ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES' FEDERATION OF INDIA

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PRESS RELEASE

ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES OPPOSE PRIVATISATION POLICY OF MODI GOVERNMENT THOURH TOKEN STRIKE ON 3RD FEBRUARY

EEFI convey warm greetings and red salute to the electricity employees of the country for participation in one day token Strike called by the National Co-ordination Committee of Electricity Employees & Engineers (NCCOEEE) in solidarity to struggling peasants at Delhi and all over the country as well opposing privatization policy of Government of India towards curbing right to electricity to the poor people of the country. Demands placed are as under:

- Scrap Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2020 & Standard Bidding Document towards total privatisation of distribution of electricity.
- Withdraw process of privatisation of Electricity from public sector to private company in states and UTs. Cancel all existing private Licenses and franchises in power sector.
- Reintegrate all power utilities in states and UTs with function components of Generation,
 Transmission and Distribution like KSEB Ltd & HPSEB Ltd.
- Reintroduce Old Pension Scheme & Scrap New Pension Scheme. Forced retirement is not acceptable in power sector.
- Ensure equal wage for equal work, pending regularization of all contract and casual workers / employees. 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 & Engineers through this token strike urged the Government to drop their antipeople as well pro-capitalist policy of throwing fiscal burden upon people and transfer profit to their cronies. Budget placed by Finance Minister has reaffirmed the same policy of allocation fund for power sector, while the Government is going ahead with its policy of privatization.

Participation in today's strike by the Trade Union members varied from 100% to 25%. While Kerala & Chandigarh participation was 100%, Tamil Nadu, Haryana 80% West Bengal 70%, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Bihar and Assam 60%-50%. Power sector Engineers took part in Work boycott and demonstration in huge number. In some states, day long protest demonstration continues. EEFI calls upon electricity employees and consumers to form united broad based platform to carry forward the struggle.

(Prasanta N Chowdhury)

General Secretary