

# THE FEDERATION OF BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATIONS

(REGD.No.7364)

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Dear Comrades,

We reproduce hereunder the contents of Circular No. 2014/29 of date on the captioned subject issued by Com. Harvinder Singh, President, AINBOF for your information & circulation.

## **QUOTE:**

**"3RD TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE HELD AT NEW DELHI ON 20<sup>TH</sup> AND 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2014**

With successful conduct of 3<sup>rd</sup> Triennial Conference held on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2014, at New Delhi, the All India Nationalised Banks Officers' Federation (AINBOF), a Sectoral organization of All India Bank Officers' Confederation (AIBOC), added another golden chapter in the annals of the history of Trade Union movement. All those who witnessed the two days programme were appreciative of the smooth conduct, and wonderful arrangements combined with superb time management. We give here below the day wise account of the triennial conference.

## **INAUGURAL SESSION**

The Inaugural Session commenced sharp at 5.30 pm, on 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2014, at State of the art Kedar Nath Sahni Auditorium at S.P. Mukherjee Civic centre, J.L.Nehru Marg, which has witnessed many important meetings in the past. The ambience of the hall, overflowing with 1500 delegates, fascinated one and all. Another most distinguished feature of the function was time management being adhered to, from minute to minute till the end of the programme.

The function was preceded by a mammoth rally participated by more than 1500 delegates having come from length and breadth of the country and local officers of various affiliates. The rally started sharp at 4 pm, as per the schedule, from Zakir Husain College – a famous college of Delhi University. The colourful massive rally reflected the solidarity, energy, enthusiasm of the Federation. It was splendid display of collective strength when members holding banners of their respective organizations, flags and placards of their demands, ranted the air with slogans reverberating the atmosphere. Leading the rally were Com. Nirmal Kumar Bari, Com. Dinkar S. Punja, Com. Harvinder Singh, the President, General Secretary and Working President, respectively, along with Com. Prakash Karotya, Com. Sunil Bansal, Com. Debasis Ghosh and other leading lights of the organization. The rally passing through various streets of New Delhi was so huge that when it reached its destination, the tail end was still at the starting point.

After high tea, the members proceeded to the Auditorium. The function commenced with a wonderful cultural performance presented by Com. B.B. Kaul, and his team of members from the Federation of Bank of India Officers' Associations. The group presented the song 'Mile Sur Mera Tumhara' (sung by Bhim Sen Joshi and others). The presentation reflected not only true sense of patriotism but also was in complete harmony with the theme of integrity which is the soul of any Nation and any Organization. The members of the group attired in colourful dresses representing different cultures and regions of our country and the melodious song in various regional languages depicted a true picture of national integrity. The audience was totally mesmerized and was enthralled with this magical presentation which invigorated all by infusing unspeakable

enthusiasm, visible on the faces beaming with pleasure. With aroused feeling of patriotism and unity everybody joined in singing out 'Vande Mataram' and 'Jai Hind' at the end of the presentation while National Flags were waived by those on stage.

The Chief Guest for the occasion was none other than the Doyen of Officers' Movement, the veteran leader Com. S.R. Sengupta. Apart from him, the other dignitaries escorted to the dais were President - Com. Nirmal Kumar Bari, Working President AINBOF and General Secretary AIBOC- Com. Harvinder Singh, General Secretary - Com. Dinkar S. Punja, State President - Com. Prakash Karotya and State Secretary - Com. Debasis Ghosh and the Treasurer - Com. Ravi Goel. All were extended floral welcome by lady comrades representing various affiliates.

Welcoming the gathering, Com. Debasis Ghosh expressed his happiness at the large participation and told that he was confident that AINBOF would continue to play pivotal role in the Trade Union movement of Bank Officers in the years to come. He extended a very warm welcome to Com. Sengupta, who despite his advanced age and deteriorating health, had accepted the invitation and agreed to participate in the conference. He also welcomed leaders of the fraternal Organisations who were attending the conference.

The conference was inaugurated amid thunderous applause by lighting of the lamp by Com. Sengupta and other dignitaries on the dais, amidst the mantra chanted by Com. Madan of Syndicate Bank Officers' Association.

In the key note address, Com. Harvinder Singh, traced the origin of AINBOF and the objectives and circumstances under which it was formed. He expressed his pleasure at the effective functioning of the Federation, which in a short span of six years has acquired a towering place in the officers' movement. He highlighted various achievements/activities of the Federation like clinching second option of pension, pension option to left outs, stopping advertisements defaming bank officers, taking up issue of compensation to officers for working on holidays and extended working hours, issue of common holidays under CTS etc. by communicating with the Government and the IBA officials and organizing Cadre development programmes etc. He expressed his confidence that the Federation would continue to be the most vibrant constituent of AIBOC. He also exhorted the members to participate actively in the functioning of the Organisations. Speaking on the developments in the bipartite wage negotiations, he informed the house that though many rounds of discussions have taken place no headway is made. He advised that IBA is putting up the argument of lower profits due to surge in NPAs and lower paying capacity of individual Banks. He also informed the house about the various steps initiated by AIBOC to hasten the process of negotiations with a respectable salary increase. He lamented the move of some of the constituents of UFBU to drastically reduce the demand for hike in salaries under the garb of speedy finalization of the settlement. He sought the directions of the house in the wage settlement. He urged all the Affiliates to actively involve the younger generation in the Federation and to guide them so that they would be ready to lead the movement at appropriate time.

Com. Sengupta in his thought provoking address complimented the AINBOF and extended his fraternal greetings. He traced the history of Trade Union movement of Bank officers and AIBOC. He expressed his satisfaction at the progress made by AIBOC at the apex level and the pivotal role played by AINBOF in shaping the course of the Bank officers' movement. He cautioned the participants about the evil designs of the World Bank and IMF in imposing conditions to developing countries. He also expressed his apprehensions about the move of the successive governments in consolidation and merger of banks under the garb of creating stronger banks. He expressed his confidence that the current leadership is capable of handling any situation and wished the conference all success.

General Secretary Com. Dinkar S Punja took the audience down the memory lane. He gave his perspective of the Trade Union movement of Bank officers and formation of AINBOF. He urged the young generation to actively participate in the affairs of the Organisation and be prepared to carry on the rich legacy of the trade union movement of officers' movement. He also expressed

his confidence about clinching a decent wage settlement and gave a clarion call to agitate if IBA continues with its callous attitude.

Com. Punja, who had superannuated from the services of Syndicate Bank on 31.08.2014, was then given an emotional and befitting farewell. Com. Aruna S. Agnihotri, Chairperson, Women's Wing, AIBOC, read out the scroll presented in his honour. He was felicitated by Com. S.R. Sengupta, Com. Harvinder Singh and other leaders with shawl, Coconut, bouquet and purse. He was given standing ovation by all the participants in recognition of his services to the trade union movement of Bank officers. All present joined in wishing him a very healthy, happy and contented retired life.

Com. Nirmal Bari, in his presidential address dwelt at length the challenges before the trade unions in the country in general and Bank Officers' Associations in particular. He urged members to take keen interest in the activities of the Organisation and engage the young generation of officers in the action programmes.

The programme ended with vote of thanks proposed by Com. Prakash Karotya.

### **BUSINESS SESSION**

Business Session held on 21.09.2014 at Ramjas School, Chitragupta Road, Paharganj, New Delhi, commenced sharp at 10.00 am, after the breakfast. The session was presided over by the President Com. Nirmal Kumar Bari. He requested the General Secretary Com. Dinkar S Punja to conduct the session as per the agenda circulated along with the notice of the meeting.

Com. Punja read out the minutes of the previous Triennial Conference held at Hyderabad on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2011, which was adopted by the House unanimously.

Com. Punja presented a well-documented and informative General Secretary's report for the triennial period which included various issues of national and international importance, banking, trade, industry and commerce, 10<sup>th</sup> Bipartite Settlement talks and retrograde recommendations of P.J. Nayak Committee etc. He lamented that these recommendations would result in privatization of nationalized banks and will defeat the very purpose of nationalization. He also touched on issues like corruption in high places, harassment of officers by Executives particularly of Punjab National Bank and unfortunate suicide of Com. Ajay Sehgal. He also informed the house about efforts made by AINBOF and AIBOC for securing second option of pension to left outs, compassionate appointments, Staff housing loans to bank employees, policy guidelines on transfer of female employees in Public Sector Banks, transfer of employees having differently abled dependents, cadre development programmes undertaken by the Federation etc.

As many as 40 delegates spoke on the General Secretary's report. The crisp, informative and illustrative report was widely appreciated. Many speakers deliberated on ways and means of strengthening the associations, participation of newly recruited officers in the activities and need for common perquisites and facilities in Public Sector Banks, role of AINBOF and AIBOC, forming of public relation team for AINBOF, proper succession plan for the organization, representation of Officers' Association in forum like SLBCs meetings, the problems foreseen in opening of accounts under 'Jan Dhan Yojana', staff shortage, media coverage of pathetic working conditions of bank officers, comprehensive policy for transfer of women officers by the Federation, Women's Wing formation of Federation, preference in transfer of disabled officers, suggestions regarding LFC facility, formation of State Committees of Federation, expressing concerns over mounting NPA, proper compensation for working on Sundays and Holidays, updation of pension, giving due importance to organizational leaders in the meetings and conferences of affiliates rather than to bank executives, making available adequate security arrangements for bank officers, suggestion of indefinite strike, insurance coverage for all bank officers, restricting administrative transfers of officers above 50 years and not taking promotion, encouraging probationary officers and youth to take a position in officers' organization, covering family members of employees aged 55 years and more dying in harness for compassionate appointment, bringing parity in payment of allowances in all nationalized banks, utilizing PMJDY campaign for bank officers demands etc. All the participants were unequivocal and clear in demanding a fair and respectable wage settlement. Com. General Secretary replied to the queries raised and his perceptions about the suggestions offered.

Com. Harvinder Singh, the Working President also addressed some of the remaining queries raised by the members and enumerated the various efforts and achievements thereof clinched by way of joint struggle of the Federation. He requested the members not to post unauthenticated and misleading news related to Federation or Confederation in social media on wage settlement as it jeopardizes our interest and weakens our movement. He exhorted all to stand solidly together to make the movement a success by responding to each and every call of the Organisation.

The General Secretary's report was adopted unanimously as all issues raised by the members were dealt with, to the satisfaction of the members.

The accounts of the Federation for the years ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011, 2012, 2013 and unaudited Statement of accounts for the remaining period were presented to the House and approved. The agenda of appointing auditors for the next Triennial term was also presented and House authorized the new General Secretary for appointing the auditors for the next Triennial Term.

The session also adopted twenty one resolutions covering regulated working hours, demanding five day week in banking industry, expressing concern at the rising prices of essential commodities, against corruption in public life, demanding repeal of Banking law amendment bill, demanding nationalization of old generation private sector banks, opposing foreign direct investments in banking sector, opposing free entry of foreign banks, demanding updation of pension for bank employees and officers, demanding an early and respectable wage revision for bank employees, expressing concern on rising NPAS, demand of scrapping anti employee and anti-public sector recommendations of Khandelwal committee report, against inhuman approach and humiliation of officers by the executives in Banks etc.

### **ELECTIONS - COM. HARVINDER SINGH & COM. G.V. MANIMARAN** **ELECTED PRESIDENT/GENERAL SECRETARY**

After adoption of resolutions the next agenda was election of Office-bearers and Executive Committee members for the triennial period 2014 -2017. The President proposed ratification of following amendments to bye-laws passed in the previous Triennial Conference:

1. Appointing one Vice Chairman, two Deputy General Secretary and two Joint General Secretary
2. Charging annual subscription at the rate of Rs 10/- per member from the affiliates

The same were unanimously ratified.

The President dissolved the present general council to pave the way for electing new set of Committee bearers. Com. B.N. Madhusudhana, (Bank of India) was appointed as election officer to be assisted by assistant election officers viz. Com. V. Chidambara Kumar (Bank of India) and Com. Sunil Bansal (United Bank of India).

The following Panel was proposed by Com. D.S. Punja, Syndicate Bank, which was seconded by Com. (Dr.) B.L. Harsh, Bank of India and many others.

Chairman	- Pending
Vice Chairman	- Com. Sanjay Manjrekar (Syndicate Bank)
President	- Com. Harvinder Singh (Bank of India)
Working President	- Com. Debasis Ghosh (Union Bank of India)
Vice President	- Com. Sunil Kumar (Bank of India), Com. H.S. Padiyar (Union Bank of India), Com. Prakash Karotya (Syndicate Bank), Com. Nirmal Kumar Bari (Allahabad Bank), Com. Pijush Kanti Ghosh (United Bank of India),

	Com. (Dr.) Rajagopal Reddy (Indian Bank)
General Secretar	-Com. G V Manimaran (Canara Bank)
Joint General Secretary	- Com. M.L. Gupta (Dena Bank), Com. K.S. Singh (Canara Bank), Com. Ranjan Shetty (Vijaya Bank)
Deputy General Secretary	- Com. K.K. Dogra (Allahabad Bank), Com. K.S. Sethi (Punjab & Sind Bank), Com. Rajendran (Indian Bank), Com. Ashok Sharma (Bank of Baroda), Com. (Dr.) V. Chidambara Kumar (Bank of India)
Treasurer	- Com. Shanmugam (Canara Bank)
Secretary	- Com. Krishna Kumar (Canara Bank)

As there was no other panel/name proposed, the above said candidates were elected for the respective posts unanimously. The new team of the Office Bearers were installed in the office and were greeted by the members.

The newly elected General Secretary, Com. G.V. Manimaran conveyed his heartfelt thanks to the members for the trust reposed on him. He assured that the new team would work relentlessly to further consolidate the movement. He expressed his faith and confidence that he with Com. Harvinder Singh as President, would be able to bring remaining three Nationalised Banks under the fold of the Federation.

After vote of thanks proposed by Com. J. Vanangamudi and chorus singing of National Anthem the curtain was drawn down to the wonderfully organised, glittering event, which left a indelible imprint in the mind of all participants.”

**UNQUOTE**

With revolutionary greetings,

Yours sincerely,



(HARVINDER SINGH)  
**GENERAL SECRETARY**