

STATE BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

(BENGAL CIRCLE)

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

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Circular No. 50/2025

Date : 02.04.2025

To All Members (Please Circulate)

We reproduce hereunder the Circular No. 2025/16 dated 31.03.2025 issued by the General Secretary, AIBOC and also endorsed by AISBOF vide their Circular No. 23 dated 01.04.2025 & AIBOC (WBSU) vide their Circular No. 18/2025 dated 02.04.2025, the contents of which are self-explicit.

With revolutionary greetings,

Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay
(General Secretary)

COMRADE P M BALACHANDRA, PRESIDENT, AIBOC DEMITS OFFICE

We reproduce below the text of AIBOC Circular No. 2025/16, dated 31.03.2025 on the captioned subject, the contents of which are self-explanatory.

#OurUnityLongLive

With Greetings,

Yours Comradely,

Sd/-

(Rupam Roy)

General Secretary

Dear Comrade,

COMRADE P M BALACHANDRA, PRESIDENT, AIBOC DEMITS OFFICE

Comrade P M Balachandra, President AIBOC, has demitted office on his attaining superannuation from Union Bank of India today i.e. on 31st March, 2025 after more than 39 years of illustrious and immaculate service career.

Com P M Balachandra, popularly known as "Bala" was born on 10th March, 1965, in Mangalore, a coastal city located between the Arabian Sea and the Western Ghats Mountain range of Karnataka, India.

"Being unique is better than being perfect" was a quote that inspired him the most in maintaining an individuality. During his academic journey he developed a passion for sports. He developed a knack for games and athletics and he focused on powerlifting and weightlifting arena, and the journey of a successful sportsman was flagged off.

A sportsman of extraordinary caliber, Com P.M. Balachandra has brought immense pride to the nation through his achievements in powerlifting. He was crowned Junior National Champion with a national record and went on to dominate the sport, becoming a nine-time Senior National Champion, a five-time South India Champion, and a three-time All India Champion. His remarkable prowess earning him the coveted title of National Champion further sharpened and glittered in brilliance at the International Level as well and earned him a Silver Medal at the Asian



Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay
General Secretary
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Championship. His participation in the World Championships held in Johannesburg, South Africa, where he secured 7th place, and his selection for the Junior World Championships stand as testaments to his exceptional talent and dedication. His sporting excellence extended into the banking sector, where he was a champion in the Bank Olympiad and the Bank Sports Board from 1993 to 2008 and reigned as Master Champion from 2005 to 2009. In recognition of his extraordinary sporting achievements, he was granted an out-of-turn promotion to officer in 1994, a rare honour bestowed only upon the most distinguished athletes.

Beginning his banking career in 1986 as a sports recruit, Com P.M. Balachandra displayed the same level of commitment and excellence in his professional journey. Rising through the ranks with sheer dedication, he was promoted to Scale 1 in 1994, Scale 2 in 2001, and Scale 3 in 2008. His leadership and banking acumen led him to serve as Branch Head for over a decade, steering key branches such as Shivamogga, ULP Malleshwaram, Rajajinagar, RT Nagar, and the Service Branch, apart from making significant contributions in the Audit Department.

Beyond his professional achievements, Com P.M. Balachandra emerged as a pillar of strength for the trade union movement, championing the rights and welfare of bank officers. His journey in the Union Bank Officers Association, Karnataka (UBIOA-Karnataka) saw him ascend through various leadership roles, from Office Bearer in 2009 to Joint General Secretary, then Vice President, and eventually General Secretary. His influence further expanded in the All-India Union Bank Officers' Federation (AIUBOF), where he progressed from a Central Committee Member to Joint General Secretary, then Vice President, then President and finally from January, 2020 he became the General Secretary. His leadership was instrumental in stabilizing the federation during the turbulent times of bank mergers, ensuring that AIUBOF not only survived but flourished, standing stronger than ever before.

His legacy reached new heights when he assumed the role of All India President of the All-India Bank Officers Confederation (AIBOC) from 1st October, 2022, the apex trade union body representing lakhs of bank officers. Under his stewardship, AIBOC has grown in strength, relentlessly advocating for the dignity, security, and rights of bank officers. As a member of team AIBOC, he played a pivotal role in the successful signing of the 9th Joint Note for officers in March, 2024, a landmark agreement that secured significant benefits for officers across the industry.

The bonding between the undersigned and Com Balachandra has grown stronger by every passage of day. His calm demeanour and reassuring presence have instilled confidence in me making me stronger to face with antagonised situations. Few of the glaring moments had been during several meetings with IBA and CLC(C). His invaluable inputs had all along given new dimensions to our presentation of views. The undersigned places on record his deepest gratitude to Com Bala for the unflinching support that he had extended during his entire tenure as the President of our mighty confederation.

As he demits his office today, Com P.M. Balachandra leaves behind a legacy that will be cherished for generations to come. A non-controversial, yet non compromising, soft-spoken but strong in resolute, calm demeanour, yet rock solid determination, he has always been a unifying force in the trade union movement, navigating challenges with wisdom, patience, and an untiring commitment to justice. His contributions to sports, banking, and trade unionism are immeasurable, and his journey serves as an inspiration to countless officers and young leaders and shall continue to do so.

We will be failing in our duty if we do not place on record the unstinted cooperation and support extended by the family members of Com Bala. His spouse Mrs. Sreeja Balachandra, who is an HR head in a corporate house in Jordon and son Mr. Pranav Balachandra, who is a pilot in Spice Jet, had borne the brunt of isolation throughout their lives as Com Bala had devoted his entire time for his extended family.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of AIBOC and all the members of the Confederation, we express our deepest gratitude for his invaluable service, steadfast leadership, and extraordinary contributions to UBIOA (Karnataka), AIUBOF and above all, the AIBOC. May Com P M Balachandra enjoy a healthy, active, contented, and serene retired life.

With regards,

Yours Comradely,

Sd/-

Rupam Roy
General Secretary

Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay
General Secretary
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