



Socialist Bulletin

A Monthly Publication from Socialist Labour

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Trade Union Protests Should Have Continued – the Government is lying

The uncertain concession from the Government on petrol prices was only the result of the threat of mass protests. Further concerted action is needed to achieve outright cancellation of fuel prices increases and full implementation of a decent minimum wage.

The Government has claimed that they will now continue the fuel subsidy for another 18 months (until after the 2023 elections). But when was the last time that the Government kept an agreement with a trade union? The trade union protests should have continued in each state, where possible, to ensure the Government got the message. We want no fuel price increases and a decent minimum wage for all.

To extend the subsidy beyond February needs an amendment to the Petroleum Industry Bill. To extend it beyond June needs an amendment to the budget. So at the moment these are just vague promises; and we know the government generally does not even implement written and signed agreements with trade unions.

We should have argued that the NLC protests, at state and Federal level, should have continued. Which Governor has fully implemented the minimum wage, stopped fuel price increases and paid their pensioners when due? Which Governor has stopped tuition fee increases in their state or stopped charges for primary health care services?

Unfortunately, the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) called off the protests. This was another terrible mistake. It will make the situation worse for most people. Insecurity will increase as more people will believe that there is no legal way for them to stop their incomes disappearing.

In every trade union branch there are differences of opinion. At the national level, Joe Ajaero, NLC Deputy President, and others argued to continue the protests. We need to encourage such a debate across the trade union movement.

We should argue for:

- NLC to organise strikes, as agreed, where the minimum wage is not fully implemented;
- Trade union branches to send letters of protest to the NLC nationally;
- Solidarity messages to be sent to the striking workers in the research institutes who have been on strike for nearly four months now;
- Solidarity messages to be sent to the striking teachers of Niger State and FCT.

The labour movement is made up of millions of workers and their families in every state, local government and ward. We need to argue for trade union leaders at every level to organise and support strike action. For millions of workers the NLC protests provided hope for a better life for them and their children.

We have to argue for the trade union movement to continue to fight for poor working people! No price fuel increases! No electricity price increases! A decent minimum wage for all!

During the First World War, the Clyde Workers Committee in Scotland said: ' We will support the officials just so long as they rightly represent the workers, but we will act immediately they mis-represnt them.

Visit: socialistlabour.com.ng

THE PEOPLE'S ALTERNATIVE POLITICAL MOVEMENT (TPAP-M) and #RESISTHARDSHIP

The People's Alternative Political Movement (TPAP-M) is a coalition of individuals and organisations. It is committed to building of a mass workers party, and socialist transformation. TPAP-M and her allies have organised several public meetings on the deepening energy crisis, occasioned by rising gas prices and impending hikes in price of fuel and electricity tariff. It helped to initiate the Resist Hardship campaign to struggle to build mass resistance.

OUR OBSERVATIONS:

What the ruling class and their economists continue to refer to as fuel subsidy, is in fact the outcome of the failure and incompetence of the ruling class in general, and the current regime in particular.

This so-called subsidy exists because of the price differential between the landing cost of imported fuel and the pump price of fuel. This differential exists because we are totally dependent as a country on imported refined petroleum products.

Nigeria is the only OPEC member country that imports more than 90% of refined petroleum products to meet its domestic consumption

Recall that the exact same reasons pushed ten years ago by the Jonathan administration, are still being pushed by the current Buhari administration as justifications for the fuel price hike.

In the ten years since the January Uprising of 2012, the four public refineries have remained moribund, while no new public refineries have been built; and this is in spite of the fact that more than \$9.5bn have been spent on the Turn Around Maintenance (TAM) of these moribund refineries.

The same problems at the root of the fuel crisis are at the root of the gas crisis. Despite abundant gas fields, including the monumental wastage ongoing through gas flaring -which although has been illegal and outlawed since 1984 still continues unabated; we as a nation have become overwhelmingly dependent on the imported processed gas to meet domestic consumption needs. The dependence on importation despite massive and humongous investments in the facilities for production and distribution of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), and the recent restoration of customs duty on imported gas by this current regime, are the main cause of the current crisis in pricing, availability and affordability of cooking gas being experienced in the country, imposing further hardships on our people.

With respect to the electricity crisis, nothing exposes the failure of the so-called privatisation of the power sector, than the continuing pricing crisis.

In the Years since the privatisation of the power sector, and with gross deterioration in services provided, Nigerian governments under Jonathan and Buhari have disbursed more than N2.7tn in so-called intervention funds to support the GENCOs and DISCOs, and all without anything to show for it

We also observe that increasing levels of hardships, the rising costs of living, and the intensifying inhumane conditions of living of the working people and toiling masses is at the root of the intractable nature, character, dimension and scale and scope of insecurity in the country.

OUR RESOLUTIONS AND DEMANDS:

That we reject in its totality the hike in the price of gas, and the impending hikes in the price of fuel and electricity tariff;

We insist that we cannot and must not be punished for the failures and incompetence of the ruling class and this regime in ensuring access to affordable energy and adequate security and protection.

We demand that past and present managements of the NNPC and the four moribund refineries should be indicted, prosecuted and brought to book for their crass incompetence that has resulted into the failure since 2012, at least, to turn around the fortunes of the refineries and make them work at optimum capacity, thus contributing significantly to Nigeria's inability to acquire adequate domestic refining capacity.

We demand the complete reversal of the power sector privatisation, and the renationalisation of the power sector, bringing it under the control and management of key stakeholders, including workers, and electricity consumers.

#jointheresistance

THE PEOPLE'S ALTERNATIVE POLITICAL MOVEMENT

RESISTANCE

RESIST HARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

#RESIST HARDSHIP

An Initiative of TPAP-M & her Allies

Join Us: Organize Now! Mobilize Now!! Act Now!!! End Hardship Now!!!!

Facebook: @tpapmnigeria Twitter/Instagram: @tpapm_nigeria

Similarly, we reject the continued practice of estimated billing, whereby as of January 2022, only 41% of electricity consumers supplied by the national grid are metered.

We insist that any government that is unable to build public refineries and enable adequate domestic refining capacity for re-fined petroleum products should resign immediately.

In a similar vein, we call on all Nigerians to be part of the TPAP-M effort of mobilizing for a mass party of the working class and youth on a socialist programme. This is the only viable way to end the incessant attacks on the Nigerian workers and the poor by the inept Nigerian ruling class.

#ResistHardship

When #ResistHardship was conceived by The People’s Alternative Political Movement (TPAP-M) and her Allies to prosecute the Campaign and Struggle against Hardship in Nigeria; we were mindful of the fact that the struggle was not going to be just about the hardships and pains that we see plainly today but hardships which they have been hiding from our people and around have created a lot of confusion. Our movement and the generality of the working people of Nigeria knew, especially since the early 1980s, that this struggle will be a long one. Furthermore, we have made it clear that the struggle goes beyond fuel price hikes but in reality is about the HARDSHIP Nigerians face in all ramifications. In view of this position, we urge the Nigerian people to stay the course; we urge our to develop A LONG VIEW!

Join Us: Organize Now! Mobilize Now!! Act Now!!! End Hardship Now!!!!

Facebook: @tpapmnigeria

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Statement from Trade Union Centres in Burkina Faso: National Situation Statement, Ougadougou, 26th January 2022

Trade Union Unity Action (UAS) of Burkina Faso is following the development of the national situation with great attention. Following shootings in certain barracks and various rumours, a group of soldiers announced on Monday January 24, 2022, on national television, the seizure of power in the name of the “Patriotic Movement for Safeguard and Restoration”

The UAS notes that this situation is the consequence of the mis-management of the country by the regime of President Roch Marc Christian KABORE. He therefore assumes obvious responsibility for the occurrence of this coup. Indeed, the governance of the country has been marked by poor political, economic and security governance. There was a failure to take into account, on the one hand, popular concerns that were clearly expressed during and after the popular insurrection of 2014 and on the other hand, repeated questioning of democratic organizations of the country, including the trade unions.

This resulted in the inability to guarantee the people their right to security and to a dignified existence, the large-scale development of corruption encouraged by impunity, the calling into question of democratic and trade union freedoms, in particular the freedom of to demonstrate, the right to information and freedom of expression, the questioning of workers’ achievements.

In fact, by repeatedly violating the law, the “democratically elected” power was already part of the practices of states of exception and, in a way, prepared the bed for the questioning of the rule of law.

That said, the UAS reiterates its principled opposition to coups. It reaffirms this position and expresses its firm attachment to the respect of democratic and trade union freedoms, to the safeguarding of workers’ achievements, to the respect of the right to life and to the security of populations.

It therefore invites its activists and sympathizers, all workers to remain vigilant with regard to any attempt to maintain liberty threatening texts and practices and any attempt to question democratic and social conquests..

To this end, they must strengthen their organizations, mobilize to continue the fight for the consequent defence of their rights and achievements in line with those of the populations in general.

Signed by the Six trade union centres: CGT-B; CNTB; CSB; FO/UNNS; ONSL; USTB

And on behalf of the autonomous trade unions.

#jointheresistance



Even in Desperate Times a Military Coup Will Make Things Worse – Alex Batubo



Television announcement of Burkina Faso Coup

There are two approaches to socialism – socialism from above and socialism from below. Socialism from above, is the “normal” approach somebody gives socialism to the masses. This may be those elected to the National Assembly, a military coup or popular guerrillas, like Che Guevara. In each case, the working class does not play an active role, other people give them socialism and they are expected to be grateful.

In contrast our approach to socialism is socialism from below. The working class are central in this approach and are actively involved in taking over

and running their factory, office, school or wherever they work. This is why we think

that strikes are so important they are the beginnings of workers actually taking some power themselves – they are the seeds of change.

With the military coups in recent months across West Africa and in Sudan, some people are looking to members of the army to save them from their desperate situation. In Mali, Guinea and Burkina Faso there have been mass demonstrations in support of the military coups in these countries. However, as the communique above shows, many people, and importantly the organised working class, are against this approach.

Thomas Sankara of Burkina Faso, was the leader of one of the best ever military coups. But he was still far from perfect and did not necessarily take the trade union movement forward. When the teachers went on strike, they were simply retrenched. They did not get their jobs back until after Sankara was murdered in 1987. For more details about Thomas Sankara see: <https://socialistlabour.com.ng/2021/05/24/thomas-sankara-burkina-faso/>

Sani Abacha was one of the worst military leaders, but most youth in Nigeria cannot remember his terrible five year rule as it ended nearly 24 years ago. He was corrupt. Transparency International said he may have stolen \$5 billion. He disregarded human rights, Ken Saro-Wiwa of the Ogoni Nine was just one example of the people he murdered. He also greatly restricted trade union rights and the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) was just one trade union organisation that he banned.

Abacha is only one example of corrupt military leaders. Dasuki, the former National Security Advisor, stole at least \$2 billion that was used, at least partly, to try and re-elect Goodluck Johnathan. He was released on bail after only four years in prison.

In 2015 around 500 soldiers were court martialled for cowardice and mutiny. They had refused to fight Boko Haram as corrupt officers had stolen money intended to pay for salaries and arms. Over 50 soldiers were sentenced to death in 2014 for similar offences.

The army have been responsible for an untold number of civilian deaths. Remember it was soldiers that opened fire on the #EndSars protestors at Lekki Toll Gates in October 2020. Do we really want these people running the country?

Socialism is about deepening democracy and making our society fairer. Democracy under Buhari may have suffered, but we still have the courts and the National Assembly which provide some measure of restrictions on his activities. We need to build on this and make it better and more effective for the common people – not to throw it all away with a military coup!

Inequality, poverty, corruption and the resulting insecurity have increased massively in recent years. The only realistic answer is for the trade unions to play a more active role – that is why calling off the protests, planned for 27th January in each state capital, was such a big mistake. We need trade unions to have more freedoms to act and organise to force the riches of the land to be shared more equally. A military coup would make this less likely and lead to more repression to protect the existing corrupt elite and the wealth they have stolen.

Teachers Strikes in Niger State and FCT



As we go to print teachers in both Niger State and FCT are on strike. So much for the Government's commitment to educating the next generation!

The Niger Wing of the Nigeria Union of Teachers (NUT) held an emergency meeting of its Executive Committee on 13th January. It agreed to extend the strike of all primary school teachers due to the continued payment of percentage salaries which was strongly condemned. The NUT has a number of other issues with the State, for example, non-implementation of Teachers Salary Scale (TSS), promotions and annual increments; the non-provision of Zpad tablet computers to secondary teachers despite the teachers paying for them; and extension of the payment period of UBA loans by UBEB.

The Chair, NUT, Niger State wing, Mohammed Akayago, on 21st December

directed primary school teachers in the state to commence a sit-at-home strike if their December salaries were paid on percentage basis. "The state government has in the last five months been paying primary school teachers on a percentage basis and this has really caused hardship for them and their families," Akayago stated.

The sit at home by primary school teachers is to continue until there is "serious commitment by the Government to reverse back to status quo the salaries of primary teachers in the state".

Another strike started by primary school teachers in FCT from Wednesday 26th January. NUT members took action over the refusal of FCT Administration to pay arrears of promotion benefits from 2014 to 2018, non-implementation of 2020 and 2021 annual increments, and upgrading of qualified teachers. They also want the implementation of 24 months Federal Government approved minimum wage arrears. The NUT said the six area councils chairs were yet to implement any of their demands in spite of various ultimatums issued to them to settle the outstanding entitlements of the teachers.

Primary school teachers in FCT called off a one week strike in December. The FCT chapter of the Nigerian Union of Teachers had embarked on a five-day warning strike on November 18.

The primary teachers then proceeded on an indefinite strike at the expiration of their warning strike to press home their demands. The strike was, however, suspended on December 1, 2021.

We send solidarity greetings from Socialist Labour to the teachers involved in these two important strikes. We believe that stay-at-home strikes are not enough. They need to hold protests, town hall meetings and calls for solidarity to achieve their demands. Strikes have to continue until the demands are actually met and the bank alerts have been received – otherwise governments cannot be trusted to do the needful.

Advice from ILO on frequency of minimum wage increases:

Most frequently, countries adjust their minimum wages once a year. Some countries, adjust rates every six months, while others have 2-years intervals. Annual adjustments seem adequate in periods of low or moderate inflation, providing workers and employers with appropriate predictability and allowing for regular adjustments, in line with evolving economic circumstances.

So why is the minimum wage only increased after at least five years? We now need another increase beyond N30,000.

http://www.ilo.int/global/topics/wages/minimum-wages/setting-adjusting/WCMS_439254/lang--en/index.html



International
Labour
Organization

Comparative Analysis of Fuel Price and Minimum Wage

by Ibukun Omole, Research Officer with Iva Valley Books

To understand the fuel price increments and its effects, it is important to place it side by side with the minimum wage to analyse the effect on the masses. From this we can see that the fuel price increments are inconsiderate when compared with the purchasing power of the masses, especially as guaranteed by the minimum wage.

Back in 1981, when minimum wage struggle was first won and set at N125, the pump price per litre of fuel was 15.3 Kobo. This meant that a minimum wage earner could buy 817 litres of petrol with their salary.

In 1990, when the minimum wage was set at N250, the pump price of fuel was 60 Kobo. This meant that a minimum wage earner could buy 416 litres of fuel with their monthly salary – half the level of a decade earlier!

In 2001, the minimum wage moved up to N5,500 and by then the price of fuel was N22. This meant that a minimum wage earner could only buy 250 litres of fuel with their monthly salary.

N18,000 minimum wage was approved by the Senate in 2011, and by the end of 2012 petrol was sold at N97 per litre. This meant that a minimum wage earner could only buy only 186 litres of fuel with their monthly salary.

It is 2022 and the struggle to implement the N30,000 minimum wage is still on in some states of the country, yet fuel sells at N162 per litre. This means that the minimum wage earner can only still buy 185 litres of fuel with their salary.

Based on this analyses, the affordability of fuel for the working masses is constantly reducing and the purchasing power for many other products dependent on fuel price. The government gives little increment in the minimum wage and take it back in multiple folds through the fuel price increments.

The affordability has steadied on 185/186 litres per minimum wage over the last decade because of consistent struggle and this proposed fuel price increase by the government is to take back more from the affordability of the masses and push more people into poverty. At N300 per litre and N30,000 minimum wage, a minimum wage earner can only afford 100 litres.

YEAR	MINIMUM WAGE - N	FUEL PRICE – N	LITRES BOUGHT WITH MINIMUM WAGE
1981	125	0.153	817
1990	250	0.6	416
1998	3000	11	273
2001	5,500	22	250
2011	18,000	97	186
2019	30,000	145	207
2022	30,000	162	185
2023	30,000	300	100

January Socialist Labour Public Meeting

At the end of January, Socialist Labour’s regular monthly public meeting was on “Safe Abortion and Reproductive Rights for Women”. The speakers were Hauwa Mustapha (deputy chair of ASCAB), Mutiat Oladejo of University of Ibadan and Bashirat Oganlana an active member of Socialist Labour.

Over 30 people attended the meeting and had a lively discussion over the need for a vigorous campaign to legalise abortion in Nigeria. There was a call for the trade unions to support this campaign, especially those like NUT and NANNM where the majority of the members are women. Control over their bodies should be a fundamental human right for all women.

Link to join the Campaign 4 Abortion Rights in Nigeria WhatsApp group:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/CF9gLYCMFut35HGO5K-3k8f>

The recording of the Zoom meeting is available on:

Facebook from: <https://web.facebook.com/drew.povey.31/videos/607411233662860>

#jointheresistance

Current Issue of International Socialism Journal

International Socialism is the quarterly journal of the Socialist Workers Party in Britain. The current issue contains many useful articles for socialists.

The lead article is by the editor Joseph Choonara considers the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on workers in Britain. Martin Empson considers the implications of the failure of the COP26 conference to agree appropriate action to reduce the impact of climate change. Scientists say that even the increased pledges made by countries at COP26 would lead the world to disaster: "With all target pledges, including those made in Glasgow, global greenhouse gas emissions in 2030 will still be around twice as high as necessary to limit global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial temperatures."

Anne Alexander considers the strategy that is necessary to end apartheid in Palestine.

Sheila McGregor reviews a new book on socialist reproduction theory that explains that it is capitalism, rather than all men, that benefits from cheap domestic work provided by women. For this reason all socialists should also be feminists and support the fight for the full liberation of women.

Some back copies of this Journal are available from Iva Valley Books at Labour House, central Abuja. Back issues and this current issue are also available on line: <http://isj.org.uk/>



Our Rightful Freedom

by Sani Bala Shehu

Listen to this noisy silence
That echoes deeply inside
Betraying my broad smiles

The drum of love is beaten
His lovely cries have driven
Our intoxicating laughters

They shriek of their voices
Crawl and crawl with tears
Bending necks heads down

Give us our rightful freedom
With whom we were cheerful
When days drive us till desks

Paving our ways to moonlight
To play and enjoy the breezes
And the divine lights soothing

Depressing hearts in our chests
Whose songs send us to the soil
Only when all our dreams dried

***We cannot confront the massive challenges
of poverty, hunger, disease and environ-
mental destruction unless we address issues
of population and reproductive health***

-Thoraya Obaid

First Saudi Arabian to head a UN agency.



Oxfam Agrees that Inequality Kills

The latest report from Oxfam on global inequality is titled “Inequality Kills”. They point out that the “world’s 10 richest men have doubled their fortunes, while over 160 million people are projected to have been pushed into poverty” since Covid-19 arrived and that “based on conservative estimates, inequality contributes to the deaths of at least 21,300 people each day” and “that there is no shortage of money.”



An estimated **5.6 MILLION PEOPLE** die every year for lack of access to healthcare in poor countries.



At a minimum, **67,000 WOMEN** die each year due to female genital mutilation, or murder at the hands of a former or current partner.



Hunger kills over **2.1 MILLION PEOPLE** each year at a minimum.



By 2030, the climate crisis could kill **231,000 PEOPLE** each year in poor countries.

Like the previous Oxfam reports on this subject, this report is an excellent source of ammunition to argue for the sort of collective action that is needed (but Oxfam does not recognise) if inequality is to be reduced.

They correctly state that “Extreme inequality is a form of “economic violence”—where structural and systemic policy and political choices that are skewed in favor of the richest and most powerful people result in direct harm to the vast majority of ordinary people worldwide.” They again correctly claim that “Governments

252 men have more wealth than all 1 billion women and girls in Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean, combined.

must... refuse to spiral deeper into a dangerous, deadly, and self-defeating downfall into levels of extreme inequality human history has never seen before.”

The nearest they get to recognising the need for massive collective action to solve the problem is when they say that governments should respond “to the power of social movements”. But the Executive summary just ends with the bland point that: “the choice facing this generation... must be made now.”

The rich and powerful obviously benefit from the increased inequality of recent decades that Oxfam has documented. The challenge is to find a social force that is capably taking on their power and creating a much fairer and democratic world. We say that this force is, at least potentially, is the organised working class.



To read the Oxfam report, See: <https://www.oxfam.org/en/research/inequality-kills?>

Ransome-Kuti (1900-1978), a leading anti-colonial activist and women’s organiser by Tayo Aluko.

Born in October 1900, Funmilayo Thomas had already become a Head Teacher at the newly formed Abeokuta Grammar School girls’ section at the age of 23. Having been the first girl ever to enrol at AGS, FRK was determined to ensure that girls had as much access to education as boys, often intervening on behalf of female students in persuading reluctant fathers to send their daughters to secondary school and beyond.

She was later the mother of the Afro-beat singer, Fela Kuti, and was murdered by troops during Obasanjo’s military rule.



To read the full article see:

<https://www.counterfire.org/articles/opinion/22683-funmilayo-ransome-kuti-heroine-of-the-nigerian-motherland>

Socialist Labour Depends on its Supporters for Finances

Socialist Labour depends on its members and supporters for funds. We need more financial support so that we can be more active, expand and grow. If you are able to make a modest financial contribution that would be really helpful. We would also like all readers of this Bulletin to consider fully joining Socialist Labour by paying monthly subscriptions.

The standard rate is N1,000 a month, with a lower rate of N500 for students or unemployed and N5,000 for higher paid comrades. We can all afford something - every little helps.

Please make your contributions to the following bank account:

First Bank Nig. Ltd. Account No. 3158880328

Account Name: Aborisade Albert Femi

The account is only used for Socialist Labour purposes.

Summary of Workers Strikes - January 2022

We need your assistance to ensure that this monthly report is comprehensive. Please submit details of any strikes in your state or community.

The strike by the **Joint Research and Allied Institutions Sector Unions (JORAISU)** continued through the whole month. The strike started on Wednesday 13th October, so they have been on strike for three and a half months. Workers in 67 research institutes nationwide have been on indefinite strike over the failure by the Federal Government to fully implement an agreement reached with the unions in 2010. Trade union branches should send solidarity messages via Whatsapp to the President (08030933357) or Secretary (08037056585) of JORAISU.

Niger State Nigeria Union of Teachers (NUT) held an emergency meeting of its Executive Committee on 13th January. It agreed to extend the strike of all primary school teachers due to the continued payment of percentage salaries which was strongly condemned. The NUT has a number of other issues with the State, for example, non-implementation of Teachers Salary Scale (TSS), promotions and annual increments. Messages of solidarity can be sent to the NUT Chair on 0813 037 3581

Teachers in public primary schools of the FCT's six area councils under the Nigeria Union of Teachers (NUT), again shut down the primary schools from 26th January, over unpaid arrears of promotion benefits and other issues. Messages of solidarity can be sent to the NUT Chair on 0803 680 1742

National Assembly workers of the Parliamentary Staff Association of Nigeria (PASAN) commenced their strike, on 10th January, over unpaid salary arrears, precisely 8 months minimum wage, 15 months allowance and breach of agreements by the National Assembly management. Messages of support can be sent to the National President of PASAN on 0818 586 5226

Lagos Nurses under the aegis of National Association of Nigerian Nurses and Midwives (NANNM) commenced three day warning strike, on 10th January, to protest poor remuneration and poor working conditions in the Lagos State health sector, but it was called off on the same day (Monday) after a Congress of the workers agreed to wait and see if the Government will accede to their demands and keep to its promises.

Tricycle operators in Kano commenced strikes, on 10th January, over the 8,000 naira Government levy for the renewal of plate numbers. Strike was called off on 12th of January after it lasted three days.

continued on the next page

Summary of strikes continue

Organised Labour in Enugu state, which include the Nigeria Labour Congress, (NLC); Trade Union Congress (TUC), began a three-day warning strike, on 19th January, over the N30, 000 minimum wage. The three-day warning strike is to force the local government councils in the state to start paying their workers the new national minimum wage. It is also to ensure that the primary school teachers start receiving their own minimum wage like their counterparts in secondary schools and core civil servants who had started receiving the enhanced wage since last year.

Workers of the **Police Service Commission (PSC)** shut down the PSC Headquarters, Abuja on 27th January. The workers were protesting over the reported takeover of the ongoing recruitment of 10,000 constables by the force headquarters. The workers are protesting the alleged takeover of the ongoing recruitment, lack of staff promotion and training of management. The workers forced the Permanent Secretary and directors out of their offices as they declared a three-day warning strike with immediate effect, after their Congress.

The **Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) in Adamawa State** has shut down activities in the Yola Electricity Distribution Company (YEDC) from January 25, over alleged wrongful disengagement of some members of staff. The Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC), Adamawa State chapter, and the state chapter of the National Union of Electricity and Allied Employee (NUEE) mobilised members to the YEDC headquarters in to register their grievances.

Socialist Labour-JOIN US

The economic, environmental and Covid-19 crises have made clear that society is a conflict between two classes: the vast majority who create the wealth, and a tiny minority who profit from it. Attempts to reform this have failed: the only solution is to replace it with a truly democratic socialist society. The corrupt elite will only give up their power if forced to do so. We need a mass democratic movement to bring about socialism. Events, such as Russia in 1917, the January 2012 protests in Nigeria and the mass uprisings in Sudan and Algeria in 2019, show what we need.

For more details of the basic ideas and policies of Socialist Labour see: www.socialistlabour.com.ng/about-us/

To join the Socialist Labour supporters WhatsApp group use the following link: tinyurl.com/SocialistLabour

We would love to receive letters, comments or suggestions from our readers. We want to hear from you with suggestions for articles for our future editions or questions on any articles in this issue.

We especially welcome news about protests and strikes in your community or town.

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