



## STATE BANK OF HYDERABAD STAFF ASSOCIATION

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**CIR. NO. SA-CO/81/2014**

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### **ALL THE MEMBERS:**

**Dear Comrades,**

We reproduce hereunder the **CIRCULAR NO. 27/82/2014/38**, dated: **27<sup>TH</sup> October, 2014**, issued by our National Organization – AIBEA for information.

**With Greetings,**

Yours Comradely,

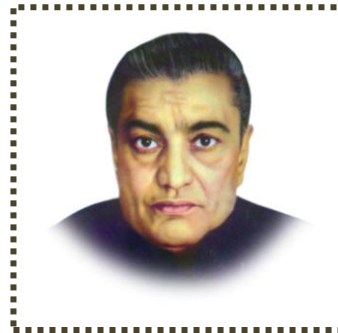
**(JAGDISH M BHAVTHANKAR)  
GENERAL SECRETARY**

Dear Comrades,

◇ **92<sup>nd</sup> Birthday of late Com H L Parvana on 3-11-2014**

**His vision and our mission**

3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. 1923



18<sup>th</sup> Apr. 1975

All of us are proud about our beloved organisation because AIBEA is the most reputed trade union of bank employees in our country. It is renowned as a very strong, united, militant, progressive mass organisation of the bankmen of our country. Its struggles are its history. Its achievements are its hallmark.

And, in building up this glorious AIBEA, there have been so many leaders who have sacrificed their life, job and career for the cause of our movement. **Com Prabhat Kar and Com H.L. Parvana** epitomise and symbolise these leaders who have built up our organisation. That is why we consider and revere them as architects of our organisation.

While Com Prabhat Kar became the titan and father figure of our movement, Com. Parvana was the most precious jewel amongst the leaders. 3<sup>rd</sup> November, the birthday of Com Parvana is an occasion to remember this great leader and draw inspiration. This year, 3<sup>rd</sup> November marks the 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday of Com Parvana.

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Like anyone of us, Com Parvana was seeking a job in his young age. He got a job in Punjab National Bank as a Daftary even though he was a first class matriculate. Looking to his hard work, he was made a clerk by the Bank. During those days Com Parvana used to watch his brother working in the union office in his textile factory. He observed that union was mitigating the problems of the workers and got baptised into trade unionism. Soon Com Parvana dared to found a Union in Punjab National Bank in Lahore. For this 'crime', he was dismissed from the Bank in 1944.

Then Com. Parvana came to Delhi in search of job again. With the help of his friend, he got a job in Bharat Bank Limited as an unpaid apprentice. Due to his efficiency and hard work, he was soon promoted as a supervisor and again as Superintendent. Undeterred by the bitter experience of victimisation by the previous employer, Com. Parvana, as a result of his deep convictions, soon formed a Union in Bharat Bank, Delhi. He organised strike actions in 1946, 1947 and 1948 and the Union made spectacular achievements including recognition of the Union by the Management.

Later, he organised a day's strike on 8<sup>th</sup> March 1949 in support of the Railway employees, setting example for fraternity and solidarity of workers. But the Management reacted sharply by getting 450 out of its 527 employees arrested by police. Com. Parvana fought back against these repressions and there was a strike for 21 days. Management terminated 35 activists of the Union including their leader Com. Parvana. Com. Parvana was again on the streets and underwent sufferings. When the Sen Tribunal was appointed, it also heard the dismissal of the 35 employees of Bharat Bank. Com. Parvana himself argued the case on behalf of the victimised employees. The Bank's side was represented by the eminent lawyer Setalvad.

The Tribunal awarded reinstatement of all the 35 employees but the Bank went on appeal to Supreme Court and obtained a stay. But in the final hearing, the Supreme Court confirmed the reinstatement of these employees including Com. Parvana. But that was not the end of the tribulations. The Bharat Bank decided to purchase Punjab National Bank but cunningly dissolved the Bharat Bank rendering the 1,300 employees jobless. It was March 1951. Com. Parvana had organised a Union in Punjab National Bank with the help of Com. P. L. Syal. The Punjab National Bank Union went on strike against the Bharat Bank's decision to throw out its employees. Punjab National Bank Management dismissed 159 of its employees for this.

The issue was referred to a Tribunal which ordered absorption of all the Bharat Bank employees in Punjab National Bank. But the Management went on appeal to the Supreme Court. After 12 years of legal battle, in 1963 the employees won the reinstatement of all the employees including Com. Parvana. But by then, Com. Parvana had immersed in our movement so much that he decided not to accept the reinstatement and continued to work whole-time for the trade union. Thus he sacrificed his job for the cause of our organisation. This was the ripening of Com. Parvana into a leader of unparalleled dimensions.

Com. Parvana had become the centre of activities of the Bank employees' movement in and around Delhi and was responsible in forming trade unions in different Banks during the 1950s. In 1951, he was elected as Vice-President of AIBEA and in 1954 as Assistant Secretary. In 1962, he was elected as Secretary of AIBEA which position he held till he died in 1975.

Com. Parvana was always known for his hard work. The more the AIBEA movement grew, the harder and longer he worked. Whether it was the fight before the Sastri and Desai Tribunals in 1950s and 1960s, whether it was the fight to achieve Bipartite Settlement in 1965-66 or the sustained struggle for nationalisation of the Banks from 1960, Com. Parvana was straining every nerve to gear up the rank and file to back up the organisation's demands for their eventual accomplishment. This tremendous strain had a disastrous effect on his health and he suffered from heart attack in 1966. But much against the advice of the doctors, he freed himself from the hospital and resumed work in AIBEA Office.

The hectic activities during the First Bipartite struggle and negotiations further affected his health. But he refused to take rest. He suffered a second attack in 1970. After a slight recovery,

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he plunged into his routine work again. He got a third attack in 1973. Doctors told him that his health had deteriorated and advised him to be very careful.

But with some little improvement in his health, he was back to his normal work with frequent tours and meetings. His health had become so bad, that he could not climb the staircase of his house. So he shifted to the house of Com. Prabhat Kar who took care of him as his younger brother. Com. Parvana was managing to live with heavy doses of medicines. But this was not to be a permanent solution.

On 13th April, 1975, he took seriously ill and was admitted into a hospital. Despite best medical attention by eminent doctors, the precious life of this hero could not be prolonged any further. At about 10-45 a.m. on 18<sup>th</sup> April 1975, AIBEA was sunk into sorrow when Com. Parvana passed away creating void in AIBEA that could perhaps never be filled up.

He envisioned the strategies for AIBEA and enlivened the organisation with this unique network with the leaders, cadres and members. He sacrificed his entire life for the cause of bank employees and their welfare. He dedicated his entire energy for the cause of trade union movement and in building up AIBEA.

He was totally committed to the ideology of working class emancipation and was embittered against exploitation of man by man. He was a leader of leaders and he was also the darling of the masses. Volumes can be written about Com. Parvana about his sterling qualities of leadership, about his outstanding contribution to our movement at every point of time and about the multi-dimensional activities of this gentle colossus. In short, he personified AIBEA.

**Let us perceive his vision and persevere with a mission.**

<b>Com. Parvana's vision and our mission</b>	
<b>To build a strong and militant AIBEA</b>	<b>Further strengthen AIBEA to meet the emerging challenges</b>
<b>To ensure more jobs &amp; job security</b>	<b>Fight for more recruitments, oppose outsourcing</b>
<b>To achieve better wages and service conditions for bank employees</b>	<b>Fight for early and better 10<sup>th</sup> BP Settlement</b>
<b>To guarantee vibrant public sector banking to serve the nation and our masses</b>	<b>Defend nationalisation, Defeat banking reforms, Demand banking to be made a fundamental right</b>
<b>To remain an integral part of the working class movement</b>	<b>Be in the forefront of struggles against anti-worker labour reforms of the Government</b>

Yours Comradely,



**C.H. VENKATACHALAM  
GENERAL SECRETARY**