

AGITATIONS OF THE WORKERS AROUND THE WORLD

Agitations of Teachers

Mexico

On Aug.10(2016) Professors at the Zacatecas polytechnic university (vpz) in Fresnillo, Zacatecas Mexico walked off the job , demanding a salary rise of 15% and reclassification of professors with higher levels of scholarship 65% of the professors (instructors) have masters or doctoral degrees, yet they are paid the same as their colleagues of lesser levels of scholarship.

Panama

Around 2000 teachers at Panama's professional and technical institute have gone in to a protest strike for 35 days, which ended on August 13. They protested against the failure of the Ministry of Education to complete construction of a new building for the college. The ministry of education reneged on its promise to complete the construction earlier, which was taken up before 2½ years.

Argentina

On Aug.24, teachers from primary schools to university level went in to a one day protest strike demanding the reopening of parity tasks and other salary adjustments in response to the nation's inflation rate @45%, which has eaten in to the raise of salary agreed to by the government in February.

On October 13 and 14, university professors held a two day protest strike against the Education ministry's rejection of reopening of parity talks.

Pakistan

On August. 25, teaching hospital doctors at Mandan medical complex in Peshawar, Khyber pakhtunistan boycotted duties in protest against withdrawal of their Health professional allowance. The protests started after certain hospitals were reclassified as medical teaching institutions and doctors' HPA payments stopped. On August .31 , academic and non-academic staff of major universities in Sindh province of Pakistan held a one-day strike demanding payment of overdue wages, a halt to continued government interference in the universities and proper allocation of funds. They also demanded payment of bonuses and better and equal facilities in all universities.

On September.27, government teachers in the Federally Administrated Tribal areas in north-western Pakistan demonstrated in front of Peshawar press club demanding unpaid wages, upgradation of their services and payment of risk allowance.

About 3,500 contract teachers at 48 state run working Folks Grammar schools in Khyber pakhtunkhwa walked off the job for an indefinite period them October.4 demanding 7 month's unpaid wages and job permanency

Australia

Around 500 teachers at catholic schools in South Australia stopped work on Sept.8, demanding a cut in student contact time of 1.5 hours each week to bring them in to line with public school teachers.

Peru

From October.27 the teachers of Peru began a 3day strike demanding a pay raise, free quality education for children, completion of commitments promised by the government and removal education minister.

Police launched tear gas canisters at teachers marching in protest at the airport in Cusco and injured two teachers.

Sri Lanka

On October.3, acting principals at government schools picketed the Ministry of Education in Battaramulla. They marched towards parliament and picketed at parliament. Their demand is to make their services as permanent principals.

Belize

Teachers in Belize went on national wide strike since October. 5 demanding pay raise, improved labour conditions and the institution of “good governance” measures. The strike continued up to October. 19th and ended with a massive protest demonstration.

Chicago

532 teachers working in the UNO charter school system managing 16 schools in Chicago, many of which serve Hispanic and minority neighbourhoods marched outside the UNO offices of Chicago on October.13th, in protests against the plans by the management to implement further cuts after a wave of layoffs in last August. They also demand limits on class sizes.

India

On Sept.5, contract teachers protested in Ranchi of Jharkhand, against the scheduling of the Jharkhand Teachers Entrance test on November.20, while there are already 4,000 qualified teachers that were not given with jobs since 2013. They demanded that all those who are previously qualified shall be recruited in to positions before the next test.

On Sept.13, 25,000 teachers of government schools in Uttarakhand went in to an indefinite strike demanding to fulfil the demands agreed in 2015 with their unions. The main demands are assured career progression and two additional leave periods, regular yearly transfers, expedited promotions and salary rises and grade parity between all teachers. They also demand no disciplinary action against any teacher without a fair and thorough enquiry.

On October.1 a large number of government school guest teachers protested outside the Dy.chief minister, Manish Sisodia’s residence in New Delhi demanding job permanency, fixed wages and re-appointment of guest teachers who were removed due to Transfers. Teachers continued their protest at the Chief Ministers residence also by stopping attending the classes.

Agitations in the Mining Sector

Ukrain

On August.11, miners working at state-owned Ukrainian company refused to go down the mine. The walk-out was to protest the non-payment of 3months of wages.

Bolivia

From the 2nd week of August, the mine workers in Bolivia began indefinite strike. They are demanding permission to associate with private firms, subsidies and relaxation of environmental and other laws, measures that they hope will stem the steady deterioration in their livelihoods. In protest they set up road blocks along various high ways. In the 3rd week of in the clashes between the protesting workers and the police at road-blocks 3 workers were killed.

Queensland

On August.29 at an Anglo American’s German creek coal mine walked off the job demanding to end casualisation of permanent work force; improved redundancy process, accident pay consistent with coal industry standard maintenance of current rate remuneration.

Ireland

Workers at the diamond manufacture company Element six diamond company in Shannon have voted to hold an one day-strike on September.21, in protest against the company that failed to implement a recommendation from the Labour court regarding changes to shift patterns and work practices.

Chile

Strikes at two Chilean mines took place in the first week of September. On September.5 the workers at potrerillos de El Salvador copper mine walked out when management refused to raise their wages; instead of offering a onetime bonus. The workers set up blockades at some roads.

On September.8, the workers of Los Bronces copper mine, one of the world’s largest mining conglomerates-owned by south-African based Anglo American mine-went in to a strike. This was the first ever strike in the company which started in 1980. The workers went on strike demanding wage raises instead of offering one time bonus, habitability of good standards-to build an encampment to workers-better labour conditions especially in their rest periods and betterment of the quality of life of miners.

India

The workers of Uranium Corporation of India Ltd, in Jharkhand state went in to an indefinite strike from September.27, demanding to honour and implement the wage revision M.O.U. made with the union by the U C I L management. U C I L operates six underground mines and an open mine in Jharkhand. It also operates two uranium processing plants. Production at all the U C I L units in Jharkhand was stopped.

Indonesia

Around 1,200 workers at PT Freeport Indonesia's Grasberg open pit gold and copper mine in Tembagapura, papau went in to indefinite strike from Sept.28 demanding equal bonus distribution for workers in all departments. While the open pit workers only get 17% bonus, other employees (office and administrative staff) receive higher bonus up to 45% of their salaries. The strikers include heavy equipment operators and truck drivers causing production at the pit to stop.
