# STATE BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION



#### (BENGAL CIRCLE)

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

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Circular No. 142/2019 Date : 20.11.2019

#### To All Members (Please Circulate)

We reproduce hereunder the Circular No. 105 dated 20.11.2019 issued by the General Secretary, All India State Bank Officers' Federation, the contents of which are self-explicit.

With revolutionary greetings,

Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay (General Secretary)

To all our Affiliates / Members:

Dear Comrades,

## 7th Triennial General Council (General Body) Meeting of SBIOA – Kerala Circle Yet another show of Unity and Might by Officers' fraternity

All roads led to Tagore Theatre, Thiruvananthapuram on 9<sup>th</sup> Nov, the venue where the 7<sup>th</sup> Triennial General Council meeting of our affiliate SBIOA (Kerala Circle) was held. Massive congregation of officers, well-wishers, veterans and fraternity of trade unions descended on the venue. This is yet another show of the legacy, militancy and passion for which the comrades of our Kerala state are known for. It was a mighty show of trade unionism and its spirit.

- 2. The General Council meeting commenced with hoisting of the flag of SBIOA by the President, General Secretary of SBIOA (Kerala Circle) in the august presence of the Chairman and General Secretary of Federation, office bearers of Kerala Affiliate and the Presidents and General Secretaries of other affiliates of AISBOF. The venue reverberated with thunderous slogans, raising the passion of trade unionism in each member present on the occasion. Over 2000 delegates attended the General Council Meeting. More endearing to us was the significant presence of women and youth, infusing the conference with vigour and vitality. This was the biggest conglomeration of bank officers in Thiruvananthapuram and SBIOA Kerala could proudly showcase the strength, unity and commitment of officers' fraternity to the world at large.
- 3. The General Council was inaugurated by lighting the lamp by the leadership present on the dais which included the President and General Secretary of SBIOA (KC), Com Ravinder Gupta, Chairman, AISBOF, Shri Mrigendra Lal Das, CGM and the General Managers, DGM & CDO of the Circle, leaders from Trade Union fraternity and Presidents and General Secretaries of SBIOA from our affiliates from various Circles and the undersigned. Com Jayakrishnan, General Secretary, SBIOA Kerala Circle, welcomed the gathering. He touched upon importance of the General Council in the present scenario in the backdrop of privatisation and the bank's mega mergers. He reminded that 2019 was not only the 50th year of Nationalisation of Banks but also the 50th year of the historic "Indefinite Strike" and that the legacy of nationalisation must be strongly upheld at all costs. He expressed his fear that the mega mergers might pave the way for back door entry of private players.
- 4. Com V K Premachandran, President, SBIOA (KC), in his presidential address emphasised the need for unity today. He stated that the mega mergers are a threat to nationalisation. He reminded that even during the global economic recession, it was the PSB's that stood firm because of their nationalised stature.
- 5. Sri. Mrigendra Lal Das, CGM of the Circle, highlighted the strength of the Bank post-merger and said that we must strive to maintain the market share and retain the Bank as 'the most preferred Bank' in the hearts of the people of Kerala and remain as the local bank of the state.

Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay General Secretary

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(BENGAL CIRCLE)

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- 6. Com Ravinder Gupta, Chairman, AISBOF, in his address reiterated the need of unity and militancy to cope up with the present scenario. He also reminded that we were conducting the conference in the golden jubilee year of Nationalisation and indefinite strike.
- 7. The undersigned delivered the key note address and inaugurated circle new web portal with site address www.sbioakc.org. In his address, he reiterated the need for the officers to have a good work life balance. He elaborated on the national issues faced and the action taken by AIBOC against bank mergers. He also updated on the various issues, including working environment, which Federation has been pursuing. Regarding wage revision, he explained the nuances of the issues, the apathy of IBA and the Government and assured that AIBOC would not sign the agreement unless a decent wage hike is offered with 5 Day Week.
- 8. Com. Abraham Shaji John, Secretary, AIBOC Kerala State and Com. A Raghavan, Gen Sec, SBSU also addressed the gathering. He said that SBIOA (KC) represents 30% of the strength of officers in the State and as such they play very important role in the State.
- 9. Veterans of both SBIOA (KC) and erstwhile ABOA-SBT, who built the organization, brick by brick, infused passion and militancy and made the merged SBIOA (KC) a mighty and militant organization, were felicitated on the occasion.
- 10. Com V Gopakumar, DGS Thiruvananthapuram Convenor, Reception Committee extended a very hearty vote of thanks to all.
- 11. Comrades, the General Council meeting at Thiruvananthapuram is yet another show of strength of supervisory trade unionism. The massive gathering, participation of jubilant lady and young comrades indicated the inner strength that we possess. It demonstrated the urge of the officers to be united. This also provided us an opportunity to interact with them, understand and get connected to the ground, to forge a bonding so that the trade unionism and the legacy flourishes and proliferates for the common good of the officers' fraternity, working class and the bank as well.
- 12. We congratulate our affiliate, SBIOA (Kerala Circle) and the vibrant comrades who made the General Council a huge success.

With revolutionary greetings

Yours Comradely

Soumya Datta General Secretary

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