

## CITU wants release of striking workers in Himachal

- [Staff Correspondent](#)

The Centre of Indian Trade Union has lashed out at the Himachal Pradesh government for keeping 94 striking workers of the Shong-Tong hydro project behind the bars for more than a month.

The trade union leaders also hailed the High Court's decision to order the management to release the wages and other benefits to the striking workers.

In one of the longest industrial disputes in the State, the government had jailed striking workers and slapped more than 140 cases against them, CITU vice-president Rakesh Singha said.

The High Court has now lifted Section 307 of IPC against the workers, he added.

The CITU urged the court to order the release of workers lodged in various jails in Una and Bilaspur districts at the behest of contractors and who were facing false criminal charges under various sections.

The workers have failed to produce surety bonds of worth lakhs of rupees and have been rejected bails.

The High Court in an order on Tuesday had directed the Shong-Tong workers' union to end their strike with immediate effect and had also directed the managing director of HP Power Corporation, GM of Shong-Tong hydel Project and Patel Engineering Company to release various benefits under the labour laws within three months.

The Shong-Tong workers were on a strike for a long time and had waged a war against the project sub-contractors who were allegedly very close to the local Congress MLA.

***lashed out at the Himachal govt for keeping 94 striking workers of the Shong-Tong hydro project behind bars***