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All Affiliates/ Members (Please re-circulate)

## **CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING & FELICITATION PROGRAMME**

Dear Comrades,

The 69<sup>th</sup> Central Committee Meeting of AIRRBOF was held in virtual mode on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2020. There were 24 participants at the virtual meeting. All the members of Central Committee participated and expressed their views on various issues. They also offered valuable suggestions. The minutes of the meeting will be circulated separately. A decision taken at the meeting was that a levy on Salary Revision @ Rs. 1,000/- per member would be collected by the units and remitted to the Central Committee. The members also unanimously elected Com. B. L. Khandelwal as President in lieu of Com. K. M. Shukla who demitted office on superannuation and Com. S. B. Somannavar took charge as Working President.

Friends, by now all of you are perhaps aware that the General Secretary of our Federation was a signatory of the 8<sup>th</sup> Joint Note of the 11<sup>th</sup> Salary Revision on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020. It was indeed a Red Letter Day. It was for the first time that an office bearer of an RRB Federation was a signatory of Salary Revision Documents. Just after signing the documents, our Federation sent a letter to the Secretary, Finance with copies endorsed to Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, for early implementation of the 11<sup>th</sup> Salary Revision in RRBs. Another remarkable achievement is that, at our initiative four officers' organizations in the banking industry jointly issued a letter to Secretary Finance for early implementation of Revised Salary to RRBs and endorsed copies of the letter to Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Chairman, NABARD and to all the managing directors of the sponsor banks. Throughout the struggle of the RRB officers for achievement and establishment of parity, such an incident was absolutely unprecedented. Obviously, the lead in this regard was taken by our beloved General Secretary, AIBOC, Com. Soumya Datta.

Our Federation has decided that starting from this year, we will felicitate our retired leaders of the Central Committee to gratefully acknowledge their invaluable contribution to our struggle. With this aim in mind, we had organized a Felicitation Programme at Durg on 13<sup>th</sup> December. Our base unit, Officers' Association of Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank had hosted the programme on our behalf most successfully. At the programme, representatives from Karnataka Vikash Gramin Bank Officers' Association, Karnataka Gramin Bank Officers' Association, Odisha Gramya Bank Officers' Organisation, Baroda UP Bank Officers' Association, Vidarbha Konkan Gramin Bank Officers' Association, Bangiya Gramin Vikash Bank Officers' Association, Officers' Association of Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank and Association of Officers of Paschim Banga

Gramin Bank were present. Our Officers Association of Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank, on their own behalf, separately felicitated the General Secretary AIBOC, General Secretary AIRRBOF, all the General Secretaries of the Units present and the Lady Office Bearer of our Federation Com. Sujata Biswas.

The hall was filled to overflowing by our members. The guests were first led to their seats on the dais. The programme was inaugurated by the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by Com. Soumya Datta, General Secretary, AIBOC, followed by General Secretary AIRRBOF and all the other dignitaries present. The Welcome Address was delivered by Com. B. S. Baghel, President, Officers' Association of Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank. Thereafter Com. R. G. Makhija and Com. K. M. Shukla also addressed the house. Thereafter, amidst loud cheers, the house rose up in a body to felicitate our beloved leaders of AIBOC, Com. Sunil Kumar & Com. Soumya Datta, the chief architects of the historic 11<sup>th</sup> Salary Revision. However, owing to pressing engagements, Com. Sunil Kumar could not remain present on the occasion.

Thereafter, the General Secretary of our Federation, Com. Srijan Kr. Pal briefly touched upon the leadership role of AIRRBOF in the struggle of the RRB officers to establish and uphold their rightful place in the banking industry in a short but illuminating speech. He also informed the house about the meeting of Joint Consultative Committee proposed to be held on 30<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 on virtual mode. He discussed the present situation of the banking industry and about the vicious multi-pronged attacks on the PSBs in order to destabilize and emasculate them. He fervently appealed to the House and the leadership of the various units to mobilize the membership for strengthening and consolidating our Federation as well as AIBOC. The others who spoke on various related issues were the General Secretary of Chhattisgarh state body, Com. Gopal Krishnan, and Dy. General Secretary of Chhattisgarh State Committee AIBOC, Com. Vijay Yachuri and other eminent leaders.

In the evening, the Chhattisgarh State Committee of AIBOC had organized a meeting. Com. Srijan Kr. Pal and Com. Soumya Datta both attended the meeting and made speeches.

Our beloved leader Com. Soumya Datta, the General Secretary of AIBOC was present at the meeting and spoke at length on the myriad problems and obstacles encountered during the lengthy and at times bitter negotiations with IBA for securing a justified and honourable Salary Revision for the officers in the banking industry. He also spoke on the need to further consolidate AIBOC. The Meeting ended with Vote of Thanks rendered by Com. Santosh Tiwari, General Secretary Baroda UP Bank Officers' Federation. Com. Soumya Datta recollected and lauded the contribution of Com. Srijan Kr. Pal, who was the first leader from the RRBs to participate in negotiations with IBA. He also realised the hardship of RRB officers posted in the Sunderbans area. It is noteworthy to mention that owing to the intervention of Com. Srijan Kr. Pal and Com. Soumya Datta, officers posted in the Sunderbans region will enjoy additional benefits included in the latest Salary Revision. Com. Soumya Datta also discussed further details of the negotiations with IBA. We were also informed that IBA started the negotiations from 2% followed by an offer of 6% which they rigidly held on to at the subsequent meetings. Com. Soumya Datta had also met the then Finance Minister to clinch even more legitimate benefits for the officers. During the negotiations, AIBOC also took a bold decision that till the issue of mandate was not resolved, AIBOC would not participate in the negotiations with IBA. He also mentioned the struggle led by AIBOC, which included multiple strikes. He also informed us about the conversations with IBA regarding enhancement of Family Pension.

## THE GIST OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ALL THE GENERAL SECRETARIES AND SR. VICE PRESIDENTS OF AIBOC.

The General Secretaries' and Senior Vice Presidents' meeting took place at Hotel Hindustan International, Kolkata on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Seventeen affiliates of the Confederation attended the meeting.

The meeting commenced at 11.00 am. At the outset, AIBOC State Unit President Com. Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay and Secretary Com. Sanjay Das warmly welcomed the President, General Secretary, Senior Vice Presidents, and other General Secretaries of various affiliates who were present in the meeting including the Secretariat members of AIBOC.

President Com. Sunil Kumar thereafter invited General Secretaries of all affiliates to present their views on the agenda items.

All General Secretaries and Vice Presidents shared their views.

**AIRRBOF- Com Srijan Kr Pal** was very concerned about foreign investment and privatization of the banking sector. He thanked Com. GS and Com. President for giving him the opportunity to be a signatory in the 8th Joint Note, the first time in the history of AIRRBOF. He also thanked GS for the issuance of a letter to Govt. of India for the implementation of the Salary Revision in the RRB as soon as possible.

General Secretary informed the house that it was indeed a matter of pride that for the first time, the General Secretary of Indian Post Payment Bank attended this meeting.

He proposed that the 12th Triennial conference of AIBOC should be held at Kolkata on 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> of January 2021 with fewer delegates to adhere to the extant Covid protocol. The Triennial General Council would be preceded by a meeting of the Executive Committee on 22<sup>nd</sup> January'21. The number of delegates would be 1(one) per 600(six hundered) members per affiliate as per IBA data as of 31.03.2020. The number of delegates in the merged entities will be shown according to the number of members in the erstwhile Banks. Notice of the Triennial conference would be issued shortly, he added. He further suggested that the attending delegates would have to furnish a negative Covid report done within 72 hours of the General Council date. i.e. 23<sup>rd</sup> January'21. Further, an arrangement of rapid test may also be done at the venue one day prior to the General Council. The entire arrangement will be supervised by the AIBOC state unit.

The house accepted the proposal.

AIBOC has allotted to us 10 delegates in all.

With greetings,

(Srijan Kumar Pal) General Secretary