



State Banks' Staff Union (Chennai Circle)

The Icon of
Knowledge,

Service and Sacrifice

Com. **R.BASKARAN,**

President


Heights by great men reached and kept were not attained by sudden flight; but they, while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night- H.W. Longfellow. It seems like Longfellow had Com. Baskaran in mind before coining this timeless phrase.

Com. R.Baskaran, President of our Union who distinguished himself with selfless service for the cause of the members and trade unionism is laying down the office owing to his retirement from the Bank's service on 31st May, 2020 after 39 years of unblemished service.

He joined the Bank's service in July, 1981 as clerk cum typist at Kotagiri branch. Driven by his innate sense of compassion for others, his formal journey as a unionist began in the branch as the Assistant Local Secretary and Local Implementation Committee Secretary. In January 1985 he was transferred to Mint terminus branch and after having served there for a brief period he was transferred to Ambattur Industrial Estate branch (AIE), one of the biggest branches in Chennai with over 100 members, as Stenographer in Sep 1985 where he transformed himself into an intensely active unionist. He was then transferred to Siruthozhil branch, Chennai as Special Assistant in 2004 and later to SME, Ambattur branch as Chief Associate in 2012.

Com Baskaran's rise to the high office of the President in December 2019 can be seen as a textbook case of how one can attain glory through acceptance of challenges and responsibilities. He was elected as a delegate in 1994 in recognition of his participation in all union activities as an ardent member in AIE. The undersigned is proud and delighted to share here that Com. Baskaran was his inspiration that ignited the fire in him to plunge into active union life. Right from his entry into AIE he has been a





guiding light to the undersigned in all his endeavours in the Union. Com. Baskaran became the unanimous choice for the post of Unit Secretary of AIE in 2003 and for the post of Assistant General Secretary in 2009 when the undersigned went up to the next rung in the organisational ladder. He became the Vice President of Chennai sub-office and then as DGS (HQ) in 2017. He is also adorning the positions of Organising Secretary of NCBE and Vice President of our dear Federation.

Com. Baskaran had been a ready reckoner for our leaders and his consummate knowledge in Bank's circulars and instructions helped them immensely in every possible way. He had been a source of information for them. His thoroughness in all spheres of Banking came in handy in times of need. When a fraud occurred in AIE, the leaders who handled the DPCs could save the innocent employees from the jaws of DPC because of the valuable inputs given by Com. Baskaran. He has been successful as defence representative also in DPC cases. Through his articulate negotiating skills, he has saved number of employees by successfully negating the possible disciplinary action against them. He has also played an important role in bringing to light frauds perpetrated in some of the branches he worked.



Com. Baskaran proved that **Knowledge is power**. His zeal to update his knowledge on Bank's products, services, instructions and staff service conditions is commendable and worth emulating. When casually browsing through the salary slips of some members, he stumbled upon the fact that some were mistakenly deprived of FPA component. Wasting no time, he instantly took it up at the appropriate levels and got them the FPA. During the 10th bipartite settlement, he found out that there were some errors in the calculation of stagnation increment and with his able assistance many members received the due arrears. These are few examples that demonstrate his deep knowledge and members' welfare centric attitude.



Com. Baskaran is a man of principles. Punctuality is his hallmark. Even in adverse situations he maintains calm and composure. He has the unique practice of being the first person to extend the birthday greeting to one and all. The speed and accuracy with which he finishes any work entrusted to him is astounding. With his substantial support, the General Secretary's Report for the 37th General Council was prepared in record

time which was rightly acknowledged by the then General Secretary in his concluding address. As Chairman of election committee in 37th General Council he successfully held the election process in a flawless manner. He played a major role in the successful conduct of the memorable **Foundation Day** in Aug 2019 and the mega **3-in-1 meeting** at Mahabalipuram in Nov 2019 which held the audience spellbound. He was also instrumental in the formation of **Youth Wing** established with a view to identify future leaders for our Union. He provided vital inputs in the compilation of books titled **DOs and DON'Ts** and **Staff Matters & Service Conditions**. His in-depth knowledge in matters concerning Bank and staff and his ability to critically analyse issues in his deliberations in our Federation Executive Committee Meetings were well received and applauded by the Executive Committee Members.

In his social life too he excelled as a true leader. Com. Baskaran had been an Executive Committee member in the Parent Teachers Association of SBOA Matriculation School for many years and later became the Vice President of the association in the year 2008. He is a lover of sports and has participated in many inter branch carrom and table tennis tournaments. He has also taken part in many community service programs of the Bank.



On his family front, Com. Baskaran is leading a happy and contented life. His better half Smt. Visalakshi Baskaran has recently retired from BSNL as Sub Divisional Engineer. He is blessed with two sons. His elder son Sri. Saikrishna has a Master's degree from the University of Florida, USA and is employed in Ami Megatrends Inc at Chennai. His younger son Sri. Sai Prasanna is an alumni of Arizona State University, USA and is employed in Sales-force, Indianapolis, USA.

On the eve of his superannuation, State Banks' Staff Union salutes Com. Baskaran, the Icon of Knowledge, for his selfless service rendered to the cause of the members and the Union and wishes him a happy, healthy and peaceful retired life.

Long Live! Com. Baskaran! Long Live!

Place : Chennai

Date : 28th May 2020




(G. KRIPAKARAN)
General Secretary

ENCOMIUMS SHOWERED BY FORMER LEADERS

Com. R. Baskaran, President SBSU (CC) is closely known to me for well over three decades and I am greatly impressed by his simplicity, humility, sincerity, hard work, helping nature and fighting fervour against injustice.

Com. Baskaran entered the Bank's service on 17th July 1981 at Kotagiri, a rural branch and subsequently transferred to Metro area and worked at different branches in Chennai. His posting at AIE Branch made a difference. He came into contact with Com. Kripakaran the present General Secretary of the Union. The bondage developed between them and as days went by, they became inseparable.

Com. Baskaran as Unit Secretary and Assistant General Secretary of the Union handled members' grievances with utmost care and full satisfaction and paved the way for elevation to different positions in the Union and finally he has reached the pivotal position i.e. the President of our mighty organization, State Banks' Staff Union (CC) and Vice President of AISBISF and in this, the role played by Com. Kripakaran is most significant.

In the 5th annual meet of the Forum of Former Central Committee members of SBSU (CC) held on 5/12/2019 at Hotel Royal Regency, Com. Kripakaran General Secretary SBSU (CC) and Com. Baskaran, President SBSU (CC) attended the same as Inaugurator and Guest Of Honor respectively. On that occasion the extempore speech delivered by Com. Baskaran, President SBSU (CC) is still ringing in the ears of all the Veterans who attended the meeting. Com. Kripakaran's vision, mission, future plans, empowerment and execution have been clearly and in a fantastic manner, narrated by Com. Baskaran. In that short address the veterans easily understood his enormous talent, skillful way of tackling all the issues, organising and mobilizing ability, preserving and protecting the members interest.



Such a multifaceted personality is retiring from the Bank's service on 31-05-2020 and he is also laying down his office as President of our great organization. I whole heartedly wish him a very happy, healthy, prosperous, long and active superannuation.

May God bless him and his family and more particularly his sons.

D. VENUGOPAL REDDY

Former General Secretary SBSU(CC)

Former Senior Vice President AISBISF

Gentleman, thy name is Com. Baskaran, President of SBSU (CC). My observation about Com. Baskaran who has been always a loyal, sincere, a silent worker & a dedicated member of our Union deserves all appreciation and should be kept in high esteem. My best wishes for a peaceful and active retired life.

V. R. UDAYASHANKAR,

Former General Secretary, SBSU (CC).





Com. R. Baskaran, President, State Banks' Staff Union (CC) who is laying down his office on 31st May 2020 on account of his superannuation in the Bank's service is a simple and humble person endowed with the qualities of determination, perfection and honesty which paved the way for his occupying the pivotal position in the Union, of course for a shorter period. In his trade union career, in early days, he never compromised in his fight against any

injustice to his fellow-workers and further he was instrumental and tremendous support to Com. G.Kripakaran, present General Secretary in building a strong trade union movement in the Zone I area which is worthy of appreciating and recording. He is very positive, perceptive and helpful and served as a watchdog and raised his voice against the ill-motivated moves and policies of the Management. I understand, he entered the Central Committee of our Union in the year 2009 as Assistant General Secretary, held various position in a quick session before reaching the position of President of our mighty Organisation.

I wish Com. R. Baskaran a very healthy and serene retired life and pray the Almighty to shower his blessings on him and his family.

R. BALASUBRAHMANYAM

Former President SBSU (CC)

I thought that Shri. Baskar, the unassuming personality has a long innings to go along with the General Secretary of SBSU, Shri Kirupakaran as the President of the great edifice. It is indeed a surprise to me that he attains superannuation on 31st May 2020 and SBSU (CC) will surely miss his in depth knowledge and his right guidance after day one of his laying down his office in the Union. Shri. Baskar who is thorough with Bank's circular instructions and also a tech-savy to suit the present day requirements is known to me since late 80s during the period he worked in Ambattur Industrial Estate Branch. I recollect my interactions with him on bank's various instructions and practice which no doubt was a great help to me in the matters of handling DPC matters involving a few members at AIE. It is no wonder that his unadulterated devotion and dedication towards the cause of the membership of the great organization only paved way for his elevation to a very high position in SBSU (CC). I pray almighty to shower his blessings on him for good health and active long superannuation with peace and prosperity.



H. GANAPATHY,

Former President, SBSU (CC).

I extend my warm greetings and best wishes to Com. Baskaran, President of our mighty organization on his impending retirement from Bank's service after servicing the organization in different position. He is a soft spoken person with lot of ability to serve the cause of the members. A Defense Representative and skillful negotiator he saved the lives of many innocent members. I take this opportunity to wish him happy, prosperous and active retired life.



With regards

P. V. INBASEKARAN

Former President SBSU (CC)

I have known Shri. Baskaran for more than two decades i.e. from the period he was working as a stenographer at our Ambattur Industrial Estate branch. Though he was a stenographer he was thorough with the work passing through each and every desk. This knowledge came in handy to the Defense Representatives to extricate our innocent colleagues who had got entangled unwittingly in a very big fraud committed by an employee at the branch. Shri. Baskaran is a very calm and composed person and earned the love and affection of all our staff at the nearby branches by his tireless services to them as a delegate and was the natural choice for elevation into the central committee .By his dint of hard work and deft handling of the issues of the members rose to the pivotal position of PRESIDENT of our mighty Union. He is thorough with the bank's circular instructions and attended

the meeting with the Management fully prepared with the entire details at his finger tips. I wish Shri.Baskaran a long healthy and happy retired life and thank him for providing me the relevant materials and data during my tenure as your General Secretary.



C. M. BASKARAN

Former General Secretary SBSU (CC)

During his tenure of office as AGS Com. Baskaran always focused on the difficulties of branch staff handling the Bank's Systems and Procedures and during the interactions with Management his view-points drew deliberations/discussions. While conveying my best wishes to Com. Baskaran, on his superannuation from Bank's service, we should appreciate the fact that his knowledge, perseverance and diligence has given him to opportunity to serve the members as President of our Union.



S. M. SELVARAJ

Former General Secretary SBSU (CC)

Everyone is unique. Whatever be our unique strengths, leveraging them in a leadership capacity increases our worth to the organization. Com. R. Baskaran, President of our mighty organization is one such intellectual personality who leveraged his capacity to add value to our union.

Retirement of a leader is always heart wrenching but inevitable. Com. Baskaran, my successor in the union is laying down his office on 31.05.2020. My acquaintance with him had started when he was the General council member of Ambattur Industrial Estate branch and it is the divine disposition that he succeeded me as the President of our union consequent to my retirement.

It is part of our common error to believe that leaders must always be in front, or that those in front are necessarily the true leaders. Com. Baskaran provided the intellectual leadership as President of our edifice though for a brief period.



He ensured healthy environment of belongingness. A healthy environment of belonging does not mean we all have the same passions, talents, interests, and beliefs. It means that we respectfully consider each other's point of view as we resolve our issues. My feelings of Com. Baskaran could be explained in no better way than by paraphrasing those of John Townsend Trow bridge:

It doesn't take a man of great mould to make a giant shadow on the wall;

And he who in our daily sight seems but a figure small, outlined in future's light
may stalk, a silhouette sublime across the canvas of our time.

I thank him for everything. I wish Com. Baskaran good health and wealth.

S. GUNASEKAR

Former President , SBSU (CC)



SBSU (CC) AISBISF & NCBE LONG LIVE



President, General Secretary and other Office Bearers on the occasion of retirement of Com. Animeshdada, President, Kolkatta Circle at Kolkatta



With our Federation General Secretary Com. S.K. Bandlish at Thanjavur Main Branch



Community Services Banking programme at a village near Tiruvallur



On the occasion of PTA day of SBOA Matriculation as Vice President of PTA



School children from a nearby village given sweets on the occasion of Deepavali



Procession commencement at the Federation Conference at Ahmedabad



With the Leaders of our Federation at Bhubaneswar



On the occasion of taking charge as President