

Circular No. 14/2017

October 04, 2017

Dear Comrades,

A SUCCESSFUL "TRADE UNION AWARENESS PROGRAMME" HELD AT DELHI: A very successful "Trade Union Awareness Programme" was held at Delhi on the 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 at 7.15 p.m. at the Kannada Sangha Auditorium, R.K. Puram, Delhi. The impressive presence of more than 100 members coming from branches in Delhi & NCR and also from far and wide branches that too on a working day truly manifested the immense trust and confidence of the members in the banner of KBOO. They came and they participated in the programme braving the heavy peak hour Delhi traffic. Such was the enthusiasm of our members!

The meeting was presided over by **Com. B. Jayarama Naik, President** who in his address called upon the members to be vigilant and prepare themselves to face the future challenges boldly with unity and commitment which is the paramount need of the hour.

**Com. K. Raghava, your General Secretary,** in his address congratulated the members for their tremendous response to the call of the Organisation in spite the day being a working day. He further exhorted the members to be aware of the offensive of the Govt./Bankers combine unleashed on the officer community in the pretext of banking sector reforms and called upon the members to keep the powder dry so as to repulse the attacks with courage and conviction.

**Com. S. Nagarajan, General Secretary, AIBOA,** in his key note address, dealt at length on the crisis that is engulfing the banking industry and explained that the menace of mounting NPAs is the main culprit for the sorry state of affairs prevailing in the industry. He further noted that though the Public Sector Banks earned a combined operating profit of more than 1,50,000 crores as at March, 2017, the net profit recorded is only 574 crores on account of provisions for bad loans and write offs. Under the circumstances, he called upon the Government/RBI to take stringent measures to tackle NPA menace on a war footing. In this context, he observed that the time has come to fix accountability on the top management for the ever increasing bad loans in the banking industry.

He further observed that how the Govt/Bankers combine are bent upon thrusting the pernicious HR policies such as performance linked variable pay and cost to company concepts on the officer community taking advantage of the current critical phase the banking industry is passing through. He also noted that all these anti-employee measures are reflected in the counter demands placed by the IBA during the Bipartite talks in the first instance itself. In this context, he called upon the officers to mount a strong and united movement to decisively thwart these offensives of the Govt/Bankers combine.

**Com. P.R. Karanth, General Secretary, AIKBEA**, in his address stressed the paramount need of unity of bank employees and officers under the great banner of AIBEA, AIBOA and UFBU and in this context underlined the importance of Delhi Chalo programme and Parliament March on 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 so as to repulse the attacks unleashed by the Govt/Bankers combine in the guise of banking sector reforms. **Com. K.G. Paneendra, President, AIKBEA** also participated in the meeting.

The **inter-active session** that followed proved to be very successful wherein the members participated freely raising many pertinent issues/demands/suggestions. The main issues raised

are about the pending demands of transfer policy and BDE enhancement, reduction in housing loan interest, the recent measures to increase service charges and its after- effects and taking away of delegated powers of Branches and its impact on the concept of quick loan delivery etc.

Earlier, **Com. Haricharan Kamath, Joint Secretary, Delhi Region** welcomed the gathering and the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by **Com. Venkatesh Shenoy, Regional Secretary, Delhi Region** followed by spirited slogans hailing the unity of officers and workmen.

**PARLIAMENT MORCHA AND DELHI CHALO PROGRAMME:** All the office-bearers and the Regional Secretary from Delhi Region of the Organisation participated in the historic Delhi Chalo programme on the 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 along with thousands of bank employees and officers coming from all over India holding aloft the banners of AIBEA, AIBOA and UFBU and raising spirited slogans. It's a unique sight and memorable experience for all the participants to feel that we are part and parcel the surging struggles of the bank workers.

**PRIVATE SECTOR BANK OFFICERS' FORUM MEETING HELD AT KOLHAPUR:** The 4<sup>th</sup> Central Committee meeting of Private Sector Bank Officers' Forum (AIBOA), was held at Hotel Skylark, Kolhapur on Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 hosted by Rathnakar Bank Officers' Organisation. Your General Secretary, **Com. K. Raghava as its Convener** and **Com. B. Jayarama Naik as its CC member** participated in the meeting.

The General Secretaries from J&K Bank Officers' Federation, Kotak Mahindra Bank Officers' Association (erstwhile ING Vysya Bank) and Rathnakar Bank Officers' Organisation also participated in the meeting along with Com. S. Nagarajan, General Secretary, AIBOA and chief mentor of the Forum.

**Com. S. Nagarajan** in his opening remarks observed that the banking industry is passing through a crisis situation on account of mounting bad loans and write - offs resulting in the drastic reduction in the net profit of Public Sector Banks as well as of Private Sector Banks. Instead of properly diagnosing the ills which has been inflicting the banks and taking corrective steps like NPA resolution on a war footing, the Govt./Bankers combine is aggressively pushing through its programme of anti-employee HR policies on the officer community, he opined. Struggle path is the only way forward to thwart these pernicious policies, he said.

The discussion which followed identified the following main areas wherein the anti- worker policies will be imposed by the Govt./Banker combine:

- 1. Centralisation of loan sanctioning process.
- 2. Re-designation of functional responsibilities.
- 3. Performance linked variable pay and performance linked incentives.
- 4. Special VRS and lateral recruitment.
- 5. Cost to company concept.
- 6. Thrust to sell third party products.

After an intense deliberations on the issues on hand, it was unanimously decided to broad base the private sector bank officers' movement by having a joint plat-form with other private sector bank unions also with a view to accelerate the united struggles and to ward off the offensives of the Govt./Banker combine. The meeting also accepted the proposal of the Convener to conduct the next meeting of the Forum at Mangaluru.

With greetings,

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