

ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS' CONFEDERATION

(Registered under the Trade Unions Act 1926, Registration No.3427/Delhi)
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To All Affiliates (Please Circulate)

Dear Comrade,

All India Strike call given by Catholic Syrian Bank Officers' Association (CSBOA)
For two days-29th and 30th of April 2019- Calling all affiliates to extend fraternal support.

CSBOA, our affiliate in Catholic Syrian Bank, has been voicing their unflinching protest against the arbitrary and anti staff attitude of their Management over the last several months. In spite of the well meaning intervention of several intermediaries to break the stalemate, the Management not only continues to be unresponsive as before but has intensified their torment, issuing harsh, retrograde amendments to service conditions of officers as well as introducing 'hire and fire' policies by shifting to CTC pattern of recruitment. The Management had unilaterally reduced the retirement age of officers from 60, which is the industry norm, to 58 and this unprecedented rule will be effective from 30.04.2019. Moreover, all officers will be subjected to a performance review at the age of 50, whereby the retirement age has effectively been reduced to 50 years.

Comrades, the insensitive actions, indifferent and highhanded attitude of the CSB Management has the potential to affect us all as these anti-officer measures can spread like a pandemic, engulfing the entire Banking industry in a matter of few months. Sensing this as a potential threat, we had included the HR issues of CSB in our list of demands for our All India Strike on 21st of December 2018. The Management of CSB has turned a blind eye to the protests that rocked the nation on the date of our All India Strike.

Against the backdrop of anti officer measures incessantly initiated by CSB, CSBOA observed a one day strike on 02nd of April, 2019 which was a resounding success with total participation of the Officers. The Management, as usual, did not even call the agitating officers for a conciliatory discussion. Similarly, the sincere conciliatory efforts of the Honourable Deputy Labour Commissioner, Cochin also went in vain because the Management unprecedentedly informed the DLC that they are unwilling to compromise on their stand and will never yield on any of the demands made by CSBOA.

Against the back drop of the dialogue process having thus collapsed owing to the stubbornness of the Management, CSBOA has no other option but to intensify their agitations. Incidentally, CSB Staff Federation, the affiliate of BEFI has also joined forces with CSBOA, calling for a one day strike on 29.04.2019 for which we convey our appreciation.

Comrades, it is the urgent need of the situation to extend all possible assistance to our affiliate CSBOA in this crucial struggle. In fact, this is going to be a battle not only to save the rights of the officers of CSB but also to protect the entire officers' fraternity in the banking industry against the potential threat loomed large on the horizon. We, therefore, request all the affiliate units in Kerala to coordinate, mobilise resources and extend all possible support to the strike on 29th and 30th of April 2019.

Comradely yours,

(Soumya Datta)
General Secretary