

UCO BANK EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION



(Registration No.795 & Registered under Indian Trade Union's Act)

[Affiliated to Bank Employees Federation of India]

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Circular No.01/2024

01.01.2024

To All Members

Dear Comrades,

New Year 2024 – A new beginning

We have now entered into a new year 2024. A new and unique period is waiting for us. In the last year we witnessed many historic and memorable events throughout our journey within the organisation, within the bank, banking industry and of course in the national and international arenas. During the last year our organisation acted diligently and sincerely for the causes of the employees as well as the development of the Bank. All of you have tried your level best to participate in the programme/movement called by our fold at any level. Our State Committees, our leaders were active and vigil for successful implementation the call of Central Executive Committee as a team with tremendous bonding of comradeship. You will certainly agree with us that we have to do many more things this year for continuation of activities of our organisation, in the backdrop of our glorious legacy of 78 years, for our members, bank, and customers and for all working communities. We are confident that you will be vigilant and active, as you were, for doing needful to keep our flag high.

We congratulate all of you for the valuable efforts you have given in the past and in the recent past also in respect to our relentless movement against Privatisation, against Banking Law Amendment Bill 2021 including our demand for adequate recruitment in non subordinate and subordinate cadres, absorption of casual/ temporary employees, minimum wages, betterment of working atmosphere etc. This year also we have more tasks ahead and we have to keep ourselves ready and vigil to combat the attacks of government-management combine.

This year our 23rd All India Conference is going to be held on 24th & 25th February 2024 at Patna, Bihar with befitting manner. We are sure everybody will give their best effort for successful implementation of the task and programme for that.

We reproduce hereunder the full text of Circular No.01/2024 dated 01.01.2024, issued by General Secretary, Bank Employees Federation of India, for your information.

With Warm and New Year's Greeting,

Comradely yours,

(Dhisankar Sengupta)
General Secretary

[P.T.O.]

Full Text of Circular No.01/2024 of BEFI dt. 01.01.2024

Quote

With end of a year, a new year has begun a few hours ago. For every Indian, the new year has brought crucial challenges.

The year 2023 witnessed unprecedented incidents of violence, both at the international as well as national level. Israel's genocidal war on Gaza, started since early October, is continuing with brutal killing of more than 20000 citizens so far, majority being women and children. In our country, ethnic tensions and violence is continuing in Manipur since early May with death toll of 175 as declared officially, the figure is apprehended to be much higher. World Imperialism led by USA has pronounced unabashed support to Israel disregarding UN resolutions and world opinion. While in Manipur, it is the agenda of the ruling dispensation to give a communal colour by merging ethnic and religious identities.

The crisis in global economy continues to persist leading to deterioration in living conditions for the vast majority of people in terms of growing hunger and poverty. On the other side, predatory profit maximization is observed leading to accentuation of inequalities in the capitalist countries.

In our country also, with furtherance of the corporate-communal nexus, the bulk of the wealth generated is cornered by handful big business houses, close to the present government. Tax concessions and incentives provided to the rich and corporates are widening the gap between the rich and poor.

While the government boasts of a 6-year low unemployment rate in 2022-23, in August 2023, the unemployment rate was estimated as 8.1%; youth unemployment (15 – 24 years) was 23.22%. Among graduates, it is a whopping 42%. Reality is that since there are very few jobs available, most unemployed people have stopped looking for employment and are forced to be self-employed.

The prices of essential commodities, particularly the food items, are continuously on the rise. The Wholesale Price Index shows that prices have risen on an average by around 30% in May 2023 compared to May 2014. Continuous hiking of prices of petroleum products contributed to the overall growth of inflation.

With common people's incomes on the decline, rising prices, soaring unemployment, reduced purchasing power, India's ranking in the global hunger index plummeted down to 111 out of 125 nations.

During the past year, the country witnessed intensified large scale attacks on democratic rights and civil liberties. Communal polarization is continuing unabated to divide the people. The expressions of dissent is ruthlessly suppressed with support of the central agencies.

The last year has also seen growing resistance of the people against price rise, for employment, demanding better living conditions, opposing move of privatization of the public sector with massive involvement of all sections of people including workers, peasants, students, youth, women, employees. The year also have seen strengthening of joint struggles of Worker – Peasant alliance against the neoliberal policies.

The banking sector, including PSBs, PVBs, RRBs, RBI, Nabard, Cooperative banks, is subjected to serious crisis due to policies pursued by the government. The sector is badly suffering due to acute shortage of manpower as well as increased outsourcing and contractorisation/casualisation. Looting of bank's money by the big corporates and utilization of bank personnel for narrow political interest of the ruling party have become order of the day. The situation demands serious movement against the policies.

The country is going to face Lok Sabha polls within a few months in this new year. The ensuing election is crucial not only for the people but also for the entire nation. The toiling people of the country must play a historic role to protect the nation India from the present dispensation who contemplates to rule the country in abject authoritarian manner. Recent expulsions of as many as 146 opposition members from both houses of the Parliament is a case in point. We must rise to the occasion for saving our country from the evil forces. Let there be a new beginning of our struggles.

Welcome 2024 - Defeat Evil forces - Save the Nation

Unquote