

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

Joint Circular No. : 28/2020

Date : 22.06.2020

To,

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

**THREE FEDERATIONS SUBMIT A JOINT APPEAL TO THE PRIME MINISTER
AND DEFENCE MINISTER REQUESTING TO WITHDRAW THE ARBITRARY
PROPOSAL OF THE GOVERNMENT TO CONVERT THE ORDNANCE FACTORIES
IN TO A PUBLIC SECTOR/CORPORATION CONSIDERING THE COVID-19
SITUATION AND THE TENSION IN THE BORDER OF OUR COUNTRY**

The Strike Ballot exercise have been completed successfully in all the 41 Ordnance Factories. Now we have to start the preparation for indefinite strike. As already decided we will finalize the date for commencement of the Indefinite strike sometime after the 2nd week of July 2020 after assessing the situation. At present the Federations have submitted a Joint representation today addressed to the Hon'ble Prime Minister and Defence Minister. We have placed four important issues before the Prime Minister and Raksha Mantri for their favourable consideration for withdrawing the proposal to corporatize the Ordnance Factories.

A copy of our joint Letter dated 21/06/2020 addressed to the PM and RM along with a Joint Press statement issued today is enclosed herewith for your information. The press Note may please be released to the local press and National Press including Electronic Media and ensure that the Media gives the coverage of our press report.



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Copy also to

The General Secretaries,
CDRA, NPDEF, AIBDEF,
DGOH HQ Employees Associations and IOFSA.

For your kind
information please

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BHARTIYA PRATIRAKSHA MAZDOOR SANGH
(RECOGNIZED FEDERATIONS OF DEFENCE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES)

Ref. No. : 15/AIDF/INDWF/BPMS/20

Date : 22.06.2020

To,

Shri.Narendra Modi Ji,

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

Shri.Rajnath Singhji,

Hon'ble Defence Minister
South Block. New Delhi.

SUBJECT : APPEAL TO THE HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER ON BEHALF OF THE 82 THOUSAND DEFENCE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES TO WITHDRAW THE PROPOSED MOVE TO CORPORATISE THE ORDNANCE FACTORIES CONSIDERING THE COVID-19 SITUATION AND THE FACE-OFF WITH CHINA RESULTING IN ATLEAST 20 INDIAN SOLDIERS LOSING THEIR LIFE AND TENSION IN THE BORDER.

Respected Sir,

We invite the kind attention of your honour on the above subject matter. The Government of India all of a sudden is planning to convert 219 year old Indian Ordnance Factories in to a Public Sector/Corporation, against the written commitments and the assurances given to the Federations by the previous 4 Defence Ministers in the past. The three recognized Federations of the Employees of Ordnance Factories have submitted various representations to the Hon'ble PM, Hon'ble RM and the Secretary((DP) to reconsider the decision and to withdraw the same. **Since we have not received any positive response from the Ministry of Defence, the Federations have taken a decision to go in for an indefinite strike against the Government.** Accordingly, to get the approval of the employees for commencing the strike, a strike ballot was held in all the Ordnance Factories from 08/06/2020 to 17/06/2020. **More than 99% of the employees who participated in the Strike Ballot have voted in favour of the strike. The Federations have decided to fix the date of commencement of Indefinite Strike after 2nd week of July 2020.** However, before going in for the strike, we thought it is prudent to bring the following facts for your favourable consideration.

- 1) The 82 thousand employees of Ordnance Factories are already very much demoralized after the COVID-19 pandemic, since some of our employees are infected by the COVID-19 with two deaths already reported. In spite of the fact that the employees and their families are in panic, the employees have worked during the entire COVID-19 period for manufacturing PPE items and now they have switched over to the regular production. The employees are working with lot of anguish and dissatisfaction, since they are worried about the future of the Ordnance Factories and uncertainty of their service condition as a Central Government Employee / Defence Civilian Employee.
- 2) During the COVID-19 lockdown, the production in the Ordnance Factories are very much affected, because of the closure of the Factories and the engaged workers were asked to produce PPE items. This has also affected the supply chain to the Army from the Ordnance Factories forcing the MGO to inform the Ministry of Defence that there is an acute shortage of more than 40 critical items and production of these items may be speeded up. **The MGO is worried that the strike in the Ordnance Factories will further disturb the supply chain especially of different varieties of Ammunition and Weapons etc. Even products like Troop Comfort Items, including Battle Field Dress and Extreme Climate Clothing, which MoD has declared as "Non-Core" has now been categorized as "Critical Item".**
- 3) The violent clashes in Ladakh Galwan Area resulting in supreme sacrifice of atleast 20 Indian Soldiers, has created a volatile, edgy and tense situation. The entire country is worried about this development, especially when the country is in a serious battle against COVID-19 Pandemic. However, the Hon'ble PM has assured the country that the sacrifices by our soldiers will not be forgotten and that the Government remained strongly committed to ensuring India's sovereignty and territorial integrity.
- 4) During the Chinese aggression in the 1960's, the Indo-Pakistan War of 1965, the Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971, and the Kargil Crisis during 1999, the Ordnance Factory Employees worked day and Night even staying inside the Factory for almost two weeks and doubled the production which has helped the Indian Army, to the maximum. This was appreciated by the Army, and the Authorities in the Government. **The Ordnance Factories are therefore war reserve and is the Fourth Force of the Defence of our country and it has to be treated at par with Army, Navy and Air Force.**

Considering all the above-mentioned serious situation, Corporatisation of Ordnance Factories cannot be a major agenda before the Government. The situation warrants to build up confidence in the minds of our brave soldiers by providing them with all the Protective and Troop Comfort items, Arms, Ammunitions, Weapons required for them for protecting the sovereignty of our country. The Ordnance Factory Employees always played a very vital role during such crisis affecting the nation by enhancing the

Defence Production. The Nation now urgently need the services of the employees of Ordnance Factories especially at this juncture when Army Convoys carrying Troops, equipments and other supply are moving towards Ladak. **Therefore to avoid an Indefinite Strike in the most strategic Defence Industry, the Hon'ble Prime Minister may kindly intervene in the matter and issue instructions for withdrawing the proposed move of MoD for converting the Indian Ordnance Factories in to a Public Sector/Corporatisation.**

We assure you Sir, that the Ordnance Factory Employees will continue to remain devoted and committed are always devoted and committed for achieving self reliance in defence and to strengthen the Defence preparedness of our Country. We also would like to add that when the workforce have given a commitment that it will achieve the production target of Rs. 30 thousand crore within the next 5 years in the present setup and structure of the OFB, then why the Government is moving ahead with its proposal to Corporatize the Ordnance Factories.

Awaiting for your earlier and favourable decision please.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,



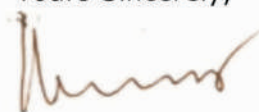
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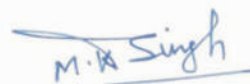
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- 1) **The Secretary (DP)**
Department of Defence Production
South Block, New Delhi.
- 2) **The Defence Secretary**
Ministry of Defence,
South Block, New Delhi.
- 3) **The MGO,**
MGO Branch, New Delhi.

For your kind information
& favourable action please

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

PRESS RELEASE

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION

To,

The Editor

**FEDERATIONS OF THE 82 THOUSAND DEFENCE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES OF
ORDNANCE FACTORIES APPEALS TO THE PRIME MINISTER TO WITHDRAW
PROPOSED MOVE OF CORPORATIZATION OF THE 41 ORDNANCE FACTORIES.
CONSIDERING THE COVID-19 SITUATION AND THE FACE-OFF WITH CHINA
RESULTING IN ATLEAST 20 INDIAN SOLDIERS LOSING THEIR LIFE AND
TENSION IN THE BORDER.**

The 82 thousand Employees in the Strike Ballot held between 08.06.2020 and 17.06.2020 throughout the country in all the 41 Ordnance Factories have given a clear mandate to go for an indefinite strike against the arbitrary decision taken by the Government to convert the 41 Ordnance Factories under the Ministry of Defence into a Corporation / Public Sector. The Federations have already decided to take a call on the date of commencement of indefinite strike some time during the 02nd week of July, 2020.

In this situation the Federations after considering the prevailing critical situation in the Country and also the tension prevailing in the Border have made an appeal to the Hon'ble Prime Minister to withdraw the Government's decision to Corporatize the Ordnance Factories on the following grounds so that the employees can contribute in a motivated manner by increasing the production in the Ordnance Factories to fully equip our Soldiers protecting the territorial integrity and sovereignty of our Country.

- 1) The 82 thousand employees of Ordnance Factories are already very much demoralized after the COVID-19 pandemic, since some of our employees are infected by the COVID-19 with two deaths already reported. In spite of the fact that the employees and their families are in panic, the employees have worked during the entire COVID-19 period for manufacturing PPE items and now they have switched over to the regular production. The employees are working with lot of anguish and dissatisfaction, since they are worried about the future of the Ordnance Factories and uncertainty of their service condition as a Central Government Employee / Defence Civilian Employee.
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(S.N.PATHAK)
President / AIDEF

Yours Sincerely,
S/d
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President/INDWF

S/d
(G.THIRUKUMAR)
President/BPMS


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