

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)

37TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF AZC, SILIGURI MODULE HELD ON 7TH FEBRUARY, 2021 AT HOTEL CENTRAL PARK, SILIGURI

The 37th Annual General Meeting of SBI Officers' Association (Bengal Circle), Administrative Zonal Committee, Siliguri was held on 7th February, 2021 (Sunday). It started amidst loud slogans with hoisting of the Flag of State Bank of India Officers' Association at 10:00 am followed by paying tribute with flowers to the 'Sahid Vedi' to commemorate the 125th Birth anniversary of Great Leader, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, by Shri D. V. Gutte, Deputy General Manager (B&O), Siliguri Module, 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 in presence of Comrade Asitava Kundu, President SBIOA (Bengal Circle), Comrade Soumya Datta, General Secretary AIBOC & AISBOF and the undersigned alongwith Shri D. V. Gutte, Deputy General Manager (B&O), Siliguri Module, Comrade Arun Kumar Roy, Deputy General Secretary SBIOA (Bengal Circle), Comrade Apurba Mondal, Asst General Secretary (Siliguri), and Comrade Debasish Sengupta, DGS, SBISA (Bengal Circle). It was anchored by two activists of AZC, Siliguri Module, Comrade Manjushree Baraik & Comrade Priya Tamang. In remembrance to son of the soil, the dais was named as "Comrade Debal Saha Mancha" who succumbed to the deadly virus of COVID-19. The dignitaries were welcomed with traditional uttario of Hill areas 'Khada' and flower bouquets by the module president and Chief Regional Secretary. The cultural wing of Siliguri Module under "Srijan" delivered a heart touching musical programme with patriotic songs after lighting the ceremonial lamp by the dignitaries and SBIOA seniors.

Comrade Aritra Saha, Chief Regional Secretary, then delivered his Welcome Speech after conveying thanks and hearty welcome to the dignitaries and all the members who whole heartedly attended the meeting from nooks and corners of hilly Sikkim and Darjeeling, remote areas of Cooch Behar, Malda etc. He briefed the present scenario of the country regarding privatisation move of the Govt. Labour laws amendment, Farm bills, distress condition of people during COVID-19 pandemic, recent NPA scenario. He also conveyed his gratitude to the leadership for clinching the historic settlement of wage negotiation through 8th Joint Note.

Sri D. V. Gutte, DGM B&O, (Siliguri Module), expressing his happiness to be present in the august gathering, narrated his concern over the growth of business in the module. He congratulated the members for taking the module to the top in the circle in MD ranking consecutively for last four months and also for the 4th position pan India in last month. Acknowledging the constraints of the module, he appealed to retain the excellent performance achieved by the module.

Comrade Debasish Sengupta DGS, SBISA (Bengal Circle) in his address to the gathering, expressed his gratitude for being invited to the meeting. He requested for doing ethical works by following Banks rules and instructions as those are made to protect the employees as well as the Institution.

Comrade Soumya Datta, General Secretary, AIBOC & AISBOF was honoured by the audience with standing ovation and big applause while he stepped up to the podium to address the house. He congratulated all the members for their presence from far-flung corners of hill, forest and remotest areas of the module. The beautiful musical performance presented by the cultural team of Srijan, Siliguri wing, was appreciated by him. He started his deliberation remembering the contribution of Comrade Debal Saha to the association. While appraising the performance of the Bank reflected in Q3 results, he expressed his concern and urged to find out the reason for unwillingness of the young generation for taking promotion to officer cadre. Briefing to the salient features of the 8th Joint Note, he acknowledged the support he received from the circle association. Saying the 1st February, 2021 as a 'Black Day' for the country when Hon'ble Finance Minister announced to privatize two Public Sector Banks, he urged upon mobilizing the movement against anti-people policy of the government. Before concluding his deliberation, he requested all the members to work with self-esteem, dignity and to be courteous to the peers and subordinates.

AZC, Siliguri Module then felicitated Comrade Soumya Datta with a memento of traditional steam locomotive model and a beautiful replica of football of renowned Arsenal Football Team.

Thereafter, President of the Module, Comrade Debanta Goswami, started the business session by taking Pledge of SBIOA (Bengal Circle) and subsequently read out the notice and agendas of the meeting.

On being invited by the president of the meeting, Comrade Aritra Saha, Chief Regional Secretary, AZC, Siliguri 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.

Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay

General Secretary

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At the request of the president of the meeting, the Statement of Accounts was presented by Zonal Treasurer, Comrade Surojit Chakraborty and the resolutions regarding Outsourcing of Regular Work & Webinars on Holidays and during Business Hour were read out by Comrade Ankita Chatterjee, member of AZC, Siliguri.

Following members volunteered to discuss on the Secretary's report and audited statement of accounts. All of them supported Secretary's report and the Statement of Accounts.

1. Comrade Upendra Nath from RBO-III, highlighted the difficulties in maintaining Work Life Balance due to increasing Pressure of Work Load.
2. Comrade Sunil Kumar from Balurghat Branch, requested the Circle association to start a Transit Home/Cottage in Raigang.
3. Comrade Partha Pratim Das, raised the issue of Account opening at CSP outlets and highlighted that due to the bulk nature of account opening it was difficult to scrutinize the KYC documents meaningfully.
4. Comrade Agnes Rai of Region IV, thanked the leaders for the historic 8th Joint Note. She implored the Association leadership to review the Circle Transfer Policy and consider the transfer of Sikkim based comrades especially the constraints of lady officers in view of geographic locations and customs. She further highlighted that, there was no Hospital under Banks Tie-up arrangement in Sikkim and requested that Sikkim Manipal Hospital be included in Banks empanelled list for the benefit the comrades of Sikkim.
5. Comrade Subhendu Gupta from Region IV, highlighted the issues related to Single officer branches in Sikkim, shortage of manpower, Webinars during business hours, and mis-selling of CVE products, low ceiling of leased accommodation in Gangtok.
6. Comrade Vishal Gupta of Darjeeling Branch, then raised his issue of denial of Disability benefits.

In reply Comrade Aritra Saha, Chief Regional Secretary said that all the issues raised by dear members were already in notice of AZC and were being taken care of and some issues had already been referred to the Circle Association for their interference.

Comrade Vikash Lama (Director, SBILD Siliguri), being invited by the President of the meeting apprised that training classes would be conducted in physical attendance soon. He wished a grand success of the meeting.

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

As per remaining agendas clubbing altogether, Comrade President of the meeting invited Comrade Apurba Mondal, AGS in-charge, Siliguri Module, to address the house.

Comrade Apurba Mondal, AGS-in-Charge (Siliguri Module) in his address thanked the members for their support and presence at the AGM. He highlighted that the Medical Team of Siliguri was doing a tremendous job and asked them to keep it up. He also acknowledged the sincerity and enthusiasm of the team AZC led by com President and CRS in responding organisation calls.

Comrade Asitava Kundu, Circle President, in his address assured that the empanelment of Sikkim Manipal Hospital will be actively pursued by the Circle Association. He reiterated the excellent and historic achievements of the 8th Joint Note. He reminded the house to be in readiness for further agitation programme of the Association against Bank privatisation. Referring to the present position of BSNL, he denounced the govt.'s nefarious attitude towards Public Sector undertakings.

The undersigned in his deliberation to the house, greeted all the members and dignitaries present in the meeting and also invited to the Annual General Meeting of SBIOA (Bengal Circle) scheduled to be held on 27th February, 2021 at Nazrul Manch, Kolkata. He informed the house that Circle Association would convey the agitation program as soon as it is received from the apex level. He stated that a Historic 8th Joint Note had been signed after tooth and nail fight by Association with IBA. He informed the members that the Transfer policy for Hill areas were under special consideration alongwith the proposal for Sikkim and Andaman & Nicobar Islands which was to be brought under Difficult centre. He further stated that the association was strongly against Webinars during Business Hours. He urged on retaining the rights which the association could achieve for the members through struggle. He expressed his concern about shortage of officers, pressure of works, unwillingness of taking promotion by award staffs. Before conclusion, he appealed the members to rise against Government's move on privatization by acquiring public support.

Thereafter, vote of thanks was given by Comrade Sourav Majumdar, Assistant Zonal Secretary, AZC, Siliguri Module and the meeting finally concluded with the rendition of the National Anthem.

With revolutionary greetings,

Shubhjayoti Chattopadhyay
(General Secretary)

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