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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**/2012

DATE : 06.03.2012

TO,  
ALL MEMBERS

SPECIAL GENERAL BODY MEETING ON 04.03.2012  
AT SABOUR AGRICULTURE COLLEGE AUDITORIUM, BHAGALPUR

In accordance with the provisions of the Bye Laws and Rules of the State Bank of India Officers' Association (Patna Circle) and as decided by the Central Committee at its meeting held at Hazaribagh on the 12<sup>th</sup> February 2012, a Special General Body Meeting was held in a tastefully decorated and over flowing Sabour Agriculture College Auditorium, Bhagalpur on Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2012, notice for which issued on the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2012. The meeting was presided over by Shri L. K. P. Singh, President of the Association.

Before the commencement of its meeting Shri L. K. P. Singh was invited to the Dias to preside over the function. Thereafter the Chief Guest of the function Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Hon'ble Minister of Health, Government of Bihar was escorted to take his place on the Dias amidst thunderous clapping. S/Shri J. K. Thakur, Vice-President, Suresh Kumar, Deputy General Secretary, Vinod Kumar, Secretary Finance, Pankaj Kumar Jha, Organising Secretary, Arijit Bose, Organising Secretary, Shri Ashok Kumar Jha, Assistant General Secretary, Bhagalpur Zonal Committee and the Chairman of the Reception Committee, Dr. M. Kumar, Principal of Sabour Agriculture College and Anirudh Akhauri, General Secretary of the Association were thereafter escorted to their respective seats on the Dias. The members of Zonal Committee Bhagalpur offered bouquet and shawl to the Chief Guest and other office bearers/guest on the Dias.

The local artists sang Sarswati Vandana to invoke the blessing of Goddess Saraswati.

Shri Ashok Kumar Jha in his capacity as the Chairman of the Reception Committee read out his welcome address and was appreciative of the fact that the opportunity to host such a large number of participants had been given to his Committee. He was particularly glad that the Chief Guest had blessed the function with his august presence. The Management of the Sabour Agriculture College had provided the necessary infrastructure without which the function could not have been arranged in such a grand manner.

Thereafter the General Secretary **Comrade Anirudh Akhauri dwelt on the necessity of** holding this meeting. He advised that bringing the Circle Association in line with the majority Circles in SBI was a long pending priority and because of the frequent changes in the leadership position in the last decade the exercise could not be held earlier. During the last decade there have been many changes in the bank's decentralised decision making level but the Circle Association could not decide on matching changes in its own structure, whereby the members at the level of the Regional Business Offices did not have the benefit of the advices/support of senior elected representative in their respective centres. The Regional Managers decisions were not being subjected to regular scrutiny vis-à-vis the laid down/agreed HR policies and at times members were feeling insecure. There was reluctance on the part of the elected members to relocate to Regional Business Office centres also. Another guiding principle behind the proposed changes was the lack of direct involvement of the membership in the election of office-bearers of Central/Zonal Committees which sometimes in the past had negated the members verdict.

The General Secretary utilised the presence of the Chief Guest to request the GOB to provide land at market rates to the Housing Cooperative Societies of the Association for development of planned Housing Colonies in various towns. He also offered to get

the reasons for the low CD Ratio in the State analysed by a team of Association members.

The General Secretary requested the Hon'ble Minister to light the inaugural lamp and deliver his inaugural speech. After lighting of the lamp amidst ovation from the members, Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey addressed the gathering in his inimitable style and recalled his long association with the officers of the State Bank of India in the undivided Bihar. He fondly remembered Late S. S. Dwivedi, his father -in-law who was a pioneer in the Cooperative movement in the State Bank and was also an elected representative in the Circle Association for a long time. Shri Choubey was thankful to the General Secretary for having invited him as a Chief Guest in the Special General Body Meeting being held in his home town of Bhagalpur. The officers of the State Bank of India were doing a good job in the Trade Union field and also in respect of Credit and Housing Cooperative Societies. Shri Choubey assured to take up with the GOB allotment of land, provided it is available. He advised the Association leaders to also devote some time for social welfare activities for the under privileged and downtrodden sections. He hoped that the proposed changes in the Bye laws will make the Association more vibrant and bring it closer to its membership and wished the meeting all success.

Comrade L. K. P. Singh while responding to the speech of the Chief Guest referred to the tendency on the part of the Ministers in Bihar to criticise the Bank Officers in general for corruption in lending activities, to which the Minister clarified that such reports are baseless and he is not for such insinuation. In fact the banks are a vital tool in the developmental activities.

Taking up the agenda of the meeting, the General Secretary sought permission of the Chair to present the amendments to the Bye Laws and Rules of the Association and the resolutions. Giving the background for making the changes, the General Secretary advised the house of the efforts made in the last one year to make amendments suiting the needs of the membership and further decentralising the representative character of

the Association. He narrated the gist of the deliberations on the proposals in the Central Committee Meeting at Hazaribagh on the 12<sup>th</sup> February 2012 and the three/four issues on which the Central Committee had debated in detail. In line with the Central Committee decision the provision for a candidate to withdraw from the contest within 3 days of the publication of valid nomination and to provide for a nominated Assistant Regional Secretary for each District under a RBO was incorporated in the proposal circulated in the house. The other issues of making the Regional Managers ineligible to hold the post of an office-bearer in the Central Committee and ranking the position of Deputy General Secretaries and Organising Secretaries was discussed and no changes in the proposal were accepted by the majority members.

Further initiating a debate the General Secretary advised point-wise the reasons for changes in the various rules and paras of the Bye Laws. During the process of detailed briefing some members in the audience, namely Shri Ghanshyam Pd. Srivastava, Shri S. K. Tiwary, Shri T. K. Thakur, Shri Awadhesh Kr Choudhary, Shri Ajay Choudhary, Shri B. K. Mishra, Shri Ajit Kr Mishra, Shri U. K. Singh, etc kept on raising the issue of Regional Managers being made ineligible to hold office-bearer position in the Central Committee and wanted deletion of this provision. For some time this led to the proceedings being briefly interrupted.

The General Secretary further advised that the members of Zonal Committee Bhagalpur have given a resolution requesting for increase in the members of positions in the Zonal Committee and in the Regional Committee. Accordingly taking into consideration this request the number of posts of Assistant Zonal Secretary in the Zonal Committee is proposed to be increased from one to two and also the number of posts of Zonal Organising Secretary from one to two, thereby raising the total number of posts in the different Zonal Committees from six to eight.

Similarly it was proposed by the General Secretary to increase the number of positions of Assistant Regional Secretary from one per District to two per District. Thereafter the General Secretary gave his clarifications on the issue of Regional Managers and the

clash of interest that such a situation in the earlier committees had led to. He kept on requesting the protesting members to allow smooth conduct of the proceeding but they seemed to be adamant in passing of the amendments with the deletion of the Regional Managers clause.

Having explained in detail on the necessity of the changes in the Bye Laws, the General Secretary requested all the members who were against the proposed amendments and resolutions to stand up in their respective seats. About 15 to 20 members stood up in opposition to the proposed amendments. The General Secretary thereafter concluded his comments.

The President Shri L. K. P. Singh advised the house that the amendments and resolutions stood passed by majority support.

Shri J. K. Thakur in his vote of thanks to the organisers and participants dwelt on the historic changes and hoped that more cohesion and effectiveness would be evident in the functioning of the Association after the changes are implemented. He thanked everyone for their support amidst clapping by the members. Shri Thakur felt that the large turnout of nearly a thousand members is a reflection of their commitment and militancy. He also praised Comrade B. N. Jha for his efficient compering of the function. The Zonal Committee, Bhagalpur deserve Special praise for organising the meeting successfully.

The President thereafter thanked everyone and declared the meeting closed.

The meeting ended with National Anthem.

*With warm greetings,*

**(ANIRUDH AKHAURI)**  
**GENERAL SECRETARY**

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