

No.

Date :

8<sup>th</sup> September, 2021

**CIRCULAR**

To

All Office Bearers, All Working Committee members  
All Affiliated / Associated Organisations

EEFI Working Committee meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 at P R Bhawan, New Delhi was presided over by Com Subhas Lamba. Central points of deliberation and decisions of the meeting are appended below.

1. Report of the General Secretary and assorted reports from the states were submitted in the meeting. General Secretary expressed his incapability to procure reports even from major states in order to prepare a comprehensive report. 18 members took part in the discussion.
2. Com Swadesh Devroye, Working President, dealt in details on concurrent issues and tasks before the Federation.
3. Working Committee was apprised of the planned approach relating to Power sector resolved by the EEFI OB in its meeting dated 16<sup>th</sup> August; communicated vide circular dated 17<sup>th</sup> August. Committee constituted for planning multi prong campaign and propaganda is with its task. All the EEFI affiliates will put their best endeavor to reach all its members, electricity employees and consumers to unveil the game plan of the Government of India to snatch away the rights of poor and rural people to access electricity by the planned legislation and advisories to states. Intensity of campaign raised to peak in the course of preparation for 10<sup>th</sup> August Strike, which was postponed following doldrums in the Parliament. But we need to carry forward our struggle in its true sense and spirit. One of the form is huge and continuous campaign to keep the organisation fully ready for Strike action, if Government shows obstinacy in their anti-people agenda.
4. Working Committee reckoned the peasant movement with the demands of scrapping 3 Farm Acts and withdrawal of impugned Electricity (Amendment) Bill continuing for 9 months refuting all conspiracies of Modi Government. SKM has called for a general Strike on 27<sup>th</sup> September next. All progressive forces of India as well whole world have come forward to support this historic struggle. EEFI resorted to one day strike on 3<sup>rd</sup> February last. EEFI decided to extend active support to the General Strike on 27<sup>th</sup> September. All EEFI constituents should start full preparation for this Strike also with formal Strike Notice to the utility concerned.

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5. GoI is in the process of undermining state owned DISCOMS as loss making organisation highlighting AT&C loss these utilities accrue, in total defiance of the economic contribution. On 1<sup>st</sup> September last, another advisory has been issued to states by DoP, GoI to segregate 33KV network from DISCOMS and transfer it either to State Transmission Utility or to a JVC to be formed by STU & Power Grid. All are aware that transmission loss is higher in lower voltage. If 33 KV is segregated from DISCOMs, they will accrue more loss to cater its entire flow of energy in 11KV and lower voltage profile. So, another blemish feature will be added in DISCOM losses. EEFI constituents will emphatically press their demands to respective state distribution utilities, not to comply to GoI advisory in this score.
6. EEFI, in addition to privatization race of the govt. opposing the Electricity (Amendment) Bill, as a long standing united struggle to protect the rights of the poor and rural electricity consumers. United forum of Electricity Consumers and Employees was proposed by EEFI in early part of the year 2020. CITU leadership appreciated the approach. Meanwhile, some positive measures like holding discussions, mass campaign and convention have been adopted by the states like Kerala, West Bengal and Assam. Now, major states are to go ahead with formation of state level forum. Kerala is in the process of framing rules and regulations. Once, it is finalized, that may be utilized as a model by the other states. Target may be fixed to complete the process by December, 2021. Once, 3 or 4 states completed the process, we may go ahead towards formation of National Forum.
7. Working Committee noted Government of India is going ahead towards promulgation of Labour Codes, while states are framing the rules. But piece meal implementation has already started with some clauses of Social Security Code. Millions of workers and employees not having Aadhar linking with PF Account will be virtually debarred from PF coverage. EEFI constituents are to give up their complacent attitude. Following changes of method in registration, continuity of registration through submission of return timely and correctly may pose problem for some of our Unions. Continuity of registration is left upon sole discretion of the registrar. Formation of bargaining council has become more complicated. We need to pay fullest attention. EEFI centre will organise Workshop for the WC Members / state leaders assigned with the responsibility in November/December.
8. All EEFI constituents are requested to be prompt and perfect to provide input sought for EEFI centre, in order to keep the Federation vibrant. WCM noted following shortcomings:

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- A. Reports sent in the WhatsApp groups reflect observance of Anti-privatisation day on 1<sup>st</sup> September, was laudable. But from the copies mailed to EEFI centre shows only 9 unions from 8 states including UT Chandigarh took part in the programme. Similarly some major union sent only from State Committee. They have not involved their District/Project Committees in this movement. These are not proper form of massive campaign,
  - B. Status of compassionate employment was sought for in a format. None has complied. Some union passed on information in the meeting.
  - C. Activity / Work Report are not sent in time. It indicates absence of collective functioning in the state centre. It is not expected the General Secretary will execute all activities single handed. One Comrade may be assigned for the job. This method will resolve the reporting shortcomings.
  - D. Photographs posted in OB/WCM WhatsApp group with caption in local language. One Comrade may be assigned to post the Photographs with English / Hindi captions.
9. Odisha Bijuli Karmi Sangha in Southco Odisha and our Union in UT Chandigarh are amidst struggle. All other unions in Odisha and our unions of Haryana, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh will extend support.
10. Working Committee approved the formal Application for Affiliation of Maharashtra Swabhimani Union comprising 2106 members. EEFI so far had only one Union in Maharashtra. There are other like-minded unions in Maharashtra. EEFI, in association with CITU Maharashtra and these two unions is to shoulder the responsibility of strengthening EEFI in Maharashtra as well Western region.

All EEFI constituents are to pay due attention on all aspects catered by the Working Committee and involve whole organisation on the path of struggle on issues of socio-economic importance, power industry as well interest of the working class.



(Prasanta N Chowdhury)  
**General Secretary**