

ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS' CONFEDERATION

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Press Release

TRIPURA CHIEF MINISTER CONDEMNS ATTEMPTS TO PRIVATISE PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS, SIGNS PETITION TO THE PRIME MINISTER

All India Bank Officers' Confederation, having membership of around 3,25,000 members is glad to announce that the Annual General Meeting of the AIBOC Tripura State Unit was held on 9th September, 2017 at the Rabindra Satabarshiki Bhavan, Agartala in a grand fashion in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister of the State, Shri Manik Sarkar, the General Secretary Comrade D T Franco and other senior leaders.

The proceedings started off with a melodious song performed by the members of State Unit. Comrade Mihir Lal Das, President AIBOC Tripura Unit and Comrade Bishnupada Debnath, the Secretary of the unit welcomed and felicitated the Chief Guest Shri Manik Sarkar, Honorable Chief Minister of Tripura. The other dignitaries were also invited to the dais and felicitated. In the wake of that, Comrade Bishnupada Debnath delivered the welcome address and expressed his gratitude for the presence of members in large numbers. The Chief Guest Shri Manik Sarkar unveiled the book "Banking Sector Reforms- Policies which are Killing the Golden Goose" authored by Com D T Franco. The AIBOC Tripura Sate Unit donated a sum of Rs 2 lacs to the CM's Relief Fund and handed over the replica cheque to the Chief Minister

Com. Soumya Datta delivered a vibrant speech addressing the house. he detailed about the plans and tactics of the present Government at the Centre. He told that the present Government is pro corporate and anti people and they are leaving no stone unturned to weaken the PSUs. He elaborated the plight of the Officers in the Banks where the management and the Government is only performance centric. However, in spite of all these, we have to protest and forward our movement for a better tomorrow. He also requested the house to work hard and educate the masses about the importance of PSUs and the reasons to save them. The Chief Guest Shri Manik Sarkar detailed the house about the present socio political scenario in the country, where our democratic rights are at stake. Even the right to speech is being rampantly attacked. He expressed concerns about the rising inflations, unemployment, in-equality, farmers' suicide, devaluation of Rupee, etc. He supported the Bank Officer's movement and reiterated the significance of the PSUs for the over all development of our country. He also condemned the Government's agenda to weaken the PSUs in its attempt to hand over the stakes to the Corporates. He also raised concerns for the rising farmers suicide in the country. He asserted that the Bank Officers belong to the intellectual sections and they have a bigger role to play in forming public opinion and save our country from destruction. Shri Manik Sarkar also signed the petition and thus participated in the signature campaign launched by AIBOC and addressed to the Prime Minister.

Com. D T Franco in his address requested the house to share the Chief Minister's speech with friends and colleagues. In his speech the AIBOC General Secretary applauded the role played by the Government for all round development of the State and towards restoration of peace and harmony among different ethnic groups and making it one of the best State to live in. He assured the House that come what may he would not sign the Bipartite settlement unless the following five issues are addressed and agreed to:

- 1. 5 day banking
- 2. Pending retirement benefits.

- 3. Salary if not at par but comparable with Central Government employees.
- 4. Modification in NPS
- 5. Revision up to Scale VII and not up to Scale III

The General Secretary appraised the membership about the evil designs to privatize the Public Sector Banks and that merger is the first step towards privatisation. He talked at length about the rising NPAs in Public Sector Bank's which is due to few Corporate wilful defaulters and the move of the Government for its resolution through the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Code is a mere eye wash and a covered attempt to pave an escape route to them. He also informed the House that the first resolution under this code fetched only 6% of the outstanding. He questioned the ill motive move of the RBI for forcing the Public Sector Banks to make provisions at the rate of 50% of the outstanding for two years in the name of hair cut and giving clean chit to the defaulters. He also expressed that the Public Sector Banks are losing focus and diverting their attention to cross selling instead of taking care of the credit needs of the common men of the country. In terms of advances , the Public Sector Banks are growing at a rate of meagre around 4% whereas the private sector Banks are growing at around 17%. The statements of the top executives of the Public Sector Banks that there is no scope for further credit off take is not at all tenable. He also urged upon the members to fight against the merger attempts of the Government. He requested the House to convince the customers to write letters to the Prime Minister opposing the merger and privatization moves of the Public Sector Banks. He therefore emphasized on People Parliament for Unity and Development to expand the horizon, involving every class of the society towards mobilization of mass support and requested the members to be more active and raise the voice for the sake of the existence of PSUs.

The other dignitaries Com S K Bhattacherjee, General Secretary AIRRBOF & Adviser AIBOC, Com. S K Bansal, State Secretary, Delhi, Com. Sanjay Das, State Secretary, West Bengal delivered their speech amidst thunderous applause from the house. Comrade Sanjay Datta, on behalf of the AIBOC state committee offered the vote of thanks. The meeting was a grand success and it was given the due coverage in the local media.

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