

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 AZC, BURDWAN HELD ON 13TH FEBRUARY, 2021 AT BANGSHAGOPAL TOWN HALL, BURDWAN

The 40th Annual General Meeting of SBI Officers' Association (Bengal Circle), Administrative Zonal Committee, Burdwan was held on February 13th, 2021 (Saturday). It started amidst loud slogans with hoisting of the Flag of State Bank of India Officers' Association at 11:00 am by Shri Ajit Kumar Poddar, Deputy General Manager, Burdwan along with Comrade Asitava Kundu, President SBIOA (Bengal Circle); Comrade Srijan Kumar Pal, General Secretary All India Regional Rural Bank Officers' Federation and the undersigned, in presence of other leadership, SBIOA seniors and general members.

The Open Session started in presence of Comrade Asitava Kundu, President SBIOA (Bengal Circle), Comrade Soumya Datta, General Secretary AIBOC & AISBOF and the undersigned along with Shri Ajit Kumar Poddar, Deputy General Manager, Burdwan; 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 Kartick Chandra Mukherjee, Asst General Secretary (Burdwan Module), Com. Dilip Kumar Mondal, Asst General Secretary (FI & MM), Comrade Srijan Kr Pal, General Secretary, All India Regional Rural Bank Officers' Federation, who was one of the signatories in the Historic 8th Joint Note, Comrade Debasish Chattopadhyay, Deputy General Secretary, SBISA(Burdwan Module) and Comrade Bidyut Kumar Modak, Secretary SBI Pensioners' Association, Burdwan along with other leadership and SBIOA seniors. It was anchored by Comrade Suman Chowdhury, an activist of SBIOA. The cultural wing of Burdwan Module under "Srijan" delivered a heart touching programme with patriotic recitation and dance which was appraised by the house. The dignitaries were welcomed with uttario and saplings by the Module President and Chief Regional Secretary.

Thereafter, the program was conducted by Comrade Pramod Kumar, Zonal President.

Comrade Prabir Sorkhel, Chief Regional Secretary, in his welcome 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.

On being invited by the Zonal President, Com. Debasish Chattopadhyay, DGS, SBISA Burdwan Module, expressed his happiness to be present in the meeting and urged on to work together for the upcoming challenges and to strengthen the organization of UFBU at all centers.

Shri Ajit Kumar Poddar, Deputy General Manager (B&O) in his maiden address to this meeting expressed his pleasure for giving such opportunity to express his views before the huge gathering and praised the modular leadership. He expressed his positive outlook for the Officers' Association mentioning their welfare activities as well as the contribution for the development of the Institution. Assuring to remain beside the officers, he appealed to work in a cohesive manner as a family in the module. He urged upon all to devote quality time with family and friends and avoid working on Sundays and holidays. He concluded requesting all to work in unison to keep the Module flag waving high in the coming days.

On being invited by the Zonal President to address the house, Comrade Soumya Datta, General Secretary, AIBOC & AISBOF, expressed his happiness for the huge gathering and admired the organizing efficiency of the present leadership in the module. He acknowledged the contribution of Comrade Prabir Sorkhel in the recently signed 8th Joint Note and the smooth functioning of AIBOC. With reference to the speech of respected Deputy General Manager, Comrade Datta opined that reprimanding staff members before the public might bring adverse effects especially on the sentiments of the young generations who are the future pillars of the esteemed institution. Highlighting the features of the 8th Jointed Note, he apprised that many benefits could be clinched including Stagnation Increment for scale V officers, enhancement of family pension etc. He expressed few of his pains, he received during wage negotiation talk by

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heinous action of some of the affiliates, who had been trying to derail the entire wage negotiation process. Referring to the Hon'ble Finance Minister's announcement on 1st February, 2021 to privatize the public sector banks, he narrated the anti-people effect of privatization and appealed to the house to mobilize a strong protest against govt.'s manifesto of selling out the PSUs for the benefit of crony corporates. Appraising the entire Circle Team for visiting the remotest branches in the Circle, he again requested all to be prepared for the ensuing Bank strike on 15th & 16th March, 2021.

Comrade Bidyut Kumar Modak, Zonal Secretary, SBI Pensioners' Association, Burdwan Zone in his deliberation congratulated Comrade Soumya Datta for achieving such a Historic Joint Note, for family pensioners as well. He urged upon everyone to fight against the "Divide and Rule" policy of the government regarding pension updation and Privatization of Banks.

The open session of the meeting concluded thereafter.

President of the Module Comrade Pramod Kumar started the business session with recitation of the Pledge of SBIOA (Bengal Circle) and reading out notice of the meeting and its agendas. Then Zonal President invited the Chief Regional Secretary to present his Annual Report to the house.

Comrade Prabir Sorkhel, Chief Regional Secretary, AZC, Burdwan Module, presented his annual report by reading out salient portions of the report 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 presented by Zonal Treasurer Comrade Alok Kumar Bhowmick.

Following members volunteered to discuss on Secretary's Report and Statement of Accounts:

1. Com Prakash Toppo from Kalaboni Branch, Purulia, supporting the Secretary's report and statement of accounts expressed his concern for the shortage of manpower especially to the single officer branches.
2. Com Abhishek Dey from Burdwan Branch, while supporting the Secretary's report and statement of accounts, conveyed his gratitude to the General Secretary, AIBOC for clinching many issues through 8th Joint Note. He then highlighted many pros and cons of Bank's digital product which he opined to be reassessed on cost effective angle and also questioned the necessity of reassessing the valuation of property by the Bank official who is not supposed to be technically expert when valuation of property was carried out by Bank's empaneled Valuer. He reminded the ill effects of privatization and requested the members for active participation at any call of the Association.
3. Comrade Sanjay Mitra from Bolpur Branch, supported the Secretary's report and statement of accounts and urged on the importance of composite units and need to convene small meetings in regular intervals.
4. Comrade Manoj Kumar from Samudragarh Branch, supporting the Secretary's report and statement of accounts expressed his concern over process of KCC renewal, non-existence of maker-checker concept in single officer branches etc. He urged upon opposing privatization of PSBs.
5. Comrade Sanjay Mukherjee from Sanctoria Branch, Paschim Bardhaman, supported the Secretary's report and statement of accounts. He pointed out pressure of works, shortage of space and piling up of notes in the currency chest of Asansol Branch. He proposed for construction of Staff quarters in Asansol and vaccination to the Bank employees on priority basis.
6. Comrade Priyanka Mondal from Raipur Bazar Branch, Bankura, while supporting the Secretary's report and statement of accounts, conveyed his gratitude for many activities undertaken by the Circle Association especially during COVID-19 pandemic and also the historic achievements through 8th Joint Note.
7. Comrade Prashanta Sur from Khatra Branch, Bankura, supported the Secretary's report and statement of accounts. He requested to review the bank's medical facilities, Transfer of lady officers etc. He appraised the association role and branch visits in remote areas.
8. Comrade Sabyasachi Mukherjee from DSH, Bolpur, urged everyone to work as a unified force, not only for the bankers but for the entire citizen of the country after supporting the Secretary's report and statement of accounts.
9. Comrade Pradip Karmakar from RACC, Purulia, requested to address the shortage of officers in RACC and conveyed thanks for the role of association during pandemic after supporting the Secretary's report and statement of accounts.
10. Comrade Subrata Karmakar from Guskara Branch, Purba Bardhaman, supporting the Secretary's report and statement of accounts, pointed out the problems regarding migration and maintenance of files to RACC.

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Chief Regional Secretary, Burdwan Module replied on the views by the 10 comrades suitably and advised all to work with self-respect and dignity without the fear of transfer.

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

Comrade President of the meeting then invited Comrade Kartick Chandra Mukherjee Asst General Secretary (Burdwan), for his deliberation to the house. In his speech, Comrade Mukherjee congratulated Zonal President and Chief Regional Secretary for the grand success in the meeting. He praised the functioning of the modular leadership and said that a wave has been generated in Burdwan Module in favour of Association. He referred the different benevolent works carried out by the Circle Association especially during the pandemic time. The uncompromising attitude of leadership had helped many members in distress. He cited one example of the promptness of the Circle leadership when immediate action was taken where one officer of Ara Branch, who lost his wife one week back having a child of only 21 days, had been assured to be posted nearer to his place of domicile very shortly. He also mentioned the publication of many books by the circle association for the effective guidance of the members. Before he concluded, he requested all to be present in the Circle Annual General Meeting on 27th February, 2021 at Nazrul Mancha, Kolkata.

Being invited by the Zonal President, Com Asitava Kundu, Circle President wished that Burdwan Module would flourish under the present leadership. He emphasized to combat the atrocities of the government as a unified force in the days ahead. He criticized and vehemently opposed the present Govt.'s anti-people policies. He urged on creating awareness amongst customers and common people on the ill effect of privatization.

The undersigned thanked everyone for their active participation in the meeting. He thanked the leadership of Burdwan Module for presenting such a beautiful meeting. He praised the performance of the 'Srijan', Burdwan Unit, which tuned the tone of the meeting. Going to the recent work culture of Bank, he denounced the competitions conducted by the Bank now a days in promoting Bank products like Yono Cash, which might lead to frauds. He expressed his agony that late sitting at branches is not monitored now which was earlier being done by corporate centre level. He emphasized on the need based opening of Currency Chests in future. He mentioned that compensation for working beyond working hours or working on holidays in Currency Chest to be regulated further. He invited suggestions from members for standardization of medical bills. Considering the hazards being faced by the customers and probable business loss, he urged that FIMM and R&DB structure to be reviewed by the Management. He reminded everyone about the upcoming battle for which the bankers need to reach out to common people to combat all challenges. He affirmed from the podium with conviction that he will not be conducting the work of association just by sitting in the office of Circle Association but will reach out to all members. He concluded that the association will always welcome any constructive criticism and suggestion for the cause of members.

Meeting concluded with vote of thanks by Comrade Suprakash Mukherjee, Regional Secretary, Region 2, AZC, Burdwan Module followed by rendition of the National Anthem.

With revolutionary greetings,



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(General Secretary)

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