

STATE BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION CHANDIGARH CIRCLE

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Circular No. 2022/24

TO ALL OUR MEMBERS:

Women Convention - "शक्ति संवाद"

On the occasion of New Year of the Indian National Calendar (Saka Era) and the beginning of new financial year, **SBI Officers' Association Chandigarh Circle** celebrated its Women's Convention "शक्ति संवाद" at SBI LHO Chandigarh on 01.04.2022.

The women's convention saw huge participation of Women officers posted in various State Bank offices & branches across the Tricity.

The convention venue was decorated beautifully and greeted the delegates with standalone posters depicting the strength of women in general with impressive pictures, caricatures and slogans.

The convention invoked the blessing of the almighty with Lighting of the Lamp & Saraswati Vandana, a beautiful rendition of the prayer song, performed by Ms Semma Chandel and Sh Pritam Chandel (Retired SBI Official).

Ms Sheena Hooda, Vice President, SBIOA Chandigarh Circle welcomed the guests and delegates.

The conference was inaugurated by the Chief Guest for the occasion Shri Anukool Bhatnagar, CGM, SBI Local Head Office Chandigarh. During his inaugural address Shri Bhatnagar shared his experiences and underlined the importance of role of female employees in leadership as they provide a different set of perspectives in decision making that drive effective solutions.

The theme of the convention was '<u>Empowered Women, Empower Society'</u>. As a responsible and vigilant Bank Officers' association, we wholeheartedly believe that "When a woman rises, the world rises." We put those words into action every day, and we reaffirmed them as we celebrated our Women's Convention. The undersigned while addressing the participants emphasized on creating enabling environments at workplace

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that help women succeed economically, prevent and respond to gender-based discrimination, and ensure women's leadership and meaningful participation in the association activities. He stressed on the important status of women in our society by emphasizing on the symbolism of Hindu Goddesses Tri-Shakti – Maa Saraswati (Wisdom), Maa Lakshmi (Prosperity) and Maa Kali (Control).

Special sessions on Stress Management and Health and Wellness of working women by motivational speakers Ms Vandana Chawla and Ms Glory Singh were applauded for their useful contents and effective presentations. The sessions were enthralling with active participation of audience in the deliberations.

It was followed by a special cultural talent show of our artistic women officers - Ms Shweta Bhatia, Ms Shalini Mittal Sharma, Ms Ritu Solanki, Ms Usha Bhukkal, Ms Jyoti Ashiwal, Ms Shweta Bhatia and Ms Tabassum Naz. They amused the audience with their brilliant cultural performances. Beautiful Paintings and Craft work by Ms Archana Bedi, Ms Swati and Ms Shringika Singh were exhibited at the venue which were appreciated by the guests and participants. The talent showcasing officers were honoured by the Chief Guest for their excellent work and brilliant performances.

A special talk was delivered by DGM Ms Aruna Thakur on women leadership in Banking. Her lecture motivated and inspired the participants to take initiatives and lead by example.

Our women representative from Panchkula Module, Ms. Samta Bansal, spoke on the role of women officers in the association. She also shared various issues concerning women that are being taken up by the association leadership at various levels. Her enthralling and energetic address motivated the audience to participate and actively lead various association activities ensuring presence of women officers in equal numbers.

The event ended with a vote of thanks by Ms Preeti Sharma, Director, SBILD Panchkula who thanked the guests and participants for making the convention a thunderous success. While specially thanking the Chief Guest, she requested for exploring the facility of Creche for Children of employees in business & administration offices.

It was a celebration of the dedication and commitment of our women officers as they look to the future with a renewed sense of enthusiasm, vigor, and commitment. We, as a responsible organization, will continue to highlight that they should exercise their rights fully, use their voices freely, determine their work & life outcomes, and live their lives - free from intimidation, harassment, and discrimination.

We will continue contributing to their rise, and along with theirs, the society. It was a first in a series of conventions, conferences, events and seminars that would be organized

across the circle in coming days. We look forward to a more vibrant and meaningful new financial year.

Wishing you all a very happy, prosperous and healthy new financial year,

With festive greetings,

Yours truly,

Deepak K Sharma

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General Secretary

