



UNITED BANK OF INDIA EMPLOYEES' UNION

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Circular No. UBIEU/CEC/ 18 /2019

Date : 21.09.2019

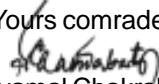
To All Members

Dear Comrades,

Reproduced hereunder BEFI Circular No. 38/2019 dated 19.09.2019 & Joint Circular of BEFI and AIBEA dated 20.09.2019 for your information and wide circulation.

With warm greetings,

Yours comradely,


(Shyamal Chakraborty)
Joint Secretary

Full Text of Circular No. 38/2019 dated 19th Sept. 2019

Dear Comrade,

Joint Strike call by AIBEA & BEFI on 22nd Oct 2019

You all are aware about the developments that took place since the announcement of Union Finance Minister on 30.08.2019 for Merger of 10 Public Sector Banks into 4 banks, thereby reducing the total number to 12 from 27 till 31.03.2017. At the call of UFBU, the bank employees and officers, apart from wearing black badges, enthusiastically participated in country-wide protest demonstrations on 31.08.2019, within 24 hours of the announcement.

We felt, considering the scale of attack, joint action programme should have been launched to put a halt to the merger move of the Govt. Despite taking initiative at different levels including in UFBU meeting, united action programme under the banner of UFBU could not be finalised. Our CC Meeting held in June 2019 resolved to oppose further merger move of the PSBs. We made attempt for a joint strike action by all the five workmen Unions. We met at Mumbai on 16th evening and some initial understanding among five workmen Unions for a joint strike call to be observed on 01.10.19 could be arrived at but finally the call could not be given.

In the prevailing situation, we had discussions with AIBEA and it has been decided that BEFI will observe countrywide bank strike jointly with AIBEA opposing Merger of PSBs and banking sector reforms. Preparatory programme has also been announced.

We call upon all our State Units, Bank level Unions, members, retirees and well wishers to go for vigorous campaign against the offensives launched by the NDA-II Govt. with an ulterior motive of weakening the PSBs to reach the ultimate goal of its privatisation

like other public sector undertakings. We are to participate in all preparatory programmes and also to take all necessary initiative to make the Strike on 22nd October 2019 a grand success.

The text of the Joint Circular issued in this regard is appended.

With greetings,

Yours comradely,


(Debasish Basu Chaudhury)
General Secretary

TEXT OF THE JOINT CIRCULAR

"OPPOSE UNWARRANTED MERGER OF BANKS IMPLEMENT THE JOINT CALL OF AIBEA & BEFI OBSERVE ALL INDIA STRIKE ON 22nd OCT. 2019

Ever since the Government announced their decision to merge 10 public sector banks into 4 Banks, we have been expressing our opposition and protest against the same. Immediately UFBU gave programmes of countrywide protest demonstrations and followed by demonstrations wherever and whenever the Banks hold their Board meetings to adopt the merger agenda.

It was decided that further agitational programmes can be decided in the UFBU meeting scheduled on 11-9-2019. But, there was no unanimity nor any consensus could emerge about further programmes of action. Hence, it was decided to hold a Dharna before Parliament on 20-9-2019 and in the meantime, attempts to be made to work out some common approach.

But immediately thereafter, 4 Officers organisations had given their joint call for strike on merger issue and wage revision demand. Since we felt that it is not proper to include wage revision demand in the strike call since wage revision talks were not in any stalemate or deadlock, we could not join their strike call. Thereafter attempts were made to force a united call by all the workmen unions. This was also not fruitful.

Hence, from AIBEA and BEFI, we felt it necessary and accordingly decided that our both the organisations should launch an agitation and give a protest strike call against the proposed merger of the 10 PSBs.

All of us aware that such measures are a part of their agenda on economic reforms and banking sector reforms. In fact, we can easily understand that mergers are a prelude to privatisation of banks and hence we need to vehemently oppose such moves. Similarly, we can also understand that mergers are in exercise to masquerade the huge bad loans by hiding them under a bigger Balance Sheet. It is a matter of concern for

all of us that the burden of haircuts, concessions and write offs extended to the corporate defaulters are sought to be put on the shoulders of the common banking clientele in the form of penalty charges and increased service charges. Hence fighting against bad loans is a part of our struggle against mergers and privatisation.

It is also a matter of very serious concern to all of us merger of Banks will imply closure of large number of branches with consequent staff surplus and staff redundancy which in turn would endanger our jobs and job security.

Hence the proposed merger of 10 Banks and resultant closure of 6 Banks need to be opposed with all our strength.

Keeping the above developments in mind, a joint call has been given on the following issues and demands.

- ❑ **Stop merger of banks**
- ❑ **Stop banking reforms**
- ❑ **Ensure recovery of bad loans, take stringent action on defaulters**
- ❑ **Do not harass customers with penal charges & increase in service charges, Increase interest rate on Deposits**
- ❑ **Stop attacks on jobs and job security**
- ❑ **Adequate recruitments in all Banks**


We give below the following preparatory programmes for effective implementation by all our unions.

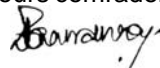
19-9-2019	Sending Strike Notice
From 21-9-2019	Campaign meetings
From 25-9-2019	Display of posters before all bank branches
30-9-2019	Black Badge Wearing
4-10-2019	Demonstration in all centres
14-10-2019	Dharna in Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Mangalore
21-10-2019	Demonstrations/Rally at all centres
22-10-2019	ALL INDIA BANK STRIKE

Comrades, all the issues of our agitational call are important demands. These demands are also inter-related and a part and parcel of liberalisation of the financial sector. We need to fight together and push back such retrograde measures. We call

upon all our units and members to implement the programmes successfully and make the strike on 22nd October, 2019 as a total success.

With greetings,


C. H. Venkatachalam
General Secretary
AIBEA

Yours comradely,

(Debasish Basu Chaudhury)
General Secretary
BEFI

SAY MERGER OF BANKS
NO CLOSURE OF BANKS
TO CLOSURE OF BRANCHES
 ATTACKS ON JOBS & JOB SECURITY”


Dear Comrades,


**Our Joint Call for Strike on 22nd Oct., 2019
Against merger and closure of Banks**

By now all our units would have received our circular regarding our Joint Call for Strike on 22nd October, 2019 against proposed merger of 10 Banks and closure of 6 Banks.

Instructions :

- Strike Notice has been served by us jointly on IBA and all Banks and hence our units need not serve any separate notice on their management.
- It will be a one day protest strike from 22nd Oct. 6 am to 23rd Oct. 6 am.
- Further intensified programme will be chalked out in due course.
- We shall be endeavouring the participation of other Unions in further actions.
- Posters are to be printed locally and displayed before all Branches.
- 30th Sept. 2019 - Badge Wearing - Badges to be printed and supplied to all Branches in time.
- Date of Demonstration programme may be shifted locally to suit local convenience at the respective centres.
- Dharna to be held preferably before the Head Office of the Banks; otherwise at a convenient place to be decided in the respective centres.
- Campaign meetings should be held in all centres to explain the gravity of the issues involved and to ensure full participation in the strike.


C. H. Venkatachalam
General Secretary
AIBEA

Yours comradely,

(Debasish Basu Chaudhury)
General Secretary