

ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS' CONFEDERATION

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Circular No. 2022/01

Date: 01.01.2022

To All Affiliates (Please Circulate)

Dear Comrades,

New Year 2022: RESOLUTION FOR A SUSTAINED MOVEMENT AGAINST PRIVATISATION

As the curtains for the year 2021 draws to a close, a new beginning awaits us. The year 2021 had witnessed the devastating effect of the second wave of the pandemic which took away the lives of hundreds of our brethren and comrades. As we usher in the New Year 2022, we are faced with another surge of Covid cases across the country for which we have to exercise utmost care and attention.

This gloomy period witnessed rejuvenated banking trade union activities. AIBOC had taken the lead to conceptualise a country wide mass movement launch agitation against the banking amendment bill listed during winter session of the parliament. Protests and demonstrations were held throughout the year both physically and virtually. The Facebook Page www.facebook.com/BankBachaoDeshBachao/ is gaining hundreds of followers with each passing day and each post is reaching out to significant number of people. This has become the flagship movement of the conscience keepers of the country.

The year 2021 stand etched in the annals of banking trade union movement. AIBOC embarked upon a unique programme – **Bharat Yatra** to protest against proposed amendment to banking laws, commencing from Kolkata and Mumbai to Delhi on 24th and 25th November 2021 respectively. Leadership and activists travelled in buses, across towns and cities especially across the poll bound state of Uttar Pradesh, meeting every section of society sensitizing the ill effects of the draconian banking amendment bill, culminating in a mammoth rally at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi on 30.11.2021. The protest rally at Jantar Mantar witnessed participation of prominent lawmakers, central trade union leaders, leaders of farmers' movement, students, representatives of mass movements' and thousands of our comrades from every nook and corner of the country. This event was a virtual game changer and sent a strong signal to the powers that be that any move to table the banking amendment bill would be resisted tooth and nail. This was followed by a 2 day strike call by UFBU on 16th and 17th December 2021, which was also a stupendous success. Many stakeholders joined the picketers on both the days of strike which included farmers, students, SHGs, working class, workers from organized and unorganized sectors, retirees and common people.

The farmers' agitation during the year deserves its place in the history as it demonstrated the world the power of a united, democratic, and peaceful movement. It vindicated the old adage – **"The streets can undo what the Parliament can do"**. The government was compelled to roll back the three contentious farm bills without discussion in Parliament. AIBOC had extended fraternal support to the movement. Farmers' organizations had reciprocated and extended support to our movement against privatization.

Comrades, while we have every reason to celebrate the occasion of the new year at the same time we have to make a fresh resolve to escalate our movement against the proposed banking amendment bill. To thwart this, we must continue to be connected, united and stand committed to the cause of saving public sector character of banks. Towards this, we call upon all our affiliates and members to be alert and in all preparedness to continue our struggle both on street and on virtual platforms like social media. We must make **#BankBachaoDeshBachao** a mass movement. Every effort should be made to disseminate the ill effects of privatization to each one in the society and harp on the truth that the depositors' money would be safe only with PSBs and RRBs.

We call upon our membership to extend whole-hearted support in all our future endeavours. Attempts will be made to scuttle our unity, destroy the very fabric of our public sector banks, and reverse the historic

nationalisation. We firmly believe that at the end of a focused and determined struggle, there will always be fruits of success.

We wish all our Affiliates and members that New Year 2022 should usher in an abundance of happiness, landmark achievements and fulfilment of aspirations. We wish you and your family members a vibrant and sparkling New Year 2022, marked with more militancy and organised struggles involving all stakeholders to protect the interest of the common man and to protect the sovereignty of the nation.

With vibrant greetings,



[Murali Sounadararajan T]
President



[Soumya Datta]
General Secretary