

FOURTEENTH SESSION

OF THE

All India Kisan Sabha

PROCEEDINGS

&

RESOLUTIONS

AMRITSAR, 28—30 SEPTEMBER, 1956.

Four Annas.

CONTENTS

Proceedings	...	3
Delegates Session	...	5
A.I.K.C. Meeting	...	8
Resolutions :		
1. On Kisan Martyrs	...	9
2. Condolences	...	9
3. Refusal of Visas to Foreign Fraternal Delegates	...	9
4. On Political Prisoners	...	10
5. On the Suez Crisis and World Peace	...	10
6. On the Proposals of the Second Five-Year Plan Regarding Ceiling on Land holdings	...	12
7. On Inflationary Prices.	...	17
8. Amendments to the Constitution	...	22
9. A.I.K.S. and the Second Five Year Plan	...	23
10. On Growing Tax-Burdens	...	28
11. On Struggle for Peasant Unity	...	29
12. On the Strike of Defence Workers	...	33
13. Against Police Firing on Colliery Workers	...	34
14. Greetings to Punjab Board Teachers	...	34
15. On Betel-Leaves	...	34
16. On the Floods	...	34
A.I.K.C. Resolutions	...	36
Balance Sheet from 23.5.55 to 29.9.56.	...	37
Membership in 1956	..	38

PROCEEDINGS

At the Dahanu Session it was decided by the A.I.K.C. that the 14th Annual Session should be held in Orissa in April 1956. But due to the devastating floods of last year, Utkal Provincial Kisan Sabha informed the C. K. C. that they could not hold the Session. The C. K. C. accepted the invitation of Rajasthan P. K. S. to hold it in Rajasthan but in its subsequent meeting, reversed the decision and decided to hold it in Marathwada in August. But Marathwada P. K. S. expressed its inability to hold the Session either in August or September and ultimately, the invitation of the Punjab-Pepsu P. K. S. to hold it in the last week of September was accepted. This constant changing of the venue and time had its impression on the Session in that the attendance at the C. K. C. meetings and delegates Session was unsatisfactory.

The Central Kisan Council met 4 times during the Session but the first two meetings lacked quorum and so, only informal discussions were held in those sittings. The following members were present : (1) N. Prasada Rao, (2) Jagjit Singh Lyallpuri, (3) S. D. Tiwari, (4) B. Srinivasa Rao, (5) Baba Gurmukh Singh— all Office-bearers, (6) Abdulla Rasul, (7) Bhowani Sen. (8) H.K. Konar, (9) Karyanand Sharma, (10) H. S. Surjit, (11) Jangir Singh Joga, (12) Chaudhry Ghasi Ram. (13) Balkrishna Gupta, (14) K. Gopalarao, (15) K. A. Karaleeyan. Shriyuts P. R. Madhawan Pillai, A. V. Kunhambu, K. Venkayya, Siva-gurnadha Pillai also attended the meetings on invitation.

As none of the President and Vice-Presidents were present, Shri Karyanand Sharma was elected to the chair.

The first question taken up was the irregularities in payment of membership fees. The General Secretary reported that several P. K. Ss' did not pay any membership fees at all and some have paid very late. The C. K. C. has condoned the delay

in payment of membership fees and disaffiliated the following for having failed to pay any membership fees at all. (1) Telangana Kisan Sabha, (2) Maharashtra Provincial Kisan Sabha, (3) Marathwada Kisan Sabha, (4) Vidarbha Kisan Sabha, (5) Himachal Pradesh Kisan Sabha, (6) Vindhya Pradesh Kisan Sabha, (7) Gujerat Provincial Kisan Sabha. The Office-bearers of the C.K.C. were asked to enquire into the failure on the part of the P.K.Ss to keep affiliation retained. Strong resentment was expressed particularly at the failure to send the quota even after the P.K.Cs received it from the lower units.

On the request made by the Punjab P.K.S., the C.K.C. had agreed to allow visitors and distinguished guests to attend the Session.

After fixing up the agenda for the Delegates' Session, the C.K.C. took up discussion of the draft resolutions to be placed before the Session. It was decided that the resolutions on ceilings, prices, constitutional amendments, Second Five Year Plan and Peasant Unity should take precedence over others.

On the question of constitutional amendments there were prolonged discussions and the Council was sharply divided on the recommendations made by the Constitution Commission which met on 25th September. Two major recommendations made by the Commission regarding the design of the flag and the holding of biennial Sessions instead of annual Sessions were rejected by a majority. Even though there is consensus of opinion that the flag should be changed, there could be no unanimity on the symbol. The Commission's recommendation for a red flag with a plough with yoke in white was supported only by a minority while the majority were for a red flag with the name of the organisation in white written on it. Similarly, the majority felt that we should not give up holding annual Sessions and if we improve our activities, holding annual Sessions would not only be possible but also necessary. The recommendations for constitutional changes made by the Constitution Commission were accordingly changed and placed before the Delegates Session.

The C.K.C. also felt that there should be no resolution on the

General Elections. There is unanimity on the stand that Kisan Sabha should not put up its own candidates in the elections and contest as a Party but there may be exemptions in very rare cases where the Kisan Sabha may have to participate actively in the elections to defeat the worst reactionary landlord forces. The situation in some districts in Rajasthan was explained by Choudhry Ghasi Ram, where in 1952 elections, the Kisan Sabha contested in the General Elections with its own symbol. The C.K.C. decided that A.I.K.C. should depute a delegation to Rajasthan and if necessary to Madhya Bharat also where similar questions are raised, to make a study of the situation and advise the P.K.Ss as to the course they should take.

The C.K.C. has also felt that the members of the Kisan Sabha are free to exercise their vote in support of any candidate and may seek election as they choose.

DELEGATES SESSION

The Delegates Session started at 1-30 p. m. on 28th September in a specially built Shamiana in the spacious grounds of Gol Bagh, Amritsar. The Session started with the singing of the immortal song of Iqbal "Sare Jahan se Achha...". Shri Karyanand Sharma was proposed to the chair and accepted unanimously.

Baba Sohan Singh Bhakna, the veteran revolutionary, now in his 86th year, inaugurated the Session with a stirring call to action. Next, Sardar Jagjit Singh Layalpuri, Chairman of the Reception Committee welcomed the delegates and gave an account of the unsatisfactory nature of land reforms being introduced in Punjab and Pepsu.

Next item was the election of President. Shri N. Prasada Rao proposed the name of Shri A. K. Gopalan M. P. for the presidency and Shri Jangir Singh Joga, M.L.A. seconded it. The proposal was unanimously accepted and amidst thunderous applause Shri A. K. Gopalan took the chair.

On the motion of the President, the Session paid homage to the Kisan martyrs and sent condolence to the families of the Kisan

workers who died during the year. Next, messages received from Trade Union International of Agricultural and Forestry Workers, Unions of Agricultural Workers of USSR, China, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Poland, Holland, Hungary, Italy, German Democratic Republic and Plantation Workers Union of Indonesia and All-India Trade Union Congress and Darjeeling District Chik Kaman Labour Union were read.

The resolution on refusal of visas was moved by Shri N. Prasada Rao and seconded by Sardar J. S. Lyallpuri and was passed. The resolution on the release of prisoners was moved from the chair and was accepted. Resolution on Suez crisis was moved by Shri Bhowani Sen and seconded by Shri K. Gopala Rao. With some amendments the resolution was passed unanimously.

The General Secretary next submitted his report with an introductory speech. He stressed upon taking up multi-form activities, particularly all those schemes in the Second Five Year Plan which benefit the people. He gave an account of the unsatisfactory state of affairs on the organisational side and called upon the delegates to strive to rebuild the Kisan Sabha as the united mass organisation, actively functioning from top to bottom.

Several delegates participated in the discussions on the Report. They gave brief reports on the work done in their respective provinces, which was not given in the Report and gave their experiences. Shri H. K. Konar, Secretary West Bengal P. K. S. gave the lessons from West Bengal where the Kisan Sabha got strengthened from participating actively in all national democratic movements. After the discussion it was decided that the Report be recorded. The first day's Session ended with this.

The Second days' Session commenced at 9-00 a. m. Shri N. Prasada Rao moved the resolution on ceilings on holdings and was seconded by Sardar Mohan Singh Jandiala. After some discussion few amendments were accepted and the resolution passed.

The next resolution on prices was moved by Shri Hari Krishan Konar and seconded by Shri K. A. Karaleeyan. The resolution was accepted with some amendments. Shri M. A. Rasul next moved the amendments to the A. I. K. S. constitution and Shri N. Prasada Rao

seconded them. There was lively discussion on the question of flag, all the other amendments having been accepted by huge majorities. There was almost unanimity on the necessity to change the flag but controversy arose on the symbol. The C.K.C. recommendation that the name of the Sabha on the red flag should be the official flag was not favoured by the majority of delegates particularly by the delegates from Punjab-Papsu. They were of the opinion that a plough with yoke should be the symbol. But delegates from other provinces were of strong opinion that such a symbol would also create some difficulties, for that can also be identified with flags of political parties and also that P.K.Ss which have already adopted a flag with the name of Sabha written on it would have to change again. Finally, on a suggestion made by the President, the whole question of deciding the flag was deferred till the next Session.

Next, the resolution on Second Five Year Plan was moved by Sardar Harkishan Singh Surjit, M. L. A. and seconded by Shri Bhowani Sen which was accepted with some amendments.

The resolution on taxation was passed unanimously.

The final day's proceedings started very late, due to continuous heavy rain for 6 hours. The venue was changed to Temperance Hall. The resolution on Peasant Unity was moved by S. Jagjit Singh Lyallpuri and seconded by Choudhry Ghansai Ram. With some amendments the resolution was passed unanimously. Next, the President moved from the chair the resolutions on hunger strike of leaders of Punjab Teachers movement, firing on colliery workers in West Bengal, export of betel-leaves to Pakistan, on Defence worker's strike, which were unanimously passed.

The Session closed with a vote of thanks to the Reception Committee for the excellent arrangements they have made in such a short time.

The special features of the Session were the Peace Rally on the night of 29th addressed by Dr. S.D. Kitchlew, President of the All-India Peace Council and Dr. Chiao, the noted professor of the Delhi University, the procession and the open rally on 30th. The Peace Rally was attended by about 15,000 people and the Open

Rally by about 10,000. On both the nights there were cultural shows by various cultural squads of Punjab.

The total number of delegates that attended the Session was 141 (Andhra 3, Bengal 14, Bihar 4, Delhi 1, Karnatak 2, Malabar 9, Madhya Bharat 4, Punjab-Pepsu 83, Rajasthan 12, Tamilnad 4, Travancore-Cochine State 2, U.P. 2 and Parkhal taluq of Telangana 1.) total number of visitors was 128.

A. I. K. C. MEETING-

The first meeting of the new A. I. K. C. met in Gol Bagh, Amritsar at 9-00 a. m. on 1st October. Shri A. K. Gopalan presided over the meeting. After passing a few resolutions it elected its new office-bearers and C.K.C. members. (The resolutions are given in the end.) The invitation of West Bengal P.K.S. to hold the 15th Annual Session in West Bengal in October 1957 was accepted.

RESOLUTIONS

1. On Kisan Martyrs

This 14th Session of the A.I.K.S. expresses its profound grief at the death of Brijnandan Sharma, Kalyana Sharma, Nityananda Saha, Karnail Singh and other Kisan Sabha workers who were shot down by Portuguese imperialists in the struggle for the liberation of Goa ; Avadesh Saram Sharma, Sitaram, of Barabanki ; Preetam Singh and Ram Singh Kisan Sabha Workers of Madhya Bharat, Kisans of Rampur village and of Purnea district, Beni Adhikari and Bankim Giri of West Bengal killed by the landlords. It pays homage to the memory of these martyrs and pledges to carry on with untiring efforts the work for which they laid down their lives.

2. Condolences

This 14th Session of the A. I. K. S. deeply mourns the passing away of the following kisan comrades who died in the service of the people and working for cause of the peasants, agricultural labourers and others and sends its condolences to the bereaved families.

3. Refusal of Visas to Foreign Fraternal Delegates

The A.I.K.S. notes with regret that for the third successive year the Government of India have refused visas to fraternal delegations from foreign countries to attend the Sessions of the A.I.K.S. The delegations who have been refused visas this year are from the Agricultural Workers Unions of the U.S.S.R, Rumania and Czechoslovakia and Plantation Workers Union of Indonesia, countries with which our country has got cordial relations. This refusal is blatantly contrary to the principles of democracy and is a hindrance to developing good and friendly relations with other countries. Hence this Session of the A.I.K.S. strongly condemns this action of the Government of India and demands that this policy be put an

end to and allow free flow of visitors and fraternal delegates from one country to another without any difficulty.

4. Political Prisoners

This Session of the A.I.K.S. demands of the Government of India the immediate release of Sri Nanapatil, President of the A.I.K.S. Sri S.G. Saradesai and Sri S. V. Perulekar, members of the Central Kisan Council, Srimati Godavary Parulekar, Vice-President of the Maharashtra Provincial Kisan Sabha and hundreds of kisan workers who are detained or convicted to various terms of imprisonment in connection with the agitation for Samyukta Maharashtra and of the scores of Kisan Sabha Workers arrested in Gujerat in connection with the agitation for Maha-Gujerat of the Kakadwip and Telangana prisoners who were under-going long terms of imprisonment and of Arukkul Kunhi Raman Nambiar of Malabar and of hundreds of Kisans and Kisan Sabha workers who were convicted and are serving various terms of imprisonment in connection with land disputes in Bihar U. P. and other provinces.

The Session calls upon the entire peasantry to launch a big campaign for the release of these valiant kisan workers so that they may join their brethren in serving the people.

5. On the Suez Crisis and World Peace

The Forteenth Session of the All-India Kisan Sabha greets the people of Egypt and their Government for the glorious stand they have taken against foreign imperialism by nationalising the Suez Canal Company. It is a stunning blow to the big colonial powers who exploit the peoples of Asia, Africa and Arab world by maintaining a monopoly grip over the canal and undermine Egyptian sovereignty. Through this step, Egypt has also shown the way to Asian countries plundered by the imperialists to nationalise foreign capital. All sections of the Indian people have, therefore, expressed India's unequivocal solidarity behind Egypt.

The decision of the colonial powers to set up a User's Association in order to coerce Egypt to submit to the reimposition of imperialist domination over Egypt in the name of international control is a provocative step and a threat to world peace. The mili-

ary preparation in the Mediterranean, blocking of Egypt's sterling balances, economic boycott of Egypt and the withdrawal of pilots — are all aggressive steps of the same imperialist powers to undermine world peace and the sovereignty of Egypt. This Session condemns these ugly designs of the imperialist colonisers and welcomes the solidarity of the peaceloving countries and peoples of the world, expressed in support of the sovereignty of Egypt. This solidarity has already baffled the initial efforts of the big imperialist powers to force their way into the Canal by trampling Egyptian sovereignty under their boots.

This Session notes with grave concern that the Governments of Great Britain, France and U.S.A. are continuing their aggressive designs through the UNO Security Council to create suitable conditions for forceful reoccupation of the Suez Canal and expresses its desire that the efforts of the peaceloving and freedom loving countries and peoples of the world will defeat the imperialist manoeuvres. The action taken by President Nasser in nationalising the Suez Canal Company is perfectly within Egypt's sovereign rights and it constitutes no breach of international agreement because he has frankly and resolutely declared his genuine intention to keep the canal open for the freedom of international shipping. Rejection by the colonial powers of the proposals of the Indian Government for a peaceful solution of the Suez problem has finally exposed the aggressive intentions of the Governments of Great Britain, France and the USA.

The whole affair has further exposed the real character of the imperialist "aids". Egypt was forced to take the step because the World Bank loan once promised was refused to her to build up the Aswan Dam so vitally necessary for the development of her agriculture for the simple reason that Egypt refused to hand over the control of her economy and finances to the imperialist powers.

Events concerning the Suez Canal are of great interest to the Indian people because the stability of Indian economy demands peace and free commercial intercourse with other countries of the world. The actions taken by the Governments of Great Britain, France and the USA threaten peace and freedom of commerce. If

they succeed, not only the sovereignty of Egypt but that of every country in Asia and Arabia will be jeopardised. This Session, therefore, expresses the solidarity of the Indian peasants with the people of Egypt in defence of peace and national independence and calls upon every section of the Indian people to stand firm behind the people of Egypt against the aggressive designs of the imperialist powers.

On behalf of the crores of peasants of India, this Session appeals to the United Nations Security Council to settle the Suez problem peacefully by recognising Egyptian sovereignty and nationalisation of the canal.

6. On the Proposals of the Second Five-Year Plan Regarding Ceiling on Landholdings

The All-India Kisan Sabha, as long ago as 1945, demanded the imposition of ceiling on landholding and distribution of surplus land to agricultural labourers and poor peasants. Even though the Kumarappa Committee recommended the same and the First Five Year Plan accepted it, it is regrettable that no concrete action was taken by any State Government except a pitiable attempt in two districts in Hyderabad State. This Session is of emphatic opinion that the question of taking concrete action to impose ceilings on landholdings has now become a burning issue and its significance has all the more increased in view of the formulation of schemes for higher agricultural production and for reorganisation of agricultural economy and brooks no more delay.

This Session notes with concern that while the First Plan has recommended ceiling on landholdings and the Indian National Congress had several times called for the quick imposition of ceiling, no concrete steps have been taken by any Government for a long time and the excuse of waiting for the completion of census on landholdings had been made for constantly postponing the issue. During this very period, every chance has been availed of by the landlords to transfer their lands so as to circumvent the ceiling when it is imposed. Thus, in a number of States the number of substantial holdings had fallen greatly, even

though monopoly over land is not affected. Similarly, the number of tenants had gone down greatly due to great spurt of evictions. Even the census of landholdings had been manipulated in such a way that monopoly over land is hidden and figure for land under personal cultivation is greatly boosted.

This Session views with regret that even though the Second Five Year Plan proposed "that during the Second Five Year Plan steps will be taken in each State to impose ceilings on landholdings on existing holdings, the ceiling would apply to owned land (including land under permanent and heritable rights) held under personal cultivation, tenants being enabled to acquire rights of ownership in terms indicated earlier", it remained only a pious wish and detailed and appropriate proposals were not made to transform it into reality. The proposals have been made in such a way that almost all the farms of landlords would be exempted from ceiling and nothing would be left surplus for distribution. Even the modest recommendations made by the Size of Holdings Committee of the Panel on Land Reforms were not accepted, nor a firm recommendation for the restoration of evicted tenants and the annulment of mala fide transfers by landlords was made. Hence the whole issue has, in the opinion of this Session, become a caricature of the ceiling on landholdings which the peasantry demanded and can never help in the solution of the land problem.

The experience how the ceiling on land holdings is being implemented in the States strengthens the apprehensions of this Session that the desired reform will be defeated in practice. Not only the mala fide transfers even of quite recent period have not been nullified in Hyderabad State, but they were also accepted as legal by the State Government, thus defeating the very purpose of imposing the ceiling. Whereas the Government originally estimated an available surplus of 70,000 acres in Khamman district, it is now feared that not more than 10,000 acres would be found surplus. Similarly, the rules under the Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act passed recently for the determination of permissible limit virtually exempts all land of the landlords from ceiling. They adopt a system of giving marks to agricultural farms and

exempt from ceiling farms which get more than 800 marks and allow 50 per cent more land than the permissible limit to those which get marks between 600-800. The method of giving mark -47 to lay-out, 63 to cultivation practices, 63 to sowing practices, 94 to manuring practices, 31 to soil conservation practices, 31 to development of irrigation facilities, 47 to plant protection measures, 62 on keeping records, 62 for miscellaneous items and 500 for yields—are such that corruption and bribery will thrive and every landlord farm will be exempted. In West Bengal, a ceiling of 25 acres of owned agricultural land has been put but it was not put on the basis of a family as a unit but for every individual owner in the family, resulting in the acceleration of the process of malafide transfers and partitions and moreover all orchards, fisheries etc. are exempted from ceiling. In Pepsu, even the provisions of the existing Presidents' Act are being modified in a reactionary direction, exempting practically all the landlord farms, under the direction of the Planning Commission and Central Government themselves. The ceiling on Landholdings Bill introduced in T. C. State by the P.S.P. Ministry in 1954 still remains to be adopted by the President's rule. The pro-landlord bias in the proposals of the Second Five Year Plan allow these and such other forms of evasion of the ceiling and make the whole Proposal empty and of very small consequence.

The arguments advanced by the Planning Commission in leaving all things vague to be determined by the States are not at all convincing. The Size of Holdings Committee of the Panel on Land Reforms, an advisory body set up by the Planning Commission itself, went into all these questions threadbare and made detailed recommendations, keeping in view all the peculiarities of each State and yet the Planning Commission whisked away all of them and wants "a small group of experts with practical experience of settlement and revenue work" to study the subject further!

Similarly, the exemptions recommended are also quite unjustifiable. Contrary to the unanimous recommendations of the Size of Holdings Committee of the Panel on Land Reforms that

sugarcane plantations owned by the sugar mills do not merit exemption, the Planning Commission recommended their exemption. Even the information available with the Government on the yields in such plantations does not justify exemption. For, generally the yield of cane in such farms is not higher and in several cases much lower than the average yield in peasant farms. Besides, the mills do not suffer and have so far never suffered from lack of enough supplies of cane. This exemption of sugarcane farms owned by sugar mills even only shows the eagerness of the Government to satisfy the monopoly interests.

The exemption of efficiently-managed farms are quite unjustifiable, even though such exemption is sought to be justified on the ground that breaking of such farms leads to a fall in production. This is attempted to be shown as scientific and conducive to the development of productive forces in agriculture. But what the Planning Commission misses to understand is that production can develop on a national scale when productive forces are sought to be developed in all agricultural farms, big or small, on a national scale and that this cannot be done unless the entire poor peasantry and agricultural labour population, who form about 50 per cent of the entire rural population are enthused to produce more by giving them land. Such enthusiasm cannot be generated when the biggest and best farms whose owners are, at the same time, the biggest exploiters in the rural side, are exempted from ceiling.

The proposal of a high rate of compensation is, in the considered opinion of this Session, quite harmful to the very purpose for which ceiling is being imposed. The Kisan Sabha never opposed the payment of rehabilitation grants or compensation to small holders who may lose their main sources of income through the implementation of land reforms and it stands even now by that principle. But the Kisan Sabha can never agree to throw heavy burdens on agriculture through the payment of heavy compensation to big landlords. Payment of compensation is detrimental to the development of agriculture. It diverts capital from investment in agricultural production to feeding of a parasitic class. Payment of compensation to landlords with big

industrial and commercial incomes is particularly unjustifiable.

Hence, this Session puts forward the following proposals for ceiling on agricultural holdings for the acceptance of immediate implementation by the Government :

1. Ceiling in no case should exceed three times the family holding, family holding being an area of land which gets an annual net income of Rs. 1200/- including remuneration to family labour, or a gross income of Rs. 1600/-. In areas where density of agricultural population is high and pressure on land is great, the needs of distribution of land to agricultural labourers and poor peasants should also be taken into consideration and appropriate ceiling fixed. Ceiling should be put taking family as a unit.

2. Ceiling should apply to land under personal cultivation, the tenants being made owners of non-resumable lands in their possession.

3. No category of land except tea, coffee and rubber plantations should be exempted from ceiling.

4. Ceiling on garden lands should be fixed in standard acres approximating to the ceiling on lands under staple crops in the area.

5. The poor peasant and agricultural labourer who receives land in distribution should pay rent direct to the Government and in no case should the rent be more than one-sixth of the gross produce. If the existing rent is less than that, it should not be increased. The Government, after deducting land revenue and collection charges, should pay the rent as compensation to the landlord. This in no case should exceed ten years and after that period, the Government should collect only land revenue. The person receiving land should be made full owner immediately the first year's rent is paid.

This should continue for 10 years in the maximum. Compensation payable to small landlords may be paid in lump sum by the Government and recovered in the above manner from the beneficiaries.

6. Transfers made by the landlords since the publication of the First Five Year Plan should be made null and void.

7. Preparation and maintenance of land-records should be done by the village panchayats. Implementation of land reforms should be done through village panchayats and with the assistance of Kisan representatives. Preparation of fresh records should be ordered where-ever peasants complain about the correctness of them.

This Session is of the firm opinion that ceiling on land holdings in the above manner will meet the needs of quick agricultural development and will be just and acceptable to all interests concerned. Hence this Session appeals to all those that are interested in the reorganisation of agriculture and the well-being of the rural poor to support the proposals of the Kisan Sabha on ceiling on landholdings and campaign for their acceptance and implementation.

7. On Inflationary Prices

This session views with grave concern the steep rise in prices of almost all essential commodities out of proportion to the purchasing power of the masses. It has begun to hit every section of the people, especially those belonging to the lower income group who are becoming hardest hit. The workers, peasants and the middle strata of the people are faced with increasing disproportion between their incomes and the cost of living. The growing discontent of the masses is asserting itself in protest against this national menace. The glorious hartal and general strike in West Bengal at the joint call of the Left Parties and mass organisations indicates the people's consciousness, courage and determination to resist this inflationary crisis. This Session of the All-India Kisan Sabha greets the people of West Bengal and other places who have already shown the way to change the state of affairs.

For the last few years, the prices of agricultural produce had fallen so low that the purchasing power of the growers had been disastrously reduced. With this purchasing power scissored thus, they are now faced with a new situation with which they cannot cope up. Though there is a general rise in the price-level, powerful monopolies which control the market manipulate in such a

manner that the prices of agricultural produce shoot up after they pass out of the hands of the peasant, that the prices of manufactured goods rise in the long run more in proportion to those of the agricultural raw materials and that the bulk of the peasants is cheated of any benefits that might have accrued to them as a result of higher prices.

The high prices of certain commodities such as cloth, food-grains and edible oils has created an intolerable situation for every section of the people. The complete failure of the Government to check the rise of prices of these commodities reveals the bankruptcy of their analysis of the causes and the fruitlessness of the remedies they propose.

When the prices of agricultural produce had been falling, the Government at first explained the phenomenon away by stating that the prices were finding their own level. When the situation became alarming, they appointed an Enquiry Committee; but even before its report is published, the market has been engulfed by entirely a new problem, the problem of shooting prices. Again, the Government at first tried to explain away the situation by stating that the price rise was a corrective step to the previous fall. Again the Government kept quiet for some time until the situation became alarming and the Kisan Sabha and other organisations began to agitate. The Reserve Bank of India issued its directive on May 17, 1956, to all the commercial banks not to advance loan on security of grains and consequently by June 29, 1956, these advances had fallen by 49 per cent. Yet the general level of prices rose during the same period by 5 points and of all food articles by 26 points. It reveals the inadequacy of the measures taken and the failure to tackle the root causes of the problem. Similarly, the rushing of foodgrains was quite inadequate to stop the rise and all their efforts to check the rise of prices of cloth and edible oils have turned into fiascoes. These experiences bring out in sharp relief the need for a correct understanding of the basic causes of the inflationary trend.

Official spokesmen are trying to make out the case that as a result of the First Five Year Plan more purchasing power has been

pumped into the hands of the people, therefore, they claim that consumer's demand is increasing more in proportion to the increase in production. But there are unmistakable evidences that prove that despite the rise of national income, the purchasing power of the masses has fallen relatively to the increase of production. According to the *Labour Gazette of India*, during the last five years, wages and salaries have declined from 42 to 33 per cent of the net income of industries, while profits including dividends and interest went up from 58 to 67 per cent. The plans and projects have not been able to raise the income level of the peasantry because the overwhelming majority of them are either landless or they possess uneconomic holdings. No land redistribution has taken place which might place at their disposal a sizeable marketable surplus, nor has there been any such expansion of credit which might exert a pressure on the consumers' market.

This Session is of opinion that neither any increase of purchasing power, nor shortfall in production, nor even transport bottlenecks are the basic causes for the steep rise in prices. That the purchasing power of the masses has not increased, rather it has relatively fallen, is further evidenced by the alarming rise of unemployment. The production of foodgrains has decreased only by 3.6 percent over that of 1954-55, but it is yet higher than the target set for 1955-56. Moreover, there is a general rise in industrial production. Regarding transport bottleneck, in the very period of rising prices, loading in wagons is the greatest.

The Government can no longer deny that deficit-financing is one of the major basic causes of this price rise and there is an absolute failure on the part of the Government to adopt adequate measures to check its effects.

Deficit-financing combined with the fact that powerful monopolies are in control of industries, banking and trade has created the alarming situation and if unchecked, prices will continue to soar higher and higher and produce a very grave situation for the entire national economy, jeopardising even the fulfilment of the targets of the Second Five Year Plan.

The taxation policy of the Government is another basic cause

for the steep rise in prices. Recently excise duty is put on a number of essential commodities and increased on others and this is immediately passed on to the shoulders of the consumers. As a result of this, the prices of edible oils, soap etc. as well as of food grains have gone up anywhere from 25 to 100 per cent. Similarly, the price of sugar went up whereas that of sugarcane is stationary or even cut down in the case of U. P. etc.

Profits of the monopolies are increasing and additional money injected by the Government through deficit-financing is generally finding its way into the pockets of the monopolies, through innumerable channels. Bank advances to the wholesale dealers and speculators are backing them to hoard up stocks, for raising the prices or for gambling in the stock exchange. Despite some reduction of bank advances against foodgrains, in the course of the last few months, they still stand 50 to 55 per cent higher than last year. According to the admission of the Reserve Bank, bank advances against textiles are today "appreciably higher."

There is no doubt, therefore, that deficit-financing and increasing taxation combined with financial backing to the powerful monopolies has created the upward swing of the prices, despite the low stagnant level of the purchasing power of the masses. Unless the powers of the monopolies are curbed, the disastrous effects of deficit-financing cannot be restrained. So powerful are these monopolies that even when the Government fails to check the rise in prices, these monopolies are keeping down the prices of some raw materials as their own interests demand the same. The prices which the peasants get for jute, gur groundnut, pepper, sugarcane, tobacco, rubber and coconut, etc. which are important raw materials or export articles for certain monopoly industries stand at a very low level in contrast to the general inflationary trend.

This Session expresses its opposition to the Government policy of unbridled deficit finance, indiscriminate taxation on essential commodities and help to speculators and profiteers and demands their reversal. It strongly protests against the complacent attitude taken by the Government to the danger of high prices effect-

ing the life of the people and demands that immediate corrective measures are taken.

This Session of the All-India Kisan Sabha, therefore, puts forward the following demands—the fulfilment of which is essential for checking the effects of deficit-financing and for weakening the monopolies :

1. Government procurement of essential commodities, including foodgrains for sale at stable reasonable prices;
2. Extension of the State trading to wholesale trade in important commercial crops ;
3. Organisation of rural co-operative marketing on a vast scale ; organisation of grain banks ;
4. Supply of foodgrains of good quality at reduced prices through Government and cooperative shops ; immediate reduction of prices of important essential commodities and guaranteeing their supply.
5. Expansion of rural credit on a vaster scale and drastic reduction of advances of commercial banks to wholesale trading in essential goods ;
6. Interim rise of wages and salaries by 25 per cent ;
7. Prohibition of speculation in essential commodities and seizure of hoarded stocks ;
8. Adequate relief to the unemployed and the most impoverished section of the people;
9. New taxes and duties imposed this year on essential articles and particularly the extra duty on cloth to be withdrawn.

This Session is of the opinion that these measures, together with basic land reforms, will strengthen the position of national economy by distributing national income in a relatively equitable direction and by checking the powers of the monopolies. They will mitigate the effects of inflation and give substantial relief to the masses by stabilising prices.

But this Session maintains that for a radical solution of the problem, Government's financial policy must be substantially altered. The effects of deficit-financing must be put under proper

control by way of ceiling on profits of the industrial magnates, and monopolies in a way that these interests can neither evade direct taxation nor shift them on to the shoulders of the masses.

This Session of the All-India Kisan Sabha calls upon all sections of the people, irrespective of creed, community and political affiliation, to unite and fight for the above demands. The successful general strike in West Bengal against the rise in prices is an event of great potentiality and significance for a growing people's movement all over the country to bring down the price level. The All-India Kisan Sabha is confident that the people's forces all over the country can and shall be marshalled to attain this objective in the common interest of the entire people

8. Amendments to the Constitution

1. ARTICLE II "(b) Emancipation of the peasantry from imperialist exploitation and Indian monopoly control".

"(d) Elimination of all forms of foreign domination and democratisation of the State so that real power is vested in the people".

2. ARTICLE V, SECTION 1.

"Any kisan.....and on payment of an annual subscription of two naya annas, become a member of the All India Kisan Sabha".

"NOTE : Until the decimal coinage system is introduced, the annual subscription will continue to be not less than one anna".

3. ARTICLE X, SECTION 5.

"The first meeting of the A.I.K.C.....who are : two Vice-Presidents, a General Secretary, two Joint-Secretaries and a Treasurer".

4. ARTICLE XI, SECTION 2.

"The total number of members of the Central Kisan Council who will be elected by the A.I.K.C. shall be 25 and will include the office-bearers of the A.I.K.C. who will also be its office-bearers".

5. ARTICLE XII, SECTION 1.

“The All India Kisan Sabha is composed of the following Provincial Kisan Sabhas : 1. Andhra Pradesh, 2. Assam, 3. Bihar, 4. Delhi, 5. Gujerat, 6. Himachal Pradesh, 7. Kerala, 8. Madhya Pradesh, 9. Maharashtra, 10. Manipur, 11. Mysore, 12. Orissa, 13. Punjab, 14. Rajasthan, 15. Tamilnad, 16. Tripura, 17. Uttar Pradesh and 18. West Bengal.”

6. ARTICLE XII, SECTION 2.

“Every Provincial Kisan Sabha shall pay to the All-India Kisan Sabha one naya paisa per primary member enrolled within its jurisdiction, on account of an affiliation fee, and also such other quota of financial contribution as may be fixed for it by the C.K.C. or the A.I.K.C.”

9. **A. I. K. S. and the Second Five Year Plan** ✓

The A. I. K. S. has always championed the rapid and planned development of national economy and one of its aims and objectives is : “Improvement of living and cultural standards and working conditions of the rural masses ; development of agriculture and industry”. The innumerable campaigns it has launched and struggles it has led are intended to achieve these objectives in the quickest and easiest possible way. In this patriotic task it has joined its hands with other forces that are working for the same objectives.

The A. I. K. S. is glad to note that some of these objectives are proclaimed by the Second Five Year Plan also. The objectives of this Plan declare that basic industries should be developed, mainly in the public sector ; that growth of unemployment should be checked through the renovation and development of village industries and that land reforms, particularly ceiling on landholdings, reduction of rent and security of tenure, should be completed by the end of the Plan period.

The Plan has chalked out programmes on every aspect of agricultural life—programme for increased agricultural production, for development of animal husbandry, forest wealth and fisheries,

for development of irrigation and power by the construction of multipurpose projects, for the development of co-operative system and village panchayats, for rural development, for community development and national extension, for the welfare of agricultural labour and tribal people and for education, health and rural sanitation.

But the A. I. K. S. notes that, though the objectives proclaimed are good, the programme chalked out and the means to be adopted to achieve these objectives do not go to prove that the objectives would be fulfilled. The recommendations made in respect of land reforms are so drilled with loopholes, particularly regarding ceiling on landholdings, that they cannot help in solving the basic question of agriculture. The fixation of ceiling is left to the discretion of the State Governments, the scope of exemptions is so enlarged as to virtually nullify the benefits from the fixation of ceilings, while the issue of malafide transfers is left vague and undecided for the benefit of the landlords.

In the opinion of the A. I. K. S., the resources part of the Plan is the most dangerous to the very success of the Plan. It put unbearable burdens on the common man and prevents the greater investment in agriculture by the peasantry. It prevents the rapid expansion of the internal market and jeopardises the rapid development of industrial sector.

The A. I. K. S. feels that these big loopholes and dangerous proposals betray the intentions of the Government as of relying upon the bureaucracy, landlords and monopolists in carrying out the programmes in the Plan and of ignoring the common people—the peasants, agricultural labour, industrial labour and their role. It is by rousing the enthusiasm and creative energy of the peasants and agricultural labourers by land distribution, rent reduction, security of tenure, ensuring fair prices and stabilisation of prices, lightening of tax burdens, minimum wage fixation, liquidation of rural debt, etc., that production can be developed and internal market expanded on a national scale, instead of development in a narrow sector of a few capitalist farms. The taxation proposals, which put heavy burdens on the common people and leave huge profits for the monopolists and gigantic

boards of the princes untouched is also a result and reflection of reliance on the narrow vested interests. Such an approach will, in the opinion of the A. I. K. S., fail to rouse the enthusiasm of the masses and get their full co-operation which are so essential for the success of the Plan.

The All-India Kisan Sabha takes note of the measures proposed by the Planning Commission in Chapter X (Development of Co-operation), Chapter XI (Community Development and National Extension), Chapter XIII (Programme for Agriculture), Chapter XIV (Animal Husbandry and Fisheries), Chapter XVII (Irrigation and Power) of its Plan which are of living interest to the peasantry. A total sum of Rs. 1,054 crores is going to be spent in the Second Five Year Plan on these schemes and programmes. However inadequate these allocations may be, the peasant movement cannot develop if it fails to concretely and objectively study and actively intervene in these schemes.

Not only the peasantry but the entire democratic movement is interested in the question: "Who will use these amounts—however inadequate they may be—and how and for what purpose will they be spent? Will they be spent by the bureaucrats in alliance with the landlords, rich peasants, moneylenders, etc. or will they (or at least a part of them) be utilised by the peasants and other sections of the rural poor in the interests of the common people?" The struggle for the proper utilisation of these outlays envisaged in the Second Five Year Plan is, therefore, an inseparable part of the struggle of the rural poor against their exploiters and oppressors.

In this respect, the A. I. K. S. notes that serious obstacles are created by the Government policies and methods in the way of utilization of these schemes in the interests of the rural poor. Instead of enlisting popular co-operation, reliance is placed on bureaucratic machinery. Undemocratic and anti-popular laws are enforced and discrimination is practised against all other parties and organisations, especially the Kisan Sabha, while the ruling party tries to utilise these schemes for its narrow selfish interests.

The A. I. K. S. will fight against these methods and policies

of the Government so that maximum utilization of these schemes and the cash allocations is made in the interests of the peasantry and of agricultural development.

In view of all this, the present Session of the A. I. K. S. considers that it is obligatory for the Kisan Sabha not to remain satisfied with carrying on agitation and struggle for peasant demands. This undoubtedly is most necessary and must be continued. At the same time, the Kisan Sabha units should also undertake activities of a new kind, activities which they have not so far taken upon a countrywide scale. This means that—

(a) The Kisan Sabhas at all levels make concrete studies of these schemes and offer their co-operation in properly implementing these aspects of each measure which are good from the point of view of the interest of the peasantry and oppose those which are injurious, making their own concrete, constructive proposals as to how the defects and shortcomings in each measure are to be overcome.

(b) The Kisan Sabha units must educate the entire peasantry on all the three above-mentioned aspects and rally them for carrying out what is good in every measure, for fighting every thing that is injurious to the interests of the peasantry and for bringing about necessary modification in Government policies and measures.

(c) The Kisan Sabha units participate in forming and functioning the various organisations such as co-operatives, panchayats etc. that are set up under the Second Five Year Plan—and in seeing that the personnel that are required for the implementation of the Plan are drawn from the patriotic elements in society and not from the corrupt and anti-social elements. A.I.K.S. units also fight against the wastage in the execution of schemes and campaign for the reduction of heavy establishment charges.

The preliminary report of Mr. Thapar, Secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, reveals the unbounded enthusiasm that is being exhibited by the Chinese people in executing the Chinese Five Year Plan. It is the enthusiasm, co-operation and creative energy of the common man that are

mainly responsible for the magnificent success achieved by China in such a short time, with such a small cost. This comparative study made by Mr. Thapar particularly shows that China achieved tremendous successes on the agrarian front with less cost and in a short period mainly because of implementation of thorough-going land reforms, rooting out landlordism and rousing the enthusiasm of the peasantry for greater production.

The A. I. K. S. feels that India also can achieve such glorious successes provided that here also thorough-going land reforms are implemented and productive forces in agriculture are unleashed. The A. I. K. S. calls upon the Government to immediately undertake land reforms on the lines suggested by the A. I. K. S. through its various resolutions.

This Session demands of the Government that the following programmes should be taken up and necessary changes made in the Plan for the same :

(a) CEILING on landholdings at three family holdings as a limit, rent reduction on the lines of recommendations in the Second Plan; security of tenure and restoration of the dispossessed tenants since January, 1950 should be completed by the end of 1957.

(b) MORATORIUM on rural debts and legislative measures for the liquidation of usurer's debts within that period. 750 crores of rupees should be provided for credit facilities and co-operative movement should be developed.

(c) PANCHAYATS should immediately be given all the powers suggested in the Plan and they should invariably be made agencies for community development and administrative expenditure should be curtailed.

(d) PEASANTS AND AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS should be associated with all rural reconstruction plans and implementation of land reforms

(e) LIGHTENING of existing TAX BURDENS on peasants with exemptions to agricultural labour and poor peasants.

(f) RESOURCES for the plan should be obtained by putting a ceiling on profits, mobilising hoarded riches, stopping privy purses and postponing payment of compensation to big zamindars and

jagirdars and taxing the rich, nationalising the foreign investment; and such other means.

(g) Fair prices of agricultural products and stabilisation of prices of essential goods are to be guaranteed.

This Session appeals to all progressive patriotic people in the country to join hands with the Kisan Sabha for campaigning for progressive changes in the Second Plan. Unity of all patriotic progressive sections is all the more necessary to defeat the reactionary policies which are hinderances in the way of achieving the objectives. Enough signs are already there to prove how the proposals for land reforms are being ignored by the State Governments and how the Central Government itself is refusing to take strong and effective measures to check inflation arising from deficit-financing. Hence this Session declares that the united strength of all the patriotic forces alone can stop this and win necessary changes in the Plan in a progressive direction.

10. On Growing Tax-Burdens.

This 14th Session of the A. I. K. S. endorses the resolution "On Growing Tax Burdens" passed at Dahanu Session of the Sabha in April 1955. During the period since Dahanu Session, instead of giving relief to the peasantry from tax burden, the Central as well as State Governments have imposed more fresh taxes—direct and indirect—and enhanced some of the existing taxes.

The A. I. K. S. notes with concern the proposals in the Second Five Year Plan regarding resources for the Plan. It is proposed to secure 400 crores through fresh taxation during the Plan period and to fill up a large part of the so-called gap of another 400 crores over and above the 1200 crores to be raised through deficit financing.

The deficit financing already resorted to in the past year or so, along with the taxes enhanced or imposed anew has inflated the prices of many essential commodities and intensified profiteering. It has very adversely affected the peasantry in general. The manner in which deficit financing is proposed during the Second Five Year Plan would further worsen the conditions of the

masses.

The deficit financing in this manner, is another method of transferring the financial burden of the Second Plan on the shoulders of common masses.

The Sabha, therefore, calls upon the peasants, agricultural labour and other rural labourers to carry on their fight against proposed burden of taxation.

The Sabha also directs its units to take steps to strengthen and organise the movement against further taxation of labouring masses, direct or indirect or through deficit financing and inflation.

11. On Struggle for Peasant Unity ✓

The All-India Kisan Sabha notes that the need and urgency for the broadest unity of the peasantry is today greater than ever before so as to enable the peasantry to defend its interests, to fight for its immediate demands, to effectively participate in the work of development of agriculture, the reconstruction of our economy and progress of our nation.

In spite of various measures of agrarian reforms and the steps for the development of agricultural economy taken by the Central and State Governments, the fact remains that neither the land problem has been solved nor the reforms have resulted in the improvement of the conditions of the vast masses of peasantry, including agricultural workers, which constitute 70 per cent of our population. They are unable to buy even a minimum of manufactured goods and live in the conditions of semi-starvation, resulting in the narrowing of the internal market whose expansion is necessary for the industrialisation of our country. The influx of these unemployed peasants to the town lowers the price of labour, increases the number of unemployed and makes impossible the improvement of the living standards of the workers. The poorer sections of the peasants are still unable to afford education to their children, resulting in the continuation of cultural backwardness of our country. Hence, without radical agrarian reforms and other substantial measures for the development of agricultural economy, neither can there

be sufficient improvement in the living conditions of the people nor can the country put its economy on sound footing. The national reconstruction of our economy depends primarily on unleashing the energies of millions of our peasants and workers.

Although the objectives put forward in the Second Five Year Plan have been welcomed by all patriotic elements in the country, the experience shows that it is the Government's policy of compromise with landlords and monopolists which is the biggest obstacle in the development of our economy. It is this policy which does not allow the land to pass into the hands of real tillers. It is this policy which gives neither security to the tenants nor saves them from rack-renting. It is this policy which squeezes the peasants by price fluctuations and heavy tax burdens.

The All-India Kisan Sabha has many times made it clear that the result of this policy has been the ejection of lakhs of tenant families and setting up of capitalist-landlord farms with the help of Government loans. The talk of ceilings has only led to the landlords splitting and transferring their holdings in order to evade the ceilings and not to leave a piece of land for the tenants. The bulk of the money spent on the schemes of development of agriculture have been utilised by the landlords and upper sections of the peasantry. The Government relies upon the capitalist landlords for raising agricultural production and not on the working peasants.

In the past few years these policies of the Government met with very stiff opposition from all sections of the peasants irrespective of their political views. United struggles were fought against evictions, tax burdens, for the distribution of wastelands and other demands in many parts of the country. The united struggles forced the Government and the landlords to retreat on many occasions.

But the Government and landlords are yet able to pursue their policies because the peasant movement as a whole is not strong enough to fight back their combined offensive. This is because, unfortunately —

FIRSTLY, the overwhelming majority of the peasants are unorganised and culturally backward ; ✓

SECONDLY, a large number of peasants are still under the influence of casteism and communalism ; ✓

THIRDLY, we have neglected the problems of peasant women who are very much oppressed and suffer grave injustices ; ✓

FOURTHLY, there are still many areas under the firm grip of local landlords and other gentry, which prevents their being drawn into the peasant movement ; ✓

FINALLY, the organised peasantry itself is not united under a single mass organisation. ✓

The ruling classes utilise the conflicts between various sections of the peasantry arising out of the existing economic and sociological factors and try to prevent the peasants from uniting with each other for common action.

Not satisfied with this alone, the ruling party has set up its Kisan Vibhag in order to disrupt the organised peasant movement. The Government finances and resources are also being utilised to disrupt the peasant unity through the agencies like farmers' forums, the village level workers etc.

On the other hand notwithstanding some efforts the All India Kisan Sabha and its units have not been successful in forging links with all the existing organisations and elements standing for the defence of interests of the peasants. In view of this, the problem of peasant unity is of utmost importance for the advancement of peasant movement in our country.

In order to fulfil this task, the units of the All-India Kisan Sabha will strive —

* To unite all the elements in the life of our country interested in the welfare of the peasants ;

* To fight casteism and communalism which keeps the peasants divided ;

* To fight disruptive moves of the ruling classes to keep the peasants divided ;

+ To draw the vast sections of the unorganised peasants into the movement ;

+ To strengthen and broaden the Kisan Sabha to enable it to discharge its responsibilities as a united organisation of the Indian peasants.

The All-India Kisan Sabha knows it fully well that today the unity of the peasantry will have to be built on the basis of defence of immediate interests of the peasants and by giving concrete and practical direction to the urge of the peasants for reconstruction. It must be emphasised that the sentiment and urge for reconstruction moves the widest sections of the peasantry, including the most backward and non political peasants. Hence, the broadest unity of the peasantry cannot be forged unless the practical activities for the implementation of all schemes, including the official schemes such as cooperatives, community projects, NES, financial help for better seeds, fertilizers, etc. which give relief, howsoever limited, to the peasants are also taken up.

The All-India Kisan Sabha, in the light of the above, places before the peasants of our country the following platform :

1. Total ban on evictions for 3 years until comprehensive land laws are enacted safeguarding the interests of the tenants ;

2. Restoration of tenants to lands from which they have been ejected and all transfers and sales of land to be declared null and void for the purposes of security of tenure ;

3. Implementation of the proposals of the Second Five Year Plan on rent reduction within one year ;

4. Fixation of ceiling on all holdings at three family holdings conferring proprietary rights on the tenants over their tenancies and distribution of the surplus land among agricultural labourers and poor peasants.

5. Acquisition of the wastelands (Government and private) and their distribution among agricultural labourers ;

6. Moratorium on the usurer's debts and provision of 750 crores of rupees to meet the requirements of rural credit during the Second Five Year Plan period.

7. Lightening of existing tax burdens on the peasants (with certain exemptions to agricultural labourers and poor peasants) ; graded tax on agricultural income to be enforced ; sales tax and in-

direct tax on essential commodities and services to be abolished ;

8. Opening up of network of marketing cooperative societies and warehouses to save the peasants from market fluctuations and fixation and guarantee of fair prices of agricultural and industrial commodities ;

9. Opening up of cheap grainshops ;

10. Full participation in all Government Schemes which benefit the peasantry. Taking initiative in organising relief, self help for rural reconstruction ;

11. Immediate implementation of Minimum Wages Act in rural areas of all states to fix minimum wages for agricultural workers ;

12. Democratisation of cooperatives, panchayats and district boards so as to ensure their democratic functioning and broader and active participation by people in these. The development schemes to be implemented through the organs of local bodies in order to save administrative expenditure and wastage by ensuring the people's cooperation. Full civil liberties, separation of executive from judiciary, curbing the powers of repressive organs.

Many of the slogans given in this platform have been accepted in the past by the major political parties in our country and which can today form the basis of uniting the masses following various political parties.

The Fourteenth Session of the All-India Kisan Sabha calls upon the peasants to unite behind this platform for common action. It appeals to all political parties and elements, to support these immediate demands of the peasants for their better living conditions and development of our agriculture and industry and thus strengthen our economy, ✓

12. On the Strike of Defence Workers

The Fourteenth Session of the All-India Kisan Sabha greets the Defence Workers who are on strike against the decision of the Government of India to throw out thousands of them on the streets.

This Session extends its solidarity to these Defence workers

on strike and demands that the Government should withdraw their retrenchment scheme and reinstate them or give alternative jobs to all those who have been so far retrenched forthwith.

13. Against Police Firing on Colliery Workers.

The Fourteenth Session of the All-India Kisan Sabha condemns the brutal firing on 27th September, 1956 on a gathering of colliery workers on strike in the Raniganj area of West Bengal, which resulted in two persons being killed and a number of others wounded. The Sabha offers its deep condolences to the bereaved families and expresses deep sympathy for the wounded and demands that a nonofficial enquiry should be immediately instituted and due compensation paid to the wounded and the families of the dead. The Sabha further expresses its solidarity with the workers.

14. Greetings to Punjab Board Teachers

This meeting sends its greetings to the two M. L. C.'s who are on hunger-strike in connection with the agitation for the demands of the Punjab Board Teachers and calls upon the Government to immediately accept the demands of the teachers.

15. On Betel-Leaves

Before the partition of India, the market for betel leaves was in Pakistan. But after partition, we lost this only foreign market. This Conference of the All-India Kisan Sabha requests the Government of India to negotiate with Pakistan to revive the lost market of Pakistan.

16. On the Floods

The Fourteenth Session of the All-India Kisan Sabha expresses its grave concern at the recent floods in U. P., Bihar, West Bengal and other areas, causing loss of life and property and condoles the scores of deaths that have occurred and expresses sympathy for the victims.

The Sabha draws the attention of the Government to the fact that the people suffering from the widespread damage to crops,

houses and other property are in need of immediate relief and urges that adequate relief operations be started by the Central, as well as State Governments without any delay and with the co-operation of popular organisations. For losses of crops and destruction of houses adequate loans also must be immediately advanced to the people concerned.

The Sabha appeals to all relief organisations to take up work of mobilising relief in co-operation with one another. It also calls upon the Kisan Sabha units and workers to organise relief work to the best of their ability and help the relief organisations in all possible ways.

A. I. K. C. RESOLUTIONS

(Amritsar 1. 10. 1956)

1. The invitation from the West Bengal Provincial Kisan Sabha to hold the 15th Annual Session of the A. I. K. S. in West Bengal in October 1957 is hereby accepted.

2. It is hereby decided to extend the time for enrolment of membership upto 30th June 1957-

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

Vice-Presidents—1. Shri Nana Patil. 2. Shri Bankim Mukherjee
M. L. A.

General Secretary—Shri N. Prasada Rao.

Joint-Secretaries—1. Sardar Jagjit Singh Lyallpuri. 2. Shri B. Srinivasa Rao.

Treasurer—Baba Gurmukh Singh

The following are elected members of the C.K.C in addition to the office-bearers :

Members—Sriyuts Achintya Bhattacharya ; Bhowani Sen, Hari Krishna Konar, M.A. Rasul, Ramachandra Misra, Karyanand, Sharma, Sibbanlal Sexena, M. P., Sankardayal Tiwari Harkishan Singh Surjit M.L.A., Jangir Singh Joga M.L.A., Choudhry Ghasi Ram, Bala Krishna Gupta, K. A., Karaleeyan, E. M. S. Namboodiripad, P. R. Madhawan Pillai, C. Kandasami M. L. A., Y. V. Krishna Rao and K. Gopala Rao M. P.

4. It is decided that Shri N. Prasada Rao and Sardar H. S. Surjit should attend the meeting of the Rajasthan P. K. C. and settle the question of the General Elections and the attitude of the P. K. C.

5. BALANCE SHEET FROM 23. 5. 55 to 29. 9. 56

<u>Receipts</u>			<u>Expenditure</u>
Rs. 5, 275	15 7	Opening Balance	
260	0 0	Donations	
4, 251	14 1	Membership fees	
128	8 0	Delegates Fees	
360	8 0	Literature Sales	
55	0 0	Suspense	
		Office	Rs. 2,085 12 6
		Stationary	239 5 6
		Postage	567 7 6
		Library	141 5 3
		Printing	1,731 1 0
		Travelling	1,567 9 0
		Allowances	1,667 7 0
		Contingencies	771 1 0
		Delegation expenses	140 0 0
		Miscellaneous	17 10 6
			<hr/>
			8,928 11 3
		Balance in hand	1,403 2 5
			<hr/>
<hr/>	10,331 13 8		10,331 13 8

30. 9. 1956

N. Prasada Rao,
General Secretary.

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

Membership in 1956

1. Assam	7788
2. Manipur	3000
3. Tripura	3456
4. West Bengal	145845
5. Orissa	6384
6. Bihar	54912
7. U. P.	19200
8. V. P.
9. Punjab-Pepsu	169914
10. H.P.
11. Rajasthan	65000
12. Delhi
13. Madhya Bharat	13532
14. Gujerat
15. Maharashtra
16. Marathwada
17. Vidarbha
18. Karnatak	2880
19. Malabar	116544
20. T. C. State	16320
21. Tamilnad	91800
22. Andhra	20000
23. Telangana
Total	<hr/> 736575

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