



CANARA BANK EMPLOYEES' UNION (Regd.)

(Affiliated to All India Bank Employees' Association)

"A.K.Nayak Bhavan", II Floor

14, Second Line Beach, Chennai - 600 001



P.B.No : 1770

Website : www.cbeu.co.in

Phone : 2524 3243

E-mail : cbeuco@gmail.com

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Dear Comrades,

Commemorative Meeting on the Birth Centenary of our Founder Leader Com K R Narasimha Rao and 43rd Remembrance Day of the legend, Former General Secretary, Com C S Subramaniam.

Our Union founded in the year 1951 commenced its functioning from No.70 Kalavachetty Street, Chintadripet, Chennai. Thereafter, the Union Office was shifted to 31 Moore Street, Chennai functioning for a long time, taking the organisation to greater heights. From the late 1980's, we are functioning from our own building, A K Nayak Bhavan, Chennai.

The journey of the Union during the 75 years is studded with struggles and sacrifices of innumerable number of known leaders and unknown comrades. When we trace back the history of our Union, the names of Com K R Narasimha Rao, our Founder Leader and Com C S Subramaniam, the legendary General Secretary are always etched in our memory.

On this Birth Centenary Year of Com K R Narasimha Rao and the remembrance day of our great leader Com C S, on 16th November 2025, perpetuating their memory, a mass meeting was organised at A K Nayak Bhavan on the same day, wherein comrades from all parts of the country attended.

Com D Luke Baskaran, Com C S Venugopal (Former Presidents of our Union), Com N Venkataraman, General Secretary, Canara Bank Retirees Federation and Com K Srikrishna, Former General Secretary, CBEU recalled their glorious association with the stalwart leaders. Com M S Srinivasan, President, CBEU presided over.

May the ideas and ideals of Com KRN and Com CS propel us to take the organisation forward.

Long Live CBEU....Long Live AIBEA.

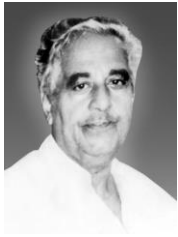
A write up on Com KRN and Com CS penned by Com Dr V K Singh (Former President, CBEU) is appended. The document is highly informative, interesting and worth reading a dozen times. We request our comrades to go through the same.

With greetings

(B RAMPRAKASH)
GENERAL SECRETARY

TWO PILLARS, ONE STRUGGLE

- Com Dr V K Singh, Former President, CBEU



The Complementary Revolutionary Roles of Com. C. S. Subramaniam & Com. K. R. Narasimha Rao in Building CBEU



There are moments in working-class history when two leaders emerge from different temperaments, different styles, and different life journeys — yet converge in a single historic mission. The history of the Canara Bank Employees' Union (CBEU) is impossible to narrate without recognizing this dialectical unity in leadership:

the uncompromising ideological fire of Comrade C. S. Subramaniam (CS) and the quiet but unshakeable organisational statesmanship of Comrade K. R. Narasimha Rao (KRN).

Together, they did not merely “serve” the union. They built it. Brick by brick. Struggle by struggle. Sacrifice by sacrifice. Their leadership was not parallel — it was complementary.

Not competitive — but mutually reinforcing. Not episodic — but foundational.

This is the story of two comrades whose lives demonstrate how political clarity and organizational wisdom, when fused, produce an indestructible working-class movement.

I. Comrade CS: The Fighting Flame of Ideological Clarity

Comrade C. S. Subramaniam entered the trade union movement at a moment when banking labour was awakening, asserting its identity as a class.

CS was among those rare organizers who combined:

- sharp ideological commitment,
- steel-like courage in confrontation,
- and meticulous attention to organizational democracy.

He represented the militant, uncompromising spirit of the AIBEA tradition. His politics was not ornamental; it was lived, fought, and practiced. The management knew him as a formidable negotiator. The workers knew him as one of their own. The movement recognized him as a titan of AIBEA.

Com CS believed that bank employees were not “white-collar exceptions” but a decisive part of the working class, and therefore required not charity, but collective power. He fought with clarity, spoke with conviction, and organized with discipline.

When he passed away suddenly in 1982, the loss struck the movement like a blow to the heart. Yet what followed is the greatest testament to his legacy: the union did not crumble - it rose stronger.

His ideas, his cadre, his structures, and his indomitable spirit had planted roots deep enough that no tragedy could shake them

II. Comrade KRN: The Quiet Strategist Who Contained Storms and Built Institutions

If Com CS was the blazing torch, Com KRN was the steady lighthouse.

Comrade K. R. Narasimha Rao belonged to the founding generation of CBEU — a group of courageous young workers who dared to form a union when even whispering the word “organisation” invited victimisation. His style could not be more different from Com CS.

Where Com CS confronted, Com KRN consolidated.

Where Com CS inspired through ideological force, Com KRN nurtured through human warmth.

Where Com CS stood tall in mass struggles, Com KRN worked patiently in the shadows, resolving crises, mentoring cadres, and sustaining unity.

His greatest contribution was the institutionalisation of CBEU:

- ❖ building internal structures,
- ❖ strengthening collective decision-making,
- ❖ ensuring continuity of leadership,
- ❖ guiding younger comrades,
- ❖ and safeguarding unity in moments of fracture.

While others sought positions, Com KRN sought stability. He never demanded leadership — the movement gave it to him. His support for the family of Com CS after his untimely death, including founding the CS Family Trust, symbolises the human depth behind his politics.

To him, comradeship was not a slogan; it was a responsibility.

III. The Dialectical Unity: Why the Movement Needed Both

The greatness of these two leaders lies not only in their individual contributions — but in how their roles interlocked perfectly to build a union that could endure storms, battles, and generational changes.

1. *Ideology + Organisation = Strength*
Com CS gave the movement clarity. Com KRN gave it stability.
Together, they ensured that CBEU was both politically rooted and organizationally solid.
2. *Militant Vision + Mature Discipline*
Com CS articulated the ideological line. Com KRN ensured its disciplined implementation.
Neither alone could have carried the movement; together, they created balance.
3. *Confrontation + Negotiation*
Com CS excelled in struggle. Com KRN excelled in settlement.
One moved the masses; the other preserved the gains.
4. *Fire + Foundation*
A movement needs both — the spark that ignites and the structure that endures.
Com CS was the spark; Com KRN was the structure.

5. *Personal Sacrifice + Collective Care*

Com CS's life was marked by uncompromising dedication. Com KRN's legacy is stamped with compassion, mentorship, and unity.

IV. Together They Shaped the Character of CBEU

The political culture that defines CBEU today —

its ideological clarity,
its unity,
its institutional strength,
its commitment to both employees and officers,
its tradition of collective leadership
- is the combined legacy of Com CS and Com KRN.

CBEU did not become a powerful union by accident. It became one because militants like Com CS built its fighting backbone, and statesmen like Com KRN built its organizational muscle. Their contributions did not run in parallel. They ran in circulation - each reinforcing the other. They embodied Marx's dictum in practice:

"The emancipation of the working class must be the act of the working class itself."

V. Why Their Legacy Matters Today

In an era of privatization, digital surveillance, outsourcing, and attempts to crush the labour movement, the lessons of Com CS and Com KRN are urgent:

- fight fiercely (CS),
- organise patiently (KRN),
- build unity above ego (both),
- defend public-sector banking,
- nurture the next generation,
- expand solidarity beyond the workplace.

Their lives give us not nostalgia, but strategy. Not memory, but mandate.

VI. Conclusion: Two Lives, One Movement, and an Unfinished Struggle

History will remember Com. C. S. Subramaniam and Com. K. R. Narasimha Rao not as two individuals, but as two pillars of the same house — the house of working-class resistance inside Canara Bank.

*One gave the house its voice.
The other gave it its foundation.*

Their friendship, their mutual respect, and their shared commitment created a union that has survived for seven decades — and continues to inspire thousands.

Their message to us is clear:

- ☞ ***Fight like Com.C.S.***
- ☞ ***Build like Com.K.R.N.***
- ☞ ***Stand united like both***

**Com. C.S. Amar Rahe!
Com. K.R.N. Amar Rahe!**

**Long Live CBEU
Long Live Working-Class Struggle**