

News from Iran

(444)

- **Workers Strike**

Workers at Khorram security-box manufacturer went on strike On December 20th. Strikers demanded payment of delayed wages and improvement of their safety equipments. Management had promised to improve health and safety, but after a long time there is no sign of promises being fulfilled.

- **25 Days Strike at Nakh Tala**

From the last days of November, workers at Nakh Tala plant (thread manufacturing) in the city of Khomain went on strike. Finally after 25 days, the management promised to pay all delayed wages and asked workers to resume work. Strikers said they had no trust in management's promises and work would be resumed when their wages are paid.

- **Workers Strike at Kurdistan Textile**

On December 20th, hundreds of workers at Kurdistan Textile went on strike. The action took place when 6 workers were laid off. Strikers demanded management's decisions no to be implemented and re-instatement of the sacked workers.

- **Protest march at Pars Iran**

Workers at Pars Iran textile plant in the province of Gilan have not been paid for the last 8 months. The plant was closed a month ago due to power cut. All workers' efforts and protests to have their wages paid have been in vain. Now all 200 workers have decided to march from city of Rasht to the capital, Tehran, to protest and have their voices heard.

- **Metro Workers Protest**

Maintenance workers at Iran's Metro are dissatisfied with their low wages and un-paid overtime work they do. 120 workers with more than 50 hours a month imposed overtime work earn around \$150 per month. And this is less than the official poverty line in Iran.

- **Imposed Temporary Contracts at Bushehr Nuclear Power Station**

According to the Iranian Labour News Agency (ILNA), management at Boushehr Nuclear power station has recently ordered workers to continue their work on temporary contracts from December 15th. In the same internal memo workers have been threatened to accept the order, or else there would be no guarantees to continue being employed at the power station. The decision has come against workers' vigorous protests.

Short News from Iran

- 32 workers at Bolour plant (crystal manufacturing) have been suffering from uncertainty about their future during the last 2 years. After the owner's death they have lost their jobs. The courts have ruled they should be reinstated, but there is no sign of the dismissed workers being re-employed. Plus workers have no right to unemployment benefit.
- Shahab electronic plant has decided to lay-off its contract workers. These workers have at least 7 years work experience and worked under renewable 3 months contracts with no right to holidays.
- Workers at Sazmaye have not been paid for the last 3 months. The plant was privatised 5 years ago and during all those years workers have witnessed arbitrary dismissals.

- According to the Iranian Labour News Agency (**ILNA**), working conditions at Pakdasht's plants are very unsafe and critical. 15% of workers suffer various work related accidents each year. Solely during the last year, 15 workers have lost one or both hands while working with samples weighting 100 tons.
- According to Mousavi Larijani, Iran's Interior Minister, more than 6,000 homeless persons live under bridges and ruins in the capital city of Tehran. And solely in the last 2 months, 80 homeless persons have lost their lives due to such savage conditions.