

## **The Judge Decided to Continue Detention of Arrested Post Workers for Fifteen Days Workers Will Demonstrate Before the Cabinet Next Monday**

Center for Trade Union and Workers Services "CTUWS" 27th March 2014:  
The Judge of Muharram Bey Court ordered to continue the detention of the arrested 5 post workers for 15 days for more investigation. Security forces arrested five members of the executive council of the independent union of Alexandria in the early hours of the day before yesterday. They are: Ayman Hanafy Mahmoud, Haytham Osman Mohamed Gaber, Ismail Thabet, Hisham Abdel Hameed Mohamed and Samy Saeed Sabah. They were investigated in the lawsuit No. 2035/2014 / Administrative / Muharram Bey. They were accused of gathering in front of the transfer center of Alexandria Post Authority, blocking private and public traffic, causing harm to the interests of the General Post Authority, leaving the work site without justification, hindering the performance of work and calling others to go in strike. The prosecution decided yesterday to detain them for 4 days for investigation. Today, they appeared before the judge who issued the aforementioned sentence.

It is worthy mentioning that an order was issued to arrest six other workers: Samir Abu Bakr, Ahmed Mohamed Ahmed, Mohamed el Sayed Abdel Aaty, Abdel Haleem Mohamed, Maher Abdel Hameed and Hassan Abdel Kader. They are the remaining members

of the executive council of the independent union!!.

Post workers who are striking for the past 13 days applied for the permission to demonstrate before the Cabinet of Ministers next Monday after the refusal of the police center to issue a permission for demonstration on Saturday because the application should be made three days earlier. The request stated that they will "announce the post workers demands and express their protest against the administration's disregard of their demands and against the aggressive procedures taken against them to the extent that 5 members of the executive council of the independent union in Alexandria were arrested and detained and the other 6 were summoned for investigation".

In their notification the workers asked to stop all the aggressive procedures against the post workers, the immediate release of their colleagues illegally detained in Alexandria, stop all the security prosecutions and investigations, protect them from any harm due to their going in strike and stop all the media campaigns arranged by the Post Authority, its allies and lately the security forces against the workers. Such campaigns accuse the workers of going in strike for the benefit of some political parties. Such accusations are false and without any grounds. The workers asked for an annual increment in wages by 7% in order to be equal to other workers and to put an end to the previous deformed increment system (which remained for several decades at 2 Egyptian pounds) and kept their wages very low. They insist to implement the agreement which was reached with the president of the Authority regarding performance incentives, the workers' share in profits and establish a mechanism for collective negotiations by forming a committee comprising representatives of the professional federation for post trade unions and representatives of the management. Such a committee should meet monthly to continue the dialogue and consultation in stead of confrontations and aggressive actions.