
Day 2 (January 9, 2010)

Session III **Panel discussion on Social Security and Vulnerabilities of Dalits, Adivasis, Women, Migrants and Urban Poor**
(9.30 am – 11.30 am)

The session will deal with the need for the law to address the vulnerabilities as well as the imponderables workers face while attempting to access social security.

Speakers:

1. Bullu Sarin, Social Activist
2. Ashok Choudhury, National Forum of Forest People and Forest Workers (NFFPFW)
3. Sujata Gothoskar, International Union of Food Workers (IUF)
4. Jai Singh, Dalit Dasta Virodhi Andolan
5. Dalip Singh Pandhi, Punjab State Schedule Caste Commission
6. Raju Bhise, Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA)
7. Shaktiman Ghosh, Hawkers Sangram Samiti (HSS)

(Presidium: BIRSA, DSS, FEDINA, ISI, PEWSCER and Vigyan Foundation)

Tea Break 11.30 am-11.45 am

Session IV **Panel Discussion on Financing Social Security**
(11.45 am – 1.30 pm)

The session will discuss options for financing social security fund through reduction in defense budget and through tax revenues from investors, corporate and rich should promote development and enable the government to have space for funding social security.

Speakers:

1. Praveen Jha, Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)
 2. Duarte Barreto, FEDINA
 3. D Narasimha Reddy, former dean, School of Social Sciences, University of Hyderabad
- (Presidium: HRA, NCC-USW, NIWCYD and UPGMS)
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Lunch 1.30 pm – 2.30 pm

Session V **Towards National, Regional Action Plan and Patna Declaration**
(2.30 pm-4.30 pm)

The session will discuss in groups and prepare national and regional action plan. It will also discuss issues like how to broaden the campaign network. The group discussion will be in groups divided regionally. The group discussions will be followed by Plenary in which the group leaders will present their reports.

Presenters: UN Mishra, Nidan and Pallavi Mansingh, CEC

(Presidium: CEOEDECON, NFFPFW, PSM and USDMWM)

Tea Break 4.30 pm-4.45 pm

Session VI **Concluding Session**
(4.45 pm – 5.30 pm)

Speakers:

1. Sharad Yadav, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) and National President of JDU
2. Atwadesh Narayan Singh, Cabinet Minister, Labour Employment and Training, Bihar Government
3. Shanti Patel, Hind Mazdoor Sabha (HMS), Freedom fighter and former Member of Parliament
4. Ambarish Rai, Lok Sangharsh Morcha

(Presidium: CEC, Cornerstone, LSM and NIDAN)

Session VII **Cultural Programme**
(5.00 pm onwards)

Bhuma Dance Drama by IPTA, Sufi Music by IPTA

Play on Social Security by Nidan Sanskritik Manch

Play on rights of domestic workers Jeene Ka Hakk by NIWCYD, Nagpur

Day 3 (January 10, 2010)

12.00-1.00 pm Rally

1.00-2.00 pm Public Meeting

Day 3 (January 10, 2010)

12.00-1.00 pm Rally



POORA KAAM, POORA DAAM
POORI SURAKSHA, POORA MAAN

NATIONAL CONVENTION ON SOCIAL SECURITY FOR UNORGANISED WORKERS

January 8-10, 2010

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

at
Bihar Chamber of Commerce, Anta Ghat (Near Gandhi Maidan)
Near Patna District Magistrate Office
Patna, Bihar

National Convention on Social Security for Unorganised Workers January 8-10, 2010, Patna

The government of India passed the 'Unorganised Workers Social Security Act' (UWSSA) on December 17, 2008 for the benefit of about 423 million unorganised workers and their dependents. However, the UWSSA, 2008 has inherent structural gaps that make it totally ineffective. The Act does not define social security. Social security schemes are not included as part of the body of the Act, implying that they can be changed without discussion in the parliament, thereby denying the workers the benefit of consistency and justiceability. Unemployment benefit and livelihood rights are not covered under the Act. It dilutes the existing Acts such as the Maternity Benefit Act and the Workmen's Compensation Act. It does not universalize social security and does not have enabling provisions to empower those who have traditionally faced difficulty in exercising their rights such as the dalits, adivasis and women. The Act has no financial memorandum attached to it.

Social Security Now (SSN) demands that workers should be ensured old age pension, unemployment benefits and livelihood loss compensation, maternity benefit, accident and medical care and should be entitled to provident fund (PF) and employee state insurance (ESI) scheme.

With this in mind, National Working Group (NWG) of SSN is organizing the three-day National Convention on Social Security for Unorganised Workers from January 8-10, 2010 in Patna. This convention will facilitate the unorganised workers to articulate the problems they face in the absence of social security; understand the inadequacies of the Unorganised Workers Social Security Act (UWSSA) 2008; demand registration of all unorganized workers; and launch a movement based on the principle of universality of social security.

About SSN

Social Security Now (SSN) is a network of over 500 organisations from all over India campaigning towards the realisation of comprehensive social security for unorganised workers through a central legislation. The uniqueness of this campaign is the active involvement of dalit, adivasis and other socially disadvantaged groups, asserting that the social security is the legitimate right of all 'social classes' in India. A national convention has been called by Social Security Now (SSN) in Patna on January 8-10, 2010 to highlight these issues. For details visit www.socialsecuritynow.org.

SSN National Working Group Members: Bindrai Institute for Research Study and Action (BIRSA), CBCI Commission for Labour, Centre for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society (CECOEDECON), Centre for Education and Communication (CEC), Cornerstone Trust, Delhi Forum, Delhi Shramik Sangathan (DSS), Foundation of Educational Innovations in Asia (FEDINA), Harit Recyclers Association (HRA), Human Rights Law Network (HRLN), Indian Social Institute (ISI), Jan Sangarsh Manch, Laya, Lok Sangharsh Morcha, National Campaign Committee for Unorganised Sector Workers (NCC-USW), National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR), National Federation of Dalit Land Rights Movements (NFDLRM), National Forum on Forest People and Forest Workers (NFFPFW), National Hawkers Federation (NHF), National Institute of Women Child and Youth Development (NIWCYD), nidan, Nirmala Niketan, Pragatishila Shramik Manch (PSM), Programme on Women's Economic Social and Cultural Rights (PWESCR), Uttar Pradesh Gramin Mazdoor Sangathan (UPGMS), Vigyan Foundation, Women's Voice, Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA)

National Convention on Social Security for Unorganised Workers January 8-10, 2010, Patna, Bihar Programme Schedule

Day 1 (January 8, 2010)

9 am Registration of Delegates

Session I

(11 am-1 pm)

Inaugural Session

Speakers:

Welcome: Ranjan Kumar, nidan

Context Setting: J John, CEC

Special Guests:

1. Digvijay Singh, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)
2. Ali Anwar, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)
3. NK Singh, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)
4. Jabir Husain, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)
5. Avdesh Kumar Singh, Labour Minister, Bihar Government
6. Shambhu Sbaran Shrivastava, Member of Bihar Legislative Council
7. Kedarnath Pandey, Member of Bihar Legislative Council
8. Jaya Shrivastava, Social Activist
9. R A Mital, Hind Mazdoor Sabha (HMS)
10. Ashok Ghosh, United Trades Unions Congress (UTUC)
11. SN Thakur, All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC)
12. Amjad Hassan, Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC)
13. Pratibha Shinde, Lok Sangharsh Morcha (LSM)
14. Vinay Kumar, National Federation for Dalit Land Rights Movement
15. Khagendra Thakur, Pragatishil Lekhak Sangh
16. Prabhakar Sinha, People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL)
17. Justice R R Prasad, Bihar Human Rights Commission

(Presidium: CEC, LSM, NDLFRM, nidan, and YUVA)

Lunch 1.00 pm - 2.00 pm

Session II

(2 pm onwards)

Mazdooron Ki Awaz

The concept of social security has been alien to the workers due to its presentation as an idea far removed from the everyday life realities of workers. Therefore, this session aims at demystifying and deciphering 'social security' and to help its articulation, the way people experience and understand. Workers are encouraged to present social security as rights in terms of the right to old age pension, the right to unemployment benefits, the right to maternity benefits, the right to livelihood loss compensation, the right to accident and medical care as well as the right to provident fund and employee state insurance schemes. Depositions are expected from twenty two sectors based on their experiences of denial of social security and the vulnerabilities arising out of it.

Jury Panel:

1. Justice R R Prasad, Bihar Human Rights Commission
 2. Ganga Prasad Singh, Jansatta
 3. SN Thakur, All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC)
 4. Sujata Gothoskar, International Union of Food Workers (IUF)
- (Jury Coordinators: Pallavi Mansingh and R S Tiwari)