

## Karnataka Bank Officers' Organisation (Regd.)

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(Affiliated to AIBOA)

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Circular No.18/2019

October 14, 2019

Dear Comrades,

## A VERY SUCCESSFUL "TRADE UNION AWARENESS PROGRAMME" HELD AT SHIVAMOGGA

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A very successful "Trade Union Awareness Programme" was held at Shivamogga on Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 at Hotel Green View Clarks Inn, Shimogga at 10.15 a.m. Responding to the call of the Organisation, morethan 180 members have participated with boundless enthusiasm, coming from far and wide branches of Shivamogga Region, reposing their trust and faith in the banner of KBOO and its leadership. The meeting was presided over by Com. B. Jayarama Naik, President of the Organisation. In his presidential address, he called upon the members to maintain total unity and discipline so as to face the future challenges with courage and conviction. He also exhorted the members to keep the powder dry in the present trying circumstances.

The programme was inaugurated by **Com. S. Nagarajan**, **General Secretary**, **AIBOA**, who in his inaugural address paid rich compliments to KBOO and for its continued working in the interest of the officer community in the Bank and compared it to a priceless jewel in the crown of AIBOA. Dwelling on the issue of wage negotiation, he exhorted the bank officers to maintain a rock-like unity as the negotiation is passing through a critical phase with the bankers bent upon thrusting the concept of variable pay on the bank officers.

He also dealt with the issue of sudden and unilateral decision of the Government/bankers combine to release of one month's ad-hoc salary pending wage conclusion and opined that this unilateral decision is unprecedented one and cautioned the members to properly understand the ulterior motive behind this "goodwill gesture" which was ostensibly decided with an attempt to undermine the role and relevance of the trade unions which are negotiating a just and equitable wage increase to the officers and employees. Dwelling on the issue of work-life balance, which is of paramount importance to the members, he exhorted them not to respond to SMS/WhatsApp messages between 8 pm to 8 am as per the call given by the four officers unions.

**Com. K. Raghava, your General Secretary,** in his address complimented and congratulated the members for their seamless enthusiasm and response to the Trade Union Awareness Programme organised by KBOO. Dwelling on the issue of **work-life balance**, he underlined the fact that particularly officers are the most stressed lot

nowadays, working for more than 10 -12 hours per day on an average with lots of stresses and strains. He also drew the attention of the gathering to the joint struggles launched by both AIKBEA and KBOO on the issue of appointment of two Chief General Managers on contract basis as well as on variable pay, the undue interference/supervision of BCG in the functioning of employees/officers and also on the issue of handing over the job of data entry and scrutiny of KYC documents to M/S Manipal Business Solutions and the resultant delay experienced by the branches in opening of new CASA accounts. In this regard, he profusely complimented the members for their overwhelming response to the joint call of both KBOO and AIKBEA.

The meeting was also participated by **Com. Ravindra M.S.** and **Com. Thippeswamy, Managing Committee members of AIKBEA**. In their addresses, they expressed their happiness in participating in the programme and also highlighted the importance of working together unitedly in the interest of both the employees and the Institution.

The inter-active session which followed proved to be very successful in bringing to the fore, the various issues being confronted by the officers of Shivamogga Region. The main issues raised by the members is in respect of over- emphasis being given to the canvassing of third party products in the place of bread and butter areas such as advances, deposits, NPA recovery and CASA, the issue of ABH check and the resultant increase in the stresses and strains on the members, the problems faced by the branches due to levying of higher ECS return charges as well as debiting of ECS charges to the customer's account in one lot, the persisting feature of delay experienced by the branches in opening of CASA accounts, lack of adequate training to the staff members about the technology driven products that are being launched, so as enable them to acquire the necessary knowledge to market the products effectively to the target group, problems faced by the nodal branches attached to ATMs in the area of cash replenishments to them and the dire necessity to open a currency chest in the Region, the issue of connectivity problems faced by the GP branches connected by V-SATs and the issue of non-availability of ATM security guards and the resultant increase in the work pressures falling on the ATM attached branches etc.

Your General Secretary, in his reply, assured to take up the issues with the Management at the earliest.

Earlier, Com. Vishwanath K.R., Regional Secretary, Shivamogga Region, welcomed the gathering and Com. Rajesh A. G., proposed a vote of thanks.

The programme concluded with the raising of thunderous slogans hailing the unity of AIBEA/AIBOA and KBOO/AIKBEA.

With warm greetings,

Yours comradely, Sd/-(K.RAGHAVA) GENERAL SECRETARY