
EAST CENTRAL ZONE INSURANCE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION
Jeevan Deep Buildings (1st Floor), Exhibition Road, Patna-800001

Circular No.05/2009

Date: 16.12.2009

To,
All members,

Dear Comrade,

Re: Decisions of the ECZIEA Working Committee Meeting

The Working committee of the ECZIEA met, as scheduled, at Patna on 12th and 13th December 2009. The meeting was convened to report the decisions and deliberations of the AIIEA Working Committee Meeting held at Chennai from 1-3 December 2009, to review the campaign in our zone against the two bills pending in Parliament, and also to review other organizational developments in our zone. Apart from the leadership of all divisional units under the zone, Com.V.Ramesh, Joint Secretary AIIEA, also attended the meeting and guided the deliberations.

To start with, the meeting observed a minute's silence in memory of Com. Pradeep Biswas, former Vice President and Joint Secretary of AIIEA; Com.K. Somasundaram, former Treasurer of AIIEA; eminent Sarod maestro Ustad Ali Akbar Khan; noted lyricist Gulsan Bawra; former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Y.S.Rajasekhara Reddy; eminent singer Gangubai Hangal; famous journalist Prabhas Joshi; cine actor Bina Roy; veteran left leader of Sri Lanka Carolina Antony Pillai; former U.S. Defence Secretary Mc Namara; Nobel Prize winner Norman Bourlag; Vice President of Cuba Juan Almeida Bosque and all those who laid down their lives in the cause of the working class.

Com. Shreekant Mishra, General Secretary ECZIEA, made a detailed reporting on the decisions and deliberations of the AIIEA Working committee meeting held at Chennai from 1-3 December 2009. The working committee of ECZIEA endorsed the overall assessment of the Chennai working committee of AIIEA on the question of protection of public sector insurance industry and securing a good wage revision commensurate with the growth and productivity of LIC and paying capacity of the management. The working committee of ECZIEA congratulated AIIEA for the introduction of group mediclaim scheme for RPT employees, improvements in the Group Insurance Scheme 2004, spectacular achievement in Housing Loan and PLLI and agreed with the understanding of AIIEA working committee that the working class movement had to deepen and broaden its

movement against the anti-people, anti-working class policies being pursued by the UPA II regime. The working committee felt that there was an immense opportunity of forming a grand alliance with all those sections of Indian society that was fighting against the neoliberal policies of the central government. The Insurance Laws Amendment Bill 2008 and the LIC Amendment Bill 2009 pending before the Parliament came in for sharp criticism. These two bills, together with the recommendations of the D. Swaroop committee and the Direct Taxes Code Bill 2009 throw up possibilities of forging a joint struggle within the industry, felt the working committee. In this context, the working committee appreciated and upheld the decision of the AIIEA working committee to spearhead the **Post Card campaign** amongst policy holders and to go for **One Day Strike** action in the eventuality of the insurance bills being passed by the Parliament. On the issue of wage revision, the working committee hailed the AIIEA working committee decision to struggle for a meaningful and logical settlement in keeping with employees' aspirations and the paying capacity of the management. AIIEA's persistent efforts at forming broader unity on this vital aspect received wide appreciation. After a marathon discussion, the working committee decided on the following programmes of action:

1. Post Card campaign among policy holders, as decided by the AIIEA working committee at Chennai, to be taken up in right earnest. All base units to complete the target of sending at least **1000 post cards before 21 December 2009**.
2. Divisional units to prepare leaflets in vernacular and go for massive leaflet distribution amongst all sections of society. Special emphasis be laid on campaign amongst policy holders.
3. Extensive campaign among employees, agents, development officers and officers. Efforts be made for developing and consolidating broader unity. Divisional leaders should undertake extensive branch tours to achieve this.
4. **19th January 2009** should be observed all over the zone as **Save Public Sector Insurance Day. Human Chain Programme** should be organized all over the zone. This programme should be highlighted through Press Conferences/Press Statements.
5. Extensive campaign among Members of Parliament, both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha MPs, on the question of the two insurance bills. They should be requested to write to the Prime Minister of India opposing these two bills.
6. Divisional units can chalk out their own programmes of action like candle light procession, round table conferences etc. according to local conveniences, over and above these programmes.

The working committee of ECZIEA also had a very lively discussion on the question of organization. The meeting congratulated Com. Rajesh Prasad of Bhagalpur and Com. B.B.Nayak of Bhubaneswar for their co-option to the working committee of AIIEA. Drawing satisfaction over the tremendous response of employees to the strike calls of AIIEA, the meeting felt that there was further scope of improving the functioning of the organization. The working committee was of the opinion that special care should be taken at all levels to improve the ideological orientation of our leaders and cadres. Keeping this in view, the working committee called upon the divisional units to take special drives for increasing the subscriber base of Insurance Worker, organize Insurance Worker Readers forums at all centres at regular intervals and take special care to inculcate proper ideological orientation among the newly recruited comrades so that they take up leadership of the organization in the days to come. The working committee felt that there should be a live contact of the leadership with the members for smooth conduct of organizational activities. Divisional units were requested to undertake trade union classes at regular intervals. While on the issue of ideological orientation, the working committee noted with satisfaction the overwhelming support extended by all divisional units under the zone to the electoral campaign of Com. Salomi Minz of Sambalpur division who quit her job to work for the CPI(M). All these issues apart, issues pertaining to Bhagalpur, Jamshedpur, Bhubaneswar and Muzaffarpur divisions came up for discussion and it was decided that the organization would take appropriate steps for arriving at logical solution of the problems.

The working committee felt that the year 2010 was going to be an important year for the organization in view of the fact that the zonal as well as all India conferences were to be organized in this year and called upon the units to remain in absolute preparedness for taking up the activities in right earnest. The working committee unanimously decided to entrust the responsibility of hosting the second conference of ECZIEA to Cuttack Division Insurance Employees' Association.

As noted earlier, Com. V.Ramesh, Joint Secretary AIIEA attended and addressed the working committee meeting of ECZIEA. Addressing the meeting, Com. Ramesh narrated the relentless struggle launched by AIIEA under trying circumstances to protect public sector insurance and at the same time secure the genuine demands of the employees. He congratulated the units of ECZIEA for their massive response to the calls of AIIEA and called upon the employees to resolutely fight for their just demands.

Employees' Meeting: Insurance Employees' Association Patna Division (IEAPD) organized an employees' meeting on 12 December 2009 in the divisional office complex. Employees from the branch offices in Patna as also from nearby Branches and employees of general insurance sector attended the meeting in large numbers. Com. V.Ramesh, Joint Secretary AIIEA and Com. Shreekant Mishra, General Secretary ECZIEA addressed the employees and called upon them to go for massive campaign against the two insurance legislations pending in Parliament. They also called upon the employees to remain prepared for a bitter struggle to secure an early, good and unconditional wage revision. Com. Shravan Kumar, President ECZIEA presided over the meeting and Com. Om Prakash, General Secretary IEAPD proposed a vote of thanks.

Comrades of Insurance Employees Association Patna Division once again gave a very good account of themselves and left no stone unturned to ensure the all round success of the ECZIEA working committee meeting. The working committee placed on record its appreciation of the tremendous efforts of the leaders and cadres of IEAPD for ensuring the smooth conduct of the proceedings.

Wishing a Very Happy and Purposeful New Year 2010

With Revolutionary Greetings,

Comradely Yours



General Secretary

In the joint session today, LIC management did not come out with any improved offers. AIIEA and other unions decided to boycott individual discussions in protest and called upon employees and officers to hold launch hour demonstrations. We understand that massive demonstrations were held all over the East Central Zone today. Demonstrations before Yogakshema in Mumbai was massive. Around 1000 attended. Class I Federation, AIIEA, NFIFWI, NOIW, NOINO, BVKS, All India Life leaders addressed the delegation.