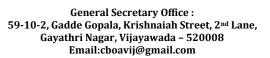
## THE CANARA BANK OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION (Regd.)



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

CENTRAL OFFICE

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"At the stroke of the midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will awake to life and freedom." — Former Prime Minister of India Shri.Jawaharlal Nehru

The statement defined the state of free India back then, during the intervening night of 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> August 1947! The night which germinated hope, destiny and enormous opportunities!

Dear Canpals,

I wish you all a very happy **Independence Day. We have successfully completed 75 years of our country's independence**. This is the day we freed ourselves from the shackles of colonial British rulers. This is also a day of absolute delight and gratefulness to all those who have worked tirelessly in nation building. In the milestone celebration of 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our independence, let us bow down to all the courageous freedom fighters who gifted us a liberated and Independent India. We are deeply indebted to our ancestors who fought valiantly against the mighty British Empire!

India is special and unique. I am extremely fortunate to travel across the length and breadth of our Mother Nation. The experiences are diverse, exhilarating and calming. Be it people, food, natural phenomenon, or our historical monuments, all are so diverse yet they depict the **greatness of our nation, India.** 

Friends, as we dig into the past 75 years of our country's journey, we have reasons to be proud of and to celebrate, given the considerable distance we have travelled so far. The world looks up at the miracle of India, home to the plurality of culture and traditions and yet the **biggest and most effective democracy in the world**. We have stood head and shoulders

above the rest not only because of our achievements but because of our resilience amidst enormous challenges and adversities!

Over the last seven and half decades, the Indian economy has faced several challenges and amazing achievements. The country has grown from a GDP of just Rs 2.7 lakh crore at the time of Independence to a present value of Rs. 150 Lakh Crore. Once branded a "third world country", India is now among the biggest and fastest growing economies of the world. We are unique because we are growing sustainably, giving prominence to the democratic principles laid down by our foresighted leaders.

Friends, after Bank Nationalisation, Public Sector Banks have played a key role in fulfilling the social objectives through inclusive growth, eradicating extreme poverty and uplifting the basic standard of living. Public Sector Banks provided helping hands to debt ridden farmers who were under the clutches of money lenders, while also underpinning the poor, downtrodden and socially marginalized. PSBs also played a very vital part in funding the productive sectors of the economy. Today, the role of Public Sector Banks has become critical in the swiftly changing financial landscape.

As per our former Prime Minister, **Shri. Lal Bahadur Shastri**, "the preservation of freedom is not the task of soldiers alone. The whole nation has to be strong. We all have to work in our respective spheres with the same dedication, the same zeal and the same determination which inspired and motivated the warrior on the battle front. And this has to be shown not by mere words, but by actual deeds."

Above lines were clearly evident when the whole world witnessed the rise of a New India, more so after the outbreak of COVID-19. Our response to the pandemic has been appreciated universally. In these times of extreme fear and uncertainties, we the banking community stood as soldiers of our country's economy, thereby serving our brothers and sisters and the entire nation.

When the world has been battling the economic consequences of the great crisis, India got its act together and is now moving forward. India's start-up eco-system is ranked higher in the world. The success of start-ups in our country, especially the growing number of unicorns is a shining example of our industrial progress. The increased participation of our people in social and political processes will prove decisive and would help in inclusive development.

CBOA is a microcosm of our Motherland, India. Despite having members with diverse backgrounds, qualifications, ideas and aspirations, our CBOA family is linked by common threads of Canpal and Canarite. I extend my thunderous applause to all my beloved Canpals for your solidarity, strength and unity at these testing times. Our Mother Nation and Mother Bank has given us everything in our life. Let us pledge to pay back in whatever way we can for the safety, security, progress and prosperity of our Mother Bank and in turn our Mother nation.

As per the Preamble of our Indian Constitution Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity are the hallmark of Indian Democracy. Let us universally adopt these principles to create a better environment for Mankind's peace. May we all weave a better future and embellish it with sky-scraping hopes, growth, and positivity.

Our zeal, involvement, dedication and consequent efforts in building a strong and resilient Bank will be our contribution towards a Stronger and Glorious India. Let us work unitedly as economic soldiers of our country and protect our Mother Bank.

Once again, I wish you all a very Happy Independence Day!

You care for the bank and CBOA cares for you!

Flaw-Free banking! Fraud-Free Banking!

Discipline in CBOA! Development in Canara Bank!

Yours sincerely,

RAVI KUMAR K General Secretary