

ALL INDIA INSURANCE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

LIC BUILDING SECRETARIAT ROAD HYDERABAD

Cir.No.16/2010

29th July 2010

To all the Zonal/Divisional/State/Regional Units:

Dear Comrades,

NATIONAL CONVENTION OF WORKERS CALLS FOR ONE DAY NATION WIDE INDUSTRIAL STRIKE ON 7TH SEPTEMBER 2010

UPA government at the centre is going ahead with its anti people policies in spite of several protest actions by the people and the working class.

Price rise has reached unimaginable proportions. When the food inflation is hovering around 17%, government went ahead with the decontrol of the prices of petroleum products and increased the prices of petrol, diesel and kerosene. This had a cascading effect sending the food prices further up. All the opposition political parties gave a call for general hartal on 5th July 2010 and there was massive response to this call. But the government did not respond and on the other hand stuck to its stand of increase in the prices of petroleum products.

The profit making Public Sector undertakings are being put on sale with a current year target of Rs.40,000 crores from the proceeds of disinvestment. Public Sector is built with the money of the people and this is being handed over to the private capital in the name of disinvestment. Insurance Laws (Amendment) Bill 2008 aims at disinvesting the PSU General Insurance Companies and the LIC (Amendment) Bill 2009 had a road map for disinvestment of LIC. While the Standing Committee of Parliament on Finance came out with recommendations against the government's moves to privatize LIC, the policy of the government makes us determined to continue our campaign and struggle for protection of the public sector insurance.

Labour laws are being violated across the country. In the unorganized sector labour laws are more observed in violation than in implementation. But the government is willingly standing as a mute spectator. In the SEZs and the IT sector no labour laws are applicable.

Job losses, underpayments, increasing working hours and outsourcing have become the order of the day.

The social security net promised by the government for the unorganized sector is falling much below the needs of such a process.

All these issues and others are repeatedly brought into focus and to the attention of the government by the working class of the country through campaign and united struggle.

INTUC, BMS, HMS, AITUC, CITU, AIUTUC, TUCC, AICCTU, UTUC and the industrial federations from Government, Banks, Insurance, Telecom, Defence, Railways and other sectors came together on 14th September 2009 and decided to observe joint actions including ALL INDIA PROTEST DAY on 28th October, 2009, Massive Dharna on 16th December, 2009 and Satyagraha/Jail Bharo on 5th March 2010 in which ten lakh workers participated. This was a massive success in projecting the united voice of the workers.

It is in this background that a National Convention of Workers was held at Mavlankar Hall, New Delhi on 15th July 2010. Apart from the Central Trade Unions - INTUC, HMS, AITUC, CITU, AIUTUC, TUCC, AICCTU, UTUC and Tamil Nadu based LPF- the industrial federations from Central Government employees, State Government employees, Insurance, Banks, BSNL, Medical Representatives, Railways, and other independent industrial federations participated in this massive convention. BMS supported the demands of the Convention but did not attend the Convention.

Shri G. Sanjeeva Reddy, President, INTUC placed the Declaration calling for a ONE DAY INDUSTRIAL STRIKE on 7th September 2010 which was endorsed by all other unions and federations. The Convention unanimously adopted the Declaration and called upon the workers cutting across the affiliations to join together and make the ONE DAY STRIKE a thumping success in order to prevail on the government to stop its anti-worker and anti-people policies. The One Day Strike is called on the following issues among others.

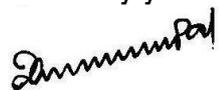
- Price rise of essential commodities to be contained through appropriate corrective and distributive measures like universal PDS and containing speculation in commodity market.
- Concrete proactive measures to be taken for linkage of employment protection in the recession stricken sectors with the stimulus package being offered to the concerned entrepreneurs and for augmenting public investment in infrastructure.
- Strict enforcement of all basic labour laws without any exception or exemption and stringent punitive measures for violation of labour laws.
- Steps to be taken for removal of all restrictive provisions based on poverty line in respect of eligibility of coverage of the schemes under the Unorganised Workers Social Security Act 2008 and creation of National Fund for the Unorganised Sector.
- Disinvestment of shares of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) not to be resorted to for meeting budgetary deficit and instead their growing reserve and surplus is used for expansion and modernization purposes and also for revival of sick Public Sector Undertakings.

Secretariat of AIIEA which met at Mumbai on the 19th and 20th July 2010 during the wage negotiations at Mumbai, unanimously decided that AIIEA should be an active partner in the strike call. AIIEA secretariat also called upon the employees in the life and general insurance sectors to join the campaign for the strike along with the other unions at respective centres and work for the success of the strike.

The Declaration adopted at the Convention is being circulated separately.

We call upon all our units to popularise the demands behind the strike action and also help in the campaign along with the other unions, so that the 7TH SEPTEMBER 2010 STRIKE would have an overwhelming impact on the government which is unwilling to hear the voices of the people.

Comradely yours,


General Secretary.