

Communication Workers' Union



MISSION:

THE COMMUNICATION WORKERS' UNION AIMS TO SOCIALLY, POLITICALLY, ECONOMICALLY AND CULTURALLY EMPOWER ITS MEMBERS, WORKING PEOPLE AND UNDERPRIVILEGED IN KEEPING WITH THE NATIONAL INTEREST.

President: J. REMY
Secretary General: J. JULIEN
Treasurer: A. CHAN CHOW
March 20, 2013

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AFFILIATIONS:
Union Network International - UNI (formerly P.T.T.I.)
International Union of Foods and Allied Workers (I.U.F.)

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PRESS STATEMENT

CWU CONDEMNS THE PROVISIONS OF THE MISCELLANEOUS (DEFENCE FORCE AND POLICE COMPLAINTS) BILL

The Communication Workers' Union wish to express its deepest concerns about the provisions contained within the proposed Miscellaneous Provisions (Defence Force and Police Complaints) Bill 2013. This measure that the Government wishes to introduce will certainly drive fear and trepidation into the minds and heart of all progressive Trade Unionists. Any semblance of a Military State connotes grave oppression for Trade Unionists who displays a militant posture.

The CWU is aware of numerous examples of the mysterious disappearance of Trade Union Leaders and Activists in countries where the military have been bestowed with Powers of Arrest. In countries such as Argentina, Peru, Mexico, Zimbabwe and some European countries, like a thief in the night, the military just swoops down on the homes and offices of Trade Unionists and Social Activists who express views that are contrary to those of the Government. This is an inherent characteristic of a Military State and if we allow this Bill to become Law, then Trinidad and Tobago would certainly see these characteristics being displayed. We believe that a concerted effort should instead be made to eradicate White Collar Crime as this form of unchecked criminal activity certainly acts as fuel for criminal activities among the so called Gangs.

The CWU joins with all the other Civil Society organisations in condemning this move and calls on the Government to withdraw this potentially dangerous legislation and engage in the process of Social Dialogue to arrive at a more sensible approach to stem the rampaging crime wave. We will be speaking more on this issue and on our protracted TSTT Junior Staff Negotiations at our planned Lunch Time Demonstration scheduled for, tomorrow, Friday March 22, 2013, outside the Parliament Building, Dock Road, Port-of-Spain at 12.00 noon.

Comradely

Comrade John Julien
Secretary General

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THE PRICE OF FREEDOM IS ETERNAL STRUGGLE

VISION:

THE COMMUNICATION WORKERS' UNION IS COMMITTED TO THE DEFENSE AND ADVANCEMENT OF THE LIVES OF ITS MEMBERS, WORKING PEOPLE AND UNDERPRIVILEGED OF SOCIETY