

STATE BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

(BENGAL CIRCLE)

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

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Circular No. 41/2022

Date : 16.03.2022

To All Members (Please Circulate)

We reproduce hereunder the Circular No. 18 dated 15.03.2022 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)

Dear Comrades,

56th Annual General Meeting of SBIOA – Bengal Circle

A massive show of solidarity

Nazrul Manch in the City of Joy - Kolkata was the destination of over 4200 officers of SBIOA (Bengal Circle) as they congregated thereat from nooks and corners of the circle- from Andaman to Sikkim. Such a massive gathering of members could only happen in Kolkata. The 56th Annual General Meeting of SBIOA (Bengal Circle) was the event that beckoned this massive presence on 13th March 2022.

2. The meeting was preceded by the hoisting of the flag of SBIOA (Bengal Circle) by the President, AISBOF, Com. Deepak Kumar Sharma and the undersigned in the august presence of the local management functionaries, the Presidents and General Secretaries of various affiliates of AISBOF and the Circle Association office-bearers. The venue reverberated with thunderous slogans based on "Bank Bachao Desh Bachao", raising the passion of trade unionism in each member present on the occasion. More endearing was the significant presence of women and youth, infusing the conference with vigour and vitality.

3. The meeting commenced with the melodious and rousing rendition of the opening songs, performed by the members of the cultural wing of the Circle Association 'Srijan' and alternate Bengali Rock Band "Shabdo Galpo Droom". The group, who was instrumental in releasing a musical album comprising a collection of five (5) melodious songs in Bengali on the theme "Bank Bachao Desh Bachao", charged the entire atmosphere with their mellifluous rendition. This was followed by lighting the ceremonial lamp by the dignitaries present on the dais which included Com. Deepak Kumar Sharma, President, AISBOF, Smt. Ruma Dey, Chief General Manager, Kolkata Circle & Chief Guest, Shri Ashok Kumar Mahakul, General Manager (NetWork-III), Kolkata Circle, Shri Manoranjan Samal, DGM & CDO, Kolkata Circle, Com. Asitava Kundu, Deputy General Secretary, AISBOF & President, SBIOA(Bengal Circle), Com. Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay, Vice-President, AISBOF & General Secretary of SBIOA (Bengal Circle), Com. Nilesh Radia, Deputy General Secretary, AISBOF & President, SBIOA (Ahmedabad Circle), Com. Nagesh V N, Deputy General Secretary, AISBOF & President, SBIOA (Karnataka Circle), Com. Sanjay Kumar Sharma, Vice President, AISBOF & President, SBIOA (Chandigarh Circle), Com. Jatinder Pal Singh Sethi, Deputy General Secretary, AISBOF & President, SBIOA (New Delhi Circle), Com. Sushil Ahuja, Vice-President, AISBOF & General Secretary, SBIOA (New Delhi Circle), Com. A. Appaswamy, Deputy General Secretary, AISBOF & President, SBIOA (Hyderabad Circle), Com. V. K. Bhalla, Senior Vice President, AISBOF & General Secretary, SBIOA (Jaipur Circle), Com. V. K. Premachandran, Deputy General Secretary, AISBOF & President, SBIOA (Kerala Circle), Com. G. R. Jayakrishnan, Vice President, AISBOF & General Secretary, SBIOA (Kerala Circle), Com. Manohar Baboo Devrukhkar, Vice-President, AISBOF & General Secretary,

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SBIOA (Mumbai Metro Circle), Com. Rupam Roy, Senior Vice-President, AISBOF & General Secretary, SBIOA(N.E. Circle), Com. Kamlakar Singh, Deputy General Secretary, AISBOF & President, SBIOA (Patna Circle), Com. Abhoy Deo Sharma, President, SBISA (Bengal Circle), Com. Goutam Neogy, General Secretary, SBISA (Bengal Circle), Com. Ashoke Kumar Datta, President, SBI Pensioners' Association (Bengal Circle), Com. Dipak Kumar Basu, General Secretary, SBI Pensioners' Association (Bengal Circle), Com. Sanjoy Das, Secretary, AIBOC (West Bengal State Unit) and the undersigned.

4. Following the lighting of the ceremonial lamp, the veterans namely Com. Dipankar Mukherjee, former State Secretary, AIBOC, WBSU & former General Secretary, UBIOA along with SBIOA Seniors Com. Tapan Kumar Bose, Com. Asit Kumar Sinha, Com. Sisir Ranjan Ghosh, Com. Pronab Kumar Sarkar, members of Musical Team of 'Shabdo Galpo Droom' and 'Srijan' namely Shri Rahul Paul, Shri Nilabja Neogi, Ms Riya Dey, Com. Pravas Ray, Com. Anirban Chakraborty and Com. Anirban Naskar, the members of SBIOA (Bengal Circle) namely Com. Dilip Kumar Mandal, Com. Ravi Shankar Kumar, Shri Kanchan Das who participated in "Bharat Yatra" during the entire journey along with the undersigned were befittingly felicitated for their exemplary support to SBIOA (Bengal Circle) by Com. Deepak K. Sharma, President, AISBOF and the undersigned along with Com. Asitava Kundu and Com. Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay.

5. The revised edition of Handbook on Assigned Roles, a new Handbook on Disposal of Assets of Deceased Account, a magazine "Natun Pata (The New Leaf)" along with a special edition of the journal of the Circle Association- 'Sup-Voice' were released by Smt. Ruma Dey, Chief General Manager, Kolkata Circle and Chief Guest of the meeting.

6. Com. Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay, General Secretary (Bengal Circle) in his warm and passionate welcome address greeted the dignitaries and the members. He briefly touched upon the activities and achievements of the Circle Association and also highlighted the various issues taken up during the CNC meetings.

7. Smt. Ruma Dey, Chief General Manager, Kolkata Circle and Chief Guest of the meeting, congratulated and thanked the officers' fraternity for the yeoman services rendered by them during pandemic and achievement of Circle as it remained amongst the front runners in MD ranking matrix. She appreciated the Circle Association for many of its initiatives and the active participation of officers. She reiterated the importance of customer service and urged on making the Circle complaint free in staff misbehaviour.

8. The undersigned during his inaugural address expressed happiness for the wholehearted participation of members. He warmly congratulated the Circle Association who had done a splendid job by organizing the massive gathering during these trying times. He recollected the historic "Bharat Yatra" conceptualized by AIBOC, which had triggered off a mass protest and had compelled the Government to backtrack and to refrain from tabling the Banking Laws Amendment Act 2021 during the last winter session of the Parliament. However, the intent of the govt. was to hand over all national assets to crony corporate houses and AIBOC would continue to oppose the policies inimical to the interest of the common man. Highlighting the services rendered by the PSBs to the people and the Government, he stated that it was actually a "Bank Nirbhar Bharat". The undersigned made it categorically clear that AIBOC would be fighting tooth and nail to resist Govt.'s move towards privatization of PSBs as well as RRBs. He lauded the HR initiatives of the Bank during the COVID-19 pandemic and the release of a few innovative women-centric benefits on Internal Women's Day. He expressed his pain points which included rampant requisition of officers on Sundays/Holidays without the approval of the appropriate authority and affecting work-life balance, the regressive decision of stopping of 5-in-1 benefits to the officers, who could not complete the mandatory e-learning/RBCs. Learning, he emphasised, could not be forced upon officers. He informed the house that the Federation had challenged the decision in the court of law. Appreciating the publication of Handbooks which would be helpful for day-to-day banking, he urged on being courteous to the juniors, peers and subordinates in the workplace as well as to all customers to enhance our brand image. He also emphasised the need to ensure that Internal Customers were not subject to humiliation in a public forum and subjected to abusive behaviour He appreciated the functioning of the Circle Association under the vibrant leadership of Com. Asitava Kundu

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and Com. Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay in taking the Circle Association forward. He concluded his speech by giving a clarion call to intensify the fight against the Government by mobilizing public support in large numbers to take forward the **#BankBachaoDeshBachao** movement across the country before wishing a grand success of the meeting and formally inaugurating the meeting.

9. Com. Deepak Kumar Sharma, President (AISBOF) mesmerized the gathering with his prolific oratory skills. He admired and appreciated the participation of a large number of members of the circle in the Annual General Meeting. He appreciated the publication of various Handbooks by the circle association, which not only helps the members in increasing their knowledge base but will also help in rendering better customer service. Referring to the speech of the Chief General Manager of the Circle, he reiterated that the positive approach should prevail in all walks of life by adopting Work-Life Balance, dignity and respect to all. He appreciated the role of AIBOC leadership for taking forward the fight of "Bank Bachao Desh Bachao" movement. He briefed the members about the pending issues including financial and non-financial which they have raised with the Management of SBI during their visits to the Corporate Centre and in CNC meetings. He expressed his dissatisfaction at the abrupt change in the promotion policy up to Scale-V brought by the bank at the eleventh hour. He referred to certain disastrous initiatives of the Bank like FIMM, Buddy etc. which had resulted in the loss of hundreds of crores of rupees to the Bank. Such misadventures that resulted in such massive losses should be examined and accountability should be fixed accordingly. He said that Bengal was the land of Sri Rabindranath Tagore. He recalled Tagore's poem – "Where the mind is without fear", and called upon all officers to function fearlessly, to call spade a spade. He recollected the words of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose – 'Tum Mujhe Khoone do, Main Tumhe Azaadi Doonga'. He said that today the need of the hour is to say "**Tum Mujhe Shatprishat Sahayog Do, Main tumhe service condition me improvement dunga**", for improvement in Service Conditions. He reminded the audience that AISBOF had a glorious tradition of standing up to every atrocity and believed that all the hurdles would be possible to overcome by the concerted support of all stakeholders. He appreciated the role of Public sector Banks in the development of this great country. He appealed to the house to remain united and attend to every call given by the Associations for saving the Public Sector Banks. Before concluding, he congratulated the leadership as well as all the members of the Circle for the wonderful gathering and wished them success for the 56th Annual General meeting.

10. Com. Goutam Neogy, General Secretary, SBISA (Bengal Circle), greeted the congregation. He appealed to intensify the movement of saving Public Sector Undertakings of the country through a joint movement and extended fraternal support.

11. Com. Dipak Kumar Basu, General Secretary, SBIPA, extended fraternal support, thanked AIBOC & AISBOF for taking up the issues of pensions and family pension and expressed confidence in the present leadership in taking forward the issues of retirees to a logical conclusion.

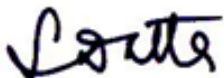
12. Com. Sanjoy Das, Secretary, AIBOC (West Bengal State Unit), appreciated the theme of the meeting "**Bank Bachao Desh Bachao**" and urged upon fighting against the move of privatization of PSBs with public support.

13. Comrades, the 56th Annual General Meeting in Kolkata was yet another show of strength and solidarity of supervisory trade unionism. The massive gathering, participation of women and youth indicated the innate strength that we possess. It demonstrated the urge of the officers to be united. This also provided us with 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.

14. We congratulate the vibrant leadership of our affiliate, SBIOA (Bengal Circle) and the members, who made the event an outstanding success. Later in the day, the reports from SBIOA (Bengal Circle) indicated active participation by the members during the business session and about the meaningful deliberations by the participants, which proved that the meeting achieved its objective with profound success.

With greetings,

Yours Comradely,



(Soumya Datta)

General Secretary

Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay

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