

# State Banks' Staff Union (Kerala Circle)

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

Reg. No. 01-36-2000

Circular No.58/2023  
To All Unit Secretaries



State Bank of India  
Local Head Office  
Poojappura  
Thiruvananthapuram-695 012  
Date 25/10/2023

Dear Comrade,

**LET US MARCH TOGETHER**  
**HISTORIC 9<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL COUNCIL AT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**  
**(Com. N KOMAL DAS NAGAR)**

History teaches that building a strong union is a journey of dedication, commitment and perseverance and every General Council is a mile stone. Befitting its nature the 9<sup>th</sup> General Council of our beloved and mighty organisation SBSU was held at Com. N. Komal Das Nagar, Girideepam Convention Centre, Thiruvananthapuram on 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2023. The meeting was a platform for celebrating our achievements and bidding farewell to our dedicated leader Com. Philip Koshy.

The curtain raiser of the conference was the get together of more than 3500 comrades, who had arrived from every nook and corner of Thiruvananthapuram Circle. The presence of young participants and female comrades was particularly inspiring and added to the vibrant spirit of the conference. The procession was led by our esteemed leaders, including Com. Akhil S, President, Com. Philip Koshy, General Secretary, Com. Sanjeev Kumar Bandlish, General Secretary of AISBISF, and Com. Rajath H C, General Convenor of the Organising Committee. We were joined by leaders from the All India State Bank of India Staff Federation and various Circle affiliates, making the rally a powerful show of unity.

The gathering was greeted with thundering slogans by the State Bank of India Pensioners Association, Kerala under the leadership of Com. A. Jayakumar, General Secretary. At 10.45 a.m. Com.Sanjeev Kumar Bandlish, General Secretary, AISBISF hoisted the flag amidst resounding slogans. Floral tributes were paid to Com. A.P. Gopalakrishnan, Com. V.G.Sidhardhan and Com.N Komal Das by our leaders. Inside the hall, the assembly was mesmerized by the Swagatha Geetham, sung by our comrades Nidhish K, Ganesh.M, Satheesh, Amal K Mannath, Shambhu Namboothiri V, Anoop G, Lekshmi M, Hareesh K K, Karthika Balachandran, Mithu Manoj, Silvia.V, Athira Vijay and Geethanjali Kumar, with lyrics by Com. Karivellur Murali and music composed by Com. Bhash P.K.

The inaugural session commenced at the Girideepam Convention Centre with invocation by Com.Mithu Manoj. Com. Rajath H C, General Convenor, welcomed the gathering, followed by the presidential address by Com. Akhil S. Com. Akhil S emphasised the challenges faced by the public sector employees and the relevance of our General Council's motto, "**Strengthen Public Sector and Ensure Democratic Banking**," in the current scenario. He also extended warm wishes to Com. Philip Koshy, General Secretary, who was set to retire on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2023.

Com. Sanjeev Kumar Bandlish, General Secretary of AISBISF, General Secretary of NCBE, and the convenor of UFBU, officially inaugurated the conference by lighting the traditional lamp. He was accompanied by Smt. Bhuvaneshwari A, Chief General Manager, State Bank of India, Thiruvananthapuram Circle, Com. Rajesh S, General Secretary, SBIOA (Kerala Circle), Com. Pradip K Baishya, Com. G. Kripakaran, Com. L Chandrasekhar, Com. R. Sriram, Senior Vice Presidents of AISBISF and Com. A Jayakumar, General Secretary of SBI Pensioners Association.

In his inaugural address, Com. Sanjeev Kumar Bandlish informed the audience about the 12<sup>th</sup> Bipartite Settlement negotiations with IBA and emphasized the need for employee unity to counter impending anti-labour reforms. He stressed the importance of agile responses to protect the public sector and achieve a fair wage revision, especially as the government had initiated privatization discussions during a time of substantial bank profits. Com. Sanjeev Kumar Bandlish commended the State Bank of India Management for their employee-friendly measures and support during the challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Smt. Bhuvaneshwari A, Chief General Manager of State Bank of India, Thiruvananthapuram Circle, delivered the key note address. She expressed her appreciation for the collective efforts of the staff members in positioning the bank as a leader in the state despite facing adversities. Smt. Bhuvaneshwari emphasized the importance of customer service and maintaining strong customer relationships. She encouraged the frontline staff to support the bank in these endeavours and to strengthen in-house marketing for product sales.

The Senior Vice Presidents of AISBISF, Com. Pradip K Baishya, Com.G. Kripakaran, Com. L. Chandrasekhar, and Com. R. Sriram expressed their happiness at attending the conference, praised the excellent arrangements, and for the mammoth gathering. The presence of young comrades in the audience and in the trade union leadership is very much appreciable. They also appreciated Com. Philip Koshy for his contributions to the workmen employees in the Circle in particular and to the Federation at large.

Com. Rajesh S, General Secretary of the State Bank of India Officers' Association (Kerala Circle), reminisced about the enduring partnership with the Union and pledged continued support and collaboration in the times to come. He also extended his congratulations to Com. Philip Koshy for his remarkable contributions.

Com. A Jayakumar, General Secretary, State Bank of India Pensioners' Association, Kerala, expressed his gratitude to the Staff Union for their support and felicitated Com. Philip Koshy on his superannuation.

Com. Philip Koshy, General Secretary, in his concluding speech, thanked all dignitaries, veterans of the Federation and Circle for their benign presence in the 9<sup>th</sup> General Council. He expressed his deep gratitude to the Federation and Circle leadership for their support and affection. He emphasised 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 the newly joined members in the activities. He encouraged the membership to be a part of the banking sector developments and stand united. He thanked one and all comrades for their support in discharging the duties as General Secretary, during his tenure. He also expressed his gratitude to the present and former Central Committee members for their continued support. The inaugural session concluded by 3:30 p.m. with a vote of thanks by Com. Bindhu K, followed by the National Anthem.

The Delegates' Session began at 5:00 p.m. and presided by our President, Com. Akhil S. Com. Philip Koshy, General Secretary, presented the draft report to the council, and Com. Rakesh K R, Assistant Treasurer, presented the statement of accounts. The session was adjourned at 6:30 p.m., followed by a cultural and musical evening organised under the leadership of Com. Bindu K, featuring active participation from staff members across the state.

On the second day, the Delegates Session began at 10:30 a.m., with Com. Akhil S as President. Com. P M Sreevalsan, Deputy General Secretary, delivered the welcome address. The Leader of the Opposition, Shri. V D Satheesan inaugurated the Delegate Session at 11:30 a.m. He commended the nationalization of banks as a revolutionary decision and cautioned against the growing issue of corporate defaulters seeking refuge in safe havens, which poses a significant challenge to our nation. He also reminded us that India successfully navigated the global economic downturn during the subprime mortgage crisis, primarily due to the resilience of our strong Public Sector Banks. He emphasised that strengthening Public Sector Banks remains crucial for ensuring the nation's continued development.

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34 delegates participated in the delegate session and expressed their concerns and views on General Secretary's report. Many points connected with banking, organisational and social issues were elaborated by the delegates. The General Secretary responded to the points raised by delegates in detail. The Assistant Treasurer clarified the account-related queries raised by the delegates. The council unanimously approved the report and statement of accounts. The resolutions presented were also unanimously approved by the council.

Com. Philip Koshy received a standing ovation for his untiring and relentless service to the organisation. Com. Philip Koshy introduced newly elected office-bearers to the council and thanked the Central Committee and congratulated the dynamic comrades for their contributions to the conference's success. A resolution was unanimously approved by the house congratulating the Organising Committee of the 9<sup>th</sup> General Council and the entire membership for making the Conference a memorable event in our organisation's history.

The meeting concluded with resounding slogans of "**Long Live SBSU and Long Live Trade Union.**" The President then convened the first meeting of the Central Committee, and co-options for various posts & appointment of external Auditor were approved unanimously.

We lower our flag in solemn remembrance of Com. Jayesh K from the Tirurangadi Branch, who tragically passed away on his onward journey after attending our triennial conference. Our thoughts are with his loved ones during this difficult time.



(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
9 <sup>th</sup> GENERAL COUNCIL .....	ZINDABAD
INQUILAB.....	ZINDABAD