that have been adopted in your country. Measures
underfoot in your country. Measures
—complete press censorship
—the suspension of all basic human
rights as laid down in the Indian
Constitution
—the suspension of the basic human
rights of those in detention
—a ban on practically all political
parties and groups unfavourably
disposed towards your government.

Finally, we have received countless
reports bearing witness to the fact that
people are being imprisoned in your
country on the basis of their political
convictions: your own Minister of
Information stated on 23 August 1975
that 10,000 persons had been impris-
oned between July and August 1975.
It is to be feared that the total num-
ber of political detainees may well
exceed this number. Reliable sources
have estimated a figure between
20,000 and 54,000 whilst resistance
forces in India itself put the number
at 200,000.

The Executive of the Dutch Labour
Party regards all this as a deplorable
state of affairs, completely at variance
with the traditions of Mahatma
Gandhi whose name is as greatly
revered in The Netherlands as else-
where. It is also at variance with the
precepts of your party and country.
The gravity of these matters is obvious
from the way your government has,
for instance, imprisoned the aged
and ailing J. P. Narayan who has
often been designated the spiritual
heir to Mahatma Gandhi's ideas and
thoughts. In view of all this, we
request you to:

—end the state of siege
—release all political prisoners
—end press censorship
—revert to respecting basic human
rights.

Attached, you will find a list of 84
members of the Indian Socialist Party
and other parties who are known to
be imprisoned and whose fate is un-
certain. We appeal most urgently that
they and other political prisoners be
set free. We shall be following the
fate of those we know with special
attention. For your information, a

copy of this letter has been sent to
the Dutch government and to our
sister-parties in the Socialist Interna-
tional and those governments in which
they participate.

Harry van den Bergh,
International Secretary of the
Dutch Labour Party
5 November 1975

GG PARIKH

The General Secretary of the Social-
ist International protested on 26
November against the arrest of Dr
G. G. Parikh, publisher of Janata,
the weekly publication of the Indian
Socialist Party, in a cable to the
Indian Prime Minister, Mrs Indira
Gandhi. Janitschek described the
arrest of Parikh as 'another blow
against the freedom of the press in
general and the Indian Socialists in
particular'.

The closing order of Janata is dated
1 November on which day orders
were also issued by the India authori-
ties prohibiting the Editor, Printer
and Publishers of the publication from
using the Mouj Printing Bureau, 'for
the making or publishing of any docu-
ment coming from the Indian Social-
ist Party'.

Dr G. G. Parikh, member of the
Executive Committee of the Indian
Socialist Party, was arrested on 23
October following the publication of
an editorial in which he said: 'under
the cover of the emergency, the Gov-
ernment has thought it fit to expand
its limits to such an extent that almost
every section of the population, whe-
ther it was connected with any poli-
tical party or not was brought under
its mischief'.

BUREAU MEETS
IN BRUSSELS:
FOR DEMOCRACY
IN SPAIN
AND INDIA

The Bureau of the Socialist Interna-
tional held a meeting in Brussels on
29-30 November to discuss the situa-
tion in Spain, Portugal and India. The
Bureau also discussed repression
in the Dominican Republic as well as
the United Nations Resolution on
Zionism.

The Bureau, meeting under the
chairmanship of Robert Pontillon,
National Secretary in charge of Inter-
national Affairs of the French Social-
ist Party, adopted the following state-
ments:

Spain

'The Bureau of the Socialist Inter-
national welcomes the report pre-
sented by our Spanish comrades on
the current situation in Spain and
reaffirms its full support for the
PSOE.

'The Bureau deplores the fact that
countries with socialists in govern-
ment were represented at the funeral of
General Franco and the crowning of
King Juan Carlos.

'The Bureau calls on all govern-
ments to put pressure on the Spanish
regime to restore full democratic rights
to the people of Spain. We also call
on the Spanish regime to immediately
free all political prisoners, grant free-
dom of speech and association and
freedom for all political parties and
trade unions. Until a genuinely demo-
ocratic government is established, the
political isolation of Spain should be
maintained.'

Portugal

'The Bureau of the Socialist Interna-
tional, having heard the report by
Jaime Gama on the situation in Por-
tugal, notes with great satisfaction
that the Portuguese Socialist Party
continues to act in complete confor-
mity with the spirit of freedom, jus-
tice and social progress which led to
the downfall of the authoritarian
regime.

'The Bureau notes that the Portu-
guese Socialist Party strives vigorously
to ensure that the fundamental inter-

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est of the Portuguese people prevail and that it will do everything to establish socialism by democratic means.

'Deeply concerned at the serious difficulties which Portugal is facing, the Bureau of the Socialist International requests all socialist parties to show their active solidarity with the Portuguese Socialists. It repeats its appeal to the European democracies to provide swift and effective aid for Portugal.'

India

'The Bureau of the Socialist International having received a report from George Fernandes, Chairman of the Indian Socialist Party, and further clarification from his emissary; noting with concern that, contrary to the assertions of the Indian Government, the health of Jaya Prakash Narayan, who has recently been released from detention on parole for thirty days, has deteriorated greatly during his detention, to the point that there are now serious fears for his life:

'Noting further that:

1) tens of thousands of political workers, trade unionists, members of parliament and of State legislatures, journalists, students and intellectuals have been arrested and are still in prison, and that many new arrests are still taking place daily;

2) the great majority of the political prisoners are held in sub-human conditions and are denied the right of appeal to any court of law;

3) although opposition parties are not legally banned, they are effectively prevented from functioning;

4) the news media are not only subjected to rigorous censorship but are also compelled by the Government to publish certain reports and statements, the contents of which are not always factual;

5) a rubber-stamp Parliament, all of whose vocal opposition members have been imprisoned, has amended the Constitution and the law in order to bring in numerous repressive measures which deprive people of their fundamental rights;

6) the workers have been denied their freedom of association and right to organise and to strike, and attempts are being made to render the trade union movement subservient to the Government's will;

The Bureau of the Socialist International condemns the action taken by President Balaguër of the Dominican Republic who has decreed that certain leading members of the Dominican Revolutionary Party, including its General Secretary, José Francisco Peña Gomez, are prohibited from speaking on radio or television in the Dominican Republic, that the radio programme 'Tribuna Democrática', in which the Dominican Revolutionary Party was able to express its opinions, should be closed, and that the radio and television stations in the Dominican Republic should not broadcast information concerning the Dominican Revolutionary Party. The Bureau protests in strongest terms at this further violation of human rights and civil liberties in the Dominican Republic.'

UN Resolution on Zionism

'The Bureau of the Socialist International deprecates and condemns the incomprehensible and absurd resolution of the United Nations which identifies Zionism with racism.

'This unprecedented resolution is a political and ideological attack not on Zionism only, but on Israel and the Jews. It denies the right of the existence of the State of Israel which has been created with the help of the United Nations in 1948.

In doing this the majority of the UN Assembly has done grave harm to the credibility of the United Nations and has impeded the efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement in the Middle East.'

Jews Respond

The name of the author of 'On the Swedish Road' (November/December issue, Socialist Affairs) Ernst Winkler, was unfortunately omitted at the beginning of the text although it was included in the Contributors column.

The Jewish Labor Bund, affiliated to the Socialist International, issued the following statement in response to the UN Resolution on Zionism adopted on 10 November:

'Noting further that:

1) The contention that defines Zionism as "a form of fascism and racist discrimination" is false and completely contrary to the truth.

2. Zionism is nationalistic, but so are the 72 governments (among them "International - Communist") and radical ones) who have instructed their delegations to place upon Zionism the mark of racism. Many of the 72 countries have themselves been guilty of racist practices and are still committing racist offenses.

3. Reactionary and anti-Jewish elements can use this UN resolution for anti-Semitic and anti-Jewish purposes, which makes it even more harmful.

4. Almost none of the governments who voted for the resolution is democratically elected and many of them are dictatorships that oppress their own people and have shameful records of discrimination against their own minorities.

5. Into many of the justified Jewish protests against the resolution, there have been introduced the false notes which equate Zionism with the Jewish people. Zionism — a Jewish political movement — and the Jewish people are not one and the same.