

ALL INDIA UNION BANK EMPLOYEES FEDERATION

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Circular No. 64/XVI/2018

To All Units and CC members &
Woman Sub-Committee Members

Dear Comrades,

Our Federation observes Union Bank Centenary Day On 11th November 2018

Central Committee Meeting held in Chennai on 22nd & 23rd September 2018 decided to observe Union Bank Centenary Day on 11th November (yesterday) through holding of mass meeting and highlighting Federation's demand for absorption of all casual and temporary employees into permanent employment of the Bank as a Centenary Gift to the employees. History of the bank says that on 11th November in 1919 Seth Seetharamji Kisondayal Podar along with eight prominent business personalities founded Union Bank of India. The Bank started its business transaction on 3rd March 1920. Mahatma Gandhi formally opened the new premises for Bank's Head Office on Apollo Street (present Mumbai Samachar Marg). Seth Hormusji Cowasji Dinshaw was temporarily elected as the first Chairman of the Bank. At the very first statutory meeting of the Board he was replaced by Sir Hukumchandji Saroopchand as Chairman. In the first balance sheet of the Bank for the year ending 31st December 1920 showed a profit of Rs.1,86,605-6 annas-1 paisa (the balance sheet for the year ending 31st March 2018 just before entering into centenary year showed a net loss of of Rs.5247.37 crores). The Bank was nationalized on 19th July 1969. Shri F.K.F. Nariman became the first Chairman & Managing Director of the Bank. Com. S. Bardhan, the then General Secretary of our Federation became the first Workman Director on the Bank's Board on 11th December 1972 and continued to be the Director till 12th February 1985. As a Director, looking into greater interest of general public and employees, he dissented with other Board members on many a issues. In any case, while inaugurating the Bank's Head Office on 21st July 1921 Mahatma Gandhi concluded his speech by saying, **"I hope also that the Bank will be carried on high moral principles and I wish it every prosperity"**. In the Centenary Year let us take this pledge to see that our beloved Bank is carried on high moral principles in letter and spirit.

As reports came in, almost all the units have successfully implemented Federation's call for observing Union Bank Centenary Day. Some units could not implement the call on 11th November. They will do it in the next week. We are yet to receive any response from the Management to our request for Centenary Gift. If we

do not receive any response we shall go back to secure justice for the casual and temporary employees by reopening the Industrial Dispute which was kept in abeyance by the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central), Kolkata. Even after getting years of service from casual and temporary employees the Management refused to admit the very existence of casual and temporary employees in the Bank. Not only with these temporary employees; in case of permanent employees also, the Management even after extracting overtime work did not hesitate to refuse to admit the overtime works performed by the employees during demonetization exercise. No rational person can consider these to be based on high morals as was hoped by Gandhi ji. Let the Management note that speaking truth is the basic essence of morality. It appears that Mahatma Gandhi's name is being used in the legacy of the Bank for the purpose of advertisement only and not for ethical values.

In any case, even now we feel that good sense will prevail upon the Management and they will come forward to speak the truth and look into our request for centenary gift with positive consideration.

Month long Campaign Programme on Recruitment

Our Chennai CC Meeting decided a month long campaign agitation during the month of November 2018 on the serious issue of Recruitment both in clerical and subordinate staff cadre. During the campaign, employees are to be informed as to how the Management and its recognized union have been working in tandem for inadequate recruitment in clerical cadre and absolutely no recruitment in subordinate staff cadre. The campaign agitation has to be implemented through displaying posters in local language, issuing leaflet in local language, holding centralized meeting as well as cluster wise meetings. Report on implementation of the programme has to be sent to Federation headquarters.

Diamond Jubilee Celebration of our Federation

It was also decided in the CC Meeting that throughout the year starting from 19th December of this year till 18th December of 2019 the Units will celebrate Diamond Jubilee of our Federation as per their programme. The inaugural celebration will be held in Kolkata on 19th December 2018 as our West Bengal & Sikkim Unit expressed their interest to host it. Our Units are requested to find out former CC Members of the Federation in their States and send us their details of their contact number, postal address and email address.

With Greetings,

Yours comradely



Jagannath Chakraborty
General Secretary