

Karnataka Bank Officers' Organisation (Regd.)

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(Affiliated to AIBOA)

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Dear Comrades,

MAY DAY RESOLVE – OPPOSE OUTSOURCING OF PERMANENT AND PERENNIAL NATURE OF JOBS – A JOB KILLER MECHANISM

May Day is being observed world over as a day to celebrate the achievements of workers, especially the eight hour day movement which advocated eight hours for work, eight hours for social life and eight hours for rest. Its historic significance continues to be valued by the working people of our country and especially by the bank officers. Accordingly, AIBOA has been raising its voice for a work-life balance for the bank officers who have been otherwise treated as "Undeclared Roman Slaves". The demand for Regulated Working Hours for the officers fully reflects this aspect of the bank officer's work life.

The senior comrades of ours are well aware of the history of this Day. We wish to enlighten our younger comrades about the background, long drawn struggle and sacrifices made by millions of people for justice and better conditions of work, world over.

Let us observe the May Day, this year as a 'Demands Day', demanding regulated working hours for the bank officers, five day week, job security and dignity and self-respect and also let us oppose resolutely the outsourcing of permanent nature of jobs, a job killing mechanism. Surely, May Day will be a great inspiration for all of us to forge greater unity amongst us and take our struggles to greater heights.

MAY DAY – ITS HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE: On May 1, 1886, Chicago, a US city, witnessed a great outpouring of workers who participated in the great struggle at the call of the organized labour movement. It was the most effective and militant demonstration of working class solidarity yet to be experienced by the labour movement itself. "The 8 hour movement" in the US, which started at Chicago, culminating in the Strike on May 1, 1886, forms by itself a glorious chapter in the fighting history of the working

class. The victorious march of the Chicago workers was arrested by then the combined force of the employers and capitalists determined to destroy the militant leaders, hoping thereby to deal a deadly blow to the entire labour movement of Chicago and world over. The events of May 3 and 4, 1886 which led to what is known as the **Haymarket Affair** were a direct outgrowth of the May 1 Strike.

On May 3, police brutally attacked a peaceful meeting of striking workers at the McCormick Reaper Works in Chicago, resulting in the death of six workers. In response to this unprovoked barbaric attack by the police, the workers organized a demonstration on May 4 at the Haymarket Square. The meeting was peaceful and about to be adjourned when agent provocateurs threw a bomb into the crowd. In the anarchy and violence that was deliberately organized by the agent provocateurs, several people were killed and many injured. Seven workers were sentenced to death. Later on, the entire trial was exposed as a farce. For a time, the employer class was jubilant in the US, was able to suppress the working class movement by unleashing ferocious onslaught on the workers. However, it was unable to destroy the fighting spirit of the workers who rose like the mythological phoenix and decided to organize rallies throughout the US on May 1, 1890.

The workers put forward the demands for 8 hour working day, better health conditions etc. The Red flag was created as the symbol that would always remind us of the blood that the working class has bled and continues to bleed under the oppressive reign of employer class. From that day onwards workers throughout the world began to celebrate the 1st of May as a day of international working class solidarity, fighting for better working conditions and dignity of life without oppression and exploitation of the employer class.

The origin of May Day is closely bound up with the struggle for shorter workday – a demand of great significance for the working class and especially for the bank officers at present.

MAY DAY RESOLVE: TO OPPOSE RESOLUTELY OUTSOURCING OF NORMAL, REGULAR BANKING JOBS –A SERIOUS MENACE: Another serious issue engulfing us at present is the attempt by the Bankers to outsource all normal and regular banking services to private agencies which is not only a threat to our jobs and job security but also amounts to exposing the banks to the vagaries of private agencies. It is our considered opinion as well as the time tested stand of AIBEA and AIBOA that outsourcing of permanent and perennial nature of jobs is wrought with all types of risks for the

customers as well as to the Bank since it would expose the banking systems and procedures as well as the confidentiality of the clients to the outside world when normal and regular banking functions are outsourced to private agencies. Hence, on this MAY DAY, we must focus on this issue and resolutely oppose outsourcing of normal and regular banking services to private agencies.

Let it be our collective endeavor to carry forward the torch of this great movement of struggles and sacrifice forward. Let us once again show our solidarity and strength by observing it as a 'Demands Day', demanding regulated working hours, five day week as well as job security and dignity and self-respect for all bank workers.

INDIVIDUALLY WE MAY BE A SINGLE DROP BUT COLLECTIVELY WE WILL FORM AN OCEAN!! FIGHT ALONE WILL ENSURE OUR RIGHT TO FIGHT! RESOLUTELY OPPOSE OURSOURCING OF PERMANENT AND REGULAR JOBS!!

With revolutionary greetings,

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

ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION ZINDABAD KARNATAKA BANK OFFICERS' ORGANISATION ZINDABAD OFFICERS - WORKMEN UNITY ZINDABAD