

## No to the inspection and Operation of the Radiation Contaminated Train! Strike of Doro-Mito Crushes Company's Attempt of Regular Non-demounting Heavy Inspections

July 24, 2013

Doro-Chiba Support Committee

On July 16, Doro-Mito waged strike against the inspection and forcible operation of the K544, a contaminated train, and stopped the forcible regular safety inspections.

This radioactive train had been left standing for seven months at the Hirono Station adjacent to the 20 km (12.4 mile) evacuation zone around Fukushima Daiichi since its catastrophic accident. This train was brought in Katsuta Car Center in October 2011, and had stayed there because of the Doro-Mito's strikes, expression of fierce outrage in workplace. These strikes were a fight-back in their workplace against the forcible re-operation of it.

The "new safety requirements" of the Nuclear Regulation Authority (NRA) took effect on July 8. Since then, four electric power companies have so far applied for the NRA's safety assessments on a total of 12 reactors in six nuclear power plants for which restarts are being sought. In line with Abe administration, which has been trying to lift the evacuation zone, and is rushing to restart nuclear reactors, The JR East Company directed to carry out inspection of the contaminated train, which means to expose workers to radiation.

During the collective bargaining with Doro-Mito, The Mito branch of the JR company admitted the radioactive elements had been found in the train, but they said there was no problem because the air dose was under the government's prescribed standard level of radiation, and ordinary regular safety inspections works should be carried out. They have not a least idea of protecting workers' life and safety.

Younger workers would be assigned to perform the most dusty underbody inspection. It means that the lower-paid worker would be forced to engage in most dangerous work. The fact caused workers' bursting outrage.

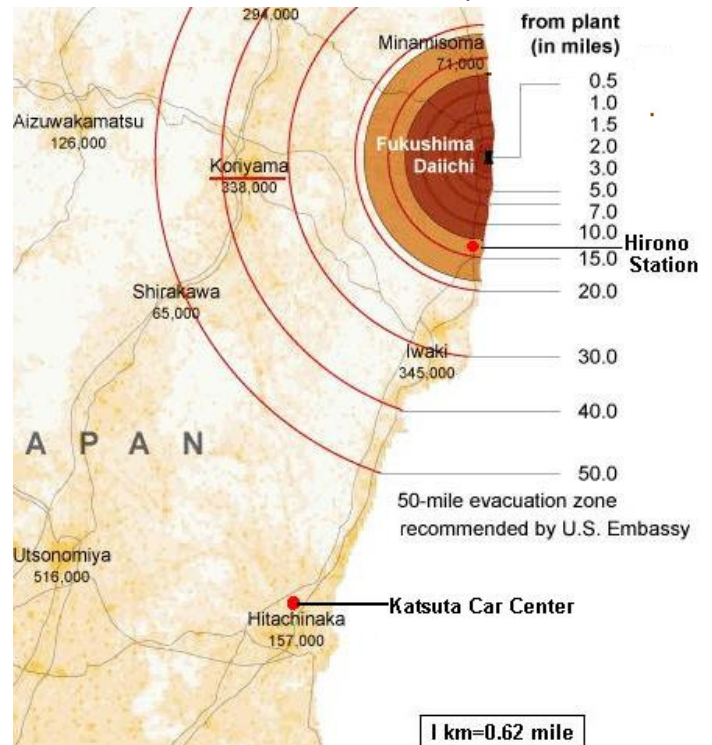
### JR gave up regular non-demounting heavy inspection

Terrified of the Doro-Mito's powerful strike, the Mito Branch of JR East Company, couldn't carry out the order of "regular non-demounting heavy inspection" at the workplace. The Mito Branch hastily excluded young workers under training from the inspection work and made up the alternative "simplified regular inspection" to get through the situation. This "simplified regular inspection" is hardly worth the name and virtually nothing have been done by this "inspection". The Mito Branch is trying to avoid responsibility by pretending that the regular inspection was done normally and intends to transfer the K544 as an "inspected train" to Koriyama Comprehensive Car Center without really inspecting it. Consequently, a lot of workers in Koriyama would be forcibly exposed to high dose of radiation during general inspection there.

The East Japan Railway Workers' Union and the leadership of National Railway Workers' Union (Kokuro) helped the company carry out this egregious scheme. Together with the



Doro-Mito's strike at Katsuta Car Center, July 16, 2013



company, they insist that the regular non-demounting heavy inspection was done quite normally by conducting the "simplified regular inspection". They accept the order of the company and cooperate in forcing their members to do radioactive-exposed work saying, "The radiation doses are within the national standard".

The government and the utilities intend to restart nuclear power plants acting as if the Fukushima nuclear accident has never happened. In order to do so they force workers to expose themselves to high doses of radiation. They even cripple the function of regular non-demounting heavy inspection, which is the foundation to protect rail safety.

We never accept such outrages.

Follow on Doro-Mito!

Rise up at every workplace to fight together!

# “No to Exposure to Radiation!” “No to TPP!” “No to Hunger!” Taro Yamamoto Wins Upper House Election

July 26, 2013

International Labor Solidarity Committee of Doro-Chiba

On July 21, as many as 666,684 people voted in Taro Yamamoto in five seat Upper House election district of Tokyo, outdoing an incumbent LDP and unseating a DPJ ex-Deputy Minister.

Thousands of volunteer staffs who had been impressed by Yamamoto's staunch anti-nuclear activism gathered not only from Tokyo Metropolitan Area but also from all across the country and organized the election campaign, which overcame a complete media



Yamamoto's speech in front of Shibuya Station

blackout and immensely expanded his support base.

## Route Cause of Nuclear Catastrophe and Exposure to Radiation

Yamamoto emphasized that we would not be accomplish our anti-nuke agenda without dealing with labor issues. “Overwhelming majority of people suffering high level radiation exposure on the site of Fukushima Daiichi meltdowns are low paid workers employed by multiple layered sub-contractors,” said he. “They are disposable for TEPCO and other big companies. And I learned after the March 11 meltdowns that we are also disposable for them. The government has been forcing us to eat contaminated food up to the level of 100Bq/kg, equivalent to the standard of low level radioactive wastes before March 11.” He also points out that all around the country,



shakes hands in a local shopping area, July 18

*karoshis* (death from overwork) are rampant and tens of millions of people are now irregularly employed.

1	Tamayo Marukawa	1,064,660 votes	18.88%	LDP (ruling Party)	incumbent
2	Natsuo Yamaguch	797,811 votes	14.15%	New Komei Party (LDP' coalition partner)	incumbent
3	Yoshiko Kira	703,901 votes	12.49%	Japan Communist Party	new
<b>4</b>	<b>Taro Yamamoto</b>	<b>666,684 votes</b>	<b>11.83%</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>new</b>
5	Keizo Takemi	612,388 votes	10.86%	LDP, former Deputy Labor & Welfare Minister	incumbent
	Kan Suzuki	552,714 votes	9.80%	DPJ, former Deputy Education Minister	incumbent

## Humiliating Defeat of Rengo, Labor Lieutenant of Capital

During the campaign, he made sharply criticized the DPJ candidate in Tokyo. “Kan Suzuki promoted as the Deputy Education Minister the change of radiation exposure standards from 1mSv/y to 20mSv/y, ignoring the heartbreaking protest by mothers from Fukushima. What a shameless candidacy!”

The largest Japanese National Trade Union Center, *Rengo*, supported Suzuki. The rank and file members, however, did not follow their leaders' directive, fed up with *Rengo's* repeated concessions and betrayals. Suzuki's humiliating defeat marked the very beginning of collapse of *Rengo* and development of massive class struggle labor movement and broad anti-nuclear power plant movement.

August 6 World Rally in Hiroshima: <http://tinyurl.com/mwly6mx>