

State Bank of India Staff Union Hyderabad Circle

H.Q. HYDERABAD

Regd. No. 1990

(AFFILIATED TO ALL INDIA STATE BANK OF INDIA STAFF FEDERATION)

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CIRCULAR LETTER NO.24 TO ALL UNITS / MEMBERS

Date :: 01.01.2021

Dear Comrade,

WELCOME NEW YEAR - 2021

The year 2020 which has left indelible impressions not only on the Banking Industry but also on the Nation is now history as we enter the New Year 2021. The year 2020 marked the beginning of three distinct time periods. It was a new day being start of the New Year, a new year being a leap year of 366 days and a new decade for a period of ten years.

One event that dominated the year 2020 was the deadly and previously unknown virus COVID-19 which wreaked havoc across the globe and caused economic devastation and disruption of normal life. The new terms like lock-down, quarantines, isolations, containment zones, social distancing, wearing of masks, use of sanitisers etc., have now become part of our lives. One thing that this deadly virus had taught this mankind is **HYGIENE** - the most important part of our life.

When the whole Nation was under lock-down during this pandemic, our Banking Industry and its workforce, the **CORONA WARRIORS** had kept our branches open and ensured that the financial needs of the citizens were taken care of. Though many of our comrades became victims of this deadly virus and some had succumbed to it, we stood as a vanguard for rendering financial services during these difficult and odd times. **State Bank of India Staff Union Hyderabad Circle salutes our comrades for their untiring efforts** who ensured the Government schemes that were rolled-out during the pandemic was taken due care and the end user could reap benefits of the relief measures.

During the lock down period, many of our members were stranded at different places and could not reach their workplaces on time due to non-availability of transport facilities. As a proactive measure, our Union had taken up this issue with the Circle Management and had ensured that its members reported to the nearest branch in their vicinity till the time situation had improved. Visit to the branches by Office-Bearers of our Union during the pandemic and representing members' difficulties to the management from time to time had instilled confidence among our members that our Union is always in the forefront in addressing the issues and concerns of its membership.

Our Federation at the Apex level, on constant touch with Management at Corporate Centre had ensured to extend many facilities as part of preventive measures against this deadly virus to the workforce of State Bank of India. Payment of medical aid of Rs.20,000/- to employees who tested COVID positive, payment of compensation of Rs.20.00 lakhs to Bank employees in the event of unfortunate death due to COVID-19, exemption to pregnant women employees, employees at higher health risk, persons with disabilities, blind/visually impaired employees from attending offices/branches are some of the initiatives taken-up by our Federation with the Bank.



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Another significant development in our Bank during the year 2020 was the creation of a separate vertical, FI&MM (Financial Inclusion & Micro Market) focusing specifically on rural & semi-urban areas, which was rolled-out by the Bank on 01.06.2020 while the sole aim of this vertical was to ensure availability of basic banking services through the Bank's vast network of Branches/Customer Service Points in rural, semi-urban areas, it has on the other hand, resulted in a lot of avoidable Administrative changes, including winding up of Nizamabad A.O. and realignment of many of our branches/offices in Hyderabad Circle. On the organisational front also, due to the changes in Administrative Set-up, our members had to put up with many hardships on account of sudden transfers, inordinate delays in sanction of loans, medical bills etc. Our Union Office-Bearers deserve praise for rising to the occasion and taking up the new challenges in true spirit of serving the membership in such a difficult period.

Apart from the pain of COVID-19 times, we also had joyous moments in getting our long awaited XI Bipartite Settlement signed between UFBU and IBA on 11-11-2020. This Wage Revision settlement is considered to be one of the best settlements signed so far with IBA. We are happy to inform our members that the Wage Revision arrears will be paid by Sankranti festival.

Subsequent to the signing of XI BPS, our apex organisation All India State Bank of India Staff Federation has signed a Joint Memorandum with the management of the State Bank of India on 26.11.2020 which has resulted in substantial hike in many areas such as Special Pay, Special Pay for Graduation and Professional Qualification, Fixed Personal Pay and many other allowances payable to workmen employees in State Bank of India, Discomfort Allowance payable on redeployment/ transfer to outside centre, Lodging Allowance, Key Allowance for those who handle cash keys along with the additional duties and responsibilities. The SBI Agreement is sure to be remembered for a long long time for the bouquet of benefits it has showered on us.

Comrades - clinching a respectable Wage Revision is not the end of the road. We have a long way to go and continue to strengthen our unity to meet the major challenges in resolving the pending issues at Circle level. We need to maintain collectiveness for protecting our rights secured through sacrifices and struggles by our predecessors.

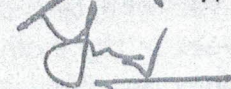
We are sure that the membership would ever be in readiness to respond to the call of our beloved organisation - SBISUHC - as well as our National level organisations as and when warranted and keep the flag of the organisation flying high always. Let us simultaneously continue our good work in the best interests of Bank - State Bank of India - to retain its premier position in the Banking Industry.

"Let the New Year begin with the warmest of aspirations."

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2021

With Warm Greetings,

Yours comradely,



(R. SRIRAM)

GENERAL SECRETARY

STATE BANK OF INDIA STAFF UNION HYDERABAD CIRCLE	ZINDABAD!
ALL INDIA STATE BANK OF INDIA STAFF FEDERATION	ZINDABAD!
NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF BANK EMPLOYEES	ZINDABAD!
OUR SOLIDARITY	ZINDABAD!
OUR UNITY	ZINDABAD!