



# THE SHIELD

A Monthly Magazine from

State Banks' Staff Union (Chennai Circle)



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**HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR  
BELOVED PRESIDENT COM. P A KHAJA FAKRUDEEN  
AND DYNAMIC GENERAL SECRETARY COM. V SRIDHARAN**



**Dear Comrades,**

It gives me immense pleasure to meet you all through our in house magazine "THE SHIELD" for the first time after taking over as the General Secretary of our great edifice State Banks' Staff Union (Chennai Circle). As I take up the most prestigious role, I feel a varied sense of responsibility and appreciation.

At this juncture I extend my heartiest congratulations to all our members for making our 39<sup>th</sup> General Council a thunderous success and thank all the volunteers who had toiled in achieving this success. We also witnessed the felicitation to Com. G. Kripakaran, our charismatic and vibrant leader who has laid down his office on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024. The felicitation was well received and attended by various leaders from other circles including veterans.

We also extend a warm welcome and congratulate our new Chairman Shri Chella Sreenivasulu Setty. In his address he has expressed his vision to grow our bank into the "Best Bank" in the country and reinforce on providing best quality of customer service. We along with our members extend our fullest support in achieving this goal.

The world celebrated the International Youth Day on 12.08.2024. Since, State



Bank of India is one of the organisations with least average age of employees in the country, we have the responsibility to keep ourselves healthy both mentally and physically. Hence, I urge upon to maintain a healthy work life balance.

The ideology behind any Trade Union is that they are a means to protect and promote the interests of members in the workplace. However, it is even more true to say that the success of the union is in the Unity of its members.

**"Coming together is a beginning;  
keeping together is progress;  
working together is success"**

Let us all, together,  
take our Union further,  
to new heights and glory.

**V. SRIDHARAN  
GENERAL SECRETARY**



## 39<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING OF OUR STATE BANKS' STAFF UNION (CHENNAI CIRCLE)



The 39th General Council of the State Banks' Staff Union Chennai Circle, held on 24th & 25th August 2024 at "The KalaingarArangam," Anna Arivalayam, was a powerful display of solidarity and unity. Comrades from across the Chennai Circle flocked to the venue, creating an atmosphere of pride and commitment to the union's values.

President Com. V Sridharan delivered an inspiring Presidential Address, urging members to remain united and continue the union's pursuit of justice. Com. Emmanuel Elavendhan, Chairman of the Reception Committee, welcomed attendees with heartfelt warmth, emphasizing the importance of collective action.

The event was inaugurated by Com. Sanjeev K Bandlish, Convenor UFBU and former General Secretary of NCBE and AISBISF. His leadership and presence added great significance to the event, setting the stage for a successful and unifying council.

The event was further honored by the presence of Shri Parminder Singh, Chief General Manager of Chennai Circle, as the Chief Guest along with the team of officials. His participation underscored the importance of the event, and his address highlighted the strong relationship between the union and the bank management, emphasizing mutual respect and cooperation.

General Secretary of our Federation Com. L Chandrasekhar's keynote address focused on the challenges facing the banking sector and the critical role the union plays in safeguarding workers' rights.

Distinguished guests, including Senior Vice-Presidents of the Federation—Com. Pradip K Baishya, Com. R. Sriram, Com. Anil P Davar, Com. Raju Kumar Singh, Com. S Akhil, and Working President Com. Pankaj Koushik—expressed their wishes for the success of the conference. General Secretary and Presidents from all the circles participated in the conference.

Special invitees Com. R. Balaji President, NCBE, Com. Nithish A.R. Singh, President, SBIOA (CC) and Com. A Sridharan General Secretary, SBIPA (CC),







Veteran Leaders Former Sr. Vice-Presidents AISBISF and General Secretaries SBSU (CC) Com. D. Venugopal Reddy and Com. C.M. Baskaran congratulated the union for the achievements. The conference witnessed a colourful display of cultural events by the members. The delegate session on the second day of the conference was very useful in discussing various issues faced by the members and deliberated on various issues to find solutions. The event concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Deputy General Secretary (HQ) Com. R. Rangunathan, expressing gratitude to all. The General Council was a celebration of the union's resilience, unity, and the dedication of its members, leaving everyone motivated for the future.





## FAREWELL TO COM. G. KRIPAKARAN, PRESIDENT AISBISF AND GENERAL SECRETARY SBSU (CC)



The second day of the 39th General Council of the State Banks' Staff Union Chennai Circle was marked by an emotional farewell to the dynamic and visionary leader, Com. G. Kripakaran, who held prestigious roles including President of AISBISF, Convenor of UFBU (TN), General Secretary of NCBE (TN), and General Secretary of SBSU (CC). Our President and General Secretary elect Com. V. Sridharan presided the meeting and rendered an emotional address and expressed his gratitude to the tall leader.

As part of the farewell, an audio-visual presentation titled "A Tribute to Our Thalaivar" was showcased, highlighting his incredible journey from an ordinary union member to the distinguished President of AISBISF. The presentation captured his profound contributions to the union, his leadership in critical struggles, and his tireless advocacy for workers' rights, which left an indelible mark on the union's history.

In addition to the heartfelt tribute, the farewell event saw the General Secretary of our Federation Com. L.Chandrasekhar, offering his best wishes to Com. Kripakaran for a happy retirement and a fruitful second innings. He acknowledged the pivotal role Com. Kripakaran played in strengthening the union.

Com. Sanjeev K Bandlish, Convenor UFBU and former General Secretary of NCBE and AISBISF, also expressed his warm wishes, recognizing Com. Kripakaran's invaluable contributions to the union's growth and success. He commended his leadership qualities and the legacy he leaves behind, encouraging him to embrace this new chapter with the same passion and dedication he showed throughout his career.







Distinguished guests and special invitees, including Senior Vice-Presidents of the Federation—Com. Pradip K Baishya, Com. R. Sriram, Com. Anil P Davar, Com. Raju Kumar Singh, Com. S Akhil, and Working President Com. Pankaj Koushik—also conveyed their deep appreciation for his leadership qualities. They spoke fondly of his vision, strength, and the legacy he leaves behind, wishing him a fulfilling and well-deserved retirement.

Com. R. Balaji, President of NCBE, Vetaran Leaders Former Sr. Vice-Presidents AISBISF and General Secretaries SBSU (CC) Com. D. Venugopal Reddy and Com. C.M. Baskaran joined others in extending their warm wishes, expressing their admiration for his dedication and sacrifices over the years. They emphasized that though Com. Kripakaran's tenure may be coming to a close, his influence would continue to inspire future generations of leaders in the union.

Com. Kripakaran expressed his heartfelt gratitude to all in his response. The farewell was a fitting recognition of Com. Kripakaran's monumental contributions to the union and the banking sector, celebrating not just the end of his formal leadership but the beginning of a new chapter in his life.





## THE NEW TEAM OF OFFICE BEARERS

The 39th General Council concluded on 25th August 2024 with the new team taking over, President Com. P.A. Khaja Fakrudeen and General Secretary Com. V. Sridharan with the team of office bearers.



## FOUNDATION DAY 2024

The 79<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of our Union was celebrated on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2024 at the A.O. South Auditorium to commemorate the occasion of the birth of our Union. Celebrating Foundation Day on the same day the union was formed has been a cherished tradition for the past 5 years after Com. Kripakaran took over as the General Secretary of our Union. Our President Com. Sridharan presided over the meeting. Vice-President Com. Khaja Fakrudeen welcomed the gathering.

Our dynamic General Secretary of the Federation Com. L. Chandrasekhar was the Guest of Honour. He honoured us by participating in our Foundation Day Celebrations as this was the first meeting he was attending as General Secretary of Federation outside parent circle. He reminisced his







association with Chennai Circle and expressed his joy in being a part of the celebrations. He referred our Circle as his Grand Parent Circle, as Amaravati Circle which was part of the Hyderabad Circle was formed from the then Madras Circle.

Our Circle Chief General Manager Shri. Parminder Singh was the Chief Guest, who expressed his concerns on Bank's business parameters and staff's commitment. Shri. Sanjeev Kumar, DGM and CDO was also a part of the celebrations. Then General Secretary Com. G. Kripakaran gave an enthralling speech on the Formation of the Union and how unions play a role in safeguarding the interests of the Bank. Vote of thanks was delivered by Vice-President Com. Emmanuel Elaventhana N.





## 68<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL BODY AND PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS OF STATE BANK OF INDIA STAFF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD. AND FELICITATION TO COM. G. KRIPAKARAN, PRESIDENT AISBISF & GENERAL SECRETARY SBSU (CC)

The 68<sup>th</sup> General Body and Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of State Bank of India Staff Co-operative Society Ltd. was organised on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024 at "Tamil Isai Sangam", Rajah Annamalai Mandram. President of Society Com. Emmanuel Elaventhana presided over the function. Assistant Treasurer, Society Com. Ramesh Samuel welcomed the gathering. Program started with the reading out of the agenda by Secretary (officiating) of Society Shri. P Sai Venkatesan and it was approved by the house.

The later part of the evening witnessed the celebration of the beginning of the Platinum Jubilee of the Credit Society and felicitation to Com. G. Kripakaran, President AISBISF & General Secretary SBSU (CC) on account of his superannuation from Bank's service. President Com. V. Sridharan addressed the members and emphasized the goal and importance of formation of Credit Society for uplifting each other. He requested the members to bring in other staff who are non-members into the fold.

General Secretary of Kerala Circle Com. S. Akhil spoke how credit societies help members in acute need for money for emergencies. He also reminisced how our society helped him as well as members in Kerala Circle in times of distress.

DGM Overseas Branch Shri. N. Muralidharan was the Chief Guest of the celebrations. He appreciated the way the SBI Co-operative





Society is functioning in our Bank. He also spoke about the strong bonding Overseas Branch has with the Society.

Our dynamic General Secretary Com. G. Kripakaran in his address encouraged Credit Society to perform social welfare activities too as the sole aim with which Credit society was formed was "All for each & each for all". He also insisted that the aim of the credit society should not be profit making rather sharing the profit and reducing the burden of its members by providing loans at cheaper rates.

Regional Secretary SBIOA Com. Ravikumar and Vice-President SBIPA (CC) Com. V.R. Udaya Shankar wished President Com. Emmanuel Elaventhana and appreciated his efforts in serving the members. A light music event was organised wherein members displayed their talents. The event also witnessed social service activities by way of distribution of welfare measures to the poor and needy. Com. A. R. Umasankar Vice-President of Society expressed his heartfelt gratitude to all for gracing the occasion.

## **FEDERATION FOCUS: APEX LEVEL – ADVOCACY**

Our Federation, committed to the welfare of our members and the protection of our rights, has actively addressed various issues with management in recent times. To keep our members informed, we have compiled a summary of the letters sent to Management. This ensures transparency and highlights our ongoing efforts to advocate for the interests of all members within the organisation.

1. **ISSUANCE OF INSTRUCTIONS FOR PAYMENT OF ADDITIONAL TA/DA AND OTHER ALLOWANCES TO PERSONNEL DEPLOYED FOR ELECTION RELATED DUTIES AS PER ECI** - The Election Commission of India emphasized that "In view of the difficult nature of the work performed by polling personnel, the Election Commission has directed the payment of remuneration for election duty carried out by them. In addition to remuneration, additional TA/DA and any other allowances shall be paid as per the norms by their parent department."
2. **GRANT OF GRADUATION INCREMENTS FOR NON-SUBORDINATE EMPLOYEES (PHARMACISTS)** - current eligibility is pass in 12th or equivalent diploma.
3. **STAFF WELFARE ACTIVITIES PROPOSED UTILISATION OF ENHANCED WELFARE FUNDS** - Best utilisation of enhanced funds to further benefit the



organization as a whole like Improvement of Holiday Home facilities, medical, providing sports kits, canteen facilities, scholarships, reservation in school seats etc.

4. EDUCATION LOAN SCHEME FOR STUDIES ABROAD SBI GLOBAL ED-VANTAGE FOR STAFF - Currently 110 % collateral to be given. An interest concession and collateral free loan is our demand.
5. MANPOWER PLANNING - mechanism and parameters used in evaluating the staff requirements to be reassessed.
6. INTER-CIRCLE TRANSFER POLICY - There is no provision for Inter Circle Transfer / Inter State Transfer for junior associates recruited after 2019, which is violations of the terms and conditions of the Memorandum of Settlement between State Bank of India and All India State Bank of India Staff Federation. Remove Ban and upholding the existing Settlements.
7. REIMBURSEMENT OF COST OF GLUCOMETER KIT & STRIPS - Flexibility to allow reimbursement based on a prescription from any registered medical practitioner.
8. REQUEST FOR PROVISION OF PURCHASING COMPUTER/LAPTOP/I-PAD/TABLET THROUGH ONLINE PLATFORMS AND REVISION OF COMPUTER LOAN LIMITATIONS - . A tie-up with platforms like Amazon or Flipkart could further enhance this process, offering employees exclusive deals. The current stipulation of availing the Computer Loan only twice during an employee's service, with a mandatory gap of five years between loans to be reviewed.
9. PROVISION FOR EXERCISING INVESTMENT OPTION TO EMPLOYEES UNDER NPS - Currently, the Bank's investment pattern allocates a large portion of employees' contributions to Government securities, bonds, and money market instruments, without giving employees the option to decide in which asset class their hard-earned money should be invested. Given the above, we believe the Bank should reconsider the investment pattern of the scheme and provide employees the flexibility to select from different funds with varying levels of equity exposure based on their risk appetite and age, similar to the option extended by the Government of India to its employees.



# WATCH YOUR HEALTH

## WORLD HEART DAY - 29<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

### Healthy-Heart Lifestyle

- Spend less time in front of TV
- Give up smoking
- Get enough sleep
- Avoid trigger foods
- Avoid soda and caffeine
- Eat small meals
- Exercise good dental hygiene
- Drink herbal beverages as Wheatgrass Juice, Green tea



### Threats To A Heart

- Cholesterol
- Obesity
- Hypertension
- Diabetes
- Smoking/ Tobacco use
- Family History of Heart Ailments
- High Blood Pressure (more than 140/90)



Dr. Radhika Rajagopal, M.B.B.S., DPH.,  
AGM Medical / BMO  
LHO, Chennai

## OBITUARY – COM. J. MUTHUKKUMARAN



With a deep sense of shock and disbelief we inform the passing of Com. J. Muthukkumaran, former Deputy General Secretary (Branch) of the Salem Sub-office, 8th August 2024.

Just four days prior, on 4th August, he actively participated in the 79th Foundation Day Celebrations of our Union at Dharmapuri,

where he distributed welfare measures to those in need. May the departed soul attain the lotus feet of Lord Almighty.



## EDITORIAL

Editor in Chief - Com. P.A. Khaja Fakrudeen - President  
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1. Com. Emmanuel Elaventhan - Vice-President (HQ)
2. Com. Habeeb Rahiman A - Deputy General Secretary, Chennai - 1
3. Com. Usha U - Assistant General Secretary, Zone - 2
4. Com. Ananthakrishnan S - Ex-Servicemen Representative

