



BANK EMPLOYEES FEDERATION OF INDIA

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To all Units, Office Bearers, CC & GC Members

COMRADE SOMNATH CHATTOPADHYAY IS NO MORE

Comrade Somnath Chattopadhyay, a veteran parliamentarian, formerly a Speaker of the Lok Sabha, a legendary jurist and an ardent friend of the Bank Employees' movement of the country, has breathed his last at 08.00 this morning at a private Hospital in Kolkata; he was 89 and is survived by his wife, a son, a daughter and numerous friends and comrades.

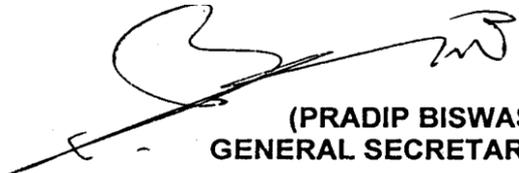
Born on 25th July 1929 at Tezpur, Assam, Com. Somnath graduated from Kolkata University and got his Law Degree from Cambridge University. Before embarking upon his journey in politics, he started his career as a Lawyer and soon established himself as a leading advocate of the Country. He was elected to Lok Sabha first in 1971 and the last in 2004, ten times in all. As an MP too, he earned eminence as a fluent orator with a baritone voice and erudite speeches punctuated by witty humours; he was honoured as the "Most Outstanding Parliamentarian" in 1996, and elected as the Speaker of the Lok Sabha in 2004, a responsibility he discharged till 2009. He was a vociferous spokesman for the toiling masses and a champion of democratic values and secularism, both within and outside the Parliament.

Com Chattopadhyay had a close and intimate relationship with the Bank Employees' movement of the country; we have had many occasions of getting his assistance and counsel in matters related to law and court-cases. On many occasions, he has enriched us through his thought provoking and educative speeches in our Conferences, Seminars and Conventions. He was one of the Main Speakers in the Inaugural Conference of BEFI.

A man with a strong scientific world outlook, Comrade Somnath Chattopadhyay has donated his mortal remains for the development of Medical Science.

We convey our heart-felt condolence to his family and friends.

Red Salute to Comrade Somnath Chattopadhyay



**(PRADIP BISWAS)
GENERAL SECRETARY**