

Open Letter to Board of Management of Mahindra from worker' right, human rights, and civil organizations of Korea

The Chairman of Mahindra and Mahindra Keshub Mahindra

Mahindra Towers,

G. M. Bhosale Marg,

Worli,

Mumbai 400018

INDIA

28 February 2012

Your Excellency,

We, workers' rights, human rights, and civil organizations of Korea, are regretful on Mahindra's reluctant manner and lack of effort on the issues that must be handled responsively after taking over Ssangyong Motors.

Ssangyong Motors, owned and managed by Mahindra, after being taken over by Shanghai Motors, in the year 2009 when no direct investment but only technology leakages had proceeded, they dismissed thousands of workers along with fiddling the accounts.

At that year 2009, not only lay off workers but also other workers of Ssangyong Motors conducted sit-in strike to seize the plant under the title of "Live Together" campaign for 77 days.

In order to clear the strike out, violent suppressions had been applied as almost the near to the national anti-terrorism suppression level. International human rights organizations and society requested an immediate stop of violent suppression and reached an agreement that risked workers' lives under the great pressure of the society to stop the murders.

After the 77 days of struggle and tragedy, fiddling the accounts by management of the company had been revealed and reflections on inhumane suppressions had been aroused due to the public dimensions. Despite of all, any of the government or corporate had shown any accountability in aftermath, furthermore, minimum portion of compromised agreement between the workers and management had not even been implemented in the reality while more than twenty workers of Ssangyong Motors had faced to death with deep sorrow.

We urge Mahindra to take action on following requests immediately

- Mahindra must acknowledge KMWU of Ssangyong Motors and must sit on the table to solve the problem occurred after 2009 reconstruction.
- Mahindra must reinstate ex workers (unpaid workers, fired workers, temporary workers and workers wish to retire) who laid off because of inappropriate reconstruction of the company in 2009.
- Mahindra must show sincere apology to 21 family members of the workers who passed away because of the inappropriate reconstruction of 2009 and must find measures to indemnify them .
- If Mahindra, as a major shareholder of Ssangyong Motors, intends to foster Ssangyong Motors to a global corporate, Mahindra must learn the lesson from Shanghai Motors and invest directly.

Once again, we urge Mahindra to put sincere efforts and implement actions responsively. We hope that this case would turn out to be a turning point for us to correspond on basic human rights and social responsibility of corporate.

Sincerely yours,

1. Action Committee for a Socialist Workers' Party (SANOWI)
2. Catholic human rights committee
3. Committee to Support Imprisoned Workers
4. Corporation For All (CFA)
5. Cultural Action
6. Democratic Workers' Solidarity
7. GwangJu Human Rights Activities Center
8. International Solidarity Committee of Minbyun
9. Korea Solidarity Against Precarious Work
10. Korean Contingent Workers' Center
11. Korean House for International Solidarity (KHIS)
12. Korean University Students' Association (HANDAERYEON)
13. Living With Jesus
14. National Association of Professors for Democratic Society
15. Network for Glocal Activism
16. People's Solidarity for Social Progress (PSSP)
17. Public Interest Lawyers' Group Gonggam
18. Socialist Party of Korea
19. The Buddhist Solidarity for Justice and Peace

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