

STATE BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

(BENGAL CIRCLE)

(Registered under Trade Unions Act 1921-Regd. No. 6908)

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Circular No. 107/2017

Date : 19.08.2017

To All Members (Please Circulate)

We reproduce hereunder the Circular No. 88 dated 19.08.2017 issued by General Secretary, All India State Bank Officers' Federation, the contents of which are self-explicit.

With revolutionary greetings,

Soumya Datta
(General Secretary)

To all our Affiliates / Members:

UFBU STRIKE ON 22.08.2017: LET US MAKE IT SUCCESS

The banking industry is under unbridled attack from all sides and the Government is marching ahead with its agenda of privatization. There is a well-planned propaganda to make the common man hate the Public Sector Banks and the smear campaign has reached a crescendo.

2. In the name of Asset Quality review, RBI made the Public Sector Banks declare major part of the loans of PSBs as NPA. It has invoked the Prompt Corrective action on 11 PSBs restricting their Banking operations and lending activities. It has forced PSBs to increase the service charges and decrease the interest rate on deposits of ordinary people. All these steps have already created a negative image in the eyes of the public. For the past few days, there is a sustained media blitz on SBI projecting it as loss making and comparing it to Air India even when we make profit. The Financial Resolution & Deposit Insurance Bill is already introduced in the Parliament which empowers it to liquidate all PSUs including SBI and LIC.

3. In the name of labour reforms a vicious attack on labour is on and the Code of wages Bill 2017 is introduced which threatens to do away with permanent jobs, monthly salary, specific working hours, weekly holidays etc.

4. The gratuity has not been increased despite our pursuing the matter vigorously. Some of the banks including our Bank have given only restricted mandate for negotiation of the next bipartite settlement. We will perish together, unless we fight together, All our benefits which we are enjoying have been because of our continuous struggles in the past. All our top executives have been members of the Association/Federation and have been a part of the struggles that we have undertaken for the benefit of all.

5. It is in this background UFBU has called for a nationwide strike on 22/08/2017. As always, Management will try to issue letters threatening Officers of action if they participate in strike. But no management will ever tell us to go on strike, it is a right that we have to grab and exercise on our own. In years of struggles, the Management has always been threatening to take action against striking Officers yet, since 1965 to this day there have not been any action on any of the Officers for going on a strike which is a collective action. Many of our Office-bearers in the Senior Management Grade have continuously been participating in strikes and they have never faced any problem. In all other Circles senior comrades in SMGS IV and V have been participating in strikes without any problem.

6. We always take pride in being a pioneer in Trade Union activities and set an example for solidarity. We need not tell our senior comrades the necessity to stand together to fight the evil designs of the Government and protect our jobs and rights. The Association has been built on your sacrifices and struggles and it is your bounden duty to stand firm in our resolve to fight. If we don't fight for our cause no one will come to fight for us.

7. Therefore, we appeal to officers of all scales and grades, especially our Senior Comrades of Scale IV and V to be a part of the trade union activities always as, United We Stand, Divided We Fall. The Wage revision to 11th Bipartite may call for more struggles in future. Therefore please stand together and we shall win.

8. Comrade, when the whole banking industry is on strike, let us not isolate ourselves but lead from the front and be an example for others. March on Comrade, March on, we will fight till we succeed.

With greetings,

(Y.SUDARSHAN)
GENERAL SECRETARY

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