

THE FEDERATION OF BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATIONS

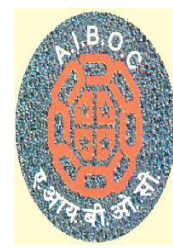
(REGD.No.7364)

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Circular No. 2015/86

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Dated: 31/12/2015

Dear Comrades,

VERY HAPPY & PROMISING 2016

On the eve of New Year, 2016, I extend my heartiest greetings for the season and Congratulate you all, for your accomplishments and achievements in the year 2015 and look forward to all the good things in life waiting in for 2016. Every year brings with it opportunities to move forward, problems to confront and lessons to learn. Year 2015 has been no different nor will 2016 be in this regard. Using one's wisdom one can turn opportunities into achievements, problems into lessons and move forward in life.

The year 2015 had its share of triumphs and tribulations. The year has also been witness to deterioration of balance sheet of various banks, more particularly due to faulty policies adopted, which were not suitable to the organizational goals. It was a matter of achievement for the large family of Bank Employees in the country when an honorable wage settlement could be clinched despite every effort from the government side to thwart it with new excuse at every step. The unleashing of high-handedness on our comrades in Dhanlaxmi Bank in particular is a dark spot in the trade union movement of bank officers during the year 2015.

The year 2015 began with dismantling of time tested institutions like Planning Commission and replacing it with NITI Aayog. Two day retreat at Pune named "Gyan Sangam" which was supposed to be a brain storming session for identifying and suggesting measures for strengthening of Public Sector Banks was organised without calling the main stake holders the organization which represents the entire work force of Public Sector Banks i.e. AIBOC. Obviously, the suggestion points became directionless without bearing the intended results even after almost one year. The unmindful and retrograde steps taken by the Government will bound to have its far reaching adverse implications on the Public Sector Banks, common man of this country and work force in the Banking sector.

There have been occasion to rejoice too during the year. All our stranded citizens in the trouble torn country of Yemen were safely evacuated, thanks to Government of India for prompt and courageous action. The inclusion of massive INS Vikramaditya into the Indian Navy, the induction of Aakash Missile system into the Indian Army augmenting the security of the nation, passing the 119th Constitution Amendment Bill paving the way for solving the territorial dispute with Bangladesh were all appreciable feats. The adoption of 21st June as International Yoga Day is a first of its kind bringing to the fore awareness of Yoga the world over. The launching of Digital India Programme and Swachh Bharat Programme with best of intentions could prove to be a game changer.

Launching of 3 large scale Social Security Schemes viz. Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and Atal Pension Yojana during the year 2015 and

role played by the Public Sector Bank employees is really commendable despite the undue pressures built up due to unplanned and targeted approach.

The ruling government of the day went all guns loaded for the Delhi Assembly elections and retreated with abysmally poor performance in the hustings against well oiled Aam Aadmi Party. No lessons were learnt and fringe elements with their irresponsible utterances contributed their might in the continued rout of major political party in the husting in Bihar Assembly election as well recently. Washing out of the two Parliament Sessions in successions speaks volumes about the total indifference of the political class of the country. It is however a matter of relief that in the last about one year, we have not come across any major scams.

On the economic front there have been huge promises from the side of the Government and expectations from the public in general which of course is the essence of any democracy. With vast talent of human resource and average population being youth, high growth is indeed achievable provided policies are framed in right earnest without any knee jerk reaction and socio political climate is synchronized to suit huge investment in infrastructure development. The ongoing directed announcements in the name of reforms are not going to bring in any new opportunity but will create further divide in society. The banking reforms in particular is an area where we have to be very watchful with every event that unfolds and remain united to take on any oppressive measures that may come.

The developments across the globe particularly in Syria, Iraq and Turkey are matter of grave concern. We hope the divisive forces do not create a situation whereby ugly elements raise head in our country too and ruin the fabric of our society and country. We hope for the mankind, to look to the future with positive optimism, and live with the hopes of a world free of tensions, strife, disturbances.

Our Bank is passing through the challenges and testing times. However, there is no point in feeling dejected or disappointed. We have faced such difficulties in the past also and with our combined efforts we have always emerged with enhanced image and gained stature. Let us once again rededicate ourselves with a positive frame of mind and make all out efforts to regain our lost glory.

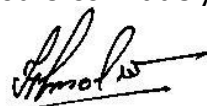
Let us embark into a New Year with continued aspiration, endeavour for a better future, a brighter horizon with intent to remove the shackles of inequalities and imbalances in society and live in amity, peace, harmony and universal brotherhood.

I, on behalf of the entire officers' community, wish you and your family a prosperous year 2016 filled with joy, happiness, contentment and bliss.

**MAY ALL THE DREAMS IN YOUR EYES
ALL THE DESIRES IN YOUR HEART AND
ALL THE HOPES IN YOUR LIFE BLEND TOGETHER
TO GIVE YOU THE MOST SPECTACULAR NEW YEAR 2016.**

With warm NEW YEAR greetings,

Yours comradely,



(HARVINDER SINGH)
GENERAL SECRETARY