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Title: Reported Jail Bharo agitation by all the Trade Unions against rise in prices of Essential Commodities and disinvestment of Public Sector Undertakings.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, today, thousands and thousands of workers belonging to all trade unions like CITU, INTUC, HMS, BMS, AITUC, TUCC and UTUC are courted arrest. They are demanding that the Government should immediately take steps to control and contain the rising prices of essential commodities.

The prices of almost all the commodities particularly food articles are increasing but the wages of workers are not increasing. The prices of all commodities are increasing.

Their second demand is, as the Government have decided to disinvest five to ten per cent shares of Central Public Sector Undertakings, they are opposing the disinvestment of the shares of Central PSUs.

Their next demand is that the labour laws are being violated. They are blatantly violated. The rights which the working class have achieved through their struggle are being taken away by passing legislation. They are withdrawing the rights of the workers. The working class of our country belonging to all the trade unions are demanding that the labour rights should not be violated and the labour laws which are there in our country should be strengthened so that the exploitation of the workers will be stopped. This is the demand of the entire working class of our country.

I urge upon the Government that the Government should listen to their demands and try to mitigate the grievances, problems and sufferings of the working class of our country. Otherwise, there will be more bigger struggle by the working class of our country.

Today, the entire working class is united irrespective of any trade union they belong to. We have never seen such a unity in the working class. They are unitedly fighting against anti-labour and anti-working class policies of the United Progressive Alliance Government.