

**ALL INDIA INSURANCE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION**  
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To

All the Zonal /Divisional /State /Regional Units

**RESOUNDING SUCCESS OF THE MAZDOOR KISAN SANGHARSH RALLY ON 5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL AT NEW DELHI**

The Mazdoor Kisan Sangharsh Rally at New Delhi on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023 was a resounding success. Around one lakh workers, peasants and agricultural workers under the banner of the CITU, AIKS and AIAWU participated in the protest march and public meeting at New Delhi's historic Ramlila Ground. Apart from 12 sectoral federations affiliated to the CITU, employees' organisations from insurance, banks, central and state governments, BSNL etc participated in the Sangharsh Rally in a big way. Around 550 members of the AIIEA from places like Shimla, Jaipur, Raipur, Rohtak, Bilaspur, Allahabad, Kanpur, Meerut, Aligarh, Sahdol, Kolkata, Rajahmundry, Jalpaiguri, Satna, Jabalpur, Rajkot, Bhopal, Indore, Gwalior, Vishakhapatnam, Hyderabad, Machhliapatnam, Vijaywada and Delhi enthusiastically participated in the rally. A large number of insurance pensioners also took part in the rally braving the blistering heat. The Ramlila ground looked like a veritable sea of red because of the huge gathering.

The Mazdoor Kisan Sangharsh Rally was a remarkable display of unity demanding a better and dignified life for the workers and peasantry, putting an end to the mindless privatisation of India's public sector undertakings, scrapping of the NPS and its replacement with the OPS and a host of issues related to the country and its people. The rally was unique in the sense that people from all walks of life- irrespective of caste, creed, religion and region- rubbed shoulders with one another at a time when the ruling class was trying desperately to disrupt this unity of the toiling people. Participation of a large number of women from the nooks and corners of the country was a distinguishing feature of this rally. Another important aspect of the rally was that a group of around 300 eminent citizens and intellectuals including Prof. Irfan Habib, Prof. Sumit Sarkar, Prof. Utsa Pattnaik, N. Ram, P. Sainath, Naseeruddin Shah, Ratna Pathak Shah, Anand Patwardhan, Saeed Mirza, Prof. Jayati Ghosh, Prof. C.P. Chandrasekhar had released a statement a day before the rally calling for people to join the mega rally.

The rally was addressed by Com. Hemlata and Com. Tapan Sen (from CITU), Com. Ashok Dhawale and Com. Vijoo Krishnan (from AIKS), Com. A. Vijayaraghavan and Com. B. Venkat (from AIAWU) and leadership of the fraternal organisations. Eminent economist and Chairman of the Preparatory Committee, Prof. Prabhat Pattnaik, addressed the rally and said that condition of the working people has deteriorated to an unprecedented level due to the notorious economic onslaught unleashed by the current government. He said that declining wages, rising prices of essential commodities, raging unemployment, falling returns for farm produce, low agricultural wages and floundering welfare schemes are pushing marginal families into severe poverty. He was critical that basic entitlements like education and health are being increasingly privatised pushing them beyond the reach of the common

people. Prof. Pattnaik was particularly critical over the government's stubborn refusal to address the crisis engulfing almost all sections of the people. He said that in order to divert the attention of the people from the disastrous policies, the ruling party has unleashed a toxic hate campaign threatening our basic social fabric. He exuded confidence that the Mazdoor Kisan Sangharsh rally will further advance the people's resistance and give notice to the government that its anti-people policies will no longer be tolerated.

Almost all the speakers who addressed the rally were unanimous in the understanding that the rally was an indication of the surging anger of the working people against the disregard of their basic needs while showering benefits on the big corporates.

Com. Shreekant Mishra, General Secretary, addressed the rally on behalf of the AIIEA and said that the coming together of the peasants, workers and employees in one platform is a welcome augury and would give necessary fillip to working class movement of the country. Describing the attempts of the government to destabilize LIC and PSGI companies as a part of the overall drive of the government to privatise India's public sector institutions, he assured that insurance employees would continue to play the role expected of them in the developing struggles in defense of public sector, the workers, the people and the nation at large.

The huge gathering in the rally was truly reflective of India's unity in diversity. It was a reaffirmation of our firm belief that while the people may speak different languages, the spirit of the movement was one.

With Greetings,

Comradely Yours



General Secretary