

ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS' CONFEDERATION

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

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Circular No. 2019/34

Date: 19.06.2019

To All Affiliates (Please Circulate)

Dear Comrade,

ASSAULT ON BANKERS – LOSS OF LIFE IN THE LINE OF DUTY

We reproduce hereunder our communication sent to Shri Amit Shah, Hon'ble Union Minister for Home Affairs vide our letter no. AIBOC/2019/56 dated 19.06.2019 on the captioned subject.

With revolutionary greetings,

(Soumya Datta)
General Secretary

Text of letter no. AIBOC/2019/56 dated 19.06.2019

Shri Amit Shah
Hon'ble Union Minister for Home Affairs
Government of India
North Block
New Delhi- 110 001

Respected Sir,

ASSAULT ON BANKERS – LOSS OF LIFE IN THE LINE OF DUTY

At the outset, All India Bank Officers' Confederation (AIBOC), the apex organisation of bank officers in the country, having a membership of over 3.20 lakh congratulates your good selves and new team of ministers led by respected Shri Narendra Modiji, Hon'ble Prime Minister. We are sure that, with your acumen and commitment, the country will attain greater heights in all spheres of life and ensure equity and justice to all.

02. Sir, with deep consternation, we wish to bring to your kind attention, that on 18th June, 2019, Shri Karan Singh Negi, a promising young officer of just 31 years of age working in Bank of Baroda, at the Bank's Nimbol branch, in the Jalgaon Region of Pune Zone was shot dead by a couple of unidentified miscreants, while he was in line of duty. At around 2: 20 p.m. on that day, two unidentified miscreants entered the premises with helmets on their heads and revolvers in hand. It is learnt that one of them fired on the wall so as to frighten the employees / officers / customers present at the branch. Shri Negi valiantly warded off the miscreants and somehow managed to press the security alarm, which normally is connected to the nearest police station. In retaliation, Shri Negi was fired upon by the assailants and died on the spot. They had also fired bullets towards another employee of the branch, who somehow escaped. The miscreants walked away from the branch after the gruesome murder in broad daylight.

03. Sir, this incident is not an isolated one. In the past few years various bank managements have been compromising with the basic requirement of security arrangements including posting of armed guards at branches and security personnel at ATM sites in the name of curtailing overheads. For past more than one-and-

a-half years, almost all banks – both public and private sectors – have stopped deploying armed security guards at their branches and ATM counters. As such, banks and ATM sites have become soft targets for the dacoits and terrorists. The victims are mostly bank officers, whose precious lives are lost in the line of duty due to the faulty policies of the bank management. Customers have also been killed and injured during such attempted heists. The security arrangements need to be fortified to instil the confidence in officers and customers.

04. Shri Karan Singh Negi had been a committed worker and always been true to his duty. Even at the time of the attempted heist, he did put bank's interest first over his life. The loss to the bereaved family is irreparable and his presence amongst the banking fraternity is irreplaceable. His death has sparked off deep resentment amongst the entire banking fraternity, who are seething with anger and demanding justice for Shri Negi and arrest of the miscreants.

05. We salute the sacrifice of Shri Negi, who laid down his life in the line of duty. We also urge upon your good office to ensure that the bank managements ensure adequate safety and security arrangements forthwith. We also demand that a complete impartial inquiry be conducted by any preferable government agency, and the bank management publishes a white paper on the same. We also demand the accountability of the board of the bank for the precious loss of human life for the misplaced priorities of the concerned bank.

06. Finally, we request your good office to take up the matter with the concerned departments as well as the State Governments to issue appropriate instructions immediately for ensuring adequate security arrangements at bank branches and ATM sites for the bank personnel and customers.

07. We request your good office to meet a small delegation of our Confederation at your earliest convenience to present our views on this issue.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(Soumya Datta)
General Secretary
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