

STATE BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

(BENGAL CIRCLE)

(Registered under Trade Unions Act 1926-Regd. No. 6908)

1, STRAND ROAD, KOLKATA-700 001.

Phone: 2213-0663, 2213-0154, 2213-0665 (after 5.30 P.M.), Fax : (033) 2210-1684



e-mail: sbioabengalcircle@gmail.com
www.sbioabengal.com

IP No. 500077

Circular No. 28/2018

Date : 02.03.2018

To All Members (Please Circulate)

INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY - 21ST FEBRUARY 2018

21st February, 2018, which is well known as the International Mother Language Day, witnessed an overwhelming gamut of activities across the Circle as various units of the cultural wing of SBIOA (Bengal Circle), 'Srijan' organized special programmes to commemorate this significant day that has remained etched in the pages of history. A cultural programme was organised at Officers' Mess, 3rd Floor, Block-E, Samridhi Bhavan, LHO Kolkata to celebrate the love for language and to observe the occasion in a befitting manner. The event was anchored by Com Ranganath Sanyal and Com Prabir Sorkhel. The undersigned during his address spoke about the present day scenario, clearly stating the stance of our mother language today. He also expressed concern about the fact that our rich Bengali language, which once had seen the selfless fight and martyrdom in Bangladesh, is gradually ceasing to be lesser noteworthy nowadays as English is dominating the official meetings, seminars, etc. He also said that we have to be respectful to all languages.

Shri Partha Pratim Sengupta, Chief General Manager, Kolkata Circle, the Chief Guest of the occasion in his key note address recalled the sacrifices made by the martyrs of 21st February, 1952 that marked the Bengali Language Movement, also known as the *Shaheed Dibosh* or Martyr's Day. He also vehemently opposed the prevailing sentiments amongst the general public today that studying in English medium schools means securing the future unlike studying in vernacular language. He also lauded the efforts of the Association for organizing such a wonderful event to honour the heroes of those times who had courageously fought simply out of pure passion for language rather than compromising with what was being imposed upon them. He ended his speech with the observation that still today Abol Tabol and Thakuma'r Jhuli were an integral part of growing up.

The event then continued with a mesmerizing performance by the members of SRIJAN, the cultural wing of SBIOA (Bengal Circle). The cultural programme comprised of a short skit that continued in the backdrop punctuated by soulful renditions in between along with some splendid dance recitals related to various regions of India, symbolizing the unity in diversity of our country.

During the day, our LHO Unit unveiled the Wall Magazine 'Anuranan' at Officers' Tea Club, which exhibited paper cuttings of historic times along with relevant write-ups from members of LHO and their family. Similar initiatives were taken by other AZCs across the Circle. Cultural programs were organised at Siliguri, Gangtok, Burdwan and Baruipur whereby, our members paid tribute to mother tongue.

With greetings,

Soumya Datta
(General Secretary)