



THE SHIELD

A Monthly Magazine from

State Banks' Staff Union (Chennai Circle)



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Dear Comrades,

It gives me immense pleasure in connecting through our in-house e-magazine again. March month has a lot of significance for people who particularly work in the financial sector in our country. This month was even more significant for us as we had proposed to go on strike on 24th and 25th March 2025 fighting for our legitimate basic demands.

In the midst of our agitational programmes, there was a conciliation meeting on 18th March 2025 and as no understanding could be reached on our demands, the meeting was adjourned to 21st March 2025. On 21st March 2025 one more round of conciliation meeting took place in CLC Office New Delhi, there were serious discussions on the demands, where officials of the Indian Banks' Association (IBA), Department of Financial Services (DFS), and Union Ministry of Finance were also present. Joint Secretary of DFS spoke on video call and informed about the positive discussion Finance Minister and DFS Secretary had on the issues including 5 Days Banking.

On the important issue of 5 Days Banking, the assurances of the IBA, DFS and CLC have opened the way for an amicable solution at the earliest. We hope that things will move in the positive direction. Our agitational programmes and strike call have sufficiently highlighted the importance of our demand and we are hopeful that the Government would attend to the same seriously. We thank all our members for their enthusiastic response and participation in the agitational programmes which manifested our unity and determination to pursue our demands. Thus UFBU has deferred the proposed strike on March 24 and 25, 2025.

The International Women's Day was celebrated on 8th March 2025 at Coimbatore. We thank lady Comrades from Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai and Salem who enthusiastically participated and made the meeting a grand success.

In SBI, we have a women workforce of more than 65%. Our union has always given importance to schemes and

policies that benefit women employees. We are keen on promoting safer and conducive workplace for women.

In the 12 BPS, the following schemes were extended to women comrades:

- Maternity leave can also be availed for infertility treatments.
- Incase of delivery of more than 2 children in one delivery, Maternity Leave shall be sanctioned upto 12 months.
- Maternity leave for adoption of 2nd child.
- Special maternity leave upto 60 days shall be granted in case of still born child.

The contributions of women to the banking sector and our trade union movement are invaluable. From the frontline of customer service to leadership roles in our organization, women have consistently demonstrated excellence, dedication, and an unyielding spirit in the face of challenges.

"Every woman's success should be an inspiration to another. We are strongest when we cheer each other on". - Serena Williams

When women support each other, incredible things happen. We salute every woman who continue to inspire, lead, and uplift others. Let us march forward together—stronger, united, and determined to shape a more equitable tomorrow.

Happy Women's Day. GENERAL SECRETARY



V. SRIDHARAN

GENERAL SECRETARY



FORUM OF FORMER COUNCIL MEMBERS OF ALL INDIA STATE BANK OF INDIA STAFF FEDERATION (AISBISF) AT CHENNAI



The 15th Annual General Body Meeting of the Forum of Former Council Members of AISBISF was held on 19th and 20th March 2025 at Chennai. Last time we conducted this meeting in the year 2017. Our President Com. P. A. Khaja Fakrudeen expressed his deepest gratitude to the veterans. He also vowed to follow the path showed by them. Our General Secretary Com. V. Sridharan who was also the chief guest of the meeting deemed it an honour and privilege for our circle to host the meeting after 8 years during his tenure. He also spoke that a co-ordination committee that consists of staff union, officers' association and pensioners' association meets every now and then to resolve issues and have a cordial relationship. Veterans Com. Sankarashwar Dutta, Com. D.Venugopal Reddy and Com. G. Kripakaran addressed the gathering.

Federation President Com. Pankaj Kaushik in his address emphasised the importance of Pension updation. This was his first meeting at Chennai Circle after taking charge as the President of AISBISF. General Secretary of our Federation Com. L. Chandrasekhar was the Guest of Honour and delivered a reverberating speech where the hall was occupied with Stalwarts. He assured that the Federation is committed towards the betterment of the Pensioners.



Former Council Members from all over India participated enthusiastically. Deliberations on various subjects pertaining to pensioners took place. Vote of thanks was delivered by Com. Profullo Kumar Patnaik.



GRAND FELICITATION CUM FAREWELL TO COM. ANIL DAVAR, SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT, AISBISF

A fitting felicitation function was organised by State Bank of India Employees' Union (SBIEU), Ahmedabad Circle on account of superannuation of Com. Anil Davar, Senior Vice-President of AISBISF and General Secretary, Ahmedabad Circle on 16th March 2025 at Ahmedabad. Our General Secretary Com. V. Sridharan and President Com. P.A.Khaja Fakrudeen participated in the meeting.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION 2025 AT COIMBATORE

International Women's Day, celebrated annually on 8th March, recognises women's accomplishments across various fields. It serves as a platform to advocate for gender equality and highlight challenges faced by women worldwide. Our Union has been celebrating International Women's Day from 2019 onwards with great pomp and show. This year we celebrated on 8th March at Coimbatore. Apart from Coimbatore Sub office, lady Comrades from Madurai, Tiruchirappalli and Salem modules also participated.

The celebrations started with fun games conducted by own Lady Office Bearers. Members enthusiastically participated and won many prizes. Lady Representative Com. G.Kalaivani welcomed the gathering. Our President Com. P.A.Khaja Fakrudeen presided over the meeting. He elaborated the gathering about the history and the need for such celebrations. He also explained the benefits that we clinched in the XII Bipartite Settlement those were specific for lady comrades. Com. J. Srividya, DGS, Chennai Sub-office II addressed the gathering on being bold in carrying out day today activities.

Chief guests for the celebrations were:

Dr Vidhya Rajan - Managing Director, ELCE Hospital, Founder Trustee ELCE Medical Foundation, Founder Virtual Rescue Force (VRF)

Founder and organiser of free screening endoscopy to 7600 beneficiaries of 10 districts through 47 camps to diagnose and spread awareness on early stomach cancer detection via ELCE Medical Foundation which is India's first screening endoscopy program. Not only this, the philanthropic nature made her support the Nation during the natural calamities.

Dr. Rekha R Warriar - Principal Scientist Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB)

Presently functioning as the Assistant National Country Co-ordinator of the APFORGEN, and a member of the research project on APFORGIS.

Shri. Hariharan S, Deputy General Manager (D&O) Coimbatore

All the guests shared their concern on women's health and financial freedom. Also, Women's empowerment and achieving gender equality help society ensure the sustainable development of the country.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION 2025

Saturday, 8th March 2025

(Sub-Office Coimbatore)

at Pathiyar Hall, Hindustan College of Arts & Science, Coimbatore

(Sub-Office Coimbatore)

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION 2025

Saturday, 8th March 2025

(Sub-Office Coimbatore)

SBSU(CC) WOMEN'S DAY COMPETITION 2025 - PRIZE WINNERS

Our Union conducted 8 online competitions (symbolising 8th March) for Women across Chennai Circle. The results are as follows:

	PRIZE	NAME	BRANCH NAME
ESSAY WRITING - TAMIL	1	P R KAVI PRIYA	JOLARPET
	2	S SUKASINI	MANAPPARAI
	2	R VISHNUPRIYA	RBO KARUR
	CONSOLATION	PINNI JO SABASTI M	COMMERCIAL CHENNAI
		Y GAYATHRI	OVERSEAS BRANCH CHENNAI
ESSAY WRITING - ENGLISH	1	G PADMASHREE	RANIPET
	2	JOTHILAKSHMI M	ACB SURANDAI
	3	KANIMOZHI DINAKARAN	LCPC
	CONSOLATION	S NANDHINI	KOTTAR
		V R SUKANYA	BASHYAKARULU ROAD
DANCE - SOLO	1	RAMALA	PALLAVARAM
	2	GEETHANJALI	RACPC DINDIGUL
	3	SUGANYA	LHO
	3	ANURANJANI	SMEC TEYNAMPET
	CONSOLATION	PRIYA LAKSHMAN	SME GUINDY
		SOWMYA	LCPC
SINGING - SOLO	1	KUMUDHINI	KARAIKAL ADB
	2	GAYATHRI	RACPC MRC NAGAR
	3	RAMYA	SME GUINDY
	CONSOLATION	CHANTHEEYA	TEYNAMPET
		SANGEETHA	MUGAPPAIR EAST
ELOCUTION - ENGLISH	1	VIDYA PERUMAL	RBO NAGERCOIL
	2	KANIMOZHI DINAKARAN	LCPC
	3	SUJATHA	SMEC TIRUCHIRAPALLI
	CONSOLATION	DURGA M	ARIYANKUPPAM
		NANDHINI S	KOTTAR
ELOCUTION - TAMIL	1	SARANYA	ASHOK NAGAR
	2	SUGANYA	KALPAKKAM
	3	SRIRANJANI	LCPC
PAINTING	1	V SUBHASHREE	RBO PUDHUCHERY
	2	J KALAISELVI	SIVAKASI
	3	ASHWATHI	TB HUB EGMORE
HAIKU	CONSOLATION	M DURGA	ARIYANKUPPAM
		NANDHINI C	COMMERCIAL CHENNAI
	1	SORNASANKARI	ADAMBAKKAM
	2	ANUPRIYA	SRKV
	3	KANIMOZHI DINAKARAN	LCPC

The prizes will be distributed to the winners through their respective AGS.

FEDERATION FOCUS – APEX LEVEL ADVOCACY

RECOVERY OF APPRAISER CHARGES FOR SECOND APPRAISER IN GOLD LOANS ABOVE RS.5 LAKHS

Gold ornaments pledged for gold loans are required to be assessed by at least one approved gold appraiser to determine their quality and value before sanctioning the loan. The appraisal charges are recovered from customers as per the norms prescribed for the respective circles. For high-value gold loan accounts with limits of Rs. 5 lakhs and above, the appraisal of the ornaments by two empanelled appraisers is mandatory in adherence to the bank's guidelines.

In several instances, customers availing loans of ₹5 lakhs and above are being charged twice, as both appraisers assess the ornaments separately and levy their fees individually. This results in an additional financial burden on customers. As per the Master Circular on Gold Loans under Agriculture and P-Segment, there is no specific mention regarding the collection of appraiser charges for loans above Rs. 5 lakhs. Our Federation urged Bank to issue clarification to ensure uniformity in the collection of appraiser charges across the branches and to avoid unnecessary financial strain on customers.

REQUEST FOR BEARING INCOME TAX ON PERQUISITE VALUE OF STAFF OVERDRAFT ACCOUNTS

Our Federation had requested the management to bear the Income Tax on perquisite value of interest free or concessional loans extended to staff members in our earlier letter vide FED/GS/2025/70 dated 18.01.2025 and thanked the management for acceding to our request and issuing circular in this regard.

Now our Federation requested the management to consider bearing the income tax on the perquisite value of Staff Overdraft accounts, as employees primarily utilise this facility to cover essential expenses such as education, children's marriage, and to meet margin requirements for availing staff housing loans.

EDITORIAL

Editor in Chief - **Com. P.A. Khaja Fakrudeen** - President

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