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No. **10th/EEFI/Letter/05/2026** Date: **27.07.2026**

To
The Hon'ble Chief Minister,
Government of Haryana,
Chandigarh.

CC:
The Hon'ble Power Minister,
Government of Haryana,
Chandigarh.

Subject: Appeal for Immediate Intervention to Resolve the Issues of Electricity Employees and Engineers and Withdraw the Privatisation Measures in Haryana

Hon'ble Sir,

The Electricity Employees Federation of India (EEFI), representing electricity employees from power utilities across the country, expresses its deep concern over the developments in the power sector in Haryana and extends its full support to the legitimate struggle of the Haryana Bijli Karmachari Evam Engineer Sanyukt Sangharsh Morcha, which has served notice for a three-day statewide strike on 11, 12 and 13 August 2026.

The Federation appeals to your Government to immediately intervene, initiate meaningful negotiations with the representatives of the employees and engineers, withdraw the anti-public and anti-employee measures presently being pursued, and resolve the outstanding issues through dialogue so that industrial peace and uninterrupted electricity supply in the State can be maintained.

The immediate reason for the present unrest is the series of decisions being taken by the Government of Haryana to fragment the public distribution system further and pave the way for privatisation. The proposed creation of a separate Haryana Agri DISCOM, the move to grant a parallel private distribution licence in Gurugram and Nuh, and the continued implementation of smart metering in the present policy framework are not isolated administrative measures. They are integral components of a larger policy of restructuring the public electricity sector in favour of private corporate interests.

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EEFI has consistently opposed these policies at both the national and state levels. We have opposed the Draft Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2025, which seeks to permit multiple distribution licensees to operate in the same geographical area using the existing public distribution network. The proposed legislation was strongly resisted by electricity employees, engineers, farmers, consumers, and trade unions throughout the country because it would undermine the financial viability of public distribution companies, facilitate private profiteering, weaken universal public service obligations, and ultimately burden consumers with higher tariffs. The nationwide resistance compelled the Central Government to keep the proposed legislation in abeyance.

The Haryana Government's present initiatives represent a backdoor implementation of the very agenda that could not be pushed through Parliament. Instead of legislative changes, the same objectives are now being pursued through administrative decisions at the state level. Such attempts deserve serious reconsideration.

The proposal to establish a separate Haryana Agri DISCOM is particularly alarming. By transferring lakhs of subsidised agricultural consumers, thousands of agricultural feeders and distribution transformers, substantial liabilities, and a large section of the workforce into a separate entity, the Government is effectively isolating the rural and agricultural segment from the existing public distribution companies. Such restructuring will weaken the financial viability of the existing utilities while simultaneously creating a separate entity burdened fully with subsidy dependence without any cross-subsidy. Such fragmentation is certainly the first stage towards eventual privatisation of the commercially attractive portions of the distribution business.

This restructuring also has serious implications for electricity employees and engineers. Thousands of employees are proposed to be transferred to the new entity while corresponding posts in the existing utilities are proposed to be abolished. Such measures create uncertainty regarding service conditions, promotional avenues, career progression, pensionary benefits, and long-term job security. They divide the workforce, weaken collective strength, and undermine the stable institutional framework that is essential for maintaining a reliable public electricity system.

The proposal to allow a parallel private distribution licensee in selected urban and industrial areas raises equally serious concerns. Private operators invariably seek to concentrate on high-revenue urban consumers while leaving the responsibility of serving rural, agricultural, and socially important consumers to the public utilities. Such selective competition weakens public distribution companies financially and undermines the principle of cross-subsidy that has enabled affordable electricity for farmers and economically weaker sections.

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The experience of power sector reforms across the country has repeatedly demonstrated that privatisation has not provided any solution to the problems of distribution but has instead created new financial and regulatory challenges.

Similarly, the implementation of private sector smart metering cannot be viewed in isolation from the larger restructuring agenda. EEFI has repeatedly maintained that technology should be introduced only where it strengthens public utilities and improves consumer services. Smart metering must not become an instrument for outsourcing, privatisation, arbitrary billing practices, or transferring additional financial burdens onto consumers.

The employees' organisations have also raised several long-pending service-related issues concerning recruitment, filling up vacant posts, regularisation of contractual workers, pension, promotions, safety, and improvement of working conditions. These are legitimate concerns affecting the morale and efficiency of the workforce that keeps the electricity system functioning under difficult conditions throughout the year. Addressing these issues would strengthen, rather than weaken, the public electricity system.

The electricity employees of Haryana have made significant contributions towards ensuring reliable electricity supply across the State under extremely challenging circumstances. Their commitment became particularly evident during natural disasters, peak demand periods, and other emergencies. Such a dedicated workforce deserves constructive engagement rather than policies that generate insecurity and industrial unrest.

EEFI believes that electricity is an essential public service and must remain under public ownership and democratic accountability. We therefore earnestly urge the Government of Haryana to immediately withdraw the notification relating to the proposed Haryana Agri DISCOM, intervene to withdraw the proposal for granting a parallel private distribution licence, halt all measures that facilitate privatisation of electricity distribution, and open immediate negotiations with the Haryana Bijli Karmachari Evam Engineer Sanyukt Sangharsh Morcha to amicably resolve all pending issues before the proposed strike.

A negotiated settlement based on dialogue and mutual respect alone can protect the interests of consumers, farmers, employees, and the State's power sector. We sincerely hope that your Government will take timely and positive steps to avert the proposed industrial action and strengthen the publicly owned electricity system in Haryana.

Yours faithfully,

Sudip Dutta

(Sudip Dutta)
General Secretary
Electricity Employees’ Federation of India (EEFI)