#### KARNATAKA EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION



## <u>Circular No - 095 / 2023</u>

Date: 26.09.2023

# KEA IN THE NEWS

# TWO BANDHS IN A WEEK TO COST KARNATAKA Rs. 4,000 CRORE BANDHS NOT THE ANSWER, SAY INDUSTRY CHIEFS

The Times of India Bengaluru, edition has published the above news report stating that "Captains of industry have frowned on the two bandhs called this week — one on Tuesday and another on Friday — over the Cauvery water dispute, saying strikes are not the answer but only result in inconvenience to the public and huge monetary losses for the state. Industry bodies have pegged losses for the two bandh days at Rs 4,000 crore and point out that it may cripple the economy, which has just recovered from the pandemic and hurt its chances of becoming a \$1 trillion economy anytime soon" Bandhs will also hurt the credibility of Bengaluru and Karnataka as it will reflect on international orders and commitments, the statement of Mr. B C Prabhakar, President KEA is reported as under:

"Bandhs hurt the livelihood of people. They can never be an option for any issue, be it sentimental or political. While we truly believe in the cause and sentiment behind the Cauvery issue, bandhs are not the answer. Let there be protests but not a bandh."

#### 1. The Times of India

Two bandhs in a week to cost Karnataka Rs 4,000 crore. Bandhs not the answer, say industry chiefs | Bengaluru News - Times of India (indiatimes.com)





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2. A clipping of a news report published by the Times of India is given below:

# Bandhs not the answer, say industry chiefs



UP IN ARMS: A farmer protests the release of Cauvery river water to Tamil Nadu in front of the Mysuru zilla panchayat office on Monday

Bengaluru: Captains of indus-

Bengaluru: Captains of industry have frowned on the two bandhs called this week — one on Tuesday and another on Friday — over the Cauvery water dispute, saying strikes are not the answer but only result in inconvenience to the public and huge monetary losses for the state. Industry bodies have pegged losses for the two bandh days at Rs 4,000 crore and point out that that it may cripple the economy.

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es of becoming a \$1 trillion economy anytime soon.

"Bandhs hurt the livelihood of people. They can never be an option for any issue, be it sentimental or political," said BC Prabhakar, president, Karnataka Employers Association (KEA).

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cause and sentiment behind the Cauvery issue, bandhs are not the answer. Let there be protests but not a bandh."

Prabhakar said economics aside, bandhs will also hurt the credibility of Bengaluru and Karnataka as it will reflect on international orders and commitments. KEA has refused to take a stand on the bandh and has distand the bandh and stand on the bandh and has di-rected its 720 member companies to decide on closing depending on the "local situation"

on the "local situation".

The Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FKCCI) said a business entity will need at least a week to recover from losses from a single day of closure.

"One day closure by only the trading community amounts to a Rs 100 crore loss in GST collection to the state exchequer Consider this multiple times across all spheres of economic activi-

ties," said Ramesh Chandra Lahoti, FKCCI president elect.
Considering the cause and sentiments behind the Cauvery issue,
some 80% of industries in Bengaluru have agreed to close for a
day on Tuesday (September 26)
but are wary of closing again on
Friday. "We have left it to local
industries to decide," said Lahoti.
The hotelier's association,
which employs some 10 lakh people directly or indirectly, estimates a loss of Rs 100 crore in

mates a loss of Rs 100 crore in excise duties alone per day. "While reports suggest heav-

ier losses, revenue generation in our industry is on a daily basis," said PC Rao, president, Bengalu-ru Hotelier's Association. "Other industries can restart operations the next day and recoup losses, but that's not possible for hotelers." He said the association cannot support the bandh call due to "lack of clarity".

For KARNATAKA EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION [B C Prabhakar] **President** 



