

THE FEDERATION OF BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATIONS

(REGD.No.7364)

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Circular No. 2014/54

Date: 19/08/2014

Dear Comrades,

COORDINATION BETWEEN ALL PUBLIC SECTOR UNDERTAKINGS **WORKSHOP ON STATE OF THE ECONOMY**

We reproduce hereunder the contents of Circular No. 2014/58 of date on the captioned subject issued by Com. Harvinder Singh, General Secretary, AIBOC for your information & circulation.

QUOTE:

Please refer to the discussions held in the last Working Committee Meeting, held on 23rd June, 2014, at Mumbai, in which the members were informed that there is a need for wider unity amongst Officer, Executives, Engineers and Professionals working in Public Sector Banks and other Public Sector Undertakings to oppose the Anti Public Sector, Anti Workforce and Anti people policy of the Government. In this regard, the members were also briefed about the initiatives taken by our Confederation along with AIPEF, NCOA and SNEA/MEA. The joint forum of these organizations decided to hold a two days workshop on the State of Economy at New Delhi on 16th and 17th August, 2014. All the four organizations contributed Rs. 20,000 each for the expenses incurred on holding this workshop and 10 representatives from all the organizations were invited to participate. Following Office Bearers of the Confederation were deputed for the workshop: Com. Y. Sudarshan, Com. Harshavardhan M, Com. Harvinder Singh, Com. Dilip Saha, Com. Manimaran G.V, Com. D. Ghosh, Com. Ananda Kumar, Com. D.S. Punja, Com. S. Roy Choudhary and Com. Paul Mundadan.

In the workshop held as per schedule, Shri Prabhat Patnaik, a noted Economist and Member of Independent Commission on Banking and Financial Policy appointed by AIBOC under the Chairmanship of Shri S.P. Shukla, Former Secretary, Shri Biswajit Dhar, Professor, JNU, Shri D.G. Patwardhan, CEO, FEDAI, Shri R.K. Upadhyay, Former Chairman, BSNL, Shri Paranjay Guha Thakurtha, a noted Journalist deliberated on the policies of the previous Government with regard to the Public Sector Undertakings and their adverse impacts on the country men. All the speakers were unanimous in their view that the same policies are being pursued, rather more vigorously by the NDA Government. Shri D.G. Patwardhan deliberated on the recommendations of the P.J. Nayak Committee and its implications on the Banking Sector in general and on Public Sector in particular. Perceptions of various sectors were given by Com. K Ashok Rao, Com. Harvinder Singh, Com. G.L. Jogi, Com. V.K. Tomar, Com. Padamjit Singh and Com. Baby Thomas before the invitees delivered their deliberations on that particular sector.

Following issues emerged from the deliberations:

1. That public owned institutions, be they, Banks, Electricity Boards, Telecom units or Public Sector units, have since Independence provided goods and services, at affordable prices, to all sections of the people, even at a sacrifice to the commercial interest of the enterprises.
2. Public owned institutions have been the instruments of policy to, inter-alia, enable mass banking and provide the poor with credit and other financial instruments; to provide electricity and telecommunications to the remotest parts of the country and to sections of people who do not have the purchasing capacity to pay for 'cost to serve'; build the basic infrastructure; provide capital goods and defence equipment; make strategic interventions in commodities markets thus enabling people to gain access to food grains through the public distribution system. To dismantle this, without alternative instrument would be to deny the people of India their basic human rights.
3. That there is a serious danger that the cherished goals of economic independence and self-reliance would be jeopardised.
4. The threat of privatisation looms large. In the name of level playing field, public owned enterprises are being discriminated against and private use of public enterprises has become the rule of the day. **Crony capitalism has ensured the privatization of profits and nationalization of losses**, a policy pursued by the previous Government that is being continued with renewed vigor by the new regime.
5. The rate of growth of GDP is not only to achieve jobless growth, but has been accompanied by increasing disparities of incomes and wealth.
6. That the policies of the Government of India are based on compromises with multinational institutions, foreign and Indian capital and not necessarily based on the welfare and wellbeing of the Indian people, thereby compromising on sovereignty.
7. The Government is squeezing the Public Sector through various instruments like advance dividends, administered prices, social subsidies etc.
8. There is no serious effort to revive loss making units, most of them being either a legacy of the private sector or driven sick due to policies of the Government instead they are left to hemorrhage even further.
9. The political and economic situation in the country is not favourable to the interest of the employees serving public owned enterprises.
10. Instead of ratifying the basic conventions - the right to association and collective bargaining of the International Labour Organization, retrograde legislation is being introduced that would increase the casualisation of labour and deny the employees social security.

Recognising the above mentioned critical issues being common to the entire public sector, it was agreed that there is a need for organizations to come together and demonstrate their common resolve.

It was therefore, **RESOLVED** to reach to common masses to highlight the issues of national interest by a sustained movement by organising public rallies, through mass media and public domain and through other publicity material and **A MARCH TO PARLIAMENT DURING THE WINTER SESSION OF PARLIAMENT.**

In order to prepare for the march, the following decisive steps shall be taken:

The Officers' Associations of the above four sectors shall form a coordination committee of Officers' Associations of Public Owned Enterprises - at the national and state levels. These Co-ordination committees shall organize training workshops for leader of Officers' and Engineers' associations on the above issues and also organize Joint General Body meetings initially in six cities viz. Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chennai, Bangalore, Kolkata and Chandigarh in three months time.

Comrades, steps have been initiated for a bigger struggle against the policies of the Government who is unmindful of the basic problems of the common masses and is bent upon selling the Public Sector to Private hands. All steps are being ensured to hand over the family silver and future sources of income to exchequer are being blocked. We will have to prepare ourselves without any loss of time and organize the bigger struggle. Recognizing the strength of our Confederation and logistic support available with us, the joint forum has entrusted the job of organizing the Joint General Body Meetings in the above mentioned six cities to AIBOC. We call upon all Central Office Bearers and State Secretaries of these states to immediately start preparations for organising the Joint General Body Meetings. We shall be advising you the names of Office Bearers/Activists from other organizations in these States. We are confident that our Confederation will once again prove that we are capable of undertaking any responsibility entrusted to us for the cause of working class and common masses of our mother land.

UNQUOTE

With warm greetings,

Yours comradely,



(HARVINDER SINGH)
GENERAL SECRETARY