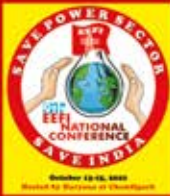




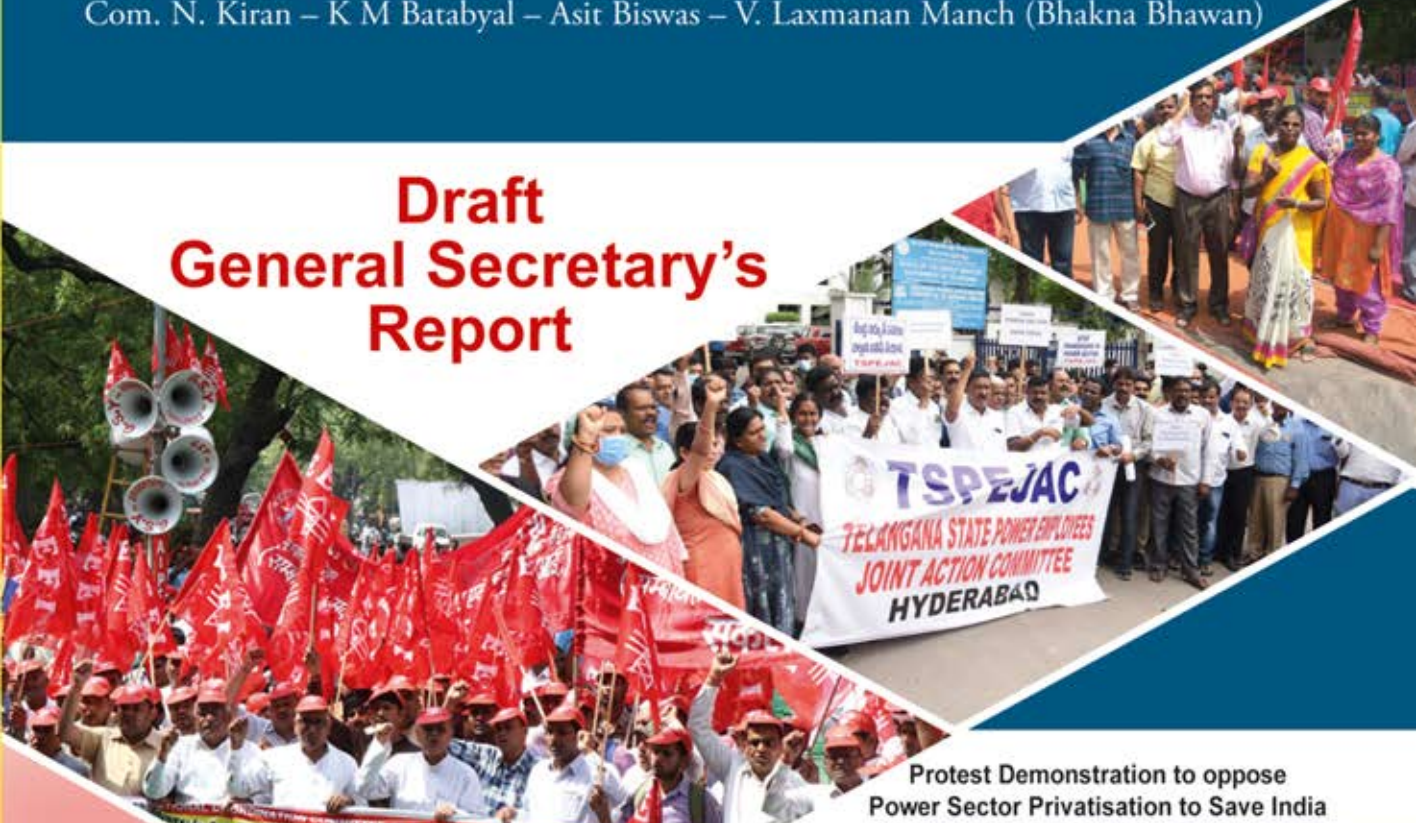
ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES' FEDERATION OF INDIA (EEFI)



9th National Conference

Com. Shyamal Chakraborty – S. Panchratnam – R C Jagga Nagar (Chandigarh)
Com. N. Kiran – K M Batabyal – Asit Biswas – V. Laxmanan Manch (Bhakna Bhawan)

Draft General Secretary's Report



Protest Demonstration to oppose Power Sector Privatisation to Save India



Univocal India to Oppose Privatisation of Public Assets in the name of **Atmanirbhar Bharat**



ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES' FEDERATION OF INDIA
9th NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Shyamal Chakraborty – S. Panchratnam
R. C. Jagga Nagar
(Chandigarh)

N Kiran, K M Batabyal, Asit Biswas, Laxmanan Manch
(Bhakna Bhawan)

13 – 15 October 2022

DRAFT GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES' FEDERATION OF INDIA

9th NATIONAL CONFERENCE

13 – 15 October 2022

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Schedule
12-10-2022	7-30Pm	Registration Of Delegates (Up To 09-30Pm)
13-10-2022	9-45Am	Registration Closure
	10-15Am	Assembly At Flag Hoisting Point
	10-30Am	Flag Hoisting And Homage To Martyrs
	10-45Am	Assembly In Side The Conference Hall
	10-55Am	Welcome Address By The Chairman Of Reception Committee
	11-10Am	Opening Song
	11-25 Am	Inaugural Speech By: Com Tapan Sen
	12-10Pm	Greetings By Fraternal Organisations
	01-15 Pm	Lunch
	02-00 Pm	Delegate Session-1 Condolence Resolution Formation Of Different Committees
	02-30 Pm	Presidential Address
	02-50Pm	Approval Of Time Schedule
	03-00 Pm	Placing Of Reports By The General Secretary
	03-45 Pm	Placing Audited Accounts Reports By The Treasurer
	03-55 Pm	Resolution-1
	04-00Pm	Greetings By Fraternal Delegates 1&2
	04-15 Pm	Discussion On Report & Accounts
	5-30Pm	Tea Break
	5-50Pm	Delegate Session-2
	5-50Pm	Greetings By Fraternal Delegates
	6-10Pm	Resolution-2
	6-20Pm	Discussion On Report & Accounts
	8-00Pm	Greetings By Fraternal Delegates
	08-10Pm	Resolution-3

14-10-2022

08-20Pm	Announcements
08-30Pm	Adjourned
09-30Am	Songs/Announcements
9-40Am	Resolution-4
9-50Am	Address By National Leader - Federation Etc
10-15Am	Discussion On Report & Accounts
11-30Am	Tea Break
11-50Am	Resolution-5 & 6
12-05Pm	Discussion On Report & Accounts
01-25 Pm	Announcements

Lunch

02-30 Pm	Songs/Announcements
02-40Pm	Discussion On Report & Accounts
5-30Pm	Tea Break
5-50Pm	Greetings By Fraternal Delegates
6-00Pm	Resolution 7&8
6-15Pm	Discussion On Report & Accounts
8-00Pm	Metting Of Outgoing Ob
	Adjourned

15-10-2022

9-00Am	Song
9-15Am	Resolution 9 &10
9-30Am	Address By: National Leader
10-00Am	Reply On Discussion Of Report & Accounts
11-00Am	Adoption Of Reports & Accounts And Resolutions
11-10Am	Placing & Adoption Of Credential Report
11-20Am	Address By Reception Committee
11-50Am	Tea Break
12-10Pm	Election Of Office Bearers & Working Committee
12-40Pm	Concluding Speech By President And Vote On Thanks
1-00Pm	International Song



ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES' FEDERATION OF INDIA 9th NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Shyamal Chakraborty – S. Panchratnam – R.C. Jagga Nagar
(Chandigarh)

N Kiran K M Batabyal, Asit Biswas, Laxmanan Manch
(Bhakna Bhawan)

13 – 15 October 2022

Dear Comrades of Presidium, Honorary/Fraternal Delegates, Delegates & Observers

EEFI with all its constituents welcome you all in the 9th Conference in the city of Chandigarh, where our union has written a new history of anti-privatisation struggle of power sector workers, with respectful homage to all, who sacrificed their lives in the phases of class struggle in India and abroad.

1. Our 8th Conference took place 61 months ago. In our Working Committee meeting held in 9-10 February, 2022, we planned our 9th Conference in 2020 but COVID-19 Pandemic spread over the whole world including India. Main reason of the delay in holding 9th Conference attributed by COVID. Conference need to accord approval for the delay beyond control of the Working Committee.

Conference was delayed but anti-worker, anti-people game plan of the Modi Govt. kept not only our federation & its constituents but toiling people and all their organisations were thrown into trouble thru one after another phases of attack. 9th Conference needs to deal all into details.

- 1.1 Impact of the COVID -19 apparently caused havoc in all over the world. But we must not forget that Capitalists lobby and their owned and controlled media started to campaign that the COVID virus was developed in the Chinese laboratory. Even after scientific study and disclosure of fact, such campaign was not put on hold. Govt. of India in RSS regime believes in Manu & Myth puts priority on continuing the hate campaign over the treatment and research on vaccination.
- 1.2 We must not forget that, Government of India from its obscurantist concept asked people of India “Ghanti Bajao”, “Thali Pitao”. Most dangerous was, as we the people from Power Sector understand – “Batti Bujhao” – Raat ko 9 Baje, 9 Minute ke liye”. When consumption of Power is in lowest level following closure of factories, commercial establishment, Railway transportation, major



consumption in light & cooling Power. PM asked us to put off the lamps in one single moment. Obviously decision was not arrived upon consultation with Power system Engineers and Employees. Whole of India could have been plunged into darkness for a couple of days with this “Batti Bujhao”. Our experts Engineers & Employees of Load Despatch Centres & Power Stations & Sub stations tackled the massacre with their skill & efficiency.

- 1.3 The COVID-19 pandemic led to a formidable loss of human life worldwide and presents an unprecedented challenge to economy, public health, food systems and the world of work. The economic and social disruption caused by the pandemic is devastating. Tens of millions of people are at risk of falling into extreme poverty, while the number of undernourished people, currently estimated at nearly 690 million, could increase by up to 132 million by the end of the year.

Millions of enterprises face an existential threat. Nearly half of the world’s 3.3 billion global workforce are at risk of losing their livelihoods. Informal economy workers are particularly more vulnerable because the majority lack social protection and access to quality health care and have lost access to productive assets. For most, no income means no food, or, at best, less food and less nutritious food.

The pandemic has been affecting the entire food system and has laid bare its fragility. The pandemic has decimated jobs and placed millions of livelihoods at risk. As breadwinners lose jobs, fall ill and die, the food security and nutrition of millions of women and men are under threat, with those in low-income countries, particularly the most marginalized populations, which include small-scale farmers and indigenous peoples, being hardest hit.

Millions of agricultural workers – waged and self-employed – while feeding the world, regularly face high levels of working poverty. With low and irregular incomes and a lack of social support, many of them are spurred to continue working, often in unsafe conditions, thus exposing themselves and their families to additional risks. Migrant agricultural workers are particularly vulnerable, because they face risks in their transport, working and living conditions and struggle to access support measures put in place by governments.

US response to the pandemic has triggered a disastrous economic depression. The United States along with other European countries have not done well in dealing with the pandemic. On the other side, China, Cuba, and other socialist countries have done well by achieving a combination of administrative decrees and popular initiatives and participation. The quality of universal services were more dependably assured within a fully socialist framework, which have been experienced during the fight against covid,



worldwide. Therefore, unlike capitalist countries, there were much more lesser no. of deaths, significant no. of patients who were cured within the state's health infrastructure.

In India, the union govt.'s mishandling of the covid pandemic and flawed unscientific, unplanned approach has led to a massive increase in sufferings and huge casualties (5.27 lakhs deaths) among the people. The hasty, unplanned lockdown without going for urgent covid fighting infrastructure is liable to huge casualties without having access to health care or due to paucity of hospital beds, oxygen, medicines other accessories like ventilators or necessary medical support on hospitalisation. Covid fighters were overstretched. The situation witnessed total dependency on private health care business.

Unplanned screening and paucity of testing facilities, are also key factors to shoot up the no. Covid cases. So far vaccination in concerned, there was full chaos. For vaccination too, Govt. solely depended on private players, keeping its own vaccine producing sectors aside.

The second wave was much fierce. We are confronted with different mutations of the virus but the Govt. literally called it a day looking at the union health budget (0.23% increase). Total healthcare spending in India, out of pocket and public is 3.6% of GDP, where as that of US is 16.9%, Germany and France both has 11.2%, even for S. Africa, it is 8.1%

During this pandemic period, when crores of common people were affected badly physically, economically and socially, then only a few govt friendly corporates minted huge wealth.

During this wide pandemic period, the country has witnessed the total chaotic condition at all levels.

During this period the big Pharma companies also made huge profit. Out of pocket expenses of the people has increased by many folds.

2.4 COVID Pandemic has exposed the wider gap between capitalist & socialist attitude to lives of people with Healthcare & Combatting calamity. Death rate of China, Cuba & Vietnam was not only lower, Cuba sent vaccines to 50 Countries. Likewise capitalist countries. Modi Govt. Allocated stimulus package for the capitalists in the name of Atma Nirbhar Bharat. Poor people are in crisis stimulus package awarded to Adani, Ambani & Crones of the Govt.

2.5 Need for significant political, economic and health care reform % who say the system in (survey public) needs to be completely reformed/needs major changes represented graphically.

Annexure - 1 Page no 221



SOURCE: PEW RESEARCH CENTER:

- 3.1 Globally capitalists & imperialist lobby planned to wider economic inequalities. Their approach was not to save the people in crisis but to formulate policy & adopt steps one after another to maximise profit at the Cost of plight of the people. Oxfam estimated that 11 people are facing starvation death in every minute world over.
- 3.2 Whole of the world faced more & more oppression upon the toiling people. As a result more job losses, more unemployment, more poverty and growing inequality has become the global phenomenon.
- 3.3 While we are scanning the world situation we don't find any light of hope from any corner. World Peace is in jeopardy while NATO imperialism is madly driving to hegemony on global wealth & resources.
- 3.4 COVID has added fuel to the fire. In January 2022, when COVID has started contamination, World Bank forecast was on Global economy growth @2.5% for the year. January 21 when the pandemic disaster was fully spread, global economy found contraction to 4.3 %. Result was that million of middle class become poor. Total number was 131 million. Majority of these needy poor were from Asia pacific, covering India and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Annexure - 2 Page no 221

- 3.5 **The COVID-19 downturn curbed growth in the global middle class, increased poverty sharply in 2020**

SOURCE: PEW RESEARCH CENTER:

4.0 National Situation:

Before entering into details of National Situation, let us concentrate upon, how people of India are taking part in the festivity of Swatantrata ka Amrit Mahotsav? Our Prime Minister utters "man ki baat" and some Indians are listening to and all sycophants are charmed. As the communication is one way, only a few can comment. One of the electricity worker (specifically contractor's worker) by name Goutam Palit (Secretary, Hooghly District Committee of Sahayak Karmi Union) wrote a poetry on the festivity of celebration. English translation is set below.

4.1 NECTAR – 75:

Nonchalant skeletal bones stacked like bricks
Fail to smother vast spaces of defiant hunger

Our coward conscience cringes in terror of words,



But our Shoes march towards seventy-fifth freedom.

The teacher found the nectar of seventy-fifth
independence infected with untouchable water

Took the supple life of Indra Kumar, 9

Gurudakshina fetched at the cost of life.

Eternal venom of civilised society corrupt Innocent childhood-

Time passes in the long queues of ration-card holders

Cyclonic grievances fails to filter the air-

Lungs inhales polluted air of civilisation.

Solace of “Man ki Baat” clad in million rupee suit;

Fails to cope with the hunger, but crushes our

Near and dear under the gallows of religion.

Yet 75; crazy pride of 75 on the D-day;

Slavery greets best wishes

On the birthday of my child

Blue flame of sacrificial fire

Showers depression of homeless millions,

Writes symphony in the comet-studded sky

Fluttering flag of liberty flies away in my dream,

The shining dawn of 75 is stunted

By the dark hegemony of burnt bread.

EEFI believe that saga of Working class has been reflected through these few lines. Our patriotism is in combination of our motherland inclusive of its toiling people. Hence, clarion call, this conference send to our countrymen- “Save Power Sector : Save India”

4.2 Celebration of 75th Year of Independence : Look back to history:

Like all Indian citizens, workers and employees are also proud as citizen of independent India. They recall with honour the valiant warriors of independence struggle, who rendered their lives. They are our idols for patriotism. But we cannot accept the way PM and government is trying to pull the credit of freedom struggle towards ruling party, in the same way publishing larger photographs of Prime Minister besides Gold Medal winner Sports personalities.

We may recall the changed phase of freedom struggle from the 3rd decade of 20th century. The Communist Party of India was established on the 17th of October 1920 in the city of Tashkent, Uzbekistan of erstwhile Soviet Union. In 1921, in the Ahmedabad Convention of the INDIAN ATIONAL CONGRESS, Communist Party distributed a leaflet and send a letter where they demanded “Congress has grown to be the platform



for all patriots, so please raise your voice to demand independence (Purna Swaraj)” for complete i.e., political, economic and social independence.

From the above, we can reach two conclusions:

1. Soon after the inception of the Communist Party, they demanded Purna Swaraj
2. Congress, despite being established in 1885 under Alan Octavian Hume, didn't demand Purna Swaraj in its 36 years of existence

In 1921 at a congress of the INC, two Communist minded people demanded Purna Swaraj from inside. They are Maulana Hasrat Mohani and Swami Kumarananda.

In 1922, from the Gaya Congress to every future annual congress, communists demanded for Purna Swaraj and it was rejected.

In 1928, annual Congress took place at Park Circus Maidan. Demanding Purna Swaraj, under the leadership of Comrade Muzaffar Ahmed and Bankim Mukherjee, along with 50000 farmers and laborers, sat for a dharna.

Motilal Nehru and the other Congress leadership promised that they would raise the demand of Purna Swaraj no matter where the annual congress is held in the next year

We all know, INDIAN ATIONAL CONGRESS raised the demand for Purna Swaraj in 1929 at the Lahore Congress. It may be mentioned that Subhash Chandra Basu demanded Purna Swaraj in 1928 internally at Congress but it was rejected.

The demand for Purna Swaraj by the communists, along with the demand for the removal of the British led to them being very aggressive against the communists, which was unprecedented against any other party of that time. They filed various cases like:

Peshawar Conspiracy case .Kanpur Conspiracy case .Meerut Conspiracy case:

During 1934-42, the British banned the Communist Party, which was never taken against any other party.

In the years before independence, the nation was mired in various movements and struggles for the same. These movements where communists and lefts played a significant role, like Tebhaga Movement in Bengal, Telangana Movement in Andhra, Worli Movement in Maharashtra, hajong tribal movement in Tripura, punnapra Vayalar in kerala.

In 1946, during the Royal Indian Navy Mutiny, the British Police ordered the Army to fire upon the protesting sailors. Indian soldiers refused to fire upon fellow Indians. After this, the British ordered the Air Force to fire upon the protesting sailors. There, under the leadership of a Communist Pilot, all the pilots protested against the order. That Pilot is Robin Sen. After this, when the British Military went to squash the Mutiny,



B.T. Ranadive, a legendary as well as Communist leader, played a significant part to save the protestors. Suffice to say, Shaheed-e-Azam, Bhagat Singh, was a great revolutionary and leftist, who popularized “Inqilab Zindabad”, by Maulana Hasrat Mohani, as a slogan for other revolutionaries. Before the day of his hanging, Bhagat Singh was reading the biography of Lenin.

From Lakshmi Saigal to Subodh Ray, from Ganesh Ghosh to Major Jay pal Singh, such communists had significant contributions to the independence of our nation.

There is not a single freedom fighter for India, who was a member of the RSS, because RSS thought that fighting against the British meant the decay of their own power. They wanted to keep their power consolidated to fight against Muslims. They wanted to realize the target of having a Hindu Rashtra, which is still their target in this current day and age. We are aware that a secular state is a symbol of progress where a theocratic state leads a country towards past, with unscientific and backward idea.

They only had a single Freedom fighter, Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, who they called Veer Savarkar. Savarkar was not a member of the RSS, but a member of the “Hindu Mahasabha”. Although Savarkar and his book, “Hindutva”, are both held in high regard by the RSS, it is true that he joined the fight for our freedom when he went to study in England at that time. But when the British imprisoned him in Andaman Cellular Jail, he did a 180 degree turn and decided that staying under the British Rule was better. He wrote multiple Mercy Petitions to the British, saying he would give up fighting in exchange for his release. This was the extent of the patriotism of Savarkar!

In 1942, at the height of the Quit India movement, in Bateshwar, Uttar Pradesh, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who used to say: “Sangh is my soul”, got the freedom fighters Shib Kumar and Lila Dhar Bajpayee arrested by writing mercy petitions.

On 14th August 1947, in the magazine of the RSS, “Organizer”, was written: “The people who have come to power by the kick of fate may give in our hands, the tricolor, but it will never be respected and owned by Hindus. The number three is in itself an evil, and a flag having three colors will certainly produce a very bad psychological effect and is injurious to a country. The color of the Hindu flag shall be saffron.” RSS-BJP does not have the minimum amount of respect for our national flag, yet Narendra Modi is fooling the country now with “Ghar Ghar Tiranga” by calling for the national flag to be hoisted in every home.

BJP-RSS do not respect the Constitution of our country. On 26 November 1949, the Constitution of India was finalized, which was put into effect on 26th January, 1950. On the 30th of November, 1949, “Organizer” writes: “But in our Constitution, there is no mention of the unique constitutional development in ancient Bharat. Manu’s Laws were written long before Lycurgus of Sparta or Solon of Persia. To this day his laws as enunciated in the Manusmriti excite the admiration of the world and elicit spontaneous



obedience and conformity. But to our constitutional pundits that means nothing”

Worth mentioning that “Manusmriti” or “Manusamghita” says “Women do not have free will. As a child, she should be under her father’s guidance, in her youth, she is under her husband’s guidance and in her old age, she is under her son’s guidance. The work of Shudras is to serve the higher castes of Brahmin, Kshatriya and Vaishya. If a Shudra criticizes a Brahmin, then their tongue may be cut off.”

This is the path followed by the followers of Hitler and Mussolini, RSS and their political counterpart BJP. They did not contribute to struggle of independence. But such celebration is nothing but to blot the history. Patriotic Indians should keep in mind. We are proud Indians. We must not allow any attempt to fetch away our pride. This should be be our firm determination, while celebrate 75th years of independence.

- 4.3 Narendra Modi hype was created by corporate controlled media as an idol of development. People forgot the Gujarat massacre and genocide. Celebration of 75 years of independence has been celebrated with amnesty to criminals sentenced by the court of law for murder of minorities and dalits and rape were released shamelessly.
- 4.4 Modi Government did not put on any hold upon doing whatever they wish like “Notebandi”, “GST” etc. Allowing business tycoons with criminal record to fly away from India. Eventually 27 out of 28 are from Gujarat. Accidental death of judges who framed the charges and sentenced Amit Shah did not make our people aback.
- 4.5 No need to conduct any economic / social research or study on how the inequality is being widened. Indirect Tax Burden on essential commodities including fuel, medicines, transportation will go up and loan of defaulter business groups worth 10.72 lakh crores.
- 4.6 Besides above favour and pro-capitalists policy of the Government, Mukesh Ambani’s net worth increased to 350% in four years of Modi regime. Similarly Goutam Adani’s net worth rose by 750%. Oxfam report revealed top 10 people of India hold 57% the country’s wealth, while 13% is retained by half of the population.
- 4.7 NCLT, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code are being manipulated in unique way to reduce loan burden of billionaire business houses. While debt-trapped poor farmers had to commit suicide,
- 4.8 Farm Acts and Labour Codes enacted to curb the rights of livelihood for the farmers and workers. Protests through Strikes and demonstration are being ignored barring one year long Delhi Gherao obstacle by SKM, the broad based platform of 500 Kisan organisations. While government was compelled to



scrap three Farm Acts but written commitment of Agriculture Minister on 9th December, 2021 for not to move Electricity (Amendment) Bill to the Parliament till completion of stake holders consultation was flouted.

- 4.9 In order to Transfer more and more public property to cronies of the Government National Monetization Pipeline has been designed. Sovereignty of the country is being Auctioned in the name of Atmanirbhar Bharat.
- 4.10 We understand this fascist policy of doing all anti-national activities in the tall talks of Patriotism and Nationality. Our limitation is that we can not reach to the majority of the people to unveil the masks of these pseudo-patriots and fake nationalists.
- 4.11 EEFI calls upon its rank and file to reach to electricity consumers to make them understand how the government plans to curb their rights of Indian citizens, formulating policy towards breaching peace and harmony of citizens of India main symphony of which was orchestrated while The Constitution was drafted and adopted with “MILE SUR TUMHARA HAMARA” in order to keep the “Unity and Diversity”. National anthem of India was also composed in the same tunes and lyrics.
- 4.12 RSS backed Modi Govt. while disobeyed the Constitutional binding of the democratically elected Govt. not only followed the path of travesty of democracy, one after another actions and plan are implementing to run the administration as their sweet will to oppress any voice of protest and Democratic Rights. Communal violence is planned and triggered, while BJP controlled Police remained either silent spectator or joined in disguise to the attack to the minority. Names of the places Shaheen Bag, Hathras, Lakhimpur has added one after another black feather in the turban of Modi & Amit Shah.
- 4.13 In order to promulgate the Hindutva agenda of RSS, statehood of Jammu & Kashmir has been withdrawn and placed the citizens of J&K with Ladakh under Union Territory on withdrawal of special status of the state in the constitution. CAA, NRC, NPR were used as tools of the BJP Govt. to harass people of minority community.
- 4.14 Attack upon Dalits, Schedule Tribes and Caste in BJP ruled state has become daily affairs.
- 4.15 Women are not safe in a good number of states in India either in cities or in villages, if they are from economically weak section of society. Obscurantist ideas and ideology of RSS denied equal rights of the women in the society or work place. EEFI and all its members should actively take part in this social movement. It should not be the task of the Working Women sub-committee.



Whole organization in the National, State, District or below should take the responsibility.

- 4.16 In Regard or respect to Law and Judiciary by Modi Govt. in the Centre or in BJP ruled states are in equilibrium. In the ploy of awarding Teesta Sheetalabad or active journalists independently open their pen against oppression on weaker section of society, they find old and irrelevant comment of the Apex Court to put them under bar, but when illegal speech of Nupur Sharma creates turmoil in the country and other parts of the world, the administration cannot find the culprit – all of them are allowed to move scot free. Minister's son intentionally runs over farmers in broad day light is not arrested till order of the Apex Court to do so this the real face of RSS backed BJP administration.

5. Struggle in the National Plain:

- 5.1 You are aware of the plans of Action drawn in the 8th Conference. Let us recapitulate some of the decisions and actions. As per our practice – Decision of one Conference/meeting is taken up for review in the next. All India demand day was observed on 25th October, 2017. The priority was threshed upon contractors' workers and their issues. District/State level demonstration took place. Charter of Demands submitted but strike planned in the conference on August 1, 2018 did not materialize. Besides 2/3 states preparatory activity was found poor.

Maha Padav at Delhi between 9 & 11 November 2018 was taken part by EEFI constituents from far and near states.

- 5.2 Participation in the Nationwide Strike on the issues of the workers & peasants is appreciable in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Punjab also took part in good numbers. West Bengal tries to ensure participation of its members but success rate does not reach at commendable level. In Assam effort remains there but other states very limited response in strike is noted (not reported). We need serious introspection. We must not blame the workers main shortcomings is felt interaction with the workers.

There is no ambiguity in the conception that highest form of struggle in the Trade Union movement is strike. What we don't use off and on. When it is felt that the authority has closed all avenues to settle the basic demands of the workers through discussion across the table Trade Union resorts to path of cease work/ Pendown – tool down/Total strike. We need to discuss with all levels of organizers & workers to get them realized under which circumstances & which demands we had to resort to path of strike. Logic behind the demands and path & phases of struggle need to be explained in all levels of committee, the workers form their



work place, gates, residential area and the common people of the vicinity. For a successful strike people support is pertinent what we can't achieve through only, posters, Banners, Hand Bill, leaflets, wider campaign means series of meetings in wider section of people including the specific industry and other industries in the state/District/locality. Bourgeois Press and commercial as well Govt. controlled media unleash false campaign to make the people annoyed against the workers. Our campaign with facts should be wider & louder.

We must never think that any struggle will achieve its success upon the strength of the union. Key of the success is our deep and continuous interaction with the workers.

It is also to be understood by TU organizers, that market driven media has created an odd perception that workers resort to strike action for their financial benefit and better service condition only. They forget that a good number of Public Sector industries survives refuting the decision of privatizing the same. Government had to surrender before the workers demand for survival of the industry. SAIL, BSNL, LIC, Public Sector Banks and the State Electricity Boards' splitted enterprises like Gencos, Transcos, DISCOMS are still serving for the people through prolonged struggle of the united actions of the workers including strikes.

- 5.3 The Modi 2.0 came with a bigger mandate in their favour and as expected they started their neo liberal policy promotion with much aggression since then. He envisioned that India will become a \$5trillion economy by 2026 but on the contrary it is reducing more and more. Since the demonitisation the mainstream media was trying hard to make us believe that it was a masterstroke tactics from Mr. Modi, but what all the economists across the ideological spectrum, including several governors of RBI since then were sceptical about it. What we found post-demonitisation was a severe economic crunch. Since neo liberalisation of Indian economy it was so much integreted with the ebbs and tides of world economy with minimum insulation that it was inevitable to avoid the turmoils of the world economy. Since the Modi regime came to power the minimum safeguards that were present before were withdrawn gradually for the benefit of capitalists. It only benefited the Ambani's and Adani 's not the general public of our country. The evidence of the plight of the people is evident from the recent Global Hunger Index data. "In the 2021 Global Hunger Index, India ranks 101st out of the 116 countries with sufficient data to calculate 2021 GHI scores. With a score of 27.5, India has a level of hunger that is serious."The economy further declined during the severe covid pandemic time. The GDP growth had crashed 23.9% in response to the centre's no notice lockdown. India's GDP shrank 7.3% in 2020-21. This was the worst performance of the Indian economy in any year



since independence. Migrant workers faced the maximum wrath of the lockdown as well as the covid due to the centre's callous and inhuman handling of the situation. The \$5trillion economy is far from reality, on the contrary it is now the biggest challenge to uplift the Indian economy to the pre-covid condition. Unemployment Rate as on 09 Sep 2022 is 7.6% where Urban unemployment rate is 8.8% and the Rural rate is 7.0% according to the latest CMIE (Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy) data. The covid relief package of ₹20Lakh Crore which was declared by the centre was nothing but a bundle of loans offered to public already under severe financial burden. Several political parties and trade unions demanded a minimum direct monthly monetary support of ₹7,500 to the families beyond the income tax bracket and was completely ignored by the centre. But interestingly at the same time while farm loan waivers totalling Rs 2.53 lakh crore have been blamed for disrupting the credit culture, a faulty narrative considers that massive corporate write-offs lead to economic growth. Rs 10 lakh crore of corporate bad loans have been written off in the past five years, Parliament was recently informed. Unlike farm loan waivers, where the banks get back the outstanding amount from state govts, in case of corporate write-offs, the banks take a hit. Rather than giving some relief to the general public the NDA government concentrated their effort to efforts to benefit the riches, both national and international. The BJP government led by Modi recently unveiled a four year National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP) claiming to garner Rs 6 lakh crore for infrastructure development. In reality, the NMP is aimed to hand over huge functional infrastructural assets of the country to private corporates and big business houses, including foreign MNCs. The corporate cronies of the BJP government will be allowed to mint huge money utilising the assets built with people's money. According to the National Monetisation Pipeline document, 22 per cent of the road assets under the National Highways Authority of India, 400 railway stations, 1,400 km of railway track, 741 km of Konkan Railway, 90 passenger trains, 15 railway stadia, 265 railway goods sheds, selected railway colonies, four Hill Railways, 25 major airports, 28,608 circuit (ckt) km of power transmission assets, 160 coal mining assets, 14,197 telecom towers and 2.86 lakh km of optic fibres, power generation assets of NTPC and NHPC, petroleum and products pipelines of IOCL, HPCL and GAIL, 31 projects in 9 major ports, 39 per cent storage capacity of warehousing assets of FCI and Central Warehousing Corporation, Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium and three other assets of Sports Authority of India – are all up for monetisation. This will only benefit the riches to get richer which is reflected in the recent Indian tycoon Gautam Adani, whose business empire extends from infrastructure to airports management and FMCG to cements, becoming the third richest person in the world, behind Tesla's Elon Musk and Amazon's Jeff Bezos. His net worth rose



to \$137.4 billion, Mr. Adani added \$60.9 billion to his fortune in 2022 alone, five times more than anyone else.

We must resist the onslaught of neo liberal road roller with the united trade union and mass movements and stop the Modi regime from worsening the condition of the working class people.

Reference Annexere E in page no 173 and Annexere J in page no 214.

Workers - Peasants Solidarity :

Make MAZDOOR KISAN SANGHARSH RALLY A GRAND SUCCESS

6.1 Peasants and Workers solidarity is the universal call for worldwide class struggle towards revolutionary change of the social system in a country based on exploitation and tyranny. Comrade Lenin applied the call at first in Soviet Socialist Revolution on 7th November, 1917.

In India this slogan has been applied in the various struggles of peasants and workers in the pre and post independence periods by the left parties, specially by the Communist Party. In the peasants struggle namely “Punappa Vialar Kishan Struggle” in Kerala, “Telengana peasants struggle”, “Tebhaga Kishan struggle” in Bengal and likewise kishan struggles in the country for release of illegally occupied lands, for share of crops for enlisting in the record as Bargadar, for profitable price of crops, for wages etc, workers in the country have stood to extend assistance to the peasants. Similarly in the historical struggles led by steel and engineering workers in Burdwan, Nadia, 24 Parganas, Howrah districts in West Bengal and likewise struggles throughout the country peasants have stood to extend all kinds of supports and solidarities to the workers.

6.2 On 19th January, 1982 a countrywide general strike took place at the call of sponsoring committee of left Trade Unions and various federations demands of the peasants and agricultural workers were included in the demands of general strike. The peasants in thousands took part shouldering the workers throughout the country and faced death (10 nos.) injuries and imprisonment. The auspicious day 19th January is being observed as the day of “Workers and Peasants Unity Day” from the following years in the country. Afterwards, in the countrywide general strikes, organized by the left TUs and Central TUs (excepting BMS) and Federations, the demands of the peasants and agricultural workers have been included with the demands of workers and common people. Peasants have taken part in the said strikes in lakhs.

6.3 In the last 5 years, call of Peasants and Workers unity has been more strengthened. On 5th September, 2018 in the historic rally of workers in Delhi,



peasants in thousands took part. Similarly in the onwards years after 2018 the workers in Delhi rally, in the march from Nasik to Meubai, in Jail Bhara movements led by Kishans and extended all kinds of solidarities. in the historical struggle of 378 days led by Sanjukta Kishan Morcha demanding withdrawal of 3 anti peasant farm laws and Electricity Amendment Bill. The workers took part in lakhs and extended all kinds of solidarities in that struggles, in the bandh Rail and Road Aboradhs and in Jail Bhara in support of that struggle.

- 6.4 We fully support the resolution, which was passed unanimously at the convention held on 5th September, 2021 at Talkotra Stadium in Delhi at the call of CITU, AIKS, AIAWU. In orderto carry out the clarion call given throughthe resolution of Convention isplaced as annexure of the this report. All EEFI constituents are to prepare with full strength to make the MAZDOOR KISAN SANGHARSH RALLY during the Budget session of the Parliament in 2023.

Resulation Addopted in Majdur Kishan United National Convention (CITU, AIKS, AIAWU) on 5th September, 2022 is Annexed as D in page no 167.

Energy Global Scenario:

- 7.1 The electricity sector has grown to be one of the most important sources of energy with more than 20% of total final energy consumption. The worldwide economic shock caused by the Covid 19 pandemic is having a widespread impact on the energy sector, especially in the electricity sector. Global changes in electricity generation from 2015 with projections upto 2024 is shown in figure 1. Global electricity demand increased by more than 6% during 2021 owing mainly to the economic recovery from the shock by the pandemic. The global production of electricity stood at 27600 TWh during 2021 with an increase over 1400TWh from 2020 equivalent of adding a new India to the world's electricity demand. (Total electricity consumption in India during 2021-22 was only 1380TWh.)

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- 7.2 Many advanced economies rebounded back to pre-pandemic levels after falls in 2020. But the real growth was in Asia, in large part as economic growth boomed; China saw the biggest rise, with a 10.3% year on year increase in 2021. The fast rebound in overall energy demand strained supply chains for coal and natural gas, pushing up wholesale electricity prices. Despite the impressive growth of renewable power, electricity generation from coal and gas hit record levels during this period. Despite a record rise in wind and solar generation, only 29% of the global rise in electricity demand in 2021 was met with wind and solar. Other clean electricity provided no growth, with nuclear and hydro levels unchanged for two years. Remaining demand increase was therefore met by fossil fuels.



59% of the electricity demand rise in 2021 was met by coal generation alone. Coal power rose by 9.0% in 2021 to 10,042 TWh, a new all-time high and 2% above the previous record set in 2018. It was the biggest percentage rise on record since at least 1985, taking coal generation to 36% of global electricity.

As economic recovery stabilizes, growth in electricity consumption will be expected to be lower with an average growth of 2.7% during 2022-2024. This growth is expected to be met with growing renewables. But the objective of net zero by 2050 can not be fulfilled with the present pace of adding renewables to the system even though there is impressive growth in that sector.

7.3 Energy Intensity:

The rate of global primary energy intensity improvement - defined as the percentage decrease in the ratio of global total energy supply per unit of gross domestic product (GDP) - is the indicator used to track progress on global energy efficiency. The original target was an annual reduction of 2.6% until 2030 although the world has fallen short of this goal, especially in the most recent years. Covid-19 crisis, affected the intensity improvement drastically. Even after the recovery from the crisis, the improvement is still well below the 3.2% pace required this decade to achieve SDG targets and the more than 4% pace needed to be on track to reach net-zero emissions by 2050.

7.4 Access to Electricity:

According to Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress Report, the number of people without access to electricity declined from 1.2 billion in 2010 to 759 million in 2019, globally. Electrification through decentralized renewable-based solutions in particular gained momentum during last decade with the number of people connected to mini grids has more than doubled from 5 to 11 million. Unless efforts are scaled up significantly in countries with the largest deficits the SDG target of universal access by 2030 appears unlikely to be met, leaving an estimated 660 million without electricity. While a considerable section of people gained access to electricity globally over the last decade, COVID's financial impact has made basic electricity services unaffordable for 30 million more people, the majority located in Africa. Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Ethiopia had the biggest electricity access deficits, with Ethiopia replacing India in the Top 3.

Regional disparities continue to persist, and the access deficit is particularly concentrated in Sub-Saharan Africa, which accounts for three-quarters of the global deficit. Latin America and the Caribbean, Eastern Asia and Southeastern Asia are approaching universal access, with more than 98 percent of their population having electricity access, whereas in Sub-Saharan Africa less



than half of the population has access. Among the 20 countries with the largest access deficits, Bangladesh, Kenya, and Uganda showed the greatest improvement since 2010, thanks to annual electrification growth rates in excess of 3 percentage points, driven largely by an integrated approach that combined grid, mini grid and on-grid solar electrification.

Liberalised Electricity Market:

7.5 Up to mid1990s in many countries, including the United States, UK, other EU nations, Australia, etc., electricity supply was enabled through vertically-integrated, public utilities. These utilities often managed the entire value-chain and were regulated by the government or commissions appointed by the government. For example public service commissions regulated the electricity sector in in the U.S. In Australia, state-owned electricity commissions managed the operation of the state electricity systems. Similar regulators were there in other nations including in the EU.

The 1990s witnessed a range of countries embarking on electricity market reforms to move from electricity provided by vertically-integrated companies to a mixture of liberalized and regulated wholesale and retail markets providing the same service. Electricity market liberalization is characterized by the legal and administrative separation of network functions, from generation and supply. In Europe, liberalization began in 1996 with the adoption of the first European Directive and followed unbundling of the sector.

The degree of liberalization has varied in different jurisdictions. More often, wholesale markets (generation) were liberalized, while networks, and sometimes supply to the end user, remained regulated. Parts of the United States opted for example to restructure their wholesale, but not their retail markets. Starting from 1996, the electricity generation systems of Australia's eastern states were gradually organized into an energy-only wholesale market called the National Electricity Market (NEM), while networks remained regulated. Retail competition is encouraged, but not yet fully realized in all of the participating states. Market liberalization endeavors were based on the expectation that liberalized markets can deliver electricity more economically than regulated rate-of return markets.

Under the rate-of-return regime, electricity prices are set by the regulator, allowing utilities to "recover their prudently-incurred operating costs and a regulated return on capital investment". In fully liberalized wholesale electricity markets however, there is no guaranteed return on either investments or on operating costs. The wholesale clearing price of electricity is determined by supply and demand forces on the market. The market price, the basis of revenue for all generators, is set



by the bid of the last generator, which is dispatched to meet demand. In theory, this price will be at or above the marginal production cost of that generator. In practice however, bilateral contracts like long term PPAs and financial hedging (future markets) are an integral addition to liberalized wholesale markets, aimed at mitigating the risk.

Renewable Generation and Market:

8.1 The marginal cost of electricity generation refers to the short-run operating cost that a generator incurs in providing an additional unit of electricity to meet demand. While for fossil fuel generators the greatest share of their marginal cost is the cost of fuel, solar and wind generators have no fuel costs at all. This makes their marginal cost very low or close to zero. In simplified terms, generators are dispatched from the lowest to the highest bid until demand is met. It is worthwhile to note however, that both bidding under the marginal costs (to get dispatched, especially if generators have other sources of revenue than the market) and above (in scarcity situations when market power can be exercised) are very common. If the marginal cost of electricity generation is thus significantly below average costs, which was the case for many countries in the 1990s, competitive markets would result in lower electricity prices, providing strong political incentives to forge ahead with market liberalization. The generation landscape at the time of market liberalization was usually characterised by large, predominantly base-load plants, and passive end-users. The market design was based on the assumption that marginal costs of production are non-zero. In a transitioning electricity system, this assumption does no longer necessarily hold true. The past decade has seen both the exit of base-load plants, and the market entry of large-scale renewable generation in most developed countries. Renewable generation has increased from to 20 to 30% of total generation during the last decade, with wind, solar and hydro generation contributing the majority of renewable electricity generation. The surge in wind and solar installations was due to governmental support policies and the rapid and substantial decline in the cost of these generators. As a result, especially in areas with high natural renewable energy endowments new technologies became highly competitive. Wind and solar generation, in particular, are characterised by both intermittency and near zero marginal operating costs. These characteristics give rise to several engineering and economic challenges when it comes to integrating large quantities of renewably-generated electricity into the grid. Liberalized wholesale market frameworks, (irrespective of the existence of capacity markets, or other payment mechanisms) were not designed to handle high shares of intermittent, zero or low marginal cost generation in the electricity mix. Unsurprisingly, the increased penetration of distributed energy resources (DER) is disrupting the



markets and making it difficult for regulators to meet market objectives and functions.

- 8.2 The liberalized wholesale markets work through price signals to meet the electricity system objectives of reliability and affordability. In a market with a large proportion of renewable generation, both the short-run and the long run resource allocation functions can be influenced. While in the short-run or day-to-day operations the impact of renewables mostly materialises through the increased cost of and need for frequency control services and fast-ramping generators, their long-run economic effect is profound. High shares of wind and solar generation may result in successive periods of near zero or even negative wholesale prices. The extent of these prices depends on the market price floors that are (or are not) in place. These price developments have both short-run and long-run implications with respect to operating decisions, efficient investments and exit decisions of all generators. Liberalized wholesale markets might fail to provide adequate long-run investment incentives

It is notable that renewable investment and generation have been heavily subsidized and incentivized in many countries. Examples include e.g. (the now cut-back) feed-in-tariffs in Germany, which guarantee a rate of return for every unit fed into the grid, or the Renewable Energy Target (RET) in Australia, which requires retailers to buy certificates issued to renewable generators for every unit produced, therefore ensuring financial incentives for renewable generators. The Contracts for Difference (CfD) scheme in the UK is also designed to support renewable generation. In many liberalized wholesale markets, renewables are thus, at least initially, shielded from wholesale market prices through revenue sources granted by external policies.

Distributed Renewable generation introduced the emergence of prosumers into this system. Prosumerism shifts responsibility for supply at least partially to consumers, changes the physical reality of the electricity system by introducing two way flows, and ultimately impacts the ability of the system to achieve affordable and reliable supply to all consumers. This new type of phenomenon gives market operators the task of planning for both the consumption and the production arising from prosumer households. Traditionally, electricity generated by consumers is accounted for as negative demand in the market. This “negative demand” has resulted in a significant deepening of the so-called “duck curve” over the past decade in nearly all liberalized markets, requiring greatly increased flexibility from baseload-profile plants, while resulting in their decreased economic viability.

Taking back to regulated market:

- 9.1 Recent developments in energy sector including record high energy prices,



widening demand supply gap of coal and natural gas, invasion of Russia into Ukraine, NATO supported sanctions over Russia, Russia's throttling of gas supplies to the European countries, etc., resulted a complete failure of free market of electricity and gas especially in Europe. Now the governments are thinking in reverse of taking back control and thus regulate the market. Britain, perhaps the most market-oriented of the large European countries, is taking one of the biggest steps in this direction. Prime Minister Liz Truss, announced a plan to, in effect, freeze energy bills for two years for consumers and six months for business thus closing the door before the market determined pricing of energy. Government had announced the market intervention with an estimated cost of about 150 billion pounds in this regard.

- 9.2 Other European countries are also following the UK since the market prices of electricity are increasing manifold. The EU had decided to impose a tax on generators from non-gas sources like wind and nuclear, whose operating costs are lower, and use that revenue to help people and companies struggling with energy costs. Other governments have also intervened in the energy sector since Russia, for decades a main supplier of energy to the continent, recently began cutting supplies. France has placed heavy controls on electricity prices for consumers despite soaring wholesale costs. The German government has extended a line of credit worth about \$ 9 billion to one of the country's largest suppliers of gas, Uniper, which Berlin apparently deems too important to fail. The German government has also agreed to take a large equity stake in the Dusseldorf-based company and announced about \$ 65 billion aid package to help households keep warm during the approaching winter.

According to Euroelectric, a trade group that represents electricity companies Russia's constraint and manipulating gas supplies has so distorted existing markets that governments had no choice but to take action. Russia's conduct in the market has created volatility that forces companies to put up enormous amounts of cash as collateral to conduct normal trading activities as a result otherwise healthy companies could find themselves reaching a completely impossible situation. To avoid dire consequences, regulators should relax the rules that require cash or gold as collateral, and governments should provide credit lines to energy providers. The European Union suggested that it was ready to take the latter step.

The trauma that Europe has experienced over the last years in energy markets has accelerated discussion about changes that are needed to adequately encourage and regulate cleaner technologies like wind and solar and hydrogen. Recent developments not only in EU but in other liberalized economies also, are driving the system back on a higher speed.



Energy transition:

10.1 The COVID-19 pandemic caused severe socio-economic crises across the globe. Now the post-pandemic restoration process is in progress and the slogan has been to “recover greener” or “build back better”. Many have called that this should be in line with international agreements like the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Paris Agreement, and the recent climate change crisis report makes this more urgent than ever. The international agreements target limiting global warming by the end of this century to below 2°C compared with pre-industrial levels and preferably limiting it to 1.5°C. COP26, which took place in November 2021 in Glasgow, confirmed the commitment to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. In order to achieve this goal, a major strategy is to go for an energy transition, from an energy mix based on fossil fuels to one based on renewable energy sources.

10.2 The energy transition, even though it is considered a must, has negative impacts which require intervention from the working class with high concern. At present energy production is an organized sector, mainly based on public investment. But private investment is prime in renewable energy development. Even though contractualization of labour is happening, there are still a good number of permanent employees in the conventional Energy sector, but the job status in the renewable energy sector is basically informal in nature.

It is true that the production costs of renewable energy are decreasing drastically over the last decade and became comparable with any other conventional source. But the energy thus produced has to be supplied to consumers as and when it is required and also ensuring quality such as voltage, frequency and without interruptions, the allied expenditure such as for storage, stabilizing the grid, etc are comparatively becoming very high. Hence the overall cost of energy based on renewable sources is much higher compared to conventional sources.

There are more than 5 million direct employment in coal mines globally. Indirect jobs are manifold. Closing coal mines has implications for labour markets beyond mine workers. It negatively affects workers along the coal value chain, hurts local economies reliant on mine workers’ earnings, fragments community well-being and social capital, and squeezes public finances. This is true with the oil and gas sector also. Energy transition may generate new jobs but it can not be compared with the job loss, since there is no direct transition for men at work to this new arena.

10.3 Even with these challenges the world has made significant changes in its electricity generation methods to cope with the global targets. Global momentum is growing for more ambitious greenhouse gas emissions reductions, but



current policies and pledges are insufficient to meet the Paris Agreement goals. Countries are arguing about who should act sooner and competing to control the growing clean energy transition. Instead of acting by themselves, developed countries are trying to impose limitations on the developing world. The countries depending on financial support and loans from international agencies are having no other choice but to accept these conditionality and technology options.

At this juncture, it is a must for working-class movements to study and analyse the global energy transition scenario in an in-depth manner and to develop an alternate model. Per capita CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions are important in this analysis. Decarbonization missions have to be moved forward internationally by everybody together. It should not affect the developmental aspirations of the underdeveloped. Developed are having a higher responsibility and have to reduce their emissions drastically so that the underdeveloped can access more carbon to their basket.

Technological changes in the energy sector-climate Issues

11.1 Over the past decade, various countries have vigorously devised and implemented programs and projects to minimize the emission of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere from power generation sources. Also a transition from using other forms of energy to electricity is also taking place. According to the International Renewable Energy Agency's World Energy Transitions Outlook 2021 report, electricity will account for more than 50% of total energy consumption by 2050 (currently only 21%). According to the report, 90% of the total electricity demand will be met by renewable energy sources in 2050.

India currently ranks third among the world's countries in electricity generation and consumption. Massive urbanization and industrialization are expected to significantly increase the country's electricity demand in the coming days. But the per capita electricity consumption in our country is very less compared to other countries. The per capita electricity consumption in 2022 is only 805 units. This is less than half of the global average. The share of electricity in the total energy consumption of the country is only 16.3% and that is also one reason for low per capita consumption.

The technological changes that have taken place in the energy sector during the last 5 years have been mainly focused on climate change related action plans and the renewable energy sector. Based on this, there has been a huge reduction in the cost of production from renewable energy sources like solar and wind.

11.2 This period saw an increased emphasis on decentralized power generation,



commercial production of electric vehicles, etc. Advances have been made in technology areas such as smart grid, storage technology, hydrogen mission and Internet of Things.

Thermal energy is still dominating In the country's energy production sector with 58.5% including Coal, Lignite, Gas and Liquid fuel. Solar energy production increased more than 10 times in the last 5 years and as per statistics during June 2022, 28.3% of total electricity is produced from Solar plants.

- 11.3 In 2018, the Prime Minister announced a concept of 'One World, One Sun, One Grid (OSOWOG)' at a conference of the International Solar Alliance. The Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) had invited proposals for developing a long-term vision, implementation plan, road map and institutional framework for implementing OSOWOG in May 2020. This is seen as India's counter to China's Belt and Road initiative (BRI) that is primarily an economic diplomacy strategy to boost its domestic economy by improving connectivity and cooperation among the partner countries. But still the concept is in the conceptual stage itself and it did not have many takers globally.

Hydrogen is a new age fuel which causes zero pollution. But generating Hydrogen in conventional methods are not 100% carbon neutral. However, the declining cost of renewable electricity (70% cost of producing hydrogen) and electrolysis technology indicates it could be the next best investment in the world of clean energy, even though "Green hydrogen" accounts for just 0.1% global hydrogen production.

- 11.4 India had announced a 25 year roadmap for hydrogen development by the prime minister on India's 75th Independence Day. He also announced the National Hydrogen Mission to meet the larger goal of self-reliance in energy production by the 100th Independence Day in 2047.

India can produce green hydrogen from 15-20 GW installed capacity by 2030. For that, it will need to invest Rs. 350 to 400 billion in electrolyzers. It requires at least half of this from the public sector to have social control on this emerging sector, but the government is not having any plan for this other than announcements. At present Rs. 250 million is allocated to the Ministry of Renewable Energy for research and development in hydrogen during the year 2021-22. Reference Annexure no B page no 155

E-vehicle :

- 12.1 The transport sector accounts for 18% of total energy consumption in India. This translates to an estimated 94 million tonnes of oil equivalent (MTOE) energy. If India were to follow the current trends of energy consumption, it would



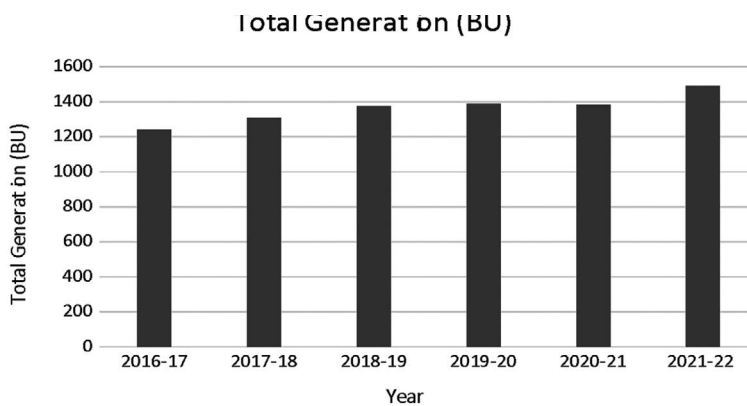
require an estimated 200 MTOE of energy supply annually, by the year 2030 to meet the demand of this sector. The sector also contributes an estimated 142 Million Tonnes of CO2 emissions annually, out of which 123 million tonnes is contributed by the road transport segment alone. Keeping in view the climate change commitments during the COP21 Summit it is pertinent to introduce alternative means in the transport sector. Electric mobility presents a viable alternative in addressing these challenges, when packaged with innovative pricing solutions, appropriate technology and support infrastructure. Electric mobility will also contribute to balancing energy demand, energy storage and environmental sustainability.

The Electric Vehicle industry in India is far behind, with less than 1% of the total vehicle sales. Currently, Indian roads are dominated by conventional vehicles and have approximately 0.4 million electric two-wheelers and a few thousand electric cars only. Availability of adequate Charging Infrastructure is one of the key requirements for accelerated adoption of electric vehicles in India.

Reduction in GST rates for electric vehicles, announced subsidy rates, EV policies put forward by many states and proposals to set up charging infrastructure on major highways and express highways in the country have contributed to promoting the sector. But still there are several technological and infrastructural challenges in EV development.

Generation growth and power supply position:

13.1 According to the data of the Ministry of Energy, the production capacity is increasing every year, the country's electricity is not sufficient to meet the energy demand. Inadequate power generation to meet peak power demand has led to load shedding and power cuts in the country. The generation growth over the years is represented in the figure below,



Year	Requirement	Availability	Surplus(+)/ Deficits(-)	Peak Demand	Peak Met		Surplus(+)/ Deficits(-)	
	MU		MU	%	MU	MW	MW	%
2017-18	12,13,326	12,04,697	-8,629	-0.7	1,64,066	1,60,752	-3,314	-2
2018-19	12,74,595	12,67,526	-7,070	-0.6	1,77,022	1,75,528	-1,494	-0.8
2019-20	12,91,010	12,84,444	-6,566	-0.5	1,83,804	1,82,533	-1,271	-0.7
2020-21	12,75,534	12,70,663	-4,871	-0.4	1,90,198	1,89,395	-802	-0.4
2021-22	13,79,812	13,74,024	-5,787	-0.4	2,03,014	2,00,539	-2,475	-1.2
2022-23*	4,04,761	4,00,654	-4107	-1	2,15,888	2,07,231	-8,657	-4

*Up to June 2022

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13.2 As of June 2022, India's total power generation capacity is 403760 MW. Of this, 104969 MW is owned by the state public sector, 99005 MW is owned by the central public sector and the remaining 19975 MW is privately owned. Of the total capacity, 114064MW is in the renewable energy sector. 2,36065 MW power generation is from thermal plants. The capacity of hydro plants is 46,850 MW. There are also nuclear power plants with a capacity of 6,780 MW.

Despite having a generation capacity of 403760 MW, the peak load availability in the country was only 215.88 MW. The fact is that even though the demand is around 50% of the generation capacity, Lakhs of common people still do not have access to electricity. As per MoP report 2022 June, the country had a deficit of peak load and energy availability.

Inadequate power generation to meet peak power demand has led to load shedding and power cuts in the country. Distribution companies are facing a huge financial crisis as they are forced to buy electricity from power exchanges at higher rates. In this situation, it is also to be seen that the PLF of thermal power plants, which is a major part of the production sector, is decreasing year by year, which was 59.88% in 2016-17 and 53.62% in 2021-22.

Power Crisis Continues:

13.3 During October 2021 and April 2022, the nation witnessed a severe power crisis, power exchange rates climbing to Rs. 18-20 per unit of electricity. India recorded a power supply shortage of 1,201 million units in October 2021, the highest in 5.5 years due to a crunch in coal stocks available with thermal plants. In April 2022 the nation witnessed another crisis with a power shortage with more than 100 million units (MU) of energy shortage on 8 days over the course of the month that was also due to non-availability of coal.



India has the fourth largest coal reserves in the world. India is the second largest producer and consumer of coal in the world. The central government has claimed that due to policy reforms, coal production has increased in the last few years and imports have decreased. At the same time non-availability of coal supply is driving the country to power shortage.

These crises undermine the central government's claims that the country has achieved self-sufficiency in the energy sector. It is to be seen that if the warning of October last year was taken seriously, there would not be another shortage in April. Precautionary measures should have been taken in coal inventories even before April in anticipation of the rainy season.

Severity of the crisis:

14.1 In April 2022, electricity demand reached 207 GW. The onset of summer and post-Covid demand for electricity in the country's industrial and commercial sector have led to this increase in demand.

Coal stock in more than 100 thermal power plants, which meet 70% of the country's energy needs, has reached less than 25% of required. More than 50 thermal power plants' stock fell below 10 percent. States like Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Bihar, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Kerala, Delhi, Punjab and Tamil Nadu have imposed power restrictions. Jharkhand experienced an average of 10-12%, Andhra Pradesh 10%, Uttarakhand 8-10%, Madhya Pradesh 6% and Haryana 4% shortage in power availability.

During the power crisis, many distribution companies reduced purchases of expensive power from generators and resorted to load shedding. Financially trapped distribution companies have been slow to pay dues to generators, adding to the crisis. According to data provided by 'Prapti' portal, arrears of distribution companies to generators increased by 4.04% to Rs. 121,765 Crore at the end of April 2022 compared to the previous year.

India's daily power deficit increased from 0.3% to 1% in April 2022. The average price on the Indian Energy Exchange has increased by up to 85 percent over the previous month's average rate. Subsequently, as part of price control, the Central Electricity Authority Limited the short-term power exchange rate to Rs. 12 per unit.

Causes of the crisis:

15.1 The reasons that have led the country to the current crisis are many: rising global coal prices, poor management strategies in coal storage at thermal power plants, poor financial condition of electricity distribution companies, impact of



the Russia-Ukraine war, sudden increase in electricity demand, and lack of coordination etc.

Internationally demand for coal increased drastically when economic activities were restored after lock down due to pandemic. But the production did not increase accordingly. Power plants dependent on imported coal experienced high scarcity and started demanding Indian coal, thus demand for domestic coal also increased. But sufficient supply of domestic coal could not be ensured.

- 15.2 The price of coal in the global market has started increasing since the beginning of 2021 following the simple economics that when the demand increases, the price also increases. In addition, the global economy, which has been tainted by the Russian invasion of Ukraine, has been the antidote to inflation. Coal prices in the international market are four to five times what they were in the pre-Covid years. The price of gas has also gone up. Due to this, commercial generation of electricity using imported coal is facing a big challenge based on the existing contract.
- 15.3 In April 2022, Coal India Limited produced 53.47 million cubic meters of coal with a 27.4% increase in coal mining. But this was not enough to meet the country's energy needs. Failure to properly plan and implement investment projects in Coal India Limited also contributed to the power crisis.

Lack of coordination:

- 16.1 Coordination between the Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Power and Railways is very important for proper functioning of thermal power plants and supply of electricity to the country. A high power committee composed of senior officials of these ministries will normally monitor the situation. Any changes in electricity demand will be accurately assessed by the Ministry of Power and accordingly mining and transportation programs are planned. But this coordination was lacking this time. Mining, storage and transportation programs were not planned properly. Even Railways did not have enough goods rakes and goods trains to arrange unhampered transportation of coal.

Rails get crowded:

- 17.1 Coal India increased production by 27 percent in the month of April. With that, the demand for trucks to deliver coal to different parts of the country has also increased. Normally, an average of 390 trains per day are used for moving coal, but at the end of April, 427 trains were running per day. It is estimated that 453 trains were required at this time. This means that the railways can provide only 14 percent fewer freight trains than the current requirement. More than 1,800 passenger trains were cancelled from late April to late May for emergency



coal movement. It was also a time when the inadequacy of the infrastructure to supply coal to the country came to light even if the mines were working non-stop.

Effect of Privatization:

- 18.1 With the world's fourth largest coal reserves, India has always been a favourite of profit-seeking big private players. Now the central government has provided an opportunity for private companies to enter this sector. The Coal Mines Nationalization Act was amended, the Coal Bearing Areas Amendment Bill 2021 was enacted and the Coal Mining Area Land Acquisition Act was amended to open the door for mining to the private sector. The central government had handed over 41 coal blocks to the private sector as part of the Atma Nirbhar Bharat scheme, overcoming huge opposition in the country. The central government handed over the coal mines claiming that it would be possible to increase coal production and thereby increase electricity generation.
- 18.2 Inventory management and manpower utilization measures implemented by private miners as part of cost cutting have reduced labour and coal mining storage. This kind of privatization policy has not resulted in any benefit to the manufacturing sector and has also affected the power sector more adversely.

It should also be seen that many private plants have been set up in the country in the field of production, but these plants did not work to solve the crisis. Tata Power alone has suspended 1880 MW to Gujarat, 475 MW to Punjab, 380 MW to Rajasthan, 760 MW to Maharashtra and 380 MW to Haryana. Adani Power's Mundra plant also suspended the operation.

This crisis proved privatization of the coal sector as well as electricity generation as disastrous to the nation. But the government is not ready to study from the lesson, and extend the policy of privatisation to other areas also intensively.

Electricity market:

- 19.0 The Central Government has brought forward the Market Based Economic Despatch (MBED) which will bring the plants with long term contracts under the purview of Power Exchange. Government claims It as an important step in reforming electricity market operations and in moving towards the "One Nation, One Grid, One Frequency, One Price" framework. According to the ministry of power the MBED would ensure that the cheapest (power) generating resources across the country are dispatched (supplied) to meet the overall system demand and will thus be a win-win for both the distribution companies and the generators and ultimately result in significant annual savings for the electricity consumers. Its implementation was planned to start with effect from 1st April 2022, but could not start yet.



The Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD) installations shall be completed in time as per the emission norms and is made mandatory.

Trading of the Green Term Ahead market started on August 21, 2020 on the exchange as part of promoting renewable energy trading. Currently, intra day, and day-a-head contracts in solar and non-solar categories are being traded.

Hydropower Obligation and Wind power Obligation:

- 19.1 The Ministry of Power has issued a Hydro Power Obligation (HPO) with an aim to add 30,000 MW of hydropower capacity by 2029-2030. The central government has issued a proposal for approving large-scale hydropower projects as a source of renewable energy. New funding departments have also been approved for this purpose. Earlier, only hydropower projects with a capacity of up to 25 MW were given renewable consideration. Due to this amendment, non-solar renewable energy purchase agreements will also allow large hydropower projects to be used.
- 19.2 In connection with this, the Ministry of Power has revised the RPO with emphasis on wind, hydel power obligation and energy storage. Power from a hydro power plant having capacity more than 25MW and commissioned after 8th March 2019 only will be considered in HPO. Wind power purchase obligation (WPO) can be met by power purchased from Wind plans commissioned after 1st April 2022 only. The solar RPO is included in the category of other RPO, which consist of all hydel projects other than those considered in HPO and wind plants other than those considered in WPO.

A new obligation called Energy Storage Obligation is also introduced which includes battery storage, pumped storage etc. 80% of the storage should be from renewable sources for approving the storage system for meeting the obligation.

Conflicts in Renewable Energy development:

- 20.1 The renewable energy sector in the country took a big leap during this period, but the sector is not free from crises. Major among these was the conflict between renewable energy developers and the Andhra government. New Chief Minister Shri YS Jagamohan Reddy cancelled the Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) with renewable energy projects led by the former Chief Minister Shri Chandrababu Naidu and scrutinized the feasibility of the projects, creating a lot of concern among renewable energy developers. The crisis comes amid the state's drive to target 5,000 MW of solar power and 4,150 MW of wind power by 2020 and 18,000 MW of renewable energy capacity by 2021-22. It was cancelled on the grounds that the cost of the projects was higher than the normal rate and



this would impose a heavy financial burden on the state. At the request of the National Solar Energy Federation of India, the Ministry of Energy intervened in the matter and the matter was later referred to the court. And finally, a court order was issued in favour of developers.

- 20.2 Also, several states have entered MoUs during 2015-16 for large-scale renewable energy projects using solar and wind. But due to the fall in the cost of solar panels and related equipment, the old contracts became binding on the states. States like Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan etc. have cancelled several power purchase agreements. Many went to legal battles. When the projects fell through, bad debts increased for the banks that had given them loans.
- 20.3 The financial crisis of Yes Bank, which was India's fifth largest private sector bank, created a severe crisis in the country's energy sector. Yes Bank has been one of the largest lenders to developers in promoting renewable energy in India. The crisis, which comes at a time when the European Investment Bank has gone ahead with US\$ 400 million investment projects to expand the country's renewable energy production. This situation has raised serious concerns among developers of the 30,000 MW projects. Also, the ambiguity in terms of bank guarantees and letters of credit provided by Yes Bank for various purposes in the energy sector also created a crisis in this sector. At present, Yes Bank's loan to the power sector is around Rs. 12,000 Crore.

Environmental norms and thermal plants:

- 21.1 The norms imposed by the Ministry of Environment to limit the sulphur dioxide levels in the exhaust gases of thermal power plants have created a major crisis. The Central Pollution Control Board has issued show cause notices to 14 thermal power plants for violating environmental norms. Notices were issued to four thermal power plants in Haryana, three plants in Punjab, two each in Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Telangana and one in Tamil Nadu.

According to the Pollution Control Board, the plants have failed to limit the sulphur dioxide levels in the exhaust gases under the Environment Protection Act, 1986. Also, the central government has decided to shut down 32 units in 12 thermal power plants with a capacity of 5,019 MW. The closure will be due to non-submission of plans to meet the prescribed emission control standards. These units are more than 20 years old and most of them are run by state governments, some of which are centrally owned Damodar Valley Corporation (Bokaro, Durgapur) and CESC Limited (Titagra). The central government has revised the timeline for meeting the environmental norms up to 2024 based on the characteristics of the area where the plants are located.



Such emission control norms along with fly ash handling charges contribute to an increase in per unit energy charges from thermal power stations.

Power Transmission:

- 22.1 As of May 2022, the total transmission line length (at the 220 kV level and above) stood at 458,258 ckt. km, the total AC substation capacity stood at 1,085 GVA and the HVDC substation capacity stood at 33,500 MW. Between 2015-16 and 2021-22, the line length has grown at a compound annual growth rate of 5 per cent while AC and HVDC substation capacities have grown at 8.8 percent and 14.3 percent respectively. The interregional transfer capacity has also grown considerably from 58,050 MW in 2015-16 to 112,250 MW in May 2022.
- 22.2 With India targeting to meet 50 per cent of its energy needs from renewables and achieve 500 GW of non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030 as announced at COP26, significant expansion and strengthening of the interstate transmission system (ISTS) will be required. Simultaneously, state utilities are expected to take measures to upgrade and augment intra-state transmission as well as sub-transmission networks.

General Network Access:

- 23.1 The central government has undertaken many policy and reform initiatives for the transmission segment in recent years. One of the most significant is the introduction of general network access (GNA) under the Electricity (Transmission System Planning, Development and Recovery of Inter-State Transmission Charges) Rules, 2021, which were released in a gazette notification dated October 1, 2021. The latest rules define GNA as non-discriminatory access to the ISTS, as requested by a designated interstate customer and granted by the central transmission utility (CTU) for a maximum injection or drawl in megawatts and for a specific period.
- 23.2 The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) has issued the Connectivity and GNA to the ISTS Regulations, 2022. The rules specify the application for grant of connectivity and GNA, eligibility for connectivity to Inter State Transmission System (ISTS), application for grant of connectivity, among others.

The Regulation has brought a major change by removing the open access concept. In the new regime, the need for applying for open access (Long Term, Medium Term and Short Term) for drawing power from generating stations/ Power exchange outside the State is dispensed with. In the new regime, entities have to apply for General Network Access for a quantum corresponding to the



drawl from Inter State Transmission System. Power from any contracts can be drawn in this GNA quantum and transmission charges are payable for the GNA quantum. No transmission charge waiver for solar and wind. Power from any contracts can be drawn within the GNA quantum and transmission charges are payable corresponding to the GNA quantum.

As per this regulation, the cost of capital investment for transmission networks built for private power generation plants and currently remaining as idle assets are also included in the national asset such that it is shared between the states.

Encouraging Private participation in ISTS:

- 24.1 In October again, the Ministry of Power (MoP) revised the terms of reference of the National Committee on Transmission (NCT) to fast-track the process of ISTS development. Earlier, all ISTS projects were approved by the MoP based on the NCT's recommendations. Now, the ministry will only look at ISTS projects costing over Rs 5 billion while ISTS projects up to Rs 1 billion will be approved by the CTU and those between Rs. 1 billion and Rs 5 billion will be approved by the NCT. Further, in order to encourage private participation in transmission, the MoP released revised standard bidding documents (SBDs) for tendering of projects via tariff-based competitive bidding (TBCB) in August 2021. Some of the key changes in the revised SBDs include signing of the transmission service agreement with the CTU instead of long-term transmission customers, provisions for an independent engineer during the construction phase and preparation of transmission line route survey in advance, and a reduction in timeline of the bidding process to 91 days from 145 days.
- 24.2 The government of India separated the CTU from Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (Powergrid), in the name of providing a level playing field to private players in TBCB. Another important development in the segment was the launch of the initial public offering of the Powergrid Infrastructure Investment Trust, the maiden infrastructure investment trust of Powergrid, in April 2021, marking the beginning of its asset monetisation drive. The National Monetisation Pipeline has set a target of monetising Powergrid's transmission assets worth Rs 452 billion between 2021-22 and 2024-25.
- 24.3 As of May 2022, 65 ISTS projects have been bid out to public and private players since 2009. Out of this 41 projects are allotted to private players, 20 to Powergrid and four projects which have been cancelled or are under litigation. Sterlite Power (16 projects) and Adani Transmission Limited (ATL) (14 projects) shared the projects allotted to the private sector.



Green Energy Corridors:

25.1 The Green Energy Corridors (GEC), initiated in 2015, is a key programme for renewable energy evacuation in the country. Under GEC Phase I, 3,200 ckt. km of interstate transmission lines and 17,000 MVA of substation capacity have been commissioned. At the intra-state level, GEC Phase I targets an addition of 9,700 ckt. km of transmission lines and 22,600 MVA of substation capacity with completion in 2022. Recently, the central government approved the GEC Phase II programme for intra-state transmission systems. Under this phase, projects would be set up in seven states – Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh – for evacuation of about 20 GW of renewable energy.

In addition, under the Transmission Scheme for Renewable Energy Zones (REZs), evacuation infrastructure for about 66.5 GW of renewable energy capacity (50 GW solar and 16.5 GW wind) is being created with an investment of Rs. 432 billion.

Cross-border interconnections:

26.1 Several interconnections are planned between India and neighbouring countries including a new 765 kV link between India and Bangladesh – the 765 kV Katihar (Bihar)-Parbatipur (Bangladesh)-Bornagar (Assam) line (initially operated at 400 kV) along with an HVDC back-to-back link at Parbatipur (2×500 MW, 1×500 MW at 400 kV and second 1×500 MW at 765 kV).

A 400 kV D/C new Gorakhpur and new Butwal transmission line is planned between India and Nepal. Further, a transmission line from the upcoming 900 MW Arun-3 hydroelectric project in Nepal is being developed by SJVN Arun-3 Power Development Company Private Limited, SJVN's subsidiary. In addition, there are plans for the development of an overhead electricity link with Sri Lanka, after the earlier proposal to set up an undersea power transmission link was shelved due to its high cost.

Technology changes:

27.1 Adopting the latest technology is very important in the transmission system. The voltage level has increased from 220 kV to 765 kV, ±800 kV HVDC and 1,200 kV, and advanced technologies such as voltage source converters and FACTS are being deployed.

In 2020-21, Powergrid commissioned Bipole 1 and associated HVAC and HVDC links under the ±800 kV, 6,000 MW, Raigarh-Pugalur-Trichur HVDC project. One symmetrical monopole of the VSC HVDC link was also commissioned under the



±320kV, 2,000 MW, Pugalur-Thrissur HVDC project. Another technology trend in power transmission is the deployment of digital switchgear and substations. In December 2020, Powergrid, in collaboration with BHEL, Limited, successfully commissioned India's first indigenously developed 400 kV optical current transformer and digital substation components at the 400/220 kV Bhiwadi substation. Powergrid has also commissioned a digital substation based on IEC 61850 process bus technology at Malerkotla, Punjab.

During 2020-21, eight extra high voltage substations were integrated with Powergrid's National Transmission Asset Monitoring Centre at Manesar, Haryana, for remote operation, taking the total remotely monitored substations to 242.

Majority of these technology changes are carried forward by Powergrid itself, showcasing the capability of the public sector than any private player. Still the government is inclined onwards private investments handing over the sector to the profit motive exploitation of the finance capital.

Crisis Created by the Prime Ministers Call:

28.1 In the context of the spread of Covid 19, the Prime Minister of India, called on the public to turn off the electricity lights at 9:00 PM on April 5, 2020 and light the lamp, candle or flash mobile for 9 minutes to combat COVID 9. This created a crisis like situation in the power sector. Demand in the grid came down by 32000MW within a few minutes in contrast to the expected deduction of 12,000 to 14,000 MW and again raised in a similar manner after 9 minutes. Managing this type of sudden changes in the grid was a risky challenge. The grid frequency varied from 50.26 Hz to 49.70 Hz. The stability of the power transmission system was ensured as a result of the collective efforts of the employees of the electricity sector.

Distribution:

29.1 As per latest statistics, there are about 25.2 Crore domestic electric connections all over India. Current population in India is about 141 Crores and nationally, the average household size is 4.4 people per household. Hence total number of households in India 32.05 Crores. From this the number of houses not connected to the grid can be estimated as 6.85 Crores comprising about 30.14 Crore people. Even though there are some households electrified through distributed generation, such as solar plants, SHP etc, the households covered is estimated to be far below 0.5%.

29.2 In 2014, an electrified Indian household consumed about 90 units (kWh) of



electricity per month on an average with typical usage hours and efficiency levels in India. This was three-fourths of the average monthly household consumption in China, a tenth of that in the USA, and a third of the world average. Even though there is substantial growth in domestic consumption of electricity in India, the comparison with other countries is still continuing in the same range.

All states show considerable increase in total residential electricity consumption in recent years according to data compiled by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) from distribution companies. States like Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, and Jharkhand with low initial household electrification showed a high growth rate of their residential electricity use (about 11%-16%). States with higher household electrification like Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Tamil Nadu and Kerala grew at lower, but still substantial, rates (5%-8%), with high absolute numbers.

29.3 Distribution is the weakest link in the country's energy sector. Frequent power outages, large unmetered power usage, unsafe and unstable distribution network, high technical and commercial losses, unaffordable tariff and increasing debt burden are all constraints in the distribution sector. Most of the distribution companies are in a financial crisis where they are unable to pay the price of the purchased electricity to the producers on time.

Universal electrification of the country:

30.1 Saubhagya project is being brought in 2017 with the aim of implementing complete electrification of the country. Even as Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that the entire rural area of the country was 100% electrified in 2018, 31 million homes in the country were left without electricity as per the statistics published by the government itself. Later in 2019, Modi government declared 25 states (and union territories) as having achieved 100 per cent household electrification. But the data available on the Saubhagya portal indicates that, as of the end of August 2020, the number of registered households not electrified under Saubhagya scheme was 3,20,422. Out of these four unelectrified states Uttar Pradesh has 2,53,785 houses, Jharkhand has 60,925 houses, Chhattisgarh has 3,519 houses and Assam has 2,193 houses. According to the India Residential Energy Survey (IRES 2020), 2.4 percent of Indian households remain unelectrified. Unaffordability of grid connection is the main reason for non-connection.

30.2 In 2022, years after the Centre's flagship, village electrification scheme Saubhagya concluded with the government claiming 99.9 per cent success, several states have added close to 1.1 million rural households that remain to be connected to the electricity grid.



At the start of the Saubhagya project, 40 million households were estimated to be without electricity. But later the government came up with new definitions and revised the number of households to be electrified as 25 million based on the number of registered consumers. Despite changing definitions, the reality remains that rural electrification is not complete in India and millions of households remain without electricity.

If we look at the implementation of Saubhagya project so far, the fact is that although the project which indicated the goal of electrification of the country was able to go some distance, but the 5-year effort was not successful in electrification of the country. Even the Modi government is often said that the total electrification has been provided in the country with the support of manipulated accounts, the fact remains that there were lakhs of people in the country who did not have access to electricity. It is often seen that during these periods, the government used the false message of “complete electrification” as an opening card during elections. Moreover, Saubhagya, while focusing on household electrification targets seems to have ignored the larger objective of providing electricity access at a reasonable cost—one of the primary problems with the scheme. A large fraction of surveyed households were unable to pay their monthly bills, which, on average, amounted to almost 1/6th of their annual salary.

UDAY:

31.1 When it was launched in 2016, the Ujjwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY) was hailed as a game-changer for India’s power sector. But analysis of the present day situation proves it as a failure. UDAY sought to instill financial discipline and restructure debt but the scheme has failed to tackle the underlying issues in the sector. Hindered by underpriced electricity, inadequate subsidy payments and long-term purchase agreements with generation companies, discoms continue to struggle in raising revenues.

The bad performance of Indian power distribution companies or Discoms continued last financial year (2021-22) with their losses widened to around Rs 59,000 crore as compared to Rs. 34,500 Crore in 2019-20, and Rs 27,250 crore as of 2018-19.

31.2 At the heart of India’s power sector malaise is the inability of discoms to deliver electricity efficiently. Leakages in transmission and non-recovery of billed amounts, which are broadly captured by discoms’ aggregate and technical losses (AT&C), have decreased over the years but at 20% remains well above the UDAY mandated target of 15% by March 2019. While distribution losses have been declining gradually over the years, the implementation of UDAY does not seem to have made much difference in the rate of decline.



Gap between Average revenue realized and average cost of supply (ARR-ACS gap) in India still stands at Rs 0.34 per unit. The only discoms that have reduced the gap are Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra. The high ARR-ACS gap in other states rings a warning bell of increasing operating losses. These losses have important implications for the entire power supply chain. Payments from discoms to power generation companies are getting increasingly delayed which in turn is creating stressed assets.

- 31.3 Despite UDAY being a debt-restructuring scheme, debt-levels across discoms remain high and this is constraining state finances also. According to estimates by credit ratings agency ICRA Limited, the consolidated debt of Indian power DISCOMs was a whopping Rs 6 lakh crore by the end of the financial year 2021-22. States that have taken on UDAY-debt have already cut back capital expenditure compared to non-UDAY states. While UDAY's focus was on discom debt, structural and infrastructure bottlenecks remain unaddressed and thus the scheme failed miserably.

Discom's are financially stressed:

- 32.1 Dues of power distribution companies in the country rose by 37 percent year-on-year to Rs 1.33 trillion. The current economic situation of the country and the lockdown relaxations imposed in the context of Covid have put the discoms in more financial crisis.

The Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission has fined three distribution companies in Delhi for defaulting on renewable power purchase agreements for three financial years. 1.71 crore to TPDDL and 2.8 crore to BYPL & BRPL.

During December 2020, Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) threatened to regulate power supply as much as four hours every day to Bokaro, Dhanbad, Giridih, Koderma, Ramgad, Chatra and Hazaribagh districts of Jharkand, unless the power bill averaging Rs 150 Crores per month are paid in full. Subsequently the issue was settled based on government-level discussions. Due to the covid-19 pandemic, the Jharkand Bijili Vitaran Nigam Ltd. (JBVNL) was getting only Rs 90 crore per month as current charges when the demand was about Rs 250 crore.

- 32.2 The central government has barred 27 distribution companies in 13 states from the power exchange for non-payment of dues of Rs 5,085 crores payable to power generation plants. Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Jharkhand, Bihar, Rajasthan, Andhra, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Chhattisgarh are the states thus banned. Regulation was imposed on the states following the rules framed by the Union Ministry of Power. Following this, it is estimated that



there is a possibility of severe power shortage in the above states.

This is the first time that the Power System Operation Corporation (POSOCO) under the Ministry of Power has implemented the Electricity (Late Payment Surcharge and Related Matters) Act, 2022 to prevent discoms from short-term sources.

“Letter of Credit” broke the backbone of distribution companies:

33.1 As part of the power purchase agreement, the central government has introduced a letter of credit system for the exchange of money between electricity distribution companies and generating plants across the country. This system has been made mandatory for Power Purchase Agreements executed from August 1, 2019. Supply companies started the “Letter of Credit” system and were forced to maintain it.

33.2 The Act empowers the National Load Despatch Center and its local units to limit the flow of electricity to the quantity and period covered by the letter of credit and to reduce supply and cut off power if the discoms fail to issue the letter of credit. The letter of credit can be converted into cash after a grace period of 45 to 60 days as per PA terms. Based on this law, discoms in the country had to issue letters of credit worth thirty thousand crore rupees. This new law has increased the burden on the distribution companies.

The power ministry has revised norms to overcome the high cost of imported coal used by domestic coal-fired plants that have power supply contracts with discoms under tariff-based bidding. As part of this order, generation companies that import coal can make provisional billing on a weekly basis in accordance with the higher coal price. If the distribution companies fail to pay 15 percent of the weekly provisional bill, the generation company is free to sell 15 percent of the electricity in the power exchange. This also worsened the financial position of Discoms by increasing their working capital requirement.

Power sector during covid era:

34.1 During the period of Covid-19, the power industry has faced a major crisis like any other industry. Throughout the crisis, power utilities in India placed more emphasis on ensuring uninterrupted power supply. Lower commercial and industrial energy demand had a huge economic impact on the entire generation, transmission and distribution sector but now energy demand has started to recover.

The lockdown imposed to mitigate the impact of Covid-19 led to an 11 per cent decline in aggregate demand in the first five months of 2020-21 (April to August).



As the global downturn gradually lifted and some economic activity resumed, there was an increase in domestic consumption and rural demand. Year-on-year decline in energy demand slowed to 2.1 percent in August from 24 percent in April 2020. Peak demand was 172 GW in April 2019 and 129 GW in April 2020. Recovered to 167 GW in August 2020.

- 34.2 Lower demand has affected thermal power generation and its capacity utilizations. There was a 15% decline in the first five months of 2020-21. Also, the plant load factor of thermal power plants has come down to 49.13% as against 51.36% in previous years. Due to the fall in power demand, thermal power plants operated at lower plant load factor, resulting in higher generation costs. In contrast, generation from renewable energy, which had a must-run status during the global downturn, recorded a mere 5 percent decline from previous years.

The renewable energy sector also faced a severe crisis during the Covid-19 pandemic. Non-arrival of construction materials at project sites due to logistical constraints during the lockdown has created a financial crisis among renewable energy developers. In relief to renewable energy developers, the country's major ports have been instructed not to charge any penalty for the delay. Coal thermal power plants under construction also faced this kind of crisis.

- 34.3 Due to lower energy demand from industrial customers, the financial condition of distribution companies has worsened. By the end of August 2020, the total arrears owed by distribution companies to generation companies stood at Rs 1.2 trillion. Out of this, Rs. 1.09 trillion will be given to non-conventional generators and Rs 109 billion to renewable energy generators. There was a 12 percent increase in arrears during the Covid era alone. Dues owed to state-owned generating companies by Coal India Ltd rose to Rs. 220 billion as of July, as part of arrears by distribution companies.

- 34.4 Discoms in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh have written letters to the central government claiming that they are unable to collect dues from consumers and therefore unable to pay the amount due to generating plants and should be given assistance under the force majeure clause. Punjab Discom also informed that it is unable to purchase electricity due to the crisis faced by the power sector

According to the Power Finance Corporation (PFC), the latest audited figures for the financial year 2019 showed that the total loss of the discom rose to Rs 496 billion from Rs 294.5 billion in the 2018 financial year. The income gap widened from 30 paise to 52 paise per unit.



Privatization of Electricity assets using Covid as an opportunity:

- 35.1 On May 12, 2020, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi announced a special economic package to combat the Covid-19 pandemic. Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan or self-reliant India programme, announced an economic package of Rs 20 lakh crore, equivalent to 10% of India's gross domestic product. Following the call of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman revealed the details of the Atmanirbhar Bharat Package through continuous press conferences from 13th May to 17th May 2020. The finance minister had put forward proposals aimed at privatization in all sectors including space, coal and electricity supply.
- 36.1 In coal industry private participation was proposed on a revenue sharing basis with an aim to increase production to 100 lakh tonnes. A single license will be issued for the three sectors of mineral exploration, mining and production. Transfer of licenses will also be permitted. 500 mining blocks in the country will be handed over to the private sector. A joint auction will be held for coal and bauxite mining. Private sector will also be allowed in methyl production. Subsequently, India invited Australia to participate in commercial coal mining and other strategic projects related to mines and minerals.

The limit of foreign investment in defence products are increased from 49% to 74%. It is proposed even for privatizing the defence production sectors. In pursuance of the decision of the Union Cabinet on 16th June, 2021, the Government of India has decided to corporatise the functions of the 41 production units (Ordnance Factories) of the Ordnance Factory Board ("OFB"), functioning under the Department of Defence Production. Accordingly, the management, control, operations and maintenance of these 41 production units and identified non-production units to 7 Government companies as a first step of privatizing the same.

An important announcement as part of Atma Nirbhar Bharat abhiyan was to privatize Electricity distribution in Union Territories. Private participation in the nuclear power sector is also announced.

Privatization moves in UP, Uttarakhand and Union territories:

- 37.1 During this conference period there were moves from state governments of UP and Utharaghand for privatization of Discoms in the respective states. There was also a planned move from the central government to privatize electricity distribution of union territories as part of Athma Nirbhar Bharath Abhiyan. But timely intervention from trade Unions and Officers' Associations and agitations under the banner of NCCOEEE succeeded in stopping these moves. As there



are separate reports on each of these agitations it is not required to be elaborated here.

Annexure - 5 Page no 223

Electrical accidents and safety:

Annexure - 6 Page no 223

38.1 One of the unfortunate side effects of electrification is electricity accidents, which cause loss of human or animal life and damage to property. Unsafe working conditions, stress on employees due to constraints in the system as well as aspirations of the consumers and also negligence of employees itself are major causes of accidents to employees of the sector. Electrical accidents to the public happen at utility installations as well as at consumer premises.

Human deaths due to electrical accidents – ADSI report

Human deaths due to electrical accidents – CEA reports

39.1 Two major sources which provide information on electrical accidents are the annual Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India (ADSI) report prepared by National Crime Records Bureau and annual General Review of the Central Electricity Authority (CEA). As per the 2020 ADSI report, 15,258 people died in 2020 (Calendar year – Jan to Dec) due to electrical shocks and fires. CEA reports only 7,717 fatal human accidents in 2020 (financial year – Apr 2019 to Mar 2020). The numbers are vastly different perhaps due to data collection and reporting issues, which is an area of major concern. Whatever be the actual numbers, a worrying trend is that the number of accidents and also accidents normalised with parameters like population, number of consumers or energy handled, have been steadily increasing over the years.

39.2 Based on CEA data, it appears that the number of fatal human accidents per 100,000 consumers has increased from 1.72 to 2.45 during the period 2009-2020. The number of fatal human accidents per Billion Units handled has increased from 4.38 to 5.58. These are disturbing trends. Available data on fatal human accidents from countries like the USA, European Union, Australia-New Zealand or Japan show the fatal accidents steadily reducing over the years and fatality rate (deaths/100,000) around 0.03 to 0.04 (0.01 in Japan), an order of magnitude smaller than the Indian figures of 0.5 to 0.6. Data from countries like Brazil or South Africa show similar trends of increasing number of fatal accidents and comparable fatality rates.

39.3 Based on 2020 data, it appears that 11 states – namely Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra,



Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh – account for 85% of all human accidents. Analysis of data for the period 2015 - 2020 shows that on an average 10,841 human accidents occur in India every year and this number is growing at a CAGR of 4.5%. Human accidents/100,000 population is 0.8. Among the 11 states, Karnataka and Maharashtra have the highest share of accidents.

- 39.4 Utility staff, contract staff, employees in industrial or non-industrial establishments, consumers and the general public are affected by electrical accidents. CEA or ADSI reports do not have information about this break up, but the tariff submissions by some DISCOMs and some reports from Electrical Inspectors provide this. Analysing the available data, it is clear that more than 90% of electrical accident fatalities happen to general public. DISCOM staff and the public are equally affected by non-fatal accidents. Non-fatal accidents can cause life-long disabilities and some may result in death at a later time and hence recording, analysing and adopting strategies for reduction in accidents, irrespective of fatal and non-fatal is important. Electrical safety should be considered as an important aspect in planning electrical system
- 39.5 The major immediate cause of accidents is contact with live conductors. Root causes include low priority to safety, bad design, poor maintenance, unauthorised repair, bad quality earthing, and inadequate protection systems. Addressing the root causes requires an understanding of the safety governance structure and identifying the gaps. CEA prepares safety regulations, which all utilities are expected to follow. Electrical Inspector at the national and state levels have a mandate to implement these regulations. State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERC) have a broad mandate over the functioning of the sector, but do not explicitly have a role in safety. Since most accidents occur in the distribution system, Distribution Companies (DISCOMs) have the highest role to play in reducing accidents. But for them, improving financial health, reducing energy losses and providing reliable power to consumers are a higher priority. Safety is not high in their performance metric. National policies or initiatives do not currently have any safety components. Therefore, electricity safety is tragically slipping through governance gaps. Also it is important to remember that the privatisation of the distribution sector including introduction of multiple licensing would make electrical safety a no man's area.

NITI Aayog on distribution privatisation

- 40.1 In August 2021, the NITI Aayog brought out their report titled “Turning Around The Power Distribution Sector: Learnings and Best Practices from Reforms”. It covers international experience on power sector reforms, the present status of



Indian power sector reforms and the suggested way forward. At a time when the Union government is mindlessly pushing the next phase of reforms with an aim to open up the entire power distribution in the country for the private capital, on the rhetoric of introducing competition, this report is of much significance.

As expected from an important arm of the Union government, there are familiar recommendations toeing the line of the government on need for rapidly increasing consumer tariff, reducing cross subsidies, direct benefit transfer, operational autonomy to distribution companies, improving billing and collection efficiency, adopting various models of distribution franchisee etc. It also reviews the experience of privatisation of distribution and comments upon introduction of competition by separation of carriage and content in one form or another. As the fascist regime under NDA has more or less appropriated the entire democratic institutions of the country, it is not surprising at all that the report follows suit the preferred line of thought often espoused by the Ministry of Power.

At the same time, presumably as part of keeping some degree of honesty, NITI Aayog has brought out some very important facts and features of the power sector reforms that were unleashed globally in the early 1980's. Also, while formulating the recommendations, NITI Aayog has clearly distanced itself from the ill fated reform agenda for multiple distribution licensees in the same area.

Some excerpts from the report, given below, will throw light to the dilemma confronting the principal policy advising body of the government.

On International experience

40.2 *“Globally, 70 percent of distribution utilities are publicly owned. The remaining 30 percent of the privately owned companies are located primarily in middle and high-income Countries.”*

“Low electricity tariffs are not just an Indian problem. It is commonly observed in developing countries that electricity tariffs are rarely high enough to cover the full costs of service delivery. At the heart of the tariff rationalisation debate is the tension between two different outlooks: is electricity an essential public service whose provision at low rates is essential for public welfare, or is it a commodity to be bought and sold in the market like any other?”

“International experience suggests that privatisation alone is not a panacea for improving discom performance.”

“Interestingly, a trend towards municipalisation or remunicipalisation is being seen in some countries such as the USA and Germany. In Germany, for example, after a spate of privatisation of municipal utilities in the 1990s, communities



chose not to renew their contracts with private utilities. They instead chose to renationalise municipal utilities (Stadtwerke), showcasing faith in the public sector to address market deficiencies.”

“Rural electric cooperative societies(RESCOs) as a model need to be assessed further, given the success they enjoyed in countries such as the USA where a total of 930 rural cooperatives (864 distribution ones) are currently serving 42 million people in 47 states.”

On Indian context

40.3 *“India has one of the largest and most complex power sectors in the world.”*

“The history of power sector reforms tells us that India is too large and diverse for a one-size-fits-all approach.”

“Similarly, implementing retail choice through separation of content and carriage may not necessarily result in the full set of theoretical benefits touted. A flexible and home-grown approach to reform, which is supported by states and the Centre, and allows for ‘learning by doing’, will be instrumental in determining the success of reforms.”

“Furthermore, privatisation becomes more difficult when the discom’s service area is more rural. Given the tariff differential and difficulty of billing, collection, and, in some cases, metering, the cost of servicing rural and agricultural consumers becomes commercially challenging.”

“The central government has recently declared its intent to delicense power distribution and promote competition among discoms. Multiple firms can compete to supply power through the same grid infrastructure, and consumers can choose the supplier who provides them the best quality-cost combination. This reform can be challenging to get right...”

Conclusion

40.4 *“A push to retail choice through separation of content and carriage may not necessarily result in the full set of theoretical benefits touted.”*

“One key lesson from the history of the power sector in India is that the country is too large and diverse for a one-size-fits-all approach. A flexible and home-grown approach to reform, which is supported by state and central political will, and which allows for ‘learning by doing’, will be instrumental in determining the success of reforms.”

The NITI Aayog report once again throws light to the fact that even as the Indian Government is preparing to open the entire distribution system of the country for



profiteering by the greedy private capital, the international situation is completely different. While 70% of distribution companies are in the public sector now, more and more countries even in the developed world are re-nationalising the privatised distribution companies.

While commenting on the Indian context, the NITI Aayog dares to challenge the idea of the central government for centralisation of all decision making on power distribution in the country. They clearly articulate that there already exist various success models in the country and a one-size-fits-all kind of reforms will not work for the country.

And while concluding, NITI Aayog reinforces their clear line of argument put forth in the report by calling for a flexible approach to reform (meaning giving freedom to the state governments to decide on the model to follow) and cites that the much touted idea of central government on choice to consumers is only an utopian theory that will not work in Indian conditions.

Even though NITI Aayog has chosen soft words, for obvious reasons, they still have forewarned the central government against the perilous outcomes that await the ill fated reform agenda, in no uncertain means.

Dear Comrade Delegates & observers

41. You are the forefront leaders of Electricity Workers' & Employees' struggle in India, you should not be complacent that members of the organizations affiliated to EEFI are conscious and they will understand the reasons behind the crisis and respond positively in our all calls of movement. We should respect the awareness of our members but we need to keep in mind that memory of all workers are not alive like lead organizers like you. Hence, we need to keep in touch with the workers daily & on more occasions, specially we make any massive plan.

Upon the background of above paragraphs the foremost task for us is to stand by the toiling mass, who are in the path of struggle. Workers are trying to shake off the burden thrashed upon them and presents are also in their weves of movements. Together workers and presents are also marching ahead.

In order to intensify the struggle a convention with a view oppose the electricity (Ammenment) Bill 2022 was organished under the banner of National Coordination Committee of Electricity Employee & Engineers (NCCOEEE) at Constitution Club of India, New Delhi on 2nd August, 2022. The Addopted resolution is annexed No... in page No....

The Electricty (Ammenment) Bill 2022 was not placed in the public domain,



neither in the list of business of monsoon session but Mr. R. K Sing, Power Minister told to press and in other forum that the bill will be passed in this session. On 2nd Augst 2022. Cabinet cleared the bill. Bill was not circulated among the MPs. On 5th August at the end of the day the bill was circulated. On 6th August it was placed in the agenda for 8th August. On 8th August morning just before the session started MPs. was informed that introduction, taken of votes and subsequently the bill would be passed in the parliament on that very date. Accordingly the bill was placed in the Parliament. At the face of vehement opposition by the MPs the Minister declared that the bill would be sent to Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy. The sense of such victory has to be wildly propagated among the electricity employees, consumers and the common people also.

National Co-Ordination committee of Electricity Employees and Engineers (NCCOEEE) organised a national convention against the anti people policies of government including Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2022 and resolved to organise massive demonstration all over the country on 10th August 2022 and accordingly electricity employees and engineers raised their voices of protests in thousands in front of the various electricity installations all over the country. The adopted resolution is annexed as Annexure No... in page no...

NCCOEEE from its virtual meeting on 10th August 2022 decided to organize countrywide campaign for four months starting from August to November 2022 would be made against electricity (Amendment) Bill 2022. A 'Bijli Kranti Rally' would be organized on 2nd November 2022 at Baranasi, UP and on that very date memorandum would be submitted to PMO there. In the culmination of the four months campaign a rally with the slogan, 'SAVE POWER SECTOR-SAVE INDIA' would be conducted in Delhi on 23rd November 2022. Accordingly campaign throughout the country and preparation for participation in the aforesaid rallies on 2nd November and 23rd November respectively has been stated. Letters along with memorandum to the chairman standing committee on energy have been sent on the part of convener, NCCOEEE (National and States) and the constituents.

Demands of NCCOEEE are detailed

- Scrap Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2022, Pro- Private Electricity Policy & Standard Bidding Document towards total privatisation of distribution of electricity.
- Withdraw process of privatisation of Electricity from public sector to private hands in states and UTs. Cancel all existing private Licenses and franchises in power sector.



- Our Farmers converted Food-Scared India a Food Surplus India with Public Sector Electricity - Ensure Food Secured India for long opposing privatisation in Distribution of Electricity.
- Reintegrate all power utilities in states and UTs with function components of Generation, Transmission and Distribution like KSEB Ltd & HPSEB Ltd.
- Ensure Rights to Energy as Human Rights
- Scrap all Anti-People Anti-Worker Labour Codes
- Stop Selling off India through privatisation of PSUs in the name of NMP or Atma Nirbhar Bharat.
- Reintroduce Old Pension Scheme & Scrap New Pension Scheme. Forced retirement is not acceptable in power sector.
- Regularise all contract and casual workers/employees with implementation of Equal Wage and benefits for all employees engaged in similar jobs averting legal complicacy like Telengana, pending regularisation. Fixed Term employment is not acceptable in power sector.
- Fill in all existing vacancies with policy of regular jobs to be discharged by regular employees only.

Organisation

EEFI as an organisation

42. In order to have a clear perception of EEFI as an organisation, delegates & observers are to go through four parts of this report.
 - A. Document on organisation placed discussed, modified by the Working Committee in its extended meeting held at Bhubaneswar on 4-5 October, 2018 and adopted by the working committee meeting held at Faridabad on 9-10 February 2020. (Annexure no H page no 195).
 - B. Activity reports of the centre is placed in the main document states is annexed as annexure no... page no as part of the Report.
 - C. Activities in the national plain as a part of the draft report of the General Secretary.
 - D. Salient points of discussion & decisions of the office bearers & working committee meeting. In this part both independent & united activities have been covered.

Wherever, we try to estimate the width & breadth of our Federation, we find that we have not yet covered even 15% of total employees of power sector including regular and contract employees. From that angle, quantitatively we are in a very limited space in the vast power sector of India. We have our existence in 21 States & UTs but yet to reach in M.P, Uttarakhand, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, A&N, Lakshyadeep &



Delhi, the capital of India. Discharging the responsibility of our activities planned in Delhi including NCCOEEE is shouldered by our most vibrant union of Haryana.

Our largest union is in COTEE, Tamil Nadu, where they have earned the confidence of more than 50% employees both regular & contractual. This may be cited as an example all over India the positive result of keeping faith upon CITU/EEFI. Our second largest union is KSEBWA. Hence 3 affiliates of EEFI in Kerala, KSEBWA, KSEBOA & Contract workers' union function independently within their ambit but work together, whenever necessary. Besides National call & participation in Strikes they set example. As Left Govt. is in existent there, they keep vigil over the bureaucracy. Government tries to protect the interest of people as well peasants & workers but bureaucrats are there, sometimes try to create problem. In a recent occasion all EEFI Constituents of Kerala raised voice of protest together and foiled the attempt to tarnish the bright image of Left Front Government.

All are aware of anti-privatisation struggle of union Territories. Struggle of J&K as well Puducherry was fought together but in Chandigarh our union, being the only union there comprised of 1000+ regular & contract workers. Heroic fight they fought both in the field and court of law is laudable. Our Chandigarh union set an example of mobilizing consumers forums of residents of the city as well peasants to extend support in their anti-privatisation struggle. EEFI noted the of Electricity Unions of Northern India, all of whom stood beside our Chandigarh union. Only Rajasthan remained absent in this historic struggle.

While, we are discussing quality of EEFI constituents, we need to put on record the various services rendered by All Haryana Power Corporations Workers' Union, who operated a free food & shelter mid-way camp over nine months for the Struggling peasants commuting to & from Delhi border from Northern States. **9th National conference of EEFI taking place in the city of Chandigarh conveys red salute to them.**

In order to extend support to Kisan struggles (Reference annexure C Page no 164) all our major unions remitted money to the fund of SKM through AIKS in response to EEFI call. Highest contribution was from Kerala.

Our unions rendered exemplary service, when the whole Nation was under attack of Covid Pandemic. Besides keeping uninterrupted power supply, many unions rendered humanitarian services to COVID victims, defying risk of life. Some of them sacrificed lives. It is our weakness that we fail to place their names in this conference. WBSEWMU extended financial support to the victim families of workers through Sahayak Karmi Union, while concurrently contributed victims of Cyclone as well migrant workers through CITU.

Our discussion on organisation will remain incomplete, if we don't admit our



weaknesses. We are leading the most vibrant Federation of the Electricity Employees of the country. But we are having a lacuna in writing Reports of activities, even after a major and laudable struggles. In a multilingual country like India, the weakness of writing in english / hindi by the smaller unions may be ignored. But major unions failed to overcome this drawback.

If experience of our achievement / success in one state / union is not communicated among all leaders / organizers in widerforum of Federation, kept hidden, how we shall expand in the whole country? Any International / National / State organisation must not be able to function to its desired level, If intra–organization and inter organisation live communication channel is non–existent.

The General Secretary attended the 17th conference of COTEE held at Chennai between 12th & 14th August 2022. EEFI requested its biggest organisation to identify one of COTEE office bearers elected in the conference, who will be allocated for national activities of EEFI. His State work load will be minimum and major responsibility will be to render service for EEFI / NCCOEEE. Similarly Kerala, West Bengal & Haryana may spare some of their OB for EEFI / NCCOEEE function. Haryana being the major organisation in Hindi region as well nearest to Delhi should allocate one of their OB members for extending support to Delhi Centre of EEFI. He must be available in EEFI centre 2/3 days in a week. By this way not only newly elected General Secretary will have a team for collective functioning but a befitting practice for National Federation will be developed.

The General Secretary feels proud to share with the delegates of 9th Conference that **this report of the General Secretary has not been prepared by the General Secretary alone / individually. All together more than 10 comrades contributed with efficiency of their skill & experience to present a better report for the 9th conference.** This is a rich achievement of collectivity driven democratic leadership. EEFI with its area of operation embracing every nook and corner of the country and with the core and strategic importance of the sector, it is neither possible nor desirable for the General Secretary to prepare all the reports / texts of communications, job is to be shared among the leaders. The delegates in course of participation in the deliberation, should contribute to enrich the Report, particularly, on the organizational weakness and strength with concrete suggestions as a guide to action for the future leadership.

In this scope, we need to develop a better practice of communication in our multi-lingual country. Photograph is a medium of universal communication. After any union activity we find some photographs are posted in EEFI Working Committee Group but it fails to communicate anything. The Banners, Placards, Posters are in local language and the photographs are sent without any English/Hindi caption. The object of posting is lost. Here also we may develop collective functioning. Any member in the Working Committee group, who can read the language and know English / Hindi, he /



she may add the caption below the photographs in Hindi / English. Then the object of communication will be fruitful. Let us start the system from this 9th conference between 13th & 15th October 2022.

WORKING WOMEN COORDINATION COMMITTEE

The question of organizing women workers additional efforts for making a breakthrough

SL. No.	NAME OF THE AFFILIATED / ASSOCIATED UNIONS	STATE
1	CENTRAL ORGANISATION OF TAMIL NADU ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES	TAMIL NADU
2	WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY WORKMEN'S UNION	WEST BENGAL
3	KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD WORKERS' ASSOCIATION	KERALA
4	TECHNICAL SERVICES UNION	PUNJAB
5	PASCHIM BANGA RAJYA BIDYUT SHIPLA SAHAYAK KARMI UNION	WEST BENGAL
6	ALL HARYANA POWER CORPORATIONS WORKER UNION	HARYANA
7	UNITED ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES UNION	ANDHRA PRADESH
8	CALCUTTA ELECTRIC SUPPLY WORKMEN'S UNION	WEST BENGAL
9	UTTAR PRADESH BIJLI BOARD EMPLOYEES UNION	UTTAR PRADESH
10	DURGAPUR POWER EMPLOYEES UNION	WEST BENGAL
11	KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION	KERALA
12	TRIPURA BIDYUT KARMI UNION	TRIPURA
13	ASSAM STATE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY WORKERS UNION	ASSAM
14	DAMODAR VALLEY CORPORATION SHRAMIK UNION	WB-JKH
15	DAMODAR VALLEY CORPORATION CONTRACT WORKERS UNION	WB-JKH
16	MINISTERIAL SERVICES UNION	PUNJAB
17	UT POWERMEN UNION	CHANDIGARH (UT)
18	ELECTRICITY BOARD CONTRACT WORKERS ASSOCIATION	KERALA
19	ODISHA BIJULI KARMACHARI SANGHA	ODISHA
20	RAJASTHAN VIDYUT KAMGAR EKTA FEDERATION	RAJASTHAN
21	POWER TRANSMISSION EMPLOYEES' & WORKERS' UNION (ER-II)	WEST BENGAL
22	FARAKKA SUPER THERMAL POWER PROJECT WORKERS UNION	WEST BENGAL
23	BIHAR RAJYA VIDYUT FIELD KAMGAR UNION	BIHAR
24	FARAKKA SUPER THERMAL POWER PROJECT THIKA SRAMIK UNION	WEST BENGAL
25	NTPC UNITED EMPLOYEES UNION (RAMAGUNDAM)	TELENGANA
26	POWERGRID WORKMEN UNION (SR-II)	TAMIL NADU
27	DABHOL VEEJ PRAKALP KAMGAR SANGH	MAHARASHTRA
28	NTPC SAIL COMPANY EMPLOYEES UNION	WEST BENGAL
29	CESC BUDGE BUDGE CONTRACTOR WORKERS UNION	WEST BENGAL
30	DR. SHAYAMA PRASAD MUKHERJEE TAAP BIDYUT MAZDOOR UNION	CHHATTISGARH
31	BHARAT ALLUMINIUM EMPLOYEES UNION (BALCO)	CHHATTISGARH



SL. No.	NAME OF THE AFFILIATED / ASSOCIATED UNIONS	STATE
32	PUDUVAI MINSARA THOZHILAALAR SANGAM	PUDUCHERRY (UT)
33	WESTERN ORISSA BIDYUT SHRAMIKA MAHASANGHA	ODISHA
34	TELENGANA STATE UNITED ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES UNION	TELENGANA
35	POWERGRID WORKERS UNION (CC)	HARYANA
36	KARNATAKA STATE ELECTRICITY WORKERS FEDERATION	KARNATAKA
37	NTPC KAMGAR UNION	CHHATTISGARH
38	CHHATTISGARH SHRAMIK EKTA SANGHA	CHHATTISGARH
39	LANCO AMARKANTAK POWER MAZDOOR SANGH	CHHATTISGARH
40	PRAGATISHEEL TAP VIDHUT KARMCHARI SANGH	CHHATTISGARH
41	CALCUTTA ELECTRIC SUPPLY CORPORATION CONTRACTOR WORKERS UNION	WEST BENGAL
42	POWERCOM TRANSCO CONTRACT WORKERS UNION	PUNJAB
43	HPSEB BIJALI MAZDOOR EKTA UNION	HIMACHAL PRADESH
44	MAHARASHTRA RAJYA SWABHIMANI VIDYUT WORKERS UNION	MAHARASHTRA
45	CESU METER READING & BILL COLLECTION WORKERS UNION	ODISHA
46	J&K CENTRAL NON GAZATTED ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES UNION	JAMMU & KASHMIR
47	UNITED ELECTRICITY CONTRACTOR WORKERS' UNION	ANDHRA PRADESH
48	HPSEB EMPLOYEES' UNION	HIMACHAL PRADESH
49	POWERGRID EMPLOYEES' UNION (NER)	ASSAM
50	NTPC BONGAIGAON EMPLOYEES' UNION	ASSAM

in organizing women workers are very much essential in the situation, when the exploitation of women workers is growing more and more day by day in a cruel manner by the employers at the behest of capitalists.

In the current situation, the ruling classes use every feudal tradition in our country, such as the caste and gender based discriminations, to advance not only their political interest, but also their economic interests.

The barbaric exploitation upon women workers in the neo-liberal era which is controlling even the women's bodies was exposed in the shocking cases of removal of uterus of women and forcefully making the women to take pills to curb their fertility.

The serious problems of women at work in our country- the drastic decline in women's workforce participation, unprecedented unemployment, skyrocketing price rise, withdrawal of all trade union rights and protective legislations on women at workplace, increasing violence and sexual harassment against women etc. The women in general, the dalits and adivasis in particular the targets of attacks, sexual harassment by gangs, murders etc.

Today, in India, the BJP -Modi led union government while forming the labour codes, in support of their capitalist friends, has raised the working hours to 12 hours, removed



bar on night shift, thus the health of women employees has been put to a big question. To fight against all these injustice, all women in the country, especially women workers are to be organised and brought to the battle field. Trade unions should have the commitment to this important task of organising women workers, addressing their specific problems, educating and training to become cadres and leaders, in unifying the working class of the country.

Various Trade unions/Federations in the country in the sectors like LIC, BANKS, TELCOM, CENTRAL/STATE government employess Teachers started forming and strengthening working women's committes in theirrespective unions and the membership of women in unions and participation of women workers in struggle have increased at a large . The issues of equal remuneration, equal opportunities in promotion, Maternity leave, Paternity leave, feeding breaks and creche, Separate toilets for women employees, Conditions of compulsory night work, Sexual harassment Complaint committes at work , places, Health hzards at work, Working Women hostels etc, have been taken by the WWCC.

With the constant effort to unionise the women workers, the sectors are in number were targeted.

In this circumstance, it is very essential to organise the women employees working in the electricity sector by forming state wide and national level working women coordination committees.

More than 27 lakhs employees and engineers are working in the electricity sector. Among those more than 2 lakhs employees are women. In Tamilnadu and Kerala one third of the total strength are women employee. In Tamilnadu while on recruitment 30 percent of vacancies has been provided for women.

In Tamil Nadu and Kerala there is working women coordination committees functions very effectively. EEFI need to share the experience of Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

ELECTRICITY PENSIONERS WING_ EEFI

Uniting the pensioners/ family pensioners of the electricity sector is the need of the hour. Specifically, when Government is trying to privatize the power sector as a whole. The strength of the pensioners/family pensioners in power sector is increasing year by year. Private sector is interested to grab public assets in power sector and sucking profit from it. Social Security is not their headache and the declared / undeclared goal of he Government is protecting the interest of their cronies neither electricity consuming public nor employees / pensioners of power sector,

While the Trade Unions (other than sycophants of the Govt.) are pressing demands for universal social Security. Government is reluctant to open the dialogue.



The employees of the various sector, the retired employees ,pensioners, family pensioners are the assets/wealth of the nation, in view of their past contribution towards prosperity of the nation. But the rulers of the nation are thinking the pensioners family pensioners are liability of the nation. Far from making provision in Government's Budget for pension and other retirement benefits for the aged citizens, they make avenues towards of those Trust funds. Example is Rs. 4000 Crore of UPPCL Trust Fund.

With firm determination the government should take measure to control economic offence against the employees, retired employees pensioners family pensioners. As a economic measure they are introducing new pension system which is entirely different from the social Security scheme of the old pension Scheme.

The central govt. Is not satisfied with the introduction new pension system (NPS) applied from 2003--2004 which is presently had lakhs of central state govt, and public sector units employees under it. It further wants to reduce the pension of the pensioners under the existing old pension scheme.

In the NITI Aayag there is a taluk about capping the pension, to around 40-60 percent of the gross pension without any addition of dearness relief in future to the senior pensioners aged about 75.

In the pandemic periods as a austerity measures the rllers are impounding the dearness relief for 18 months and some state govts are curtailing the pension.

In the electricity sector more than 6 lakhs pensioners drawing the general pension as long as continued as a public sector employees. The govt of India is moving fast to privatize it keeping silence in this area. If they succeed the entire existing pensioners family pensioners will definitely loose their Security of pension.

More over the rulers are mis-utilising the pensioners/ retired employees as block-I0g while strike and other kind of agitation in the sector.

Many sectors including electricity sector are engaging the pensioners/retired employees as a outsourcing employees instead of filling up the regular vacancies.

In the energy sector the strength of the pensioners are increasing. If we analyse the strength of the pensioners are more than the existing employees in the

State. State wide available particulars is as follows.

Serial no	State	No. Penioer
1	Tamil nadu	91,847
2	Punjab	1,01,711
3.	Andhara	37,000
4.	Kerala	36,995



5,	Haryana	22,764
6.	Karnata	21,025
7.	Himachal	12,990
8.	Arunachal	3,076
9.	Goa	1,595
10.	Chatisgarh	1,184
11.	Andaman	522
12.	Uttarakhand	431
13.	Daman	134
14.	Pandichery	1,200
Total		3.36,474

Major states such as U. P. M. P, Bihar, Maharashtra, West Bengal Gujarat particulars are not available. If it comes the total will increase.

The position stated above it is necessary to organise the pensioners/family pensioners under the banner of EEFI to defend the existing pension and other benefit which was earned with long drawn struggle as a social Security

In this circumstances the conference has to pay due attention to organise the pensioners by the state unit of EEFI. New leadership should make suitable plan for the consolidation proposed Pensioners wing of EEFI.

FUND POSITION

Separate Book on Audited Accounts has been published and circulated for the participants of 9th National Conference. Delegates are requested to pay attention over the whole financial affairs of the Federation from the year 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 & 2021

The EEFI is playing a significant role on the national level to organise the Electricity workers, employees and the consumers. It is trying to carry out a remarkable job to mobilize the electricity employees and engineers under the banner of CITU, AISGEF and National co-ordination committee of electricity employees and engineers against the neo liberal policies of the govt.

The expansion of the EEFI units to all over India is moving gradually up. We are having link with the International Organisation such as TUI (Chemistry & Energy), Sectoral organisation of World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU).

The fund position of EEFI is not so comfortable to meet the day to day affairs in the desired level.

In the 7th Conference it was decided that after the wage settlement of concerned



states 5 percent of enhanced monthly pay will be donated to EEFI Centre as Struggle Fund.

After the decision, only very few states had declared wage increase such as Kerala Tripura and Tamil nadu. Except Kerala, other states like Tripura. Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana had not fully fulfill the decision. Kerala organisation of both workers and officers contributed to above call @ their full allocation. We should admit that these limited number of organisations are saving fund position of EEFI centre from distress.

After the Hyderabad conference there are so many struggles against the implementation of electricity act 2003 and to oppose the electricity amendment Bills.

Moreover we are contributing to the solidarity struggle such as peasant struggle and natural disaster. In this circumstance we are compelled to increase our fund position.

From 7th Conference we decided to collect Rs. 10/ per member par annum as struggle fund. After some time we make a review on this, scrutiny reveals that Kerala workers and officer association pay it regularly, west Bengal state electricity Union, Haryana, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh has fully paid the struggle fund some times. Some state like Tamilnadu and other states had paid a portion only. Remaining states are not all paid their attention to this.

Remitting of affiliation fees is also to be regularized. Some units are having the habit of remitting the affiliation fees from conference to conference. Some state unions are having their dues since from the year 2012.

Some unethical practice are also their regarding suppression of strength of the organisation. Some state units with enough resources are in the habit of late and less remittance of affiliation fees. These reactionary habit need to be abandoned.

Com. P. R. Bhavan fund.

In the name of our great leader com. P. Ramamoorthy a building was constructed in Delhi. A trade union school and research centre was started. A office space of around 40 sqm was allotted to EEFI for office functioning. We have contributed Rs 25 lakhs as a donation towards the cost of construction.

In the 6 th conference of EEFI called for one time donation of rs. 25/ per member as a special donation according to the state membership. We had fixed the total amount for the state has to be remitted as a com. P. R. Bhavan fund

While reviewing the collection among the 45 EEFI units only 8 units paid the full amount. Some units had paid partially Some of the units has not turned their attention.. On the subject we need further fund to cop with the cost and internal arrangement.

Our office bearer and extended meeting was held in the P. R. Bhavan It is more



comfortable for our use. So again in the conference we are giving a call to pay much more attention to collect the struggle and wage revision fund to cop up our future task

Publications / Web cast

Voice of Electricity Workers

Our publication could not be issued regularly after 8th EEFI Conference. Main reason behind putting hold upon huge number of non-delivery of post copies due to change of address of subscribers following transfer / retirement. We use to receive complaint from all the states. We are not in a position to arrive any decision from this conference, whether it will be resumed in printed form or circulation otherwise. Delegates may come forward with their innovative idea / suggestions, what will be taken up for consideration by the newly elected committee. Our COTEE, KSEBWA, KSEB OA, WBSEWMU and Unions of Punjab are publishing their monthly organ, we shall invite their suggestions before taking any further state. Conference puts a mandate upon formation of an organ/ media / Publication / Campaign Sub-Committee to have consultation in the Working Committee meeting by three months next.

EEFI Web Site:Regular updating is a must for any electronic media. The sub-committee proposed above will place their suggestions to newly elected leadership on this score also.

United Struggle in Wider Arena and NCCOEEE

43. EEFI and its major constituents are totally conscious on the importance of independent struggle and united struggle. Scope of EEFI constituents to take part in the wider struggle beyond Power Sector through taking part in CITU's all activities. Some of the EEFI constituents are not affiliated to CITU but in advanced states they also implement all these activities but in some states some lapses are there. Right from 9-11 November, 2017 to 5th September, 2022 mobilisation of EEFI constituents was laudable, but participation in National Strike by the EEFI constituents having wider variation. Besides CITU, some of our organisations are affiliated to All India State Government Employees Federation, EEFI constituents are taking part in all National and state based struggles over and above planned by the organisation itself, EEFI and their state and National wider body.

National Co-ordination Committee of Electricity Employees & Engineers (NCCOEEE) was constituted in April 2000 with initiative of Com. E. Balanandan & Com. A.B. Bardhan. Initial object of this united platform was to oppose Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2000. This platform could raise voice against privatisation of Power Sector.

NCCOEEE is functional all over the country keeping its Headquarter at B.T.R.



Bhawan, New Delhi. Presently NCCOEEE has extended its agenda from Power Sector in opposing privatisation of Public Sector right from Coal, BSNL, Railways, and Defence to all arena of NMP, re-integration of companies of SEBs, demands of contract and all other categories of non-regular electricity workers to re-introduction of old Pension Scheme.

Further struggle to oppose Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2022 is appended in the report. EEFI urges CITU from National & States to extend support to this struggle. An appeal on the part of EEFI to develop wider struggle is annexure as annexure no I page no 211. The appeal may be translated into local language and circulated among people to make them understand the adverse impact of legislation of this Bill leading to curbing rights of access to Electricity for the poor people and rural people as a whole, leading to de-electrification of villages.

International Relation

As an organisation of Electricity Workers and employees, closer to CITU, EEFI is a part and parcel of biggest class oriented Global Trade Union Federation. EEFI is having close relation with its sectoral organisation TUI(Energy) over a decade and half. EEFI hosted 3rd Congress of TUI (Chemistry & Energy) in Kerala. Even today, when we meet our comrades of other countries, they call up, how our comrades of Kerala hosted the Congress defying the challenge of devastating natural calamity. COTEE has volunteered to host the 3rd Executive Committee meeting of TUI(Chemistry& Energy) between 21 & 23 November, Chennai. EEFI represented in 18th Congress of WFTU held in Rome between 6th& 8th May last. 4th Congress of TUI(Chemistry& Energy) has been planned in November, 2023 in Paris. Rome Declaration adopted in the 18th Congress of WFTU is annexed hereto annexure no-A page no 145.

Conclusion

The report presented before you is only a glimpse of the whole affairs of the portant mile stones in the arena of Global, National, Economic, Industrial life of last five s. Our report comprises of main report as Draft, Activities of all our affiliates who have sent their report (in time & before finishing activities at printer's). In this report, we tried to make it a handbook of information. But none the constituent extended support to send industry related information sought through discussion in WC Meeting on 30-31 July, 2022 followed by circular. WBSEWMU provided some information. Others did not try at all. 9th National Conference proposes following tasks for EEFI centre and its constituent organisations.

1. Improvement of attendance of Working Committee members and Office Bearers



in the meeting to be convened by the newly elected committee in the forthcoming years, to be taken as foremost important task. Due to Covid constraint over two years, the picture is gloomy. But barring a few unions, all are making it a habit. Abstaining from attending duly convened meeting is an indication of indiscipline. We must overcome it.

2. Our struggle in the interest of low end consumer need to be further intensified. Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2022, if enacted will cause havoc to low end consumers. Hence our decision towards formation of Electricity Consumers and Employees forum as a permanent platform of struggle is to be seriously implemented. EEFI centre will seek support from various national organisations. All state units with its district and lower level organisation are to be tuned to cope with the huge task. Experience of one state to be shared with the EEFI Centre and other states.
3. Our previously fixed task in 8th Conference to launch wider struggle to fetch the demand of “Equal wage for Equal Work” pending regularization of Contract Workers remained incomplete. We may plan an Extended Working Committee meeting of EEFI to take place one day before or after the proposed date of Mazdoor Kisan Sangharsh Rallyat Delhi. Prior to that preparatory activities in the states and discussion with NCCOEEE constituents should be completed. Reviewing the preparation, Date of strike action will be declared.
4. There are so many adopted resolution and information document annexed to this report. We need to improve level of consciousness of our members. Rome declaration of WFTU, Declaration of 5th September Mazdoor Kisan convention, Document on climate change need to be studied meticulously. Our major state units should translate it into local language (if not already available) and use those for awareness of our leaders and cadres. Study Circle should be organised by our affiliates in a regular interval.
5. Our members should not transfer the responsibility of discharging their duty of struggle field upon some selected leaders. In view of our nature of duty, our target (subject to modification upon specific situation in the state) should be made in a manner as proposed below .
 - A) Participation of strike action -100% of our members
 - B) Joining the local level rally / demonstration - 75% of our members
 - C) Participation in district level demonstration / rally by 40-50% of our members.
 - D) Participation in state level demonstration 20-25% of our members.
 - E) Participation in Regional / National level Rally by 5-10% of our members.

All we understand that the proposal is too hard to be fully implemented. But if we put full effort, now it will be partially successful. In the long run it will improve to the



fullest extent. The present method of non quantified struggle needs to be improved, as proposed.

6. The proposal above may be started with two forthcoming calls before us:
 - a) Delhi Chalo call named as “Bijlee Kranti Yatra” with the slogan **SAVE POWER SECTOR, SAVE INDIA** on 23rd November, 2022.
 - b) **Mazdoor Kisan Sangharsh Rally** at the behest of CITU-AIKS-AIAWU to Delhi during Budget session of Parliament in 2023.
7. Implementation of all above action require fund. You are aware that a National level organisation like our Federation whose constituents are challenging so called “Super Power” like Modi Govt. to withdraw its Labour Codes – Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2022 to protect the workers and peasants together, who produces wealth for the nation.

All we understand that Rs.3 par annum is not enough as affiliation fees. But we can't raise it for obvious reason. But majority of our unions are not paying 5% of one month enhanced wage after 5 to 10 years or Rs.10/- per member annually in our struggle fund. 9th Conference put a clarion call to its delegates not to allow newly elected General Secretary to put this blame upon our union leaders in 10th Conference.

8. 10th Conference is likely to be held at 40th year of foundation of EEFI in 2024. Let 5th decade of EEFI's existence with more militancy, more vibrant and more serious for the cause of people of India.
9. We have detailed in the report our weakness in publication and campaign method as well media management. Publication and campaign committee to be comprised with our National and State leaders should take case to cover it up.
10. EEFI as an organisation reviewed its strength on different occasions but still our membership strength is around 15% of total workforce in Indian Power sector . We need to organize membership drive through all our constituents, but scope is wider where we are weak. Our leaders in the region – to explore what support may be extended to them so that they become stronger to solve the problem of Electricity workers there.
11. From the primitive era entry of women in Electricity industry was too low. But since a decade last there are abrupt change. In our report we discussed of Power women in Tamilnadu and Kerala. Other states also changes are there. Not only in the offices, but also technical jobs are being taken up by women in good number. So EEFI Centre and its state units need to grow their women cell. Working committee will review its progress as proposed in the report.



12. EEFI will have its Pensioners' wing. 9th Conference assigns the responsibility upon the newly elected committee to decide implementation as proposed in the report or any alternative shape and modalities. Similarly EEFI state units will develop relation with the pensioners. Let us call up again, warriors of Class Struggle has no age bar.
13. All we know that EEFI functions over the ideological policy of CITU and with its key words "Unity and Struggle". We don't have any barrier on religion, language, caste and creed. NCCOEEE the broad base platform of Electricity Employees, Engineers active since 22 years – EEFI contributes its best to foster NCCOEEE activities. All states are to nourish it with utmost sincerity and determination. Specifically, where EEFI is stronger.
14. Besides, day to day functions of protecting interest of workers and employees, EEFI members will continue its contribution with more vigil as patriotic Indian towards, peace and harmony of the country, while conspirators are active with so called religion, custom and pseudo-culture. Soul of India is hidden in "Unity in Diversity" - keep it alive in every bit of your heart. Let no pseudo-patriot or their social media campaign infiltrate it in any means.

Dear Comrades,

When COVID intensity was reduced to some extent, EEFI Working Committee took up the issue of 9th Conference. Our 7th and 8th Conference took place in southern part of the country. Thought of 9th Conference in North India came in natural course. Our strongest force in North India is All Haryana Power Corporation Workers Union (AHPCWU). In view of the responsibility they shouldered during peasants movement, EEFI thought to assign the responsibility jointly to Haryana Chandigarh, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh. But our hesitation was set aside by Haryana leaders. In our meeting held at Chennai on 10th March 2022 Haryana alone took the responsibility of hoisting the 9th Conference with moral support of EEFI Constituents of adjacent states. Their struggle in the interest of peasant, consumers as well contractor workers when their government wanted to privatise 23 sub-divisions, victimized workers. They bravely fought, all victimization withdrawn and all contract workers joined with enhancement of wages is vivid in our mind.

Similarly, we expect 9th Conference will be successful in the same spirit of Haryana. Sincerity. Red salute people of Haryana, Red salute to AHPCWU.

SAVE POWER SECTOR – SAVE INDIA
Long Live EEFI
Long Live Workers' Unity
WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE



DEMANDS FOR MAZDOOR KISAN SANGHARSH RALLY ADOPTED IN THE CONVENTION: SEPTEMBER 5, 2022

- Ensure Minimum wages @Rs 26,000 pm and Pension @Rs10,000 to all; No contractorisation of work; Scrap Agnipath Scheme.
- Legally ensure MSP @ C2+50%for all farm produce with guaranteed procurement.
- One time loan waiver by the central government to all poor and middle peasants and agricultural workers; pension to all of them above 60 years.
- Scrapping of four Labour Codes and Electricity Amendment Bill 2022.
- Job security and guarantee for all; Expand MGNREGA and increase workdays to 200 with minimum wages @Rs600 per day; Pay all pending wages; Enact a National Urban Employment Guarantee Act.
- Stop Privatisation of PSUs and Public Services; Scrap National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP).
- Arrest Price Rise, Withdraw GST on food items and essentials; Reduce the central excise duty on petrol/diesel/kerosene/cooking gas substantially;
- the Public Distribution System (PDS) and expand its scope to include 14 essential items;
- Ensure food and income support to all Non tax payer families.
- Stringent implementation of the Forest Rights Act (FRA); withdraw the amendments to Forest (Conservation) Act and Rules that allow the union government to permit clearance of a forest without even informing the residents.
- Stop repression of the marginalised sections and ensure social justice.
- Ensure universal and quality Health and Education for all; Scrap National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- Ensure Housing to all.
- Tax the Super Rich; Enhance Corporate Tax; Introduce Wealth Tax. Foremost Demands to be Popularized through wider Campaign



NCCOEEE CHARTER OF DEMANDS ADOPTED IN NATIONAL & STATE CONVENTIONS

- Scrap Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2022, Pro- Private Electricity Policy & Standard Bidding Document towards total privatisation of distribution of electricity.
- Withdraw process of privatisation of Electricity from public sector to private hands in states and UTs. Cancel all existing private Licenses and franchises in power sector.
- Our Farmers converted Food-Scared India a Food Surplus India with Public Sector Electricity - Ensure Food Secured India for long, opposing privatisation in Distribution of Electricity.
- Reintegrate all power utilities in states and UTs with function components of Generation, Transmission and Distribution like KSEB Ltd & HPSEB Ltd.
- Ensure Rights to Energy as Human Rights
- Scrap all Anti-People Anti-Worker Labour Codes
- Stop Selling off India through privatisation of PSUs in the name of NMP or Atma Nirbhar Bharat.
- Reintroduce Old Pension Scheme & Scrap New Pension Scheme. Forced retirement is not acceptable in power sector.
- Regularise all contract and casual workers/employees with implementation of Equal Wage and benefits for all employees engaged in similar jobs averting legal complicity like Telengana, Insurance coverage of Group Gratuity for all, pending regularisation. Fixed Term employment is not acceptable in power sector.
- Fill in all existing vacancies with policy of regular jobs to be discharged by regular employees only.



ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES' FEDERATION
OF INDIA
9th NATIONAL CONFERENCE
ACTIVITY REPORTS FROM STATES

2017

NCCOEEE activities:

Four Regional Conventions in January 2018

Proposed places for the Regional Conventions are : Northern Region – Chandigarh, Southern Region – Kerala, Eastern Region – Patna and Western Region – Nagpur / Mumbai.

After completion of regional and state convention within January, 2018 a massive rally and demonstration will be organized in Delhi during the budget session of the Parliament.

One day nationwide lightning strike will be resorted to, on the day of moving the Bill in Parliament.

Dates of Northern, Southern and Eastern Regional convention has been finalized as 28th December, 2017; 11th January 2018 and 31st January, 2018 respectively.

Participation in MahaPadav :

EEFI took part in the MahaPadav at Delhi between 9 & 11 November, 2017 with over 12000 members from different states.

2018

Memorandum along with charter of demands for submission to Chairman / MD / CEOs of Power utilities -10th January, 2018.

14th March 2018 State level Demonstration: Memorandum Addressed to Prime Minister/respective Chief Minister with CC to Power Minister, Labour Minister (Central and State)

A Massive Parliament Rally organized at Delhi on 3rd April 2018 – Highest mobilization will be ensured by all NCCOEEE constituents. EEFI should present its highest thrust on mobilization.

Memorandum to Prime Minister :1st/ 2nd May, 2018

8th June 2018 – NCCOEEE National Convention at Ghalib Institute, New Delhi

15th June 2018 - Notice of Cease Work on 1st August 2018 will be submitted by the unions concerned.

22/23 July 2018 – TU Classes in English at Puducherry

29/30 July 2018 – TU Classes in Hindi at Faridabad

9th August 2018 to be observed as Quit India Movement



Call for the collecting Flood Relief Fund for Kerala – Rs. 10 per member

14th August 2018 – Mass Awakening Programme (whenever possible)

5th September 2018 to be observed as Mazdoor-KisanSangharh Rally

India will be hosting third Congress of TUI(Energy) at Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala) on 11 & 12 September 2018.

4-5 October 2018 – Workshop on Organisation (Bhubaneswar Document)

2019

16-09-2019

Circular issued to all regarding the decision taken at Visakhapatnam on 22 21 July 2019 regarding the day long national convention at Parliament Street along with all CTUs and federations.

19-02-2019

Strike on 8th to 9th January 2019 against government policy with the slogan “Drive out Modi-BJP, Save India” with 12 points charter of demands

2020

25-02-2020

Critical review of 8 January done in detail. Observe 11 February 2020 as a protest opposing the budget proposal of the finance minister as well as against police atrocities on electricity employees and engineers by Bihar police and withdrawal of suspension of Satyendra Kumar and Executive Engineer as well as General Secretary PSEA Bihar. Review the implementation partners as decided in Bhubaneshwar during 4-5 October 2018.

20-05-2020

Observe protest Day on 1st June 2020 against the role of NDA government regarding COVID-19 situation tackling process by them. Through widespread usage of leaflets and wearing of black badge mentioning prominently the demand for the electricity consumer, ie, people as a whole

25-06-2020

Solidarity action in support of court workers strike a pose in transfer of coal mining operation to private parties. All EEFI constituent take part to support 3 days strike and organised vigorous demonstration on the very first day, ie, 2nd July 2020

30-06-2020

Declaration made regarding PGWFI and EEFI calls to save coal and energy resources to standby coal workers movement



18-07-2020

Organise all India protest day on 16 to 17th July 2020 against privatisation of Railway. Jointly organised masses and militant and mobilisation on 9th August 2020

16-10-2020

Held national convention on 2nd October 2020 in a virtual platform with participation of around 1.5 Lakh workers. Working committee meeting held on 17th October 2022 to gear up the movement nationwide against privatisation of public property in different area of businesses

04-12-2020

Review of nationwide strike on 26th November 2020 opposing 3 farm acts and scrapping of electricity Amendment Bill 2020. The working committee conveyed solidarity with the struggling presents and decided to stand by them. Criticised the action taken by the BJP government of Haryana and UP Police who brutally tried to stop the peasants' march to Delhi with tear gas and water cannons.

18-12-2020

Organise protest demonstration in front of major Government of India office in district and sub divisions headquarters as a mark of solidarity to the peasants' struggle on 23rd-24th of December

24-12-2020

Search petition to JERC mentioning objection against transmission of draft regulation for transmission and distribution licensing

2021

21-01-2021

United States towards solidarity to present struggle what was held on 21-01-2021 demanding against a) to scrap all draconian labour code/acts and Farm Acts, Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2020, Unlawful standard bidding documents etc.

10-08-2021

Strike called on 10th August 2021 propaganda made with atmosphere through state level committees of different unions to organised jointly with National level fraternal organisation and Federation of peasants and agricultural workers, bank, insurance, Government, employees Street, civil, defence, production, education scheme workers etc to oppose the different issues. Observe September 21 as the anti-privatization day

08-09-2021

EEFI tried to reach through all its affiliates to propagate all related issues to to aware all



their members targeting multi-pronged campaign against the Electricity Amendment Bill and Farm Laws etc

08-07-2021

Observed save democracy save agriculture Day on 26 June 2021 in solidarity with the struggling peasants to oppose Farm Act as well as Electricity Amendment Bill. EEFI opposed and condemned the role of government's semi-fascist attitude to implement EDSO to curb the workers rights. Protests have been placed condemning the Government of India regarding privatisation of government assets in bank, insurance, coal, power & oil sector.

15-08-2021

EEFI has given attention regarding the government's attitude to denying granted the benefit of compassionate jobs for the wards of the employees of those who died in harness.

Asked to its constituent the details information happened last 10 years to organise planned movement against this.

16-03-2021

EEFI reviewed struggle of power workers during the covid-19 outbreak period. Observed public awareness campaign week during 10 to 16 May 21. For propagating against attitudes and actions by government of India regarding 3 farm laws and electricity bill, labour code through the country by poster, leaflet, videos etc.

17-08-2021

Decided to mass awareness campaign against Electricity Amendment Bill 2021 through which penetration to general public, electricity consumers in a convincing manner. A committee was formed to plan and execute all over the country.

18-01-2021

One day strike on 3rd February 2021 opposing electricity Amendment Bill 2020 and in solidarity with the struggling peasants. In order to earn the confidence of electricity consumers against the policy of the NDA government to sell out public assets and enterprises to its cronies, try to involve for participation in the movement.

24-05-2021

EEFI greeted the Kerala people and working class for supporting left front in Kerala. Strongly criticised the government's attitude resorting to inhuman attack on peasants and workers by planning and legislation of anti-people laws in different areas of work. Organised mass demonstration to all local and central authorities of utilities, urging covid-19 vaccination of electricity employees and their family members, and



Frontline COVID warriors. Payment of 5 million rupees to the family members who were deceased as death compensation of COVID-19.

28-12-2021

Evaluate and steps were taken regarding privatisation of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh electricity

30-08-2021

Decided and communicated to all constituents to observe 1st September 2021 as anti-privatisation day and issue letter to head of organisations protesting regarding steps towards privatisation.

2022

05-01-2022

Solidarity activities 23 to 24 February 2022 strike and review of status on electricity Amendment Bill 2021.

Discussion on struggle of SKM, joint struggle of J&K electricity employees and engineers and other similar struggles of power sector against privatisation

21-02-2022

Schedule of working committee meeting at Chennai physically to discuss on strike preparation regarding organisation as well as 9th National Conference. The working committee paid respectful homage to Comrade KM Balabyal, Former treasurer of EEFI and founder General Secretary of DVC Shramik Union

14-03-2022

We observed the Government of India having difficulty to legislate electricity Amendment Bill 2021 the change your attitude and Strategies for privatisation of State Power discoms, union territory. As non-BJP State Governments refused to privatise the discoms, Government of India targeted to privatise J&K, Chandigarh and Puducherry which are all resisted by United struggle.

15-06-2022

An extended meeting of EEFI was held on 12-6-2022 reporting on 18th World TU Congress with salient features of Rome Declaration. Issues related to Energy Transmission and impact upon the working class were discussed.

A joint initiative taken by All India Coal Workers Federation, Petroleum and Gas workers Federation and EEFI was done to discuss the issue. Decide to hold a WC members meet on 30-31 July 2022 to finalise the 9th national conference of EEFI to be held at Chandigarh.



Registration of EEFI within the ambit of TU act to be complied from Kerala and National Capital Centre office will be at PR Bhaban.

EEFI will host the next meeting of the Executive Committee of TUI (C&E) in India.

10-09-2022

Responsibility was distributed to different leaders to prepare the draft report, subject wise for the conference of EEFI.



KSEB WORKERS' ASSOCIATION (CITU):

WORK REPORT_FINAL_22 SEPT

KSEB Workers' Association (CITU), the largest association of workmen in Kerala State Electricity Board LTD, at present has a membership of 15653 out of 25573 workmen. Our organization has taken up various campaigns and agitations independently and under the banner of EEFI and NCCOEEE raising different demands in the power sector as well as against the neo-liberal policies pursued by the central govt. We were able to strengthen our base after the 8th National conference and built up unity among all section of working class through our joint platforms. KSEBWA played a pivotal role in all campaigns and struggles called by the state and central committees of CITU.

8th Conference of EEFI at Hyderabad:

The conference show cased the cultural and revolutionary traditions of Telangana State and rose to historical proportions. 37 delegates attended the conference on behalf of KSEBWA. The decision of the conference were implemented in the state of Kerala through continuous joint struggles.

National Strikes:

The Association actively participated in making the National Strikes called by the national trade unions against anti-labour policies of central Govt on -2018 April 2, 2019 January 8 & 9, 2020 January 8, 2020 November 26 & 2022 March 28 & 29, a grand success.

NCCOEEE All India Strike:

Demanding withdrawal of Electricity (Amendment) Bill, one day strike was done on 2021 February 3, which was total in KSEBL.

Peoples Energy for a new Kerala:

In these turbulent times to pave way for KSEB, a two-day workshop was held on 2019 March 6 & 7, the opinions, suggestions and vision evolved of the two-day brain storming was made into a report and submitted to KSEB management.

NCCOEEE Campaigns:

KSEB Workers' Association played pivotal role in conducting campaigns such as Janasabha (Public Meeting) 2018 February-March -800 Jana Sabhas were organized



,organized Raj Bhavan march on 2018 March 14, conducted webinar on 2021 July 17, participated in parliament march on 2021 August 3; all against Electricity Amendment Bill.

2018 January 11-NCCOEEE Southern Regional Convention:

Association co-hosted NCCOEEE southern regional convention held at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

2018 February 8-NCCOEEE National Convention:

NCCOEEE National convention was held at Delhi. 11 Delegates from Kerala attended the Delhi Convention.

2019 September 3-EEFI Protest:

EEFI carried out a protest march to central govt offices, in Kerala the march was conducted in all 14 district headquarters against the central govt's anti-labour, anti-people and anti-national policies.

2018 Sep 5-Parliament march:

A joint parliament march was organized by CITU, Kisan Sabha and AIAWU representing KSEBWA, 900 members participated in the march.

2019 September 13-Raj Bhavan March:

Raj Bhavan march was conducted against the privatisation policy of the central govt. by joint trade unions. 874 members of KSEBWA participated in the march.

2020 January 4-Raj Bhavan and District Office March:

A joint march of public sector employees, state govt. employees and central govt. employees was organized towards Raj Bhavan and central Govt offices in district headquarters highlighting the demand for re-implementation of statutory pension scheme.

2021 July 19-Indictment Trial of the central government:

The agitation against central govt planned in the name of public 'Indictment Trial' was organized by the association before 844 central govt offices.

Agitation against Electricity Amendment Bill 2020:

In the Covid situation, the central govt. published the Electricity Amendment Bill 2020 in the website on 17th April 2020. notified to submit opinion within 21 days. EEFI and NCCOEEE agitated against this unilateral decision of central govt compelling them to back off.



Mission Re-Connect:

Heavy rain accompanied by flash floods wreaked havoc in Kerala from August 14th to 20, 2018 causing heavy damage throughout the network. In the mass re-connection process, the workers' performance were appreciated by society and people representatives alike. Kerala govt. specially appreciated the KSEB staff and as a Role model in the public sector.

Salary Challenge:

Rebuilding flood wreck Kerala was a herculean task with cash-stricken situation urging Chief Minister to put an open request to contribute 1 month salary, which was embraced by KSEBWA with 95% of its members lending hand. Vaccine challenge was also honoured.

TUI (E) International Conference:

The third conference of Trade Union International-Energy under the leadership of WFTU, co-hosted by Workers' Association, was held on September 11 and 12 at Thiruvananthapuram. The conference of energy, petro chemical, coal, pharmaceutical sector was organized in an emphatic manner in which 26 nations over Indian delegates were attendees. Comrade Prashantho Nandi Chowdary, General Secretary, EEFI was elected as President of TUI-Energy.

KSEBWA (CITU): 27th State Conference:

27th State conference was held at Kottayam on Dec 3, 4 & 5, the conference was inaugurated by Com. Tapan Sen, General Secretary-CITU and public meeting was inaugurated by Com. Pinarayi Vijayan, Chief Minister, Kerala. The Conference re-elected Com. Elamaram Kareem MP as President and Com. S Harilal as General Secretary. The conference extended hands of charity by building 6 new homes to land slide victims in Kottayam.

Pay Revision: Won without agitation:

Workers Association played a key role in formulating pay revision at par with the industry standards, with the LDF govt in power the whole process was completed in 3 weeks time.

KSEB Workers' Association CITU-Referendum 2022:

The referendum to elect the recognised trade unions was held in KSEB Ltd. on April 28. Seven organisations/fronts contested in the referendum 2022. The details of organisation and votes earned by each organisation/front are given below. Out of the 26246 voters, 25523 employees cast their vote. We have earned a mandate of 13634 voters and was elected as the ***Sole Bargaining Agent*** of the industry. All



other unions/fronts including INTUC and AITUC lost their preliminary recognition. KSEB Workers' Association (CITU) scripted history in a magnanimous way which will provide strength and tenacity to our movement. Our Association achieved recognition in all referendum held in our organization from 1987, 1998, 2003 to 2015. And in 2015 KSEBWA had earned 47.51% of vote share and became the **Principal Bargaining Agent** of the industry. In this referendum campaign, we raised the slogan, **“Vote for KSEB Workers' Association to protect KSEB Ltd. in public sector and defeat the privatisation policy”**. The employees accepted the slogan, which propelled us to a historic victory. Thus, we were able to successfully convert the referendum campaign as a mass campaign against the privatisation policy of BJP lead central govt.

CEA Regulation Case:

KSEB Workers' Association (CITU) fought relentlessly in the CEA regulation case and got favourable orders from supreme court, which ultimately lifting the impasse, lead the KSEBL to give promotions to the workmen category. Which was being halted by some employees, who approached the supreme court to block the promotion of other employees, side-lining long term settlement formulated between trade unions and management. Workers' Association was close to the heels on this case for more than a year fighting legally which earned us a favourable verdict. Even after that, the management took negative approach and delayed electricity workers' promotion. At this juncture we started continuous agitation and conducted sit downs at Circle/Division levels. At last KSEB management succumbed to our pressure and promoted the electricity workers. This historic struggle attracted many employees to the organization and helped to extend the organizational base which was reflected in Referendum 2022.

Social Media:

For streamlining the social media activities, KSEB Workers' Association (CITU) formed a social media subcommittee. A separate media room was constructed with all modern facility in our union office at BTR Memorial. This helped us in effective and targeted campaigning of the **2022 March 28, 29 National strike** and obtaining a great result in the **Referendum 2022**.

Electricity Worker and CITU Sandesam:

The official mouth piece of KSEB Workers' Association (CITU) is **“Electricity Worker”** Magazine with a monthly subscription of 24858. The Kerala State CITU committees' official mouth piece, **“CITU Sandesam”** has 7065 subscribers from our sector and we are continuously toiling to expand the subscriber count.

Agitation against Board Managements' Anti Trade Union Policies:

In the last six months, KSEB Workers' Association (CITU) has been continuously



fighting against the anti-labour policies and unilateral decisions of Chairman and Managing Director. He has been trying hard to implement outsourcing and the privatisation strategies of the central govt into our foray. From time to time, we came forward and protested and he was forced to back-off. Then he tried to cut the working strength of the employees under the guise of implementing smart meter system sans any discussion with the stake holders. We strongly protested and with the help of left front leaders we successfully occluded those efforts. Our determined struggle come to success, when the Kerala Govt. removed the CMD from his reigns over continuous agitation. This move is helpful in implementing the alternative policies upheld by the left democratic front govt in Kerala.

Workers' unity against Communal division:

Raising this slogan all 14 district committees conducted programme which was addressed by top leaders of political and social strata attended by more than 4000 employees.

Protest against Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2022:

On 2022 August 8, Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2022 was introduced to Loksabha, was welcomed by work boycott from electricity employees of India under the aegis of NCCOEEE. Above 99% employees of KSEB boycotted work. State level convention announcing declaration of protests were held at Ernakulam on 22.09.2022, which formulated District/Division level meetings by September and to complete unit level meetings by October first week. Division level rallies and 1100 Janasabhas spanning over panchayaths, municipalities and corporations with participation of elected representatives were also envisaged.

Funds:

KSEBWA had handed over Rs 2,00,800 (Rupees Two lakh eight hundred only) to EEFI as conference fund on August 2017 and another Two lakh Rupees was handed over to EEFI as agitation fund on December 2020. To fight against privatisation, we provided Rupees One lakh to Chandigarh protest fund EEFI. On June 2022 another **Fifteen lakh Rupees** has been provided as struggle fund to strengthen EEFI's intervention in spear heading national protests. Assam Flood relief fund and Delhi riot victim's relief fund was provided in tune of Rupees One lakh sixty thousand and Rupees Five lakhs respectively. On the aegis of CITU we provided Rupees One lakh for the suffering Palestinians.

we are offering full support to the EEFI, fighting against privatisation of the sector, championing theco-ordination of employees of various states under single umbrella.



KSEB OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

2017-2022

Membership

KSEB Officers Association (KSEBOA) is the biggest organization of officers of Kerala State Electricity Board Ltd. The association achieved remarkable growth during the conference period 2017-22, with an increase of its membership from 2700 to 3300. Now more than 70% of officers of KSEB Ltd. are members of KSEBOA. Membership of women officers also increased in the same way, from 750 to 1008.

Sub Committees

To increase the participation of members in different activities, KSEBOA functions through various subcommittees. At present there are twelve such subcommittees viz. Women's, News, Service cell, Grievance Cell, Cultural, Benevolent fund, Energy Development, Study Center, Power quiz, Consumer Clinic, Career Development and New Media. As the talent and interests of each officer is different from another, we are trying to devise diversified activities suited to each member so that the involvement of the members with the association is enhanced. Power quiz is one of the most participated activities of KSEBOA, with the direct involvement of more than 50% of members in organizing and conducting the program. KSEBOA Power quiz is one of the major quiz competitions in Kerala among college students with an annual registration of more than 30,000 participants.

KSEB Officers Association always stands for gender equality. Association ensured the women are accorded with recognition and status in commensurate with membership in all components of the association. Women's sub-committee has planned and carried out many activities such as diverse women's programs organized locally in the districts, activities related to Women's Day, state level women's study camp, regional level women's workshops, literary writing competitions, library activities, women's tour etc. Various programs of the Women's Committee have helped to inculcate proper awareness of gender justice among the members. There are energetic women activists in various districts.

"KSEBOA News" is the magazine published by the association covering insightful analysis of policies in power sector, reaching to all members. Cultural committee was able to conduct the Environment Day programs and cultural interactions in a good manner and organized the Kalajatha. The Career Development program committee



was able to conduct several classes on interesting topics to improve the technical as well as managerial skills of our members.

Study center subcommittee is envisaged with investigating different policy questions including regulatory affairs. The Energy development Subcommittee is entrusted with carrying out studies on different technology options in power and allied sectors. The same committee is entrusted with developing a sustainable energy development road map for the state. Consumer Clinic is instituted for interacting with consumers and also to address various complaints registered with the association in connection with consumer satisfaction. The New Media Committee was formed with the intention of carrying out the campaigns of the organization using social media and utilizing the potential of the internet. The New media committee was also in charge of the website. During covid times, all campaigns were conducted using online platforms. The New Media committee played an important Role.

KSEBOA is also running a research institution named, Institute for Sustainable Development and Energy Studies (In-SDES). In-SDES is registered as an independent trust with a general body nominated by KSEBOA. Experts from outside KSEB including retired officers are also part of it. The institute is expected to carry out systematic studies on power sector related subjects including policy issues. Conducting colloquiums, seminars, training programs etc. are also covered under In-SDES's mandate.

During the Lock down period in March 2020 in the country the Association was able to adapt to the changing times and moved forward. All major sub-committees of the association have organized several events online. Several career development programs were conducted online and live on Facebook. None of the major quiz competitions in Kerala were held in 2020 due to the closure of educational institutions due to covid restrictions. However, one of the main events of the organization, the online Power Quiz, turned out to be a huge success.

State Conferences

During this period, KSEBOA conducted two state Conferences. The 21st State Conference of KSEB Officers Association was held at Alappuzha on 15th, 16th and 17th February 2019. In the context of the floods that Kerala faced, the conference was organized without pomp and unnecessary expenses were avoided. Seminars and Kalajathas were conducted to spread the message of the conference. 11 resolutions were presented in the conference which would strengthen the future activities of the Association. The conference elected a 133-member Central Committee (including 8 invitees) consisting of 33 Central Executive Committee members (including 3 invitees). Sri. Lathish PV and Sri. Sathyarajan J were elected as General secretary and President of the Association respectively.



The 22nd State Conference of KSEB Officers Association was held online on 14th and 15th August 2021. The state conference was held online after 30 months due to the situation of the covid epidemic. 8 Webinars were conducted for the wide publicity of the conference including 6 webinars organized by district committees. The webinar on 'Dismantling Democracy' was a huge success in terms of participation. The webinar was inaugurated by former minister for Finance, Dr. Thomas Isaac. The second webinar conducted by the Central Committee was held on August 8. The topic was 'the challenges posed by the Electricity Act Amendment'. All India General Secretary of CITU Com. Tapan Sen inaugurated the webinar. The State Conference was inaugurated online by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala Sri. Pinarayi Vijayan. Hon'ble Minister for Electricity Sri. K. Krishnan Kutty delivered the keynote speech at the inaugural session. 10 resolutions were presented in the conference which would strengthen the future activities of the organization. Conference elected Dr. MG Suresh Kumar as the new president, Sri. B. Harikumar as the General Secretary and Sri. H. Madhu as the Treasurer. 136-member Central Committee (including 6 invitees) consisting of 33 Central Executive Committee members (including 3 invitees) was also elected. There are 36 ladies in CC and 7 ladies in CEC.

EEFI Conference

National Conference of EEFI was held in Hyderabad from 18th to 20th August 2017. Seven delegates participated in the conference representing the KSEB Officers Association including 2 women members.

TUI (Petrochemicals & Energy) International Conference

Trade Union International (TUI – Petrochemicals & Energy) was held on 11th and 12th September 2018 at Thiruvananthapuram. About 60 foreign delegates from 30 countries and 100 delegates from India participated in the conference. Shouldering the responsibility of hosting the conference, KSEBOA along with KSEB Workers' Association made sincere efforts to make the function a success. 12 delegates participated in the conference from KSEBOA represented in EEFI.

Study Camps

To ensure updates on various topics of relevance as well as sharpening the ideological understating continuous training and refreshing the leaders of the organization is a must. Two state level study camps and 4 regional level camps were conducted by the association during the conference period.

Service Issues

The Association is able to actively engage in service issues that affect the officers of the board in general and the members of the Association in particular.



Government of Kerala declared its policy of transparency and Corruption free approach on general transfer of employees. KSEB Ltd also followed governmental decisions and decided to process transfer applications based on a comprehensive guideline online. The Association has formed a sub-committee to propose a transparent guideline capturing requirements like medical protection, gender justice etc. and the proposal was more or less in total accepted by the management and implemented. Based on this the transfer process became transparent and complaint free.

Salary Revision

Covid pandemic affected financial stability of the state as well as KSEB Ltd and hence it was difficult for the government to process Salary revision which was due during 2018. Still the LDF government declared their commitment for salary revision based on 5 year periodicity. KSEB also started the process at the end of 2020. KSEBOA prepared a comprehensive demand for discussion and the first discussion with management was on 22th January 2021. Simultaneously discussions with Trade Unions were also held. The discussions were concluded within just 3 weeks and the LTA was signed by TUs with management on 15th February 2021. Negotiations with the officers' organizations were also concluded by that time and the pay revision order in continuation with LTA with TUs were issued accordingly.

Consumer Campaigns

KSEBOA is always committed to keep a solidarity link with consumers of KSEBL and the same was strengthened continuously through public campaigns. 'Urja Keralam' campaign during 2018-19, 'Nirav' campaign during 20-21 are two major activities as part of the same. The Urja Keralam campaign was started with the intention of introducing the new generation IT services provided by KSEB Limited. As part of the campaign delegates of the association visited a maximum number of consumers. The campaign was also effective in making the public aware of anti-people policies of the central government as well as alternate policies pursued by the LDF government in Kerala. The Consumer clinic committee of the Association coordinated the campaign.

During 2016-21, Kerala witnessed tremendous achievements in the power sector. Kerala became the first state with 100% household electrification. Urja Kerala mission was a bundle of projects implemented under the power department comprising Saura, Transgrid, Dyuthi, Filament free Kerala (FFK), and E-safe. Saura targeted 100 megawatt of solar power including 500 megawatt rooftop plants. Transgrid envisaged converting the 220kV transmission back bone of Kerala to 400kV. Dyuthi targeted redundancy in power sources in nook and corners of the state such that the interruption at the consumer end can be eliminated. FFK is implemented to replace all filament



bulbs with energy efficient LEDs. E-safe targets 100% safety in electrical installation including consumer premises.

KSEB Officers Association involved much in formulation of these projects and played a good role in getting it implemented to the targets. Constituency wise achievements on these projects as well as other flagship projects of the government were collected and presented in the Nirav program conducted state wide. A road map for future development was also formulated in seminars conducted in every assembly constituency.

New Officers' House at Kannur

The inauguration of the Officers House constructed by KSEB Officers Association in Kannur was held on 2nd July 2020. The foundation stone of the building was laid in August 2019 and was completed in 10 months. Power Minister Sri. M. M. Mani inaugurated the Officers House. The new building included a 100 seat conference hall, mini hall and room for accommodation.

Interventions in Cyclone / Flood / Covid emergencies

During 2017 Okhi cyclone badly affected the coastal belt of Thiruvananthapuram and Kollam and also hilly regions of Idukki and Pathanamthitta. KSEB Limited suffered huge damage due to this cyclone. HT and LT lines were broken in several kilometers. KSEB Officers Association along with Workers Association actively involved in handling the situation and restoration activities were intensified using volunteers from other districts. The supply was restored within days in all respect, inviting appreciation from general public at large.

During 2018, severe floods affected Kerala, due to unusually high rainfall during the monsoon season. It was the worst flood in Kerala in nearly a century. Over 483 people died, and 15 are missing. About a million people were evacuated mainly from Chengannur, Pandanad, Edanad, Aranmula, Kozhencherry, Ayiroor, Ranni, Pandalam, Kuttanad, Malappuram, Aluva, Chalakudy, Thrissur, Thiruvalla, Eraviperoor, Vallamkulam, North Paravur, Chellanam, Vypin Island and Palakkad. All 14 districts of the state were placed on red alert. One-sixth of the total population of Kerala had been directly affected by the floods and related incidents. The Government of India had declared it a Level 3 Calamity. Flood affected electricity installation also to a large extent. 2.6 Million service connections were damaged. More than 25 Lakh electric poles fell down. About fifty thousand Transformers were submerged in water. Moreover 50 substations and 19 generating stations were affected. Restoring electric supply to the flood hit areas were considered herculean and expected to be required months of hard work. Mission reconnect, a special program for restoration of electricity service declared by KSEB Ltd, requested volunteers from various walks



of life to participate the program on a war foot basis. Electricity workers from Tamil Nadu and Andhrapradesh were also participated the mission and we could complete the mission by 10 days. EEFI constituents of Kerala, KSEB Officers Association, Workers Association and EB Contract Workers Association played important roles in formulating and running the mission.

Along with mission reconnect activities, the association is actively involved in flood relief programs. All the district committees worked tirelessly to provide relief to the flood-affected people. Ensuring food, clothing, and other amenities at relief camps was the first task. When the flood situation was over the victims had to return to their houses. But no house was remaining for many. Those who found their houses back were not having basic facilities required for dwelling. Association extended whatever possible help during this situation and considered it as a basic responsibility of its members.

KSEB Ltd. could manage flood situation during 2019 and COVID Pandemic during 2020 and 2021 unitedly. Here also KSEBOA played an important role.

The Salary Challenge

Re-build Kerala was an initiative announced by Govt. of Kerala focusing reconstruction of flood hit assets including houses, roads, public buildings etc. But financial assistance received from the central Government was meager. At that juncture Sri. Pinarayi Vijayan Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala, called for a novel fund raising program to Malayalees (Malayalam speaking people) of the world, asking them to contribute at least one month salary to CMDRF. KSEB Officers' Association was the first among the service organizations to announce its full support to this salary challenge. Members of KSEBOA contributed one full month's salary to CMDRF as part of this challenge. During 2019 flood times also employees of KSEB Ltd. contributed one day salary to CMDRF.

The Vaccine Challenge

To combat COVID 19, the only way out was universal vaccination. But initially the vaccine was not free. Even state Govts. have to pay Rs 250 per viol. It becomes a burden for states if they are not willing to pass it on to the common man. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan announced that everyone in the state will be given free vaccines and called for donations from those ready to contribute for raising funds for purchasing vaccines. KSEB Officers Association donated Rs.10 lakh to the relief fund and announced its support for the vaccine challenge and requested its members to contribute generously and thus participate in the Vaccine Challenge without fail. Members of KSEBOA contributed one day's salary for the challenge.



Television Challenge

During COVID times, Kerala proudly took the decision to conduct online classes through Victor channel using information and communication technology so as to continue educational activities without interruption. But there were many homes that did not have televisions to attend online classes. The Chief Minister appealed to the general public to provide TV in these homes. The Kannur district committee started the television challenge by distributing 13 smart TVs. Later all the district committees participated in the television challenge and around 300 televisions were distributed in the state.

Farmers' Struggle Fund

EEFI had requested the member organizations to provide financial support for the farmers' strike in Delhi. Based on that, a donation of Rs 500 each was requested from the KSEBOA members. Rs. 10 lakhs was disbursed to EEFI in two phases.

Campaigns against Policies of Central Government

EEFI decided to involve 15,000 electricity workers in the maha dharna led by trade unions in Delhi from 9 to 11 November 2017. 30 members including 6 women participated on behalf of KSEB Officers' Association.

A detailed 6 page bulletin was prepared in the month of November 2018 to convey the implications of the Electricity Amendment Act to the employees and officers. It was a detailed and authoritative bulletin on the Electricity Act Amendment and was very useful for the campaigns of NCCOEEE.

KSEB Officers association prepared another set of Bulletin during March 2021. One bulletin covered various aspects of the Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2021 published during February 2021 and another on alternate policies pursued by LDF Govt. in Kerala and achievements of Kerala on Electricity Sector. The campaigns on the Electricity (Amendment) Bill as well as alternate policies of Kerala positively influenced the public and that was also a reason for a second term for LDF in Kerala, winning the assembly election during April 2021.

During March 2018, NCCOEEE called for mass demonstrations at capitals of states against the Electricity (Amendment) Bill as a campaign ahead of the Parliament March. Thousands of Electricity Employees of Kerala marched to the Raj Bhavan, Governor's residence, on 14th March 2018. KSEB Officers association could mobilize more than 500 members for this program. 24 members of KSEBOA, including 5 women participated in the Parliament March held at Delhi.

KSEBOA participated in the National strike called by the Co-ordination committee of Officers and workers of KSEB fully supported the strike, which lasted from midnight on



2018 April 1 to midnight on April 2. The strike was called by the combined trade unions other than BMS to protest against the central labor amendment.

The National Convention of trade unions had decided to hold a nationwide general strike on January 8 and 9, 2019 against the anti-people, anti-labour and anti-national policies of the NDA government. In the month of December itself, meetings were held in front of all section offices in Kerala. From January 1 to 5, notices were distributed and explained at bus stands, railway stations and intersections. There was good publicity on social media as well. Most of the officers of KSEB Limited along with members of many other organizations participated in the strike.

The Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Rally held on 5th September 2018 was the largest labour and farmer rally that Delhi has seen in recent times. 11 members including 3 women participated on behalf of KSEB

Officers Association

The Trade unions announced a strike on January 8, 2020 in protest against the anti-worker and anti-people policies of the second Modi government. On November 26, 2020, the major trade unions came together and organized a national strike to raise the major issues faced by the workers, farmers and common people of India. About 15 lakh electricity workers across the country went on strike on February 3, 2021. The strike announced by the Coordination Committee of Electricity Employees and Engineers (NCCOEEE) has been joined by the majority of people in the Kerala electricity sector.

The NCCOEEE has called for nationwide agitations based on Union Power Minister RK Singh's announcement that the Electricity Act Amendment will be introduced in the Monsoon session beginning July 19, 2021. It has been announced that on August 10, 2021, around 15 lakh electricity workers across the country will go on strike. On July 19, when the Parliament session began, protests were registered in 1000 centers by presenting a charge sheet against the central government. 30,000 bulletins were printed and distributed to convey the message of the strike to employees, pensioners and contract workers.

Interventions in Regulatory affairs

Sub-committees were formed to study each of the drafts of the Electricity Amendment Bill and provided feedback. The views of the association have been given to the Ministry of Power in this regard. The organization and the study center participated in the hearing on the multi-year tariff regulations and the public hearings related to various regulations including the tariff petition filed by KSEB.

On 11th and 12th September 2017 Prayas Energy Group (PEG) conducted a workshop at Pune with the participation of power experts from various states. KSEBOA News



Editor M P Sudeep, who represented the KSEB Officers Association, explained about Kerala's energy sector. On 3rd and 4th September 2018 Central Committee Member N Nandakumar represented KSEB Officers Association in the workshop on "Trends and Way Forward in the State Electricity Sectors" held at Hyderabad. Bose Jacob also participated in the workshop representing In-SDES. Prayas workshop to share experience in the power sector in India was held online during September 2020. E. Manoj and Shine raj participated on behalf of the organization.

Management change in KSEB

During 2016-21, Sri M M Mani, representing CPIM was the Minister for Electricity in Kerala, and now during the second term of LDF government, ministerial portfolio of Electricity is entrusted with Sri. K Krishnankutty, representing Janata Dal. This change resulted in certain changes in Board management also. CMD and other members of Director board of KSEB Ltd were changed during July 2021. The new management, instead of pursuing with the alternate policies of government, started pushing the agenda towards the policies proposed by central government. This attitude of the management caused frictions with trade unions as well as our association. The management tried to impose restrictions on the functioning of Officers Association, pointing out the officers are part of management without trade union rights. They tried even to curtail the basic right of the associations to represent matters with higher authorities including ministers. Demonstrations by the associations are also got banned. KSEBOA could not accept these restrictions and decided to resist the same.

KSEB Management decided to entrust the security of KSEB Head Quarters at Thiruvananthapuram with the State Industrial Security Force and introduce access control. Even trade Union leaders are restricted from entering the HQ with an entry pass, which is also limited by 2 passes at a time. These types of restrictions are imposed with some hidden motive, that is to curtail the militancy of Trade Unions as well as Officer organizations. Management preferred representations from individuals rather than unions. Opposing these changes Our organization along with workers association, workers federation and officers federation started relay Satyagraha from 14-02-2022 in front of KSEB HQ. The agitation concluded victorious with the withdrawal of SISF security from HQ.

On 28th of March 2022, the first day of 2 day national strike, one of our office bearers, Smt. Jasmine Banu (Executive Engineer, Electrical Division, Thiruvananthapuram) was suspended by CMD, KSEB sitting unauthorized absence from 22nd March 2022. Actually Jasmine was on a trip to North East states after availing Earned leave, with the permission from her higher authorities. The charge was also handed over to an officer suggested by the higher authority. The suspension was with a hidden agenda to frighten the officers participating in the national strike.



Aggrieved by the suspension of Jasmine Banu, the women's subcommittee of KSEBOA planned a dharna on 05-04-2022. But KSEB Management banned the dharna and declare dies-non on that day. Then the association decided to make the dharna a general one with the participation of men officers also. About 500 Officers participated in the dharna making it a grand success. In retaliation to this CMD, KSEB suspended the president and General Secretary of the association. Association declared an indefinite Satyagraha at HQ from 11-04-22. On 13th the suspensions are withdrawn, but the leaders are reinstated at faraway places as a revenge. Association decided to continue with the agitation. On 19th of April 2022, the association organized a mass rally at the HQ with 1247 members physically participating in the agitation. LDF leaders intervened and discussed with the Minister and decided to settle the issue. But CMD was not ready to obey the decisions of the settlement. Finally during July 2022, CMD was sacked from the post.

Even though the issues connected with these agitations are almost settled, there are certain damages that happened to the institution as well as organization during this period. The goodwill of the organization got tarnished among the public due to misinformation passed by then CMD. Also there are certain decisions, such as rolling out Smart Meters under Totex model, shelving regular posts and filling the vacancies on contract etc., required to be rectified. KSEBOA is now working on the same to rectify the damages, in coordination with KSEBWA.

National Strike

KSEBOA participated in all national strikes called by coordination of Trade Unions. On the last national strike, on 28th and 29th March 2022, 95% of Officers of KSEB participated on the first day and 89% on the second day. More than 98% of Members of KSEBOA participated in the strike.



ELECTRICITY BOARD CONTRACT WORKERS' ASSOCIATION (CITU), KERALA

There are around 15000 contract workers , in KSEB Ltd, spanning across numerous cadres. EBCWA is in an unending task of uniting them along with protecting the jobs and wages of this downtrodden class.

KSEBL management is holding a blind eye towards the contract workers, who comprise more than 30% of the combined workforce in KSEBL. Besides, contract workers are a backborn to the day to day activities of KSEBL, such as maintenance works in distribution sector, operation activities of Transmission and Generation wings. In the recent past, the management has unfairly reduced the wages paid to contract meter readers, that too at the time of revision of pay and allowances of permanent employees. The association is agitating agaisnt this atrocious gesture towards this category. It is added that LDF Govt, Kerala, came forward to offer a helping hand by providing a finacial assistance to the preys of Covid 19, among contract employees under Govt of Kerala. It is unfortunate to say that no such gesture was seen from KSEB management.

Petty contract workers are an integral part of the ditribution sector. The management is trying to wipe them off. EBCWA is standing strongly, behind petty contractors, agaisnt this torment and discrimination, by conducting frequent and numerous protests. On 20th of December 2020 agitations were successfully conducted in front of Division offices, demanding justice for the contract workwes. 2 more agiations, of similar kind, were conducted in front of all the Circle offices on 7th of July and 30th of November, last year.

The state capital of Thiruvananthapuram has witnessed a historic march of this union on the 22nd of August 2022. The protest march was held in front of State Secretariat, upholding 14 demands. Com: Anathalavattom Anandan, state president, CITU inaugurated the march. The electrcity minister reacted postively towards the 14 demands and assured remedial actions. EBCWA is an active partner in all the activities conducted by NCCOEEE.

As a result of the indfenite strike led by this union, in 1995, it was decided to reserve 25% vacancies for contract workers, in the cadre of mazdoor. In the wake of this decision, Contract workers association led a brave fight in labour tribunals and was in legal battle, for recruiting contract workers. On 2019 the dream was realized, with the help of LDF government. 1468 contract workers were inducted to KSEBL, as permanent employees, in this historic move.



District conventions were carried out in all the 14 districts, in the past 2 years. It was targeted to unite them and to make them aware of the exploitation, they are subjected to. As a result of the tedious and fruitful involvement of the union among contract workers, a gradual progress was seen in membership. The membership details are as follows, 2000 in 2018, 1416 in 2019, 2034 in 2020 and 3416 in 2021. The state conference was held on 18th of January 2021. EEFI working committee member Com: V V Vijayan was elected as State president and Com K C Sibin was elected as General Secretary.

CESC CONTRACTOR WORKERS UNION WEST BENGAL

Comrades and friends of eefiour working peripheral zone is within the cesc area with a number of nearly 5000 workmen.. after all atrocious behavior of management & tmc union we establish ourselves as second largest contractor union till date. we transform our identity as electricity employee to construction employee in the year of 2017. As directed by citu we also hold the hands of permanent union of cesc that the ceswmu one of the founder constituents of eefi. After 5th conference of eefi we unitedly hold our conference and also functioning with democratic manner. We settled our pay revision jointly with INTTUC .The unsolved issues which has not solved we raising through displaying the demands. We strictly follow the guidelines of CITU unity & struggle. After demise of our president there is a higher leadership crisis we observed. Few months ago as conference directed the contractor's union Co opt vice president from CESWU. ON 15th September both the union ceswu & contractor's union jointly demonstrated against electricity bill 2022 in front of cesc house.



TRIPURA BIDYUT KARMI UNION

{Constituent Union of Tripura Employee's Co-ordination Committee (H.G.B Road) & recognized by Electricity Employee's Federation of India}

(TRADU UNION REGD. NO-338)

Central Office: 16, Office lane, Agartala, Tripura (West)

President :Ranabir Roy

Mob : 9774229354

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COMPREHENSIVE ACTIVITY REPORT: FOR THE PERIOD: Year 2017 to 2021.

Energy is absolutely crucial for the future of mankind. Energy growth is directly linked with well-being and prosperity of the country. Other than economic growth, human developmental aspects like poverty reduction, employment generation, etc. are also considerably dependent on secure energy supply.

TRIPURA STATE ELECTRICITY CORPORATION LIMITED (hereinafter referred to as "TSECL" or the "utility")

The power supply industry in Tripura had been under the control of the state Government till 31st December 2004. As part of the power sector reforms, Tripura State Electricity Corporation Limited (TSECL) was formed and registered under the Companies Act 1956 on the 9th June 2004, in compliance with the MOU among the Ministry of Power, Government of India & Government of Tripura. TSECL was made functional, under Section 131 & 133 of the Indian Electricity Act 2003, w.e.f 1st January 2005.

The then ruling left front state government was compelled to approve such anti-people power sector reforms in Tripura under enormous pressure from the Ministry of Power, GOI. Yet, the left front Govt. Considering the power scenario of the state as well as continuing power supply to the common consumers of the state at an affordable rate, it holds a cent percent share of TSECL.

Curse of privatization: power sector in Tripura affected by deepening crisis

The privatization drive of the corrupt and ousted CMD of Tripura State Electrical Corporation Limited (TSECL) since 2018, M.S. Kele with connivance from high-ups in the ministry in lieu of hefty 'service charge' has done a permanent damage to the power sector in Tripura. This is reflected in extremely shoddy service, delay in repairing faults and long hours of power cuts and load shedding in different parts of the state. Protests and demonstrations by people demanding restoration of power supply and repairing of faults has been a regular feature of Life in Tripura.



Ousted M.D had given away charge of five electrical Divisions of the state to three dubious private entities including 'Sai Computers', 'Ma Harsiddhi', Fedco etc. that have failed to deliver promised services but have been continuing in the state by paying their way through to high-ups in the government. Apart from this, TSECL had played a dirty trick in awarding the works to dubious private entities by putting in terms and conditions in the tender which competent local contractors and firms could not meet, only to give works to outsiders in lieu of hefty bribes. The worst disservice of the incompetent and corrupt outside firms is in the sector of fault repairing and bill collection both of which have become a major source of suffering for the people and power consumers but there is no relief because of the callous attitude of the ruling BJP-IPFT led coalition state government. Ironically Tripura power department and the TSECL have all the wherewithal for efficient power supply work but it is the sheer incompetence and corruption of the government

That have created a mess. At present Tripura's current peak hour demand for power is 290-310 megawatts and the state generates from all sources 240-250 megawatts. The gap is taken care of by purchasing power from the northeastern grid and from Palatanaproject , Gomati, Tripura (Commissioned in 2013, during the left front Government , is the first Government owned -power plant in India) which also exports 160 megawatts daily to Bangladesh at a price. "All this means that Tripura should have no power problem but it is gross mismanagement by outsourced private parties.

TBKU (Tripura BidyutKarmi Union) REPORT:

In the year of 1976, Tripura BidyutKarmi Union was formed with a view to ensure supply of electricity to the entire state citizen at an affordable rate and to strengthen the unity of electricity workers of the state. Since its inception the Union tried its level best to change the outlook of Union members towards a leftist democratic mindset.

But after completing the 4th anniversary on 9th March'2022 of the BJP-IPFT coalition government coming to power in Tripura, the whole state at present is suffering a lot. Democracy, Law & Order, freedom of expression has no place in the state of Tripura in this regime. On many occasions, a section of police personnel & civil administrators act as a partisan of the present ruling parties. Hence, murder, rape, molestation of woman has become a common phenomenon. Local mafias are becoming powerful day-by-day as they are blessed by the ruling party leaders. In short, the entire administrative set up has become almost powerless to act freely & impartially for the common people of the state. All local bodies had knelt down to the Mondal committees, a political fraction of BJP. Right to protest has ceased.

Organization activity report :

In such a perilous state of affairs, since last 8th National Conference of EEFI, TBKU



attempting to implement EEFI calls, participating in CITU movements, Protest against Agriculture Bill simultaneously organizerally , seminar against the privatization of power sector, campaigning and public meeting on the issues like 'Electricity Amendment Bill' in order to commercialization of electricity in the name of 'reform'. Opposing the engagement of casual, contract labour, outsourcing, privatization of distribution sector of TSECL our Union undertook statewide agitation programme. All these activities helped our Union to develop to all districts in the state. Unfortunately, a large section of Electricity Engineers of different organization of power sector in Tripura under the aegis of ruling BJP-IPFT government remain absolutely quite on all above issues .

During pandemic situation, our state Tripura had suffered a lot. The maximum of Covid deaths in the state Tripura had been due to mismanagement by the Government of Tripura. Considering the dreadful situation in our state during covid period our union members rendered their essential service for maintaining power supply, generation & transmission throughout the state. Members of our Union contributed their on-day salary towards Chief Minister Relief Fund as a part of noble cause.

On 1 st June, 2020 National Protest Day on electricity amendment bill, we organize a programme in front of Bidyutbhanwan, Tripura helping with CITU. A good number of members of our organization attend the said programme.

In the month of Sept,2020 CITU state committee organized a programme in whole the state (centrally at in front of Bidyut Bhawan) against Electricity Amendment bill(2020), on that day our organization distributed 15,000 leaflet for awareness of the common people the disadvantage of the said bill.

On 6 th Sept, 2020 we also conduct a Press Meet against Privatization of Electric Division & sub-divisions of the State, our some burning demand, withdraw of Electricity Amendment Bill, 2020, etc.

On 1 st November, 2020, A convention conducted by CITU regarding 26 th Nov, 2020 All India Strike at Town Hall, Our organization also participate in the said programme.

16 th State Conference of the Organization was held on 9 th January 2021. Com, Ranabir Roy & Com Subrata Ganguly elected unanimously in the said conference as a President & General Secretary of the organization. A good numbers of delegates are attended in the conference.

During Covid -19 period the organization (centrally and some sub division also) distributed of food materials to the poor people in the state helping with local peoples.

On 3 rd Feb, 2021 All Indian Strike on Power Sector, We are not going to strike because there is a no situation in our state to going to strike but on the same day we have conducted a rally infavour of Strike and lastly a street corner also conducted in



Agartalacity and some sub-division also conducted that type of programme.

On 15 th June, 2021 we had conduct a press meet regarding Electricity Amendment Bill 2020- 2021 and other some issues of employees and consumers of electricity.

On 26 th July 2021, A protest programme organize on road with hanging play card in the heart of city against Electricity Amendment Bill 2020-2021 which programme scheduled was 19 th July 2021 called by EEFI .

Out of these, our organization regularly jointly moved with CITU, State Committee and TECC on various burning issues of the common peoples and employees of the state. It is note that in the last 4 years present state Govt. (BJP) release only 8% D.A out of 31% D.A.

Condolence: last 8th National Conference of EEFI, 2017, we had lost our 4 (Four) effective leaders of Union Central Committee Members:

Com. Badal Sharma, Ex. General Secretary, TBKU, 2) Com. Krishna kamalSaha, 3) Com. Subrata saha, 4) Com. Notan Sarkar

Power Sector in Tripura :

In late 2018, after the fall of the Left Front Government, the present BJP-IPFT coalition led government adopted the policy of privatization of TSECL for achieving corporate vision.

***Introduction of Distribution Franchise:**

TSECL adopted the mechanism of distribution franchisee initially for five electrical divisions in the state.

*** Trading: Cross –border sale of power to Bangladesh is about 160 MW.**

*** Challenges in power system of Tripura:**

Though Tripura is a power surplus state but, due to sheer incompetence and corruption of the present state government consumers' of the state are suffering a lot. Due to lack of proper & regular maintenance, renovation & modernization of distribution centers, failures of power supply occur due to frequent outages/breakdowns of transmission & distribution networks.



UNITED ELECTRICITY CONTRACT WORKERS UNION ANDHRA PRADESH

- 1) In the month of August 2017 we have conducted 2 Jeep Jathas, Covered SP DCL, EPDCL Jursidiacion with 10 days. We have met the workers in the sub stations. At the end of the Jathas Programme, Dharnas held before the companies. This Jathas, Dharnas are utilized for unite and to move forward among the workers.
- 2) In the year of 2017 September month, state level indefinite hunger fasts conducted with five days. Union state leaders were participated in these hunger fasts, as a result Government has appointed a committee on the Contract Workers demands.
- 3) All the Contract Workers Unions were formed unitedly as a Joint Forum. To forum this united platform our contract workers union has taken a lead, and important role. Under this united Joint Action Forum, a huge public meeting and rallies with 10,000 workers were conducted in December 2017.
- 4) Under this Contract Workers unions united action forum 15 days indefinite hunger fast strike was conducted. In this indefinite strike a large number of workers participated. Bundh of SPDCL, EPDCL companies held. Managements and Government suppressed on the movement.
- 5) In august 29th – 2018 State Electricity Office (Vidyuth Soudha) Bundh Programme held with 3,000 workers. Government arrested workers, despite arrests due to agitation the companies are bould to had taken decession for hike of wages. Consequently the Government has decided to enhance the wages from 2018 April on wards.
- 6) In the year of 2019 “Chalo Vijayawada” programme was held on the demands of Equal Pay for Equal Work, to absolve all the Contract Workers Services in the State Electricity Board Organization and not the contract workers services should be mixed in the outsourcing corporation. A Dharna was held with 2000 workers.
- 7) On the Demands of Meterreaders, Provide Job security and not to retrench the Meter Readers a “Chalo Vijayawada” programme held with 3000 workers in 2019 September. As a result Government has announced for not retrenchments of Meter readers
- 8) On the demands of Watchman’s who were qualified ITI, they are to be appointed as shift operators, a relay hunger fast programmes held with 48 days in 2020, and 78 days in 2021 before SPDCL Offices. Though the Covid pandemic was very high



these hunger Fast held. Management has agreed and bound to appointed 250 watchman's as shift operators.

- 9) In the year of 2021, November 29th, 30th meter readers hunger fasts were held. On December 1st "Challo Vijayawada Programme held with 2,500 Meter Readers. Electricity Minister's house capture had programme conducted, nearly 1000 workers participated. As a result Management has get step down and discussed with us. Assurances were given for meter readers Job Security.
- 10) Against Electricity Amended Act our United Electricity Employees Union, Contract workers Union conducted a State convention on October 3rd 2021, in which 1500 workers from Permanent and Contract Workers Participated. EEFI All India Secretary Mr.Prasanth Chowdary.
- 11) Protests, and strikes were held for the demand of raise the piece rates for hamalees. Management agreed for Enhance the Piece Rates.
- 12) Against the State Governments decession for handover the Damodaram Sanjeevayya Thermal Plant to Adani company for 25 years lease the protests, Demonstrations, agitations, were held in the plant of Nellore District up to 200 days. These programmes are being continiouiug, our union has a key role in this agitations.
- 13) A JAC was formed with 4 Contract Workers Union, and under this JAC on August 3rd State Convention was held, above 1000 workers participated. Phasevise Agitational programmes were taken in this convention and our union is forefront and important role in the JAC.
- 14) We were implemented the programmes which are given against the Electricity Amendment Acts.



DVC Shramik Union EEFI

डीवीसी श्रमिक यूनियन

डीवीसी स्वतंत्र भारत का पहला सरकारी नदी परियोजना है। इसका मुख्य उद्देश्य दामोदर नदी में बाढ़ नियंत्रण और भूमि क्षय को रोकते हुए सिंचाई, औद्योगिक और घरेलू उपयोग और जल विद्युत उत्पादन के लिए संरक्षित पानी का हस्तेमाल करना। साथ ही नदी घाटी में भूमिगत कोयले का उपयोग कर ताप विद्युत का उत्पादन करना। लेकिन मौजूदा केंद्र सरकार की नीति है सरकारी संस्थानों का निजीकरण करना। डीवीसी प्रबंधन भी उस लक्ष्य की दिशा में काम कर रहे हैं। नतीजतन, डीवीसी धीरे-धीरे बहुआयामी से दिशाहीन में बदल गया है। ताप विद्युत उत्पादन अब मुख्य उद्देश्य है। लेकिन प्रबंधन इस ओर भी ध्यान नहीं देता। वर्तमान में हमारी उत्पादन क्षमता 7917.2 मेगावाट है लेकिन मांग की कमी के कारण औसतन 4000 - 4500 मेगावाट बिजली का उत्पादन किया जा रहा है। नतीजतन, प्रबंधन ने पुरानी परियोजनाओं को बंद करने की योजना अपनाई है। पिछले 3/4 साल से "डीवीसी बचाओ" के मांग को लेकर हम लगातार संघर्ष कर रहे हैं। लंबे समय तक घाटे में चलने के बाद डीवीसी ने पिछले 2 साल से मुनाफा कमाना शुरू कर किया है। बिजली की मांग भी कुछ बढ़ गई है। हाल की चर्चाओं में प्रबंधन ने सभी परियोजनाओं में नई इकाइयां स्थापित करने पर सहमति व्यक्त की है। ये नई इकाइयां पश्चिम बंगाल के दुर्गापुर और रघुनाथपुर एवं झारखंड के कोडरमा में स्थापित की जाएंगी।

इस समयावधि में उल्लेखनीय आंदोलन है प्रस्तावित विद्युत संशोधन विधेयक के खिलाफ। इस बिल के खिलाफ स्वयं के प्रयास से किए गए विभिन्न कार्यक्रमों के अलावा, हमने ईईएफआई के सभी कार्यक्रमों को अंजाम दिया है। इसके अलावा, हमने श्रम कोड के खिलाफ और किसान संघर्ष के समर्थन में कई प्रचार आंदोलनों का आयोजन किया। पिछले सम्मेलन के बाद से कर्मचारियों की विभिन्न मांगों की पूर्ति के लिए हम लगातार आंदोलन कर रहे हैं। जिनमें से मुख्य मांगों में शामिल हैं - कर्मी संकुचन के खिलाफ, नई पेंशन योजना के खिलाफ, श्रमिकों के लिए कुशल पदोन्नति नीति, अस्थायी श्रमिकों की न्यूनतम मजदूरी और सामाजिक सुरक्षा आदि। आंदोलन में कुछ मांगों को पूरा करना संभव हुआ है।

यूनियन के पिछले सम्मेलन के बाद हमने एक संयुक्त आंदोलन की कोशिश की है। इसमें हमें सफलता मिली है। हमारे नेतृत्व में आई एन टी टी यू सी (टी एम सी) को छोड़कर सभी यूनियनों के साथ एक संयुक्त संघर्ष समिति का गठन किया गया था। इस अवधि के दौरान, संयुक्त संघर्ष समिति की पहल के तहत केंद्रीय मांगों के साथ-साथ अपनी मांगों पर कई आंदोलनों का आयोजन किया गया। उक्त संगठन के बैनर तले कुछ कार्यक्रम शाखा-आधारित और केंद्रीय आधार पर लिए गए हैं। सबसे बड़ा कार्यक्रम था 2 दिसंबर 2021 से डीवीसी मुख्यालय में लगातार भूख हड़ताल।

कुछ दिन पहले डीवीसी में यूनियन की मान्यता का चुनाव हुआ था। हमारा प्रयास था बीएमएस और टीएमसी यूनियनों को छोड़कर सभी यूनियनों को एक साथ लेकर लड़ना था। जो काफी हद तक सफल रहा है। हमने सीटू, इंटक, एटक और यूटीयूसी के साथ एक मंच बनाकर अपने यूनियन (डीवीसी श्रमिक यूनियन) के नाम पर चुनाव में भाग लिया। कर्मचारियों का सहयोग भी मिला। इस चुनाव में डीवीसी श्रमिक यूनियन को 57 फीसदी वोट हासिल कर मान्यता मिली। वहीं, टीएमसी को 38 फीसदी और बीएमएस को महज 5 फीसदी वोट मिले। चुनाव के बाद हम बातचीत के जरिए मजदूरों की मांगों को निपटाने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। हालांकि यूनियन ने फैसला लिया है कि अगर बातचीत के अच्छे नतीजे नहीं निकले तो फिर से आंदोलन का कार्यक्रम अपनाया जाएगा।

हमारे यूनियन का एक मुखपत्र है। 'श्रमिक संवाद' नाम का एक चर्चित अखबार पहले साल में 4 बार छपता था। लेकिन वर्तमान में मजदूरों की घटती संख्या और आर्थिक कारणों से इसे वर्ष में एक बार हिंदी और बंगला भाषाओं में एक पत्रिका के रूप में प्रकाशित किया जा रहा है।

सीटू और ईईएफआई के सिद्धांतों के अनुसार, हम यूनियन का कामकाज लोकतांत्रिक तरीके से करते हैं। हमें पश्चिम बंगाल और झारखंड के विस्तृत क्षेत्र में काम करना पड़ता है। इसलिए आर्थिक कारणों से संगठन की आवश्यकता के अनुसार सम्पूर्ण घाटी में हमेशा सही तरीके से कार्य करना संभव नहीं हो पाता है। हमारे पास 14



शाखा कमिटी हैं जो मुख्य रूप से प्रोजेक्टवाइज हैं। हम केंद्रीय कमिटी और शाखा कमिटी की नियमित बैठकें करते हैं। स्टाफ कम होने और नई बहाली न होने के कारण हमारी सदस्यता संख्या धीरे-धीरे कम हो रही है। लेकिन हर साल हम नियमित रूप से दिसंबर के महीने में सदस्यता का नवीनीकरण करते हैं और मार्च के महीने में रिटर्न जमा करते हैं।

हमारे यूनियन का बारहवां सम्मेलन पिछले 12-13 मार्च 2022 को मैथन में आयोजित किया गया था। प्रख्यात मजदूर नेता और हमारी यूनियन के अध्यक्ष स्वर्गीय कॉमरेड श्यामल चक्रवर्ती नगर और डीवीसी श्रमिक यूनियन के प्रथम महासचिव स्वर्गीय कॉमरेड करुणामय बटब्याल मंच पर हमारा सम्मेलन हुआ। सम्मेलन के उद्घाटन समारोह में सम्मेलन के वर्तमान अध्यक्ष और पूर्व सांसद कॉमरेड वासुदेव आचारिया, प्रख्यात वकील और सांसद कॉमरेड विकास रंजन भट्टाचार्य, ईईएफआई के महासचिव कॉमरेड प्रशांत नंदी चौधरी, सीआईटीयू झारखंड राज्य महासचिव कामरेड प्रकाश बिप्लवी, यूटीयूसी के महासचिव कॉमरेड अशोक घोष, हमारे यूनियन के प्रथम अध्यक्ष कॉमरेड सुशील चक्रवर्ती सहित अन्य संगठनों के नेतृत्व उपस्थित थे। सम्मेलन में 7 प्रस्तावों को पारित किया गया। जैसे कि राष्ट्रीय संस्था डीवीसी को रक्षा करना, 28-29 मार्च 2022 की अखिल भारतीय आम हड़ताल के समर्थन में, केंद्र सरकार के जनविरोधी नितियों के खिलाफ, बिजली संशोधन विधेयक और नए पेंशन अधिनियम को निरस्त करने के मांग पर। कॉमरेड वासुदेव आचारिया को अध्यक्ष और कॉमरेड प्रशान्त नन्दी चौधरी और कॉमरेड बिकाश रंजन भट्टाचार्य को उपाध्यक्ष के रूप में और कॉमरेड अभिजीत राँय को महासचिव चुनकर 59 सदस्यों की एक केंद्रीय कमिटी का गठन किया गया।



TELANGANA STATE UNITED ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES UNION. REGN:-H-1829, AFFL: CITU

Union Structure:

- In Telangana, with 31 Districts comprising of 31 Circles functioning, out of 31 Circles only 19 circles have committees along with 1 State committee, 2 Discom committees, 1 Transco committee and 1 Genco committee. TSUEEU has its presence in Transco, 2 Discoms and Genco.
- Out of 19 circle committees, only 11 are effectively functioning. Remaining 8 circles to be developed for an effective functioning and we are trying to expand across all the remaining circles.
- 2021 - Total membership 4932, in comparison with 2020 we see an increase of 2381.
- In 2019 our second state conference passed the resolution to achieve 10,000 membership, but we did not meet the set target due to Pandemic and less efforts. And this needs to be corrected hereafter.
- 2017-2022 – During this period we conducted 16 state committee meetings, 2 extended state committee meetings, 10 office bearer meetings with an average of 65% attendance.

Key Problem areas of work force:

There are 4 kinds of working employees, i.e., i) Piece rate worker ii) Un men workers iii) O&M workers and provincial (Regular employees) iv) Artisans.

- i) Piece rate worker: - They are approx. 6500 workers, getting their salary based on piece rate, ex: per bill/per receipt. With an approximate amount of Rs 1.50 per piece, they don't have minimum wages, social security benefits like ESI & PF, and Job security.
- ii) Un Men worker: - There are approx. 1600 workers, working based on very low wages, completely dependent on Contractors, they are discharging same nature of work on par with regular employees and Artisans. They are not absorbed to the department as Artisans in 2017 because of no legal identity like ESI, PF docs.

At present they are having ESI, PF facility and unskilled wages approx. Rs 8000/ month.



- iii) O&M workers and provincial: - They are around 35,000 regular employees. These employees are facing higher work load impacting work life balance, due to management not recruiting sufficient employees regularly according to the increase of services day by day. Employees who were appointed between 1999-2005 have no GPF (Old Pension system) facility. Whereas the regular state Govt, employees have got an extension up to 2005, and our management failed to adapt the same benefits, in this regard all trade unions regularly approaching the management as well as state government, but we don't see any resolution. The employees without GPF are 4700. With the same ask we demand the management to apply the GPF facility to all employees recruited so far.
- iv) Artisans: - They are approx. 23600 outsourced/contract workers absorbed in 29-July-2017. Behind this historical achievement, TEETUF JAC has played significant struggles for around 1 year to achieve this. But, Artisans pay scales are fixed by the management was very low in comparison to regular employees. The same TEETUF JAC formed again in 2018-2019, for the purpose of resolving low wages and allowances and finally in 2019 an agreement was made between management and JAC, agreeing for the following benefits like personal pay, service register, monthly pay slip, paid holidays, compassionate appointments, funeral charges (Rs20,000), wage revision for the coming years, DA, HRA, CCA, medical allowances, medical credit card facility, promotions for higher grade etc... on par with regular employees. Apart from these facilities many facilities to be adapted in lieu with regular employees. At present Artisans demanding convert their grades to JLM, JPA, Jr. Asst, Watch & Ward, and Sweeper etc. as per their qualifications. This conversion system is already in force, ex: - O&M to Sub Engineer, Provincial.
- All the above 4 classes are suffering from work load with in appropriate staffing.

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- 20 Representations submitted to the management to resolve the main issues for all kinds of employees
- In 2017, 100 members participated in Dharna organized by CITU to revise the minimum wages GO. To scheduled industry workers
- March 2017, MahaDharna with 1500 members held at SPDCL and NPDCL headquarters to full fill the regularization of Artisans as this was promised by the honorable Chief Minister.
- 23,600 – Contract / Outsourced workers are absorbed with the settlement. Dated 28-July-2017, this agreement made according to 12/3 of the industrial dispute act 1947, rule 60 of Telangana State Industrial disputes rules 1958.



- July 2017, 5 days strike was organized to resolve Artisan demands, in this strike H82 Union also participated. Eventually this was not a success and there was a loss of 5 days of Salary.
- Feb 2018, a round table meeting conducted with all unions to resolve the demand of Artisans regularization.
- July 2018, formation of TVKS JAC, this JAC fought for 30 days continuously to resolve the issues above, in this struggle the Un Men gang workers got a facility of ESI, PF and Minimum wages GO.
- September 2019: - Formation of 2nd TEETUF JAC to resolve long pending demands (near about 72 demands) , 4 dharnas were held at company headquarters with 5000 work force in continuation TEETUF called a Mahadharna on 23-Sep-2019 in Hyderabad and warned the management if the demands are not met, JAC will go for lightning strike. With this warning management came down to discuss the demands.
- October 2019: - the management conducted a joint meeting with JAC and agreed for 13 main demands issuing orders as well.
- November 2019: - Our union organized human chain in support to RTC employees' historical 52 days strike. Some employees helped by giving hand loans without any profit motive to their known RTC employees. 1 day food arrangements were made to the neighboring RTC employees
- 2020-2021: - Covid-19 pandemic started, the whole year was impacted in dealing with pandemic and its consequences, hence no union activities were held. During this pandemic situation we focused on Covidaffected employees and their wellbeing. To meet the medical requirements for Covid infected employees we have demanded the management to issue unlimited medical credit facility for Covid treatment. Management constituted a special committee with GM level officers to oversee the pandemic situation in helping the Covid affected employees. In this pandemic our union leaders were in regular touch with management and affected employees, unfortunately we have lost some precious lives
- December 2020: - 1 day Hunger strike was organized with 40 participants,in various districts demanding EPF to GPF and APSEB service rules implementation for Artisans. 1500 employees gathered to support the hunger strike.
- March 2021: - A Letter sent to honorable Chief Minister, with the demand to full fill the above regularization of Artisans, conducting signature campaign with an approximate of 7000 signatures. A representation also submitted to the state electricity minister.



- 19-March 2021: - Strike notice submitted to the management to resolve long pending demands.
- March 2021: - a copy of strike notice submitted to DE – SE level.
- June 2021: - Organized a dharna to revoke Artisan transfer orders
- December 2021: - Representation submitted to the management for formation of a new PRC. Benefits emolument should be from April 2022.
- March 2022: - formed a JAC, named as TSPE JAC comprising 13 Unions/ associations.

NCCOEE all India Struggles opposing EA bill:

- 1/6/2020 – Black Day, participation – 3000
- 18/8/2020 – Dharna, 6000 employees
- 5/10/2020 – Dharna, 2000 employees, Solidarity for UP electricity employees
- 08/12/2020 – Dharna, 5000 employees, EA bill.
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Financial Aid:

- 08/08/2018 – 1 Day Salary donated to Kerala flood victims.
- Rs 19,600/- collected from employees on 1 day hunger strike program and donated to support the farmers protesting.



In pandemic covid situation, during lockdown, every district committee donated daily needs to the migrant labor and poor jobless people – approximately the value of total donations are 2 lakhs, and some districts conducted Ambali (Ragi Malt) kendrams during lockdown.

In Telangana, with 31 Districts comprising of 31 Circles functioning, out of 31 Circles only 19 circles have committees along with 1 State committee, 2 Discom committees, 1 Transco committee and 1 Genco committee. TSUEEU has its presence in Transco, 2 Discoms and Genco.

- Out of 19 circle committees, only 11 are effectively functioning. Remaining 8 circles to be developed for an effective functioning and we are trying to expand across all the remaining circles.
- 2021 - Total membership 4932, in comparison with 2020 we see an increase of 2381.
- In 2019 our second state conference passed the resolution to achieve 10,000 membership, but we did not meet the set target due to Pandemic and less efforts. And this needs to be corrected hereafter.
- 2017-2022 – During this period we conducted 16 state committee meetings, 2 extended state committee meetings, 10 office bearer meetings with an average of 65% attendance.

Key Problem areas of work force:

There are 4 kinds of working employees, i.e., i) Piece rate worker ii) Un men workers iii) O&M workers and provincial (Regular employees) iv) Artisans.

- i) Piece rate worker: - They are approx. 6500 workers, getting their salary based on piece rate, ex: per bill/per receipt. With an approximate amount of Rs 1.50 per piece, they don't have minimum wages, social security benefits like ESI & PF, and Job security.
- ii) Un Men worker: - There are approx. 1600 workers, working based on very low wages, completely dependent on Contractors, they are discharging same nature of work on par with regular employees and Artisans. They are not absorbed to the department as Artisans in 2017 because of no legal identity like ESI , PF docs.

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PUNJAB ACTIVITY REPORT

On call of EEFI, from 15-02-18 to 20- 02-18 circle level conventions were held for preparation of March to Parliament program of EEFI, participated in March to Parliament action on 03-04-2018. 4 comrades from Punjab participated in the Hindi trade union school organized by EEFI on 29, 30-07-2018 at Faridabad on eve of Karl Marx and October Revolution. Participated in National level Convention on 08-06-2018. On 05-09-18 MSU along with TSU participated in March to Parliament action in Delhi On call of Public Campaign about proposed Electricity Amendment Act various rallies were organized at sub-division, division levels, in its continuation MSU/TSU participated in Patiala Convention on behalf of EEFI organized by NCCOEEE on 14-03-2018. As directed by EEFI, various Memorandum on Draft of Electricity Amendment Act were submitted to Central Govt. & Punjab Govt.

Anti-Privatization struggle of National Trade Unions: On call of EEFI & National Trade Unions MSU/TSU participated in All India strike on 07-01-19 & 08-01-19, 08-01-2020 & 26-11-20. Participated in protest rallies against privatization of UP Electricity employees and wrote protest letter to UP CM & Central Power Minister.



UT Electricity bodies' anti-privatization struggle: MSU/TSU participated in work boycott/protest rallies against privatization of UT's by Central Govt. MSU participated in Chandigarh dharna of EEFI on 29/10/2020. MSU observed Protest rallies across Punjab on 23-02-2022 against privatization of Chandigarh Electricity Board under banner of PSEB Employees Joint Forum and refused to do duty of striking employees of Chandigarh.

Struggle against Power Management: MSU/TSU participated in strike against power management on 19- 03-2020. MSU observed 20 state level dharnas' in front of Head office Patiala during this period for fulfilment of various employee demands like





Pay revision and other related issues, abolition of post, privatization, and regularization of Contact worker under banner of PSEB Joint Forum.

Numerous protest rallies were organised at subdivision/division level during this period. MSU participated in mass casual leave protest against power management for revision of pay scales of electricity employees from 15-11- 2021 to 28-11-2021(14 days) under the banner of PSEB Employees Joint Forum in which EEFI constituents MSU, TSU & CWU are the part of . Many employees' related issues were resolved. MSU participated in various agitations against Punjab government.

Workshops for awareness: MSU organized two special workshops to raise awareness in electricity employees about the proposed Amendments in Electricity Act 2003 on 16-10-2021 and 18-12-2021 in Bathinda and Jalandhar respectively and its impact on Power sector. More than 100 comrades participated in these workshops addressed by EEFI Vice President Com. Karjwinder Singh, EEFI WC member Com Harbhajan



Singh and MSU State President Com Harpal Singh. Special convention was convened to aware the employees about proposed labour codes by central Govt. One such type trade union school was organized at Barnala in which MSU, Contract workers Union





(CWU) and TSU workers participated, it was addressed by EEFI WC member Com. Harbhajan Singh.

Contract Worker Union: CWU observed 4 state Level Dharnas' in front of Head Office Patiala. One Week chain Hunger strike from 18-09-21 to 22-09-21 and rallies were held by Contact workers Union in front of Head office duly supported by MSU & TSU for various demands of Contract workers. CWU also held protest rallies against Punjab govt

on various issues. CWU also held a large protest march to Punjab CM residence and gave memorandum to Punjab Finance Minister regarding Regularization of Contract workers.

Historical Movement of SKM: MSU continuously remained in touch with this historical agitation and participated in various agitation/ protest rallies throughout Punjab and continuously send its employees for participation on Delhi border on call of SKM along with TSU and CWU. MSU participated in 29-09-21 call of Bharat Band by SKM. Our organization also provided regular financial support to SKM during this movement.





U.T., POWERMEN UNION CHANDIGARH (REGD.)



CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS: #1012, SECTOR 28-B, U.T. CHANDIGARH

Mobile no.: 8054021012, E.mail:gopal_joshi@ymail.com



1st February 2022 Strike

WORK REPORT U.T. POWERMEN OF UNION CHANDIGARH

After 8th Conference of EEFI, the U.T. Powermen Union Chandigarh observe numbers of agitational programme in support of common demands of U.T. & MC Employees, All India agitation on the call of CITU & Central Trade Unions as well as its own level for the implantation of local demands. The main agitational programme are as below.

2017

9-11 November, 2017:- The members of our union massively participated in 9-11 November, 2017 Maha Padao in Delhi alongwith CITU & U.T. Employees Federation.

28 December, 2017:- The U.T. Power. man Union Chandigarh Host the north zone convention of NCCOEEE on 28th December 2017 at Chandigarh. Members of the Union participated in the convention in a massive way. The power Engineers and Employees of 9 states of North Zone participated in the convention which was addressed by National leaders of NCCOEEE.



2018

11th January, 2018:- Union stage a day long Dharna on the call of EEFI against the exploitation of contract workers on 11th January, 2018 union through the Dharna submit a charter of demands to Finance Secretary Cum Secy. Engg. on contract employees demands.

8th February, 2018:- The Electricity Employees of Chandigarh under the banner of U.T. Powermen Union Chandigarh held a protest rally here in Sector 17, Chandigarh against the negative attitude of Chandigarh Administration towards the genuine demands of U.T. Chandigarh Electricity Deptt. Employee for filling up vacant posts, procurement of materials, offer of appointments to the next kin of deceased employees, compensation to the dependents of deceased employees beside other demands.

20.02.2018:- The Electricity Employees of Chandigarh massively participated in the memoth Dharna of Federation of U.T. Employees 86 workers Chandigarh on 20th February, 2018 in support of the demands of U.T. Chandigarh Employees such as Regularization of all temporary workers, Pending regularization implement equal pay for equal work i.e. initial pay + DA 86 other allowances, Filling up vacant posts, Appointment on companionate grounds on Punjab pattern by scrapping 5% cealing, Amendments in recruitment rules, Removal of pay anomalies etc. A memorandum through Deputy Commissioner submitted to the Advisor to the Administrator UT Chandigarh.

27th March, 2018:- The members of the Union also participate in 27th march, 2018 Dharna of U.T. Employees on the call of AISGEF as a victory rally as Chandigarh Administration earlier agreed main of the demands in the meeting held with the Federation of U.T. Employees 86 workers Chandigarh on 23.03.2018.

1st May, 2018:- May Day was organized jointly with the Federation, CITU, Employees Fourm and other sister organizations in Sector 17, Chandigarh. A procession was also taken out in main market, Sector 17, Chandigarh.

12th June 2018:- A memoth rally was organized by the Federation of U.T. Employees & Workers Chandigarh on 12th June, 2018 on the call AISGEF against the exploitation of contract workers 86 restoration of old pension scheme. Electricity employees Chandigarh participated in rally massively.

29-30th July, 2018:- 2 members of the Union attended 2 days Trade Union School in Faridabad, (Haryana) on 29-30th July, 2018.

08th August, 2018:- A massive demonstration was held by the Electricity Employees for Filling up vacant posts in the department and Appointments on companionate ground by scrapping 5% cealing on Punjab / PSPCL pattern beside demanding high level enquiry of increasing accidents while working on power lines.



05th September, 2018 Delhi Rally:- The Electricity Employees of Chandigarh alongwith Federation of U.T. Employees & workers Chandigarh 8v CITU participated in Majdoor-Kishan Rally held at Delhi on 05th September, 2018. In preparation of rally union held gate meetings, group meetings and distribute leaf lets printed by EEFI & CITU in the month of July & August, 2018.

11-12th September, 2018:- One delegate of the Union participated in the 2nd conference of Trade Union International (energy & petrochemical) in Thiruvanthapuram (Kerala) on 11-12 September, 2017.

4th-5th October, 2018:- Trade Union workshop and working committee meeting EEFI attended by the Union General Secretary on 5th October, 2018 at Bhuwadeshwar (Odisha).

17th December, 2018:- The Union massively participated in the convention held under the banner of Federation of U.T. Employees & Workers Chandigarh on 17th December, 2018 in preparation of 2 days nationwide strike on 8-9th January, 2019. The convention was also addressed by Corn. Subhash Lamba Chairman AISGEF & Vice President EEFI and other leaders of SKS Haryana and PSSF (Punjab).

20th December, 2018:- Union also participated in the massive rally and demonstration held under the banner of Federation of U.T. Employees workers Chandigarh on 20.12.2018 and submit 2 days strike notice to the Advisor to the Administrator U.T. Chandigarh through Deputy Commissioner U.T. Chandigarh alongwith 1 1/2 dozen Unions affiliates to Federation.

2019

8-9th January, 2019:- The Electricity Employees of Chandigarh on the call of U.T. Powermen Union Chandigarh observe complete strike on 9th January 2019, on the call of Central Trade Unions including EEFI/NCCOEEE. Union in the month of November and December 2018 campaign to success the strike, thousand of leaf lets have been distributed, gate meetings and rallies were held before all the offices to organize employees, a joint team of Federation Campaign for the success of strike as the strike notice was jointly submitted by the 1 1/2 Dozen unions of U.T. Chandigarh.

On 8th January all the strike employees held joint rally and took out procession in Sector 17, Chandigarh in which Electricity employees along with other affiliates of Federation participated through procession. The striking Electricity Employees also participated in the rally and Procession the call for which given by the federation of U.T. employees and workers Chandigarh on **9th January, 2019** also. The Chandigarh Administration announce no work-no pay beside other action and deputed Police Force and Executive Engineers and Assistant Engineers of the department and Junior Engineers of Electrical Circle (PWD) and some contractors workers in Electricity



complaint centres and 66 KV/33 KV Sub Stations but they remain fail to maintain the power supply/breakdown and power supply was become normal on 10th January, 2019.

21.02.2019:– After upto 8th and 9th January Strike, union participated in 21st February 2019 Delhi Rally jointly with federation of UT Employee Workers, on the call of AISGEF. A Massive Protest Dharna was held on 7th March 2019 and again on 19th March 2019 for the implementation of long pending demands as well as demanding reinstatement of 8 numbers employees who have been compulsory retired by the administration in false and fabricated cases. Further observe May Day as Anti Exploitation Day 01.05.2019 in support of long pending demands union further observe protest demonstration on 16th May 2019 against the failure of the administration to implement the demands, further through the demonstration union submit one day strike notice on 30th May 2019 which was later on deferred after written agreement. Thereafter the union participated in a massive rally and demonstration held on the call of Federation of UT Employees and Workers Chandigarh on 19th June 2019 for the regularization of all type of temporary Workers and implementation of equal work equal pay to them.

JULY 2019

July 2019 - Chandigarh Administration again re-open the case of corporatization/ privatization of well running and profit making UT Electricity Department for which tender process have been started to appoint consultant for the purpose of privatization/ corporatization in the name of re-structuring the Electricity Wing of Engineering Department, against this proposal union held its Executive Committee meeting which decided to appose the proposal of the Chandigarh Administration and decided to held protest rallies, demonstrations, continuous dharnas beside the calling of representatives of all the trade unions, resident welfare associations and political parties.

5th August to 22nd November 2019:- After the decision of Chandigarh Administration to go ahead and start of tender process to appoint consultant for the restricting the electricity department i.e. to privatize/corporatize the department. The dates of tender fixed on 05.08.2019, 19.08.2019, 09.09.2019, 17.09.2019, 24.09.2019, 01.10.2019, 09.10.2019, 17.10.2019, 05.11.2019 and latest on 22.11.2019 (10 dates) on each date starting from 05.08.2019 to 22.11.2019, union lodge protest dharna's before the Electricity Office, Sector 17 (The office of Nodal Officer), to appose the process of privatization/corporatization. During the period union in support of long pending demands and against privatization give 2 hrs pendown/tool down strike in all the shifts and also decide to observe gazetted holiday on 27.10.2019 (Diwali) but the decision of pendown/tool down strike on 17.10.2019 & observe gazetted holiday on 27.10.2019 were withdrawn, in view of time bond commitment given by the authorities to implement the demands. After Diwali the Administration again start the tender



process for appointment of consultant which was opened on 22.11.2019. Union on 22.11.2019 held a protest Dharna & further announce to distribute leaflets in sectors, markets, villages & colonies through Jatha March.

In the meantime union also decide to observe 8th January 2020 strike on the call of Central Trade Unions. The call for which was given in open convention on 30.09.2019, which was attended by 5 members of Union alongwith other leaders of UT Employees preparation of 8th Jan 2020 strike has also been started jointly with other sister unions under the banner of Federation of UT Employees & Workers Chandigarh.

13.12.2019:- A massive rally & demonstration was held in preparation of 8th January 2020 strike as well as to press long pending demands and to oppose the move to privatize / corporatize the well running & profit making U.T. electricity Department, Chandigarh The rally and demonstration was held on 13.12.2019 in Sector 17, Chandigarh, highlighting the National demands raised by EEFI/NCCOEEE & AISGEF as well as local issues beside highlighting the privatization/Corporatization Electricity Department in which leaders of Union and sister organizations strongly criticize the privatization policy of govt. of India and said that on one side Govt. of India time and again highlighting that only sick public sector/power sector which are in loss will be privatized but contrary to the statements and decisions of Govt. of India the Chandigarh Administration is privatizing the well running and profit making U.T. Electricity Department Chandigarh and implementing the failed structure like Orissa, Enron (Maharashtra) and Andhra Pradesh etc. One of other reason of privatizing of power sector was huge loss of SEBs which was Rs. 26000 Crores before the unbundling which was increased now to Rs. 10 Lakh Crore. But even in spite of 100% shortage of staff and acute shortage of material the Chandigarh Electricity Department is earning approx. Rs. 100 crores of profit. The department accredited as best utility in the country by the JERC and bagged the tag consistently for last 5 years. Most profit earning department, never went into loss despite having no generation and compromising on contribution of states only. Best consumer services despite huge shortage of staff. Ratio of disposal of public grievances is much less than the standards fixed by the JERC. Line losses to the tune of 9% to 10% only, which is an example for the states. Achieved the proficiency level to the tune of 99.99% as per target fixed by JERC and G.O.I. Metered supply to the tune of 95% including slum/rural area. Minimum power outages in comparison to states. Regulating all the power outages and broadcast system of outages to the public domain, thus there is no need to privatize the department and demand that high level enquiry of the episode for which tenders are being floated time and again.

20.12.2019 :- The employees of the Electricity Department U.T. Chandigarh Massively participated in the Joint Dharna of the U.T. Employees on the call of Federation of U.T. Employees & Workers Chandigarh on 20.12.2019 before the office of Municipal Corporation Chandigarh from 10 A.M. to 2 PM. After the Dharna and Mass Rally, union



alongwith others unions submit strike notice to the Chandigarh Administration through its Advisor to the Administrator with copy to all heads of departments.

24.12.2019:- The members of the Union also participated in the Joint Convention of Federation of U.T. Employees & Workers, LIC & GIC, EPF employees, Post & Telegraph BSNL, Punjab Board & Corporations, Accountant General, under the banner of Employees Forum and CITU Chandigarh, in preparation of 8.01.2020 strike on the call of National Trade Unions.

2020

08.01.2020:- The Electricity employees observe complete strike on 08.01.2020 in all the shifts. The strike of Electricity Employee began in midnight of 8th and continued till 00 hours on 9th January 2020. The employees in the morning assembled before their respective offices and raised slogan against the Governments and reached the venue of rally i.e. opposite Parade Ground Sector 17 Chandigarh and joined the rally of the UT employees. Thereafter under the banner of Federation of U.T. Employees & Workers Chandigarh taken out procession towards the Brij Market, Sector 17, Chandigarh and also joined the joint rally of Central Trade Unions and Employees Federations.

05.02.2020:- After cancellation of Tender for the appointment of consultant to privatization/corporatization the U.T. Electricity Department Chandigarh till the 08.01.2020. After the union budget, the Administrator Union Territory Chandigarh again wrote a letter to the Secretary Engineering Department to re-float the tender after giving relaxation in CPWD, GFR & Advise the Chandigarh Administration to allot the tender process without any security deposit and bank guarantee, penalty etc. against which union held a massive rally & protest demonstration on 05.02.2020 which further decided to hold a massive dharna on 11.02.2020 in support of Bihar State Power Employees as well as against the Chandigarh Administration for recalling tenders for the appointment of consultant to privatize/corporatize the U.T. Electricity Department and further lodged Big Protest on 18.02.2020 for cancellation of Tender to appointment of Consultant for the Corporatization. On 25.02.2020 raised the issue of Shortage of Staff before the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission during public hearing in Chandigarh and also participated in Massive Dharna of Federation of UT Employees Worker Chandigarh on 12.03.2020 against the decision of Chandigarh Administration to impose smart watch on MC employees a symbol of slavery.

On 09th April 2020:- During the period of Covid-19 union also raised Protest by implementing Covid-19 Precautions as Administration during this period also tried to complete the process of Corporatization and also observe May Day during this period.

17th April 2020:- Govt. of India Ministry of Power placed the Electricity Amendment Bill 2020 in Public Domain, Union raised the objection against the Draft Bill, further Govt. of India also decided to privatize the distribution system of Union Territory, The Union



also raised its objections as per EEFI guidelines and made representation to Hon'ble Prime Minister.

1st June 2020:– On the call of NCCOEEE Union observe Protest Day and wearing Black Badges and lodge protest before various electricity offices by maintaining social distance and wearing mask and further union also participate on Protest Day on the call of AISGEF on 4th June 2020 by observing Rallies during lunch time.

3rd July 2020:- Union also lodged rallies on 8th June 2020, 20th June 2020, 24th June 2020, 25th June 2020 and 2 hours byecott the work and held Protest Day on 03rd July 2020. On 8th July 2020 also lodged protest and send the memorandum to the Hon'ble Prime Minister to withdraw the decision of Privatization of UT Electricity Department Chandigarh. Thereafter the memorandum against privatization submitted to the Chandigarh Administration, Leaders of Political parties, Residents Welfare Associations, Former Members of Parliament, as well as Chairman of Steering Committee on Privatization i.e. Secretary power and all its members on 18th July 2020 and 22nd July 2020. The process of submitting memorandum continue during the month of July and August.

18.08.2020:– Union on the call of NCCOEEE observe energy security day and held a protest demonstration before the Electricity Office, Sector 17E and Industrial Area, Phase-1, Chandigarh, thereafter protest were continue on 17.9.2020, 21.09.2020, 24.09.2020, 28.09.2020 and also lodged protest on 05.10.2020 in support of the agitation of UP Electricity on call of NCCOEEE. Further in its joint rally held on 13.10.2020 the union decide to observe one day strike on 26.11.2020.

During the period Chandigarh administration decide to float the tender regarding 100% privatization of UT Electricity Department against the decision Union Lodged number of protest involving/public representative, political parties, trade unions and residents federations. The UT Powermen Union against the decision of Chandigarh Administration speed up the protest during Covid 19 when draft electricity Amendment Bill 2020 came in public domain and there after GOI decided to privatize distribution of UTs, and Administration of Chandigarh float tender on 10.11.2020, The Electricity Employees 1st stage held day long dharna on 15.10.2020 and 22.10.2020 at its own level and there after a Protest was lodged on the call of NCCOEEE on 29th October 2020 in which employees of the UT Chandigarh, Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pardesh participated and leader's of NCCOEEE addressed, but Administration reluctant and go ahead, The protest was Continued, Massive protest rallies and demonstration were held again on 05.11.2020 which submitted strike notice for 26.11.2020. Again on 13.11.2020 and 16.11.2020 and on 21.11.2020 joint press conference were organized along with Federation of Residents Welfare Association, thereafter protest March was taken out and effigy was burnt on 23.11.2020 in which all the representative



of the Residents Federation and Political Parties have participated and detailed memorandum was submitted to the Administrator and 100% strike was observe on 26.11.2020 still pre bid meeting fix on 1.12.2020, A Massive protest demonstration was held on 01.12.2020, boycotting total work at the meeting venue, but meeting held by shifting Venue to other place, on the same day Hon'ble Pb. and Hr High Court stay the bidding process, but agitation remains continued, Union also participated in the protest rally on 08.12.2020 and 23.12.2020 in support of Farmer Agitation and also join the protest in Singhu Border and further participated in Massive Rally of UT Employees on 17.12.2020.

2021

Union held protest rallies on 18.01.2021, 19.01.2021, 20.01.2021 and lodged a big protest on 21.01.2021 against the privatization jointly with Federation of UT Employees and Worker Chandigarh which was addressed by Comrade Subhash Lamba Vice President AISGEF, thereafter complete strike was observe on 3rd February 2021 and on 8th February and 26th February, 5th March 2021, 12.03.2021, 18.03.2021, 20.03.2021, held rallies and demonstration and a massive protest held on 22.03.2021 on the opening date of tender and Effigy of Administration was burnt, Thereafter, a massive protest dharna was held on 07.04.2021 and proceed march towards Governor House and again submit a detail memorandum to the Administrator UT Chandigarh. But the Administration proceed further and union observe complete work by cott on 20th April 2021, It is also pertinent that Administration file appeal in the Supreme Court and Apex Court stay the High Court Order and back the matter to High Court. Hon'ble High Court again stayed bidding on 28.05.2021, but the struggle program were continued on 08.06.2021, 23.06.2021 and All India Protest Day were observe on 15.07.2021 on the call of AISGEF and further on 03.08.2021, 04.08.2021, 05.08.2021, 06.08.2021 regular protest were observe and a massive protest dharna was observe on 10.08.2021, bycott in the work. A massive protest was held against NMP on 1st September and National Protest Day was observe on 29th September 2021, On 7th October & 12th October 2021 & 29.11.2021 protest rallies were held in support of demands. On 09.12.2021 union held protest rally on the call of NCCOEEE further on 13.12.2021 and 15.12.2021 joint rallies were held which decide to observe two days strike on 23-24 February 2022. Further on 28.12.2021 union participated in massive convention of UT Employees at Bhakna Bhawan, Sector 29, Chandigarh in preparation of 23-24 February strike. This convention was addressed by Comrade Subhash Lamba Vice President EEFI and National President AISGEF.

2022

GOI approved cabinet note sent by Chandigarh Administration for the 100% privatization of UT Electricity Department, Chandigarh on 6th January 2022, union



immediately called its Executive committee meeting on 7.1.2022, which decide to gear up the agitation union immediately take of the matter with the General Secretary EEFI and decide to held massive rally on 11th January 2022 and submit strike notice for 1st February 2022, thereafter, on 18th January 2022 protest dharna was held again and took out procession and also submitted 7th February 2022 strike notice against LOI in addition to above strike Plan. Thereafter, a Massive Dharna was held and again submit a memorandum to Governor of Punjab and Administrator UT Chandigarh, This Dharna announced Four days strike i.e. on **1st February 2022, 07.02.2022 and 23 and 24th February 2022**. Later Executive committee of union met on 31.01.2022 which was also attended by Comrade P.N. Chaudhary General Secretary EEFI and Comrade Subhash Lamba which decide to observe 1st February 2022 strike, and public meeting was held on 7th February 2022 instead of strike and further decide to observe 3 days strike from 22-24 February 2022 if the Administration not withdraw its decision of 100% privatization, Accordingly complete strike was observed on 1st February, public seminar was organized on 7th February 2022 which decide a public rally on 15th February 2022 before the 3 days strike. Accordingly a massive huge public rally was held on 15.02.2022 in which all political parties, trade unions, residents federation, villages struggle committees, religious bodies and farmers associations, youths and women association participated in a massive way. This public rally also submit joint memorandum to the Governor Punjab and Administrator UT Chandigarh to withdraw the privatization decision but still administration did not start the negotiation which forced the union to observe 3 Days strike which was begins from 21st February 2022 night. On 21st February 2022 Advisor to the Administrator called the delegation for Negotiation but did not give any assurance. On 22nd February 2022 High Court issue suo-moto and Administration imposed ESMA and Employees and Officer of other departments i.e. Electrical, MES, Punjab, Haryana, BBMB called on and military also took charge but all of above remain fail to normalize faults resultantly negotiation were held with the Deputy Commissioner UT Chandigarh who gave assurance that the LOI will not issued till the pending decision and issue minutes, accordingly union was called off the strike on 22.02.2022 after meeting with DC Chandigarh, but Admin betrayed and repression has started after calling off the strike. Accordingly termination orders of 17 workers and suspension of 2 Jr. Engineers have been issued, beside issuing show cause notices to 129 employees and FIRs have been lodged against 143 of striking employees.

But it is matter pride that employees faced the repression bravely. It is pertinent to mention with proud that the whole agitation was organized under the guideline of Comrade P.N. Chaudhary General and Comrade Subhash Lamba who always remain and stay with the strikers during the entire period of agitation and i.e. during seminar, public rallies, strike and guided us to tackle the entire situation during strike and boost the moral of the employees. We are also thankful to EEFI Centre for guiding



and controlling the entire situation even after the strike and help us for re-organizing the agitation again.

After 22-24 Feb. 2022, strike of U.T. Electricity employees, the Administration has tried to extend ESMA for another six months, but did not succeed, but Chandigarh Administration is still adopting total repressive attitude and all works/demands of the employees including Pay-Revision, Promotion etc. have been delayed. Despite repeated request the termination of contractor workers not been revoked even their attendance on 23.02.2022 has been mark of other employees.

All the employees join duty including these 17 contractual employees after meeting with Deputy Commissioner, UT Chandigarh. The minutes of meeting have been issued, but after switch off the strike instead of resolving issues, Admin adopted malafide and adamant attitude, even now they are only planning that if such situation arise, how they deal it, sou-moto and PIL is also pending before Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court, which they are using it as a tool.

Even Under these circumstances the union make all efforts to boost the employees, gate meetings & rallies are being regularly organized before all the offices.

On 19th March good number of employees participated in Mass Convention organized by the NCCOEEE, on 23rd March a massive Rally was held jointly under the banner of Federation of UT Employees & Workers Chandigarh. The members of Union also massively participated in the rallies on 28th and 29th March 2022 on the strike call of Central Trade Unions. May day was observe Jointly The electricity Employees also participated in Demand day rally held on the call of Federation of UT Employees & workers Chandigarh as per the decision of All India State Government Employees Federation on 27.05.2022. The rally was also addressed by Com. Subhash Lamba President AISGEF & President EEFI.

The memorandum regarding demands including the issues of Electricity Employees given to the Administrator through Deputy Commissioner UT Chandigarh. The meeting have been fixed with the Advisor to the Administrator and other officers, assurances given at various levels but no positive result have yet been seen. The Electricity employees also massively participated in the Mass Dharna of UT and MC Employees on the call of Federation of UT Employees Workers Chandigarh on 15th September 2022 in Sector 17 Chandigarh for the implementation of demands including against the repression on Electricity Employees and further decide to lodge regular protests at its own level as well as to participate in joint struggles.

Regarding court case in Punjab and Haryana High Court against privatization:-

The Financial bid (HI) have been opened, eminent electric company is the highest bidder amounting Rs. 871 Crore. After strike the regular hearing of court case is begins.



LOI is stayed till the pending decision of Court. Next date of hearing is 23.09.2022. The administration appointed Additional Solicitor General of Hon'ble Supreme Court for Argument. On the other hand the date of Sou-moto & PIL is fixed on 04.08.2022. An other PIL filed by 75 Residents Welfare Association also adjourned to 26th December 2022.

Solidarity with the Farmers movement:

The union members massively participated in the joint movements in support of farmers agitation as well as its own level. Participated in rallies and march towards Singhu Border dozen of agitation programme have been lodged in support of Farmers agitations under the banner of Federation of UT Employees Workers Chandigarh.

Voice, Affiliation & Fund:– Union have remitted all the dues regarding affiliation, struggle funds and voice of the Electricity Workers.

While submitting the work report mentioned as above we wish to success the 9th All India Conference of Electricity Employees Federation of India (EEFI). With the revolutionary greetings.





ALL HARYANA POWER CORPORATIONS WORKER UNION

(Affiliated E.E.F.I./SKS, Haryana)

(Regd. No. 1308)



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Date : 19-09-2022

EEFI के 8वें प्रतिनिधि सम्मेलन से अब तक की मुख्य गतिविधियों की रिपोर्ट

18 से 20 अगस्त 2017 ई.ई.एफ.आई. के राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन हैदराबाद के बाद से अब तक राज्य में की गई गतिविधियों की रिपोर्ट इस प्रकार है।

1. बिजली निगमों में कार्यरत कच्चे कर्मचारियों की मांगों को लेकर 26 सितम्बर 2017 को मुख्य अभियंता रोहतक के कार्यालय पर प्रदर्शन करके ज्ञापन दिया गया। 11 अक्टूबर 2017 को यहीं प्रदर्शन मुख्य अभियंता गुडगांवा के कार्यालय पर किया गया।
2. 10 जनवरी 2018 को ई.ई.एफ.आई. के आह्वान पर सर्कल स्तर पर प्रदर्शन करके ज्ञापन दिए गए। 18 फरवरी 2018 को एन.सी.सी.ओ.ई.ई.ई. की चण्डीगढ़ कन्वेंशन में लगभग 100 कार्यकर्ताओं ने भाग लिया।
3. 14 मार्च 2018 को मुख्यालय शक्ति भवन पंचकुला पर एन.सी.सी.ओ.ई.ई.ई. के आह्वान पर बिजली संशोधन बिल 2014 व कच्चे कर्मचारियों की मांगों को लेकर राज्य स्तरीय प्रदर्शन करके ज्ञापन दिया गया, जिसमें लगभग 2500 बिजली कर्मचारियों व इंजीनियरों ने भाग लिया।
4. यूनियन के सांगठनिक चुनाव 15 जनवरी से 10 फरवरी तक सब यूनिट, 11 फरवरी से 5 मार्च तक यूनिट, 6 मार्च से 20 मार्च तक सर्कल सचिव व 23-24 मार्च 2018 को राज्य प्रतिनिधि सम्मेलन किया गया।
5. 3 अप्रैल 2018 को ई.ई.एफ.आई. के आह्वान पर दिल्ली प्रदर्शन में हरियाणा से अच्छी संख्या में कर्मचारियों ने हिस्सा लिया।
6. कच्चे कर्मचारियों की मांगों को लेकर 19 अप्रैल 2018 को कार्यकारी अभियंताओं को प्रदर्शन करके ज्ञापन दिए गए। 12 अप्रैल को सब डिविजन पर ज्ञापन दिए गए थे। 15 मई 2018 को सर्कल स्तर पर मशाल जुलूस निकाले गए। 19 मई को केन्द्रीय परिषद की बैठक की गई जिसके निर्णय अनुसार 4 जून 2018 से 17 अगस्त 2018 तक मुख्यमंत्री के शहर करनाल में धरना शुरू किया गया इसमें एक यूनिट प्रतिदिन धरने पर बैठी।
7. 8 जून को एन.सी.सी.ओ.ई.ई.ई. की दिल्ली कन्वेंशन में भाग लिया गया। 13 जून 2018 को गुडगांवा जोन के कर्मचारियों द्वारा मुख्य अभियंता को प्रदर्शन करके ज्ञापन दिया गया। 3 जुलाई को रोहतक जोन के कर्मचारियों ने मुख्य अभियंता रोहतक कार्यालय पर प्रदर्शन करके ज्ञापन दिया। 24 जुलाई 2018 को हिसार मुख्य अभियंता के कार्यालय पर प्रदर्शन करके ज्ञापन दिया।
8. 7 अगस्त 2018 को रोडवेज कर्मचारियों की हड़ताल का समर्थन किया गया। 14 अगस्त को वितरण कम्पनियों के साढ़े सातों फीडों को फ्रैंचाइजी पर दिए जाने के प्रस्ताव के विरोध में काले बिल्ले लगाकर व काले झण्डे लेकर सब यूनिटों पर प्रदर्शन किए गए।
9. 11-12 सितम्बर 2018 को त्रिवेन्द्रम में हुई टी.यू.आई. (एनर्जी) के सम्मेलन में 2 साथियों ने भाग लिया।
10. सरकार के द्वारा बिजली निगमों में हड़ताल में भाग लेने वाले कर्मचारियों की प्रमोशन रोकने, बायोमैट्रिक उपस्थिति प्रणाली लगाने का दबाव बनाने, तबादला नीति को थोपने जैसे कार्यों को लेकर बिजली कर्मचारियों ने 25 जनवरी को पूरे प्रदेश में सब यूनिट स्तर पर प्रदर्शन करके ए.सी.एस. को ज्ञापन भेजे।
11. 27 फरवरी 2019 को यूनिट स्तर पर ज्ञापन दिए गए। 7 मार्च को ए.सी.एस. कार्यालय पंचकुला का घेराव रखा गया। जिसके तहत 19 मार्च 2019 को यूनियन की वार्ता समिति से ए.सी.एस. की बातचीत हुई व मुख्य मांगों पर सहमति बनी।
12. 1 जुलाई से 15 जुलाई 2019 तक नई चुनौतियों के बीच यूनिट स्तर पर कार्यकर्ता सम्मेलन करने का निर्णय लिया गया।
13. उत्तर हरियाणा बिजली वितरण निगम पंचकुला स्थित मुख्यालय व पंचकुला जिले में कच्चे कर्मचारियों के वेतन में 5 प्रतिशत की बढ़ोतरी के लिए प्रबंध निदेशक से पत्र लिखकर बातचीत की गई। निगमों में भर्ती होने के बाद विभागीय पेपर



पास करने की शर्त को पूरा न करने पर 4 एस.डी.ओ., 1 एकाऊटेंट को नौकरी से बर्खास्त करने व 7 एस.डी.ओ. को रिवर्ट करके जे.ई.-1 बना देने के विरोध में प्रबंधन को विरोध पत्र लिखा व 14 नवम्बर 2019 को सब यूनिट स्तर पर अन्य मांगों को शामिल करके एस.डी.ओ. के माध्यम से ए.सी.एस. को ज्ञापन भेजे गए।

14. दिनांक 18 नवम्बर 2019 को वार्ता समिति की मीटिंग दक्षिण हरियाणा बिजली वितरण निगम मुख्यालय हिसार में की गई। जिसमें 14 नवम्बर के ज्ञापन व मांगों पर चर्चा की गई।
15. 30 नवम्बर 2019 को राज्य कार्यकारिणी की मीटिंग में वितरण निगमों व प्रसारण निगम की तरह उत्पादन निगम में भी पेपर पास न करने की शर्त के चलते कर्मचारियों व अधिकारियों की बर्खास्तगी की तैयारी के चलते यूनियन द्वारा 22.11.2019 को विरोध पत्र लिखा गया।
16. 22 व 23 मार्च 2021 को सिरसा में संगठन का राज्य स्तरीय प्रतिनिधि सम्मेलन किया गया।
17. 10 अगस्त 2021 की हड़ताल की तैयारियां की गई परन्तु हड़ताल स्थगित हो गई।
18. हरियाणा कौशल रोजगार निगम के विरोध में आंदोलन शुरू किया गया जिसके तहत 15 जून 2022 को पंचकुला मुख्यालय पर प्रदर्शन किया। 13 अगस्त 2022 को बिजली मंत्री के कैम्प कार्यालय सिरसा पर प्रदर्शन करके ज्ञापन दिया गया। इसके बाद 26-8-2022 से 15-11-2022 तक सर्कल स्तर पर बिजली मंत्री के पुतले जलाने का कार्यक्रम चल रहा है। इसके बावजूद भी यदि यूनियन के मांग पत्र पर बातचीत व समाधान नहीं होता है तो 22 नवम्बर 2022 को एक दिन की सांकेतिक हड़ताल की जाएगी।

अन्य गतिविधियाँ :-

19. किसान सभा के राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन (3 से 6 अक्टूबर 2017, हिसार) के लिए विशेष सहयोग राशि लगभग 7 लाख रुपये इकट्ठे करके दिए गए।
20. सर्व कर्मचारी संघ हरियाणा के "जनता की ओर" कार्यक्रम में भागेदारी करते हुए 29 अप्रैल 2018 की जीन्द रैली में अग्रणी भागेदारी की गई।
21. नगर पालिका कर्मचारियों द्वारा की गई 14 दिन की हड़ताल के समर्थन में यूनियन द्वारा 25 मई 2018 को 2 घण्टे काम का बहिष्कार करने की कॉल दी गई परन्तु 24 मई को ही नगर पालिका कर्मचारी संघ का सरकार से समझौता हो गया, साथ ही यूनियन द्वारा नगर पालिका कर्मचारी संघ को 1 लाख रुपये की मदद भी दी गई।
22. एन.पी.एस. के विरोध में 20 मई 2018 को सर्व कर्मचारी संघ हरियाणा के विरोध प्रदर्शनों व 22 मई को अखिल भारतीय राज्य सरकारी कर्मचारी महासंघ के आंदोलन के समर्थन में प्रदर्शनों में भागेदारी की गई।
23. 9 अगस्त को सर्व कर्मचारी संघ हरियाणा के मशाल जुलूसों में भाग लिया गया। 10 सितम्बर 2018 को सर्व कर्मचारी संघ हरियाणा द्वारा विधान सभा कक्ष में बड़-चढ़कर भागेदारी की गई।
24. 5 सितम्बर 2018 को संसद पर किसान-मजदूर संघ रैली में भाग लिया गया। केरल बाढ़ पीड़ितों के लिए सर्व कर्मचारी संघ के साथ मिलकर राहत राशि इकट्ठी की गई।
25. हरियाणा राज्य परिवहन कर्मचारियों द्वारा की गई हड़ताल के समर्थन में सर्व कर्मचारी संघ हरियाणा के साथ 26 अक्टूबर 2018 को एक दिन की मास कैजुएल लीव ली गई व 30-31 अक्टूबर 2018 को दो दिन की हड़ताल की गई।
26. 8-9 जनवरी को राष्ट्रव्यापी हड़ताल में हिस्सा लिया गया। अखिल भारतीय राज्य सरकारी कर्मचारी महासंघ के आह्वान पर 21 फरवरी 2019 को पुरानी पेंशन बहाली को लेकर संसद कक्ष व 25 फरवरी 2019 को सर्व कर्मचारी संघ हरियाणा द्वारा जिला स्तर पर किए गए धरना प्रदर्शनों में भाग लिया।
27. 8 सितम्बर 2019 को कर्नाल में सर्व कर्मचारी संघ हरियाणा की राज्य स्तरीय रैली में अच्छी संख्या में भागेदारी की।
28. 8 जनवरी 2020 की राष्ट्रव्यापी हड़ताल में बिजली कर्मचारियों ने बड़-चढ़ कर भाग लिया। 3 फरवरी 2021 को किसान आंदोलन के समर्थन ई.ई.एफ.आई. के आह्वान पर एक दिन की हड़ताल की गई।
29. एन.सी.सी.ओ.ई.ई.ई. के आह्वान पर 3-8-2021 के दिल्ली धरने में भाग लिया गया। 6-10-2021 से उत्तराखण्ड बिजली कर्मचारियों द्वारा की गई हड़ताल का समर्थन किया गया।
30. एक वर्ष से भी अधिक समय तक चले किसान आंदोलन में यूनियन द्वारा शुरू करके सर्व कर्मचारी संघ हरियाणा, सीटू व किसान सभा के सहयोग से जीन्द शूगर मिल पर लंगर चलाया गया।

ऑल हरियाणा पावर कारपोरेशनज वर्कर यूनियन की ओर से

प्रेषित :

1. महासचिव इलेक्ट्रिसिटी एम्प्लोईज फ़ेडरेशन ऑफ इंडिया, (ई.ई.एफ.आई)
पी. राममूर्ति भवन, प्लॉट नं. 20, सेक्टर-6, पुष्प विहार,
एम.बी.रोड, साकेत, नई दिल्ली।

Nepal

नरेश कुमार
महासचिव



JAMMU AND KASHMIR NON-GAZETTED ELECTRICAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (JKNGEEA)

Registered under G O NO: - 415 OF 1972

H. O:- PDD Complex Bemina Srinagar.

**Affiliated with: - 1. J&K Co-ordination Committee of Trade
Unions (JKCCTU)**

2. Electricity Employees Federation of India (EEFI)

BRIEF REPORT OF SOME MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF J&K NON- GAZITTEED ELECTRICAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (JKNGEEA) FOR LAST HREE YEARS.

2nd, State Conference of JKNGEEA

J&K Non Gazetted Electrical Employees Association (JKNGEEA) held its 2nd, State Conference at Forest Information centre Jammu on 3rd, March 2019 which was attended by 150 delegates from across the state. The conference besides adopting many resolutions elected a 23 member State Executive committee with Freed Ahmad Mir as President, Md. Maqbool as Gen. Secretary, Md. Iqal Dadsar as Chief Organisator and Surinder kumar as Cashier.

Struggle against Unbundling of Power Sector in J&K

Our organisation JKNGEEA took initiative and formed a joint Platform of Employees and Engineers Unions at Jammu to launch a long and a protected struggle against the State Govt,s decision of unbundling. We organised a Press conference at Srinagar on 14-10-2018 to launch the struggle and announced the action programme. We held many seminars ,Gate meetings, Demonstrations , Distributed leaflets through out the state in the year of 2019 and finally gave a call of indefinite Strike from 17th, January 2020 which was a tremendous success and participated y by all the engineers and employees through the state, There was complete breakdown of power in the entire Jammu and Kashmir and the Govt. has to call the Army to restore the power who failed miserably .All the Grid stations and Receiving stations were handed over to the Army and repressive measures like threatening, dismissal from service,arrests were announced but finally the Govt. scummed before the striking employees after 72 hours of complete strike and resumed the negotiation and agreed most of the demands especially, put the unbundling issue on hold, decided to regularise the services of



casual workers against available vacancies and cleared the promotions of engineers which were pending since long. We are very thank ful to the EEFI and NCCEEE who whole heartedly supported the strike and held solidarity demonstrations at hundreds of places through out the country on 19th, January 2020 which made the struggle successful.

5th, August 2019 abrogation of article 370 in J&K and its effect on Trade Unions.

5th, August 2019 was a black day for a very old historical State of Jammu and Kashmir. On this day the present Central Govt. led by Narinder Modi took unconstitutional and undemocratic decision and abrogated article 370 and 35A and divided the State of Jammu and Kashmir into two union territories like Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir. Before two days of this decision the whole state was put under siege and all communication network including telephone and internet was blocked which remained completely shut for atleast six months. All activities were put on halt due to this draconian decision and people were subjected to undue harassment, intimidation and all political leaders, social activists even main stream politicians were put behind the bars. This decisions has effected all the normal activities including our Trade union activities also badly. Now Jammu and Kashmir after making the union territory, the unbundling process has been hastened and five corporations like two distribution companies, two transmission companies and one State Trading company has been formed. Democratic and Trade Union activities has suffered a lot during this period and today even the harassment of employees and workers by one pretext or other is going on and Trade union and labour rights are constantly under severe attack.

Effects of Covid 19 Pandemic

The world wide pandemic which effeted india also at a large scale has seen devastating effects though out the country especially on poor and working people. People of Jammu and Kashmi were also affected badly with the death of thousands of people and loss of economy ndlivelihood and has not ended still. The ruling classes hypocrisy was exposed during this period when the people were put on hazardous conditions without ventilators, oxygen and other necessary items resulting in loss of thousands of human lives especially the poor. Thanks to the health workers and other front line workers especially the Electricity employees and Engineers who while putting their lives at risk has ensure the regular power supply to the all essential institutions and people during this period.

Observance of National level Struggle programes of EEFI and NCCEEE in J&k

Our organisation JKNGEEA observed most of the struggle programmes of EEFI and NCCEEE in Jammu and Kashmir indecently and jointly with other constituents



of Coordination Committee against the Electricity Amendment Bill 2022 despite the continuous turmoil which we are facing here especially after 5th, August 2019 .We held rallies and demonstrations both at press colony Srinagar and Press Club Jammu , gate meetings and demonstrations at different complexes during Covid 19 pandemic and even during peak turmoil when whole Kashmir was boiling after abrogation of Article 370 .but could not ensure the strike programme of joint Central Trade Unions due to non cooperation of other constituents.

A press release was made by EEFI on 9th July 2020 in support of the movements of JKPECC, organised on 7th July against the steps of privatisation of distribution networks of union territories of Jammu & Kashmir, Chandigarh and Puduchery. EEFI organised protest demonstration all over the country between 8th & 10th July 2020 including sending of memorandum to the Prime Minister in this respect.

Press Release on 9th July 2020 is annexed as Annexure No... in page no...



CALCUTTA ELECTRIC SUPPLY WORKMEN'S UNION WORKS REPORT ON MOVEMENT

- (i) In covid period CESWU demonstrated against the electricity bill in front of the CESC House at Kolkata.
- (ii) Before lock down CESWU tabled their agony and protested vehemently against the anti employee/working people policy implied by the CESC management with the blatant support of TMC sponsored Union. After the announcement of lock down, the CESC management curtailed the incentives of all the working people. At the very same time residents of Kolkata were suffering from severe power crisis for 5-6 days straight due to the cyclone 'Umphan', company induced out sourced workmen for restoring of power supply, the soul bargainer or union TMC the following and government of West Bengal allowed all these miscreants but our leaderships had intervined In two sectors one for restoration of power supply and the employee of CESC Ltd. has to be engaged in perineal job.
- (iii) CESWU also took role in called by CITU for migrant workers and also extended their hands for 'Umphan' effected people at Hasnabad in 24 PGs (N) with people science movement. Management was not ready to take responsibility of COVID effected people after CESWU's interception management admitted and accepted to stretch helping hands.
- (iv) As the working class of the country suffered from the anti-worker policy adopted by central government CESC to chose to be abide by the same policy with the help of TMC Union. 6,000 of employees witnessed those each and every moment they lost their self-respects and rights and by CESWU. The standing order of company has been kept in dark for the change of working understanding and practises rapid transfers, threats, sudden changes of duty patterns, working modulations where vividly alternated which we are not accepted by the walking class but they were not able to sound it enough because of TMC management alliance which demolished the organisation. Now, the management is an authoritarian mood to accept any movement although the mentioned situation continues we placed a huge gathering in front of CESC LTD and compelled the management to receive the deputation in 2019 after the debacle of Lok Sabha election under the leadership of our respected President Comrade Shyamal Chakraborty. On the 15th of September 2022 we demonstrated in ESPLANADE against the electricity bill 2022 with CESC contractors' union.



MAHARASHTRA RAJYA SWABHIMANI VIDYUT WORDER UNION

- 1) 13th March 2018 On behalf of the Maharashtra State Swabhimani Vidyut Workers Union and Action Committee, a strong protest was held at the head office of Mahavitaran Company, Prakashgad, Mumbai for the pending issues of the employee.
- 2) In the matter of 4th September 2018 Pay revision by Maharashtra State Swabhimani Vidyut Workers Union, While discussing with Energy Minister Shri. Chandrasekhar Bawankule, the president of the organization Com. P. B. Ukey, Working president com. D. B. Board, General Secretary. Rajesh Kathale.
- 3) The heirs of the workers who died due to fatal accidents while working in the Mahadiscom Company and the heirs of the workers who retired due to medical reasons should be immediately given permanent jobs in the Mahadiscom Company. For this, Maharashtra State Swabhimani Vidyut Workers Union at Azad Maidan Mumbai. The agitation was held on 15 January 2020. On this occasion, Minister of State for Energy Shri. Prajakt Tanpure was assured to meet the office-bearers of the organization and resolve the issue.
- 4) Against the central government's privatization policy. On November 26, 2020, a march was held on behalf of the Maharashtra State Swabhimani Vidyut Workers Union in Akola as part of the nationwide strike.
- 5) A dharna protest was held at Head Office Prakashganga Mumbai on 08th September 2021 against the wrong staff set up of Maharashtra State Transmission Company.
- 6) On March 10, 2022, a one-day dharna was held by the Joint Action Committee against the Electricity Act 2022 at Azad Maidan Mumbai. A large number of employees, officers and engineers were present in this movement. Energy Minister of Maharashtra and Minister of State for Energy visited the protest site.





दाभोळ वीज प्रकल्प कामगार संघ

नोंदणी क्र. : डी.एन.ई.-648

मु. रानवी, पो. अंजनवेल, ता. गुहागर, जि. रत्नागिरी - ४१५७०३

रत्नागिरी गॅस अॅन्ड पॉवर प्रा. लि. यह कंपनी महाराष्ट्र के रत्नागिरी जिले में कार्यरत है। इस कंपनी में दाभोळ वीज प्रकल्प कामगार संघ यह युनियन पिछले कई वर्षों से कार्यरत है। कंपनी के कूल सभी मजदूर कंत्राट में काम करते हैं। दाभोळ वीज कंपनी के १४८ मजदूर औद्योगिक न्यायालय के आदेश से कायमस्वरूपी घोषित किए हैं। इस औद्योगिक न्यायालय के आदेश को रत्नागिरी गॅस अॅन्ड पॉवर प्रा. लि. कंपनी ने मुंबई उच्च न्यायालय में अपील करने की वजह से अबतक इन मजदूरों को कंपनी में कायमस्वरूपी मजदूर का दर्जा नहीं दिया है, संघर्ष अभी भी जारी है। मजदूरों पर व्यवस्थापन शिस्तभंग की कारवाई करने में अबतक असफल रही है।

यह प्रकल्प २१७० मेगावॉट होने के बावजूद भी पिछले ३-४ वर्षों से पूरी क्षमता से नहीं चलाया गया है। पिछले ५ महिनों से प्रकल्प का बिजली का उत्पादन पूरा बंद हो चुका है। इंडियन रेलवे बिजली खरीद करती थी लेकिन अब रेलवे ने भी बिजली खरीदने में इन्कार किया है। उत्पादन बंद होने से दि. १ मे, २०२२ को इन मजदूरों को टर्मिनेट करने की नोटीस दी थी। लेकिन युनियन के संघर्ष के बाद इस नोटीस का समय दि. ३१ अक्टुबर, २०२२ तक बढ़ाया गया। कंपनी का उत्पादन ठप्प हो चुका है। इसलिए कंपनी इन मजदूरों पर कारवाई कर सकती है। इस कारवाई के खिलाफ युनियनने मुंबई उच्च न्यायालय में सिव्हील पेटिशन दर्ज किया है। यह मजदूर सभी संघर्ष में कार्यरत रहते हैं। इस प्रकल्प का नीजिकरण किया जा सकता है। नीजिकरण के विरोध में सिद्ध, महाराष्ट्र कमिटी आगे चलकर संघर्ष करने की तयारी रखती है।

महाराष्ट्र विद्युत इलेक्ट्रिक बोर्ड में महाराष्ट्र राज्य स्वाभिमानी विद्युत वर्कर्स युनियन कार्यरत है। महाराष्ट्र विद्युत इलेक्ट्रिक बोर्ड में २१ युनियन की संघर्ष समिती कार्यरत है। यह समिती महाराष्ट्र राज्य स्वाभिमानी विद्युत वर्कर्स युनियन महत्वपूर्ण कार्य कर रही है। दि. २८-२९ मार्च यह देशव्यापी हड़ताल में दोनो दिन काम बंद रखकर मजदूरों ने अच्छी भागिदारी की। महाराष्ट्र में यह संघर्ष में युनियन हमेशा आगे रहती है। मोर्चा, धरणा जैसे कार्यक्रम महाराष्ट्र के कई जिलों में लिए जाते हैं। फेडरेशन का आदेश मजदूरों तक पहुँचाने का काम मजदूरों तक गेट मिटींग द्वारा पहुँचाने का काम करती है।

भविष्य में इस युनियन की सभासदसंख्या बढ़ाने की पूरी किशिश युनियन की कमेटी कर रही है।



ACTIVITIES REPORT OF WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY WORKMENS' UNION SINCE 8TH EFFI NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The unified movement of the peasantry against the Farm Acts and the Electricity Amendment Bill 2020 boosted the measures of unified movement of the working class and employees associated with the power sector across the nation. Our union along with the employees, engineers and officers of the power sector of west bengal too waged a fight against the ill intent of the Central Government to privatise electricity and reduce the same to a mere commodity. Against this evil device, EEFI West Bengal conducted state chapter meeting finalising the methods of movement propagation and our union conducted district/division wise discussions by 24th January about movement and the all India power sector strike to be held on the 3rd of February 2021. Protest demonstrations were held at the same level and district headquarters on the 25th and 27th of January. Central protest demonstration was conducted on the 29th of January at Vidyut Bhawan, the state headquarter. Joint platform of casual/contractual employees attached to the industry also staged protest demanding the recognition as Electricity employees and minimum wage of 21600 among other demands, which was dispersed by police brute force and 41 arrests under false allegations. CITU leadership was of active help in bailing out the arrested workers the very next day. There was no presence of minimal positive will of the management to amicably address their demands since day 1. This compelled them to call for total work boycott on the 2nd and 3rd of February, which has been consolidating since. The working class unity against the draconian Electricity amendment bill 2020 thus has grown and indicates huge impact of the power sector strike on the 3rd of February. Since the protest at the state headquarter on the 29th, propagation among the common mass is on the run via street corners, pamphlets and miking across the state.

Defying all repressive measures unleashed by the management and the civil administration alike, the work boycott/token strike call has been duly observed with the contractual/casual workers ensuring almost 90% work boycott on the 2nd and 3rd of February and the permanent employees ensuring a 10-12% participation in the strike on 3rd feb. Earlier, peaceful protest by the contractual/casual workers on grounds of minimum wage and other legitimate demands was met with brutal police action and irresponsible management approach. Total mobilisation of the working class forced the management to issue circulars demanding 100%



attendance and threats of separation from duty, as the case may be, but to no result. Unity growing among the workers was not deterred by arrest of 41 organisers, who were bailed out the next day with active help from WBSEWMU and WBSESSKU. The same unity manifested in forms of protests and picketing in front of various supply/administrative premises.

Campaigns were conducted to make the 10th August 2021 Strike successful, called by NCCOEEE against the draconian Electricity (amendment) bill 2021 placed by central government.

The primary focus of West Bengal Bengal State Electricity Workmen's Union is to build up a struggle movement against this draconian Electricity Amendment Bill 2021, now 2022. As it is imperative to mention that this bill was a curse on the society as it will be horrendous for the electricity employees as well as the consumers. It can shake the pillars of the society. WBSEWMU took different steps towards development of struggle movement in a common platform of electricity employees and consumers.

On 19th July, 2021 it was the commencement date of the monsoon session of Parliament and as it was anticipated that the said bill could be raised on this session the decision was taken to organize mass movement to protest and then go for the strike. WBSEWMU organized a protest movement jointly with NCCOEEE through out all the districts, against this bill. Then on 27th August the Strike Notice was served to the Chairmen of the three Electricity company Ltd and also served the copy to Power Minister, Chief Minister and Secretary of the labour department.

Leaflets were distributed throughout West Bengal to create awareness about the purpose of the 10th August Strike. District committee also took self initiative and banners were displayed in different terminal locations.

Conventions were organized by different districts. In many places more than one convention was organized. On 2nd August, 2021 State level Convention in the banner of NCCOEE WB chapter was also carried out centrally in the state capital at Sramik Bhaban.

WBSEWMU participated on 4th August, 2021 in the protest at New Delhi in front of Parliament Bhavan. On the same day protest programme was also held all over the district under the banner of NCCOEEE. As the Strike was called off due to non placement of the Electricity (amendment) bill 2021 but on the same day that is on 10th August WBSEWMU organized a protest in the banner of NCCOEEE WB chapter throughout the districts against the police hooliganism in the peaceful demonstration in New Delhi.

An initiative was taken to tutor the speakers so that they can go to public programs and can create the awareness.



As per decision of EEFI, WBSEWMU forethought the continuous movement against this bill.

Different blood donation camps were held in different districts under a slogan of “we will save our rights to electricity by donating blood”. It was participated and conducted by employees as well as consumers which met social obligation.

Short videos were made for public awareness. Small booklets were made and sold.

WBSEWMU has been instrumental in providing aids to social causes essentially devastating to the toiling mass. In the wake of the pandemic and the cyclone amphan, WBSEWMU had been able to help CITU West Bengal with an aid of Rs.4 lakhs. An aid to the tune of Rs.1 lakh was made to People’s Relief Committee, an organization that takes care of health hazards of the toiling mass and poor in West Bengal. WBSEWMU had been successful in raising a fund of Rs 2 lakhs in solidarity with the historic peasant movement that rocked the world. The same was provided to Samyukt Kisan Morcha through EEFI. Contractual workers of the power sector in West Bengal faced massive hardship during the pandemic induced lockdown. An aid of Rs. 2 lakh was made to West Bengal State Electricity Shilpa Sahayak Kormi Union. An aid of Rs. 75000 was made to the railhawkers too, who had lost their livelihood after the lockdown. During the same phase, co-ordination and pressure on the management was maintained to ensure apt redressal of different employee matters.

The state of West Bengal stands no different to any BJP ruled state. For every movement against policies of the state or the central government, police intervention and non-cooperation remains the same. Same can be seen through the call for continuous agitation over three days dated 25,26 & 27 September in 2019 and 18,19 & 20 May in 2022. Movement demanding ROPA and release of DA among various other basic rights were met with police intervention, only to further foster our zeal to make the call a war cry- only to be realised at the cost of legal litigations. September 25 -27, 2019 agitation invited all strata of electricity employees to cast their vote through secret ballot in favour/against strike action as a form of protest against Electricity Amendment Bill, 2019. The same was participated by near about 1000 employees.

Other major activities :

- 1) 7th September, 2019 – Blood donation camp, health camp, Felicitation of meritorious wards of electricity employees at Vidyut Bhawan auditorium. The same was hosted by WBSEWMU and WBSESSKU central committee.
- 2) 11th December, 2019 – participation in massive rally organized from Chittaranjan to Kolkata culminating in a mass meeting in support of 12 point charter of CITU West Bengal.



- 3) 11th Feb, 2020 – Protest and agitation across the state in solidarity with the suspended electricity employees and engineers in Bihar. The same was duly supported by appeal to the Chief Minister, Government of Bihar to lift the suspension. Separate letters were preferred to the Central Power Minister and Finance Minister protesting the decision of installing smart meters and decommissioning of old power plants over the excuse of carbon emission.
- 4) Agitation meetings were held and letters to different authorities were served as and when required in protest of privatization of discoms in the UTs, as and when they happened.
- 5) Massive protest across the state was organized on the 8th of August, 2022 on the event of the Electricity Amendment Bill 2022 being placed at the parliament.
- 6) Letters have been served to the Central Power Minister stating intent to be present in the hearing of the Electricity Amendment Bill 2022 at the Parliamentary Standing committee on power, by all district/division secretaries of the union.



ACTIVITY REPORT FROM ASSAM

In the 8th General Conference of EEFI held in Hyderabad one of the affiliate organizations from Assam i.e. Assam State Electricity Workers Union participated. The conference mandated the Assam Constituents to strengthen up the joint as well as independent movement of electricity employees against privatization of electricity. Accordingly both the unions in Assam viz. Assam State Electricity Supply Mazdoor Union and Assam State Electricity Workers Union worked in collaborative mood to strengthen up the joint movement. Assam State Electricity Supply Mazdoor Union started a series of program by mobilizing all the outsourced/temporary workers for their legitimate demand for regularization and equal pay for equal work. Assam State Electricity Supply Mazdoor Union, while undertaking its responsibility to strengthen the larger trade union movement, participated in the 3days historic workers rally in Delhi from 9 to 11th November, 2017.

As part of NCCOEEEs national campaign and movement against Electricity (Amend) Bill, the EEFI constituents in Assam took leading role in organizing the North East Electricity Convention in Guwahati on 25th Feb, 2018 where prominent leaders of NCCOEEE along with electricity employees across North Eastern States participated. As per call of NCCOEEE both the union played leading role in the successful protest demonstration of electricity employees against Electricity Amendment bill on 14th March, 2018. The central agitation programme held in front of State Headquarter, Bijulee Bhawan.

Assam State Electricity Supply Mazdoor Union participated in the Civil Disobedience Movement led by CITU on 8th August, 2018 and also participated in the Workers' Peasant Rally on 5th September, 2018 at New Delhi. Both the unions led in making the Nationwide General Strike on 8th & 9th January, 2019 a grand success in the electricity sector of Assam as well. On 17th November, 2019 creating a history in the electricity movement, both the constituents in Assam merged into one and formed a union named Assam State Electricity Supply Workers' Union through a massive electricity convention in Guwahati.

On 8th January, 2020 the Nationwide General Strike was successfully held in Assam Electricity Sector where Assam State Electricity Supply Workers' Union played leading role. In the run up for this strike both the union undertook campaign program on the strike. The union successfully organized protest demonstration along with other Coordination Committee Constituents on the 5th June, 2020 against Central Govt. disastrous move to sell the electricity distribution sector amid the pandemic induced



Nationwide Lockdown. The union ventured to reach other fraternal trade unions from other sectors like Bank, LIC, Post etc. to forge a broad based mass movement against Govt. move to privatize the Electricity. Union along with CITU undertook responsibility to build the public opinion against this privatization move. Assam State Electricity Supply Workers' Union initiated a public connect drive by publishing leaflet and reached all possible extent to aware the masses. Amid the Lockdown period social media platform is also used to disseminate the Union Campaign. The Union endeavour to mobilize the electricity employees against privatization of electricity resulted in a strong opinion building against the privatization move. The Assam State Electricity Supply Workers' Union along with CITU state committee organized a trade union convention in Guwahati in January, 2021 against Electricity Amendment Bill.

The year 2021 also caused disastrous due to the 2nd wave of Covid. During that period Assam State Electricity Supply Workers' Union had to stay vigil against all Govt. moves for privatization. Apart from that the state of Assam had to face severe damage due to Flood. That time Assam State Electricity Supply Workers' Union with Joint Council extended flood relief in severely affected areas in the state. Assam State Electricity Supply Workers' Union also participated in the successful Nationwide General Strike on 26th November, 2021.



PASCHIM BANGA RAJYA BIDYUT SILPA SAHAYAK KARMI UNION

Paschim Banga Rajya Bidyut Silpa Sahayak karmi Union is formed of contract workers of the three state owned power companies WBSEDCL, WBSETCL and WBPDC. The number of permanent workers is 20 thousand and the number of contract workers is about 50 thousand. There is a lot of difference in salary and other facilities among them. Employees of distribution companies do not get anything extra except wages and PF and ESI as of state government road construction workers. A portion of the contract workers of the power plant get salary and other benefits on contract basis and hence their salary is slightly better.

The wages and benefits of contract workers of transmission companies are less.

Due to the Corona situation, the permanent workers have been exempted from work, but the contract workers have to work regularly to keep the power generation and distribution system running. No additional remuneration could be collected from the authorities.

A continuous movement is being made to increase their salary structure and demand equal pay for equal work. The Trinamool Congress government of the state is not accepting the Supreme Court verdict in this regard. The union filed a lawsuit regarding equal pay for equal work.

Distribution companies have issued circulars for installation of smart meters. Workers are spending days in anxiety.

The facilities that were available during the Left Front government are no longer available from the current Trinamool Congress government. Attempts by the ruling party unions to fire these workers and bring in their own people after coming to power were thwarted. Organized panic attacks weakened the Union. Currently the situation is changing.

Organizations are being managed based on certain understandings that have led to progress. Cultivating collective leadership, the organization is bigger than the individual, employing the right comrades to strengthen the organization, while considering their skills and abilities, avoiding personal likes and dislikes, improving the quality of comrades' skills and consciousness, leaders acquiring minimal knowledge of the power industry, Efforts are taken to uplift women, minorities and other backward sections, to review the good and bad work of comrades by checking up and evaluating the work of committees at all levels.



Due to the corona situation, there was a shortfall in playing an active role for more than two years.

During the Corona situation, the workers faced various problems and, in many cases, it was possible to solve the problems by drawing the attention of the administration, in this work the workers union of other permanent workers, that is Workmen's Union, affiliated to CITU, has helped.

A few District Committees have been able to set precedents. They have managed to increase membership and communication, and also held regular programs of raising complaints to the authorities. Sometimes the Labor Department intervened and put pressure on contractors and authorities to resolve problems which had an impact on the organization. Due to the corona situation, physical meetings had to be stopped. Virtual meetings were held in that situation.

When the power system was disrupted by the Amphan storm, it was activated by bringing in contractors from different districts for restoration of power. The private company CESC has been engaged with these contract workers to operate the electricity system in their area.

The conference was held after three years as it was not possible due to the restrictions imposed by government due to Corona. This year, the unit/sub-division and district conferences have been held periodically since February this year, and the state conference was held on September 10-11 in B T P S Township with enthusiasm.

Functions of Working Committee Members:

From one conference to the next, decisions on policy issues are discussed in this committee and it plays an important role in adopting and implementing programs for the implementation of conference decisions.

Working committee members should be thought of as state leadership. Often they are unable to think of problems outside their workplace or district. These definitely need to be thought about, but not by excluding the state. Many times, they ask questions to the state committee and seek solutions. They have to think of the solution, not to get it from a committee meeting. This joint responsibility should continue in the coming days.

Use of social media:

It is not possible to give a proper answer to any controversial social media post. What can be done in face-to-face discussion cannot be done using social media. It is not recommended to use social media to share information.



Conducting the work of the Union from the State Office:

Union activities were planned several times from the state office i.e., Mohit Moitra Bhavan but did not materialize. If the state center can be activated, the cooperation of comrades who work or live nearby is needed to establish contact with the district / project committees. Distant workers are more willing to come if they know that leaders will be available when they go to the state office. The new state committee will have to think about it.

Tasks of The Acting Leadership:

After each conference, the responsibilities of the secretariat members are distributed. This duty is not being performed properly. Some leadership may keep in touch by phone, but without being personally present, they are not helping.

Similarly, it would be better to claim that the district leadership is in regular contact with them. Due to the lack of communication between the two, the leaders are not informed about the problems of the district. It is also not possible to discuss at the state level and advise the district / project committee. Problems are taking chronic form leading to resentment among members. In many cases the situation gets out of hand due to delay. Unions are becoming dependent on one or two people at the state level. We should not work in this manner. In the coming days, this matter should be taken seriously.

Functions of Working Committee Members:

If any policy decision is to be taken from one conference to the next, the decision has to be taken on the basis of discussion in the working committee meeting. Their opinion is very important in this matter.

Besides informing everyone about the decision taken by the state conference and discussing whether it is effective in the district level meeting. It is important to be aware of the issues facing the power industry and workers. Developing yourself and proposing alternative solutions is very important. If they are efficient in their work, the administration depends on them, and this dependence can be used in the work of the union, and the organization can be strengthened.

Sometimes this dependence is used for personal gain which tarnishes the image of leadership. Leadership should be vigilant. Unions get into trouble when decisions are made without proper thinking about what should be done and what should not be done. In this case, a part of the administration and the opposition unions use the opportunity to get the union in trouble.

Evaluation of District / Project Committee:

After the last conference, during the COVID situation, efforts were made to keep in



touch with the leadership over the phone or through WhatsApp and bring their issues to the attention of the appropriate authorities. Although not 100 percent, it has been possible to do a lot.

A few districts have been in regular contact with workplace members before or after the Covid situation. Again, the lack of leadership in several districts has been noticed. Temporary / contract workers mainly work in customer care centers and sub-stations in electricity distribution companies. They want the leadership on their side. We need to plan how to reach them. Those who managed to go did well. The result is reflected on the collection of members. Building this communication is relatively convenient in the case of projects, because their workplace is in the power plant, so the leadership has to think about how to reach the workers. Some District / Project Committees can solve their problems by discussing with the authorities and contractors / agencies. If this experience is discussed and worked together, the way to solve the problem emerges.

Contact with erection job contract workers:

These workers are employed by the contractor for a specific task. This work was done by adding work elsewhere, if that contractor does not get the work, another contractor has to do the work. They don't always get minimum wages. Their PF and ESI depends upon contractors willing. We cannot reach them. Similarly, transportation companies have many contractors for breakdown repairs. They are usually camped at 132/220/400 KV substations or may be in contact with substation operation personnel who contact for work in case of breakdown. It is necessary to take initiatives to organize them. We will have to think about this in the coming days.

Membership collection:

The number of members is the main basis for building the movement of the union. District / Project Committee leaders need to be active in this work. Trade union registration has to be renewed by 31st March. The subscription along with the membership list does not reach the state in time till December. The membership list does not come despite the subscription. It is not possible to solve this issue even after talking to the district leadership several times.

This weakness puts the union in trouble in submitting the form H.

Excerpts from the Sixth State Conference of the power industry support workers' conference:

The sixth conference took place in the B T P S township on 10 and 11 September, 2022. The unanimous demand that arose from the conference is that the Modi government at the Center is trying to take away the right of the marginalized people to



use of electricity. It is the Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2022 which has been proposed in the parliament to amend the law. An oath was taken from the sixth state conference of the Paschim Banga Rajya Bidyut Silpa Sahayak karmi Union to take the people's struggle in the villages and towns to protect the interests of the people in the state by condemning this anti people bill.

At the conference on Sunday, EEFI General Secretary Prasanta Nandi Chowdhury explained how the Modi government is changing laws to take away the right to access electricity from marginalized people.

In the conference, the delegates highlighted the hardships of contract workers. The authorities are imposing the workload by reducing the wages of the workers of the state-owned power utilities. These workers take risk at their lives to provide customer satisfaction. But they get wages as of road construction workers as per the guidelines published by the state labor department. In order to protest this, the conference has called for organizing the workers and trying to develop a harder movement at all levels in the coming days.

There will be resistance. Massive gatherings and demonstrations will be held at the head office of the power companies.

Subrata Ganguly, Secretary of the Reception committee, greeted all delegates and leaders present at the conference. Deepak Roy Chowdhury, working president of the union also deliberated. A total no of 29 delegates discussed on secretary's report. Outgoing General Secretary Bela Patra gave reply on discussion. President of the union, Somnath Bhattacharya deliberate a speech on behalf of the presidium. Repeal of Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2022, protection of communal harmony, equal pay for equal work and repeal of Kala Sramik Bill etc. were adopted in the conference.

A working committee of 75 members and a Secretariate of 31 members were formed in the conference. Somnath Bhattacharya as President, Bela Patra as General Secretary, Deepak Roy Chowdhury as Working President and Jagdish Roy as Treasurer were re-elected in the committee. Shekhar Pramanik and Dhruva Saha were elected as organizational spokesman and office secretary respectively.



विद्युत संशोधन विधेयक 2022 के प्रावधानों के विरुद्ध तथा विधेयक को वापस लेने के लिए राज्य स्तरीय कन्वेंशन

13 सितम्बर 2022 (मंगलवार)

प्रिय बहनों एवं भाइयो!

आज हम सब चाहे अभियंता, कामगार, अधिकारी या अन्य हों सभी यहाँ निजीकरण का विरोध/विद्युत संशोधन विधेयक 2022 के प्रावधानों को वापस लेने की माँग पर इक्ठ्ठा हुए हैं।

प्रश्न उठता है कि इसमें ऐसा क्या है? जिसका विरोध करना आवश्यक हो गया है। आये! हम सब उसके प्रावधानों को जानें।

1. निजी कम्पनी के लाइसेंस लेने की प्रक्रिया :

1.1. निजी कम्पनी, संस्था या कोई व्यक्ति जो वितरण, आपूर्ति, खरीद, बिक्री का इच्छुक है, वह विद्युत वितरण का लाइसेंस ले सकता है। एक एरिया के लिए कई-कई लाइसेंसधारी हो सकते हैं।

1.2. आवेदनकर्ता द्वारा आवेदन करने के एक माह के भीतर उसे रेगुलेटरी कमीशन द्वारा लाइसेंस देना है। यदि उक्त अवधि में नहीं दिया गया, तो मान लिया जायगा कि उसे स्वतः लाइसेंस प्राप्त हो गया है।

1.3. लाइसेंसधारी वर्तमान विद्युत आपूर्ति एवं वितरण तंत्र यथा-लाइन, ट्रांसफारमर आदि का इस्तेमाल करेगा। आपूर्ति करनेवाली कम्पनी को लाइसेंसधारी के कार्यक्षेत्र तक विद्युत आपूर्ति को सुनिश्चित किया जाना है। अगर विद्युत आपूर्ति कम्पनी लाइसेंसधारी के द्वारा खरीदी गयी विद्युत को उसके कार्यक्षेत्र तक पहुँचाने में किसी तरह का व्यवधान पैदा करता है या अन्य कारणों से आपूर्ति बाधित होती है तो, आपूर्तिकर्ता कम्पनी को दंडित करने का प्रावधान किया गया है।

1.4. लाइसेंसधारी विद्युत का करार सीधे उत्पादनकर्ता से कर सकेगा। वह बिजली आपूर्तिकर्ता कम्पनी के संचरण एवं आपूर्ति तथा वितरण लाइन से बिजली ले जाने का हकदार होगा। आपूर्तिकर्ता कम्पनी को बिजली ढुलाई का चार्ज दिया जाएगा।

1.5. पहले के प्रावधान के अनुसार एक क्षेत्र में एक ही को लाइसेंस दिया जाना था। लाइसेंसधारी को अपना-अपना तंत्र आपूर्ति, वितरण के लिए खड़ा करना आवश्यक था। लाइसेंस देने की शर्त भी कड़ी थी। लेकिन, अब ऐसा कुछ नहीं रहा है तथा आपूर्ति कम्पनी के तंत्र से ही सभी लाइसेंसधारी अपनी बिजली का वितरण कर सकेगा और एक महीना के भीतर लाइसेंस भी मिलना ही मिलना है।



2. विद्युत की दर का निर्धारण:
 - 2.1. रेगुलेटरी कमीशन न्यूनतम एवं अधिकतम दर ही निर्धारित करेगी। अलग-अलग दर अलग-अलग उपभोक्ता के लिए निर्धारित नहीं कर सकेगा।
 - 2.2. न्यूनतम दर का निर्धारण सभी तरह के खर्च जिसमें लाइनलॉस भी शामिल हैं की रकम जोड़कर उस पर से मुनाफा का निर्धारण कर पूरी रकम टैरिफ के रूप में निर्धारित किया जाना है।
 - 2.3. लाइसेंसधारी न्यूनतम एवं अधिकतम दर के बीच अपनी सुविधानुसार बिजली की दर उपभोक्ताओं से वसूल सकेगा।
 - 2.4. पहले जो प्रावधान था, उसके अनुसार रेगुलेटरी कमीशन, उपभोक्ताओं के हितों के साथ-साथ विभिन्न श्रेणी के उपभोक्ता यथा-अद्योगिक, वाणिज्यिक, घरेलू एवं कृषि की दर निर्धारित करने के लिए अधिकृत था। अद्योगिक एवं वाणिज्यिक उपभोक्ताओं का दर अधिक निर्धारित किया जाता रहा है तथा उसके आलोक में घरेलू एवं कृषि की आपूर्ति की जानी वाली दर कम निर्धारित की जाती थी। इसका सबसे बड़ा लाभ कृषि उपभोक्ताओं को होता था, लेकिन अब ऐसा नहीं हो पाएगा।
3. इन सब प्रावधानों का निष्कर्ष क्या है :-
 - 3.1. कि लाइसेंसधारी की मर्जी पर अब सब कुछ रहेगा। विद्युत का दो दर होगा, न्यूनतम एवं अधिकतम इसी के बीच में आपूर्ति की जायेगी।
 - 3.2. एक क्षेत्र में कई-कई कम्पनियाँ होगी, जैसे मोबाईल कम्पनियाँ हैं।
 - 3.3. जहाँ फायदा होगा, वहाँ आपूर्ति की जाएगी, अन्य इलाका विद्युत के अभाव में रहने को बाध्य होगा। बिजली की कीमत बढ़ेगी। मनमाना कीमत देनी होगी। उपभोक्ता को न केवल मंहगी बिजली मिलेगी, वह इन कम्पनियों की कृपा पर निर्भर रहेगा।
 - 3.4. आपूर्ति एवं वितरण के काम में लगे हमारे कर्मचारियों का क्या होगा? यह विचारणीय विषय है। चाहे कोई लाख गारंटी दे कि सेवा बरकरार रहेगी, बिना काम के कैसे सेवा बची रहेगी? यह स्वयं समझ की बात है। प्रस्तावित संशोधन में ऐसा कोई प्रावधान नहीं किया गया है, जैसा कि विद्युत बोर्ड के पुनर्गठन के 2003 के अधिनियम में किया गया था।
 - 3.5. विधेयक में जो प्रावधान किए गये हैं उसके अनुसार संक्षेप में ट्रांसमिशन पर एकाधिकार केन्द्र सरकार का होगा। आगे की योजना



के अन्तर्गत बड़ी-बड़ी कम्पनियों को इस क्षेत्र में जिम्मेवारी देनी की तैयारी भी प्रावधानों में दिखाई देता है। संभव है आपूर्ति एवं संचरण का एक ही साथ एक ही तरह की बात कर दी जाय।

3.6 अब राज्य सरकार के अधिकार सीमित हो जायेंगे।

3.7 विधेयक में लगभग अधिनियम के सभी प्रावधानों में संशोधन किये गये हैं जिससे विद्युत अधिनियम, 2003 का स्वरूप ही विधेयक के पास होने के बाद बदल जाएगा। जो भी संशोधन किये गये हैं वे इतने विस्तृत हैं कि सभी संशोधनों का विश्लेषण या प्रावधानों की चर्चा करना अभी की परिस्थिति में न तो असान और न संभव ही। इसके लिए समय की जरूरत पड़ेगी। लेकिन, मोटा-मोटी बात यही है कि केन्द्र सरकार विद्युत को भी मुनाफा कमाने का जरिया बनाने एवं निजी कम्पनियों को फायदा पहुँचाने के लिए व्यापक संशोधन का प्रस्ताव लायी है।

3.8 यह उपभोक्ता-कर्मचारी के हितों के प्रतिकूल है तथा इसका व्यापक असर पड़ेगा।

इस संबंध में उल्लेखनीय है कि नेशनल कोऑर्डिनेशन कमिटी ऑफ इम्प्लाइज एण्ड इंजिनियरिंग जिसमें प्रायः भारत भर के सभी संगठन शामिल हैं, ने विधेयक के विरोध में संसद सत्र के दौरान ही राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर प्रदर्शन कर विरोध करने का आह्वान किया था एवं व्यापक रूप से इसका विरोध भी हुआ था। सांसदों ने भी बिल पर आपत्ति जताई थी, इसलिए फिलहाल बिल को संसदीय समिति को समीक्षा हेतु भेज दिया गया है। समिति के अध्यक्ष बिहार से ही माननीय सांसद, श्री राजीव रंजन सिंह उर्फ ललन सिंह हैं। वे बिहार के होने के साथ-साथ जदयू के राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष भी हैं। राज्य सरकार ने भी विद्युतकर्मियों को बार-बार आश्वासन दे रखा है कि विद्युत कम्पनी का निजीकरण नहीं होने देंगे। इस परिपेक्ष में बिहार के हम विद्युतकर्मियों का कर्तव्य एवं दायित्व बढ़ जाता है कि हम विधेयक के विरोध में स्वर तेज करें और राज्य तथा केन्द्र सरकार को विवश करें कि वह विधेयक को वापस ले। बिहार के विद्युतकर्मियों का यह भी कर्तव्य है कि राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर आयोजित होनेवाले प्रदर्शन एवं हड़ताल के समर्थन में भी भाग लें।

कन्वेंशन से आशा एवं आग्रह है कि पूरी परिस्थिति पर विचार कर, निष्कर्ष पर पहुँचने में हमारी मदद करें।

आपका ही साथी

(अमरेन्द्र प्रसाद मिश्र)

महासचिव



ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES' FEDERATION
OF INDIA
9th NATIONAL CONFERENCE

ANNEXURES

ANNEXURE-A

18

Rome declaration



WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

Class oriented-uniting-democratic-modern-independent-internationalist!

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XVIII Congress of WFTU

6-8 May, 2022, Rome, Italy

Qualifying with multiple unique features, the 18th Congress of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) held in the capital city of Rome, Italy on 6-8 May 2022 has been a historical international working class event.

Representing 93 countries, 430 registered delegates participated in the Congress. 330 (77%) participated physically while 100 (23%) participated virtually from all over the world.

In compliance with the decades old rich practice and in adherence to the principle of working class democracy as enunciated in the Constitution of WFTU, the Congress has democratically elected a Presidential Council (PC) in which new Cadres have been elected for the first time.

The PC has representation from 50 countries representing all the five Continents. The same percentages for the new Secretariat and the new Financial Control Committee are as follows: Secretariat countries: 10, FCC counties: 7.

The composition of the delegates in the Rome Congress of the WFTU shall be remembered for grass-root trade union cadres with spirit of working class courage, conviction, simplicity, sacrificing, and class-oriented militancy. The Rome Congress was truly internationalist, class-oriented, democratic, open, multi-color, workers' Congress. These are lessons learnt and enriched in course of the long seventy six years of class oriented revolutionary struggles conducted by the WFTU affiliates and cadres worldwide led by the leadership of WFTU against the barbarity of capitalism.

99 delegates took the floor. In course of the deliberations by the delegates, the picture captured represented the difficulties that our movement has been facing in



their countries. The Congress got the message once again that every small or large class struggle, local, regional, national or international, is part of the global system of the workers' struggle. Constructive self-criticism and criticism featured in number of speeches have greatly enriched the deliberations. This, after all, shows a genuine workers' characteristic that reminds us of the inevitable role of the Detachment and Vanguard in revolutionary overthrow of the capitalism under the leadership of working class.

It is noted with grave shock that our Congress was held in an unprecedented socio-political conditions for the action of the international trade union movement, while it was called to overcome difficulties that we had not faced in the past. The Coronavirus Pandemic has snatched the precious lives of so many of our class brothers and sisters around the world. Further, it has also hampered the organization of our conference: travel restrictions, increased travel costs, unprecedented load for conference logistical infrastructure to enable digital participation delegates.

Moreover the delegates had to confront the restrictions imposed by Embassies and state bureaucratic regulations. These are just some of the challenging factors prompting us to ensure the befitting success of our Conference in order to prepare our cadres for the great class battles in the offing. The fighting working class led by WFTU carried out courageous battle despite multifarious odds and gave a resounding answer to those who would like to see a Congress that would not be worthy of the size and importance of the WFTU.

Also necessary to note that, the WFTU Congress took place in the background of a dangerous international geopolitical and economic development. The deep and deeper depth of the systemic crisis of capitalism, which even bourgeois analysis cannot hide, shows an even greater intensity of exploitation of the working class inflicting further impoverishment, shocking rise in unemployment and the capitalist class onslaught on the workers' achievements, democratic freedoms and trade union rights.

True to their capitalistic class dishonesty, the bourgeois class is trying to mislead the people with orchestrated campaign hiding the real cause of the crisis. They are projecting Coronavirus Pandemic as the sole cause of the crisis. The Pandemic may have contributed in the timing and depth of the crisis. But the basic cause lies in capitalist system itself. The real causes of this crisis must be traced in the laws of the capitalist mode of production, in the large over-accumulated capital that could not be recapitalized or reinvested, thus hitting hard the capitalist class in their unlimited profit greed.

Capitalist class Governments and the Agents of bourgeoisie in the US, EU and Japan are making major state interventions attempting to revive the capitalist economy by pursuing an expansionary Fiscal Policy. The truth is, however, that no capitalist



maneuver can sustainably address the crisis. At best there can be totally temporary breathing space ultimately leading to a deeper crisis.

On the other hand, once again the burden of the crisis is being shifted to the shoulder of the workers. The people are called upon to pay for the new loans and to shoulder the burden of all the anti-labor, anti-people policies which designed to reduce wages, impose layoffs in bigger numbers and crush social security rights. In fact, in the beginning these measures come as temporary emergency measures but they become permanent later on. Shockingly, for the capitalist camp, however, the crisis is an opportunity to notoriously push forward their anti-worker schemes.

Take for example the issue of so-called “green growth”, which is designed to impose financial burden the people on account of expensive electricity, so-called flexible employer-employee relationships, green indirect taxes and new burdens on peoples’ families, in order for the state to support new profitable green investments of business tycoons.

Imperialist antagonisms between imperialist alliances and also between states within these alliances for control of markets, energy sources and transportation routes are intensifying creating danger of imperialist wars involving Eastern Mediterranean, Africa and Southeast Asia to the Arctic. In fact, a special place in these imperialist antagonisms is occupied by the Indo-Pacific region where the main sphere of interest of the imperialist alliances is shifted. The risk of a generalized imperialist war is deepening and expanding.

The recent war and developments in Ukraine show that Europe is not safe either. All those who believed that the wars were only taking place outside Europe are proved totally wrong. On the contrary, what is proving to be clear is that the causes of the wars lie in the overturn in the international balance of power, as formed in 1991 with the dissolution of the USSR and the overthrow of Socialism in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

Moreover, the arms race shows exactly this situation, with global military spending exceeding - for the first time in history - \$ 2 trillion in 2021. In fact, an indication of our times reveals the intensity of competition and military aggressiveness and the changes in the defense doctrines in a number of capitalist states (a typical example is Germany a few years ago, more recently Japan). At the same time, NATO is aggressively conspiring to bring under its fold the countries which been described as “neutral” for decades, such as Sweden and Finland.

In fact, the relations of uneven interdependencies that characterize the imperialist system and govern the relations between all the capitalist states, are formed through a number of international and regional alliances, organizations and agreements that also indirectly reflect the correlation of power. In recent years, in addition to the most



well- known organizations (e.g. UN, NATO, EU, OSCE, WTO, G7, G20), which are led by the US, new ones have emerged.

The wider changes that are taking place at the economic level reflect the changes in the web of the international imperialist groupings. Thus, notable is the US leadership considers the current composition of the Group of Seven most powerful capitalist states (USA, Japan, Canada, France, UK, Italy and Germany) are turning obsolete and that Australia, South Korea and India are being dragged into new anti-Chinese alliance. For example AUKUS consisting of Australia-UK-US; QUAD composed of USA-Japan-Australia and India.

At the same time, the US government, utilizing the massive tax reduction for the capitalist class, is calling on US monopolies in new technologies operating in China to abandon it or return to the US, while making efforts to prevent China's expansion through the "New Silk Road" and its investments in third world countries. Sino-US competition is also what will determine future developments, with both sides trying to strengthen their own alliances.

Taking into consideration the international and regional big picture and keeping in view the foregoing facts, figures and formulations captured on the basis of the objective socio-politico-economic situation prevailing in the world, WFTU calls upon the working class and the militant trade union movement throughout the world to strengthen trade union organization, to intensify militant struggles of the working class, to resist the class onslaught of capitalism, to expose and defeat the machinations of imperialist forces.

The WFTU Congress, after discussion and open democratic dialogue, resolves the following immediate Priority Tasks.

THE WFTU TASKS:

Going through the third decade of the 21st century and as we are about to celebrate WFTU's 80 years of life and action, the 18th Congress reaffirms the values of a class, democratic, internationalist and mass unionism with our tasks being:

1. The preservation and continuous strengthening of the unity of WFTU lines, which is fundamental so that our organization can continue playing its role as the most consistent and steadfast defender of workers' rights.
2. The safeguarding of the unity of the working class as a single, global, social class, in the struggle for social liberation from capitalist exploitation. In this struggle to overthrow capitalist slavery, the working class develops its broad social alliances with the peasants, the progressive intelligentsia and the self-employed.
3. The strengthening and deepening of the principles on which WFTU was founded



upon, as a trade union organization that accepts and moves forward based on the principles of class struggle, democratic and trade union freedoms, for the defense of the right to organize and the right to strike. The WFTU follows and applies the values of democracy and direct contact with the workers, while respecting the operating principles of base trade unions.

4. The Right to Strike: WFTU recognizes the Right to Strike as a fundamental human right and is an essential part of Freedom of Association. The capitalist class at national, regional and international levels has taken an aggressive approach not only to violate this fundamental right but are actively trying to unarm workers and trade unions of this right. The WFTU will stand vehemently against these attacks and will defend the Right to Strike at all costs.
5. Internationalism and solidarity among all workers regardless of color, religion, gender, language and political preferences. In that, no employee and no sector can be left alone in its struggles and demands.
6. Since its foundation, WFTU has always been an anti-imperialist trade union movement, defending the right of every people to decide for itself, freely and democratically, on its present and future. WFTU condemns imperialist wars and imperialist interventions. It stands against Racism, Fascism and Xenophobia.
7. We promote in practice the equal participation of women and youth in the activities and operation of trade unions. We make sure they assume important positions of responsibility and we trust their role. We educate our members and leading Cadres to fight together, women and men, against socio-economic exploitation.
8. We want class-oriented, democratic, mass unions that will function as schools for social struggles for the emancipation of the working class. We want them to work collectively, always turning towards the base and the common worker. We want them to have a long-lasting and unwavering front against bureaucracy, elitism, careerism and corruption.
9. WFTU intervenes in international organizations in which it participates, promoting the positions of the class-oriented trade union movement and revealing the anti-labor character of organizations that violate their very own principles and reasons on which they were founded.
10. The entire organization of WFTU is dedicated on a daily basis to a constant action for improving the living standards of the toiling masses ensuring better wages, secured employment, social insurance, culture and intellect. The satisfaction of the workers' CONTEMPORARY NEEDS is an ongoing goal for every country, sector, region and trade union.
11. Today, with all the technological progress and accumulated wealth, the



standard for contemporary needs must always be set high. New technologies and digitization must be utilized for the improvement of the workers' life and not for the increase of profits. These contemporary needs, according to the way the class-oriented trade union movement understands them, unquestionably include the right to free health, decent housing, access to clean water, the right to safe, reliable and cheap public transport, and free public education for all children.

The Contemporary Struggle of the Working Class:

12. The capitalist mode of production, while sinking into crisis with its own contradictions, permanently seeks ways to maintain its hegemony. Given that the essence of its survival is marked by the appropriation of the wealth produced by the working class, the burden of the crisis always falls on the working class when the system enters into crisis.
13. Therefore, apart from its recurrent drops in rate of profit, especially from the 1970s onwards and the crises that followed, especially that of 2008/2009, the system accelerated a set of changes in the way, how and where to produce. Outsourcing, an intense technological and business increase, accompanied by a new division of labor marked by the dispersion of productive units, characterize the new era in the world of work.
14. In addition, seeking to weaken political resistance to this anti-workers attack, they are making labor legislation more flexible and deregulating the role of trade union representation. Overall, despite the large mobilizations, the result of this current stage is the precariousness of work and the awareness of a considerable part of our class.
15. The World Federation of Trade Unions and its affiliated Unions should not underestimate this new situation; on the contrary, they must study and confront with tactics and appropriate means, in particular, with the strengthening of political training and union work at the base.

In this context, the 18th Congress of the WFTU approves the following priority objectives for the next period:

Income - Wages - Remuneration:

1. We support and demand unfettered collective bargaining and the signing of fair and just Collective Agreements for full-time, stable work, with dignified wages. Collective Agreements should govern every country and every sector, meeting the demands of the workers. For example and as a minimum requirement, the workers' income in every country must be at least twice as much as the poverty threshold.



A 35-hour working week with no reduction in salary:

2. We are constantly fighting for a reduction in working hours and a simultaneous improvement in wages. WFTU's position is for a 35-hour, 5-day week which is immediately necessary and realistic. The next step should be a 7-hour, 4-day week of full-time employment, without reducing wages. According to the situation in its own country, each union should struggle to further improve working hours and guarantee decent wages. This is the only way in which the working class and all workers in general will receive a share of the wealth produced by labour and the profits yielding from the explosive development of technology and science in the production process.

WFTU strongly opposes part-time or undeclared work, labor slavery and lay-offs. With the implementation of tele-work, flexible forms of employment are further promoted, working hours are increased and stable and permanent work with rights is being challenged. We propose to develop a broad campaign for a 35-hour working day with no reduction in salary and launch it next October 03, 2022.

Social Security:

3. We demand public social security and pension for everyone, so that all workers in all sectors can enjoy full rights and insurance coverage. Undeclared and uninsured work constitutes a "casus belli" for the class-oriented trade union movement.

High Prices - Unemployment - Privatization:

4. These are also the results of capitalist barbarity of the 'enemies' of the trade union movement and the workers. High prices affect poor people, unemployment is "the fifth column" within trade unions, and privatizations present monopolies and multinational companies the opportunity to lay off workers and attack their vested rights.

Privatizations lead to the selloff of public wealth and give a great opportunity to the monopolies and multinational companies to lay off workers, to attack their rights and gains and to deprive workers of free and universal access to social goods. The fight against high prices, unemployment and privatizations must be high on the priority agenda of WFTU's day to day struggles.

Immigrants - Refugees:

5. Imperialist wars create refugees and immigrants. The exploitation of the wealth of the Third World breeds poverty and immigration. One of the main priorities of the international militant trade union movement has always been the write-off of the foreign debt of Third World countries. At the same time, we defend the lives and



rights of immigrants and refugees. We strongly oppose and fight racist and neo-fascist phenomena. For WFTU, the working class is united as a class.

Child Labor – Working during Pregnancy:

6. Children should be at school, playing with their peers. Child labor should be banned in practice – not just in words. For pregnant women, the international rules governing maternity leave, lighter work and banning lay-offs, should be implemented.
7. Health and safety at the workplace are matters of great importance for WFTU, as the workers must return to their homes and families safe and sound. We focus on the establishment and operation of health and safety committees in the workplace. Addressing the environmental crisis is also of great importance to WFTU, as we believe that it is caused by the ruthless speculative action of monopolies and multinational cartels. Poor people are drowning, burned and killed because of the consequences of this crisis: floods, cold weather, fires, and earthquakes.

An immediate dissolution of NATO:

8. WFTU opposes the waste of resources and money for military purposes. It also opposes the use of nuclear energy for military purposes and calls for an immediate dissolution of NATO.
9. We do not agree with the exclusions, discriminations, embargoes and sanctions imposed by the US, NATO and the EU against various countries, as they negatively impact the standard of living of low-income families, workers and poor, small farmers.

International Action Day of Trade Unions for Peace:

10. The WFTU Congress declares the 1st of September be observed as ‘International Action Day’ of all trade unions for Peace. It is to recall that on 1st September 1939, Nazi Germany started the World War II.
11. Today again we are witnessing with serious concern the re-emergence of neo-Fascist and neo-Nazi forces posing real threat to the working class. It is imperative and need of the hour to mobilize peace loving people against imperialist war game for promoting and protecting peace. In this framework, the WFTU, its members and friends also celebrate and honor the 9th of May every year as the great day that marks the victory of the Peoples; the defeat of Hitler and the end of World War II.

A democratic and collective leadership system:

12. The WFTU and all of its leading bodies function in a democratic and collective way; the Presidential Council, the TUIs, the Regional Offices, the Committees of



Women, Youth, the Legal Committee etc coordinate their actions and initiatives in order to promote the workers' struggles and follow the central directions of the WFTU. The Regional Offices and the TUIs can cooperate and coordinate their action whenever they consider it necessary.

Political cadres committed to the struggle:

13. WFTU is always alert and alive that we are judged by people for our action and effectiveness. All of our leading bodies, our cadres, all of us are watched by our class. We are committed without any compromise to fight for the cause of workers. Each cadre is being judged and tested primarily within his/her own country and sector. It is there that he or she will be tested whether he or she points out, promotes and supports the directions, positions and glorious banners of the WFTU.

Create an International Committee for Promotion & Protection of Trade Union Rights & Freedoms:

14. Unable to rescue itself from the iron clutch of ever deepening systemic crisis of capitalism, the capitalist class has resorted to barbaric attack on the working class and trade union movement. They are promoting precarious employment, depriving job security, worsening working conditions and demolishing the rights of the workers, particularly Right to Organise, Right to Collective Bargaining and Right to Strike Action.
15. The monopolies, multinational companies and governments of the capitalist world utilize new technologies to restrict trade union formation and their free functioning as well as the democratic and individual freedoms of workers in society and in workplaces.
16. Nowadays technology driven onslaught of anti-worker surveillance and restrictions on free trade union and social action are added to the age old anti-trade union and anti-democratic cruel and violent repression by employers supplemented by state authoritarianism that even goes to the extent of organized murders of trade unionists.
17. The International Committee for the protection of trade union and democratic freedoms will gather evidence and present memorandums to International Organizations and will support the relevant initiatives of the leading bodies of the WFTU. It will also cooperate with the WFTU Legal Committee.
18. On the other hand, most employers do not apply all the necessary health and safety measures in the workplaces since they consider the health and safety of workers as a cost and that leads to occupational "accidents". The ILO estimates



that some 2.3 million women and men around the world succumb to work-related accidents or diseases every year; this corresponds to over 6000 deaths every single day.

19. Worldwide, there are around 340 million occupational accidents and 160 million victims of work-related illnesses annually. The protection of workers inside the workplaces will also be among the tasks of the International Committee.

WFTU Funding:

20. The WFTU is based on the fees of its affiliates and the support of its friends. It has no other resources. For this reason, the Congress calls on all affiliated organizations to pay their fees. The financial support strengthens the financial self-reliance and the organizational development of the WFTU.

An integrated WFTU communication system:

21. The vast majority of media are controlled by multinational and monopoly interests. They are instruments and mechanisms of propaganda against the interests of workers and peoples. The militant unions must reveal the propaganda role of these media and at the same time find ways to get the truth and the real facts to the workers, taking advantage of all the possibilities of technology to break the monopoly of multinationals in information.
22. We decide that the WFTU Head Office should remain in Athens and that the location of the WFTU European Regional Office (EUROF) should be moved from Cyprus, where it was until now, to Italy.

Adopted at the 18th Congress of WFTU

At Rome, Italy: 07th May, 2022



ANNEXURE-B

CHALLENGE ZERO: INNOVATION CHALLENGES TOWARDS A DECARBONIZED SOCIETY

[Paris to Glasgow: Climate mitigation efforts]

In the Rio De Janeiro Earth Summit, in 1992, for the first time, the climate change and global warming were identified as the worst threat for the very existence of human civilization. Since then, in every year, countries meet once and discuss about climate mitigation plan. Such exercises are known as Conference of Parties (COP). The last COP was held in November 2021 at Glasgow in UK; as the 26th Conference of Parties. Here a brief discussion is placed to have an idea about the targets & achievements at different countries with special emphasis to India, through different COPs from Rio to Glasgow via Paris.

Kyoto Protocol:

The first major step in climate mitigation was Kyoto Protocol. The Countries, who have signed the Kyoto Protocol, in 1997, targeted reducing their greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 5% against 1990 levels, over the 2008-2012 period. Between 2007 and 2012, the original Kyoto Protocol parties reduced their CO₂ emissions by 12.5%.

Montreal Protocol:

The Montreal Protocol is an international treaty designed to protect the ozone layer by phasing out the production of numerous substances that are responsible for ozone depletion. It was agreed on 16 September 1987, and entered into force on 1 January 1989. Adopted on 16 September 1987, the Protocol is to date the only UN treaty ever, that has been ratified every country on Earth - all 198 UN Member States. The Montreal Protocol phases down the consumption and production of the different Ozone Depletion Substances. The treaty evolves over time in light of new scientific, technical and economic developments, and it continues to be amended and adjusted with the assistance from the UN Environment Programme headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya.

Paris Climate Accord

The Doha Amendment in 2015 extended the KYOTO Protocol to 2020. However, it became a moot point shortly thereafter when the Paris Climate Accord was signed by



most of the original ratifies of the Kyoto Protocol. The U.S. initially signed the Paris Climate Accord but later withdrew from the agreement. In 2021, after Mr. Biden has become the US President; they have declared to revisit their withdrawal decision.

The accord targets: ‘reducing the GHG emissions at 32 to 35% below of 2005 emissions intensity label of GDP (unconditional) and non-fossil fuel share of cumulative power generation capacity of 40% by 2030 (conditional)’. These exercises are aimed to limit global atmospheric temperature rise (Global Warming) to well below 2 degrees Celsius, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial labels. To achieve this long term temperature goal, countries aim to reach a climate neutral world by mid-century.

In its INDC submission towards post-2020 greenhouse gas (GHS) emission reductions, the goal for reducing fiscal year (FY) 2013 emission levels by 26.0% by FY 2030 (a 25.4% reduction compared to FY 2005 levels) was reported. The EU and its member states promised to reduce 1990 GHS emission levels by at least 40% by 2030.

How Paris Climate Accord works

The implementation of the accord requires economic and social transformation, based on the best available techno-economic solutions. It works on a 5 years cycle through both short and long term action plan.

In the short term plan, there is the NDC (Nationally Determined Contributions: for a country) to reduce the GHG emission to reach the goal, as decided in the accord. The long term low Green House Gas emission development strategies (LT-LEDs) are not mandatory like NDC. Here countries will provide direction for future development. The Paris Accord provides a framework for financial, technical and capacity building support, which need it.

Carbon Neutral vs Net Zero:

Before Paris, i.r.o. emission reduction, the target was described as carbon neutral whereas, after Paris agreement, a new terminology in the name of Net Zero is introduced. In a carbon neutral organization, there is a commitment to evaluate the CO₂ emissions produced. This is coupled with finding ways to reduce those emissions and with compensating for these by reducing emissions elsewhere, or by removing an equal amount of CO₂ from the atmosphere. This balancing practice is known as carbon offsetting and could involve planting new trees or investing in renewable energy, or with for example bioenergy carbon capture and storage (BECCS).

Net Zero is considered the gold standard for corporate climate action. Net Zero on the other hand means that a company reduces its absolute emissions across its whole



supply chain, in order to support the target to limit global temperature increases to 1.5 degrees Celsius, as agreed in the 2015 Paris climate summit.

The Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi), a partnership between CDP, the United Nations Global Compact, World Resources Institute and the World Wide Fund for Nature, has set out the world's first Net Zero standard, providing companies with a framework and tools to effectively implement the Net Zero target.

Hydrogen Society: The Tokyo Statement, 2018:

Recently, the EU, Germany, and France have begun to recognise the importance of a hydrogen society to tackle climate change and at the same time, boost the economy. In Japan 'Basic Hydrogen Strategy' ('Suiso Kihon Senryaku')—advocating a world-leading hydrogen-based society—was approved at the Ministerial Council on Renewable Energy and Related Issues on 26 December 2017. This document shows hydrogen as a new energy choice. It indicates that Japan will lead in global efforts to establish a carbon-free society by taking advantage of its strong points. The realisation of a hydrogen society is not just a call; rather, it accompanies a real process in Japan. This roadmap shows clearly how to realise a hydrogen society.

Climate Mitigation Strategy: Japan:

The Japanese government had planned to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by increasing the number and using nuclear power plants before the Fukushima accident. As all nuclear power stations in Japan ceased operating after the accident, Japan had to change its energy policy. The act was amended in May 2016 to ensure fulfillment of the obligations under the Paris Agreement. These amendments aim to achieve three elements: raise public awareness, promote climate protection through international cooperation, and protect the climate in regions because a reduction of about 40% of global warming gases in the civilian sector is needed to achieve the specified reduction of 26% by 2030. As for raising public awareness, the COOL CHOICE campaign is used to drive citizens, industry, autonomous communities, and NGOs to cooperate in order to reduce global warming gases. Examples include repurchasing low-carbon products (e.g. energy-efficient products such as LED lighting, refrigerators, eco-cars, super-insulated houses), choosing low-carbon services (e.g. public transport, car sharing, smart meters), and adopting a low-carbon lifestyle (e.g. Cool Biz/Warm Biz clothes, eco-drive).

As for the protection of the climate in regions, it boosts countermeasures in local autonomous communities and promotes cooperation between these communities. Japan's long-term strategy under the Paris Agreement, Chapter 2, presents measures for emissions reduction in four sectors: energy, industry, transport, and community and living. For example, in transport, the challenge of 'Well-to-Wheel Zero Emission'



is indicated. It means that every vehicle produced by Japanese automakers will be electrified by 2050. Japan aims to realise the Well-to-Wheel Zero Emission policy in line with global efforts to eliminate emissions, with a focus on energy supply and vehicle innovation. It is said that replacing all vehicles with electric vehicles (EVs) can reduce gas emissions by around 80% per vehicle, including an approximately 90% reduction per passenger vehicle.

Climate Mitigation Strategy: China:

The China emits 27% of annual Global GHGs, which is the highest. China has targeted to achieve net-zero emissions before 2060. But it did not specify the long-anticipated peaking date, the level at which the country's emissions would peak, or how long they would plateau before starting to drop. However, various China experts believe that the combination of targets, if fully implemented, could still lead to a lower peak in emissions being reached earlier than the officially stated goal of "before 2030".

Climate Mitigation Strategy: E.U.:

The EU and all its member states have signed and ratified the Paris Agreement and are strongly committed to its implementation. In line with this commitment, EU countries have agreed to set the EU on the path to becoming the first climate-neutral economy and society by 2050. As required by the agreement, the EU submitted its long-term emission reduction strategy and its updated climate plans before the end of 2020, pledging to reduce EU emissions by at least 55% by 2030, compared to 1990 levels. The EU is at the forefront of the fight against climate change. Its bold policies and actions make the EU a global standard-setter and drive climate ambition worldwide.

Climate Mitigation Strategy: U.S.:

The U.S emits 11% of annual Global GHGs, which is the second highest in the world, after China. The U.S. has committed to take comprehensive and immediate action to reduce GHG domestically. And through the Global Methane Pledge, the U.S. and partners seek to reduce global methane emissions by at least 30% by 2030, Net Zero by 2050. The U.S roadmap involves the potential for new technologies in diverse applications, as new policy platforms are developed over time. They intend to regularly review and update their long term strategy as needed to consider such developments and latest science.

Climate Mitigation Strategy: U.A.E.:

The UAE has strengthened its 2030 climate target, under 2015's Paris Agreement, now planning to cut greenhouse gas emissions 31 per cent below "business-as-usual" by 2030, against the previous 23.5 per cent goal. This is ahead of the Emirates' hosting



of the COP28 climate conference in November next year, and the country's net zero by 2050 strategy.

Most of the emissions reductions (66.4 per cent) will come in power generation, where nuclear and solar are taking over from gas, which in turn replaces coal. Adnoc has signed a gas supply agreement with the Dubai Supply Authority (Dusup) to replace coal in the new Hassyan power plant. The UAE Cabinet also approved temporary licensing for the region's first electric cargo aircraft, and the country is ranked eighth globally in readiness for electric mobility.

Sustainability is a key part of future real estate in the UAE, including solar panels and better waste management. Siemens Energy and Hub71 have teamed up to support climate-focused start-ups in Abu Dhabi.

Climate Mitigation Strategy: Other major emitter countries:

At least 63 countries are there in the world which contributes half of the current global emissions. These are like Canada, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Brazil. These countries mostly fix up their net zero goals by 2050.

Climate mitigation, Energy Transition in India:

In 2008, the Govt.of India, had introduced Prime Minister's National Action Plan on Climate Change [NAPCC]. This had Eight National Missions including Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) and Enhanced Energy Efficiency Mission.

To meet the commitment in accordance to the Paris Accord, the Indian Government has introduced target based capacity addition from RE sources, energy efficiency measures etc. In 2015, India had fixed up the target to add 175 GW of Renewable Energy [RE] in its grid by 2022.

By June, 2022, India has already achieved 114 GW (39.8% of total installed capacity) from Renewable including large Hydro. In addition to this, 60.66 GW of RE projects are at different stages of implementation and 23.14 GW of RE projects are at various stages of bidding process. The further target is 500 GW of RE by 2030, which is to accomplish India's goal to enhance its RE penetration to its grid energy mix to 40% by 2030.

In recent past, India has witnessed steady growth in Solar and Wind Energy sectors. In recent biddings, Solar PV has become the cheapest source of electricity in India. Such tariff was Rs.1.99 (in the NTPC bidding on 19.12.2020) for each (kwh) unit for Solar PV. The International Energy Agency on 30.04.2020 has said that Renewable Energy will be the only energy source that will be resilient to the coronavirus pandemic. After introduction of the Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on from 01/04/2022; now it has



become Rs.2.99 per kWh in recent days. In recent days, Solar PV has emerged as the cheapest source of electricity in India.

The transition at a glance:

Indian Power Sector Scenario

Year	2019	2020	June,2022
Cumulative Installed Capacity	-----	376.67 GW	403 GW
Thermal (Coal+Lignite+Gas)	230.7 GW [64.1%]	238.4 GW [63.3%]	236 GW [58.5%]
Coal		199.9 GW	204 GW
RE with large hydro	133.17 GW [35.9%]	138.27 GW [36.7%]	160 GW [39.7%]
Solar		38.8 GW [10.30%]	57.7 GW [14.3%]
Wind		38.6 GW [10.25%]	40.8 GW [10.1%]

[Source: MNRE, CEA & MERCOS Report, 2022]

Rooftop Solar in India:

According to the Bridge to India Report of June 2022, the cumulative Rooftop Solar installation stands for 7.9 GW in India. According to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), the leading states are Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Telengana.

Despite the challenges of COVID-19, Gujarat was able to add significant capacity in part because of the Surya Urja Rooftop Yojana – Gujarat, a major government incentive program in the region that targets solar rooftops for eight lakh – or 0.8 million – residential consumers by March 2022. The scheme allows consumers to claim state subsidy of 40% for solar installations up to 3kW, and 20% for 3kW-10kW. Additionally, a Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) policy brought in in September 2019 by the Gujarat state government allows the installation of solar projects with more than 100% of their sanctioned load or contract demand for MSMEs. This helped drive rooftop solar additions, as the popular policy allows MSMEs to sell excess solar to the State government for Rs.1.75/kWh, and buy solar power from third parties.

For a developer, it includes reduced land and interconnection costs, higher tariffs due to increasing commercial and industrial tariffs, and increased profitability. Rooftop solar PV assists distribution companies (DISCOMs) by reducing the peak demand during daytime and decreases transmission and distribution (T&D) losses as the power is consumed at the point of generation. According to PwC analysis, more than 10,000 MU of electricity will be saved as avoidance of T&D losses alone in year 2022 alone if 40 GW rooftop PV is achieved. Further, commercial benefits in avoiding



investments in transmission system are huge. Finally and most importantly, it reduces the dependence on grid power, diesel generators and is a long-term reliable power source for consumers.

Typically, the growth of rooftop solar in a country goes through three phases. Starting with the proof of concept phase, that involves demonstrating the success of the technology, as in Germany's 1,000 rooftop programme that initiated the advent of rooftop solar in the country. Second comes the market transformation phase, wherein focus is on building capacity in the market and raising awareness about the technology. The most important role herein is of the market facilitators, typically the Government. India is currently passing through this phase. The final phase is the self-replication phase, wherein enablers are reduced to a minimum and the market forces with optimized technologies itself lead to an increasing number of installations. This is the phase that countries such as Japan and Germany are currently in.

From studies of the International Renewable Energy Agency [IRENA], Ministry of New & Renewable [MNRE], TERI [The Energy & Resources Institute], ILO [International Labour Organisation], it appears that the workforce requirement in the Indian Power sector may reach 35 lac by 2050. RE technologies tend to be more labour intensive than conventional. Distributed renewables like small-scale hydro, rooftop solar and biomass can create maximum employment for every MW of installed capacity. From the papers, as published in the 35 th Indian Engineering Congress,2020, it appears that Rooftop solar employs 24.72 persons, small hydro employs 13.84 persons and biomass employs 16.24 persons for constructing and running a one-megawatt plant.

R & D , Manufacturing , EPC : New Employments:

- A. Focus on more R & D activities which can on one hand build more capacity in terms of RE manufacturing in Self Reliant manner.
- B. Even in the recent pandemic due to Covid 19, the Renewable Energy has emerged as the Sunrise Industry and the Coal Energy is the decaying industry now, in India. From recent studies of the International Renewable Energy Agency [IRENA], Ministry of New & Renewable [MNRE], TERI [The Energy & Resources Institute], ILO [international Labour Organisation], it appears that the workforce requirement in the Indian Power sector may reach 35 lac by 2050. RE technologies tend to be more labour intensive than conventional. Distributed renewables like small-scale hydro, rooftop solar and biomass can create maximum employment for every MW of installed capacity. It is estimated that Rooftop solar employs 24.72 persons, small hydro employs 13.84 persons and biomass employs 16.24 persons for constructing and running a one-megawatt plant. So, a business friendly RE EPC Policy is the need of the hour.



Sl. No.	Item	Govt. Policy /Present trend	Employment Scenario
1.	EPC Business in RE	Large corporates and Small & Medium Enterprises [SMEs] are very keen on diversifying to become a Solar EPC. Other small businesses are vertically integrating to the EPC business. Employment opportunity in informal sector is also there.	Presently 5,60,000 people are working. It can be nearly 13lac people in 2030.
2.	Solar Cell, Module Manufacturing	Present indigenous manufacturing capacity for cells is 2GW annually and it is nearly double for Modules. New MNRE Solar Cell Manufacturing Policy is there for cutting edge technology for large scale upgrading indigenous manufacturing capacity. Scope of indirect employment is also there.	Presently 2,52,000 people. It can be enhanced upto 6 lac people by 2030.
3.	(advanced storage) Battery Manufacturing	The advanced chemistry cell battery manufacturing policy of the Government of India is in the final stage.	Presently 16,480 people. It can be enhanced upto 1 lac people by 2030

IRENA estimates that Some 3, 80,000 people were employed in RE sector in India in 2015 which is increased to 8, 24,000 in September, 2020 and it is expected that some 20 lac people will be working in Indian RE sector by 2030 .Presently, employed people in Solar energy: 2, 04,000. The employee strength of CIL [Coal India Limited] was 5, 10,671 in 2015, which has reduced to 2, 72,445 in September, 2020. During 2000 to 2015 in CIL 1, 05,000 jobs were lost and the figure for 2015-2020 is 2, 38,225.

From the said analysis, it is evident that for a proper balance in respect of energy independence and sustainable growth, rapid increase of manufacturing facility is inevitable to meet the employment requirement to ensure the inclusive growth in Indian power sector.

C. Manufacturing of Solar PV Cell and Module: can the ‘Maruti Story’ be repeated?:

In India’s total RE capacity, now Solar PV is nearly 35 GW. Present indigenous manufacturing capacity for Solar cells is 2GW annually and it is nearly double for Modules. So, for the sake of Self-Reliance or to make India ‘Atmonirbhar’ in Solar Energy Sector, India’s indigenous cell and module manufacturing facility requires rapid capacity addition. These new manufacturing units can create larger employment opportunity, both in formal and informal sectors. This can ensure the re-creation of earning sources to the distressed people, till recent past who were totally dependent on coal mining for their income.



Such recent initiatives of Adani Green, Tata, Vikram, Loongi etc can be compared with that of India's top car maker. For Maruti, along with the car maker an entire range of ancillary industry also comes into reality. Here, for Solar also, elevating local manufacturing can create an ecosystem of suppliers for solar cells and modules. This can open scope for more employment in both formal and non-formal sector. Otherwise RE transition benefits will be limited to low salary, in organised sector jobs only.

D. Manufacturing of smart storage batteries:

To reduce our emissions to meet the un-conditional goal of Paris Accord, India has introduced National Hybrid Mobility Mission where time bound more penetration of Electric Vehicle is coming as a reality. Almost 40 % of total cost of an EVehicle goes to its battery. Presently, both these batteries are coming mostly from China. In this context, the Govt of India is preparing the advanced chemistry cell battery manufacturing policy .It is now in the final stage. Here also, a growth of ancillary industry is expected which can create more employment.

Conclusions: Although climate change action needs to be massively increased to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement. The years since its entry into force have already sparked low carbon solutions and new markets. More and more countries, regions, cities and companies are establishing Carbon Neutrality Targets. Zero Carbon solutions are becoming competitive across economic sectors representing 25% of emissions. This trend is most noticeable in the power & transport sectors and has created many new business opportunities for early movers. By 2030, zero carbon solutions could be competitive in sectors representing over 70% of Global Emissions.

So far, in most cases, the Net Zero exercises are limited with corporate sector only. An integrated and alternative approach through elevating indigenous RE manufacturing capacity and extending Net Zero exercises in non-corporate sector, can ensure propagation of RE Sector more sustainable and inclusive. Other than organised sector employment, an eco-system for ancillary, maintenance services is also to be developed. These will GHG emissions, enhance RE penetration and will provide new scope of employment to the youth, jobless and other marginalized population. Otherwise, only giant companies will have all the benefits of this RE transition.



ANNEXURE-C

FARMER PROTEST: AN EPIC IN ITS OWN RIGHTS

We are passing through a turbulent time in which the very government who is responsible for protecting our country and public assets had put on a label on its head which read **India for sale**. The backbone of Indian Industries Navaratna companies which evolved through decades of hard work and determination, now being sold out for a paltry sum. The gains obtained through this unfair deal are being used up for purchasing elected representatives. The central government has not spared the farmers and Agriculture Sector too.

Anti-farmer bills were introduced on 14th day of September 2020 in Lok Sabha proclaiming it as a liberator for farmers and the sector in India. Amid vociferous protest from leftward MPs on 17th day of September 2020 Lok Sabha passed the bill. On 28th day of September the draconian Anti Farmer bill was introduced and passed on voice vote in Rajya Sabha denying its member's request for a discussion on the bill.

The agitated farmers started protest on 25th day of September 2020 and called *JAIL BHARO AANDOLAN*, a protest in which the protesters themselves voluntarily get arrested to fill the jail of authority. From 15th day of November the jails in Delhi and around exhausted its extended capacity. The farmers in large numbers March towards New Delhi, initially from Punjab and Haryana, which was followed by Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh & Maharashtra. Lacks of farmers carrying food, farming tools and tractors along with their family raised the March to epic proportions.

In order to prevent protesting farmers from entering Delhi large pits and barricades along with large scale mobilization of police forces emulating war-front was enforced. The protesters dismantled the defence put forward by the government and Sangh Parivar goons and marched forward to the capital.

Protesting farmers were even a labelled as traitors and terrorist in order to defame them and to put an end to the protest. The police forces and goons were utilised to create conflicts and try to beat up the protesters to nullify the protest. Farmers defied all these by facing it in a calm and composed manner. They stood tall under the farmer Union braving the extreme winter. In a Christmas Day message on 2020 the prime minister himself mocked the farmers by proclaiming that the whole protest was an even management sponsored program. He even argued that the protests are due to the ignorance of farmers regarding the advantages the new farm laws that will bestow



up on them. On the other hand, farmers laid down the damages of these law which will shower on them pain and agony.

The farmers convince the people that the first of the three farm laws **The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020**; envisages the entry route for Corporates to establish Monopoly on farmer produce denying Fair value to farmers produce and grabbing food grains at Steal deals making the government regulated APMC and mandi's Moribund.

The second act **The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020**; provides Monopoly on corporates and to decide on what to be cultivated on a farmland Thereby making the farmers toothless than empowered. This fact was convincingly presented before the people.

The third one **The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020**, as the name implies provided an amendment through which hoarding of farm produce cannot be prevented and may lead to pseudo famine. These facts were vividly narrated to the people of our country by the protesting farmers. On evoking the above said laws the agricultural sector will fall down to more crisis resulting in spike in farmer suicides. The country will face hike in farm produce and food materials, even on an excess crop yield year, owing to the hoarding and creation of pseudo famine by the vested Corporates.

Professor Swaminathan committee was constituted on 18 day of November 2004 to address the inability and find solution to the grave crisis faced by the Indian farmers resulting in farmer suicides. The committee christened National Commission on farmers submitted 5 reports to the government between December 2004 to October 2006. On the 5th and final report professor Swaminathan explains the way to avert the farm crisis and to do away with farmer suicides. The important recommendations of the commission were described below

- (i) Necessary steps to be taken to complete the land Reform measures which is still on a Halfway mark.
- (ii) The crisis deepens due to the inadequate water availability, and the quality of available water, which needs to be addressed.
- (iii) The farmers be given power to regulate farm produce
- (iv) Land, water, bio resources, agri loans, agri- insurance and agri- techniques be regulated in such a way that farmers must be provided due representation.
- (v) Surplus and waste land to be provided to farmers
- (vi) Minimum support price be decided over and above 50% of the expenses incurred on farming. Even with the above recommendation rusting in shelf the government decided the other way to corporates the agriculture sector.



Modi government moved back from its election Promises of implementing Prof. Swaminathan's reports and inserted draconian farm laws which will result in severe starvation of farmers. Farmers brave the threats imposed by the government and above 500 unions constituted meeting and formed a large Union christened **Sam Yuktha Kisan Morcha**. Which fought against the Anti-farmer laws single heartedly. The prime role in confederation was held by **All India Kisan Sabha**. Dr Ashok Dhawale, Mohammed Salim and Viju Krishnan donned the movement. Braving the extreme weather one-year long farmer protest etched an epic in the history of struggles. More than 750 farmers paid the ultimate Sacrifice of life to find solution. In Northern States as the former protest continued aggregating public support mahapanchayat of farmers were Convened and decided to boycott BJP leaders resulting in last minute evacuation of Scheduled BJP programmes. The decision by the Modi government to revoke farm laws were a slap to the face of those pro- corporates who daydream the insignificance of protests and public uprisings in newer times. The triumph of farmer protest is a moral boost to the struggle for rights in our country.



ANNEXURE-D

Adopted Declaration

Against the Anti national, Pro corporate, Communal Policies of BJP Government

MAZDOOR-KISAN ADHIKAR MAHADHIVESHAN ALL INDIA CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF WORKERS AND PEASANTS

5TH SEPTEMBER 2022, TALKATORA STADIUM, NEW DELHI

We the workers, peasants and agricultural workers of India, gathered in this national convention at the call of the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU), All India Kisan Sabha (AIKS) and All India Agricultural Workers' Union (AIAWU), on the fourth anniversary of the historic Mazdoor Kisan Sangharsh Rally held on 5th September 2018, declare our resolve to strengthen our united struggle to protect the interests of the workers, peasants and agricultural workers, who through their labour produce the wealth of our country.

Representing the toiling people across our country, which has just completed 75 years of Independence, we reiterate our commitment to continue the struggle to realise the vision cherished by our earlier generations who sacrificed their everything in the freedom struggle - for an India free from hunger, poverty, unemployment and illiteracy, a secular, democratic, socialist republic in which all our people will enjoy the fundamental rights and directive principles enshrined in our Constitution.

We note with anguish that the present Modi-led BJP regime controlled by the RSS is destroying whatever we, the people have built brick by brick through our labour and whatever we have achieved through our struggles and sacrifices, during the last 75 years. It is trampling underfoot the dream of our freedom fighters, of an India free, not only from British colonialism, but all forms of oppression and discrimination on the basis of their class, caste, creed, religion or gender, of a nation where its people can live with freedom and dignity. Its actual practice over the last eight years of its rule makes its blitzkrieg about 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' sounds hollow.

Our economy, our hard acquired food security and manufacturing capacities, our democratic, secular and federal political system, our Constitutional rights, Parliamentary norms and practices are all under serious attack.



The economy was in crisis and people were in distress even before Covid 19 struck. The manner, in which the Modi government handled the pandemic, worsened both. More than one lakh farmers committed suicide in the last 8 years. The increase in suicide by daily wagers, from 32000 in 2019 to 38000 in 2020 and more than 42000 in 2021, is the worst manifestation of the overall crisis. As per National Crime Records Bureau report that out of the total 164033 suicides in 2021, one in four, were that of daily wagers. The agrarian crisis and lack of employment in rural areas and the precarious work and low incomes in urban centres are creating such a dangerous situation.

Prices are increasing, wages are declining. The share of wages in the net value added is among the lowest levels. Peasants do not get remunerative prices. Agriculture is becoming unsustainable for small and middle peasants. Agricultural work is drastically reduced in the rural areas. No decent employment is generated in the urban areas. Unemployment and job losses are increasing by leaps and bounds. Working conditions are deteriorating. Violence against Women, Dalits, Adivasis, and Minorities has reached unprecedented levels.

Prices of essential commodities are continuously rising. Prices are made to rise by the Modi government's discriminatory taxation and other policies, only to benefit the big corporate and business houses and traders. Prices of petrol, diesel, cooking gas and other fuels are increased almost on daily basis by the present taxation regime which is having a cascading impact on the prices of all other commodities, public transport and other services.

On top of this comes the latest round of unprecedented burdens through the GST hikes on all essential commodities such as pre-packaged rice, wheat, milk and on a host of other items of daily use. The range of items on which GST has been increased includes crematorium charges, hospital rooms, writing ink etc. People have to pay 18 per cent GST on bank cheques even to withdraw one's own savings from their bank. At the same time, GST on luxury items has been lowered.

According to a Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) report, unemployment among youth in the 20-24 years age group is a staggering 42%. Labour Participation Rate has dropped to an all-time low of 38.8%. Rural women are the worst affected. Their work participation rate has fallen to a historic low of below 10%. Lakhs of micro, small and medium enterprises have closed, resulting in the loss of crores of jobs. Permanent jobs are vanishing. Precarious jobs are increasing. Casualisation and contractorisation of employment is getting legal sanctity under the Modi regime.

While the demand for work under MGNREGA increased, the government reduced allocations for it. Wages for work done to the tune of Rs 1498 crore are pending for several months in almost all the states. According to the official figures 1.47crore job



seekers (around 20% of the total) were refused work.

The four labour codes passed by the Modi Government are meant to do away with whatever has been achieved by the working class through over a century of struggles, including an eight hour workday, minimum wages, social security and most important of all, the right to organise and collective bargaining. Though the government could not notify the labour codes for implementation till now, it is determined to do so at the earliest. Hunger in the country has reached shocking levels. India ranks 101 among the 116 countries in the Global Hunger Index of 2021. But the government is reducing expenditure on schemes like ICDS and Mid-day Meals and withdrawing from the basic survival entitlements of the people.

All productive assets, the nation's wealth – public sector undertakings, financial institutions, mines, defence production units, major ports, telecom towers, oil and natural gas pipelines, railways, highways, airports and airlines, electricity, steel, postal services - are being handed over to the big private corporates, domestic and foreign, through reckless privatisation. The National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP) is aimed at handing over our infrastructure built with public funds to the private corporates virtually free of cost, for making massive profits.

This will not only increase the burden on the people, but will also take away the constitutional right of reservation in government jobs for Dalits, tribals, OBCs and other downtrodden sections of society. Through mass scale contractorisation and outsourcing of work in most of the government departments and administration, the entire governance system is being planned to be privatized. The Agnipath scheme is meant to contractorise the defence services and also to get a private army for the communal forces.

At the same time this government has been extending bonanzas to the big monopoly companies, Ambani, Adani and the likes, by continuously lowering the corporate tax rates, abolishing wealth tax, declaring moratorium on payment of charges/taxes, on debt repayments etc. The Super Rich have amassed wealth even during the pandemic. In an obscene display of inequalities in our country, the richest 1% corner more than 70% of the GDP and lowest 50% of people have less than 10%. The central government has written off loans worth a whopping Rs 10.72 lakh crore to its crony corporates in the last seven years.

In the background of the growing world capitalist crisis and the imperialist wars, the situation is going to further worsen. This convention salutes the lakhs of peasants of our country who heroically fought for over a year against the three pro-corporate, anti-farmer and anti-people farm laws and compelled the Modi government to repeal them. This convention appreciates the solidarity and wholehearted support extended by the working class of our country to this historic struggle.



This convention strongly condemns the Modi government for reneging on its assurances to the peasants, on legally guaranteed Minimum Support Price (MSP) for all crops, not going ahead with the Electricity Amendment Bill without consulting with them, withdrawal of cases and other issues. Contrary to its assurance, the government has introduced the Electricity Amendment Bill to privatise electricity in the Parliament, although due to pressure it had to be sent to the Parliamentary Standing committee.

The farm laws, the labour codes, the electricity bill, the privatisation spree are all part of the neoliberal policies to which the Modi government is committed. In its aggressive pursuit of these policies for the benefit of the big corporate and monopoly companies, domestic as well as foreign, the Modi government is resorting to ruthless suppression of any opposition to these policies.

Fundamental and basic human and democratic rights are attacked. The Constitution is violated. Parliamentary norms and practices are flouted. Laws are bypassed. Journalists bringing the facts to light, intellectuals, human rights activists are arrested and jailed without bail. Dissent is sought to be 'bulldozed'. The majoritarian communal forces seek to dictate people's lives – the dress they wear, the food they eat, people whom they can be friends with, whom they can or cannot marry. This in turn is leading to the rise in minority fundamentalism. Both these hues of communalism are being propagated to disrupt the class unity and have disastrous impact on the lives of the people and on social harmony.

This convention warns the toiling people of our country and all progressive sections of society against falling prey to these machinations of the ruling classes and their representative in power today, the BJP guided by the fascistic RSS.

This convention congratulates the workers, peasants and agricultural workers and other sections of the people who have been displaying exemplary courage in resisting and fighting these disastrous neo-liberal policies from their independent as well as joint platforms. The historic farmers' struggle under the banner of the Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM), the countrywide general strike on 26th November 2020 and again on 28-29th March 2022 under the banner of the joint trade union platform, the various sectoral struggles of the coal, port and dock, defence, bank, insurance, postal, telecom, electricity, transport, scheme workers and other sections of workers and the struggles of the farmers and agricultural workers in different states on the issues of price, wage, land, MGNREGA work, government procurement, etc show the determination of our people to fight for their rights.

Not only the workers, peasants and agricultural workers; the youth, students, women and many other sections are today fighting for jobs, for the right to food, education, health, housing, and social justice, protection of democratic rights and the secular character of our nation. These united struggles show the potential to carry forward the



anti-imperialist, anti-corporate struggle to fulfil the dreams of those who fought for our country's independence, to realise their vision of a free India.

This convention asserts that the struggle today is not only for our immediate demands of livelihood and living and working conditions. It is also to save the country's economy, to save the secular democratic character of our society from this communal and authoritarian BJP-RSS regime. It is to save our Constitution from the onslaught of the 'Hindutva' forces masquerading as saviours of Hindus. As Savarkar who had first used the term 'Hindutva' himself explained, it is a political construct and has nothing to do with religion. It was these communal forces like the RSS and Hindu Mahasabha that refused to participate in our freedom struggle, and along with the Muslim League facilitated the British colonialists' 'Divide and Rule' policy by raising the Two Nation theory based on religion. The struggle today is to Save the Nation and to Save the People from these anti-people and anti-national policies and forces.

Hence, this convention calls upon the workers, peasants and agricultural workers all over the country to rise unitedly to fight for the following demands and to work tirelessly for a defeat of the pro imperialist, neo-liberal, communal and authoritarian regime of the BJP-RSS.

Demands:

- Ensure Minimum wages @Rs26,000 pm and Pension @Rs10,000 to all; No contractorisation of work; Scrap Agnipath Scheme.
- Legally ensure MSP @ C2+50% for all farm produce with guaranteed procurement.
- One time loan waiver by the central government to all poor and middle peasants and agricultural workers; pension to all of them above 60 years.
- Scrapping of four Labour Codes and Electricity Amendment Bill 2022.
- Job security and guarantee for all; Expand MGNREGA and increase workdays to 200 with minimum wages @Rs600 per day; Pay all pending wages; Enact a National Urban Employment Guarantee Act.
- Stop Privatisation of PSUs and Public Services; Scrap National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP).
- Arrest Price Rise, Withdraw GST on food items and essentials; Reduce the central excise duty on petrol/diesel/kerosene/cooking gas substantially;
- Universalise the Public Distribution System (PDS) and expand its scope to include 14 essential items;
- Ensure food and income support to all Non tax payer families.



- Stringent implementation of the Forest Rights Act (FRA); withdraw the amendments to Forest (Conservation) Act and Rules that allow the union government to permit clearance of a forest without even informing the residents.
- Stop repression of the marginalised sections and ensure social justice.
- Ensure universal and quality Health and Education for all; Scrap National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- Ensure Housing to all.
- Tax the Super Rich; Enhance Corporate Tax; Introduce Wealth Tax.

Programme of Action:

To take these demands to the workers, peasants and agricultural workers across the country, this convention calls upon all the units, up to the lowest level, of all the three organisations to take up an intensive and extensive campaign comprising:

- Joint meetings of the state level office bearers of the three organisations to plan the campaign by the end of October 2022.
- District level joint meetings of the office bearers of the three organisations by the end of November–December 2022.
- State level joint conventions in January 2023.
- Massive campaign through distribution of leaflets, posters, wall writing, group meetings, jathas, processions etc on the issues and demands including local demands during the next four months, aiming to reach the unreached, as planned in the state and district joint meetings.
- District/local level conventions in February 2023.
- Jathas to take the message of this convention to all nooks and corners of the country.
- Massive ‘Mazdoor Kisan Sangharsh Rally 2.0’ during the 2023 budget session of Parliament.

This convention also calls upon all progressive, democratic and patriotic people of our country to extend support and solidarity to this nation-wide campaign and programmes, to Save the Nation and Save the People!

CITU

AIKS

AIAWU



ANNEXURE-E

ONSLAUGHTS AND STRUGGLES IN MODI REGIME

Since 2014, when Sangh Parivar Controlled Modi Govt came to power in centre, the already existing neo liberal policies from the very beginning of 1991, scaled its peak. The Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2014 was sprouted out and placed before the Indian parliament as part of the aforesaid policies and aims to forfeit the entire distribution Sector to the Private sector. The Act was introduced in such a manner that Private players can easily enter the Distribution sector and make humongous profit. Key objective of the Act was to divide Distribution sector into Content and carriage.

Other major points, mentioned in the amendment, are as follows.

1. The construction and maintenance of distribution infrastructure will be the duty of distribution licensee.
2. Supply companies will supply power to consumers through the network of distribution licensee.
3. More than one supply company will be granted in a single area.
4. Consumer can choose among various suppliers available in the area.
5. Improved efficiency and low priced electricity as a result of competition among multiple supply companies.
6. Cross subsidy will be eliminated.

On the other hand, the reality is bitter. All the claims proposed by the govt were a mere a myth. A consumer can not choose among suppliers as a supplier is not obliged to supply electricity to each and every customer, who approaches them. Rather, the supplier can choose their customers. The shocking results might be;

- (1) The suppliers will focus on large scale users of electricity and on those consumers, from whom they can yield enormous profit.
- (2) By the result of the 'cherry picking', mentioned above, public sector utilities will have to face unprecedented loss and will cease to exist.
- (3) Sky rocketing electricity tariff due to the elimination of cross subsidy.
- (4) Electrical power will become unapproachable to layman and the concept of 'Electricity to all' will be sabotaged.



- (5) Farmers will be adversely affected due to increased tariff. They will be forced to quit farming.
- (6) Hike in electricity charges will also affect MSME sector adversely and the manufacturing sector will register deficit. GDP will be affected and unemployment will worsen.
- (7) Federalism of the nation is tarnished in broad day light, as central Govt is arriving in one sided decisions and forcefully implementing them sans any consultation with state Govts.

NCCOEEE has conducted innumerable agitations, campaigns and struggles against the amendment as it will harmfully affect the interests of people, employees and nation. The concept of 'Welfare state' will be compromised. On 6th of November 2015, a convention of state power ministers was held in Bolgatty palace, Kochi in Kerala. The meeting was summoned by Mr Piyush Goyal, who was the power minister of that time. Convention was meant to discuss law amendment. Thousands of employees, officers and engineers, from Kerala and other southern states, marched to Bolgatty palace as a gesture of strong protest. As a result of this huge march, minister was finally forced to talk with leaders and agreed to consider withdrawing those unfair clauses.

State governments too objected the law amendment pointing out that the amendment will affect the right and privilege of states in a federal system. Bill was introduced, again, with small changes in 2018 and 2019, but 1st Modi Govt could not pass the bill.

BJP led NDA alliance came back to the throne, winning more seats than 2014, in 2019 national election, with BJP, alone, gaining absolute majority. This paved the way to make more anti people and anti national policies in a stronger way than ever before. 4 labour codes were passed by amending labour acts, treating labourers like slaves. 3 farm acts were passed for paving a red carpet for Corporates in agricultural sector and making a tremendous impact on farming livelihoods. Selling the assets of Public Sector utilities, that too of profit making, gained its maximum momentum. Livelihood of common man working class made the worst by these anti people policies. Umpteen agitations were conducted in sector, state and national level to oppose this injustice. Modi Govt tried to defeat this by spreading communalism among people.

On April 18th of 2020 union power ministry discussed law amendment, even amidst nation wide lock down due to Covid pandemic. The discussion was published in September. It felt like Modi gov't was engaged in war against the people of India, while the whole nation was fighting against Covid 19.

The new amendment envisages to surrender all its Electricity Distribution infrastructure and network, which was constructed by the public money of our nation, to corporate sector. Assured profit at any circumstance, for the corporates was the key motive of



this amendment. Electricity will be ripped off from the concurrent list and as a result state governments will be deprived of their role in this matter. State governments, solely, will have to shoulder unbearable financial burden due to subsidy given to consumers as part of tariff hike. This was the reason behind the objection of 12 of the major state governments.

Joint Struggle of Electricity Consumers and Employees

Against Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2020

- *The Bill provides that the Central Government shall appoint the Chairman and Members of State Commissions. Such atrocious provision shall enable Central Government to bully the State Governments. It is nothing but authoritarian onslaught on the federal structure of the country.*
- *The Electricity (Supply) Act 1948 provided a people friendly structure of totally integrated electricity sector composed of generation, transmission and distribution both under Central and State Governments. The neo-liberal regimes in the country since 1991 have axed the electricity sector into pieces against the interest of the common people unduly favouring private sector. This is aimed at handing over the directly money-making segments of the structure to private hands.*
- *The first major blow came with the enactment of neo-liberal policy driven legislation called Electricity Act 2003. It started with splitting the sector into three separate entities Generation, Transmission and Distribution under the neoliberal tag of 'un-bundling' State Electricity Boards (SEBs) were trifurcated and corporatised by creating business entities called Genco, Transco and Discom. Many catchy promises were pronounced. But the falsity and deception to the people by the successive Governments has been totally exposed.*
- *The promise of 'cheaper power' through promotion of 'efficiency & competition' has been totally proved false. All the schemes like UMPP, UDAY etc. turned into flop show. Cost of electricity has been increased between 6 & 8 times in this period even with direct and cross subsidy retained through amendment of the Electricity Act, 2003 by UPA-1 Government, due to pressure from the Left, on whose support it was dependent.*
- *However most welcome exception is the State of Kerala. Bold stand by the Left Democratic Government of Kerala supplemented by the struggles conducted by the Trade Unions and Associations of KSEB, the World Bank directed anti-people prescription to unbundle SEBs has not been implemented in the state. And today the un-bundled KSEB has been judged the best performing power utility in the country by none other than the world Bank.*



- *Due to private loot and plunder, the power sector is in physical and financial mess. Today the accumulated loss of all Discoms stands at Rs. 6.00 lakh crores besides debt default over Rs.5.00 lakh crores to Financial Institutions. The private profit push facilitated by the Governments has resulted in 6 to 8 times hike in electricity tariff affecting the common people and poor peasants.*
- *Publicity stunt schemes were launched under such nomenclature as 'Fast Track Projects 'Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPP)' spending huge public funds to facilitate private projects, ultimately with nil or minimum success.*
- *Electricity Act, 2003: NDA Government attempted elimination of cross subsidy and left the rural electrification into lurch. However yielding to people's pressure as well as strong voice of left parties in Parliament during UPA-1,*
- *Government was compelled to retain cross subsidy. That is why, poor people of India is still having access to electricity.*
- *Electricity Act 2003 opened up generation segment to private sector indiscriminately. Private business entities were facilitated with linkage of water, coal, transport corridor and other infrastructure including transmission backbone free of cost by the NDA Government. Some of these generating plants have been from solar and others renewable source.*
- *Financial closures of these projects were arrived through loan from banks and financial institutes. Because of very high tariff and poor economic growth, there was no taker of power. As a result 50,000 MW generating capacity became non-performing assets. Banks and financial institutions are not paid back their loans by the defaulting private entities with impunity.*
- *Prior to the present 2020 Bill, Government initiated two Bills, one in 2014 and the other in 2018. One of the obnoxious provisos was to split the Distribution Business into Carriage and Content. One Company will maintain the distribution network from Grid sub-station to premises of the consumers and other companies will undertake supply business. The intention was to segregate the system into high end and low end consumers in the urban area. to meet the technical requirement for the proposed further split of the sector, the Union budget for 2020 allocated Rs.22,000 crores for installation of Smart Meters. The immediate ill effect would be that private entities will not be interested to take up low revenue rural areas and huge number of poor, low end consumers will be the victims. Agricultural feeders are being segregated with the cost from public exchequer.*
- *Tariff will be escalated due to removal of cross subsidy from tariff and proposed direct payment of subsidy to consumers will be dependent on intention and financial health of the states. Electricity for the poor consumers will be factored by Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) if concerned state can afford.*



- *Agriculture economy, particularly poor and middle peasants will be left upon the uncertain factor of DBT or rain fed irrigation only. Agricultural consumers will also have to pay full cost of supply. Only the land owners would be eligible to subsidies, whereas cultivation is very often done by tillers/share croppers who pay for electricity. The large difference between the cost of water provided by irrigation canals and ground water extracted by electricity will become more unsustainable with increase in the cost of electricity in areas beyond the canal fed areas.*
- *On the contrary, Government will ensure payment to private (Independent) power producers in advance or through Bank with the mechanism of letter of credit from Discoms. Electricity Contract Enforcement Authority (ECEA) will be created to ensure profit of business community. This authority under the central hegemony will enforce compliance of contract between electricity generators and distributors.*
- *Under the cover of lockdown 'opportunity' the Modi Government has pushed privatisation of distribution in Union Territories desperately ignoring the excellent performance of Chandigarh as a Government department. Its AT & C loss is record below 10% Dadra & NH also exemplary.*
- *As proposed in the Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2020. Electricity distribution business in every state will be assigned to Distribution-licensees, Sub-distribution licensees and Franchises. These Franchises will not be regulated by regulatory commissions. Purpose is clear. Tom, Dick and Harry will be engaged at throw away rate of commission. They will engage workers with cheapest wage without professional training and workmen permit. Gateway for informalization of electricity distribution sector will be opened thereby.*
- *As proposed in the Bill, whoever may be the Distributing Agency in a particular area with Distribution network, anyone can supply Electricity through that network. This system is termed as Open Access providing consumers multiple choices of suppliers. What they are hiding is that poor consumers will have no choice, other than the supply company owned by the Government, at very high cost, because private suppliers will be interested only in the revenue rich cities and industrial hubs. Government owned Distribution Company will have to bear the loss with poor low end consumers, without scope of cross subsidies. Viewed from other end, higher consuming, financially sound sections of consumers will enjoy the scope of lower cost of supply.*
- *The electricity workers have been the worst victims. Majority regular workers have been converted into casual workers, large scale outsourcing and contractualisation as well as engaging franchises. Heavy reduction of wages, in compensatory benefits and in statutory facilities including social security was imposed.*

As an immediate reaction towards the presentation of Electricity Amendment bill



2020, in Parliament, State chapters under EEFI and NCCOEEE began agitation and campaign among employees and public. Situation was extremely adverse for such kind of activities for the reason that the entire nation was in grip of lockdown. Gathering of any kind was prohibited at that time. Even still, message of protest was successfully sprinkled among employees and public. This was made possible by conducting thousands of online protests alongwith offline protests with very limited number of participants. Thousands of emails were sent to the prime minister and the power minister, demanding the withdrawal of this bill of savage nature. A nation wide blackday was observed under the banner NCCOEEE and marches of protests were conducted in front of central government offices.

It was a morale booster for the electricity employees across India when Kerala legislative assembly has unanimously passed a resolution against this bill . A strike was observed under the umbrella of NCCOEE on 3rd February of 2021. Another strike was planned in the meeting of August 10th but withdrew, as the Government Stepped back from presenting the bill in parliament. Wide campaigns, regarding the amendment, were an integral part of the nationwide strike on November 26 and lionpart of the work force in Electricity Sector abstained from work. Besides, employees across length and breadth of India participated in the nationwide strike of March 28th and 29th of 2022, upholding slogans against privatisation of distribution sector.

The farmers agitation, termed as the greatest and iconic one in independent India, came to an end after a long stint of 368 days from 8th November 2020. The Modi Govt could do nothing but to concede and withdraw 3 barbaric farm laws, before the iron will of peasants. In addition to that, it was assured that, electricity amendment will only be presented after an unbiased discussion. Modi Government broke their word and listed and published the electricity amendment bill in parliament during August 2022. Unprecedented exasperation, among employees, was the result of this sidestep of government. EEFI and NCCOEEE strongly protested against this heinous action of Government and conducted nationwide agitations and boycott of work. The nation has also witnessed a strong protest of peasants. As a result of this huge outcry along with the protest of opposition MPs, government was forced to leave the bill before parliamentary standing committee.

- **Remarks on the draft Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2022.**
- Major observations on the proposed Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2022 are presented hereunder.
- **The fallacy of retail power market**

The reforms were initiated in India from the early 1990's through unbundling of SEBs and privatisation thereon. Simultaneously, the power generation sector was opened



up for foreign and private capital thereby undermining the development of indigenous equipment manufacturing capabilities.

As of now, nearly 40,000 MW of coal based plants and 28,000 MW of gas based commissioned capacities are stressed and another 23,000 MW thermal plants under various stages of implementation are shelved, apart from severe adverse impact on the balance sheets of DISCOMs.

As a combined effect of all these market based reform outcomes, the power purchase cost of DISCOMs, which forms around 80% of their input costs, have spiralled to unaffordable levels, by more than 12 times within a time span of 20 years.

The erratic bulk market design was furthering the crisis. From 2008 onwards, where average rates were hovering around Rs 8.00 per unit, is now facing bankruptcy due to price volatility in the market. The price in power exchanges are now hitting the roof, or the ceiling tariff of Rs 20.

The DISCOMs were not able to fully transfer the entire additional burden in power purchase costs to their end consumers. The continuing and deepening agrarian crisis was a major reason for this. In many states the share of power consumption for farming purposes is as high as 30% and the social priorities does not allow passing on such huge costs to already indebted farmers.

The performance of the private sector in power distribution in the country so far also does not provide any evidence on better performance. In Odisha, where distribution was first privatised, one of the licensees abandoned the business abruptly. In Delhi, the state government was forced shoulder cash subsidy transfer amounting to Rs 3,000 crores annually to the private licensees. In Kolkata, the Union Power Minister himself has stated that their tariff is the highest in the country. The experience in Mumbai is no better.

The bill proposes to permit more than one distribution licensee to distribute power through the existing network itself, in any area of their choice. Introduction of such untested models in a sector as crucial as power distribution is dangerous and has a potential of creating absolute mayhem.

One of the most aberrant features of the proposed amendment is the extension of deemed approval principle to applications for distribution licenses. The inclusion has the potential to sabotage the entire licensing system.

The cross-subsidy pattern in the country is different from that prevailing in economies where retail markets were introduced. In developed economies the domestic consumer tariff is generally higher than the cost of supply, whereas that for productive sectors like industries etc are lower. As such, a viable cross-subsidy arrangement would be inevitable, In India, to sustain the system.



Negation of the spirit of federalism and other basic infirmities

Electricity is placed in the concurrent list of the 7th Schedule of the Constitution. The amendment proposes large scale centralisation of power, resulting in seemingly blatant infringement to affairs within the state. The proposed amendment to Section 79 enables the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission to issue a license to distribute electricity in any State without even informing the State or any of its instrumentalities, if the application for license covers more than one State.

Infringement of the Regulator's domain, contrary to the spirit of the parent law

The general spirit of the Electricity Act 2003 is distancing the Government machinery from the process of evolving regulations and fixing tariffs. The spirit of the parent Act, the Electricity Act 2003 is that all such functions are to be carried through quasi-judicial processes, by the regulator. Several inclusions and alterations suggested in the draft tread in a direction opposite to this spirit of the parent Act.

Multiple distribution licensees

As stated above, one of the major changes envisioned in the present amendment is the proposal to permit more than one distribution licensee in the same area distributing power through the existing network.

- The flip side of this reform initiative is that it offers no improvement in service provided by the competing licensees, as the network catering consumers of all licensees will remain the same. As per the scheme envisioned in the amendment, none of the distribution licensees are statutorily encumbered with commitments regarding network development.

Cross Subsidy Balancing Fund

Section 60 A (2) of the amendment proposes creation of a 'Cross Subsidy Balancing Fund' to 'make good deficits in cross subsidy'. Even though well-meant and innocuous, the proposal has an unworkable architecture. Firstly, the tariff offered will be lower and will facilitate cherry picking. Secondly, there won't be any surplus in their account for transferring to the fund.

Network Development: 'Responsibility to All' results in 'Responsibility to None'

The proposal envisages using the same network for supply by all licensees in their areas. All licensees are given responsibility for ensuring an efficient network in the same area. This is a sure recipe for this critical responsibility landing in 'No-Man's Area', crippling the services to consumers.



Enhanced cost to consumers

The additional expenditure in essential activities as meter reading, billing, audit, inspections etc would push up effective overheads which would add to the cost of providing power, the revenue requirement and eventually the cost of power supplied. This would result in increased retail price of power with no benefit to the user on any count.

Complexities in scheduling power among multiple distribution licensees in the same area

At the current level of metering and information technology in the country, it is next to impossible to segregate power scheduled by multiple distribution licensees in the same area and to regulate the over draws and under draws by State Load Despatch Centres (SLDC).

Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) sharing – Violation of Constitutional & Contractual Rights

Proposed section 60A (1) envisions sharing of power from the existing power purchase agreements as per the arrangements specified by the 'state commission' as per the prescription of the 'central government'. This is a violation of the constitutional right of a person to trade and commerce as enshrined in article 301 of the Indian constitution.

Need of united struggle of Electricity Employees & Consumers to oppose:

- *We need to understand that impact of any techno commercial legislation on electricity directly falls upon the interest of electricity consumers, the mass of the common people in general and also on the country's industrial network.*
- *Electricity has already become an essential rather indispensable necessity for daily lives of the people. It has become a part of their basic human entitlement. Any democratically elected Govt must ensure reaching this basic necessity to people at affordable price. Burdening the people for recovering increasing cost of electricity generation through higher tariff is destined to deprive the large section of common people from electricity service. This, in turn, is bound to have negative impact on human development, usage of electronic communication and also overall economic growth, thereby affecting employment generation etc in a big way.*
- *Privatisation, along with centralisation of management of electricity sector by the Govt is being sought to be justified in the name of augmenting operational efficiency and cost minimisation. But the real game is to hand over the sector catering an essential and indispensable necessity like electricity to private hands for limitless profiteering. The background for large scale infiltration of private players in the*



electricity sector has been created by successive governments at the centre under the neoliberal regime The present government has designed every provision of the Electricity Amendment Bill 2020 also to Squeeze much more brutally and atrociously the mass of the people for minting huge profit by the private players, both foreign and domestic. The large countrywide infrastructure of electricity grid built through public investment, i.e., with peoples' money will be handed over for exploitation by the private players. If left unopposed, such an arrangement of privatisation along with authoritarian centralisation of management of electricity sector by the Govt at the centre, will spell doom on the daily lives of the people, industries agriculture and others, affecting the country's economy more severely.

- Therefore the struggle against this disastrous exercise must be by the people as a whole. It is the task of the organised trade union movement in general and the electricity employees' movement in particular to make the people, the electricity consumers in both cities and villages understand the real intent of the ruling class camouflaged behind the complicated techno commercial design stipulated in the Electricity Amendment Bill 2022. We have to take the real intent of this bill to the mass of the people at the grass root level.*
- Electricity workers must close their ranks to fight and resist this onslaught by united action. The rest of the trade union movement must join this struggle with all seriousness. At the same time the class oriented trade union movement must develop a bridge with the mass of the people, the society as a whole in developing a strong exposure campaign against the ongoing design of the Modi Govt through Electricity Amendment Bill 2022 to cultivate the ground for building up a strong peoples' movement against the atrocious design of the Govt on the electricity sector.*
- The idea of building Electricity Consumers' Forum up to the village level must be conceived to build up the much required peoples' movement. The working class movement and electricity employees' movement in particular must go beyond their workplace periphery among the people to develop a widespread intensive campaign among the people on the issue through which active forum can be developed.*
- We have rich experience of involving people against previous measures of so called electricity reforms, oriented towards privatisation and deregulation in many of the states like West Bengal, Kerala and Haryana and few other states, and we can definitely develop such peoples' movement on the issue.*
- Workers organisations including its state, district and union level committees are to make this effort successful. Support from wider people and their organisations as well progressive mass organisations may also be drawn in this peoples' movement.*



IMPACTS OF HYDRAULIC FRACTURING AND COAL MINE EXTRACTION

Hydraulic fracturing is the process used to extract oil and natural gas in which fractures in the Earth's surface are opened and widened by injecting water, chemicals, and sand at high pressure. In other terms, hydraulic fracturing, sometimes known as fracking, is a drilling technique used to extract natural gas or petroleum (also known as oil) from the Earth's interior. By injecting water, chemicals, and sand under high pressure, fracking widens and opens fissures in the Earth's surface. Because certain fracking-extracted commodities are firmly imprisoned in intricate shale rock formations, they are referred to as "tight oil" or "tight gas." The advanced technology employed in fracking enables a rapid expansion of petroleum and natural gas production by gaining access to tight oil and gas.

Since 2020, Indian oil and gas companies have been permitted to start drilling and other hydrocarbon exploratory operations without first completing EIA investigations or holding public meetings. The firms are permitted to employ any hydrocarbon exploratory drilling method without considering how it may affect the environment. Included in this is the contentious practice of hydraulic fracturing (fracking), a water-intensive technique businesses use to extract shale (natural) gas from impermeable sedimentary rocks by injecting a solution of pressurized water and chemicals into the rocks. In India, fracking is a novel method that uses five to seven million litres of water for each operation, five to ten times more than a typical hydrocarbon drilling procedure. The 2012 draft of India's shale gas policy made clear that fracking operations there might drastically deplete the country's water supplies and affect the living systems in ways that are unique to fracking.

Impact

Land usage, water use, air pollutants, methane emissions, brine and fracturing fluid leaks, water contamination, noise pollution, and health are all factors in the environmental effect of hydraulic fracturing. Air and water contamination are significant dangers to human health from hydraulic fracturing. According to research, hydraulic fracturing causes climate change and severely impacts human health. Proppants and other materials, including compounds that are known to be toxic and chemicals that



are unknown but may be harmful, are included in hydraulic fracturing fluids. In locations with a water deficit, hydraulic fracturing's water use can be problematic. In areas where they are authorized, surface water may be polluted by spills and inadequately constructed, and managed waste dumps.

Furthermore, groundwater may become polluted if hydraulic fracturing allows the formation of fluids and fracturing fluids to escape. However, even over a lengthy period, there is very little chance that the upward migration of fracturing fluid can contaminate the groundwater. Produced water, which is the water that rises to the surface following hydraulic fracturing, is handled through underground injection, treatment of sewage from homes and businesses, and reuse in new wells.

Extraction of Coal

Coal is mined in two ways: surface mining and underground mining.

Surface Mining

The general procedure for surface coal mining includes the following unit operations: (1) clearing the area of trees and vegetation, (2) removing and storing the topsoil, (3) drilling the hard strata over the coal seam, (4) fragmenting or blasting the hard strata with explosives, (5) removing the blasted material, exposing the coal seam, and (6) cleaning the top of the coal seam. (6) drilling and blasting to fracture the coal seam as necessary, (7) loading loose coal into haulage vehicles, (8) moving coal from the mine to the plant, and (9) recovering land that was impacted by the mining activities.

Underground Mining

India has a wealth of tertiary coalfields older than 250 million years and Gondwana coalfields (15-60 million years old).

In the Raniganj coalfield, located along the western bank of the Damodar River, coal mining began in 1774, during the authority of the East India Company. The government's primary measures to boost domestic coal output include allocating more coal blocks, obtaining support from state governments for land acquisition, and coordinating efforts with railroads for coal transportation. The government has also taken the following measures to further increase the nation's coal production. A total of 4 rounds of commercial coal auctions have been held, with a total of 292 coal mines being auctioned, since the sale of coal mines for commercial mining began in June 2020.

One of the key factors in the development and maintenance of human civilization is mining. From coal has been a significant source of energy for the growth of society since ancient times, and coalmines have played a specific role in this context. However, coal



mines break land, particularly for opencast mines, which utilize vast areas of ground. Coal mining and associated activities negatively impact the general ecology in and around coal mining sites. Along with affecting the socioeconomic situation of the area, flora, and wildlife, the adverse effects include land degradation, air pollution, water pollution, and noise pollution. Communities living around coal mines must receive various mitigation measures since this will make life more livable and convenient and benefit the entire environment surrounding it. Hazards to the environment, human health, and safety must also be eliminated during mine decommissioning.

Since it is levied at a fixed rate, the mine closure fund offers some stability for the decommissioning efforts, but it might not be enough. The risk of mines being abandoned without adequate rehabilitation may rise, given the growing importance of new private enterprises in the future. For greater environmental sustainability, it is necessary to go above and beyond the EC/FC rules and strictly execute and monitor them. To mine coal sustainably in India, the most acceptable methods from throughout the world must be utilized.

The Negative Effects of Coal Mine Extraction

Landscape and habitat destruction

In strip mining, commonly referred to as surface mining, rocks and soil are removed to access the coal beneath. Consider the scenario when a mountain is blocking a coal seam. In such an event, it will be destroyed by blasting or levelling, creating a scarred landscape and upsetting the habitats of many ecosystems and animals.

Deforestation and erosion

When a coal mine has to be built, trees are felled or burned, vegetation is uprooted, and the topsoil is scraped off the ground. Soil erosion and land damage follow, rendering the land unusable for growing crops. The topsoil can be loose during rainstorms, and the sediments can enter rivers, streams, and waterways. They may destroy aquatic and plant life downstream and obstruct river channels, resulting in floods.

Contaminates Ground Water

Minerals from the disturbed earth may leak into groundwater, contaminating it with potentially harmful substances to human health. Acid mine drainage is a prime illustration. Inactive coal mines may leak acidic water. Pyrite-containing rocks have been made visible by mining. Sulphuric acid is created when this mineral combines with water and air. Acid is diluted and enters rivers, streams, and underground water sources when it rains.



Dust, Air, and Chemical Pollution

Coal firms can drill deeper into the earth to find coal thanks to underground mining. The issue is that enormous volumes of rock and dirt are pulled up deep inside the earth. When these mining wastes are exposed to the air and water, they can become poisonous. Toxins include things like selenium, fluoride, mercury, and arsenic. The wind can blow the dust produced by mining activities to surrounding communities. Exposure to these dust particles can result in a variety of health issues for people.

Methane in the Environment

Underground coal mining methane emissions are frequently recovered and used as municipal fuel, chemical feedstock, automobile fuel, and industrial fuel, although this is unusual. Although methane is 20 times more potent as a greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide, it is less common in the atmosphere.

Coal Fires

Underground mine fires may blaze for millennia! These fires cause smoke to be released into the atmosphere, which contains harmful greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (NO_x), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and others

Health risks

Black lung disease can be brought on by coal dust inhalation. The majority of people impacted are miners and residents of adjacent communities. People who live close to coal mines have a more excellent cardiovascular illness, hypertension, COPD, and renal disease rates than the national norm.

Displacement of Communities

People are forced to relocate due to these negative impacts as their air and water become contaminated, and increasing coal mines consume more and more of their ecosystem.

Bottom Line

Natural gas and Coal Mine extraction to a greater extent affects the environment we live in. One positive action towards the right direction can help reverse the damages to our environment.



POWER SECTOR REFORM 1991-2022 ABRIDGED

The Industrial Policy Statement, issued on 25 July 1991, liberalised industrial licensing and exempted power generation and distribution from the list of industries reserved for the public sector under the Industrial Policy Resolution 1956. Combined with the simplifying of the licensing process, this opened the door for private investments in India's power sector, facilitating the entry of private generators, introducing autonomous regulation via the central and state-level regulatory commissions, and unbundling of the electricity supply chain to promote competition under the Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act 1998. These changes, dating back almost three decades, can be credited with private generation now accounting for 46 percent of the utility generation capacity—a factor that explains the current power surplus, albeit with a marginal peaking shortage at less than one percent.

Till December 1950 about 37% of the installed capacity in the Utilities was in the public sector and about 63% was in the private sector. The Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 envisaged the generation, transmission and distribution of power almost exclusively in the public sector. As a result of this Resolution and facilitated by the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, the electricity industry developed rapidly in the State Sector. In the Constitution of India “Electricity” is a subject that falls within the concurrent jurisdiction of the Centre and the States. The Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, provides an elaborate institutional frame work and financing norms of the performance of the electricity industry in the country. The Act envisaged creation of State Electricity Boards (SEBs) for planning and implementing the power development programmes in their respective States. The Act also provided for creation of central generation companies for setting up and operating generating facilities in the Central Sector. The Central Electricity Authority constituted under the Act is responsible for power planning at the national level. In addition the Electricity (Supply) Act also allowed from the beginning the private licensees to distribute and/or generate electricity in the specified areas designated by the concerned State Government/SEB.

During the post-independence period, the various States played a predominant role in



the power development. Most of the States have established State Electricity Boards. In some of these States separate corporations have also been established to install and operate generation facilities. In the rest of the smaller States and UTs the power systems are managed and operated by the respective electricity departments. In a few States private licencees are also operating in certain urban areas.

From, the Fifth Plan onwards i.e. 1974-79, the Government of India got itself involved in a big way in the generation and bulk transmission of power to supplement the efforts at the State level and took upon itself the responsibility of setting up large power projects to develop the coal and hydroelectric resources in the country as a supplementary effort in meeting the country's power requirements. The National thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) were set up for these purposes in 1975. North-Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO) was set up in 1976 to implement the regional power projects in the North-East. Subsequently two more power generation corporations were set up in 1988 viz. Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC) and Nathpa Jhakri Power Corporation (NJPC). To construct, operate and maintain the inter-State and interregional transmission systems the National Power Transmission Corporation (NPTC) was set up in 1989. The corporation was renamed as POWER GRID in 1992.

The policy of liberalisation the Government of India announced in 1991 and consequent amendments in Electricity (Supply) Act have opened new vistas to involve private efforts and investments in electricity industry. Major policy changes had been announced by the Government in this regard. The Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 was amended in 1991 to provide for creation of private generating companies for setting up power generating facilities and selling the power in bulk to the grid or other persons. Financial Environment for private sector units were modified to allow liberal capital structuring and an attractive return on investment. Up to hundred percent (100%) foreign equity participation could be permitted for projects set up by foreign private investors in the Indian Electricity Sector. Administrative & Legal environment modified to simplify the procedures for clearances of the projects.

Policy guidelines for private sector participation in the renovation & modernisation of power plants issued in 1995:

In 1995, the policy for Mega power projects of capacity 1000 MW or more and supplying power to more than one state introduced. The Mega projects to be set up in the regions having coal and hydel potential or in the coastal regions based on imported fuel. The Mega policy has since been refined and Power Trading Corporation (PTC) incorporated recently to promote and monitor the Mega Power Projects. PTC would purchase power from the Mega Private Projects and sell it to the identified SEBs. In 1995 GOI came out with liquid fuel policy permitting liquid fuel based power plants



to achieve the quick capacity addition so as to avert a severe power crisis. Liquid fuel linkages (Naphtha) were approved for about 12000 MW Power plant capacity. GOI had promulgated Electricity Regulatory Commission Act, 1998 for setting up of Independent Regulatory bodies both at the Central level and at the State level viz. the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) and the State Electricity Regulatory Commission (SERCs) at the Central and the State levels respectively. The main function of the CERC were to regulate the tariff of generating companies owned or controlled by the Central Government, to regulate the tariff of generating companies, other than those owned or controlled by the Central Government, if such generating companies enter into or otherwise have a composite scheme for generation and sale of electricity in more than one State to regulate the inter-state transmission of energy including tariff of the transmission utilities, to regulate inter-state bulk sale of power and to aid & advise the Central Government in formulation of tariff policy. The CERC has been constituted on 24.07.1998.

The main functions of the SERC would be to determine the tariff for electricity wholesale bulk, grid or retail, to determine the tariff payable for use by the transmission facilities to regulate power purchase and procurement process of transmission utilities and distribution utilities, to promote competition, efficiency and economy in the activities of the electricity industries etc. Subsequently, as and when each State Government notifies, other regulatory functions would also be assigned to SERCs.

The Electricity Laws (Amendment) Act, 1998 passed with a view to make transmission as a separate activity for inviting greater participation in investment from public and private sectors. The participation by private sector in the area of transmission is proposed to be limited to construction and maintenance of transmission lines for operation under the supervision and control of Central Transmission Utility (CTU)/ State Transmission Utility (STU). On selection of the private company, the CTU/STU would recommend to the CERC/SERC for issue of transmission licence to the private company.

When is a village called an Electrified Village?

Prior to October 1997

A Village should be classified as electrified if electricity is being used within its revenue area for any purpose whatsoever.

After October 1997

A village would be deemed to be electrified if the electricity is used in the inhabited locality, within the revenue boundary of the village for any purpose whatsoever.



New definition of village electrification came into effect from the year 2004-05. (Issued by MOP, vide their letter No. 42/1/2001-D(RE) dated 5th February 2004 and its corrigendum vide letter no. 42/1/2001-D(RE) dated 17th February 2004.)

As per the new definition, a village would be declared as electrified, if :

- Basic infrastructure such as Distribution Transformer and Distribution lines are provided in the inhabited locality as well as the Dalit Basti hamlet where it exists.
- Electricity is provided to public places like Schools, Panchayat Office, Health Centers, Dispensaries, Community centers etc.
- The number of households electrified should be at least 10% of the total number of households in the village.

National Electricity Policy 2005:

In compliance with section 3 of the Electricity Act 2003 the Central Government notified the National Electricity Policy.

The National Electricity Policy aimed at laying guidelines for accelerated development of the power sector, providing supply of electricity to all areas and protecting interests of consumers and other stakeholders keeping in view availability of energy resources, technology available to exploit these resources, economics of generation using different resources, and energy security issues.

The National Electricity Policy was evolved in consultation with and taking into account views of the State Governments, Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) and other stakeholders.

The aims and objectives of the policy are as follows:

- Access to Electricity - Available for all households in next five years
- Availability of Power - Demand to be fully met by 2012. Energy and peaking shortages to be overcome and adequate spinning reserve to be available.
- Supply of Reliable and Quality Power of specified standards in an efficient manner and at reasonable rates. Per capita availability of electricity to be increased to over 1000 units by 2012.
- Minimum lifeline consumption of 1 unit/household/day as a merit good by year 2012.
- Financial Turnaround and Commercial Viability of Electricity Sector.
- Protection of consumers' interests.

National Rural Electrification Policy, 2006:

The National Rural Electrification Policy was notified in compliance with Sections 4 & 5 of the Electricity Act, 2003 by the Central Government.



Relevant extracts of the National Rural Electrification Policy, 2006:

- Goals included provision of access to electricity to all households by the year 2009, quality and reliable power supply at reasonable rates, and minimum lifeline consumption of 1 unit/household/day as a merit good by year 2012.
- For villages/habitations where grid connectivity would not be feasible or not cost effective, off-grid solutions based on stand-alone systems may be taken up for supply of electricity. Where these also were not feasible and if only alternative was to use isolated lighting technologies like solar photovoltaic, these may be adopted. However, such remote villages may not be designated as electrified.
- State government would, within 6 months, prepare and notify a rural electrification plan which should map and detail the electrification delivery mechanism. The plan would be linked to and integrated with district development plans. The plan would also be intimated to the appropriate commission.
- Gram panchayats would issue the first certificate at the time of the village becoming eligible for declaration as electrified. Subsequently, the Gram Panchayat shall certify and confirm the electrified status of the village as on 31st March each year.
- The state government would set up a committee at the district level within 3 months, under the chairmanship of chairperson of the Zilla Panchayat and with representations from district level agencies, consumer associations, and important stakeholders with adequate representation of women.
- The district committee would coordinate and review the extension of electrification in the district and consumer satisfaction, etc.
- Panchayat Raj institutions would have a supervisory / advisory role.
- Institutional arrangements for backup services and technical support to systems based on non-conventional sources of energy would have to be created by the state government.

Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana:

Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) was launched in April 2005 by merging all ongoing schemes. The Government was implementing Decentralised Distributed Generation (DDG) under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) for electrification of villages where grid connectivity was either not feasible or not cost effective. In XII Plan period, DDG had also been extended to the grid connected area where supply of electricity was less than 6 hours a day. Decentralized Distributed Generation (DDG) could be from conventional or renewable sources such as Biomass, Biofuels, Biogas, Mini hydro, Solar etc.



Under the programme, 90% grant was provided by Govt. of India and 10% as loan by Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) to the State Governments. Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) was the nodal agency for the programme.

At present, Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) has been subsumed in the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) as its rural electrification component.

Aims

- Electrifying all villages and habitations as per new definition
- Providing access to electricity to all rural households
- Providing electricity Connection to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families free of charge

Infrastructure under RGGVY:

- Rural Electricity Distribution Backbone (REDB) with 33/11 KV (or 66/11 KV) sub-station of adequate capacity in blocks where these do not exist.
- Village Electrification Infrastructure (VEI) with provision of distribution transformer of appropriate capacity in villages/habitations.
- Decentralized Distributed Generation (DDG) Systems based on conventional & non conventional energy sources where grid supply is not feasible or cost-effective.

Remote Village Electrification Programme:

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India implemented this programme for providing financial support for electrification of those remote unelectrified census villages and unelectrified hamlets of electrified census villages where grid-extension was either not feasible or not cost effective and are not covered under DDUGJY. Such villages would be provided basic facilities for electricity / lighting through various renewable energy sources. Small Hydro Power Generation systems, biomass gasification based electricity generation systems, solar photovoltaic power plants, etc., in distributed power generation mode may be used depending upon the availability of resources for generation of required electricity.

Village Energy Security Security programme:

Objectives

The objective of the project is to go beyond electrification by addressing the total energy requirements for cooking, electricity, and motive provide access to electricity through renewables to households in remote villages and hamlets, which are not likely to get covered through grid extension.



The projects on village energy security are taken up with a view to demonstrate the techno-economic parameters of the village energy security plan, provide operational experience, mobilize local communities and firm up the institutional arrangements.

In order to electrify all the remaining villages and facilitate availability of adequate, quality & reliable power supply in rural areas, Ministry of Power launched Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY). All the census villages in the country stand electrified as on 28 April 2018 and all the states reported electrification of all households as on 31 March 2019, except few households in Bastar region of Chhattisgarh. All the census villages in the country stood electrified as on 28 April, 2019. Components of Scheme: (i) Separation of agriculture and non agriculture feeders facilitating judicious rostering of supply to agricultural & nonagricultural consumers in the rural areas (ii) (ii) Strengthening and augmentation of sub-transmission & distribution infrastructure in rural area (iii) (iii) Metering of distribution transformers/feeders/consumers (iv) Ongoing rural electrification works of erstwhile scheme subsumed in DDUGJY as Rural Electrification (RE) component.

Salient Features: The states have been given complete flexibility for selecting scope of works as per their requirement and priorities. All Villages are eligible without any minimum 16 population criterion. Gram Panchayat included in Sansad Aadarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) are also to be covered under the DPRs. There is a provision of 100% subsidy for deployment of Project Management Agency (PMA) to ensure effective project management and timely completion. All Discoms including Private Discoms, RE Cooperative Societies are eligible under the scheme. District Development Co-ordination & Monitoring Committee - DISHA (administrated by Ministry of Rural Development) headed by senior most Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) have been constituted to review and monitor implementation of scheme. Funding Pattern: States are provided grant up to 75% (90% for special category states) including additional grant of 15% (5% for special category states) admissible in case of (i) timely completion of projects (ii) AT&C loss reduction as per trajectory and (iii) Upfront release of subsidy by State Govt. based on metered consumption.

Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (Saubhagya):

Ministry of Power launched the scheme Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (Saubhagya) to achieve universal household electrification by providing last mile connectivity and electricity connections to all remaining un-electrified households in rural and urban areas. The key elements of the scheme are as under: (i) No upfront fee for availing electricity connection: Absolutely free for economically poor households. For other households, Rs.500 to be charged after release of connection in 10 installments to be adjusted in monthly electricity bills (ii) Organisation of camps in



villages/cluster of villages for on spot registration and release of connections (iii) Use of Mobile App for identification of beneficiaries and electronic registration including requisite documentation (iv) SPV based standalone systems for households located in remote and inaccessible areas (v) Web based near real time monitoring and updating of progress.

24 x 7 Power For All:

All States and UTs have signed 24 x 7 Power For All roadmap documents with Government of India to achieve the target of providing reliable, affordable and quality power to all households, industry, commercial businesses and public needs along with adequate supply of electricity for agricultural use in predefined manner as per state policy. Ministry of Power, through CEA has deployed National Power Portal (www.npp.gov.in) for the collation and dissemination of information on all the segments of power sector in the country. This data can be utilised effectively for analysis, planning and decision making by the utility management. There is provision on the portal for capturing / input feeder level information / data on important parameters for regular monitoring.

The Government established National Smart Grid Mission (NSGM):

In 2015 to plan and monitor implementation of policies and programmes related to Smart Grid activities in India. National Smart Grid Mission envisages transformation of Last mile connectivity Ecosystems i.e. Distribution through AMI, micro grids, distributed generation, outage management, power quality improvement, peak load management and EV charging infrastructure etc.

Who reaped the benefits from the 2003 reforms?:

While the quality of power supply increased overall, the benefits were distributed unevenly across manufacturing firms. Most importantly, firms with political clout benefited more than their less influential counterparts. Firms that had been extorted for bribes in 2002 reaped less of the gains from improvements in access to energy brought about by the passage of the 2003 Act. Similarly, experience of lobbying through business associations significantly improved firms' chances of benefitting from the liberalising reforms. The magnitude of both effects is noteworthy: for example, less vulnerable firms on average could see twice the improvement in their power quality between 2002 and 2005 than their extorted counterparts. Moreover, the DISCOMs suffered losses in magnitude, outlining the total policy failure.



ANNEXURE-H

ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES' FEDERATION OF INDIA DOCUMENT ON ORGANISATION

DISCUSSED IN
IN NATIONAL WORKSHOP
BHUBANESWAR
4TH & 5TH OCTOBER, 2018

REVIEWED AND APPROVED
IN THE EXTENDED WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING
FARIDABAD
9-10 FEBRUARY, 2020

Introduction: Electricity Employees' Federation of India, popularly known as EEFI is the most vibrant National Federation of electricity workers and employees of the country. EEFI does not claim it as strongest Federation of electricity workers by counting of membership base of its constituent organisations. Out of 5 federations of electricity workers exist in national level, countrywide activities of all of them are not noted. Some of them maintain its existence simply in paper. Major policy issues are not intervened into by them. Out of 3 million electricity workers and employees, major portion is contract, casual and outsourced and franchised workers. Good number of these categories is not unionised. In western and some of northern states, they are afraid of becoming member of Union in consideration of their very low level of job security. EEFI has taken up two issues very seriously in national panorama. First one is "opposing exploitation of Contract /casual /outsourced workers" and second one is "ensuring right to energy as human right". Issues raised by EEFI has been taken up now as a common national issue by the united platform of National Federations of workers and Engineers. EEFI is to go ahead further to the path of struggle to make these important policy issues as burning issues of wider section of toiling people.



Organisational structure and effervescence of the Federation and its affiliates should be tuned up to cope with the stupendous responsibility.

Background: In colonial India, power projects were built and operated mainly by private agencies. Where ever industries were developed power stations were built with higher capacities. In places like capitals of old kings for domestic purposes also small power system were established. Large transmission or distribution network was not needed in those days because all the independent power producers were confined to particular townships. The Electricity Act 1910 was enacted mainly for the purpose of giving legal support to private power generating companies to lay the distribution system without any hurdle from land owners and other people. Electricity was not widely used for development activities for domestic or commercial purposes since the colonial government never thought of giving such facilities to the natives. During the time of independence the total installed capacity in the country was about 1360 MW. The personnel required for operation and maintenance of these tiny systems were very nominal and therefore no trade union movement worth the name known developed in power sector.

After independence government of India chalked out a comprehensive plan to develop power projects at different parts of the country depending upon the resources available in particular regions and to integrate them under a national grid. Electrical power is a must infrastructure for developing all other sectors viz. Agriculture, industry, service sectors and other infrastructures. Since private capital were not financially capable to invest in the infrastructure especially in power sector which needs huge investment. Government took the responsibility of developing electric power. With this outlook government of India enacted Electricity Supply Act 1948 to bring power sector under public sector. After 1956 electricity boards were formed in most of the states and power sector was separated from the public works department of state governments. Even now in certain states power sector is under state government and the workers organizations are functioning as constituents of state government employee's federations while their unions are registered under trade union act and independently functions as trade unions.

The workers under the public sector electricity boards in most of the states took initiative to form trade unions after the formation of the Boards. But most of the trade unions were reluctant to affiliate with the trade union centres, since the legacy of government employee's tradition haunting them. In many instances they elected trade union and political leaders as their top office bearers to get the support and influence of the trade unions and political parties. They elected lawyers also as leaders to represent their issues in industrial tribunals, arbitration boards, labour courts and if necessary in the apex court also. Most of them not thought of using the organized might in collective



bargaining. Generally the unions were organized on category and even on caste basis and there were always rivalry among these splinter unions. The reformist trade union leaders and the managements encouraged this style of functioning of trade unions. In such a situation all the workers of industry could not jointly exert pressure on the management and their efforts to use the trade union means went in vein. Also the workers were not able to gain much through tribunals or courts. They were started direct actions in different parts of the country. Therefore gradually workers changed their attitude and started to organize general unions using striking power and affiliating to trade union centres in the second half of 60's. The formation of All India Federation of Electricity Employees (AIFEE) in 1966 is the result of such a changed attitude of the workers. The formation of AIFEE also did not help much to workers because this was led by AITUC leaders and the AITUC changed their policy and pursued a collaboration attitude with the government. They advised the workers to resort to legal means or other peaceful ways without obstructing the smooth movement of the capitalist development of the country for achieving their demand. They supported the government policy of using Essential services maintenance Act (ESMA) etc. against the striking workers as members of the regional committees of the first national labour commission. The government of India in the fifteenth labour conference declared a labour policy which assured every worker of the country minimum wage based on a specific norm of their needs regarding food and other amenities. The government assured within ten years workers will be entitled to get a fair wage or living wage etc. After the third five year plan government faced financial crisis and could not continue the five year plan. They started to curtail the benefits of workers and employees. They suppressed the strike of government employees demanding wage hike based on need based minimum wage in September 1968. They dismissed many of the leaders of the central government employees movement, shot down number of striking workers in Pathankot, Bikaner and Indraprastha. The then national trade union federations including AITUC did not come for the rescue of this government employees. The respective state governments led by bourgeois parties, national or state parties stood with the central government to suppress the strike. Only the Left government of Com. EMS Namboothirippad in Kerala helped the striking workers and hesitated to arrest the workers using ESMA declared by the government of India.

The electricity workers in Kerala started agitations in late fifties and sixties demanding regularization of temporary workers, pay hike for temporary and permanent workers. All these unions were category unions. They did not go for any indefinite strike. The temporary and casual workers went on indefinite strike many times with support of the Left political movement and militant trade unions and many demands were won by them. In certain other states also such struggles were developed in the electricity industry. In Tamil Nadu thousands of temporary workers were regularized through prolonged agitations and strikes. In states like Assam and Kerala Engineers also went



on strike, but not achieved much. In Kerala a strike of the graduate engineers of the electricity board went on strike for 65 days. The union led by AITUC opposed the strike. The state government led by CPI leader and CPI electricity minister banned the strike and referred the issue to the industrial tribunal. Com K O Habeeb was the convener of the action council. The CITU supported the strike and twice statewide strikes were conducted in support of the engineers strike. In Orissa through struggles casual workers system were abolished in 71-72. In Kerala also casual and NMR system were abolished through the agreements signed by the CITU and other unions in 1972.

Electricity Unions of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal were affiliated to CITU. Interactions between these unions were initiated. On 17th and 18th August, 1973 Union labour Minister convened a conference to discuss the issues of electricity workers. Com Habeeb, Com Janakiraman and Com Sukhamoy Pal took part on behalf of CITU. As suggested by Union Labour Minister Raghunath Reddy Central Wage Guide Line Committee was constituted. The Committee recommended a Wage and Dearness Allowance formula. On 19-20 October, 1974 a convention of electricity workers took place at Delhi. Wage formulation was one of the main agenda of the convention. In June, 1975 internal emergency was declared and all forms of democratic movement was banned.

Passing through series of struggles and movements EEFI was founded in 1984 through a National Convention held at Trivandrum between 13 and 15 January.

Global economy is in worst possible crisis. This is nothing but direct consequence of regime of liberalization, privatization and globalization. Present world order is nothing but sequential Plan of capitalist-imperialist duo to fulfill the total object of Global Finance capital to expand its grip over the economy of the world. Rosy pictures drawn on the impact of globalization by the pro-capitalist economists and market driven media has been withered away. Toiling people all over the world is fomenting against the adverse caused in the lives of workers and employees. Capitalist governments of the developing countries are adopting various measures of austerity by reducing social sector cost of the government. Industries are using Robots to replace Manpower leading to escalation of unemployment. Victims are economically backward people. Terminologies like Downsizing, outsourcing, contractorization, casualisation has been introduced to gag the scopes of employment. Workers all over the world are being thrown out of employment. Whatever capitalist Governments are talking in favour workers is nothing but hoax. Minimum level of economic knowledge leads us to believe that no economy can improve if the purchasing power of the people is pushed to lower extent. All these measures are widening gaps between economically upper and lower strata of the people of all these countries. India along with its power sector through last 3 decades had no exception.



Our Government in the centre and some states ruled by the same party is determined to delete the tradition of unity and harmony, for which most of the people of India are proud. Sequences of events leads us to believe that lives of cows are precious than that of human life. Between 2010 and 2017 there were 63 racial attacks by the cow conserves leading to loss of 28 lives out of which 24 are Muslims. Most of the attacks based upon rumor held in BJP ruled states. In first 6 months of 2017 altogether 20 attacks were there. All these were backed by Narendra Modi formerly Chief Minister of Gujarat and unfortunately now, the Prime Minister of India. He indulged all these trouble mongers.

Communalism and lack of Caste cohesion has emerged as an immense crisis before the working class in the ambience of neo-liberal economy. Whenever RSS led BJP-allies in NDA captured power in our country this evil rose to its peak. NDA Government led by Narendra Modi captured power in Delhi. Huge campaign backed by big capitalists of the country focused a rosy picture before the Indian people. Their slogan "Acche Din Aayega" penetrated among the people not only of lower economic strata, middle class along with upper middle class swayed with the slogan an expected to believe that Modi Ji will be able to get relief for the people in the arena of unemployment, poverty and hunger in practice things went into reverse direction. Whatever scope of Government expenditure towards job creation, public distribution system and social sector was there, all was reduced to considerable extent. Modi Government used to show its interest to protect and extend the interest of monopoly capital and corporate houses. Besides wide relief in direct and corporate taxes, so many sectors like Bank, Insurance, Railways, Defence, Agriculture, Communication as well Media was declared open for Private and Foreign investment. Modi Government, while making in road for private profit mongers devoted to disinvestment of public sector institutions in all spheres of economy. This policy will lead to corporatization of our important resources of production in Agriculture, Manufacturing, Transportation and Services related to Energy. Since independence Planning Commission comprised of eminent personalities in the field of Science, Technology, Economics, Agriculture, Education had the liberty of development planning as per requirement of the people, with best utilization of Natural Resources of the country. Planning Commission has been disbanded with a body of sycophants of Modi. So far they have recommended lots of disinvestment and privatisation proposals. Working class of India challenged this Agenda of Modi Government through 2nd September Strike in consecutive years 2015 and 2016. 12 point demands of the Strike embraced burning issues of all section of toiling people. 15-18 Crores workers and employees from formal and informal sectors took part in these two strikes. Government took dubious attempt before the strike though propaganda that demands have been conceded to.



Power Industry and EEFI:

Class oriented Trade Unions use to undertake multi prong tasks. EEFI along with its militant constituents from all parts of the country took first task on protecting and expanding the rights and interests of Electricity workers. Second task is to involve its members in the wider struggle of the Working Class and people of the country. Final goal of the working class movement is to develop a society where human exploitation by the oppressors will not exist. Keeping that final goal, we are to formulate our steps ahead. As a task of Electricity industry of India is having a vast network with generating capacity of 3,44,689 MW as on 31st August, 2018. But maximum peak demand goes below 1,70,000 MW. 17% of rural household does not have access to electricity, while Government claim that 100% villages have been electrified. In one part industry suffers from dearth of capacity utilisation, on the other part more than 25% Indian citizens are living primitive life without electricity. Seventh conference of EEFI focused on right to Electricity for the people of India. EEFI extended movement covering wider section of people as well Electricity Employees. For involving other Federations in the movement, EEFI organised a National Convention at Delhi On 11th December, 2013 to focus the demand of integrated and perspective National Energy Policy with the call of "BIJLI KA ADHIKAR MANAV ADHIKAR BANAO". EEFI is in the forefront of struggle against anti-people legislation towards curbing the right to Electricity of the poor people of India.

EEFI is presently opposing the Government policy towards enactment of amended Electricity Laws. Members of our all constituents are to be conversant with the motive of the Government and educate the people regarding the conspiracy being hatched up against their right to Electricity. This will only be possible when we shall be able to develop quality of our membership. One of the major task of our organisation should be to improve the quality of members so that major portion of them become instrumental in our such struggle.

Expansion of organisation :- Past, Present & future:

While dealing with the question of expansion of our federation we have to discuss the past & present perspectives, which we faced or are facing to build our organisation and to continue its expansion onwards thereof.

EEFI started its journey from Trivandrum (Presently named as Thiruvananthapuram) on January, 13-15, 1984. The time when capitalism has touched the highest peak with golden blooming in the decade of eighty of 20th century, when iron lady Margaret Thacher Prime Minister of Great Britain announced with vanity that there is no alternative of capitalism (TINA) and she denationalised coal mines and other public sector of great importance. Smt Indira Gandhi in her 2nd tenure in 1980 decided to take huge loans from IMF at the cost of slow speed departure from India's independent



economy, non allied foreign policy by enabling USA navy to load fuel for their military ships from Indian ports. SEBs had to give up its no-profit-no-loss policy. Those public sector institutions were asked to earn @ 3 percent surplus. At the very crucial juncture of history EEFI was formed and we adopted our constitution and declared with boldness in the way of our journey to organise and unite the electricity employees in Generation, Transmission & Distribution, maintenance, project construction in our country and abroad, to fight for improvement of wages fringe benefits, social securities, job security, reduction of working hours, equal wage for equal work in the industry, to protect democratic and Trade Union rights, to promote relations solidarity with the peasants and agricultural workers and other toiling masses, to confederate with other Associations, Federations in India and abroad having similar aims and objects and ultimately to fight for the achievement of socialism in India.

We were conscious that expansion of an organisation depends on its aims and objects, endeavour for execution of aims and objects, movements & struggles for the interest of, for the betterment of living standards of workers, to continue its own independent and united programme of action to preserve democratic functioning within the organisational activities, to adopt cadre policy for cadre development and to continue ideological discussion and development of ideological standards etc.

22 Unions from 15 states took affiliation of EEFI at the very inception of journey. In 1991 Government of India adopted the policy of globalisation and followed neoliberal economic policy as the path of development. Private capital was invited in electricity industry. Ultimately SEBs were unbundled after Electricity Act, 2003 was adopted by Indian Parliament to serve the interest of private profit mongers. EEFI in his own and in the joint platform of NCCOEEE has launched heroic struggle which are detailed in other area of this document to combat the challenge of privatisation and onward advancements are continued unimpeded.

EEFI grew stronger during this period of thirty five years both organisationally as well as its interventions on various issues across the country. We have been able to expand to newer areas, newer states, newer utilities, newer sections of industry and within both regular and contractor workers. Our activities have increased in terms of the types of the issues that we address, the places and sections in which they are conducted and the number of workers participating in them. EEFI is today recognised by electricity workers all over the country as the militant fighting organisation of the electricity workers. At present EEFI has 44 affiliated unions from 22 states and UTs covering both regular, contract, casual and daily rated workers of both public and private sectors.

Expansion has got much speed after 7th conference of EEFI. It has been expanded in the states like Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Telengana, Andhra Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh.



But our expansion is not enough Compared to the objectives outlined in our constitution and the tasks we have set upon ourselves this is not at all adequate. We have not been able to fully consolidate our influence and prestige among the workers into organisational strength.

Our aims and objects spelt out in our constitution differentiate us from other central Federations. They entail upon us to educate and prepare the electricity workers to play its due role in social transformation, at the same time leading the struggles on its day to day demands. In fact our day to day struggles have to be conducted in such a manner that helps gradually raise the consciousness of the electricity workers about the exploitive system and the need to transcend it. EEFI has consistently uphold the principle of class struggle and socialism. It has been consistently fighting against ideology is inimical to these ideas.

Further expansion:

Electricity being socially essential service and prime mover of civilisation, it is a growing sector and it must continue to grow in future. Though modernisation of electricity industry through mechanisation, robotics will take place in geometric progression. Private capital and multi nationals will try to reduce the engagement of manpower we have to fight tooth and nail in this question on our own strength and jointly with other sections of toiling masses. Practically in the forthcoming days EEFI on the way of expansion will require combating multi polar attacks like neoliberal economy, communalism both of Hindu & Muslim fundamentalists, cast forces and authoritarian forces followed by the ruling class besides continuing day to day struggle to safeguard the workers' interest.

Prioritisation:

While striving to organise all sections of electricity workers and unite themselves thereof, it is also necessary to define priorities given the constraints in our manpower & financial resources. We have to prioritise states, utilities within the state, sections of electricity workers that are in a position to exert greater influence and impact. Once priorities are decided, suitable leaders should be assigned to carry out the tasks to achieve the same. In order to concentrate expansion and consolidation, the leader allotted should not be diverted to other responsibilities. There are problems for both regular and contractor workers. We need to concentrate all those with due gravity. There are differences in proportion of regular and contractor workers in different states. But it is a bare fact; presently all over the country total number of outsourced workers is much more than regular workers. Hence, 8th National Conference has decided to set priorities on Contract workers problem. It is an example. Similarly, Safety and Occupational health is a concern for all organisations of electricity workers. We cannot



ascertain that all our organisation has uniformly prioritise it.

Our Struggle for absorption of contract / casual & outsourced workers has some mental barrier

Consolidation & Expansion:

Considering our organisational strength we can divide the states in three sections.

- A) States having militant & powerful organisations include Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Punjab, Telengana, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal & Assam. Here we should consolidate our strength through continuing struggles to protect workers interest ideological development through trade union class & publication of journals in regular interval and participation in joint movement with other sections of toiling masses for social transformation. On consolidated strength expansion of the organisation to newer areas, newer utilities & newer sections of workers have to be dealt with
- B) States having organisation but require more attention in question of growing strength for organisation and day to day struggles include Bihar, U.P, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Chhatrisgarh, Jammu & Kashmir, Maharashtra, Meghalaya & Puducherry. Here at first we have to emphasise upon strengthening our organisational activities, increasing day to day struggles to protect workers interest and consolidation of strength thereof. On consolidated strength expansion will have to be considered.
- C) The most weaker states & union territories having no organisation include states like Madhya Pradesh, Uttakhand, Jharkhand, Gujrat, Sikkim, Nagaland, Manipur & Union territories. EEfI centre should deploy organiser, should take assistance of CITU & other fraternal organisations to build organisations, to lodge movements & struggles against the onslaughts of employers & ruling class.
- D) Besides state based power utilities, we are having weakness in penetration in rapid emerging private power generation sector. Franchises in Distribution are not taken up by any of our fraternal organisation like CITU in the weak states.
- E) In central sector power utilities like NTPC, NHPC and Power Grid, there are CITU affiliated unions. But neither those organisations nor their leadership in the national level use to take the matter of participation in nationwide movement seriously. NTPC from West Bengal and Power Grid from one Southern Region union is affiliated to EEFI.
- F) Nuclear Power Corporation is also having class based TU but we only maintain fraternal relation with them.
- G) Renewable is also another emerging sector. Due to inherent technological reason



all the sources in Solar, wind, Mini, Micro Hydro electric stations, manpower requirement is too limited. We are to think and explore new modalities for organising all these sectors.

H) Transformation of resources in energy sector is killing employment potentiality to an odd extent. This aspect is also need to be taken care of in country like India with huge population.

We fervently believe EEFI will advance onwards in such a way in forthcoming days to be lead organisation not only in electricity sector, not only energy sector but also among all the federations having same aims and objects in India & abroad and would achieve the real strength to strike the ruling classes for social transformations and ultimately to achieve socialism in India.

Training & Education:

One common Item in the discussion on organisation becomes the terminologies like cadre development. A national federation like EEFI cannot be entrusted to develop its cadre at the national centre. Members of Trade Union are enrolled from work places. In Power Sector, they are coming from generating stations, grid substations, Distribution centres, office and other installations. Our unions in the states use to nourish them to be organiser, agitator or leader. Fore front leaders of state organisations are nominated for election as office bearers and working committee members of national federation. They are engaged in day to day activities in the respective states. National Federation can only improvise their quality as leader.

We must admit that we are having limitation in this respect. Whatever a national federation will plan, all those cannot be implemented centrally. Major activities related to convert plan into action are to be executed through the constituent organisations. Hence, quality of our organisation is mostly dependent upon quality of members of our constituents. Whenever we organise TU schools / workshop centrally, participants are leadership of state organisations. They are to be assigned the responsibilities by the respective union to impart training to the members of the union. Similarly the articles published in our organ / web cast in our websites are to be propagated to our members by cascading method. Topics of our TU schools / workshop should not be confined within the ambit of Labour Laws / Acts / TU rights. Topics should be chosen in varied subjects inclusive of economics, relevant Laws related to Electricity, other forms of Energy, rapidly changing technology. Presently Energy scientists and economists are concentrating on loss of jobs for the workers engaged different segments of Energy in the process of transition of technology. Unless we keep our rank & file aware of the situation, we shall be held responsible for lack of updation of our members. We have taken a task to expose the policy behind the politics of our government. That will not at all be possible if we fail to keep aware our members on such issues. We observe



that Tom, Dick & Harry like Adani Ambani are becoming billionaires within a span of a decade or less period of time. These are output of crony capitalism. Our members should have exposure on these aspects so that they can propagate the same down the level.

Independent and United Forum of Action:

EEFI practices both the form of movement. So many issues like opposing exploitation of contractor workers, Equal Wage for Equal Work or Electricity policy of the Government, we use to open our discussion within the organisation, initiate campaign, propaganda, struggle & movement in the major states. When the matter becomes topic for the workers in the Electricity industry we take up with other organisations. National Co-ordination Committee of Electricity Employees and Engineers a platform of movement with common issues is involved in the process of intensifying the struggle. Our major constituents also involve other organisations in the State & Regional Level. We are to keep it in mind that we shall have to continue our independent action, campaign & propaganda in parallel with united movement.

Democratic Functioning:

It is needless to mention that EEFI at the national level and its constituents in the states or power installations level keep democratic method as an essence of its policy. But there is no scope of complacency. In general, we follow the constitutional method of holding meetings of Office Bearers, Working Committee including national level conference of EEFI. That does not mean organisational democracy has been totally established in our organisation. Sometimes, we follow short cut method of decision making due to paucity of time. Our members admit the decision. But plea of paucity of time stands on the way of democratic functioning. On the other hand some of our leaders elected from any state where English / Hindi are not widely spoken. Due to dearth of speaking power in English or Hindi members of the forum fail to communicate comfortably, decisions are made evading the point raised by the comrade with limitation of English / Hindi. We are to extend our time of discussion so that all views overcoming the problem of language is placed in the committee / forum.

Communication:

14 states in our country are generally known as 'Hindi speaking' states. This is mostly based on convenience, as Hindi, which is popularly understood in all these states, can be used in the efforts to develop the organisation e.g. in Trade Union classes, joint meetings of cadres at state/ regional level.

A National Federation of Electricity Workers EEFI had its stupendous task to unite Electricity Workers across the country. One of the constraints in our country is non-



existence of single communicating language. It cannot be expected that all the National level leadership should be conversant in English / Hindi. From EEFI centre, we feel, our penetration among the state level leadership would have been better, if we could have circulated all our communication in Hindi also. In our organ Voice some reports and unite ups are published in Hindi. But all important communications in English should be published in Hindi, with needful translation. On the contrary reports in Hindi should also need to be translated in English. At present, EEFI centre is having this limitation. We need to overcome it.

Language of our propaganda and campaign material is circulated in English in almost all the cases. EEFI constituents are publishing campaign material in respective regional language. But most of the constituents do not take care to get some of published item translated into English / Hindi for publication of those items in our central organ Voice of Electricity workers. Appeal from EEFI centre to our major constituents like COTEE, KSEBWA, KSEBOA, WBSE, WMU, TSU Punjab, who are having their organ to get some important article of their journal translated into Hindi / English to facilitate publication of those in EEFI journal /web site. None of our strong constituent responded positively. This is not due to resource limitation of our major constituents. Only limitation exists in feelings of fraternity. Achievement or militant struggle of one EEFI constituent may enthuse or inspire other EEFI constituent in other parts of the country, once it is published in our National level organ. We need to overcome this limitation. Advancement in one corner might not be termed as an advancement of the whole Federation.

Other limitation is poor reporting habit. None of our major and minor constituent is idle or sleeping organisation. Most of them are vibrant with active support of the members having notable influence over other section of Electricity Workers & Employees. But due to negligence in reporting we cannot spread the feelings of Bolshevik competition among our leadership.

Organs and Publications

It is known to all of us that, journal or organ can take the role of an organizer. Specially an organisation like EEFI, which is spreading its activities throughout India and growing up as the most vibrant federation among the Electricity Workers of the nation. Besides this it tries to raise the consciousness of the members of its affiliated and associated organisations including Electricity employees in general. As a means of live communication organ makes a connection of the constituents throughout the country by publishing about their activities, struggles, achievements etc.

The 'Voice of Electricity Workers' a bi-lingual quarterly is published from EEFI centre. The circulation of Voice amounts nearly 2500 copies. Considering the importance of our influence among the employees as well as our activities as federation the



circulation number is very poor. Can we say in respect to our total membership, which is increasing day by day the circulation of Voice is up to the mark? It shows that we are not that apt in using our weapon to defeat our enemies. Only 38 unions out of 54 have subscribed the Voice. It indicates that 1/3rd of the unions is yet to subscribe their own organ. It cannot be acceptable.

In addition to that we must consider that many of our unions publish their own organs mainly in their respective languages.

COTEE our largest union publishes 28000 copies monthly. They collect the subscription fees along with membership fees.

In Kerala KSEB Workers Union and KSEB Officers Association publish their own organ monthly, with circulation of 19000 and 6000 copies respectively.

In West Bengal WBSE Workmens Union publishes 1500 copies of their bi-monthly journal. The quarterly publication by CES Workmens Union has a circulation number no less than 1500. Due to havoc oppression and undemocratic atmosphere inside the utility it has become impossible to continue the publication in recent past. TSU Punjab also publishes their Journal regularly. We don't have system of publishing at least one common topic in all the power workers journals. We need to think over to introduce the same.

All Haryana Power Corporation Union has decided that they would publish an organ of their own very soon.

Voice faces some problems regarding publishing timely as it does not receive necessary reports from unions on regular basis. An organ of workers should not be published with major portion of borrowed contribution some of the unions never send their reports of the activities and struggles.

It should be noted that furnishing incorrect and incomplete address of the subscribers creates problems in dispatching the journal. Complaints of non-receipt are cropped up. Almost all subscribers are in transferable job. Themselves or their organisation should undertake the responsibility of sending the changed address.

It is needless to mention that without regular follow ups and reviews and the enrollment of new subscribers and renewal of the existing ones and organ cannot grow up in its own. So in order to achieve that, we need to make an agenda with a view to improve of our organ regarding content, presentation etc. in the committee meetings. If we can make it in regular basis we can penetrate power sector workers and employees with 'Voice of Electricity Workers'.

Last but not the least we are living in the era of IT. We should utilize the electronic media also. EEFI updates its website regularly. But major part is of central activities.



We can enrich this by sending news and reports to the website as well as collecting data from it. Unfortunately, the response in this field is also very poor. However, we expect an improvement after this workshop.

Fund & Accounts:

EEFI, as an organisation of federal stature is not in a comfortable position so far fund is concerned. Main source is affiliation fees from the affiliated constituents. Save and except 4/5 affiliated organisation, habit of remitting affiliation dues in a regular manner is absent. While spiralling price hike has adversely affected everything, it has not exempted EEFI. Well equipped office at Delhi for concurrent activities across the length and breadth of the country is yet to be developed for EEFI centre. Resource for expense becomes hurdles.

Barring 4/5 affiliated organisation, habit of remitting affiliation dues regularly is absent. Different Conference discussed the issue of raising affiliation Fees but final decision went against, in consideration of growing number of contract workers in the industry. 6th Conference decided to collect some struggle fund from the members annually. That was also responded only by ¾ major organisations. 7th Conference decided to collect a fund after wage settlement of any of the affiliated organisation. Only 5% of one month wage rise was proposed. All ¾ utilities had wage settlement during last 5 years but Positive response came from same 3 organisations.

This year we hosted the 3rd World Congress of TUI (Energy). Our Kerala affiliates took major financial burden Rs. 30 lakhs have been spent by them. We offered to contribution Rs. 10 lakhs to them. Our appeal to the members is to donate @ Rs. 10/- per member. If all would have paid except Kerala constituents our collection could have touched Rs 15 lakhs But so far we have paid to Kerala only Rs. 5 lakhs with main Contribution from Tamil Nadu, Haryana, West Bengal, UT Chandigarh & P&T Contractor Workers Unions of Punjab & Himachal Pradesh. We cannot evade creation of healthy Fund for strengthening path of Struggle. We had weakness in maintaining Accounts at EEFI Centre. Presently that has been recovered. Formally we use to undertake auditing of Accounts before the Conference. From 2017 we have started our Annual Audit. Pre audited Accounts are usually placed in all meetings of the working committee. EEFI did not introduce system of examining accounts of its all affiliated unions as a method of Internal Audit. This workshop on organisation may consider whether introduction of such system is necessary. Usually, we accept the Audited Accounts submitted with Annual return by the unions.

Another weakness of some of our constituents may be noted here. Actual membership is suppressed and lower number of members are shown to pay lower amount of affiliation fees. This weakness is shortcomings of very serious nature for a class based organisation, who has vowed to change the whole human society eliminating human



exploitation through class struggle. Discussion on the matter may be kept pending for rectification by the organisation concerned.

EEFI Centre : EEFI Centre is based on Delhi. Due to our traditional weakness in Delhi, none of EEFI office Bearer excepting Working President is stationed at Delhi. President, General Secretary & Treasures are from far away states and all of them are engaged in their respective state activities. Average availability of General Secretary in Delhi in a month ranges from 3 to 4 days. Efficiency of EEFI Centre remained limited from this point of view. Two of our Office Bearers are from Haryana. As and when requested one of them is made available. We need to improve written communication skill at EEFI Centre, so far written communication is concerned. Translation from English to Hindi & vice – versa has become essential. We need to concentrate on it.

Constitution: EEFI Constitution was adopted in foundation conference in 1984. Thereafter organisation has expanded to a considerable extent. A few of the clauses were amended in the forum of national conferences. Entire constitution incorporating all the amendments was placed for information of the delegates of 8th Conference at Hyderabad. It is available in EEFI Portal (www.eeficentre.org)

Discussion & Adoption of Document on Organisation:

An organisation Document for EEFI has been drafted and placed in this workshop for discussion. We may start our discussion with this draft. Final document on organisation can only be adopted when there will be contributions from all major constituents of EEFI. We shall develop a single document combining all those. Hence, we may consider decision in two parts. We may discuss and approve the Draft on EEFI Centre & its Central activities in the Bhubaneswar Workshop. This document will be circulated among the EEFI constituents with the questionnaires annexed in this document. All major constituents will prepare their organisation document duly approved by the highest body of respective organisation. EEFI Working Committee in its first session in 2019 will discuss & adopt the document on organisation. This workshop may take place for consecutive 2 days. Venue may be Delhi or at any state if invited.

Tasks Ahead:

1. EEFI and its constituents remained in the forefront of struggle opposing National Policy of curbing energy rights of the people and transfer of energy resources to private hands at throw away price. We are to doggedly continue this struggle. Nationwide movement is widened to expose the politics behind the policy, EEFI keeps its campaign louder among the people so that wider section of people can be involved in the struggle. Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2014 has been shelved by the Government seeking public opinion on Electricity Amendment Bill 2018.



2. National Convention of Workers at the behest of all central TUs has declared war against NDA Government led by Narendra Modi keeping 12 point charter of burning demands in the interest of workers and people as a whole ranging from containing price hike to social security for all. Two days' General Strike will be observed all over the country on 8th and 9th January, 2019. Electricity Workers will shoulder their historic responsibility to make this Strike successful. Charter of demands to be placed by the Electricity Workers before the authority should include the demands of Equal Wage for Equal work pending regularisation of contract/casual and outsourced workers. Hyderabad High Court Order dated 18th September, 2018 may be harnessed as an effective tool.
3. Series of convention, meetings, demonstration, campaign to propagate the essence of demands with justification and exposing obnoxious game plan of Modi Government exploiting communal card to divide unity of workers is to be exposed. All electricity Workers are to univocally raise the slogan piercing the sky "Modi Hathao Desh Bachao".
4. Intensification of struggle and Expansion of organisation should go ahead concurrently. Quality of organisation should be improved through education, training and re-training in a consistent manner.
5. Improvised communication should be utilised to consolidate the strength of the organisation from national centre to state centre and cascading to Districts and Projects.
6. In view of sustained attack of the Government against the poor consumers EEFI need to continue struggle opposing power sector privatisation plan of the Government. Privatisation of power sector will have serious impact on the low end consumers. Apprehension of end of access to electricity for the poor consumers cannot be denied. Working Committee suggested expansion of the consumer movement, so that united forum covering electricity workers and consumers carry forward the movement. Implication of changes in the act or rules cannot be fought out by the individual consumers. EEFI will involve our retired employees and former leaders in the states to organise consumer forum in the villages, towns, districts and the states. Our isolated effort cannot yield result but united platform of electricity employees and consumers can go far ahead.

9th National Conference of EEFI, while takes up for discussion the Organisation Document developed as above through 4 years last note that Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2022 unilaterally introduced in the Parliament on 8th August, indicates that in order to retain the rights of the access to electricity of poor and rural consumers including farmers, development united forum of Electricity Consumers and Employees has become most pertinent.



ANNEXURE-I

NATIONAL CONVENTION TO OPPOSE ELECTRICITY (AMENDMENT) BILL 2022 CONSTITUTION CLUB OF INDIA, NEW DELHI

2nd August, 2022

Organised by

National Coordination Committee of Electricity Employees & Engineers
(NCCOEEE)

ADOPTED RESOLUTION

This Convention, convened by National Coordination Committee of Electricity Employees & Engineers (NCCOEEE), the broad based united platform of all National Federations of Electricity Employees & Engineers at the Constitution Club of India to oppose enactment of Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2022, drafted by the Government to ensure entry of private companies in the Electricity Distribution Sector. Government admitted that they have not conducted any study by an expert body of Engineers/Economists/Social Scientists/Civic Panel. Electricity Employees and Engineers find enough reason to believe that this legislation will be curbing the right to electricity for the poor people of our country, while the distribution sector will be opened for profit hunting field for the traders and business community.

Convention univocally decry the evil will of the Govt. of India to curb the rights of Electricity for the poor & rural people including farmers and small entrepreneurs, while formulating the Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2022. The convention intend to expose ultimate motive of the Government, under the cover of tall talks like “Atmanirbhar Bharat”, is to transfer the public assets of Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution network built through seven decades since independence, at the cost of people, to private hands, while so called “AzadiKaAmritMahotsav” is celebrated. People desire to respect and love their Motherland inclusive of its rich resources and self-reliance to its true sense and spirit. They don't like sale of “Mother India” to business community.

This convention organised by Power Sector employees and Engineers and participated by the Honourable Parliamentarians of almost all the political parties, representatives of Trade Unions & Peasant organisations with their in depth patriotism of this land of



pride with ever cherished “Unity in Diversity”.

This convention notes with grave concern, that NITI Ayog, the “Think Tank” of the Govt. published document on Power Sector Distribution what has distinctly recorded that all over the world 70% of Power Distribution utilities are under public ownership and performing well.

It may not be out of place to mention that Electricity Act 2003 prescribed corporatisation of SEBs. But World Bank study on Indian Power Sector identified KSEB Ltd as the vertically integrated Power utility performed best in the whole country.

In United Kingdom the consumer choice and competition was introduced in 1999, and despite the regulator OFGEM supervision the electricity market collapsed in 2021 with 29 energy supplier cos shutting down, affecting 2.4 million consumers, and putting a burden of 2.7 billion pounds on energy bills of the affected consumers.

The latest instance of market failure in UK has proved that while UK govt. adopted consumer choice and competition methods, the Regulators, OFGEM, Office of Gas and Electricity Market failed and consumers had to face huge bills averaging 96 pounds per consumer.

Hon’ble Prime Minister urges upon the State Governments through his tweet to clear their payable subsidy worth of Rs. 1.4 lakh crores, so that they may clear the dues worth of Rs. 1.1 Lakh crore. Situation transpires that DISCOMs are in ill health due to major consumer like Government. Panacea of privatisation will not be able to solve the problem. Convention underlines this point before the Government’s policy of Privatisation.

This Convention pays attention to Govt. campaign on consumers’ choice of supplier to be ensured by the Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2022. But main focus of the profit hunting private company intruding to distribution business is the revenue potential high consumer density area for more profit with zero input. Convention infers that choice is left not for the consumers, real benefit of option created for the Private Companies. Convention urges upon Govt. of India not to mislead the consumers with jugglery of words.

Govt. of India should adopt a policy to the effect that whenever there is any move to amend the Act it must have the following essential ingredients.

- i) Extensive discussion with stakeholders after putting on website.
- ii) A detailed statement of objects and reasons.
- iii) proposals to amend the existing Electricity Act 2003 must necessarily be referred to standing committee of energy, and only when placed for consideration of the Parliament.

This convention express deep concern to differential treatment of companies entering



afresh in the arena of supply of electricity over the existing Govt. company in a particular area of supply to comply universal supply obligation, meaning to ensure supply to all categories of consumers while private companies will keep its prerogative to choose the category of consumers while they will harness the total benefit of the network of the existing Govt. company. This Bill has translated to the old proverb: “cost of public and profit to private” into reality. It is evident that Govt. is crippled as puppet, while control stick is kept in the hands of dictating business community.

An atmosphere of doubt and mistrust has covered the power sector. Coal crisis is shown as major hurdle, while Coal Ministry denies existence of any crisis. Power department cannot compel the Generating companies installed coal based coastal power station to run with imported coal, while cost of coal import faced huge price hike.

While it is a fact beyond dispute, that 80-85% of expenses of distribution cos (State Discoms) relate to power purchase, it is precisely in this field that the amendment 2022 has introduced confusion and disputes in introducing consumer choice. Net result will be cherry picking of consumers, and chaotic situation of energy accounting of PPAs which would practically collapse the State Discoms.

Under the present system of state Discoms, they have freedom to schedule their energy and ensure maximum economy in power purchases. Under the proposed system of multiple licensees the private players would have single point of profit maximization and Discom would be loaded with commercial disputes.

Ugly face of the Govt. was unveiled with two contradictory policies. DISCOMs are advised to buy 10% power produce from imported coal, while power station setup for operation with indigenous coal have been instructed to import 10 % of the required coal from abroad. It transpires that only duty of power department to protect the interest of their cronies. This is the tip of the iceberg. This trend will be multiplied once the Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2022 will be enacted by the Parliament and implemented.

This Convention resolves to call upon all Electricity Employees & Engineers:

- To organise massive demonstration all over the country on 10th August 2022 to raise their voice of protest against attempt of the Government to enact Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2022 to observe concurrently 80th Anniversary of Quit India Movement.
- To resort to cease work if the Government attempts to unilaterally place and pass the Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2022 in the Parliament.
- To observe November 2022 as a month of awareness campaign through “BijleeKrantiYatra” with the slogan “Save Power Sector - Save India”. Yatra will be commenced from four Regions of the country to culminate at Delhi by first week of December.

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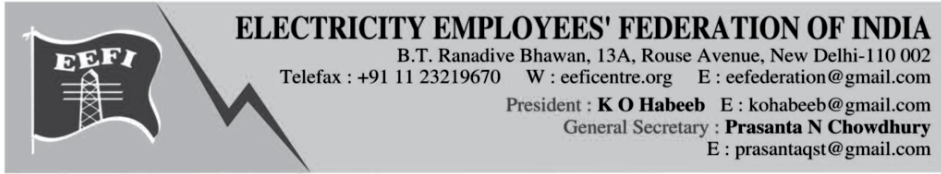
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ANNEXURE-J



No.

Date :

PRESS RELEASE

9th July, 2020

EEFI along with all constituents of National Co-ordination Committee of Electricity Employees and Engineers (NCCOEEEE) are continuing intensive struggle to oppose Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2020 through all possible forms of democratic movement. This Bill drafted with the object of privatization of state owned electricity distribution assets developed at the cost of public exchequer through seven decades. Government is canvassing in its old style with the clichéd words like “cheaper power through promotion of efficiency and competition”. All conscious persons can recollect these hackneyed words used by the NDA Government before enactment of Electricity Bill, 2003. Their falsification has now been proved with the experience of 17 years since corporatization of SEBs. Tariff hike has become regular phenomenon. Haste of the government to transfer the assets to their cronies is unveiled through the notification issued for privatization of distribution network of union territories.

Meanwhile EEFI decided to organize protest demonstration all over the country to oppose privatization of distribution network of union territories between 8th & 10th July, 2020. EEFI affiliates are sending Memorandum to the Prime Minister through the demonstration of employees.

EEFI notes with high applaud that Jammu & Kashmir Power Employees Co-ordination Committee (JKPECC) is resorting to protest movement. On 7th July, they assembled at inside the Chief Engineer KPDCL complex with compliance of Health Protocol and started the peaceful protest. The assembly started to raise their voice of protest without disturbing normal functioning of the office. The police attacked the employees inside the complex and tried to arrest the leaders along with the employees including good number of women. The Police without any female member of the force physically attacked the employees without any provocation and in gross violation of modesty of the women employees assembled there. Lethal weapon used by the Police without gender discrimination and created an atmosphere of pandemonium. Leaders of the Power employees coordination committee leaders were trapped by the police. Senior leaders namely Ajaz Makhdoomi, Zulkarnain Bhat, and Abdul Rashid Najar and others were arrested by the police. The JKPECC leaders were falsely accused by Shaheed Gunj Police Station.

On 8th July a rally of electricity employees under the banner of JKPECC started peaceful march towards Civil Secretariat at Srinagar. The rally was obstructed to proceed by the Police before it could reach the Secretariat. Comrade Abdul Rashid Nazar and a few others were arrested to forcefully disperse the rally.

EEFI strongly condemn the police action against the peaceful democratic protest. It transpires that government has decided to be revengeful to its own employees. In lieu of amicable settlement, government opted to the path of confrontation. EEFI firmly, urges upon the J&K administration to be cautious to deal in the democratic movement of the J&K electricity employees. They are not alone. Hardship, if any caused to them by police excess there, thousands & lakhs of electricity employees are with them in solidarity and fraternity from all parts of India

(Prasanta N Chowdhury)

General Secretary

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COAL INDUSTRY AT A GLANCE

BJP led government with the sole moto of privatisation of coal industry first came up with **Coal Mines Special Provisions Act** enacted in 2015, in spite of protest by the miners and left parties in the parliament. With the support of CITU, other federations and all most all the workers and other unions called strike from 6th Jan to 10th Jan and CITU's independent strike call was given on 13th Jan'20. The act was aimed at paving the way for private player to produce coal with the selling right. But even after three rounds of auction process in 2015 the response was far from satisfactory.

In desperation, the government further amended the Act with the introduction of The mineral Laws (amendment) Act'2020 with some major amendments to facilitate aggressive privatization through unregulated commercial mining of coal, that too by private operators. The government also decided for hundred percent FDA in coal industry. Against the decision of FDA, one day strike call was given unitedly by all the major TUs on 24th Sept'20. Coal workers responded to the strike call and with their active participation the strike was total in all over the coal industry.

In protest against private commercial coal mining and against the first-time auction of 41 coal blocks in Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, which was to take place on June 11, 2020, CITU Called upon the coal workers to observe protest day on June 10 and black day, by burning effigy, on June 11. The call was well responded by Coal workers and more than 1.5 lacs workers joined the agitation program. Later HMS, AITUC and INTUC joined the call. Same evening the government postponed the scheduled auction of the coal mines. Yet, effigy burning on June 11 took place in about 150 major collieries. On 18th June'20, Prime minister himself inaugurated the bidding process but actual bidding scheduled on 18th August with an aim to utilize these two months of time to garner support and interest of capitalist lobby. Here also, united protest and resistance put up by the coal workers with the unprecedented support from the community, villagers, and common people at large and three days strike from 2nd July to 4th July'20 were called. The strike was all out and total. Assessing the magnitude of protest and resistance by the workers the Majority of potential bidders abstained from bidding process.

Now, when all the efforts by the government for privatisation of coal industry foiled by the workers resistance then government to facilitate the private lobby, closed to



the ruling dispensation choose National Monetisation Pipeline as the instrument for privatisation and commercialisation of coal sector. The so called NMP paved the way for private and foreign players to loot the national asset which in turn would completely dismantle the nationalised coal sector. According to NMP scheme, the Govt planned for handing over 160 functional coal mines of Coal India to private corporates including foreign entities virtually free for production and sale of coal by them with an arrangement of only 4 to 10 percent of profit sharing, if at all those dubious private operators show profit in their books of account. The Govt cannot be allowed to hand over 160 functional mines to private hands. Coal workers are determined to resist the private players from taking over nationalised mines and if situation demands it would be resisted by physical blockage.

The pro government media tried to mislead general people that there is tremendous shortage of coal for power industry and private coal production is the only answer. But these are blatant lies and workers union affirm that there is no shortage of coal production, only logistic problems and lack of support from the government are there. Nationalized Coal sector alone can cater the demand for power industry if free from political interference. Last five months recorded the growth in production by 20.5% as compared to the previous year.

Along with NMP, the Govt has further undertaken additional destructive measures to disintegrate Coal India Ltd and SCCL in the name of restructuring. The government decided to separate ECL, BCCL and CMPDI from Coal India Ltd and as a part of that drive it has been decided to disinvest 25% share of CMPDI and BCCL. The divestment of ECL is also under active consideration of the government. 35 percent divestment has already been carried out in CIL in different phases.

The other form of privatisation is the rampant contractorization and outsourcing of the coal production. 65-70% of production is being carried out by the contract and outsourced workmen in coal industry. The workers movement in coal industry compelled the government to include the demands of Contractor workmen in the agreement of regular workmen, i.e. in National Coal Wages Agreement. But still The contract workmen are deprived of HPC wages, medical, social security benefits, welfare amenities etc. in most of the coal companies. Though the Wage Board has been constituted for wage revision, which is pending since July last year, but it is getting delayed by the deliberate lackadaisical attitude of the government and coal management.

Coal workers with the leadership of CITU are already in the path of struggle. All India Coal Workers Federation with its independent initiative had undertaken a very successful month-long campaign program from 15th June to 15 July'22 in all the units, areas and companies in form of pit/gate meeting, sloganeering, Dharna, posterings ,



which further extended till 30th July.22. The struggle would continue till the BJP led government changes its policies. Since 2015 coal workers are vigilant and choose the path of struggle, have shown their unity, strength, and loyalty to save nationalised coal industry and compelled the government to step back in implementing its anti-people policies. All the operating unions are united in coal industry for the good of workers and general people at large and as a result JBCCI is in progress, pension fund for coal workers are getting strong with the support from government and the struggle to save Public Sector coal industry is gaining momentum.

Though the production target has been set to one billion ton of coal production by 2025 but the commitment made by the government in Paris accord would pave the way for 500GW of power from renewable source by 2030. So, there would be shrinkage in coal consumption and production in future and here comes the argument of Just transition. Without proper rehabilitation, alternate employment/income of the workers and for the adjoining villagers and community as a whole in the coal bearing areas, transition from coal to alternate source of energy is not acceptable to the coal workers.

Though CITU is the most visible and vibrant organization of coal workers movement and spearheading the struggle of the coal workers, but it must expand its organizational base further with the improvement in membership strength. AICWF in its last conference gave call to the affiliates to have functioning unit committee in all the units of the coal industry and to raise the membership by twenty five percent.

The intense coordination and coordinated movement of the energy sector unions is the call of the day to foil the attack by the government on energy sector.

Long live unity of the workers.

SAVE THE PUBLIC SECTOR COAL INDUSTRY SAVE NATION



ANNEXURE-L

ELECTRICITY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2020 - UNITED STRUGGLE OF ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES & CONSUMERS

When the whole nation is busy to combat COVID-19, Government of India kept itself busy to save the country to its cronies and adopting anti-people policies and legislation under the tall words like **ATMANIRBHARATA**. Electricity Amendment (Bill), 2020 is one such legislation.

The Bill was notified on 17th April, 2020 for public opinion within 21 days. The main features of the Bill in brief are as follows:

- Clear object of the Bill is to privatise the state owned electricity distribution network developed at the cost of public through 70 years towards assuring profit to businessmen.
- Electricity will be converted from service for socio-economic development to a service for making profit by the business community. Business lobby will not be interested to take up low revenue potential rural areas.
- The Government's intention to ease of making business will be fulfilled but consumers will be thrown to the gallows of profit greedy whales.
- Tariff will be escalated due to removal of cross subsidy from tariff and proposed direct payment of subsidy to consumers is related to will and financial health of the state. By that way right to electricity for the poor consumers will be factored by Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).
- Productivity and cost of farmers' crops might be left upon the fate of DBT or rain fed irrigation only. Agricultural consumers will also have to pay full cost of supply. a) Only the land owners would be eligible to subsidies, whereas cultivation is very often done by tillers/share croppers who pay for electricity. b) The large difference between the cost of water provided by irrigation canals and ground water extracted by electricity will become more unsustainable with increase in the cost of electricity in areas beyond the canal fed areas.
- On the contrary, Government will ensure payment to private (Independent)



power producers in advance or through Bank with the mechanism of letter of credit from Discoms. Electricity Contract Enforcement Authority will be created to ensure profit of business community.

We may call up the rosy promises of NDA government before enactment of Electricity Bill 2003 like 'cheaper power' through promotion of 'efficiency & competition'. All the schemes like UMPP, UDAY etc. turned into flop show. Cost of electricity has been increased between 5 to 8 times in this period even with direct and cross subsidy retained through amendment of the Electricity Act, 2003 by UPA-1 Govt.

Electricity privatization will impact adversely upon poor domestic consumers, small industries & poor farmers. A complicated subject like electricity bill along with related techno-commercial issues, and its far reaching impact cannot be totally construed by common people. So their heartfelt participation in the struggle to oppose the bill does not arise. They become victim only after its legislation. EEFI proposed expansion of movement among the electricity consumers, so that united forum covering electricity workers and consumers are formed to carry forward the movement. Retired electricity engineers, employees and their former leaders may be entrusted to organise consumer forum in the villages, towns, districts and the states. Isolated effort of electricity employees cannot yield result but united platform of electricity employees and consumers can go far ahead to compel the government to change its policy. Related experience of Haryana, Kerala & West Bengal to involve consumers in the struggle is positive. EEFI solicits support from CITU centre, including its state, district and union level committees to make this effort successful. Support from AIKS & AIAWU as well progressive lawyer's organisations will lead the movement to wider area. This forum may be a standing one in National and state level to contest the government and business lobby in the hearings of Regulatory Commissions as well mass movement.

Above proposal in brief was placed in the CITU Secretariat on 7th July, 2020, was underlined by the General Secretary, in the course of his summing up. As requested, conceptual proposal is placed.



Protest Demonstration to oppose Power Sector Privatisation to Save India



Protest from Home Defying Covid



NCCOEEE യുടെ
 കേരള ചാപ്റ്റർ ചെയർമാൻ സ. എം പി ഗോപകുമാറും
 KSEB പെൻഷനേഴ്സ് അസോസിയേഷൻ എക്സി. അംഗം
 സ. N സദാനന്ദൻ പിള്ളയും കൂടുംബാംഗങ്ങൾ സഹിതം
 ഗൃഹാങ്കണ ജ്വാല തെളിയിക്കുന്നു



