

ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS' CONFEDERATION

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

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All Affiliates/State units/Members,



We are in the last working day of year 2016. This is the time to reminisce and plan for the Future. I want to take this as an opportunity to extend my heartiest greetings for the season and for the New Year, 2017. I would also like to place on record the appreciations for your accomplishments and achievements in the job, organisation as well as in the family front.

Year 2016 had been a challenging year as we witnessed lot of churning in the banking sector. Lot of upheaval is being reported in the media on daily basis whether it is on NPAs, on governing mechanism in banks or about mergers. Much news appeared to have been planted by vested interests to promote their own interests and to cover the ills in their cupboard. Dear Comrades, such irresponsible coverage would continue in future too, but we must update our knowledge from authentic sources and must not get carried away by rumours floated through the social media with ulterior motive. Despite all odds, our Confederation has left no stone unturned in its endeavour to resolve our long pending issues viz. residual issues of 10th Bipartite Settlement, Appointment of Officer Nominee Directors on Banks' Boards etc. The latest issues causing concern to the whole Banking Industry and its employees arisen due to the demonetisation drive of the Government were also dealt with appropriately by writing to the concerned authorities. We all are well aware that we have been passing through most difficult situation in which the present Government is implementing its various policies adversely affecting the Public Sector Banks, with its stubbornness. Besides, neither judiciary nor mass media or even public at large are

supporting our cause, though the issues taken up by us are always in the interest of common man and nation. But amidst all these turmoils, our Confederation has emerged as a strong Trade Union Organization. Let us continue the pace and zeal to accelerate the momentum. It is with this passion, energy and renewed hope that we are ushering into the year 2017. I am sure, with your dedication and determination; all those good things you have been yearning for yourself, your family, your bank and your organization shall get achieved in the ensuing year.

The country witnessed passage of important legislation in the parliament by way of a long pending GST Bill, despite it now being addressed by many citizens as an institution for disruptions. Our Armed forces have once again shown their mettle under a decisive political leadership and the country is gaga over the term "Surgical Strike" which is now being applied under various connotations. The induction of Women Fighter Pilots in the Indian Air Force for the first time has made us all proud. The movement for equal rights in the places of worship got a boost when a favourable decision was given to this effect by the Supreme Court of India.

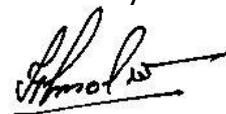
Dear Comrades, an important political decision by Government of India on demonetization was conveyed to citizens of India on the night of November 8, 2016. The entire responsibility to implement the massive task of planning and execution was thrust upon the workforce of banking industry. All bankers remained on their toes while working on this project, the magnitude of which they had not fathomed. As always, bankers have risen to the occasion and have been working relentlessly by treating it as a national call. As is likely in any industry employing huge workforce, miniscule percentage of aberration came to light. If there are aberrations, system will take care of those aberrations and nobody has the right to wash away the hard and sincere labour being put in by the entire workforce of Banking Industry. But our media, particularly the visual media started painting the entire workforce of banking industry in the same colour which is highly deplorable. Comrades, though our Confederation countered the same with full might and all resources available at its command, I call upon you to ignore any discouraging and demotivating news coming from vested and paid quarters.

The year 2017 will be a year when the XI Bipartite Settlement will be negotiated. Let us hope better sense prevails with the Government of the day and they recognize the valour of bank employees and remunerate them adequately keeping in mind the need of the time.

"A new year is a new beginning for a new dawn in life. Let this New Year bring to you and your family all better opportunities in life for a more fruitful and happiness filled life. Have a happy new year."

With warm greetings,

Comradely Yours,



(HARVINDER SINGH)
GENERAL SECRETARY