



INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

Regd. No. 321/MDS (Recognised by the Management)

(Affiliated to All India Bank Officers' Confederation)

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May Day – A day of Unity, Togetherness and Rebirth of Rights!!

Dear Comrades,

May Day is a day of unity, togetherness, and rebirth of working class rights; a day for everyone to come together and celebrate life as we know it!

Exclusively dedicated to workers, this day has its root in the U S labour movement. 1st May 1886, marked the historical movement where numerous labour unions in the USA went on strike to protest against miserable working conditions. They demanded an eight-hour working system and additional compensation for increased working hours. Over the next few years, an international movement began with demonstrations each year on May Day. In 1904, the International Socialist Conference met in Amsterdam and called on all Social Democratic Party organisations and trade unions of all countries to demonstrate energetically on May First for the legal establishment of the eight-hour day. Ultimately, the movement which advocated **eight hours for work, eight hours for recreation, and eight hours for rest**, became the norm in many countries worldwide. In India, the first Labour Day or May Day, was celebrated in 1923 in Chennai.

Comrades, it should be our earnest actions to carry forward the torch of this movement. We should strengthen our movement in order to get the recognition for the contribution of working class in all the industry. **On this historical day, let us remember the pioneers of trade union movement and extend our red salute to one and all in the trade union arena.**

Comrades, in recent times, the dignity and self respect of the working class have been belittled in the banking industry. Different strategies being adopted by different banks, forced the officer employees to stretch beyond the working hours every day and also denied them quality family time. Due to work pressure, officers are compelled to work on declared holidays and weekends as a matter of routine. Many officers have not been able to manage the stress and suffer serious health issues. Incidents of heart attacks amongst officers at the age of 40 years have become common in the recent time and there are instances where the pressure subjects few young officers to take fatal decision too.

The entire banking industry is facing the onslaught of the Government's policy to privatize the banking sector, bringing in amendments to Trade Union act and Wage Code Bill with far reaching consequences. The Government, every now and then, talk about the agenda of so called reforms which lead to privatization of Public Sector Enterprises including Public Sector Banks which is against the interest of common man of this country. During the past two years, the collective wisdom of trade unions in the country under the leadership of their confederation efficiently countered the sinister move of the Government towards privatization of Public Sector Banks through various agitation programmes.

Comrades, the Central Unit of AIBOC remains vigilant on all the ongoing moves of the government and will continue to oppose the ill attempts. **As a responsible trade union, we request every member to ignite the public to realize the fact that privatization of public sector banks will hit the public by and large in not getting mass banking, safety to their deposits, hassle free education loans, reservation in employment etc., We appeal to the GenY to take forward the face book page of AIBOC - "Bank Bachao Desh Bachao" - across various sections of customers and make them a part of the movement. If the Banking regulation (Amentment) Bill is again tabled, the same has to be dealt with every inch, every single day to prove what the parliament can do, the streets can undo.**

Comrades, another issue of importance on hand is resolving the residual issues of 8th Joint Note / 11th Bipartite Settlement as the same is yet to see its light though a consensus is arrived on "Five Day a Week" the same awaits final clearance. Let us hence resolve to observe the 1st May, 2023, as 'Demand Day' for some of our very relevant demands:-

- 1. Five Day a week**
- 2. Regulated working hours for officers**
- 3. Uniform Staff Accountability Policy in all banks**
- 4. Strong message to the government to drop the idea of Privatisation of Public Sector Banks.**
- 5. Immediate finalization of residual issues of 8th Joint Note / 11th Bipartite Settlement.**
- 6. Commencement of discussion on Charter of Demands submitted for 9th Joint Note/12th Bipartite Settlement.**

Comrades, We, the 'financial army' of the nation had displayed admirable grit and gumption in extending uninterrupted banking and ATM services for customers even during COVID 19 lockdown, bearing great personal risks. So, let us leave no stone unturned in realizing the above demands in the banking industry and our pending demands internally on certain improvement to officers' service condition. It is our dedicated desire and enthusiastic hope that the rank and file of our organization would stand the test and emerge victorious by strengthening our movement.

With Revolutionary Greetings and Red Salute to membership, let us celebrate the May Day 2023 as a unifying occasion and honour the yester year leaders for their contributions over the rights we are enjoying today and enhance our commitment in laying a strong foundation for the future generation to take forward the labour movement to further heights.

LONG LIVE OUR UNITY! LONG LIVE WORKING CLASS SOLIDARITY!



(S. PREMKUMAR)
PRESIDENT

Yours Comradely,



(BHABANI SHANKAR MISHRA)
GENERAL SECRETARY

**IOBOA LONG LIVE
AIBOC LONG LIVE
OUR UNITY LONG LIVE**