

JOINT CIRCULAR

3rd September 2015

TO ALL UNITS OF AIRBEA & AIRBWF

Dear Friends,

- 2nd September 2015 -

**MASSIVE COUNTRY-WIDE STRIKE
BY THE WORKING CLASS -
SOLIDARITY STRIKE IN RBI**

Against anti-worker, anti-people, pro-corporate policies of the Government, country's working class and toiling people observed an unprecedentedly historic united strike action yesterday at the call of national platform of trade unions. As per Press reports **15 crore** workers participated in the strike all over the country. The demands were in national interest, focussed on issues affecting common people. Country's working class unitedly protested earlier also – on 28th February 2012, 20 – 21st February 2013. This is the third in a row.

Of late trade unions have been particularly targetted by the Government. Some States have already taken the lead. Government is proposing draconian changes in labour laws which would take away the right of workers to form trade unions, and right of trade unions to agitate including strike actions, making all strikes by statute "illegal" and imposing heavy penalties on workers going on strike. No outsider or retired employee can remain associated with a Union. All these are done at the behest of the corporates who demand absolute right to "hire and fire" and tame trade unions for maximizing their profits.

The working class is fighting in self-defence. They have no alternative; they will perish otherwise. We, Reserve Bank employees, led by AIRBEA and AIRBWF, have been a part of this fight in our own interest. We participated in earlier strike actions. We have made common cause this time also. Our units have by and large responded magnificently, paralyzing the country's central banking activities in most of the places. Solid base level unity of our respective membership is a highly welcome feature of our strike action on 2nd September 2015. Carry it on and carry it forward, dear friends.

Another remarkable feature of yesterday's strike in RBI is total participation and even leadership role in some centres by our young colleagues. **They have frustrated a section of management's planned efforts to dissuade them from participating in trade union activities in RBI. Thank you, dear friends.**

Officer colleagues have co-operated, responding to our appeals. We thank them.

Our beloved institution, RBI, faces an unprecedented attack from the Government. The Government spokesman has announced amendment of RBI Act in the winter session of the Parliament, whereafter PDO will go, RBI's authority to decide monetary policy will be shifted to Government bureaucracy. DICGC has almost exited, RBI's powers to intervene in the forex market has ceased by amendment of FEMA, new agency will be set up for DNBCs, Banking Ombudsman Office run by RBI will be a casualty, so on and so forth. **Once bustling RBI with a staff strength of about 40,000 has now come down to around 16,000. How much more will it go down?**

Our long-pursued demand for improvement in superannuation is far from solution as yet. We have waited and patiently tried for about eight years. **How long more we have to wait?**

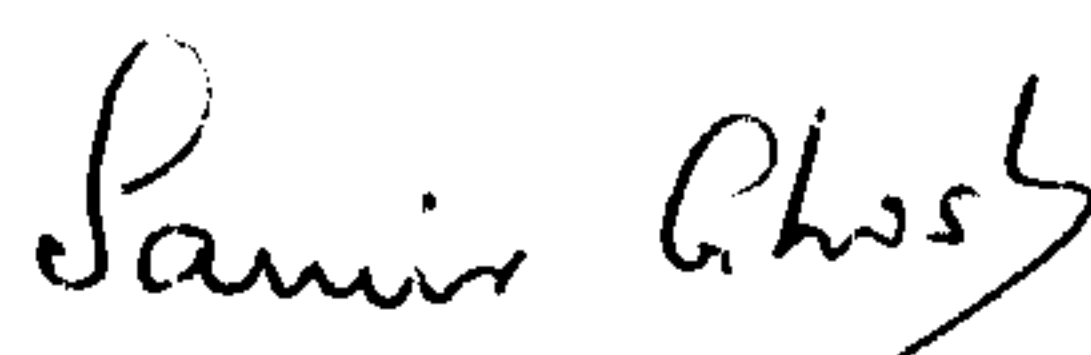
We have to save our future, we have to save our jobs, we have to save RBI. For all these we have to primarily save and strengthen our trade unions – AIRBEA & AIRBWF.

Our unity is our strength. Support from country's trade union movement will give us necessary courage.

Let us look forward and take struggles ahead.

With warm greetings,

Yours fraternally,


(Samir Ghosh)
General Secretary
AIRBEA


(Arun Samaddar)
President
AIRBWF