

Geneva, 7 January 2020

Mr. Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister of India,
Prime Minister's Office
South Block, Raisina Hill, New Delhi-110011
pmo@gov.nic.in

IndustriALL Global Union calls upon the government of India to immediately address the charter of demands of the Indian trade union movement

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing to you as the General Secretary of [IndustriALL Global Union](http://www.industrial-all-union.org), which represents more than fifty million workers in mining, energy and manufacturing sectors throughout the world, on the occasion of the nationwide strike that will be observed by workers across India on 8 January 2020, to call upon the government of India to immediately take steps to address the charter of demands of the Indian trade union movement.

We are greatly concerned over declining economic development, rising retrenchment of workers across the country and aggravating employment crisis. However, your government's policy prescriptions, with the primary objective to enhance India's position in the 'ease of doing business' index of the World Bank, have actually worsened the economic and social crisis in India. The recent attempt of your government to simplify 40 labour laws into four codes has greatly diminished the progress towards decent work. Almost all of these policies of your government have ignored trade unions' recommendations and requests, while undermining the process of social dialogue and tripartism.

In many ways, the twelve-point charter of demands of trade unions attempts to address the problems faced by millions of workers in India. These demands include withdrawal of anti-worker labour laws amendments, urgent and concrete measures to contain unemployment, universal social security coverage for all workers, increasing minimum wages, equal wages for equal work, pension for the entire working population, end to privatization of public-sector enterprises, end to casualization of permanent work and immediate ratification of ILO Conventions 87 and 98.

It is not acceptable that since 2015, your government has not held discussions with the trade unions to resolve their demands. The government of India must take immediate and tangible measures to work with the trade unions to address their concerns.

The government should restore the institution of social dialogue and tripartism. In this direction, the government should immediately revive the Indian Labour Conference (ILC)--the apex tripartite consultative committee, which met for the last time in 2015--and must meet periodically, and its recommendations should be taken on board.



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IndustriALL Global Union stands in solidarity with the Indian trade union movement in their struggles to defend workers' rights and democratic institutions.

Yours Sincerely,

Valter Sanches
General Secretary