



State Bank of India Staff Union Hyderabad Circle

H.Q. HYDERABAD

Regd. No. 1990

(AFFILIATED TO ALL INDIA STATE BANK OF INDIA STAFF FEDERATION)

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CIRCULAR NO.15
TO ALL UNITS/MEMBERS

Date : 08.04.2020

COVID-19

We reproduce hereunder the full text of Circular No.10 dated 08.04.2020 issued by Com. Sanjeev K. Bandlish, General Secretary, All India State Bank of India Staff Federation, on the captioned subject, the contents of which are self-explanatory.


(R. SRIRAM)
GENERAL SECRETARY

“The whole world is grasped in a dreadful situation with the outspread of deadly corona virus COVID-19 and our country is not an exception. You must be aware that this COVID-19 which has started from a small town called Wuhan in China, has already covered more than 200 countries in the world. The deadly virus does not differentiate between rich and poor, powerful and powerless and important person from a common man. The current generation in these modern times has never experienced health crisis of such a large magnitude. Although we have heard about such pandemics in the earlier centuries where lakhs of people over the globe had lost their life. The living generations have never seen such a pandemic. The economy throughout the world is feeling the serious blow due to this COVID-19. Countries had to go for national lockdowns, local lockdowns, curfews, sealing of the boundaries, stopping of public transport i.e. surface, air and water, closed all the business establishments except the essential commodities and the loss on these measures is yet to be calculated.

2. During such an acute crisis situation, our members, the brave financial soldiers of this country have once again proved that whenever there is a national call, the bankers always lead from the front as we had done during opening of Jan-Dhan Yojana Accounts, Demonetization period etc. As we continue to deal with the unprecedented and uncalled for impact of COVID-19, we must emphasize the incredible efforts of all of you to ensure that we get through this testing time, together, hand in hand and shoulder to shoulder.

3. Comrades, your contribution in this difficult time is beyond imagination. You are inspiring the rest of the nation by your whole hearted services for the society which has also been acknowledged by our Hon'ble Prime Minister. Even our Hon'ble Finance Minister has acknowledged the contribution of the banking fraternity as a whole and had gone on record to say that without their support it was not possible to send the relief to the last citizen of this country through MNREGA, financial aid to the senior citizens, widows, handicap, farmers, labourers etc. She had also acknowledged that to ensure easy access to the beneficiary, role of Bank is crucial. She has also acknowledged that the entire banking fraternity deserved recognitions and thanks for their tireless and brave efforts to ensure that the banking services continue in these adverse times.

4. Meanwhile, we are sparing no effort to ensure that we have a safe working environment, with extensive disinfection efforts and health protocols being enforced. Despite knowing the grave danger involved in our nature of work, the allegiance that has been displayed by all of you is absolutely commendable. Even after facing tremendous inconvenience due to non availability of public transport etc. members are leaving no stone unturned in trying to discharge their duties with highest commitment level.

5. Comrades, we have always been the economic frontline of the country and to remain so with glory we have to first protect ourselves and our family members. It is of utmost importance that we have to remain safe as only the healthy and satisfied person can deliver his best even during the crisis period i.e COVID-19.

6. Comrades, we have been successful in impressing upon our Bank on the issue of protection of our members against Corona virus while at work and the Bank readily agreed and paid Rs.1000/- per employee to meet expenses related to purchase of masks, gloves and sanitizers.

7. Due to the health risk this COVID-19 carries, we stressed upon the Bank to exempt employees who are pregnant, divvyang employees, employees with disabilities, employees with higher health risk from attending office/branch for work which the Bank responded and issued instructions to exempt them from attending to normal duties for their protection and allowing them to work from home. We have emphasized on the need of self quarantine for employees with high risk factor and recent travel history and Bank had issued guidelines on approval of self-quarantine as sick leave.

8. In response to our demand for provision of insurance cover of Rs.50 lacs to all our employees as they are into regular public service and are easily exposed to this deadly virus, the Bank showed gesture and approved an amount of Rs.20 lacs per employee. To reduce the chances of contamination, we called for attention to the issue of minimizing the work hours spent by employees and the cluster banking concept came into force till March end.

9. On the appeal of our Hon'ble Prime Minister to all citizens, institutions, Public Sector Undertakings etc. to contribute whole heartedly to the Prime Minister Relief Fund and has created a separate fund named "**PM CARES FUND**", where all citizens, establishments, companies PSUs etc. can contribute to meet the requirement of Funds at this crises periods of COVID-19. We requested our bank to encash one day Privilege Leave along with one day salary of all the employees be contributed for this noble cause. On our request bank has agreed to encash one day Privilege Leave and debit one day salary from all the employees and to donate the same to the National Relief Fund to fight for the cause of COVID-19 and accordingly bank has donated Rs.100 crores from this.

10. At our instance, Bank has not only covered this ailment of Covid-19 under domiciliary treatment but also has come forward to reimburse the expenses towards necessary investigation expenses for Covid-19 which is to the tune of Rs. 4500/-.

11. We request all the staff members to meticulously abide by the guidelines issued by the Health Ministry, Govt. of India, ICMR, and WHO in fully protecting yourself, your fellow colleagues and your family members to wage this grim battle against this lethal virus. Please take all kind of precautions while serving the customers. Please create adequate barricade before all SWO counters to discharge limited Banking activities as per the IBA guidelines and avoid all kind of possible health hazards while rendering service to the customers. We have to make it sure that Social Distancing is maintained everywhere as is being told in print as well in electronic media. Do ensure that proper sanitization is done at your work area and you should serve the customers with mask on your face and gloves in your hand. You should wash your hands with soap at frequent intervals

12. Comrades, we're going to get through this, together. We will surely get through this. When we do, we will look back with pride on how we did so, together."

"TOGETHER WE CAN OVERCOME AND TOGETHER WE WILL"

With regards,

Yours sincerely,


(SANJEEV K. BANDLISH)
GENERAL SECRETARY

NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF BANK EMPLOYEES.....ZINDABAD
UNITED FORUM OF BANK UNIONS.....ZINDABAD
OUR SOLIDARITY.....ZINDABAD
OUR UNITY.....ZINDABAD
INQUILAB.....ZINDABAD