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# CIRCULAR

An extended meeting of EEFI Working Committee took place at Bhubaneswar on 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 immediately after conclusion of Workshop on Organisation (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> October). Com K O Habeeb, President, EEFI presided over the working committee meeting attended by 45 members of the working committee. Draft Organisation document developed by EEFI Centre for discussion in 2 days long workshop on 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> October was discussed. Discussion and decision of the extended Working Committee meeting is as under.

### 1. General Strike on 8th & 9th January, 2019

Declaration of the **National Convention of Workers** held at Delhi on 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 at the united initiative of all central Trade Unions and National Federations of Workers and Employees of different sectors, explained in the meeting. EEFI along with its all affiliates and associates will exert their fullest strength to make the **General Strike** called **on 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2019** to achieve 12 point charter of demands opposing anti-people pro-capitalist policies of Government.

#### 2. Massive Campaign and Propaganda for the Strike

In order to make this General Strike a grand success, all EEFI constituents will totally devote with its full strength to propagate issues of the strike among its members and wider section of people at different level starting from section / department / Plant gates to populous public places. General body meeting of the organisation from state/District/Division/Sub-Division should take place to utilise each of our member an active and militant publicity agent of working class of India in their struggle with Slogan "MODI HATHAO DESH BACHAO". In addition to campaign and propaganda activities in our own initiative, we are to take part the wider campaign activities at the behest of CITU and united programme in the respective state / District.

### 3. NCCOEEE Meeting 29th September, 2018 and Decisions

Working Committee took up the matter of electricity employees' united struggle on the pending issues. NATIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE OF ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES & ENGINEERS (NCCOEEE) met on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 at BTR Bhawan, New Delhi to review its plan of action of one day strike on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2018 resolved through National Convention on 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2018. All the fore front leaders of NCCOEEE National Chapter were present in the meeting. In view of changed situation NCCOEEE decided to fully endorse the Declaration adopted in the National Convention of Workers held at Delhi on 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2018. NCCOEEE decided to change the Strike Action from one day (7<sup>th</sup> December, 2018) to 2 days on 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2019. Joint Campaign and propaganda as planned and circulated through NCCOEEE Circular Dated 02.10.2018 should be implemented by all constituents of EEFI. Copy of the NCCOEEE circular is attached hereto for ready reference. EEFI constituents should take lead role to organise NCCOEEE

Convention in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal & one suitable place combining Haryana, Punjab & Chandigarh. In all other places, our members will take part.

### 4. EEFI TU Schools

Working Committee was apprised of successful organising of EEFI TU schools at Puduchery (English medium) on 22-23 July, 2018 and Faridabad (Hindi medium) on 28-29 July, 2018 on the occasion of 2<sup>nd</sup> Birth Centenary of Karl Marx & centenary of October Revolution. Responsibility shouldered by our COTEE, Puducherry and Haryana Unions for hosting the TU School was laudable.

## 5. 3rd World Congress of TUI (Energy & Petrochemical)

Working Committee was apprised of successful organising the 3rd World Congress of TUI (Energy & Petrochemical) at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on 11-12 September, 2018. EEFI constituents of Kerala & CITU Kerala state committee contributed their best to make the congress a grand success even amidst the flood disaster. 160 delegates from 30 countries of 5 continents took part in this congress. The Congress elected 11 member Executive Committee including Prasanta N Chowdhury, General Secretary, EEFI as President and Eric Sellini of FNIC from France as General Secretary.

## 6. Kerala Flood and Mission Reconnect

Working Committee expressed high applaud to Left Government of Kerala along with its valiant heroes, who saved the lives of people fighting the natural calamity in general and Electricity Workers and Engineers in particular who reenergise the state by reconnecting the power network damaged by worst ever flood within seven days of flood water desertion. Electricity workers and engineers from adjacent states played humanitarian role by taking part in the reconstruction activities. Electricity and other conscious workers of Kerala have pledged to contribute One Month's Salary in 10 instalments for reconstruction of Kerala, while Government of India played step-motherly role.

## 7. EEFI Workshop on organisation

- Workshop on organisation took place at Bhubaneswar on 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> October. A draft document on organisation was placed in this workshop for discussion. Inauguration by Bishnu Mohanty. There were four Sessions as under:
- Political and Ideological responsibility for Working Class of India and EEFI: Tasks **Session 1:** Nos. of Participants in Ahead: Chaired by K O Habeeb. Placed and Sum Up by S. Devroye. discussion: 14
- Democratic Principle for Class Organisation Focussing EEFI and Its Constituents. Session 2: Chaired by Suresh Rathi. Placed by K Jayprakash. Sum Up by V. S. Ajithkumar Nos. of Participants in discussion: 11
- Qualitative Improvement of organisation -Perspective Planning on Communication, Session 3: Organ, Fund, Accounts, Centre and State Functions: Chaired by J S Rathore. Placed by S S Subrammanian, Sum up by Naresh kumar. Nos. of Participants in discussion: 8
- Expansion & Consolidation of organisation through intensification of Struggle on the issues of Contract / Casual / Outsourced & Franchised Workers in newer states. Chaired by K O Habeeb. Placement and Sum Up by Prasanta N Chowdhury Nos. of participants in discussion: 15
- Suggestions and ideas of participants have been kept on record. Some were found very innovative and thought provoking. Final document on organisation will be adopted with all these & contributions from all major constituents of EEFI. A single comprehensive document will be developed combining all those. Bhubaneswar workshop discussed and approved the Draft on EEFI Centre & its Central activities. This document will be circulated among the EEFI constituents with the questionnaires. All major constituents will prepare their organisation document duly approved by the highest body of respective organisation as named:

COTEE, KSEBWA, APSUEEU, TSUEEU, WBSEWMU, KSEBOA, AHPCWU, PBBSSKU, DVCSU, TSU(Punjab), MSU(Punjab), CESWMU, CESCWU, Odisha unit of EEFI, TBKU, ASEB Union & UT Chandigarh. 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. A P has agreed to take the responsibility of hosting this Final round of Workshop.

Odisha Unit of EEFI organised the Workshop with laudable logistics. President & General Secretary greeted the organisers.

#### 8. Payment of Affiliation Dues

Affiliation dues of some of the Union found unpaid for a long period. Some of these unions are strong but not serious in respect of the dues. All the affiliated Unions were requested to pay the dues by the earliest possible time. Payment of affiliation dues in time is constitutional compulsion. All are to keep in mind.

### 9. Fund & Accounts

- A. Copy of accounts circulated among the Working Committee members. Working Committee observed that Fund situation does not commensurate with our organizational capability. None of the active federation can survive with only affiliation fees. But some of our constituents are reluctant to pay even affiliation dues in time @Rs. 3 per member per year. EEFI, being the most vibrant Federation is expanding its activities but fund becomes main constraint. Reason is not that all the affiliates are in financial hardship. Some are not paying the dues simply on the ground of negligence.
- B. Both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> national conference dealt the matter in length. Proposal of struggle fund was approved by the conference for the obvious reason. As decided, a struggle fund @ Rs. 50/- per member will be collected and half of the amount should be contributed to EEFI struggle fund. Besides that, whenever there will be Wage Settlement, an amount @5% of first month's wage rise will be paid to EEFI centre. KSEBWA paid the same in full. KSEBOA also paid. COTEE is in the process of collection after their last wage settlement by early 2018.
- C. Kerala constituents took the financial burden of hosting 3rd World Congress of TUI (Energy & Petrochemical) on our behalf. Budgeted Cost was Rs. 35 Lakhs. Through austerity measures after flood, revised estimate became Rs. 30 Lakhs. EEFI centre was requested to pay only Rs. 10 lakhs. We requested our members to pay @ Rs. 10/- per member. So far we have received Rs.3,92,300/- only. COTEE paid Rs 2 lakhs and Haryana Rs. 1 Lakh. Rest of India paid Rs. 92,300/- only. We paid only 5 Lakhs to Kerala. All are to remit this fund @ Rs. 10 per member immediately.
- D. Dues related to Voice of Electricity Workers stood to Rs. 72,375/- up to previous issue. One issue already printed and in the process of dispatch. Next issue will be published by mid-December. All subscribers should be pursued to pay their dues.
- E. Electricity Workers and Employees through their employers have reportedly contributed an amount exceeding Rs. 30 Crores with the initiative of our leaders in different power utilities. We greet all of them for their humanitarian generosity. EEFI issued an appeal to all our constituents to collect send contributions to Kerala Flood Relief Fund on 14<sup>th</sup> August & 21<sup>st</sup> August. We have contributed Rs. 5 Lakhs on the expectation that considerable fund will be sent from the states. We have received so far 2 Lakhs from COTEE and Rs. 50,000/- from a few unions. Those who have collected and are collecting fund, are requested to remit the sum to EEFI centre immediately.
- F. Accounts for the year 2017 are being audited by the statutory Auditor appointed by EEFI.

#### 10. Communication:

Improved communication between EEFI centre and its constituents and among the major constituents has become a pertinent factor towards improvement of organizational consolidation. Suggested steps:

- A. Success story of one EEFI constituent may be replicated by others, if live communication is there.
- B. It was observed from EEFI centre that Hindi speaking states need to translate the EEFI circulars in Hindi causing communication delay. Hindi translation of Circulars will be sent from EEFI centre.
- C. More Hindi matters will be included in forthcoming issues of Voice.
- D. Reports and photographs for all industry, struggle and campaign related activities should be sent to EEFI Centre par e-mail to <a href="mailto:eefederation@gmail.com">eefederation@gmail.com</a> / <a href="mailto:prasantanc1@gmail.com">prasantanc1@gmail.com</a> within one / two days

- of the programme. Those reports will be webcast in our web site <a href="www.eeficentre.org">www.eeficentre.org</a> (.) Hindi speaking states may send reports in Hindi in .pdf format for quick webcasting. All states may send photographs with captions in Hindi / English.
- E. All state based Unions/organisations having own organ may send one or more of its important article published in current issue of the organ translating into Hindi / English for publication in next issue of EEFI organ Voice of Electricity Workers.

(Prasanta N Chowdhury) GENERAL SECRETARY