

EAST CENTRAL ZONE INSURANCE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

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

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Date: 07.05.2013

To, All members

LATE COM. RAM CHANDRA NAYAK- EPITOME OF STRUGGLE, SACRIFICE AND BEACON LIGHT FOR THE FUTURE GENERATIONS

Com. Ram Chandra Nayak, former President of Berhampur Division Insurance Employees' Association (BDIEA) is no more. He breathed his last on last day of April 2013 at 8 P.M at Berhampur (ODISHA). He was suffering from cancer for last half a year. We condole his sad and most untimely demise and send our heartfelt condolences to his bereaved family.

No words will be sufficient to describe the contribution of Com. Ram Chandra Nayak, popularly known as Ram Nayak to the insurance employees movement, left and democratic movement and movement for the upliftment of the have-nots of the society.

He joined the LIC at the age of 18 in the then Rourkela BO under undivided Cuttack Division in early 1960s and from the day one he was attracted to movement of the insurance employees under the banner of AIIEA and since then there was no looking back. He forced his transfer from Rourkela to Berhampur with a letter for transfer-cum-resignation from LIC in mid sixties. In later part of sixties and early seventies some extreme left elements at Berhampur tried to win him over to that misguided path. Due to efforts of senior comrades of CDIEA of Cuttack viz. late S.N.Sircar and Laxmidhar Dash he was brought to mainstream. He, influenced by the socio-politico-economic philosophy of the AIIEA played very magnificent role in not only forming the broad platform of co-ordination committee of trade unions at Berhampur but had actually transformed it to a platform of people's movement. Because of his pioneering and leading role in the employee's movement he became eye sore for the establishment which tried to harass him to submission.

In the historic railway strike of the mid seventies, he was booked under DIR (Defence of India Rule) Act and charged for his so called inflammatory speech against the State. The CDIEA fought the case in the Orissa High Court and employed an eminent lawyer named Sri Sadhan Gupta (who was blind) for R.C.Nayak. He was fined Rs.50/- and fifteen days jail term. In the jail he fought for the rights of convicts.

He was the Assistant Secretary of the CDIEA till formation of Berhampur Division Insurance Employees' Association in early nineties. First ever CDIEA Annual Conference outside the divisional headquarters was held at Berhampur in 1988 in his leadership. When BDIEA was formed in 1991, he was elected its President and continued in that chair till his retirement from LIC in October 2003. He was a mass leader in true sense of the term. He was loved and respected not only by the rank and file of the AIIEA but many senior officers who had opportunities of association with him.

His contribution to the left and democratic movement of Odisha in general and Ganjam District in particular is very significant. He remained District Committee Member of CPI (M) for many years and continued till his last breath. He was in the trade union and left movement not for any personal benefit but to advance the cause of the working class and the emancipator philosophy of the working class. Despite many problems in his family especially prolonged illness of his spouse, he never let down the cause for which he fought till the end. His love for society can be gauged from the fact that he donated his eyes and body for the purpose of advanced medical research. He was an epitome of struggle and sacrifice and will remain a beacon light for future generations. Insurance employees shall continue to draw inspiration from the life and times of Com. Ram Nayak.

Com. Ram Chandra Nayak Amar Rahe! Amar Rahe!!

Comradely Yours

Shreekanth Mishra

General Secretary