

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)

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Dear Comrades,

HAPPY NEW YEAR
WELCOME – 2025

As we bid adieu to the year 2024 and welcome the new year 2025, we extend warmest greetings to each and every one of you. May this new year bring joy, happiness, and good health to you and all your family members. May our Association continue to grow and thrive, and may we remain a strong and united voice for the welfare of Bank Retirees and Pensioners.

We in CBSPra leave behind the bygone year with a sense of style and accomplishment. It is heartening to inform that our association has crossed a significant membership enrolment of 15,694 as on date and racing towards 16000. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of all of us, and we would like to congratulate each one of you for your support and participation. It is highly gratifying to note that our members continued to repose faith in the organisation and confidence in the leadership. We will continue to strive hard that our members' voices are heard.

Bank level issues have been taken up in periodical GRC Meetings. Reduction in Medical Aid and stoppage of reimbursement of Health Insurance Premium to all the Syndicate Bank retirees were issues causing heartburn. We have been continuously raising our demand to enhance the amount of Medical Aid, to restore/enhance the reimbursement of Health Insurance and elimination of discrimination to Family Pensioners in giving these benefits. Under Staff Welfare Measures 2024-25, our demand is partly considered as Bank announced reimbursement of Rs.6000/- towards IBA Health Insurance Premium and Rs.4000/- towards Medical Expenses to those who had not opted for Health Insurance. One positive note is that Family Pensioners are eligible for these benefits on par with Regular Pensioners unlike previous years. Bank also introduced the scheme for payment of Funeral Expenses of Rs.10,000/- in case of demise of retired employee which is a welcome move.

Regarding the IBA Health Insurance, there is a drastic reduction in the Base Policy Premium due to relentless efforts of AIBPARC to get the policies for working staff and retirees combined into a single policy. However, the premium for top up policy is so high that the very attraction in the premium on base policy is taken away. The matter is worsened by removal of slabs in

assured sum. Re-introduction of slabs in the sum assured in addition to subsidizing the premium at least to the extent of Base Policy will be helpful in future which is taken up by AIBPARC.

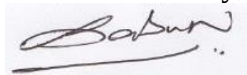
At industry level, 12th Bipartite Settlement/9th Joint Note on the wage settlement of the Officers and Employees of the Banking industry were signed on 8th March, 2024. An additional amount has been agreed to be paid to all the pensioners as ex-gratia per month during the period 01.11.2022 to 31.10.2027. The other Industry level issues like pension updation as per provision of BEPR 1995 or in line with the pensioners of RBI, reckoning of Special Allowance as basic pay for calculation of superannuation benefits, removal of the DA disparity – in respect of pensioners who retired prior to 01.11.2022 and also the pensioners who retired prior to 01.11.2002, reducing the recovery period of commutation, removal/reduction of GST on health insurance premium etc., are being pursued vigorously by our Apex body AIBPARC/CBPRO. Under the banner of CBPRO, remarkable struggle has taken place throughout the year. Various State Capitals in the country have witnessed largely attended “Dharna” programs demanding resolution of pending issues. As a culminating point, a centralized Dharna was organized at Jantar Mantar, Delhi on 23rd October, 2024. CBSPRA Members participated in large numbers and played a major role along with other constituents making it a grand success. Let us hope for resolution of our demands at the earliest.

As we begin the new year, we greet and congratulate each and every one of you for your support and participation in our endeavour for the Cause of retirees. We will continue to work tirelessly to promote the welfare of bank retirees and pensioners, and we look forward to your active involvement and engagement in our activities.

Once again, wish you all a happy and prosperous new year.

With warm regards,

Yours comradely,



K Suresh Babu
GENERAL SECRETARY

CBSPRA - ZINDABAD
AIBPARC - ZINDABAD
CBPRO – ZINDABAD