

ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS' CONFEDERATION

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



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Circular No. 2014/92

Date:15.12.2014

TO GENERAL SECRETARIES OF ALL AFFILIATES/STATE SECRETARIES

Dear Comrades,

BEREAVEMENTS - TRIBUTES

V.R. Krishna Iyer No More- Voice of Aam Admi Silenced

Vaidyanathapuram Rama Krishna Iyer, a legend in Indian Judiciary, left for his heavenly abode on 4th December, 2014 at Kochi.

A true comrade of workers and peasants, he took up several agrarian struggle related cases for them after starting legal practice in 1937. In 1952, he was elected member of Madras Legislative Assembly and held portfolios like law, justice, home, irrigation, power, prisons, social welfare and inland navigation and was instrumental in passing several people-oriented legislations during his tenure as a Minister.

After he resumed his legal practice in August 1959, he was appointed as a judge of the Kerala High Court in 1968, later got elevated to Supreme Court Judge in July, 1973 till his retirement on 14.11.1980. He also served as a member of the Law Commission from 1971 to 1973. He was known for his many landmark judgements on issues like human rights and environment protection which were later made into law by Parliament. He contributed significantly to national debates on public policy, during and after he demitted the office.

To him, law was the instrument to secure social justice and in this noble quest, he crossed rigid legalistic boundaries as quoted by former Attorney General Shri Soli Sorabji. His approach to burning issues prompted eminent Jurist Fali S Nariman to say "when Krishna Iyer speaks, the nation listens". With his demise, we have lost a true humanitarian and a supporter of common man particularly the workers and peasants. He would always be remembered for his support to common people, social justice and working class in particular.

Com. N. Sampath- Loss of A Legendary Icon in Trade union Movement

We lost a veteran leader Com. N. Sampath in recent past, who served one of the largest organization, the All India Bank Employees' Association (AIBEA) for more than six decades and was one of its former President. He was one of the founder leaders of Union in Bank of India and got involved in forming Unions in other banks and bringing them all under banner of AIBEA in Tamil Nadu and thus instrumental in formation of TNBEF in 1953. He got continuously elected as General Secretary of TNBEF since 1958 till 1994

when he voluntarily opted to become the President to enable younger leaders to emerge. Later in 2010, he opted to become the Chairman of TNBEF.

He took initiative to form Federation of Bank of India staff unions and was also the Workmen Director from 1973-1986, i.e. till his retirement from the active services. He took a leading role in organizing Co-operative Bank employees besides being actively associated with AITUC activities in Tamil Nadu. His contribution to AIBEA in particular and Trade Union Movement in general would remain immeasurable and invaluable. He transcended the age barrier and mingled with younger generation with ease and continued his learning even at very old age. He remains highly respected by all due to his impeccable uprightness and steadfastness to principles of Trade Union Movement.

Com. Mohan B. -Another Comrade Succumbs to Undue Pressure

Bankers all over the country were aghast over the tragic and untimely death of Com. Mohan B, former Senior Manager and Branch Head of Federal Bank on 19th November, 2014. FBOA Office Bearers held condolence meetings at all regional centers and held protest strike successfully in Kozhikode Zone, the next day against the prevailing adverse pressure circumstances in the bank. The massive condolence meetings were organised at all regional centres throughout the country at the behest of FBOA on 21st November, 2014 to express deep shock and anguish over the unfortunate incident and to lodge protest against the on-going excessive pressure and ill-treatment by some of the Departmental Executives and Zonal/ Regional Heads. All Affiliates extended their moral support to the protesting comrades of FBOA. The undersigned addressed the condolence meeting held at the National Capital, New Delhi on 21st November, 2014 along with the Delhi State Secretary, Com. Sunil Bansal. We deeply mourn an unfortunate and untimely death of our colleague causing irreparable loss to the whole banking fraternity.

His colleagues believe that he committed suicide succumbing to mounting pressure. If it was so, we need to gear up to collectively fight the menace of undue pressure built up by higher authorities in the name of performance and initiate swift remedial actions to avoid occurrence of such unfortunate incidence in future in any bank. The Confederation pledges to fight this mounting evil and to prevent occurrence of any such incidents.

We, on behalf of entire membership, deeply mourn the demise of Sh. V.R. Krishna Iyer, Com. N. Sampath and Com. Mohan B. and pray for the eternal peace for their souls. We also pray to Almighty to grant strength to their family members and loved ones to bear the loss.

Yours comradely,



(HARVINDER SINGH)
GENERAL SECRETARY