



**FEDERAZIONE ITALIANA METALMECCANICI**

*Segreteria Generale*

Corso Trieste, 36 – 00198 ROMA

☎ 06 85262 450 – fax 06 85262 452 – [www.fim.cisl.it](http://www.fim.cisl.it) - [fim.segreteria.generale@cisl.it](mailto:fim.segreteria.generale@cisl.it)

**To IndustriALL Global Union's affiliates in India**

## **Fim Cisl in solidarity with Indian trade union movement on the occasion of general strike on 8 January 2020**

Rome, 8 January 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I am writing to you on behalf of Fim Cisl Italian Metalworkers Federation representing thousands of metalworkers in Italy, to express our full support and solidarity with the Indian trade union movement's nationwide strike on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

The government of India's anti-labour policies have damaged decent work and causes enormous distress to millions of workers in India. Its attempts to amend labour laws have undermined workers' rights to freedom of association and collective bargaining and exacerbated the exploitation of workers.

We note with concern that misplaced policy priorities and privatization of large number of public sector undertakings have stalled overall economic development and worsened the employment crisis.

It is not acceptable that the government of India has refused to engage in genuine social dialogue with trade unions.

The government has also consistently failed to address the long-standing twelve points charter of demands raised by Indian trade unions, which includes concrete measures to contain unemployment, universal social security coverage for all workers, increasing minimum wages, pension for the entire working population, end to privatization of public-sector enterprises, end to casualization of permanent work, and immediate ratification of ILO Conventions 87 and 98.

As this juncture, we also take note of the Indian trade union movement's effort to build broad based alliances with farmers and agricultural unions, students' organizations and various other social groups that support the workers' demands and join the strike on 8<sup>th</sup> January.

Fim Cisl stands in solidarity with the Indian trade union movement in your courageous struggle to defend workers' rights, and protect and strengthen democratic institutions and practices.

*"It is only when our voices are united that we become too loud to ignore".*

Marco Bentivogli  
General Secretary  
Fim Cisl

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'M. Bentivogli', written over the printed name and title.

Barbara Arseni  
Head of International Office  
Fim Cisl

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'B. Arseni', written over the printed name and title.