

AIFUCTO
(ALL INDIA FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE TEACHERS' ORGANISATIONS)

XXVII ACADEMIC CONFERENCE

Organised by

NORTH MAHARASHTRA UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE TEACHERS ORGANISATION
JALGAON
19 to 21, November, 2010

General Secretary's Report

On the occasion of the 27th Academic Conference of AIFUCTO in Jalgaon, Maharashtra, I, on behalf of the central leadership, extend a very warm welcome to all delegates, dignitaries, observers, guests and the media. It is in the best tradition of AIFUCTO to organize conferences in different parts of the country. This time we are in Jalgaon, a place occupying great importance in modern Maharashtra.

Every conference of the AIFUCTO which is the largest organization of teachers in the world symbolizes the hopes and aspirations of more than 5 lakh teachers, their collective wisdom and their concern for higher education, gives immense opportunity to interact with thousands of teachers across the country.

This Conference is being hosted by NMUCTO in the beautiful campus of North Maharashtra University in the Jalgaon. This is for the first time our conference is being held in this city which symbolizes the agriculture growth engineered development of modern India. The beautiful natural ambience of Western Ghat with most fertile valleys around the hillock on which the NMU has been built reminds us of the historic sites of Ajanta and Ellora which are not far off from this venue.

I congratulate the organizers, NMUCTO for shouldering the most important annual event of higher education teachers' movement in India. My sincere thanks to Prof.K.B.Patil, the Vice-Chancellor of this university for his unstinted support to hold the Conference.

HOMAGE

At the very outset I pay deepest homage to our leaders and members who passed away this year. We have suffered the untimely and irreparable loss of a number of our past leaders, members and friends.

The perspective

Each and every Conference of AIFUCTO has a unique perspective. Last year we had the agenda of implementation of pay scales in different states. The objective has been achieved. We also dedicated ourselves to the task of ensuring desirable changes in draft UGC Regulations-2009, which has been a remarkable success of AIFUCTO. This conference addresses to the agenda of strengthening of public funded education, resisting privatization and commercialization of higher education and saving our higher education from the pseudo quality of foreign education service providers. The AIFUCTO is committed to champion the cause of inclusive and accessible education for all and to oppose mercerization of higher education in India. We firmly believe in the democratic consultation for the modernization of our education sector, a pre condition for the future for our country. The country needs quality education as well as more research activities along with the quantitative expansion of our educational facilities.

An important issue before us is to work for the removal of anomalies in the revised pay scale. Due to such anomalies while some teachers are denied of due benefits, some teachers are getting less than their juniors.

Another important perspective is the growing hiatus between the teachers enjoying UGC pay scales and a large and growing number of teachers outside the system variously known as contractual, part-timers, Guest Teachers and so on. We are extremely concerned at the plight of lacs of such teachers who are earning even less than the ill paid unskilled workers

I do hope we will address many other issues that pertain to the present day higher education scenario of India.

International scenario

Congratulations Suu Kyi:

The conference expresses its extreme happiness at the release of Mrs Aung San Suu Kyi after years of house arrest by the Myanmar military junta. We hope her release from detention will encourage the freedom fighters of Myanmar to unleash new movements against the military regime for the establishment of democracy in the country.

Terrorism

Terrorism is still a major concern, though the year has witnessed no major attacks. But a number of incidents have occurred across the globe leading to the killing of innocent people, loss of property and an ambience of utter insecurity which are serious threats to the global peace and progress. The countries fomenting terrorism are to be categorically told that their patronage of heinous activities is not only against humanity but would affect them and put their people in dire distress. A sustained campaign against terrorism to create strong international opinion is urgently called for.

There should be more effective cooperation among countries to counter and frustrate terrorist attacks. It is a pity that resources that are utilized to combat terrorism could be spent to lessen, if not altogether, eradicate hunger, illiteracy, disease and social discrimination Teachers ,across the globe, have the duty to wage a relentless ideological battle and participate in movements against the anti-people and divisive terrorist forces.

Political scenario

The uni-polar character of the world as the hallmark of US domination is still very strong and The Third World unity is still a far cry. This does not augur well for the third world countries. The need of the hour is Third World solidarity to safeguard the future of the mankind and to ensure inclusive development. The fight against hunger, malnutrition, unemployment, illiteracy and squalor needs to be taken up globally. We must strongly resist the interference in the domestic affairs and arm-twisting by the US and safeguard the national sovereignty, while serving national interest; the US policies camouflage their aim by rhetoric about democracy, peace and fight against terrorism.

International economic scenario

The financial and economic crisis that originated in the US and overtook the countries of the capitalist world had its serious impact on the developing countries including India. Industries catering for exports, industries in the small-scale sector, handicrafts, even IT etc. suffered a sharp fall in demand and nearly 30 to 40 laky employees faced job losses, closures, retrenchment and wage cuts. There are renewed concerns over the European sovereign debt crisis, further dampening investor sentiment thereby injecting widespread uncertainty.

In the name of 'economic reforms', the Government which was committed to the capitalist path, and was egged on by the USA and the IMF, World Bank, WTO, plunged into the regime of neo-liberalism, of liberalization, privatization and globalization, and of free-market economy as the engine of fast economic growth.

The unprecedented economic crisis, which is in fact the crisis of the capitalist system itself, has blown sky-high. In all capitalist countries, the governments rushed to the rescue of the MNCs, corporate houses and big business with huge bail out packages as so-called stimulus funds for the economy, thus showing that for them, profits were for private appropriation, while losses had to be borne by the public exchequer. There is no bail-out however for the poor people who have been the victims of the crisis, and at whose expense the governments are trying to solve it.

Experience has shown that the recovery from the crisis in capitalist countries is slow and by fits and starts. This led to vigorous working class protests in the citadel of capitalism resulting in strikes and other active signaling persistent troubles.

Debt relief to developing nations

The global financial and economic crisis has worsened the debt situation of LDCs. For an equitable, sustainable and balanced global growth, it is a must that fruits of development and progress be shared among countries. But global financial, food and energy crises have reversed the development gains of many developing countries. The situation demands immediate debt relief to the developing countries by the developed countries, international financial institutions like IMF & World Bank and to make available concessional finance to neutralize the alarming situation.

FISE Report

The period under review, globally has been one of turbulence politically and economically affecting the lives of all working people. The most notable is continuous occupation of Afghanistan and Iraq by the coalition of the USA and the UK. The world is passing through severe financial crises resulting in growing marginalization and various forms of exclusion of large number of people particularly in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Investments in all social sectors of Education, Health, Public Transport has decreased through out the world. Workers all over the world are agitated over the price raise, unemployment / underemployment and decrease in decent living conditions. For several months many European countries, including Greece, Spain, Portugal, Italy, and France etc have witnessed a series of protests organized by trade unions and citizens' organizations.

The workers marched in the streets chanting slogans like "Stop privatizing the social security system", "Stop the high prices of food", "Raise the wages", "We want fair wages", "Stop the random dismissals".

Recent ILO Report (2010) says that of some 620 million economically active youth aged 15 to 24 years, 81 million were unemployed at the end of 2009 -- the highest number ever. The report also points out that the unemployment rates of youth have proven to be more sensitive to the crisis than the rates of adults and that the recovery of the job market for young men and women is likely to lag behind that of adults. The report estimates that 152 million young people, or about 28 percent of all the young workers in the world, worked but remained in extreme poverty in households surviving on less than US\$1.25 per person per day. The ILO report explains how unemployment, underemployment and discouragement can have a long-term negative impact on young people, compromising their future employment prospects. The study also highlights the cost of idleness among youth, saying "societies lose their investment in education'. Governments fail to receive contributions to social security systems and are forced to increase spending on remedial services". "Young people are the drivers of economic development," the report said. "Foregoing this potential is an economic waste and can undermine social stability. The crisis is an opportunity to re-assess strategies for addressing the serious disadvantages that young people face as they enter the labour market. It is important to focus on comprehensive and integrated strategies that combine education and training policies with targeted employment policies for youth.

The Copenhagen Conference on climate change could not produce desired results in the direction of decrease in global warming.

Organisational Activities:

During this period, Conferences of All India Federation of Retired University and College Teachers Associations (AIFRUCTA), was held at Cuttack on 9-10, October, Bangladesh College University Teachers Association (BCUTA) was held at Dhaka on 6-7 January, All India Secondary Teachers Federation at Khulu and Ethiopian Teachers Association (ETA) at Addis Ababa. FISE could participate in all of these conferences except that of ETA.

AC meeting of FISE: Administrative Committee meeting of FISE was held on 24 March at Kolkata, hosted by WBCUTA and ABTA.

XVII Statutory Conference of World Federation of Teachers' Unions (FISE)

XVII Statutory conference of World Federation of Teachers' Unions (FISE) is to be held at DHAKA, the capital of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh, from 26 to 28, December, 2010. It is being hosted by National Academy of Education Management (NAEM), Ministry of Education, Government of Bangladesh and sponsored by Bangladesh University College Teachers Association (BUCTA) Bangladesh Teachers' Association (BTA), and Bangladesh Technical Teachers Association (BTTA) On the eve of the conference an International seminar on 'Teaching Profession in the age of Information Communication Technology' is to be held during this period. His Excellency Hon'ble Rashtrapathi (President) of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh, Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman has kindly consented to inaugurate the conference on 26th December, 2010.

ILO conference:

A three member delegation of FISE participated in the 99th Session of ILO held at Geneva from 4th June 2010 and intervened in the deliberations of effect of global recession, gender inequality and improvement of decent living conditions of workers including teachers.

World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU)

Regional meeting of Asia Pacific, WFTU was held at Dhaka 21-23 December, 2009. FISE participated in the meeting. FISE could participate in the 4th Presidential Council meeting of WFTU held at Hochiminh City, Vietnam 22-23 February, 2010. At this meeting FISE leadership could meet the TU leaders from Latin America and Africa and discussed about strengthening our relations with teachers working in their countries. Meetings of International Trade unions affiliated to WFTU were held at Athens on 22nd November, 2009 and 30th October, 2010. FISE could participate in both the meetings.

World Action Day: World action day was observed on 7th September through out the world against the price rise, unemployment / underemployment and decrease in decent living conditions for majority of the people in the world. In India for the first all trade unions including that of ruling political parties and white collared employees like AIBEA came together and participated in the action programme.

16th World Trade Union Congress (World conference of WFTU) is to be held at Athens, Greece from 6-9 April 2011. Wide publicity is given about the conference in print and electronic media (web site). Circulars are issued on 1. Global environmental problems and climate change, 2. Conditions of health and safety, 3. Debts in third world countries. All unionists are requested to go through them and send their critical observations to wftu-16congress@hotmail.com.

UNESCO Conference:

35th Session of General Conference of UNESCO was held at UNESCO headquarters from 6th October to 23rd October 2009. A seven member delegation of FISE participated in it. Now UNESCO got a new Director-General.

Ms Irina Bokova

A Bulgarian and a first woman to be elected as Director-General of UNESCO. We congratulate her on her new appointment.

5th Meeting of the Collective Consultation of NGOs on Education For All (EFA)

5th Meeting of the Collective Consultation of NGOs on Education For All (EFA) was held at Dhaka from 22-24 March, 2010. A six member delegation from FISE participated in the meeting.

Finances of FISE: Finance has remained the single most serious problem hindering organizational functioning of FISE. International functioning of FISE can only be done in terms of USD/ Euro /GBP not in terms of INR. All our efforts to improve the situation failed to make any durable solution. FISE financially is heavily depending on AIFUCTO.

Teachers of the World (TOW):

FISE continued regular uninterrupted publication of magazine TOW for the last ten years. As per the decision of the last AC meeting of FISE held at Bangaluru, the printing of TOW is shifted to

Hyderabad. FISE could enroll about 220 members as five year subscribers. We request all the activists of AIFUCTO to enroll themselves as five year subscribers so that they can think globally and act locally. Finally as you are aware AIFUCTO is the strongest limb of FISE, AIFUCTO shall play a more pro active role in strengthening FISE.

This conference congratulates and thanks Prof.. B. Vijaya Kumar, General Secretary, FISE for his efforts to lead the FISE against the heavy odds and also Prof. K.K. Thekkadeth, Editor, Teachers of the World for his untiring efforts to publish the FISE organ.

National perspective

India's development & health and education

Economic progress, allowing for some unequal benefits to different sections is supposed to change lives of people at least to some extent. Human Development Index is a composite index measuring progress towards a healthy life, access to knowledge and a decent standard of living. India is one of the top ten performers in terms of income growth but is far outperformed by much poorer countries in terms of health and education. The UNDP report admits that the correlation between income growth and progress of health and education is not significant. It is very important that, for India, the inequality has been largely responsible for such a poor show. We have every reason to infer that the inequality will further increase unless there are much more affirmative actions.

Gender Equality Index:

India's performance in gender equality presents an abysmal picture. Reproductive health of Indian women is most unsatisfactory while adolescent fertility rate represents an alarming situation. The situation is certainly serious and merits special action program. A major reason is low literacy rate coupled with deprivation of women in our society.

Price Rise

One of the worst fall-outs in the economic sphere has been the sky-rocketing of prices of all essential food items due to the flawed economic policies of the government. In the course of a year, the retail prices of rice and wheat has increased by 51 per cent, prices of dal and edible oil by more than 100 per cent. Prices of common vegetables, milk, eggs, sugar and salt have also shot up. The trend continues from month to month and even from week to week. So insensitive is the government to this trend of rising prices that it also pitched in by raising the prices of petrol and diesel. The poor have been driven to misery and even the middle classes have been badly hit by this unprecedented price rise. Since some other items of expenditure like medical costs cannot be wished away, such sustained rises in food prices mean that those at the bottom of the economic ladder have to cut their already meager food consumption. The condition of workers in the unorganized sector and self employed people in petty business are now in an extremely vulnerable condition. There are only lip services and occasional government statements that prices would eventually come down. This betrays lack of concern on the part of the policy makers for the poor people.

Extremist Activities:

We are worried at the continued extremist activities in different states and loss of lives of common men & women including teachers and children. All these have been causing damages to the peace and normal activities. We want that such activities should come to an end and those who are involved must come back to democratic processes. A nation aspiring to ensure progress cannot afford lawlessness any more. At the same time, we suggest improvement in the condition of deprived people-tribal and non-tribal.

Pay scale related activities in Delhi

We have been in constant touch with MHRD & UGC to ensure smooth implementations and clarifications of the new pay scale as the state bureaucrats and UGC officers raised some queries and AIFUCTO intervened for necessary clarifications. We approached MHRD and got a clarification regarding the automatic placement in higher grade pays. This has been tremendously useful. We have been constantly reviewing the situation and are in touch with state leaderships.

Pay Scales in states

Implementation of Revised Pay Scales

The AIFUCTO has been demanding the implementation of pay scales in toto in all states and payment of arrears at an early date. It is almost three years since we have been engaged in movements to ensure a respectable pay scale structure. We have left no stone unturned. We camped in Delhi, held numerous meetings with officials of MHRD and UGC, argued with them and could achieve most of our goals. We had to face great difficulties in Delhi as we have no members here. Yet, we responded to the duty call of our Federation and remained vigilant.

The Secretariat and office bearers were involved in the movement across the country. The General Secretary visited many states regularly and held consultations with the state leaders, and provided suggestions and met the state govt. ministers and bureaucrats to express solidarity. Often General Secretary used his good office in MHRD to press for states' decisions. I am happy that there was perfect coordination between central and state leadership in this long drawn and difficult course of movement.

I am happy to inform the conference that the Revised Pay Scales have now been introduced in all states barring Jharkhand, where the Cabinet has passed the revised pay scales. However, the implementation was not easy and effortless in all states. In some states the implementation was done early. In some others the state leaderships had to resort to various programs of movement. In Maharashtra, MFUCTO had to resort to cease work for 44 days. However, the demands in Maharashtra also included local demands like regularization and full UGC pay scales to teachers who were appointed without NET/SLET as no such requirements were stipulated by the state or universities at the time of appointment. The movement in Madhya Pradesh was also very spirited and the teachers had to go back to the classes as directed by the judiciary but continued a heroic struggle. They have fought gallantly and came out victorious. Not only the scale was implemented, the retirement age was raised to 65. The states of Goa and Manipur increased the retirement age to 62 years when implementing the pay scales.

The Bihar teachers had to build up sustained movement and resorted to a strike for 7 days & there was an agreement between the Federations and the Govt. As a result of strong and articulated movement by Bihar teachers' organizations the teachers are now being allowed to continue after 62 years. Organisations in other states negotiated with the governments and created public opinion in favour of the implementation.

States like Tamilnadu and Haryana have paid substantial amount of arrears from the state funds. But most states have not paid the state share of the arrears while the central government is yet to pay its share. The AIFUCTO demanded that both the state and central government must pay the arrears immediately.

The General Secretary met Sri Sunil Kumar to discuss the issue of payment of arrears and was informed that there were considerable progress in the matter and we can expect the payment of central govt share very soon. The next NEC meeting will take a stock of the situation and will decide the course of action.

UGC Regulations and the Anomaly committee

The National Executive of the AIFUCTO which met on 14-08-10 analysed the UGC Regulations dated 30-06-10 and decided to request the Anomaly Committee to make appropriate changes in the Regulations in the following lines:

i) The Regulations should be prospective not only in letter and spirit but also in effect. Hence it cannot be retrospective from 31-12-2008 for the award of Career

ii) All CAS upto that of Professors and Associate Professors in universities and colleges are to be given automatically for those who were promoted to Readers/Selection Grade Lecturers as per the old Regulations as and when they complete 6 and 3 years respectively from the date of placement as Readers/Selection Grade Lecturers.

ii) In the MHRD Notification dated 31-12-2008, which forms part of the UGC Regulations - 2010, Section 2(a) (xi) states that 'Readers/ Lecturers (Selection Grade) in service at present shall continue to be designated as Lecturer (Selection Grade) or Readers as the case may be, until they are

placed in the Pay Band of 37,400 – 67000 and redesignated as Associate Professor in the manner as described in (x) above. It is clear that Readers/ Lecturers (SG) as on 31-12-2008 would be automatically placed in the Pay Band IV as and when they completed 3 years. This clause is differentiated from clause (xii) which speaks about Assistant Professors completing 3 years of teaching in the AGP of Rs 8000 shall be eligible subject to other conditions that may be prescribed by the UGC'

iii) UGC to issue necessary clarification that incentive increments could be awarded for PhD in the concerned/allied/relevant and interdisciplinary works.

v) If the number of years required in a feeder cadre are less than those stipulated in this notification, thus entailing hardship to those who have completed more than the total number of years in their entire service for eligibility in the cadre, may be placed in the next higher cadre after adjusting the total number of years.

In the draft regulations this clause was there in 9.2.2. Such clause is very necessary for those in Lecturer (SS) as on 1-1-2006. All those who were appointed between 1996 and 2000 (with M.Phil) were fixed at Rs.7,000/- AGP on 1-1-2006. They have to be fixed at Rs.8,000/- AGP as and when they complete 10 years of Service from the date of appointment. Otherwise there is a danger of fixing all of them at the AGP of Rs.7,000/- on 1-1-2006 and promoting them to Rs.8,000/- AGP uniformly only on 2011(after the completion of 5 years). Then they can move into Associate Professor only in 2014.

vi) It is necessary to appreciate the difference between the selection and screening processes. Selection is required only where elimination is an imperative, where the number of available posts is less than the number of candidates contesting for the post, as in the case of direct recruitment. But the Regulations stipulate that even for the teachers would have to appear before the selection committee. It is CAS acquired after a period of service and after fulfilling certain conditions. What is required is just a screening to find out if a teacher has fulfilled certain academic and research conditions. Imposing a selection for CAS may be utilised by unscrupulous managements to deny rather than award Associate professorship to eligible teachers

vii) We had pointed out the anomaly of a junior drawing higher salary than the seniors with respect to PhD holders. An Associate Professor who acquires PhD after 1-1-2006 will get 3 increments more than those who got PhD before 1-1-2006. The UGC Regulations-2000 rectified this anomaly by providing for 2 advance increments whenever a PhD holder moved into the selection grade. The UGC Regulations-2010 should also provide for the sanction of 3 increments as and when they are placed at the Associate Professorship.

viii) In 8(n) (page 89) of the Regulations 2010, anomalies of the last PRC found place without any specific recommendation.

ix) As the UGC has committed to the Kerala High Court and as the MHRD Notification dated 31-12-2008 has also directed the UGC to take it up, we requested that CAS should be awarded from 01-01-1996.

x) There should be complete parity among teachers, Librarians and Physical Directors in matters of Career Advancement and leave rules.

xi) In the Regulations 2000, there was a clause that for appointment of Principals, for those in the existing university system, the minimum of 55% of marks would not be insisted upon. Similar clause should be included in the new Regulations.

xii) Those who have been appointed after 01-01-2004 should also be eligible for the Assured pension scheme and must not be covered by the Contributory Pension Scheme. Nevertheless, we wish to point out, as we have been pointing out on many an occasion, that quantifying academic performance will never improve quality in teaching, research and extension. We believe that accountability of teachers cannot be ensured by imposing a set of rigid and arbitrary norms. The basic contradictions in the draft Regulations measuring academic quality in terms of quantity, academic inputs in terms of monetary input, of privileging the global over the local and of equating standards with standardisation have not been addressed in the Regulations.

xiii) The Regulations including the constitution of Selection committees for recruitment for teachers should be applicable to all kinds of institutions, including minority institutions and the relaxation given to the minority institutions to have the panel of experts suggested by the Chairman of the minority institutions is not acceptable to AIFUCTO.

xiii) Government should also provide central assistance to all those posts existing/ created and filled by the State governments on or after 01-01-2006.

Our accountability & responsibility: teaching, research & extension

AIFUCTO always emphasized that the teachers must have accountability and responsibility. Not only we demand justified pay scales and service conditions, we are proud to announce that we want our members to be sincere, up to date and students friendly as we know that the teachers leave a lasting impact on the students and they imbibe values from the teachers.

We have communicated to our members that they should do the research work as far as possible under the available facilities and pointed out that the importance of structured research work can hardly be exaggerated. We have been demanding the increasing facilities including infrastructure for research work. However, we must properly utilize whatever facilities are available and remember that teaching and research are closely connected.

It is our commitment to participate in extension work and we are happy that, as we suggested, the UGC regulations have paid importance to such work. Our members are requested to be a part of affirmative actions and involve the students, present and past in such activities.

NEC meeting

NEC meeting held in New Delhi on 31st of January, 2010

The AIFUCTO National Executive Committee met in New Delhi on 31.01.2010. The well-attended meeting was presided over by Prof James William.

The General Secretary presented a detailed report on the latest development with respect to:

(a) The implementation of pay scales in different states

As reported in the NEC Meeting the governments of Bihar, Orissa, Kerala, Assam and all North-Eastern states, save Arunachal, were yet to issue necessary orders. Sinister moves were underway in some states like Orissa to give distorted pay scales and thus deprive the teachers of their legitimate and hard earned benefits. The judicial intervention in Madhya Pradesh was keenly watched and the AIFUCTO national and State leaderships were very optimistic that just relief to teachers would flow from Jabalpur higher judiciary.

(b) The announcement of UGC regulations

The General Secretary assisted by the Secretariat members and office bearers had been in constant touch with the Regulation Committee, the UGC and MHRD for ensuring the early release of equitable and just regulations, which could be possible only by incorporating the AIFUCTO representations. In a meeting with UGC Chairman, the General Secretary pointed out that the regulations must take into account the ground reality and should not be exclusive in nature. He expressed satisfaction that the UGC always attaches highest importance to the AIFUCTO view point as evidenced in the changes made by the UGC in the draft circulated earlier.

The NEC members reviewed the recent developments concerning all issues including the anomalies of 1996 and 2006 pay scales, most important being denial of the benefits of Rs.14940 and the increments to PhD and M.phil degrees obtained before 1.1.2006. The NEC decided to hold a Dharna at Jantar Muntar, New Delhi to protest the inaction of the MHRD and demanding immediate action by the same. The Secretariat was empowered to decide an appropriate date for the rally.

The meeting was sponsored by our affiliates in Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh, Congratulations to them.

NEC Meeting held on 17.05.10 in Delhi

The AIFUCTO NEC meeting was held on 17th May, 2010 at Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi. The meeting was presided over by Prof. James William, President, AIFUCTO and attended by NEC members from almost all major states.

The General Secretary informed the meeting that he was camping in Delhi to continue meetings with MHRD officials and UGC functionaries. All the pending issues had been taken up in such meetings.

The meeting reviewed the latest developments in the implementation of pay scales in different states and expressed concern at the non-implementation of the pay scales in Bihar, Jharkhand and Manipur. However, an agreement was signed between the agitating teachers' organizations and the State govt. of Bihar. In the other States negotiations were going on.

Since the notification of UGC Regulations was of utmost importance to the young teachers, whose CAS hinged on it, the General Secretary reported on the latest development of the UGC recommended version pending now with MHRD. He elaborated the efforts made to ensure the release of inclusive and pragmatic regulations. All speakers emphasized that the regulations should not be injurious to the teachers and agreed with the views of the leadership that AIFUCTO should continue to work for changing the Draft regulations before it was notified, as once published it might be very difficult to ensure changes.

The speakers expressed concern over the delay in the payment of arrears and referred to the recent letter to states from the MHRD. Members wanted state govts. to settle with MHRD the matters of disagreement and ensure early payment of arrears, by both central & state govts.

On the issue of anomalies arising from 1996 and 2006 pay scales, the General Secretary pointed out that the long standing demand of CAS from 1.1.1996 and the higher start of Rs14940 were taken up with the MHRD again.

The NEC members noted with concern the moves by some state Govts. like Bihar to undermine the importance of some traditional subjects. The Govt. of Bihar in the name of rationalization is trying to close down some of the departments in colleges and universities. As a part of that program posts are being abolished and school like teacher-student ratio is being implemented though most of the districts are educationally backward and enrolment ratios are far from satisfactory. As all such actions would hurt the interest of education, the meeting condemned such anti academic steps of Bihar Govt. and demanded reversal of the same. The members urged the leadership to take up the matter with both Delhi and Patna. Speakers in the NEC meeting deplored the distorted pay scales in some states and demanded revised pay scales in toto.

The NEC members discussed all the issues and provided guidance to the leadership on future course of action, including holding of negotiations with the central and state govts. to protect the interest of the teachers and future action program.

The meeting decided to prepare a final document on four bills presented in parliament and sent to Standing Committees after receiving feedback from affiliates and all concerned. The draft has been presented in our website.

The NEC meeting expressed deep concern at the decision of the MHRD not to allow regularization of teachers of Maharashtra and other states without NET/SLET though teachers have no fault as no such notification was issued in Maharashtra either by the state govt. or Universities before April, 2010. The matter was brought to the notice of Sri Kapil Sibal in the meeting with AIFUCTO leadership.

The General Secretary informed the meeting that a number of affiliates had not paid the struggle fund at all while some paid partially. In view of the sizable expenditure in Delhi, he appealed to affiliates to expedite the payment of struggle fund and affiliation fees. He added that the financial position is extremely unsatisfactory.

NEC Meeting held on 14.08.2010 in Dehradun, Uttarakhand

Inauguration program

NEC meeting was held on 14th August, 2010 in Dehradun. The venue was the picturesque Christian Retreat Centre, Rajpur. The NEC meeting was hosted by Federation of Uttarakhand University

College Teachers' Associations (FUUCTA). The inaugural function was presided over by Prof. Ghanashyam Singh, President, UP Federation of University and College Teachers' Associations and vice-president, AIFUCTO. The delegates were welcomed by Prof. V.C. Pandey, General Secretary, FUUCTA and Prof. O.P. Kulshrestha, former GS. Prof. Sudhir Gerola, President, FUUCTA outlined the achievements of the Federation and hoped that the meeting would be a great success. The state leadership was represented by, among others Prof. Manoj Jadon, Prof. V.P. Singh, Prof. Asoke Arora and Prof. A.K. Mishra. Prof. D.K. Tyagi, GS, GRUTA spoke on the role of AIFUCTO and the close cooperation between the Uttarakhand teachers' movement and AIFUCTO. All speakers highlighted the fact that it was the first NEC meeting to be held in Uttarakhand. And the meeting provided an opportunity to listen to the national leadership.

Prof. B. Vijay Kumar, General Secretary, FISE reported the latest developments in the world teachers movement and elaborated the WFTU programmes. He hoped that AIFUCTO and its affiliates would continue to play a glorious role in protecting the rights of teachers and the working class. He stressed the importance of the 7th September program.

THE NEC Meeting was presided over by Prof. James William, President, AIFUCTO. He outlined the present scenario and stressed the need for a sustained and strong teachers' movement. Prof. K.K. Thekkadeth, former President, AIFUCTO drew the attention of the NEC members to the agenda before the teachers and hoped that AIFUCTO would provide the leadership to the impending struggle for protecting the public funded education and rights of teachers.

Prof. Asok Barman, General Secretary reported on the developments since the last NEC meeting held in New Delhi. He outlined the achievements of AIFUCTO in changing certain parts of the Regulation and hoped that some more changes would take place. He reported that the leadership was in constant touch with MHRD and UGC. The latest reports regarding the implementation of pay scales in states were presented by him. He informed of his participation in the meetings held in New Delhi protesting against the unabated price rise and government moves in favour of privatisation and the new pension schemes. Of particular importance, was his participation in the preparatory meeting held in Delhi to build up a nation-wide movement to counter the move of MHRD to introduce far-reaching changes and restructuring of new education policies, in undue hurry and without proper consultations. The said meeting decided to organize a massive rally in Delhi on 2nd December, 2010 to oppose such moves.

The NEC meeting decided to participate in the nation wide strike/ some other suitable programme on 7th September, 2010. The day was also to be observed as 'WORLD ACTION DAY'. The NEC also decided to participate in the rally to be held on 2nd December, 2010 in Delhi.

The meeting expressed concern at the non-implementation of revised pay scales in Jharkhand, Manipur and Nagaland. It was decided that the General Secretary as well as all affiliates would write /send telegrams/letters to all these governments demanding immediate implementation of the revised pay scales. The meeting demanded that the MHRD and UGC must accept the demand of MFUCTO regarding non Net/Slet teachers immediately.

The members appreciated the leadership for its consistent efforts to improve the UGC Regulations vis-à-vis the earlier draft. After careful discussions it was decided to write to the UGC Anomaly Committee to change certain clauses. Accordingly a memorandum would be presented with all suggestions.

The decision to hold the Academic Conference was left to the Secretariat.

The meeting was addressed by Sri Harbansh Kapoor, Hon'ble Speaker, Uttarakhand Legislative Assembly. He paid tribute to the role of teachers in building the nation and upholding the great tradition of Indian Gurus. He assured that he would provide all help to the cause of teachers as he believed that the teachers' cause was the national cause. We congratulated and thanked FUUKTA and FRUTA for the successful NEC meeting and memorable hospitality.

NEWS FROM THE STATES & AFFILIATES

WEST BENGAL

WEST BENGAL GOVERNMENT COLLEGE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION (WBGCTA)

The 38th Annual Conference of WBGCTA was held on 23 – 24 January 2010 in the Derozio Hall of Presidency College, Kolkata. On the first day a seminar on “Inclusive Education: Challenges Ahead in Higher Education” was organized jointly by Government College of Art and Craft, Kolkata and WBGCTA. Dr Abid Hussain, Chancellor, English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad presented the key note address. Professor Tapan Ray Choudhuri, Professor Mrinmoy Bhattacharyya and Professor K. K. Theckedath spoke on the topic. Health-check-up camp, book exhibition and a cultural programme were held on this occasion.

On 24th January 2010 the conference was declared open by Professor Ujjwal Kumar Basu, a retired teacher of the Government College. The General Secretary of the WBGCTA presented his annual report before the house attended by around 1100 members. In his report he specially pointed out that the recent initiative taken by the Government of West Bengal to change the status of Presidency College, the oldest government college of the state, to a Unitary University was unilateral, unwanted and illogical. Such a move militated against the spirit of the constitution of WBGCTA, which called for uniform and collateral development of all government colleges in the state. The chief guest Professor Sudharsan Ray Chaudhuri, Honourable Minister in Charge, Higher Education, West Bengal was present and spoke on the issues of Higher Education in the state vis-à-vis the country.

Professor Asok Barman, General Secretary, AIFUCTO attended the conference and spoke in detail on the latest developments regarding the progress of the pay revision process and the UGC regulations. Prof Barman also referred to the identical situation faced by the Tamil Nadu Government College Teachers' Association and the stand of AIFUCTO on the issue of granting unitary/deemed university status to any college.

In the business session the conference unanimously resolved to adhere to its earlier resolution of forming a State University comprising all the Government Colleges of the state and to build-up pressure on the Government of West Bengal to reject the ill-conceived Bill on Presidency University. The conference was presided over by Prof Harendranath Bhattacharya, the President of the Association.

Kerala

The state govt. implemented the revised pay scales from 1.1.2006 after a series of agitation programs organized by the joint action council of AKPCTA-ALGCTA-FUTA. However the age of superannuation was not raised and remained at 55 and the payment of arrears from 1-1-2006 to 28-2-2010 would be paid subject to the Central Govt. agreeing to 80% assistance.

The members of different teachers' organizations affiliated to AIFUCTO joined the national strike organized by the Coordination Committee of central unions and govt. service organizations on September 7,2010 against the anti people policies of the central govt.

AKPCTA organized agitation program against the anti-people policies of the central govt.in the field of higher education.A number of workshops were organized on issues including the right to education bill,NCHER and other bills related to higher education.

The Federation of AKPCTA-AKGCTA-FUTA organized Raj Bhaban March on 24th jJuly,2010 demanding the release of central assistance to the states for implementing the revised pay scales. Thousands of teachers took part in the March.

AKPCTA took part in the convention of the National Level Forum for the Protection of Higher Education held in New Delhi on 13th august,2010 to launch nation wide agitation against the anti-people higher education policies of the central govt.

Prof.T.J.Joseph,a member of AKPCTA belonging to Newman College,Thodupusa ,Kerala, was brutally attacked by a group of Muslim religious fundamentalists on 4th June,2010.The miscreants chopped off his right palm and was a serious attempt on his life.Later, the management of his college had an equally brutal act by dismissing him from service ironically

on the Teachers' Day. The teachers organizations strongly condemned both the incidents and organized series of agitations. The Federation of College Teachers' Associations unitedly organized protest marches and public meetings through out the state demanding the reinstatement of Prof. Joseph in service. The association also collected a fund for meeting the medical expenses of Prof. Joseph and initiated legal proceedings to get him reinstated in service.

TAMILNADU

AUT

The Association of University Teachers (AUT), Tamilnadu held a Convention on 'the UGC Package: Status and Challenges' at the Centenary Building, University of Madras, and Chennai on 03-01-2010. The objective was to enlighten the members on the outcome of the new revision, enlist feedback and facilitate interaction with the AIFUCTO leadership. Over three hundred member delegates drawn from the colleges affiliated to five Universities took part.

In his presidential address, Dr. P. Jayagandhi, President AUT and National Secretary -AIFUCTO dealt with the salient features of the new package and its implementation in the State and highlighted on the non-implementation of certain crucial provisions like retirement age as 65, full pension for 20 years of service, arrears from 01-01-2006 onwards and HRA and CCA on par with the Central Government employees. Dr. S. Pannirselvam, General Secretary, AUT presented the 'Theme Paper' of the convention.

Prof. A.K. Barman, General Secretary, AIFUCTO was the Chief Guest and he delivered the Special Address. He elaborately dealt with the process by which the present package took shape and the crucial interventional role played by the AIFUCTO at every stage. He also made it clear that through continued negotiations with movement backing, the unreasonable provisions and perceived hurdles to higher placement could be overcome in course of time. He traced the significant advancement in the revision to the impact of the historic nationwide movement launched for the 1996 revision, the vision and leadership of his predecessor office bearers of the AIFUCTO and above all the ever growing strength and solidarity of the teachers and their organizations in all the States and their unity under the label of the AIFUCTO. Prof. Barman, in this context, congratulated the AUT for its contribution to the AIFUCTO in general and the pay revision process in particular.

The General Secretary of the AIFUCTO inaugurated the AUT's website www.aut.org.in and lauded the pioneering venture in the era of knowledge explosion and communication.

The key event of the convention was the interaction between the delegates and Prof. Barman. The delegates posed questions covering all aspects of the package.

At the close of the convention, the General Secretary of the AIFUCTO issued a press release urging the State Government to settle the legitimate grievances of the teachers at the earliest and drop forthwith the move to convert the colleges into unitary universities metamorphosing the existing aided and government colleges in the State.

Prof. U. Sundararajan, Vice President, AUT, earlier welcomed the gathering and at the Close, Prof. R. Sampath, Treasurer, AUT proposed the vote of thanks.

JAC STRUGGLE IN TAMILNADU

The Joint Action Council of college teachers of Tamilnadu, comprising of TNGCTA, AUT & MUTA, held a demonstration in Chennai on January 28th demanding a halt to the State's move for converting Aided and Government colleges into unitary universities. The State cannot be indifferent to reasonable fears that in the guise of elevating an aided college into university, the State will abandon its right, paving the way for private fleecing of the common people.

Implementation of the revised pay scales in states

The AIFUCTO affiliates of states where the pay scales were not implemented have intensified the agitation program. The Meghalaya govt. has decided to implement the pay scales. The Kerala Govt. has issued the pay revision order. An agreement between the agitating teachers and Bihar govt. has been reached for the implementation of the pay scales in toto. The teachers of Madhya Pradesh achieved a

major victory as the MP Govt. decided to implement the pay scales in toto. We expect other states to come out with pay revision order very soon.

Rajasthan-RUCTA Meeting

A well attended extended Executive Committee and unit secretaries meeting of Rajasthan University and College Teachers' Associations was held in Jaipur, Rajasthan on 21st February, 2010. Prof. Mohan Shotriya, a former National Secretary, AIFUCTO was present as special guest. Prof. James William, President and Prof. Asok Barman, General Secretary participated in the meeting. Prof. Subhash Garg, General Secretary, RUCTA highlighted the role of AIFUCTO movement in improving the service conditions of teachers over the decades. He assured active participation of RUCTA in all AIFUCTO program. Prof. Garg and other leaders described the activities of the RUCTA and narrated the success of the organisation in getting the new pay scales in time. However, they pointed out some demands are yet to be fulfilled and RUCTA leadership will take all measures for the acceptance of demands. Prof. Shotriya made a very emotional and powerful presentation and briefly dwelt upon the glorious history of the AIFUCTO movement. Prof. William emphasised the role and duty of teachers in the context of changing educational scenario and declared that AIFUCTO is committed to the cause of inclusive and quality education. Prof. Barman acknowledged the leading role of RUCTA in AIFUCTO movement and encouraged the younger teachers to be more and more involved in strengthening the teachers' movement, both at the state and national levels.

Congratulations to Prof. Subhas Garg for his appointment as Chairman, Rajasthan Board of Secondary Education. Ajmer.

Seminar and meeting in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh

Prof. Asok Barman, General Secretary was the inaugural speaker in a Seminar on "Politics & Education: Higher Education in India-Context and Concerns" during March 19-21, 2010. organized by Jiwaji University, Gwalior. He addressed a handsome gathering of academicians and highlighted the need for a stronger public funded education for inclusive and quality education. He warned that the neo-liberal craze for a market oriented higher education system would not augur well for our country and further intensify the dualistic pattern which is the outcome of the spate of privatization and liberalization policies pursued in the last few years.

General Secretary attended a meeting of activists of Gwalior on 20th March, 2010. The meeting was organized by Prof. D. Kumar, President, Madhya Pradesh Federation of university and College Teachers. General Secretary appraised the members present of the latest developments and hoped that the ongoing pay scales movement in MP would be crowned with success. He stressed the need for strengthening the teachers' movement.

West Bengal Govt. College Teachers' Association

A convention was held on 3rd March, 2010 in Sanskrit College campus, Kolkata in support of formation of a university comprising all govt. colleges instead of converting Presidency College into a unitary university. The former and present leaders of the Association demanded discussion with the Association before finalization of the proposed changes. Prof. Mrinmoy Bhattacharya, former General Secretary, AIFUCTO and Prof. Asok Barman, GS, AIFUCTO expressed solidarity with the demands of the Association and hoped that the Govt. would hold discussion with the Association immediately.

Bihar and Jharkhand

The State associations and federations of Bihar and Jharkhand organized various programs for the implementation of revised pay scales. The AIFUCTO leadership was in constant touch with the State leaders for guidance and help. The General Secretary requested MHRD and UGC to intervene and find an early solution to the stalemate.

Maharashtra

The problem of teachers appointed without NET/SLET by the State Govt. is still unresolved. The State Federation adopted various programs and held series of discussions with the state Government, MHRD and UGC to ensure justice to the teachers. The AIFUCTO leadership also demanded that the teachers be regularized lest they suffer for no fault of their own. To drive home this point a massive Dharna program was held in Delhi on 2nd August at the behest of the MFUCTO. General Secretary,

AIFUCTO and Prof.V.P.Singh, Secretary, AIFUCTO addressed thousands of teachers from different parts of Maharashtra. . A delegation of leaders met Sri Kapil Sibal, Hon'le Minister, HRD and demanded the teachers be regularized without further delay. The Minister assured that the problem would be solved soon. We are still waiting for a positive outcome.

Assam

The 57th Conference of Assam College Teachers' Association was held in Nowgaon College, Nowgaon on 25, 26, 27, June, 2010 with great success. Thousands of delegates participated in the Conference. The Conference was addressed by Sri Tarun Gogoi, Chief Minister, Sri Gautam Bora, Education Minister, Sri Rafikul Hussain, Forest Minister.

Prof. Sudhanshu Bhusan, Professor, NUEPA presented a brilliant lecture on the proposed changes in the structure of higher education in the Seminar Session. The Delegate Session was inaugurated by Prof.Asok Barman, General Secretary, AIFUCTO. He highlighted the role of AIFUCTO in respect of pay scales and regulations. He thanked the State leadership for their continued support to the national teachers' movement and invited the teachers to participate in even larger numbers. He hoped that all ACTA demands will be accepted by the state Govt. Prof.Naren Changmai was reelected President and Prof. Biswajyoti Bhuiyan was elected General Secretary, ACTA. We extend hearty congratulations to them.

Delhi Convention of National level teachers organizations, employees' organizations and students organizations

A convention was held in New Delhi on 2nd July, 2010 to oppose the proposed bills in higher education initiated by the Govt. of India. The participants were national level teachers organizations from primary to university levels, employees organizations and students federations. The convention discussed the dangers inherent in the Bills and decided to hold a seminar in New Delhi on 13th August, 2010. In the convention both the President and the General Secretary were present and addressed.

Bihar

We are happy to inform you that the Bihar Govt. had to yield to the movement program of the teachers associations and implemented the revised pay scales. By a High Court order the teachers who were to retire at the age of 62 years in July, 10 would continue till a final decision is arrived at. Congratulations to the state leadership for the fighting spirit.

Nagaland

The revised pay scales have been implemented in Nagaland. Congratulations to the state leadership for sustained efforts.

Maharashtra

Mumbai University

The General Secretary met the office bearers and some other members of Mumbai University Teachers' Association-UMASA on 23rd July, 2010 and discussed various issues including the necessary changes in the higher education. The UMASA leadership reaffirmed their resolve to strengthen the bond between UMASA and AIFUCTO. We congratulate the newly elected President and General Secretary Prof. Bala Bhosle and Prof. Vivek Belhekar and other office bearers.

West Bengal

WBGCTA

The West Bengal Government College Teachers association celebrated its foundation day on 20th August,2010.The same day a protest rally was held in College Square to oppose the move by the West Bengal Govt. to convert Presidency College to unitary university. The Association presented an alternative proposal to establish a university with all govt. colleges affiliated to it. Prof.Asok Barman, General Secretary, AIFUCTO addressed the gathering and hoped that the state govt. will discuss with the association to resolve the matter.

CUTA

A General Body Meeting was held on 25th August to discuss the UGC Regulations-2010.Prof.Biplab Chakrabarty, President and Prof.Ranjan Basu analyzed the Regulations. Prof.Asok

Barman, General Secretary, AIFUCTO presented a detailed report on the intervention of AIFUCTO to ensure a number of changes in the Draft Regulations. He informed the house about the AIFUCTO memorandum to UGC on this issue.

Mizoram

We convey our best wishes to the new leadership of Mizoram College Teachers' Association. (MCTA). Congratulations to Mr. Ramhanganaiha Ralte, President and Dr. T. Lalsangliana, General Secretary. We expect to meet the leaders in our next conference

Meghalaya- MCTA

The 29th Annual General Conference of the Meghalaya College Teachers' Association (M.C.T.A.) was held at Shillong College, Shillong on the 25th September, 2010. The Conference was inaugurated by Shri V. H. Pala, Hon'ble Minister of State for Water Resources, and Government of India in the presence of a host of dignitaries; Shri Pala called upon the teachers to work unitedly in the interest of the students as well as the society. He expressed that the gratitude of the society and the government towards the teaching fraternity should be such that the teachers are treated equally and with dignity. Dr. K. D. Ramsiej, President of the Association, in his speech, analysed the overall education scenario in the Country and the State, and pleaded for making the teaching job more rewarding to attract talents in teaching profession and strengthening the public education system. He also reiterated the long pending demands of the Association with the State Government for extending revised pay scale for teachers in the State Pay Scale, social security scheme for teachers, restoration of other allowances.

The Conference was greeted by Prof. Apurba Kr. Das, Vice President, AIFUCTO, who called upon the teachers to build up a strong teachers' movement for strengthening public education system. Congratulations to the newly elected President- Prof. Charles Reuben Lyngdoh, General Secretary: Prof. Eureka F. P. Lyngdoh and other executive committee members. We record our appreciation to the outgoing leaders, Prof. K. D. Ramsiej, Prof. H. Siem & Prof. M. N. Bhattacharjee for their valuable contributions to the national teachers' movement.

West Bengal - WBCUTA

West Bengal College & University Teachers Association (WBCUTA) held its 79th Conference in Cooch Behar on 2nd and 3rd October, 2010. A large number of teachers participated in the Conference. On this occasion a seminar on "Recent Reforms in Education in India: Perspective and Challenges" was held on 1st and 2nd October. The conference was inaugurated by Prof. Sudarshan Roy Chowdhury, Minister in Charge of Higher Education, Govt. of West Bengal. Prof. Mrinmoy Bhattacharyya, former General Secretary AIFUCTO and Prof. Sudhir Roy, former President, AIFUCTO were present. Prof. B. Vijay Kumar, General Secretary, FISE greeted the Conference. Prof. James William, President, AIFUCTO addressed the meeting and spoke in details on the proposed changes in the field of higher education and warned that these would hurt the cause of inclusive higher education in our country and deny the access to large number of deserving students. Prof. B. Vijay Kumar pointed out the glaring snags in the neo-liberal philosophy of being pushed in the higher education sector. Prof. Asok Barman, General Secretary dwelt on the sustained action program of AIFUCTO to fight such moves to counter the privatization and to protect the public funded education in our country,

Congratulations to Prof. Suboday Dasgupta, newly elected president and Prof. Tarun Patra the re-elected General Secretary, WBCUTA. and other executive committee members. We thank Prof. Harish Sarkar the outgoing President for his active support to the AIFUCTO.

Tamilnadu - MUTA

20th conference of Madurai Kamaraj-Manonmaniam Sundaranar University Teachers' Association was held at Marthandam in Tamilnadu on 25th and 26th September, 2010. As part of the conference, a Seminar on "Decentralise, De-commodify and Democratise Higher Education" was organised on 25th September, 2010. The seminar was inaugurated by Prof. V. Ponnuraj, Former President, MUTA. Prof. V. K. Ramachandran, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkatta and Member, West Bengal Planning Board gave the key note address. He stressed the need for inclusive and public funded higher education which was the experience of all developed countries. On 26th September, 2010, as a prelude to the conference, a massive rally of college teachers was organised in the morning which highlighted the

theme of the conference through placards and slogans which caught the attention of the people of the city. The General Conference was presided by Prof.M.Ananthkrishnan, President, and MUTA.

The General Conference was inaugurated by Prof.A.James William, President, AIFUCTO. Prof. Prabhat Patnaik, Vice Chairman, Kerala Planning Commission, gave the key note address in the conference. In his thought provoking address, Prof. Prabhat Patnaik elaborated the process of commodification of education in general and higher education in particular and also the implementation of the neo-liberal policies in Higher Education. He called for a change in the neo-liberal policies which restrict the onward march of higher education in India. Prof. Sabapathy Mohan, vice-Chancellor of Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli released the souvenir. The Conference was attended by a large number of delegates.

AUT

Association of University Teachers organized a meeting on 26th September, 2010 at Coimbatore to felicitate retiring teachers. Prof. Asok Barman, GS, AIFUCTO was invited to speak on the latest developments in the higher education sector including the ongoing exercises regarding the anomalies. He presented a detailed report on the issue and informed the meeting that after achieving phenomenal success in its movement, the leadership is doing its best to ensure that all anomalies are properly addressed. He reported on the AIFUCTO programs to counter the moves to dilute the public funded education and privatization and commodification of higher education in India. He thanked the glorious roles played by AUT over the decades to provide great service to the national teachers' movement. Prof.Jaya Gandhi, President, AUT and National Secretary, AIFUCTO highlighted the efforts by AIFUCTO to serve the teachers and the great success achieved in ensuring a much improved pay scales as compared to the Pay Review Committee by putting in tireless efforts. Prof.Pannirselvam and other leaders addressed the meeting.

TANRECTA

The biannual conference of Tamil Nadu Retired College Teachers Association (TNRCTA) was held at Coimbatore on 25th September. Prof. Asok Kumar Barman, General Secretary AIFUCTO, dwelt at length on the details of activities and action programs of AIFUCTO. General Secretary Prof.E.P. Perumal, and the President Prof. Thomas conducted the proceedings of the conference. The General Secretary of AIFRUCTA Prof. KT Venkatacharyulu greeted the conference.

Part timers/Contractual Teachers issue & the order from the Govt.of West Bengal

The ongoing problems of part time and contractual teachers have become even more serious. Not only they are working for very low remuneration, in many states there is no revision for years. Further they have no security of service and in a number of instances they are facing the termination of service. Though we demanded some guideline from MHRD & UGC nothing has happened. Some of our state units have been agitating to protect the interest of such teachers. Unfortunately some other units are not taking up the issue

The West Bengal Government has recently revised the emoluments and provisions of increments of part time teachers and ensured security of service as well as some retirement benefits. We congratulate Prof.Sudarshan Roy Chowdhury the Higher Education Minister of West Bengal for the good work and request him to look into the interest of part timers for further improvement. He also communicated to the General Secretary, AIFUCTO that an order to ensure the payment of reasonable emolument to the contractual teachers would be issued at an early date. We request leaders from other states to cite the example to their state govts. for revising and ensuring enhancement of salaries of part time teachers.

Struggle fund

The expenditure incurred during the pay revision and regulations movements have dented the financial position of our organization. A number of units have paid nothing in spite of regular reminders while some paid only partially. A call to collect Rs.100 (one hundred) per teacher was given long back and the lukewarm response from some units is most unfortunate. We again appeal to them to pay struggle fund contributions at the earliest.

Restructuring Higher Education

Bills regarding the restructuring of higher education in India

The AIFUCTO initiative:

The MHRD unleashed a slew of reforms, administrative and legislative to restructure Indian higher education system on the plea that the proposed reforms would substantially improve access and quality of higher education. However, there has been great haste in presenting the bills leaving very little chance for a healthy and democratic consultation. We are extremely worried for such moves as the proposed changes are sought to be executed at lightning speed ignoring the fact that they would have far reaching impact on our higher education system and hence requires careful analysis and brainstorming. We are always in favour of reforms and reviewing of the existing structure and are ready to extend support to changes that would modernize our higher education while serving the agenda of access, equity and inclusiveness. We are of the firm opinion that no hurried action is desirable and we shall build up a movement for ensuring proper democratic consultations.

The AIFUCTO is constantly reviewing the bills relating to the restructuring of higher education in India, the Government of India has placed or planning to place before the Parliament. Our affiliates have organized seminars in different parts of the country to discuss the implications of the proposed changes. Apart from the seminars in conferences, we have organized a national seminar in New Delhi and planning to organize more. We request the affiliates to sponsor such seminars.

The President, General Secretary and other leaders of AIFUCTO held discussions with the leaders of various political parties to emphasize the fact that many of the clauses of the bills would damage the interest of higher education sector in India and work against the principles of access, equity and inclusiveness.

NCHER Bill

The announced objectives of NCHER Bill are that the NCHER will be a responsible comprehensive, holistic evolution of HE sector; strategize and steer the expansion of higher education; ensure autonomy of the universities and shield them from interference by external agencies; acts as a catalyst and also as a conduit to encourage joint/cross disciplinary programs between and amongst Universities and Institutes; spearhead continuous reforms and renovation in the area of higher education; establish robust global connectivity and make it globally competitive while creating our own world class standards; promote greater engagement and enhancing resources to State universities with an aim to bridge the divide between the State and Central universities. The Bill presumed that University Grants Commission (UGC), All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) and National Council of Teacher Education (NCTE) and such other bodies will be abolished and will be replaced by a seven member commission.

You will please remember that the AIFUCTO raised its voice against the recommendations of NKC and Prof. Yash Pal Committee which proposed such a body with super powers. We prepared a document explaining the danger of the recommendations of NKC and Prof. Yash Pal Committee and circulated through out the country wherein we pointed out that the rhetoric of autonomy is only to hide the agenda of centralization and privatization of higher education in the whole of India.

The Bill negates the role of state governments and the academia in the realm of higher education in the country which will prove to be retrograde for the development of higher education in India. Our observations are:

(1) This is to restructure the “higher education system to serve the cause of globalization and not for catering to the aspirations of our youth. This is not for helping state governments to strengthen higher education but to snatch away from them even whatever their powers were left after education was included in the concurrent list of the constitution.

(2) To create an all powerful commission for the centralization of all aspects related to higher education.

(3) To undermine the powers of the parliament, state legislatures and representatives of the people at large to opine and decide the education policy and administration of institutions of higher education in India.

It is argued that the establishing of a seven member NCHER will lead to “renovation and rejuvenation” of higher education. We agree that all are not well with the UGC, AICTE and NCTE and there are allegations that there are instances of corruptions. But that cannot be the logic of closing them in the present form since no serious attempts have been made to evaluate their roles and suggest measures for the amelioration of the inefficiency and corruption.

We have objections to the formation of the proposed Collegium as there is ample scope of subjectivity in choosing the members. It is indeed a paradox that the objectives for which NCHER is proposed are the same as that of all the national bodies which are proposed to be replaced by NCHER.

We shall continue to oppose such moves in the interest of the nation.

Educational Tribunal Bill

The leadership of AIFUCTO has been holding regular discussions with the academicians and a number of MPs regarding the bills. The recently introduced Educational Tribunal Bill was placed in parliament for discussion. AIFUCTO gathered the fact that the Standing Committee members raised many objections to the anti democratic clauses of the Bill. Com Aziz Pasha, MP (Rajya Sabha) was in constant touch with the General Secretary. He intervened in the discussion in Rajya Sabha and spoke against the haste with which the bill was introduced without discussing with the stake holders, i.e. teachers’ associations, teachers and students. Com Pasha pointed out that there must be discussion with AIFUCTO, the organization representing more than 5 lakh university and college teachers. He pointed out many objectionable clauses which are typically applicable to industrial relations and warned that education cannot be treated in the same line. His views were shared by a large number of MPs cutting across the party affiliations, including the treasury bench. The Minister had to defer the bill. We strongly feel that all such proposed changes are to be discussed across the country in appropriate forums.

Foreign Educational Institution Bill

Mr Kapil Sibal, Hon’le Minister, HRD argued that foreign educational providers could help improve the quality of Indian education, both directly and indirectly: directly by providing quality education to Indian students through off-campus centres and collaborative arrangements and indirectly by instilling competitive spirit in Indian institutions.

The AIFUCTO rejected the MHRD perception that foreign education providers would ensure high quality education while their Indian counterparts are inferior.

The entry of foreign educational providers will not resolve the problems of access, equity or quality, but aggravate them. Even for the most sought-after engineering courses, there are plenty of vacant seats under the self-financing streams. For example, about 1/3 seats in self-financing engineering colleges in Tamil Nadu were not filled up during the last year, as the fees were unaffordable. What we need is equitable access, which foreign educational providers will not provide, more so as there is no cap on the fees that can be levied by these institutions in the proposed bill. There is no provision for reservation of seats either in the bill, which would tend to strengthen the existing inequities in Indian higher education. The foreign providers would also wean away a large chunk of bright students from Indian institutions. The exodus of such students would lead to academic impoverishment and deterioration of Indian institutions.

The experience of other countries in the attempt to attract foreign institutions is not encouraging. And the experience of Singapore, China, the Gulf countries and Israel over the last ten to fifteen years has been far from satisfactory. Despite extending substantial cash subsidies, land at a third of the market price, soft loans, housing access etc., and reputed institutions failed to be successful.

Some foreign universities which had set up teaching-shops in Singapore have packed up and left for home. Despite stringent regulations which enable domestic supervision of foreign institutions set up in China, there is internal criticism on “foreign universities offering crappy courses”. Israel which welcomed foreign educational agencies with loose regulations had to drive them all out on account of the low quality of services provided.

The requirements of transparency are played up, while the right of the foreign provider to decide the norms for admission, fees structure and nature and content of courses are conceded by default. It is not mandatory for the foreign provider to offer courses in fundamental disciplines or conduct research level studies. It is unlikely that they would on their own invest in research, the returns on which are uncertain. Research would suffer in local institutions as well. Compelled to compete with foreign providers for survival, they are also likely to wind up whatever little research programmes they have and offer easily marketable courses. The bill stipulates no mandatory minimum requirements of land, libraries, laboratories, buildings and faculty. Any university with a foreign label can register as a foreign educational provider by depositing a paltry amount of Rs. ten crores as corpus fund. Even such a minimal requirement could be waived in respect of universities which have so called reputation and international standing.

The external agencies can only play a minimal role in the process of quality enhancement. Improvement of quality has to come from within, through an internal process. Collaboration with foreign institutions of repute can certainly assist the process of internalization of quality .But they cannot substitute internal processes that each institution/individual has to undergo. What we need therefore is not campuses of foreign universities operating on the Indian soil, but active academic collaboration of the best foreign universities with Indian universities. There are adequate provisions in the existing laws for facilitating such collaboration .Moreover, such collaborations have all along been taking place ,albeit ,on a limited scale. All we need today is to encourage and enlarge the scope of such academic collaborations, while ensuring that they do not degenerate into commercial collaborations.

The AIFUCTO demanded that there should be wide discussions in the democratic platforms for a national debate about the desirability of foreign institutions in the form as noted in the bill.

THE UNIVERSITIES FOR INNOVATION BILL 2010

The union Ministry of Human Resource Development has circulated a draft of the Universities for Innovation Bill 2010 according to which universities for innovation will be established with full public funding, private funding or public-private partnership funding. These universities will be set up not through acts of Parliament, but through signing of memoranda of agreement (MoA) between the central government and the private promoters, companies, trusts or foreign universities established outside India. These universities will be based on different themes, focusing on one area or problem of significance to India with the intention to make India the global knowledge hub and will be the centres of excellence for other universities. The universities for innovation will have all-India jurisdictions with freedom to establish campuses anywhere in India and foreign countries. They will not be subjected to the UGC Act and will have the independence in academic and non-academic spheres.

The cardinal feature of the scheme is the provision of tremendous freedom to private investors regarding admission norms, fee structure, appointment of teachers and their salaries and service conditions

The universities for innovation would enjoy complete autonomy in the constitution of the governing body the members of which will be appointed or nominated as provided in the MoA. There will be no nominee of the government on the board of governors despite the fact that the central government will be funding them. However, at least one-third of its members will be from teachers or officers of the concerned university for innovation.

While enjoying full autonomy, academic, management and financial, these universities will have no accountability. It is strange that providing information about standards and fee etc on the website is enough of their accountability. In case of any dispute between such a university and the statutory regulatory authority with regard to the standards, etc, it will be referred to a committee where the autonomous university people will be in a majority.

The central government will give grants to each university for funding research, fellowships and scholarships for the socially and economically disadvantaged students.

The AIFUCTO is of the opinion that:

1. These will be private universities financed by the central government. The central government will have neither general nor social control over them.
2. There is little doubt that these universities will have the elitist character serving a fraction of the society with tax payers' money.
3. There is no provision in the draft bill under which the central government can inspect the affairs and functioning of these universities. Though the Govt. Provide the funds, it has no role to play.
4. The reservation requirements are not mandatory to these universities. Hence goes against the hitherto followed policies of ensuring access to all.
5. This bill provides a lucrative route to bypass the Foreign Educational Institutions (FEI) Bill 2010 to foreign universities and private investors. In fact the provisions offer them more power and freedom.

PPP MODEL

The AIFUCTO expressed serious apprehension about the PPP model in the higher education system. We have doubt about the effectiveness of this mode of provision of higher education as the profit motive dominates over the social welfare objective. The private sector is guided by profit objective in devising its investment plan much in contrast with the social objective of spreading quality higher education. Such partnership will be found in urban or semi-urban areas where there is existence of profitable market.

We have every reason to believe that all would not be fair and transparent and hence prove to be another source of corruption.

The system has the dangerous potential of private sector using public resources for profit making in connivance with the corrupt administrators. One cannot rule out the misuse of funds and putting all risks and liabilities on the public sector while appropriating all profits. The nexus between private sector and bureaucrats may simply prove to be too costly. The AIFUCTO resolves that such dangerous moves must be countered and all resources are to be utilized to strengthen the public funded education in our country. The expertise, the infrastructure and the experience of a large number of teachers and administrators serving the public funded education system are to be utilized optimally. Even the Planning Commission deputy chairman has conceded that PPP model has not lived up to expectation. We request our members to expose the inherent danger of such a model and to create strong public opinion to frustrate such moves.

Delhi Convention of National level teachers organizations, employees organizations and students organizations on 2nd July, 2010

A convention was held in New Delhi on 2nd July, 2010 to oppose the proposed bills in higher education initiated by the Govt.of India. The participants were national level teachers organizations from primary to university levels, employees organizations and students federations. The convention discussed the dangers inherent in the Bills and decided to hold a seminar in New Delhi on 13th August, 2010.

Convention in New Delhi on 13th August, 2010, National Forum in Defence of Education' & program Of March to Parliament ON 2ND December, 2010

In a significant move AIFUCTO joined hands with national teachers' bodies of elementary, secondary, student organizations, non-teaching employees organisations and civil society in a Convention in New Delhi on 13th August,2010 to form a platform named 'National Forum in Defence of Education'.

We have declared that it is our duty to protect education from these blatant moves with the intention of commercialisation. A strong movement is to be built up involving students, teachers, non-teaching employees of colleges and universities, youth, parents, people's science movements and the civil society. The AIFUCTO will be a major force to make the rally and march to parliament on December 2, 2010 called by the 'National Forum in Defence of Education' a great success. We have instructed all affiliates to organise meetings and rallies before that date. We request all our affiliates and friends to participate in the March in large numbers.

AIFRUCTA

You are aware that All India Federation of Retired University College Teachers' Associations (AIFRUCTA) was formed at the initiative of the All India Federation of University College Teachers' Organisation and its foundation Conference was held at Hyderabad on 13/09/2009. In the revision of UGC pay scales 2006, the Readers / SLG lecturers with three years of experience are placed in pay band IV. A similar benefit was not extended to the pensioners retired prior to 1/1/2006 in the original order.

Sensing the injustice AIFRUCTA represented to MHRD and could succeed in issuing suitable orders for getting the benefit of pay band IV to the pensioners. AIFRUCTA could pursue the MHRD for issuing appropriate orders to the state governments for adopting this benefit in the respective states. In addition MHRD also sent communication informing corresponding eligibility of 50% minimum in the scales. This is a great achievement for all retired teachers drawing UGC scales in different states of the country. It is heartening to note that the state governments of Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh implemented this order and the Retired Readers / SLG lecturers with three years of experience could get the pensionary benefit of pay band four.

The annual conference of AIFRUCTA was held on 9- 10/10/10 at Indira Gandhi Women's College, Cuttack. It was a great success. We are also future retirees. In our own interest we have to strengthen AFRUCTA by forming federations / associations of Retired University College Teachers in the respective states so as to enable to look after not only pension problems but also to attend societal problems.

Social service by our members

I am happy and proud to acknowledge the valuable services of many of our members rendering individually or as parts of groups. The issues like creating social awareness among youths and others about eradication of illiteracy, communalism, casteism, environmental protection and other important issues. We request all our members to be involved in such activities more and more. They are requested to send information and reports so that we can record them and spread them through our communication system.

We are deeply moved by the great initiative taken by Prof. Mrinmoy Bhattacharya in forming an organization named "Association of Concerned Teachers" which has been doing wonderful work to help villages set up libraries, carrying educational surveys and supporting financially deficient-specially women- students. He also motivated some teachers and others to manufacture solar lamp to fight the increasing pollution and remove the darkness in places where there is no electricity. Let us follow him and contribute our might to such great causes.

Teachers' Movement Journal

The regular and uninterrupted publication of our journal-Teachers' Movement is indeed gratifying. The journal has become a part and parcel of the AIFUCTO movement. All AIFUCTO circulars, UGC & MHRD communications, FISE communications and important documents along with articles on contemporary issues are published in TM. I acknowledge the role of Prof.B.Vijay Kumar, Member of the Teachers' Movement Editorial Board and our former General Secretary in making this possible

Our website: www.aifucto.org

Our website has now become an extremely important instrument for the functioning of AIFUCTO. This has made possible to appraise the affiliates and lakhs of teachers of the latest developments regarding all important issues. We could overcome the serious problems resulting from the inordinate delay in the postal delivery system with the help of the website. The leadership could collect the feedback on various issues promptly by making use of the website and e-mail. It is heartening that most of our state affiliates have launched websites which are doing great jobs.

Tasks Ahead:

We have many tasks ahead. We shall have to get solutions to anomalies in pay scales and regulations. There is an urgent necessity of building up strong movements against the move to

centralization, commercialization and privatization of our education system. All these require a strong united movement with other teachers' organizations of elementary & secondary sectors, students' organisations and employees organisations of schools, colleges and universities. We have to also mobilize our brethren who are working in unaided colleges and unaided sections in aided and govt. colleges, part timers and contractual teachers and fight for their demands also so that they also could get fair and decent wages. We also have to ally with other trade unions to safeguard our interests and that of the common man. Let us resolve to fulfill our commitments.

Thanks

The last year was a very eventful, difficult and indeed a successful one. The legendary unity of AIFUCTO & untiring efforts of our affiliates, members, well wishers have proved to be most effective and rewarding. I am indebted to our former leaders, office bearers and innumerable other members for their support, help and advice. I am extremely grateful to Prof. James William for constant source of advice and help. My colleagues in the Secretariat have extended unstinted support and were with me in the agonizing hours and provided invaluable support. Prof.Nikhil Deasi, our Treasurer and Prof.V.P.Singh,National Secretary lent great support by providing valuable suggestions and guidance. Prof.Jaya Gandhi, National Secretary has been untiringly working preparing important documents for interaction with the MHRD &UGC even at odd hours and keeping himself in constant touch with me. Many interventions by AIFUCTO are the results of his hard work. Prof.Sadiqul Islam and Prof.Madhu Paranjpe.both National Secretaries extended all help.

Our leaders and members across the country have been the sources of strength. Our former leaders were always with me with their immensely valuable guidance. I salute all of them. My sincere-most thanks to Prof.Shivajirao Patil and all other members of his team for the invitation and their untiring efforts to make the conference a great success. The conference will remain vivid in our memory for the wonderful hospitality and immaculate arrangements.

Asok Barman, General Secretary

Movement Resolution

ALL INDIA FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE TEACHERS' ORGANISATIONS

XXVII ACADEMIC CONFERENCE

NORTH MAHARASHTRA UNIVERSITY, JALGAON

19 to 21-11-10

The XXVII Conference of the All India Federation of University and College Teachers' Organisations held at the North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon from 19th to 21st of November took serious note of the situation prevailing in the Higher education system in the country.

The Conference took note of the various disparities in the implementation of the scales of pay - in the date of implementation, in the payment of allowances, in the payment of retirement benefits, age of superannuation, in the award of promotions etc. The conference urges the MHRD and the UGC to see that the pay scales with other attendant benefits are implemented uniformly through out the country.

The Conference also took note of the anomalies arising out of the implementation of the pay scales and urges the UGC to advise the Anomalies Committee to hold discussions with the AIFUCTO and redress the anomalies at an early date.

The AIFUCTO also demands the MHRD to announce a suitable scale for the Tutors/Demonstrators and Accompanists. It also demands that Librarians and Physical Directors should be treated on par with teachers in all respects.

The Conference took note of the fact that a large number of teachers like part-time teachers, unaided teachers, contract teachers and guest teachers have not been benefited by the pay revision and are at the whims and fancies of the private managements and the state governments. As this number far outnumbers the aided teachers, this seriously impacts upon the educational institutions and impacts upon the quality of higher education too. So, this Conference urges the MHRD, UGC and the state governments and the universities to see that the new pay revision is extended to all these types of teachers without which the Govt.'s assertions on quality enhancement of Higher Education would only be an empty rhetoric.

The Conference also viewed with concern the status and service conditions of the teachers, Librarians, DPEs working in the unaided colleges and unaided courses in private and Govt. colleges and universities whose status is no better than that of the bonded labourers and urges the UGC and the MHRD to take serious efforts to make them eligible for legal job-security and service conditions.

The Conference calls upon all the units of the AIFUCTO to organize these teachers, take up their demands and mobilize them for vigorous struggles to achieve their demands.

Though the Conference recognizes the necessity of updating the curriculum, importance of Research, orientation of teachers in the modernization of the education system and in the accountability of teachers, it feels that the UGC regulations with its over emphasis on quantifying academic performance, weighing academic inputs in terms of monetary input, privileging global over the local and equating standards over standardization will not serve its purpose. Similarly insisting on a selection committee and on the chairperson of the College committee and his representatives on the selection committee for promotion on the basis of the academic performance is not required and will be utilized by unscrupulous managements to harass and victimize teachers than unbiasedly assess the performance of the teachers. Hence the Conference urges the UGC to revise the UGC Regulations on the light of the above. The Conference also urges the UGC and the MHRD to provide appropriate infrastructure, library and laboratory facilities required for the modernization of higher education.

Though the Conference recognizes the minority rights enshrined in the constitution, it views with concern the relaxation given to the minority institutions to have in the selection committee for the recruitment of teachers, a panel of experts of the appropriate statutory body of the minority college will be discriminatory and will not help to find meritorious candidates and hence it urges the UGC that the Regulations should be so revised that the panel of experts should be from among the list of experts decided by the appropriate statutory body of the university.

The Conference urges that the UGC Regulations (2010) should be only prospective and not retrospective and as the UGC Regulations have been notified only on the 18th, September, 2010, all the promotions due on or before should be made on the basis of the old Regulations.

The Conference deplors the attitude of the MHRD in rejecting the decision of the UGC to grant approval to those teachers without NET/SLET and appointed before the notification of the regulations by the respective states. This Conference strongly demands that the MHRD should keep up its promise that it would solve the issue of the Maharashtra teachers without SLET/NET. The AIFUCTO expresses its support to the Dharna organized by the MFUCTO on 02-12-10 at New Delhi and calls upon its affiliates to participate in the Dharna.

The Conference views with concern the inordinate delay in the release of central funds to the states consequent upon the implementation of pay scales thereby delaying the payment of arrears to teachers whereas the Central govt. employees and teachers working in central universities have already received the entire arrears. So this conference urges the govt. of India to immediately release the grants to the state governments.

The Conference urges the MHRD and the UGC to resolve the issue of revised CAS from 01-01-96 instead of 27-07-98 as recommended by the Chaddha Committee and the MHRD notification dated 31-12-08 and as per the Judgment of the Hon. Kerala High Court and as per the commitment given to the High Court by the Counsels of the UGC and the MHRD.

The Conference urges the Govt. of India to extend the Assured Pension Scheme to all those appointed after 01-01-04 and resolves to join other trade unions and Govt. employees Federations to achieve the Assured Pension Scheme.

The Conference expresses its dismay and disappointment at the total apathy of the State Governments, Universities and the govt. of India in filling up the vacant posts or filling up the posts with part-time or contract teachers. The conference urges that the posts of teachers, librarians, DPEs and other academic staff be filled up as and when they fall vacant and also sanction new posts depending upon the increased workload and increased strength of students.

This Conference expresses its dismay and concern at the hasty efforts of the govt. of India to initiate far reaching reforms without consulting the academic community and the AIFUCTO representing the entire 5 lakh teachers. The new bills introduced in the Parliament, the Foreign Educational Institutions Bill, the Education Tribunals Bill, The Universities for Innovation Bill, the bill for the Creation of an Independent Accreditation Agency, the Bill for the Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Professional Educational Institutions and the Proposed Higher Education Commission bill will result in Centralization, globalization, commercialization and corporatization of higher education. It will impact upon the access and inclusiveness of higher education and will exclude the poor, the dalits, the marginalized and even women from higher education. Consequently it will also impact upon the development of the nation. Hence this Conference urges the Govt. of India to withdraw the Bills, constitute a national Commission of Education like the Dr. Radhakrishnan Commission and the Kothari Commission to go into every aspect of Higher education so that the country could have a democratic and scientific educational policy aimed at the development of the country and the future of the youth of our country.

This Conference resolves to fight against the anti-people educational policies of the Govt. and resolves to mobilize all sections of the Society including the school teachers, students, youth, the non-teaching employees working in colleges and universities and other sections of the civil society.

The Conference resolves to join the Rally organized at New Delhi on 02-12-10 by the National Forum in Defence of Education and to continue the protest in all forms. The Conference urges the members to join the protests in large numbers.

Prof. A. James William
President

Prof. Asok Barman
General Secretary