

ALL INDIA INSURANCE PENSIONERS' ASSOCIATION

SAROJ BHAVAN, MUTHALAK KULAM, KOZHIKODE - 673 004 (KERALA) e-mail: aiipahqcalicut@gmail.com

President: General Secretary: SATANJIB DAS M. KUNHIKRISHNAN

Circular No. 06/2022 (CLT)

28.11.2022

To All Affiliated Units

Dear Comrades,

- > Observe All India Pensioners' Day.
- > Organise Seminars/Conventions in association with other like-minded Organisations.
- ➤ Hold gate meetings/ demonstrations and adopt resolutions highlighting demands of Pensioners in general and of Insurance Pensioners in particular.

All are aware, 17th December every year is observed as "All India Pensioners' Day" by Pensioners' organisations in our Country. It was on 17.12.1982 the Hon'ble Supreme Court pronounced judgement in a case filed by D.S Nakara & Others v/s Union of India, striking down the provision incorporated by the Govt. of India to make applicable liberalised formula for computation of Pension to Central Govt servants/Armed Forces only to those retiring from 31.03.1979/01.04.1979. In the landmark judgement, the SC held that the intention of the Govt. to create a separate class of Pensioners (class within a class) is violative of the principles enunciated in the Article 14 of Constitution of India. The Apex Court held that:

- i) Pension is neither a bounty nor a matter of grace depending upon the sweet will of the employer;
- ii) the pension is not an ex-gratia payment, but it is a payment for the past services rendered; and,
- iii) it is a social welfare measure rendering socio-economic justice to those in hey-day of their life ceaselessly toiled for the employer on an assurance that in their old age they would not be left in lurch.

Thus, this hallmark judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has become "magna carta" of all Pensioners of our great nation. Pensioners and Pensioners' Organisations of all streams were observing "Pensioners' Day" on 17th December every year to celebrate the rights established by the highest Court and to emphasise that Pensioners are not to be neglected by the State.

AIIPA calls upon all its Units to observe "Pensioners' Day" this year with more vigour and zeal.

From sporadic protest to NPS, now concerted rallies, demonstrations etc. are taking place through out and demand for restoration of Defined pension scheme is gathering momentum in which insurance pensioners in large numbers are also joining. The Eighth All India Conference of AIIPA held in May, 2022 took a decision to campaign, educate and mobilize the people on demand of Universal Pension for all and organise seminars and hold conventions jointly with other organisations.

We suggest the following programme:

- a) To organise Seminars/Conventions on 17th December 2022, at all major centres involving other Pensioners' Organisations. Needless to add, common demands as well as the demands of Insurance Pensioners must be highlighted.
- b) To hold gate meetings/demonstrations in front of all Divisional Offices/Regional Offices of LIC of India / PSGI Companies on Monday, the 19th December 2022 as 17th December falls on a Saturday. Help and cooperation of Organisations of serving employees must be solicited. Resolutions on our demands have to be adopted in such gatherings.

We have to focus on the following demands:

- 1) Immediate notification on enhancement of Family Pension to a uniform rate of 30%, as approved and recommended by the Boards of LIC/GIPSA.
- 2) Updation of Pension and Improvements at par with the Central Govt. Pensioners.
- 3) Scrapping NPS and bringing them all under Defined Benefit Pension Scheme.
- 4) IT exemption on Pensionery income.
- 5) Universal Pension for all Senior Citizens.

We are confident, our Units would take all steps to make the programme successful, ensuring participation of large number of Pensioners and Family Pensioners. Report must be furnished to Head Quarters after observance of the programme.

With Greetings,

Comradely yours,

General Secretary.