

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)

GENERAL MEETING SBIOA(BENGAL CIRCLE) HELD ON 25. 05. 2019

AT KOLKATA UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE AUDITORIUM

A General Meeting of SBIOA (Bengal Circle) was held with an enormous gathering of about 1012 members, esteemed leaders and former leaders of Federation, SBIOA seniors, comrades of different affiliates and the spouses of the Federation leaders. The stage of the meeting was well decorated and every endeavor was made to present the meeting with a commendable dimension.

At the outset, heart touching songs were performed by Com Baisali Mitra (Mallick), a member of "Srijan", the cultural wing of SBIOA (Bengal Circle).

The meeting was anchored by Com Indranil Pyne, Chief Regional Secretary, SBIOA(Bengal Circle), Administrative Zonal committee, Howrah and Com Prabir Sorkhel, Assistant Secretary, SBIOA (Bengal Circle) who presented a brief significance of the meeting. The anchors then proceeded to invite Circle President, Com Asitava Kundu and General Secretary, Com Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay to the dais who received the leaders on the dais. Thereafter, Com G. Subramanyam, Chairman AISBOF, General Secretary, SBIOA (Hyderabad Circle); Com Sambit Misra, President, AISBOF, General Secretary, SBIOA (Bhubaneswar Circle), Com Soumya Datta, General Secretary, AIBOC, General Secretary, AISBOF; Com S.K. Srinivas, Jt General Secretary, AISBOF, General Secretary, SBIOA (Bangalore Circle); Com Sunil Shinde, Jt General Secretary, AISBOF, General Secretary SBIOA (Mumbai Circle); Com D.T.Franco Rajendra Dev, Former General Secretary, AIBOC, Former President AISBOF; Com Ramkumar Sabapathy, Former General Secretary, AISBOF; Com Samir Kumar Mukherjee, Former Officer Director Central Board, State Bank of India, Former General Secretary, SBIOA (N. E. Circle); Com Bibekananda Das, Former Dy. General Secretary, AISBOF, Former President, SBIOA (Bhubaneswar Circle) were called upon the dais by the anchors.

The meeting started after lighting the ceremonial lamp by the distinguished leaders and many SBIOA seniors.

Thereafter, Circle President, Com Asitava Kundu and General Secretary, Com Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay felicitated the leaders on the dais and their spouses by offering flower bouquet and memento. Shri Rangarajan Komanduru, Deputy General Manager (B&O), Howrah Module was present in the meeting and he was also felicitated by the General Secretary, SBIOA (Bengal Circle).

The meeting was then presided over by Com Asitava Kundu, Circle President, who read out the notice of the meeting and requested General Secretary to deliver the welcome address.

Thereafter, Com Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay, General Secretary, SBIOA (Bengal Circle), gave a warm welcome to all the leaders, guests and members present in the house. In his maiden speech General Secretary, SBIOA (Bengal Circle), Com Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay, expressed his gratitude to the house for his new assignment and asked for their support. At the same time he appealed to the house to be united showing solidarity of the association and sought cooperation from all to keep the flag of the Association high.

He mentioned 24.05.2019 as a "Red Letter Day" in the history of Circle Association when the long waited Circle Transfer Policy was finalized and handed over to Association by the Circle Management after twenty eight years. He especially expressed his gratitude to Com Soumya Datta, General Secretary, AIBOC and General Secretary AISBOF, the central committee who reposed faith on him by handing over the baton of the Circle Association yesterday. He expressed his gratitude and thanks to Com Soumya Datta who was the guide and master mind to formulate the historic Circle Transfer Policy. He also assured his fullest devotion for the cause of membership.

Thereafter, Com President of the meeting invited the leaders on the dais to deliver their valuable speech to the house.

Com G. Subramanyam, Chairman AISBOF, General Secretary, SBIOA (Hyderabad Circle), in his address to the august house, expressed his appreciation to the senior leaders present in the house along with their better halves. He was

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Mobile : 8001194340

State Bank of India Officers' Association

(BENGAL CIRCLE)

: 2 :

happy to mention that the new Circle President and General Secretary have already started their journey with the new Circle Transfer Policy. He praised Com Soumya Datta who had taken Bengal Circle to a great height. He highlighted the various anti people policies and the policies of the Government to dismantle the public sector. He expressed his concerns over various issues like shortage of manpower, low promotion from clerical cadre to JMGS-I, CDS, Corporate NPAs, Risk of Advance etc. He appreciated the initiatives of the previous leadership in combating the threat of the Government to the PSBs. Appraising the introduction of "People's Parliament" by Com D. T. Franco, he opined that mass support needed to be gathered to fight against the Govt.'s anti people policy. He expressed his confidence that AIBOC and AISBOF would be led in the right direction under the leadership of Com Soumya Datta. He also appreciated the action and the initiatives of Com Ram Kumar Sabapathy during his short tenure as General Secretary of the mighty Federation.

Com Sambit Misra, president AISBOF, General Secretary, SBIOA (Bhubaneswar Circle) expressed his satisfaction over the activities of AIBOC by its previous leader Com Franco who made AIBOC, a symbol of fight for justice. He mentioned the movement against FRDI Bill, People's Parliament etc. He is confident that the new leadership will carry forward the struggle to a new height. He mentioned that our goal was to make the officers happy in all respect. He remembered the contributions of senior leaders who had worked relentlessly in this direction. He said that the members remained the main strength of the organization and the fight would continue with united efforts to achieve and protect our interest.

Com S.K Srinivas, Jt. General Secretary, AISBOF, General Secretary, SBIOA (Bangalore Circle), appreciated the Trade Union movement of Bengal Circle. He reminded the movement and strike for 17 days in 1969 just to get the right to have casual leave by the officers. He apprehended the immediate threats of merger of Banks and privatization of PSUs by the newly Government. He presented a strong argument against privatization citing the failure of Jet Airways and other private companies. He urged upon appointment of Officer Member into the Board of Directors of the Bank.

Com Sunil Shinde, Jt General Secretary, AISBOF, General Secretary SBIOA (Mumbai Circle) apprised the house about the challenges faced by the Associations in recent times. He mentioned the challenges to improve upon the pathetic service condition of the officers, stalemate position of wage revision, creation and development of new and young leaders for future days. To depict the pathetic working condition of the officers, he cited a living example that 60 % of the clerical staff were opting out to become JMGS-I or TO. He stressed on fighting and struggling, unity and solidarity and devotion and dedication towards associations to survive and sustain in future days.

In his address to the august house, Com D T F Rajendra Dev, former General Secretary, AIBOC and former president of AISBOF, felt proud of Bengal Circle, especially Com Soumya Datta who was leading from forefront with his dedication, intelligence and uncompromising fighting instinct to achieve the goal. He deliberated that leaders should always be vigilant, alert and smart to counter the unexpected threats and challenges coming either from the management or from the government, in any form. He ratified the actions and functioning of Com Soumya Dutta, present G.S of AIBOC, who had been fighting in the right direction, be it in the issue of wage revision, scrapping of NPS, against merger of PSBs, protesting against non-payment of salary to the employees of BSNL etc. He emphasized on the importance of maintaining PSUs in our Country. Citing the example of our success in withdrawing FRDI bill, he encouraged the members to fight and fight to get the ultimate success. He expressed his confidence that under the leadership of Com Soumya Dutta, the AIBOC & AISBOF would reach to a new height and the members would get their due justice. He praised for the wise decision of Com Datta for relinquishing the post of General Secretary of the Circle Association and handing over the mantle to the younger generation. He advised the young generation to read more and be educated to raise their voice and fight and also handed over a Book to Com Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay, General Secretary, SBIOA (Bengal Circle).

Com Ramkumar Sabapathy, former General Secretary, AISBOF appreciated Com Soumya Datta for giving chance to the younger generation, for developing future leaders and handing over the baton of General Secretary of the Circle Association to Com Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay who remained very hard working and a dedicated comrade and soldier of the association. He evaluated Com Soumya Datta as a leader having a perfect blend of militancy and intelligence. He thanked and appreciated the act of Com Datta when he decided to walk out and boycott the Bi-partite talks with IBA as our major demands of mandate for the officers upto Scale-VII and updation/revision of pension/family pension, were not resolved. Com Sabapathy mentioned that during his short period of nine months as General Secretary, AISBOF, he had given his best for the cause of members. He highlighted some achievements of Federation during his tenure like 100% Medical Reimbursement for treatment of family members, reduction of premium on Health Insurance of retired employees, release of Transfer Order of 4500 officers on ICT etc. He praised all the comrades of Bengal Circle for providing him enormous support in functioning his business in effective manner. He advised all to give feedback in CDS pointing out the flaws in it honestly.

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General Secretary

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State Bank of India Officers' Association

(BENGAL CIRCLE)

: 3 :

Com Samir Kumar Mukherjee, former Officer Director Central Board, State Bank of India & former General Secretary SBIOA, N E Circle, praised the initiatives and actions of Com D.T. Franco for restoring and bringing back the position of General Secretary, AIBOC in the hands of leaders of SBI. He praised Com Sabapathy who during his short tenure as General Secretary, AISBOF, could achieve a lot for the members. He also expressed his words of praise for the courage and conviction of Com Soumya Datta who dared to boycott the Bi-partite talks for the right and just cause. He wished all the best for the new General Secretary and President of our Circle Association, Com Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay and Com Asitava Kundu respectively.

Com Bibekananda Das, former Dy. General Secretary, AISBOF, former President, SBIOA, Bhubaneswar Circle, praised and thanked all the members of Bengal Circle for their union activities. He expressed that the members of Bengal Circle Association had made Comrade Soumya Datta (as) General Secretary of AIBOC and AISBOF because of their commitment, hard work, struggle and devotion towards the association activities. He advised the members to follow the instructions of the leaders to strengthen the hands of the leaders to achieve more and more benefits for them. He wished that new combination of President and General Secretary would be able to give lot more to the members. For greater cause, he advised to sacrifice a little to gain more in the long run. He reminded not to work on holidays without proper requisition.

Com President of the meeting then invited Com Soumya Datta, General Secretary, AIBOC, General Secretary, AISBOF, to address the house.

Before his deliberation to the house, Com Soumya Datta, General Secretary, AIBOC, General Secretary, AISBOF, handed over the flag of the Circle Association to Com Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay, General Secretary, SBIOA (Bengal Circle) as a mark of handing over the baton of the Circle association to new leadership. He reposed full confidence on the new leadership of Circle Association, According to him the baton has been handed over to the new functionaries who are capable enough to run the Circle Association efficiently. He expressed that New Circle Transfer Policy would remain as a land mark for the Circle Association for which he congratulated Com Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay, General Secretary, SBIOA (Bengal Circle) who played a pivotal role in this regard. The policy has taken care of all the concerns of the officers especially, lady officers, officers of hilly areas, senior most officers (of old age), officers having sickness of self & family etc.

He rejoiced the memorable feelings of working with the senior leaders with whom he worked during last several years in AIBOC, AISBOF and Circle Association. He expressed gratitude to them. He thanked all the leaders on the dais for their support which had made possible for him to assume the office of AIBOC & AISBOF as General Secretary. At the same time, he acknowledged and placed on record the noteworthy and significant sacrifices of the better halves of the leaders without which the leaders were not be able to render their best for the cause of membership.

He highlighted various issues for which AISBOF and AIBOC was fighting against Govt. and Management. He emphasized on the need of being united to organize the battle against the anti-people policies of the management and government combine. He reminded the house to be in readiness for the battles ahead on the issues of wage revision, updating of pension and family pension, scrapping of NPS, miss-selling of third party products which was eating away our core business, merger of PSBs, privatization of PSUs etc. He urged on fighting shoulder to shoulder coming out in the street to gather public support to retain our legitimate rights as well as to protect public interest. Advising all to work in unison and carry forward the legacy of the Circle Association, he ended his speech with a huge round of applause from the house.

Before concluding the meeting, Circle President, Com Asitava Kundu President offered thanks to all members present today, all dignitaries from other Circles and SBIOA seniors. The meeting finally concluded with the rendition of the National Anthem.

Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay
(General Secretary)

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