STATE BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION



(BENGAL CIRCLE)

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To All Members (Please Circulate)

We reproduce hereunder the Circular No. 28 dated 25.03.2019 issued by the General Secretary, All India State Bank Officers' Federation, the contents of which are self-explicit.

With revolutionary greetings,

Arlla

Soumya Datta (General Secretary)

To all our Affiliates / Members:

30TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SBIOA, NORTH EAST CIRCLE A MASSIVE PARTICIPATION – STUPENDOUS SHOW OF UNITY AND SOLIDARITY

More than 1600 comrades from the nooks and corners of the seven states of North East Circle had assembled in a fantastic manner to participate in their Annual General Meeting at Guwahati Medical College Auditorium in the city of Guwahati on 9th March, 2019. The Circle leadership and the Federation leadership along with the leaders of the fraternal organizations were present on the occasion. The continuous raising of the slogans by the militant members of the Circle Association along with their leaders set a solid foundation for the conduct of the 30th Annual General Meeting.

- 2. The Programme Co-ordinator Com.Gwanile Khing Rengma and Com Thangbiakching Tonsing welcomed Com D.K.Roy Choudhury, the President and Com Rupam Roy, the General Secretary of the Association on the dais. They welcomed all other dignitaries with flower bouquet, to the dais.
- 3. The dignitaries who were present on the dais included, Shri. Digmanu Gupta, General Manager North East Circle, Shri A.K.Singh, GM NW-I, North East Circle, Shekhar Srivastava GM, ZIO North East, Ashish Biswas, DGM&CDO North East Circle and other DGMs of Modules & LHO.
- 4. The dignitaries who were present on behalf of the organizations were Com Soumya Datta, General Secretary, AlBOC and President, AlSBOF & General Secretary, SBIOA, Bengal Circle, Com. Shatanjib Das, Vice President, All India Insurance Employees' Association, Com Ravinder Gupta, General Secretary, SBIOA, Delhi Circle, Com Sushil Ahuja, President SBIOA, Delhi Circle, Com S.K. Srinivas, General Secretary, SBIOA, Bangalore Circle, Com V.N. Nagesh, President, SBIOA Bangalore Circle, Com Ajit Kumar Mishra, General Secretary, SBIOA, Patna Circle, Com Pawan Kumar, General Secretary, SBIOA, Lucknow Circle, Com Ajay Saxena President, SBIOA, Lucknow Circle, Com Sanjeev Sablok, General Secretary, SBIOA, Bhopal Circle, Com Madan Kishore Jain, President, SBIOA, Bhopal Circle, Com Sanjay Kumar Sharma, President, SBIOA, Chandigarh Circle, Com Ajay K Gaipuria, Organising Secretary, SBIOA, Chandigarh Circle, Com. V.K.Bhalla, General Secretary, SBIOA, Jaipur Circle, Com Jakhar, President, SBIOA, Licknow, SBIOA, Jaipur Circle, Com G.R.Jaykrishnana, Secretary General, SBIOA, Kerala Circle, Com C.P. Krishnanandan, President, SBIOA, Kerala Circle, Com Sabuj Mistry, President, SBIOA, Bengal Circle, Com Mithun Dutta, Assistant Secretary, AISBOF, Com Shymanta Konwar, Dy. General Secretary, SBISA North East Circle and Com L.C. Mahanta Joint Secretary, SBIPA (NEC).
- 5. The programme was inaugurated by lighting the lamp by all the dignitaries present on the dais.
- 6. Com Rupam Roy, the General Secretary of the Circle Association rose to extend a warm welcome to the dignitaries and the members amidst thunderous applause and slogans from the members of the Circle Association. Com Rupam Roy, the youngest to lead the Circle and popular leader of North East Circle Association has served the organization for the last several years in various capacities before taking up the onerous responsibility of leading the Circle from the front. In his inaugural address, he deliberated on the role of the Bankers in national development and welfare of the common Citizenry. He congratulated the

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Officers for rendering efficient service for the Bank, for the nation and for our compatriots in general. He explained that Banking Sector has suffered from loss due to huge provisioning on NPAs, haircuts given to the corporate defaulters, write-offs and many other ill-defined policies of the government which has also impacted the decent wage hike for the officers irrespective of the fact that none of these losses are attributable to the work force. It is a great concern to see that when public sector banks are not allowed to do core business activities, our counterparts in the private sector are reaping the benefits and registering better market share. He expressed that we stand in a position where our nation's backbone i.e. the farmers are struggling to maintain their existence on this planet and suicide rate of the farmers is on the rise. We, as the responsible citizens of this great nation, are standing in helpless position. But a responsive trade union organization can't remain mute to all such ill-motivated design. He expressed that the merger of public sector Banks will see shrinking of space for Banking Sectors and job losses, and on the other hand it will give mileage to the private players to pose direct threat to our survival. He urged upon the members to be alert, active and united to deal with this emergency like situation and overcome all the challenges.

- 7. He once again welcomed all to the land of Devi Kamakhya where mighty Brahmaputra flows with untiring grace, the rare one-horned Rhino and greeneries that symbolizes the rich flora and fauna, the multicolored culture that depicts the unity in diversity, the conglomeration of seven states of the North Eastern Circle, popularly known as Seven Sisters.
- 8. Shri Digmanu Gupta, the General Manager, Network-II, North-East Circle was highly impressed with the wonderful conduct of the meeting. He also expressed his thanks to the Circle leadership for giving him an opportunity to participate in the General Meeting of the Association. He congratulated all the officers of the Circle for their achievements. He explained their concern for good ambiance and best working environment at the branches where they spent most of the time. He urged the officers to involve and bring in attitudinal change, eagerness for contribution, flexible behaviour which increases the brand value and acceptability in the society. He appealed all to ensure compliances while doing business to reduce the risk. He appealed everyone to contribute whole heartedly to take the State Bank of India to greater heights. He wished all the success for the Annual General Body Meeting.
- 9. Ajay Kumar Singh, the General Manager, Network-I, North-East Circle, explained on the important role of Association for welfare of the members. Our Bank is very fortunate for having the positive Associations who help to grow as a whole and worked as a family and a team. He acknowledged that the good and innovative ideas & suggestions were always welcome by the management and our Bank is always ready to give any kind of support and facility to their staff.
- 10. Shri Sekhar Srivastava, the General Manager, ZIO Guwahati, was highly impressed with the SBIOA School at Guwahati managed by Circle Association. He congratulated the association functionaries for their achievement of 100% medical facility, executive health check up for MMGS-II officials. He wished for upcoming decent wage revision which would includes compassionate appointment, NPS related issues and others. He expressed that work life balance has to be managed by every officer on his own.
- 11. Com. Soumya Datta, General Secretary of the All India Bank Officers' Confederation & the President of our Federation, a popular leader of entire Banking fraternity in India, known for his powerful oratory skills and a militant leader who has served the organizations in various capacities was greeted with thunderous applause and slogans from the members. He congratulated and complimented the membership from the nooks and corner of the Circle for such a wonderful gathering as a mark of unity and solidarity. He also congratulated the Circle for conducting the excellent meeting first time after completion of election.
- 12. He expressed that federation has escalated each and every macro level issues before management e.g. the Circular on Cross Selling addressed to our Chairman is the eye opener for all. So many issues have been taken up with the management in last 8 months tenure of the General Secretary of Federation, Com Ramkumar Sabapathy. He expressed that penalty of joint custodian during the period of demonetization, at the time of Rs.19.20 Crores has been written off due to the intervention of the federation. 100% medical benefit for family members, re-introduction of REMBS for pensioners, executive health checkup for officer MMGS-II, Staff loans of e-Associate Bank officers, Staff incentives, Scholar loan for staff members and issue related to Bharatiya Mahila Bank.
- **13.** During implementation of vacation policy of bank, many officers are called during vacation due to lack of planning, 4-in-1 has been stopped and on continuous follow up their number has been reduced drastically.

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The federation has already issued a circular on staff NPA which is an enigma. He shared that Federation has taken up many improvements including the Lease rental facility and is hopeful that the improvements will be released soon. He shared that the circular on Work Life Balance is not implemented in true letter and spirit as 15 to 18% of officers across the Circles attended offices on 2nd & 4th Saturday /Sundays and appealed the members to bring about the required changes in themselves so that they can have a perfect work life balance. He shared that as per the feedback received; the Shortage of manpower and the disproportionate pressure for cross selling is leading to frustration amongst the young officers. He demanded that the Management should take necessary steps against the humiliation and ill treatment of officers by the controllers lest it will lead to frustration and the productivity in the Bank will be largely affected. Today, the young officers have low level of tolerance and they need to be supported emotionally by the Management.

- 14. He appealed the membership to work as family and expressed that merger was a disaster in Banking Industry. When the Associates of SBI merged with SBI and New Bank of India merged with PNB, continuous losses in the balance sheets of the Banks have been declared by both the Banks. He appealed the membership to stand firm and not to allow the process of merger in order to save public sectors and stated that, AIBOC has opposed the decision of merger of PSBs. In 1969, the year of Bank nationalization, there were 8261 number of branches in the country whereas in 2019, 14000+ branches are functioning throughout the country, Merger is against the national interest and we will fight against the merger. He explained at length the grounds on which the Confederation had to take a decision to call a strike in the banking industry. He also emphasized the stand of the Confederation against the ill-advised decision of the Government in regard to merger of Vijaya Bank, Dena Bank and Bank of Baroda which was uncalled for. Narrating the reasons for the stalemate in the talks of salary revision, he explained that after submission of Charter of Demands in May 2018, talks are not moving in the right direction as five banks have given restricted mandate. We are demanding the pay equal to Central Govt. officers but there is an attempt to divide us, which will not be allowed. IBA wants to bring performance linked pay which is linked to growth of the concerned bank in terms of Operating Profit and Return on Assets. He wanted the membership to stand up to the occasion and fight against the injustice rather than suffering in silence.
- 15. He congratulated and complimented the membership for such a wonderful gathering as a mark of unity and solidarity and for making the rally in Delhi on February 4th a grand success. He further stated that the Pension is not updated since long and issues of Pensioners including the Family Pensioners need to be addressed to ensure a honourable and peaceful living after retirement. He explained that there no provision of family pension in National Pension System (NPS). The issue of appointment of Workmen and Officer Director in the board is still pending even after the court directions, which is a matter of concern for the banking industry. He wished all the best to North-East Circle comrades for their General Body Meeting and urged to be united for survival.
- 16. Com Shatanjib Das, Vice President, All India Insurance Association, a veteran leader was delighted to see the huge number of young faces in the hall to attend the meeting. He expressed the concern where trade union movement has lack of Y-Gen members but today's meeting will surely throw a new hope for the movement in trade union in future. He expressed the ill defined policies of Government where Corporate loot in Public Sector Banks causes the NPA figures more than 10 lac crores. The PSB has earned 5,89,389 Crores operating profit in last Four and half years, but due to high provision the Govt shows the losses in Banking Industry. He wished all the success for the Annual General Meeting of the Circle.
- 17. Ravindar Gupta, thanked the leadership for giving him an opportunity to join and address that big gathering. He gave the slogans for all the states of North East. He appreciated the efforts of the General Secretary of the Circle to raise the issue of updation of allowances of North Eastern states in front of DFS and IBA and committed to resolve the issue which is very close to his heart. On the issue of appointment of officer's Director in the Bank's Board he narrated that the court case has already been filed and which is pending in Delhi High court. The leadership of AIBOC cares for all the issues of Officers' fraternity & will fight for them. The massive rally at Delhi, the success of nation wise strike, signature campaign, Dharnas make enormous impact in trade union movements. Our demand is very much clear that in our wage negotiation talk and wage should be fixed Upto Scale-VII as per recommendation of Pillai Committee.
- 18. He described some of the past achievements of our federation such as 100% medical benefit to family members, re-introduction of REMBS. He informed that Corporate Centre has already issued a letter and

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SOP on staff NPA accounts. He expressed that National Pension System defined the contribution but has not defined the losses and the family pension. We the Bankers do our best complete the targets of the Govt such as Jan Dhan Yojana, Mudra Loan, Adhaar Seeding, Govt. Insurance scheme whereas our demands have always been ignored by the Government. He urged the members to keep updating knowledge to avoid the un-ethical work pressure by the controllers. He wished all the best for Annual General Meeting of the Circle.

- 19. Com Samanta Gogoi, DGS Staff Union, State Bank Staff Union North East Circle expressed his thanks to the Circle leadership for giving him an opportunity to participate in the Annual General Meeting of the Association. He urged upon the members to be united for a better wage revision and wished all the success to North East Circle for their Annual General Body Meeting.
- 20. L.C. Mohanta Joint General Secretary, SBIPA, North East Circle conveyed good wishes for the Pensioners on behalf of the Pensioners Association and desired that Federation/Confederation should address the issues of pensioners. He congratulated AIBOC for taking the pensioner issues seriously. On behalf of pensioners, he wished all the best and assured fraternal support in future also.
- 21. Dilip Roy Chowdhury congratulated the entire membership for electing them and give an opportunity to serve the militant members of North East Circle. He described the brief history of North East Circle and Circle Association. The formation of the Circle which is due to peculiar geographical structure of the Circle, started with 99 branches in 1981 and presently more than 750 branches and administrative offices are functioning in the circle.
- 22. Comrades, the 30th Annual General Meeting of North-East Circle Association will be recorded in the golden letters in the history of the Circle Association for the militant and exemplary show of unity. It also revived the spirit in the collective action to ensure success in all our future struggles. The memories of the meeting will remain in our hearts for a long time to come.

With greetings,

(RAMKUMAR SABAPATHY) GENERAL SECRETARY

Soumya Datta General Secretary Mobile : 9830044737