, Marketing Societies, etc., at the Primary level, in order to mobilise the people and force the Government to implement at least the programme outlined by them. Units of the Sabha should see to it that whatever organisation is set up under the new scheme does not become an instrument in the hands of landlords, moneylenders and traders, but is made subject to popular control and function in the interests of the rural poor.

(c) Strengthen the Kisan Sabha, forge unity with other organisations of the rural poor and thus build a powerful movement around the following demands:

- Adequate and foolproof measures for control over moneylenders (control on the rate of interest, strict measures against illegal practices, etc.).
- Redemption of mortgaged lands, cancellation of old and scaling down of the debts owed by agricultural labourers, handicraftsmen and such sections of the

peasantry as cannot bear the burden of their existing debts.

- Establishment of debt conciliation boards, which should include representatives of the peasants.
- Stoppage of attachment of houses, land and other property of indebted peasants and necessary legislation for the same.
- Moratorium on rural indebtedness till the above measures have been enforced.
- Increased provision of rural credit.
- Opening of Grain Banks in the villages.
- Immediate revision of the rules under which credit is now provided either by the Government or by the co-operative movement, such as, provision of credit on personal security, or on the security of crops, in place of the present system of credit on the security of land.

The Session desires to impress upon all units of the Kisan Sabha the importance of taking up the questions of rural indebtedness and credit in these times of falling prices which impose heavy and growing burdens on the peasantry. All the units of the Sabha, therefore, should take upon themselves the two-fold task of:

- (a) Utilising whatever opportunities are proposed to be provided by official agencies, and:
- (b) Of building a powerful movement to secure relief from the rural indebtedness.

X. On Land Acquisition

Large areas of fertile, cultivated lands of the peasants, and in many cases whole villages, have been or are proposed to be acquired by the Government for construction of irrigation and other multi-purpose projects, digging of canals and drainage, roads, etc., and also for military purposes, forests, etc.

The AIKS notes with concern that the various State Governments have either paid no compensation in most

cases or very inadequate compensation in those few cases where it has been given, or undertaken practically little responsibility of resettling the population in occupation of those lands or residing in such villages, even though the land had been acquired in certain cases for over three or four years. Generally the lands are acquired without any previous notice and without any consultation with the village population. As a result of that, most extravagant acquisitions are made by the bureaucratic Government machinery who often misuse their authority also to take large amounts of bribes by favouring a few influential persons as against the people in general.

A number of villages have been acquired at the Bhakra Dam site and lakhs of acres of fertile lands of the peasants have been occupied under its canal system in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, PEPSU and Rajasthan.

In Sambalpur District in Orissa six hundred villages would be submerged under the Hirakud Dam out of which one hundred villages are to be taken over by June this year. Without providing any land or houses, or payment of compensation in any form to the people, Orissa Government is forcing the inhabitants to vacate the villages. Similarly about 28,000 peasants of Bihar have been forced to evacuate their lands and villages for Damodar Valley dams. About one hundred villages in Madhya Bharat are included in the submerged area of Gandhi Sagar dam. Twenty-five villages in Jhansi district of U.P. are being evacuated for constructing a field-firing range. Such things are happening in other States also. But practically no proper arrangements for the rehabilitation of these peasants are made.

In Bihar and Bengal, lands have been acquired for construction of Sindri Fertiliser Factory and Chittaranjan Locomotive Works, and the representatives of inhabitants of those areas have complained in Parliament that compensation has not been paid so far. In Asansol of Bengal, several villages have been notified for acquisition for constructing a coke-oven plant. Twenty-seven villages of Hoshiarpur, Punjab, have been notified for acquisition for a fertiliser factory.

Thousands of acres of land have been acquired under Mayurakshi and Damodar Valley Canal Projects and much more is proposed to be acquired in Bengal. Thousands of acres are acquired under Kosi Project in Bihar. Several villages in Maharashtra are similarly notified for acquisition under Koyna project.

In Assam many tribal villages have been acquired under Umthru Hydro-Electric Project.

In majority of such cases of land acquisition, neither any compensation has been paid nor any alternative resettlement of displaced population has been undertaken. In certain States like Punjab, PEPSU, Bengal and Madhya Bharat, although large areas of fertile lands have been acquired long since, the original owners are still made to pay even the land revenue and other land taxes.

In the few cases where compensation has been paid, it is very inadequate. In certain cases quite nominal price of land is proposed to be paid and in others it is proposed to be adjusted in the cost of projects. In Assam, the Assam Oil Company, subsidiary of a British oil company, has got the right to acquire lands anywhere in an area of 64 square miles. Faced with the anger and opposition of the villages, this Company was prepared to pay Rs. 1200 per bigha by way of compensation but the Assam Government intervened and got the land acquired at Rs. 200 per bigha only!

The landlords are paid more than full compensation for the lands under their tenants. The Imperial Bank shareholders are being paid many times more than the actual value of their shares. This reveals that under the plea of "Public Utility", the Government proposes to deprive the poor population of their meagre source of livelihood without proper compensation, while compensating the big landlords and capitalists to the fullest.

This Session further notes with concern that although a good proportion of the lands that were acquired by the Government during the last war period for constructing aerodromes and for other military purposes, is not required now for those purposes, yet it is not returned to the peasants. Moreover, in many cases, the peasants even

now have got no compensation or price of their lands. Much land was also acquired not for any public purposes, but for private foreign companies, such as the Belapur Sugar Company in Maharashtra, with meagre compensation and though much of these lands can yet be made available to the peasants, it is not being returned.

This Session of the AIKS condemns the Government action in displacing the poor cultivators of land and other village population without their resettlement or proper compensation. The Sabha demands that:

1) Where whole villages or the entire land of any cultivator is proposed to be occupied, before taking possession of the area, the Government should undertake the resettlement of the occupants with all the facilities they enjoyed on some nearby suitable area.

2) For all lands and areas acquired so far, the Government should compensate at the full market value, with alternative land and houses or in cash, whatever the displaced persons prefer, at the earliest. Land revenues and other land taxes that have been collected after the lands concerned were acquired, should be returned to the peasants. The loss incurred by peasants for the narrow strips of land that are made uncultivable by adjoining parallel canals or in other ways should be fully compensated.

3) Where the land acquired or proposed to be acquired is occupied by tenant cultivators, the compensation in the form of alternative land or cash should be paid to the tenants and not the landlords.

4) All acquisition of land should be made with due notice and in full consultation with the population of that area.

5) Lands that were acquired for military and other purposes but are not required now or can be spared for cultivation should be returned to the original peasants and full compensation for others should be paid forthwith without any further delay.

XI. On Peace

The Thirteenth Session of the AIKS sends its greetings to all fighters for world peace and expresses its determination to mobilise its entire forces to re-invigorate the peace movement in India.

The Indian kisans stand for peace because war, as an adventure of the imperialist powers, aims at subjugating the free peoples of the world and at strengthening the bondage of colonies and semi-colonies. The Indian kisans, with their glorious record in the struggle for national independence, stand for peace because peace assures the strengthening of India's national sovereignty.

The warmongering imperialist powers led by the aggressive ruling circles in USA have created insuperable obstacles in the way of free exchange of products in the sphere of international trade. In consequence, the Indian kisans continue to suffer from the shrinkage of the world market where they can dispose of their exportable crops and obtain a fair price. Under the impact of war preparations made by the imperialist warmongers, the agrarian crisis in India becomes deepened, and the way out of this crisis can be effectively secured under conditions of lasting peace.

The AIKS, therefore, pledges its full support to the world peace movement and feels proud to rally under the banner of the movement together with all other peace-loving peoples in India and the world.

This Session, therefore, reiterates the support of the Indian kisans to the principles consisting of non-aggression and peaceful co-existence as embodied in the Chou-Nehru Pact and appeals to all lovers of peace in India to raise the the peace movement to a higher pitch so that an All-Asian Peace Pact and Five-Power Peace Pact ultimately leading to a World Peace Pact on the basis of those 5 principles, which have been further elaborated at Bandung, become irresistible. On the success of this movement the Indian kisans can be assured of working out their own path to a better life and a better social system, unhindered by any foreign power.

The South-East Asia Treaty Organisation is a menace to the independence of Asian peoples and a means, in the hands of American imperialism backed by its British partners, to interfere in the affairs of the Asian peoples. This Session, therefore, condemns the SEATO and the US-Pakistan Military Pact. This Session appeals to the peoples of India and Pakistan to unite in friendly relation to defeat the aggressive designs of the American imperialists. This conference declares that India will frustrate all efforts of the US to make Asians fight against Asians.

This Session greets the Manifesto of the great Conference of the Representatives of Asian and African peoples held at Bandung baffling all sabotaging efforts of the American imperialists. The outcome of this Conference marks a significant victory of the forces of peace, national independence and racial equality. It has given a stunning blow to the imperialist enslavers and warmongers.

For the sake of peace, non-aggression and peaceful co-existence, the AIKS supports the demand of the World Peace Congress, that all international disputes must be settled by negotiations and through peaceful means with full respect to sovereignty of the nations. The Kisan Sabha condemns the manoeuvres of the American imperialists to unsettle Korean Peace Pact and the Geneva Agreement on Vietnam and demands of the Indian Government to use all its strength to get the terms of the agreements fulfilled.

The encirclement of Taiwan by the armed forces of the USA, is an aggressive action against the Chinese people and therefore a threat to the peace of Asia. Taiwan belongs to China and must be restored to her in fulfilment of international pledges and the Chinese People's Republic must be given its due place in the United Nations.

By rearmament of West Germany and by drawing her into an aggressive alliance such as the Atlantic Pact and the European Army, the aggressive imperialist powers are menacing the peace and freedom of the peoples of the world. This Session, therefore, urges upon the Government of India to use its international position and prestige against

these dangerous manoeuvres, because peace will not be preserved in Asia if war breaks out in Europe.

In the name of peace, humanity and all that is best in India's great cultural heritage, this Session demands that the piles of atom bombs and hydrogen bombs must be destroyed and any further tests of these weapons internationally prohibited. It also demands the prohibition of the use and preparation of bacteriological weapons. It demands progressive disarmament of all the big powers to stop the drive towards war.

This Session urges upon the Indian kisans to assert their voice against atom and hydrogen bombs which threaten the entire human civilization with destruction. By giving their signatures to the Appeal of the World Peace Congress they can and must make their voice effective, so that the Atom-maniacs are confronted with a mighty mass protest that can stop the blood-stained hands of the war-mongers.

This Session directs that the Provincial Kisan Committees must fix up quotas for the collection of signatures and take necessary steps to fulfil the quotas, that in each province a fortnight must be observed for the purpose of intensifying this signature campaign and that August Seventh must be observed as the Hiroshima Day.

This Session sends its greetings to the World Peace Congress to be held at Helsinki and decides to send a delegation to the Congress.

The AIKS offers its greetings to the peace-loving peoples of the world who have succeeded in preventing the use of nuclear weapons up to date and expresses the confidence that their entire might will rise higher than ever before so that no power on earth can ever dare to use atomic energy for the purpose of war, so that the piled stocks of nuclear weapons exist no more.

XII. On Growing Tax Burdens

The AIKS at its last Session held in Moga, after reviewing the growing tax burdens on rural people, demanded from the Government:

- a) Cancellation of surcharge on land revenue, betterment levy, and such other taxes on the peasants;
- b) Cancellation of increment on water rates;
- c) Cancellation of all taxes that are oppressive to the common people, like the excise duty on tobacco, etc., sales-tax on essential commodities, profession tax, marriage tax, toll and octroi duties;
- d) Replacement of existing unscientific and lopsided land revenue system by a graded tax on agriculture, with exemption to poor peasants.

The Congress Government, instead of accepting the reasonable and just demands of the people and thus fulfilling the promises it itself has been making for a long time, has come out with a declaration accepting almost all the recommendations of the Taxation Enquiry Commission.

The Taxation Enquiry Commission, set with the task of making recommendations, in particular, with regard to (a) modifications required in the present system of taxation, and (b) fresh avenues of taxation, has submitted its report which contains recommendations, which, far from alleviating the tax burdens on the rural people, underline increasing the tax burdens on them. These recommendations while giving tax reliefs to monopolists and industrial magnates, suggest innumerable and unconscionable direct and indirect taxes, duties and levies on the peasants, agricultural and other rural labourers. Its recommendations contain:

- basic multi-point sales-tax of 0.5% with a single point sales-tax on higher turnover at rates suitable to the States;
- imposition of electricity duty;
- surcharge on land revenue, with resettlement for every 10 years; betterment levy;

- determining water rate payable by those who take water on consideration of quantity of water taken, the extent of benefits realised by the cultivator and ability to pay, in addition to covering the debt charges and overhead charges;
- property tax, services tax, duty on transfer of property, taxes on vehicles, animals and boats, theatre tax, tolls, taxes on professions, trades, callings and employment;
- retention of tobacco excise-duty, State tobacco taxes and coffee duty and duties on cement, soap, footwear, etc.;
- increase in duty on matches, all varieties of cloth;
- excise duty on vegetable oils, indigenous biscuits, paper, aerated waters, paints and varnishes, etc.

One of the most sinister recommendations made by the Taxation Enquiry Commission is that, in future, state grants to local boards and village panchayats should be reduced to the minimum and even such grants as are made, should be linked with the amount of 'voluntary labour' forthcoming from the area concerned.

This list of taxes to be newly imposed or increased, recommended by the Taxation Enquiry Commission, is not exhaustive but this itself shows how, in the name of financing development plans, etc., the Central and State Governments are going to impose tremendous tax burdens on the common people. The level of the increase can be seen from the simple fact that by enhancing the existing and imposing new duties alone, the Central Government would be getting an increase in Central excises of 40 to 45 per cent, as the Taxation Enquiry Commission itself points out.

Even before the Taxation Enquiry Commission's report was published, the tax burdens on the rural people were excessively heavy. As the Taxation Enquiry Commission itself admits, 45 per cent of the existing revenue of the country is being raised from taxes on commodities particularly of household consumption. It also states that whereas in 1944-45 direct taxation brought in 45 per cent

of the revenue, in 1953-54, i.e., in ten years' time, it went down to 24 per cent, thus showing that indirect taxation had enormously increased.

Already, several State Governments have been imposing many of the taxes recommended by the Taxation Enquiry Commission. Surcharge on land revenue is being imposed in some States. Local board cesses have been increased, in some States, to 8 annas per rupee of the land revenue. Heavy betterment levy and development tax, on all possible excuses, have been imposed. Irrigation rates are universally increased, in some States, to the level of Rs. 120 to Rs. 150 per acre. Octrois, tolls, terminal taxes, panchayat taxes, and such obnoxious taxes like those on birth and marriage dinners, marriage registration fees, professional tax including on those age-old village servants, typical of Indian economy.

While such heavy and new tax burdens are being imposed on the peasants and other toilers of the villages, the majority of the State Governments have not yet imposed even agricultural income tax and the estate duties on agricultural properties, thus showing a partiality towards the landlord sections.

Under these circumstances, to state that taxes have not increased in proportion to prices or that the proportion of land revenue to total tax income is much less than before war, as has been done by the Taxation Enquiry Commission, is a travesty of reality.

The increase of existing taxes and imposition of new taxes, as well as the recommendations of the Taxation Enquiry Commission, are all the more unconscionable and ruinous at a time when the prices of agricultural commodities have registered a steep fall and the whole agrarian economy is in jeopardy and the demon of rural indebtedness for which tax burden is one of the main contributories, is threatening the rural people with utter bankruptcy.

This Session of the AIKS reiterates its stand taken at the last session and states that multiplicity of taxes on land and indirect taxes through all conceivable methods is a de-

ception and vicious method of enhancing the tax burden on the agriculturists. It stands for replacement of the existing unscientific, lopsided and regressive land revenue system by a graded tax on agriculture, with exemption to poor peasants. It also demands the reduction of taxes, which have been unduly raised in recent times, as the tobacco excise duty, water rate, etc., for whatever excuses there may be for their increase in the past, now the all-round precipitous fall in prices of all agricultural produce demands such reduction immediately.

The Government has no right to talk of the monetary requirements of welfare activities and of the capital requirements of economic reconstruction in relation to the question of taxation so long as it goes on increasing the tax burden on the common people and reducing it on the rich, so long as it pays crores of rupees to rajas, maharajas and jagirdars as compensation and privy purses, so long as it pays millions in the form of pensions to British officers, so long as it allows British and foreign monopolies to export millions in form of profits, so long as it pays fabulous salaries to higher government officers and a miserable pittance to low-paid servants, so long as it spends such a vast portion of the tax revenue on the police and other repressive machinery of the state directed against the toilers in every one of their struggles, and so long as the extravagance, waste and corruption in all services, particularly in construction projects and state trading, are not put an end to.

The AIKS declares that the problem of taking the country forward to prosperity while simultaneously bringing about a rapid increase in the tax revenue can only be solved by the abolition of landlordism without compensation, distributing land to the tiller, confiscation of British capital, and strictly regulating the profits of Indian big capitalists.

The illustrious example of China, where gigantic advances in national production and a rapid improvement in the standard of living of the people have gone hand in hand with rapidly expanding state incomes on the basis of the

turn-over tax on industry and a graded land tax, is a model that India also must place before itself.

Meanwhile, banning the export of profits by foreign monopoly concerns and ploughing them back in the interest of the country's economic development; restricting Indian monopoly profits; estate duties; requisitioning of private resources of the Indian princes; the taking over by the state of the export-import transactions at present monopolised by foreign concerns; a corporation tax; shifting of India's gold reserves from England to India; putting a check to the loot of feudal interests and stopping the drain of compensation paid to them and similar other methods of gathering capital resources from the rich, is the correct method of raising capital for national reconstruction. It is also the method for keeping up a constant increase in national production while simultaneously raising the purchasing power of the people. This alone is the path to a genuine welfare state and national reconstruction which have always been championed by AIKS, and which are being accepted more and more by other democratic organisations in the country.

The AIKS feels proud of the fact that several struggles have taken place in various states against the unjust and ruinous increase in various taxes and calls upon the peasants, agricultural labour and other rural labourers to continue to fight against fresh burdens on them. It particularly calls upon them to fight against the enhancement of water rates, imposition of multi-point sales-tax and several local taxes, collection of betterment levy and development tax even where there was no betterment or development due to Government measures and such other patently unjust taxes, duties and levies. It also directs the Central Kisan Council to take steps to co-ordinate and develop these struggles and give them an all-India character by organising conferences on individual issues of immediate importance. ✓

XIII. On the Prices of Agricultural Commodities

The AIKS views with grave concern the recent fall in prices of agricultural commodities, both industrial raw materials and foodgrains. This fall in prices is comparable to what had followed the 1952 recession affecting all cash crops.

Prices in 1953 & 1955 (in Rupees)

Commodity	Place	Dec. 53	Jan. 55	Fall
Jawar (Md.)	Amravati	10-10	7- 0	3-10
Bajra (240 lbs.)	Hyderabad	34-13	25- 0	9-13
Gram (Md.)	Patna	15- 0	7- 4	7-12
" "	Hapur	14- 8	7-14	6-10
Dal (Arhar) (Md.)	"	12- 0	6-14	5- 2
Gur (Md.)	Ahmedabad	19- 8	12-12	6-12
Gingely seed (Md.)	Calcutta	42- 0	26- 0	16- 0
Castor seed (Md.)	Madras	18- 0	13-0	5- 0
Groundnut (Md.)	Bombay	35-10	22- 2	13- 8
Groundnut cake (Md.)	"	7- 8	5-12	1-12
Tobacco (Md.)	Bengal	120-13	87-13	33- 0
Pepper (Md.)	Alleppey	220- 0	140- 0	80- 0
Gingely cake (Ton)	"	325- 0	270- 0	55- 0
Copra (Candy)	Cochin	395- 7	354- 0	41- 7
Cocoonut oil (Candy)	"	562- 6	449- 8	112-14
Cocoanuts (per 1000)	"	250- 0	100- 0	150- 0
Tapioca (Candy)	"	50- 0	10- 0	40- 0

The price of paddy has gone down in many provinces from Rs. 10 to Rs. 5 or 6 per maund and price of wheat has fallen to Rs. 9 and Rs. 10 from Rs. 16 per maund. Transactions in gur have been made at Rs. 9 or 8 per maund

The price of cotton has gone down to Rs. 16 from Rs. 32, while the price of cloth remains the same. Jute is a very important cash crop in our country, of which India and Pakistan are monopoly producers and is mainly consumed by British-owned factories. The price of this crop has fallen by more than 50 per cent in three years, while the price index of jute manufactures rose from 423 to 457.

As against this steep fall in the prices of agricultural commodities, the prices of manufactured goods stand where they were or have shown an upward trend.

<i>Month</i>	<i>Food</i>	<i>Raw material</i>	<i>Manufactured goods</i>
December 1953	367.0	459.3	363.8
June 1954	343.2	441.0	378.7
December, 1954	318.0	436.3	375.1
31st January, 1955	302.5	427.8	376.5
19th February, 1955	304.9	438.8	376.6

The price of sugar went up from Rs. 233 to Rs. 301 while it is well-known that the Government reduced the price of sugarcane from Rs. 1-12-0 to Rs. 1-7-0 per maund.

While there is a steep fall in the prices of agricultural commodities, the cost of production in agriculture remains the same as also the cost of the other necessities of life which the peasant consumes. This is having a disastrous effect on our economy and vast numbers of peasants are being ruined.

In addition to this, the noticeable fact is that the price of a crop always reaches a very low level in the harvesting season when the crop is in the hands of the grower, but immediately after it reaches the monopolist trader, the price goes up far beyond the purchasing capacity of the consumer. While the grower gets less, the consumer has to pay more. The net result is that wherever the peasant suffers from low prices, the common consumer also does not get much benefit. Moreover, it tends to further increase the unemployment of the agricultural labourers.

It is the industrial and monopoly magnates and middlemen who make huge profits. Moreover, the fall in the prices of foodgrains is used to attack the wages of the workers in the name of decrease in the cost of living index.

Whereas growers who constitute the single biggest section of our population are facing a very grave situation, the Government of India is not paying serious attention to it. Earlier, it characterised the fall as a healthy and desirable trend. It even shouted that the fall in prices was a big achievement of its anti-inflationary policy. When the fall began to shake the whole economy, the Government had to admit it and make the promise of coming to the aid of the peasants, if the prices of certain commodities fell below

a certain limit. But, now the problem has become so acute that the State Finance Ministers of most of the States had to take note of the gravity of the situation in their budget speeches and later on the Central Government had to announce that it would step in to purchase wheat where its price tended to fall below Rs. 10 per maund. It lifted restrictions on the movements of grains to a certain extent. But this step of the Government does not touch even the fringe of the problem because, firstly, the purchase is being made only in some specified *mandis* which are not in the reach of the majority of the peasants and, secondly, purchases are not being made in a sufficient quantity even in relation to wheat and, lastly, the Government purchases only the best quality stuff, leaving the peasant at the mercy of the traders for other qualities and thus causing them serious losses. Thus, the wheat is selling today below the floor price of Rs. 10 per maund. The Government had not taken any step in relation to other foodgrains and pulses. This is so when the Government is getting wheat from America at much higher rates as a part of the loan and the International Wheat Agreement.

In regard to the commercial crops, the Government is doing nothing either to find markets or to develop trade with the Soviet Union, China and other democratic countries, so that our peasants are able to get stable prices. The experience of some trade with China shows how the Virginia tobacco growers were saved from the monopoly exploitation of ILTD. On the other hand, the Government is helping the Indian and British monopolists in getting cheap raw materials to make huge profits by looting the people. It keeps untouched the power of the trading monopolies to rule over our rural economy and our peasants remain helpless victims of their profiteering greed. Neither marketing organisations nor credit facilities are given to the peasants to any adequate extent, so that the bargaining power of the peasants may increase. Moreover, the Government keeps India tied to that part of the world market which is dominated by Anglo-American monopolies and which is passing through a crisis.

The Government which lost no time in coming to the aid of the big industrialists and imperialists by encouraging export of cotton cloth and by reducing import duty, does not come to the aid of the peasant producers who form the bulk of our population.

If this state of affairs is allowed to be continued, then, not only the agrarian sections, but the whole economy of the country is going to be affected very badly, further intensifying the crisis of our economy.

Today, people of all shades of opinion are rallying behind the demand for reasonable prices of the agricultural commodities and this has become a national demand. The AIKS, voicing the urge of the Indian peasantry, demands that the Government of India should take the following steps immediately:

1. Remunerative floor prices of the agricultural commodities should be fixed and the Government should step in for the purchase of all the surplus, immediately after the harvest at all the existing markets. New markets also should be created where the peasant producer can easily cart his produce.

2. Ware-houses for storing grains should be constructed at every big market to store the grains and grain loans should be advanced to the peasants in order to enable them to meet their immediate needs.

3. Food grains should be supplied to the consumers at the same rates and subsidy should be provided for the far away areas and poorer sections.

4. The prices of the industrial goods should be brought down to the level of the prices of agricultural commodities by controlling profits.

5. Shake off all economic ties, which are disadvantageous to our country, with the imperialist countries, develop free and independent trade and economic relations on favourable terms with all the countries of the world. Trade should be developed with the USSR, China and Eastern Democracies, which would help stabilise prices and develop an ever-growing demand.

6. Markets should be found for commercial crops. Surplus quantities of exportable goods should be determined after harvesting and export licences for the same should be issued sufficiently in advance.

7. Industries should be developed to utilise raw materials.

8. India should withdraw from the International Wheat Agreement, which apart from making us dependent on profiteering American monopolists, upsets the market of our foodgrains to the detriment of the peasantry.

9. Excise duty on tobacco should be reduced and import duty on Ceylon copra should be raised thereby guaranteeing fair prices for our coconut.

10. Rent, tax and other burdens of the peasants should be reduced. Collection of rent, revenue, water rates and other taxes and loans should be made three months after the new crop is harvested so that the peasants may not be forced to sell at much lower rates.

The AIKS calls upon all the units to build a powerful movement for the fulfilment of above demands.

XIV. On Evictions And For Land

This Session views with grave concern the fact that tenants, share-croppers and other poor peasants are being evicted from land by the landlords on a vast scale while even waste lands are not being distributed; and while no policy of distribution of land to the tiller has yet been adopted by the Government, mass evictions of poor peasants are increasing the number of the landless, strengthening the hands of the landlords to increase their stranglehold on the tillers of the soil, and finally frustrating even the concessions secured by the peasant movement in the direction of land reforms.

The last annual session of the AIKS, held at Moga issued an urgent call to the peasants to "Stick to the Land" and beat back the eviction offensive of landlords and the Government.

This Session of the Sabha reiterates that the struggle

against evictions and for land is still one of the foremost and urgent tasks that faces the peasants and their organisation today.

In the recent past, the peasants had to wage hard struggles and face much more dangerous offensive of the landlords and the Government.

That a very large number of tenant cultivators have been thrown out of their land without any alternative land for cultivation, and that this process has neither stopped nor slowed down even today, has been accepted by the Prime Minister Pandit Nehru as well as the Congress Working Committee itself.

Even the Sarva Seva Sangh which claims to bring about "Agrarian Revolution" by getting *bhoomidan* from landlords has been forced to note in its resolution that "The All-India Sarva Seva Sangh notes with grave concern and sorrow that for some time past, in several parts of the country, actual tillers and *bataidars* have been evicted from their land."

In Travancore-Cochin State, the Government resorted to eviction of peasants from thousands of acres of Government waste lands under the excuse of utilising them for its new colonisation scheme.

Similarly, in Malabar, the Government sought to evict agricultural labourers and landless peasants from Koothali Estate, and some peasants, including women, courted arrest in defiance of the order.

In Guntur and other districts of Andhra, hundreds of agricultural workers were arrested when they stuck to the waste lands since long under their occupation. Now the Government is trying to extract the market value for these lands, and in some cases evict the landless occupants to assign these lands to political sufferers. Many of the so-called political sufferers have not at all been political and many others own extensive areas of land.

In Telangana, poor landless peasants were sought to be evicted from waste lands and in Parkal Taluq alone 150 persons were arrested for their refusal to vacate these lands.

In West Bengal, after the passage of Estate Acquisition

Act, widespread eviction of share-croppers had begun in all the districts. A strong province-wide kisan movement forced the Government to enact an anti-eviction ordinance in 1954, which resulted in slowing down and checking evictions to some extent. But again large-scale eviction has started from the harvest season and the ordinance has also lapsed. In Assam, the Government, landlords and tea estate owners are all resorting to large-scale eviction. The Government, itself the biggest landlord of the waste and fallow lands, is ejecting the peasants in the name of "planned settlement". Elephants were let loose to destroy crops and houses; the crops were confiscated at nominal prices.

In Punjab and Bihar, the eviction of tenants from year to year has become so wide-spread that even the Planning Commission had to confess the failure of these Governments.

In PEPSU, during the Rau administration and later on under the *Biswedari*- and princes-ridden Congress Ministry, tenants are being evicted in various manners.

In Orissa, in the absence of a comprehensive tenancy law, the landlords are enabled to evict tenants unchecked.

In U.P., due to wrong entries recorded in *Girdavari*, which the landlords managed in collaboration with the *Lekhpals*, 27 lakh Adivasis were particularly made the target of eviction. The peasant movement after long campaign secured *sirdari* rights for these Adivasis; but now under the plea of correction of records, the landlords, in league with administrative machinery are forcing the Adivasis to surrender the land during the declaration before the courts.

In Maharashtra, the forest plots given by the Government of Bombay to the peasants under the "Grow More Food" scheme are taken back. The peasants, mostly Adivasis, who refuse to vacate, are subjected to all kinds of repression like fines and prosecution.

In Madhya Bharat, those *Shikmidars* who could not pay six times the rent for occupancy rights, are evicted.

The Government itself is the biggest landlord in India and the tenancy laws passed by the States are not applied to these lands. Thus, from year to year, the Government exploits the land hunger of the peasants by auctioning the

lease of Government lands at high rates.

It is only through a prolonged struggle that the Government is forced to bring forth certain tenancy laws conceding certain demands to some extent, but experience shows that whatever is passed by the Government itself, is in practice not enforced against the landlords. Therefore, even for enforcing their legally won rights, the peasants have to continue their struggle.

In recently-passed legislations in Bengal, Punjab, PEPSU and other States, a new game of disrupting peasant masses is pursued. While the landlords are allowed to resume more and more areas for 'self-cultivation', the tenant cultivators are getting concentrated on small owners' lands. On the other hand, in the absence of a clear-cut land policy, abolishing landlordism and granting land to the landless, the small owners, out of panic, resort to eviction of their tenants, because most of the tenancy laws do not differentiate properly between the landlords and the small landowners, who have no income other than from land.

The AIKS, therefore, warns the kisan workers and Sabha units against the game of disruption and calls upon them to realise as their main task the fight against this game of disruption, remove the apprehensions of the small owners, and through their mutual compromise, forge a strong unity of all sections of the peasantry to fight back the eviction offensive.

The experience of various anti-eviction struggles and struggles for waste land shows that the various tenancy legislations have failed in their purpose of putting a stop to evictions, and on the contrary, these very laws open the way for eviction of tenants in ever new manners.

It is also revealed that generally the tenants are dragged into useless, costly and lengthy process of litigation and the Government machinery is always at the service of the landlords.

The AIKS, therefore, feels that in view of the failure of Government measures and the naked pro-landlord policy of the Government, there is no way for the tenants other than to "Stick to Land" as called upon at Moga. Even the Sarva

Seva Sangh has been forced to issue a call that "the tenants and *bataidars* should face the trial and stick to their rights at all costs."

The AIKS once again demands of the Government to intervene immediately and pass suitable anti-eviction laws and implement them effectively. The Sabha appeals to the democratic public in general to lend its support to the movement of tenants and *bataidars* against eviction and for land.

The 13th Session of the AIKS calls upon its units and the kisan workers to build a strong united organisation of the peasantry and forge the unity of the entire peasantry and other sections of the people behind the struggle against eviction, so that the tenants and agricultural workers and poor peasants, can in practice defend their right and stick to the land under their occupation.

XV. On Ceylon Indians

The 13th Session of AIKS strongly protests against the attempts of the Government of Ceylon to deny citizenship rights to Indians who have been living in Ceylon for a long time. Indians living in Ceylon have not only made Ceylon their home, but contributed largely to the economic development of Ceylon; hence it is totally unjust to deny citizenship rights and send them back to India.

This Session is of the view that the Indo-Ceylon accord of last year between the two Governments has worked to the detriment of the interests of Ceylon Indians. Hence this Session demands of the Indian Government to cancel the agreement and start fresh negotiations with the Government of Ceylon on this question of citizenship for Ceylon Indians.

This Conference appeals to both the Indian and Ceylon Governments to take a lesson from China-Indonesia accord on citizenship rights concluded last month, in settling the question of citizenship rights to Indians in Ceylon.

This Session requests the Government of India and State Governments to treat all Indians returning from Ceylon as refugees and give all necessary help for their rehabilitation.

XVI. On Repression and Civil Liberties

Police repression and landlord goonda terror against agricultural workers and peasants has continued unabated in all parts of the country. Penal provisions of British-made Indian Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code, which our enslavers used ruthlessly to suppress our freedom struggle and movement of masses for better life, constitute indispensable weapons in the repressive armoury of Congress rulers. Sections 107, 151, 124, 447, 109, 110 of Cr. P.C., Section 144 to ban public meetings, processions, demonstrations and staging of progressive dramas, provisions of security acts to arrest, detain and prosecute agricultural workers and kisans, punitive police posts and collective fines for alleged breach of canal banks, fines and attachment of property, lathi-charges and even firing—all these have been used to suppress the peasant movement in the past year. Congress rulers have lavishly used those very weapons which our national movement had condemned out-right as lawless laws. The guardians of law and order transgressed even the limits of their own laws, trampled underfoot all legal forms—beating and torturing peasant men and women, looting their crops and property and even going to the extent of dishonouring women. The police has invariably come to the aid of landlords using goonda terror against the peasantry.

Kisan Sabha leaders and workers became the special target of attack. Com. Gotu Sahai, Secretary, Madhya Bharat Provincial Kisan Sabha, fell a victim to murderous attack at the hands of hired assassins of landlords and the police has to this day utterly failed to book the culprits responsible for this heinous crime.

In Assam, elephants were let loose to destroy crops and huts of the peasantry.

In Gujarat, innumerable cases were instituted against Adivasis in the district of Panch Mahal and 160 of them were sentenced for alleged breach of forest laws. Moreover, two kisan workers were externed from Baroda and sixty-two bound over under Sec. 107. In Valod, nine Adivasi

kisans were killed by police firing in their peaceful protest against eviction by a Congress landlord.

In Travancore-Cochin, two thousand agricultural workers and peasants were arrested in their valiant struggle against evictions and wage-cuts and for waste land. False cases were launched against kisan leaders including members of the Assembly and Executive of the Provincial Kisan Sabha.

In the State of Andhra, 700 agricultural workers were put under arrest in their struggle for *bazar* land, while 2000 toddy tappers were prosecuted in connection with satyagraha against Government prohibition policy which has thrown lakhs of them out of employment. In the same State, after last Assembly elections, landlord-goonda attacks were organised to terrorise agricultural workers who voted against the ruling party and they were implicated in false cases under 107 and other sections.

In West Bengal, about 2500 peasants and kisan leaders were arrested on flimsy pretexts in connection with the struggle against eviction, for *tebhaga* and even in connection with flood relief work and food movement. Securities up to Rs. 20,000 were demanded to bail out the accused persons.

In Berar, criminal cases are pending against 35 kisan workers.

In U.P., landlord goondas abetted by police, opened fire on kisans struggling for land in Azamgarh and Badaun. Nearly 300 kisans are being prosecuted under Sections 107, 110, 117, 147, 332 and even 307 and 302 of I.P.C., while 70 workers in Ballia district are being tried under Dramatic Performances Act. Thousands of kisan workers are yet being prosecuted for resisting evictions and realisation of enhanced rates.

In Rajasthan, 200 kisans are being prosecuted under framed-up charges of murders, dacoities and riots and fines are being realised in connection with anti-*abiana* struggle.

In Telangana, innumerable cases have been instituted against kisan leaders and workers. In one single taluq of Parkal alone, 150 workers have been involved in false cases.

This Session directs all units of the Kisan Sabha to mobilise the entire peasantry and unite with all democratic organisations and elements and launch a continuous movement against repression and for defence and restoration of full civil liberties in the country.

XVII. On Receipts and Expenditure
(19.9.1954 to 20.5.1955)

Receipts	Rs.	Rs.	Expenditure	
Opening balance ..	1791-11-3		Loans repaid ..	502- 4-0
Membership fees * ..	5384- 2-4		Office ..	545-11-6
Delegates & AIKC ..	109- 0-0		Stationery ..	234-12-9
Membership fees ..	448- 3-6		Postal ..	388- 7-3
Donations ..	388- 4-0		Travelling ..	297- 3-6
Literature Sales ..			Printing ..	410-13-0
			Library ..	105- 1-6
Total ..	8121- 5-1		Suspense ..	220- 0-0
			Miscellaneous ..	141- 0-0
				2845- 5-6
			Total expenses ..	5275-15-7
			Cash in hand ..	
			Total ..	Rs. 8121- 5-1

* N.B. This includes Rs. 350 of last year's membership fees.

DAHANU, 21-5-1955.

N. Prasada Rao,
General Secretary.

The statement of accounts submitted by the General Secretary is hereby accepted.

AIKC RESOLUTIONS

Dahanu, 22-5-1955

I

It is hereby decided that the number of the Central Kisan Council, including the office-bearers, be fixed for the year at 43.

II

The following members are elected as office-bearers for the coming year.

Vice-Presidents: Sri Indulal Yajnik, Sri Bankim Mukherjee, M.L.A., Sri Tulsidas Jadhav, M.L.A.

General Secretary: Sri N. Prasada Rao, M.P.

Joint Secretaries: Sri Jagjit Singh Lyallpuri, Sri B. Srinivasa Rao, Sri Biswanath Mukherjee, Sri Sankardayal Tiwari.

Treasurer: Baba Gurmukh Singh.

Members: Sri Achintya Bhattacharya, Sri Bhowani Sen, Sri Harikrishna Konar, Sri M. A. Rasool, Sri Ramachandra Misra, Sri Karyanand Sharma, Sri Chandrasekhar, Dr. Z. A. Ahmad, Sri Shibbanlal Saxena, M.P., Sri Harkishen Singh Surjeet, M.L.A., Sri Jagir Singh Joga, M.L.A., Master Hari Singh, Choudhary Ghasiram, Sri Ramanand Agarwal, Sri S. G. Sardesai, Sri S. V. Parulekar, Sri Bhau Saheb Deshmukh, M.L.A., Sri Rajendra Deshmukh, Sri Girgaonkar, Sri Krishna Shetty, Sri E. M. S. Namboodiripad, Sri K. A. Keraleeyan, Sri E. Gopalakrishna Menon, Sr Ci. Kandasami, M.L.A., Sri K. Gopala Rao, M.P., Sri Y. V. Krishna Rao, Sri B. Yella Reddi, M.P., Sri A. L. N. Reddi, M.L.A.

One from Himachal Pradesh, Tripura and Manipur each to be co-opted later.

III

The following quotas for membership, levy and signatures on peace appeal are decided upon.

<i>Province</i>	1954-55 <i>Membership</i>	1955-56 <i>Membership quota</i>	<i>Quota for Signatures on Peace Appeal</i>
1. Assam	17,304	25,000	30,000
2. Tripura			
3. Manipur	4,000	10,000	
4. West Bengal	2,19,864	2,50,000	5,00,000
5. Orissa	9,984	50,000	25,000
6. Bihar	1,00,032	1,25,000	1,00,000
7. Uttar Pradesh	50,112	1,50,000	1,00,000
8. Vindhya Pradesh			
9. Delhi			
10. PEPSU	68,528	1,00,000	1,00,000
11. Punjab	1,52,463	2,00,000	1,00,000
12. Himachal Pradesh	2,880		
13. Rajasthan	84,000	1,00,000	1,00,000
14. Madhya Bharat	18,000	25,000	25,000
15. Gujarat	18,000	30,000	10,000
16. Maharashtra	1,04,890	1,50,000	
17. Marathwada	54,000	25,000	25,000
18. Berar	12,000	20,000	25,000
19. Karnatak	9,000	15,000	1,000
20. Malabar	1,01,820	1,50,000	1,00,000
21. T.C. State	8,100	50,000	1,00,000
22. Tamilnad	51,938	1,00,000	1,00,000
23. Andhra*	—	1,50,000	2,00,000
24. Telangana *	—	1,00,000	2,00,000
Total	10,86,909	18,25,000	18,41,000

* These two Provincial Kisan Sabhas did not enrol members as all the kisan workers were fully engaged in the general elections in Andhra during that period.

IV

It is hereby decided to fix September 1 as the Protest Day against the growing tax burdens and to appeal to all democratic public and the urban classes to observe the Protest Day and thus make the issue a national one.

V

In order to go into the whole question of the working of the AIKS Constitution in practice and to suggest amendments or modifications so as to make the Constitution more realistic and dynamic, it is hereby resolved to appoint a Constitution Commission with the following members: 1) Sri Bankim Mukherjee, 2) Sri E. M. S. Namboodiripad, 3) Sri Jagjit Singh Lyallpuri, 4) Sankardayal Tiwari, 5) Sri N. Prasada Rao (Convener).

VI

The following members were elected as members of the delegation to the Helsinki World Peace Congress: 1) President, 2) Three Vice-Presidents, 3) General Secretary, 4) Any other office-bearer or CKC member who is prepared to go.

VII

It is hereby resolved to appoint a History Commission with Sri Indulal Yajnik as the Convener charged with the task of preparing a History of the Kisan Movement in India. The Convener is asked to call a meeting of the representatives of all the Provincial Kisan Sabhas as soon as possible to make the preliminary arrangements for compiling the material, etc., and to co-opt as many members as are required to the Commission.

VIII

The invitation of the Utkal Provincial Kisan Sabha to hold the 14th Annual Session of the AIKS in Orissa is hereby accepted and the UPKS is charged with the task of making arrangements to hold the Session in the middle of April, 1956.