

# STATE BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

## (BENGAL CIRCLE)

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

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Circular No. 36/2020

Date : 05.02.2020

### To All Members (Please Circulate)

We reproduce hereunder the Circular No. 26 dated 05.02.2020 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:

### COM KESHAV THAOKAR, FORMER GENERAL SECRETARY, SBIOA - MUMBAI CIRCLE BRAVE WARRIOR DEPARTS



We deeply regret to inform that Com. **Keshav D. Thaokar**, one of brave trade unionists, breathed his last on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020. Com. Thaokar, is the former General Secretary of SBIOA-Mumbai Circle, known for his fighting spirits. He was ill for the past few months and passed away on the day the bankers were on strike!

Com. Thaokar, born on 13th September 1952 in a modest family, had imbibed the values and inspiration from his parents. His father was a school teacher. He always proudly remembered that his house was like Gandhi's Ashram where the career of many future leaders was shaped.

Com. Thaokar, joined the Bank as Rural Development Officer in the year 1982, shouldered many challenging responsibilities which include, AGM (Core Banking), AGM (ATM) & AGM (PPG). He also handled the Credit Portfolio and Forex at Industrial Finance Branch, Pune and was a successful faculty too. His passion for perfection won many accolades for the successful migration of critical Branches like CAG, FD Kolkata. Mumbai Main MGC Branches to Core Banking Solutions. His proactive role as AGM (ATM) to resolve the Cash replenishment was helpful to Officers, Customers and the Bank. His in-depth studies and understanding of the issues helped the Bank as well as the Association in resolving many issues. He commanded respect of all officers due to innovative skills in resolving issues.

He entered the Association as Dy. General Secretary of SBIOA (Mumbai Circle) under the leadership of Com. Himmat Mahant in the year 2003. Com. Thaokar with his unflinching commitment and devotion to serve the members never looked back. He was elected as President and General Secretary of the Mumbai Circle in the year 2006 and 2010 respectively. He was known for his transparency and financial discipline. His passion for perfection resulted in SBI Officers' Cooperative Credit Society and two schools to record outstanding results and development. It was during his tenure that the Guest Houses at Nagpur and Shirdi came up in record time and he was instrumental in setting up the state of Art, SBOA Training Academy at Nagpur. He encouraged the Staff of Association and the two schools and was instrumental in bringing about qualitative change in the results of the schools and ensured that the Gratuity of staff by through insurance policy with LIC. The absorption of Contract Officers (RMROs/CREs), timely repatriation of JMGS-I officers on completion of two years and posting in the same Region on Promotion to JMGS I are few amongst the many admirable achievements of Com. Thaokar.

Bravery and the mettle of Com. Thaokar was demonstrated during the turbulent years. He was one of the officers charge sheeted during the year 2012 for carrying out peaceful demonstration opposing 7 days Banking announced by the then Chairman. He stood undeterred. He preferred to sacrifice for the cause of members and dared the action initiated by Bank under OSR Provisions - 19/3 and was unmoved by these vindictive actions of the Management. We recollect his parting address to the members on 29.09.2012- **"SBI is the greatest institution and I will continue to love the Bank. I have nothing against the Bank and appealed the members to keep the flag of the Bank flying high. The repeated attempts of some of the top officials to cause harm to the Bank by their self-centered actions resulting in strained Industrial Relations in the Bank must be defeated"**.

We remember and respect Com Thaokar. The implementation of holiday on second and fourth Saturday indeed justified the stand of the Federation and must have definitely brought solace to the victimized leaders like Com. Thaokar. He was destined to fight till his last breath which happened to be the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of strike called by United Forum of Bank's Unions (UFBU) on the various issues including 5 day banking. The implementation of 5 day banking will be a befitting tribute to the leader like Com. Thaokar and other leaders who sacrificed their life for the betterment of officers' fraternity.

Com. Thaokar, a brave soldier did not allow the illness to kill his zeal, enthusiasm and fighting spirit. With Com. Thaokar's demise, we have lost our mentor, guide, a well-wisher, a true friend and a great warrior. We will miss his guidance and support in all our endeavors.

We dip our banner in sorrow. Our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. We will be standing by his bereaved family consisting of his spouse, Smt Lata Thaokar and children, Pawan, Kanchan and Kiran to face the situation boldly.

Comradely yours,

(Soumya Datta)  
General Secretary



**Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay**

General Secretary

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