



# Global Nonviolent Action Database

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## Indian workers double wages at construction firm in Anguilla, 2007

June 26,

2007

to: July 3,

2007

**Country:** Anguilla

**Location City/State/Province:** *West End*

### Goals:

The campaigners demanded better wages and working conditions, specifically adequate food, water, and medical attention from Carillion.

## Methods

### Methods in 1st segment:

- 038. Marches
- 097. Protest strike

### Methods in 2nd segment:

- 013. Deputations
- 038. Marches
- 097. Protest strike

### Methods in 3rd segment:

### Methods in 4th segment:

### Methods in 5th segment:

### Methods in 6th segment:

- 001. Public speeches
- 013. Deputations
- 038. Marches
- 097. Protest strike
- 159. The fast (fast of moral pressure, hunger strike, satyagrahic fast)
- 162. Sit-in
- 163. Stand-in

## Classifications

**Classification:**

Change

**Cluster:**

Economic Justice

Human Rights

**Group characterization:**

- Indian workers

## Leaders, partners, allies, elites

**Leaders:**

Indian Workers

**Partners:**

Anguillan government, Josephine Gumbs-Connor, Joyce Kentish-Egan

**External allies:**

Anguillan Citizens

**Involvement of social elites:**

Osbourne Fleming,

## Joining/exiting order of social groups

**Groups in 1st Segment:**

- Indian Workers
- Josephine Gumbs-Connor
- Joyce Kentish-Egan

**Groups in 2nd Segment:**

**Groups in 3rd Segment:**

**Groups in 4th Segment:**

- Anguillian Government

**Groups in 5th Segment:**

- Osbourne Fleming

**Groups in 6th Segment:**

- Anguillian Citizens

**Segment Length:** *Approximately 1.5 days*

## Opponent, Opponent Responses, and Violence

**Opponents:**

Carillion Construction Company

**Nonviolent responses of opponent:**

Not Known

**Campaigner violence:**

Not Known

**Repressive Violence:**

Not Known

## Success Outcome

**Success in achieving specific demands/goals:**

4 points out of 6 points

**Survival:**

1 point out of 1 points

**Growth:**

3 points out of 3 points

**Notes on outcomes:**

Carillion agreed to increase wages for the Indian workers by 100%, but did not agree to improve the conditions of the water, food, and medical attention at the construction site.

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Several hundred Indian workers of the British construction firm, Carillion, started demonstrations in Anguilla on June 26 and 27, 2007. They demanded better wages and working conditions because they could not live on \$180 a month and they were concerned about the quality of the food, water, and medical attention that the company gave them. Later that week, many Anguillans came out to demonstrations to express their support.

By the first week of July, the Indian workers returned to work. On the next day government officials, representatives of the workers, and their employer, Carillion Construction, met to discuss a solution to the workers' concerns. After this meeting, the government assented to monitor the progress of the agreements between the workers and Carillion Construction.

On Monday, July 2, The Chief Minister, Osbourne Fleming, claimed that the legal representatives of the workers informed the government that their discussions with the employer were at a standstill. The workers' lawyers claimed that Carillion was not going to accept or discuss their proposal for increased wages and benefits.

The next day, July 3, the Indian workers began marching again. The police stopped them at West End because they did not have permission to march. However, the police later permitted them to march single file because of work done by the workers' lawyer, Josephine Gumbs-Connor. The workers engaged in sit-ins and stand-ins outside of the General Post Office. They refused to eat until the company met their demands. Large groups of Anguillan citizens stood nearby pledging their support and any possible assistance to the foreign workers. With a much larger crowd than before, protesters marched to the grounds of the Secretariat where a meeting was in progress about a solution to the workers' grievances.

Once the meeting was adjourned, Joyce Kentish-Egan, one of the three private legal representatives for the Indian workers, made a statement about the present situation. She announced that Carillion, supported by the government, agreed to meet the workers' requests that wages be raised by 100%. This pay increase was not retroactive and took effect from July 1. The majority of the Indian workers was satisfied with this offer and ended their demonstrations.

## Research Notes

**Sources:**

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- "INDIAN WORKERS, ANGUILLIANS PROTEST AGAIN Lawyers Help Reach 100% Pay Agreement." The Anguillian. 5 July 2007. Web. 3 Apr. 2011. <<http://mail.festival.ai/index.php/article/articleview/4917/1/135/>>.

- "The Region: Indian Labourers Stage Sit-in Protest in Anguilla, and CCL to Probe Influx of Foreign Labour." Broad Street Journal. 4 July 2007. Web. 3 Apr. 2011. <<http://www.broadstreetjournalbarbados.com/bsj-news/2007-07-04/the-region-indian-labourers-stage-sit-in-protest-in-anguilla-and-ccl-to-probe-in>>.

**Additional Notes:**

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