Indian trade union movement over the years has been politicised to a very great extent. At present there is no trade union without a politician as its leader. The involvement of the political leader results in politics in trade union activity. This phenomenon of union leadership by politicians has yielded equally good and bad results in trade unionism and industrial relations.

A micro study on the impact of political union leadership is very much needed as no such studies are undertaken so far. This study is a unique effort to bridge the gap.

The present study attempts to explain the role of political union leaders in the union activities as well as in industrial relations. It measures the impact of political leadership on various facets of trade unionism and industrial relations by administering structured questionnaires and also pooling of opinions.

The phrase 'Political union leader' is used in the study to mean the leadership of trade unions by a politician.
The findings of the study are limited to the units under study and may not represent political union leadership in general.

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