



All India RRB Officers' Federation (AFFILIATED TO AIBOC)

Central Office: JGGP House, Raja Rammohan Roy Road, Hakimpara, Siliguri- 734001
Tele-fax : 0353-2536449 General Secretary Mobile # 98008-66932
Email : 555airrbof@gmail.com Visit us at: www.airrbof.org

Circular # 70:2015

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All Affiliates/ Members
(Please re-circulate)

IMPACT OF OUR LEGAL CAUSE – GOVT. ROLLS BACK ITS DECISION NO MORE OUTSIDERS AS CHIEF EXECUTIVES OF PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS

We reproduce hereunder the text of All India Bank Officers' Confederation Circular No. 63 dated 22nd August, 2015.

QUOTE

Our members are aware that the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, separated the posts of Chairmen and Managing Director in State Run Banks in the year 2014. It appointed MDs and CEOs in four Nationalized Banks including United Bank of India, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Indian Overseas Bank and Vijaya Bank from a panel selected by it, after following the due process. All of a sudden, the Government published an advertisement on 26th February, 2015 for the post of MDs and CEOs for five banks i.e. Bank of Baroda, Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, Canara Bank and IDBI Bank. This advertisement was interpreted as "Fit to Size" advertisement which disqualified the Executive Directors / whole time Directors of the Nationalised Banks which were till then eligible for these posts under the provisions of the law as well as practice followed in the past. The cautious approach of our organization sensed ill designs in the process and represented to the Hon'ble Finance Minister, Hon'ble Prime Minister and Chairman, Committee of Subordinate Legislation, Rajya Sabha, against this process. Since no response was received from these authorities, this advertisement was challenged in the Supreme Court by Com. K.D. Khara, Former President of AIBOC (W.P. 225/2015).

Realizing their mistake, the Government came out with another advertisement on 24th April, 2015, with relaxed norms which enabled a few more Executive Directors of the Nationalised Banks eligible for this post. Our Confederation also filed another W.P. 553/2015, challenging the second advertisement also and challenging the process of appointment on law points and the propriety of the action of the Government. However, the Government went ahead and in the last week, announced appointment of chief executives of five large banks, appointing people from the private sector for the first time to run two Nationalised Banks viz. Bank of Baroda and Canara Bank. It also appointed Non-Executive Chairmen at five state-run Banks, two of them from the private sector. However, the appointments were made subject to the decision of the Supreme Court in the case filed by us. The impact of our legal battle is clearly evident from this conditionality. Our writ petition 553/2015 was listed in the Hon'ble Supreme Court for 21st August, 2015. A day prior i.e. on 20th August, 2015, a statement has been issued by the Government that candidates from the existing pool of Public Sector Bank Employees only will be considered for the selection of Chief Executives in Nationalised Banks, other than the five appointments which have already been made, thereby retracing its steps from recruitment of so called talent from outside the Nationalised Banks.



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As per the new announcements in view of our legal cases, Executive directors of Nationalised banks, CMDs of IDBI Bank and MDs of associate banks of SBI who have risen from the bank's cadre, with one year of service as ED/DMD/MD and who have two years remaining service are eligible for consideration as MD and CEO. Candidates will be interviewed by panels of the appointments board sub-committee. General Managers of nationalized banks and Chief General Managers of associate banks of SBI (State Bank of India) who have risen from the bank's cadre and who have completed two years of service are eligible for consideration for the post of Executive Director. We are glad that the battle started by us has yielded some positive results.

Comrades, once again this is a victory of our unity and steadfastness to our goals not only to protect the interest of our Executives, who have risen from our rank and files only and those of our young comrades, who have come with dreams for their smooth career progression but also in the interest of common masses of the country, whose hard earned money need to be protected from private vested interests.

Our Organisation is watchful and reviewing the present position to take steps for appropriate action to ensure that no discrimination is made in nationalized banks for appointment criteria i.e. major and other banks and the whole time directors of nationalized banks only are appointed as MDs and CEOs. We have approached other Officers/Award Staff Unions also to join the legal battle. We have requested the UFBU also to start a joint struggle on the issue and waiting for response of its Constituents.

Comrades, we cannot remain silent spectators and do not believe in shedding crocodiles tear. We strongly feel that mere issuance of statements or indulging in lip services cannot lead us to our desired goals. We, therefore, prompt and act ! Let us keep ourselves ready for the bigger struggles ahead !

UNQUOTE

With greetings,


(S.K. Bhattacharjee)
GENERAL SECRETARY