

THE FEDERATION OF BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATIONS

(REGD.No.7364)

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Dear Comrades,

DEEPAWALI GREETINGS

My heartiest wishes to all of you and your family members and friends on the biggest and brightest of all festivals, festival of lights, which literally illuminates the country with its brilliance, and dazzles all with its joy. The festival of lights has different tradition but what remain true and constant is the celebration of life, its enjoyment and goodness.

There are various legends to the origin of Deepawali Some believe the celebration to commemorate the return of Lord Ram along with Sita from his fourteen year long exile and vanquishing the demon-king Ravana. Some believe it to be the celebration of the marriage of Lakshmi with Lord Vishnu. Whereas in Bengal the festival is dedicated to the worship of Mother Kali. It has an added significance to the great event of Lord Mahavira attaining the eternal bliss of *nirvana*. It is also an occasion to celebrate as "Bandi Chhor Divas" the release of 6th Sikh Guru Hargobindji and 52 other princes from prison. The illumination of homes with lights is an expression of obeisance to the heavens for the attainment of health, wealth, knowledge, peace and prosperity. In each legend, myth and story of Deepawali lies the significance of the victory of good over evil; and it is with each Deepawali and the lights that illuminate our homes and hearts, that this simple truth finds new reason and hope. From darkness unto light — the light that empowers us to commit ourselves to good deeds, that which brings us closer to divinity.

Comrades this is also a time for dedication to all good things we believe in, to dispel the darkness in our understanding, in the circumstances of society, in the organization we work. Our Bank too is yearning for regaining its lost brightness and the responsibility for giving the star its lost sparkle rest with all of us. If the Bank regains its light, we will have every opportunity for celebration of Deepawali in our lives on continuous basis. I call upon you all to have the blessings of god almighty this Deepawali, regain your lustre, your strength to bring sustained prosperity to you, your family, our Bank, our society, our country.

One behalf of the entire Executive Committee of our organization and on my personal behalf, I once again convey my heartiest wishes for brightness and sparkle in your family and social lives.

With warm greetings,

Yours comradely,

(HARVINDER SINGH)
GENERAL SECRETARY