

# STATE BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

## (BENGAL CIRCLE)

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

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Circular No. 31/2026

Date : 22.01.2026

### To All Members (Please Circulate)

We reproduce hereunder letter No.14/14 dated 21.01.2026 addressed to the Chief General Manager, SBI, Kolkata Circle, the contents of which are self-explicit. In this context, we enjoin upon all Joint Custodians to ensure that handing over and taking over of charge in Currency Chests are done in accordance with the instructions issued in E- Circular No. R&DB/BOD – BOD/9/2025 – 26 dated 28.05.2025 after issuance of proper office order by the Competent Authority. Please ensure change in Vault Teller, Cash Officer roles, adhering to the timelines enshrined in the afore-said Circular. Digital Signature dongles are not to be shared, neither should dynamic passwords be shared during of replenishment of ATMS/ CDMs.

With revolutionary greetings,

Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay  
(General Secretary)

The Chief General Manager,  
State Bank of India,  
Local Head Office,  
Samriddhi Bhavan,  
1, Strand Road,  
Kolkata – 700 001.

No. 14/14

Date: 21.01.2026

Respected Sir,

### UFBU STRIKE CALL ON 27<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY IN SUPPORT OF IMPLEMENTATION OF 5 DAY WEEK IN BANKING SECTOR OUR CONCERNS

With reference to the cited subject, we draw your urgent attention to certain directives of the Circle Management, which we have been given to understand are being issued to SMGS officials of our Circle. You are no doubt aware that the demand of a 5-day workweek in Banks is close to the heart of all Bankers in our country irrespective of designation and scale. While many sectors, including Central and State Government offices, public sector undertakings, and private corporate entities, have moved to a 5-day week, bank employees continue to work under an inequitable regime. This delay now amounts to discrimination vis-à-vis other sections of organised workforce and is inconsistent with emerging international practices and modern labour standards. The agitation and strike action called by UFBU is therefore not only an expression of long-standing grievance but also a legitimate attempt to secure implementation of written commitments repeatedly given by the IBA and placed before the Government of India.

2. In this context, we are extremely concerned that certain directives are emanating from the Circle to SMGS officials, who are bonafide members of our Association to join office on the day of the strike. Such action has serious legal ramifications as the issue was specifically raised in the conciliation meeting dated 21.03.2025, where the Hon'ble CLC advised UFBU to lodge a complaint under Section 25 (T) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 for appropriate examination and action, should such directives / communications be issued to SMGS officials.

3. Under this back drop, we raise our serious objections to certain directives being issued to SMGS officials. SMGS officials are being issued orders to take charge of cheque clearing functions in CCPC, and take charge of Currency Chests and SCAB as joint custodians. Apart from the fact that this is an egregious violation of the spirit of minuted discussions in the conciliation meetings, these beg disconcerting questions with regard to compliance function in Banks. Not only many of these SMGS officials are not conversant with the operational aspects of cheque clearing and currency chest operations but also many of them have never worked in this areas in their entire careers. Suddenly thrusting the roles and responsibilities of such sensitive position in the Bank will potentially expose them to operational mistakes which might cause grave pecuniary loss to the bank making those officials liable to Disciplinary proceedings.

4. You will recall that in successive CNC meetings we have raised the issue of overloading of currency notes beyond the capacity of the Currency Chests and there seems to be no improvement in the situation. We reiterate that handing over and taking over of functions has to be strictly carried out as per instructions enumerated in E-Circular No. R&DB/BOD – BOD / 9 /2025 – 26 dated 28.05.2025 wherein, inter alia, it is mentioned that the handing over taking over period for Cash in charge is 2 days and that for Service Manager is 1 week. Short circuiting such systems and procedures is fraught with risk for both officials who are handing over and taking over charge and will invite financial loss to the bank. It is not out of place to mention that the CMC had strongly reiterated for strict adherence to these guidelines in CNC meetings. Any directive to the contrary will be in contravention to the Bank's circularised instructions reiterated by the CMC. Moreover, reporting of currency chest balances / transactions in e-Kuber will have to be authorised by the cash officer / joint custodians through their personal digital signature dongles sharing of which is strictly prohibited and against the rules of the Bank. Replenishment of ATMs / CBMs are also now done with dynamic passwords, which are sent to the mobile numbers of the joint custodians, which also cannot be shared.

5. In view of the above, we lodge our reservations against such discriminatory actions on the part of the Bank and impress upon the Competent Authority to desist from implementing the same in the spirit of amicable industrial relations.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay)  
General Secretary

Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay  
General Secretary  
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