

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)

40TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF STATE BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION (BENGAL CIRCLE), ADMINISTRATIVE ZONAL COMMITTEE KOLKATA HELD ON 31ST JANUARY, 2021 AT GYAN MANCHA, 11, PRETORIA STREET, ELGIN, KOLKATA- 700071

The 40th Annual General Meeting of SBI Officers' Association (Bengal Circle), Administrative Zonal Committee, Kolkata was held on January 31st, 2021 (Sunday). It started amidst loud slogans with hoisting of the Flag of State Bank of India Officers' Association 10:30 am by Shri Sidhartha Sankar Dash, Deputy General Manager (B&O), Comrade Soumya Datta, General Secretary AIBOC & AISBOF along with Comrade Asitava Kundu, President SBIOA (Bengal Circle), the undersigned, in presence of other leadership, SBIOA seniors and general members.

The Open Session started at 11:00 AM in presence of Comrade Asitava Kundu, President SBIOA (Bengal Circle), Comrade Soumya Datta, General Secretary AIBOC & AISBOF and the undersigned along with Shri Sidhartha Sankar Dash, Deputy General Manager (B&O), Comrade Sabuj Mistry, Vice-President SBIOA (Bengal Circle), Comrade Arun Kumar Roy, Deputy General Secretary SBIOA (Bengal Circle), Comrade Subhas Chandra Mondal, Deputy General Secretary SBIOA (Bengal Circle), Comrade Barun Kumar Das, Asst General Secretary (Kolkata), and Comrade Amit De Sarkar, Secretary SBI Pensioners' Association Kolkata. It was anchored by Comrade Arunima Ghosh and Comrade Manas Ghosh. In remembrance to our very own Comrade Pranab Kr De and Com Kamal Sundar Basu, who left us untimely last year, the dais was declared as "**COMRADE PRANAB KUMAR DE MANCHA**" and the venue was declared as "**COMRADE KAMAL SUNDAR BASU NAGAR**". The cultural wing of Kolkata Module under "Srijan" delivered a heart touching programme with patriotic songs to commemorate the 125th Birth anniversary of Great Leader Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Thereafter, the dignitaries were welcomed with uttario and saplings by the module president and Chief Regional Secretary.

Comrade Ranga Nath Sanyal, Chief Regional Secretary, in his address, extended a hearty welcome to all the dignitaries on and off the dais, leaders of the Central Committee along with leaders who have joined from other Modules and all comrades present in the meeting.

Then Comrade Arunima Ghosh invited Smt. Nipa Datta, wife of our beloved Comrade Soumya Datta to felicitate Smt. Rama Mitter, the wife of Late Nani Mitter who was associated with the AZAD HIND FAUZ in freedom fighting Struggle. The auditorium was charged with the slogan "jai Hind" given by Smt. Mitter.

On being invited by the anchor, Shri Sidhartha Sankar Dash, Deputy General Manager (B&O), explained the leadership qualities displayed by our National Hero - NETAJI. He said that there were different traits of leadership and NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE was an exemplary. Shri Dash told that if we were able to lead ourselves from inside, then it would become easy to lead outside. It would give immense courage to lead righteous path. He ended his speech by saying "JAI HIND".

Comrade Manas Ghosh then invited Comrade Soumya Datta, General Secretary, AIBOC and AISBOF to address the house. Comrade Datta started his speech with "JAI HIND". He congratulated the Administrative Zonal Committee for the enthused patriotism imbibed from the cultural program and slogan given by Smt. Rama Mitter. He also congratulated the leadership for conducting such meaningful AGM. He narrated that all were jubilant on the success of the historic Wage Revision but at the same time, we had to face the grave reality of certain facts. He informed the house that 207 members of the banking fraternity succumbed to pandemic in the last year itself. Their families had to struggle with meagre pension amount which in any circumstance was not sufficient for a decent survival. He urged on compassionate appointment of family members of these victims and also a voluntary contribution in every month through HRMS to build up a corpus for benefit of all the families in such cases.

He appraised the module DGM(B&O) who played instrumental role in changing the atmosphere in Zonal Office, Kolkata by building a close relationship. He then briefly narrated the herculean task of accomplishing the Wage Revision. He stressed to be respectful to peers and subordinates to reach the targets. Atmosphere must be created for congenial

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development of professionalism and inter-personal relationship. He congratulated President and General Secretary of SBIOA (Bengal Circle) for carrying out yeomen work during pandemic. He was also happy with the direction in which SBIOA (Bengal Circle) is going under the leadership of present President and General Secretary. He awared that in this Union Budget privatisation of public sector banks could be announced. The corporate houses are targeting the control of the banks. Using the platform of the AZC meeting, he gave a call to unite and march forward with renewed vigour to oppose the anti-people policies of the government and management as the future of Indian Banking system is at stake. We should prepare ourselves to launch a decisive battle against the policies.

Thereafter, Comrade Soumya Datta felicitated Comrade Sisir Ranjan Ghosh, former Regional Secretary of Region-I, Comrade Gopal Chandra Chakraborty, former Chief Regional Secretary of Kolkata module and explained their contributions to our common members, Association and Bank. Comrade Datta also felicitated Comrade Ajit Kumar Chattopadhyay, former Vice-President of SBIOA (Bengal Circle) whose formulation of pay scales and load factor is legendary among all and also for extending his assistance for Fitment Correction Campaign organised by SBIOA (Bengal Circle).

A replica of the **pen which was** used to sign the Historic 8th Joint Note by our beloved Comrade Soumya Datta was gifted as love and respect by Team Kolkata.

Comrade Amit De Sarkar, Secretary of SBIPA, Kolkata, expressed his gratitude for being invited in the meeting. He shared his feelings and requested the members to maintain a cordial relationship with the pensioners when they would go to the branch. With this Open Session concluded and the anchors handed over the stage to the Zonal President, Comrade Somnath Mukherjee for conducting the business session of the meeting.

President of the Module Comrade Somnath Mukherjee started the business session with recitation of the Pledge of SBIOA (Bengal Circle). Then Zonal President invited the Chief Regional Secretary to present his Annual Report to the house.

Comrade Ranga Nath Sanyal, Chief Regional Secretary, AZC, Kolkata Module, presented his annual report by reading out salient portions before the house observed one minute silence as a mark of respect to those who left the world during the period under report.

At the request of the president of the meeting, the Statement of Accounts was read out by Zonal Treasurer Comrade Asis Kumar Sinha.

The following 4 comrades delivered their views on the report:

1. Comrade Soureek Roy Sarkar of Vivekananda Road Branch supported the Secretary's report and audited Statement of Accounts. He expressed his displeasure about the working of our digital/technological products, the branches face difficulties on a regular basis.
2. Comrade Pratik Rai of SME Park Street Branch accepted the Secretary's Report and audited Statement of Accounts and expressed grievances for handling huge no of files by each AMT putting themselves under undue pressure which would give rise to non-compliance of RFIA and Credit Audit.
3. Comrade Abhijeet Ghosh of RACPC Rajarhat started his speech by supporting the Secretary's Report and audited Statement of Accounts. He urged upon to maintain work life balance in true sense.
4. Comrade Daisy Saha (FIMM, LHO Kolkata) accepted the Secretary's Report and audited Statement of Accounts. She reiterated the fact of mounting pressures on officers while the manpower is decreasing over years. She appealed to come forward to help each other in the hour of need and share responsibilities at the time of medical emergencies.

Then DGM Sir again offered some views on the issues raised by the members.

Chief Regional Secretary Kolkata Module replied on the views by the 4 comrades suitably.

The house unanimously accepted the Annual Report and Audited Statement of Accounts.

In terms miscellaneous Agenda, Comrade Barun Kumar Das, Asst General Secretary (Kolkata Module), greeted the members present in the house. He added that the Association leadership under the guidance of President and General Secretary of SBIOA (Bengal Circle) worked tirelessly to provide medical support including masks, sanitizers, gloves, medicines at the odd hours.

Comrade Arun Kumar Roy, Deputy General Secretary, SBIOA (Bengal Circle), urged all young comrades to join the Medical Team to fill up the vacuum created now. He informed all about the activities undertaken by the Circle leadership during Covid- 19 and Amphan.

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Comrade Asitava Kundu, President SBIOA (Bengal Circle), started his speech with greetings to DGM Sir and other dignitaries for their speech. He said that during the pandemic situation General Secretary and his team moved from door to door of various administrative offices to keep our members safe. The senior leadership of the association under the leadership of the General Secretary kept on meeting and writing letters to various tiers of administrative offices and bureaucrats demanding various measures to reduce the risk of contamination of COVID-19 to the officers. His relentless efforts could clinch in reducing the banking hours up to 2 P.M, 5-day banking in the month of August, 2020. Association was working closely and tirelessly to manage masks, sanitizers and hand gloves to the remote corners of the Circle at a time when these commodities were a rarity at the open market. He ended his speech with the apprehension that in the coming Union Budget PSU banks privatisation may be placed. He advised to stay united and oppose vehemently any such move by the government.

The undersigned started his speech with thunderous slogans of "Inquilab Zindabad" from enthusiastic members. He stated that the Wage Revision that took place last year was historic. He informed the house that after the tremendous success of the Wage Revision, the senior leadership of the Association is not sitting idle rather discussion is going on regarding compassionate recruitment, 4-in-1 revision, family pension revision, 5-day banking and so on at various levels. He stated that the goal of the management and the association should be same, i.e. safeguarding the banking industry itself should be of paramount importance, but at the same time he demanded respect, dignity and quality time for the family. Last year the pandemic situation had shown the mirror that how vulnerable human life could be, the loss of lives of members to respective families was unbearable and irreparable. He strongly emphasised that the management's HR policies should be such which can enthuse a sense of security and dignity among members and Association is committed to stand beside all the members. He said that management is focussing on digital products. The bank is pushing hard to bring most of its customers under the ambit of digital platform. But they are not considering the requirement of infrastructure. He narrated that the members are being pressurized by the management with their un-scientific targets and baseless campaigns in the name of digital wave. Most of the time, these new digital products crash due to lack of sufficient infrastructure thereby leading to loss of the face of the bank. Such policies need to be checked. He concluded his speech by asking all the members to be ready for any call from the Association, to stay united as there are threat on PSU Bank's privatisation. From the podium of "**PRANAB KUMAR DE MANCHA**" he declared that the tag line for this year would be "**Let us dare to do**".

Thereafter, vote of thanks was given by Comrade Mrityunjaya Chakrawarthy , Kolkata Module and the meeting finally concluded with the rendition of the National Anthem.

With revolutionary greetings,

Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay
(General Secretary)

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