

ALL INDIA INSURANCE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION
LIC BUILDING SECRETARIAT ROAD HYDERABAD 500 063
(E-mail: aiieahyd@gmail.com)

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To
All the Zonal/Divisional/State/Regional Units

Dear Comrades,

A successful 3rd All India Working Women Convention

The 3rd All India Insurance Working Women's Convention was held on the morning of 3rd May, 2015 at 10.00 am., preceding the Working Committee meeting of AIIEA at Bhubaneswar. Com. Amanulla Khan, President along with the first woman office bearer of AIIEA Com. M. Girija hoisted the flag of AIIEA as a mark of beginning of the above two events. Apart from the working committee members, and women comrades from the host Zone, around 100 women comrades across the country participated in the convention. The level of enthusiasm among the participants was unprecedentedly high.

Comrades Smriti Rekha Sahoo (ECZIEA), S K Geetha (SCZIEF), Anupama Sachdev (NZIEA), Falguni Mehta (WZIEA), Usha Parganiha (CZIEA), Maitreyee Misra (EZIEA), S Sreedevi (SZIEF), Geetha Shanth (NCZIEF) and Rita Tirkey (OSGIEA) were on the dais.

A presidium consisting of comrades SK Geetha, Smriti Rekha Sahoo, Anupama Sachdev, Falguni Mehta and Usha Parganiha conducted the proceedings of the Convention. Com V Ramesh, General Secretary of AIIEA welcomed the participants. A resolution on homage to the departed leaders of the democratic movement was moved by him.

Com M Girija, Joint Secretary, AIIEA presented a report that touched upon the various trends happening today at the international and national levels and their economic and political reflections on us. The report highlighted the unbridled exploitation and attacks on women. The report also dealt and reviewed on important tasks that had been carried out by our State/Divisional/Regional Women's Sub-committees and the Zonal co-ordination committees since the 2nd Women's Convention held at Mysore in 2012. The report also suggested the future course of action. In all 25 women comrades participated in the deliberations and shared their experiences. During their discussions, they briefed the house that these activities increased the women participation in trade union activities at their respective places.

Comrades Kameshwari, Aruna Kumari and M.Vijayakumari from South Central Zone, J. Vijaya, P K Bhagia Bindu and G Aruna from Southern Zone, Anupama Sachdev Neetha Singhal, Sabina Mehta and Sukritha from Northern Zone, Geetha Shanth and Madhu Tewari from North Central Zone, Arpitha Roy, Balaka Chatterjee and Deepali Dhar from Eastern Zone, Manorama Mohanty, Purabhi Ghosh, Manju Singh from East Central Zone, Usha Parganiha, Ganga Sahu and Sangeetha Jha from Central Zone, Falguni Mehta and Neha Mote from Western Zone, Jothimayee Mohanthy and Geeta from General sector contributed to the deliberations in a big way.

The deliberations reflected the enhanced level of understanding and maturity of the comrades at various levels of the organisation.

During the course of the session, Baby Mona Lisa, grand-daughter of senior Com Rabi Narayan Mallick, (former General Secretary of Cuttack Division) regaled the audience with a skit of mono-acting that brought the young Nobel laureate Malala Yousafzai, virtually live on the stage.

Com Amanulla Khan, President, AIIEA addressed the participants. Congratulating all the women comrades for their active participation, he requested the office bearers of the organisation at various levels to create opportunities in bringing the women comrades into decision making bodies so that their talents could be utilised by the organisation. He also called upon the women comrades to take the opportunities to enhance their level of performance, so that more number of women comrades could come to the leadership in various tiers of the organisation in the days to come.

Com V Ramesh, General Secretary, AIIEA, summed up the discussions. He said that while the organisation is proud of whatever had been achieved, still there is a large scope of advancement for women in taking up the responsibilities of the organisation at various levels. He congratulated the women comrades for their efforts in activating the sub-committees. He appreciated the women comrades of South Central Zone for the first ever exclusive 2 days Women Kala Jatha on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee Year conference of the SCZIEF.

The Convention decided -

1. to conduct trade union classes exclusively for women comrades at the Regional / Divisional level every year;
2. to form Media response committees in all the Regions / Divisions and activate them;
3. to intervene effectively against gender violence, and
4. to submit an Online petition to the Prime Minister of India on the bill for 33% reservation for women.

The Convention unanimously adopted the report. The meeting concluded at around 4.00 pm with a vote of thanks proposed by Com M Girija.

The 3rd All India Working Women Convention certainly created lot of enthusiasm among the participants. This convention is yet another milestone in our movement and is bound to galvanise the women comrades in the trade union activities too. All these further enjoin upon every one of us to the task of facing and combating newer challenges posed by the present neo-liberal dispensation – its approach to the workers and its outlook on women.

With greetings,

Comradely yours,

General Secretary.