

ALL INDIA INSURANCE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION
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To,
All the Zonal/Divisional/State/Regional Units

MAY DAY 2026

All India Insurance Employees' Association (AIIEA) extends warm and revolutionary greetings to all the insurance employees, their family members and the entire working class on the occasion of May Day 2026- the 140th anniversary of the struggle of the workers in Chicago in 1886 for establishing the 8-hour working day. May Day is a living testament to the sacrifices, struggles, and indomitable spirit of the working class across the globe. It is a day to reaffirm our resolve to fight for dignity, rights and social justice.

As we prepare to celebrate May Day 2026, the global capitalist economy is mired in a deepening structural crisis. Unable to resolve the crisis from within, the ruling classes are once again seeking to shift the burden onto the shoulders of workers and the oppressed. The imperialist aggression of the United States against Iran at the prodding of Israel and abduction of Venezuelan President Maduro and his wife are acts that represent a brazen violation of the principles of national sovereignty and international law. The continuing economic siege and political destabilisation of socialist Cuba stands as an enduring symbol of imperialism's hostility towards any alternative to its dominance. The ongoing genocide of the Palestinian people by the Israeli occupation forces, aided and abetted by Western powers, is a crime against humanity that shocks the conscience of the world. The prolonged conflicts have unleashed an unprecedented energy crisis, driving up the cost of living across the world. Fuel prices, inflation, and supply chain disruptions have disproportionately hurt working-class families, while arms manufacturers and energy corporations reap obscene profits. In response to the crisis, ruling classes across the world have adopted the familiar playbook of austerity — slashing public expenditure on health, education, and social security; attacking collective bargaining rights; weakening labour standards; and ruthlessly curtailing the democratic rights of workers and trade unions. These attacks are not accidental but are a deliberate class strategy to make workers bear the cost of a crisis created by capital.

Yet, even as capital tightens its grip, the working class is fighting back with renewed vigour. From the remarkable wave of workers' protests in the United States — with workers in logistics, technology, retail, and services asserting their collective power — to mass protests in Israel where trade unions and civil society have challenged authoritarian overreach, the working class worldwide is refusing to be silenced. Workers across Europe, Latin America, and Asia are rising against austerity and for democratic rights. May Day 2026 is a moment to draw strength from this rising tide.

On the home front, the working class faces a relentless offensive by the corporate-communal nexus entrenched at the helm of state power. The aggressive push to privatise public sector enterprises — the crown jewels built with the toil and taxes of the Indian people — threatens not just livelihoods but the economic and political sovereignty of India. The four Labour Codes, railroaded through Parliament, represent a frontal assault on decades of hard-won workers' rights. By diluting provisions on minimum wages, social security, occupational safety, and industrial relations, these codes fundamentally tilt the balance of power in favour of employers. The right to strike, the right to organise, and the right to collective bargaining face systematic erosion. This attack is part of a wider assault on the constitutional order. The undermining of federalism, the

subversion of independent constitutional bodies and the weaponisation of investigative agencies against political opponents and dissenting voices are deeply alarming. The disenfranchisement of large sections of citizens in the name of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls raises grave concerns about the integrity of democracy itself.

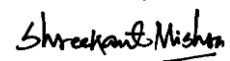
The macro-economic situation offers little comfort. The Indian Rupee has been among the worst-performing major currencies in recent times. Depleting foreign exchange reserves, a widening current account deficit and sluggish export performance are warning signals that cannot be wished away. Unemployment — particularly among the youth — remains at alarming levels. Most grievously, inequality in India has surged to historic proportions: a tiny elite commands an obscene share of national wealth while the vast majority of workers, farmers and the poor struggle for basic subsistence. This is not development — it is dispossession. In this hostile environment, the organised working class has responded with determination. AIIEA salutes the magnificent success of the two nationwide One Day Strikes — on 9th July 2025 and 12th February 2026 — organised by the Central Trade Unions and independent federations. These historic actions stand as a beacon of class solidarity and reaffirm the power of collective struggle.

The public sector insurance industry has come under sharp attack. The IPO of the Life Insurance Corporation of India was a betrayal of the public sector character of the organisation. The lurking danger of a Follow-on Public Offer (FPO) which would further dilute the Government's stake must be resisted with all our strength. The hike in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the insurance sector to 100% opens the door to the effective transfer of ownership of Indian insurance companies to foreign entities. The savings and long-term financial security of hundreds of millions of Indians cannot be allowed to pass into foreign hands. Despite adverse situations, employees in PSGI companies could secure a very good wage revision through united and untiring struggle. The privatisation of public sector general insurance companies — once mooted and still lurking as policy intent — must be categorically and permanently abandoned. Within LIC, the growing tendency towards unilateralism on the part of the management on critical matters such as the induction of new technologies and digitalisation and the persistent dithering on the question of recruitment in the Class III & IV cadres, need to be confronted with conviction.

Comrades, May Day is a day of resolve. The struggles of the working class have never been easy and the road ahead is strewn with challenges. But history has taught us, time and again, that an organised, united, and conscious working class is an invincible force. AIIEA calls upon all its members — in life insurance, in general insurance, in every corner of this great country — to honour the glorious traditions of May Day by reaffirming their commitment to the trade union movement, to class solidarity and to the broader democratic struggles of the Indian people. Let us stand shoulder to shoulder with fellow workers across industries. Let us resist every attack on our rights with greater unity and dedication. Let us build a future in which the fruits of development are shared equitably, in which public sector institutions serve the people and not private profit and in which democracy and the rights of workers are truly upheld.

With Revolutionary May Day Greetings,

Comradely Yours



General Secretary