

ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS' CONFEDERATION

(Registered under the Trade Unions Act 1926, Registration No.:3427/Delhi)

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Letter No. 2016/179

Date: 21/11/2016

Shri Arun Jaitley,
Hon'ble Finance Minister,
Government of India,
New Delhi.

Respected Sir,

DEMONETIZATION – CLEAN UP DRIVE
THREATS TO LIFE OF BANK EMPLOYEES AND BANK PROPERTIES
SOS CALL TO MITIGATE THE HARDSHIPS & SUFFERING AND
TO PROVIDE PROTECTION

We place on record our sincere thanks for the appreciations showered by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and yourself for the involved participation and excellent services rendered by Bank Officers and Employees in implementation of Government's Policy decision of demonetization of Rs.500 and Rs.1000 notes. It is almost 11 days now that Bank Officers and Employees are tirelessly working beyond their capacities without taking rest. Even our regular holidays were cancelled. The sufferings of custodians of Currency Chests being run by all Public Sector Banks at the behest of Reserve Bank of India and also the Branches attached to the Currency Chests cannot be described in words. The custodians of Currency Chests and Officers of these Branches are not able to take minimum required rest and are not able to leave the premises even for couple of hours. Officers and staff working in Cash Sections have started falling sick and hospitalized due to stress, dealing with rowdy and unmanageable crowd and also due to handling non-issuable/soiled notes which were deposited with Reserve Bank of India few months back but have been recirculated to the Banks for issuance to the general public. There are reports of many deaths also due to the present working conditions. Unconcerned of all these problems, the general public visiting the Branches has assaulted many of the Branch Managers and Officers despite no fault of theirs. Non-functioning of ATMs and acute short supply of issuable currency notes are the major problems and reasons for that.

Bank Officers and Employees, unmindful of misery and despair, are continuing to meet the challenge. However, it has come to our notice that certain unwanted elements and politicians have started openly threatening to destroy Bank properties and attack Bank Officers. We attach herewith a Press clipping in this regard which is self-explanatory. Our Officers have already experienced such attacks and injuries in many parts of the country. Being a responsible Organization of Bank Officers, representing more than 2.75 lakh Officers, we have not reacted and are continuing with the mission with equal zeal and enthusiasm. We, therefore, urge upon you to take cognizance of such incidents immediately and take all possible steps to ensure safety and protection of property of Public Sector Banks and valuable life of the members of committed work force of banking industry.

Thanking you,

Faithfully Yours,

(HARVINDER SINGH)
GENERAL SECRETARY