

ALL INDIA INSURANCE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

LIC BUILDING SECRETARIAT ROAD HYDERABAD 500063

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

Dear Comrades,

Historic two day strike action by the working class of the country

The two day strike on the 20th and 21st February 2013 has been a resounding success with participation of more than 15 crore workers right from the Anganwadi, ASHA and mid-day meal workers, to the workers in the factories and the workers and employees in the offices across the country.

All India Insurance Employees' Association (AIIEA) congratulates the working class of the county for this magnificent response to the call of the Central Trade unions and the independent federations. LIC and Public Sector General Insurance employees and officers participated in the two day strike. The strike was total in the insurance industry. AIIEA congratulates all the employees over this splendid response to the strike call.

The strike was massive in Insurance, Banking, Petroleum, BSNL, mining, coal, defence, power, port and dock, Plantation, State and Central Government offices. The strike was total in Income Tax and Postal Departments. Industrial workers all over the country had shut down the production. Public and private industrial centres have been heavily affected. Unorganized sector workers, agriculture workers, anganwadi, and ASHA workers have participated in large numbers. Medical and Sales representatives joined the strike in a massive manner. Contract workers too joined the strike in large numbers. In many states road transport buses and autorikshaws were off the roads.

Continued increase in the prices of diesel, gas, coal, electricity and other essential goods of the common people has been a serious issue protested by the workers in this strike. The strike is also a protest against the total inaction of the Government to address the basic problems of the workers arising out of the inflation and slowdown of the economy. Insurance employees demanded stopping of privatization of PS General Insurance Companies, withdrawal of the Insurance Laws (Amendment) Bill which seeks to hike the FDI limit to 49%, and withdrawal of PFRDA Bill. Insurance employees also demanded immediate recruitment in the LIC and four Public Sector General Insurance Companies.

In LIC the strike was total. Around 40 divisions registered more than 90% strike action. **Visakhapatnam Divisional Union with 99.07% strike performance and Karimnagar Divisional Union with 98.97%, Thrissur Division with 98.30%, Berhampur Division with 98.28%, and Ernakulam with 98%** led the successful implementation of the call.

Begusarai, Bhagalpur, Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Sambalpur, Hazaribagh, Patna I, Jamshedpur, Raipur, Satna, Shahdol, Belgaum, Dharwad, Mysore, Raichur, Hyderabad, Nellore, Kadapa, Meerut, Aligarh, Faizabad, Gandhinagar, Coimbatore, Thanjavur, Madurai, Tirunelveli, Thiruvananthapuram, Kottayam, Ajmer, Amritsar, Bikaner, Jalandhar, Shimla, Srinagar, and Burdwan were among the divisions where the strike action was more than 90%. In addition there were more than 30 divisions where the strike action was more than 80%. Even where the overall percentage of strike was less than 80%, it is notable that the participation of AIIEA membership was almost 90%.

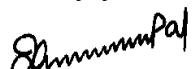
East Central Zone recorded the highest strike performance of 94.09% for the zone as a whole. South Central Zone with 90% strike participation, South Zone with 88.41% and Central Zone with 84.70%, North Zone with 83.22%, North Central Zone with 78%, Eastern Zone with 76%, and West Zone with 72% strike participation contributed to the success of the strike.

At many centres, LIC Agents joined the strike rallies and extended whole-hearted support to the strike call.

In the General Sector also there was an enthusiastic response to the strike call. In West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar, Assam and North East no office could be opened. In the South the strike was good in all the states. Joint rallies of AIIEA and GIEAIA were held at many centres including Chennai and Hyderabad. There were positive reports about the strike performance from Delhi, Jaipur and Chandigarh.

AIIEA once again congratulates all the employees and officers in the insurance sector who contributed to the success of this historic strike and calls upon all the employees of LIC and PS General Insurance Companies to carry forward this unity to defeat the neo-liberal policies of the government and to protect the public sector insurance companies.

Comradely yours,



General Secretary