

Well-done comrades, we are proud of you

This is our Special Bulletin No. 500

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Dedicated to Tarak Dada



2rd June, 1926 – 2nd May, 2003 This special Issue is dedicated to the hallowed memory of Com. Tarakeswar Chakraborti, former General Secretary of AIBEA. 2nd June, 2020 will mark the 95th Birthday of our revered leader and beloved Dada. It was Com. Tarakeswar Chakraborti who repeatedly emphasized that true to the philosophy and ideology of AIBEA and in tune with the vision of our founding leaders, AIBEA and our rank and file should always remain an integral part of the general working class movement.

He repeatedly reiterated that we should not only be with them but we should also identify with them and their problems and be seen with them.

Social Identification programmes under the banner of AIBEA and our Unions became more pronounced due to his continuous efforts. After the earthquake in Lattur in Maharashtra in 1993, Tarakda gave the call for contributions and AIBEA helped in reconstruction of a village in Lattur.

After the devastating cyclone in 1999 that ravaged Orissa, Tarakda gave the call and we could help the affected people in a big way, in fact adopting an entire village.

After the earthquake in Gujarat in Bhuj area in 2001, Tarakda gave the call and with the contributions of bank unions, destroyed houses were reconstructed and given to the people. During the super cyclone in West Bengal, again Tarakda gave the call and AIBEA could extend major relief and help to the affected people.

Like that, whenever, there was natural calamity and people were affected, Tarakda was always in the forefront to extend help from AIBEA.

He was particular that a trade union should identify itself with the people in distress.

When the Tsunami struck in 2004, AIBEA gave the call and we could collect Rs. One crore from our unions and members and with that we constructed a School in Cuddalore in Tamilnadu (which today has 1000 students of poor strata) as well as a Primary Health Centre was reconstructed there. In Kerala, in Kollam, a Primary Health Centre was reconstructed.

In 2013, when there was a devastating flood in Uttarakhand, AIBEA gave the call and we could colelct Rs. 45 lacs from our units and members and with that we helped to reconstruct One **Block of the Degree College in Agasthyamuni in Rudraprayag District.** Similarly, Tarakda used to give the call on occasions like AIBEA Founding Day undertake social identification to programmes.

He set an example by personally contributing a portion of his retirement benefit to the treatment of Thalassemia patients and build a Block in a hospital meant for poor people. This importance of identifying with the people in need has become a part of our activities because of Tarak Dada.

Importantly, these activities throw up potential cadres for our organisation who are socially aware and conscious

Today we have completed 500 Relief Programmes during the current corona pandemic. And all these in just 60 days. Hats off our unions.

Our unions and members have helped so many affected people in so many places.

It is all due to Tarak Dada's teachings.

So we dedicate this Bulletin to him.

What is the special news in this Special Bulletin

Every relief activity is special because we know that every programme symbolises the philosophy of AIBEA. But certain programmes assume some extra significance due to the unique initiatives taken by our unions and comrades.

In this Bulletin we will proudly see the initiative taken by one of our lady comrades.

Please read and feel proud

Red Salutes to Dear Com. Asha Lovalekar What a wonderful comrade you are



Com. Asha Lovalekar Special Assistant, Bank of Maharashtra, Chiplun, Ratnagiri, Maharashtra Central Committee

Member, Bank of Maharashtra Employees Union, Kolhapur Com. Asha Suhas Lovalekar, is an activist of AIBEA, Central Committee Member of Bank of Maharashtra Employees Union, Kolhapur and she is working as a Special Assistant in Chiplun Branch of Bank of Maharashtra.

She has been doing social activities in Chiplun area since last more than 15 years. Under her initiative, 5 lady comrades of Bank of Maharashtra Chiplun area are extending every year all educational and other expenses of one child from some poor family.

She is taking part in different expeditions in Himalayas and Sahyadri for last 15 years and has participated in 8 treks in Himalayas and 12 in Sahyadri so far.

Coming to the issue:

Migrant labourers in Chiplun, Ratnagiri District of Maharashtra were struggling hard for their survival since lockdown.

She observed that these migrant workers and their families do not have any earning and hence they are facing serious problem.

Being socially conscious, she could not reconcile to their suffering.

So she contacted them and talked to them. There were 24 migrant families. Since they had no income, and since they could no longer continue in Chiplun, they were trying to go back to their native place but due to non-availability of any mode of travel, they were stuck up. Com. Asha Lovalekar felt that these families cannot be left in a lurch and so decided to take care of them.

She was taking care of their food and essentials. Then she gave them some clothing. She virtually became their guardian.

One of the migrant workers, Sarojrani was advance stage of pregnancy and was due for delivery. That poor lady did not know what to do as she does not know anything in that local area.

Com. Asha Lovalekar came to her rescue. She managed to contact the various Government officials and authorities and ensured that Sarojini gets a free treatment for her delivery. Now the migrant leady is blessed with a daughter and both mother and the baby are safe. This went on and Com Asha became their virtual mother and sister. But they were waiting to go back to their native places.

Recently some shramik trains started and Com Asha sent all of them by train to their places.

All of them have now safely reached their villages. All these migrants telephoned and expressed their indebtedness to Com. Asha for her help.

AIBEA is proud of you dear Com Asha.

What a wonderful comrade you are.

(Those who attended our AIBEA's National Women's Convention organised in Hyderabad in November, 2018 will recall her active participation)



All of them are in the train. Their eyes say : Asha Didi, Thank you, We can never forget you.





New born baby and the mother



See the tents behind them, where they lived

DON'T WORRY, MEIN HOON NA

DON'T WORRY, I AM WITH YOU

I HAVE BROUGHT ALL THESE NEW DRESSES FOR YOU





Take these biscuits, it is for you

तरुण भारत

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Her services have been praised by the newspapers. No wonder, because she has done such a humanitarian service for these hapless migrant workers. When we spoke to her, said was shy to acknowledge our appreciation and said that " after all I have only done what is expected of me when someone is suffering before your eyes".

Dear Com. Asha,

In the present corona pandemic lockdown, when the poor people and migrant workers are the most affected, when everyone is in fear and panic about their safety and health, you have shown that you are different. We are so proud that you are our comrade from AIBEA.

You are a gem. Salutes to you.



ALL INDIA BANK EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION AIBEA'S WOMEN'S COUNCIL