

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)

State Bank of India, Local Head Office,

Dispur, Guwahati, Assam – 781006

Mobile : 9957563825



e-mail: aiboc.sectt@gmail.com

rupamr.aiboc@gmail.com

website: www.aiboc.org



@aiboc in

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To All Affiliates (Please Circulate)

Dear Comrades,

AIBOC (WEST BENGAL STATE UNIT) CONDUCTED MASS MEETING ON "BANK BACHAO DESH BACHAO" CAMPAIGN AT RANI RASHMONI ROAD, KOLKATA ON 11TH FEBRUARY, 2023.

It has been a historical event and yet another success story encrypted in the page of our united struggle that has seen an agglomeration of around seven thousand citizens of this country echoing their resonating voice against the Government's ill-conceived idea of Privatisation of the Nationalised Banks. The flagship initiative of the AIBOC christened as "Bank Bachao Desh Bachao" has once again shimmered in the sky of Trade Union movement and our resilient pursuit to see the sunset of the draconian Banking Reform Laws has made another small leap towards a blissful but challenging journey that all of us have embarked upon.



the Parliament since its announcement.

It is due to this persistent and nationwide struggle that has forced the Government take a back step in terms of implementation of the heinous agenda and even tabling of the bill in the house of parliament could be kept in abeyance during the consecutive sessions of

However, as the intent of the govt. is to hand over all national assets to the crony corporate houses, the heinous move of privatization may at any time resurface and there is a need for keeping the momentum up. Meanwhile, as the idea of Nationalization had been driven through mass upliftment by exploiting all the national resources and channelizing the Bank dependent all around and a sustainable development of the nation, it is imperative that the struggle for restoring Public Sector fabric of the Bank is assimilated with the sentiment of every stake holders and this effort in that aspect bears a paramount significance giving shape of the exertion a mass struggle rather than the struggle of a countable few bank employees.

02. Under this backdrop, AIBOC, West Bengal State Unit organized a mass assembly embracing the theme, "Bank Bachao Desh Bachao", It had been a real jolt on the sky of the protagonists that took off on 11th of February, 2023 from 10.30 am. The atmosphere around the Rani Rashmoni Road, Kolkata had been electrifying amidst skyrocketing slogans by the lady comrades followed by some soulful renditions presented by Comrade Somit Hazra, an activist of SBIOA Bengal Circle.

It was an agglomeration of Citizens from all across the segments comprising SHGs, Farmers, Small Traders, Students, Senior Citizens including pensioners, however, the inspiration was to see the street goers stopping their way and looking back ushering hope for addressing their aspirations as well. The assemblage evoked a massive response from the public and the campaign attracted a wide and exhaustive coverage by the print as well as the electronic media.



03. The meeting was presided over by Comrade Krishnendu Mukherjee, The President of the ABOC West Bengal State Unit while Comrade Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay, the Secretary of the State Unit accorded a warm welcome to the dignitaries, leaderships and all the other agglomerates.

04. The mammoth gathering at the Rani Rashmani Road, Kolkata, witnessed the Trade union leaders from all across the banking industry deliberating their thoughts on the issues close to their hearts and in no way are isolated from that of the citizens at large. Some of the prominent leaders who had been eloquent on



issues include Comrade Dipak Basu, General Secretary, Federation of SBI pensioners' Associations, Comrade Suprito Sarkar, General Secretary, All India Bank Pensioners and Retirees Confederation, Comrade Dipankar Mukherjee, former Secretary of ABOC (WBSU), Comrade Sanjay Das, former Secretary of ABOC (WBSU), Comrade Pradip Biswas, Vice-President, BEFI, Comrade Amaresh Vikramaditya, Secretary, ABOC (Bihar State Unit), Comrade Deep Prakash Routh from ABOA, Comrade Sumit Saha from NCBE.

Apart from them, two eminent economists and social activists, Dr. Prasenjit Bose and Sabir Ahmad also graced the occasion and deliberated thoughts while extending their wholehearted support in taking forward the movement against privatisation. This surely had added an extra dimension to the protest programme. The undersigned also briefly addressed the gathering on behalf of the Confederation and expressed his resolute assertion that ABOC is sure to combat all the identified and emerging challenges to safeguard the economy in general and Public Sector Banks and Regional Rural Banks in particular. The undersigned had also been firm in his affirmation that the ABOC in coming days shall intensify the **"Bank Bachao Desh Bachao"** campaign and take it across the country with more vigour. All the speakers echoed the same voice against the anti-people policy of the government and



upheld their resolute stand against the ill-effects of privatisation towards society and economy at large. They eulogised the contributions of the Public Sector Banks to build the edifice of the economy of the country and how it has been providing financial assistance to the poor farmers, labourers, small traders to save them from the trap of private money lenders. They further criticized the union government for celebrating *"Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsab"* when the country was reeling with high inflation, high unemployment and income inequality. All leaders as well as the constituents were unanimous in their urge towards intensifying the mass movement by continuing the **"Bank Bachao Desh Bachao"** campaign until the government withdraws its decision of privatisation of Public Sector Banks.

05. The undersigned places on record his sincere appreciation and conveys revolutionary greetings to the leadership of West Bengal State Unit including all the affiliates and comrades, all stakeholders, media who made this **meeting** a grand success by their active involvement and participation.

Comrades, March On. Victory shall be ours.

With revolutionary greetings,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Rupam Roy', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

(Rupam Roy)
General Secretary