

UNITED FORUM OF BANK UNIONS

C/o. State Bank of India, LHO, Plot No.1, Sector-17A, Chandigarh - 160 017
Phone (Office) : 0172-4567142, 4567042, 2702518 Fax – 0172-2721716
Mobile – 09417032548 e-Mail – ufbu.chd@gmail.com

SANJEEV K. BANDLISH

Convenor

CIRCULAR No. UFBU/2021/21

Date: 09.12.2021

TO ALL CONSTITUENT UNIONS/MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

Fraternal support from Central Trade Unions to our Strike

From the UFBU, we had sent our appeal to all the Central Trade Unions seeking their support to our agitation and demands.

We furnish here below the extract of the letter received from the General Secretary of BMS – Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh.

“ As appealed by you, fraternal support to your on-going agitation drive is already declared by our both banking federations, we too stand by that. However, our constructive/ Physical support could only be possible when you unequivocally declare the stand of UFBU to be away from any political party at any stage of agitation. Till such time, we continue to extend our fraternal support to your demonstrations including strikes proposed on 16th-17th of December, 2021.”

We also reproduce hereunder the text of the Joint Statement issued by 10 Centra Trade Unions viz. INTUC, AITUC, HMS, CITU, AIUTUC, TUCC, SEWA, AICCTU, LPF and UTUC

- **BANK UNIONS FORCED FOR TWO DAYS' STRIKE CALL ON 16-17 DECEMBER 2021**
- **DEMANDING WITHDRAWAL OF BANKING REFORMS BILL AIMED AT PRIVATISATION**

1. The joint platform of CTUs and Independent Federations/Associations support the call for two day's countrywide strike by bank employees under the banner of United Forum of Bank Unions (UFBU) on 16-17 December, 2021 against the Banking Laws (Amendments) Bill 2021, which the Government is planning to bring and get passed in the on-going session of the parliament.

2. The UFBU has extensively campaigned and elaborated why they oppose the Banking Laws (Amendments) Bill 2021. In a nutshell, it goes totally against the moto "People's Money for People's Benefit". It in fact facilitates "People's Money for Private Benefit" paving the way for plunder on peoples' savings in Banks by private corporates/big business.

3. The Bill seeks to privatise the banking sector, which is bound to lead to "self-dealing" and thereby only self benefitting by the willful defaulters of bank loans by corporates/big-business at the cost of common people, as warned by several ex-Governors of RBI.

4. The justification trotted out by the Government for the Bill is that "PSU Banks are not efficient", which is demonstrably false. The banking service could be taken to remote corners of our vast country only because of bank nationalisation in 1969. As it is, the worrisome increase in NPAs is being tackled by this Government, not by recovering the loans from willful defaulter corporates, but by compelling the PSU banks to forego major part of the debts (callously termed "haircut" for the banks), the common depositors are assured the guarantee of protection of only Rs.5 lacs out of their deposits! All the major Govt. schemes like "Jan dhan yojana" including most of welfare schemes and services like direct benefit transfer mechanism etc are implemented mainly through PSU banks for successful execution.

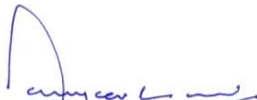
5. Bank employees' movement have been resolutely fighting for last more than three decades against the Govt's multi-pronged move towards dilution of the public sector status of the banking sector and through that process are still defending the public sector banks and also peoples' vital interests. This proposed two days' strike is also aimed at building up resistance to destructive privatization move of the Govt, along with the people. It is also a wake-up call for the common people that this Government is desperately handing over their hard-earned savings/deposits to the private corporates. And this is not to be misunderstood as just corruption, it is a matter of Government's comprehensive policy of legalising willful defaults of bank loans by private corporates (through IBC Law and procedures) on the one hand and handing over the PSU banks to same defaulting corporate community through privatization process on the other. This destructive policy and their political operators in governance must be decisively defeated and ousted.

6. The joint platform of CTUs and Independent Federations/Associations urge the Government to shelve the plan to push through the ill-advised, retrograde so-called banking reforms bill to the parliament, while **calling upon the toiling people across the sectors and the society to extend active solidarity support to the bank employees' forthcoming nationwide strike action**, to Save the People and Save the Nation.

**INTUC AITUC HMSCITU AIUTUC TUCC SEWA AICCTU LPFUTUC
And Independent Sectoral Federations/Associations**

With warm greetings,

Yours comradely,


(SANJEEV K. BANDLISH)
CONVENOR