

Association of Officers of UCO Bank (Registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926) Affiliated to All India Federation of UCO Bank Officers (AIFUCBO) An Affiliate of All India Bank Officers Association (AIBOA)

Circular No. 130/2018-21

July 21st, 2020

TO ALL THE MEMBERS

Ref: Selfless Contribution by Bank Employees Amidst Unprecedented Wrath of Covid 19

We reproduce hereunder the full text of our letter no. GM-HRM/13/2018-21 dated 21st July, 2020 addressed to General Manager, HRM of our Bank by undersigned on the captioned subject for information of all concerned.

Comradely Yours,

Yours truly,



Ajoy Kumar Mondal General Secretary

Quote

General Manager, HRM Department UCO Bank, Head Office- Kolkata

Respected Sir,

Ref: Selfless Contribution by Bank Employees Amidst Unprecedented Wrath of Covid 19

At the outset we convey our appreciation to series of Advisories issued by the department to support and safeguard its Human Resource amidst the challenging times of exponential spread of Corona contamination, which some medical experts have declared to having reached a stage of community spread.

You must be aware that in noble initiative to contain the spread of contagion, across the State of West Bengal, the SLBC on 20th July, 2020, at the direction of Government of West Bengal have issued guidelines related to imposition of 'Lockdown', five day functioning of Banks with reduced attendance and reduction in working hours of the Banks till further notice.

You are further aware that during complete Lockdown in the State, all kinds of public transport system come to grinding halt. But Bankers, being one of the frontline warriors in the battle against the Pandemic have the onerous responsibility of keeping the wheels of National economy rolling by attending the office regularly. During the previous complete Lockdown period, it has been our experience that members of staff utilised the services of private vehicle operators and pooled the



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services by forming groups to commute between home and office. Even after partial withdrawal of Lockdown in the State, very skeletal road transport services are available and the most important modes of Local Trains/ Circular Rail and Metro Railway services which take maximum load of commuters have yet not been started.

At the call of the duty amidst such compelling travel constraints it was informed that staff members were spending large share of their salary emoluments towards travelling cost in response to their professional responsibilities. In some cases the travel cost took away nearly 25% of their gross pay and or even 40% of their net pay.

But, you shall agree that in our resolve to serve the humanity even amidst extremely demanding work schedule at our offices/branches of the Bank, we strive to make ourselves available to the call of the society to shoulder the vicissitudes presently being faced by the masses – and support of HRM Department under such challenging scenario cannot be seen as wanting.

In view of the foregoing, we request for sympathetic consideration of the monumental financial loss being suffered by the staff members in response to their irrefutable commitment to the Bank and allow travel cost reimbursement of Rs.1,000/-per day for complete Lockdown days and Rs.500/- per day on other days till restoration of entire public transport network including railways, with retrospective effect since the beginning of Lockdown in the State.

We however suggest that Branch Heads and Departmental Heads in Administrative Offices may be given the responsibility of identifying the recipients of reimbursements depending on their travel distance and transport impediments. The Branch/ Offices may further be advised to seek ratification of such payments from respective Zonal Offices/ Departmental Heads.

We await your compassionate consideration of our appeal on real time please.

STAY SAFE - SAVE BANK - SAVE COMMUNITY - SAVE COUNTRY

Regards,

/-Sd

(Ajoy Kumar Mondal)
General Secretary

<u>Unquote</u>