State Banks' Staff Union (Kerala Circle)

(Affiliated to All India State Bank of India Staff Federation) Reg. No. 01-36-2000

Circular No.42/25 To All Unit Secretaries State Bank of India Local Head Office Poojappura Thiruvananthapuram-695 012

Dear Comrade,

Date: 24.03.2025

STATE LEVEL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

State Banks' Staff Union (Kerala Circle) has once again made history with the grand success of the State-Level Women's Conference held at Ernakulam Fine Arts Hall on International Women's Day. This magnificent event, organised as part of our Silver Jubilee Celebrations, saw the participation of over 1,500 women comrades from across the Circle, showcasing the strength and unity of our union.

The conference began with our Federation Secretary Com. L Chandrasekhar, hoisting the flag amidst thundering slogans raised by our lady comrades followed by a dance and then, a welcome song by our comrades of Ernakulam Sub-Office. Com. Sudha Anilkumar, Chairperson of the Organising Committee, warmly welcomed everyone to the conference. Com G Sreekala, Deputy General Secretary, delivered the presidential address, in which she reminded the gathering about various steps and actions taken by our union in making our Bank the best bank to work for lady employees.

The conference was officially inaugurated by **Shri. Rajendra Acharya, UNI Global Union Asia-Pacific Regional Secretary**, who lit the ceremonial lamp along with other esteemed dignitaries. In his inaugural address, he praised the vibrant trade union culture of our state, Kerala. He emphasized the importance of fighting for achieving workers' rights and gender equality, urging us to continue our struggle for justice and fairness.

Com. L. Chandrasekhar, General Secretary, AISBISF delivered the Keynote Address. He called for all workplaces to become women-friendly spaces. He applauded Kerala Circle for its relentless efforts in removing discriminatory practices, such as restrictions on the recruitment of pregnant women, through legal battles. This victory, he said, is a shining example for all trade unions.

Then an interesting interactive session on Mental Health was delivered by Dr. Zaileshya Gopalakrishnan, renowned Clinical Psychologist. She shared valuable insights on mental health. She focused on strategies to manage stress and tension and highlighted practical ways to balance work and life. Her message was clear: a healthy mind is essential for a strong and united workforce.

A lively and inspiring panel discussion featuring comrades Vijitha V, Arya Rajendran C L, Deepika R S, Vasuja R V, Vijaya P Iyer, and Anu P was the next. They addressed the challenges faced by women in the workplace and emphasised the need for unity, solidarity, and collective action to overcome these challenges. The session was expertly moderated by Com. Nidhi Thomas, Organising Secretary.

After the panel discussion, prizes were distributed to the winners of various competitions held for bank employees, their children, and college students in connection with the State Level Women's Conference. This was a proud moment for all the winners and their families.

The event was graced by Smt. A. Bhuvaneshwari (CGM, SBI Kerala Circle) through her online message, Com. Pankaj Kaushik (President, AISBISF), Com. Shivakumar J (DGM, SBI), Com. Rajath H.C. (President, SBSU Kerala Circle) and Com. Akhil S (General Secretary, SBSU Kerala Circle). Their words of enlightenment reminded us of the power of unity and encouraged all to stand together and face any challenges.

The convention concluded with a vote of thanks by Com. Syama Soman, General Convener of the Organising Committee, who expressed gratitude to all the comrades for their unwavering support and dedication.

This convention was not just a celebration but a call for action. It reminded us of our responsibility to fight for gender equality, workers' rights, and the protection of the public sector. Let us continue to stand united, shoulder to shoulder, and march forward with determination. Together, we will overcome all obstacles and build a brighter future for the working class.

Long Live SBSU!

Long Live Our Unity!

With revolutionary greetings,

(Akhil S) General Secretary