

Karnataka Bank Officers' Organisation (Regd.)

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(Affiliated to AIBOA)

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Dear Comrades.

A VERY SUCCESSFUL "TRADE UNION AWARENESS PROGRAMME" HELD AT KOLKATA

A very successful "Trade Union Awareness Programme" was held at Kolkata on Saturday, 23rd February, 2019 at Hotel Niharika, Kolkata at 10.30 a.m. Responding to the call of the Organisation, members have participated with seamless enthusiasm, coming from far and wide branches of Kolkata 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. Before the commencement of the programme, a one minute silence was observed in memory of the brave CRPF soldiers who martyred in the terrorist attack in Pulwama. In his presidential address, Com. B. Jayarama Naik, while stressing the importance of maintaining total unity and discipline in the Organisation, called upon the members to keep the powder dry so as to face the future challenges boldly with confidence.

The programme was inaugurated by **Com. S. Nagarajan**, **General Secretary**, **AIBOA**, who in his inaugural address paid rich tributes to KBOO and 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 and a proud affiliate of AIBOA. Dwelling on the issue of wage negotiation, he exhorted the bank officers to maintain a rock-like unity since the negotiation is passing through a critical phase with the bankers bent upon thrusting the concept of variable pay on the bank officers.

Com. K. Raghava, your General Secretary, in his address complimented and congratulated the members for their boundless enthusiasm and response to the Trade Union Awareness Programme. He congratulated the staff members at various levels for the recent successful migration of the Bank to Fin Ten and particularly complimented the Data Centre staff in this respect. While dealing with the after-effects of the post – migration issues, he narrated at length the various challenges and operational hurdles being continuously encountered by the operational staff at the branches/offices to give a prompt and satisfactory service to the customers.

Dwelling on the issue of **work-life balance**, he underlined the fact that officers particularly 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 fact that this kind of stressful atmosphere may end up in a depressed state of mind which may prompt the staff members, to take extreme steps like committing of suicides, as it happened in a bank recently. In this connection, he welcomed the initiative taken by some banks in the direction of work-life balance and the formulation of some schemes to ease the work pressures of the staff members.

The programme was also addressed by **Com. Sameer Banerjee, General Secretary, West Bengal State Committee of AIBOA.** Com. Sameer Banerjee, in his address extended the full support and solidarity of West Bengal State Committee to KBOO in all its endeavors.

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 Kolkata Region. The main issues raised by the members is in respect of over- emphasis being given to the canvassing of third party products compared to advances, deposits, NPA recovery and CASA, unbridled and numerous Whatsapp messages being received by the members round the clock and the consequent pressures and strains felt on the health/personal life of the members, the persisting issues of post- migration without proper support/response from the chat desk/help desk which hinders the servicing of customers satisfactorily. The issue of higher service charges being levied and the apprehension that it might drive away many a good customers in the long run, was another issue. The issue of ABH check was another issue which is another major source of stresses and strains on the branch staff. The other issues raised is with regard to increase in lodging allowances particularly in places like Bhubaneshwar and Raipur and also the increase in lease quarter rent. The issue of the necessity to have proper and adequate training to the staff members on Fin Ten was also raised by the members.

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

Earlier, Com. G. Vignesh, Regional Secretary, Kolkata Region, welcomed the gathering and Com. Kasturi Das, Regional Secretary, proposed a vote of thanks.

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

With warm greetings,

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

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