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CIRCULAR NO.96

31ST DECEMBER 2015

THE NEW BEGINNING - 2016

We wish all our comrades and their family members, those who engage in sustained struggle against exploitation and the trade union fraternity a vibrant, radiant and successful **NEW YEAR**. It is a new beginning for a new year to reflect back over the previous year and consider all the achievements and accomplishments. We bid farewell to 2015 with a flashback of achieving our 10th Bipartite Settlement. It is also a year of pride for all the trade unions in the world that the Nobel Peace Prize Committee chose the Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet – a group of four organisations from Tunisia for the Nobel Peace Prize 2015 for their decisive contribution to the building of a pluralistic democracy in the wake of the Jasmine Revolution of 2011. It is a reminder to the world that if they strengthen the Unions it will strengthen the social justice and democracy.

2015 has witnessed a renewed upsurge of violence on large scale. On 10th Oct, a rally organised by the Trade Union at Ankara, the capital city of Turkey, was targeted by hurling bombs to disturb the Trade Union movement. It is a challenge to the entire humanity and Trade union In particular.

At National level, the Government is bent upon to push forward its labour reforms integrating as many as 44 existing central laws into 4 labour codes viz., Industrial Relation, wages, social security and safety. The Bill also makes it tougher to form a trade union. It is obvious that in the coming year, the trade unions will have to put up a collective resistance to safeguard the interests of the working class.

Last month of the year had brought devastating rain to Chennai. It rendered many people homeless. While the entire Tamilnadu State had faced nature's fury, the Chennai City was worst affected alongwith Cuddalore, Kancheepuram and Tiruvallur Districts besides Pondicherry by the devastating and unprecedented flood. Our Bank has contributed Rupees One Crore to the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund. We on our part, have expressed our willingness along with our SBIOA (CC), through a joint letter to contribute a day's salary by debiting one day privilege leave of our members. In addition to this, Our Central Committee, which met on 19th instant, at Tiruchirapalli, had unanimously decided to contribute a sum of Rs.10 lakhs to the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund towards the common cause of the deserving and needy people who were affected by the floods. Our State Banks' Staff Union (Kerala circle) had also contributed Rs.5 lakhs for the above cause, the act of kindness will be acknowledged and remembered by our Members.

Comrades, our onward march continues. We look forward to 2016 as an opportunity to engage our comrades in building and developing stronger relationship and alliance to achieve our objectives with redoubled vigour. May this New Year bring more opportunities and joyous circumstances to all.

Once again we extend a happy, prosperous and rejoicing **NEW YEAR**.

With Revolutionary Greetings,

(D.SINGARAVELU)
GENERAL SECRETARY

SBSU (CC) ::: AISBISF : : : NCBE ::: UFBU ... ZINDABAD