

State Banks' Staff Union (Kerala Circle)

(Affiliated to All India State Bank of India Staff Federation)

Reg. No. 01-36-2000

Circular No.02/21
To All Unit Secretaries



State Bank of India
Local Head Office

Poojappura

Thiruvananthapuram-695 012

Date 03.05.2021

Dear Comrade,

HISTORIC GENERAL COUNCIL AMIDST PANDEMIC

8th GENERAL COUNCIL AT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM (Com. C Rajendran Nagar)

History teaches that building a strong Union is a journey of dedication, commitment and perseverance and every General Council is a mile stone. The unvanquishable spirit of Trade Unionism is once again exemplified by the successful conduct of the historic 8th General Council of State Banks' Staff Union (Kerala Circle) at C. Rajendran Nagar, Tagore Theatre, Thiruvananthapuram.

The 8th General Council was conducted on 18th April 2021 at Tagore Theatre, Thiruvananthapuram, adhering to the prevailing Covid protocols to ensure the safety of our comrades. Number of delegates who would attend the conference in person was limited to two members from each zone. Rest of the delegates and members were able to watch the inaugural proceedings via Face Book live streaming on our page and join delegate session through Google Meet.

At 9.45 am Com.Philip Koshy, the Circle Union President hoisted the flag amidst thundering slogans. Guard of honour was led by Com. Gopalakrishnan Nair. Eight bunch of balloons of eight colours were flown to the sky marking the commencement of the eighth General Council. Floral tributes were paid to Com.A.P.Gopalakrishnan, Com.V.G.Sidharadhan, Com.C.Rajendran and Com.N.S.Jayan by the leaders. Inside the hall the assembly was enthralled by the welcome song sung by our comrades led by Com.Nideesh and team. The lyric was written by Com. Karivellur Murali and was set to tune by Com. Renjith.V.R. The dignitaries were welcomed to the state Com.Philip Koshy and Com.A.Raghavan along with General Convener Com.Rajath.H.C

The inaugural session started with invocation by Com. Karthika Balachandran and Com.Athira Vijay. Com.Akhil.S, Deputy General Secretary, Kollam module welcomed the august gathering. Com.Philip Koshy presided over the function. In his presidential address quoting the word of Pope Francis "Trade Unions have been an essential force for social change without which a semblance of a decent and humane society is impossible under capitalisam". Comrade President reiterated the need of united and collective action. He further mentioned about the present economic scenario around the globe and the anti labour policies of the Central Government. He condemned the policy of the central government encouraging privatization of public sector banks.

Shri.Mrigendra Lal Das, Chief General Manager of State Bank of India, Thiruvananthapuram Circle, inaugurated the conference by lightening the traditional Lamp along with Federation Executives, Com.G.R.Jayakrishnan, General Secretary SBIOA (KC), Com.A.Jayakumar, General Secretary SBI Pensioners Association Kerala. Com.G.Sreekala and Com.K.Bindu, Vice Presidents were also present.

In his inaugural address CGM emphasized the importance of public sector and explained the role of Public Sector Banks in our country. He commented that the theme of the conference, Strengthen Public Sector and Ensure Democratic Banking itself is the apt theme in the current economic scenario. He further added that it is only the PSBs which financed the risky infra structure projects which paved way for the development of the country. He appreciated the collective effort put in by the staff members during the pandemic to ensure basic banking facility to the common public and the contribution of the Staff Union in the development of the Circle.

Com.G.R.Jayakrishnan, General Secretary, State Bank of India Officers Association, Kerala Circle, appreciated the effort taken up by State Banks' Staff Union to conduct the general council amidst the pandemic by following covid protocol. "Existence of the public sector is under threat. The blue prints were made behind the curtains in the form of recommendations of various committees. All these recommendations are against the public sector and obviously lead to privatization. So in the present scenario it is the duty of the trade unions to create awareness among the members. Then only we can overcome the constraints and move forward", he observed.

Com.Siddhartha Khan, former President of All India State Bank of India Staff Federation released the Book 'Thozhil Niyama Tutorial' compiled by Com.G.P.Ramachandran, Deputy General Secretary, Thrissur Module by handing over a copy to Com.John Joseph, former General Secretary of our Union. He expressed his happiness over the effort taken up by the Kerala Circle union to publish a book on Labour Code which is the need of the hour. He opined that the privatization of public sector banks is also the part of the long standing pro-corporate policies of the Central Governments.

Com.R.Sriram, General Secretary, State Bank of India Staff Union, Hyderabad Circle expressed his gratitude on being able to be a part of this general Council. He explained the importance of United Forum of Bank Unions and its role in the 11th Bipartite. He also said that the presence of young comrades in the trade union leadership is very much appreciable.

Com.A Jayakumar, General Secretary, State Bank of India Pensioners Association Kerala (SBIPAK) spoke at length on long standing association with the union. He reminisced the period before and after the formation of Kerala Circle. He thanked the Union for the support extended to Pensioners Association.

Com. A Raghavan was felicitated by Federation Executives, SBIOA (KC), SBIPAK and SEWA by draping 'ponnada'.

The Council felicitated Com.Sujith.K.G, working in ITS Department in LHO for his invaluable service rendered in redesigning our Circle Union website.

Com.A Raghavan, General Secretary in his concluding speech thanked all the dignitaries who graced the function and expressed his extreme gratitude to the Federation leadership and other circle leaders, Officers Association for the support extended to him during his tenure. He emphasized the importance of building strong Units at the local level and the need for collective trade union activities. He exhorted the importance of APG Trade Union institute and to involve all youngsters in the activities.

The inaugural session was concluded at 1.30 pm with vote of thanks by Com.Rajath.H.C, General Convener followed by the National Anthem.

Due to the restrictions imposed, it was decided to complete the delegate session on the same day. The delegate session started at 3:00 pm with Com.Philip Koshy in Chair. The entire proceedings were

made available to other delegates through Google Meet. Com.Vysakh V J, Deputy General Secretary, Head Quarters welcomed the delegates. After the Presidential address by Com.Philip Koshy, Com.A Raghavan, General Secretary presented the draft report before the council. Com.E.N. Viswanathan, Treasurer presented the statement of accounts. 17 delegates across the State participated in the discussions over the General Secretary's report. Various points in connection with banking, social sector, wage revision, technological issues at branches, labour laws amendments were deliberated by the participants. The need of unity among the trade unions during national agitations was also put forward.

The resolutions were presented by Com. Akhil.S. The bye-law amendments were also presented before the Council. The General Secretary replied in detail to the various points raised by the delegates and the house adopted the General Secretary's report and approved the resolutions and bye law amendments placed before house unanimously. The outgoing General Secretary Com.A. Raghavan was felicitated with standing ovation by all participants. Comrades raised thundering slogans as an acknowledgement to the General Secretary for rendering his service for this organization.

The President then introduced all the newly elected office bearers before the council. The President requested the house to adopt two resolutions appreciating the efforts taken by the Thiruvananthapuram Sub Office led by Com. Rajath.H.C in the successful conduct of the conference and appreciating the services rendered by Com.A.Raghavan as General Secretary of the Staff Union. Com.Anu.P, Organising Secretary, Thrissur module proposed the vote of thanks.

The meeting came to an end with thundering slogans **“Long Live SBSU and Long Live Trade Union”**.

The President then called the first meeting of the Central Committee and co-options for various posts were presented and it was approved unanimously.

We congratulate the Organising Committee at Thiruvananthapuram and the entire membership for making the General Council a memorable event in the history of our organisation and for setting an example to other trade unions with respect to conduct of triennial General Council meeting even amidst pandemic.

Yours comradely,



(Philip Koshy)
General Secretary

STATE BANKS' STAFF UNION (KERALA CIRCLE)	ZINDABAD
ALL INDIA STATE BANK OF INDIA STAFF FEDERATION.....	ZINDABAD
NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF BANK EMPLOYEES.....	ZINDABAD
UNITED FORUM OF BANK UNIONS.....	ZINDABAD
INQUILAB.....	ZINDABAD