

ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS' CONFEDERATION

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

C/o State Bank of India Officers' Association (North Eastern Circle)

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To All Affiliates (Please Circulate)

Dear Comrades,

AIBOC BIDS ADIEU TO COM SOUMYA DATTA, GENERAL SECRETARY, ON HIS SUPERANNUATION FROM THE SERVICES OF THE STATE BANK OF INDIA

Comrade Soumya Datta, General Secretary, AIBOC and AISBOF, had laid down his office on 30th November, 2022 on his superannuation from the active service of the State Bank of India.

Comrade Soumya Datta was born on 27th November, 1962 in Kolkata, had his schooling at South Point High School and did his graduation in Economics from Jadavpur University. He completed his LL.B., MBA, and CAIB and has several other professional and academic distinctions. He joined the State Bank of India as a Probationary Officer on 2nd February, 1987.

His optimism, passion for hard work, dedication, and commitment to the cause, apart from being an exceptional human being with the highest level of analytical skill, ensured his movement from Assistant Secretary of Ranaghat Composite Unit of SBIOA (Bengal Circle) in 1990 to General Secretary of the Circle itself in 2015. He was a natural choice for General Secretary, AIBOC in July 2018 and also assumed the Chair of President AISBOF.

Comrade Soumya Datta had spent better parts of the last two decades ensuring moments of rare soaring pleasure to thousands of bank officers. He may not have been aware of how much the leadership and the Confederation benefitted through his intermittent conversation covering the entire nook and corner of the country. We know of his prowess, and he mesmerised us with his exciting and gripping discussion on issues confronting the Confederation.

The Confederation has no hesitation in admitting that the past 4 years would not have been the same without Comrade Soumya Datta at the helm. The Confederation underwent an inevitable major transition ensuring historical achievements during this eventful time, and Comrade Soumya Datta was the principal architect. This was reflected umpteen times starting from the sordid episode involving Kalyan Jewellers, determination to have a full mandate for discussions on the charter of demands, accomplishing a wage settlement including improvement of family pension during trying Covid times, when wage cut, retrenchment, are the order of the day. It is his contribution to make AIBOC the determining force of the bank employees' movement with his singular realization that it is now an officer-driven industry. He should also be credited for imploring us that the officers' organization signs the **Joint Note** and that **Bipartite** should be banished from our vocabulary.

He exhibited the rare quality of an ardent campaigner against the wrong economic policies of the government, and he is a crusader against the threat of bank privatisation. The pan India campaign of *BankBachaoDeshBachao* launched under his leadership has seen an unprecedented response with



313K plus likes as of now, be it raising a storm in social media, be it taking it to the street with the ground-breaking initiative, **Delhi Chalo Jatha,**” be it launching a country-wide mass movement, the obdurate action on the part of Comrade Datta has all along been illustrative of his leadership, shrewdness and his never yielding attitude to act as a defiant for a cause. We need to carry forward this campaign which should be our best tribute to this living legend.

Comrade Soumya Datta, whom we had admired, shared some beautiful moments with us all in the Confederation. All those moments and feelings will reverberate for many days. We know that we are not going to live that time again. He may sometimes look passive and disappointed either in himself or the world around him. Still, his determination would never allow him to get his dream shattered because he knew ignominy would haunt the movement, and he would be the last person to accept such a situation.

We strongly believe that Comrade Soumya Datta is just retiring from bank service. His leadership is a deed of historical significance and a genuine milestone in our confederated life.

In our capacity and on behalf of all members of AIBOC convey our sincere appreciation for his colossal contribution and urge him to intensify his fight to safeguard the rights of commoners and assist the banking unions in particular. We also wish him an active and healthy life in the years to come.

With revolutionary greetings,



(Rupam Roy)
General Secretary