



THE SHIELD

A Monthly Magazine from

State Banks' Staff Union (Chennai Circle)



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Dear comrades,

I am very happy to meet you all through this in-house e-Magazine. I would especially like to convey my warm May Day greetings to all our members.

This year's May Day assumes special significance for our bank employees. The month of May has been marked not only by celebrations of workers' achievements but also by determined struggles to safeguard the rights and interests of the banking workforce. As we honoured the legacy of the labour movement, we were simultaneously engaged in a series of agitational programmes under the banner of AISBISF, highlighting the challenges faced by employees and demanding justice on issues affecting the banking fraternity.

Throughout the month of May, members participated enthusiastically in various protest actions and awareness programmes by AISBISF. The response to the call for wearing black badge, mourning day with masks, conducting Dharnas, Twitter/Social media campaigns, evening time demonstrations, submitting Memorandum, candle light procession and mobilising members across branches and administrative offices was overwhelming. These programmes reflected the growing determination of the SBI workforce to defend its rights and uphold the principles of fairness and equality.

The solidarity displayed by employees during these programmes was truly inspiring. Across cadres, regions and circles, members stood united and demonstrated that the strength of the trade union movement lies in collective action. Every meeting, every demonstration and every protest programme reinforced the message that our SBI workforce remains united in its pursuit of justice.

The month of May concluded on a highly encouraging and victorious note for AISBISF workforce. The nationwide strike call scheduled for 24th and 25th May 2026, which was the culmination of sustained agitation and organisational efforts by AISBISF and the fraternal support of the constituent unions of UFBU and other 33 organizations, was deferred following positive assurances from the management and authorities regarding our key demands. This development represents a significant achievement for the entire banking trade union movement and stands as a testament to the power of unity, perseverance and collective action of AISBISF.

This success was made possible not only by the unwavering commitment of our members but also by the fraternal support extended by all constituents of the United Forum of Bank Unions. Irrespective of organisational affiliations, employees and officers across the banking industry stood shoulder to shoulder in defence of common interests.

The proposed nation-wide strike was deferred following the personal intervention and firm commitment extended by our Hon'ble Chairman to address the issues raised by our Federation through constructive bilateral dialogue. The outcome reaffirms that disciplined and united action by employees continues to play a vital role in securing meaningful engagement and progress on issues concerning the banking fraternity. This victory belongs to every member who participated in the struggle, attended meetings, mobilised colleagues and responded positively to every organisational call.

While we welcome this positive development, we remain vigilant and committed to ensuring that the assurances given are translated into concrete outcomes. Our demands remain unchanged on the industry level. We continue to seek the immediate implementation of 5-Day Banking, resolution of issues relating to



the PLI scheme through meaningful bilateral discussions and protection of the rights, dignity and interests of all employees and officers. Let us move forward with confidence, courage and conviction, united in purpose and steadfast in our resolve.

Unity is Our Strength!

Solidarity is Our Power!

Struggle is Our Path!

Victory Shall Be Ours!

V.SRIDHARAN
GENERAL SECRETARY

MEMBERS' MEET & FELICITATION TO GENERAL SECRETARY COM. V. SRIDHARAN@CUDDALORE

The meeting commenced with a warm welcome address by Com. Nithish, AGS, Zone XXXV, who expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the leadership and members for their unwavering support to the organization. He appreciated the tireless efforts of the leadership in strengthening the organization and safeguarding the interests of employees.

Com. Emmanuel Elaventhana, Vice President (HQ), delivered the Presidential Address and warmly welcomed the large gathering of members. In his inspiring speech, he emphasized the values of unity, discipline and collective responsibility, which form the foundation of a strong trade union movement. He reminded members that the strength of the Union lies in the solidarity and active participation of its members and urged everyone to continue contributing towards the organizational growth of the Union.

Com. R. Ragunathan addressed the gathering and highlighted the significant role played by the Circle Welfare Committee in promoting the well-being of employees and strengthening the bond among members. He encouraged active participation in welfare initiatives and emphasized the need to build a strong sports culture within the Chennai Circle. He proposed the formation of a vibrant sports team across the Circle, which would foster camaraderie, teamwork and healthy competition among employees.

Com. Prem Kumar, Vice President, Com. M. Santhosh, Deputy General Secretary (Br), Com. Sathish Kumar, Deputy General Secretary appreciated the active participation and commitment of members towards the Union and urged them to remain united in safeguarding employee interests. They also felicitated our General Secretary Com. V. Sridharan and paid tribute to his outstanding contribution, dedicated service and steadfast commitment to the welfare of employees and the growth of the organization.



One of the highlights of the programme was the interactive session, during which members actively participated by raising various queries and concerns relating to workplace issues, service matters and employee welfare. General Secretary Com. V. Sridharan responded to every question with remarkable clarity and enthusiasm, providing detailed explanations and practical guidance.

His reassuring responses were highly appreciated by the gathering and further strengthened the confidence of members in the leadership of the Union.

A special felicitation ceremony was organized by the members of Zone XXV, in honour of Com. V. Sridharan on the occasion of his superannuation in the month of July 2026. Members expressed their heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for his exemplary leadership, dedicated service and relentless efforts in safeguarding the interests of employees throughout his distinguished trade union career.

The ceremony was filled with emotion and respect as speakers recalled his invaluable contributions to the growth of the organization and the welfare of the banking fraternity. The felicitation served as a fitting tribute to a leader who has devoted decades of service to the cause of workers and trade unionism.

The gathering was privileged to hear the keynote address delivered by Com. V. Sridharan, General Secretary, who spoke extensively on workers' rights, service conditions and employee welfare measures. He provided a comprehensive overview of the challenges currently facing the banking industry and highlighted the role of trade unions in protecting the interests of employees.

He also elaborated on the ongoing agitational programmes undertaken by the Union and appreciated the active participation and unwavering support extended by members at every stage of the movement. Stressing the importance of collective strength and unity, he reiterated that the Union's demands could be achieved only through disciplined, democratic and united action by the membership.

His address inspired the gathering and reinforced the confidence of members in the strength and future of the organization.

The meeting concluded with a heartfelt Vote of Thanks delivered by Com. Napoleon Bonaparte, Regional Secretary, NCBE, Cuddalore District. Members from across the Cuddalore District participated in large numbers and contributed actively to the proceedings. Their enthusiastic presence reflected the unity, commitment and organisational strength of the Union.

A particularly noteworthy aspect of the event was the participation of several comrades who joined the meeting immediately after completing their JAIIB examinations. Their presence was a shining example of dedication and solidarity towards the Union and demonstrated the deep-rooted commitment of members to the collective cause.

The programme concluded on a highly positive note, with members leaving the venue with renewed enthusiasm, strengthened unity and a reinforced commitment to the principles of solidarity, cooperation and collective progress.

MEMBERS' MEET & FELICITATION TO GENERAL SECRETARY COM. V. SRIDHARAN@MADURAI

The historic city of Madurai witnessed an inspiring demonstration of unity, solidarity and organizational strength as the State Banks' Staff Union (Chennai Circle), Sub-Office Madurai, organized a grand Members' Meet and Felicitation in honour of Com. V. Sridharan, General Secretary, SBSU (CC) and NCBE (Tamil Nadu), on 17th May 2026 at the prestigious Ulaga Tamil Sangam.

The celebrations began on the previous day with an enthusiastic reception at Madurai Railway Station. Hundreds of members, volunteers and office bearers gathered to extend a warm welcome to the visiting leaders. The arrival of Com. V. Sridharan, General Secretary, SBSU (CC) accompanied by Com. P.A. Khaja Fakrudeen, President, SBSU (CC), Com. Emmanuel Elaventhana, and Com. R. Ragunathan, Vice Presidents (HQ), was greeted with immense affection and enthusiasm, reflecting the strong bond shared between the leadership and the membership.

The following morning commenced on a culturally significant note when Com. V. Sridharan paid homage to the immortal Tamil poet-saint Thiruvalluvar by garlanding his statue at the Ulaga Tamil Sangam campus. A ceremonial release of pigeons symbolized peace, harmony and unity among the banking fraternity. The spirit of camaraderie continued as a vibrant procession of members made its way to the venue, creating an atmosphere of celebration and collective pride.

The programme commenced with Tamil Thai Vazhthu, followed by a devotional song and the traditional lighting of the lamp by the General Secretary, President, Headquarters office bearers, and Madurai Module leaders. The formal welcome address by Com. J.S. Jeyachandiran, AGS, Zone XIV, set the tone for a memorable and meaningful gathering.

In his presidential address, Com. P.A. Khaja Fakrudeen highlighted the glorious legacy of SBSU (CC), recalling its rich history of struggle, sacrifice and achievements spanning eight decades. He briefed the gathering on recent developments in the banking sector and emphasized the importance of collective action in safeguarding employees' rights and interests. He also expressed his deep respect to Com.V.Sridharan, for his exemplary leadership, tireless dedicated service .

The meeting was further enriched by insightful speeches from Com. Emmanuel Elaventhana, Vice President(HQ), who stressed the importance of unity and organizational strength, while Com. R. Rangunathan, Vice President(HQ) elaborated on welfare measures, operational discipline and the need for strict adherence to established procedures.They also felicitated our General Secretary for his committed service to the members of our Union. Com. Sickandhar Badusha, Vice President,Com. M.K. Vijayakumar, Com. M. Senthil Kumar ,Deputy General Secretaries, Sub-Office Madurai also paid heartfelt tributes to Com. V. Sridharan, praising his dedication, accessibility and unwavering commitment to resolving members' issues and protecting their interests.



A vibrant interaction session provided members an opportunity to raise concerns on various operational and welfare matters, including workload issues, leave provisions, holiday home facilities, fitment concerns and the growing challenges posed by outsourcing. The open dialogue reflected the democratic spirit of the organization and its commitment to addressing grassroots issues.

Responding to the members' queries with clarity and confidence, Com. V. Sridharan delivered a powerful keynote address that resonated deeply with the audience. He reaffirmed the union's commitment to safeguarding employees' rights, strengthening organizational unity and confronting emerging challenges with determination and collective resolve. His inspiring speech received a thunderous standing ovation from the packed auditorium.

The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by Com.C.Muthukaruppan, AGS,Zone XVII and the National Anthem. The Members' Meet and Felicitation Ceremony stood as a memorable milestone in the history of the Madurai Sub-Office, leaving participants energized, united, and inspired to carry forward the proud legacy and values of SBSU (CC).

36 TH GENERAL BODY MEETING AND CONFERENCE OF DBS BANK OF INDIA EMPLOYEES UNION

The 36th General Body Meeting and Conference of the DBS Bank of India Employees Union, an affiliate of NCBE, was held with great enthusiasm at Salem on 26th May 2026. The conference witnessed the participation of members and trade union leaders who came together to deliberate on issues concerning employees of DBS Bank and the future course of the organization.

The gathering was graced by the presence of Com. V. Sridharan, General Secretary, SBSU (CC), Com. P.A. Khaja Fakrudeen, President, SBSU (CC), Com. Emmanuel Ilaventhan, Vice President (HQ) and Com. R. Raghunathan, Vice President (HQ), and Sub-Office Salem office bearers headed by DGS Com.S.Sathish Kumar. The leaders were accorded a warm and respectful welcome by the office bearers and members of the DBS Bank of India Employees Union.

As a mark of appreciation for their invaluable contributions to the trade union movement and the welfare of employees, the distinguished leaders were honoured during the conference. The occasion also featured a special felicitation to its President Com. K.Manikandan on the eve of his superannuation.

Our General Secretary, Com. V. Sridharan, paid his deep respects to Com. K. Manikandan, reflecting the high esteem and admiration he commands across the trade union fraternity. In his address, he also spoke on the recent developments in the banking industry and emphasized the need for progressive and employee-friendly policies at DBS Bank to strengthen the institution and contribute to its sustained growth and development. The conference concluded on a positive note, reaffirming the spirit of solidarity and the shared commitment towards protecting the rights and welfare of working people.



AGITATIONAL PROGRAMMES DURING THE MONTH BY AISBISF

In pursuance of the agitational programmes announced by the Federation, a series of protest actions were successfully conducted across India, more particularly in Chennai Circle with enthusiastic participation from members at all levels.

The campaign commenced with "Badge Wearing" Programmes on 4th May 2026, demonstrating the collective strength of employees and their steadfast support for the demands raised by the Federation.

As part of the agitational programme, "Mourning with Masks" was observed across the Chennai Circle on 12th May 2026. Members participated wholeheartedly by wearing masks, effectively conveying their concerns and demands to the public. The programme received an excellent response throughout the Circle and was carried out in a disciplined and impactful manner, reflecting the collective resolve of the membership.

Evening Demonstrations were organized on 5th, 11th and 15th May 2026 at various centres across the Circle. Members participated in large numbers, expressing their determination to protect their rights and safeguard the interests of the SBI workforce.

To strengthen public outreach and create wider awareness, Twitter and Social Media Campaigns were conducted on 6th and 20th May 2026. The campaigns received an encouraging response and effectively amplified the voice of employees through various digital platforms.

On 8th May 2026, Silent Sit-in Programmes were held before all AO and RBO offices across the Circle. The disciplined and peaceful demonstrations reflected the unity and commitment of the membership towards the common cause.

Further intensifying the agitation, Dharna Programmes were organized at all AO and RBO centres on 18th May 2026. Members participated with great enthusiasm, conveying their strong opposition to policies and issues affecting employees and the banking sector.

As part of the campaign, memorandums highlighting the concerns and demands of SBI employees were

submitted to DFS and Members of Parliament, seeking their intervention for an early and amicable resolution of the issues raised by the Federation.

One of the most impactful programmes was the Candle March Procession conducted on 22nd May 2026 across all AO and RBO centres. The impressive participation and disciplined conduct of members made the programme a resounding success throughout the Chennai Circle.

MOURNING WITH MASKS



DEMONSTRATIONS



DHARNA AT ALL AO/RBO



MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED TO MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT



CANDLE MARCH PROCESSION AT ALL AO/RBO



The agitational programmes culminated in the call for a Nation-wide Strike on 24th and 25th May 2026 announced by the All India State Bank of India Staff Federation (AISBISF). However, following constructive discussions facilitated by the intervention of the Chief Labour Commissioner, bilateral meetings were held between the Federation and the Management on 12th May 2026 and 21st May 2026 to deliberate on several key issues concerning employees.



The positive progress achieved during these discussions and the mutual understanding reached between our Federation and the management led to the deferment of the proposed strike. The decision to defer the strike reflected the Federation's commitment to meaningful dialogue while ensuring that the interests of employees remain fully protected.

The overwhelming response to all the agitational programmes once again demonstrated the organizational strength, solidarity and fighting spirit of the membership. The successful conduct of these programmes, coupled with the positive outcome of negotiations, stands as a witness to the effectiveness of united action and the Strength of employees in pursuing their legitimate demands through democratic and disciplined means.

NCBE CORE COMMITTEE MEETING

To further strengthen its affiliated unions and enhance organizational coordination, the NCBE Core Committee was constituted and held its meeting on 6th May 2026 at Swasthika Hall, Chennai, under the leadership of Com. L. Chandrasekar, General Secretary, NCBE, AISBISF. The Committee along with other other affiliates deliberated on measures to reinforce the organization at all levels, strengthen coordination among affiliates, and effectively address the emerging challenges facing employees in the banking industry.



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