

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

Joint Circular No. : 44/2020

Date : 19.08.2020

To,

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

Meeting held with DGOF & Chairman on 18/08/2020 through Video Conference to discuss about the Strike Notice against Corporatisation of OFB.

A meeting was convened by DGOF & Chairman on 18/08/2020 through Video conference to discuss about the strike notice against corporatisation of OFB. The following were present in the meeting.

Official Side

- 1) Shri.Hari Mohan, DGOF & Chairman
- 2) Shri.C.S.Vishwakarma, Addl. DGOF/AV
- 3) Shri.A.K.Jain, Member/Per
- 4) Shri.Niraj Kela, DDG/IR

Federations Reps.

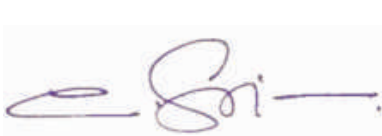
- 1) Shri.S.N.Pathak, President/AIDEF
- 2) Shri.C.Srikumar, GS/AIDEF
- 3) Shri.Ashok Singh, President/INDWF
- 4) Shri.R.Srinivasan, GS/INDWF
- 5) Shri.Sadhu Singh, Vice President/BPMS
- 6) Shri.Mukesh Singh, GS/BPMS

Inaugurating the meeting DGOF & Chairman/OFB informed that the Joint representations submitted by the Federations and the Strike notice served on the Government for an indefinite strike has also been received. The Govt. has taken a policy decision with regard to restructuring of Ordnance Factories. Since forums are available for negotiations, the Federations may reconsider their decision about the Indefinite strike. Responding to the initial remarks made by the Chairman, the Federations reps. stated the following:-

- 1) It is painful that so far the OFB and the DGOF & Chairman has not reacted against the Government's decision to Corporatise Ordnance Factories and we register our protest against the same.
- 2) Converting the OFB in to a Corporation will only result in liquidation of the OFB Organisation. The fate of BSNL and its employees is known to all.
- 3) OFB has been branded as not accountable, inefficient etc. Even these allegations are not being countered by OFB.
- 4) OFB is not established for any commercial or business purpose. Ordnance Factories are war reserve and it can survive as a war reserve only if it remains as a Govt. organisation.
- 5) The Federations have requested the OFB to pass a resolution against the Government's decision on Corporatisation and inform the Government about its serious implication on the National Security and Defence preparedness of the country. However the same also has not been done by the OFB.
- 6) It is observed that senior Army officers are visiting private industries to oversee the testing of Defence Equipments manufactured by them. However these officers don't take any interest to visit the Ordnance Factories and to find out what is happening in the Ordnance Factories and how the employees are working there, but they are keen in criticising the Ordnance Factories and its employees. This shows the vested interest of some Army officers. OFB should view this matter very seriously.

- 7) Vested interested people especially retired Army officers are writing articles, damaging the image of OFB. All these malicious propaganda should be properly countered and appropriate legal action also should be taken.
- 8) It seems that the Prime Minister and the Defence Minister is being misguided about the functioning and the achievements of the Ordnance Factories. Federations would like to know that whether DGOF & Chairman during his meetings with the RM, has clarified the position or not.
- 9) Federations are not only fighting for the service protection of the employees, about service protection of the employees what happened to the BSNL Employees is known to all. There are already Govt. orders with regard to the Service conditions of the employees, in case they are transferred in to a Corporation/PSU. What extra protection the Govt. is going to give to OFB employees. Therefore the fight is to save the OFB Organisation from its liquidation. Already our young employees are deprived of their Pension. Even after implementation of 7th CPC from 01/01/2016, the employees are still working in a Piece Work rate fixed in the 6th CPC pay scale. Therefore what type of service protection the Govt. is going to give. Therefore Federations are not in a position to believe all these false commitments.
- 10) Four Ministers in the past have rejected the recommendations of Nair Committee, Kelkar Committee & Raman Puri Committee to Corporatise the Ordnance Factories. In the Parliament also the Govt. has given a commitment. Even the DDP has submitted before the Parliamentary Standing Committee that Ordnance Factories cannot be corporatized. Overlooking all these past commitments, what forced the Govt. to take the present decision. OFB should keep the MoD apprised about all these past commitments.
- 11) Federations once again appealed to the Chairman that now atleast OFB should come forward and write to the Defence Minister that Ordnance Factories is an organisation which has performed well by generating surplus within the Govt. set up itself and it can continue to perform in the same manner and hence there is no justified reason for converting the OFB in to a Corporation.
- 12) The Indefinite Strike will be withdrawn only if the Govt. withdraws its decision to Corporatise the Ordnance Factories.

Responding to the points raised by the Federations, DGOF & Chairman agreed that all the points raised by the Federations would be consolidated and forwarded to MoD with the views of OFB. Federation Leaders once again requested the Chairman that OFB's comments should be supporting the views expressed by the Federations.



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Copy also to :

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DGOF HQ. Employees Associations & IOFSOA

For your kind information please