

NATIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE OF
ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES & ENGINEERS
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DRAFT DECLARATION
of
NATIONAL CONVENTION, NEW DELHI, 8TH JUNE, 2018

This NATIONAL CONVENTION organized at Delhi on 8th June, 2018 by National Coordination Committee of Electricity Employees and Engineers (NCCOEEE), the broad based platform of all the major National level organizations of power sector workers and engineers to draw the attention of the People of the country and the Governments at states and centre, towards the crucial situation in the Power Sector, and oppose the unilateral Power Policy of Government of India towards snatching away the Right to Electricity of the poor people of India. Convention impels its clarion call to all section of electricity employees and engineers, as well toiling people of the country to resort to the path of struggle to retain right to electricity for all the Indians irrespective of purchasing power.

NCCOEEE has convened this National Convention at Delhi after series of consultation with the people through Regional, State and District level Conventions through a couple of years last in all parts of the Country. Those Conventions resolved to oppose the frantic effort of the Government to privatize the publicly owned Electricity Industry through administrative and coercive legislative measures. This Convention, with representation of Electricity Workers, Employees & Engineers, once again call upon the Prime Minister, Chief Ministers and Members of Parliament and Assemblies to set aside the Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2014 placed in the Parliament, since almost all the state Governments opposed the proposition of segregation of carriage and content towards further splitting the Distribution activities in the interest of profit mongering business community entering vis a vis entered in power sector. Consequence of enactment of this Bill will boost the cost of supply to sky level. It is very much pertinent to note the plea cited by the Government to enact Electricity Act, 2003 was inefficiency and accumulation of huge losses by SEBs. Total accumulated loss after 5 decades of socio-economic development service by SEBs was Rs. 26,000 Crores. Only After 20 years of so called market driven commercial service of all DISCOMs, summation of accumulated loss and debt burden touched Rupees 1 million Crores even after multi-times tariff hike.

Convention, on the part of people of India, calls explanation from Government of India, seeking reasons behind the failure to keep their assurance of cheaper power for all through boosting efficiency and competition among private entrepreneurs with implementation of Electricity Act, 2003. Multiple times tariff escalation with connivance of regulators and private players in power sector gave horrible experience through last 20 years. Ambani owned BSES assigned Odisha Discoms had to be removed due to inefficiency and poor quality of supply. Long cherished panacea of franchises faced seriatim failure.

This convention notes with utter dismay that the motive of the Bill is to create scope of business for private enterprises in power distribution without any investment. They will be given separate profitable segments like sale of electricity to major industry, commercial establishments, railways splitting from un-remunerative loss making segments like rural households and agricultural consumers. Profitable segments will be transferred to private sector and loss making segment are to be retained by the public sector. That has become evident while the Bill stipulated that at least one of the supply licensees has to be a government owned company. In absence of scope of cross subsidy, these consumers are to pay higher tariff due to low consumer density. Sustainability of this state owned company serving only low end consumers will be hardly possible.

Voice of news media has been gagged. Corrupt practices of business tycoons in the arena of Coal, Gas and other resources of Electricity published in the media is suppressed with the influence of interested lobbies. Corruption continues but publishing the news is proscribed. The episode of removal of editor of nationwide famous journal has unveiled the fluid status of Indian democracy.

The term *Electricity* is likely to be converted to *Exploitricity* by the magnitude of exploitation of

workers in this industry in the name of casual, contract, outsource, franchising etc. Skilled workers are paid at the rate equivalent or less to unskilled manual workers. Unskilled workers engaged at cheaper rate are facing fatal accidents of which Unchahar is a glaring example. Fatal accident has become daily affair in Indian Power sector. Victims are mostly contract and casual workers. This convention demands total halt upon death procession as well contract system of engagement for regular jobs.

Power sector has become a free region of loot and cheating by lobby closer to leaders of the Government at the centre. Natural energy resources are being handed over to these people with vested interest.

All NCCOEEE constituents will create public awareness campaign against the suicidal policy of the Government to privatise the power sector and to curb the Right to Electricity of the Poor Peoples of India will continue in support of the Strike.

This National Convention held at Delhi in association with all major Central Trade Unions and National Federations calls upon all organizations of workers and engineers of the country to resort to a Nationwide Power Sector Strike/Work Boycott from 0600 Hours of 7th December to 0600 Hours of 8th December, 2018. Government has turned a deaf ear to logic of power workers and engineers. Hence, the strike/work boycott is being resorted to seek intervention from the law makers to keep the Government restrained.

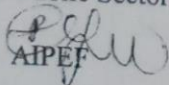
This National Convention firmly puts following demands to Government of India as well all the State Governments and Legislators and Parliamentarians:

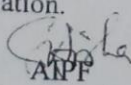
- 1) Adverse impacts imposed upon electricity consumers and employees with implementation of Electricity Act, 2003 should be reviewed by the independent experts. Re-integrating the unbundled Power sector should be done at top most priority like KSEB Ltd in Kerala & HPSEB Ltd in HP.
- 2) Stop enactment of proposed Electricity (Amendment) Bill in Parliament without prior discussion with the representatives of organizations of electricity employees and engineers as assured by the former MIC Power, Government of India in several meetings took place between Power Minister with leaders of NCCOEEE in 2015 and 2016.
- 3) Government of India as well state Governments, on the backdrop of accumulation of high loss in spite of multi-time tariff hike through past two decades should develop vibrant consultation forum comprising of representatives of National/state level organizations of Workers and Engineers to save the public owned Power sector from total bankruptcy.
- 4) National Power Policy should have sustainable balance on utilization of indigenous resources and production capacity with commensuration of affordability of our people.
- 5) Comply Apex Court order for 'Equal Wage for Equal Work' and put complete hold upon engagement of contract/casual/outsourced workers in regular operation and maintenance jobs pending regularization of existing contract /casual/outsourced workers and engineers.
- 6) Implement old pension scheme for all power employees and engineers irrespective of date of recruitment.
- 7) Ensure safe working condition in risk prone jobs in Electricity industry.
- 8) Stop transfer of natural energy resources to the hands of private capitalists.
- 9) Stop disinvestment in Energy Sector PSUs of India
- 10) Ensure 'Right to Energy as Human Right'.

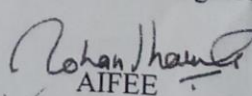
Long Live NCCOEEE.

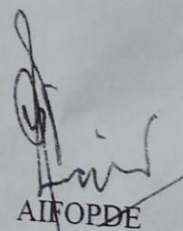
Long Live Unity of Electricity Consumers, Employees and Engineers.

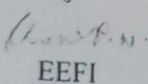
Save Public Sector, Save Nation.

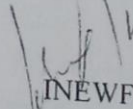

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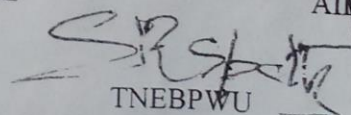

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