UNITED FORUM OF BANK UNIONS

(AIBEA-AIBOC-NCBE-AIBOA-BEFI-INBEF-INBOC)

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United Forum of Bank Unions is a common platform organisation consisting of the following 7 unions of bank employees and bank officers. UFBU represents more than 90% of the workforce in the banking industry from public sector banks, private sector banks, foreign banks, Regional Rural Banks and Co-operative Banks.

1. ALL INDIA BANK EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION – AIBEA
2. ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS CONFEDERATION – AIBOC
3. NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF BANK EMPLOYEES - NCBE
4. ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS ASSOCIATION – AIBOA
5. BANK EMPLOYEES FEDERATION OF IDNIA – BEFI
6. INDIAN NATIONAL BANK OFFICERS CONGRESS – INBOC
7. INDIAN NATIONAL BANK EMPLOYEES FEDERATION – INBEF

From UFBU, we have given the call for agitational programmes and All India Bank Strikes on the following dates

1.	**11th September, 2026**
2.	**28th, 29th and 30th September, 2026**
3.	**Continuous, indefinite strike from 26th October, 2026**

WHY THIS STRIKE ?

Implementation of 5 Days Working Per Week :

For many years, Banks were functioning for full day from Monday to Friday and half a day on all Saturdays. In the Agreement signed in May, 2015, it was agreed by the Indian Banks' Association/Bank managements that to begin with, the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of every month would be declared as bank holidays and in lieu of that, the remaining Saturdays would be declared as full working days (instead of half a day hitherto) and it was assured that in due course efforts would be taken to declare all Saturdays as holidays.

In the Agreement signed on November, 2020, the issue was further discussed and the IBA/managements assured that the demand would be further discussed to find an amicable solution.

In the negotiations for the next wage revision this demand was further discussed and in the Agreement signed in March, 2024, the IBA/Bank managements agreed that the remaining Saturdays would be declared as Holidays and Unions agreed that every day from Monday to Friday, the working hours would be increased by 40 minutes.

This agreement has been recommended to the Finance Ministry, Govt. of India for their approval. It is more than two and a half years now but the issue is still pending with the Finance Ministry.

Already, there is 5 days working per week in Central Government, State Government, RBI, LIC, GIC, NABARD, private companies, stock market, money market, foreign exchange market, etc. In Banks also, 2 Saturdays in a month already holidays. Only the remaining Saturdays are to declared as holiday.

There will be no reduction in business hours for the customers because Unions have agreed for extra business hours for 40 minutes per day from Monday to Friday.

Bank employees and officers have been extending their best possible services to the banking public despite various difficulties and limitations. Even during the corona pandemic times, bank employees served the people of our country.

Banking work has been very stressful nowadays due to multiple reasons and to enable proper work life balance, it is the legitimate demand of the UFBU that the remaining Saturdays also be declared as holidays by adopting the 5 days working per week.

Settlement of residual issues and resolution of pending demands:

When the Settlement was signed on 8-3-2024, since some of the important issues raised by the Unions could not be addressed and resolved, it was decided to take up these issues as residual issues.

We also drew the attention of the Dy. CLC, DFS and IBA that our residual issues like adequate recruitment of clerical and substaff in Banks, conversion of NPS to OPS, exemption of Income Tax on 4% extra contribution by Banks to NPS, increase in ceiling on Gratuity under the Gratuity Act, updation of pension, uniform DA on pension, revision in Ex-gratia to pre-November, 2022 pensioners, Ex-gratia in all private banks, deliberate non-filling up of Workman and Officer Director posts in Banks, introduction of Leave Bank, premium on Medical Insurance Policy for retirees to be borne by the Banks, **etc. still remain unresolved.**

Conciliation meeting: No result:

Chief Labour Commissioner and Dy. Chief Labour Commissioner held conciliation meeting on 8th and 9th Sept. 2026. Finance Ministry officials were also present. Since the Government could not give any commitment on introduction of 5 days banking, no understanding could be reached to avert the strike.

Hence the agitation has been forced on the Unions due to the actions of the Government and managements. Due to this strike, all bank branches will be closed and no banking service will be available on the strike day.

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AIBEA

RUPAM ROY
AIBOC

L. CHANDRASEKHAR
NCBE

SANJAY KHAN
AIBOA

DEBASISH BASU CHOUDHARY
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