

ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS' CONFEDERATION

(Registered under the Trade Unions Act 1926, Registration No.3427/Delhi)
6th Floor, E-Block, Samriddhi Bhavan, 1, Strand Road, Kolkata -700 001
c/o State Bank of India Officers' Association (Bengal Circle)
Phone: 2210-1234, Fax: (033) 2210-2210



e-mail: aiboc.sectt@gmail.com
soumyadatta.aiboc@gmail.com
website: www.aiboc.org
[@aiboc_in](https://twitter.com/aiboc_in)

Circular No. 2020/50

Date: 17.06.2020

To All Affiliates (Please Circulate)

Dear Comrade,

RESUMPTION OF SUBURBAN TRAIN SERVICES IN MUMBAI:
BANKERS TO BE PERMITTED TO AVAIL THE FACILITY
AS ESSENTIAL SERVICE PROVIDERS

We have sent a communiqué to Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Railways vide our letter no. AIBOC/2020/26 dated 17.06.2020 on the captioned subject. Copy of the letter has also been sent to the Secretary, DFS; Chairman, IBA and Chief Secretaries of all states where suburban/ metro rail services are available. Text of the communication is appended.

With greetings,

(Soumya Datta)
General Secretary

Text of Letter No. AIBOC/2020/26 dated 17.06.2020

Ref No. AIBOC/2020/26

Date: 17.06.2020

Shri Piyush Goyal
Hon'ble Minister of Railways & Commerce
Government of India
Rail Bhawan, Rafi Marg,
New Delhi - 110 001.

Respected Sir,

RESUMPTION OF SUBURBAN TRAIN SERVICES IN MUMBAI:
BANKERS TO BE PERMITTED TO AVAIL THE FACILITY
AS ESSENTIAL SERVICE PROVIDERS

Greetings from All India Bank Officers' Confederation, the largest organisation of employees of supervisory cadre in the banking industry of the country.

2. As has been tweeted by your good office on 15th June'20, suburban trains have resumed operations in Mumbai, allowing "essential services providers", which has been hailed as a landmark decision. But, we were shocked to know that list of "essential services providers" does not include bank employees. In this context, we would like to draw your kind attention to the fact that banks are declared as essential service provider by the Ministry of Home Affairs, and have been providing uninterrupted banking services since the lockdown was announced on March 23.

3. Sir, you are aware that the bank employees and officers have been extending yeoman services everyday to the citizenry and the country as a whole during this unprecedented situation risking their own lives besides probability of further contamination of their family members and relatives. As a matter of fact, they are going extra miles to maintain the lifeline of the country's economy. The bankers have responded to the call of the Central Government and braved the deadly virus and ensured smooth functioning of banks; provided continuous flow of money to every section of society, when the other sections were called upon to stay at home; implemented DBT announced by the Hon'ble Finance Ministry and disbursed cash to the needy and infused liquidity to the citizenry and the entire economy, implementing the various schemes which are a part of the fiscal stimulus as announced by the government et al.

4. During the period of the lockdown, the Maharashtra Government allowed state government offices and other establishments / offices to function with 10-15% staff, whereas the banks have been functioning with almost no relaxation in this regard. In the absence of any public transport facility since the date of enforcement of lockdown till date, bank employees are forced to commute to their offices by their own or hired cars incurring substantial expenditure. Till date a large number of bankers across the country have been affected with this dreaded virus and as per reports available more than 30 bank employees have laid down their lives in the line of duty due to Covid-19 infection. Moreover, a number of road accidents occurred during the period of lockdown, which have also taken away lives of many bankers, who were out in the call of duty.

5. Sir, you will appreciate that Mumbai Metropolitan Centre or Bruhanmumbai has huge geographical expanse, which has a large network of bank branches and offices across its stretch. Majority of bankers use the local / suburban trains to travel between their residence and branches. Depriving train facility to bankers is nothing short of showing an indifferent attitude by the authorities towards the 'financial soldiers', who have rendered yeoman service to the country during this period of crisis. We strongly feel that the bankmen should be allowed to travel by trains in Mumbai for the cause of the crores of customers and the country as well.

6. We also understand that suburban and Metro train services which are the lifeline of mass commuters will be resumed in certain other states shortly with further announcement of relaxation of lockdown and to begin with, such services are going to be provided to essential workers only.

In view of the foregoing, we urge upon your good office to issue necessary directions to the concerned department of State Government of Maharashtra and other State Government (s), wherever local / suburban rail services are being resumed/ likely to resume in the coming days, to allow bankers to use such train services forthwith.

Stay safe stay healthy.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
(Soumya Datta)
General Secretary

A virus does not spread itself. It is we, who spread it.
