PRESS RELEASE

NAILU Demands Repeal of New Labor Codes: "Rollback of Justice for Workers"

Date: July 29, 2021 **Location:** Bhubaneswar

The National Alliance of Independent Labour Unions (NAILU) has issued an urgent call to repeal the four new labor codes - the Code on Wages, Industrial Relations Code 2021, Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, and the Code on Social Security - citing them as a serious rollback of workers' rights and protections.

"These new labor codes compromise the very foundation of workers' rights," said **Dr. G. B.**Nath, Labor Policy Analyst. "This is not just a policy shift - it's a rollback of justice for the working class."

Gopinath Barik, Labor Policy Consultant, emphasized:

"We must reinstate laws that protect wages, working conditions, and job security for all workers."

A.R. Anupam, labor reform advocate and NAILU member, stated:

"Labor unions and worker representatives must be involved in shaping any future reforms. Their voices must be heard to create a just system."

Dr. R. S. Tiwari, Coordinator of Media and Communications, added: "The current codes overlook informal workers. We must prioritize measures that safeguard their rights and ensure equitable access to benefits."

Mr. Vikash, Labour Rights Advocate, further noted:

"Informal workers are the backbone of our economy. We must protect their rights and ensure fair wages."

Dr. Dibendu Kumar, Labour Policy Researcher, observed:

"Reforms must address the realities of unorganized workers. Without targeted provisions, millions will remain excluded from social protection."

Sushama Sahu, Women Workers' Rights Activist, highlighted:

"Women in informal work face double marginalization — as workers and as women. Any reform must ensure gender-sensitive protections and support."

Call to Action

This collective statement from NAILU and allied voices underscores the need for **inclusive**, **participatory labor reform** rather than imposed policy shifts that risk deepening inequality.

NAILU calls upon the Government of India to reconsider the far-reaching implications of the new labor codes and engage meaningfully with worker representatives to uphold labor justice and social protection.

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