

All India Federation of Retired University and College Teachers' Organisation (AIFRUCTO)

**NEC of AIFRUCTO, Date: 2nd July 2023, 10 am to 5 pm
Venue: Auditorium of Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee University, Ranchi**

General Secretary's Report

Mr. President, respected Patrons, Office Bearers, members of the NEC and other dignitaries attending the meeting. I thank the leadership of Federation of Retired University Teachers Associations Jharkhand and its members for hosting the NEC of AIFRUCTO at Ranchi on 2nd July, 2023.

I extend my greetings of the day to this august presence. To begin, I would like to thank Dr. Baban Chaubey, Dr M.P. Sharma and Dr K.K. Sharma for the continuous support AIFRUCTO is receiving from the organisation led by them. The leadership of FRUTAJ has always been generous enough to host AIFRUCTO's programs and meetings.

We are extremely happy to be in Ranchi, a beautiful place with its rich heritage, natural beauty and wonderful handicrafts. It is known as the town of waterfalls and lakes. We are overjoyed to visit the town once again. We cherish the happy memories of our Statutory Conference held here in the year 2017.

Let me now briefly note some of the more important recent international and national developments.

International Concerns

We are concerned at the unabated armed conflicts, economic turmoil & the devastating effects of climate change in a number of countries. All these have gravely affected the citizen's lives of the affected countries. Along with huge hardships & uncertainty of the future, there has been a growing refugee problem. Millions of people from the affected countries are trying to move to the European countries. We have seen the extreme dangers of illegal movements & the consequent loss of lives. The conflict involving Russia & Ukraine affected the citizens of Ukraine in the form of injury, illness & death. Thousands of Ukraine citizens are facing acute shortage of shelter, food, water & power. It appears that the ordeal will continue. We express our solidarity with the sufferers & hope a quick resolution to the problem will be achieved.

The Manipur Tragedy

We have been in great pain to see that such problems have affected our country too. In India, we have peacefully lived with multiple cultures, diverse faith & heritage for centuries. We are shocked to experience the recent violence & clash of identity politics in Manipur causing deaths, injuries & rampant damages. All these have upset lives of a large number of people in Manipur. Thousands of people left their homes & became refugees with huge uncertainties. We urge the authorities to take proper steps and resolve the problems at the earliest and restore peace. We express our hopes that the people of Manipur who are peace loving with a rich cultural heritage would help to restore peace in the state and the differences will be resolved through discussion and dialogue.

We are also concerned with the grim flood situation in Assam.

The World and the Indian Economy

Uncertainty & the consequent panic has been the sad feature of world economy for quite sometimes. The fear that recession has gripped the western world is still shared by many. But the fact is that recession or no recession, there has been a number of perplexing developments in the developed economies. The global growth rate may fall in next few months. Experts have noted that a number of crises are looming large. These include: rising inflation, energy supply crisis, cost of living crisis & cyber-attacks on critical infrastructure.

Many factors are responsible for this situation. Rising interest rates and geo-political disturbances are causing uncertainty. All countries including India will be affected by such a situation. While world economy has been suffering from uncertainty & hiccups, Indian economy has been doing rather well as far as the stock market is concerned, there are signs of resilience. The economic growth rate has been not discouraging, though not very encouraging too. The impact of COVID is responsible to a certain extent. The Production Linked Investment Scheme has not been satisfactory. We need to boost the manufacturing sector.

New Education Policy

We all agreed that the education policy needed a relook as the objective conditions have undergone sea changes and the academicians & teachers associations have been demanding a new education policy for the last two decades. There has been a massive propaganda about the New Education Policy though it was not discussed in the necessary forums. The academicians & teachers associations were kept out of these consultations. In spite of repeated letters and submissions, teachers were not consulted. It has not been placed in the Parliament either. In fact, a number of disturbing features in new Education Policy have been noted. We have noted that the document is full of rhetoric bypassing the ground realities. In fact, our apprehensions have come true. There has been complete chaos as no coordination has been followed. Public funded education has been replaced by private & public private partnership. The NEP restricts education to a privileged few and thus violates the constitutional provision for inclusive quality education. The teaching community, students and civil society have been constantly opposing detrimental aspects of this policy. We shall have to continue our opposition to NEP till a proper education policy is adopted. We need this to safeguard our future generations. We cannot afford to remain silent spectators.

The attempt to rewrite history of India by changing certain historical facts may create dissension among certain sections of the society. Changes, if any, may be thought of after detailed deliberation with intellectuals and the stakeholders. Developments taking place in the national education policy need to be scrutinized and then implemented across the country. If any unit can organize a National Level Seminar on this issue, we can discuss the matter in detail. Unfortunately, vindictive action is initiated upon some individuals/intellectuals who are raising their voice(s) on certain issues.

With your permission, let me welcome all of you including the newly elected Office bearers of AIFRUCTO to this organization.

Friends, we had our statutory conferences in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh on 25 – 26th June, 2022. Later on, our NEC was hosted by our affiliated unit, Gulbarga University College Retired Teachers Association, Kalburgi, Karnataka on December 11, 2022, nicely. We thank them. We had our Office Bearers' meeting in the virtual mode on 9th April 2023 and about 20 members were present. With your enthusiastic support and positive feedback, the AIFRUCTO News Magazine is published

regularly. All units are requested to send the latest developments in their states for publication. We need appropriate articles for the News Magazine. I therefore request all units to send the latest development to the Executive Editor and General Secretary by email: dr.haleshr@gmail.com and jnshuklagsaifructo@gmail.com

We are eagerly waiting to get the latest development on pension issue in some states like Punjab, Meghalaya and Manipur. It is a grueling battle for our friends to get justice. We shall hear from the leaders of those states. There are lots of development in different states and our state leaders will present the real picture. We are encouraged by the nationwide support and movements for the assured and **old pension scheme**. We have been agitating for the restoration of the old pension scheme. Five states have announced their decision to do that. We demand that all states and central government do the same.

As we know, it is very important to involve more and more retired teachers' associations of the country. Our senior members are working for this cause. We have some applications to be taken up for consideration for granting affiliation to different units in this meeting for approval.

- Affiliation request from Prof. V. N. Chandramohanam, General Secretary, Association of Kerala Government College Retired Teachers (AKGCRT).
- Affiliation request from Government College Retired Teachers' Welfare Association (Punjab).
- Affiliation request from Retired University and College Teachers' Association Pune.
- Sri Venkateshwara University Retired Teachers' welfare Association SVURTWA Tirupati, AP.

I am happy to announce that **Federation of Retired University & college Teachers of Bihar (FRUCTAB)** has been constituted in Bihar on June 01, 2023. Our Zonal Secretary Prof. Chandana Jha organized a state level Conference in the Auditorium of MIT Purnea. A large number of retired teachers from most universities of Bihar participated in the conference. The executive committee was elected in my presence. Prof Yogeshwar Singh from Magadh University was elected President and Prof. Chandana Jha of B. N. Mandal University was elected General Secretary. On behalf of AIFRUCTO, I congratulate Prof Chandana Jha, Prof Shabbir Hussain, Prof. C K. Yadav and Prof. Sikander Yadav and their team for their dedicated efforts to make the conference a grand success.

Meanwhile, a few of our old fighting friends have left this world. It is a great loss to their families and to AIFRUCTO. A few months back, some of our friends, Prof. O. Chaoba Devi, our Zonal Secretary and Prof. Shambhu Nath Kundu, Former Vice-President of AIFRUCTO & General Secretary, WBCURTWA, N.K. Mohanty, Odisha, Charchal Bose, W.B passed away. Their demise is a great loss for us. We express our deepest condolences to the bereaved families.

The people of Odisha and the nation are shocked by the train accident tragedy of the ill-fated Coromandel Train that occurred around 6.30 pm on 2nd June 2023 at Bahanaga Railway Station in the Balasore district of Odisha where around 300 passengers died, hundreds were severely injured and some are still undergoing treatment and fighting for life.

ABOUT OUR DEMANDS

AIFRUCTO had requested several times to the Govt. of India to solve following problems of the retired University and College teachers across the country. The demands are:

1. Fixation of pension in the Professor scale for retired college and university teachers.

2. Senior pensioners of Universities and Colleges should be given the benefit of 20% of additional quantum of pension from the first day of the calendar month in which it falls due and not from the date of completion of 80 years of age.
3. One notional increment to all teachers who retire on June 30 or earlier.
4. Relief from income tax to all pensioners.
5. Medical scheme for all University and College Teachers.
6. Uniform Pension Scheme for all retired University and College teachers in all States & Union Territories and old pension scheme for all pensioners.
7. Period of Commuted value of pension should be reduced from current 15 years to 10 years.
8. Implementation of the 7th UGC pay scale and pension based on concordance table without any modification to all retired University and College teachers of all States & Union Territories.
9. Payment of additional quantum of pension i.e. 5% at 65 years, 10% at 70 years, 15% at 75 years and 20% at the age of 80 years.

ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES

There are several problems faced by our retired college and university teacher friends of several different states which they are trying to resolve at their end. AIFRUCTO is always with them at any point of time if our friends need suggestions, support etc.

Our Zonal Secretaries / state level leaders may speak about their zonal issues.

We have to start and also complete zonal level conferences preferably before our next academic conferences which may be held (if you agree) sometime in October or November, 2023. All State and University level affiliated Associations may complete their annual meeting / conference as early as possible. Till this time hardly any action has been initiated by states. In some states our pensioners are getting DR @ 42% along with their pension.

I invite proposals from all units who can host or organize our next Annual Academic Conference of AIFRUCTO sometime in November, 2023.

I will personally try to attend zonal and state level Association meetings or conferences if sufficiently informed or depute one of our office bearers well conversant with the problems of the Pensioners.

Our friends in Andhra Pradesh (RATA – AP) are unhappy with us. AIFRUCTO is their organization also. I request them not to refrain from the main stream, i.e. AIFRUCTO.

I am prepared to come to them for a meeting at any place they decide to discuss the misunderstandings that have crippled our ties. They are our veteran leaders. I request them again to re-join us. It may be mentioned that RCTA-AP has adopted a resolution to refrain from us.

About decisions adopted in the officer bearers meeting held on 9th April 2023

- The Editorial Board of the AIFRUCTO News Magazine shall comprise of :
 Dr. J. N. Shukla, General Secretary, Chief Editor
 Prof. R. Halesh, Executive Editor
 Prof. Gangotri Prasad Tripathy, UP, Member

Prof. Venkat. M. Gona Reddy, Telangana, Member, and
Prof. (Dr.) Sarita Tewari, Punjab, Member

- Lifetime achievement award to Veteran Teachers every year.

For the year 2022, the name of Prof. Mrinmoy Bhattacharya may be approved.

Logo Committee

A logo for AIFRUCTO is needed. I propose a small committee with the following members to prepare and place a model logo before the next academic conference for consideration. Members include:

Dr. J. N. Shukla, General Secretary

Prof. R. Halesh

Prof. S. Bhattacharjiya

Dr. Prin. Kranti Jejurkar

Prof. V. Swaminathan

Prof. R.S. Pawan

Prof. G. K. Nanda

All the affiliated units / members are requested to submit proposed logo model of AIFRUCTO preferably basing on scientific progress, economic development, prosperity, secularism, peace, quality education and national integration. The committee will consider and choose the best option or combined option. The committee will meet at least once before the conference.

In the present situation we have to consider the following:

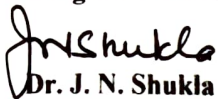
- To organize state / university level conventions conferences as soon as possible before our academic conferences.
- To organize and discuss at least once about the New Educational Policy 2020 and problem of pension / pensioners in the state level and send suggestions and views to the GS.
- To form coordination with teachers / pensioner's associations at state / national level for the betterment of education and the problem of common people and pensioners.
- To consider the action program proposed by AIFUCTO and JFME on various issues, particularly NEP.
- To co-operate as far as possible with the program of action adopted by like minded associations / organizations to save education and common development program.
- The General Secretary with few others will visit the residence of Prof. M. Bhattacharya, our veteran leader to felicitate him at his residence at Kolkata due to his ill health. As a token of life time service rendered for the benefit of the college and university level teachers.
- To study and propose appropriate suggestions about the existing Constitution of AIFRUCTO.
- To start a letter campaign through postcard / e-mail demanding the government of India to consider our genuine demands.

Please suggest some action program that AIFRUCTO can adopt either at Delhi or State headquarters to draw the attention of the government to meet our genuine demands.

I need your cooperation, suggestions and guidance to strengthen AIFRUCTO.

I also thank all our veteran leaders for guiding and helping leaders at the local level to strengthen AIFRUCTO.

Long Live AIFRUCTO!


Dr. J. N. Shukla

General Secretary

P.S.

1. All participants are requested to bring their medicine kits positively to avoid any inconvenience.
2. Please bring a printed copy of brief state reports, minimum 50 copies.

ALL INDIA FEDERATION OF RETIRED UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE TEACHERS' ORGANISATIONS

AIFRUCTO

NEC- RANCHI

DATE: JULY 02,2023

AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION

- 1-Approval of the proceedings of office bearers meeting.
- 2-G S report.
- 3-Treasurer's report.
- 4- Affiliation of new associations.
- 5-Nominations for the vacant posts.
- 6-Proposals for the next Annual conference.
- 7- State issues.
- 8- Decisions / Resolutions.
- 9-Any other issue with prior permission of the chair.



Dr. J. N. Shukla

General Secretary

ALL INDIA FEDERATION OF RETIRED UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE TEACHERS' ORGANISATIONS

AIFRUCTO

NEC- RANCHI

DATE- JULY 02,2023

PROGRAM

10.30 am to 11.30 am-----Inaugural Ceremony

11.30 am to 1.30 pm-----First session of NEC meeting

1.30 pm to 2.30 pm -----Lunch break

2.30 pm to 4.30 pm-----Second session of NEC

4.30 onwards-----Cultural program & Closing ceremony