STATE BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION



(BENGAL CIRCLE)

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IP No. 500077

Circular No. 10/2018

Date : 29.01.2018

To All Members (Please Circulate)

COMRADE RABINDRA NATH BANERJEE, FORMER GENERAL SECRETARY OF SBIOA (BENGAL CIRCLE), GENERAL SECRETARY SBIPA (BENGAL CIRCLE) AND PRESIDENT FEDERATION OF SBI <u>PENSIONERS' ASSOCIATIONS IS NO MORE</u>

A pall of gloom descended upon all the serving and senior members of SBIOA (Bengal Circle) when it's former General Secretary Com. R. N. Banerjee breathed his last at his Bolpur (Santiniketan) Residence at about 12.15 p.m. on 29.01.2018 after succumbing to multiple organ failure at the age of 80 years.

Com. Banerjee joined the Bank as Probationary Officer in March 1961 and he retired from Bank's service in 1992. During his illustrious career he had successfully served various assignments. He plunged into the Bank officers' movement since his joining in the Bank. He had served as General Secretary of SBI Officers' Association (1966-1970) during turbulent times. He, as General Secretary, spearheaded the first ever movement of the supervising cadre in the banking industry which culminated in the historic indefinite strike in the year 1969. During that period it was almost unthinkable to organise any strike action amongst the bank officers that too in absence of poor and almost non-existent communication system. However, that was a trend setter in the history of movement in the banking fraternity.

After his retirement from Bank's service in 1992, he joined the SBI Pensioners' movement of Bengal Circle. Due to his keen interest, commitment and involvement for the cause of pensioners, he was a natural choice for the post of General Secretary of Pensioners' Association (Bengal Circle). He again proved his mettle with his unflappable disposition, zeal, wisdom and extended his valuable guidance to the pensioners' fraternity and became the President of Federation of SBI Pensioners' Associations. He occupied both the positions till he breathed his last on 29.01.2018 at 12.15 p.m. He had battled leukaemia (Blood Cancer) 37 years and overcame the physical pain through sheer grit and determination and he continued his fight till the last.

He was instrumental in coordinating the movement of different pensioners' associations in the banking industry and formed the CBPRO (Co-ordinating Body of Pensioners and Retirees Organisation). The pensioners' community as well as the members of SBIOA (Bengal Circle) will cherish his contribution in achieving many of the benefits and aspirations to the officers and pensioners cutting across the cadre and division as well.

Com. Banerjee always strongly advocated for strong organizational discipline. He had a very pleasing and amiable personality. He had attended all our Annual General Meetings over the years despite his failing health. His oratory was excellent and could mesmerize the audience.

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.

Com. R. N. Banerjee 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 R.N. Banerjee Long Live.....

sille **GENERAL SECRETARY**

Soumya Datta General Secretary Mobile : 9830044737