



To  
**All the Zonal /Divisional /State /Regional Units**

Dear Comrades,

## 5th All India Women's Convention at Kozhikode on 17th September : A Historic Success

The 5th All India Women's Convention of AIIEA at Kozhikode (Calicut) in the state of Kerala on 17th September 2022 was another feather in the cap of AIIEA. Around 300 women delegates and observers from across the country participated in the Convention. The forbiddingly long distance that one had to travel to reach Kozhikode came as no dampener. Nor were the last minute rail and air traffic disruptions able to cause any dent in the spirit of the women comrades. The air was filled with enthusiasm and excitement. Spirited sloganeering accompanied by thunderous beating of the drums by a local troupe and the beautiful opening songs by the cultural troupe of LICEU Kozhikode Division provided the perfect setting for a grand Convention. The convention started with the flag hoisting by Com. P.P. Krishnan, Vice-President AIIEA.



Flag Hoisting



Com P.P.Krishnan - presiding over inaugural session

The Inaugural Session was presided over by Com. P.P. Krishnan, Vice President AIIEA. In the absence of Com. Kanathil Jameela, MLA, who was the Chairperson of the Reception Committee, Com. Bhagyalakshmi, Vice Chairperson of the Reception Committee, gave the Welcome Address. Com. K.K. Shailaja Teacher, MLA and former Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Kerala, inaugurated the Convention. In her brilliant inaugural address, she complimented the cadres of AIIEA for their uncompromising struggle against privatisation of public sector insurance industry and assured that the people of Kerala would fight shoulder to shoulder with insurance employees to achieve the shared goal of defeating the threat of privatisation. Globally regarded as the Covid slayer for her deft handling of the Covid pandemic and the Nipah virus menace, Com. Shailaja gave a graphic account of how democratic decentralisation has been playing a significant role in improving the lives of people in Kerala. She said that the single most important factor that enabled the left front government in Kerala to tackle the pandemic is the strength of the State's public health system. According to her, Kerala's public health system got a new lease of life under the Left Front government with a big push in infrastructure and equipment investment. She said that the LDF government could effectively implement the policy of 'trace,



welcome-vice-chairperson-reception committee





**Inauguration KK SHYLAJA TEACHER**

quarantine, test, isolate and treat' because the Primary Health Centres (PHCs) in the State were working under the Panchayats even though they were under the Health Department. She explained that the synergy generated by integrating state government plans and programmes with the local governments, co-operatives, women neighbourhood groups (Kudumbashree) and civil society organisations worked wonders during the pandemic. She was categorical that it is due to these synergies that Kerala stands out as the most prosperous state in India in terms of basic human development indices like infant mortality rate, literacy rate and gender justice. She urged the women comrades of AIIEA to contribute their mite to improving the lot of women in Indian society apart from contributing to the struggle of the trade union.



**Greetings-M Kunhikrishnan GS AIIPA**

Com. M. Kunnhikrishnan, General Secretary, All India Insurance Pensioners' Association (AIIPA) greeted the Convention and exhorted the women comrades to work under the banner of AIIEA for meeting the challenges arising out of privatisation, communalism and commodification. Com. Ajay Kumar, Joint Secretary, National Federation of Insurance Field Workers of India (NFIFWI) attended the Convention and exuded confidence that the workforce of LIC would be able to meet the future challenges under the banner of the Joint Front.

A Presidium consisting of Comrades Geeta Shant (NCZ), S.K. Geetha (SCZ), Usha Parganiha (CZ), Sarvamangala (SZ) and Anupama Sachdev (NZ) conducted the proceedings of the Convention.

Com. M. Girija, Joint Secretary AIIEA presented the work Report to the Convention on behalf of AIIEA. Presenting the Report, Com. Girija spoke about the disastrous impact of the Covid pandemic on working women, the deleterious impact of IPO of LIC, gender



**Greetings-Ajay kumar NFIFWI**

**Com. Girija Presenting the Report**

inequality, precarious condition of women workers in India, rising violence against women, sexual harassment at workplaces and the activities taken up by our women subcommittees all over the country during the last three years. Twenty-nine comrades representing all the eight zones in the life sector and general insurance sector participated in the debate.

Com. R. S. Chenbagam from South Zone initiated the discussion on the Report. She was followed by Comrades K. R. Vinni and R. Sheethala from South Zone; Comrades





Jyoti Patil, Rajani Bharti, Usha Parganiha and Geeta Pandit from Central Zone; Comrades Manorama Mohanty, Mary Michael Xess and Kavita Kumari from East Central Zone; Comrades Shyama Bhattacarjee, Shankari Bhattacharjee, Arpita Roy and Shilpa Rani Biswas from Eastern Zone; Comrades Geeta Shant, Poonam Gupta, Pratibha Mishra and Bharti Sood from North Central Zone; Comrades Neeta Singhal, Renu Kalra, Deepa Sharma and Madhu Khandelwal from Northern Zone;

Comrades G. Surya Prabha, V.Mythili, H.R. Gayathri and Sharayu Devarmani from South Central Zone; Comrades Heena Jibkate and Kinjal from Western Zone; Com. S. Shobhana from General Sector. The experience shared by these comrades about the activities of the women's subcommittees all over the country enthused the participants.



**Intervention by Com. Amanulla Khan**

The senior leader of AIIEA, Com. Amanulla Khan, intervened and guided the Convention. In his inimitable style, Com. Amanulla Khan said that at a time when the ruling class in India was denying basic democratic rights to the people, the AIIEA was trying to broaden the rights of women employees by giving them extra space in the organisation to debate and discuss issues confronting them and women at large. He said that the all pervasive campaign of hatred being spread by the fundamentalist forces today can be overcome through an intense campaign of love and unity. He urged the women Comrades of AIIEA to lead that campaign from the front so that Indian society could be saved from the virulent campaign of hatred.



**Summing Up Shreekanth Mishra GS AIIEA**

Com. Shreekanth Mishra, General Secretary, AIIEA summed up the discussions. He congratulated the women Comrades for their enthusiastic participation in the convention. He said that women's subcommittees were doing a great job in many parts of the country. He however felt that there is a need to bring about some evenness in the functioning of the women's subcommittees across the country. He called upon the women Comrades to actively participate in the future struggles of AIIEA on the issue of wage revision, for the protection of public sector insurance industry and the struggle to meet the challenges in the post IPO scenario in LIC.

The Convention unanimously adopted six Resolutions condemning the atrocities on women and demanding strict implementation of Justice Verma committee recommendations, opposing privatisation and monetisation of public sector and national wealth, opposing price rise and demanding strengthening of public distribution system, demanding removal of pregnancy clause in recruitment in LIC, demanding special leave for menopause and related issues and demanding passage of necessary legislation for ensuring 33% reservation of seats for women in Parliament and Legislative Assemblies.

The Credential Committee consisting of Com. R. Preethy (South Zone) as the Convener, Comrades Sanghamitra Sarangi (East Central Zone), Rubi Nigam (North Central Zone) and Sunita Singh (Central Zone) as the members compiled the details pertaining to the Delegates to the Convention. The Minutes Committee of

### Inaugural Song







Felicitation to Com.PADMINI



Felicitation to MADHU KHANDLWAL



Minutes committee

the Convention consisted of Comrades Pushpa Lata (Northern Zone), S. Manjula (South Zone), Manisha (Western Zone), Supriya Sen Mazumdar (Eastern Zone) and Jayasudha (General Sector).

The Convention felicitated Com. P. Padmini, former Joint Convenor and first Editor of UDHAYAM (Malayalam, quarterly magazine published by South Zone Working Women's Co-Ordination Committee. The Convention also felicitated Com. Madhu Khandelwal of Ajmer Division under Northern Zone who has recently been awarded Honorary Doctorate by American East Coast University for her exemplary

social work. Com. Amanulla Khan, the senior leader of AIIEA, felicitated both the Comrades on behalf of the Convention.

LIC Employees' Union Kozhikode Division left no stone unturned to make the Convention a historic success. Their tireless and dedicated efforts were visible in each department of the organisation. A large number of volunteers- men and women- toiled day and night to make the Convention flawless. Meticulous planning and flawless execution were in display in abundant measure.

The 5th All India Women's Convention was a historic success.

With Greetings,

Comradely Yours  
*Shreekanth Mishra*  
 General Secretary

## They Spoke in the convention....









