THE FEDERATION OF BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATIONS

(REGD.No.7364)

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Circular No. 2015/70

Dear Comrades,

AIBOC OPPOSES WORKING ON HOLIDAYS OPPOSES UNMINDFUL DISBURSEMENTS OF LOANS HOLDS DEMONSTRATION AT THE VENUE OF LOAN MELA

We reproduce, hereunder, the contents of the Circular No. 2015/67 dated 26.09.2015, on the captioned subject issued by Com. Harvinder Singh, General Secretary, AIBOC for your information and circulation among the members.

QUOTE: "After prolonged negotiations and strikes the Bank Officers and employees got into a Bipartite Settlement with clinching 2 Saturday Holidays in lieu of working full day on other Saturdays. Unfortunately the Government, which issued the notification to the effect very recently, is indirectly depriving the Bankers of their holidays. This is being done despite the fact that the Jandhan, PMSBY & PMJJY schemes of the Government were grand success due to whole hearted involvement and indescribable pressure undertaken by Bank officers and employees.

This time it is MUDRA loans. Government has given a target of minimum 25 loans per branch to all the Banks to be sanctioned within few days. While no one denies that all socio economic policies and schemes need to be given utmost priorities and importance, adherence to lending norms should not be given a go by. The way in which the scheme is being implemented raises many eyebrows and motives are being attributed.

The process of MUDRA loans like any other loan involves the identification of borrowers, their KYC and due diligence, inspections, sanction, documentation and disbursement. Even at the cost of ignoring normal operations of banking, not more than one or two borrowers can be handled by one officer in a day. Any lapse in processing of loan may lead the Officer, sanctioning these loans, to trouble and disciplinary action against him apart from account becoming NPA. After having nightmarish experiences of the loan Melas organised during the period and at the behest of Mr. Janardhana Poojari the then State Minister of Finance in 1987. All our affiliates have been raising the issue with their respective Managements. The issue was deliberated in the 77th Executive Committee of our Confederation held at Ahmadabad held on 23rd September, 2015 and it was desired that officers should not be compelled to work on holidays as it disturbs work life balance.

In utter disregard to the feelings and sentiments and pressures on the officers Finance Ministry had issued instructions to the Tamil Nadu State Level Bankers Committee to organise a loan mela and it was compelled to issue sanction letters to more than 1000 borrowers on 26th September, 2015, 4th Saturday of the month declared as national holiday. Bankers were compelled sanctioning of such a large number of applications in a short time which was done overlooking many norms. Sanction letters were to be handed over by Sh. Venkaiah Naidu, Hon'ble Minister of the Govt of India at Image Auditorium, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai. The entire venue and the roads leading to the venue were decorated with party flags of Bharatiya Janata Party.

Management of the Banks compelled the Branch Managers to sanction the loans and to attend the function with other officers. AIBOC Tamilnadu State Unit in consultation with the National Leadership organised a massive demonstration in front of the venue of the function. Hundreds of officers, including many lady comrades assembled under the leadership of Com. D.T. Franco, State President, AIBOC, Com. Vijayasenan State Secretary, Com. J.D. Sharma Senior Vice President AIBOC, Com. Rajendran General Secretary, Indian Bank Officers Federation, Com. B. Srinivasan General Secretary, IOB Officers Federation, Com. (Dr.) V. Chidambara Kumar President All India Private Sector Bank Officers Federation, Com. Gopish General Secretary Lakshmi Vilas Bank Officers Association, Com. A. Krishnan President SBI Officers Association Chennai Com. Jagadeesan Tamilnadu Co-operative Bank Officers Association and participated in the demonstration demanding implementation of the Bipartite settlement allowing 2 Saturday holidays, providing adequate time for loan processing and opposing politicisation of loan dispersals.

We convey our heartiest congratulations to the Tamil Nadu State Committee of our Confederation for such a huge and successful demonstration which highlighted the high handedness and evil designs of the Government. While we reiterate our commitment to serve the society in any way including through extending loans to the poor and needy, we condemn the "Take it for granted approach" of the managements and Government, ignoring all human values and systems, which is painful and telling poorly on the governance. We request the Government to view with concern the negative impact of such practices on its image and streamline its approach." UNQUOTE

We demand from the Government:

DO NOT DEPRIVE BANK OFFICERS OF THEIR HOLIDAY !
PROVIDE ADEQUATE TIME TO PROCESS LOAN APPLICATIONS !!
DO NOT POLITICISE LOAN DISPOSAL !!!

With comradely greetings,

Yours comradely,

(HARVINDER SINGH)
GENERAL SECRETARY