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This all India civil liberties conference condemns the indiscriminate arrest and detention of numerous persons in the country without any justification and contrary to the provisions of law.

The power conferred upon the executive to order detention without supplying any grounds has led to arbitrary orders of detentions without any basis whatever. Moreover the ill-treatment accorded to the detainees has shocked the conscience of many neutral observers. Some detainees have been kept in what amounts to solitary confinement and some have been denied even fresh air. The conditions in some jails are known to be inhuman.

In the matter of interviews and correspondence also the attitude of detaining authorities has remained indefensible.

Instances have come to light in which detainees have been physically attacked in jails by the police.

This conference calls upon all members of the C F D to organise local committees throughout the country for the purpose of :

- (1) providing legal assistance to secure the release of political detainees and improvements of the conditions of detention
- (2) creating public opinion against inhuman treatment of detainees
- (3) helping the families of detainees wherever such help is needed.

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This conference also appeals to the central and state Governments to appoint independent persons as jail visitors charged with the duty of enquiring into and bringing to light instances of ill-treatment of detainees.

*PS/-