



# **BANK EMPLOYEES FEDERATION OF INDIA**

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To all Affiliates/Office Bearers/CC/GC Members

Dear Comrades,

## **Against Privatisation & Merger Bank Employees and Officers' Historic Rally in Delhi**

The call of United Forum of Bank Unions (UFBU) historic protest rally was organised yesterday by bank employees and officers against the move of the Central Government for merger and privatisation of public sector banks and other anti-people reform measures in the banking sector.

In the early hours of the day, bank employees and officers started assembling in the Ram Lila Maidan of the capital city and much before 10-00 A.M. the ground became jam packed with the participants leaving thousands standing outside the ground getting no space to enter in.

At 10-15 A.M. the procession started with the Representatives of UFBU constituents walking in the front row and a mobile van with microphones through which a set of volunteers led the slogans shouting all through the streets that the processions wined its way to Parliament Street. Bankmen's participation in the procession was so much that when the leading group reached the Parliament Street, the hosting group was waiting in the Ram Lila Ground and finally when they reached the Connaught Place Parliament Street junction, it became very difficult for them to find space to come inside the Parliament street area. The Parliament Street, starting from Connaught Place junction to near Parliament Street Police Station, where temporary dais was made for the speakers to address the rally, became totally blocked.

Slogans were raised against move for privatisation and merger of PSBs, demanding of the Government to initiate criminal proceedings against the corporate willful defaulters and confiscating their assets for recovery of loans due to them etc.

A delegation of Representatives from all the constituents of UFBU led by Com. D. Raja, MP met the Hon'ble Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley and submitted

a memorandum highlighting the major issues on which we are in the midst of struggle in defense of Public Sector Banks at the call of UFBU.

National leaders of different Political Parties addressed the rally extending full support to our struggle. They were Sitaram Yechury of CPI (M), D. Raja of CPI, Digvijay Singh of INC, Sharad Yadav of JDU, Arvind Sawant of Shiv Sena.

Central Trade Unions leaders who addressed were Tapan Sen, MP and General Secretary of CITU, Amarjeet Kaur of AITUC. Representatives of INTUC, UTUC, AICCTU and AIUTUC also greeted the rally.

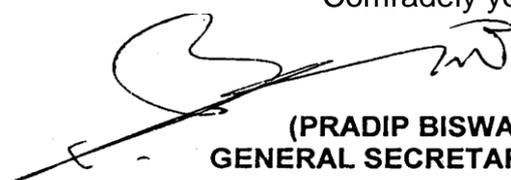
United spirit and tempo demonstrated by the participant bank employees and officers in defense of public sector banks is the manifestation of the voice of the entire workforce of the industry and it has sent a strong message to the Government that is desperately moving to dismantle the public sector banks in the interest of the big corporate houses that backed the present ruling party to assume office at the centre.

Yesterday's rally was a step forward in the process of our present phase of struggle which is to culminate in consecutive two days strike by October/November this year. UFBU is likely to meet at the earliest and is to announce its next course of action.

On behalf of our Federation we congratulate all the participants in the rally for making it a historic one and to all bank employees and officers of the country but for whose support such a big event could not be achieved.

With greetings,

Comradely yours,



(PRADIP BISWAS)  
GENERAL SECRETARY