

# 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)

**THE 19<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
STATE BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION (BENGAL CIRCLE)  
ADMINISTRATIVE ZONAL COMMITTEE HOWRAH  
HELD ON 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2018 AT E.RLY. OFFICERS' CLUB**

The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of SBI Officers' Association(Bengal circle), Administrative Zonal Zonal Committee, Howrah was held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2018 (Saturday) at E.Rly. Officers' Club in the august presence of respected Deputy General Manager, Howrah (B&O), the functionaries of the Central Committee, AZC of Howrah and other Modules, representatives of SBISA, SBI Pensioners Association (Bengal Circle) and huge number of members whose enthusiasm and zeal for attending the AGM from very remote places marked the Annual General Meeting as a special annual programme beaming their trust on the leaders showcasing the unity, solidarity for the trade union movement. Loud slogans were chanted by the members welcoming the senior leaders, the General Secretary Comrade Soumya Datta, the doyen of Bank's trade union movement in the country, and all other dignitaries and guests. The meeting commenced with flag hoisting by the Chief Guest Shri K Rangarajan Deputy General Manager, Howrah (B&O) and Comrade Soumya Datta, General Secretary, AIBOC, President of AISBOF and General Secretary, SBIOA (Bengal Circle) in the august presence of senior leaders and dignitaries.

At the outset, Comrade Sangita Das who anchored the meeting invited the dignitaries and guests on the dais. Comrade Indranil Pyne, CRS and Comrade President of the meeting extended warm and hearty welcome to DGM Howrah (B&O) the leaders of the Central Committee, AZC of other Modules, all other dignitaries and the members who attended in droves.

The open session of the Annual General Meeting 2018 began with the lighting of Ceremonial Lamp by the dignitaries followed by chorus songs by Srijan, Howrah group which mesmerised the audience. Thereafter, the House paid homage to the souls who departed during 2018 in the national and international front. The House also offered condolences for the untimely demise of Comrade Arijit Sarkar of Balagarh Branch and Comrade Soma Biswas of Bambooflat branch and Comrade Ratnadeep Nayak of Titagarh Branch the bright and young officers who succumbed to work pressure.

Comrade Indranil Pyne, Chief Regional Secretary, delivered his welcome speech. Comrade Pyne expressed his heartfelt thanks to Comrade Soumya Datta, General Secretaery and Shri K Rangarajan, DGM (B&O), Howrah and all other dignitaries and members for their gracious presence in the meeting. In his address, he touched upon the new challenges faced by the banking industry as a fallout of Government's anti people and reverse nationalisation policy with a view to dilute government's stake completely and eventually hand over the PSBs under control and ownership of big corporates at the cost of the national interest. He reiterated that members' unity and solidarity strengthening the trade union movement are the essence of arresting this sinister move initiated by the government.

Shri K Rangarajan, DGM (B&O), Howrah mentioned in his address that it was a great privilege to be a part of the meeting. He appreciated the officers for their untiring efforts in taking forward the Module to a new height. The Module performed exceedingly well in different parameters contributed significantly by the officers across the Module.

Comrade Soumya Datta in his welcome speech briefed about the various achievements of the Association at the federation level as well as the present status and impediments in respect of salary negotiation. He reiterated that it is due to the constant persuasion at the federation level, the demonetization penalty of Rs 19 crore has been absorbed by the bank. This is, indeed, a commendable achievement. He congratulated AZC, Howrah for their sterling performance during the year 2018. But the days ahead are very challenging and we have to be more vigilant about what is happening in the banking industry. Merger of public sector banks has posed serious challenges in the very existence of public sector entities. We have to fight vehemently against this sinister move of the government involving people from all stratas of the society. He termed the incidence of sad and untimely demise of Comrade Soma Biswas and Comrade Ratnadeep Nayak as a wakeup call for the entire officers' community. He harped on the ethical work culture in SBI. Regarding the bipartite settlement, Comrade General Secretary reiterated that AIBOC will fight till a satisfactory wage settlement is reached. He also said until the fractured mandate issue is sorted out, AIBOC will not sit in the negotiation table. He called upon the members to make the strike call on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018 a grand success. He expressed his concern that some controllers were calling their officers on holidays, which is totally against the instruction of CMC. He hopes that AIBOC will be the face of protest and fight in the year 2019.

**Soumya Datta**  
General Secretary  
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The Business Session commenced with the pledge administered by Comrade President of the meeting AZC, Howrah. Then President requested the Chief Regional Secretary to place Annual Report and the Audited Statement of Accounts by Zonal Treasure before the house as per agenda. Comrade CRS then presented the Secretary's Report and the Zonal Treasurer placed the statement of accounts in the House for discussion and its approval.

Then the members were invited to express their views / comments on the report and statement of accounts placed before the House.

One of the comrades mentioned about the indiscriminate calling of officers on holidays to perform unnecessary duties which could be done on weekdays had there been adequate number of staff/officers in the branches. This unwarranted calling on one pretext or the other tells upon the mental health and family life of the officers. Lok Adalats are being fixed on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of the month thus depriving the members from their legitimate holidays. Comrade General Secretary assured the members by saying that he had personally taken up the matter of Lok Adalats being slated on second / fourth Saturdays, with the appropriate authority.

Comrade M Chatterjee pointed out that a single-man Branch always ran the risk of fraud as the maker-checker concept may not always be adhered to there in. He supported the Secretary's Report and Statement of Accounts.

Comrade Bholanath Banerjee, the president of the meeting requested all the members present to work with utmost care and adhere to systems and procedures meticulously so as to obviate any untoward incidence in future.

Thereafter, Comrade CRS thanked the members for their interaction and responded suitably to the queries raised by them on the statement of accounts and report for the year 2018 as also other issues being faced by the members in the work place. Comrade Pyne reiterated that liaison should be maintained among the officers for their own well-being and also to avoid any further loss of life. Bank is trying to extend its vicious claws to engulf the family life with the burden of multifarious jobs and dispensing with the core business of the Bank. He also pointed out that a new transfer policy is in the offing which would usher in a new dawn as regards transfer Policy of Kolkata Circle. Special care has been taken in respect of transfer/postings of lady officers so as to ensure that lady officers are posted at a centre in proximity to their residence as far as possible. He reminded the members to abide by the instruction of the Association in regard to working on Saturdays / Sundays. Holidays are meant for passing with the family members.

Comrade President then asked the members whether they approve the Secretary's Report and Statement of Accounts. The members unanimously passed the reports by voice vote.

Comrade Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay, Deputy General Secretary, in his speech, invited all comrades to 12<sup>th</sup> January 2019 Circle Committee AGM to be held at Nazrul Manch. He mentioned that the current banking scenario is passing through a chaotic phase. Banking industry is now subjected to various challenges. He appealed to all the members to actively participate in the Agitation programme launched by AIBOC from 7/12/2018 to 21/12/2018 and make this programme a grand success. False news is being propagated from media that 5 days strike is there. But one has to counter it by mass postering, road shows and other means like social media against this false propaganda and garner support for this one day's strike. He told that the Circle Association is in the process of discussion with the management for arriving at an employee friendly and lady Officer friendly transfer policy. He expects that it would be finalized shortly. He shared one success story that the demonetization penalty has been reversed in all the cases. He reiterated that work life balance is dependent on successful manpower planning also. RACC or any HUB can't function properly until full manpower is given. He cited one example that the work related to Pre LCPC, AOF and other such works are not being considered in calculating manpower planning. He expressed his deep concern that the outsourced person who is selling Credit card is sitting inside the branch premises and uses the database of the bank. Thus the secrecy of the data is being compromised which may invite avoidable problems including loss of reputation. He urged upon all to fight united.

Comrade Partha Ghosh, Assistant Zonal Secretary offered vote of thanks to all and specially the authority of the Eastern Railway Institute, Howrah for their unwavering cooperation in making the meeting a grand success. The meeting came to an end with rendition of National Anthem.



**Soumya Datta**  
(General Secretary)