



Socialist Bulletin

A Monthly Publication from Socialist Labour

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Hope is in our Collective Resistance - only Robust Strike Actions Can Ensure a Change of Government Policy

The NLC in its end of year message, demanded the withdrawal of the tax reform bills and a minimum wage review - but it is only robust strike actions by trade unions that will stop the governments' attacks on workers.

The NLC said in the statement from its President, Joe Ajaero:

“We insist that governments at all levels must comply with the provisions of the 2024 National Minimum Wage Act. Furthermore, given the economic realities imposed by recent government policies, we shall engage the government for a wage review to safeguard workers' welfare.”

We need these ideas to be discussed in all our trade union branches with clear demands sent to our national trade unions. All Socialist Labour members and supporters should raise these proposals in their trade union branches and state councils. They should also be raised in local civil society organisations and student union governments.

We support the call by the NLC for the withdrawal of the tax reform bills and for an annual wage review (with indexation to inflation – see: <https://tinyurl.com/MinWagIndex>). But we recognise that only robust strike actions will change the direction of the Government's policies. Tinubu and his Government are class war warriors. Everything they have done so far has made the rich elite richer and the poor majority poorer. We need to ensure that the trade unions adopt the same level of commitment to improving our lives. This is not a government that can be persuaded to change its approach through polite discussion.

The tax system needs to be made more progressive so the rich are taxed more heavily. This can then be used to pay for public health and education for all. The current tax bills will have the opposite effect.

The N70k minimum wage was never acceptable and needs to be reviewed upwards as a matter of urgency. The new minimum wage must be implemented with arrears to be paid from the end of July 2024, when it became law.

We need these issues to be discussed in every trade union branch and state councils to give clear direction to the national unions and the NLC/TUC. We need the rank and file of the NLC/TUC mobilised. We need to demand robust strike actions as the most effective way to change the direction of the Government's policies. We also need these issues to be discussed in civil society organisations and student unions.

We need all members and supporters of Socialist Labour to raise these issues in any groups or meetings that they attend. We also need all supporters of Socialist Labour to try to raise these issues with any trade union members that they know or to visit local work places (schools, health centres, local government offices etc).

We Can All Make a Difference in 2025! Join us: <https://tinyurl.com/JoinSocialistLabour>

Visit: socialistlabour.com.ng

Dele Farotimi, Olamide Thomas and others



Dele's book is a robust exposure of the justice system, but also harsh criticism of the whole of the corrupt governance system in Nigeria. As he says in his book, "the affluent and connected are rarely ever apprehended for their crimes, but the poor are routinely victimized" (page xix).

We must support Dele in his case against Afe Babalola, but we have to widen his defence campaign to include his crusade against injustice and corruption. This must, at the very least, highlight the many recent cases where the judicial system has failed the common people and the oppression they often face

from the police and other security forces.

For more details see: <https://tinyurl.com/ycn83fja>

Another budget for the rich!

Over half the Federal budget for 2025 is to be spent on capital projects – this is where most of the looting happens. Health and education spending planned to be a fraction of international norms. Whilst Tax Bills plan less tax for the rich and more for the poor.

Tinubu is planning to spend 52% of the non-debt Federal expenditure next year to be on capital projects – over half the budget. These have massive potential for bribery, corruption and plain looting. The 700 km Lagos-Calabar coastal road project, for example, is to cost N15 trillion or N4 billion a kilometre. It is being built by the Hi-tech Construction Company, owned by Gilbert Chargoury a friend of T-Pain's. It is already mired in controversy and will cost nearly four times the entire infrastructure budget for next year.

International experience suggests that government capital spending should form no more than 15% - 20% of public sector total expenditure (the average for sub-Saharan Africa is less than 15% and it is less than 10% in South Africa). So why are capital budgets so high in Nigeria when this is a high risk area for corruption?

In 2001 African governments pledged to spend at least 15% of their budgets on health in the Abuja Declaration. But Tinubu is planning to spend only 5% of his budget for next year on health. According to the 2022 World Malaria Report, Nigeria contributes about 27 per cent of the global burden of the disease, and about 31 per cent of deaths, the largest globally.

The National Malaria Elimination Programme(NMEP) reported that Malaria accounts for 60 per cent of outpatient visits to health facilities across the country and 30 per cent of childhood deaths. Malaria is also responsible for 11 per cent of maternal deaths and 25 per cent of deaths among infants. These are a direct result of under-funding of health in the Federal and state budgets.

56 developing country governments, members of the Global Partnership for Education, agreed to spend at least of 20 per cent of their total annual budgets on education. This is supported by UNESCO which recommends that governments spend 26% of their budgets on education. Tinubu is planning to spend only 7% of his budget for next year on education.

So as we have come to expect from Tinubu, this is another budget for the rich with massive opportunities for him and his friends to loot. We need action from the trade unions to change this situation.

How Do We Make Trade Unions more Successful?

What do comrades think about the following trade union perspectives from South Africa? Can we begin to develop similar perspectives for our trade unions in Nigeria? Perhaps we can develop specific programs for each of our trade unions?

What specific detailed reforms or improvements in practice do we need to make our trade union more active and democratic? Contact us with your ideas!

We have to begin to organise much better in the New Year – the struggle continues!!

To read the full perspectives from South Africa, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/3wbwy2pn>
#jointheresistance



SOCIALIST LABOUR

ABOUT US

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

#JOIN THE RESISTANCE



<https://tinyurl.com/JoinSocialistLabour>

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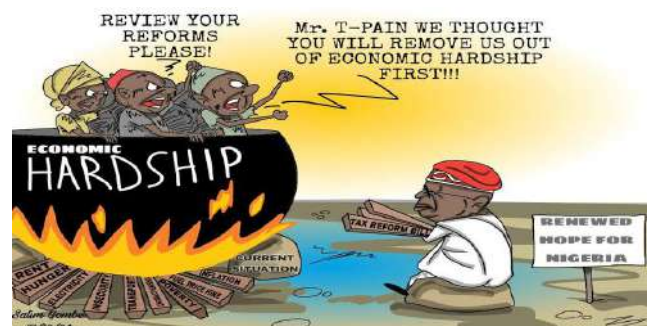
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TINUBU'S REFORMS:

1. Tinubu did a "REFORM" on fuel subsidy and the price of fuel moved from N195 to over N1000 a litre.
2. Tinubu did a "REFORM" on the currency and naira moved from N460/\$ to N1750/\$.
3. Tinubu did a "REFORM" on electricity and you were moved to Band A with higher tariff but without promised 20 hours of electricity.
4. Tinubu did a reform on food security and a bag of rice jumped from 30k to 130k
5. Tinubu did a reform in Education sector and now parents can't even pay school fees for their children in Unity Colleges.
6. Tinubu did a reform on Aviation sector and tickets for local flights began to look like tickets for international flights.
7. Tinubu did a reform of minimum wage buying only 60 litres of petrol compared to 200 litres five years ago.
8. Tinubu is now doing tax reforms and his spin doctors are telling you it is in your interest. Go to Lagos and ask them about Alpha Beta, before you are scammed.
9. Tinubu is reforming VAT to double the rate for us all.
10. Tinubu reforming Corporate & Personal Income Taxes to reduce taxes paid by the rich.

Adapted from an unknown author shared on WhatsApp



The African Ruling Class

This is a summary of an article written in February, 2018 by Jean Nanga (based in the Congo). It was originally published in French by CADTM (Committee for the Abolition of Illegitimate Debts):

<https://www.cadtm.org/Apercu-sur-l-actuelle-classe>

Africa's economic landscape has been shaped by foreign investments and African-owned businesses. The ruling class, comprising business magnates, government officials, and foreign investors, has significantly influenced this growth. They often exacerbate inequalities, leaving the majority of Africans to struggle against poverty and limited opportunities.

Economic Evolution

Africa's economic changes are driven by industries such as telecommunications, banking, and agriculture, with key players like MTN and the Dangote Group fostering growth. However, heavy reliance on raw material exports makes economies vulnerable to global market fluctuations, and growth remains uneven.

Class Structure

Debates about class distinctions reveal conflicting views. Former leaders like Leopold Sédar Senghor believed pre-colonial societies were communal, while others, like Frantz Fanon, emphasized the post-colonial bourgeoisie's role in perpetuating inequality. Today, the gap between the upper class — wealthy elites — and the lower class — comprising formal and informal workers, and peasants — continues to widen.

Globalization and Challenges

Globalization has brought opportunities but also challenges. While African companies expand internationally, foreign corporations dominate local markets, and trade agreements. Global financial institutions often impose austerity measures that prioritize debt repayment over social welfare, worsening inequality.

Social Inequality and Philanthropy

Africa remains one of the most unequal regions globally. While some elites engage in philanthropy, these efforts often lack systemic impact and fail to address structural inequalities. Tax evasion and selective corporate social responsibility initiatives further deepen economic disparities.

Cultural Influence

The ruling class shapes cultural values, often promoting materialism and consumerism. Media, education, and religious institutions frequently reinforce the status quo, sidelining grassroots efforts to address inequality.

Conclusion

Real progress in Africa requires addressing systemic issues, empowering marginalized populations, and promoting inclusive policies. Investments in education, healthcare, and infrastructure, combined with strong grassroots movements, can pave the way for a more equitable future. Greater collective action by trade unions are essential to ensure prosperity benefits all citizens, not just the privileged few.

For the translation of the full article see: <https://tinyurl.com/h252xfff>

We Should Try to Visit Our Local Workplaces

Recently a Socialist Labour member visited two local health centres and a small general hospital near where they stay.

One primary health centre has just three staff, two of them are volunteers. Only the volunteers were on duty, they narrated their difficulties and poor experiences, the government barely attend to the needs of the centre. No drugs, two beds, irregular payment of stipends for the volunteers.

The interesting part is that these health centres and hospital observed the just suspended strike in the area councils. Volunteers are paid stipend from the centre's income. Two of them gave their details to join the Socialist Labour supporters group.

There is no clear difference with the other two health facilities I visited.

We can all help to build Socialist Labour by visiting our local primary schools, health centres and local government offices. We can ask to see the union comrades, discuss issues and show them our monthly Socialist Bulletin, as our comrade did the other day.

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Tax Bills, 2024 – more gifts for the rich!



The three Tax Bills that are currently being considered by the National Assembly are receiving a lot of opposition. This is quite correct, but is for the wrong reasons! Almost all the criticism is by governors and their friends in different states. They are only concerned about the amount of money that they will be able to loot, not the development of their states, and certainly not the welfare of their citizens.

The Tax Bills, as we have come to expect from T-pain Tinubu, are another example of the implementation of hard neoliberal policies. These benefit the rich elite, and especially large companies. So Dangote and people like him will be delighted, but the trade union movement and other popular forces should be campaigning against these bills. They will only further increase inflation, and so poverty, inequality and insecurity.

The Tax Bills, if implemented in their current form, will have three main effects. They will make Personal Income Tax far less progressive. They propose a significant

reduction in the effective rate of Company Income Tax and, finally, they will lead to a doubling of the rate of Value Added Tax. The overall impact, will be a reduction in the amount of tax paid by the rich elite and an increase in the rate of tax paid by the rest of us.

We need the trade unions to take action against these tax bills and stop these gifts to the rich elite. We have already suffered massively from the ending of petrol subsidy and the massive devaluation of the naira. The new minimum wage will hardly make a difference and state governments are having to be forced to implement even this, despite the huge increases in their oil and other revenue over the last couple of years.

For our full analysis go to: <https://tinyurl.com/4ufcw8yy>

Activism in Democracy: The Organized Labour in Nigeria and Mass Protests Since 1999

By Jatau, David Polang, Trade Unionist & Researcher, Association of Senior Civil Servants of Nigeria (ASCSN)

It has been documented that labour unions in Nigeria were part of the groups that fought the military regime for the return of democracy in 1999. The struggle by the labour unions was so intense that it invited the wrath of the



military on the unions leading to the proscription and ban of some unions as well as victimization of trade unionists. Since the return of democracy in 1999, labour unions have taken to activism to protest certain government's policies perceived to be against the interests of the workers and masses. They seem to do this with a sense of ownership for the democracy they contributed in fighting for its return.

The study finds that labour unions sustained their activism in advocating for a democracy that works for the benefit of workers and the masses throughout the democratic process of

the fourth republic. Trade union and organized labour will be conceptualized for ease of understanding.

The full paper is available on our Socialist Labour website: <https://tinyurl.com/y9pfn9kn>

Dangote Petroleum Refinery And Oligopolistic PMS Prices-Izielen Agbon



This article discusses the role of the Dangote Petroleum Refinery in Nigeria's PMS (petroleum motor spirit) market, highlighting its dominant position and pricing strategies. As an oligopolistic entity, the refinery significantly influences the market by controlling a major share of PMS production, with a capacity of 53 million liters daily and producing 70% of the national PMS demand.

Oligopolies, characterized by limited competition, often set higher prices for profit maximization, disadvantaging consumers. The document argues that

Dangote's pricing practices exemplify this, with PMS prices exceeding production and import parity costs. For instance, using the production cost method, Dangote's refinery gate price is estimated at N790.22 per liter, suggesting an oligopolistic markup when the actual price is N970 per liter. Similarly, the import parity method yields a lower estimate of N922.65 per liter, reaffirming oligopolistic pricing.

The refinery's practices are scrutinized for lack of transparency, especially in secret pricing agreements with stakeholders like PETROAN, potentially violating Nigeria's Petroleum Industry Act, which mandates transparent pricing. This contrasts with expectations that Dangote's refinery would introduce competitive pricing and reduce costs for consumers.

Agbon advocates for reforms, including the implementation of a Nigerian antitrust law akin to the U.S. Sherman Antitrust Act, to curb oligopolistic and monopolistic practices. It also calls for operationalizing state-owned refineries, adopting production cost pricing for PMS, and ensuring discounted crude oil pricing for domestic use. These measures aim to lower PMS prices, benefiting Nigerian workers, students, and small businesses.

Agbon underscores the need for consumer-focused policies, emphasizing that corporate profitability should not come at the expense of the masses. It concludes that while the Dangote Refinery boosts local production, its pricing strategies prioritize shareholder gains over public welfare, necessitating robust regulatory interventions to align its operations with national interests.

The full article is available from: <https://tinyurl.com/2vyr2nnj>

We Face A Violent State

The combined efforts of the military, police and other security forces last year led to the killing of 8,034 'terrorists' according to the Office of the National Security Advisor in late December. See:

<https://tinyurl.com/mtwcp8y5>

In contrast, the most authoritative website, the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data (ACLED), claims that less than 9,000 people were killed in violence in Nigeria last year: <https://acleddata.com>



This suggests that most people killed in Nigeria are killed by the security forces. This includes the 10 killed on Christmas Day 2024 in the villages of Gidan Sama and Rintuwa in Sokoto by the Air Force bombing. It also includes the 85 killed in the village of Tudun Biri, in Kaduna State December, 2023 by the Air Force. For more details on killings by the security forces see:

<https://tinyurl.com/y52fa5tp>

The searing epilogue to 2024 was the needless deaths of about 65 Nigerians in three separate stampedes at Ibadan, Abuja and Okija in Anam-

bra State. This shows the desperation of the poverty that so many are suffering.

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Voices of Change: A Look at the History of Protests- By Usman Mohammed Binji

We have a rich history of protests that have played significant roles in shaping the country's political and social landscape. From pre-independence protests to modern-day demonstrations, the common people have used their voices to demand change and justice.

One of the most significant protests was the Aba Women's Riot of 1929. The riot was sparked by the imposition of a new tax on women, which many saw as an attempt by the colonial authorities to undermine traditional Igbo society. Thousands of women took to the streets, chanting and singing, and eventually forced the authorities to back down. The riot is considered a seminal moment in history, as it marked the beginning of women's involvement in politics and social activism.

Another notable protest was the 1945 General Strike, which was a protest against the colonial government's decision to increase the price of imported goods. The strike, which was organized by labour unions and civil society groups, lasted for several days and was marked by clashes between protesters and security forces. The strike eventually forced the government to back down and reduce the prices of imported goods.

In 1953, the Enugu Coalminers' Strike was a protest against the poor working conditions and low wages of coal miners in Enugu. The strike, which lasted for several months, was organized by the National Union of Mine-workers. The strike led to the death of several miners, but it eventually forced the government to improve working conditions and increase wages for coal miners.

The Tiv Riots of 1962 were a series of protests against the imposition of taxes on farmers in northern Nigeria. The riots, which were marked by clashes between protesters and security forces, lasted for several months and resulted in the deaths of hundreds of people.

In 1977, the Ali Must Go protest was a student-led demonstration against the then-government's decision to increase tuition fees in universities. The protest was named after the Minister of Education at the time, Col. Ahmadu Ali, who was seen as the architect of the policy. The protest eventually led to the closure of all universities for several months, as the government struggled to contain the unrest. The government eventually backed down and reduced the tuition fees.

In 2012, there were protests that challenged the government's decision to increase fuel prices. The protests, which were organized by labour unions and civil society groups, lasted for several days and were marked by clashes between protesters and security forces. The government eventually backed down and reduced the fuel prices.

More recently, the #EndSARS protest of 2020 was a protest against police brutality and extra-judicial killings by the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) of the police. The protest, which was organized by young people on social media, lasted for several weeks and was marked by peaceful demonstrations and clashes with security forces. The protest eventually led to the disbandment of SARS and raised important questions about police reform and accountability.

Protests have been an important tool for people to demand change from their leaders throughout history. These protests have often been met with violence and repression, but they have also led to important social and political changes. The legacy of these protests continues to inspire activism and social justice movements today.

Labour History – a free on-line course

History is not just about the past; it is about understanding the present and shaping the future. What do the past struggles of labour movements, with all their tensions and contradictions, teach us today?

This free online course on the history of labour movements across the world deepens our understanding of the challenges we face. It also sharpens our analysis, visions and strategies for the future. The online course creates spaces for critical debates about the role of labour movements today.

From a trade union official who attended the course:

“The course, Labour History, is a rich course that I recommend to all comrades, as it is very reach and deepens our understand of the struggle. It parades a very rich syllabus and great resources persons. It is well researched course, creating room for interaction among participants, thereby cross fertilizing ideas, by sharing the experiences from our local countries. It is a six (6) months intellectual programme, comprising of Exercises, Quizzes etc, leading to the award of Certificate of Accomplishment. This programme is run on scholarship for students from the Global South.” For more details see: <https://glu.iversity.org/en/courses/labour-history>

Zarina Patel and the story of Kenya's labour and Left movements

-by Lucien van der Walt

Zarina Patel, champion of the workers and women, passed away on 25 April 2024 after a long illness, aged 88. Author, artist, editor, and stalwart of popular movements, she is widely mourned. Her political life, and her research, provide a unique window into the often-forgotten story of labour and left-wing movements in Kenya.

She grew up in the final years of British colonialism and witnessed the independent Kenyan African National Union (KANU) government of Jomo Kenyatta, established in 1964, become a repressive, corrupt, patronage-based machine. She saw the creation of a myth-making, official patriotic history that reduced the liberation struggle to KANU and built a personality cult for Kenyatta.

Many in today's labour and left movements look back fondly, often uncritically, at early African nationalist states. But the trajectory of the ruling party in Kenya, KANU, was not unusual. Workers backed Kwame Nkrumah's rise in Ghana, but the independent government launched in 1957, banned rivals and introduced detention without trial — and made strikes illegal. In 1961, workers, backed by street traders and the unemployed, organised a 17-day general strike. This was met with a state of emergency, and controls over workers followed, including a state-backed Trades Union Congress in 1965.

Zarina wrote several books including *Unquiet: The Life and Times of Makhan Singh*, a towering labour history of the British and early independence periods, that recovered a radical tradition of Kenyan trade unionism.

The full article on Zarina's contribution to the Kenyan left is available here: <https://tinyurl.com/2sdxabdf>

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC): A Thirty Year War -by Paul Martial

The latest report from the NGO Doctors Without Borders (MSF) reports a very sharp increase in sexual violence in Kivu, the eastern region of the DRC. More than 25,000 women have been treated, not counting those who prefer to remain silent. A figure that speaks volumes about the ordeal suffered by the population.

The violence is the fault of both the various militias that are proliferating and the state actors in the region including Rwanda, Uganda and Kenya. As for the Western powers, while France was involved at the origin of this ongoing war, the others remain in a wait-and-see attitude bordering on complicity in guaranteeing the supply of minerals essential to their high-tech industries.

To read the full article click: <https://tinyurl.com/7hey5uv>

Senegal Prime Minister Outlines Government's General Policy -Tina Nkechi



The opposition won the presidential elections in March, 2024, in Senegal, days after their candidate was released from prison. Their party, PASTEF, then went on to win the National Assembly elections in November.

Ousmane Sonko, the Prime Minister, addressed the National Assembly at the end of December to present the government's general policy.

Despite calling for French forces to leave Senegal, the PASTEF movement is not socialist. They are petty bourgeois radicals masquerading under the flag of Pan-Africanism.

A socialist government would have done much more to introduce progressive taxation (tax the rich not the poor) to fund basic services for all, especially health, education and water. In contrast, Sanko promised "Broadening the tax base while lowering tax rates". This sounds like making the poor pay tax, but reducing the rates for the rich!

In addition, the new government in Senegal is introducing similar neoliberal policies to the ones we are suffering. It wants to reduce the budget deficit and government borrowing and increase the amount to be spent on capital. It is committed to making the private sector the "engine of wealth and job creation" and have an international campaign to "Invest in Senegal". The prime minister also pledged to organise staffing audits that are the favourite of Nigerian governors.

Summary of Workers Strikes - December 2024

We need your assistance to ensure that this monthly report is comprehensive. Please submit details of any strikes in your state or community. All these strikes need our support and solidarity. We call on all trade union branches to send messages of support and to organise solidarity visits to any strikes in their localities. To read more about how to organise effective strikes, see: <https://tinyurl.com/solidarityunity>

NLC strikes were held in Cross River, Ebonyi, Kaduna, Nasarawa, Zamfara States and the FCT. Nasarawa State struck from

Cross River held a two day warning strike on 25/26th November, but then the indefinite strike for the following week was suspended.

Ebonyi NLC held a one week warning strike from Monday 2nd December and the workers with threatened with dismissal.

Kaduna NLC struck on 2/3rd December then suspended for the State to revise its payment template.

Nasarawa NLC and TUC struck for just over two weeks from 2nd December. The strike was suspended on 16th December after signing an agreement that day.

Zamfara NLC – started a strike on 2nd December, but a Memorandum of Understanding was signed on the same day so the strike was suspended

FCT – strike began on 1st December. Secondary teachers went back to work on 10th December as paid their salary with new minimum wage on the day before. Other workers and primary teachers returned to work on 12th December after a Memorandum of Understanding signed with council chairs to pay minimum wage in January and five months arrears (August – December) in February.

Two week strike by polytechnic lecturers, members of **Academic Staff Union of Polytechnics (ASUP)** from 2nd December, 2024. The strike is over the refusal of the Federal Government to honour its commitments agreed in October, 2024. These included failure to pay peculiar academic allowances, impunity over Rector appointments, non-review of schemes of service and non-release of the 2023 NEEDS Assessment intervention funds.

The **magistrates of Cross River State** held a three day warning strike from 27- 29th November. This is over non-implementation of agreements over allowances, promotions and maintenance of the courts. Started indefinite strike from 9th December.

The **Joint Action Committee** of Lagos State University (LASU) started an indefinite strike from Friday 6th December. This is over the Lagos State Government's failure to implement the federal government-approved salary increment of 25 and 35 per cent for its members since January 2023 and the promise by the Governor of Lagos for a 20% pay increase in his election campaign. In addition, the visitation panel ordered the re-instatement of some members of staff but this has not been implemented by the University. This includes the four unions of ASUU, NASU, SSANU and FAAT. On 9th December, the University declared a Christmas and New Year break for students and members of staff. The JAC suspended the strike on Monday 23rd December saying the management had agreed to two of their three main demands.

ASUU at Niger Delta University declared an indefinite strike from 10th December. The union attributed the decision to the state government's failure to fulfil agreements previously established. These include implementation of 25/35% salary increment and payment of arrears from January 2023, implementation of the N80,000 new minimum wage, payment of annual step increment arrears dating back to 2018, payment of promotion arrears from 2018 and provision of on-campus residential accommodation for staff.

Taraba State University chapter of ASUU declared an indefinite strike from 5th December. This brought academic activities, including the ongoing examinations, to a halt. Among the key issues are unpaid salaries, non-implementation of minimum wage, the absence of a functional pension scheme, outstanding salary arrears from the 2022 nationwide ASUU strike and the lack of a governing council for the university.

The **coalition of health sector unions in Lagos State** held a three-day warning strike from 11th December over the non-implementation of adjustments to the Consolidated Health Salary Structure (CONHESS). The unions include the National Association of Nigerian Nurses and Midwives (NANNM), Nigeria Union of Allied Health Professionals (NUAHP), Medical and Health Workers Union of Nigeria (MHWUN)

Socialist Labour-JOIN US

The economic, environmental and Covid-19 crises show that society is a conflict between two classes: the vast majority who create the wealth, and a tiny minority who profit from our work. Reform attempts have failed: the only solution is 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 from 2019, begin to show what we need.

For more details of the basic ideas and policies of Socialist Labour see:

www.socialistlabour.com.ng/about-us/

Join the Socialist Labour supporters WhatsApp group by clicking this link:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/KiOyN3OKGBllvtuh0ycDaU>

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.

Socialist Labour Depends on its Supporters for Finances

Socialist Labour depends on its members and supporters for finances. 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 ₦1,000 a month, **with a lower rate of ₦500 for students, pensioners or unemployed** and ₦5,000 for higher paid comrades. We can all afford something - every little helps.

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