

K. HEMALATA President K HELIALATA Provident

TAPAN SEN, Ex-M.P. General Secretary

Date: 22nd July 2022 New Delhi.

To, The Ambassador, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, Delhi 110021 The Embassy of Italy, 50, Chandragupta Marg,

Sir,

Sub: CITU Condemns & Protests attempts to Criminalize Trade Union activities and to intimidate Workers of Italy.

Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) a Central Trade Union representing the workers of India expresses its solidarity with the workers of Italy,USB & Si Cobas Unions. CITU expresses its serious concern over the developments in Italy and protests the Italian government's attempts to criminalize trade union activities and to intimidate workers in Italy.

The CITU denounces the attempt of indictment by the Piacenza Public Prosecutor's office through its 350 page indictment in which unions and trade unionists are accused of crimes such as picketing strikes, protests and mobilisation in logistic sector. Based on this indictment, a police operation was carried out with searches of trade unionists homes and the arrest of 4 USB trade unionists.

The CITU registers its protest against the Italian government's act of considering picketing strikes, protests and mobilisations as crimes. The CITU further asserts that the picketing strikes, protests and mobilisations are the democratic means of trade unions to further their causes for Justice.

Further, we wish to bring to your notice that a few months before these attacks there were provocative raids on USB office by the police. These raids were condemned by the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) and all affiliates of it including the CITU. These attacks by the State are blatant violation of the very notion and concept of trade Union, democratic rights and freedoms. These are done at the behest of Logistics employers who are alarmed by the growing anger of workers in the sector against the injustice meted to them and the exploitation of them. The attacks on the USB and Si Cobas have been responded to by 24 hours strike by the workers in Logistics with which the WFTU and CITU stood in solidarity.

The CITU herewith demands the Italian government to withdraw all charges and to put an end to the prosecution of trade unionists.

With serious Concerns,

(Tapan Sen) General Secretary Ex Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)

CC:

1) President / General Secretary, WFTU, Athens, Greece.

2) President / General Secretary, USB and Si Cobas, Italy.

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