

The Hindu

Salem District Cooperative Societies Employees Union strikes to fill the existing vacancies

The Salem District Cooperative Societies Employees Union, affiliated to CITU, has expressed its support to the September 2 nationwide strike to protest against the unilateral amendments in labour laws.

The employees of the cooperative societies functioning in the district will participate in the strike, a resolution adopted at a meeting of the union held in the city recently said.

Another resolution said that the State government has come forward to write off the farm loans fetched from the cooperative societies, but has laid down various conditions for doing so. It has assured to release the list of the beneficiaries by October this year.

Farm loans

The functioning of the cooperative bodies has become a big question mark due to the waiving of the farm loans in the past.

The present waiver will further worsen the situation. Already more than Rs. 1,800 crore is due from the State government to the cooperative bodies in the form of waiver of loans in the past.

The government should provide the entire arrears along with the present amount waived in one instalment to the cooperative bodies, the resolution said.

The government is forcing the salesmen to distribute the essential commodities using electronic device in the guise of streamlining the public distribution system. This practice should be done away with for the time being. The salesmen should be imparted proper training and the details in the ration cards should be incorporated in computers without any mistake.

The resolution urged the government to appoint adequate salesmen and packers to all the fair price shops.

The meeting also urged the government to provide Rs. 10,000 as festival advance.

Yet another resolution pleaded with the government to regularise the services of all the temporary staff and also to fill up all the existing vacancies in the cooperative bodies.

P. Panneerselvam, district president of the union, presided and S. K. Thiagarajan, State vice-president of CITU, delivered the inaugural address.

P. Panneerselvam was re-elected as the district president of the union, L.K. Manoharan as its general secretary and S. Karunakaran as treasurer.