

THE CANARA BANK OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION (Regd.)



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

CENTRAL OFFICE
402-406, 4THFloor, Himalaya House, P.B.No.262,
79, Mata RamabaiAmbedkar Marg, FORT, MUMBAI:400001
Tel: 2261 7872, 2270 5750, 22692083 Fax : 2261 8306
Gram: CIBIOA, E-mail: cboabom1@gmail.com
www.choa.co.in

General Secretary Office :
59-10-2, Gadde Gopala, Krishnaiah Street, 2nd Lane,
Gayathri Nagar, Vijayawada - 520008
Email: cboavij@gmail.com



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"A country like India has a lot of potential. My life is my message-Nothing is Impossible." - Mary Kom

Dear Canpals,

My maiden visit to **Guwahati Circle**, which comprises of the entire North Eastern Region of our country, was quite invigorating. North Eastern Region comprises of **seven sister states** (Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura) and **one brother state** (Sikkim). All these North Eastern States are a symbol of Unity in Diversity. Despite being culturally intertwined, all the eight North Eastern states have their own uniqueness and magnetism, which is worth mentioning.

Arunachal Pradesh popularly known as '**Land of the Dawn-lit-Mountains**' is an ethnically diverse state. This is India's remotest state and the first Indian soil to greet the rising sun. The misty hills, sparkling rivers, gurgling waterfalls add charm to the beauty of this incredible land. Arunachal Pradesh accounts for a large percentage share of India's untapped hydroelectric potential.

Assam is known worldwide for **Assam tea** and **Assam silk**. This state is the first site for oil production in Asia. Assam is rich in natural sources like mineral, water and forest. The Assamese economy is aided by wildlife tourism to Kaziranga National Park and Manas National Park, which are World Heritage Sites.

Assam has the single largest tea growing area in the world, constituting around **one-seventh of the global tea production**.

Manipur is being credited for introducing the sport of polo to Europeans. Manipur is known as the "**Jewel of India**", with its capital city as the "**Flower on Lofty Heights**". The state also contains world's only floating national park. The agriculture in Manipur includes a number of smallholding farms, many of whom are women.

Meghalaya, one of the most beautiful States in the country is tucked away in the hills of eastern sub-Himalayas. Nature has blessed the state with abundant rainfall, sun-shine, virgin forests, high plateaus, tumbling waterfalls, crystal clear rivers, meandering streamlets. Meghalaya is known for having a capital that is often dubbed as the "**Scotland of the East**".

Mizoram is one of the most geographically isolated states in India, as well as being home to several tribes who have their roots in Southeast Asia. Mizoram is a highly literate agrarian economy. The biggest contributors to state's GSDP growth are Agriculture, Public Administration and Construction work.

Nagaland, a mountainous state also referred as Switzerland of the East has significant resources of natural minerals, petroleum, and hydropower, with agriculture as the state's most important economic activity, accounting for over 70% of its economy. Tourism and cottage industries such as weaving, woodwork, and pottery are an important source of revenue.

Tripura lies in a geographically isolated location in India, as only one major highway, National Highway 8, connects it with the rest of the country. Tripura, which is the third smallest state in the country, has the highest number of primate species found in any Indian state. Though it is an agrarian economy, the tertiary sector contributes significant revenue to the state.

Sikkim accounts for the largest share of cardamom production in India, which is the world's second largest producer of the spice

after Guatemala. Sikkim achieved its ambition to convert its agriculture to fully organic between 2003 and 2016, and became the first state in India to achieve this distinction. It is also among India's most environmentally conscious states.

Though the North Eastern Region is naturally blessed and gifted, life at this region is a bit of struggle due to extreme weather conditions and hilly terrains. There is no proper transport connectivity in many areas. The climate is entirely erratic. Despite facing enough detriments, our Canpals of North Eastern Region have made innumerable sacrifices and are working steadfastly for the economic growth of the region through our Mother Bank.

My dear Canpals of Guwahati Circle, **I bow to you** for being at your best despite all the natural hardships. You never need any inspiration because, your life and the way you weathered the storm are the real inspiration to all the Bankers across the country.

I was knocked down by a feather, when I witnessed the presence of around 50 Canpals in extreme cold weather with smiles on their faces, at the Airport to welcome me. I was humbled by the sublime love and generosity of the Canpals of Guwahati Circle. The unique panache of our Guwahati Team made me feel exquisite. I was driven to the place of stay by **convoy of cars** arranged by the Guwahati Team.

During my visit to Guwahati Circle Office, our Canpals provided an incredible reception. To witness the love, trust and unflinching loyalty of our Canpals towards CBOA was spellbinding. The interaction with our Canpals at Circle office portrayed their dedication, courage and sacrifice for our Mother Bank. It was pleasing to see the soulful unity and motivation of our Canpals in pushing our mother Bank to pole position in the Banking Industry.

After a transient interaction with our Canpals, I have met the Circle Head **Shri. Rajesh Nainwal, General Manager** and had

an yielding discussion on the latest developments in Banking sector, business position of Guwahati Circle and the difficulties faced by the Canarites of North Eastern region. My interaction with the Circle Head convinced me that the Canpals of Guwahati Circle are amidst a conducive synergetic environment. I am confident that this constructive relationship will help our Canpals bring out the best in them.

During the **Circle Level Joint Meeting** with the Top Management at Circle Office, various matters concerning our members were discussed. The CLJM was extremely prolific and the role played by CBOA in business building for our Mother Bank was well appreciated by the Circle Administration.

Subsequently, I had a meeting with the **General Secretary of AIBOC Shri.Rupam Roy**. Various key matters pertinent to our 12th Bipartite Wage Settlement were discussed and the stand of CBOA was conveyed to the General Secretary of AIBOC.

The core of my visit was to interact with our Canpals through the **Meet and Greet Session** at Srimanta Sankardeva Kalakshetra, Panjabari, Guwahati. I was absolutely euphoric to witness the presence of more than **280 Canpals**, who have travelled **around 500 km** under **extreme weather conditions** to be a part of this session. Few Canpals have boarded helicopters to reach the railway stations to attend the program. It is the affection of our Canpals towards CBOA, which pushed them to negate all the natural hardships and made them take part in this stunning program organized under the guidance of our **beloved Vice President Shri.Deka and our AGS Shri. Roopam**.

This dedication and honesty of our Canpals towards CBOA is our real strength. There are no words in the world that could describe your commitment to CBOA and Mother Bank. It is simply incredible. I express my wholehearted thanks to all the Canpals of Guwahai Circle for having undertaken such a long travel via hilly terrains, under climatic extremity to attend the event. I felt extremely blessed to be in the midst of our committed Canpal Family members.

During the meeting the following significant points were highlighted to our Canpals:

- 1) Adherence to our Mantra of “**Flaw-Free Banking! Fraud-free banking!**”
- 2) Necessity and significance of **Low Cost Deposits** for the growth of our Mother Bank.
- 3) Need for **technological improvements** in banking.
- 4) Necessity to have Moral Courage and Industrial Ethics.
- 5) Status quo of Bipartite settlement.

The **interactive session** portrayed the terrific knowledge of our Canpals about the Banking Industry and out of the box ideas for business growth, which knocked my socks off. The cultural program organized by our Guwahati Team during the session was completely filled with traditional flavor, elegance and grace. The traditional Assamese Bihu Hussori performance was pretty stunning.

The chorus by **Lucky Sonowal, Nirmali Kalita, Padumi Barman, Mitu Das, Jogita Rabha, Ananya Bhuyan, Abhijit Ramchiary, Debopriyo Saha and Dwipayan Das** moved me both emotionally and musically. The program was exceptionally anchored by **Padumi Barman and Celia L Gayari**.

All the members were cordially invited and welcomed by **Mr. Sachinder Yadav, Mr. Abhijit Kar and Mr. Ramchandra Ramchiary**. **Mr. Hemprakash Khanikar and Mr. Emmanuel Khakhlary** were the mainstay behind the scrumptious food for all the participants of the program.

The still photos were gorgeously taken by **Mr. Jugantor Konwar and Mr. Dwipayan Das** and the Videography and Digital Editing

were precisely done by **Mr. Rajkamal Sonowal** for the entire program.

I honestly appreciate the women officers of North Eastern Region, who despite facing extreme adversities are marching towards the goals of our Mother Bank with utmost sincerity. They remind me of our Boxing Champion from North East **Smt. Mary Kom**, who focused on her goal of bringing laurels to our nation, despite the struggles in her life. Kudos to our **Women Wing of Guwahati Circle** for their commitment towards our Mother Bank and CBOA.

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 Vice President Shri.Deka** is an inspiring personality, who aspires the success of our Canpal Family members. I express my sincere thanks to our **beloved Vice President Shri.Deka**, for being a solid support to all the Canpals and Team CBOA.

A special thanks to the vibrant team of volunteers **Mr Rahul Hazarika, Mr Sanjib Deka, Mr Vishan Raj, Mr Rajesh Dey, Mr Abhijit Ramchiary, Mr Rajlaxmi Boro, Ranadhir Nath, Ms Upasana Saikia, Ms Pranami Das, Ms Rajashree Bordoloi, Ms Kusum Gupta, Ms Satabdi Roy, Ms Monika Chouhan, Ms Atokali, Ms Priya Singh and Ms Jogita Rabha** who played an instrumental role with tremendous team spirit in making my maiden visit a grand success.

My whole hearted thanks to representatives from Arunachal Pradesh (**Mr. Tapak Riba, Mr. Adahe Pfozhe and Mr. Arvind Sinha**), Meghalaya (**Mr. T Haokip, Mr. Larry lang, Mr. C Wankhar, Mr. Niangngaihlun, Mr. H Khongsngi, Mr. Pawan Ali Massi, Mr. Kangkan Pegu**), Manipur (**Mr. S K Gangte, Mr. G Bulte, Mr. Thangminson Haokip, Mr. T Alex Touthang, Mr. David L Pulamte, Mr. L Pudaite**), Nagaland (**Mr. Jonathan Pamei, Mr. Anthony Pfozhe, Mr. David Tongoe**) and Tripura (**Mr. Siddhartha S Bhattacharjee, Mr. Tapan Miah, Mr. Abhijit**

Deb, Mr. Saikat Nath) for having underwent a strenuous travel to attend the program.

I whole heartedly thank **Shri. Roopam – AGS**, all the Central Committee members, Regional Secretaries, District Secretaries, RC Members and all the Canpals of Guwahati Circle for making my maiden visit to Guwahati etched in my heart forever.

Friends! We made the whole of banking industry to look at us through our exponential business growth in the last few years. Our Mother Bank was acknowledged internationally for our performance via “**Banker’s Bank of the Year Award 2022**”. With rejuvenated vigor and wholehearted dedication, let us strive hard to bring more laurels to our Mother Bank in the days ahead.

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