

Insurance Worker



Monthly Journal of ALL INDIA INSURANCE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION
Volume 69 • Number 07 • July 2026 • ₹ 20 • Pages 40+4
English & Hindi



THE JOURNEY OF AII EA
towards a just, fair
and equal society
Continues.....



JOBLESS GROWTH in LIC TOO!

*when the youth are
demanding jobs*



NOT JUST WORKING TO
MAXIMISE PROFITS,
JOB CREATION ALSO IS
LIC'S RESPONSIBILITY

What the war was for



Comparing the
Incomparable

खोया
जनविश्वास





• **Platinum Jubilee Year of AIIEA** •
1951 - 2026

— PLEDGE —

WE SHALL CHERISH THE DREAM – THAT IS THE AIIEA

WE SHALL WELCOME THE DAWN – THAT IS THE AIIEA

WE SHALL IN LOYALTY AND IN ALLEGIANCE CHERISH – THE AIIEA

PROTECT IT AS THE APPLE OF OUR EYE – AND NURSE IT – AND NURTURE IT
FOR THE AIIEA HAS STOOD US IN GOOD STEAD IN THE PAST; SO IT WILL IN THE FUTURE TOO

WE SHALL DEFEND CONSTITUTIONAL VALUES — SOVEREIGN, SOCIALIST, SECULAR
AND DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC — CHAMPION PEACE, PROGRESS AND DIGNITY OF ALL CITIZENS

THE AIIEA SHALL BE OUR GUIDING INSTRUMENT TO CONSTRUCT
A JUST, FAIR AND EQUAL SOCIETY FOR ALL

WE TAKE THE PLEDGE TO DEFEND AND ADVANCE THE NOBLE IDEALS OF AIIEA

Issued by the AIIEA Secretariat

With Best Compliments from

**NORTHERN ZONE INSURANCE
EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION**

**DIVISIONAL COMMITTEE
JALANDHAR**



THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

The journey that AIIEA embarked upon on 1st July 1951 has now completed 75 years. The AIIEA set attainment of certain noble values as the goals of this journey. This journey was not easy. The AIIEA had to traverse the difficult path overcoming great obstacles and beating back the enemies and adversaries waiting at every bend to destroy this unique movement. It has been a glorious and exhilarating journey. The AIIEA successfully achieved some of the goals set for this journey. It unified the employees and secured for them decent life and working conditions. It remained steadfast to its social and political commitments. It became a unique and model trade union respected by the global working-class movement. This journey of 75 years undertaken by generations of insurance employees is worthy of great celebrations and there have been enthusiastic celebrations across the country. The AIIEA has made all its members proud; and its leaders, cadres and ordinary rank and file have made AIIEA proud and great.

As the AIIEA steps into its 76th year, challenges much bigger than those in the past confront the organisation. Today, there is an existential threat to the organised trade

EDITORIAL

union movement in India. Indian ruling classes have enthusiastically embraced neoliberalism, a retrograde ideology totally hostile to the working class. The recent enactment of the labour codes taking away from the workers the gains secured through decades of struggles have privileged the interests of the capital over the well-being of the working class. In a bid to accumulate unprecedented wealth, the ruling classes are destroying institutions built in the public sector and nurtured so carefully by their workforce. The social fabric of the country is being torn apart through communal polarisation. Efforts are being made to disrupt the unity built by the trade unions on the foundations of secular values. There is no longer any independence of the democratic and constitutional institutions; they have been totally taken over by the executive. The judiciary which is considered as the sentinel of citizens' rights is now heavily tilted in favour of the neoliberal agenda. These are the enormous challenges and trade union movement including the AIIEA has to develop tactics and strategies to successfully meet them.

There is a feeling that today's youth who are coming into the industry have no motivation to

In this Issue

- 8 Internationalism & Solidarity
Amanulla Khan
- 13 Comparing the Incomparable
Dr. Santosh Kumar Mohapatra
- 16 दरकती भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था:
सरकार ने खोया जन विश्वास
रामचंद्र शर्मा
- 19 Issuance of Bonus Shares by LIC
Saumya Basu Mallick

- 20 A Storm's Coming
Prof. Anup Sinha
- 22 US-Iran deal raises inescapable
question of what the war was for
Jeremy Bowen
- 24 SIR & Supreme Court
Two Editorials

Insurance News - A M Khan
Working Class Struggles - S Sridhar
Economic Notes - J Suresh
For our Field Force - Arivukkadal

Subscription: Annual Rs.240 Single Rs.20

Cover design & Lay-out:
M Ramu, Kriya Prakashana

No.1, 1st Cross, CSI Compound,
Bengaluru-560027
Ph: 080-48529910

insuranceworker1957@gmail.com iw_2005@yahoo.com

accept the noble values of the working-class philosophy and make contributions to develop a strong trade union movement to resist the neoliberal onslaught. The AIIEA does not subscribe to this understanding. It is true that neoliberalism teaches individualism and selfishness. The youth are being brainwashed to remain totally oblivious to what is happening to the society and weaker sections of the population. We have experienced that if the young comrades are constantly engaged in conversation, they are willing to listen. They are also learning through their own life experiences that the ruling classes are diverting their attention from the real life problems by fanning communal hatred. This is helping them to develop their own understanding of issues and expanding the horizon of their worldview. The AIIEA has succeeded in these efforts to a large extent. The regular trade union classes and opportunities to be part of the decision making has helped a large number of young comrades to take up responsible positions in the organisation. Learning from this success, greater efforts have to be made in this direction. The AIIEA is confident that the present generation would lead the organisation as efficiently and effectively as the earlier generations.

These 75 years have been a great and rich experience in building unity and a trade union on the noble values of the working class philosophy. The AIIEA looks to the future with hope and confidence. It will traverse on the difficult path to achieve the dreams of its founders by making significant contributions to the project of constructing a just, fair and equal society. We congratulate all the insurance employees for being a part of this great journey. Let the caravan of AIIEA continue its journey towards its cherished goal.

IMPRESSIVE PERFORMANCE BY PUBLIC SECTOR

The Public Sector Insurance Industry has given another impressive performance in the financial year 2025-2026. This performance has been achieved when there is a fall in the disposable income impacting the purchasing power of the common citizens. The public sector has also been successful in meeting the challenges of intense competition.

The LIC sold over 18441175 individual policies to earn a first-year premium income of ₹ 67676 crore recording a modest growth of 8.29% over the last year. It also recorded a 3.7% growth in the number of policies. The LIC registered a growth of 16.25% in group business earning a premium income of ₹196609 crore. The total premium income reached ₹ 535984 crore recording a healthy growth of 9.8% over the corresponding period last year. The LIC continued its market domination with a share of around 57% in premium income and over 65% in the number of policies.

The assets under management

सफर जारी है

एआईआईईए ने 1 जुलाई 1951 को जो सफर शुरू किया था, उसके अब 75 साल पूरे हो गए हैं। एआईआईईए ने इस सफर के लिए कुछ नेक मूल्यों को हासिल करने का लक्ष्य रखा था। यह सफर आसान नहीं था। एआईआईईए को मुश्किल रास्तों से गुजरना पड़ा, बड़ी बड़ी रूकावटों को पार करना पड़ा और उन दुश्मनों व विरोधियों से मुकाबला करना पड़ा जो इस अनोखे आन्दोलन को खत्म करने के लिए हर मोड़ पर घात लगाए बैठे थे। यह एक शानदार और जोश से भरा सफर रहा है। एआईआईईए ने इस सफर के लिए तय किए गए कुछ लक्ष्यों को सफलतापूर्वक हासिल किया। इसने कर्मचारियों को एकजुट किया और उनके लिए सम्मानजनक जीवन और काम करने की अच्छी स्थितियां सुनिश्चित की। यह अपनी सामाजिक और राजनीतिक प्रतिबद्धताओं पर अडिग रहा। यह एक अनोखा टेड यूनियन बना, जिसका सम्मान वैश्विक मजदूर-वर्ग आन्दोलन में किया जाता है। बीमा कर्मचारियों की कई पीढ़ियों द्वारा तय किया गया यह 75 साल का सफर बड़े जश्न के काबिल है और पूरे देश में इसे बड़े उत्साह के साथ मनाया गया है। एआईआईईए

ने अपने सभी सदस्यों को गौरवान्वित किया है; और इसके नेताओं, कार्यकर्ताओं और आम सदस्यों ने एआईआईईए को गौरवान्वित और महान बनाया है।

जैसे-जैसे एआईआईईए अपने 76वें साल में कदम रख रहा है, संगठन के सामने पहले से कहीं बड़ी चुनौतियां हैं। आज भारत में संगठित टेड यूनियन आन्दोलन के अस्तित्व पर ही खतरा मंडरा रहा है। भारत के शासक वर्गों ने बड़े उत्साह के साथ नव-उदारवाद को अपनाया है; यह एक ऐसी प्रतिगामी विचारधारा है जो पूरी तरह से मजदूर वर्ग के खिलाफ है। हाल ही में लागू की गई श्रम संहिताओं ने दशकों के संघर्ष से मजदूरों को मिले फायदों को छीन लिया है और मजदूर वर्ग की भलाई के बजाय पूंजी के हितों को प्राथमिकता दी है। बेहिसाब दौलत जमा करने की होड़ में, शासक वर्ग सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में बनाए गए और वहां के कर्मचारियों द्वारा बड़ी सावधानी से संवारे गए संस्थानों को नष्ट कर रहे हैं। साम्प्रदायिक धुंवीकरण के जरिए देश के सामाजिक ताने-बाने को तोड़ा जा रहा है। धर्मनिरपेक्षा मूल्यों के आधार पर टेड यूनियनों द्वारा बनाई गई एकता को तोड़ने की कोशिशों की जा रही

LIC REGISTERS JOBLESS GROWTH

reached a whopping figure of over ₹ 57.29 lakh crore. Its Indian Embedded Value is estimated at ₹ 789185 crore. The profits LIC earned after tax is ₹ 57419 crore, a growth of 19.25% over the previous year. The performance of LIC in other areas too is impressive. It settled 99.44% of the death claims. The over all expense ratio declined to 11.91% from 12.42%. The expenses on wage and other remunerations for employees too declined from 5.5% to 5.2% of the premium income.

The Public Sector General Insurance Companies too recorded good growth in premium income. The four companies procured a combined premium of ₹ 102474 crore as against 1 95252 crore of previous year. This translates into a growth of 7.6% over the previous financial year with a market share of 36.8%. The New India Assurance Company continued

to lead the market with a share of 12.75%. It earned a premium income of ₹ 42821.77 crore registering a growth of 10.87% over the previous year. The United India with a premium income of ₹ 21422.63 crore and a growth of 6.73%; The Oriental Insurance Company with a premium income of ₹ 20597.75 Crore and a growth of 4.09% and National Insurance Company with ₹17632.56 crore premium with a growth of 5.16% showed decent progress in the most challenging economic and competitive environment.

It is a common understanding that any growth should also lead to creation of additional jobs. But India for the past decade and more has been witnessing jobless and at times job loss growth. This finds reflection in LIC too. Though LIC has been registering impressive growth on growth every year, there is no addition to its workforce. On the contrary,

there is continuous shrinking in the strength of the workforce. The growth of LIC is due to the increased productivity of its workforce and their commitment to the institution. A comparison with the number of in-force individual policies and the workforce between LIC and the private sector show the magnificent levels of efficiency and high standards achieved by the workforce of LIC.

The total individual in-force policies in the life insurance industry is recorded as 32.68 crore as on 31.3.2025. The LIC has a share of 26.89 crore policies while the combined share of 23 private companies is 5.79 crore policies. These statistics are taken from the IRDAI Handbook 2024-25. The total employee strength of LIC is 91606 as per the LIC Annual Report 2024-25. The reliable estimates suggest that the 23 private companies have a com-



हैं। अब लोकतान्त्रिक और संवैधानिक संस्थानों की कोई स्वतन्त्रता नहीं बची है; उन पर पूरी तरह से सरकार का कब्जा हो गया है। न्यायपालिका, जिसे नागरिकों के अधिकारों का रक्षक माना जाता है, अब नवउदारवादी एजेण्डे के पक्षा में बुरी तरह झुकी हुई है। ये बहुत बड़ी चुनौतियां हैं और एआईआईईए समेत पूरे टैड यूनियन आन्दोलन को इनका सफलतापूर्वक सामना करने के लिए तरीके और रणनीतियां बनानी होंगी।

आजकल उद्योग में आने वाले युवाओं के बारे में यह धारणा है कि उनमें मजदूर वर्ग की विचारधारा के अच्छे मूल्यों को अपनाने और नवउदारवादी हमलों का मुकाबला करने के लिए एक मजबूत टैड यूनियन आन्दोलन बनाने में योगदान देने की कोई प्रेरणा नहीं है। एआईआईईए इस सोच से सहमत नहीं है। यह सच है कि नव-उदारवाद व्यक्तिवाद और स्वार्थ सिखलाता है। युवाओं का बे नवाँश इस तरह किया जा रहा है ताकि वे समाज और आबादी के कमजोर वर्गों के साथ हो रही घटनाओं से पूरी तरह अनजान बने रहें। हमने देखा है कि अगर युवा साथियों से लगातार बातचीत की जाए, तो वे सुनने को तैयार रहते हैं। वे अपने जीवन के अनुभवों से यह सीख रहे हैं कि शासक वर्ग साम्प्रदायिक नफरत फैलाकर उनका ध्यान असली समस्याओं से भटका रहे हैं। इससे उन्हें मुहों के बारे में अपनी समझ विकसित करने और अपने नजरिए का दायरा

बढ़ाने में मदद मिल रही है। एआईआईईए इन कोशिशों में काफी हद तक सफल रहा है। नियमित टैड यूनियन कक्षाएं और फैसले लेने की प्रक्रिया में शामिल होने के मौकों ने बड़ी संख्या में युवा साथियों को संगठन में जिम्मेदारी वाले पदों को संभालने में मदद की है। इस सफलता से सीख लेते हुए, इस दिशा में और ज्यादा कोशिशों करने की जरूरत है। एआईआईईए को भरोसा है कि मौजूदा पीढ़ी संगठन का नेतृत्व उतनी ही कुशलता और असरदार ढंग से करेगी, जितना पिछली पीढ़ियों ने किया था।

ये 75 साल, मजदूर वर्ग की विचारधारा के नेक मूल्यों पर एकता और टैड यूनियन बनाने का एक शानदार और समृद्ध अनुभव रहे हैं। एआईआईईए उम्मीद और भरोसे के साथ भविष्य की ओर देख रहा है। यह एक न्यायपूर्ण, निष्पक्ष और समान समाज बनाने के काम में अहम योगदान देकर अपने संस्थापकों के सपनों को पूरा करने के मुश्किल रास्ते पर आगे बढ़ेगा। हम इस शानदार सफर का हिस्सा बनने के लिए सभी बीमा कर्मचारियों को बधाई देते हैं। एआईआईईए का कारवां अपने प्रिय लय की ओर बढ़ता रहे।

EDITORIAL

bined employee strength ranging from 2 to 2.5 lakh. These statistics forcefully suggest not only the efficiency level of LIC but also the stress and strain in which the employees have been working. In the circumstances, it becomes clear that LIC needs massive recruitment, especially in the clerical and subordinate cadre.

The reasons as to why LIC is dilly dallying on the important issue of recruitment is clear. The LIC and its top officials today have become faithful to the idea that public holding of its shares has entrusted to them the responsibility of only max-

imising profits for its shareholders. In the process, the objectives of nationalisation are being given a decent burial. It is developing a business model where its entire business operations would centre around generating more returns to the shareholders ignoring the social commitments for which it was established. There is very little emphasis on the number of policies and the focus is only on high premium. Non-par policies which give higher profits for the shareholders are preferred over endowment policies that are preferred by rural and semi-urban populations.

The attempt to generate higher profits is also made by reducing the fixed cost on wages as seen in the decline of wage as a percentage of premium income. This is being done by gradual reduction in workforce by not recruiting to fill the vacancies that arise from retirements and deaths. The LIC has chosen to displace its precious human resources by increasing use of higher technology.

It is not that only LIC shares are floating in the market. Every public sector bank has substantial public equity holding. The Banks have been recruiting staff. There has been some re-

सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों का शानदार प्रदर्शन

सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बीमा उद्योग ने वित्तीय वर्ष 2025-26 में एक बार फिर शानदार प्रदर्शन किया है। यह प्रदर्शन ऐसे समय में हासिल किया गया है जब खर्च करने योग्य आय में गिरावट के कारण आम नागरिकों की क्रय शक्ति प्रभावित हुई है। सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र कड़ी प्रतिस्पर्धा की चुनौतियों का सामना करने में भी सफल रहा है।

एलआईसी ने 1,84,41,175 से ज्यादा व्यक्तिगत पॉलिसी बेचकर पहले साल के प्रीमियम से 67,676 करोड़ रुपये की कमाई की, जो पिछले साल के मुकाबले 8.29 प्रतिशत की सामान्य वृद्धि है। पॉलिसी की संख्या में भी 3.7 प्रतिशत की बढ़ोतरी दर्ज की गई। एलआईसी ने सामूहिक बीमा व्यवसाय में 16.25 प्रतिशत की बढ़ोतरी दर्ज की और प्रीमियम से 1,96,609 करोड़ रुपये अर्जित किए। कुल प्रीमियम आय 5,35,984 करोड़ रुपये तक पहुंच गई, जो पिछले साल की इसी अवधि के मुकाबले 9.8 प्रतिशत की स्वस्थ बढ़ोतरी है। एलआईसी ने प्रीमियम आय में लगभग 57 प्रतिशत और पॉलिसी की संख्या में 65 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा हिस्सेदारी के साथ बाजार में अपना दबदबा बनाए रखा।

प्रबन्धन के तहत परिसम्पत्तियों (एयूएम) का आंकड़ा 57.29 लाख करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा के विशाल स्तर पर पहुंच गया। इसका भारतीय अंतर्निहित मूल्य का अनुमान 7,89,185 करोड़ रुपये लगाया गया है। टैक्स के बाद एलआईसी का मुनाफा 57,419 करोड़ रुपये रहा, जो पिछले साल के मुकाबले 19.25 प्रतिशत अधिक है। दूसरे क्षेत्रों में भी एलआईसी का प्रदर्शन शानदार रहा है। इसने 99.44 प्रतिशत मृत्यु दावों का निपटारा किया। कुल व्यय अनुपात 12.42 प्रतिशत से घटकर 11.91 प्रतिशत हो गया। कर्मचारियों के वेतन और दूसरे भत्तों पर होने वाला खर्च भी प्रीमियम से होने वाली आय का 5.5 प्रतिशत से घटकर 5.2 प्रतिशत रह गया।

सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की साधारण बीमा कम्पनियों ने भी

प्रीमियम आय में अच्छी वृद्धि दर्ज की। चारों कम्पनियों ने संयुक्त रूप से पिछले वर्ष के 95252 करोड़ रुपये के मुकाबले 102474 करोड़ रुपये का प्रीमियम अर्जित किया। यह पिछले वित्तीय वर्ष की तुलना में 7.6 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि और 36.8 प्रतिशत की बाजार हिस्सेदारी को दर्शाता है। न्यू इण्डिया एश्योरेन्स कम्पनी 12.75 प्रतिशत हिस्सेदारी के साथ बाजार का नेतृत्व करती रही। इसने पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में 10.87 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि दर्ज करते हुए 42821.77 करोड़ रुपये की प्रीमियम आय अर्जित की। यूनाइटेड इण्डिया ने 21422.63 करोड़ रुपये की प्रीमियम आय और 6.73 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि के साथ; ओरिएण्टल इश्योरेन्स कम्पनी ने 20597.75 करोड़ रुपये की प्रीमियम आय 4.09 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि के साथ और नेशनल इश्योरेन्स कम्पनी ने 17632.56 करोड़ रुपये की प्रीमियम 5.16 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि के साथ सबसे चुनौतीपूर्ण आर्थिक और प्रतिस्पर्धी माहौल में अच्छी प्रगति प्रदर्शित की।

आम तौर पर यह माना जाता है कि किसी भी तरह की वृद्धि में नौकरियां भी और पैदा होनी चाहिए। लेकिन भारत में पिछले एक दशक या उससे ज्यादा समय से ऐसी वृद्धि देखी जा रही है जिसमें नौकरियां नहीं बढ़ रहीं, बल्कि कभी-कभी नौकरियां कम भी हो रही हैं। एलआईसी में भी यही स्थिति दिखाई देती है। हालांकि एलआईसी हर साल शानदार वृद्धि दर्ज कर रही है, लेकिन इसके कर्मचारियों की संख्या में कोई बढ़ोतरी नहीं हो रही है। उसके उलट, कर्मचारियों का संख्याबल लगातार सिकुड़ता जा रहा है। एलआईसी की यह वृद्धि उसके कर्मचारियों की बढ़ी हुई उत्पादकता और संस्था के प्रति उनकी प्रतिबद्धता की वजह से है। एलआईसी और निजी क्षेत्र के बीच चालू व्यक्तिगत पॉलिसी की संख्या और कर्मचारियों की संख्या की तुलना करने पर एलआईसी के कर्मचारियों की बेहतरीन कार्यक्षमता और उच्च मानकों



cruitment in PSGI companies too. The LIC could not fill the 8000 vacancies announced for Assistants in 2020 with more than 2000 posts remaining unfilled. Since 2020, there has been a drastic reduction in the Assistant cadre. But LIC, despite promises of the last five years, has not initiated any effort to fill these posts. There are hardly any subordinate staff in LIC. The LIC has been outsourcing the class IV jobs and has been using temporary and badli employees to perform the permanent jobs. If this is not exploitation of the poor workers, what else it is?

Today, the country is witnessing a massive upsurge of youth against unemployment. The youth participation in programs demanding jobs has seen huge increase. The youth have declared that they are not parasites or cockroaches. They are the future of this nation and therefore, have a big stake in the functioning of the Republic. The AIIEA in its Platinum Jubilee Year Conference had asked its units to organise conventions and seminars on the issue of unemployment. It is important to organise solidarity actions where the youth have been agitating on this issue.

The LIC is a State under Article 12 of the Constitution. It has to fulfil its social responsibility through its functioning that would bring greater good to the society and the citizens. Not just working to maximise profits, its job is also to create jobs which the institution needs so urgently now. Recruitment is the immediate necessity for the institution. This issue cannot be brushed under the carpet any longer. The AIIEA has to take steps to force LIC to initiate the process of recruitment without further loss of time.

एलआईसी में दर्ज हुई रोजगारविहीन वृद्धि

का पता चलता है।

31.03.2025 तक जीवन बीमा उद्योग में कुल 32.68 करोड़ व्यक्तिगत पॉलिसी चल रही हैं। इसमें एलआईसी की हिस्सेदारी 26.89 करोड़ पॉलिसी की है, जबकि 23 प्राइवेट कम्पनियों की कुल हिस्सेदारी 5.79 करोड़ पॉलिसी की है। ये आंकड़े आईआरडीएआई की 2024-25 की हैंडबुक से लिए गए हैं। एलआईसी की वार्षिक रिपोर्ट 2024-25 के अनुसार एलआईसी में कुल 91606 कर्मचारियों की संख्या है। भरोसेमन्द अनुमान बताते हैं कि 23 प्राइवेट कम्पनियों में कुल कर्मचारियों की संख्या 2 से 2.5 लाख के बीच है। ये आंकड़े न केवल एलआईसी के काम करने के तरीके को प्रदर्शित करते हैं, बल्कि कर्मचारियों के काम के तनाव और दबाव को भी दर्शाते हैं। इन परिस्थितियों में, यह साफ हो जाता है कि एलआईसी को बड़े पैमाने पर भर्ती की जरूरत है, खासकर लिपिकीय और अधीनस्थ संवर्ग में।

एलआईसी के भर्ती जैसे अहम मुद्दे पर टालमटोल करने की वजहें साफ हैं। एलआईसी और उसके सर्वोच्च अधिकारी अब इस सोच के प्रति अधिक वफादार हो गए हैं कि जनता के पास शेयर होने की वजह से उनकी जिम्मेदारी सिर्फ शेयरधारकों के लिए ज्यादा से ज्यादा मुनाफा कमाना है। इस प्रक्रिया में, राष्ट्रीयकरण के मकसद को पूरी तरह भुलाया जा रहा है। यह एक ऐसा व्यवसाय मॉडल बना रहा है जिसमें उसका पूरा कामकाज शेयरधारकों को ज्यादा लाभ देने पर केन्द्रित होगा, और उन सामाजिक प्रतिबद्धताओं को नजरअन्दाज कर दिया जाएगा जिनके लिए इसे बनाया गया था। पॉलिसी की संख्या अधिक करने पर बहुत कम जोर दिया जा रहा है और सारा ध्यान ज्यादा प्रीमियम पर है। शेयरधारकों को ज्यादा मुनाफा देने वाली लाभ रहित पॉलिसी को बंदोबस्ती पालिसी के मुकाबले ज्यादा प्राथमिकता दी जा रही है, जबकि ग्रामीण और अर्ध-शहरी आबादी बंदोबस्ती पॉलिसी को पसन्द करती है। ज्यादा मुनाफा कमाने की कोशिश वेतन पर होने वाले स्थिर

खर्च को कम करके भी की जा रही है, जैसा कि प्रीमियम आय के प्रतिशत के रूप में वेतन में आई गिरावट से पता चलता है। ऐसा कर्मचारियों की संख्या को धीरे-धीरे कम करके किया जा रहा है; सेवानिवृत्ति और मृत्यु से खाली होने वाली जगहों पर नई भर्तियां नहीं की जा रही हैं। एलआईसी ने तकनीकी का अधिक इस्तेमाल करके अपने कीमती मानव संसाधनों को हटाने का रास्ता चुना है।

ऐसा नहीं है कि बाजार में सिर्फ एलआईसी के शेयर ही मौजूद हों। हर सरकारी बैंक में जनता की काफी हिस्सेदारी है। ये बैंक भी तो कर्मचारियों की भर्ती कर रहे हैं। सरकारी साधारण बीमा कम्पनियों में भी कुछ भर्तियां हुई हैं। एलआईसी 2020 में सहायकों के लिए घोषित 8,000 खाली पदों को नहीं भर पाई और, 2000से ज्यादा पद खाली रह गए। 2020 से सहायक संवर्ग में भारी कमी आई है। लेकिन पिछले पांच सालों के वादों के बावजूद, एलआईसी ने इन पदों को भरने के लिए कोई कोशिश नहीं की है। एलआईसी में शायद ही कोई अधीनस्थ कर्मचारी हो। एलआईसी चतुर्थ श्रेणी की नौकरियों को बाहर ठेके पर दे रही है और स्थायी नौकरियों के लिए अस्थायी और बदली कर्मचारियों का इस्तेमाल कर रही है। अगर यह गरीब मजदूरों का शोषण नहीं है, तो और क्या है?

आज देश में बेरोजगारी के खिलाफ युवाओं का जबरदस्त आन्दोलन देखने को मिल रहा है। नौकरी की मांग करने वाले कार्यक्रमों में युवाओं की भागीदारी में भारी बढ़ोतरी हुई है। युवाओं ने साफ कर दिया है कि वे परजीवी या काँकरोच नहीं हैं। वे इस देश का भविष्य हैं और इसलिए, गणतन्त्र के कामकाज में उनकी बड़ी हिस्सेदारी है। एआईआईईए ने अपने प्लेटिनम जुबली वर्ष के सम्मेलन में अपनी इकाइयों से बेरोजगारी के मुद्दे पर सम्मेलन और सेमिनार आयोजित करने को कहा था। जहाँ युवा इस मुद्दे पर आन्दोलन कर रहे



Madras HC Stays the Check-off in General Insurance

The GIPSA had initiated the process of checkoff exercise under Industrial Relations Code without following the procedures laid down under the law. This was brought to the notice of GIPSA and request was made to following the laid down procedure. The letter written by Standing Committee to GIPSA on this issue is reproduced.

With response forthcoming from GIPSA to several representations, the issue was taken to the Madras High Court. The Hon'ble High Court took note of the issues raised issued directions to the management to respond. The Court has granted an interim stay on the check-off exercise vide its order dated 17.06.2026.

Check off Exercise, 2026 (Letter of Standing Committee to GIPSA on June 11, 2026)

"This refers to the notifications issued by the New India and National Insurance on 10.06.2026 on the above subject. The other PSGI companies are expected to follow suit.

While perusing the notification along with the annexures, we find that the GIPSA and member companies have decided to comply with the Industrial Relations Code, 2020 by introducing the concepts of recognised union- instead of Check off qualified- and negotiating council and changing the eligibility criteria for the same.

While doing so, the Companies have completely ignored the mandatory process as laid down by Industrial Relations Code Rules, 2026 notified in May this year. In accordance with these rules, any employer has to follow certain mandatory procedures to comply with the provisions of Industrial Relations Code, 2020. We would like to mention two of the procedures which should be carried out compulsorily:

1. The consultation with all registered Trade Unions must be done to decide on modalities of

verification at least 60 days before the beginning of the verification exercise.

2. The rules contemplate verification by the verification officer through a prescribed process, including secret ballot wherever applicable. There is no specific provision permitting a Check off process which compromises secrecy. Under the extant Check off process, the membership preference of an employee is known to all.

Irrespective of AIIEA's stance on the Industrial Relations Code 2020, it is our considered view that the mere adoption of the provisions of the Code without adherence to the relevant rules and procedures prescribed thereunder, amounts to a gross violation of the Industrial Relations Code 2020 itself.

You would be aware that through our communication dt. 08.06.2026, we had emphasised the need for consultation with Registered trade unions before embarking on the process of recognition of trade unions.

We once again request you to keep the exercise in abeyance and start the process of threadbare discussion on the matter. Please also take note that should our demand remain unaddressed by the management, we will be constrained to seek appropriate legal recourse."

►►रोजगारविहीन वृद्धि

हैं, वहां एकजुटता दिखाने वाले कार्यक्रम आयोजित करना जरूरी है।

संविधान के अनुच्छेद 12 के तहत एलआईसी एक राज्य है। इसे अपने कामकाज के जर्गिए अपनी सामाजिक जिम्मेदारी निभानी है, जिससे समाज और नागरिकों का ज्यादा भला हो सके। इसका काम सिर्फ मुनाफा बढ़ाना ही नहीं, बल्कि नौकरियां पैदा करना भी है, जिसकी इस संस्थान को अभी बहुत ज्यादा जरूरत है। संस्थान के लिए भर्ती करना तुरन्त जरूरी है। इस मुद्दे को अब और नजरअन्दाज नहीं किया जा सकता। एआईआईईए को ऐसे कदम उठाने होंगे जिनसे एलआईसी बिना और समय बर्बाद किए भर्ती की प्रक्रिया शुरू करने के लिए मजबूर हो।

Deferred Increments Restored

The LIC had deferred increments and related benefits for participation in the strikes called by All India Insurance Employees' Association on 9th July 2025 and 12th February 2026. The AIIEA had been demanding restoration of the deferred increments.

The Central Office has issued instructions on 17th June 2026 for restoration of the deferred increments.

SEBI's Interim Order against Rajesh Exports Limited

AIIEA writes to LIC on 5/6 /2026

“The capital market regulator SEBI has made some damning allegations against Rajesh Exports Limited and its promoters. They have been accused of serious financial irregularities, including large-scale financial misstatements, diversion of funds through promoter-linked entities, and grave lapses in corporate governance. The order reportedly alleges that the company misrepresented consolidated revenues amounting to approximately ¹ 15.15 lakh crore during the period FY2020-21 to FY2024-25, constituting nearly 99.8% of the company's reported consolidated revenue during the said period.

These allegations, emanating from India's capital market regulator itself, have understandably caused deep concern among policyholders, investors, and members of the public. More importantly, it has raised legitimate questions regarding LIC's investment oversight mechanisms, considering that LIC reportedly holds approximately 10.80% equity stake in Rajesh Exports Limited. LIC is the trustee of the policyholders' funds and therefore, there is reasonable

expectations that it will undertake rigorous investigations before any investment with a long-term view of the growth and profitability of the company and to protect the interests of the policyholders. We are confident that LIC would have made investment in this company after taking all these issues into consideration.

Some genuine concerns have been raised as to why LIC is nearly the sole domestic institutional investor in this company? There are reports that in the recent period many foreign institutional investors have withdrawn from this equity holding. There may be some genuine reasons to remain invested in this company. Given LIC's unique position as the custodian of the savings and financial security of millions of Indians, we feel that LIC should come clean on the issue by issuing a detailed statement on the matter so as to maintain public confidence in LIC and reassure millions of policy holders whose trust forms the foundation of this institution.”

AIIEA PROTESTS SALE OF EQUITY SHARES IN GIC Re

The All India Insurance Employees' Association (AIIEA) strongly condemns the Government's decision to disinvest an additional 5% stake through offer for sale (OFS)- 2% base offer and 3% green-shoe in the GIC Re. This is over and above the earlier dilution of 14.22% in 2017 and 3.4% offer for sale in September 2024, bringing down government equity in the national reinsurer to 77.4%. This move is deeply disturbing and against the long-term interests of the nation.

GIC Re is not merely another public sector enterprise—it is India's national reinsurer and a strategic institution that plays a critical role in strengthening the insurance sector and supporting national economic stability. Weakening public ownership in such an important institution raises serious concerns about the Government's priorities. The repeated dilution of equity in profitable and strategically important public sector

institutions like the GIC Re reflects a dangerous policy direction.

The Government's stated objective of achieving a disinvestment target of Rs. 80,000 crore for FY 2026–27 cannot justify sacrificing long-term national interests for immediate fiscal management. Public sector institutions like GIC Re have been built over decades with public trust, professional excellence, and national commitment. They cannot be treated as instruments for short-term revenue generation.

AIIEA urges the Government to immediately halt further disinvestment in GIC Re and all strategic public sector financial institutions. The Government must focus on strengthening public ownership and safeguarding institutions that serve national priorities. The AIIEA reiterates its firm opposition to policies that weaken the public sector and calls upon all well-meaning citizens to resist such moves.

INTERNATIONALISM AND SOLIDARITY

AMANULLA KHAN

PLATINUM
JUBILEE 11
SERIES



The All India Insurance Employees' Association is a unique trade union. Its 75-year history makes it clear that while its fundamental responsibility was to secure a decent working and living conditions for the insurance employees, it never shied from proclaiming that it also has a broad social and political vision. The AIIEA never considered insurance employees as mere wage earners in their institutions but educated them about their social responsibilities. The AIIEA taught the insurance employees that they have a great stake in the construction of a just, fair and equal society and as citizens of this country in the functioning of the Democratic Republic. The AIIEA succeeded in mobilising the insurance employees in struggles on issues beyond their institutions and building up of solidarities with other sections of the working people. The AIIEA also lays great importance for the solidarity of the global trade union movement and decided to become part of the global resistance against international finance capital.

It is with this understanding that AIIEA secured affiliation to the World Federation of Trade Unions whose headquarters is in Athens, Greece. The WFTU is an umbrella body of trade unions in over 100 countries having membership of tens of millions of workers

AIIEA taught the insurance employees that they have a great stake in the construction of a just, fair and equal society and as citizens of this country in the functioning of the Democratic Republic. The AIIEA succeeded in mobilising the insurance employees in struggles on issues beyond their institutions and building up of solidarities with other sections of the working people.

AIIEA and its members are proud of the work they have done in building solidarities.

across the globe who consider capitalism as a dehumanising system and believe in class struggle. The AIIEA is affiliated to WFTU through Trade Union Internationale of Banking, Insurance and Financial institutions. The AIIEA has also played an important role in the formation and functioning of an organisation in the name of Southern Initiative on Globalisation and Trade Union Rights with headquarters at Perth Australia. Com Amanulla Khan discharged responsibilities as Secretary of South Asia chapter of SIGTUR. The representatives of AIIEA have participated in many international conventions and conferences and this helped the organisation to develop a better understanding of the common problems confronting the global working class.

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

The AIIEA has always stood with the struggles of

the working class in different parts of the globe. It not only held programs in solidarity with these struggles but many a times has also extended financial support. The most important struggle fought by the working class of South Africa supported by their comrades across the globe was against the apartheid regime. AIIEA was a proud part of this struggle against the most inhumane racist regime and helped the movement with financial assistance. In recognition of this contribution, Com Musa Moolla, a prominent anti-apartheid activist and Chief Representative of African National Congress in India participated in the Jaipur Conference of AIIEA in 1988 and expressed his gratitude for the support of AIIEA.

The AIIEA has stood in solidarity with the Cuban people who have been heroically fighting the unjust sanctions imposed by US imperialism.

The Cuban people say that it is their right to construct a society of their choice and the US imperialism cannot dictate what kind of society and the government they should have. Despite these unjust sanctions and crippling economic conditions, Cuba has an enviable record in human development which compares favourably with many of the advanced capitalist countries. In the recent period, the AIIEA has made significant financial contribution to the people of Cuba.

The heroic struggle against a powerful enemy by the Palestinian people for their homeland has always received support from the AIIEA. Palestine, perhaps is the last colony in the world where its territory is being stolen every single day by Israel and genocide of its people take place at regular intervals. Not just Israel and its supporter, the United States but the entire West is guilty of perpetrating this great injustice on the Palestinians. Unfortunately, India under the present regime has given up its moral stand and has become very close to the genocidal regime of Israel. Despite the change in the stand of the Indian Government on the issue of Palestine, AIIEA has been steadfast in supporting the demand for a homeland for the Palestinian people. The

AIIEA has also stood up with the people of Venezuela who are the latest victims of US imperialism.

The AIIEA extended support to the people of Nepal when that country suffered a massive earthquake in 2015. The delegation of AIIEA met the Ambassador of Nepal at New Delhi, expressed our solidarity and also extended financial help which came for lot of appreciation from the Nepalese government. Similarly, when Iraq in 2004 experienced an earthquake of great magnitude, the AIIEA was one of the first organisations in the country which offered financial assistance. The AIIEA considered the financial supports as an expression of solidarity with the working class of those countries. This marvellous record of AIIEA is what distinguishes it from other trade unions and makes its membership proud.

SOLIDARITY ACTIONS WITHIN INDIA

The AIIEA has a long history of supporting the struggles of the farmers on the issue of remunerative prices for the agriculture produce and other demands which have great impact on the life conditions of the farming community. The AIIEA is of the firm view that the struggle to construct a just and equal society can succeed only when the working class

and the farmers join together. The years 2020-21 saw the eruption of massive protests by the farming community in response to the enactment of three farm laws to benefit the corporate farming. The heroic dharna at the borders of Delhi by the farmers received wide support from the workers while the government called it anti-national and act of terror. The government ultimately had to back down and withdraw the three laws. The AIIEA extended full support to the struggle of the farmers. It held countrywide demonstrations and helped the agitation with massive financial assistance.

The AIIEA has also been in the forefront to help and support the struggles of the unorganised sections of the working class. It supported the 77-day heroic struggle of 125000 Bangalore based public sector employees in 1980s and offered financial assistance. It has been supporting the struggles of Anganwadi, Asha and Mid-day meal scheme workers both through demonstrative actions and financial assistance. This is being done with the understanding that these are not just acts of financial help but expression of class solidarity. Building such solidarities are essential to fight the global finance capital and the neoliberal regime.

IN DEFENCE OF NATIONAL UNITY

The national unity and unity of the working class are paramount to the AIIEA. The AIIEA does not see India as only a geographical entity and accorded great importance to the welfare of people living within this boundary. The

AIIEA also lays great importance for the solidarity of the global trade union movement and decided to become part of the global resistance against international finance capital.



country has rich diversities and linguistic, religious and cultural pluralities. It is of the firm opinion that the unity of the country can be maintained and strengthened only by recognising these diversities and pluralities. Therefore, whenever there was a challenge to the unity of the country, AIIEA was in the frontline in defending and protecting this unity. There are a number of examples where the AIIEA despite huge pressure refused to compromise on its fundamental principles relating to the unity of the country and its people. It is necessary to record some of the major interventions by the AIIEA.

The anti-reservation struggle in the 1980s in Gujarat took a violent turn. The conflict began on the issue of carrying forward to next year the unfilled seats of the reservation categories in the medical colleges. Soon, it turned into a full-fledged agitation against the very concept of reservation to the SC/ST communities. The Gujarat society and a number of trade unions were divided on the caste lines. There was huge pressure on the AIIEA to support this agitation. The AIIEA took a principled position that reservations which are guaranteed by the Constitution cannot be opposed. For this stand, it had to face widespread criticism and its leaders were physically attacked. But the AIIEA did not relent and continued to defend the constitutional guarantees relating to reservations. The AIIEA was prepared to pay any price to defend the unity and the Constitution. Today, the trade union movement recognises the correctness of the stand of AIIEA and respects

its principled stand.

The 1980s also witnessed the springing up of the demand of Khalistan, a separate country for the Sikh community. It was practically an armed rebellion. The AIIEA units of Punjab refused to be part of this separatist movement. Despite physical abuses and attacks on its leaders, the AIIEA stood firm in defence of national unity. The movement did not weaken AIIEA, rather it strengthened the organisation and today AIIEA enjoys near 100% loyalty of insurance employees in the State of Punjab.

The AIIEA also had to face massive attacks during the Assam agitation. What started as the agitation against foreigners turned into a full-scale campaign for secession. The situation was challenging for everyone who believed in national unity. The agitation brought into sharp focus the regional identity and regional aspirations. The AIIEA refused to be drawn into this agitation. The AIIEA campaigned that the real reason for the deprivation of the people lie in the under-development of the State and therefore the Centre should be forced to allocate resources and develop infrastructure to harness the huge natural resources of the State. It campaigned that both the Assamese and Bengali speaking

workers should realise the importance of unity and should be wary of the attempts to create the divisions. The AIIEA was branded as Anti-Assam and the organisation and its leaders came under tremendous attacks. Some Unions in LIC were opportunistic and joined the movement in order to wean away a section of the membership of AIIEA. But the AIIEA refused to compromise and stood rock solid in defence of unity of the nation. The trade union movement in Assam today recognises the principled stand of AIIEA and has accepted AIIEA as the leader of the trade union movement in Assam.

The separatist movement in Kashmir peaked in 1990. The roots of this movement, it is believed, lies in the rigged elections of 1987 pushing the young political activists into armed militancy resulting into forced exodus of the Kashmiri pandits. The years following this were very challenging to the AIIEA. The armed militancy and the support it received from across the border created a situation where national unity was really under threat. The AIIEA stood firm to defend the unity and campaigned that Kashmir is an integral part of India. Yes, it is true that the people were alienated due to certain excesses committed by the Indian State and refusal

Whenever there was a challenge to the unity of the country, AIIEA was in the frontline in defending and protecting this unity. There are a number of examples where the AIIEA despite huge pressure refused to compromise on its fundamental principles relating to the unity of the country and its people.



to concede the demand for regional autonomy within the Union of India. The AIIEA had to fight a number of forces. It was to the credit of AIIEA and its members that they refused to accept the calls of the separatists and despite personal danger took up the responsibility of protecting the LIC offices. The Srinagar Division today is one of the strongest units of the AIIEA with the strike performances whenever called exceeding over 90%. This is truly an amazing story of how the AIIEA built the unity across the country on the basis of a political and ideological understanding.

The early 1990s witnessed massive communal mobilisation leading to the destruction of the Babri Masjid. The AIIEA said, this act is an attack on the constitution of India especially when the Chief Minister of UP assured the Supreme Court that his government will protect the structure. The Supreme Court too later held this as a criminal act justifying the stand AIIEA had taken. The AIIEA was very clear that the perceived historical wrongs cannot be corrected through violence and there should be a dialogue between the communities. This stand of the AIIEA came under massive criticism and attack and some elements threatened the AIIEA of split. The AIIEA stood firm despite the fact that the then leadership of Baroda Division left the AIIEA and weaned away significant number of employees. For the AIIEA, what was important was not the loss of a few members but maintaining peace and communal harmony. Therefore, it made all efforts to campaign for communal harmony and

unity of the working class.

SOCIAL INTERVENTIONS

The Indian society is divided on the basis of caste resulting in massive social discrimination. The AIIEA believes that a trade union should wage not only class struggle for economic emancipation but also fight against social discrimination. The class and caste struggles are inseparable and both are necessary to the project of building a just fair and equal society. The AIIEA has always stressed on the need to fight social discrimination. It has been campaigning that only through the unity of all sections of working class, it would be possible to fight against social discrimination and for economic advancement.

The AIIEA is proud that it has been making significant contribution to this struggle in various parts of the country. The units of AIIEA in Tamil Nadu have been fighting social discrimination and for protection of rights of the SC/ST communities. They have become an important part of the Tamil Nadu Untouchability Eradication Front. The units of AIIEA played an important role in pulling down the untouchability wall in Uthapuram village in Madurai District. This wall was 600 metre long and 12 feet high physically segregating the residential areas of the Dalit and forward caste communities. The units of AIIEA in other southern states too have been making significant contributions to the struggle against untouchability.

A significant number of units of AIIEA have also been helping youth to prepare for competitive examinations by conducting free coaching

AIIEA believes that a trade union should wage not only class struggle for economic emancipation but also fight against social discrimination. The class and caste struggles are inseparable and both are necessary to the project of building a just fair and equal society.

classes by opening Ambedkar Coaching Centres. The Coimbatore Division has done excellent work in this regard. A large number of youths trained by Coimbatore centre have secured employment in government and other reputed private institutions. A significant number of them belong to the weaker sections of the society.

The AIIEA units have also been active in helping the women in distress. The belief in gender justice is motivating the women sub committees to intervene in cases where atrocities are committed against women providing them with legal and financial assistance. The Women Sub-Committee of Madurai Division has been doing an excellent job in this regard. The AIIEA has also been fighting against honour killings and its cadres have walked hundreds of miles creating awareness and demanding a stringent law. It has a record of helping the victims of honour killing; morally, legally and financially.

SOLIDARITY DURING NATURAL CALAMITIES

In the 75 years of its history, AIIEA has the distinction of one of the first trade unions to reach out and help those affected by

natural calamities. In a country where natural calamities like flood and earthquake occur frequently, AIIEA has fulfilled its responsibility by rushing help to the victims in different parts of the country. There is no major or minor natural calamity in the country where AIIEA failed to help the suffering victims. It not only provided immediate relief in the form of food, clothing and shelter but also created infrastructure that would help the communities. In different States it has constructed schools, community centres and houses. In the recent period it helped construction of a school in Assam, a Girls' school in Kashmir and a community centre in Mysore Division in Karnataka. In the past it has constructed schools, community centres and houses in Gujarat, Odisha, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and many other States. It has also helped hospitals by donating ambulances as in Jammu & Kashmir and by providing medical equipment in some other places.

The AIIEA made unprecedented contributions during the Covid pandemic. Across the country, its units mobilised funds and helped the poor who suffered the most during this period. The AIIEA units helped the migrant workers who were

travelling back to their places by arranging food and medicine for them. In a large number of places, the cadres of AIIEA worked as volunteers; arranging hospital beds, supply of oxygen cylinders and helping the official machinery. It was truly a magnificent effort and contribution.

The AIIEA distinguishes between charity and solidarity. It is very clear that it is not indulging in traditional philanthropy but its actions are of solidarity to express support and share the pain with the victims who invariably belong to the poorer sections of the society. Solidarity, therefore is rooted in the ideology of AIIEA. The AIIEA is absolutely clear that the welfare of the insurance employees is inextricably linked to the welfare of the entire working and toiling classes. Therefore, it is their responsibility to help their brethren when in need.

The AIIEA and its members are proud of the work they have done in building solidarities. Such solidarity is essential to push back the aggression of capitalism and its present variant, neoliberalism. The principles and values of AIIEA are appreciated and that is the reason why the global trade union movement respect and consider AIIEA as a model class-oriented trade union.

AIIEA distinguishes between charity and solidarity. Its actions are of solidarity to express support and share the pain with the victims who invariably belong to the poorer sections of the society. AIIEA is absolutely clear that the welfare of the insurance employees is inextricably linked to the welfare of the entire working and toiling classes. Therefore, it is their responsibility to help their brethren when in need.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has appealed to citizens to embrace austerity—conserve fuel, reduce foreign travel, avoid unnecessary purchases of gold, strengthen the swadeshi spirit, and exercise restraint in consumption due to the ongoing crisis due to war in West Asia. Ironically, while ordinary citizens are urged to tighten their belts, sections of the wealthy continue to indulge in extravagance, evade taxes, and default on large loans.

At a time when the Indian economy faces numerous structural and external challenges, the ruling establishment has been celebrating Narendra Modi's completion of 4,399 uninterrupted days in office with claims of surpassing Jawaharlal Nehru's continuous tenure of 4,398 days as an elected Prime Minister.

However, comparisons should be made only among comparables. Leaders belonging to different generations and governing under vastly different historical circumstances cannot be meaningfully judged through a single numerical benchmark. Every era presents its own challenges, opportunities, and responsibilities. Comparing a contemporary leader with a founding statesman of a newly independent nation while ignoring historical context is intellectually unsound and politically motivated.

If total tenure is considered, Jawaharlal Nehru served as India's Prime Minister for approximately 6,667 days, from 15 August 1947 until his death on 27 May 1964. Before Independence, he had secured a major victory in the 1946 elections and headed the Interim Government from September 1946 until August 1947. More importantly, before



At a time when Indian economy faces numerous structural and external challenges and the PM himself is urging ordinary citizens to tighten their belts, the ruling establishment has been celebrating Narendra Modi's completion of 4,399 uninterrupted days in office with claims of surpassing Jawaharlal Nehru's continuous tenure of 4,398 days as an elected Prime Minister. Comparing Jawaharlal Nehru and Narendra Modi merely on the basis of tenure is not only historically flawed but also intellectually misleading.

DR. SANTOSH KUMAR MOHAPATRA

President, CDIEA, Cuttack

COMPARING THE INCOMPARABLE

assuming office, he spent nearly nine years in British prisons during the freedom struggle and devoted a substantial portion of his inherited wealth to public causes.

Nehru's contribution cannot be measured merely by the number of days he remained in office. He led a newly independent nation through one of the most difficult phases in its history. Under his leadership, India institutionalised parliamentary democracy, strengthened secular and democratic values, promoted scientific temper, established premier educational and research institutions, and laid the foundations of modern industrial, scientific, and technological development. Much of India's subsequent growth rests upon the foundations laid during his tenure.

Political longevity alone is not a measure of governance, vision, integrity, or statesmanship. History judges' leaders not by how long they occupy office but by what they achieve,

the institutions they build, the values they uphold, and the sacrifices they make for the nation. It is not how long one rules, but how one rules, that determines a leader's place in history.

If Narendra Modi's economic performance is to be evaluated, the more appropriate comparison is with his immediate predecessor, Dr. Manmohan Singh. Likewise, India's economic performance should be compared with countries such as China, which possess comparable population sizes and developmental aspirations. Economic comparisons should be made using real and inflation-adjusted indicators rather than absolute nominal figures, which can often be misleading.

Dr. Manmohan Singh served as Prime Minister from May 2004 to May 2014. During his ten-year tenure, India's average GDP growth was approximately 8.1% under the 2004-05 base-year series. Following the revision of the

GDP base year to 2011-12, the average growth rate for the UPA period was recalculated at around 6.8%, generating considerable controversy among economists and policymakers.

India crossed the 9% growth mark three times during Dr. Singh's tenure and recorded double-digit growth once. GDP growth reached 9.5% in 2005-06, 9.3% in 2007-08, and 9.7%



Nobody can beat Nehru's record. He served 17 years as PM and the last 12 on extended blame tenure

Cartoon courtesy: Manjul @ facebook

in 2010–11, while the highest growth rate recorded after Independence was 10.2% in 1988–89 under Rajiv Gandhi.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is calculated as Gross Value Added (GVA) plus product taxes minus product subsidies. Consequently, increases in indirect taxation and reductions in subsidies can inflate headline GDP figures even when productive activity remains sluggish. GVA therefore offers a more accurate picture of actual production.

On this basis, accumulated GVA growth during the UPA period from 2004–05 to 2013–14 was approximately 93.2%, compared with only 66.3% between 2014–15 and 2023–24. In terms of Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR), GVA grew at approximately 6.82% under the UPA compared with 5.22% during the first decade of the Modi government.

The average GDP growth during Narendra Modi's first decade in office was approximately 5.9%, rising to about 6.15% when extended to twelve years. A March 2026 study by Abhishek Anand, Josh Felman, and Arvind Subramanian argued that growth between 2005 and 2011 may have been underestimated by 1 to 1.5%

annually, while growth between 2012 and 2023 may have been overestimated by 1.5 to 2%. Former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan has also repeatedly questioned the disconnect between official growth figures and ground realities such as weak investment, stagnant wages, and inadequate job creation.

India's nominal GDP rose from Rs.27.72 lakh crore in 2003–04 to Rs.113.55 lakh crore in 2013–14, representing growth of approximately 310% during the UPA period. By 2023–24, nominal GDP had reached Rs.301.23 lakh crore and approximately Rs.346.36 lakh crore in 2025–26. This implies growth of around 165% during Modi's first ten years and approximately 205% over twelve years.

Measured in US dollars, India's GDP increased from approximately \$608 billion in 2003–04 to \$1.87 trillion in 2013–14, a rise of 208%. By 2025–26, GDP stood at around \$4.15 trillion, implying growth of approximately 121% during the Modi era.

In dollar terms, per capita income increased from approximately \$456 in 2003–04 to \$1,201 in 2013–14, a rise of 163%. By 2025–26, it had

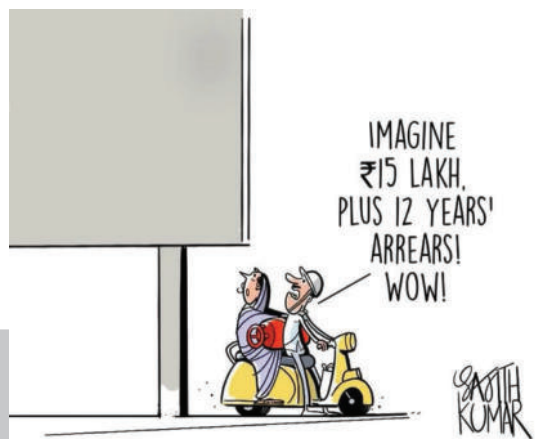
reached approximately \$2,651, representing growth of around 120% during the Modi period.

Yet, despite becoming one of the world's largest economies, India remains a lower-middle-income country. Per capita income rankings continue to remain low globally. According to IMF projections, Bangladesh is expected to surpass India in per capita GDP during 2026, with Bangladesh projected at approximately \$2,911 compared with India's \$2,812.

The celebration surrounding India's rise to become the world's fourth-largest economy suffered a setback when IMF estimates for 2026 placed India once again behind Japan and the United Kingdom, making it the sixth-largest economy in nominal GDP terms. Germany occupied third place, followed by Japan and the United Kingdom.

The Central Government's debt-to-GDP ratio (total outstanding liabilities, including internal and external debt) stood at 52.2% of GDP (roughly Rs.58.6 lakh crore) by 31 March 2014. India's outstanding central government debt for 2025–26 was estimated at Rs.197.18 lakh crore (Revised Estimates), accounting for approximately 56.1% of GDP. India's total public debt-to-GDP ratio (the combined debt of the Centre and the States) was 66.1% as at 2013–14 but has risen again to around 82% in 2025–26.

The concern is not the rise in the absolute amount of debt but its increase relative to GDP. India currently holds the distinction of being the largest cumulative borrower from the World Bank, owing approximately \$39.3 billion. The country's outstanding balance



Cartoon courtesy:
Sajit Kumar;
Deccan Herald

is nearly double that of the next-highest debtor, Indonesia, reflecting the massive scale of investments in infrastructure, health, agriculture, and development programmes.

Meanwhile, inequality has widened substantially. Economic growth has not translated proportionately into employment generation, rising real wages, or improved living standards for large sections of workers, farmers, and households in the informal sector.

Gross domestic savings, which had peaked at 36.8% in 2007–08, now hover around 30%. According to the Reserve Bank of India's Financial Stability Report of March 2025, household debt climbed to 41.3% of GDP—significantly higher than the five-year average of 38.3% and far above the 26% recorded in 2015.

India's manufacturing sector remains a major concern. The Make in India initiative aimed to increase manufacturing's share in GDP from 17.3% in 2013–14 to 25%. Instead, manufacturing's contribution has declined to around 14% by 2025–26. Exports of goods and services constituted around 25.4% of GDP in 2013–14. By 2025–26, that figure had declined to roughly 22–23%. There were repeated slogans about reducing imports from China and increasing exports as part of building an "Atma Nirbhar Bharat." Yet exports have not increased proportionately relative to imports, leading to a widening trade deficit. Ironically, it is often the affluent and powerful sections that consume imported luxury goods the most.

Simultaneously, net FDI, which had reached a record high of \$44 billion in 2020–21,

has fallen dramatically to approximately \$6.3 billion in 2025–26 due to higher outward investments and rising repatriation of profits. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) are also heading towards their largest-ever withdrawal from Indian markets. In 2025 alone, FIIs pulled out Rs.1,58,407 crore from Indian equities—the biggest withdrawal since foreign investments began in India. Between January and 14 June 2026, FIIs/FPIs withdrew a staggering Rs.2.87 lakh crore from Indian equities.

The rupee has also witnessed significant depreciation. When Dr. Manmohan Singh assumed office in 2004, the exchange rate was approximately 1Rs.45.31 per US dollar. By 2014, it had depreciated to around Rs.59.65, a decline of approximately 31.6%. By 14 June 2026, the rupee had weakened further to around Rs. 95.11 per dollar, representing a depreciation of more than 60% from 2014 levels.

Ironically, Narendra Modi himself had criticised the UPA government in 2013, describing the rupee as being in the "ICU" and portraying currency weakness as evidence of policy failure. Today, many of the same concerns—currency depreciation, inflationary pres-

ures, widening trade deficits, and capital outflows—have resurfaced.

No government can avoid crises entirely. Global events influence every economy. However, genuine leadership is tested not during periods of comfort but during moments of adversity. Accountability cannot change according to political convenience. Successes cannot always be claimed as achievements of leadership while failures are attributed solely to external factors. Austerity, discipline should not be meant for only masses.

Ultimately, leadership is not measured through slogans, image-building exercises, media spectacles, or the number of days spent in office. It is measured through vision, integrity, accountability, democratic temperament, institution-building, and the ability to improve the lives of ordinary citizens.

Therefore, comparing Jawaharlal Nehru and Narendra Modi merely on the basis of tenure is not only historically flawed but also intellectually misleading. Leaders should be evaluated within their own historical contexts and judged by their achievements, policies, and legacy—not by the calendar alone. ●

Cartoon courtesy:
Sajitish Acharya
@facebook



दरकती भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था: सरकार ने खोया जन विश्वास



– रामचंद्र शर्मा



राजनीतिक परिस्थितियां चाहे जितनी कठिन क्यों न हो, जब मेहनतकश अवाम एकजुटता के साथ संघर्ष पर उतर जाता है तो निश्चित ही अपनी समस्याओं के निदान में सफल होकर रहता है। इसका ताजा उदाहरण है इस मई माह में हुआ दिल्ली एन सी आर के मजदूरों का कामयाब संघर्ष।

दिल्ली – एनसीआर क्षेत्र के मजदूरों ने पुलिसिया दमन का जबरदस्त मुकाबला करते हुए अपने शोषण के खिलाफ जोरदार आवाज़ बुलंद की। उन्होंने जीवनयापन के लिए जरूरत योग्य न्यूनतम मजदूरी की मांग और काम के निर्धारित घंटों से ज्यादा काम लेने और यूनिशन बनाने देने में आड़े आ रही सरकार की पूंजीवादी नीतियों की खिलाफत करते हुए दमन की प्रवाह किये बिना कारखानों के मालिकों के द्वारा श्रमिकों के जारी शोषण के खिलाफ जबरदस्त प्रतिरोध जताया। उनके हुए बर्बरतापूर्ण पुलिसिया दमन ने पूरे देश का ध्यान आकर्षित किया। निश्चित ही मजदूर आंदोलनों की कड़ी में उन्होंने एक और नया उदाहरण प्रस्तुत कर श्रमिकों में एक नया जोश और उत्साह पैदा कर दिया है।

यह उल्लेखनीय बात रही कि सीटू और सीपीआई (एम) नोएडा में संघर्षरत श्रमिकों के साथ एकजुटता से खड़ी रही है और गिरफ्तार मजदूरों की रिहाई करवाने में सफल रही।

सीपीआई (एम) के महासचिव एम.ए. बेबी के नेतृत्व में एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने

नोएडा में उन श्रमिकों से मुलाकात की, जिन्हें नोएडा श्रमिक आंदोलन के दौरान गिरफ्तार किया गया था और लगभग एक महीने जेल में बिताने के बाद जमानत पर रिहा किया गया था।

इन पीड़ित श्रमिकों को उनकी नौकरियों से भी बर्खास्त कर दिया गया था। पुलिस हिरासत में उनके साथ शारीरिक दुर्व्यवहार किया गया, मनगढ़ंत सबूतों के आधार पर उन्हें फंसाया गया और उनके आंदोलन को कुचलने के प्रयास में उन पर कई तरह के झूठे आरोप लगाए गए। लेकिन वे टूटे नहीं, संघर्ष में डटे रहे।

आप समझ सकते हैं कि जो सरकार श्रमिकों की मांगों के प्रति इतनी संवेदनहीन है, वह नागरिकों की जीवन सुरक्षा और वे जब काम करने के योग्य न रहे तो उनकी सामाजिक सुरक्षा के प्रति कितनी गंभीर होगी?

अगला निशाना पेंशन

आप जानते हैं कि केन्द्र की भाजपा सरकार ने श्रमिकों के भारी विरोध को नकार कर एकतरफा रूप में श्रमिक कानूनों को नियोजकों के पक्ष में बदल दिया है। ऐसे में यह समझना कतई कठिन नहीं रह गया है। कि पूंजीवादी सरकार का अगला निशाना पेंशन है। वें वेतन आयोग को लेकर सरकार द्वारा किये गए एक बदलाव ने सभी पेंशनधारकों के कान खड़े कर दिए हैं। भाजपा सरकार ने उनके समक्ष पेंशन पर संकट मंडराने की एक गंभीर चिंता पैदा कर

दी है। 8वें वेतन आयोग (8th Pay Commission) के टर्म ऑफ़ रेफरेंस में एक ऐसी नई लाइन जोड़ी गई है, जो पहले कभी नहीं थी: "THE UNFUNDED COST OF NON CONTRIBUTORY PENSION SCHEME". इसका मतलब हुआ – 'गैर-अंशदायी पेंशन योजना की अप्रतिबंधित लागत'। जबकि सरकारी कार्मिकों का करीब 1 लाख करोड़ रुपये का पेंशन फंड सरकार के पास जमा है। 'वित्त विधेयक 2025' में किये संशोधन से वेतन बढ़ोतरी से पेंशन बढ़ोतरी को वेतन आयोग से असम्बद्ध कर क्या सुप्रीम कोर्ट के 1983 के (पेंशन खैरात नहीं वाले) ऐतिहासिक फैसले पर प्रश्नचिन्ह नहीं खड़ा कर दिया गया है? क्या 'वित्त विधेयक 2025' के सहारे सरकार पेंशनरों को वें वेतन आयोग के लाभ से वंचित करना चाहती है? और क्या अब वे अपने हक के लिए कोर्ट भी नहीं जा सकते? क्या सुप्रीम कोर्ट का 1983 का आदेश भी नकारा हो जाएगा? अभाव और ऊपर से बढ़ती महंगाई =

सामने आ रही घटनाओं से आप स्वयं देख पा रहे होंगे कि किस तरह से सबसे महत्वपूर्ण जीवनदायी क्षेत्र शिक्षा – चिकित्सा व्यवस्था वैज्ञानिक सोच से परे जाकर पाखंडी तौर – तरीके अपनाकर धाराशाही की जा रही है। आज रोजगार के अपर्याप्त और अस्थिर अवसरों के चलते युवा पीढ़ी के सामने जीवनयापन के लिए पर्याप्त आय न होने का बड़ा संकट पैदा हो गया है। अभाव

और ऊपर से सतत बढ़ती महंगाई ने आम आदमी का निवाला छीन लिया है। अप्रैल में 8.3% बढ़ी। महंगाई पर मई में 5 राज्यों के चुनाव बाद घरेलू गैस, पेट्रोल, डीजल, सीएनजी की कीमतों में 20% की हुई बढ़ोतरी और माल ढुलाई और वाहन खर्च में करीब 40% की हुई बढ़ोतरी ने आम आदमी का जीना और ज्यादा दुश्चर कर दिया है।

भारत में आये दिन सिर्फ पेट्रोल-डीजल, गैस ही महंगे नहीं हो रहे, बल्कि पूरी सप्लाय चैन दबाव में आ रही है। क्या यही वजह है कि 20-25% टुक सड़क से हटने लगे हैं? क्या एयरलाइंस के लिए जहाज उड़ाना और ट्रांसपोर्टर्स के लिए ट्रक चलाना नॉन-वायबल यानि क्या घाटे का सौदा नहीं होता जा रहा है? क्या अब यह महंगाई सिर्फ कुछ चीजों के दाम बढ़ने तक सीमित रहने वाली है? नहीं, यह सभी तरह के सामान की कमी और आपूर्ति का खतरा भी बढ़ते जा रही है।

इंडिया हेल्थ कोशियंट 2026 सर्वे में 41% भारतीयों ने माना है कि आय की चिंता और भविष्य के लक्ष्यों को पाने की प्रतिस्पर्धा में उनका मानसिक और शारीरिक स्वास्थ्य दुष्प्रभावित हो रहा है। इसी सर्वे में यह बात भी सामने आई है कि 82% भारतीय तनावग्रस्त हैं। जिसमें 20% हिस्सा छात्र - युवाओं का है। इससे बड़ी बात यह है कि अब युवक - युवतियों का एक बड़ा हिस्सा शादी से कतरा रहा है।

बढ़ती आय-असमानता और

गहराते जातिवादी, साम्प्रदायिक भेदभाव

शुद्ध पेयजल के दावे खोखले बनकर रह गए हैं। नदियों और नहरों का पानी जहरीला बन जीवन को संत्रास दे

रहा है। उ.प्र., पंजाब, हरियाणा, राजस्थान में खेती के लिए उपलब्ध रसायन की गुणवत्ता की कोई जांच नहीं हो रही और इसकी चपेट में आकर किसान असमय अपना जीवन गंवा रहे हैं। अकेले राजस्थान में पिछले एक साल में गुणवत्ता विहीन जहरीले रसायन से 535 किसान अपनी जान गवां चुके हैं। इसका दुष्प्रभाव ऐसे रसायनग्रस्त अन्न ग्रहण करने वाले आमजन पर भी हो रहा है और वे कैंसर जैसी असाध्य बीमारियों की चपेट में आ रहे हैं। बढ़ता मेडिकल खर्च जीवन यापन की जरूरतों की पूर्ति को दुष्प्रभावित कर रहा है। बढ़ती आय-असमानता और गहराते जातिवादी और साम्प्रदायिक भेदभाव सामाजिक जीवन में रोज लगने वाले नये नये दंश के कारक बन रहे हैं।

संविधान में मिली अभिव्यक्ति की आजादी आज कहने भर को रह गई है। मीडिया जो लोकतंत्र का चौथा स्तम्भ कहलाता रहा है, पूंजीवादी व्यवस्था का ढिंढोरची बन व्यवस्थागत लूट का सहभागी बन बैठा है। सच कहना और लिखना आज सत्ता द्वारा गुनाह बनाया जा रहा है। परिणामस्वरूप पूंजीवादी मीडिया सत्ता की गोदी में जा बैठा है और खुद सत्ता द्वारा जनता तक सच पहुंचाने में अनेक बाधाएं खड़ी करने का माध्यम बन गया है। जनता की आवाज और मुद्दे आज गिने - चुने जनवादी सोच के कुछ समाचार माध्यमों से ही आ रहे हैं जो कई तरह की पेश चुनौतियों से सामना करते हुए भरपूर हौसले के साथ अभिव्यक्ति की अलख जगाये हुए हैं और वे जहां तहां हमारे बीच मौजूद हैं।

आज जनमानस में यह बात घर कर रही है कि आर्थिक समानता के बगैर

कोई भी संविधान न तो लोकतांत्रिक हो सकता है न धर्मनिरपेक्षा और न ही समाजवादी। यह बात हम व्यवहार में रोज अनुभव करते हैं। स्वभावगत रूप से सभी पूंजीवादी संविधान गैर-लोकतांत्रिक ही होते हैं। श्रम के शोषण और निजी संपत्ति का उन्मूलन किए बगैर किसी भी संविधान का लोकतांत्रिक होना असंभव है। तभी तो आपने देखा होगा कि लोकतांत्रिक कहे जाने वाले भारत में सिवाय वामपंथी राजनीतिक दलों के किसी भी राजनीतिक दलों में भीतरी लोकतंत्र मौजूद नहीं है और वहां ईकाई से लेकर केन्द्र तक चुनाव नहीं, उस दल के शीर्ष नेतृत्व द्वारा मनोनयन भर होते देखे जाते हैं। हमारा मौजूदा संविधान श्रम के शोषण और निजी संपत्ति की व्यवस्था का निषेध नहीं करता और न ही उसे दंडनीय अपराध घोषित करता है। जबकि शासक दल पूंजी घरानों को निरन्तर हर तरह से छूट और सुविधा सुलभ करवाता रहता है।

परीक्षा करवाने में (ICU) पर

चुनावी विज्ञापनों में 'अजेय' होने का ढोंग करने वाली राजग सरकार एक परीक्षा करवाने में आईसीयू (ICU) पर आ गई है। नीट पेपर लीक मामले में जब गर्दन फंसी, तो आनन-फानन में रक्षा मंत्री के घर बैठक बुलाई गई। अब शिक्षा मंत्री धर्मेंद्र प्रधान कह रहे हैं कि पेपर के परिवहन के लिए भारतीय वायुसेना की मदद ली जाएगी। सवाल यह है: देश की सुरक्षा में तैनात सेना का इस्तेमाल क्या अब एनटीए (NTA) के भ्रष्टाचार और नाकामी को छुपाने के लिए किया जाएगा? सच्चाई यह है कि भाजपा के शासनकाल ने पूरे सिस्टम को इतना खोखला और भ्रष्ट कर दिया

The brutal police crackdown on factory workers of Delhi-NCR, when they defying the government's pro-capitalist policies and disregarding the threat of repression, mounted fierce resistance against the ongoing exploitation by factory owners; The younger generation grappling with a severe crisis of livelihood due to inadequate and unstable employment opportunities; Scarcity, compounded by relentlessly rising inflation; Mental and physical health suffering due to income-related anxieties and the competitive race to achieve future goals; The media, the "fourth pillar" of democracy, being transformed into a mouthpiece becoming complicit in systemic plunder, reducing the freedom of expression to a mere formality; A government, which projects an image of invincibility in its election advertisements, finding itself in the ICU—over its failure to conduct a single examination. The rulers seem to have lost the trust of the people

(The author, Ramachandra Sharma is Vice President, AIIPA)

है कि आपको अपने ही अधिकारियों और लॉजिस्टिक्स पर भरोसा नहीं रहा। आज देश की राजधानी सहित देश के कोने कोने में 'युवाओं के भविष्य से खिलवाड़ बंद करो।' 'सेना का इस्तेमाल अपनी नाकामियों का पर्दाफाश होने से रोकने के लिए मत करो।' प्रधानमंत्री इस प्रशासनिक विफलता की जिम्मेदारी कब लेंगे? जैसे नारे भले कितने जोरशोर से क्यों न गूँज रहे हों, परन्तु शासन की चुप्पी और निकम्मापन नहीं टूट रहा है।

चिकित्सक बनने के लिए NEET-UGC की परीक्षा में हुआ पेपर लीक का मामला हो या स्नातक प्रवेश परीक्षा में गड़बड़ी से हताश हुए अभ्यर्थियों का मामला हो या सी बी एस ई में आनलाईन पेपर जांच में गड़बड़ी ने पूरे देश में चौतरफा रूप से छात्र और नौजवानों की बैचैनी बढ़ा दी है। NEET-UGC की दुबारा हो रही परीक्षा की फैली खबर ने 6 मासूम अभ्यर्थियों की जीवन लीला ही खत्म कर दी। पूरे देश में इस पर क्षोभ और आक्रोश देखने को मिला।

देश में मेडिकल परीक्षा में हुए पेपर लीक मामले में नेशनल टेस्ट एजेंसी (NTA) पर लोगों का गुस्सा शांत नहीं हुआ था कि यह एजेंसी एक और विवाद में घिर गई है। 30 मई 2026 को एनटीए की एक और परीक्षा सीयूईटी यूजी 2026 के परीक्षा केंद्रों पर भारी अव्यवस्था देखने को मिली। देश के कई परीक्षा केंद्रों पर सुबह की शिफ्ट की परीक्षा तय समय पर नहीं हो सकी। इस बड़ी चूक का असर दोपहर वाली परीक्षा शिफ्ट पर भी पड़ा। इसके साथ ही CBSE के पक्षापाती टेंडर घोटाले का भी पर्दाफाश एक खोजी छात्र ने कर दिया परन्तु मजाल है कि अपनी निरन्तर विफलताओं, पेपर लीक और घोटालों में संलिप्तता से नजदीकी होने के वायरल होते रहे वीडियो फुटेज के सामने आने के बाद भी न तो शिक्षा मंत्री ने नैतिकता दिखाई और न ही 'न खाऊंगा न खाने दूंगा' कहने वाले प्रधानमंत्री का न कोई बयान सुना और न कलम चली।

12वीं क्लास के एक छात्र सार्थक सिद्धांत के खुलासे में सामने आया है कि हैदराबाद की जिस कंपनी को टेंडर देने के लिए नियमों में रातों-रात बदलाव किया गया था। उसे 384 करोड़ का टेंडर मिलने से किसे फायदा मिला?

इस टेंडर प्रक्रिया में 15 कमियाँ मिली। इस खुलासे का असर इतना बड़ा था कि संसद की स्टैंडिंग कमेटी ने सार्थक को अपनी बात रखने के लिए बुलाया। लेकिन अब तक उसके किये खुलासे का हासिल सिर्फ है। केन्द्रीय मंत्री से पूछो तो कहते हैं - राजग शासन में नैतिकता के आधार पर कोई इस्तीफा नहीं होता।

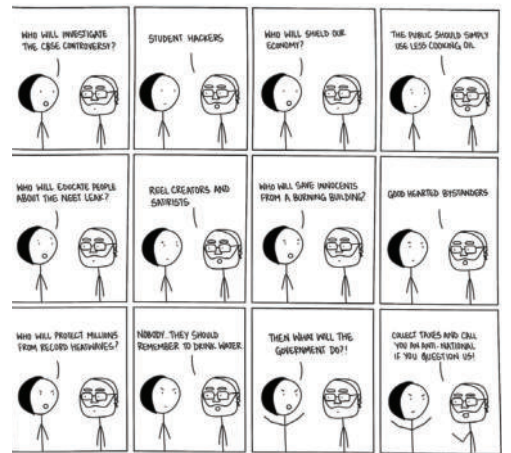
ज़रा ध्यान से समझिए कि कैसे एक पेपर लीक का मुद्दा घूमते-घूमते 'हिंदू-मुस्लिम' तक पहुँच गया। सरकार समस्या का समाधान न करके एक नई पीड़ा देकर पुरानी को भुलाने का काम कर रही है। शुरुआत में जब लगातार पर्चे लीक हो रहे थे, तो पूरा देश, करोड़ों युवा, शिक्षाक, स्वतंत्र पत्रकार और यूट्यूबर्स सड़क से लेकर सोशल मीडिया में रोष प्रकट कर रहे थे। सीधे सरकार और शिक्षा मंत्री के साथ और के घोटालों पर जवाब मांगे जा रहे थे। सरकार पूरी तरह से बैकफुट पर थी और जनता पहली बार एकजुट होकर अपने हक की बात कर रही थी। लेकिन जब सत्ताधीशों से जवाब देते नहीं बना, तो मीडिया में बैठे गोदी कलाकार मैदान में उतारे गये। टीवी बहस में एक एंकर द्वारा सरेआम शिक्षाकों को 'दो कौड़ी का' कह दिया गया और जो चर्चा पेपर लीक और शिक्षा मंत्री की विफलता को लेकर उसके मांगे जा रहे इस्तीफे पर छिड़ी थी, वो रातों-रात शिक्षाक बनाम गोदी मीडिया बन गई।

हिन्दू - मुस्लिम भी जुड़ गया

रातों-रात मुद्दा शिक्षाकों से हटाकर सीधा कोचिंग कराने वालों पर शिफ्ट कर दिया गया। प्रशासनिक व्यवस्था की विफलता और 'पेपर लीक' पर जब भाजपा घिर रही थी, तो उसे बचाने के लिए बड़ी ही चालाकी से सारा ठीकरा 'कोचिंग' कराने वालों के सिर फोड़ दिया गया और असली गुनहगारों को चर्चा से ही गायब कर दिया गया। छात्रों की इस एकजुटता को तोड़ने के लिए हिन्दू - मुस्लिम भी जुड़ गया। इसे बिहार के दो बड़े कोचिंग संस्थानों खान सर और रोशन आनंद सर के बीच मोड़ दिया गया। एक शिक्षाक जो 'खान सर' के नाम से प्रसिद्ध हैं, को बलि का बकरा बनाकर जेल भेज दिया गया। नतीजा यह हुआ कि जो बच्चे कल तक पेपर लीक के खिलाफ एक साथ

कंधे से कंधा मिलाकर लड़ रहे थे, वो आज अलग-अलग खेमों में बंटकर अपने-अपने शिक्षाकों के समर्थन में सड़क पर एक-दूसरे से ही भिड़ने लगे। जो छात्र कल तक सिर्फ अपनी पढ़ाई और भविष्य से मतलब रखते थे, उन्हें अचानक शिक्षाक की जाति और धर्म की याद दिलाई जाने लगी। जिसने इसे सीधा हिंदू-मुस्लिम का रंग दे दिया। पलक झपकते ही दो शिक्षाकों के बीच का एक सामान्य विवाद जिहाद और धर्म के चश्मे से दिखाया जाने लगा। इस तरह शिक्षाकों की जाति धर्म ढूँढना, शिक्षा के मंदिर में हिंदू-मुस्लिम का ज़हर घोलना, इस देश और समाज के लिए किसी कैसर से कम नहीं है। आम लोग बखूबी समझ रहे हैं कि पेपर लीक के मुख्य मुद्दे को दबाने के लिए किस तरह से मीडिया का इस्तेमाल हुआ और कैसे इसे 'हिंदू-मुस्लिम' बना दिया गया। मुद्दे से भटकाने का प्रायोजन अभी जारी है। सरकार शिक्षा से अपना पिंड छुड़ा, उसके और निजीकरण के लिए न जाने कितने और नये बतंगड़ खड़े करेगी? देश में पिछले बरस ,70,000 स्कूल बंद कर देने का उदाहरण उसकी मंशा को समझने के लिए काफी है।

आज बनी परिस्थितियां देश के छात्र - युवाओं के साथ साथ आम श्रमिक व किसानों सहित आम मेहनतकश के सामने अपने भविष्य को संवारने के लिए निर्णायक आंदोलन की जरूरत को रेखांकित कर रही हैं।



NEWS MINUTE Cartoon courtesy: Sanitary Panels/News Minute

Issuance of Bonus Shares by LIC

The issue cannot be viewed in isolation. It is part of a larger ideological shift that redefines the role of the State in the economy.

Saumya Basu Mallick General Secretary, Howrah Division IEA

The recent decision of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) to issue bonus shares must be examined not merely as a technical financial move, but as part of a broader transformation in the role and character of public sector institutions in India. This development raises serious concerns about the gradual shift from a welfare-oriented public institution to a market-driven corporate entity.

Historically, LIC has been more than just an insurance company. Since its nationalization in 1956, it has functioned as a pillar of social security and a key instrument of nation-building. It mobilized small savings from millions of policyholders and channelled them into infrastructure, public sector enterprises, and government welfare initiatives. Its primary commitment was not profit maximization, but the protection of policyholders' interests and the strengthening of the public economy.

However, the trajectory began to change with the disinvestment of LIC through its initial public offering in 2022. The involvement of private shareholders introduced a new dynamic, one that emphasizes profitability, efficiency, and shareholder returns. In this context, the issuance of bonus shares by LIC should be understood as part of a continuing process of aligning the institution with market norms. While bonus shares do not immediately alter ownership patterns, they increase the number of shares in circulation, improve liquidity, and make the stock more attractive for future sale. This, in

turn, facilitates the gradual dilution of the government's stake.

The result is "creeping privatization." It is not an abrupt transfer of ownership, but a phased and strategic process through which a public institution is slowly integrated into the logic of capital markets. The Government of India, while retaining majority control for now, creates conditions that make further divestment easier and more politically manageable.

The implications of this shift are significant. As LIC becomes increasingly market-oriented, the pressure to deliver higher returns to shareholders may come into conflict with its traditional role as a protector of policyholders. There is a real risk that long-term social investments, which may not yield immediate profits, could be deprioritized. Premium structures, bonus payouts to policyholders, and investment decisions may gradually be influenced by considerations of profitability rather than public welfare.

Moreover, LIC has historically played a stabilizing role in the Indian economy, particularly during times of financial stress. Its ability to invest counter-cyclically and support public sector enterprises has been crucial. A dilution of state control could weaken this function and open the door to greater influence of private and even global capital over a key financial institution. This raises concerns about financial sovereignty and the state's capacity to direct resources

toward national priorities.

The impact on employees is another area of concern. Public sector employment in institutions like LIC has traditionally been associated with job security, fair working conditions, and a sense of social purpose. The increasing corporatization of LIC may lead to changes in labour practices, including performance pressures, contractualization, and erosion of established protections trends that are characteristic of neo-liberal economic reforms.

In essence, the bonus share issue cannot be viewed in isolation. It is part of a larger ideological shift that redefines the role of the state in the economy. This shift reflects the growing dominance of neo-liberal policies that prioritize market efficiency over social equity. The transformation of LIC thus becomes emblematic of a broader transition, from a welfare-oriented economic framework to one driven by private capital and profit motives.

In conclusion, the issuance of bonus shares by LIC is not merely a financial restructuring exercise. It is a step in a long-term process that may fundamentally alter the nature of one of India's most important public institutions. The critical question that arises is whether such institutions should serve the interests of the market or remain committed to the broader social and economic needs of the people.



A STORM'S COMING

ANUP SINHA

Former Professor of Economics, IIM Calcutta

(Courtesy The Telegraph 05.06.26)

Market economies are well-known for their cyclical ups and downs. Sometimes, recoveries from a downturn happen on their own. At other times, policymakers have to intervene through tax-expenditure changes or interest-rate adjustments to manage aggregate demand in the economy. However, it is not often that the early warning signals of fluctuations get compounded wherein multiple vulnerabilities appear simultaneously. The present situation facing the Indian economy is one such instance. Market analysts, economists across the ideological spectrum, industrialists, and policymakers all seem apprehensive about looming uncertainties.

The two most obvious signals that have everyone worried are the rise in the price of fuel and the sharp slide of the Indian rupee that appears to be hurtling towards Rs 100 per US dollar. The Indian rupee is now the worst-performing currency in Asia. The increase in the price of fuel is being felt by all Asian countries but their currencies have stood stronger against this shock. If we have

to pay more for a barrel of oil, the demand for dollars goes up and, hence, its price in rupees. Over and above this rise in the demand for dollars, foreign investors are exiting the Indian economy rapidly and steadily. Not only that, many big Indian investors are buying dollars to invest abroad. The net inflow of foreign exchange has dwindled sharply. This is the other source of the increase in the demand for dollars held in the Indian economy as reserves, leading to an additional pressure on the exchange rate.

The implications of these two events, and how they might adversely affect India's economic performance, need to be understood separately. Consider the sharp and continuing rise in energy prices. The price of oil and hydrocarbons in general will raise transportation costs as well as the costs of other productive inputs, especially chemical fertilisers. These could lead to large inflationary pressures as food and fuel represent the most important items in an Indian consumer's basket of purchases. On the food front, add the El Niño phenomenon expected this

Market analysts, economists across the ideological spectrum, industrialists, and policymakers all seem apprehensive about looming uncertainties. Some of the root causes of the uncertainties lie outside the control of the Government of India, such as the war in West Asia and the choking of fuel supplies. However, there are many issues for which the Gol could be held accountable. These are the issues that have put India in a worse-off position than other nations.....

It is a serious matter when a usually vocally confident prime minister warns the nation to tighten belts.....

year. That is likely to make climate and rainfalls much more erratic. Agriculture has to be prepared for a supply-side shock.

The phenomenon of the flight of foreign investments is not all about seeking the safe haven of gold or the US dollar in a time of uncertainty. It is more about dwindling investment opportunities in India. The clue to this is that even Indian investors are shy of investing at home. The global economy is undergoing a structural shift in production and technology. The sunrise industries are Artificial Intelligence, quantum computing, chip-making, and the processing of rare earth elements. India has very little investment opportunities in these areas. It also makes the economy vulnerable in terms of import dependencies for these products and services that are now becoming essential for any economic activity.

On top of this deficiency lies the uncertain future of the information technology enabled services. The rapid advent of AI is making coding and other related jobs obsolete. Large-scale lay-offs have already begun, and new job openings



Cartoon courtesy: Sajith Kumar,
Deccan Herald

are much scarcer than what they were some years ago. The biggest success story of modern India is heading for a sunset by the next two or three years. A sector that employed large numbers of even mediocre engineers is set to transform to one with a handful of new jobs requiring very specific, top-drawer skills. The two-pronged squeeze on the economy is, therefore, going to be inflation and unemployment leading to slower growth, perhaps even recession. Stagflation is a possibility that cannot be ruled out. Under a situation of stagflation, the standard macro-economic fiscal and monetary policies do not work.

Some of the root causes of the uncertainties lie outside the control of the Government of India, such as the war in West Asia and the choking of fuel supplies. However, there are many issues for which the GoI could be held accountable. These are the issues that have put India in a worse-off position than other nations, which are also facing fuel shortages and related supply-shocks. India, along with Turkey, is currently considered to be economically the two most fragile nations

in the world. It is a serious matter when a usually vocally confident prime minister warns the nation to tighten belts on spending and travel.

Ever since the recovery from Covid-19 began, the Indian economy has experienced a K-shaped recovery. The super rich have gotten richer very fast. However, a lot of people in the middle-classes have become poorer on account of uncertain incomes and livelihoods. The salaried class has shrunk, the gig economy has widened, and start-ups have been encouraged to distract labour market entrants into not thinking about stable jobs. They are told that their fate and future lie entirely in their own hands. The middle class is rapidly shrinking with not much opportunity for stable employment. With savings falling in the household sector, there is a rising accumulation of personal debt. Reports suggest that a large number of males are exiting tertiary education for gig work. Questions are being raised about the value of a college education. Other reports suggest that more and more females are going back to agriculture to work as farm hands. Little wonder then that the GoI has to offer free food rations to more than 800 million citizens — a little over half of India's population.

In this context, there is one issue in which the GoI could have done more. Over the last 10-12 years, the quality of India's macroeconomic data has become much less credible. Data are either missing, infrequent, or altered in a manner that makes it difficult to compare them with the past. India was renowned for the quality of its economic

data despite having a large informal sector. Now, even the International Monetary Fund has remarked on the inadequate quality of India's data. A former economic adviser to the GoI has demonstrated through extensive research that India's growth data are overestimated. Apart from being an issue of national credibility in the international arena, any policy decision or government intervention based on inaccurate data will not have the desirable economic consequences.

Finally, in the emerging world order, India seems isolated. We are trying to please the American administration. We also feel we cannot alienate Russia. Israel is a friend for ideological reasons. Iran has been a reliable economic partner. India is not close to a single neighbouring nation.

India is structurally a weaker economy than is made out to be by the many official narratives of prosperity. The large aggregate size of the economy does not mean much when we look at the *per capita* income numbers. India ranked very low in terms of the Human Development Index and the hunger index. India was placed 100 out of 179 nations on the democracy index and, hence, classified as an electoral autocracy. The country occupies the 157th position out of 180 nations on the Press Freedom Index. And on this World Environment Day, we are ranked 176 out of 180 nations in terms of environmental performance.

The storm clouds are gathering. Even if they pass by with just a drizzle, the cracked earth will remain. ●



US-IRAN DEAL RAISES INESCAPABLE QUESTION OF

WHAT THE WAR WAS FOR

JEREMY BOWEN International editor (Courtesy: BBC 18.06.2026)

The memorandum of understanding signed by President Donald Trump and President Masoud Pezeshkian of Iran lays out the political, military and economic consequences of the ill-judged decision to attack Iran on 28 February.

The human cost is already clear. Thousands have been killed, many of them civilians, in Iran and Lebanon.

The US, and by extension Israel, have suffered a strategic defeat. The regime in Tehran faced its worst nightmare: a joint military operation to cripple or destroy it by the US, the world's strongest power, and Israel, the Middle East's superpower. The regime has not just survived. It has been empowered.

Its strategy of blocking the Strait of Hormuz, and with it one fifth of the world's supplies of oil and gas as well as other vital components in the global economy, has forced Trump to agree to a series of concessions that have infuriated and alarmed America's Iran hawks and the Israeli government.

The memorandum of understanding - or MOU - calls for an end to the war in Lebanon. Israel says that cannot

happen. It wants a free hand in Lebanon, and that issue has the capacity to cause an even sharper rift between Israel and the US, and play into the hands of Iranian hardliners who oppose any deal with the Americans.

In return for reopening the Strait, the MOU's language says the US will lift its counter blockade of Iranian ports, waive sanctions allowing Iran to earn billions of dollars from exporting oil and start the process of returning billions more to Iran by unfreezing assets that it held abroad.

That is before they get down to the hard business of negotiating a nuclear deal. It is the price of returning to the way they were on 27 February, the day before the US and Israel

launched the war. On that day the Strait of Hormuz was open for shipping and American and Iranian negotiators were discussing a nuclear deal.

The signing of the MOU means that the negotiators will go back to work and ships will be able to transit the Strait of Hormuz.

Joe Biden's Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, posted on X "the only 'achievement' of the ceasefire is the likely reopening of the Strait of Hormuz - which was open before the war started. And we will apparently pay Iran to do so."

The question of what exactly the war was for is inescapable and will not go away. It amounts to Trump's worst foreign policy blunder so far.

It might also spell the end

"The US, and by extension Israel, have suffered a strategic defeat. The regime in Tehran faced its worst nightmare: a joint military operation to cripple or destroy it by the US, the world's strongest power, and Israel, the Middle East's superpower. The regime has not just survived. It has been empowered. The question of what exactly the war was for is inescapable and will not go away. It amounts to Trump's worst foreign policy blunder so far. It might also spell the end of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's long political career" says the author, who has been covering the Middle East for BBC for last three decades.



of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's long political career. He faces elections in October, and a reckoning from Israeli voters for his part in security failures, the worst in Israel's history, that meant its vaunted military and intelligence services failed to spot the Hamas plan to invade Israel from Gaza on 7 October 2023. Netanyahu's hardline military policies and dismissal of diplomacy were designed at least in part to restore his reputation as Israel's Mr Security.

Tehran was always aware of the potential power of closing the Strait of Hormuz. So was the US military, its diplomats and spies.

But the former Supreme Leader of Iran, Ali Khamenei, a cautious, elderly man, chose not to take the risk of using the Strait as a weapon.

After Israel killed him, and his closest advisers, in the first bombing sorties of the war, his successors believed, correctly, that they were in an existential struggle and did not hesitate to close the Strait.

They have discovered the power of controlling a global economic chokehold. It is a far more usable weapon, and much cheaper, than the network of allies and proxies it spent decades and billions

building in the Middle East.

Except for the Assad regime in Syria, which collapsed at the end of 2024, Iran's so-called axis of resistance survives, just about. But it has been so damaged by Israel that whether it can "resist" is a moot point.

Iran has also poured money into a nuclear programme that it continues to deny was aimed at building a weapon but undoubtedly gave Tehran an option and a threat. But it provoked a war that despite the regime's survival has done huge damage to Iran.

Closing the Strait, in contrast, was easy and had a rapid and devastating impact, spreading the pain to the Arab oil states and much of the rest of the world.

The power of the US and Israeli air forces scored a series of tactical victories. But they were not enough to avoid a strategic defeat. That was because the US-Israel strategy of regime change was based on a series of lazy and misplaced assumptions.

They assumed killing the supreme leader would cause a collapse of the regime. But over nearly half a century the Islamic Republic's institutions have been engineered to resist attempts to destroy them.

It was not like Venezuela, a corrupt Latin American dictatorship, that crumpled when its leader was abducted and put on trial in the US. The Iranian regime is undoubtedly corrupt and highly repressive – its men killed thousands of pro-

testers in the streets of Iran in January – but it is also based on ideology, religious conviction, and a conception of national security, martyrdom and survival that grew out of the devastating war with Saddam Hussein's Iraq in the 1980s.

Trump and Netanyahu's relationship has come under strain as a result of Israel's military actions in Lebanon.

When they went to war President Trump said the regime in Tehran would fall. He told the Iranian people to prepare for a once-in-a-generation chance to take back their country. Not long after that he called for its unconditional surrender.

Netanyahu, who had tried and failed repeatedly to persuade Trump's predecessors in the White House to go to war against Iran, used biblical language to sum up the enormity of what he believed was about to happen: "This coalition of forces allows us to do what I have yearned to do for 40 years: smite the terror regime hip and thigh."

Neither man has delivered.

The memorandum of understanding is not a final deal. It is an agreement to talk about the biggest issue between them – Iran's nuclear programme. But it is front-loaded with key inducements for Iran. If the

Continued on page 40



Cartoon courtesy:
R Prasad,
Economic Times

A troubling nod for electoral exclusion

EDITORIAL: DECCAN HERALD (30TH MAY 2026)

Legitimising the SIR ignores mass voter disenfranchisement. The Supreme Court's endorsement of the ECI's sweeping powers and institutional expertise risks weakening democratic accountability

The Supreme Court's verdict on the contentious Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, designed and conducted by the Election Commission of India (ECI), is disappointing because it upholds in principle and practice an undemocratic and largely exclusionary process. The Court validated almost every position and argument of the Commission, which will now consider the ruling a justification for the procedures it adopted for the revision. This is an ex post facto vindication of an ill-conceived process, but the ruling is not entirely surprising because the Court, even during the hearing, did not appear to question SIR's validity. It did not reject the process, even when its questions were not convincingly answered or when its suggestions were not implemented. Notably, it intervened in the West Bengal situation by appointing judicial officers and appellate tribunals to adjudicate the exclusions. Given that the Court directed the redress mechanism, it could not have faulted the process.

About 59 million names have been deleted from electoral rolls in the SIR undertaken in 13 states and UTs; elections have been held in some of these states. The ECI is set to expand the process across the country. The top court's

ruling now backs its power to conduct the roll revision. The Court held that the process does not violate the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, and the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960. Two conclusions of the Court stand out. One is that the right to vote is not absolute and can be subject to reasonable regulatory conditions. The other is that the ECI possesses constitutional authority to undertake a "limited enquiry into citizenship" for electoral purposes. The limitation will not constrain the ECI because it will not affect its procedures and decisions relevant to the electoral rolls. The Court said the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) would decide on citizenship if a dispute arises. It also said people excluded from the rolls could seek a judicial review of the ECI's decision. But when voters are removed from the rolls for citizenship-related or other reasons, how many can approach the MHA or the courts for redress? This alternative must also be seen in the context of the MHA's limitations in handling a large number of grievances within a deadline. By propounding these ideas, the Court has vested the ECI with powers that may be used to divest voters or citizens of their rights. By holding that inclusion in the electoral rolls may have

SIR & Supreme Court
TWO EDITORIALS



“a presumption of validity” and that such presumption is “rebuttable,” the Court has validated the exclusion of lakhs of voters. A process which should be citizen-centric will now be controlled by the ECI.

Approving the objective and design of SIR, the Court held that the revision “bears a direct nexus to the constitutional goal of a free and fair election.” This is selective reading. It is difficult to imagine a process that excluded lakhs of people from the rolls and denied them their voting right to promote free and fair polls. The Court also said it was convinced that “the material on record indicates that the scale of the problem” identified by the ECI was “systemic in nature, arising from cumulative inaccuracies over an extended period.” It said this needed a comprehensive SIR because “such a problem does not readily admit of piecemeal solutions.” However, questions remain: Why was the exercise not undertaken in most states well ahead of the elections? How did it exclude so many people? Why could corrections not be done in time?

While stating that “the process, as initially designed, did raise legitimate concerns regarding documentation, transparency, and access,” the Court held that a series of judicial interventions “progressively infused the process with safeguards.”



Validating flaws

The Supreme Court should have scrutinised the SIR's problematic record

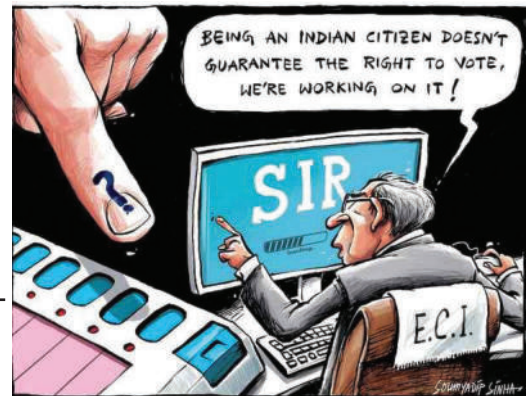
EDITORIAL – THE HINDU (MAY 29, 2026)

The Supreme Court's verdict on Wednesday upholding the ECI's SIR of the electoral rolls as "an advancement towards free and fair elections" arrives long after the SIR became a settled fact in Bihar and the exercise carried out in 12 other States and Union Territories in phase 2. For months, the Court refused to weigh in on the constitutionality of the exercise, in *Association for Democratic Reforms vs ECI*, and proceeded instead with administrative and managerial decisions. The impact of an unimpeded exercise was a net trim of the rolls by more than 10%, with nearly 6.5 crore deletions and, crucially, an unexplained and curious fall in the gender ratio in the rolls of most States except Tamil Nadu. In West Bengal, the flaws of the SIR led to arbitrary deletions and the

systematic exclusion of a large section of minorities and the underprivileged, with statistical exercises indicating that this influenced poll outcomes in many constituencies. The Court's interventions on the SIR remained largely supervisory until Wednesday, when it delivered a judgment that can only be called a retrospective validation of the process.

It has at last decided the constitutional question, and decided whether the SIR was proportionate and free of arbitrary exclusion as implemented. But it did not adequately confront the record of the implementation. Its reasoning engages the SIR in theory rather than its practice. To

Cartoon courtesy:
Saumyadeep Sinha, *The Hindu*



However, it has upheld the ECI's powers to decide on the documentation required for inclusion. SIR held in multiple states revealed that large sections of people, especially the poor, do not have documentary evidence of identity and residence. The safeguards the Court mentioned do not exist for many. The Court said, "The post-exercise data placed on record does not disclose a level of disenfranchisement

so widespread or systemic as to indicate a constitutional infirmity in the design of the exercise." There are at least 27 lakh reasons to counter this statement. The Court decided against supplanting its judgment "in matters that concern the implementation of an exercise" for which the ECI is endowed with "institutional expertise." The issue before the Court was that the ECI's expertise and authority were not properly used in the implementation of SIR. The Court was called

the petitioners' contention that Section 21(3) of the Representation of the People Act authorises only targeted, constituency-specific revision and not a State-wide dragnet, the Court held that the word "any" cannot be read down to "only," and that a systemic problem of migration and churn needed to be remedied systematically. But it overlooked that Section 21(3) is an exceptional power that omits the "prescribed manner" safeguard binding ordinary roll revisions. On the objection that requiring crores of already-enrolled electors to prove their eligibility afresh inverts the presumption that those electors are valid, the Court offered a distinction between



TWO EDITORIALS



Validating flaws



an “adjudicatory” exercise, where that presumption holds, and an “inquisitorial” one, where it does not. The prior judgment in Lal Babu Hussein (1995), which had insisted that any removal be reasoned and individuated, was confined to its own facts. Yet, the Court’s assurance that the presumption survives is not borne out when the SIR requires the elector to prove an entitlement already held. An accurate roll, as the Court rightly argues, is the foundation of a genuine election. This is why the potentially wrongful deletion of lawful voters through a hurried process under a demanding election-driven deadline is a grave blow to electoral integrity.

A troubling nod for electoral exclusion



exercise as a legitimate action to rid India of infiltrators and illegal immigrants, though the exercise has yet to identify these elements in large numbers. The principle behind the revision of electoral rolls is credible. It is the procedures, the timing, and the ECI’s conduct that raise questions. By endorsing a faulty process in the name of principle, the Supreme Court has done a disservice to the country’s electoral democracy.

VIZAG STEEL PLANT DISASTER

AIIEA joins Trade Unions in demanding Accountability & Fair Compensation

The AIIEA along with CITU has expressed serious concern over the grievous accident in VSP that killed 9 workers and injured many more. The trade unions have demanded a serious probe as also a fair compensation to the family of the dead and injured. The AIIEA expresses deep condolences to the families of the workers who lost their lives and shares grief with them.

This catastrophic accident is a devastating example of a **“policy-induced disaster.”** The tragedy was not an unpredictable engineering failure, but the direct consequence of systemic failure of both the Central and State Governments by way of financial starvation, severe understaffing, corruption in the quality of raw material procured, a denial of their own captive mines, and a complete compromise of safety protocols designed to push the public-sector plant toward privatisation.

On June 8, 2026, the plant’s Steel Melting Shop (SMS) suffered two near-identical failures within 30 minutes. In SMS-1, a massive ladle carrying 150 tons of molten liquid iron, heated to an extreme **1540°C**, spilt molten metal from a height of 25 feet onto the factory floor. Crucially, the ladle **completely lacked its mandatory safety cover**. Had this fundamental safety hardware been in place, the accident could have been avoided, saving precious lives. Furthermore, the vital bottom-

purging process used to stir the liquid metal failed due to outdated machinery, causing chemical instability. The Central and State Governments’ claims of having protected the plant by extending a package of Rs. 11,440 Crores are totally bogus, as not a single rupee was utilised for the upgradation of the plant machinery, nor was it spent to pay the workers their salaries or PF dues. The total amount was utilised to clear outstanding debts.

The plant suffered over 15 ladle leaks in the preceding two months. Following the central government’s 2021 announcement of a 100% strategic disinvestment plan, Vizag Steel was financially strangled. To cut costs, management bypassed top-tier government suppliers like NALCO and Coal India in favour of private suppliers like aluminium from Jindal, coking coal from Adani mines in Australia. Workers were forced to utilise highly adulterated coking coal, inferior iron ore, and low-grade scrap aluminium wires, which triggered volatile chemical reactions under immense heat. Also, the plant’s Quality Checking Department has been entirely dysfunctional for three years due to staff shortages, letting hazardous materials enter production completely untested.

While Vizag Steel’s production nearly doubled from 3.2 million tons to over **6.3 million tons**, its permanent workforce was slashed from 18,000 to just 8,500. Highly

experienced senior technicians were pushed out through VRS and replaced by untrained, cheap private contract labourers.

After having neglected the plant and pushing it towards privatisation, the Deputy Chief Minister, Pavan Kalyan, during

his visit, instead of consoling the bereaved families, dared to say that the trade unions are the cause of these accidents. The State IT minister also attacked the trade unions, who were demanding a decent compensation for the families of the victims.

The plant's 5 Coke Ovens are operating 10 years past their 25-year lifespan, with three already severely damaged, and remain a ticking time bomb for an even greater industrial catastrophe if immediate policy shifts are not made.

(Report: M.Kameshwari)

Exclusive Women's Study Circle by SCZIEF

The South Central Zone Insurance Employees' Federation (SCZIEF) has launched two innovative Online Study Circles, exclusively for the Women Employees of the Zone, on the 14th of June, 2026. The Two Study Circles, One for the women comrades from the divisions of Andhra Pradesh & Telangana States and the other for the women comrades from divisions under Karnataka State are being conducted with the objective of creating awareness and understanding among the women employees, on contemporary issues and struggles. The Study Circles, started as a part of the Platinum Jubilee Year Celebrations of AIIEA, will continue on periodical basis.

Both the Study Circles were a huge success with overwhelming participation of women comrades from all the divisions, across the zone. A common topic, "*Women's Reservation Bill – The attempts of Grand Deceit by the Government*" was chosen as the subject for both the Study Circles. Com. M Kameshwari, Vice-President, SCZIEF dealt the subject in the first study circle held for the women comrades of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana in the morning of 14th June. Over 160 women comrades participated in the Study Circle, enthusiastically.

Com. SK Geetha, Former Vice-President, SCZIEF presented the topic, in the Study Circle for the women comrades of Karnataka State which was conducted the same day evening. Over 60 women comrades have attended the Study Circle. Both the sessions were conducted in vernacular and were followed by impressive interactive sessions.

Both the speakers, in their inimitable ways, emphasized the imperative need for implementing the Women's Reservation Bill without any further delay. They exposed the double standards of the ruling BJP government in implementing the Women's Reservation Bill and alleged that the government is lacking the political will to do so. The AIIEA had spearheaded the struggle for achieving the Women's Reservation Bill, along with the left and democratic forces. LIC employees under the banner of AIIEA are proud participants of many a signature campaigns and submission of memoranda on this demand. Though the bill was passed in the Parliament in 2023, it could not be implemented because it is linked with the completion of 2026 census work. Clearly, the bill was passed only to take credit and draw political mileage in the 2024 general elections. Now,

again, the government tried to enact the scene by tabling the bill in April 2026, by linking the Women's Reservation Bill with delimitation. There is no connection between delimitation and women's reservation bill. The objective of the government is to push through delimitation in the garb of the women's reservation bill. After, failing to push the bill, the government tried to derive political mileage by blaming it on the opposition. In reality, the BJP lacks the political will and commitment to implement the bill, as the advocates of Manuvad, they are in principle against the emancipation of women. The Women's Reservation Bill is the fundamental necessity and right that the women should be equipped with, for achieving gender equality/Parity. The struggle for achieving Women's Reservation Bill should be fought by men and women, together. This should be fought tooth and nail, collectively and the Women's Reservation bill without any conditionality should be achieved, they exhorted.

The spirited participation of the women comrades gives the confidence to continue such endeavors in future, to motivate and encourage more women into struggle.



Two Day Cadre Building Classes by SCZIEF

The Two-Day Cadre-Building Classes conducted by SCZIEF, on the 23rd and 24th of May 2026, at Hyderabad were a magnificent success. These classes for the targeted group of young comrades, aged below 35 years, were conducted with the objective of building cadres for the organization, by imparting ideological orientation, motivating them to involve more in the trade union activities and encourage them to take up organizational responsibilities in future. A total of 80 comrades from all the Divisions across the Zone attended the classes.

Com. P Satish, President, SCZIEF presided over the inaugural session on 23.05.2026. Inaugurating the classes, Com Shreekanta Mishra, General Secretary, AIIEA narrated the contemporary, political & economic situation, the challenges before our organization in the backdrop of the crisis ridden economy and rightward shift that is taking place all over. He exhorted the young comrades to take active part in the trade union activities and strengthen AIIEA.

Com. N Ravi, Vice President, SCZIEF acted as Principal for the First Class, on the topic "Present situation and the Attack on the Idea of India".



Com TVNS Ravindranath, General Secretary, SCZIEF took the class. He explained that the country comprises of different cultures, customs, languages, regions and religions. Bringing together all the people and building the nation on the principle of Unity in Diversity, is the Idea of India. We have resolved to build the country as a Sovereign, Secular, Socialist, Democratic Republic. But, the very Idea of India and the ethos of freedom movement are being sought to be negated over the years. The political independence and economic sovereignty are being mortgaged to US imperialism. Unprecedented income and wealth inequalities are being witnessed. The democratic institutions have become a tool in the hands of ruling classes to carry forward their narrow political interest. The secular fabric of the country is sought to be torn apart. The Idea of India can be preserved

ONLY through mobilizing the people for struggle by analyzing the present situation with proper class perspective.

Com K Gopal, Joint Secretary, SCZIEF was the principal for the second class, on the topic "Contemporary developments in Life Insurance Industry – Our Role". Com P Satish, President, SCZIEF was the faculty. He explained how the national liberation movement had greatly influenced the State to take control of the insurance sector. He detailed AIIEA's struggle for nationalization of Insurance Industry. He gave an account of the fascinating journey of LIC of India and its contribution towards the national development. Since the advent of neo-liberal era, the state started withdrawing from its social responsibilities and working to promote corporate interests. The attacks on Public Sector Insurance Industry were intensified under the rule of the present BJP led NDA government. After the Public Sector LIC is divested by 3.5% through IPO, shareholders are prioritized over policy holders and the concept of Social Insurance had been given go by. LIC is, today, undergoing a huge digital transformation, with newer and newer technological innovations being introduced, each day. There is



concerted attack on the agency force, today. We need to remain alert, repulse the devious game plan of ruling class, counter its ill-conceived policies and wage a united struggle in protecting the public sector insurance industry.

Com Kishore Kumar, Joint Secretary, SCZIEF acted as the principal for the third class conducted on 24.06.2026 on the topic "AIIEA's role in advancing Class Interest and Class Struggle". Dealing the subject, Com G Thirupathiah, Joint Secretary, SCZIEF explained about the early human society, emergence of class, the development of surplus value and the division of labour. Defining the society and class, he explained the division of class into capitalist class and working class. He explained class struggle. He elaborately dealt on the issues of class unity and the need of unity of working class. He recalled the role of AIIEA in building many a major class struggles, viz., the

fight for standardization of pay scales, the struggle against automation, bonus struggle, lock-out struggle, against the split bill, pension struggle, against opening up of insurance industry etc. He also narrated the struggle for wage revision and how the wage struggle is most difficult in the class divided society. The contemporary developments in insurance industry were also mentioned and he asked the employees to maintain the class unity to carry forward the legacy of All India Insurance Employees Association.

Each class was followed up with an impressive interactive session and intense group discussion. All the comrades have actively participated in both. The enthusiasm and interest evinced by the comrades to learn more and also to get clarity on ideological issues, on organizational matters was conspicuous not only on their faces, but also in their enthusiastic participation

in the group discussions.

As many as 16 Comrades viz., Com Sivani, Karimnagar; Com Phani Kiran, Machilipatnam; Com K P Sai, Kadapa; Com Chaandu Jaikantha, Bangalore; Com Sreesailia, Raichur; Com Gayathri, Warangal; Com Kiran, Belgaum; Com Adithya, Vishakapatnam; Com Viswas, Mysore; Com Vidyadhar, Belgaum; Com Sunil, Nellore; Com Arundas P, Bangalore; Com Anila, Karimnagar; Com Nageshwara Rao, Secunderabad; Com Lakshminarayana, Machilipatnam and Com Avinash, Visakhapatnam representing the different groups placed their views on all three classes very skillfully and effectively, in the lively feedback session held in the afternoon of 24.05.2026.

Com H R Gayathri, Karnataka State Women Convener proposed vote of thanks. Com P Satish, President, SCZIEF administered the pledge of AIIEA to all the participants.

Chennai-I: Portraits of AIIEA Leaders unveiled

A function to unveil the portraits of Com.C.Chandrasekar Bose, founder leader of AIIEA and Com.H.M.A. Mallick former Assistant Treasurer of AIIEA was held at the Union office at Bharath Insurance Building, Anna Salai, Chennai by ICEU, Chennai Division -I, on 14.5.2026 with the participation of more than hundred comrades, including many women comrades. The portrait of Com.C.Chandrasekar Bose was unveiled by Com.G.Jayaraman former President of ICEU, Chennai Division I and the portrait was garlanded by Com. VD.Somasundaram former President of ICEU, Chennai Di-

vision. Com. V.D.Somasundaram spoke about the greatness of the legendry leader and his association with comrade Bose. The portrait of Com.H.M.A.Mallick was unveiled by Com.L.Palaniappan. The portrait was garlanded by Com.G.Mani former Divisional Executive Commit-

tee member of ICEU, Chennai Division I. Then Com.L.Palanippan spoke about the simplicity and functioning style of Com.H.M.A.Mallick.

Then Com.S.Rameshkumar, General Secretary, ICEU, Chennai Division - I addressed the meeting, he spoke briefly



about the roles played by Com. Chandrasekar Bose and Com HMA Mallick in improving the life and working conditions of the employees.

The meeting was presided over by Com.K.Giridhar, President of ICEU. The welcome address was delivered by Com.S.Ravikumar, Vice Presi-

dent, ICEU. The meeting came to a close with vote of thanks by Com.D.Praveen Joint Secretary, ICEU, Chennai Division – I.

Conversation with the Young at Bangalore

The Bangalore I and II Divisional units decided to have a conversation with the young members of the organisation in an effort to involve them in the work of the Union. With this perspective, a get-together with the young was arranged on 13th June 2026. More than 40 young comrades came to the program.

Com R.Padmanabha, General Secretary, ICEU, Bangalore I welcomed the group and explained the purpose for which the program was organised.

Com K.Gopal, General Secretary, ICEU, Bangalore II spoke about the activities of the organisation and framed three questions for discussions. These were 1) Opinion about AIIEA and its activities; 2) whether any difference between the AIIEA and other unions in the industry is seen and observed; and 3) what activities can be taken up to strengthen the AIIEA and defend LIC.



This was followed with lively discussions in which a number of comrades expressed their opinion about the organisation and the industry. They also came out with certain suggestions and were happy that the Union has taken the initiative to converse with them on such important subjects.

Intervening in the discussions, Com Amanulla Khan, Former President, AIIEA lucidly explained as to why a trade union is required. He said a trade union by unifying the employees creates a collective strength that helps

the employees to fight for a decent living and working conditions. He also said that a trade union cannot remain apolitical. It necessarily has to be political. It must have a vision for the society. Therefore, AIIEA is not just a bread-and-butter organisation but a social force with a broad vision for the nation and society. He said AIIEA demands its members to imbibe the noble values of the working class philosophy that will make their life purposeful. He hoped that the young comrades would have understood the AIIEA and what it stands for and therefore will be proud to take up responsibilities in the organisation.

Com S.K.Geetha, Former Vice-President of SCZIEF also shared her thoughts with the participants. The program came to an end with vote of thanks by Com H.K.Narasimhamurthy, Jt.Secretary, Bangalore II. It was a rich and rewarding experience. The conversation needs to be continued further with such regular meetings.

Com Saroj remembered

On the occasion of the 27th death anniversary of Com. Saroj Chaudhari, the undisputed leader of insurance employees, LIC Employees' Union Kozhikode Division observed "Saroj Memorial Day" on 17th June 2026.

In the commemorative programme conducted online at the divisional level, Com: P.P. Krishnan (Vice President,

AIIEA) delivered the "Saroj Memorial Lecture".

Everyone in the base units sat together and listened to the memorial lecture through Bluetooth speakers.

LICEU Kozhikode Division Joint Secretary T.C. Basanth delivered the vote of thanks at the meeting chaired by Com.P.K. Bhagyabindu (Joint Secretary, LICEU, Kozhikode.

Milestone for Kottayam Division: New Union Office Building Inaugurated

The LIC Employees' Union, Kottayam Division, marked a historic milestone with the successful conduct of its 35th Divisional Conference on June 6 and 7, 2026, at the CSI Retreat Centre, Kottayam. The event assumed added significance as it was held during the Platinum Jubilee Year of the All India Insurance Employees' Association (AIIEA).

The celebrations began on the morning of June 6 near Baker Junction, Kottayam with the inauguration of the Union's new office building—a long-cherished dream of the comrades of Kottayam Division. The building, named Com. C.S. Bose Bhavan, stands as a symbol of unity, growth, and the fighting spirit of the working class, commemorating the inspiring memory of Com. Chandrasekhar Bose. Building presently has a mini auditorium, two guest rooms, offices of Employees Union and Pensioners Association.

The building was inaugurated by Com. Shreekanth Mishra, General Secretary, AIIEA, in the presence of a large gathering of members, leaders, and well-wishers.

Open Session Calls for Unity and Resistance

Following the office inaugu-



ration, the 35th Divisional Conference formally commenced with an Open Session inaugurated by Com. Shreekanth Mishra. Addressing the gathering, he strongly criticized the government's pro-corporate and anti-worker policies, particularly the new Labour Codes, which have increased insecurity among workers. He also warned against the growing privatisation drive in Public Sector and expressed concern over undue delay in starting the recruitment process in LIC. Stressing the need for unity and collective action, he called upon employees to strengthen their resistance against these challenges.

The session was presided over by Com. K. Suresh, President of LICEU Kottayam Division. Com. P.B. Bindu, General Secretary, welcomed the gathering, while Com. T. Balakrishnan, Joint Secretary, proposed the vote of thanks.

A warm felicitation was accorded to retiring Vice President Com. K.S. Sailesh Kumar for his valuable contributions to the organisation.

Greetings were offered by prominent leaders including Com. M. Kunhikrishnan (General Secretary, AIIPA), Com. P.P. Krishnan (Vice President, AIIEA), Com. V. Suresh (General Secretary, SZIEF), Adv. Reji Zacharia (District President, CITU), and representatives of various fraternal organisations and class associations.

General Council and Election of New Leadership

The General Council session held in the afternoon and continued the next day was inaugurated by Com. V. Suresh, General Secretary, SZIEF.



General Secretary Com. P.B. Bindu presented the organizational report, while Treasurer Com. Santhosh Ninan Zachariah presented the statement of accounts. After detailed discussions and comprehensive replies, delegates unanimously adopted the report and approved the accounts. Com I.K. Biju (Jt.Secy, SZIEF)

and Com. Deepak Viswanath (Vice President, SZIEF) intervened in the delegate session to clarify the issues raised by delegates. The conference also adopted 10 resolutions on important organisational and policy matters.

A new team of office-bearers was elected for the ensuing year, with Com. K. Suresh as

President, Com. M. Raneesh Kumar as General Secretary, and Com. Santhosh Ninan Zachariah as Treasurer.

The conference concluded with renewed confidence and a strong resolve to defend the interests of LIC employees and strengthen the organisation in the days ahead.

ECZIEA felicitates Com. Dharmaraj Mahapatra & Com. B. S. Ravi

A felicitation programme - cum - general body meeting was organized at Hazaribagh on the

17th May 2026 to felicitate Com. Dharmaraj Mahapatra on his election as President of AIIEA and Com. B. S. Ravi, Treasurer of AIIEA, on his superannuation from LIC on 30th April 2026 under the aegis of East Central Zone Insurance Employees' Association and was hosted by Insurance Employees' Association Hazaribagh Division (IEAHD). The meeting was presided over by Com. Pradip Kumar Mukherjee, President of ECZIEA. In his address, he hailed Com. Ravi's glorious services to AIIEA since 2003 as its Treasurer, highlighting his stellar role and his pioneering contribution in clinching benefits to employees from the unwilling hands of management. Com. Dharamraj Mahapatra, President of AIIEA, in his inspirational address, first congratulated IEAHD for successfully organizing the General body meeting even when fuel crisis is prevailing everywhere. He extended warm greetings to all comrades of IEAHD for their commitment and faith towards the organi-



zation. He also analysed the present political situation in India. He observed that the erosion of democracy and undermining of the constitution are matters of grave concern. He congratulated the comrades for the strength displayed during the All India General strike and appealed to them to strengthen this unity with complete dedication to protect India's secular and democratic character. He emphasized

that the trade union movement faces numerous serious challenges. He also informed about the threats posed to trade unions by the new labour codes. Trade unions serve as the sole platform advocating for the interests of employees and workers, acting as a permanent opposition to the government. Consequently, attempts are being made to eliminate them to serve corporate interests.

Com. B. S. Ravi, Treasurer of



AIIEA, in his address criticized the management for failing to honour its own commitment regarding the recruitment of Class-III employees within the stipulated time frame. He was also critical of the management's reluctance to share information relating to technological changes and other important issues. He emphasized on the urgent need for fresh recruitment in the LIC, with the assertion that no force other than the All India Insurance Employees' Association can safeguard the interests of the LIC and its employees. He therefore called

upon the employees to further strengthen the organization and prepare themselves for a determined struggle to confront the prevailing situation.

Com. Trinath Dora, General Secretary of ECZIEA, in his brief address underscored the significant and sterling contribution of Com. Ravi in strengthening AIIEA. He also applauded the dedication and commitment of AIIEA President Com. D. R. Mahapatra towards the society and the toiling masses. He hoped that, under his leadership, the AIIEA would scale new highs. The meeting was also addressed by the

General Secretaries of different divisions under ECZIEA, and, a representative of AIIPA. The meeting was attended by more than 350 Comrades, including Secretariat members of ECZIEA, representatives of Pensioner's Association, Class-I Federation, NFIFWI, LIAFI and fraternal trade unions. Many young comrades who attended the meeting, were deeply inspired by the revolutionary speech of Com. Mahapatra and the emotional address delivered by Com. B. S. Ravi. Com. Hemant Kumar Mishra, President of IEAHD, delivered the customary vote of thanks.

Felicitations of Com.(Dr.) Santosh Kumar Mohapatra

The Executive Committee of the CDIEA, Cuttack felicitated its President, Com. (Dr.) Santosh Kumar Mohapatra, on receiving the prestigious Abani Baral Memorial Award. The felicitations programme was organized under the leadership of the Association's General Secretary, Com. Abhaya Kumar Das. Com. Adhira Pradhan, the newly elected Base Secretary of Paradip, formally felicitated Dr. Mohapatra on behalf of the Association.

Com. Mohapatra was honoured on June 3 at Jayadev Bhavan, Bhubaneswar, in recognition of his significant contributions to society in diverse fields. The prestigious award was conferred upon five distinguished personalities from different walks of life for their outstanding service to society.

Late Prof. Abani Baral, in whose memory the award has been instituted, was the pioneer of the Teachers' Movement in Odisha, Secretary General of the All-Odisha Federation of Teachers' Organisations,



and Vice-President of FISE, the World Body of Teachers. He was widely respected as an educationist, trade unionist, litterateur, artist, and communist leader.

The award was presented by several eminent public figures, including Smt. Aparajita Sarangi, Member of Parliament, Bhubaneswar; Shri Suresh Pujari, Hon'ble Revenue Minister of Odisha; Shri Prafulla Chan-

dra Ghadai, former Finance Minister and one of Odisha's longest-serving ministers; veteran journalist Shri Pradosh Pattnaik, former News Editor of The Samaja; and other distinguished guests. The function was presided over by Shri Niranjan Pattnaik, former Minister and former President of the Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee.



► The citation read during the award ceremony described Com Mohapatra as a talented writer, columnist, economist, social thinker, trade union leader, and public intellectual. It noted that he has authored more than 2,000 articles in Odia and English in various newspapers, particularly leading Odia dailies, earning widespread recognition and respect. He was portrayed as a progressive, pro-people, and fearless writer who consistently gives voice to the voiceless. The citation also highlighted his remarkable presence on social media, where he has written more than 38,000 Facebook

posts on a wide range of social, economic, and political issues.

In recognition of his contributions to journalism, literature, and public education, Dr. Mohapatra has previously received several honours, including the Gunduchi Musa Award (2008), the Odisha Media Award for Best Columnist of the Year (2017), the Kirtan Parida Smruti Samman (2018) from Koyal Sahitya Sansad, Rourkela, the International Educational Icon Award (2019), the Krupajal Samman (2019), and the Gopabandhu Sikhya Samman (2026) from Kaibalya Sahitya Sansad. In 2023, he was honoured by the Indian Federation of United Nations

Associations (IFUNA) and the Utkal Federation of United Nations Associations (UFUNA) as an economist, columnist, and social thinker.

Despite these recognitions, Com. Mohapatra firmly believes that the greatest reward for a writer lies not in awards but in the trust, engagement, and appreciation of readers. He has always expressed his gratitude to the leaders of AIIEA, and to the Editors of Insurance Worker for encouraging him to discover and develop his creative abilities. He acknowledges that the philosophy and ideals of AIIEA have had a profound influence on his intellectual growth and writing career.

30th AG Meeting of the LICPA KSDO

The LIC Pensioners' Association, Kolkata Suburban Division successfully conducted its 30th Annual General Meeting on 13th June, 2026. This milestone event saw an enthusiastic turnout, with 65 dedicated members coming together to reflect on the association's journey, deliberate on pressing challenges, and chart the course for the future.

The meeting commenced with members paying heartfelt homage to the departed souls of the association and other sections of society. Following this, Com Samar Bhattacharjee, General Secretary of the Association presented the Executive Committee Report before the house. Supporting the report, Com Deboprasad Gayen, Vice President of the AIIPA, initiated the discussion. In his address, he analysed the current economic situation, expressing deep concern over rising inflationary pressures and the increasing cost of living—particularly regarding

medical expenses and daily essentials.

The meeting was also greeted by leaders from the Pensioners Associations of KMDO - I, KMDO-II, and the Howrah Division. Several members-including Comrades Ratan Roy, Bratindra Chakraborty, Pabok Biswas, Sutapa Saha, Sujit Dey, and Swapan Bandopadhyaya-addressed the house with spirited and insightful deliberations. Throughout the session, attendees strongly emphasized the critical need for regular pension updation and robust financial security measures to safeguard the long-term well-being of retirees.

Summarizing the discussion, Comrade General Secretary analyzed the prevailing political climate and its implications for both public sector enterprises and pensioners. The discussion highlighted the importance of staying vigilant, maintaining organizational unity, and effectively advocating for the rights of senior cit-

izens within a changing policy landscape.

The general body unanimously accepted the annual report along with the audited accounts presented by the Treasurer, Comrade Sibapada Sarkar.

Following this, the house elected a 31 members Executive Committee for the year 2026-27 including Com. Timir Baran Bhattacharya, Com Samar Bhattacharjee and Com Sibapada Sarkar as President, General Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

Com Timir Baran Bhattacharya, who presided over the meeting, thanked the members for their sustained solidarity over the past three decades. Celebrating the benchmark of the 30th AGM, he noted that the milestone stands as a testament to the association's resilience and unwavering commitment to member welfare. The meeting concluded on a constructive note with a formal vote of thanks.



Dr. P Ravishankar

SETTLEMENT OF TERMINAL BENEFITS

Globalization has changed the very fabric of Indian society. It has brought both good and unwanted changes which are the effect of globalization. Both positive and negative changes are interlinked and one cannot stand alone without having its side effect. The development brings along with certain unwanted and unpleasant changes in the society which we realized only after it has slowly taken strong root in the society.

Biggest price we paid is loss of pleasant and friendly communications de hors of difference in ideology, religion, caste. In the advanced communication era these fundamentals are missing but lot of publicity and uncalled/unwarranted issues take the prime time in all electronic media. People who constitute the digital society have become much self-centered and attention seekers.

Everyone is aware that from the early 1990's pattern of recruitment in Government and public sectors have changed. The concept of permanency has taken back seat and temporary/casual/contract employment has slowly taken to lead in the lower cadres. There are instances where courts directing the employer to continue a certain set of litigants as Temporary till their retirement. Many claims for regularization are turned down relying too much of Uma Devi Vs state of Karnataka.

The recruits who entered in to service in early 90's in permanent post will be superannuating in various cadres. The benefit payable either on death or cessation of contract is huge compared to benefits payable two decades back. It is every person's duty to see that the same reaches him/her or their family without getting into any legal issues.

Now it is time to recheck whether

steps have been carried out for proper settlement of terminal benefits reach the hands of the beneficiaries without any legal hurdle. The present corporate structure of all Institution has dramatically changed. The service concept has slowly disappeared and only profit and self-goals play very important role in taking decisions.

Following is some of circumstances which may lead to litigation at the time paying terminal benefits.

- a. Succession in case of extra marital relationship of an employee.
- b. Live in relation.
- c. Non Conclusion of Disciplinary proceedings.

If there exists a real legal issue, only place for resolving is Court. In most of the cases lack of knowledge of authority and wrong appreciation of facts with preconceived notions leads the litigation for many years.

Without divorce the second marriage is null and void according to Hindu Marriage Act. Only the legally wedded wife is eligible for family pension and all pension benefits. This has been held recently by Punjab and Haryana Court¹. The question of family pension payable to more than one person will arise only when the pension rules permit, the rules permit only a divorce wife with certain Condition. Hence the general law governing marriage is applicable. A marriage may be solemnized between any two Hindus, if the conditions mentioned in Section 5 of Hindu Marriage Act is satisfied.

When the claim is made from more than one person calling herself as spouse normally court does not recognize any one as wife unless the marriage is as per Hindu Marriage Act². The concept of Nomination does

not help the policy holder even after amendment to Insurance Act and Usha Devi Vs Surbathi Devi³ is still referred. No useful purpose is going to be solved by giving nomination forms in case of rival claims. The rightful beneficiaries are made to run from pillar to post.

The LIC of India (Pension) Rules does not define Wife but only family is defined. In pension rules widow or widows' word is seen. It does not mean that both the widows are recognized because of marital relation with the employee. If one of the widows is legally separated and she need to fulfill certain criteria as contained in rules to be recognized as one more widow, then only she can be considered for family pension.

One suggestion to avoid unnecessary litigation can be; the Employer can take an undertaking about the marital status of its employees during his life time in addition to prevailing nominations facility. When rival claim arises and litigation is raised before the court the principal of Estoppel can be invoked by the employer to see that the benefits reach at the earliest.

How far it will be feasible and helpful is not clear even when amended Nomination provision have not reached its finality. Under these circumstances whoever is in the verge of Superannuation need to take stock of the legal provision governing various aspects of law in respect of their personal situations to avoid unnecessary prolonged litigation.

(Footnotes)

- ¹ Priya vs Union of India &ors
CWP 37597-2019(O&M)
(CA575/2018, CA 1811/2017)
- ² Sec:5 of Hindu Marriage Act.
- ³ 1984 AIR 346,)

INSURANCE NEWS IN BRIEF

● **A.M. KHAN, Dharwad**

- ▶ Both the RBI and the IRDA have repeatedly emphasised the need for banks and insurance companies to strengthen their governance and risk-management framework for bancassurance activities, especially after complaints of mis-selling and unfair business practice rose to over 26,000 in FY25, with mis-selling accounting for around one-fifth of life insurance grievances. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), and the IRDA are charting a path for curbing mis-selling in bancassurance. The focus is on plugging supervisory gaps, making banks accountable for every insurance policy sold through their counters, and fine-tuning audit and suitability checks as well as the incentive structure for bank employees.
- ▶ The non-life insurers recorded 9.35 per cent Y-o-Y growth in premiums to ₹ 3.07 trillion in the April-February period. General insurers reported 7.97 per cent growth to ₹ 2.55 trillion, while standalone health insurers posted 19.04 per cent growth to ₹ 40,013 crore.
- ▶ The commission expense ratio — measured as total commission as a percentage of total premium — rose to 6.86 per cent in FY25 from 6.21 per cent in FY24, driven by higher commission expense ratios among private life insurers. While the commission expense ratio of private life insurers increased to 8.94 per cent in FY25 from 7.22 per cent in FY24, the ratio for Life Insurance Corporation of India fell to 5.18 per cent from 5.46 per cent.
- ▶ The Sabka Bima Sabki Raksha (amendment of insurance laws) Act, 2025, most of the provisions of which have come into effect from February 5, 2026, allows 100% FDI in insurance companies through automatic route and in case of LIC 20% is permitted through automatic route.
- ▶ Net profit of General Insurance Corporation of India, a public sector re-insurance company, rose 2.92% to Rs 1725.66 crore in the quarter ended December 2025 as against Rs 1676.62 crore during the previous quarter ended December 2024. Sales rose 13.60% to Rs 9630.54 crore in the quarter ended December 2025 as against Rs 8477.74 crore during the previous quarter ended December 2024.
- ▶ In the April–February period of FY26, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) delivered a strong performance, with its New Business Premium (NBP) rising 14.43% year-on-year to ₹ 2.17 trillion—outpacing the overall industry growth of 14.27%. LIC also maintained its dominant position in policy sales, issuing 15.10 million policies during the period. While this reflects a steady 2.93% growth, it

underscores LIC's continued leadership in scale and reach, contributing the majority share of the industry's total 23.66 million policies.

- ▶ Net profit of Life Insurance Corporation of India rose 17.46% to Rs 12930.44 crore in the quarter ended December 2025 as against Rs 11008.65 crore during the previous quarter ended December 2024. Sales rose 17.41% to Rs 125988.15 crore in the quarter ended December 2025 as against Rs 107302.30 crore during the previous quarter ended December 2024.
- ▶ The Sword reappear! A Report "Insurance for All by 2047: An Innovation-led, Risk-Resilient Roadmap", has been submitted by IIM Kozhikode before IRDAI, Life Insurance Council and General Insurance Council.
- ▶ Splitting and unbundling the Life Insurance Corporation of India to improve efficiency, along with divestment of public sector general insurers, are among the key recommendations of an expert panel from the Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIMK). These suggestions emerged from two days of deliberations by the Life Insurance and General Insurance Councils, aimed at achieving the objective of Insurance for All by 2047. "This alone will spur increased interest from fresh investments in the sector," the report observed.
- ▶ LIC, however, disagrees with these recommendations. The report, which includes LIC's views, said: "Splitting LIC will be disastrous for the life insurance industry. It will shake the confidence of citizens covered under roughly 270 million LIC policies and millions of others who feel secure with government-owned institutions. Such a move would have a deep impact on the overall economy of our country."
- ▶ Many Economists compare LIC to a "central bank of financial markets" because it acts as: a massive institutional investor; a stabilizer during crises; a major financier of government borrowing; a key confidence anchor for investors, even though the true monetary authority remains the Reserve Bank of India. For :
 - ▶ 1. LIC Acts as the "Buyer of Last Resort" in Markets; 2. LIC Is the Largest Institutional Investor in India; 3. LIC Finances Government Borrowing; 4. LIC Stabilizes Public Sector Banks and Firms; 5. LIC Influences Equity Market Governance, LIC is among the largest shareholders in many Indian companies; LIC Provides Long-Term Patient Capital - Insurance funds are long-term savings as LIC policies often last 20–40 years; 6. LIC Anchors Investor Confidence - For decades, Indian investors have believed that: "If LIC is investing, the asset must be safe".

WORKING CLASS STRUGGLE

● S. SRIDHARA, Mysore

- Himachal Pradesh Rural childcare workers protest at Shimla: Thousands of Anganwadi (childcare) workers marched to the State Secretariat at Shimla on 15th June 2026 Demanding higher wages, gratuity, and social security benefits. These highly exploited workers are the backbone of the government's Integrated Child Development Services but are denied dignified pay and often forced to cover operational costs out of pocket. Following the protest, a union delegation met with the Social Justice and Empowerment Minister, who verbally agreed to implement gratuity benefits, double the workers' annual mobile recharge allowance to 4,000 rupees, and ensure monthly reimbursements for fuel and material transport. Minister also assured that the government would consider the workers' demand for a wage hike in line with the neighbouring Haryana State. Further talks on pensions and provident funds are scheduled for late July 2026. Workers have threatened to launch a wider agitation if the government fails to turn its verbal assurances into concrete action. In one of the largest mobilisations of women scheme workers in recent years in Himachal Pradesh, nearly 4,000 Anganwadi workers and helpers gathered on June 8 in Shimla. This massive protest was organised under the banner of the Centre of India Trade Unions (CITU)-affiliated Anganwadi Workers and Helpers Union. Addressing the rally, Speakers pointed out that Anganwadi workers are no longer confined to preschool education and nutrition services. They are now responsible for Poshan Tracker reporting, Pulse Polio campaigns, health programmes, surveys, election-related duties, and numerous other government assignments. Despite performing critical public functions, they continue to receive low honorariums and remain excluded from pension, insurance, and other social security benefits.
- Punjab Roadways, PUNBUS, PRTC and PEPSU's contract workers on strike: On 10th June 2026, Contract Workers Union members from Punjab Roadways, PUNBUS, and the Pepsu Road Transport Corporation (PRTC) stopped work for the day to protest against the Government for ignoring their demands. About 60 per cent of bus routes were affected, after talks with the government in the evening, the union called off the strike, saying it had secured a written agreement, that the government agreed to initiate the process of withdrawing cases against arrested workers. On regularisation, the department agreed to forward its report to the personnel department and consider outsourced workers with three or more years of experience for absorption. Both issues are to be addressed within a month.
- Bangladesh: Thousands of apparel workers protest job

cuts and other issues: Thousands of apparel workers from several factories. staged protests in and around Dhaka on June 11th 2026. They demonstrated against thousands of layoffs and factory closures after Eid-ul-Azha, demanding the reopening of factories and reinstatement of dismissed workers. Several protests included road blockades. On, June 10, workers from Uniform Textiles in Kochukhet

blocked a road in the Mirpur area of Dhaka to protest the closure of the factory, From June 6 to June 10, workers from Al Muslim Group, Texas Dresses, Nassa Mainland Garments, and Uniform Textiles staged protests involving road. blockades over factory closures and mass layoffs, while AKM Knitwear factory workers in Savar protested the layoffs on June 6.

- Thousands of teachers at Belgian French-speaking schools strike against austerity cuts. On June 4, thousands of teachers at French-speaking schools in Brussels and Wallonia, Belgium, walked out, following a ten-day strike ending May 27. The Confederation of Christian Trade Unions of Belgium-Education members denounce government austerity plans, including a 10 per cent increase in teaching hours for upper secondary school teachers, Despite mass opposition, on June 5 the government of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation voted to implement a budget of deficit reduction measures.
- Academic staff at Goldsmiths, University of London begin indefinite stoppage over threat of job cuts: Academic staff at Goldsmiths, University of London began an indefinite strike on 15th June over the university's plans to cut around 270 academic and professional services staff to achieve savings of around ₹20 million. The cuts would affect around a fifth of the workforce.
- The University and College Union (UCU) members voted in April by over 80 per cent to walk out and by more than 90 per cent for action short of a strike (ASOS) in response to the threatened job cuts . On May 27, they began the ASOS, which included a marking and assessment boycott (MAB). In response to the MAB, the university refused to pay any staff participating, in effect a lockout. The UCU members then upped their action with the all-out strike.
- Portugal: Tens of thousands of workers participated in a nationwide general strike in early June 2026 to oppose government labour reforms. Organized by the General Confederation of Portuguese Workers, the stoppages heavily disrupted air travel, regional rail, and bus services.
- Italy: Mass anti-austerity and anti-war demonstrations swept through Italy during the late spring and into June, with workers heavily opposing the government's economic and 2026 Budget policies.



ECONOMIC NOTES

● **J. SURESH**, Mysore

◆ Africa's four richest billionaires own \$ 57.4 billion - more than the combined wealth of half the continent's 1.5 billion population. According to Oxfam, the top five billionaires have increased their wealth by 88% over the last five years compared to 22 percent increase for all Africa's billionaires. Billionaires' wealth in Africa grew by 36.5 percentage over the previous year, more than double the global average of 16 percent. South Africa has the largest number of billionaires (7), followed by Egypt (5), Nigeria (4), Morocco (3) and Algeria, Tanzania and Zimbabwe one each. Nearly half of the world's 50 most unequal countries are in Africa. The Continent is home to 25 billionaires, 348 centi-millionaires, and 122,500 millionaires. African dollar millionaires, who account for 0.02 percent of the population, own almost one-fifth of the continent's wealth while the bottom 50 percent own less than 1 percent. The millionaire population is projected to grow by 65 percent over the next decade according to the Africa Wealth Report 2025. The billionaire's wealth has grown alongside deepening social crisis. As inflation, debt and fiscal pressure has intensified, Oxfam found that every African country for which data exists cut the share of its budget allocated to education, health or social protection. Seventy-nine percent rolled back progressive taxation, and 89 percent weakened labour rights, minimum wages or job protections. Meanwhile, 465 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa-between 38 and 42 percent of the population - live on less than \$3 per day. Africa produces about 7 percent of the world's crude oil and 6 percent of its gas, mainly in Nigeria, Angola, Algeria Egypt and Libya.

◆ According to a recent data from China, the deepening contradictions has gripped its economy since the collapse of the property bubble at the beginning of this decade. With the end of the property boom, which had been the main economic driver for over a decade financed by large amounts of debt, the government is focussing on development of high-tech production to advance China in key global markets. It essentially rejected demands, both externally and internally, for action to stimulate the domestic economy. The result is that while exports have been booming, the internal market as reflected in lower consumption and

investment spending, is growing at snail's pace and even stagnating. This is one legacy of the collapse of the property bubble that has left local government authorities, which formed the base of regional economic development, deeply in debt.

◆ Last year, China recorded a trade surplus of more than \$ 1 trillion, the largest ever for any country and the data for the first half

of this year show the export surge is continuing. Exports in May jumped by 19.4 percent from a year earlier compared to a forecast of a 15 percent growth and a 14.1 percent increase for April. Last month there was a 110 percent increase in semiconductor exports, a 44 percent rise in mobile phones, and a 66 percent increase in what are termed data processing machines. Imports also rose by more than 27 percent in May, taking the total trade surplus for the month to \$ 105.4 billion, the highest since January. At this rate, the surplus for the year will go well beyond the record of 2025. Significantly, the exports to the US rose by almost 36 percent – the biggest increase since 2021. It has ended, at least for now, the series of declines since the launch of the tariff war by the Trump Administration which has eased followed the truce agreed to last October. The situation in domestic economy, however, stands in a marked contrast to the tech-fuelled export boom. According to National Bureau of Statistics data show that retail sales declined to 0.6 percent in May. Private investments were down by 7.1 percent for the first five months of this year. Manufacturing investment fell for the first time in six years. China was able to insulate itself to some extent from the impact of the war in Iran by using its large oil reserves to cut oil imports.

◆ According to the latest Financial Stability Review (FSR) issued by the European Central Bank, the Iran war, combined with the other disruptions to the global economy resulting from Trump administration could set off a major financial crisis as it points to a series of potential triggers. The numerous growing risks and potential triggers for the eruption of financial crisis are detailed throughout the FSR. They encompass not only banks, hedge funds and others operating in the financial markets but financial position of government as well. The immediate impact of the Iran war has been the rise of inflation and in the view of ECB, this is going to worsen.

FOR OUR FIELD FORCE

● **A. ARIVUKKADAL**
Thanjavur

LIC's performance: LIC's standalone net profit rose more than 23% in March quarter to Rs.23,420.43 crore from the Rs.19,012.79 crore a year earlier. The higher profit came on an over 14% increase in total income to Rs.2,76,827.17 crore (from Rs.2,41,625.02 crore). For the year ended March (FY26), net profit increased 19.25% to Rs.57,419 crore (from Rs.48,151 crore). Total income rose to Rs.9,73,288.26 crore (from Rs.8,84,148.22 crore). Total premium income was almost 10% higher at Rs.5,35,984 crore (from Rs.4,88,148 crore). LIC's market share, measured by first year premium income, was 56.66% for FY26 compared to 57.05% in FY25.

Highest Profit: LIC has emerged as the highest profit-making firm in the Indian financial sector in the March quarter, netting a little over Rs.23,400 crore. Even among Central Public Sector Enterprises, the Corporation maintained the number one position for fourth-quarter profit for FY26. LIC was followed by SBI HDFC Bank with profit of Rs.19,684 crore and Rs.19,221 crore, respectively.

Real Estate: LIC is looking to improve returns from real estate properties, and it would also explore the option of a separate subsidiary to achieve greater efficiency in managing its vast assets, which are conservatively estimated at over Rs.60,000 crore. At present, immovable properties of LIC is being managed by the estates department while an engineering wing takes care of the maintenance, building and constructions. This move is aimed at enhancing returns for policyholders while also strengthening the organisation's overall profitability.

LIC Fintech: LIC is actively considering establishing a fintech arm either through strategic investment or organic way to cater to its growing digital needs, CEO and MD R.Doraiswamy said.

LIC's Holdings: The value of LIC's holdings in NSE-listed companies has risen from Rs.9.31 lakh crore in June 2022 to Rs.15.11 lakh crore as of March 2026. Its investment income increased 10% year-on-year to Rs.4.32 lakh crore in FY26 from Rs.3.93 lakh crore in FY25.

Rajesh Exports: Rajesh Exports Chairman Rajesh Mehta has said that LIC accumulated its stake independently through stock market purchases over nearly two decades. Mehta said the company had no relationship with LIC regarding its investment decisions. Despite the sharp decline in Rajesh Exports' share price, he believes LIC may still be sitting on gains from its long-term investment.

Tax-free Limit: Indian life insurers have asked the government to double the tax-free limit for insurance policies from Rs.5 lakhs, hoping for a boost to inflows into these funds. The appeal was made via a letter from the Life Insurance Council, a forum which represents insurers, to the government earlier this month. Current

tax limits were imposed in February 2023, applicable to all insurance schemes except unit-linked insurance plans (ULIPs).

Bancassurance Commission: Private insurers are raising concerns over discussions around a potential effort-linked commission framework being examined by the IRDAI. This will lead to lower commissions for banks compared to individual agents who put in significant effort. For several listed private insurers,

a significant share of new business originating from one or two banking partners.

Repudiation Reason: Nearly one in every 12 health insurance claims was repudiated in FY25. IRDAI's latest requirement seeks insurers to explain claim denials and identify the relevant policy clauses. IRDAI is attempting to make claim decisions more transparent and easier to scrutinise.

CEO Salary: IRDAI has proposed an industry-wide framework that would tie executive pay to a mix of customer, shareholder and regulatory metrics, with customer-related parameters carrying the highest weight. These include measures such as claim settlement timelines, grievance redressal, transparency in product disclosures and overall customer experience.

Fastest Growing: According to the latest Allianz Global Insurance Report 2026, India is expected to emerge as the fastest-growing major insurance market in the world, with premium income projected to grow at an average annual rate of 10.7% through 2036. Life insurance remains the backbone of India's insurance sector, accounting for nearly 74% of total premium income. Allianz expects health insurance to remain India's fastest-growing insurance segment, expanding at an annual rate of 12.5% over the next decade.

Six Reforms: India could achieve the goal of insurance for all within a few years if six major reforms are implemented effectively, IRDAI Chairman Ajay Seth said. These include product reforms, distribution reforms, capital reforms, underwriting reforms, claims reforms and awareness reforms.

Unclaimed funds: The finance ministry has launched a single unified online platform (<https://www.unclaimedassetsportal.in>) for citizens to search and trace unclaimed bank deposits, insurance claims, shares and mutual funds across the financial ecosystem.

Gift Insurance: A groom's family in Maharashtra's Nanded district gifted Rs.1 lakh accident insurance coverage to all 3,465 residents of their village instead of traditional wedding return gifts. The family purchased a group accident insurance policy through the Gram Panchayat. Using the village voter list, every eligible resident was included without complicated procedures or discrimination. The policy will remain valid for one year.



SDIEA organises Two Seminars

Silchar Division Insurance Employees’ Association organised two seminars - one at Silchar on 30th May 2026 and second one at Agartala on 07th June 2026 as part of the platinum jubilee celebration of AIIEA. Topic of the seminar was - “Evolving landscape in Insurance Industry” for both at Silchar and Agartala.

First one covered five Base Committees - Silchar Division, Silchar Branch 1, Silchar Branch 2 , Hailakandi and Sribhumi Bases.

Speaker was Com Ujjal Kr. Paul, Joint Secretary EZIEA. Com Ujjal Kr Paul vividly narrated the ongoing critical situation prevailing around and

present and future changes in the insurance industry and role of AIIEA to face the challenges. Good number of members and pensioners were present on the occasion.

Second one at Agartala covered four Base Committees of Tripura viz, Agartala 1, Agartala 2, Udaipur and Dharmanagar. Speaker was Com Saikat Choudhury, Asstt Secretary EZIEA. He lucidly discussed about the challenges before the insurance industry in the pretext of ruthless economic policies of the Government. Huge number of members and pensioners were present in the seminar.

INESCAPABLE QUESTION- WHAT THE WAR WAS FOR

Continued from page 23

talks progress, the US has said it will lift sanctions.

It is all dependent on the success of 60 days of talks on a nuclear deal – that can be extended and probably will be, as the issues are complex. Neither trusts the other. Much can go wrong. Hardliners in Washington, Tehran and Israel do not want the deal to work.

Iran might overplay its hand, taking maximal positions in the forthcoming negotiation and potentially jeopardising economic gains that could rescue its broken economy.

But this agreement is way better than a war that has killed thousands and threatened a global economic recession.

If a nuclear deal is made, to the satisfaction of the US and Iran, and if both sides keep their promises, the Middle East could be transformed. That is a big if, at the other end of a long and difficult negotiation.

DONATIONS

Com.Teg singh, NZIEA	Rs.1100
Com.Sandip Pal , CAB Siliguri	20000
Com.Koushik Battarcharyya,KDLIEA	10000
Com.Prabhakara B Kunder,Udupi DO	10000
Com.M.S.Lalitha, Bangalore DO-2	10000
Com.Shailesh Kumar,Kotayam DO	10000

Insurance Worker heartily thanks these comrades for their love and affection.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Month	Base 2016	2001	1960
October	147.7	425.38	9709.59
November	148.2	426.82	9742.46
December	148.2	426.82	9742.46
January 2026	148.6	427.97	9768.75
February	148.5	427.68	9762.18
March	149.1	429.41	9801.62
April	149.9	431.71	9854.21

Base1960=Base 2001x22.8259
Base 2001=Base 2016x2.88



Together we secured the Past

**Together we shall
shape the Future
With AIEA**



Revolutionary Greetings
on Platinum Jubilee of AIEA

**EAST ZONE GENERAL INSURANCE
EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION**

For Appointment
044 2000 2001

Emergency
044 2000 2020



DISCOVER THE TRUE JOY OF GOOD HEALTH
SIMS HOSPITAL, CHENNAI

CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

- Cardiac Sciences • Orthopedics • Neurosciences
- Gastroenterology, Hepatobiliary Sciences
- Renal Sciences • Multi Organ Transplantation
- Oncology • Craniofacial, Aesthetics & Plastic Surgery
- Obstetrics, Gynecology & IVF • Pain Management



345 Beds



15 Operating theatres



20 Ambulances



2 State of the art Cath labs



World-class Emergency Facility



2 Robotic Surgical Systems

Empanelment Hospital Through Cashless Treatment facility for LIC/ GIC Staff, Pensioners members & their Dependents

No.1 Jawaharlal Nehru Road,
Vadapalani, Chennai,
Tamil Nadu - 600 026

Contact enquiry: **9841811373**

www.simshospitals.com

Follow us @
SIMS Hospitals, Chennai

