



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.14/2026

25.05.2026

To All Members

Dear Comrades,

Recent movement in State Bank of India

We reproduce hereunder the full text of Circular No.30/2026 dated 25.05.2026, issued by General Secretary, Bank Employees Federation of India, for your information.

With warm greetings,

Comradely yours,

(Prakash Chandra Ray)

General Secretary

Full text of BEFI Circular No.30/2026 dated 25.05.2026

Quote

We are aware that SBI Employees Federation (SBIEF), our affiliate in SBI gave 2-day strike call on 25-26 May 2026 on their own nine demands. The strike call was given synchronizing with strike call on same days given by All India State Bank of India Staff Federation (AISBISF), an affiliate of NCBE. A similar strike notice with SBIEF was served by SBI Employees Association (Tamilnadu), an affiliate of BEFI-Tamilnadu.

There have been several rounds of discussion at the Office of the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central), Mumbai with SBIEF and SBIEA (TN) separately. Conciliatory meetings with AISBISF also took place. Simultaneously, the SBI management had meetings with AISBISF, the majority Organisation of the workmen employees in SBI. After a meeting with SBI management on 22 May 2026, AISBISF decided to defer the two-day Strike.

The Central Committee Meeting of BEFI held on 23-24 May 2026 at Shimla, Himachal Pradesh adopted a Resolution congratulating our members in SBI and urging the bank management to resolve the issues at the earliest. Text of the Resolution is appended.

TEXT OF THE RESOLUTION

"The Central Committee expresses appreciation to the strike call on 25-26 May 2026, given by the State Bank of India Employees Federation (SBIEF), an affiliate of BEFI, on the pressing and long-pending issues confronting the employees of State Bank of India. The SBI Employees Association (SBIEA), an affiliate of BEFI-Tamilnadu gave a similar strike call on the same dates on identical issues.

[P.T.O.]

The proposed strike action reflected the growing resentment and frustration among the employees over the adamant and indifferent attitude of the SBI management towards genuine demands repeatedly raised through organisational forums.

It is noted with serious concern that despite continuous increase in business, profitability and operational responsibilities of SBI, the management has failed to ensure adequate recruitment in subordinate and clerical cadres. Acute staff shortage has become a major problem across branches and offices, leading to unbearable workload, deterioration in customer service and increasing stress among employees. The non-recruitment of messengers and armed guards in SBI has particularly aggravated the situation.

We strongly condemn the growing trend of outsourcing in various activities in the bank in blatant violation of understandings at the bank level. Outsourcing is not only depriving unemployed youth of regular employment opportunities but is also undermining the very character of public sector banking. Such policies are in line with the broader neo-liberal agenda aimed at contractualisation facilitating exploitation and weakening of the organised movement in the banking industry. We reiterate that regular and perennial jobs must be performed by permanent employees and not through outsourced arrangements.

During the campaign of the Strike and conciliation, the SBIEF have highlighted 9 issues inter alia three major demands: (i) Outsourcing of permanent jobs; (ii) Implementation of transparent transfer policy; (iii) Pay-fixation anomalies of ex-servicemen employees.

The Central Committee is of the firm opinion that the present approach of the SBI management reflects a larger trend visible throughout the banking industry, where employees are expected to shoulder mounting responsibilities without adequate manpower and infrastructure in inhuman working conditions.

The AISBISF, majority Federation in SBI also gave Strike call on 25-26 May 2026. We appreciate the synchronized Strike call of SBIEF and SBIEA, Tamilnadu. Broad-based unity of the workforce in future is essential to defend the rights of employees. The Central Committee called upon all affiliates and units to extend wholehearted support and solidarity to the strike action as well as organising state level demonstration by the State Federations. The AISBIEF after series of conciliation and meetings with the management decided to defer the Strike. As SBIEF and SBIEA (TN) synchronized with the strike call of AISBIEF, same decision will be taken.

The Central Committee Meeting in session at Shimla on 23-24 May 2026 resolves to strengthen united struggles against outsourcing, staff shortage, anti-worker policies and attacks on collective bargaining rights. The CC meeting further demands immediate positive intervention by the SBI management to resolve the pending issues through meaningful dialogue and constructive negotiations.”

Unquote