

# NATIONAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

## For Central Legislation on Construction Labour

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### “Save the BOCW Acts Campaign”

### “निर्माण मज़दूर के कानून बचने का अभियान आगे बढ़ाओ”

Dear Friends,

Several rallies of Construction Workers opposing the Labour Codes were held in State capitals and district headquarters on Jan 31, 2019, leading up to the National Rally of Construction Workers outside Parliament on Feb 7, 2019 with the demand “Save the BOCW Acts”. Representatives of unions from Building Mazdoor Union (Patna, Bihar), Bandhkam Mazdoor Sanghathan (Ahmedabad, Gujarat), Nirman Mazdoor Panchayat Sangam and Unorganised Workers Federation (Tamil Nadu), PMKTS (Puducherry), Aravali Nirman Mazdoor Sangathan (Rajasthan) besides Nirman Mazdoor Panchayat Sangam, Nirman Mazdoor Sanghathan, Rajdhani Bhawan Nirman Kamgar Union (Delhi) participated in large numbers in the rally in Delhi.

Petitions to the Petition Committee of the Rajya Sabha were submitted after the Rally. The next step is to submit the Petition to the Lok Sabha. All the constituents of NCC-CL are requested to send the copies of signatures collected by them on the Petition to the NCC-CL office, so that they can be submitted to the Petition Committee before the 16<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha is dissolved and General Elections are called.

All constituents of NCC-CL are also requested to share the details of dharnas organized by them on Jan 31, 2019 in State capitals or district headquarters with the NCC-CL office so that it is circulated all over the country.

After the Rally a meeting of the NCC-CL was held at the office of the Bandhua Mukti Morcha. This meeting discussed the demand for the withdrawal of the Labour Codes and the need to forcefully put forward the demands of construction workers and other unorganized sector workers including Bonded Labour, Child Labour, Domestic Workers and Migrant Workers in the run-up to the General Elections. The meeting decided that various sections of the working class that will be adversely affected by the Labour Codes should be approached to facilitate joint actions and protests.

The meeting proposed to hold **regional meetings** for North, South, West and East India in Delhi, Chennai, Ahmedabad, and Bhubaneshwar respectively **before 25<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2019**. The meeting also proposed to organize Awareness Yatras between 10<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019 simultaneously in different parts of the country, ending with a Yatra of Construction Workers to Delhi on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2019 from different directions.

NCC-CL will now take up the demand for the **withdrawal of Labour Codes**, support for the 'Save the BOCW Acts' campaign and **enactment of comprehensive legislation for Domestic Workers** with major political parties. We will demand that these issues be included in their Election Manifestos for the general elections to the 17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha. All constituents are requested to suggest other issues that need to be taken up for inclusion in the Election Manifestos of different political parties.

All constituents are also requested to inform the NCC-CL office of the dates when they can organize the Regional Meetings. NCC-CL expects that **Coordination-Committees** will be formed at these Regional Meetings to carry forward the common programme, as decided by the next Regional & National Meetings of NCC-CL. All constituents are also requested to suggest the place of origin and destination of regional **Awareness Campaign Yatras** and specify the number of participants that they will send to Delhi on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2019.

NCC-CL requests all BWI Affiliates to participate in the Regional Meetings, Coordination Committees and Awareness Campaign Yatras.

NCC-CL also requests the National Platform of Domestic Workers and other platforms of unorganized sector workers to support and participate in the campaign.

Since the time is very short we expect all NCC-CL constituents and other organizations receiving this circular to immediately contact each other in their regions and confirm the dates of regional programmes to the NCC-CL Coordinator.

Expecting immediate responses on email, the NCC-CL WhatsApp group or on the phone,

Yours Sincerely,

Subhash Bhatnagar