

ALL INDIA INSURANCE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

LIC BUILDING SECRETARIAT ROAD HYDERABAD 500063

Cir. No. 02/2014

29th January 2014

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

Dear Comrades,

23RD GENERAL CONFERENCE GIVES A CLARON CALL TO

RESOLUTELY DEFEND THE INDUSTRY PREPARE FOR A BITTER STRUGGLE ON WAGE REVISION CAMPAIGN FOR ALTERNATIVE POLICIES

The 23rd General Conference of AIIEA was held at Nagpur from 20th to 24th January 2014. The historic city of Nagpur is home to many a progressive movement and the Conference of AIIEA added yet another glorious chapter in the history of this great city. The conference met in the background of tremendous achievements secured by the organization in the last three years. The organization which had set seemingly impossible tasks at the 22nd General Conference at New Delhi achieved each of them with great success and flair. The 23rd General Conference had to meet at the most difficult time in the economic, social and cultural life of the nation. But buoyed by the successes achieved, more than 1600 delegates and observers assembled to formulate the line and tactics of the organization on various issues confronting the insurance employees and the nation with absolute confidence. A record number of 251 women delegates and observers participated in this conference.

Jathas taken out to propagate about the Conference

Eight Jathas were taken out by the Maharashtra and Gujarat units of AIIEA to take the message of AIIEA across the two states and these jathas were received and greeted by the leadership of AIIEA and WZIEA at Nagpur in the morning of 20th January 2014.

Massive procession

Preceding the formal inauguration of the Conference, a 5000 strong procession was taken out in the city. The procession passed through the busy thoroughfares raising slogans on issues relating to price rise, unemployment, against neo-liberal policies and for the unity of the people. The disciplined march and the slogans raised made the people feel that these are their issues and enthusiastically supported the procession. The procession was greeted by a number of trade unions and progressive organizations enroute in a magnificent display of solidarity. As the procession reached the venue of the Conference, the flag of AIIEA was unfurled by Com Amanulla Khan, President, AIIEA. The majestic fluttering of the flag in the winds was accompanied by the emotional slogans by those present. Floral tributes were paid to the martyrs thereafter.

INAUGURAL SESSION

The Conference was inaugurated by Com Sitaram Yechury, MP and Politburo Member of CPI (M). He recalled his long association with the AIIEA and said that he feels like an Honorary Member of AIIEA. He paid rich compliments to the struggles of the AIIEA and the success achieved by the organization in preventing privatization of public sector insurance industry and halting the move to hike the FDI limits. He pointed out that the country is in a deep economic crisis as a result of mindless pursuit of neo-liberal policies. These policies have devastated the life and living of the common people and have made India one of the most unequal societies. Lambasting these policies that led to huge corruption scams, Com. Yechury pointed out that the amount lost in these scams was sufficient to educate the children, provide basic health services and ensure food security to the entire nation. He pointed out that 2014 General Elections are critical for the future of the nation. There is a concerted effort to build opinion that this country has to choose between Modi and Rahul Gandhi. He forcefully pointed out that both are the votaries of liberalization and Congress and BJP have no differences over the economic policies. He also expressed concern over the growing incidents of communal violence and warned the working class that this is a direct attack on their unity. Com. Yechury said that India today needs alternative economic policies; policies that can bring some relief to the common people from the grueling miseries. Therefore, what the country needs today is an alternative *neeti* and not *neta*, said Com. Yechury. He expressed confidence that the members of AIIEA who are the opinion makers in the society would play the role in projecting alternative policies in the run up to the 2014 General Elections and also work to defend the unity of the nation.

The inaugural session was greeted by Dutta Moghe, MP (Congress), a former employee of LIC, Coms. M.Krishnan, General Secretary, National Confederation of Central Government Employees' and Workers, R.Muthusundaram, General Secretary, All India State Government Employees' Federation and P.Abhimanyu, General Secretary, BSNL Employees' Union.

Com. M.V. Murali, Convener, UFBU, Com. Samir Ghosh, General Secretary, AIRBEA and other sister trade unions in insurance sector sent their greetings for the success of the conference.

DELEGATES SESSION

The Delegates Session commenced on 21st with the General Secretary presenting the Report of the Working Committee. The Report exhaustively dealt with the important developments that took place in the last three years in the international and national arenas. The Report pointed out that a correct analysis and understanding of these developments are necessary to lead the movement to success. The Report also analysed the challenges confronting the insurance industry and the contribution of our movement to help LIC retain the market dominance and PSGI companies continuing to record impressive growth. The success achieved by AIIEA in absorption of nearly 5000 temporary employees into permanent services in

the Class IV cadre; the up-gradation of the RPT employees; forcing open recruitment in general insurance in the most difficult political situation should be utilized to consolidate and strengthen the organization. The Report also dealt with the advancements made on many monetary issues including the relief brought to the Pensioners.

There was a lively debate on the Report. The debate lasted for over 13 hours with 51 comrades making valuable contributions. The high point of the debate was the participation by 8 women comrades. The delegate's session was also benefitted by the address of Com. Tapan Sen, MP and General Secretary, CITU. Elaborating on the present challenges, Com. Tapan Sen asked the insurance employees not to lower their guard and continue the campaign to protect the industry and the national unity. Com. Pradip Biswas, General Secretary, BEFI and Com. K.Natarajan, General Secretary, All India Insurance Pensioners' Association also addressed the delegates. Com. Amanulla Khan, President, AIIEA intervened in the debate and guided the course of deliberations. The founder leader of AIIEA, Com. Chandrasekhar Bose attended the Conference for all the five days and addressed the Conference which was a poignant moment for the delegates and observers. Com. N.M. Sundaram, could not attend the Conference as he was away from the country, and sent a thought provoking message to the conference calling for protection of the Pension benefit. The Report was unanimously approved after the summing up of the debate by Com K.Venu Gopal, General Secretary. The audited statements of accounts of AIIEA, Insurance Worker and Standing Committee (GI) for the years 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 placed before the house by Com B.S.Ravi, Treasurer were unanimously adopted.

The Conference unanimously adopted the following resolutions:

1. Demanding Reversal of Neo-liberal Policies
2. For Communal Harmony and Against Communalism
3. Demanding withdrawal of Insurance Laws (Amendment) Bill 2008
4. Demanding merger of public sector general insurance companies
5. Demanding Recognition to AIIEA
6. On Collective Bargaining Right
7. On government policy on pension
8. On un-organised sector workers
9. On empowerment of SC/ST sections
10. On empowerment of women
11. On wage revision
12. On improvements in pension
13. On recruitment in LIC
14. Demanding restoration of democracy in West Bengal

A Working Committee comprising of 168 members was elected. The names of the Working Committee Members will be published in the next circular.

Yet another feature of the conference was that a woman comrade was elected as an Office-bearer of AIIEA with Com. M. Girija joining the leadership. The Conference unanimously elected the following comrades as Office-Bearers of AIIEA.

PRESIDENT		AMANULLA KHAN	
VICE PRESIDENTS	1	K.VENU GOPAL	SCZIEF
	2	NAVENDU CHAKRABORTY	CZIEA
	3	SATANJIB DAS	EZIEA
	4	SHRAVAN KUMAR	ECZIEA
	5	R.C.SHARMA	NZIEA
	6	SANJEEV SHARMA	NCZIEF
	7	M.KUNHI KRISHNAN	SZIEF
	8	V.S.NALAVADE	WZIEA
	9	J.GURUMURTHY	GI
GENERAL SECRETARY		V.RAMESH	
JOINT SECRETARIES	1	CLEMENT XAVIER DAS	SCZIEF
	2	B.SANYAL	CZIEA
	3	JAYANTA MUKHERJEE	EZIEA
	4	SHREEKANT MISHRA	ECZIEA
	5	ANIL KUMAR BHATNAGAR	NZIEA
	6	ASHOK TIWARI	NCZIEF
	7	M.GIRIJA	SZIEF
	8	H.I.BHATT	WZIEA
	9	K.V.V.S.N.RAJU	GI
TREASURER		B.S.RAVI	
ASST. TREASURER		K.S.RAJASEKHAR	

Secretary Standing Committee (General Insurance) Com. KVVSN RAJU

DECISIONS

01. Continue the campaign in defence of the industry without any let up. Approach the political leadership in the run up to the elections to demand support to our struggle against Insurance Laws (Amendment) Bill. Approach important candidates seeking their support on this issue.
02. Build campaign and struggle on the issue of Merger of PS General Insurance companies. Organise conventions and seminars on this issue.
03. Prepare for a bitter struggle to secure the legitimate demand for wage revision on the basis of the performance of the industry. The Secretariat is authorized to draw up the agitational programme as the developments unfold on this issue.

04. Pursue the demand for another option on pension independent of wage revision. The Secretariat has been authorized to decide on agitational programs on this issue if necessary. It was also decided to seek improvements in the 1995 Pension Scheme, 100% DA neutralization for pre-1997 retirees and enhancement of ex-gratia to the pre-1986 retirees.
05. Pursue the demand for Recognition of AIIEA in LIC. Lunch hour demonstrations on 12th March, 2014 and handing over of Memorandum signed by all members to the officer-in-charge addressed to the Chairman.
06. Campaign for reversal of neo-liberalism and for alternative policies. This has to be done urgently as the nation gears up for the 2014 general elections. The units must take initiative in building broad social alliances to campaign that services like education, health; water etc must remain under public control.

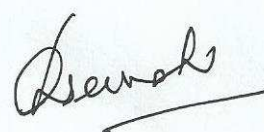
A WELL ORGANISED CONFERENCE

The Nagpur LICEU and the WZIEA made all efforts for the successful conduct of the conference. Nearly 400 volunteers worked tirelessly for months to make the necessary arrangements and take care of the logistics of such a massive conference. The determination and commitment was seen on the face of every volunteer. These comrades earned the much deserved appreciation and gratitude of the delegates and the observers. The cultural troupe came up with some wonderful and revolutionary songs each day of the conference. On 22nd January a program was organized to show the rich culture of Maharashtra. On 23rd January the program "100 years of Hindi Cinema" enthralled the audience. The AIIEA congratulates and thanks the NDLICEU, WZIEA and the volunteers for the wonderful work done.

The 23rd General Conference concluded on 24th January 2014 with delegates and observers joining the singing troupe to confidently say 'Hum Honge Kamyab'. It was a very successful conference- be it the level of participation, debate or the sheer organization. The 23rd Conference witnessed tremendous enthusiasm to strengthen the organization to help it meet the challenges of the times. It was this confidence that made the 23rd Conference gave a call to 'challenge the challenges'. Long Live the 23rd General Conference! Long Live AIIEA!

With greetings,

Comradely yours,



General Secretary.