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State Banks' Staff Union (CHENNAI CIRCLE)

(Regd. No: 883) (Affiliated to All India State Bank of India Staff Federation)

Post Box No.1754 STATE BANK BUILDING 84, RAJAJI SALAI CHENNAI – 600 001

CIRCULAR NO.5

20TH MARCH 2013

GENERAL BODY MEETING - VISAKHAPATNAM ON 16TH AND 17TH FEBRUARY 2013

We reproduce hereunder the text of Circular No.7 dated 19th March 2013, issued by the General Secretary of our dear Federation for the information of our Members.

(C.M.BASKARAN)
GENERAL SECRETARY

TEXT OF THE CIRCULAR NO.7 DATED 19TH MARCH 2013

The General Body Meeting of the Federation was held as scheduled at Visakhapatnam on the 16th and 17th February 2013 hosted by our affiliate, State Bank of India Staff Union Hyderabad Circle, combining with the General Body Meeting of the host union.

The combined General Body Meeting of the Federation and the Circle Union was the first ever attempt tested by the host union and the conduct of the meeting can be termed exemplary, matchless and magnificent.

Pleasant colours were encrusted to the stunningly beautiful city of Visakhapatnam - "The City of Destiny" – with exquisite decoration of hoardings, banners, buntings and flags all over the City, which were flapping to the gentle coastal breeze. The venue of the meeting, the Andhra University Engineering College Campus grounds was converted into a massive auditorium with wonderful architecture setting aside exclusive areas for catering, meeting hall, parking arena and several stalls providing utmost comfort to more than 9000 delegates and observers, who attended the Conference.

The participants were greeted with the energetic beats of "Thappetlu", the exhilarating stunt of 'Puli Vesham" and the artistic extravaganza of "Dhimsa Dance", which provided the needed enthusiasm to the participants prior to the hoisting of flags of the Federation and the union simultaneously by both the Presidents of the Federation and the Union marking the first step of historic inaugural ceremony on a wonderfully elevated platform specially and meticulously designed for the purpose.

The Inaugural Session commenced with an awesome dance performance by children gripping the audience with their mesmerizing and spectacular movements to the patriotic composition of "Mile Suru Mera Tumara" that truly ignited the grandeur of the conference followed by inviting the dignitaries to the dais amidst thunderous applause of the audience coupled with heart-rendering slogans of "Federation Zindabad", "SBISUHC Zindabad" and "Our Unity Zindabad", etc.

Com. J P Sarma, Chairman, Reception Committee presented the welcome address and greeted all the dignitaries, delegates and observers to the Conference.

Com. Sanjeev K Bandlish, President, All India State Bank of India Staff Federation in his presidential address, complimented comrades of Visakhapatnam Module for the excellent and elaborate arrangements made for the conference and expressed hope that the existing issues confronting the membership of the Federation would soon be resolved under the able leadership of the Federation.

Com. K S Ramachandra Rao, President, State Bank of India Staff Union Hyderabad Circle exhorted the members upon the need to be more disciplined as dedicated soldiers of the organization keeping in view the additional responsibilities of managing the Head Quarters of All India State Bank of India Staff Federation as well as National Confederation of Bank of Employees.

Thereafter, true to the tradition of Federation in the arena of social welfare, the federation leadership presented cheques towards financial assistance to the welfare organizations Viz., Samata, NGO, the Government Residential School for Visually Challenged Girls and Priyadarshini Oldage Home, Akkayapalem, Visakhapatnam

Shri Ranjit Goswami, Chief General Manager (HR), expressed that All India State Bank of India Staff Federation, with its vast membership of more than 130,000 employees, has a balanced view in respect of growth of the bank as well as its members and appealed to the employees for adapting themselves to the changes in the area of customer service by appropriately tuning their mindset considering the stiff competitive scenario prevailing in the banking industry.

Shri Rakesh Sharma, Chief General Manager, SBI, Hyderabad Circle suggested that the senior employees should become mentors to adopt and nurture the newly recruited employees and stressed on the need to educate them on their roles and functions in providing excellent customer service towards further growth of the bank in the coming days.

Shri Prashant Kumar, General Manager (IR) while conveying the greetings of Shri B V Chaubal, DMD & CDO said that with the recruitment of more than 21,000 employees, with the change in the average age-profile of employees and with the well-disciplined soldiers present in the audience and matured leadership to guide them properly, the bank will ever remain No.1 in the entire banking industry. Shri Prashant Kumar also assured that many Staff Welfare measures are in the offing for all the employees. He appealed for maintaining the Unity for the betterment of the country as well as the bank.

Dr. D. Purandeswari, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce and Industry in her scintillating speech highlighted the developments in the banking industry in the post-1960 era, in particular, in reaching all sectors with much importance to the priority sector. The Hon'ble Minister congratulated the entire banking industry for their reach in many of the remote areas and emphasized the need for further technological advancement and excellent human relations aiming to facilitate the people to reach the banks comfortably and advised to deliberate fruitfully and productively keeping the interests of the bank, the people and the country in the forefront. The Hon'ble Minister also congratulated the Federation for its efforts in bringing the issues of the members to the forefront and also for bringing them to the notice of the policy makers so that they could be addressed and resolved amicably.

Com. Vinil Saxena, President, National Confederation of Bank Employees opined that with the recent amendments to banking laws by the Government despite stiff opposition from the entire trade union fraternity, the unions in the banking industry need to face lot of challenges in the days to come. Com. Saxena appealed to the membership that the prevailing hardship is the starting point of our journey towards the path of victory for resolution of all the issues confronting the banking industry as well as unions.

Com. D S Rishabadas, General Secretary, All India State Bank Officers' Federation claimed that it is not the volume of business of the bank or the size having the largest network in the banking industry that has differentiated the State Bank of India from the other banks but it is the excellent unmatchable human resource that is available in State Bank of India which is the only thing that kept the bank at a higher level compared to all other banks in the country. He appreciated the role of both the Federations all these days for the growth of the bank and said that the wages of bank employees and officers need a reasonable and realistic upward revision.

Com. K Venugopal, General Secretary, All India Insurance Employees' Association, highlighted the importance and role of savings of the people in the banking and Insurance sectors, which have played a crucial and beneficial role in the growth of the country due to nationalization of these sectors and expressed fear that these two sectors may fail in the hands of foreign investors. He also appealed to all the members to agitate against privatization of banking and insurance sectors, price-rise and unemployment level in the country and called for joint struggles on all issues that are affecting the interests of the work force in particular and the country in general.

Former Office-bearers of the Federation Viz., Com. K Raja Kurup, Com. Durga Ram, Com. Ranjan Pati, Com. V K Malhotra, Com. Sreepathy Rao, former Vice-Presidents, Com. Bhupen Chandra Kalita, former President, Com. Prakash N Gangal, former Secretary and Com. P Nanda Kishore, former President of host Union and former Vice-President of our Federation were felicitated.

Com. Milind Nadkarni, former President, National Confederation of Bank Employees and Com. S N Sahu, former President of SBI Officers' Association (Hyderabad Circle) were also felicitated.

Com. Milind Nadkarni, Com. Bhupen Chandra Kalita, Com. Prakash Gangal and Com. P Nanda Kishore expressed in one voice that the need of the hour is collective struggles and united actions by all the members towards resolution of all issues confronting the members in particular and the trade union movement in the country in general.

Com. M Manaiah, General Secretary, State Bank of India Officers' Association (Hyderabad Circle) said that he is glad to associate himself in the unique occasion of combined general body meeting of All India State Bank of India Staff Federation and State Bank of India Staff Union Hyderabad Circle and expressed that the excellent fraternal relations between workmen unions and officers' associations in SBI at All India as well as Circle level would continue to remain.

Com. G. Shanker, Secretary General, National Federation of SBI SC/ST Employees, in his address, expressed happiness and congratulated the membership of State Bank of India Staff Union Hyderabad Circle for having the opportunity of running the National level organizations i.e., Federation and NCBE under the able leadership of Com. M V Murali.

Com. A. Ramesh Babu, General Secretary, SBI Pensioners' Association, Hyderabad Circle conveyed that the Pensioners' Association has excellent co-ordination with both the Circle Staff Union and Officers' Association and profusely thanked the leaders of United Forum of Bank Unions for including the issues of pensioners in the common charter of demands for Tenth Bipartite Wage Revision submitted to the Indian Banks' Association.

Com. Jyothi Bhushan Mohapatra, Workmen Director on the Central Board of State Bank of India said he was delighted by the active participation of young comrades and lady comrades in large numbers and opined that the militancy of young comrades will go a long way in protecting the trade unionism in the banking industry.

Com. M V Murali, Secretary, All India State Bank of India Staff Federation said that this unique meeting of combined general body meetings of the Federation and the Circle Union is a historic one and will ever remain in the minds of the members of Circle Union and appreciated all the participants for the excellent discipline maintained during the entire proceedings of the Inaugural Session. Com. Murali advised the membership to keep a balanced approach and work towards the growth of the bank as well as the organization and said that while the organization also would keep the growth of bank in its approach, it will never hesitate to agitate for protecting the rights of members.

Thereafter, the Vote of Thanks by Com. N Sambasiva Rao, Secretary, Reception Committee followed by dazzling display of fire-crackers marked the satisfactory conclusion of the magnificent inaugural session of the unique combined general body meetings of the Federation and the host union.

In the Delegate Session that was held on the 17th February 2013, the following decisions were unanimously approved by the General Body:

- (i) To change the nomenclature of the position of 'Secretary' to 'General Secretary' and that of 'Assistant Secretary' to 'Deputy General Secretary';
- (ii) To create two positions of Organising Secretary at the place of the Registered Office of the Federation and at the place where the Corporate Office of the Bank is situated in order to co-ordinate with the General Secretary in works associated with Registered Office as well as Corporate Centre respectively;
- (iii) To enhance the Affiliation fee from the existing Rs.5/- per member per annum to Rs.15/- per member per annum from the current calendar year;

At the end of the delegate session, elections were conducted for all the positions to the Executive Committee and Council of the Federation. The Circular containing the list of elected office-bearers has already been issued vide Circular No.1, dated 25th February 2013. The meeting came to an end with Com. Sanjeev Bandlish, President proposing a resolution appreciating the membership of the host affiliate, State Bank of India Staff Union Hyderabad Circle, in general, and the membership of Visakhpatnam Module of host affiliate and also the Reception Committee, in particular, for the excellent conduct of the General Body Meeting of the Federation, which was unanimously approved amidst thunderous applause.

Sd/-(M.V.MURALI) General Secretary

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