

EAST CENTRAL ZONE INSURANCE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

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

Circular No. : 11/2013

Date: 07.12.2013

To, All Members

Dear Comrade,

Re: ECZIEA Secretariat resolves to implement the decisions of AIIEA Secretariat

The Secretariat of the ECZIEA met at Patna on 3 December 2013 with Com. Shравan Kumar, President, ECZIEA on the Chair. The Secretariat was called to report the decisions and deliberations of the AIIEA secretariat meeting held on 12 November 2013, as also to chalk out campaign strategy for the zone in the light of the AIIEA secretariat decisions.

The ECZIEA secretariat was absolutely in agreement with the AIIEA secretariat that our movement against FDI hike in insurance and particularly against the Insurance Bill had reached a critical stage. It was the no-holds-barred campaign of the insurance employees, led by the AIIEA, that had hitherto protected LIC in the public sector and ensured its onward march even in a competitive environment. The Secretariat noted with satisfaction the fact that around 450 MPs had already been met by the units of AIIEA before the commencement of the ongoing winter session of Parliament. Appreciating the vision and understanding of the AIIEA Secretariat, the ECZIEA Secretariat wanted to caution the employees against any organizational slackness in view of the recent policy pronouncements of the ruling classes reiterating their commitment to liberalization of the financial sector. Calling upon the members to critically examine the developments in the insurance industry, the meeting felt that the recent appreciations of LIC from multilateral institutions like the World Economic Forum (WEF) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) must be viewed with a pinch of salt.

The meeting agreed with the understanding of AIIEA secretariat and felt that there was a sense of desperation and urgency in the approach of the ruling classes so far as insurance reforms were concerned. It appeared that our ruling classes, particularly the UPA II government at the centre, seemed to be making a determined bid to somehow get the Insurance Bill passed before the next general elections. To that extent, the meeting felt, we must also intensify our campaign to a feverish pitch.

The ECZIEA Secretariat was in agreement with the understanding of the AIIEA secretariat that the obtaining political situation was very difficult from the point of view of the working class. The principal opposition party the BJP, seemed to have made up its mind on the issue of the Insurance Bill if the statements of the Finance Minister are to be believed. Finance Capital and big business have always held democracy and democratic movements to be the biggest impediment to neo liberal reforms. Historically therefore, they have always supported leaders with fierce anti democratic traits. The developments in India, of late, seemed to be moving in that direction and that is what the Secretariat wanted the members to be vigilant about. Appreciating the understanding of AIIEA, the meeting also noted that the threat can only be countered by a wide coalition of the workers putting up a spirited fight like the two day historic strike of February 2013. Accordingly, it was decided that all units

would hold **lunch hour demonstrations on 12 December 2013** in synchronization with the Workers' March to Parliament in Delhi. The meeting decided that Com. Virchand Singh, Joint Secretary and Com. Trinath Dora, Assistant Secretary would represent ECZIEA in the Workers' March to Parliament in Delhi and will be a part of AIIEA delegation.

The meeting decided that the conventional forms of campaign like seminars, conventions, street corner meetings, distribution of leaflets should continue along with meeting MPs, eminent personalities and leaders of different political parties. It was also decided that a Jattha would be taken out after the conclusion of the AIIEA conference at Nagpur covering the entire jurisdiction of the east central zone. Given the enormous importance of continuous campaign on the sterling performance of LIC and the dangers of FDI hike, the meeting decided to form a five member **Campaign Committee** with Com. Satyabrata Duttgupta (Vice President), Com. Pradeep Mukherjee (Vice President), Com. Virchand Singh (Joint Secretary), Com. Trinath Dora (Asst. Secretary) and Com. A.K.Dubey (Asst. Secretary) as its members. The committee has been asked to prepare campaign materials for ECZIEA and also to spearhead and oversee the campaign all over the zone.

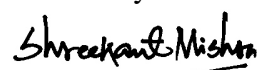
The ECZIEA Secretariat meeting also took the following decisions:

1. As decided by AIIEA secretariat, LIC management should be called upon to start immediate and meaningful wage negotiations.
2. AIIEA should continue to pursue with LIC management the issue of one final option for Pension, as was the understanding during last wage negotiations.
3. Pressure should be mounted on the LIC management to start Recruitment to Class III cadre without any further delay.
4. All divisional units under the zone will extend all out help and co-operation to WZIEA/ Nagpur divisional unit for the successful conduct of the **23rd AIIEA conference** scheduled to be held at Nagpur from 20-24 January 2014.
5. Each divisional unit would take care to send at least one advertisement to Insurance Worker every year. Insurance Worker Subscriber base to be updated and discrepancy, if any, should be immediately taken up. Insurance Worker Readers' Forum should be developed at all centres.
6. The meeting placed on record the tremendous efforts of our comrades in Berhampur, Cuttack and Bhubaneswar division in providing relief to the helpless victims of cyclone "Phailin" and the floods that came in its aftermath. The meeting decided to continue with and press our earlier demand of **Cyclone Advance** at an enhanced rate to the employees/ officers in the state of Odisha.
7. The organization should be organized at all levels.

Comrades, the ECZIEA secretariat meeting came close on the heels of our successful conference at Bhagalpur during 29 September to 01 October 2013. It was therefore decided to have an introductory meeting with the zonal management on the day following the secretariat meeting i.e. on 4 December. A separate circular is being issued on the issues taken up there. Our comrades in all the units, in the meanwhile, are being called upon to implement the decisions of the ECZIEA secretariat with gusto.

With Revolutionary Greetings,

Comradely Yours



General Secretary