

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Statutory Conference of All India Federation of Retired Teachers' Organization at Lucknow

**Prof.JN Shukla**

**Gen.Secretary**

University College Retired Teachers' Welfare Association, Uttar Pradesh hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Statutory Conference of AIFRUCTO on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at Lucknow. Delegates from Manipur, West Bengal, Odisha, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu participated in the conference. Delegates from Meghalaya, Assam and Jharkhand couldn't attend the conference due to excessive rain and flood in their states.

On 25<sup>th</sup> June, the National Secretariat and National Executive Committee meetings were organized which were presided over by Prof Ram Singh, the President, and conducted by Prof B Parthasarathy General Secretary of AIFRUCTO. Various matters like the general secretary's report, treasurer's report, constitution committee report, report for a committee for framing the financial rules, medical committee report and election of the new executive committee were mainly discussed and the agenda for the general council meeting was finalized.

### **INAUGURAL SESSION**

The inaugural session started with Goddess Saraswati Vandana. The session was presided over by Prof. S.S. Chauhan, President, and UCRTWA. Prof. Chauhan, in his welcome address extended warm welcome to the guests, delegates, participants and the media. He thanked the AIFRUCTO to accept the invitation from UCRTWA to hold the Third Statutory Conference of AIFRUCTO at Lucknow, the city of culture, poetry & literature. He briefly narrated the roles being played by UCRTWA for the welfare of retired teachers & also strong association with teachers' movements at the national level. Prof. J.N. Shukla, the General Secretary addressed the Conference participants highlighting the great tradition of Lucknow hospitality & the cultural heritage. Prof. Asok Barman, former general secretary of AIFUCTO & patron of AIFRUCTO presented the Keynote address. Prof. Barman talked about four major areas to be focused in the Conference & also in the days to come. These are

- 1) Our professional demands, problems & progress with a proper movement program;
- 2) The pandemic impacting our life with special reference to the education at all stages. There have been huge knowledge deficits due to the pandemic;
- 3) The lessons of pandemic are many. He highlighted the importance of society & technology. We have learnt that only a close cooperation among people and the proper utilization of technology can help us to combat such catastrophes. The digital world has changed everything & we must leverage this progress through cooperation among us;
- 4) The commitment to society. We are the beneficiaries of state support & we must offer our services to the society by helping those who need it most.

As responsible members we should help the needy ones. He referred to United Nations ONLINE VOLUNTEER program and requested teachers to extend all helps to cover the

knowledge deficits. Prof. Arun Kumar, General Secretary, AIFUCTO congratulated the conference. In his speech, Prof. Arun Kumar highlighted various problems of teachers in the higher education sector. In view of the wrong education policies adopted by the Govt. of India & nonfulfillment of long-standing demands, the AIFUCTO has decided to launch protest movement. As a part of that, a massive rally would be organized during the Monsoon Session of Parliament on 3rd August 2022. He demanded immediate redressal of outstanding grievances of teachers & holding fruitful consultations with teachers' organizations on the New Education Policy. He gave a call to launch a united teachers' movement against all wrong policies of the Government. Prof. Thokchom Meinya, Former Education Minister of Manipur & a former Member of Parliament was the Chief Guest. In his address, he highlighted the paramount importance of quality education for the progress of India and the empowerment of the student community. Prof. Meinya talked about the evolution of education policies in India in the past when detailed discussions took place in the Parliament. He stressed the need for quality education for all & an appropriate education policy to implement it. Prof. Meinya expressed his frustration that the new education policy adopted by Govt. of India was not discussed and placed before the Parliament for a thorough discussion. Given the importance of the education policy a threadbare discussion in Parliament was very much necessary. The Organizing Committee honoured retired teachers who attained the age of eighty years & Prof. Meinya felicitated them with shawl, flower bouquet & memento. The program was compared by Prof. Ajani Kumar with sweet couplets enthralling the audience. He created a poetic ambience with charming poetries while announcing.

### **General Council Meeting**

Prof Ram Singh, the President of AIFRUCTO, presided over the general council meeting. In his presidential address he mentioned the tradition, culture and hospitality of Lucknow. He greeted the leaders of the organizations who were attending the 3rd Statutory Conference being held in Lucknow. General Secretary Prof B Parathasarathy presented his report before the house. Since he circulated the report beforehand, he did not read out completely. He highlighted only the important points of the report. His report was thoroughly discussed and approved by the house. Afterwards Prof J N Shukla, Treasurer presented the financial picture before the house and put the audited account for the last three years for the approval which was approved by the general council. A Sub-Committee report on financial rules was also presented by Prof. Shukla which was also approved by the house unanimously. Prof Sadanand Bhattacharjya, the National Secretary and Convener of the Constitution Committee presented the amended constitution of AIFRUCTO with all modifications and suggestions as given in NEC meeting at Solapur which was also placed in the Secretariat and NEC meeting at Lucknow on June 25, 2022. The constitution was approved in toto with an amendment to increase the post of National Secretaries from 10 to 11 to include one-woman National Secretary. This amendment was approved unanimously.

Another subcommittee report for Medical Benefits was presented by Prof S A Bojagar National Secretary of AIFRUCTO before the house.

### **Movement Resolution**

1. Resolved to request the Government of India to formulate a “Medical Scheme” for the university and College retired teachers. This will help them to get lifesaving treatments in old age.
2. Resolved to request the Govt. of India to implement a uniform pension scheme to all the retired University and College teachers in all the states and Union Territories. There are still some states where pension is not being paid to University and College teachers. For instance, Punjab, Himanchal Pradesh and in some North Eastern States like Manipur, Meghalaya do not pay any form of pension to the retired aided college teachers.
3. Resolved to request the Govt. of India to implement the 7th UGC scales of pay and pension based on the concordance table without any modification to all retired University and College teachers in all States and Union Territories.
4. Resolved to request the Govt. of India to get some sort of relief for all pensioners in the payment of Income Tax. Either the rates of slabs of Income Tax should be modified or the ceiling amount in each of income should be increased. Though pension increases for the granting of additional dearness relief, this increase in pension is taken away by the increased income tax that the pensioners pay. Thus, the pensioners ultimately get the marginal benefit in the increase in pension for additional DR. Therefore, the senior citizens who pay regularly through the “Tax Deducted at Source” (TDS) or the self -assessment should get relief in the payment of income tax.
5. National Education Policy 2020  
Request the Govt. of India not to implement National Educational Policy 2020 until the provisions in the policy are discussed in various academic forums by academicians and experts and submit their suggestions to the Govt. of India. We fear that the New Education Policy may lead to privatizations of Higher Education which will ultimately result in commercialization of Higher Education.

### **ELECTION OF THE OFFICE BEARERS**

The Election Committee was constituted by the General Council for holding the election of new office bearers for next three years.

1. Prof Asok K Barman, Convener
2. Dr Ghanshyam Singh, Co convener
3. Prof S K Agnihotri, Co convener

All the office bearers were elected unanimously with the exception of one post of Vice President (women). After the voting Prof Parvathi Gopalan was declared elected by Prof Asok Barman the Convener of Election Committee.

**List of office bearers elected in the 3rd statutory conference of AIFRUCTO at Lucknow held on 26th June 2022: -**

<b>Post</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Mobile number</b>
<b>President</b>	Prof. Sudhakar S Mankar	9423815307
<b>General Secretary</b>	Prof. J N Shukla	9450186103
<b>Treasurer</b>	Prof. Sadanand Bhattacharjya	8910249567
<b>Vice Presidents:</b>		
Zone-1	Prof L Randhoni Devi	7005672013
Zone-2	Prof Harish Sarkar	9477453091
Zone-3	Prof Niranjan Padhy	8457011216
Zone-4	Prof Shrirangnath Mishra	9451986128
Zone-5	Prof Sridhar Reddy	9866856660
Zone-7	Prof Mahadev A Desai	9426893527
Zone-8	Prof K Venkatraman Reddy	8500198131
Zone-9	Prof Usha Ragotham	9443292885
Zone -10	Prof Shanta Bhimsen Rao	9845712623
Women Quota	Prof Parvathi Gopalan	9361444577
<b>National Secretary</b>		
Zone-2	Prof Pratip Mukherjee	9434008771
Zone-3	Prof Gopal Krishna Nanda	9437305306
Zone-4	Prof Sangram Singh	9839211025
Zone-5	Prof A Pullaiah	9866860003
Zone-7	Prof S A Bojagar	9860660661
Zone-8	Prof V R Kesavalu Reddy	9440272725
Zone-9	Prof V Swaminathan	9444024662
Zone-10	Prof R Ramchandrappa	9448804423
<b>Zonal Secretary</b>		
Zone-4	Prof P R Yadav	9528893336
Zone-7	Prof S K Mathpati	9422380180
Zone-9	Prof Solaimalaichami	9942927932
Zone-10	Prof B V Vijay	9880518115