



ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS' CONFEDERATION

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State Bank of India Officers' Association

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To All Affiliates/State Units/ Members

Dear Comrades,

Women Officers' 2nd Convention Meet

I forward herewith a report of the women's convention held at Ahmedabad for your information

Comradely yours,

(D.T.FRANCO)
GENERAL SECRETARY

TEXT

Women Officers' 2nd Convention Meet

The Women Officers' 2nd Convention Meet organized by All India Bank Officers' Confederation, Gujarat was held on 4th March 2018 at Hotel Hyatt, Ashram Road, Ahmedabad. This meet got an overwhelming response from State Bank of India, Syndicate Bank, Canara Bank, Dena Bank, Allahabad Bank, Union bank of India and Punjab National Bank. In total, there were 275 registrations. The event started at 9.00 am with the registration process and breakfast for all the participants. On arrival of all the guests of honor, the programme was opened by Comrade Dipti Shukla. Ms Mohita Tiwari offered her voice for Itni Shakti humein dena data for a pious beginning. This was followed by a dance performance on Ganesh vandana by the Red Event Group members and a special dance number by their ten year old group member on the popular bollywood song Hawa Hawaii. The same group presented a musical skit on the Beti Bachao campaign undertaken by the government. The dances and the skit were highly appreciated by the guests and participants.

Comrade Aditi Iyer introduced and invited all the guests of honor to the dias and they were felicitated by fellow comrades with a shawl, memento and roses. The guests were then invited for lamp lighting. The welcome address was presented by Shri Kamal Kadri, General Secretary, All India Bank Officers' Confederation, Gujarat State. He sincerely extended his gratitude to all the guests and participants for joining him for the programme. He emphasized on the role of female officers in the banking sector and expressed his pride at the huge participation in the event.

The first guest speaker of the day, Dr Parth Vaishnav was invited forward to make his presentation. Dr Vaishnav is a psychiatrist who has been trained in deaddiction psychiatry from National Institute of Mental Health & Neurosciences at Bangalore and serves at the Samvedana Psychiatry Hospital. His speech was marked with humor and funny anecdotes that gripped the attention of the listeners. He talked about the types and causes of stress faced by women who try to strike a balance between personal and professional lives. He also mentioned rampant technological changes in banking sector as one of the major reasons for stress in the banking industry. He gave some dos and donts to overcome stress. His presentation was followed by a huge applaud by the participants.

The second speaker of the day was our guest of honor Shri Sanjay Srivastava, Additional Director General of Police (technical Services), Gandhinagar. He spoke about the threat women face in this evolving digital era. He threw light on the incidents that can lead to leakage of online data. He covered the issue of trend in crimes against women. He gave very useful tips for women to ensure that they are not victims of cyber and cyber related crimes.

The third speaker of the day was our special invitee, Comrade D T Franco who is the general secretary of All India Bank Officers' Confederation. He too expressed his heart felt gratitude to all the women participants. He spoke about the issues that have been raised by AIBOC and are under continuous follow up and he is hopeful of an early action. He spoke about the women related issues like increase in maternity leave, sabbatical leave, and medical reimbursement of women illnesses that have been proposed. His speech had a strong message for all the comrades and it spread a wave of positive revolution amongst all.

Our fourth speaker was our Chief Guest, Ms Ruzan Khambatta. She is an entrepreneur who has been felicitated with numerous awards for her work in the

field of women upliftment. She expressed her views about women's role in the society. She also stressed on the need for the women to be independent and to gather courage to raise a voice for themselves. She gave a lot of real life examples to mark the work being done by NGOs like hers for the upliftment of the women especially in the rural parts of the country. She also gave a 30 seconds exercise to the participants to relieve the stress and this can also be easily practiced at office and home. She got a huge applause by the participants.

The session was then broken for sumptuous lunch that was relished by all the participants and guests equally.

Post lunch session was opened by Comrade Simmi Vasava and she introduced the Circle Development Officer of SBI Ahmedabad Circle, Shri Saroj Kumar Pattnaik. He praised the efforts put in by all the organizing members and appreciated the arrangements. His speech emphasized the irreplaceable role of women in the banking sector.

The next speaker in the post lunch session was Dr. Tarulata. She talked about the strength of the women in the professional sector and gave examples of her own struggle to reach new heights in her career while taking care of her son. She gave the women participants a beautiful thought of writing about one's day to day experiences and incidents in a diary and to mark them with green, red or black as per their own perspective about it. She highlighted the fact that women often feel guilty of not being able to take care of the family due to office commitments but they need to let go of this guilt as they are capable enough of balancing both the roles.

The last speaker of the day was Miss Pujita Guha who is a PhD scholar in Cinema Studies at the School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi. She is also a visiting faculty at Delhi University. She touched upon the right of the women to hygienic and separate toilets at workplace and also that it is righteous for them to demand for one in case the office does not offer the same. Her speech also included the narration of the real life struggle of her banker mother to get the branch transferred as the old one did not have a toilet. She touched upon various issues related to gender equality and pressed on the need for women to stand up for themselves.

The last session of the event was group discussion for the women participants. A few members spoke about the need and role of the youth in the banking sector while others spoke about the growing role of the women in the banks. A

group performed a short skit to emphasise our role to participate in the trade union activities.

Shri Raju Bhavsar, president of All India Bank Officers' Confederation Gujarat state was then called upon the dias for vote of thanks. He expressed his utmost gratitude to the participants who had come from across the state. He thanked AIBOC, the organisers, the organising committees and the venue partner.

The session was concluded with the national anthem.

The participants were handed over a certificate and a gift. They carried with them a wonderful experience and thoughts to cherish for a lifetime. This was evident from the smiles on their faces while they were leaving the venue.