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UNITED FORUM OF BANK UNIONS

(AIBEA-AIBOC-NCBE-AIBOA-BEFFINBEF-INBOC-NOBW-NOBO)

Central Office: No.15, India Exchange Place, Kolkata – 700 001.

Tel. No. : 033-22305788, Fax: 033-22305788

Email: alubof@gmail.com Mobile 09830075940

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TO ALL CONSTITUENT UNIONS / MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

UFBU Meeting :

Meeting of UFBU was held in Mumbai today. The Meeting conveyed its heartiest congratulations to all the units of UFBU and entire rank and file employees and officers for their massive and enthusiastic participation in the Nationwide General Strike on 20th and 21st February, 2013 at the call of central trade unions and the UFBU. The strike has manifested the oneness of the bank employees and officers with the total trade union movement in our country.

Homage to Com. Narender Singh:

The meeting observed 2 minutes silence to pay homage to Com. Narender Singh, the leader of transport workers union in Ambala who was killed by a bus running on him when he was mobilizing for the success of the strike on 20.02.2013.

Get Ready for Strike against attacks on Trade Union Rights:

The meeting took note of the increasing attacks on trade union rights, particularly in SBI and RBI where the managements took intimidating and pressurizing tactics to wean away the officers and the employees from strike action. The meeting decided to take up these issues with IBA and the government and also prepare for strike action by end of March, 2013 if these vindictive attacks are not retraced.

Government attempts to mislead:

Just on the eve of our strike, the Finance Ministry issued a statement calling upon bank employees not to join the strike on the following grounds.

Government View Point	Factual Position
1. Section of the bank employees are joining the strike	100% employees and officers under the banner of UFBU were on strike.
2. None of the main points in the Charter of Demands of central trade union has any connection with bank employees.	All the 10 demands raised by Central Trade Unions are applicable to bank employees. Price Rise, Recruitment of adequate staff, Out Sourcing, Attack on Trade Union Rights, Equal Pay for Equal Work, Disinvestment, Improvement in Bonus Act, PF, Gratuity and Pension benefits, etc. are all our demands also.
3. Banks recruit staff every year.	Nearly 200,000 vacancies of work men and officers remain vacant in banks. Many permanent jobs are out sourced.
4. Bank Employees are already entitled to pension benefits.	True, but since 1993 no improvements have been made in the pension benefits.
5. Bank employees have social security cover.	The compassionate appointment scheme to provide some job to the families of employees who die in harness has been discontinued in the banks for the past 10 years and still the scheme is not revised.

Thus, the government statement was only to unleash a misleading propaganda to defeat our strike instead of resolving the demands of the unions. We are happy that all unions have understood the game and made the strike a total success.

Discussions with IBA:

Further to UFBU's submission of charter of demands on the IBA for our wage revision and the improvement in service conditions, the IBA had invited UFBU and accordingly a preliminary round of discussions took place today between IBA and UFBU. IBA team was represented by Shri. K R Kamath, CMD-PNB and Chairman of IBA, along with the members of their Negotiating Committee. UFBU was represented by leaders of our 9 Constituent Unions. Both the sides felt and agreed that the negotiations should be expedited and concluded in a time bound manner. IBA informed that the Negotiating Committee will be headed by Mr. T M Bhasin, CMD- Indian Bank and Vice Chairman of IBA. From UFBU, we pointed out that simultaneous to the discussions on our charter of demands, the IBA should also take efforts to resolve the pending issues like Compassionate


appointment scheme, coverage of remaining employees /officers under pension option scheme, Improvement in Family Pension, Updation of Pension etc.

Next Round of Talks:

It has been decided that the next round of talks will be held on **4th March, 2013**. Comrades, the discussions on our charter of demands have begun. It shall be the endeavor of UFBU to expedite the discussions and strike a fair deal. We exhort all our units and members to remain united and be in readiness to all the calls of UFBU to achieve our demands to our satisfaction.

With greetings,

Yours Comradely,



(P.K.SARKAR)
CONVENOR