(Registered Under Trade Union Act, 1926 – Registration No. B-2334)

Registered Office & Head Quarters:

Post Box No. 528, State Bank of India Buildings, Bank Street, Koti, Hyderabad-500095

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**TO ALL MEMBERS** 

TRIENNIAL NATIONAL GENERAL COUNCIL - A GRANDEUR

The Triennial National General Council of our beloved organisation, as scheduled, was held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2011 in the colourfully decorated Fr. Devaiah Auditorium, Andhra Loyola College at Vijayawada. Thousands of Comrades from various parts of the country have started pouring in from early morning and assembled at the Venue with bubbling zeal and enthusiasm to participate in the glorious Council. Not only the venue, but also the entire city decorated with banners, placards, posters and buntings gave a festive look to the city of Vijayawada.

The enthused comrades welcomed leaders of affiliated unions with thunderous slogans, supported by fabulous drum-beats and rows of young lady comrades with colour balloons on the semi-circular pedestal of the entrance to the auditorium. The hoisting of flag of NCBE by our President Com. L Balasubramanian amidst deafening sound due to fine display of fire crackers and loud slogans of 'NCBE Zindabad' 'NCBE March on', NCBE Long Live" by around 1000 delegates and 5000 observers assembled there at was a scintillating show. The simultaneous eye-catchy release of balloons by all the leaders of affiliated unions was a magnificent treat to watch.

The inaugural session commenced with classical dance extravaganza by young artists, who gave real entertainment to audience with their talented display. Subsequent to the dance programme, Com. K L N Rao, the popular TV News Reader highlighted the importance of Vijayawada, prior to inviting the dignitaries to the dais amidst enthusiastic applauds from the massive audience.

Com. K.S. Ramachandra Rao, Chairman, Reception Committee presented the welcome address.

Dr. G Sanjeeva Reddy, President, Indian National Trade Union Congress inaugurated the Conference by lighting of lamp along with other dignitaries. In his inspiring inaugural speech, Dr. Reddy expressed that the reform measures have just encouraged outsourcing and privatization and the poor people are in no way got benefited. He further said that the reform measures have left an adverse impact on the working class and core issues like employment guarantee and welfare of the people are neglected by encouraging contract labour system and outsourcing. While emphasizing the need for amendments to the Payment of Bonus Act due to the salary revision' for all sections of staff, Dr. Reddy appealed to all the trade unions, including those functioning independently, to come together in all the struggles towards resolution of common issues affecting not only the working class but al O the nation on the whole.

Dr. Y.V. Haragopal Reddy, Vice-Chancellor, Acharya Nagarjuna University, the Chief Guest on the occasion, enthralling the audience with his acumen in legislative provisions pointed out the flaws at every level of implementation of labour legislations towards promoting the concept of a 'welfare state'. He said that the growth of the bank provides growth to the employees and appealed to the bank employees for proper implementation of government schemes to protect the interests of the people at large.

Com. A.K. Padmanabhan, President, Centre of Indian Trade Unions, who was the Distinguished Guest, in his stimulating speech disapproved the anti-labour policies of the Government in the n me of reforms and said that the reform measures are benefiting only the multi-national companies, big corporates and business and industrial houses at the cost of common people. Com. Padmanabhan suggested the trade unions to take up all the issues of common interest affecting the welfare of the people and appealed for united struggles by all trade millions in the country for resolution of the issues.

Com. K. Venugopal, General Secretary, All India Insurance Employees Association, who was the Guest of Honour gripped the audience with his insight of developments in banking and insurance industry with appropriate illustrations to realistic happenings all over the world. While quoting that sub-prime lending as the prime reason for global recession, Shri Venugopal said that the crucial role played by Trade Unions/Associations of public sector bank in the country saved the Banking Industry at the time and after recession. He expressed his concern to the moves of the Government in selling away the public assets in a systematic manner in the name of disinvestments and appealed for a co-ordinated activity among financial sectors and urged the NCBE to take the lead.

Com. L. Balasubramanian, President in his presidential address concurred with the views of dignitaries that collective struggles by working class for a common cause is the need of the hour and while assuring that NCBE will be second to none in fulfilling that aim had requested the delegates to deliberate the issues of common interest in detail to arrive at proper resolutions.

Com. Milind Nadkarni, Sr. Vice-President said that with the circumstantial changes, the approach of the trade unions also should be changed and insisted on the need for organizing the unorganized sector such as business facilitators and employees in call centres working in banking industry in the struggle for equality.

Com. Prakash N Gangal, Sr. Vice-President, said that the issue of compassionate appointments should be given priority and suggested for procedural changes in the recruitment system mainly to take care of the problems on account of deployment.

Com. Murali, General Secretary, expressed his concern on the functioning of Micro Finance Institutions and also on policies of the Government encouraging outsourcing, privatization and granting of licenses for banking to private players. While welcoming technology in Banking sector, Com. Murali opined that there should be adequate checks to prevent frauds. Com. Murali appealed for united struggles from a greater platform against the move of the Government to weaken Public Sector Banks and insisted on the need for revival of All India Co-ordination Committee of Unions in Financial Sector towards this aim.

The Inaugural Session culminated with the rendering of Vote of Thanks by Com. P L Prakash, Secretary of the Reception Committee.

Later, in the delegate session, the General Secretary presented the report which was approved and adopted unanimously by the Council with thunderous applause after enthusiastic participation by the delegates and threadbare deliberations on the crucial issues confronting the banking industry, as enumerated in the report. The Council also approved unanimously the Statements of Accounts submitted by the General Secretary for the years 2006 to 2010.

The General Council after due deliberations, unanimously passed resolutions on core issues condemning ill-effects of financial reforms, Merger / Acquisition of Banks, Recommendations of Raghuram Rajan and Anwarul Hoda Committee and Khandelwal Committee, irregular functioning of Micro Finance Institutions, Investment of Pension Fund Corpus in the Share Market, Engaging of Consultants by Banks at exorbitant costs, etc.

Resolutions were also passed unanimously by the General Council opposing Amendments to SBI Act, Subsidiary Bank's Act, Labour Laws and the Banking Regulation Act, Granting of Banking Licenses to Private Players, Disinvestments in Public Sector Undertakings, Outsourcing, Income Tax on perquisites etc.

The National General Council demanded for Recruitment in tune with the present needs, Compassionate Appointments, Payment of Gratuity to all bank employees with effect from 01.01.2006, protection to bank employees against huge circulation of counterfeit notes, bonus for all, merger of all Regional Rural Banks with their respective sponsor banks, Enhancement of Rate of Interest of Provident Fund and removal of cap on allocations for Staff Welfare activities.

The National General Council, thereafter, unanimously elected the members to the National Executive Committee and Central Committee for the ensuing term and the meeting was concluded through joyous celebrations with colourful and sparkling display of firecrackers in the night-sky.

We sincerely and profusely thank all the delegates, observers who had assembled from all over the country and also the militant comrades of State Bank of India Staff Union Hyderabad Circle for their disciplined participation and for making the Triennial National General Council of NCBE - a Grandeur and a memorable one. We also' place on record our highest sense of appreciation and thanks to the members of Reception Committee and scores of volunteers, for the excellent and indefatigable efforts made towards the glorious and magnificent conduct of Triennial National General Council of NCBE.

Comrades, let us march on with the same vigour and strength in all our future actions and endeavour in attaining much more laurels to our beloved organisation.

"LONG LIVE N C B E - LONG LIVE OUR UNITY"

With warm greetings,

Yours comradely,

(M.V. MURALI) GENERAL SECRETARY

NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF BANK EMPLOYEES	ZINDABAD
OUR SOLIDARITY	ZINDABAD
OUR UNITY	ZINDABAD