

EAST CENTRAL ZONE INSURANCE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

Jeevan Deep Buildings (1st Floor), Exhibition Road, Patna-800001

Circular No. : 03/2012

Date: 29.06.2012

To, All Members

Dear Comrade,

Re: Working Committee Meets to finalise suggestions for incorporation in the Charter of Demands

The Working Committee of ECZIEA met at Bhubaneswar on 25th June 2012 to discuss and finalize suggestions from the Zonal Unit to AIIEA in respect of the Draft Charter of Demands, already circulated by AIIEA in advance. The credit for having organized the WC Meeting so succinctly went to Bhubaneswar –Cuttack duo Divisional units of ECZIEA. Com. Shraavan Kumar , President , ECZIEA presided over the Meeting and those who steered the Meeting on the presidium as well were the Vice Presidents of ECZIEA, Com. Arun Ku Paul, Com. Mithilesh Singh & Com. Rabi Narayan Mallick.

Com.Shreekant Mishra, General Secretary, ECZIEA, dwelt at length on the discussions of the Charter Sub Committee of AIIEA held on 26th & 27th April at Hyderabad on the Draft Charter of Demands and the demands of AIIEA for 40 percent Wage hike across the Board with improvements in employees' benefits and allowances. As scheduled, Com. Mishra advanced the arguments and rationale of why AIIEA has demanded the 40 percent wage hike citing statistics of sterling performance of LIC OF INDIA over the years including the last year 2011-12 when the insurance market in India and the world suffered a hit. Injecting confidence that Market share of LIC has grown and LIC's fundamentals being very strong and notching up impressive results year after year despite the overall depressive economic situation arising out of the global meltdown since 2008 and recent Euro zone crisis taking explosive forms threatening to upset the global economic order, Com Mishra dispelled the unfounded notions among some sections that LIC is taking a beating. Rather he exuded confidence in the understanding of AIIEA that 40 percent Wage hike is eminently justified and LIC employees deserved it.

He put across the challenges before the LIC OF INDIA and the employees when the Wage Revision is becoming due on 1st August 2012. Multiple challenges like the Congress led UPA II's entrenched commitment to pursue and hot chase pending financial sector bills , viz, Insurance Laws Amendment Bill enhancing the FDI hike in Insurance from 26% to 49%, investment of domestic premiums in overseas market, privatization of public sector General Insurance Companies, etc, PFRDA Bill, Banking Laws Amendment Bill, and the relentless attacks of the International Finance Capital through devious rating agencies, Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investor Services to belittle LIC are the spikes that AIIEA has to confront while unleashing the movements for clinching the well deserved wage revision. Notwithstanding the daunting threats looming large in the insurance industry and before the LIC OF INDIA, & the Organisation, AIIEA has always made it possible to secure benefits through sustained struggles with adoption of the correct tactical line. The unbelievable

growth of Public Sector General Insurance companies in spite of heavy competition and detariffing have also made the employees more confident for a very good wage revision of 40 percent wage hike across the board, demanded by AIIEA, said Com. Mishra.

Ten Divisional Units of ECZIEA and Convenor of Women Sub Committee took part in the discussion and proffered a raft of suggestions like, making the pay scales attractive to retain the new blood, recruitment at regular intervals, education allowances for children of employees, Transfer grant, doing away with the disparity in the stagnation increments in Asst and HGA, the latter being for every three years while it is two years for the former, reimbursement of petrol bills, encashment of LTC, reimbursement of Newspaper Bills, & tea, Class IV allowances needing for upward revision, cashiers allowance to be counted for fitment on promotion, SODEXO outlets not being up to the mark in mofussil and semi urban areas requiring an alternative, lease house allowance to supervisory personnel needing upward revision, a personal cadre loan on the lines of those available in banks, hike in cadre loans and extended cadre loans for availing housing loans from LIC HFL, etc etc.

Winding up the debate, Com Mishra without mincing words on the acceptability of the suggestions or otherwise told the house to coalesce them and put them to the wisdom of AIIEA for finalization in its Working Committee Meeting at Mysore on 15-17th July, 2012. On organization, he expressed confidence that ECZIEA since its inception in 2007 has made considerable headway on many fronts, be it participation in strikes, be it 4% levy collection and its remittance, be it mobilizing women employees to AIIEA fold, be it mobilizing newly recruited Sub Staffs of more than 87 percent to AIIEA fold, satisfactory growth of membership of Insurance Worker, etc. He however expressed concerns on the late filing of TU Returns, save only Sambalpur, Cuttack, Patna I & Jamshedpur Divisional units. In the end, he harped for more organizational cohesion and called upon the comrades to resolve for greater struggles that lie ahead. The meeting ended on a positive note with a firm resolve to size up for bigger struggles in the days ahead.

The meeting placed on record its deep appreciation for the untiring efforts of comrades of Bhubaneswar and Cuttack divisional units in ensuring all-round success of the Working Committee meeting. The Working Committee meeting was followed by a largely attended employees' meeting in the Divisional Office premises.

With Greetings,

Comradely Yours


General Secretary