



Karnataka Bank Officers' Organisation (Regd.)

Regd. Office: Mangalore (D.K.)
(Affiliated to AIBOA)

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July 09, 2026

Dear Comrades,

- ❖ **10TH CONFERENCE OF AIBOA–KARNATAKA SUCCESSFULLY HELD AT BENGALURU**
- ❖ **COM. SURESHA HEGDE S, GENERAL SECRETARY, AND COM. MANJUNATH KULKARNI, PRESIDENT, ELECTED AS PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT RESPECTIVELY OF THE AIBOA–KARNATAKA STATE COMMITTEE**

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The **10th Conference** of the **Karnataka State Committee of AIBOA** was held on **Sunday, 5th July 2026**, at **Bengaluru** after a gap of seven years. The Conference venue, **Hotel Sanctum**, witnessed enthusiastic participation from more than 230 delegates and observers representing various banks, adding colour and vibrancy to the event.

All our Office-bearers and Managing Committee Members of KBOO from Karnataka attended the Conference as delegates. Being the **largest affiliate of the State Committee**, our Organisation was represented by more than 125 delegates, whose active participation contributed significantly to the grand success of the Conference.

The Conference was presided over by **Com. A. B. Shetty, Chairman of the AIBOA–Karnataka State Committee**. **Com. R. Chandrashekar, Joint Secretary of KBOO** and the **AIBOA–Karnataka State Committee**, welcomed the gathering.

The Conference was inaugurated by **Com. S. Nagarajan, General Secretary, AIBOA**. In his inaugural address, he profusely complimented **Com. A. B. Shetty** and **Com. A. N. Suresh** for their tireless efforts over the years towards the welfare of the working class in general and the officers' community in particular during their leadership of the erstwhile Vijaya Bank Officers' Union and Corporation Bank Officers' Association. He also highly appreciated **KBOO and its leadership** for their committed trade union activities, Organisational strength, and disciplined functioning in all spheres. He made special mention of the guidance and contributions of **Com. K. Raghava, former President of KBOO and Secretary of AIBOA**, in strengthening the Organisation and upholding its rich trade union traditions.

He further dealt at length with various issues confronting the banking industry and the workforce, including the threat of further **amalgamation and merger of Public Sector Banks**, the **controversy surrounding the alleged mis-selling of AT1 bonds by HDFC Bank at Dubai and its impact on the Bank's business and top management**, as well as **rapid technological and Artificial Intelligence (AI) advancements** resulting in **job losses, redundancy, and growing concerns over employment opportunities**. He also observed that the officers' community is increasingly facing attacks under one pretext or another from the Government–bankers combine. In this context, **he emphasised that the workforce cannot effectively withstand such onslaughts without strong and vibrant trade unions**. He, therefore, gave a clarion call to

the officers' community to strengthen their unions further through unity and solidarity in order to safeguard the interests of the workforce.

The **Chief Guest** of the Conference, **Com. Hariharan T. S., DGM (Retd.) and Founder General Secretary of the Corporation Bank Officers' Association (CBOA)**, in his brief address, stated that job security and service protection enjoyed by employees today were secured through the **sustained struggles, sacrifices, and perseverance of trade unions** over several decades. He further observed that **AIBEA and AIBOA** continue to be **strong and united forces** that consistently raise issues affecting bank employees and officers, fight for their rights, and achieve meaningful gains. He reminded the officers that **they should not remain in their comfort zone and must understand the value of the hard-won rights secured through united struggles. He called upon the officers' community to remain vigilant, united, and prepared to fight for the protection of their legitimate rights and interests.** Wishing the Conference all success, he expressed confidence in its bright future and continued growth.

Com. A. B. Shetty, Chairman of the AIBOA–Karnataka State Committee, in his presidential address, observed that the leaders of AIBOA have always been distinct in their vision, commitment, and dedication to the cause of the officers' community. He recalled that the **legendary leader Com. P. K. Menon, Founder General Secretary of AIBOA**, was the first leader in the banking industry to advocate the demand for a **pension scheme** for all bank employees and officers. He noted that, after years of sustained struggle and relentless efforts, this long-cherished demand was finally achieved during the tenure of **Com. R. J. Sridharan as General Secretary of AIBOA**. He further stated that **AIBOA's leaders have consistently been sincere, committed, and militant** in safeguarding and advancing the interests of officers. Expressing confidence in the growing strength of the Organisation, he opined that AIBOA units would be established in every bank in the days to come, further strengthening the movement across the banking industry.

Com. A. N. Suresh, President of AIBOA and Vice President of the AIBOA–Karnataka State Committee, in his address, explained the background leading to the formation of **AIBOA in 1981** with the **support of AIBEA. He stated that the then majority officers' organisation, AICOBOO, had failed to adequately** address the issues and difficulties faced by officers. According to him, it aligned itself with the Government and bank managements and failed to support the banking workforce when officers and workmen were unitedly opposing the recommendations of the **"Bhoothalingam Committee"**.

He further emphasised that **AIBOA and AIBEA** jointly spearheaded the struggle for the introduction of pension in the banking industry and, through sustained efforts, succeeded in securing the pension scheme for the bank workforce. Highlighting the importance of principled trade unionism, he observed that the relevance of an organisation does not depend merely on its numerical strength, but on its commitment to protecting and advancing the collective interests of the officers' community. He, therefore, called upon the members to **further strengthen AIBOA** and contribute to its efforts for the common welfare and betterment of officers across the banking industry.

Com. Vittal Koteswar Rao, General Secretary of AIBIOA and Deputy General Secretary of AIBOA, in his greetings address, emphasised that the officers' community is presently facing numerous challenges and difficulties, and that only a united platform and collective struggle can effectively address these issues. **He expressed serious concern over the growing imbalance between professional and personal life and the emergence of a toxic work culture for officers.** He observed that, **while mobile phones, the internet, and technological advancements were intended to be a boon, they have increasingly become a bane for the officers' community**

due to the expectation of constant availability and extended working hours. In this context, he cited a recent instance where an official video conference meeting in a bank reportedly continued until 11.00 p.m., highlighting the erosion of work-life balance. He called upon the members to unite under the banner of AIBOA to secure a healthy work-life balance, resist unfair work practices, and fight against all forms of injustice affecting the officers' community.

Com. Suresha Hegde S, General Secretary of KBOO and Joint Secretary of AIBOA, in his greetings address, complimented the members for their overwhelming participation and for successfully organising the Conference after a gap of seven years.

In his address, he briefly highlighted the **success story, rich legacy, and remarkable journey of the century-old Karnataka Bank**. He also outlined the **52-year history of Karnataka Bank Officers' Organisation (KBOO), its struggles, fighting spirit, and unwavering commitment to the welfare of the officers' community while steadfastly adhering to trade union principles**, which have enabled it to emerge as **one of the important affiliates of AIBOA**.

He further elaborated on the Management's **cost-cutting measures** during the COVID period, **the toxic work environment** that prevailed during the tenure of **laterally recruited executives** in the top management, and the **unfortunate circumstances that led to the tragic demise of a young General Manager of the Bank**. He recalled the prompt and militant response of both **AIKBEA and KBOO in giving a flash strike call against the incident and highlighted the united struggles undertaken to secure the mandate for the 12th Bipartite and 9th Joint Note**.

He also stated that **both the unions are presently united in their efforts to secure regular recruitment in the Bank and are strongly opposing recruitment on a Cost-to-Company (CTC) basis**. Referring to the changing economic policies of the Government, he observed that increasing encouragement to **foreign investors, capitalists, and corporate entities** in the banking and insurance sectors, coupled with proposals for further **merger and amalgamation of Public Sector Banks**, pose serious threats not only to **future employment opportunities but also to existing jobs and job security**. He, therefore, categorically emphasised that **unity and collective struggle under the banner of AIBEA and AIBOA would be the need of the hour in the days ahead to safeguard the interests of officers and the entire banking workforce**.

Delegate Session: During the Delegate Session, the delegates actively participated in the deliberations and enthusiastically raised various concerns and issues confronting the officers' community in different banks. The discussions reflected the members' keen interest in addressing the challenges faced by officers across the banking industry. **Com. S. Nagarajan, General Secretary, AIBOA**, responded to the queries raised by the delegates and provided detailed clarifications on the issues discussed.

Further, we are **delighted to report that**, during the Delegate Session, a new team comprising **42 members** representing various bank units was unanimously elected to the **AIBOA-Karnataka State Committee**.

We are particularly proud to inform our members that **your General Secretary, Com. Suresha Hegde S, and your President, Com. Manjunath Kulkarni, were unanimously elected as President and Vice President, respectively, of the AIBOA-Karnataka State Committee**.

Apart from these two key positions, the Conference also **unanimously elected the following 13 office-bearers and Central Committee Members from our Organisation** to various positions in the AIBOA-Karnataka State Committee, further strengthening our representation at the State level.

**LIST OF OFFICE- BEARERS & CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF KBOO
ELECTED IN AIBOA – KARNATAKA STATE COMMITTEE**

Sl. No.	Name	Presently working at	Position in AIBOA-State Committee
1	Com. R. Chandrashekar	RO-Bengaluru -North - RLPSC	Secretary
2	Com. Suresh H D	RO-Bengaluru -North	Joint Secretary
3	Com. Com. Vishwanath K.R.	RO-Shivamogga	Joint Secretary
4	Com. Durga Prasad Rao T	RO-Bengaluru – North - RCH	Asst. Secretary
5	Com. Nandakishore S	RO – Hubballi	Asst. Secretary
6	Com. Girish Kumar Bhat	Bengaluru-Malleswaram	Central Committe member
7	Com. H.R. Suresh	Bengaluru-Basaveshwaranagar	Central Committe member
8	Com. Madhumathi K. Pai	Bengaluru – Nehrunagar	Central Committe member
9	Com. Nidhi M.B.	Bengaluru -TDH - DCOE	Central Committe member
10	Com. Ravishankar Avabhrath	RO – Udupi	Central Committe member
11	Com. Darshan H.G.	Mysuru-Ramanuja Road	Central Committe member
12	Com. Ajay B.G.	RO-Tumakuru	Central Committe member
13	Com. Subhas	RO-Kalaburagi	Central Committe member

The Conference also unanimously re-elected **Com. A. B. Shetty** as **Chairman** and elected **Com. A. N. Suresh** as **Vice Chairman** of the **AIBOA–Karnataka State Committee**.

The Conference concluded with vote of thanks and on a high note with **thunderous slogans reaffirming the unity of AIBOA and the working class**, reflecting the delegates' resolve to strengthen the Organisation and continue the struggle for the rights and welfare of the officers' community and the banking workforce.

With warm greetings,

Yours comradely,



**(SURESHA HEGDE S)
GENERAL SECRETARY**

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