

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,

AIBOC gives clarion call of Massive Agitation Programme on Merger/Amalgamation of PSBs

You are aware that we have been continuously opposing merger of public sector banks ever since the then finance minister late Shri Arun Jaitley had announced on September 17th, 2018 the amalgamation of three public sector banks viz. Vijaya Bank, Dena Bank and Bank of Baroda. We had explored all avenues to resist the merger and had launched a country wide agitation, which inter-alia included rallies, dharnas, signature campaigning, social media campaign under **#StopMerger SavePSUBanks**, approaching law makers, submission of memorandums to ministers, governors, Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble President and even filed a petition in Delhi High Court challenging the decision of the amalgamation.

On 30th of August, 2019 another mega merger of 10 banks was announced by the Hon'ble Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmla Sitharaman. We immediately started our agitation and from AIBOC we have sent communiqué to all Directors of respective boards of all the 10 banks requesting them to resist the decision imposed by the Govt. on them, at their board meeting and had organised protest meetings at all the venues of the target banks on the day of the board meetings. Subsequently, we along with three other officers' organizations had called for a two day strike on 26th and 27th of September 2019 against the merger along with other issues. The strike was deferred following the assurance of the Finance Secretary of India to form a committee involving our associations to discuss the rationale behind the proposed 10 Banks' merger and the expected benefits that is likely to accrue to the Banks, customers and the common man. However, till date no such committee has been formed and a dharna was organized under the aegis of UFBU at Jantar Mantar on 10th of December 2019.

We believe that the Govt. of India may issue the required "Gazette Notification" at any time after observing the formalities as per the regulations of "Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970/1980" though they kept silence over a considerable period on the issue. We feel that we should immediately commence nationwide agitation programme against the draconian decision of merger of PSBs, which is totally detrimental to the interest of the national economy and demanding that the Government / RBI should focus on the core issues such as resolution of the mounting NPAs and initiation of appropriate punitive measures against all wilful corporate defaulters. The decision to launch a simultaneous agitation against merger along with our struggle to achieve a decent wage settlement, 5 day week, revision/ updation of family pension/ pension, scrapping of NPS et al was endorsed in a meeting of all General Secretaries and Sr. Vice Presidents recently held at Kolkata. We will also invite other constituents of UFBU to join our programme and simultaneously will wait for a concerted agitation programme to be announced by UFBU. We suggest for the following programmes to be observed during the coming fortnight throughout the country.

14.02.2020	Evening time demonstration before the headquarters/ AOs/ ROs of all the 10 banks to be merged.
17.02.2020	Evening time demonstration before the headquarters/ AOs/ ROs of all the 10 banks to be merged. State Units will also observe similar demonstrations at all State Capitals and District Headquarters.
19.02.2020 to 25.02.2020	Memorandum to MPs/ CMs/ Governors requesting them to rise against the issue of merger

27.02.2020 to 29.02.2020	Series of Dharna in front of Head Offices/ AOs/ ROs of all the 10 banks – taking students, central trade unions, eminent/ political personalities etc. – giving them the platform to address.
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All affiliates including RRB affiliate who had also successfully organised a two day strike in support of all the demands raised by UFBU along with two most important issues of them viz. demanding parity in all benefits and service conditions with the sponsored banks/ state units are requested to take note of the above programmes and ensure wholehearted participation of members. For effective observation of the programme following few areas may be explored:

- To involve all stake holders from all segments of the society.
- State Units may formulate innovative programmes like candle light march, street dramas, songs in local languages etc. against merger
- Hashtag twitter campaign - **#SavePSUBanks #StopMergers** tagging @PMOIndia, @FinMinIndia, @DFS_India from 10.00 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. on a daily basis.

Let all of us be one and unified and show our strength of unity, solidarity and the might of working class once again against this ill-conceived move of merger of PSBs taken by the Central Government causing huge plight to the common man and shattering the very fabric of our national economy. Let us fight this historical battle together in all earnestness.

Comrades, March on!We will fight...., we will fight...., till we succeed, we will fight.

AIBOC Long Live!

Our Unity Zindabad!

With revolutionary greetings,

Comradely yours,



(Soumya Datta)
General Secretary