



Dr. Jayachandran's

INSTITUTE FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS

SOUTH INDIA'S PREMIER INSTITUTION FOR
PUBLIC POLICY AND CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS

HISTORY

WWW.jcsias.com

Ph: 93619 21011

TRADE UNION MOVEMENT

Pre-1918 Phase

1918-1924 Phase-Early Trade Union Period

1925-1934 Phase-Left Wing Trade Unionism

1935-1938 Phase

1939-1946 Phase

1947 and Since – Party flavour

TRADE UNION MOVEMENT

Trade Union is an association of wage-earners for the purpose of maintaining or improving their working conditions.

First factory act 1881 result of Lanshire (Bombay) textile capitalist lobby for regulating condition of workers.

Pre-1918 Phase

- * Setting up of textiles and jute mills and laying of the railways since 1850, with Industrialization emerged Industrial proletariat and unions.
- * First labour agitation by Mr. S. S. Bengalee, in Bombay in 1875 to protect against the conditions of workers/women/children in factories
- * As a result, First Factory Commission in 1875 Act in 1881.
- * Mr. N. M. Lokhande (Journal Dinbandhu) may be said as the founder of organised labour movement; first trade union Bombay Mill Hands Association (1890).
- * Followed by Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants in India (1897), Printers' Union of Calcutta (1905), Madras and Calcutta Postal Union (1907), and Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha (1910).
- * Mostly led by social reformers and philanthropists and not by workers (for workers than by workers).
- * Mostly about situation of woman and children

Acts during this phase

First Factory Act, 1881

- * Prohibition of Child below 7 years.
- * Fencing of dangerous machinery.
- * Working hours fixed for child below 12 years

Factory (Second) act, 1891

- * Prohibition of child labour below 9 years.
- * Working hours fixed for Child below 14 years.
- * Recess of 1.5 hours.
- * Weekly holiday for women labour.

Factory act for Jute industries 1909 & 1911 (above laws extended)



1918-1924 Phase-Early Trade Union Period

- * Era of formation of modern trade unionism in the country.
- * World War I and its impacts caused a new zeal in trade union.
- * World War I soaring prices, profit made by industrialist but low wage to workers.
- * Emergence of Gandhi who supported the workers and peasants
- * October(Bolsheviks) Revolution in Russia and Comintern formation which made global call to workers to dispossess the Bourgeoisie(capitalists).
- * Political scenario by home-rule movement, martial law in Punjab made the politicians to recognize workers movement to add weight to their cause and vice versa by workers
- * Ahmedabad Textile Labour Association (1917) - (Gandhi's strike), led by Shrimati Ansuyaben Sarabhai; Madras Labour Union (1918) by B.P. Wadia was perhaps the first trade union organization of Indian on modern lines; Indian Seamen's Union, Calcutta Clerk's Union; and All India Postal and RMS Association were formed.
- * League of Nation agency International Labour Organisation (ILO) was setup in 1919. India Represented by Mr. N. M. Joshi As a result, All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) was formed in 1920 by Lala Lajpat Rai. AITUC was influenced by the Social Democratic ideas of British labour party. by 1924 167 trade unions were formed

Indentured Labour Abolished in 1922 (Indentured servant A person under contract to work for another person for a definite period of time, usually without pay but in exchange for free passage to a new country) Initiated by French in 1826 followed by British

Indian Trade Union Act, 1923

- * Legal status was given to union.
- * Rights of registered union was recognised.

1925-1934 Phase-Left Wing Trade Unionism

- * Revolutionary / Militant tendencies, violent strikes.
- * Communists gained influence in trade unions. They split the Trade Union Congress twice with their widening differences with the left-wing unionists.
- * Internationally two philosophy of trade union developed

Notes

LIVE / ONLINE

**CLASSES
AVAILABLE**

For UPSC - CSE

"Crack UPSC with Expert guidance from South India's leading UPSC Mentors"

Full Syllabus
Guaranteed Results
National level Mock test
Comprehensive Study Material

TO KNOW MORE:

www.jcsias.com

Ph: 93619 21011

Note : C.R. Dass V.V. Gir, Sarojini Naidu, Jawahar Lal Nehru & Subash Chandra. Bose were also presidents of



Dr. Jayachandran's
INSTITUTE FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS
SOUTH INDIA'S PREMIER INSTITUTION FOR
PUBLIC POLICY AND CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS

Reforming Group	Geneva-Amsterdam	International Federation Of trade Union (ITFU)
Revolutionary group	Moscow	Red Labour Union (RLU)

- * AITUC joined RLU and supported Third International led by Jawahar lal Nehru, so Moderate section under N. M. Joshi and Mr. V. V. Giri seceded from Congress (AITUC) and as a separate organization, All India trade Union federation (AITUF).
- * British Government wanted to contain trade union's activities, so they tried to bringing in Public Safety bill in 1928 and Trade Disputes Bill (remember Bhagat sigh's Parliamentary bombing). finally as an ordinance in 1929.
- * Another split in AITUC in 1931 at its Calcutta session under extreme left wing leaders S. V. Deshpande and B T Randive - Red Trade Union Congress. And in 1931, the National Federation of Labour(NFL) was formed to facilitate unity among all the left-wing organizations of labour. the AITUF and NFL merged to form the National Trade Union Federation (NTUF).
- * Congress Socialist Party (CSP) a sub socialistic part inside congress was formed in 1934.

Trade Unions Act 1926

- * Recognised trade union as legal association
- * Gave condition for registration and regulation of trade union activities.
- * Secured their immunity (both civil and criminal) but prevented political activity

Trade Dispute Act, 1929

- * Court of Enquiry (Special court), consulation board were constituted for settling dispute.
- * Strike in essential services (post, water, electricity, railways) were made illegal.

1935-1938 Phase

- * Indian National Congress was in power in seven provinces in 1937. Brought unity in trade unions.
- * AITUC became prime, All India Red Trade Union Congress affiliated it with AITUC in 1935. In 1938, NTUC also affiliated with AITUC.



- * Increasing awakening among the workers to their rights.
- * Also thaw in British-Russia relations and so communism was made legal.

Act of 1935

- * Labour constituencies were recognized.
- * Provision for election labour representatives.

Bombay Industrial Disputes Act, 1938.

- * Made Compulsory recognition of unions by the employers gave a big fillip to the growth of trade unionism in India, thereby no scope of trade union to be declared illegal.

1939-1946 Phase

- * Effect of World War II, great austerity measures led to the problem of unemployment. So joining Union became necessity for a worker to secure job.
- * Big surge in the membership and trade unions.
- * AITUC adopted a resolution disavowing any sympathy for imperialism or fascism in 1940(during WWII) so M.N. Roy – Seceded from AITUC & formed a pro-government union called Indian Federation of Labour (IFL)

National Service Ordinance, 1940

- * Duty to work was recognized.
- * Protection was given to rights of workers.

Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance, 1941

- * Prohibited employers from dismissing workers without valid reasons.
- * Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946 and Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1946 strengthened the trade unionism in India.

1947 and Since – Party flavour

- * Assimilation trade unions based on individual political party ideology and as arm
- * May 1947, Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC) formed by Congress (Sardar Vallabhai patel). AITUC became to be controlled by Communists.
- * Congress socialists who stayed in AITUC during the formation of INTUC later formed Hind Mazdoor Sabha



Notes

(HMS) in 1948 with banner of Praja Socialist Party. HMS split up by a group of socialist forming Bhartiya Mazdoor Sabha (BMS) (now affiliated Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP)).

- * As communist party split, various fractions arose; United Trade Union Congress (UTUC) and Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU).
- * Again a split in UTUC, forming UTUC – Lenin Sarani.
- * Since 1960, Regional parties rose and thereby regional trade unions that became an arm of the party.

At present, there are 8 central trade union organisations. Of these, 4 major federations with national network:

1. All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC)
2. Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC)
3. Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS)
4. Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU)

LIVE / ONLINE

**CLASSES
AVAILABLE**

For UPSC - CSE

"Crack UPSC with Expert guidance from South India's leading UPSC Mentors"

Full Syllabus
Guaranteed Results
National level Mock test
Comprehensive Study Material

TO KNOW MORE:

www.jcsias.com

Ph: 93619 21011

FOR MORE CONTENTS:

www.jcsias.com



Dr. Jayachandran's
INSTITUTE FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS
SOUTH INDIA'S PREMIER INSTITUTION FOR
PUBLIC POLICY AND CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS