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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **EEFI CONDEMNS NEXUS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS CRONIES**

EEFI notes with grave concern the news item published in lead national newspapers today relating arrest warrant issued by a Gujarat Court against senior journalist Paranjoy Guha Thakurta. EEFI Condemns the Government machinery of Gujarat as well Union, who shamelessly backed Mundra. EEFI also noted that Editors Guild of India has also condemned this move against a reputed introspective journalist. Electricity Employees Federation of India appreciates relentless effort of Shri Guha Thakurta to unveil the energy sector scams to grab profit by Adani and Ambani with unlawful support by the Government.

Mundra Court accepted the defamation case lodged by Adani Power against Paranjoy Guha Thakurta for his article published in esteemed journal Economic and Political Weekly in June, 2017. The Article referred to the suit relates to obnoxious method followed by Adani Power to inflate the cost of imported coal for its costal power plant at Mundra, Gujarat. Article was Published in the journal managed by Sameeksha Trust. Neither the publisher nor the journal has been sued, simply to harass the senior journalist in person. EEFI decries these moves.

Adani and Ambani business groups are looting the people of India from the whole arena of energy covering Power, Coal, Oil & Gas in lots of unlawful ways. Government instead of bringing them to book is openly supports these loots. Mundra Power's one such effort for inflating cost of power was foiled by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. But Government's backing enabled them to inflate the profit. Only a small portion of loot has been revealed by the Journalist like Guha Thakurta.

EEFI condemns government and urges that instead of arresting the journalist, Government initiate independent enquiry to reveal whether the contents of the books and articles of Guha Thakurta is based upon facts to bring the offenders to book.

EEFI also urges all individuals and organizations of the civil society to support fair journalism and reveal the conspiracies against the people's right of access to energy.

(Prasanta N Chowdhury)

**General Secretary**

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