GEB Engineers' Association



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DATE: 03.01.23

NO. GEBEA/2022-23/ SG/32

To, Hon'ble Chief Minister Maharashtra Government Mumbai

Sub: 04 January - Protest Meetings to be held in all state capitals of the country in support of the 72-hour token strike by the Power Employees and Engineers of Maharashtra in protest against privatisation.

Dear Sir,

GEB Engineers Association (GEBEA) is the representative body of engineers of state owned power companies from the cadre of Junior Engineer up to the cadre of Chief Engineer in the state of Gujarat. With vast experience and intensity of engineering knowhow, the Association has been rendering valuable suggestions to the government & management on policy related issues pertaining to the power sector and at the same time intends to get the issues of engineers resolved through amicable solution in co-operation with management. We are aware that the growth of state is considerably driven by the power sector and put all efforts so that sector could function in appropriate manner and supplement the growth of the state.

You are aware that the Joint Action Committee of Power Employees & Engineers of Maharashtra has served a notice of 72 hours Strike wef 04th January 2023 and Indefinite Strike wef 18th January 2023.

- 1. Adani Electricity Navi Mumbai Limited, a 100% subsidiary of Adani Transmission Limited, has applied to Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (MERC) for a parallel power distribution license for Mulund, Bhandup, Thane, Navi Mumbai, Panvel, Kharghar, Taloja and Uran the most electricity revenue generating regions of the entire State. We apprehend that by maliciously invoking the draconian Section 14 of the Electricity Act 2003, the MERC may grant parallel license to Adani Group to amass profit from these cherry-picking areas taking advantage of the existing distribution network of the State DISCOM. This will adversely impact 2.8 crore consumers of the state especially below poverty line consumers with consumption within 100 units, agricultural pumps, public street lights, water supply, government offices, etc.
- 2. Besides this the latest development is that now Torrent power has also applied for parallel licences at Kalyan, Vasai, Pune,Nagpur,Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal corporations and also a big Chakan MIDC Near Pune . It is shocking news as about 50% of revenue is coming from this area for Mahavitaran company. TATA POWER has also submitted a report stating

how they are working in Delhi and Odisha and they have requested GOM that three districts Aurngabad, Jalana,Bid be handed over to them as PPP. So this is a very alarming position for the power sector in Maharashtra.

- 3. Maharashtra's electricity workers, movement against privatization is in full swing. After the fierce march of 35,000 electricity workers in front of the Nagpur assembly in the end of 2022, now at the beginning of the year 2023, a huge march of 10,000 electricity workers in Thane on 02 January has completely broken the silence of the streets.
- 4. Online emergency meeting of the AIPEF Federal Executive was held on 01 January,2023. It was unanimously decided by AIPEF Federal Executive to extend full support to Power Employees & Engineers of Maharashtra and to show the solidarity Protest demonstrations to be held in every State and UT. NCCOEEE has also decided to extend full support.
- 5. From January 04, a 72-hour token strike of electricity workers is starting in Maharashtra. In support of Maharashtra& electricity workers, on January 04, Power employees and Engineers will demonstrate their solidarity by holding protests/meetings in all state capitals of the country demanding immediate intervention of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Maharashtra to intervene so that no parallel license is granted. Everyone has to be ready to take more tough steps across the country in support of the indefinite strike to be held in Maharashtra from January 18.

It is time for a decisive struggle against the conspiracy to hand over profitable sectors to private houses in Greater Mumbai and other industrial cities of Maharashtra in the name of giving parallel licenses. With a call to demonstrate steely unity across the country

Thanking You

Yours Sincerely,

(B M Shah) Secretary General GEB Engineers' Association

CCfwcs to: 1. Hon'ble Deputy CM, Maharashtra Govt, Mumbai. 2. Principal Secretary Energy, Maharashtra Govt, Mumbai. ********