

THE CANARA BANK OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION (Regd.)

Registered under Trade Unions Act, 1926 at Mumbai.
(Affiliated to AIBOC)



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“If you want to walk fast, walk alone. But if you want to walk far, walk together” ~Ratan Tata

Dear Canpals,

My recent sojourn to Kerala was truly an invigorating and fruitful experience. It started with my maiden visit to **Malappuram** for the combined RC Meet of Trivandrum Circle on 2nd March, 2024. When I reached Kozhikode Airport on 1st March at 10:30 PM, I was overwhelmed by the love and affection of more than 150 Canpals who had gathered for receiving me. A sizeable portion of the group comprised of women Canpals, some of whom had come with their small kids, had been waiting for more than an hour to welcome me.

This stoic display of dedication and trade union fervour washed away any fatigue that I had from my travels. I interacted with all the assembled members and thank them for their dedication towards our Mighty CBOA. The Regional Committee arranged a program “**Chat with GS**” at a hall nearby and I must say that the interaction I had with my Canpals even at late night which was went up to 1 AM was so rich in content and quality.

The **Joint RC Meet** on 2nd March witnessed the participation of RC Members from all the 14 regions of Trivandrum Circle. It was a great occasion to interact with the office bearers who are the ever-present face of CBOA at ground level. The quality of

deliberation in the meeting and the topics that came up for discussion reaffirmed my faith that as long as my regional level teams have this supreme quality and connect with the members, no other organisation can even think of competing with CBOA.

During the meeting, I have shared the idea of the way forward for CBOA and also elaborated on the corporate objectives of our Mother Bank, most particularly regarding the “**Future Forge**” roadmap. I also took the opportunity to re-orient the RC teams towards our motto of “**Owning the Performance and Demanding our Rights**”.

The true trade union spirit of Kerala unit came to the fore, when the topic of “**5-day banking**” came up for discussion. I declared to the gathering that CBOA remains committed to “**5-day banking**” and will continue to fight for it till it is implemented. The ensuing sloganeering that reverberated through the hall in support of my declaration filled me with energy and exuberance for what needed to be done. The meeting was also graced by the presence of our beloved **Chairman Shri. Jacob P Chittattukalam**, who enlightened the delegates with his invaluable guidance and direction.

Special mention has to be made about the Organising Committee of the meeting comprising of RC Members of Malappuram Region, who ensured the smooth conduct of the meeting which comprised of more than 150 delegates in a punctual manner. Despite a loss in his family on the eve of the meeting, our **Malappuram Regional Secretary Shri. Binoy C R** made himself available to drop me at the hotel and made me comfortable. After the rituals in the morning, he joined the program, which shows what CBOA meant for each and every Canpal. **Shri. Manoharan P, CCO of Trivandrum Circle**, who was unable to attend the meeting due to a medical emergency in his family was constantly in touch with the organising committee over phone and ensured the smooth conduct of the meeting. Our CBOA is built on the sacrifices and unstinted dedication of such people and on behalf of entire CBOA, I would like to place on record our sincere appreciation and gratitude to

these two individuals specially for their yeoman services to CBOA on this occasion. Special appreciation is also due to the entire Team Malappuram, who despite the absence of their Regional Secretary and CCO did not miss a step and ensured the smooth conduct of the meeting.

I appreciate **Mrs. Saswathi** for her serene prayer song which created an uplifting environment and the mistress of ceremony **Mrs. Neela Shajan** and **Mrs. Athira** whose vibrant and engaging presence beautifully set the tone for the entire event.

In the words of Albert Einstein, “**Creativity is seeing what everyone else has seen and thinking what no one else has thought**”. Our **DGS Shri Giljith M** is a man of wonderful creativity and his timely completion of assigned tasks to our association is quite remarkable. He has made himself available to our association 24x7, irrespective of his state of affairs. I express my sincere thanks and best wishes to **Shri Giljith** for his dedication towards CBOA and also guiding Team Malappuram in the best possible way.

I extend my whole hearted thanks to **Shri.Binoy Regional Secretary** and the wonderful team of **Shri.Harikrishnan, Shri.Sreenath, Shri.Kiran, Shri.Sutharyan, Shri.Shiju and Shri.Varun** for their meticulous planning and flawless execution in making the program a truly memorable experience.

My second visit of this month to God's Own Country was to attend the **CLJM at Trivandrum CO** on 20th March. I reached Trivandrum Airport at 1:00 AM and was once again astounded by the rousing reception accorded to me by more than 80 Canpals in such untimely hours with our beloved Chairman **Shri. Jacob P Chittattukalam** and CCO of Trivandrum Circle **Shri. Manoharan P** leading the way. The experience, I must say was energising and humbling at the same time.

The CLJM commenced at around 11:00 AM and was conducted in a very cordial atmosphere. All the circle executives thanked and acknowledged the role of CBOA in the superlative

performance of our bank. Various circle specific issues were deliberated upon in the meeting. During the CLJM, I have elaborated the unique working style of our CBOA and impressed upon the importance of work-life balance and employee welfare among other things. Also, I have re-iterated the unconditional commitment of CBOA towards the growth of our Mother Bank. My address covered the following key aspects:

- Unique Association Practises.
- CBOA's unwavering focus on bank's welfare.
- CBOA's efforts in educating our officers and creating awareness on ethical banking.
- Financial Milestones achieved by our bank and the key role of CBOA.
- Changing job perspectives and the need to adapt and evolve.
- The need for emotional connection and motivation from top to bottom.
- Importance of Value Systems and Emotional Quotient.
- The need for empowerment and development of leadership qualities in employees.
- Importance of Operational efficiency.
- The need to improve communication and importance of giving clear directions from top to bottom.
- The significance of the 9th Joint Note which binds all officers from Scale 1 to 8 and reaffirmed our commitment to work for the welfare of all officers from Scale 1 to 8.

On this occasion, I have felicitated **Shri. Premkumar - General Manager and Circle Head of Trivandrum Circle** who is set to demit office on 31st May on superannuation. Our General Manager, who was a down to earth personality and a fabulous human being, has worked tirelessly for the development of our Mother Bank in various capacities. In his early days of service, he was a very active Office Bearer of CBOA until he reached the executive cadre. I convey my best wishes to our **General Manager - Shri. Premkumar** for his inspiring career with our Bank.

In the words of Brian Tracy, “***Become the kind of leader that people would follow voluntarily; even if you had no title or position***”. Our beloved **Chairman Shri. Jacob P Chittattukalam** is one of the kind – an inspiring leader, who aspires the success of our Canpal Family members. I express my sincere thanks to our beloved Chairman, for being a solid support to all the Canpals and Team CBOA.

I convey my sincere appreciation for Team Trivandrum led from the front by our beloved **Chairman Shri. Jacob P Chittattukalam** himself and ably supported by a **proficient leader and an efficient trade union speaker who is Trivandrum CCO Shri. Manoharan P, DGS Shri. Sreekanth, CC Member Shri. Vinod and Regional Secretaries Shri. Galvin & Shri. Jose Prakash** for managing, organising and executing the event in such a smooth manner.

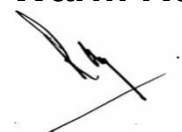
Next day morning I took my return flight and looking back, I have to say that my dual visits to Kerala this month have been extremely fruitful and gratifying. While I felt very elated and rejuvenated by the amount of love and affection showered upon me by Team Kerala, I was also amazed by the trade union spirit of the Canpals of Kerala. The whole experience was very inspiring and motivating and has further strengthened my resolve to work tirelessly for the welfare of Officer’s Community and for the development of our Mother Bank.

You care for the bank and CBOA cares for you!

Flaw-Free banking! Fraud-Free Bank!

Discipline in CBOA! Development in Canara Bank!

Warm Regards,



RAVI KUMAR K
General Secretary