STATE BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION





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To All Members (Please Circulate)

THE 44TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ADMINISTRATIVE ZONAL COMMITTEE, BURDWAN AT BANSHA GOPAL TOWN HALL, BURDWAN ON 08.12.2024

The 44th Annual General Meeting of SBIOA (Bengal Circle), AZC Burdwan was held on 8th December, 2024, within the prestigious confines of Bansha Gopal Town Hall, Burdwan. Commencing at 11:00 am, the proceedings commenced with the ceremonial hoisting of the Association flag, an act presided over by the leadership, management functionaries and revered SBIOA seniors, culminating in the reverent offering of flowers to the martyrs and special tribute was paid to Com Ranjit Murmu, Regional President, Region-III, who suffered a massive heart attack at his residence in Bankura and breathed his last at an early age. The commencement of the Open Session was marked by a captivating musical rendition by "Team Srijan" of Burdwan Module. "Where the mind is without fear" – the slogan that evolved in the meeting beckons for DIGNITY, UNITY, and SOLIDARITY, which we extend in our day-to-day work.

Comrade Pradip Kumar Malik and Comrade Madhumita Mondal (Halder) anchored over the Open Session, delivering a concise preamble of the meeting before extending gracious welcome to each esteemed dignitary on and off the dais. Uttorio and Saplings were bestowed upon the dignatories on the dais by Comrade Pramod Kumar (Zonal President), Comrade Tapas Debnath (Chief Regional Secretary) and Assistant General Secretary overseeing the Burdwan Module, Comrade Indrajit Sankar Bhattacharyya, who is also the Chairman of State Bank of India Multi-State Co-Operative Credit Society Ltd and Treasurer of AIBOC West Bengal State Unit. The programme was inaugurated by Comrade Amaresh Vikramaditya, Vice-President AIBOC and AISBOF, State Secretary of AIBOC Patna State Unit and also the General Secretary of Patna Circle along with Comrade Ranga Nath Sanyal (DGS AISBOF, Senior Vice President AIBOC West Bengal State Unit and Circle President, SBIOA, Bengal Circle), Shri Prashant Kumar Singh, DGM (B&O), AO Durgapur, Comrade Debasis Mukherjee (DGS), Comrade Prabir Sorkhel (DGS) and the undersigned. Special Guests Comrade Supriya Choudhury, Deputy General Secretary of SBISA Burdwan Module and Comrade Dipti Narayan Datta, Zonal Secretary, SBIPA, lent their presence to the event.

At the outset, Comrade Tapas Debnath, Chief Regional Secretary, extended a warm welcome to the esteemed dignitaries on and off the dais, as well as the assembled members from every nook and corner of the module and spread the essence of togetherness with his inaugural speech. He especially thanked Comrade Amal Kumar Chakraborty and Comrade Sisir Ranjan Ghosh for their relentless effort towards well-being of the members. He expressed sincere gratitude to Comrade Amaresh Vikramaditya for gracing the meeting with his presence. The significance of collaboration and collective effort was once again enumerated as Shri Debnath ignited the minds of the audience by highlighting the burning issues being faced by the members. He appealed to the members to ensure deposit mobilization across all spheres to ensure the steady growth of the Bank. He also echoed the concerns of a balanced approach between cross-selling and deposit garnering and requested the membership to act responsibly to protect the interest of the Bank. The need for a positive work environment was deliberated as he concluded his inaugural speech by thanking the leadership for implementing an unprecedented special pay for the members.

Shri Prashant Kumar Singh, DGM (B&O), Durgapur Module was then invited to address the gathering.

Shri Singh thanked the members for their presence and thanked the association for paving the way for connecting with the members. He acknowledged the hard work of the members of the module as he proudly stated that Durgapur Module has always been among the top 5 in the MD Ranking matrix, a parameter set by the Bank. He requested the august gathering to work relentlessly with a comfortable approach. He thanked the members as they embraced technology and transformed the Bank. He emphasised the need to have an open mind for learning new things and stated the fact that senior functionaries of

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the Bank have served the Bank at different branches, making them connected to the grassroots. He emphasised the need to remain connected with Generation Z and stated customer centricity as the key to success in the domain of customer service. He assured the members that the module will continue to emphasise staff welfare measures with the support of the Administrative Zonal Committee.

Comrade Amaresh Vikramaditya, Vice-President AIBOC and AISBOF, State Secretary of AIBOC Patna State Unit and also the General Secretary of Patna Circle, extended warm greetings on behalf of the entire Patna Circle and started his deliberation by expressing his sentiments as he was touched by the lines of Rabindranath Tagore "Where the Mind is Without Fear". He thanked SBIOA Bengal Circle for being the umbrella for all the members and helping them tackle the fears associated with ethical working. Comrade Vikramaditya requested the members to prioritize their duties and think about themselves as, according to him, it will lead to self-well-being which will in turn lead to well-being of the nation and the organization at large. He requested members to take care of their health as he congratulated leadership of the Federation for including members in the JMGS – I cadre in the executive health check-up scheme of the Bank. He opined that customer delight can only be achieved when officials of the Bank are delighted. However, he shared his concerns regarding excessive micro-management by top officials of the Bank as it leads to confined minds. He deliberated about the challenges associated with bringing fresh deposits. The benefits of the latest joint notes were also deliberated upon by him. He assured the gathering that the demand for the much anticipated 5 days of Banking will be taken care of by UFBU centrally.

Comrade Supriya Choudury, DGS of SBISA Burdwan Module, greeted the leadership on and off the dais and thanked AZC, Burdwan for the invitation and emphasized that relentless hard work of all employees was reflected in different performance parameters of the Bank. He expressed concerns related to outsourced personnel at branches.

Comrade Dipti Narayan Dutta, Zonal President, SBIPA Burdwan Zone was then called upon the stage to address the gathering. Shri Dutta expressed his concern related to different welfare measures implemented by the Bank and thanked the General Secretary and his team for taking care of the concerns of the Pensionsers. He thanked the functionaries of the association for the positive outcomes of the negotiations with IBA keeping the interest of the Pensioners in Mind.

Following the conclusion of the Open Session, the Business Session was chaired by Zonal President, Comrade Pramod Kumar. Following a succinct introduction, he presented the notice of the meeting and led the house in reciting the pledge, with the entire assembly in attendance. Thereafter he called upon Comrade Tapas Debnath, Chief Regional Secretary, AZC, Burdwan Module to place the report before the house.

Comrade Chief Regional Secretary placed before the house the contents of the Secretary's report. The report comprised of various national and international scenarios related to Banking and attempts to transfer the control of the Public Sector Bank to crony capitalists, jeopardizing the interest of the nation and its populace. He thanked AIBOC for ensuing fruitful negotiation and the mood of the members regarding a positive outcome was enchanted. Comrade Debnath also thanked Comrade Somit Hazra and Comrade Chanchal Bhattacharjee for putting up an excellent inaugural performance. He thanked, Comrade Asitava Kundu, former Circle President of SBIOA Bengal Circle, Comrade Subhash Chandra Mondal, former Vice-President SBIOA Bengal Circle, Comrade Ranga Nath Sanyal, Circle President, Comrade Prabir Sorkhel and Comrade Debashis Mukherjee, Deputy General Secretaries, Comrade Indrajit Shankar Bhattacharyya, Assistant General Secretary in-charge of Burdwan Module, other leaderships of the Circle Association along with the undersigned. One minute silence was observed in remembrance of the departed souls who have left for heavenly abode during the last year. He thanked Comrade Rupam Roy. General Secretary of AIBOC and AISBOF for taking care of the needs of the members in a sustainable manner. The key components of the 9th joint note were discussed by Comrade Debnath. A few of the new initiatives of the Circle Association like face-to-face program, and Daktar Babu Online, were appreciated as they were exceptional and innovative. Shri Debnath revolutionarily thanked the Circle Association for ensuring well-being of officials up to Scale - III by including them in the transfer/repatriation exercise. He also raised concerns about the acute manpower shortage across the module as 96 out of the total 278 branches in the module are single officer branches. He also emphasised the need to address the scattered placement of branches among regions by introduction by Region - VII in the module. He requested the members to have a disciplined approach to reach realistic targets in all foray. He concluded by acknowledging the efforts put in by all the members to make this event successful and requested everyone for their presence during the Annual General Meeting of SBIOA Bengal Circle on 11th January, 2025 at Nazrul Mancha. He also requested the members to work in unison and not become victims of bifurcation based on caste, creed, religious beliefs or customs as active participation of all the members will be essential to counter the proposed Banking Amendment Bill which might hurt the well-being of all members.

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Comrade Kajol Kumar Chakrabarty, Zonal Treasurer of AZC Burdwan, subsequently presented the audited Statement of Accounts for deliberation and adoption.

The members thereafter engaged in a discussion on the Annual Report and audited Statement of Accounts, expressing their support to both the Annual Report and the audited Statement of Accounts.

Comrade Mithilesh Kumar Jha posted at RBO-5, Bolpur, thanked the Circle Association and its office bearers for their hard work. He supported the Secretary's Report and Statement of Accounts. He expressed his gratitude to the Circle Association for helping the members throughout the year and shared an incident from his day-to-day banking experience where deviation from circular instructions has led to dire consequences.

Comrade Arijit Chakraborty from Jaipur Branch supported the Secretary's Report and Statement of Accounts. He deliberated about the acute manpower shortage and proper categorization as the backbone in the service sector. He expressed his concerns about various business leads and subsequent calling by branch officials which makes the whole process cumbersome.

Comrade Sujoy Mondal from RBO–6, Purulia wholeheartedly supported the Secretary 's Report and Statement of Accounts. He expressed his concerns about repeated meetings using the Microsoft Teams application during business hours.

Comrade Debasish Chakraborty from Haripur Branch supported the Secretary 's Report and Statement of Accounts and sought help in the compliance-related additional burdens which adds to the work pressure faced by branch officials. He shared the constraints related to deposit mobilization and emphasised the need for comprehensive calling by controllers. Hindrances related to newly implemented NBC and Core Banking were also shared by him.

Comrade Debnandan Prasad Mahto from Katwa branch supported the Secretary 's Report and Statement of Accounts and highlighted the concerns related to the piling up of soiled and mutilated notes at Currency Chests, specifically at SBI, Katwa. He also shared his concern related to the non-placement of the subordinate category of employees at Currency Chest Branches.

Comrade Suman Dutta from Memari branch as the last speaker supported the Secretary's Report and Statement of Accounts before sharing the problems faced by joint custodians looking after ATMs as their services have become essential during all 7 days of the week. His concerns related to uptime and availability of ATMs and CWDM's were also discussed.

In his response address, Chief Regional Secretary, Comrade Tapas Debnath assured the membership that all the issues raised by the speakers in this session have been taken with proper merit by the leadership present. He appraised the house that owing to opt-out from out of cadre promotion by a large number of clerical employees of the Bank, there is a vacancy of officers across the branches. He also requested the members to set aside any negativity and bring it to the notice of association functionaries in case of any unresolved issues.

Comrade Pramod Kumar, Zonal President, requested the house to consider adopting the Secretary's Report and the audited Statement of Accounts. The entire assembly unanimously endorsed and embraced both the proposals.

Comrade Indrajit Sankar Bhattacharyya, AGS-in-charge of Burdwan Module and the Chairman of State Bank of India Multi-State Co-Operative Credit Society Ltd and Treasurer of AIBOC West Bengal State Unit congratulated team "Burdwan" in his speech for the comprehensive report and thanked the members for their presence. He also echoed the thrust the Circle Association has given to conduct a face-to-face program during the upcoming year. He shared incidents of humanity at Bankura District by the members of the association and requested the members to work in unison without any discrimination and divisions.

Comrade Ranga Nath Sanyal, President of the Circle, extended heartfelt congratulations to the esteemed gathering and underscored few key points. He emphasised the need to have mental peace and shared the connotation of mental stress leading to fatigue. He requested everyone to adhere to the guidelines related to each role and provide opportunities for different categories of staff to adapt to the responsibilities associated with their individual roles. Comrade President shared different proposals placed before the apex management by the Circle Association which has the potential to enhance the

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facilities related to day-to-day banking. Before concluding his deliberation, Comrade's president shared different matters related to enhancement of customer service at branches.

The Zonal President then invited the undersigned to come to the dais and address the gathering.

The undersigned thanked all the members of the Administrative Zonal Committee who were present in the meeting. He also thanked Comrade Comrade Amaresh Vikramaditya, Vice President, AIBOC and AISBOF, General Secretary, SBIOA, Patna Circle along with other senior leaders of the circle and SBIOA Seniors for their presence. He informed the house about the Circle Association's valuable suggestion regarding the sharing of communication across the branches. He echoed the need to motivate the officials toiling hard at branches. He shared his concerns related to the excessive meeting via Microsoft Teams and tried to enquire about its meaningfulness, especially at single officer branches. He further informed the house that other talks are on at different tiers to curtail the excessive team meetings and a fruitful result is anticipated soon. Important factors relating to up gradation of the work environment and problems associated with single officer branches were shared by him. He expressed the concern of the Circle Association towards irrational targets given by controllers and termed it as a deterrent as the Bank is gradually losing its preference for the Youngsters as a preferred employer. He assured the house that the association will leave no keys unturned to ensure ethical business across the Bank and ensure safety of every member. He enumerated the necessity for having a comprehensive and steady deposit mobilization mechanism. Before concluding his deliberation he appealed to all the members to work in unison for the cause of the members and the Circle Association. He ended the speech by expressing his sincere gratitude to all the members who made this 44th AGM of the Module so splendid, magnificent and stupendous.

After offering of the vote of thanks by Comrade Sumanta Das, AZC Member of the module, the meeting was concluded by the President of the meeting at 3:15 pm., with the rendition of National Anthem by the house.

With greetings,

Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay (General Secretary)