NATIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE OF ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES & ENGINEERS

B.T.RANADIVE BHAWAN, 13-A, ROUSE AVENUE, NEW DELHI -110 002, Tel fax.011- 23219670 €-mail: eefederation@gmail.com

Letter/02/2023 16th March 2023

To Shri Yogi Adityanath Ji The Hon'ble Chief Minister Uttar Pradesh

Respected Sir,

Intervene immediately to resist the privatization of state owned power generation transmission and Distribution utilities of Uttar Pradesh

We on behalf of National Coordination Committee of Electricity Employees & Engineers (NCCOEEE) – the broad based national level conglomeration of affiliated and independent federations of electricity employees & engineers want to impress upon your good office with great anxiety that the electricity employees and engineers of UP have resolved to resort to work boycott on 15th March morning from 10 am.

This action is called by the united forum of all organisations representing electricity employees and engineers of UP – Vidyut Karmachari Samyukt Sangharsh Samiti. The forum has appealed to your government to resolve the issues immediately failing which will compel them to go for 72 Hours token strike from 16th March 10 pm. Obviously the entire UP electricity sector will be under heavy grip of this strike action.

Sir, it is most unfortunate that, instead of addressing the righteous concern of the strikers and the people of UP, your government has resorted to repressive action on the struggling electricity employees and their families with incessant threatening of invoking ESMA and other heinous punitive measures. NCCOEEE and its entire constituents throughout the nation stand strongly beside the struggling workers of UP and condemn these undemocratic act on the part of your administration. NCCOEEE urges upon you to withdraw the oppressive actions immediately and initiate a fruitful discussion to resolve the same.

The Power employees of Uttar Pradesh were in the path of struggle from November, 2022 against the notorious privatization attempts directed by the UP Government to dispose two new 800 MW generation units of Anpara and Opra and related transmission assets currently owned by UPPCL, the state-run UP Power Corporation. On 3rd December 2022 a written agreement was signed between Vidyut Karmachari Samyukt Sangharsh Samiti and UP Power Corporation in presence of Shri Arvind Kumar Sharma, the Hon'ble Energy Minister of UP, with an assurance of not to privatise the power assets. In a complete retrograde move, the Management of the power corporations is now denying the mutually agreed and signed agreement. It is a malicious violation of established industrial practice. As an expression of discontent and anger, exercising the democratic right, the Sangharsh Samiti of Power employees and engineers of UP has resorted to agitation action.

The management has unleashed repressive attacks on the agitating workers. In rebuttal to these oppressive measures, Sangharsh Samiti has heightened the call of action to massive jail bharo agitation and indefinite strike in case of any vindictive action is taken on the striking employees.

The electricity employees' united forum of your state has also demanded to regularize the contractual workers engaged in perennial jobs of electricity sector, reintroduce the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) and to scrap the Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2022.

The NCCOEEE national chapter met on 14th March and has called upon the entire electricity employees of the country to stand beside the UP powermen and hold solidarity protest action throughout the country on 16th March 2023.

Sir, you being the administrative head of UP state are requested to immediately intervene to save the state run power utilities and just demand of the electricity employees engineers as well consumers of your state.

Your active initiation to save the Public Electricity Utilities and hence the Right to Electricity for all citizens of the State of UP is urgently required. Instead of addressing the just concern of the people, if UP administration highhandedly tries to break the strike, or tries to engage the electricity employees of other states as mere mercenaries against own striking employees and workers, it will be disastrous and will lead to more complex situation further.

Hope we have been able to communicate our grave concern over the current situation to impress you to adopt prudent steps to save the state owned power industry of UP.

Thank you

Sincerely yours

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