

# ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS' CONFEDERATION

(Registered under the Trade Unions Act 1926, Registration No.:3427/Delhi)



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## **TO ALL AFFILIATES/MEMBERS**

Dear Comrades,

### **FEDERATION OF BOIOA FORMS ITS WOMEN'S WING**

Federation of Bank of India Officers' Associations has, with the formation of its Women's Wing, taken a lead in giving shape to one of the decision taken by the Confederation at the Triennial General Conference at Thiruvananthapuram held from 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2014, which was reiterated in its EC meeting held at Chennai on 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2014, that of formation of Women's Wing by all the affiliates.

A glorious chapter on the role of Women counter parts in Trade Union Movement was rewritten when, on 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2014, FBOIOA organised National Conference of Women in Bhopal. It was a memorable event in the annals of history of FBOIOA which revitalized and rejuvenated the participation in the trade union movement by our lady comrades. The conference was attended by more than 90 lady comrades, representing all the units of Federation, having come from length and breadth of the country, on a very short notice overcoming all hurdles and inconveniences in reaching Bhopal, due to various reasons. The enthusiasm seen was contagious and brought a wave of jubilation to the whole event making the maiden National Women Conference a historic one ! Com. Ameetaa Sharma, Secretary, AIBOC has been elected as the Chairperson and Com. Aruna Agnihotri, Chairperson, AIBOC, Women's Wing, as Secretary of the Women's Wing in the conference.

The Chief Guest, Mrs. Aruna Mohan Rao - Addl. Director General of Police (IPS - 1987 batch), AJK & Mahila Cell lighted the lamp along with Sh. Rajiv Gupta – the Zonal Manager, Bhopal zone and GM designate, Com. Harvinder Singh – the General Secretary –FBOIOA & AIBOC, Com. Ashutosh Chandel – Deputy General Secretary, FBOIOA and General Secretary of BOIOA, MP & Chhattisgarh Unit, Com. Aruna Agnihotri Chairperson Women's Wing, AIBOC and Com. Ameetaa Sharma, Treasurer, FBOIOA and Secretary, AIBOC.

There could not have been a better choice for the Chief Guest than that of Mrs. Aruna Mohan Rao - a rare combination of beauty not only with brain but also brawn ! She beautifully underlined the root causes responsible for the miserable plight of Women and exhorted that women need to stand for themselves and fulfill their responsibilities with dignity, no matter which section of the society they belong to. She was all appreciation for the literature provided to the participants, as besides clearly defining objectives of the Conference, it contained all the importantly relevant legal rights available to the women under various provisions of law along with a booklet on self defence for women. After her inspiring words to women to stand tall, firm and determined with clear goals, she inaugurated the conference with her message of best wishes for the success of the conference.

Shri Rajiv Gupta, while delivering the vote of thanks for the Inaugural Session, pinpointed the relevance of the conference in the present day context and conveyed gratitude on behalf of all to Smt. Aruna Mohan Rao for gracing the occasion and enlightening all present. He, on his behalf, assured of all out support to the organisational activities of the FBOIOA.

After the Inaugural Session, a stress management session "Live Full" was conducted by Shri Rajiv Agarwa I- a successful industrialist and an eminent Clinical psychologist. His vivacious expression reminded the gathering of the simple yet vital rules and ways to live a stress free happy

life. His message invoked the inner strength that lay dormant to achieve equilibrium and peace with one's own self and the outer world.

This session was followed by the address of Com. Harvinder Singh, who elucidated the objectives of formation of the Women's Wing including cadre development to take care of problems of lady comrades which are women specific, etc. He explained the structure of the Officers' Trade Union Organisations right from Unit to Confederation and its democratic integration. He also covered various women based issues and drew the attention of the members present towards the conditions prevalent in our society as well as the workplaces and means to overcome difficulties and hurdles faced. He succinctly pointed out the Fundamental rights, Women specific legal provisions in the labour Laws, Family laws, Inheritance Laws, and statutory provisions related to work places etc., a woman should be aware of and the protection under the law available to her. The nitty gritty of the vast topic were effectively covered up in his address. He deliberated on various important Service and Conduct rules in order to educate the members in exercising due caution and avoid any inconvenience/harassment resulting out of ignorance. He sensitized and guided all to learn, follow these rules religiously and stay empowered besides counseling other colleagues as well. He, on his personal behalf and on behalf of the organisation assured the lady Comrades of providing every possible assistance, guidance and necessary protection for their active participation in the organizational calls.

Security being the much needed element to ensure the safety of women was spoken about by Com. Ameetaa Sharma. She very elaborately covered the various tools and techniques women should be aware of to ensure their safety. Ways to combat cyber crime, physical attacks as well as sexual or mental harassment were covered in a very structured manner. She expressed confidence in the power of multitasking in the women and hoped that all lady comrades would come forward to play proactive role in organizational activities by rubbing shoulders with the male counterparts.

Com. Aruna Agnihotri, in her address, wonderfully compiled the proceeding of the day. She was meticulous not to miss even a single aspect which was discussed in the conference. She encouraged the lady comrades to involve themselves in the activities of the organization with full vigour and enthusiasm and to support the organization through women's wing activities.

The deliberations witnessed an involved participation from the members attending the conference. The way speakers conveyed their positive responses and action plan for future about the organizational activities, made it evident that the message was loud and clear in their hearts and minds and the purpose of the Conference was accomplished. The much needed sensitization and the compelling need to be aware and spread awareness was truly reflected by the words of each and every speaker.

Twenty one member Central committee of the Women's wing was also constituted through unanimous elections.

After felicitating the newly elected team, Com. Harvinder Singh in his concluding remarks, conveyed his best wishes and said that he was confident that the Women's Wing will be a role model in the whole banking industry and a guiding force for all other affiliates. He clarified that this Women's Wing should neither be construed as a parallel organization nor an alternative platform for raising or taking up the issues of the members directly with the Management by its Office Bearers/ Executive Committee members and should rather play the supplemental role to the Organisation.

The proceedings of the Conference were wonderfully compered by Com. Usha Kumar, one of the delegates. The conference concluded equally beautifully when Com. Sujata Hatkar proposed vote of thanks in befitting and poetic tone covering the complete gambit of the conference.

With comradely greetings,

Yours comradely,



(HARVINDER SINGH)  
**GENERAL SECRETARY**