

**All India Oriental Bank Officers' Association (Regd.)**

(Affiliated to AIBOA)



**Central Office:**

C/O Oriental Bank of Commerce  
Corporate Office: Plot No. 5, Sector – 32,  
Institutional Area, Gurgaon -112 001

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27<sup>th</sup> February, 2017

**Circular for  
All Members**

**Closure of Associate Banks & Merger with SBI**

Dear Comrades,

We reproduce hereunder AIBEA circular on Associate banks closure and merger with State Bank of India w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2017. The circular is issued for the information of our members.

Yours comradely,

(S. S. Shishodia)  
Gen. Secretary

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**AIBEA CIRCULAR**

**Government issues Gazette Notification on closure of  
Associate Banks & Merger with SBI w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2017.  
Protecting our members in the Associate Banks – need of the hour  
Clarion call from AIBEA's All India SBI Emp. Association**

Our units and members are aware of our prolonged and principled opposition to the process of consolidation and merger of Associate Banks with SBI. There have been innumerable struggles and strike actions on this issue in the last more than a decade. Especially, when there were attempts to close the remaining 5 Associate Banks for merger with SBI, there have been very intensified agitations and programs. Our units and members in the Associate Banks have also led many struggles including number of strike actions.

There have been nationwide campaign on this issue because the move to close down the Associate Banks was totally unwarranted, rather there was a genuine need to delink these Banks from SBI and make them autonomous. For a long time, these Banks have been subjugated to the total whims of SBI and hence the real growth of the Associate Banks were in fact thwarted. Many Banks which were smaller in size than these Associate Banks have grown much bigger now. But our demand for de-linking Associate Banks from SBI was deliberately ignored and played down by the successive Governments.

However, in the name of Banking sector reforms, privatisation and consolidation have continued to be their agenda and as a part of it, the Associate Banks have been their target. Making SBI a global player has been their fanciful idea notwithstanding the fact that it is neither prudent nor required for Indian situation.

Ignoring all our viewpoints, opposition of various political parties, etc. the Government has gone ahead with their decision and after giving final Cabinet clearance few days ago, have now notified the merger with SBI w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2017.

With this development and reality, the need has now arisen to take all efforts to protect the interests of our membership in the Associate Banks.

**AIBEA's union in SBI:** Our units are aware that already we have our union in SBI viz. **ALL INDIA STATE BANK OF INDIA EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION.**

It has been decided that all our units and members in SBT, SBM, SBBJ, SBH and SBP will be affiliated to this union and thus we will have a stronger **AISBIEA** with nearly **50,000 members** all over the country under the banner of AIBEA. **It will be the biggest bankwise Union under the banner of AIBEA.**

**AISBIEA is shortly meeting to decide on all further steps to consolidate our organisation in the changed scenario after the merger with SBI and to take all steps to protect the interests of our members in the Associate Banks so that no injustice will be done to our members in any manner consequent to the merger.**

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### **AIBEA CIRCULAR**

#### **Government's Gazette Notification on merger with SBI**

Notwithstanding the fact that merger of Associate Banks with SBI is unwarranted and avoidable and despite all our protests, campaign and public/political opinion, the Government has gone ahead and typical of this Government's commitment to banking reforms, they have now gazette the Notification on closure of the 5 well-run Associate Banks and their merger with SBI with effect from 1-4-2017.

At this juncture it is very important to take care of the interests of our members in the Associate Banks who have always held the flag of AIBEA very high against all provocations and challenges. It is important to ensure their job continuity, job protection, besides taking care of their service conditions, trade union rights, etc.

During the founding years of AIBEA, SBI (Imperil Bank) employees were an integral part of AIBEA but later they went out of AIBEA in 1953 due to certain differences. Even after that there have been AIBEA unions in SBI but there has not been any significant membership.

However, after the forced merger of State Bank of Indore, we now have our unit in SBI viz. **All India SBI Employees Association.** In terms of their Rules and Bye Laws, all our Unions in Associate Banks can also be part of it and hence, as decided by us, our 5 Unions in the Associate Banks will now be affiliated to AISBIEA. Thus our AIBEA Unit in SBI i.e. AISBIEA will now have a membership of around 50,000 employees.

Our priority task now is to ensure the protection of interest of our members in the new set up. We have to re-structure our unions in the changed set-up. For this, our meeting of SSBEA/AISBIEA/Associate Bank unions is being held at Bhopal on 11<sup>th</sup> March.

#### **In the meantime, the following steps are required to be taken by us:**

1. Our existing unions (SBTEU, SBHSA, SMBEU, AISBPEF, AISBBJECC) are to submit a letter to AISBIEA seeking formal affiliation.
2. Taking efforts to safeguard the jobs, job security, service conditions, trade union rights of our employees/unions in Associate Banks in post-merger scenario.
3. All State Federations to immediately organise Conventions/meetings of our members in Associate Banks.

4. An interim Adhoc body should be formed consisting of our units in Associate Banks and SBI in every State.
5. VRS is likely to be announced shortly for the Associate Bank employees. We should advice our members not to yield to any pressures to leave the jobs.
6. Any issue confronting the members in the Associate Banks on account of the merger should be dealt by our State Federations in consultation with AIBEA/AISBIEA.
7. Further guidelines will be given in due course looking to developments.

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**Working Class Unity Zindabad**