

UNITED FORUM OF BANK UNIONS

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SANJEEV K. BANDLISH

Convenor

CIRCULAR No. UFBU/2021/20

Date: 08.12.2021

TO ALL CONSTITUENT UNIONS/MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

Conciliation meeting held today

Further to the Strike Notice served by us on IBA, the Addl. Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), Ministry of Labour, Govt. of India convened a conciliation meeting today in his office in Delhi. Besides our representatives, representatives of the Dept. of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India and the IBA were present in the meeting.

During this meeting, from our side, we explained in detail the reasons and justifications for our call for strike on 16th and 17th December, 2021. We pointed out that when the Government announced the decision to privatise two Public Sector Banks in the Budget session, we had expressed the strong protest and opposition of the entire bank employees and officers to this move by observing countrywide strike on 15th and 16th March, 2021. We further stated that ignoring such wide protests, the Government has now decided to go ahead and included the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021 in the list of agenda for the current session of the Parliament. Hence our call for strike.

The IBA representative stated they while they are also for strengthening the public sector Banks, decisions like privatisation of Banks are not within the purview of IBA. The Representative of the DFS, Ministry of Finance stated that even though the Government had announced its decision during the Budget, so far no Bill has been presented or taken up in the Parliament and hence the strike call by the Unions is not warranted.

Unions replied to this view stating that if the Government is not going to bring any such Bill on bank privatisation during this session of the Parliament and if, Government can make an assurance to that effect, the UFBU may reconsider the call for strike because the strike has been called only in view of the information that the Bill has been listed in the Agenda for the current session. However, no such confirmation and assurance to this effect was made in the meeting.

The Addl. CLC, after hearing the parties advised that since the strike would affect the functioning of the Banks, so, all the parties to have a dialogue on the issues raised in the Charter of Demands and should try to resolve the same before 14.12.2021.

Comrades, since there is no assurance from the Government or from the IBA not to bring the Bill in the current session of the Parliament, we advise all our unions and members to **go ahead with the strike programme on 16th and 17th December, 2021.**

With warm greetings,

Yours comradely,


(SANJEEV K. BANDLISH)