



ALL INDIA RRB OFFICERS' FEDERATION

(AFFILIATED TO AIBOC)

Central Office: JGGP House, Raja Rammohan Roy Road, Hakimpara, Siliguri – 734001
Tel: 2525267, 6532022 Fax: 0353-2536449 General Secretary Cell Ph. # 9800866932
e-mail: shyamalkb5@yahoo.com Visit us at: www.airrbof.org.in

Circular # 03:2015

17th January 2015

All Affiliates/ Members
(Please re-circulate)

JOINT FORUM OF GRAMIN BANK UNIONS MET IN NEW DELHI – ACTION PROGRAMME TO FIGHT RRB ACT AMENDMENT BILL DECIDED

Joint Forum of Gramin Bank Unions held its Meeting in New Delhi on 15th March, 2015. The Meeting was presided over by Com. S.K. Bhattacharjee, General Secretary, AIRRBOF.

The minutes of the Meeting containing the important decisions taken in the Meeting are attached. All our affiliates/members are advised to strictly observe the Programme decided in true spirit.

With greetings,


(S.K. Bhattacharjee)

GENERAL SECRETARY

JOINT FORUM OF GRAMIN BANK UNIONS (FORUM OF ALL UNIONS OPERATING IN RRBs)

**Camp office- Canara Bank Union Office,
C/o- DD Rustagi, Flat No.5, Vikas Sheel Apartment, Plot no.9,
Sect-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085, email: rustagi.cbeu@gmail.com**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Joint Forum of RRB Unions held in New Delhi on 15th Jan.2015. At the outset Com. D.N. Trivedi proposed the name of Com. S.K. Bhattacharjee to preside over the meeting .The proposal was duly seconded. President took the chair and confirmed that some constituents of Joint forum could not attend the meeting due to some constraints .He allowed the observers to remain present.

President made his initial comments about the back ground of the meeting pointing out that the sinister design of Govt. of India in reintroducing the RRB Act amendment Bill and getting it passed in both the houses shall open the doors of privatisation of RRBs. He called upon the constituents to tender their views so that common approach can be formulated to thwart the move.

The major constituents came up with their views. Com Sayeed khan opined that mass mobilisation of Rajyasabha MPs is required to block the passage of the Bill with simultaneous campaign amongst general public and membership. He proposed Dharna and rally before parliament. He also advocated for One day strike as an when the Bill shall be placed before the upper house.

Com. D.N. Trivedi pressed for action programme including mass mobilization and opined that in view of reservation of some constituents about strike and same programme should not be decided at this moment. He further pointed out that campaign against RRB Act amendment Bill, 2014 should be initiated from the grass root level, State level and at National level in phased manner and one week mobilisation camp in New Delhi during Budget session from 9th to 14th March, 2015.

Com.SK Bhattacharjee endorsed the view of Com. Trivedi. He emphasized on strict implementation of programme at all levels with a view to create a mass awareness at each and every level. He further pointed out that mobilisation of public/customers opinion against the Bill should be created by distribution of leaflets. He also held the view that Rajyasabha MPs should particularly be contacted at their respective states by the state leaders of constituents and gets our memorandum to Finance Minister forwarded by them.

Com. GG Gandhi opined that differences at bank level unions should be minimized by active counseling by the national leaders so that all the programmes can effectively be implemented.

JOINT FORUM OF GRAMIN BANK UNIONS (FORUM OF ALL UNIONS OPERATING IN RRBs)

**Camp office- Canara Bank Union Office,
C/o- DD Rustagi, Flat No.5, Vikas Sheel Apartment, Plot no.9,
Sect-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085, email: rustagi.cbeu@gmail.com**

(2)

House also took stock of the progress in pension parity matter and expressed reservation over the delay and apathy of GOI/DFS in starting the process of negotiation in accordance with the interim order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. At the last President summed up the discussion and confirmed that the following decisions are taken unanimously:

1. Submission of Memorandum to Finance Minister and Prime Minister and a separate Memorandum to President of India.
2. Getting the memorandum to be forwarded by the MPs to FM.
3. Mobilization of Public/Customer opinion by distribution of leaflets as per common text to be translated in local language by the bank level constituents.
4. One week mobilisation programme in New Delhi during Budget session from 9th to 14th March, 2015.
5. Massive Dharna and Rally before Parliament on 10th March, 2015.
6. Direct action in all RRBs on the date RRB Act amendment Bill is tabled before the Rajyasabha.

President called upon all the constituents of JFGBU to observe the programme with full conviction and commitment to make it all out success.

With New Years greetings,



(SK Bhattacharjee)

PRESIDENT

JOINT FORUM OF GRAMIN BANK UNIONS (FORUM OF ALL UNIONS OPERATING IN RRBs)

**Camp office- Canara Bank Union Office,
C/o- DD Rustagi, Flat No.5, Vikas Sheel Apartment, Plot no.9,
Sect-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085, email: rustagi.cbeu@gmail.com**

MEMORANDUM

Sri Pranab Mukherjee,
Hon'ble President of India,
Rashtrapati Bhavan,
New Delhi – 110001

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF SECTION 5 & 6 OF RRB ACT 1976 BY ADOPTING RRB ACT AMENDMENT BILL, 2014

Hon'ble Sir,

Regional Rural Bank (RRB) has been established with a view to developing the rural economy by providing, for the purpose of development of agriculture, trade, commerce, industry and other productive activities in the rural areas, credit and other facilities, particularly to the small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers, artisans and small entrepreneurs, and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto. In view of above, the capital issued by a Regional Rural Bank under sub-section (1), shall be fifty per cent by the Central Government; fifteen per cent by the concerned State Government and thirty-five per cent by the Sponsor Bank.

But, by way of amendment of THE REGIONAL RURAL BANKS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2014 (Bill No. 188 of 2014-tabled in Loksabha) it has been proposed to decrease the Union Government and Sponsor commercial bank's equity, presently 50% and 35% i.e. total 85%, to 51%. The rest 49% including 15% held by the State Govt. may be disinvested.

In this regard the relevant portion of the Bill is reproduced for your ready reference.
Amendment to section 5

3. In the principal Act, in section 5,—

“(a) for the words “five crores of rupees divided into five lakhs of fully paid-up shares of one hundred rupees each”, the words “two thousand crore of rupees, divided into two hundred crore of fully paid-up shares of ten rupees each” shall be substituted;

(b) in the proviso, for the words “twenty-five lakhs of rupees, and the shares shall be, in all cases, fully paid- up shares of one hundred rupees each”, the words “one crore of rupees, and the shares shall be, in all cases, fully paid- up shares of ten rupees each” shall be substituted.”

Amendment to section 6

4. In the principal Act, in section 6 provides,—

(a) in sub-section (1), for the words “twenty- five lakhs of rupees, the words “one crore of rupees” shall be substituted;

JOINT FORUM OF GRAMIN BANK UNIONS (FORUM OF ALL UNIONS OPERATING IN RRBs)

**Camp office- Canara Bank Union Office,
C/o- DD Rustagi, Flat No.5, Vikas Sheel Apartment, Plot no.9,
Sect-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085, email: rustagi.cbeu@gmail.com**

(2)

(b) in sub-section (2), the following provisos have been proposed to be inserted, i.e.
"Provided that in case the Regional Rural Bank raises its capital from sources other than the Central Government or the State Government or the Sponsor Bank, the shareholding of the Central Government and the Sponsor Bank shall not be less than fifty- one per cent.:

Provided further that the Central Government shall consult the concerned State Government if the level of shareholding in the Regional Rural Bank of such State Government is reduced below fifteen per cent.

(c) after sub-section (2), the following sub-section have been proposed to be inserted, i.e.

"(2A) The Central Government may, in consultation with the Sponsor Bank and the State Government, by notification, either raise or reduce the limit of shareholding of the Central Government, the State Government or the Sponsor Bank specified in sub- section (2):

Provided that the Central Government shall consult the concerned State Government before reducing the limit of shareholding of such State Government".

In case the aforesaid Bill takes the form of Act, the basic concept of establishment of RRBs would be negated. In effect the private share holding in RRBs shall take place jeopardizing its very existence.

You would kindly appreciate that private investors shall only be interested in profit and consequent payment of dividend which shall make the RRBs to change the course of operation and to give a go by to the existing path of serving the rural poor, underprivileged, agriculturists & small scale industries. This will have dire consequences for the economy of the country.

In view of above, we the employees and Officers of RRBs earnestly appeal to you to with hold your consent to the bill as and when the same is placed before you for your consent in larger interest of the country in general and rural people in particular.

With regards,

President/General Secretary
Name of the Union Association

JOINT FORUM OF GRAMIN BANK UNIONS (FORUM OF ALL UNIONS OPERATING IN RRBs)

**Camp office- Canara Bank Union Office,
C/o- DD Rustagi, Flat No.5, Vikas Sheel Apartment, Plot no.9,
Sect-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085, email: rustagi.cbeu@gmail.com**

MEMORANDUM

Sri Arun Jaitely,
Hon'ble Finance Minister,
Govt. of India, North Block,
New Delhi - 110001

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF SECTION 5 & 6 OF RRB ACT 1976 BY ADOPTING RRB ACT AMENDMENT BILL, 2014

Hon'ble Sir,

Regional Rural Bank (RRB) has been established with a view to developing the rural economy by providing, for the purpose of development of agriculture, trade, commerce, industry and other productive activities in the rural areas, credit and other facilities, particularly to the small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers, artisans and small entrepreneurs, and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto. In view of above, the capital issued by a Regional Rural Bank under sub-section (1), shall be fifty per cent by the Central Government; fifteen per cent by the concerned State Government and thirty-five per cent by the Sponsor Bank.

But, by way of amendment of THE REGIONAL RURAL BANKS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2014 (Bill No. 188 of 2014-tabled in Loksabha) it has been proposed to decrease the Union Government and Sponsor commercial bank's equity, presently 50% and 35% i.e. total 85%, to 51%. The rest 49% including 15% held by the State Govt. may be disinvested.

In this regard the relevant portion of the Bill is reproduced for your ready reference.
Amendment to section 5

3. In the principal Act, in section 5,—

“(a) for the words “five crores of rupees divided into five lakhs of fully paid-up shares of one hundred rupees each”, the words “two thousand crore of rupees, divided into two hundred crore of fully paid-up shares of ten rupees each” shall be substituted;

(b) in the proviso, for the words “twenty-five lakhs of rupees, and the shares shall be, in all cases, fully paid- up shares of one hundred rupees each”, the words “one crore of rupees, and the shares shall be, in all cases, fully paid- up shares of ten rupees each” shall be substituted.”

Amendment to section 6

4. In the principal Act, in section 6 provides,—

(a) in sub-section (1), for the words “twenty- five lakhs of rupees, the words “one crore of rupees” shall be substituted;

JOINT FORUM OF GRAMIN BANK UNIONS (FORUM OF ALL UNIONS OPERATING IN RRBs)

**Camp office- Canara Bank Union Office,
C/o- DD Rustagi, Flat No.5, Vikas Sheel Apartment, Plot no.9,
Sect-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085, email: rustagi.cbeu@gmail.com**

(2)

(b) in sub-section (2), the following provisos have been proposed to be inserted, i.e.
"Provided that in case the Regional Rural Bank raises its capital from sources other than the Central Government or the State Government or the Sponsor Bank, the shareholding of the Central Government and the Sponsor Bank shall not be less than fifty- one per cent.:

Provided further that the Central Government shall consult the concerned State Government if the level of shareholding in the Regional Rural Bank of such State Government is reduced below fifteen per cent.

(c) after sub-section (2), the following sub-section have been proposed to be inserted, i.e.

"(2A) The Central Government may, in consultation with the Sponsor Bank and the State Government, by notification, either raise or reduce the limit of shareholding of the Central Government, the State Government or the Sponsor Bank specified in sub- section (2):

Provided that the Central Government shall consult the concerned State Government before reducing the limit of shareholding of such State Government".

In case the aforesaid Bill takes the form of Act, the basic concept of establishment of RRBs would be negated. In effect the private share holding in RRBs shall take place jeopardizing its very existence.

You would kindly appreciate that private investors shall only be interested in profit and consequent payment of dividend which shall make the RRBs to change the course of operation and to give a go by to the existing path of serving the rural poor, underprivileged, agriculturists & small scale industries. This will have dire consequences for the economy of the country.

In view of above, we the employees and Officers of RRBs earnestly appeal to you to please revisit the Bill and withdraw it in larger interest of the country in general and rural people in particular.

With regards,

President/General Secretary
Name of the Union Association