

Contract workers seek regularisation of services

- Special Correspondent



Contract employees of the Mangalore Electricity Supply Company staging a protest in front of the company's corporate office in Mangaluru on Friday. —Photo: by special arrangement

People working on contract basis with the Mangalore Electricity Supply Company (Mescom) held a protest demonstration in front of the company's corporate office here on Friday demanding regularisation of their services.

It was held under the banner of the Karnataka Vidyut Noukarara Sangha affiliated to the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU). The workers decried the attitude of the Mescom in shunting them away after getting permanent workers. CITU State vice-president B.M. Bhat said that the company had kept the contract workers in the dark without providing them facilities to which they were entitled to.

The Mescom, which is in the process of recruiting regular employees, was now attempting to get rid of contract workers. Making them to work all these years, the company's excuse that the contract workers did not have required qualification was ridiculous, Mr. Bhat said.

Sangha secretary Shivakumar said that Mescom had not been providing 2 per cent increment in wages, bonus, job card, provident fund card etc., all these years.

A release from the sangha said that Mescom managing director Chikkananjappa received its representation and promised that contract workers would not be thrown out.