ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS' CONFEDERATION



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To All Affiliates (Please Circulate)

Dear Comrades,

Massive success of Day One Nationwide strike! Let 16th March be another day of demonstration of our might!!

You are aware that we have been waging a mother of all battles against privatisation. We have also called nationwide strike on 15th and 16th demanding strengthening of PSBs, opposing privatisation of PSBs and denouncing the retrograde reforms of the Government.

2. We are overwhelmed that nearly all trade union organizations in the country, including CTUs, Confederation of Central Government Gazetted Officers' Organizations (CCGGOO), NCOA, All India Power Engineers Federation (AIPEF), All India Insurance Employees Association (AIIEA) and Joint Forum of Trade Unions Associations in PSGI (JFTUA) etc. have extended support to our agitation programmes. Support has been extended from every segment of the society, farmers, students, SHGs, retirees/seniors/veterans' organisations, working class. In major centres representatives of various sectoral organisations have participated in protest meetings and day long dharnas. Massive rallies were organised at all important centres and Metro cities where the youth and women were seen in large numbers. Senior Samyukt Kisan Morcha leaders addressed protest meetings in Kolkata and have pledged their support to the movement against privatisation of PSBs and beyond all the common man and the customers of PSBs is seen at its peak. Our veteran leaders participated in our programmes in many parts of the country. Loads of messages are proliferating in social media criticising the decision of the Government to privatise PSBs. We place on record our sincere appreciation to all of them for supporting us. We are sure that the right and factual signal has been picked up by the antennae of the Government.

3. The strike program today had attracted the attention of every section of the society and media. In the annals of history of the banking trade union movement, 15th March, 2021 would be etched in golden letters. Today's strike was a remarkable show of solidarity, dedication, grit, gumption and determination. Bankmen have ensured a resounding success of the nationwide strike. Reports are pouring in from every part of the country that our membership hit the streets in thousands to make the strike a thundering success - from Aizawl to Ahmedabad; Kashmir to Kanyakumari. The demonstrations/processions/picketing took place in every nook and corner of the country. Large number of youth and women officers actively participated in the strike. Another noticeable aspect was the participation of family members of our officers in the strike program. Despite the threat unveiled by many Banks, senior Executives in SMGS IV & V participated in today's strike.

4. Our strike received tremendous coverage both in print and electronic media across the country, which has enhanced the visibility of banking trade union movement in general and Officers' unity in the interest of the nation in particular. We are thankful to the customers and common man who expressed their unflinching opinion placing huge trust in PSBs. Shri Raghuram Rajan, former RBI Governor in an interview to PTI has criticised the decision of the government to sell the PSBs to industrial houses.

5. Comrades, we cannot rest on the laurels of success of today. **Tomorrow is again another day where we should demonstrate the strength of working class.** We call upon all our Affiliates and members to demonstrate to the Government what a united force can achieve!

6.. We also call upon handful of comrades, who did shy away, threatened and strangulated by their superiors not to participate in the strike, to plunge in. Each of them should remember that **NO ONE is SAFE, UNTIL EVERYONE is SAFE.** They have reaped the benefit of PSBs; have an obligation to support and protect it in their own interest and also in the National interest!!

7. It was the united trade union movement which was instrumental in forcing this government to shelve the FRDI Bill. Let us foil the attempts of the power centres to sell out our golden treasure to the crony capitalists.

March on Comrades. Make 16th March strike another significant success. Victory will be ours.

With revolutionary greetings,

Comradely yours,

Parte

(Soumya Datta) General Secretary