



ALL INDIA BANK EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

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TO ALL UNITS AND MEMBERS:

Dear Comrades,

AIBEA greets WFTU on its 75th Founding Day

- 3 October, 1945-2019

FIGHT AGAINST NEO FASCISM, XENOPHOBIA AND RACISM



World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) is the oldest trade union of the international working class movement. It was founded and formed on 3rd October, 1945. Now, WFTU has completed 74 years of glorious existence and will be celebrating its 75th Founding Day on 3-10-2019..

It is the only international trade union that can claim to be truly militant, united, democratic, modern and class oriented organisation for the workers of the world. Today, WFTU represents nearly one hundred million workers belonging to all continents and representing more than 130 countries.

Ideologically, WFTU is a trade union committed to fight against exploitation of man by man.

Politically, WFTU stands out against capitalism which is the root cause for all types of exploitation of workers.

Organisationally, WFTU believes in the unity of workers of the world, in all countries, in all sectors, and to stand by the workers at all times.

WFTU is an uncompromising champion and crusader for workers' dignity and rights. That is why WFTU is special and unique.

The founding of the WFTU is a long history of developments spanning over 85 years. Initiative was taken by a few countries in 1860 and a Federation was started. They worked hard for 30 years to bring different countries together and in 1890, the 1st Socialist International of Trade Union was formed. In 1905, they fought against Czar. This was a very important event because based on this experience, Com Lenin led the revolution in Russia in 1917 and won.

Unfortunately, during the World War I in 1914, the 1st Socialist was split due to conflict of opinion as to whether to support the war or to oppose the war. Thereafter in 1919, Red International was formed in Moscow.

In 1921, this was broadbased and 2nd Socialist International was formed at Amsterdam. But before the World War II, this was disbanded due to differences of opinion.

Efforts were taken again and on 3rd October, 1945, World Federation of Trade Union (WFTU) was founded in Paris.

In this founding Conference, the following Resolutions were adopted as basic objectives of WFTU.

- ◆ ***Fight against fascism***
- ◆ ***Fight to establish democracy***
- ◆ ***Defend class interest of the workers***
- ◆ ***Fight for peace***
- ◆ ***Organise unity of international working class***

Despite formation of some international trade unions at the instigation of imperialist and capitalist forces that have been colluding with the employers, the WFTU has come to stay as forerunner in the militant trade union movement of the world with its deep commitment to class struggle.

Today, in the unipolar world, forces of neo-liberal economic globalisation are trying their best to confront the workers with all types of attacks on our jobs, job security, wages, working conditions, trade union rights, etc. The whole attempt is to intensify the process of exploitation of workers and amass wealth at the cost of the labour class.

That is why find countries which are still poor and are being exploited by rich countries through the mechanism of IMF, World Bank, WTO, etc.

That is why we find in most of the countries, the living conditions of the workers are deteriorating and there is huge disparity between the rich and poor.

That is why we find in many countries, labour laws are being diluted in favour of the employers.

That is why we find flight of capital from one country to another country where the profits are more and where the exploitation is possible.

That is why we find that there are increasing pressures on sovereign Governments to allow unrestricted entry of foreign investments.

All of us know that higher the exploitation of masses, higher would be the level of poverty and that is why today we find alarming increase of poverty in the world. Hence fighting against poverty created by barbarism of capitalism has to be fought by the trade unions as a major priority.

WFTU has been consistently focussing on all these issues and mobilising the workers the world over to spearhead struggles against all these challenges and attacks. Hence WFTU has become the champion of the toiling masses and workers.

In India, we can be proud that AITUC, the mother trade union of our country, played a leading role in founding WFTU and was a founder member of WFTU.

Our AIBEA has also been a part of the WFTU movement and AIBEA has been taking an active part in the WFTU's Trade Union International of Public Service Employees earlier and now in TUI Banking & Finance Sector Unions (TUIBIFU).

This year, WFTU has decided to observe its Founding Day by focusing an important challenge faced by workers and people in most of the countries – **Neo Fascism, Xenophobia and racism.**

In our country also, we face similar challenges. There are attacks on democratic institutions, attack on independence of judiciary, attempts to change our Constitution, attempts to incite and divide the people on the basis of religion, caste, community and language, increasing tendencies of intolerance, etc. Hate politics is also evident. While democracy has taken deep roots in India, one cannot afford to overlook the type of things that are going on around us. We cannot afford to ignore them any longer.

It is no longer possible for the working class and trade unions to confine our struggle only on economic issues and demands. We need to be more conscious of other challenges too and fight thereagainst. Therefore we congratulate WFTU for highlighting these challenges this year as part of its founding day campaign.

We reiterate our commitment to the cause of international trade union movement and convey our greetings to WFTU on the happy occasion of its 75th Founding Day.

With greetings,

Yours Comradely,

**C.H. VENKATACHALAM
GENERAL SECRETARY**

