

ALL INDIA DEFENCE EMPLOYEES' FEDERATION
INDIAN NATIONAL DEFENCE WORKERS' FEDERATION
BHARTIYA PRATIRAKSHA MAZDOOR SANGH
(RECOGNIZED FEDERATIONS OF DEFENCE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES)

Joint Circular No. : 17/2021

Date : 23.06.2021

To,

**All the affiliated Unions of
AIDEF, INDWF, BPMS**

**JOINT MEETING OF THE AIDEF, INDWF, BPMS AND OTHER
ORGANISATIONS OF THE EMPLOYEES OF ORDNANCE FACTORIES TO BE
HELD ON 27-6-2021 FOR FORGING A LARGER UNITY BEFORE ISSUING
INDEFINITE STRIKE NOTICE!**

A request has been received from General Secretary/INDWF vide their letter dated 22/06/2021 that one more joint meeting of the Federations is required to be held to take a final decision on the date of issue of Indefinite Strike notice and also about the date of commencement of the strike. We have also received a request from General Secretary/NPDEF that they are also willing to join all the joint action programmes including Indefinite Strike against corporatisation of OFB and that they also should be taken into confidence before proceeding with the strike action. All these requests were discussed by the 3 Recognised Federations and it has been decided that a broader unity is to be forged to fight back against the most dangerous decision taken by the present Government and hence it has been decided to convene a joint meeting with the following organisations at 16.00 Hrs. on 27-6-2021.

1. Confederation of Defence Recognised Associations (CDRA)
2. National Progressive Defence Employees Federation (NPDEF)
3. All India Bahujan Defence Employees Federation (AIBDEF)
4. JWM Associations.
5. OFB Headquarters Employees Associations.
6. IOFS OA.

After the Joint meeting of 27/06/2021 we will keep you Informed about all the decisions taken in the meeting and till then all the preparations for the success of the Indefinite Strike should continue, so that the employees are prepared for the Indefinite Strike.

Notification on splintering the OFB into 7 Corporations issued by MoD and protest letter demanding for withdrawal of the decision forwarded by the Federations.

MoD/DDP vide its OM dated 21/06/2021 have notified the decision of the cabinet to splinter the 41 Ordnance Factories into 7 DPSU's with 41 Units. A copy of the DDP OM dated 21/06/2021 is enclosed as **Annexure-I** of this Joint circular. Today we have issued a protest letter to the Defence Minister and Secretary (DP) against the arbitrary and biased decision of the Government and demanding for withdrawal of the Government decision. A copy of our joint letter dated 23-6-2021 is enclosed as **Annexure-II** of the Joint Circular.



(C. SRIKUMAR)
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Copy to

The General Secretaries

CDRA, NPDEF, AIBDEF,
JWM Associations,
OFBHQ Employees Associations
and IOFSOA

(you are kindly requested to note the above contents and to attend the joint meeting through video conference at 16.00 HRS. on 27-6-2021 along with one more representative preferably the President of your organisation. Your confirmation about participation may please be informed to us through E-mail / Whatsapp on or before 25.06.2021 so as to enable us to forward you the meeting video link.)

ALL INDIA DEFENCE EMPLOYEES' FEDERATION
INDIAN NATIONAL DEFENCE WORKERS' FEDERATION
BHARTIYA PRATIRAKSHA MAZDOOR SANGH
(RECOGNIZED FEDERATIONS OF DEFENCE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES)

Ref. No. : 105/AIDEF/INDWF/BPMS/21

Date : 23.06.2021

To,

Shri.Rajnath Singhji

Hon'ble Defence Minister,
Government of India,
South Block, New Delhi.

The Secretary(DP)

Department of Defence Production,
South Block, New Delhi.

Subject : Protest against the arbitrary, one sided and biased decision taken by the Cabinet to splinter the 41 Ordnance Factories into 7 Corporations in violation of all the previous written agreements & assurances – demands to withdraw the same.

Reference: MoD/DDP OM No. dated 1(5)/2021/OF/DP(Plq-V) dated 21.06.2021

Respected Sir,

The employees of Ordnance Factories are in great anguish and pain on the unsavory decision of the Government of India to slice-away one of the pre-independence Organization called Indian Ordnance Factories into 7 unviable entities. The employees of Indian Ordnance Factories / O.F Board has sacrificed their life in bringing up this great organization into a modern supplier of Arms, Ammunitions and Equipments to the Armed Forces meeting the stringent quality standards all these years.

The employees of Ordnance Factories have even worked for more than 12 Hrs. in each day without bothering about their health to meet the war contingencies of the nation. This commitment of OF Employees has made the Armed Forces to come out with flying colours on year after year and war after war against our enemies.

It is quite painful to mention that many of our employees have also met martyrdom in their line of duty i.e. in equipping the Armed Forces with most reliable and time tested arms and ammunitions. It is regrettable that all these efforts, sincerity and the ***motto of duty above self*** practiced by the employees of OFB for more than 200 years has gone in vain when the Cabinet decided to slice a joint family of 41 Ordnance Factories into a unviable nuclear family of 7 to achieve their narrow considerations based on the recommendations of the EGoM chaired by the RM.

It is astonishing that when negotiations are pending, conciliation process is inconclusive, in the absence of the Federations in the conciliation meeting held on 15th June 2021, the Government has taken a hurried decision to corporatize the Ordnance Factory Board into 7 entities.

When Secretary/DP has agreed to arrange a meeting with the Empowered Committee of Ministers to discuss about the alternate proposal(s) given by the Federations, it is not understood that how a hasty decision has been taken by the Government to corporatize OF Board without hearing the stake holders i.e. Recognized Federations of the employees of Ordnance Factory Board. It is a clear case of betrayal by the Government, because Secretary/DP himself has asked the Federations to give a viable alternate and robust proposal to MoD which would be submitted to the EGOM for a discussion with the Federations, so that O.F Board could achieve the higher expectations of its customers, being in the Government set up itself. However, throwing our proposals into the dustbin of South Block and without even hearing us by the EGOM, the Government has unilaterally gone ahead to declare corporatization of O.F Board to show its hegemony and apartheid towards the Workers of Indian Ordnance Factories.

It is peculiar that the Jt. Secretary/LS in the conciliation meeting held on 11.06.2021 during discussion came out with a statement that the demand of the Federations on corporatization is a non-negotiable demand. However, it is brought to the notice of all concerned that negotiations with the Ministers of erstwhile Governments took place on the same point and they have agreed not to corporatize the O.F Board. The details of those decisions and discussions are available with MoD, for ready reference. Moreover the DDP have blatantly violated the conciliation settlement reached on 09/10/2020 and also the Industrial Dispute Act 1947 and no action has been taken by the CLC(C) on the complaint lodged by us.

The federations strongly feel that the entire process to corporatize O.F Board is stage-managed, hasty and took in a hurried manner, without any application of mind about the impact of this decision on the defence preparedness of our country and also about the future and service conditions of 76,000 employees. It may also be noted that

these employees were recruited as Central Government Employees and as per Article 309 of the Constitution of India. It may also be noted that in their appointment letters there is no mention that their status will be changed during the service period and will have to work in Corporation/PSUs. This decision to alter the service conditions of the employees is a blatant failure to the contract of appointment.

It is pertinent to mention here that based on the conciliation settlement reached on 09/10/2020, the three recognized Federations of MoD/O.F Board, namely, All India Defence Employees Federation (AIDEF), Indian National Defence Workers Federation (INDWF) and Bharatiya Prathiraksha Mazdoor Union (BPMS) decided to defer the Indefinite Strike Notice given by them. However, it is felt that without giving any importance to the goodwill extended by the Federations, total injustice is meted out by the employees of O.F Board, because the Government has abruptly closed the door for negotiation by arbitrarily deciding to corporatize the O.F Board into 7 different entities and CLC has submitted the failure report on the conciliation proceedings arbitrarily, thereby leaving us with no option other than going ahead with the revival of the deferred indefinite Strike.

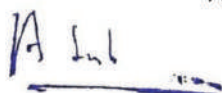
It may also please be noted that the decision to go in for Indefinite Strike is thrust upon us by the Government due to its unilateral and unsavory decision to corporatize the 41 Ordnance Factories without considering the genuine and just demands of the employees against this decision and closing of all avenues for a dialogue with the Government.

Yours Sincerely,



(S.N.PATHAK)

President/AIDEF



(ASHOK SINGH)

President/INDWF



(SADHU SINGH)

Vice President/BPMS



(C. SRIKUMAR)

GENERAL SECRETARY

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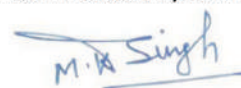
(R. SRINIVASAN)

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(MUKESH SINGH)

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Copy to

The Defence Secretary

Ministry of Defence

South Block, New Delhi

For kind information and
favourable action please.

No. 1(5)/2021/OF/DP(Plg-V)
Government of India
Ministry of Defence
Department of Defence Production

New Delhi, 21st June, 2021

Office Memorandum

Subject: Cabinet approval to convert the production units of Ordnance Factory Board into 07 Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs) with 41 units.

The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) in its meeting held on 29.07.2020 had approved to convert Ordnance Factory Board (OFB), a subordinate office of Ministry of Defence into one or more than one 100% Government owned corporate entities, registered under the Companies Act, 2013.

2. It is informed that the Cabinet in its meeting held on 16.06.2021 has now *inter-alia* approved to convert the production units of OFB into **07 DPSUs** with **41 units**, as mentioned at **Annexure-I**.

3. Separate OMs on the related matters would be issued subsequently.

Sandeep Jain
21/06/2021

(Sandeep Jain)
Director (P&C)

Tel. No. 011-23011420

To

Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs
Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs
Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment
Secretary, Department of Revenue
Secretary, Department of Expenditure
Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs
Secretary, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management
Secretary, Department of Personnel & Training
Secretary, Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare
Secretary, Department of Public Enterprises
Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy
Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs
Deputy NSA and Secretary, National Security Council Secretariat

Copy to:

Prime Minister's Office
Cabinet Secretariat

Copy also to:

Secretary, Department of Defence
Secretary, Department of Military Affairs
Secretary, DRDO
DGOF & Chairman, OFB

Annexure – I**Details of the 07 DPSUs**

DPSU		Factory	
1.	Ammunition & Explosives	1.	Ammunition Factory Khadki
		2.	Cordite Factory Aruvankadu
		3.	High Energy Projectile Factory Tiruchirapalli
		4.	High Explosive Factory Khadki
		5.	Ordnance Factory Bhandara
		6.	Ordnance Factory Bolangir
		7.	Ordnance Factory Chanda Chandrapur
		8.	Ordnance Factory Dehu Road
		9.	Ordnance Factory Itarsi
		10.	Ordnance Factory Khamaria
		11.	Ordnance Factory Nalanda
		12.	Ordnance Factory Varangaon
2.	Vehicles	1.	Engine Factory Avadi
		2.	Heavy Vehicle Factory Avadi
		3.	Machine Tool Prototype Factory Ambarnath
		4.	Ordnance Factory Medak
		5.	Vehicle Factory Jabalpur
3.	Weapons & Equipment	1.	Field Gun Factory Kanpur
		2.	Gun Carriage Factory Jabalpur
		3.	Gun and Shell Factory Cossipore
		4.	Ordnance Factory Kanpur
		5.	Ordnance Factory Project Korwa

4.	Troop Comfort Items (TCI)	6.	Ordnance Factory Tiruchirapalli
		7.	Rifle Factory Ishapore
		8.	Small Arms Factory Kanpur
		1.	Ordnance Clothing Factory Avadi
		2.	Ordnance Clothing Factory Shahjahanpur
		3.	Ordnance Equipment Factory Kanpur
		4.	Ordnance Equipment Factory Hazratpur
		1.	Grey Iron Foundry Jabalpur
5.	Ancillary	2.	Metal and Steel Factory Ishapore
		3.	Ordnance Factory Ambernath
		4.	Ordnance Factory Ambajhari
		5.	Ordnance Factory Bhusawal
		6.	Ordnance Factory Dumdum
		7.	Ordnance Factory Katni
		8.	Ordnance Factory Muradnagar
6.	Opto-electronics	1.	Ordnance Factory Chandigarh
		2.	Ordnance Factory Dehradun
		3.	Opto-Electronics Factory Dehradun
7.	Parachute	1.	Ordnance Parachute Factory Kanpur