



Canara Bank Officers' Union [Regd.]
[AFFILIATED TO ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION]
A.K.Nayak Bhavan, 2nd Floor 14, Second Line Beach,
CHENNAI-600 001.



Mobile: President 9444967883 / General Secretary 09488905783 / Phone: 044-25265511
FAX: 044-25249081 e mail: cbou.hq@gmail.com / prr_prraju@yahoo.com / web:www.cbou.org

CIRCULAR 1/2014

VIII:ORA:NEW YEAR

JANUARY 1, 2014

Dear comrades,

WELCOME 2014 AND A GOOD BYE 2013



In just a few hours from now the Year 2013 comes to an end and we await the dawn of the New year 2014.

The world economy which showed slumpness over the previous years, has shown improvements in the year 2013 with the US extending stimulus package to the Industries. However the worries of the Euro debt crisis continued and had its own effects on the economy of not only the Euro Countries but also on the other economies too. The developing countries like India had its own internal problems coupled with the international crisis. However, we hope that in the coming year the global economy will show improvements.

2013 is by all means is a victory year for the people of our great Nation. Their long drawn struggle against corruption ruining the fabric of the country has ultimately found its victory with the passage of the Lokpal in both the houses of the Parliament. Lokpal is set for enactment shortly. CBOU hails the victory.

In the new year, the general elections in our Country is due and the ruling UPA government is facing an uphill task to regain the power. The party in waiting has already commenced their campaign programme by announcing their PM Candidate where as the ruling UPA government especially the Congress Party is yet to announce their PM Candidate and today there is a demand from the FM to name the PM Candidate. In the year 2013, the ruling government had the most severe set back by loosing the elections held to the 5 states. The Congress party was routed in all the states they faced elections save Mizoram where there is no other political party. Congress governments in Rajasthan and Delhi went to the opponents and the BJP retaining their state governments with huge margins, besides wresting Rajasthan with a thumping victory.

But the emergence of the Aam Admi Party in Delhi is a lesson to all the Political parties in India. They campaigned with one voice on 'CORRUPTION FREE GOVERNANCE' and the power of the youth was demonstrated in the victory of AAP. Reports say that the AAP had youngsters all around and their 10,000 strong cadres met the Delhi State's Electorate home to home thus ensuring their winning 28 seats and ultimately formed the Government at Delhi the Capital of India. Besides victory, it is evident that they are trying to demonstrate and promote simplicity and cleanliness in governance. The emergence of AAP victory is a welcome change in Indian politics and the nation awaits such positive changes in the political scene in the days to come.

Comrades, coming to the banking Industry, 2013 had been one of the worst years for the banking industry. The NPAs of the Banks have shown sharp increase and the overall situation though said to be under control, is worrying the regulators. The NPAs of the corporate are on the increase and in the words of our Honourable Finance Minister, top 30 accounts constitute 38% of the total NPA. Our newly appointed youngest Governor of RBI also echoed the same concern on NPA and the need to arrest the NPA for the economy to go better. There was euphoria in the Indian Financial system when Mr Raghuram Rajan took over as the Governor but he proves to be the true and loyal student of IMF opening up by the Indian Financial System to Foreign Entities.

The reforms bill passed at the fag end of 2012 is yet to be implemented though the Government, and RBI are trying their level best to implement the same. Thanks to the struggle of the Bank Employees and officers under the banner of AIBEA and AIBOA who observed a day's strike on 18/12/2012 could put pressure till now. However it is clear that the Government and RBI are bent upon to bring in the reforms in the days to come by way of New Bank Licenses to Corporate much against the wish of so many and also opening the flood gates to foreign entities to open their bank branches in India thus one more edition of East India Company coming to India and we may have to wage one more Independence struggle against such offensives. Working class in general and Bank Unions in particular shall have to continue to carry on their struggles to take on the offensives unleashed by the government-RBI combine and halt the damage.

With the UFBU calling for two days strike on 20th and 21st of January 2014 and the IBA inviting the UFBU for discussions on 29th Jan 2014, bipartite struggle is entering a crucial phase. Despite the initial assurance of the IBA Chairman Shri Kamath on 30-10-2012 that there would be discussions with the UFBU at regular intervals and that the wage revision this time would be settled in a time bound manner, there is clear evidence of IBA delaying the process of wage revision forcing the UFBU to agitation. Long drawn struggles await the bank employees and officers to ensure a fair and reasonable wage settlement and the 18th December 2013 strike was the beginning of the same.

Dawn of 2013 saw Sri R K Dubey taking over as CMD of our beloved bank almost after 3 months of retirement of Shri Raman. While taking over Sri R K Dubey assured that he meant business and we are happy to note that the total business of our bank as at 30 9 2013 rose to 6.75 lac crores. More thrust was given to retail business for which our bank is known for. Bank had introduced various measures to improve the business to regain the 'Numero Uno' position which our bank held once and we are now rated 5th amongst the peer banks. Year 2013 witnessed more

number of branches being opened by our Bank and our Bank tops the list of most number of branches opened in the year 2013 followed by SBI. Our total branch strength has crossed 4000 and for the year 2014 our bank aims to cross the strength to 4500. Bank is already in expansion mode and the trend is expected to continue during 2014.

However there are areas of concern. The level of CASA has not improved beyond 25% where as our peer bankers have more than 35% which gives leverage in profits and profitability besides increase in clientele base. Other area of concern is the increase of NPA and more and more corporates are coming under the threat of NPA and our bank is adopting the Restructuring model to contain NPA . However there is no sign of arrest trend despite the performance of our Branch Managers in excelling recovery of bad loans. Yet another area of concern is the increase in provision for Bad and doubtful debts and despite best efforts the Debt coverage ratio is coming down drastically to 57% against the accepted level of 70%. Our Bank is facing problems on account of reporting of some big frauds in the year 2013 . While we advise our rank and file to be more careful and scrupulous in following the systems and procedures we also request our Bank to bring in more and more employee friendly technology to curb technology related frauds in our Bank.

In the year 2013 we lost our great leader visionary and leader of bank officers movement Com R J Sridharan. The year also saw Com Nelson Mandela, the greatest crusader against apartheid who was incarcerated in jail for 27 years, breathing his last.

In the year 2013, our organization could ensure its long pending demand of reimbursement in lieu of supply of Furniture. The demand of your organization for Mobile Phone and Laptops was partially realized when the bank ordered for issue of Mobile Phones and Laptops to branch in-charges. Yet another greatest achievement of your beloved organization during 2013 was the realization of its long pending issue of absorption of Investment Officers as permanent officers on the rolls of the Bank. It was only through the consistent and persistent efforts of the Union, all the remaining investment officers could see the light at the end of the tunnel. Still 13 of them were not absorbed and your organization shall take all possible steps to see that justice is done to them also. Our union is also extremely happy that its efforts in 2013 could ultimately ensure “compensatory system” to the officers called upon to work on holidays and Sundays.

The year 2013 also witnessed the realization of our 5th All India Conference decision of CBOU Housing Project – CBOU Enclave – coming up at Kovaipudur, Coimbatore. With all government clearances obtained, the construction had commenced during 2013 and the first phase of 104 flats is coming up fast and the first phased in all probability is expected to be completed during 2014.

2013 witnessed thousands of youngsters joining the rolls of the Bank as clerks and officers. The Bank is on expansion mode and more and more youngsters will be joining the Bank. Banking sector also needs more recruitment. Therefore there is going to be spurt of more youngsters joining the Bank as workmen and officers in 2014 and in the years to come. The youngsters need to be educated about the 100 and odd years old culture of our great Bank and inculcated with the Canbank family bondage to ensure their continuance in the service of the bank and thereby their service to the nation as PSB employees. They also need to be educated on trade union and on more and more identification with CBEU and CBOU so that their interests are well protected and preserved in the real sense of the term. **That is going to be the task of the twin banners** in 2014 – task of educating the young lot on Bank and Trade union under the twin banners.

Let us accordingly welcome 2014 as a year of all round education of young battalion of incoming working personnel to take the Bank to greater heights and to strengthen the joint movement of officers and award staff under CBOU and CBEU.

CBOU WISHES
EVERY ONE A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR
AND
SEASONS GREETINGS



Yours fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M A Srinivasan'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

M A SRINIVASAN
GENERAL SECRETARY