

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

Joint Circular No. : 31/2020

Date : 10.07.2020

To,

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

80,000 Defence Civilian Employees of the Ordnance Factories reject the appointment of the Consultant by Ministry of Defence for Corporatizing the Ordnance Factories.

Federations informed the Defence Minister that there will be serious labour unrest disturbing Defence production in case the consultants appointed by the Defence Ministry visits the Ordnance Factories and OFB Head Quarters.

We have already informed you about our opposition and protest against the arbitrary decision taken by the DDP to appoint a consultant for recommending modalities for implementation of the Government decision of Corporatizing the Ordnance Factories. At present we have submitted a detailed representation to the Defence Minister against the decision of the Government to appoint a consultant in this regard. We have informed the Defence Minister that the entire workforce of the Ordnance Factories reject the appointment of the Consultant by Ministry of Defence for Corporatizing the Ordnance Factories. We have also informed the Defence Minister that there will be serious labour unrest disturbing Defence production, in case the consultants appointed by the Defence Ministry visits the Ordnance Factories and OFB Head Quarters. A copy of the Joint letter dated 10-07-2020 addressed to the Defence Minister is enclosed herewith for your information and informing the employees. We are also enclosing a Press release in this regard which you may release to the local News papers / National News papers at your state / Centre and also to local TV channels and ensure our news get wide coverage.



(C. SRIKUMAR)

GENERAL SECRETARY

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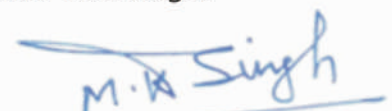
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Copy also to

The General Secretaries,

CDRA, NPDEF, AIBDEF,

DGOF HQ Employees Associations and IOFSOA.

For your kind
information please

ALL INDIA DEFENCE EMPLOYEES' FEDERATION
INDIAN NATIONAL DEFENCE WORKERS' FEDERATION
BHARTIYA PRATIRAKSHA MAZDOOR SANGH

(RECOGNIZED FEDERATIONS OF DEFENCE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES)

Ref. No. : 17/AIDF/INDWF/BPMS/20

Date :10.07.2020

To,

Shri. Rajnath Singhji

Hon'ble Defence Minister

Government of India,

South Block, New Delhi – 110 001.

**SUBJECT : WORKFORCE OF ORDNANCE FACTORIES REJECT THE
DECISION OF THE GOVERNMENT TO APPOINT A
CONSULTANT TO ASSIST THE MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE IN ITS PROCESS OF CORPORATISATION OF
THE ORDNANCE FACTORY BOARD.**

Respected Sir,

Kindly refer to our letter dated 8-7-2020 addressed to the Secretary (DP) on the subject of HLOC Meeting scheduled on 16-7-2020 to discuss about the proposed re-structuring of Ordnance Factory Board. In the said letter we have expressed our serious concern about the manner in which the DDP is dealing with such a major policy matter of Corporatizing the Ordnance Factories which has far reaching implications on the Defence preparedness of our Country and the service conditions of the Employees who were recruited through various selection process/competitive examination and appointed as Central Government Employees /Defence Civilian Employees. This is a clear violation of the past written assurance given to the Federations by the Ministry of Defence.

On the one side the DDP in its HLOC meeting notice is mentioning as **proposed restructuring of Ordnance Factory Board and on the other side have arbitrarily published a notification for Expression of Interest cum Request for Proposal (EOI cum RFP) for Selection of Consultant for providing strategic and implementation management consulting services to assist the Ministry of Defence in the process of corporatisation of the Ordnance Factory Board.** This decision of the DDP is totally illegal, since

it is in violation of the settlement reached in the matter in the presence of the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) on 21-08-2019. The relevant portion of the settlement reached in the presence of CLC (C) is given below for your ready reference.

"In view of the above contention of both office bearers of federation and representative from Ministry of Defence, it was felt that there should be bilateral discussions at the level of senior officers i.e. Secretary(DP) so that all those concerns expressed by the Office Bearers can be properly heard and discussed, so it was requested to officials from Ministry of Defence who are present today in the meeting to arrange a discussion at the level of Ministry on priority basis. It was also requested to office bearers of Federation that all efforts to resolve the issue has been initiated by the conciliation officers so the they may consider to withdraw the strike so that continuous dialogue/discussions can be carried out both at bilateral and tripartite level. The Union representatives expressed that Ministry of Defence also may be requested to consider to withhold the proposal of corporatisation. In this regard, it has already been requested to discuss and address the issues involved in the matter at the bilateral level.

It was also requested to both office bearers of Federations and officials of Ministry of Defence to apprise about the outcome of the meeting/decision at bilateral level. Next date will be fixed after getting feedback as above in the matter".

In violation of the above agreement the Department of Defence Production has arbitrarily floated an EOI cum RFP for implementation of the process of Corporatisation of the Ordnance Factory Board by appointing a Consultant. This amounts to an unfair labour practice on the part of MoD/DDP.

Apart from the above, we are of the considered view that any private consultant involved in this task will expose the Defence secrets of the country, since there is no non-disclosure provision in the RFP floated by the Government. Therefore there is all possibilities of the consultant leaking vital information's to people who are hostile to the interest of the nation.

Accordingly, in preference of the facts brought out above, the entire workforce of the Ordnance Factories reject the decision of the Government to appoint a Consultant for implementation of Corporatization of the Ordnance Factories. **Moreover we wish to inform your honour that there will be serious Labour unrest resulting in disturbance of Defence production in case the consultants appointed by the Defence Ministry visits the Ordnance Factories and OFB Hqrs., because the employees are very much agitated and they are vehemently opposing the move of the Government.**

In view of the above, we request you to kindly intervene in the matter and arrange to issue instructions for withdrawal of the above mentioned RFP floated by the DDP and also to withdraw the decision of Corporatizing the Ordnance Factories which is against the Defence preparedness and National Security of our country and also against the interest of the 80,000 committed and dedicated workforce of the Indian Ordnance Factories. Awaiting for your favourable decision please.

Thanking you,

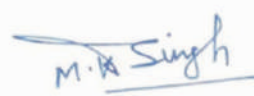
Yours Sincerely,



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Copy to :

- 1) **The Defence Secretary**
Ministry of Defence,
South Block, New Delhi.
- 2) **The Secretary (DP)**
Department of Defence Production,
South Block, New Delhi.
- 3) **The DGOF & Chairman,**
Ordnance Factory Board,
10-A, S.K.Bose Road,
Kolkata - 700 001.

For kind information and
favourable action please.

ALL INDIA DEFENCE EMPLOYEES' FEDERATION
INDIAN NATIONAL DEFENCE WORKERS' FEDERATION
BHARTIYA PRATIRAKSHA MAZDOOR SANGH

(RECOGNIZED FEDERATIONS OF DEFENCE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES)

PRESS RELEASE

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION

To,


The Editor


**80,000 DEFENCE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES OF THE ORDNANCE FACTORIES
REJECT THE APPOINTMENT OF THE CONSULTANT BY MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE FOR CORPORATIZING THE ORDNANCE FACTORIES.**


**FEDERATIONS INFORMED THE DEFENCE MINISTER THAT THERE WILL
BE SERIOUS LABOUR UNREST RESULTING IN DISTURBANCE OF DEFENCE
PRODUCTION IN CASE THE CONSULTANTS APPOINTED BY THE
DEFENCE MINISTRY VISITS THE ORDNANCE FACTORIES AND
OFB HEAD QUARTERS.**

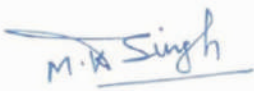
The Government of India Department of Defence Production in violation of the agreement reached before the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) on 21-8-2019 have arbitrarily issued a notification for appointment of a Consultant for providing Strategic and Implementation Management Consulting Services to assist the Ministry of Defence in the process of Corporatisation of the Ordnance Factory Board. When the 3 Federations were observing a one month strike during the year 2019 against the proposed move of the Government to Corporatise the Ordnance Factory Board, in the midst of the strike, the CLC called for a joint discussion with the Federations and the representatives of the Ministry of Defence on 21-8-2019. Based on the agreement reached between the Ministry of Defence and the Federations in the presence of CLC(C), discussions took place under the Chairmanship of the then Secretary (DP) Department of Defence Production, the Strike was deferred and a High Level Official Committee was constituted to further discuss the issue with Federations. The Federations have demanded for a change / amendment in the terms of reference of the HLOC, since the terms of reference was arbitrarily framed by the DDP. An appeal made by the Federations to the Prime Minister and the Defence Minister in this regard is also pending with the Government.

In this situation the DDP has decided to go ahead with its decision for converting the Ordnance Factories in to a Corporation and for which Expression of Interest cum Request for Proposal for selection of Consultant to recommend the modalities of Corporatization have been notified. The Federations have rejected this game plan of the Government and have informed the same to the Defence Minister. Further we have also informed the Defence Minister that there will be a serious labour unrest resulting in disturbance of Defence production, in case the consultants appointed by the Defence Ministry visits the Ordnance Factories and OFB Head Quarters. The Federations have already decided to proceed with an indefinite strike action against the arbitrary decision of the Government and the date of commencement of the strike will be decided shortly.


(S.N.PATHAK)
President / AIDEF


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Yours Sincerely,
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