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स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इण्डिया ऑफिसर्स एसोसियेशन State Bank of India Officers' Association (Patna Circle)

All Letters to be Addressed to the General Secretary Regd. No. 1872 of 1975 (REGISTERED UNDER TRADE UNION ACT - 1926)

State Bank Building West Gandhi Maidan Patna - 800 001

CIRCULAR NO. 08/11

DATE : 09.04.2011

To <u>All Members</u>

REGULATED WORKING HOURS AND LEADING QUALITY LIFE

Comrades, during the last Financial year, we concluded the 9th Bi-partite which resulted in an unprecedented enhancement in the quantum of our emoluments. The payment under "SBI Package" has started and arrear of the same too, is expected to be released shortly. However, compared to our Central Government, RBI and Insurance counterparts, the revision in Banking Industry was found to be not upto mark. This issue would be addressed suitably in the next round of wage settlement and personally, the undersigned is confident that we should wage an all out battle to clinch a settlement at par with the best.

However, time has come to dwell on other pertinent issue viz. leading quality life and having regulated working hours. AIBOC has already raised a legitimate demand for a 5 day week service condition, in sync with the global financial sector, where financial markets are closed on weekends enabling the employees to earn two full days of respite and break. Here Bank Officers are toiling hard day in day out, putting in more than 10/12 hours of work every day and in the process getting burnt out at an early age, contracting stress related ailments like blood pressure, diabetes, heart diseases etc. People are unable to enjoy the fruits of labour due to the oppressive working conditions and striving to meet targets and succumbing to the pressure of the top management who are blissfully unaware of the ground realities.

It is surprising and ironical that even in the unorganised sector, masons, plumbers, and menial labourers sticks to a scheduled and regulated working hour. No force in the world can perhaps make a mason work more than 8 hours. Yet, despite the fact, being supposedly erudite, and having a status in the society, we are nothing more than bonded labourers, dancing to the tune of the top management. We keep ourselves confined to a vicious circle, cut off from our friends, family members, neglecting our family and desire to work selflessly for our institution, that too mostly without recognition.

It is time we stand up to press forward a legitimate demand to regulate our lives by observing strict regulated hours at office. Last year too, we had given a clarion call to our members to finish work and leave office timely so that quality time could be spent with our family members. However, somewhere along the line, this issue got diluted and members continued to slave it out at branches, working even on Sundays and holidays. So let us again take up this cause with renewed gusto and determination. No member should remain at office after 6 pm, of course, subject to exigencies like completion of transactions etc and must refuse to work on Sundays/Holidays unless extremely essential.

Comrades, life is short and is meant to be enjoyed to the fullest. Let us take the pledge to strictly follow regulated working hours at our workplace to enable us to lead a healthy and contented life.

With revolutionary greetings,

(ANIRUDH AKHAURI) GENERAL SECRETARY

OUR UNITY:ZINDABAD-ZINDABADS.B.I.O.A.:ZINDABAD-ZINDABAD