BROADCAST BY: THE PREMIER
DR. THE HON'BLE CHEDDI JAGJAGAN

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1962.
B.G.B.S. - 12.30 P.M.

My dear Friends,

By now you will no doubt have heard the news about the
series of lock-outs by most of the Water Street firms. These
lock-outs were staged this morning. The evidence is quite con-
clusive that this is a lock-out and not a strike, though it
appears that in some few instances some workers have allowed
themselves to be misled by Management.

The lock-outs started this morning at D'Aguiar Brothers
Aerated Water Factory and at Fogarty's. At Fogarty's, the
Commercial Workers Union has for a long time been striving for
recognition and has still not yet been recognised. What better
evidence do you want, that what is happening is a lock-out and
not a strike. Mr. D'Aguiar who now poses as a friend of the
workers was known for many years to resist Trade Union recognition.

Workers of the country should ask themselves "how many of
them, or how many of their children have any chance of getting
jobs above the grade as sweepers, or porters in these Water Street
firms and some others".

You've only got to see the people who went around intimadat-
ing other workers and who were carrying pickets this morning to
realize that what you have here is a small privileged group who
have always had the best jobs in Water Street and who are now
fighting desperately to maintain their positions.

These are not your friends. Until I and my Government moved
to abolish the privilege of Mr. D'Aguiar and his Friends "did they
show any interest in you, is it not a fact that they still reserve
all the best jobs for people of their own group. Go around and
have a look at these firms, and you will see.

If it was true that the present Budget was against the
workers why are these big-shots so angry today, and why are they
now using lock-outs as a political weapon against the workers and
against the Government. This should make it plain to you that
the present Budget is in fact aimed specially at the privileged
and those who are best able to pay. This Budget is an attempt by
Government to redistribute wealth in this country so that the
poor and the hungry might have a fair share of this country's
wealth.

In the meantime, I urge you all to be calm. Government,
I assure you will take all necessary steps to maintain the peace-
ful life of the community. Those stores by far the most numerous
which wish to remain open, but have been forced to close by
intimidation will be provided with police protection so that they
may re-open.

I strongly advise you all who have been locked out to
interview the employers who have closed their doors and make sure
that you will be paid during the time you have been locked out.
All essential services and supplies will be maintained by
Government and I expect the situation to return to normal shortly.

Thank you.

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