



ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

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Circular No.8/VII/2020
May 23, 2020

TO
ALL AFFILIATED UNITS / STATE COMMITTEES

Dear Comrades,

OUR WRIT PETITION AGAINST THE AMALGAMATION OF PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS. NEXT DATE OF HEARING 6th July 2020.

Our organisation is of the firm view that the merger of Public Sector Banks is an antithesis to the development, as Banking is the central fulcrum of the economic development of a country. Our Nation is one of the shining examples of the Public Sector Banking playing the lead role in shaping the future of the people as well as the enhanced growth trajectory of the economy. In a global meltdown situation, (2008) the then owners loudly claimed that the Public Sector Banks of our Nation were insulated against any unforeseen circumstances, not like that of USA.

2. While AIBOA and AIBEA were opposing the merger of Associate Banks with State Bank of India, the other unions welcomed the same, with a hope that the workforce in the Associate Banks would get additional four increments on account of the Merger. Subsequently, it was admitted by them that it was a mistake on their part. It was 17th September 2018, the amalgamation of Vijaya Bank and Dena Bank with Bank of Baroda was announced during the tenure of NDA1.0. Our organisation advised AIBOA (Rajasthan State Committee) to file a case in the High Court of Rajasthan at Jaipur. Dena Bank Officers' union joined the court case. Sensing the grave situation Bank of Baroda management engaged the present Solicitor General India Mr. Tushar Mehta and sought it the case was transferred to Supreme Court. **We have gone by the directions of the Apex Court and ensured the transfer of the files from Rajasthan High Court on 5th March 2019, whereas the directions to file the reply by the Government of India and Bank of Baroda are yet to be complied with.** The date given to them was 11th March 2019. The interim application was dismissed by the Apex court bench headed by Hon'ble Justice Rohinton Nariman and other.

3. On 30th August 2019, it was a bolt from the blue, the present Finance Minister announced the merger of 6 banks with 4 banks, thus reducing the number of Public Sector Banks to 12. Four officers' organisation launched an agitation with a clear intension to culminate in strike action in September 2019. **However, a firm assurance by the then Secretary DFS, Government of India to form a high power committee consisting of all stakeholders made us, to defer the Strike.** The Government of India issued a direction to all the 10 banks to address the issues about the merger of Banks and the Executive Director in charge of HR should hold the consultations and report to the Boards. It was more or less non-starter.

4. **Once again, AIBOA decided to knock the doors of the apex court challenging the procedure of 'Alternative Mechanism'** a short cut method to bye-pass both the houses off Parliament. Accordingly, we have filed a case in the Apex Court in March 2020. Lockdown has come in the way of presentation of our case in person. The technology has its influence in the court hearing too.

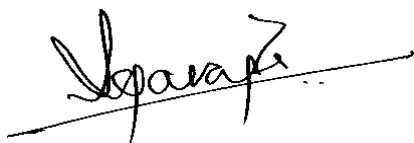
5. **The case came of hearing in the Apex Court yesterday** before the Bench headed by Shri. Rohinton Nairman and others. Our Advocate on Record Shri. Ajay Choudhary represented our case before the bench. Our **prayer was to tag our earlier case with the present one, which was granted. The said order of the Apex court is appended herewith. The next hearing is fixed on 06th July 2020.**

*If no one responds to your call,
then go your own way alone.*

=Rabindranath Tagore=

6. We are taking all reasonable steps to challenge the total action of the Government of India.

Yours comradely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Nagarajan', written over a horizontal line.

/S.NAGARAJAN/
GENERAL SECRETARY