

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

Valedictory Function
A Fitting Finale to AIIEA's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

The Valedictory Function of AIIEA's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations was held at Sundarayya Vignana Kendram, Hyderabad, on 4 July 2026 in an atmosphere of great enthusiasm, warmth and camaraderie. Around 450 delegates and participants from different parts of the country attended the programme.

The function began with the hoisting of the AIIEA flag by **Com. D. R. Mahapatra**, President, AIIEA, amid resounding slogans of "**AIIEA Zindabad**" and "**Long Live AIIEA.**" Immediately afterwards, Com. Mahapatra administered the **AIIEA Pledge** to the gathering, which responded with deep emotion and commitment. The cultural troupe of the **Insurance Corporation Employees' Union (ICEU), Hyderabad and Secunderabad**, set the tone for the celebrations by presenting a selection of inspiring revolutionary songs before the formal proceedings commenced. Their spirited performance added to the vibrant atmosphere and received enthusiastic appreciation from the audience.

Com. D. R. Mahapatra, President, AIIEA, presided over the meeting and delivered a brief yet inspiring welcome address. He observed that AIIEA's glorious 75-year journey was far more than the passage of time; it was an extraordinary saga of courage, conviction, sacrifice, resilience and collective action. Paying tribute to the generations of comrades who built and strengthened the organisation through their struggles, he called upon the members to draw inspiration from AIIEA's rich legacy and move forward with renewed confidence in their collective strength and their ability to overcome challenges and secure future victories. Delivering the introductory address, the General Secretary of AIIEA **Com. Shreekant Mishra** described AIIEA as a truly great organisation, built through the sacrifices and struggles of generations of insurance employees who forged unity and collective consciousness under the most difficult circumstances. Paying tribute to the pioneers who laid its foundation, he said the AIIEA had consistently upheld the ideals of the freedom movement and evolved into a powerful instrument for advancing workers' rights and social justice. Calling upon members to strengthen the organisation, he urged them to carry forward its rich legacy with renewed dedication and commitment.

Following the introductory remarks, **Com. K. Venugopal**, former General Secretary of AIIEA, formally released the book ***Present through the Lens of the Past***, authored by **Com. Amanullah Khan**, former President of AIIEA. In his brief address, Com. Venugopal emphasised that the history of AIIEA's struggles offers invaluable lessons for the present and urged members to draw inspiration from the organisation's rich legacy while strengthening it at every level. Addressing the Valedictory Function of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations of the AIIEA, **Com. Amanulla Khan** described the occasion as a proud and emotional milestone in the organisation's 75-year journey. Quoting the renowned poet Sahir Ludhianvi, he observed that AIIEA had lived its entire journey without fear or compromise, confronting injustice with courage and conviction. Referring to the book released as part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, he explained that it was conceived to document the major struggles that shaped the AIIEA's history and to serve as a resource for younger comrades and trade union education. Emphasising that history is created through the collective action of ordinary employees

rather than the achievements of individuals alone, he said the publication highlights the struggles that have defined AIIEA's growth over the past seven and a half decades. Recalling the organisation's refusal to compromise its values even when confronted with the loss of Recognition and Collective Bargaining Rights, he underlined that AIIEA had always placed the interests of employees above institutional privileges. Concluding his address, he called upon the younger generation to uphold the AIIEA's legacy of unity, democracy and social commitment. Stressing that the struggle to defend public sector institutions, democratic values and workers' rights continues, he expressed confidence that the new generation would carry forward the proud traditions of AIIEA with dedication and resolve.

Thereafter, **Com. V. Ramesh**, former General Secretary and President of AIIEA, launched the AIIEA's **website**. In his address, he highlighted the importance of effectively utilising the website as a dynamic platform for communication, education and organisation, and called upon members to make it an effective instrument in advancing AIIEA's future struggles.


The Valedictory function had the privilege of listening to a brilliant lecture on the topic "**India's Rich Diversity**" by eminent historian, social activist and heritage conservationist **Com. Sohail Hashmi**. Com. Hashmi challenged the growing tendency to portray India's diversity as an exclusive or unique civilisational achievement. He argued that inclusiveness is not peculiar to India but is a defining characteristic of human civilisation itself, rooted in the evolution of Homo sapiens over nearly 300,000 years. Human survival, he observed, depended on cooperation, collective living and mutual support, making inclusivity a fundamental trait of human society. Drawing upon archaeological, anthropological and genetic research, he explained that the migration of *Homo Sapiens* from Africa and the continuous movement and interaction of peoples over thousands of years gave rise to the rich cultural, linguistic and ethnic diversity seen across the world. India's remarkable plurality of languages, faiths and traditions, while extraordinary in its scale, is part of this broader human experience rather than an isolated phenomenon. He illustrated this by referring to the diversity of neighbouring countries such as China and Russia, as well as societies across Africa, the Arab world, and island nations like Mauritius and Fiji, all of which have evolved through centuries of migration, cultural exchange and assimilation. He noted that India's own linguistic and cultural landscape reflects the coexistence of Indo-European, Dravidian, Austro-Asiatic and Sino-Tibetan traditions, shaped by continuous interaction rather than notions of racial or cultural purity. Concluding his address, he asserted that diversity and inclusiveness are products of humanity's shared evolutionary journey and remain the strongest foundations for building democratic, plural and harmonious societies.

The former Secretariat members of AIIEA who were present on the occasion—**Com. J. Gurumurthy, Com. Priyabrata Bagchi, Com. K. V. V. S. N. Raju, Com. V. V. R. Shastry, Com. R. N. Mallick and Com. K. S. Rajasekhar**—were felicitated in recognition of their invaluable contribution to the growth and strengthening of the organisation and the trade union movement. The programme concluded with the customary vote of thanks proposed by **Com. T. V. N. S. Ravindranath**, Joint Secretary, AIIEA.

The valedictory function concluded on a vibrant note with a captivating **cultural programme** presented by Hyderabad's **Band Jazba**. The ensemble enthralled the audience with a rich repertoire of soulful and inspiring songs, bringing the Platinum Jubilee celebrations to a memorable and fitting close.

With Greetings,

Comradely Yours


General Secretary