

**EAST CENTRAL ZONE INSURANCE EMPLOYEES'  
ASSOCIATION**

Jeevan Deep Buildings (1<sup>st</sup> Floor), Exhibition Road, Patna-800001

**Circular No. : 12/2013**

**Date: 10.12.2013**

To, All Members

Dear Comrade,

**Re: Introductory Meeting with the Zonal Management**

As intimated in the previous circular (Circular No. 11, Dated 07.12.2013), the full Secretariat of the ECZIEA met the management of East Central Zone on 04 December, 2013. Even though the meeting was introductory in nature, coming as it did close on the heels of the third ECZIEA conference at Bhagalpur, we broached certain issues for the consideration of the management. Apart from the issues mentioned in the letter addressed to the Zonal Manager, which is being reproduced below, we also took up the problem of acute staff shortage in newly opened divisions like Begusarai, Bhubaneswar and Patna II. The management was quite appreciative of our concern. The management, from its side, requested us to help them find a suitable land in Begusarai for construction of Divisional Office building. We assured the management that on this issue, as also on other issues and challenges confronting the industry/ zone, we would not be found wanting in our sincerity of approach.

We reproduce, herein below, the letter addressed to the Zonal Manager on that occasion.

With Greetings,

Comradely Yours



General Secretary

The Zonal Manager  
L.I.C. of India  
East Central Zonal Office  
Exhibition Road  
PATNA-800 001

Date: 04.12.2013

Dear Sir,

**Re: Issues for your Consideration**

We give herein below a list of the issues that need your personal intervention. It is to be noted that these are some of the issues that figured prominently in the course of discussions during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Triennial General Conference of our Association, which has since been held on 29 September-01 October 2013.

1. **Treating the city of Jamshedpur as a B class city:** Employees in the city of Jamshedpur are entitled to HRA and other benefits at the rate applicable to cities with a population of less than 12 lakhs. As per the latest Census Reports i.e. the Report pertaining to 2011 Census operations, the population of Jamshedpur Metropolitan area (along with the urban agglomerations like

Adityapur, Mango, Jugsalai, Tata Nagar Railway Colony etc.) comes to 1,337,131. As per rules therefore, employees in the city of Jamshedpur are now eligible for a higher HRA and other similar benefits as applicable to cities with population of 12-45 lakhs (B Category cities). This can be verified from the Website of the Census Department. However, copy of the relevant portion has been attached for your consideration.

2. **Lunch Hour for Cashiers:** Cashiers in our zone are deprived of the benefit of Lunch Hours as available to other sections of the employees and officers. Long queues before our cash counters are a recurrent feature in almost all offices these days. So is the practice of keeping our Cash Counters open till well beyond the scheduled Cash Hours. Cashiers are put to untold hardships because of the necessity of facing long queues and having to work for staggered working hours. The situation can be remedied by giving them a break, so that their monotony will go and the necessity of keeping the cash counters open for some late comers can be obviated. This has to be given a serious thought.
3. **Anomalies in the Recognition of MBA degrees:** There are certain grey areas relating to the recognition of MBA degrees for the purpose of Special allowance. The confusion pertains to institutions like NIMS, Vinayaka Mission, Sikkim Manipal University and the like. Now that the matter has been clarified by CO, vide their letter Ref:PER/ADMN/13-14, dated 20.03.2013, the ambiguities should be set to rest. A number of meritorious candidates are being deprived of Promotions/ Special Allowance. This should be looked into.
4. **Posting of Assistants/ HGAs in Zonal Office:** During the last recruitment round to the cadre of Assistant, 15 vacancies were notified for zonal office. Only 5 Assistants were posted in zonal office (through transfer) as a number of candidates did not turn up. We were assured by the then zonal management that the remaining 10 vacancies would also be filled up through transfer once the contingency list is taken up. Till date, the matter has been hanging fire and this is causing resentment amongst the employees. Consequent to the opening of East Central Zonal office in Patna, 5 HGAs (Admn.) were posted in the zonal office after umpteen rounds of discussions with the understanding that cadre strength for zonal office would be decided once the zonal office stabilizes. It's now more than five years since the opening of the zonal office at Patna and naturally the zonal office has also stabilized beyond any shade of doubt. Some of the HGAs posted in zonal office have also been promoted in the meanwhile. It's high time therefore that cadre strength in respect of Class III & IV was finalized for the zonal office and adequate number of employees posted.
5. **Cashier in ECZO:** We have had several rounds of discussion and made quite a few representations on the issue of Cashier for the ECZO. Mention may be made here of our letters dated 25.06.2010, 03.09.2010, 18.09.2010, 06.11.2010 and 28.06.2011, addressed either to the then RM(P&IR) or Secretary (P&IR). We would like to reiterate here that as per C.O. circular No. ZD/1132/ASP/2009, dated 16.05.2009, "Confirmed Assistants, MPO, Typists and Telephone operators are eligible for selection as permanent cashier." But till date, only class I officers are discharging the duties of Cashier in the zonal office, which is essentially a Class III job. We would therefore request you to take steps for notifying the cashier vacancy of zonal office.

6. **Vacancy of Internal Audit Assistants:** We understand that vacancies for Internal Audit Assistants are being regularly declared in other zones whereas the same is not taking place in our zone. There has been severe depletion in the staff strength in the internal audit department in Patna owing to promotions and natural exits. The Audit department in Patna, was set up before the formation of the East Central Zone with a view to serve Divisions under Bihar only. Now that the East Central Zone has come up, it has to cater to the requirements of Divisions in Odisha and Jharkhand also. There is therefore a special need to augment the Class III strength in Audit centre, Patna. We would therefore request that the matter be seriously taken up with appropriate authorities.
7. **Problems relating to Preventive health check up Scheme:** The avowed objective of the Preventive Health check up scheme has failed to materialize in smaller towns/ mofussil centres. As per CO circular, the tie up has to be made with Hospitals satisfying certain criteria. However, in many centres there are very good Diagnostic Clinics with all the requisite amenities, but their nomenclatures are in form of “Clinic” rather than “Hospitals”. Our offices are not in a position to finalise the tie ups with such units. We request that such cases should be decided on merit by the zonal office and necessary sanction given to the divisions.
8. **Provision of Space for LIC HFL Zonal Extension Counter:** At present, the zonal extension counter of LIC HFL is operating from the Back Office premises at Frazer Road. There was an understanding at the corporate level that each zonal office would be asked to provide some space for the LIC HFL Extension Counter to cater to the loan and servicing requirements of employees and officers. This we feel would go a long way in ensuring a hassle free disbursement of housing loan to the employees and officers of the entire zone. Accordingly, we would request you to provide some space to LIC HFL at the ECZO premises so that employees’ issue could be properly taken up and pursued.

We would request you to give your personal attention to the issues cited above so that meaningful solutions can be thrashed out.

Thanking You,

Yours faithfully  
Sd/-  
General Secretary

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