#### CANARA BANK SYNDICATE PENSIONERS & RETIREES ASSOCIATION REGD.) (Formerly: SYNDICATE BANK PENSIONERS & RETIREES ASSOCIATION)



(Affiliated to AIBPARC) CENTRAL OFFICE

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(Please circulate to all members/retirees)

Date: 20.04.2024

Cir.No.10/2024

Comrades,

# CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20.04.2024

We are happy to inform that 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Central Committee of CBSPRA was held on 20.04.2024 at Shree Venkateshwara Hotel, Hyderabad. The meeting was chaired by Com. C. Gangadhar Yadav, Chairman of the Association. Com R. K. Sharma, President was also present. The meeting commenced with observance of silence for a couple of minutes to pay homage to all departed souls during the intervening period. Deliberations/ Decisions were as follows.

# **MEMBERSHIP ENROLMENT**

With a great pride and pleasure we note that the membership enrolment of CBSPRA continues unhindered and the enrolment number crosses yet another mile stone of 15000 mark. The Central Committee profusely thanked the members/retirees of the bank for their continued faith in the organization and its leadership. On this momentous occasion we rededicate all our energies to the betterment of retirees of the bank. The committee also took the opportunity to congratulate the team of dedicated office bearers both central and zonal level as well as activist and well-wishers for their tremendous efforts and support in taking the organizational flag to greater heights.

As a token of respect, recognition and also goodwill gesture the committee decided to continue the program of felicitating the senior members of Association aged 75 years and above. We request all our Zones to make use of the lists of senior members provided by the Central Office and make arrangement for felicitation of eligible members at the local meetings befittingly.

#### CBSPRA PARTICIPATES IN GRC MEETING HELD AT HO BENGALURU

The half yearly meeting of the Grievance Redressal Committee on retirees' issues with retiree Associations/Unions was held by the bank at Head Office Bengaluru on 20.3.2024. CBSPRA was represented by the Working Presidents Com Prakash Karotya of Delhi and Com A. Venkatesan of Chennai. Various issues of our bank retirees were taken up.

Though the management was sympathetic they were unable to concede our demands owing to paucity of Staff Welfare Fund. The Central Committee took note of proceedings of GRC meetings and subsequent developments and decided to pursue further our demand for enhancing medical aid and restoring reimbursement of medical insurance premium. The house noted with satisfaction that payment of an amount of Rs. 900/- per head recently to all the Pensioners by the Bank as an additional/difference amount of medical aid was the direct outcome of the demand made by CBSPRA during the GRC to distribute the residue of Staff Welfare Fund among all the pensioners.

As regards our oft repeated request for introducing a scheme of Contributory Death Relief it was understood that the management has not yet realized the great impact that the scheme will have on the lives of dependents of the deceased pensioners. However we note with satisfaction that they have agreed to study the case with other banks wherein such schemes are in vogue. We have noted to pursue the matter. Further, the management has agreed to send SMS to all the pensioners reminding them to submit their claim in respect of reimbursement of medical expenses. Other issues taken up included notice time provided to the retirees for booking Holiday Homes; Issuing Form 16 for amount remitted to Income Tax from suspense account pertaining to second pension option period to enable retirees to seek refund; folio charges on ODD accounts of retirees; Locker rent concession not being passed on to family pensioners; Stand taken by various Circle Offices that records of erstwhile Syndicate Bank are not available with them; pending cases of Notional HRA arrears; and individual issues. The committee has decided to follow up on all issues.

The house was informed that the representatives M/S Raksha, the TPA for IBA Health Insurance Scheme have agreed to be available at each Circle Office of the bank for redressing any grievance. Our zonal leaders are advised to make a note of the same and help all the needy members to utilize their services.

# AIBPARC DHARNA AT NEW DELHI CANCELLED GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING HELD

We have separately informed you all about various action programs demanding early resolution of pending issues of retirees of the bank successfully implemented by AIBPARC. We have also informed about cancellation of Dharna at Jantar Mantar New Delhi which was well planned but had to be deferred at the last moment since the Police had withdrawn permission for Dharna in the background of the then ongoing agitation by farmers at Delhi and NCR Area. The Central Committee discussed the same and decided to fully involve in the Dharna program as and when re-launched.

The Central Committee was apprised about the proceedings/decisions taken at the Governing Council Meetings of AIBPARC held at Delhi on 20.02.2024. The details of efforts made by AIBPARC with UFBU, and DFS: Ministry of Finance, Govt of India in pursuit of the pending issues of Pension updation, improvement in IBA Medical insurance policy etc were taken note of. As regards Ex-gratia payment agreed by UFBU with IBA, the committee was apprised that AIBPARC was not in favour of Ex Gratia but was only

in favour of rightful updation of pension. It was decided to extend full support and actively involve our cadres in all the action programs launched by AIBPARC/CBPRO.

# AIBPARC DEMANDS IMPROVEMENTS IN IBA GROUP MEDICAL INSURANCE POLICY

The Central Committee discussed about the committee constituted by AIBPARC to look into the IBA Health Insurance Policy and recommendations made by the committee. Notable among the recommendations were (a) The Policy Premium should be entirely borne by the banks (b) The Policy should be common for serving as well as retired employees which would drastically reduce the premium on retirees policy. The recommendations of the said committee were accepted by the Governing Council of AIBPARC and a decision to pursue the same vigorously with IBA and Govt was taken. We are sure that IBA will consider the same at the time of finalizing the ensuing policy commencing from 1.11.2024.

# **COURT CASES TO BE PERSUED**

The committee has discussed and taken note of latest position of all the court cases pertaining to retirees of bank.

- a) As regards Supreme Court case in the matter of updation of pension which is being handled by AIBPARC is yet to come up for hearing.
- b) Writ Petition pending at High Court of Chennai in respect of Terminal Benefits of Temporary Attenders is pending for counter affidavits.
- c) Dispute pending with Assistant Labour Commissioner, Chennai in respect of Payment of Gratuity for the period of temporary employment of Attenders was decided in favor of retirees. Bank has to implement the order or take further course of action.
- d) Case pending at High Court of Kerala in the matter of reckoning Special allowance for calculation of Basic Pension is now subject to Transfer Petition of IBA to club all such cases with a similar case pending in Delhi High Court.

# NO LEVY - NO DONATION: POLICY OF CBSPRA

All of you are aware that CBSPRA does not collect any levy or donation from the members/retirees at any time including the special occasions like wage revision and/or receipt of any arrears. It's a measure to avoid burden on the retirees. All the expenditure is managed from within the monthly subscription of Rs 30/- It has been possible to do so due to stringent austerity measures adopted and also the sacrifice made by most of our office bearers who refrain from claiming the expenditure incurred by them partly or fully. The Central Committee has reiterated to continue the policy of the Association i.e. No donation and no levy whatsoever to be collected from the members other than monthly subscription. All our Zonal Committees are requested to note the same and enlighten the members/retirees at gross root level in their area in the matter.

#### ORGANISATIONAL SET UP EXISTING JURISDICIION OF ZONES TO CONTINUE

Bank has recently carried out the exercise of re-organization of its administrative offices viz Circle Offices and Regional Offices. The Central Committee has taken into consideration various aspects of the matter and decided to continue the existing jurisdiction of the Association Zones without any change till the next General body and Zonal Committees will continue to service the members in their area notwithstanding the overlapping of banks administrative offices. We request our members to note the same.

#### **CBSPRA OFFICE AT BENGALURU TO CONTINUE**

Members are aware that CBSPRA, Bengaluru Zone has been functioning from the office of SBOA (now CBOF), a rented premises situated at KG Road Bengaluru ever since inception. Now in the changed scenario a need has arisen to share a portion of rent of the office premises. It has been decided by the Central Committee to permit our Bengaluru zone to continue to utilize the said premises by sharing the rent. All our members in Bengaluru are requested to note the address (#35, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Devanga Towers, K G Road, Bengaluru-560009) and make best use of the office.

#### **CO-OPTIONS**

The Central Committee made the following cooptions to fill in the vacancies in Central Committee and Zonal Committees.

- 1. Com. M S Prakash Rao of Hyderabad was coopted as the Treasurer of the Association in place of Com. CUVTN Dutt. Com Dutt had submitted his resignation as he was finding difficulty in discharging duties due to his shifting to Tirupathi. After due deliberation the house accepted his resignation and coopted Com M S Prakash Rao in his place. All forms and formalities to facilitate the new treasurer to operate bank accounts and discharge such other duties are to be fulfilled by the General Secretary.
- 2. Com. Yamanappa Gadi Naik of Belgaum as Zonal Secretary, Udupi Zone in place of Com Shankar Kundapura who was elated to the post of Dy GS.
- 3. Com. Trushar Modi of Ahmedabad as Zonal Secretary, Ahmedabad Zone in the existing vacancy.
- 4. Com. Sanja Kumar Shinde as Circle Secretary Hubli consequent to co-option of Com. Yamanappa Gadi Naik as Zonal Secretary
- 5. Com. Anand D Chubachi as Regional Secretary, Chikodi consequent to co-option of Com. Sanja Kumar Shinde as Circle Secretary
- 6. Com. Pushpiner Kr Sharma, ZCM, Delhi as Regional Secretary, Karnal Region
- 7. Com. Baljeet Singh as ZCM, Delhi in the vacancy consequent to resignation of Com, Mansingh
- 8. Com. Ajay Nanda, RS, Bhubaneshwar as Circle Secretary, Bhubaneshwar
- 9. Com. R N Behra as RS, Bhubaneshwar in the consequential vacancy as above

- 10.Com. Madhusoodanan G as ZCM, Trivandrum Zone in place of Com. Babu Rao expired on 28.8.2023
- 11.Com. Raman Thomas as ZCM, Trivandrum Zone in place of Com.Anil Kumar

The Central Committee congratulated the new office bearers and wished them success in all their endeavors in the new assignments.

With greetings Yours comradely,

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K Suresh Babu GENERAL SECRETARY CBSPRA - ZINDABAD AIBPARC - ZINDABAD CBPRO - ZINDABAD