

STATE BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

(BENGAL CIRCLE)

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

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To All Members (Please Circulate)

We reproduce hereunder the Circular No. 147 dated 06.12.2018 issued by the 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:

MUMBAI CIRCLE HOLDS ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING AT NASHIK

MAMMOTH GATHERING – CONGLEMATION OF ENTHUSIASTIC MEMBERSHIP FROM ALL PARTS OF MAHARASHTRA AND GOA - A NEW MILE STONE IN THE HISTORY OF CIRCLE ASSOCIATION

24th November 2018 will be a mile stone in the history of Mumbai Circle Association. The City of Nashik was buzzing with the activity of the Circle Association holding its Annual General Body meeting in the city at a very crucial and important juncture from the point of view of the Banking Industry. A mammoth gathering which had assembled at Manohar Garden a prestigious Auditorium in Nashik were eagerly awaiting for the commencement of the inaugural function of the General Body. The programme commenced with a traditional Maharashtra style of Dolak and Tutari to extend a warm welcome to the dignitaries as well as the members from various parts of the Circle.

2. To signify the beginning of the proceedings, the officers of Local Head Office ,Mumbai, presented Ganesh Vandana and the Maharashtra geet- Garza Maharashtra Maza. This was followed by a clip show of the last Triennial General Council held at Pune in February 2017 and the video presentation of Youth wing on Technology and Customer Relationship which was presented at the Youth Conclave at Chennai held on the eve of the Triennial General Council of AISBOF.

3. The dignitaries who were invited to the dais on behalf of the Bank Management included Shri.Sanjay Kumar, General Manager (Network -1), Mumbai Circle, our beloved leader Com.Soumya Datta, President of the Federation and General Secretary of the Confederation as also the General Secretary of Bengal Circle Association, Com. G. Subramaniam, Chairman, AISBOF, and General Secretary (SBOIA – Hyderabad Circle) Com. Ramkumar Sabapathy, General Secretary of the Federation, and General Secretary of Mumbai Circle Association, Com. Anil Nare, President of Mumbai Circle, Shri.Sudhir Bhagawat, Dy.General Manager, Nashik Zone, Com. Jagdish Shringarpure, General Secretary of SBI Staff Union,Com.ShivajiPatil Chief Regional Secretary, Nashik Zone, Com.Ravikant Dixit, Regional President, Nashik Zone.

4. Com.Shivaji Patil in his welcome address expressed his pleasure in extending a warm welcome to all the dignitaries who were present on the dais and the delegates who had assembled from Maharashtra and Goa to be part of the historical Annual General Body meeting. He gave a brief account of Nashik, which is known as one of the important pilgrimage place for the people of India for its number of temples in and around the city. He referred to the important personalities such as Shri.Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, Shri. Anant Kanhere the freedom fighters who had enriched the historical importance of Nashik. He also referred to the popular personality from the film land Shri. Dhundiraj Govind Phalke, also known as Dadasaheb Phalke, who was born in Trimbakeshwar and laid a strong foundation for the Indian Cinema. Shri Patil also spoke on the religious activities in particular the Kumbha Mela conducted once in 12 years on the bank of river Godavari in Nashik. He also shared that Nashik is one of the fastest growing cities in India and the city is also known as wine capital of India for its excellent cultivation of grapes.

5. The dignitaries were honoured with flower bouquets and shawl by the President and the General Secretary of Mumbai Circle Association.

6. Thereafter Com. Ramkumar Sabapathy, the General Secretary of Mumbai Circle Association & the General Secretary of AISBOF, representing the largest supervisory cadre in the world, stood up to present his opening remarks on the historical occasion. He explained at length the cordial relations that are prevailing between the Circle Management and the Circle Association and also between the Corporate Centre and the Federation since a long time.

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He also acknowledged the co-operation of the Management in ensuring cordial industrial relations at the all India level. He briefly covered about the activities of the Circle Association since the last several years and the participation of the Circle association in rendering social welfare activities to the benefit of the society at large. Recalling the assistance extended by the Circle Association to the Artillery Limb Centre, Pune, he appreciated Mrs. Anuradha Prabhudesai, the founder Chairperson of Lakshya Foundation for her initiative to look after the interest of the soldiers serving in the border areas. He appraised the gathering on his resignation from the Position of the General Secretary of the Circle Association and appreciated the support given by his team in ensuring smooth transition of leadership after his resignation keeping in view the succession plan of the organization. Thereafter, he invited the new General Secretary, Shri. Sunil Shinde to the dais and expressed the hope that Com. Shinde will be able to serve the cause of members effectively and carry the Circle Association to greater heights.

7. He highlighted the recent developments in the banking industry in particular the mounting NPA's and also the confidence with which our bank is moving forward under the able leadership of the present Chairman to ensure the progress of the bank in the remaining quarters of the year 2018-19. He also appealed to the members to ensure quality customer service. The Officers should not adopt shortcut methods while dealing with the business transactions and take care of the interest of the bank so that they are not put to hardship at a later date. He referred to the issue of creation of another circle and the status about the approval of the same. He was confident that the issue will be discussed by the Management with the Circle Association before taking a final decision on the administrative jurisdiction, business etc., in the matter. He also expressed his happiness over the cordial relationship between the Staff Union and the Circle Association and thanked the leaders of the Staff Union for their co-operation in this regard.

8. Com.Soumya Datta, President – AISBOF; General Secretary of AIBOC and the General Secretary of SBIOA, Bengal Circle speaking on the occasion appreciated the leadership of the Circle Association as well as the members across the Circle for a wonderful gathering and their participation in the General Body. He also conveyed his happiness over the new leadership under Com. Shinde who has a good experience of running the organization and was confident that Shri Shinde would be able take the Circle Association to greater heights in his capacity as the General Secretary of the Association. He also paid rich compliments to Com. Ramkumar Sabapathy, Com.Subramaniam who were on the dais for their excellent contribution to the success of the Officers movement not only in their circle but also at all India level. He also referred to the excellent qualities that these leaders are effectively taking up the issues with the Corporate Centre to ensure that the officers working conditions are improved through logical and cohesive arguments. He also referred to the issues of Non-Performing Assets, Prompt Corrective Action, the differences between the RBI and the Government of India which created a lot of confusion in the banking industry during the last couple of years. He made observation about the interference of the Government in almost all areas in particular the judiciary, the CBI etc., which have compounded the problems of the administration of the Government and banking as well.

9. He firmly believed that the Public Sector Banks should remain as such. The merger is violation of laws and violation of banking rules in the country. The Government wants to undermine the administrative autonomy of the Banks, the RBI and other agencies. The participative management is given a go-by. The vacancies meant for representatives of the Officers and Workmen who were on the Boards of the Banks are not appointed thereby undermining the philosophy of industrial democracy and participative management. He also referred to the various initiatives taken up by the Confederation in highlighting these issues through the Members of Legislative Assemblies, Members of Parliament and also in building opinion amongst the NGO's about the requirement of keeping the banks individual identity rather than attempting mergers of few banks as proposed by the Government.

10. He also referred to several instances where the Officers were attacked by some of the disgruntled elements, the humiliation faced by our rank and file while performing their duties which in certain cases ended up in the loss of life of younger officers. He wanted that the Officers should develop courage and withstand these pressures.

11. As regards the current problems of the State Bank of India, he referred to the acute shortage of staff, the non-implementation of work life balance as per the instructions of the Corporate Centre, etc and stated that the cross selling and payment of Commission to individual officers should be stopped in the interest of the bank. As regards, the ongoing bipartite negotiations he assured the house that unless there is a mandate, no forward movement will take place in the negotiations. He also referred to some of the new ideas brought by IBA in particular the performance linked payment which was out rightly rejected by AIBOC and UFBU. As regards the remaining issues such as 5 days banking, Medical and Maternity leave, Privilege Leave accumulation, Improvement in LFC, Improvement in Family Pension, etc., he was confident that the issues would be taken to logical end. He also referred to some progress made in the area of Disciplinary Procedures in the bank. He emphasized the need for the unity and solidarity of the entire workforce in the banking industry so that we could achieve our demands in an effective manner.

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12. Shri. Sanjay Kumar, General Manager, Network-I, Mumbai Circle expressed his happiness over the participation of large number of Officers in the function. He was happy to hear the leaders and in particular the developments about the salary revision etc. and congratulated the comrades for the grand function, arrangements and the honour that was extended to all the dignitaries. He referred to the initiative of the Mumbai Circle for launching its new website and suggested to provided all the details of latest circulars especially in regard HR & Credit related matters through website. He referred to the general situation prevailing in the banking industry and the major issues such as NPAs, frauds that are taking place in the branch, the deteriorating relationship between the customers and bank in some of the branches. He appealed the Officers and Staff to develop positive approach in dealing with the day to day affairs of the branches. He also referred to the advantage of the digital banking and the need to popularize the same so that the pressure on the branches could be reduced. He referred to the great contribution made by our ATM's in handling the huge turnover of the business. He opined that the appointment of young and talented officers in banking will enable the introduction of several initiatives including IT in the bank which helps us in providing an excellent customer service. He also supported the view of the Corporate Centre in ensuring the issues related to work life balance and suggested the members to develop a positive approach in the branches and ensure that there is all round happiness in the environment. He wanted the officers and staff to observe the procedures and rules as laid down by the bank instead of exposing themselves to the disciplinary proceedings. He impressed upon the need for further improvement in the area of customer service in order to retain our competitive edge over other banks.

13. Shri. Sudhir Bhagwat, Dy.General Manager, Nashik Zone referred to the changes that are taking place in the banking industry and the efforts of the bank in ensuring work life balance and agreed that we have to find ways and means to ensure that the guidelines issued on work life balance by the Management is properly implemented. The Association should play a major role in the improvement of the customer service as well as service conditions in the bank.

14. Com.G. Subramaniam, the Chairman of AISBOF was extremely happy about the successful conduct of the General Body by Mumbai Circle Association and complimented Com.Ramkumar Sabapathy, for ensuring smooth change over of leadership at the Circle Association. He also referred to some of the achievements that were made by Com.Ramkumar Sabapathy, after taking over the mantle of the Federation such as the waiver of recovery of Penalty on RBI remittances related to Demonetization period, the insistence for strict implementation of work life balance etc. He referred to the strong position taken by the Confederation in regard to the attack on the bankers through an advertisement inserted by Kalyan Jewellers and the subsequent withdrawal of the same from media. He appreciated the leadership of the Circle Association for maintaining wonderful relations with the Management. Referring to the cases arising out of disciplinary proceedings, he requested the members to follow the rules. He expressed his happiness over the gesture of the Management in extending Diwali greetings to all employees through the distribution of the sweets to the entire workforce. He highlighted the delay in the wage negotiations and the need for remaining united to take the negotiations to a logical end. He wished the business session all well.


15. Com.Jagdish Shringarpure, General Secretary, SBISU Mumbai Circle congratulated the leadership of the Nashik Zone and also the Circle Association for the wonderful arrangements that they have made. He expressed his happiness on the cordial relationship that is prevailing between both the organizations. He complimented the leadership of Com.Ramkumar Sabapathy who was able to take lead on several common issues with the Management in an effective manner. He stressed that the unity between both the sections of the workforce is important for the benefit of our members. He assured his co-operation and support to Com.Sunil Shinde, the newly elected General Secretary.

16. Com.Anil Nare, President Mumbai Circle Association, thanked the dignitaries including the representatives of the Management for attending the function. He appreciated the hospitality and support extended by the Team Nashik of SBIOA for the successful conduct of the Conference. He referred to some of the lacunae noticed in the implementation of the work life balance and appealed to the management to implement the same in letter and spirit. He stressed on the need for concerted efforts by all concerned to ensure quality customer service. He appealed to younger generation to participate in the Association activities so that the movement continues to remain strong and vibrant.

17. Com.Ravikant Dixit proposed a vote of thanks.

18. Comrades, thus the historical Annual General Body Meeting of the Mumbai Circle Association was concluded with a thundering success and lot of hopes of the Association scaling greater heights in the days to come under the new leadership.

With warm greetings,


(RAMKUMAR SABAPATHY)
GENERAL SECRETARY