

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



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MISSIONARY AND VISIONARY- Com RJS

2021 June 15th the eighth remembrance day of our beloved leader Com R J Sridharan, fondly called and popularly known to the comrades in the Bank employees' movement as RJS. As we reminisce days long past we cherish his contributions to the bank officers with awe and admiration.

The fiery speech of Com RJS in the 1980 CBEU conference is still vivid memory of the comrades which preset the trajectory and the ambit of the conference. That day witnessed a leader in making. In the galaxy of legendary leaders like Coms. KR Narasimha Rao and CS Subramaniam, he was groomed as an active trade unionist. Words of Wisdom- Qualities in leadership of an activist in trade Union by the veteran Com A B Bardhan, found its fruition in Com RJS and he emerged a consummate leader. Sequel to the formation of AIBOA, CBOU was founded in 1983 and Com RJS was the natural choice for the leadership. He was elected as President of AIBOA in 1986 and thereafter its General Secretary in 1991.

Dauntless and sagacious, **Com RJS ensured the voice of AIBOA was recognised by all**. His flowing language, lucid style, stern logic, balanced expression, fearless exposition, limitless patience, amicable resolution of conflicts ensured AIBOA was the sole bargaining agent on Wages and Service Conditions in 1985. AIBOA spread its wings and he ensured bilateral facility in several banks. He was a pace setter, trend setter, prolific writer, extempore speaker, skilful negotiator that made the AIBOA a vibrant force wedded to the Trade Union idealogy.

His foresight and vision sharpened the fight against the disastrous outsourcing in the industry and focussed the attention of all the players on the ambitious demand of regulated working hours for Bank officers & five days a week for the banks. The running scale of pay for officers upto scale III, Getting Computer increment for officers, 100% DA and the coveted Cradle to Grave social security scheme-pension for bankmen in 1993 are the standing testimony for his passion and perseverance, conviction and commitment. The sterling performance, the achievement of once dumped and negated scheme ie. Pension for all-One more option for bank employees is remembered and cherished by all.

Com RJS strode like a majestic lion and a colossus in Trade union firmament. He was in a class of his own simply nonpareil. His real smile with grace begot respect from all around. Bestowed with compassion and humanism Com RJS instituted the Com CS and Com KRN Memorial Community clinic for poor and downtrodden at Kovaipudur and launched the Unorganised sector Welfare relieve Fund. Tarak Institute of Banking and Trade Union Research founded at Mamallapuram is the edifice for continuous learning in Banking and Trade Union.

His simple and humble life, impeccable and unimpeachable traits, his concern and commitment for improving the lots of millions of people through struggles and sacrifice will inspire all of us in the days to come. At this juncture one cannot simply gloss over the various unfinished tasks of his, for fellow bankmen. When he was admiited in the hospital on April 22nd 2013 he was certain and believed that the thousands of comrades who travelled along with him in this journey would fulfil his dream. Pursuing and fulfilling his ideals and dreams will only be the greatest tributes that we can pay to this selfless immortal leader. On this occasion let us all resolve to fulfil his dream.

Com RJS Amar Rahe..

H VINOD KUMAR GENERAL SECRETARY