

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. 138/2018-21

September 14th, 2020

TO ALL THE MEMBERS

Ref: Govt. of India Purported Initiative of Privatisation of Public Sector Banks

We reproduce hereunder the full text of our letter Ref No. AOUCB-WB/CM-WB/2018-21/15 dated September 14th, 2020 addressed to Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal on the captioned subject for information of all concerned.

Comradely Yours,

Yours truly,



Ajoy Kumar Mondal General Secretary

<u>Quote</u>

Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal, 'NABANNA' Howrah, West Bengal

Respected Madam,

Ref: Govt. of India Purported Initiative of Privatisation of Public Sector Banks

With deep concern and anguish we understand from reports published in credible Print Media and series of Articles in Authentic Social Media Platforms that Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India has purportedly taken a decision to privatise four PSBs, namely IDBI, Bank of Maharashtra, Punjab & Sind Bank and UCO Bank. We further understand that needful measures and initiatives are being taken by the concerned departments of the Central Government to ensure completion of process within current Fiscal.

You shall appreciate that out of the three headquartered Banks in the State of West Bengal, two PSBs Viz. United Bank of India and Allahabad Bank have been merged with Punjab National Bank and Indian Bank respectively resulting in United Bank of India losing SLBC Status to Delhi Headquartered Bank.

You are aware that UCO Bank with strength of 382 branches is spread across all the corners of the State with majority presence of branches in Rural & Semi Urban areas with prime responsibility of Lead Bank, FLC & RSETIs for imparting trainings to members of SHGs and entrepreneurs availing PMEGP Loans in the important Districts of Howrah, Purba Burdwan, Hooghly and Suri. Hon'ble Finance Minister, West Bengal is well informed on the endeavours of our LDMs to selflessly strive for economic



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development of the districts which can be evidenced by rising CD Ratio over the years with guidance and directives of Hon'ble Finance Minister, West Bengal at SLBC Meetings and the avid support of District Administration under your continuous advisories - through enormous flow of credit to MSME Sector and adoption of Clusters which are considered as the foundation for economic growth of the State.

You shall value that if the last Headquartered Public Sector Bank of our State is stripped of its PSU status, it would not only catastrophically cause impediment to economic growth of the State but also lead to closure of Bank Branches across all the Rural/Semi Urban areas, as profit motive shall replace Social Banking exposing the large poor and under privileged populace to exploitation of private money lenders thus defeating the very purpose of Nationalisation of Banks.

Our Organisation representing majority of officers of UCO Bank ardently felt that intervention of the Government of West Bengal in the best interest of its citizens and economic activity in the State shall definitely result in change of plans of the Govt. of India, as our employees and officers have struggled extremely hard for more than four years to register Net Profit in consecutive two quarters of 2020 and thus become eligible to shed the PCA status. The reward for their performance is destined to be in form of large layoffs, uncertain working conditions and future job security.

Hence, we humbly request for your torch bearer and noble initiative by directing a suitable communication to Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to thwart the menace of Privatisation of Public Sector Banks in the Country.

Thanking you in anticipation.

With Warms Regards,

Yours Truly,

/-Sd

(Ajoy Kumar Mondal) General Secretary

Unquote