

Bijlee Kranti Yatra



23rd Nov '22
New Delhi



SAVE POWER SECTOR
SAVE INDIA

Jantar Mantar witnessed presumably the largest ever assembly of Electricity employees and engineers under the banner of National Coordination Committee of Electricity Employees and Engineers (NCCOEEEE) on this 23rd of November 2022.

Electricity Employees Federation of India (EEFI), being the largest constituent of NCCOEEEE took the lead to make it historic. In its 9th National Conference held at Chandigarh on 13-15th October 2022, EEFI planned a detailed road-map to mobilize its fullest strength. EEFI organizers took all the initiatives to reach each and every Electricity employees with an appeal to join the Rally. And the employees and engineers responded; they came in tens of thousands. They came to register their final warning to this anti-worker, anti-people, anti-national Govt.

Despite resistance from all corners, this Modi Govt is desperate to introduce this draconian EA Bill to serve their corporate masters. This is a blatant violation of the promises made by the Govt. to the Farmers of India not to introduce the Bill without having any consultation with the stakeholders.

To give an appropriate reply to this ill-

intended Govt. with strong conviction and determination, this massive rally resolute and passed the call of firm Strike Action against any further unilateral attempt of Centre to force the EA Bill 2022 upon the people of India. Also this rally upheld the demands of reinstating old pension scheme and regularisation of all outsourced and contracted employees.



**SKM Leader - Hannan Mollah
addressing the Rally**



After organizing state level conventions against this Bill, the workers had come to Delhi. They were sent off ceremoniously with hundreds of local level public meetings at their native places. They came and gathered at various points of Delhi to march towards Jantar Mantar. They were colorful, vibrant, jubilant and energetic. But Delhi police restricted them, at railway stations,

at metro stations, at bus terminuses. Constantly Police was harassing the organizer leaders and was denying permission until the day before the March. But workers were determinant. They overpowered all the obstacles, hindrances and gathered at Jantar Mantar. Police barricaded the place and thousand of agitators were pushed in a narrow space. The massive gathering naturally spilled over the

adjacent streets and finally the police had to step back. The number and resolve of the participants failed the conspiracy of the Centre run Delhi Police force. The workers' assembly has taken a serious note on the highhandedness of Delhi Police curtailing down the democratic right of the People in the so-called Azadi Ka Amrit Kaal, the 75th year of India's Independence.

Tapan Sen, General Secretary, CITU, Elamaram Kareem MP, R Krishnaiyya MP, D Raja, former MP, Hannan Mollah representing Samyukta Kisan Morcha and Gaurav Maheshwari of Aam Admi Party addressed the mass with a high expectation over the movement and promised to mobilize all section of people against this EA Bill 2022 and privatization of public electricity sector. Though the parliament has referred Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2022 to Standing Committee on Energy for discussion, Standing

Committee has not called any meeting till date with employees or consumers, who are the biggest stakeholders of the electricity Sector.

Senior leaders of NCCOEEE highlighted that through this Bill, the private distribution companies will be permitted to supply electricity in their preferred



Com. P N Chowdhury, Com. Tapan Sen and Com. E. Kareem addressing the meeting

large revenue generating consumer areas, whereas the existing Govt. companies will have to comply with the universal supply obligation to ensure supply to all categories of consumers. Net result will be cherry picking of consumers with “all profit to private, all burdens to State DISCOMs”. State DISCOMs will be forced to offer their infrastructure to their competitor private corporate and the responsibility of incurring expenditure on maintenance and network development will remain with State DISCOMs.

NCCOEEE stressed that before introducing any new amendment in the Electricity Act 2003, it is necessary to conduct a rigorous study on the disastrous failure of privatization of Orissa State Electricity and poor fate of the private distribution franchisees spread at many regions all over the country. Stakeholders should be properly discussed with and taken into confidence.

REACH EACH HOUSEHOLD

To take the call of resistance and defiance to each and every corner of the Country and to take the spirit of this historic rally to every consumer, EEFI has taken a clarion call from the essence of this assembly, to **REACH EACH HOUSEHOLD**.

Electricity employees will hold intensive campaign programme to sensitize the people against E(A) Bill 2022 and privatisation of Public Electricity Sector. They will cover as much as possible area and households by 28th February 2023 and will make ground preparation for the Nationwide-Strike.

NCCOEEE-EEFI urges upon the Nation to stand beside the Indian electricity workers to "SAVE POWER SECTOR – SAVE INDIA". This is a battle India can't afford to lose.



An EEFI Presentation