STATE BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION
CHANDIGARH CIRCLE
(Registred under Trade Unions Act, 1926- Regd No. 186/1979)
C/O State Bank of India, Local Head Office, Sector 17, Chandigarh
Contact Nos. : 0172-4567134-133-135, 8053023447

Circular No. 2026/10/4 **Date: 26.10.2026**

EFFORTS BEYOND PROMISES | PROGRESS UPDATE

From Resolution to Action: Our Outreach for Five-Day Banking

First round of parliamentary engagement • 16–23 October 2026

Dear Members,

In our Circular dated 11 October 2026, we resolved that at Circle level we will make efforts to advance the demand for a Five-Day Work Week through sustained, constructive and non-partisan engagement with Parliamentarians, Government authorities and other stakeholders. We are pleased to report that this programme has already moved from planning to action.

Over the past ten days, our teams have approached four Hon'ble Members of Parliament across Jammu, Punjab and Haryana. These interactions represent the first steps in a wider, carefully coordinated campaign for a definite Government decision and a time-bound roadmap for implementation.

MEETINGS AND INTERVENTIONS SO FAR

01 | 16 OCTOBER SHRI JUGAL KISHORE SHARMA, MP

JAMMU | TEAM JAMMU

A delegation of SBIOA Chandigarh Circle's Jammu Module met Shri Jugal Kishore Sharma Ji and submitted a detailed memorandum seeking early implementation of Five-Day Banking. The delegation discussed the long-pending proposal, the practical feasibility of the transition and the urgent need for Government action. The Hon'ble MP assured the delegation that he would take up the matter at the appropriate level.



Jammu Module delegation with Shri Jugal Kishore Sharma Ji



SBI officers seek Jugal Kishore Sharma's intervention for early implementation of five-day banking

Press coverage of the meeting

02 | 19 OCTOBER SHRI GHULAM ALI KHATANA, MP

JAMMU | TEAM JAMMU

Continuing its outreach, Team Jammu met Shri Ghulam Ali Khatana Ji and placed before him a memorandum seeking a Five-Day Work Week across the banking industry. The delegation conveyed the concerns of bank officers and employees and sought his support for an early decision on the proposal.



SBIOA Jammu Module delegation calls on Shri Ghulam Ali Khatana Ji

03 | 21 OCTOBER SHRI RAJINDER GUPTA, MP (RAJYA SABHA)

PUNJAB | INTERVENTION WITH THE UNION FINANCE MINISTER

Association President Com. Rajiv Sirhindi and the undersigned approached Shri Rajinder Gupta Ji, Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) from Punjab, requesting his intervention. Despite his extensive travel commitments, he responded positively and, on 21 October 2026, formally forwarded our representation dated 15 October to Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman Ji, Hon'ble Union Finance Minister.

In his letter, Shri Gupta Ji specifically recommended our request to declare the remaining Saturdays as bank holidays. We express our sincere gratitude for his support. We also intend to meet him personally to thank him.



Rajinder Gupta
Member of Parliament
Rajya Sabha

To
Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman Ji,
Hon'ble Minister of Finance,
Government of India,
New Delhi - 110 001.

MP(RS)/DEL/MOF/2026-75
21st October 2026

Subject: Representation from the State Bank of India Officers' Association, Chandigarh Circle, regarding early implementation of Five-Day Banking

Pranaam Madam,

I am forwarding herewith a representation dated 15th October 2026 received from the State Bank of India Officers' Association, Chandigarh Circle, which represents officers serving across Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh and Chandigarh seeking **the introduction of a five-day week in banks by declaring the remaining Saturdays as bank holidays. I recommend the same for your kind consideration.**

I remain grateful for your time and kind consideration.

Yours sincerely,
(Rajinder Gupta)

End.: Representation dated 15.10.2026 from SBI Officers' Association, Chandigarh Circle

DOCUMENTED PARLIAMENTARY INTERVENTION

Hon'ble MP Shri Rajinder Gupta's letter dated 21 October 2026 to the Hon'ble Finance Minister.

The letter encloses the Association's memorandum dated 15 October 2026. A copy is reproduced as an annexure to this circular.

Facsimile of Shri Rajinder Gupta Ji's signed representation to the Hon'ble Finance Minister

04 | 23 OCTOBER SHRI VARUN CHAUDHARY, MP

HARYANA | PANCHKULA MODULE

A delegation of SBIOA Panchkula Module, led by Comrades Prem Pawar and Vinay Kumar, met Shri Varun Chaudhary Ji and submitted a memorandum. During an interaction lasting approximately 25 minutes, the delegation explained the background of the demand, its importance for employees and the need for a time-bound decision. The Hon'ble MP assured the delegation that he would write to the Hon'ble Union Finance Minister and make efforts to have the matter taken up during the forthcoming session of Parliament.



Detailed discussion with Shri Varun Chaudhary Ji



Panchkula Module submits the memorandum

The outreach programme has only begun

The Central Committee's resolution is now being translated into sustained action. Meetings and representations are only starting points. follow-up must continue.

OUR NEXT PHASE OF ACTION

Reach every parliamentary constituency: Module teams will approach all Members of Parliament from Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh and Chandigarh, across party lines, with a common, evidence-based memorandum.

Sustained follow-up: We will seek written interventions with the Ministry of Finance and Department of Financial Services, and urge MPs to raise the issue through appropriate parliamentary mechanisms in the forthcoming Winter Session.

Build wider public understanding: We shall engage trade and industry bodies, Vyapaar Mandals, farmer organisations, professional associations, senior citizens' groups, consumer forums, civil society and other stakeholders to explain why Five-Day week is both fair and operationally viable.

Research and public dialogue: The Association will pursue the research, public awareness and proposed Chandigarh symposium initiatives set out in our Circular dated 11 October 2026.

Protect customer service: Our representations will continue to emphasise suitably adjusted weekday hours, uninterrupted digital services and practical arrangements for customers who need branch-based assistance.

OUR APPEAL TO MEMBERS

We invite every Module, Regional Secretary and willing member to strengthen this endeavour. Share credible local stakeholder contacts, fact-based inputs and constructive suggestions, and help communicate officers' experiences of working beyond customer-service hours. All outreach will remain respectful, non-partisan and focused on the public interest.

We thank our Jammu and Panchkula teams for taking the initiative and all Hon'ble MPs for receiving or considering our representations. We remain committed to the everyday welfare of members while pursuing this industry-level objective with perseverance and purpose.

With fraternal greetings,

Comradely yours,



PRIYVRAT
GENERAL SECRETARY

ANNEXURE

Letter from Shri Rajinder Gupta, MP (Rajya Sabha), to the Hon'ble Union Finance Minister

21 October 2026 • Ref. MP(RS)/DEL/MOF/2026-75 • Enclosing SBIOA Chandigarh Circle representation dated 15 October 2026

सत्यमेव जयते

Rajinder Gupta
Member of Parliament
Rajya Sabha

To
Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman Ji,
Hon'ble Minister of Finance,
Government of India,
New Delhi - 110 001.

MP(RS)/DEL/MOF/2026-75
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I remain grateful for your time and kind consideration.

Yours sincerely,

(Rajinder Gupta)

Encl.: Representation dated 15.10.2026 from SBI Officers' Association, Chandigarh Circle

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