

# ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES' FEDERATION OF INDIA

BT Ranadive BHAWAN : NEW DELHI

4th December, 2020

## CIRCULAR

A virtual meeting of EEFI Working Committee took place on 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2020. Com K O Habeeb presided over the meeting. The meeting reviewed the Nationwide strike on 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 including participation of electricity workers and employees along with movement of united forum of peasants with the concrete demand of nullification of recently enacted 3 Agricultural Acts and scrapping the Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2020. Working Committee through detailed deliberation came to the conclusions for guidance, compliance and actions as appended below:

1. Working Committee appreciated the preparatory activities, awareness campaign and participation in the strike with variation between 95 % and 20% by most of the EEFI constituents but **expressed serious concern over 2 or 3 organisations, who exceptionally decided of their own not to take part in the strike** and confine only to organise rally and protest demonstration. Working Committee guides these organisations to concentrate towards development of ideological quality of the organisers and activists. EEFI centre is ready to extend support for such qualitative development of organisation. Working committee is proud to note that this Strike was extended solidarity by the global working Class community inclusive of WFTU.

**• All organisations should send a written report to EEFI centre by 10<sup>th</sup> of December related to preparation and participation in the Strike.**

2. Working Committee noted with high applaud that Co-ordination Committee of National level Peasants organisations started Delhi March on the day of 26<sup>th</sup> November strike day from the adjacent states to arrive Delhi on 27<sup>th</sup> November; setting a glorious example of Workers-Peasants Unity. BJP Governments of Haryana and UP being the major entry points of Delhi engaged thousands of Police force, who brutally tried to forcibly stop the March from arriving Delhi with barricade, Tear Gas and Water Canon in northern India chilled weather. But they miserably failed. Marchers marooned the capital city of India at all its entry roads. Government of India, since independence has never faced such physical resistance from the people of India. Several rounds of discussion have failed. So called powerful and gigantic Modi Government appears to be a dwarf before the bondage of peasant unity. Working committee while decried Governments of Haryana and UP for Police excess to peaceful rally of food growers; conveyed deep solidarity with the struggling peasants and called all EEFI constituents to firmly stand with the peasant movement. Working Committee appreciably noted our Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh comrades extended medical, physical, finance and food staff support to the Marchers.

**• Working Committee decided to have detailed report from all its constituents on solidarity activities by 10<sup>th</sup> December, to EEFI Centre**

3. Working Committee called up its decision quoted as below:  
“Campaign should be organised before other section of workers, peasants as well electricity consumers in association with their Unions, Associations including organisations of Small and Medium sector commerce and industries, Hand Bill in the form of brief appeal to resist the anti-people policies of the government being implemented through change of laws are to be circulated in local languages. We need to emphatically explain that almost all assets of the power sector have been developed at the cost of public/ state exchequer. Government of India is having right neither to transfer it to private hands for the profit of the business lobby nor insist the state governments to do it. In this spell of campaign also Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2020 and Standard Bidding Document is to be dealt with.” This effort is to be sincerely continued.  
Working committee noted feeble initiative in some states. But drive of UT Power men Union of Chandigarh was appreciable. They penetrated among the other trade unions,

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forums of residents, merchants and civic society. They started agitation and work boycott and continued barring the days of Dussera and Diwali.

Their sincerest approach made them Successful to develop anti-privatisation struggle both in the streets and legal field. Their Writ Petition against unlawful GoI steps towards privatisation of electricity sector in Chandigarh was admitted by the Hon'ble Chandigarh High Court on 1<sup>st</sup> December with interim stay over all incidental activities. Another PIL filed by Residents Welfare Forum has also been admitted by the Apex Court of Chandigarh.

As a part of field struggle, EEFI Constituents from Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh mobilised in a massive demonstration at Chandigarh on 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2020. NCCOEE national chapter leaders including Com Prasanta N Chowdhury and Subhas Lamba and others addressed the rally.

4. Working Committee took note of the fact that out of the 8 UTs, EEFI/CITU has organisation in 4 UTs namely Chandigarh, Jammu & Kashmir, Pondicherry and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Chandigarh & J&K from the northern zone is being taken care by Com Subhas Lamba. Struggle developing at Pondicherry will be taken care of By Com Subrammanian, Rajendran & Com Ramaswamy. Andaman & Nicobar matter will be taken up by Prasanta N Chowdhury.
5. Attention of the Working Committee was drawn to the NCCOEEE Charter of demands, in which one of the demands initiated by EEFI in the national level towards wage and regularisation status of contract workers. Our constituent organisations should highlight the demand and develop independent as well united struggle in the states. Telengana example of enhancement of wage; with regularisation status to the workers need to be referred.
6. Working Committee reviewed the fragile Fund Position of EEFI. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> National Conference decided collection by the unions from the members @5% of their enhanced wage after each wage settlement and annual donation @ Rs 10/- per member per year in EEFI struggle Fund in addition to annual affiliation fee @ Rs 3/-  
In order to meet the expenses of the forthcoming struggle, all leaders volunteered collection of fund from members of respective organisations.  
WBSEWMU had their wage settlement they are collecting struggle Fund. They have deposited Rs. 1 lakh and further collection is in progress, they might be able to contribute a few lakhs more. KSEBWA will collect and deposit Rs. 5 Lakhs by next two months. KSEBOA will also collect from its members and contribute a portion to EEFI. Other organisations also committed in positive direction including early payment of affiliation dues. In view of this generous approach, Working Committee put fervent appeal to other organisations to contribute in the struggle Fund in the following manner:
  1. Unions of Contractor Workers within the ambit of the capability of the union.
  2. Other organisations will collect @ Rupees 10/- per member in general and other Rupees 5/- per member either through collection or from Union Fund.

**All contribution to struggle fund should be sent to EEFI centre by 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2021**



(Prasanta N Chowdhury)  
General Secretary