

Circular No 45/2025
To all Units, Affiliates, Office Bearers, CC Members, GC Members

14 August 2025

Dear Comrade,

Observance of Demand Day against Casualisation

As per decision of the Central Committee meeting of BEFI held at Guwahati on 25 May 2025, Demand Day against Casualisation was observed throughout the country today by our members wearing badges, organising gate meetings etc. We congratulate our Units, Affiliates, members, well wishers for successful observance of the Demand Day.

We understand that opposition of casualisation and demand for adequate recruitment should continue simultaneously as total number of employees in the public sector banks (PSB) are showing declining trend for quite some time. We are coming across some statistical data provided by the Ministry of Finance during the ongoing monsoon session of the Parliament which are of relevance in this matter.

In the matter of Employee strength of PSBs, the details of the total number of employees during the last five years, year-wise and bank-wise, are as under. The number employees, which was 7,90,001 in 2020-21 has gone down to 7,58,172 in 2024-25.

Name of the Bank	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Bank of Baroda	82017	78749	76509	74227	73742
Bank of India	51459	51825	52209	50944	50564
Bank of Maharashtra	12532	13128	12721	13499	14591
Canara Bank	88213	86919	84978	82638	81260
Central Bank of India	32340	30293	30770	31643	33081
Indian Bank	42601	40751	41701	41025	39778
Indian Overseas Bank	23579	22369	22051	21475	20966
Punjab & Sind Bank	8890	8832	8725	10148	10229
Punjab National Bank	101802	103144	104123	102349	102746
State Bank of India	246353	244583	236110	229788	236221
UCO Bank	22012	21617	21698	21456	21049
Union Bank of India	78203	75201	75594	75866	73945

(Ref: Reply to the Rajya Sabha Question No. 259 answered on 22.07.2025)

From the above table it may be observed that the total number of employees taking the PSBs as a whole have been reduced while as many as eight banks are performing with lesser number of employees as on 31 March 2025 in comparison to what were on 31 March 2021. The business of all the Banks have substantially increased during the period of time.

In reply to another question, details of manpower assessed, staff in Position and vacancy position of the PSBs, bank-wise, as on 30.06.2025 have been furnished in the Parliament which is given below. The number of branches in the following table has been incorporated by us as available in Wikipedia, as on 01.08.2025. The Position of Sub Staff is utterly dismal. In only two banks, SBI and PNB, the number of Sub Staff assessed are more than number of branches (as per Wikipedia). Over and above, in nine out of twelve PSBs though the vacant Position of Sub Staff have been shown as 'Zero', the number of Sub Staff is much less than number of branches with only exception in SBI.

Name of the Bank	Manpower Assessed			Staff in Position			Vacant Position			No. of Branches
	Officer	Clerk	Sub Staff	Officer	Clerk	Sub Staff	Officer	Clerk	Sub Staff	
Bank of Baroda	49267	25678	6319	44507	25042	5319	4760	636	1000	8426
Bank of India	29599	17874	4639	28558	17665	4651	1041	209	0	5304
Bank of Maharashtra	10677	4131	1631	9917	3911	1631	760	220	0	2641
Canara Bank	53955	20865	8898	53672	19515	8856	283	1350	42	9861
Central Bank of India	22162	10152	4230	21040	8118	4230	1122	2034	0	4552
Indian Overseas Bank	13443	6946	1398	12844	6844	1398	599	102	0	3345
Indian Bank	27932	13449	1861	26426	12472	1861	1506	977	0	5909
Punjab & Sind Bank	7464	2054	1489	7098	1980	1489	366	74	0	1817
Punjab National Bank	56109	29487	22064	53837	28025	20900	2272	1462	1164	10209

State Bank of India	116604	97163	25935	113099	91580	25935	3505	5583	0	22980
UCO Bank	14334	5972	1907	13548	5758	1907	786	214	0	3302
Union Bank of India	46513	22907	5915	46013	22907	5915	500	0	0	8649

(Annexure I in reply of the Lok Sabha Question No. 2441 answered on 04.08.2025)

The Ministry of Finance (MoF) has been claiming that approximately 96% staff are in position against their business requirements which is contrary to ground reality. Further, the MoF stated that as per PSBs, the services of outsourced agencies are utilized to engage the contract workers in banking activities such as housekeeping, security guards, ATM guards etc. These contract workers are engaged as per guidelines issued by RBI, terming these as non-core jobs, thus in complete violation of the industry level settlement. The table as furnished by the MoF is given below.

Contractual and outsourced workers in PSBs as on 30.06.2025	
Name of the Bank	No. of Contractual and Outsourced workers
Bank of Baroda	4567
Bank of India	3834
Bank of Maharashtra	3544
Canara Bank	6538
Central Bank of India	2646
Indian Overseas Bank	1415
Indian Bank	5118
Punjab & Sind Bank	1525
Punjab National Bank	1005
State Bank of India	64995
UCO Bank	235
Union Bank of India	5627
Total	101049

(Annexure II in reply of the Lok Sabha Question No. 2441 answered on 04.08.2025)


In addition to these, thousands of daily wagers are engaged in the branches of different banks throughout the country. There are 13,98,951 Business Correspondents (BC) catering banking services on behalf of scheduled commercial banks, mainly in unbanked areas, as on 31.01.2025 as reported by Banks on Jan Dhan Darshak App. The banks are also engaging Apprentices, numbering thousands, only for one year duration.

The UFBU, since it’s Strike call on 24-25 March 2025 and subsequent meetings with IBA as well as during conciliations at the Office of he Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), have been demanding for adequate permanent recruitment. Despite increased indent from the Banks, post the 2-day Strike call, UFBU is of the view that even the increased indent is not at all adequate in the given circumstances prevailing in the branches. The recruitment of Sub Staff has been discussed seriously in recent period and with figures it was established that even minimum of one Sub Staff is not available in thousands of branches of the PSBs.

On behalf of BEFI, we have been highlighting the issues for quite some time now. The endeavour is to be continued. We advise our bank level Affiliates to launch campaign movement particularly in those Banks where the situation is critical.

With greetings,

Yours comradely,



(Debasish Basu Chaudhury)
General Secretary