THE FEDERATION OF BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATIONS

(REGD.No.7364)

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Circular No. 2015/ 84 Dated: 07/12/2015

Dear Comrades,

Flood in Chennai & Puducherry— Appeal to Extend all possible support Helping hand of our Southern Unit in Relief work.

Major parts of Tamil Nadu including Chennai, in particular have experienced record rainfall not seen in last 100 years. Ponds, tanks, reservoirs and lakes were full and overflowing. Chennai has turned into an island with water logging everywhere and the signs of rain ravage have started appearing around 30 Kms from Chennai. Flood water has entered roads, residences, buildings and hospitals with highways, Railway tracks, Runway in Airport being no exception, affecting the road, rail, Air traffic and telephone & power supply. People were forced out of their home, finding temporary shelters in Schools, marriage halls, bus stands and even under the flyovers. Schools, shops and many of the offices/factories were also closed. A large number of people have lost everything in this flood and what is worst is the irreparable loss of more than 325 human lives.

The Army, Navy and Air Force, as usual, have done an extremely commendable job of rescue. Chennai Airport has become fully operational. The rescue operations are almost over and now the focus has shifted on relief work. The relief work is being extensively carried out by the Army, the State/Central Government agencies, NGOs and other voluntary organizations, by providing food packets, water, clothes, bed sheets and medicines etc., to those affected.

The loss of lives cannot be compensated at any cost. However, the house/property can be rebuilt and other lost/ destroyed belongings and household goods can be replaced to those affected. This requires huge finance. The City of Chennai needs to be almost rebuilt which may involve massive funding from the Government.

We, the Officers of the Bank and our organization as a responsible organization, have never shied away from our social commitment and responsibilities. Our Federation, with the consent of General Secretaries of all the Units, has given a request to our Management to encash one day privilege leave on behalf of each of our member for contributing to Prime Minister's relief fund for helping our brethren. Our Southern Unit is proactively involved in this noble service of providing relief. Every day food packets are being sent to remote flood affected areas with the help of our Members and canteen contractors of BOI, Chennai Zonal office. On behalf of all the Units and its members, we appreciate and place on record, the commendable job being done by the Unit for a social cause.

We earnestly appeal to each one of you to voluntarily contribute in cash or kind as a gesture of goodwill and solidarity directly or through the Prime Ministers' Relief Fund or through NGOs involved in the job.

We once again pray for restoration of normalcy in these parts and resumption of normal day to day life for the people of Tamilnadu and Puducherry. Let us all join hands in praying to almighty for the well being of all.

With Revolutionary greetings,

Yours comradely,

(HARVINDER SINGH)
GENERAL SECRETARY