

AGITATIONS OF MINE WORKERS

In CHILE:

70 workers at a mine at Curanilahue in Chile descended 2,000 feet into the mine on Aug. 11 and vowed not to leave if they are not paid the wages and benefits to them. The management of this mine Santa Ana had not paid in to the workers' social security fund for about a year and did not pay their wages for July. The management told the workers that there was no money and that they would have to keep working to "generate resources" to pay them.

In NEW SOUTH WALES:

Around 200 workers at the South-32 owned Dendridium underground coal mine at Mount Kembla on the Gllawarra region, walked off the job for 7 days on August 14 on the demand of their job security. The miners want an agreement which restricts the use of short-term casuals, refusing casualise of permanent positions.

In GREECE:

Some 200 miners working for the Canadian firm Eldorado at a gold mine in Halkidiki region of north Greece on Aug 24 held a demonstration against its threatened closure. 2000 workers are working in this gold mine. The management sent out letters to 200 workers suspending their contracts (appointments), while workers of contractors at the site have already lost their jobs.

In UKRAIN:

The workers of the coal mines of Salidivlugillia went on strike from Aug 26, demanding improvements of working conditions an increase in tariff rates and better health care. The miners and their families took to streets of Selidiv town and blocked the roads, demanding their salaries payment as some of the workers at the mines were not paid with their wages for the last 3 to 5 months.

In OMAN:

The workers of Oman mining company went in to strike demanding wage increase and maintaining health and safety standards in the company.

AGITATIONS OF TEACHERS:

In NIGERIA:

Lecturers at the Federal Education Kano have gone on a one-week warning strike in the 2nd week of August in opposition to the university reverting to college status. Kano is among 4 universities facing status reversal. The union of university academic staff is protesting the lack of consultation over the plan.

In PHILIPPINES:

On Aug 19, public school teachers demonstrated at the department of budget and management in Manila in their long-running dispute for an overdue salary increase. Their salaries have been stagnant for 5 years. The government is falsely claiming that it does not have enough funds to increase the salaries.

In URUGUAY:

The teachers throughout the country in Uruguay went on a one day protest strike, on Aug 27 against the government decreasing education as an essential service and banning on teachers strikes for a period of one month, in the wake of following months of strikes and protests for one month, in the wake of following months of strikes and protest actions by Uruguay teachers. They held protest demonstrations opposing the government's decree. Students and labour unions joined in the protest demonstrations. These teachers went on strike from Aug 13 for two weeks before the governmental decree was announced, demanding pay hike etc.

In PAKISTAN:

Junior teachers and primary school teachers, who recently passed their test from national testing service, demonstrated outside the Karachi press-club on Sept 1, to demand nine months' unpaid salaries.

On Aug-5, qualified teachers working in more than 350 government educational institutes as daily wage employees and paid just Rs.7,500 per month in Pakistan, held a protest demonstration in Islamabad. Police assaulted both male and female teachers, beating and dragging them along road. These teachers demanded permanency, promotions based on service and out-standing back-pay.

AGITATIONS OF CONTRACT WORKERS:

In INDIA:

From August 7 onwards over 1,000 contract sewerage and water workers from Goa state public works department went in to strike across the state, demanding government employee status, abolition the labour contract system and pay increase. Strikers included supervisors, operators, mechanics, helpers and others various pumping stations causing water shortages and sewer over flows.

On August 11, contract workers at state-run Hostel and residential schools demonstrated outside the deputy commissioners' office in Chitradurga of Karnataka state demanding regular payrises and Rs 15,000 as monthly minimum wage. The workers claimed that they were not paid wages for the last seven months, their provident fund had not been deposited and were not provided with promised insurance.

Around 1,500 Telangana state contract and out sourced healthcare (Arogyasri) workers went on state wide strike since July.25 demanding for job permanency, salary increase and holidays which the government promised during its election campaign.

Contract workers at the state-run communications company BSNL in Kerala state went in to strike from August 12 demanding better wages and increase in wages.

On August 28 the contract workers from three government-run hostels in the Kalaburgi district of Karnataka state over the non-payment of five months' salaries.

In UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

On Aug 19, non-union contract workers held second one-day strike seeking unionization. The airplane cleaners, baggage handlers and other support staff earn very less for an hour without benefits, without safety equipment for workers dealing with lavatory waste. Their working conditions are abysmal.

AGITATIONS IN OTHER SECTORS

In INDIA: Over 12,000 permanent employees from state owned Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) in Tamilnadu have been on a protracted strike from July 20, demanding 30% wage rise to compensate for not receiving a pay increase since 2007. With the intervension of Tamilnadu C.M. in to the issue and representing the workers demand with the central government, the strike was temporarily withdrawn in the last week of August.

In SOUTH KOREA:

Workers of KumhoTyre company of South Korea went in to strike after 3 years, on Aug 17 against the management's demand for a "wage-peak system" which demands the workers to accept reduced salaries in exchange for working until the retirement age set by the company. Management proposed a three million-won (\$ US 2,537) one-off bonus and a one year extention of the retirement age if the wage-peak system is adopted.

In COSTARICA:

The public employees of Costarica including public school, social security and health care workers marched on protest on August 20, in Sanjose protesting against a "Public Employment law" being discussed in legislative assembly which would eliminate benefits public agencies after to their employees including yearly bonuses, extra pay for enrolling in educational courses and premium pay for the birth of a child or for sharing up on time.

In FINLAND:

On Aug 22, workers and youth held a demonstration in Hakanemi-square in the Finnish capital Helsinki to protest against the programme of austerity being pursued by the government.

In CAMBODIA:

On August 12, more than 400 workers at the Chinese-owned Beautiful Windows factory in Bavet city of Cambodia went in to a strike demanding better working conditions such as fresh air in the building and bonus pay.

In USA:

On August 29, around 800 workers at Kapstone's pulp and paper mill went in to strike over benefits and other contract issues.

On August 29, 1,200 workers at the Pantex nuclear weapons plant in Amarillo, Texas went in to strike rejecting the management's demand to cut the costs by \$ 3 billion and its demands for health care benefit concessions. The workers claim that they work in hazardous-health conditions and that already 1,300 workers have become ill during or after their employment at pantex.

In FRANCE:

On Aug 31, sailors from the bankrupt from scop sea France have blockaded port at Calais of France for 8 hours as protest causing several thousand passengers stranded at sea or blocked from leaving the port of Calais. The sailors used life boats to block the port. According to the tweet of the mayor of Calais the port had been taken 'hostage'. The protest was against overjob losses ahead of talks with company bosses.

In INDONESIA:

On Sept 1, more than 25,000 workers demonstrated in Jakarta and outside the presidential palace, while thousands more mobilized in 20 provisions around Indonesia to demand higher minimum wages and an end to layoffs that have accompanied a sharp slowdown in the country's economy.

In INDIA:

Some 3,000 permanent, contract and daily wage workers of the Madurai city corporation of Tamilnadu state have been on strike since August 31, demanding the job permanency of 2,000 contract municipal workers and Rs 15,000 monthly minimum wage etc.

On August 31, around 150 part-time teachers protested outside collectors office in Dindigul and Ramanthapuram districts of Tamilnadu demanding increased wages and job security. They claimed that almost 17,000 teachers were appointed on part-time basis throughout the state in 2011 and paid just 7,000 rupees a month.

In SOUTH AFRICA:

4,000 South African water workers went on strike at RAND water on Sept 2 across the Gauting and Mpumalanga area demanding wage increase, a 12% incentive bonus and hike in house rent allowance.
