

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)

42ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING **ADMINISTRATIVE ZONAL COMMITTEE, KOLKATA**

The 42nd Annual General Meeting of State Bank of India Officers Association (Bengal Circle), was held on 24th December, 2022 with the gracious presence of Circle President Comrade Asitava Kundu, Inaugurator Comrade Kamlakar Singh, President SBIOA Patna Circle & Dy. General Secretary, AISBOF, Chief Guest Shri Sanjay Kumar, DGM (B&O) Kolkata, Circle Vice President Comrade Sabuj Mistry, DGS Comrade Arun Kumar Roy, DGS Comrade Subhas Chandra Mondal, AGS Kolkata Comrade Pritikana Saha, Secretary SBIPA Kolkata Zone Comrade Amit Dey Sarkar, a massive number of general members and the undersigned.

The opening session started at 10:30 am with flag hoisting followed by offering tribute to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and lighting the ceremonial lamp by dignitaries, Chief Guest, Central & Zonal leadership, SBIOA seniors in presence of all the other members of Kolkata module. Anchor, Comrade Debasis Bose, started the Opening session and Comrade Mittika Bhattacharya Biswas performed a beautiful play of flute followed by songs rendered by senior ladies of All Bengal Women Association, an Old age home.

A small slideshow was displayed to showcase the welfare activities of Kolkata Administrative Zonal Committee. An act of sincere social obligation was undertaken by donating washing machine to All Bengal Women Association, An Old age home and by extending small monetary support to Shilpa Kundu and Braja Kishore Mondal, MBBS students to fulfill their indomitable desire for study, selected by "Sinchan" Foundation.

Our leaders of yesteryear, Comrade Ajit Kumar Chattopadhyay, Comrade Asit Kumar Sinha, Comrade Sisir Ranjan Ghosh were felicitated on dais with saplings and Shawls for their continued support.

Comrade Chief Regional Secretary, in his speech, heartily welcomed all the Guests, Dignitaries, on and off the dais, and all beloved members present in the meeting and narrated the functioning of Administrative Zonal Committee Kolkata throughout the year.

DGM (B&O) Shri Sanjay Kumar thanked and congratulated every member to achieve the Module's 3rd position in Circle and 13th rank in Pan India in Business Parameters and 1st position in Operational parameters. He said knowledge of the officers on products needed some improvement. Bank was investing heavily in Digital Platform and officers should be accustomed to and should profusely promote it. He requested members to help the Module in Deposit Mobilization. He ended his speech by wishing everybody a very happy New Year.

President Patna Circle and Deputy General Secretary AISBOF, Comrade Kamlakar Singh said that an untoward paradigm shift was observed in the working condition of SBI. Govt compelled PSUs to open branches in rural areas despite huge shortage of officers. As a result 30% of the total branches of PSUs were run by single officer without a minimal facility like ladies' toilet. He explained several roles of trade union in multiple areas where problem was detected but the resolution was yet to be initiated and needed to be percolated to the concerned controllers.

Secretary Pensioners Association, Kolkata Zone Comrade Amit De Sarkar said that they were retired & not tired and called upon all the members to take care of the pensioners' requirements during branch visits.

The President Comrade Somnath Mukherjee read out the notice for the 42nd AGM before the house and members took Pladge of SBIOA (Bengal Circle) and started the Business session. He invited Chief Regional Secretary for presenting Secretary's report before the house.

The Chief Regional Secretary Comrade Ranganath Sanyal placed Secretary's report and expressed deepest condolences for the unfortunate death of fellow Comrades and other eminent personalities during the year and entire house observed one-minute silence for the persons who left us during the period under report.

The Zonal President Comrade Somnath Mukherjee invited Comrade Kaushik Majumder, Zonal Treasurer to submit the Statement of Accounts before all the members and invited the members to speak on the Secretary's report and audited Statement of Accounts.

All the speakers supported the Secretary's Report and audited Statement of Accounts.

Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay

General Secretary

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Comrade Soumyajit Majumder, Sales Tax Building Branch, expressed his concern about Mudra loan where Pre-sanction Inspection was vested upon the Branch Officials who were already grappling with countless issues, particularly inadequate staff strength.

Comrade Swarnima Sambhavi, SMEC Kolkata said unbearable pressure was imposed for Mudra Loan leading to reckless sanction of the same.

Comrade Bhaskar Roy, BM, Eco space Branch shared his pain as a single officer in his branch. Compulsory WEBINAR meeting during office-hour created embarrassment in presence of the customers. Availing Leave was hard in single officer branch and spending quality time with family in holidays became very tough due to continuous instructions from RBO to attend CDM/ ATM .

Comrade Jayanta Saha, RACPC, Kolkata stated that a void had been created on account of retirement of seniors every month and the younger generation should come forward to take on the baton of Association and stand beside the members.

Chief Regional Secretary Comrade Ranganath Sanyal stated that promotion of digitalization resulted less footfall in branch premises which narrowed the scope of direct interaction with customers and thus it directly affected business scope. He also mentioned that reckless processing of Mudra Loan, attending CDM in holidays, misbehavior with officers by the controllers were some of the burning issues.

After discussions by the members and reply of CRS, the house unanimously adopted the Secretary's report and Audited Statement of Accounts.

Comrade Pritikana Saha, Assistant General Secretary, Kolkata reminded that after superannuation of several veteran leaders of SBIOA it was high time for the young generation to shoulder more and more responsibilities.

Comrade Arun Kumar Roy, Deputy General Secretary, in his short speech asked all members to protest against all the humiliation from any level. He discussed about the latest activities and developments in Medical Wings.

Comrade Asitava Kundu, Circle President, stated that the banking scenario had been changing over the years so as our association activities. He discussed the Mudra Loan issue and Multiple financing in House Building Loans (HBL). He discussed about several fraud-prone areas where many officers were charge sheeted.

The undersigned expressed his heartfelt pleasure to meet all the members of Kolkata Module under a single roof and also for their gracious presence till the end of the meeting. He also stated that Government's agenda of financial inclusion without recruitment and massive superannuation created a huge imbalance between vested responsibility of a branch and its manpower. The unbearable pressure, unethical practice of officers to meet the irrational target imposed on a branch and the consequent charge sheets became the root cause for the apathy of the Award staff members to take promotion as an officer.

He said that earlier designation based man-power planning was silently replaced by the management with merely mentioning the number of officers in a branch. He also shared several incidents of fraud and responsibilities of the officers. One burning example was frauds perpetrated by multiple finance in "BANAZ Housing Project" for which at present more than 20 officers received charge-sheet. It was a glaring example of failure of prevailing systems & procedures and follow up mechanism of our Bank.

He also expressed his concern that controllers adopted a strategy to instruct the branch on Friday/ Thursday to finish compliance-work within the week which eventually compelled the officers to open the branch on Sunday/Holidays. The Association suggested that high pendency branches should be identified beforehand and the whole week should be effectively utilized for finishing those work so that every member could enjoy holidays with their families. The Association raised an issue to increase the compensation amount paid to officers for working on holidays and also to convert 'compensatory-off in the following week' to Privilege Leave.

He also stated that due to tireless efforts and good relation with the State Administration, three additional holidays i.e. Bhatridwitiya, Chatt Puja and 1st January could be achieved.

He also discussed the salient features of the Charter of Demand. This time the demand had been raised to increase the pay-scale to match that of the officers in LIC instead of a specific percentage of pay hikes like before.

The Meeting was concluded with Vote of Thanks proposed by Comrade Anirban Chakraborty followed by the rendition of the National Anthem.

With revolutionary greetings,



Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay
(General Secretary)

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