

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

=====

14th February, 2017

**Circular for
All Members**

Dear comrades,

**This Day – 47 Years ago on 13th Feb. 1970
Historic 2 Hours strike by AIBEA against Supreme
Court judgment striking down Bank Nationalisation Act
14th Feb. 1970 Banks were re-Nationalised again !**

We reproduce hereunder the circulars on the subject matter. Members are requested to go through the contents of the circular and implement all such programmes thoroughly. State General Secretaries are advised to circulate the same to the members working under your jurisdiction.

With AIBOA Founding day greetings,

Yours comradely,

(S. S. Shishodia)
General Secretary

=====

:Circular:

We all feel proud that we belong to the mighty movement of bank employees under the inspiring banner of AIBEA. We are also aware that the seven decades of the history of AIBEA are replete with militant struggles against whatever be the challenges. One of the significant struggles conducted by AIBEA has been the pioneering struggle for nationalisation of Banks. After relentless struggles, AIBEA succeeded when on the 19th July, 1969, major Banks were nationalized by the then Government. Even today, this bank nationalisation is considered as one of the watershed decisions in the political and economic events in our country.

But this bold decision to nationalise the private banks was challenged before the Supreme Court by Balraj Madhok, MP of the then Jan Sangh party (now known as BJP) and M R Masani of Swathantra Party. Famous communist and trade union leaders Com A K Gopalan and Com Sushila Gopalan filed petitions in defence of nationalisation of banks. AIBEA also filed a petition in defence of the Ordinance. The then famous communist leader Com

Mohan Kumaramangalam argued the case in the Supreme Court. However on **10th February, 1970, Supreme Court struck down the Act** on technical grounds.

AIBEA Office Bearers immediately met on 11th February, 1970 and gave the call for protest actions all over the country and demanded re-nationalisation of Banks by promulgating a new ordinance. Powerful demonstrations were held across the country on 12th February, 1970 condemning the judgement.

Glorious 2 Hours strike on 13th Feb. 1970 :

AIBEA also gave the call for a lightning strike for 2 hours on 13th February, 1970. This strike was a roaring success.

Banks re-nationalised:

As a consequence of this powerful reaction and instant strike action, Government promulgated a fresh ordinance on 14-2-1970 re-nationalising the Banks.

This is an unforgettable part of AIBEA's golden history. Since then, our nationalized Banks have made tremendous strides and impressive growth and today our Public Sector Banks are the backbone of the Indian economy. But, today we find that attempts are afoot again to privatise these Banks and hand them over to private corporate vested interests. The people who opposed bank nationalisation in those days are in power today. No wonder their agenda is to privatise the Banks.

Let us recall the militant strike action on 13th February, 1970 and renew our pledge to intensify our struggle against any attempt to privatise our Banks.

March on to 28th February, 2017 All India Bank Strike opposing the bank privatisation moves.

14th February, 1970 – Banks were re-nationalised by the Government

14th February, 1981 – Founding day of AIBOA

=====

Common Press Release on our agitation

We provide herein the common Press Release to be used by our unions at various places for informing the media and newspapers about our agitational programme.

**UFBU calls for One Day All India
Bank Strike on 28th February, 2017**

United Forum of Bank Unions (UFBU) is the umbrella forum for nearly a million bank employees and officers represented by five workmen unions and four officers' associations.

The Unions in the banking industry have been fighting for more than 2 decades against the reform measures of the Government as these are against the interests of general public and labour force in the country. In the name of reform measures, every effort is being made by the successive Governments since 1991 to shift the control of public sector entities to the private and foreign investors.

In order to create a conducive environment to the private and foreign investors further efforts are being made by the Government to amend the labour laws to suit their needs. In the banking sector also, there are increasing instances of denial of trade union rights viz. right of representation in the Boards of the Banks, right to collective bargaining, violation of Settlements, questioning to right to strike etc. Further, every effort is being made to outsource the permanent jobs, in the banking industry too, which is fraught with risks

Hence, UFBU is opposed to the retrograde anti-people banking/labour reforms, the moves of the Government infringing the hard-earned trade union rights and the hazardous practice of outsourcing of permanent jobs.

The implementation of demonetization and the effects of the same are known to everyone. The role and the performance of bank employees during the implementation period was appreciated by each and every one including the top management functionaries, Government, customers and the general public. It is a pity that the day and night hard work and suffering of bank employees and officers are not given due recognition. The eligible compensation to employees as per bipartite provisions for the extra hours of work performed by them is denied. Officers were also made to work for long hours and on Sundays/holidays without compensation or with notional payment.

The cost of demonetization as well as the business loss during the demonetization period of nearly two months will have a cascading effect on the balance sheets of the banks, the brunt of which would ultimately fall on the bank employees and officers alone. It is imperative that the demonetization cost needs to be reimbursed to the Banks by the Government.

Several issues pertaining to the bank employees and officers such as the appointment of workmen/officer employee directors in the boards of many banks, adequate recruitment in all cadres, removal of ceiling on Gratuity, exemption of Income-Tax on Superannuation benefits, improvements in pension/family pension schemes and issues relating to retirees are yet to be resolved. Despite approval by Government, subsequent to decade long struggle of UFBU, the Compassionate Appointment Scheme is still not introduced in many banks. Five-day banking is another long pending demand of bank employees and officers.

The Government is very serious in continuing the retrograde reform measures ignoring the real menace in the banking industry i.e., alarmingly increasing bad loans. Willful defaulters are also on the increase. The whole country has so far witnessed that the method of evading repayment also is maximum done by the big and corporate borrowers. The economy of the country is affected. There is a need to fix accountability of those

responsible for the bad loans. Criminal action against willful defaulters of bank loans can only reduce such types of irregularities in the banking industry.

On the issues and demands of bank employees and officers including retirees, as mentioned above, it has been unanimously decided by the UFBU to observe One Day All India Bank Strike on the 28th February 2017.

We sincerely regret the inconvenience to the esteemed customers / general public on account of strike by bank employees and appeal for their moral support to our just cause.

SPECIMEN

10 LACS BANK WORKMEN AND OFFICERS OBSERVE
ALL INDIA BANK STRIKE – 28.02.2017

OPPOSING

- ANTI-PEOPLE BANKING & LABOUR REFORMS
- GOVERNMENT MOVES INFRINGING TRADE UNION RIGHTS
- OUTSOURCING OF PERMANENT JOBS

DEMANDING

- ✓ DEMONETISATION – PROPER COMPENSATION TO EMPLOYEES & REIMBURSEMENT OF RELATED COST TO BANKS BY GOVERNMENT
- ✓ IMPROVEMENTS IN SUPERANNUATION BENEFITS
- ✓ TOTAL EXEMPTION OF INCOME TAX ON SUPERANNUATION BENEFITS
- ✓ EARLY INITIATION OF PROCESS OF NEXT WAGE REVISION
- ✓ PROPER IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPASSIONATE APPOINTMENT SCHEME
- ✓ ADEQUATE RECRUITMENT IN ALL CADRES
- ✓ FIVE-DAY BANKING
- ✓ STRINGENT MEASURES TO RECOVER BAD LOANS & CRIMINAL ACTION AGAINST WILFUL DEFAULTERS

UNITED FORUM OF BANK UNIONS
(AIBEA-AIBOC-NCBE-AIBOA-BEFI-INBEF-INBOC-NOBW-NOBO)

10 LACS BANK WORKMEN AND OFFICERS OBSERVE
ALL INDIA BANK STRIKE – 28.02.2017

OPPOSING

- ANTI-PEOPLE BANKING & LABOUR REFORMS
- GOVERNMENT MOVES INFRINGING TRADE UNION RIGHTS
- OUTSOURCING OF PERMANENT JOBS

DEMANDING

- ✓ DEMONETISATION – PROPER COMPENSATION TO EMPLOYEES & REIMBURSEMENT OF RELATED COST TO BANKS BY GOVERNMENT
- ✓ IMPROVEMENTS IN SUPERANNUATION BENEFITS
- ✓ TOTAL EXEMPTION OF INCOME TAX ON SUPERANNUATION BENEFITS
- ✓ EARLY INITIATION OF PROCESS OF NEXT WAGE REVISION
- ✓ PROPER IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPASSIONATE APPOINTMENT SCHEME
- ✓ ADEQUATE RECRUITMENT IN ALL CADRES
- ✓ FIVE-DAY BANKING
- ✓ STRINGENT MEASURES TO RECOVER BAD LOANS & CRIMINAL ACTION AGAINST WILFUL DEFAULTERS

UNITED FORUM OF BANK UNIONS
(AIBEA-AIBOC-NCBE-AIBOA-BEFI-INBEF-INBOC-NOBW-NOBO)



Working Class Zindabad
UFBU Zindabad