

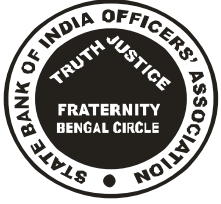
STATE BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

(BENGAL CIRCLE)

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

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Circular No. 49/2017

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To All Members (Please Circulate)

COMRADE BIMALENDU BIKAS DAS, FORMER PRESIDENT OF AISBOF AND GENERAL SECRETARY OF SBIOA (BENGAL CIRCLE) IS NO MORE

A pall of gloom descended upon all the serving and senior members of SBIOA (Bengal Circle) when its former longest serving General Secretary Com. Bimalendu Bikas Das breathed his last at G.D. Diabetic Hospital, Kolkata at about 12.30 p.m. on 10th April, 2017 after succumbing to multiple organ failure at the age of 75 years.

Born on 8th June, 1942 in an erudite family at Bhabanichak, a small village of undivided Midnapore district, Com. Das completed his graduation (B.Sc) and during his college education he was the office-bearer of college union, which only proved his keen interest in union activities from the student life. Before joining the Bank in clerical cadre on 01.08.1963, he served many organizations viz. Regional P.F. Commissioner Office, Calcutta Zoo and Indian Airlines from 1959 to 1963.

Com. Das plunged into the Bank officers' movement since his promotion as an officer of the Bank as on 05.09.1972 and instead of pursuing career, he preferred to become a trade unionist from the very day of his joining our Association. Universally known to one and all as 'Das-da', he left an indelible mark in the Banking Trade Union movement.

He had served in all tiers of the Association during his illustrious journey. From an ordinary grass root activist, he gradually rose in the echelons of the Association viz. Unit Secretary of Howrah branch in the year 1973, Assistant Secretary of Calcutta Zone from 1973 to 1974, Circle Secretary from 1975 to 1978, Deputy General Secretary from 1978 to 1983 and finally was elected as General Secretary of the Circle Association in the year 1986 by dint of his ardour, zeal, conviction and commitment coupled with organizing ability and, above all, cordial behavior and humane approach to the problems of the rank and file.

The stint of Com B.B. Das as General Secretary of our Circle Association from 1986 to his retirement in 2002 upon attaining the age of 60 years, proved his mettle and leadership acumen of the Association. He was endowed with the rare quality of a visionary leadership. Com. Das fulfilled the hopes and aspirations of the officers and was instrumental in clinching many benefits of the entire officers' community.

Apart from Bank Officers' movement, he took a leading role in the formation of Professional Workers Trade Union Centre of India (PWTUC), an umbrella organisation comprising of Central Trade Unions of supervisory cadre and professionals engaged in various trades. As its State Secretary (1994), he popularized this organisation among the members of many Trade Unions in West Bengal. He was at the centre stage of the Trade Union movement of the Federation, Confederation, PWTUC, UFBU and provided an excellent leadership as State Secretary of WB State Unit of AIBOC for the cause of the Bank Officers in general.

Due to his organizing skill he could make the West Bengal State Unit of AIBOC as one of the powerful units under the banner of the Confederation. He was also instrumental in adding a new dimension to organizational activities by promoting social welfare activities in our Circle. SBIOA Multi-State Co-operative Credit Society was established during his tenure after the amalgamation of two existing co-operative societies. A new initiative of felicitating wards of members for passing various examinations with distinction was started by the Society during his tenure.

Com. Das always strongly advocated for strong organizational discipline. He had a very pleasing and amiable personality for which he was also highly respected by the Circle as well as Corporate Management for his positive outlook in dealing with all the HR issues.

He could mesmerize the audience through his inimitable style of oratory. He always fought for the cause of the organization and its membership with missionary zeal and did not hesitate to raise his voice against any atrocity of the management. Words are insufficient to measure the extent of loss that has been caused by his death. We have lost not only a veteran and prudent Trade Union leader but a friend, philosopher and guide of the Circle Association.

In 1998, Com B.B. Das sprung a surprise by choosing the undersigned as a member of his team that contested and won the organizational elections to the Circle Association in 1998. The undersigned wishes to express his deepest gratitude to Com B. B. Das for providing a platform to serve the cause of members.

Com. B.B. Das leaves behind him his wife, son, daughter and grandchildren. We express our deepest condolences to bereaved family members and assure to extend our all possible assistance to stand by his family members all through. We dip our banner in honour of memory of the great leader. Let us work in unison in strengthening SBIOA (Bengal Circle) at this juncture to pay a befitting tribute and homage to this great leader.

Com B.B. Das Long Live.....

GENERAL SECRETARY

Soumya Datta
General Secretary
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