

ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

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To:

ALL UNITS / STATE COMMITTEES

Comrades,



PREMIER TRADE UNION OF BANKMEN ENTERS 78TH YEAR TODAY

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Human Spirit is ever restless until its dignity and freedom is established and the shackles of the feudal authoritarian bondage are broken with vehemence and articulations. The situation and sufferings of the workforce of pre independent era, compelled to establish the first trade union of bank men in the banks of River Hooghly on 20th April 1946 at the then Calcutta.

2. The early years were most difficult and the challenges were met with great confidence. The early years of the organization depict the relentless hard work and courage displayed by the leaders for the common cause of relieving the workforce in distress with nothing but service as motto.

3. The trade union movement represents the organized economic power of the workers. It is in reality the most potent and most direct social insurance the workers can establish. Like in any other sector in our country the level of exploitation and the working environment in Banking was also appalling and pitiable. It galvanized the workforce to come together and form unions to fight for their rights.

4. The founding leaders of the movement were not self-seeking groups. They raised the wages shortened the working hours and provided supplemental benefits through collective bargaining and grievances procedures. They have brought justice and democracy in their functioning.

5. Challenges today are many. The owners are working overtime to relax the trade union laws making it employer friendly and take away many hard earned rights. There is

a serious move to privatize the public sector banks and make them *Government linked instead of Government Managed.* The HR policies are undergoing changes and there is strong move to bring an end to the concept of bilaterism in the industry. There is an urgent need for new forms of struggles with strong leadership to lead struggles. Struggles alone can strengthen the trade unions.

6. It is time to acknowledge our gratitude to our fore-fathers. It is time to bring more transparency. It is time to strengthen democracy. It is time to create new vision. It is time to prepare new road map. It is time to face the new challenges.

7. Our organization greets the premier trade union organization of Bank men - **AIBEA**-which is entering the **78**th **year today**. All glory to the Premier trade union of Bank men.

"We are made wise not by the recollection of our past, but by the responsibility for our future"

- George Bernard Shaw

Your Comradely,

S. NAGARAJAN GENERAL SECRETARY

| AIBEA & AIBOA | | ZINDABAD |
|--------------------------|------|--------------|
| AIKBEA & KBOO | | ZINDABAD |
| OFFICERS - WORKMEN UNITY | | ZINDABAD |

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| Mangaluru | (Suresha Hegde S.) |
| 21.04.2023 | GENERAL SECRETARY |