

SYNDICATE BANK PENSIONERS & RETIREES ASSOCIATION (REGD.)

(Affiliated to AIBPARC)

CENTRAL OFFICE

203, Glendale Residency, King Koti Road, Abids,
Hyderabad – 500001

Phones – Chairman: 9448122384; President: 8171461116;
General Secretary: 9440528806; Secretary: 9885661991



Website: <https://www.sbpra.in> eMail id: sbpra.centraloffice@yahoo.com

(PLEASE CIRCULATE TO ALL MEMBERS/ RETIREES)

Circular No.37/2019

Date: 25.09.2019

Dear Comrades,

CBPRO WRITES TO FINANCE SECRETARY ON PENDING ISSUES

The leaders of CBPRO have been in constant touch with the officials of Dept of Financial Services in the ministry of finance, Govt of India repeatedly apprising about the bank retirees issues. As a follow up measure they have addressed a communication to the Finance Secretary on the urgent items among the pending issues urging him to render justice by resolving the same. Text of the letter is annexed herewith for information of all.

With warm greetings,

Yours comradely

C Gangadhar Yadav
GENERAL SECRETARY

SBPRA - ZINDABAD
AIBPARC – ZINDABAD
CBPRO - ZINDABAD

Text of CBPRO Lr dt 24.9.2019

Quote//

The Finance Secretary
Ministry of Finance
Government of India
New Delhi

Date:24.09.2019

Dear Sir,

Pending issues of Bank Retirees

We have been espousing the cause of Bank Pensioners' and Retirees by taking up the issues with Ministry of Finance, Government of India and Indian Banks' Association and the Banks concerned. The following issues are of immediate concern and hence we earnestly request you to consider the same favourably:

1. **Medical Insurance Scheme for Retirees :**

On the advice of DFS vide letter dated 24.02.2012, IBA evolved a Group Medical Insurance Scheme both for Serving Employees and Retired Employees in the year 2015. However, IBA decided that the premium will be borne by the Banks for Serving Employees and compelling the Retirees to bear the premium by themselves. This discriminatory treatment was not envisaged or spelt out in DFS's communication to IBA. Over the last four years the premium amount for Retirees has gone up by more than 400%. Such situation has resulted in many beneficiaries including the Family Pensioners mainly Widows, Super Senior Citizens etc. to exit the Scheme due to their inability to bear the premium out of their meagre pension. There is urgent need to remove the

discrimination by (a) premium being absorbed by the Banks, (b) bringing the Bank Retirees under CGHS Scheme. It assumes greater significance as free health care is provided by the Banks to the Serving Employees and also to Full Time Directors on the Board. While Government considers Health Care facility as Social Welfare measure a la AYUSH Health care, it is the responsibility of the Banks which are instrumentalities of the Government falling within the meaning of State under Article 12 of the Constitution, to provide free health care to their Retirees who had immensely contributed for Nation building by successfully implementing Government Schemes and Programmes in the prime of their 30-40 years of active life.

2. Improvement in Family Pension Scheme:

The issue of improvement in Family Pension Scheme was a subject matter of discussion in the last Bipartite Settlement during April-May 2015 so as to align the Bank's Family Pension Scheme with the Scheme of Government and RBI by making it @ 30% of last drawn Basic Pay without any cap as against the slab rates of Pension @ 30%, 20% and 15% where lower percentage being assigned to higher pay with specified ceiling. Despite solemn assurance by IBA in the form of a record note signed with the leaders of UFBU during May 2015 wage settlement (effective 01.11.2012), the resolution continues to elude. We understand that IBA's recommendations in this regard are pending consideration at DFS. Since the Family Pension is as low as Rs. 4,000/- per month and most of the beneficiaries are widows, it is an extremely emotive issue. It is therefore requested to resolve the issue and provide relief to largely widow beneficiaries.

3. Updation of Pension:

Our request for updation of pension derives strength from the provisions of Bank Employees Pension Regulation 35(1) which provides as follows:

“Basic Pension and additional Pension wherever applicable shall be updated as per the formulae given in appendix – 1 (Gazette notification no. 9 dated 01.03.2003)”

Regulation 56 also provides that in the matter of application of these Regulations regards may be had to the corresponding provisions of Central Civil Services Rules 1972 or Central Civil Services (Commutation of Pension) Rules 1981. Our request for updation of Pension is further supported by the fact that the Government has granted the facility of updation of Pension to RBI Pensioners recently.

4. 100% DA neutralization to Pre-November 2002 Retirees:

The Bank Employees and Officers who retired on or after 01.11.2002 were given the benefit of 100% DA neutralization by bringing them under the uniform DA formulae instead of tapered DA. However, Pre-November 2002 Retirees were left out of such facility in an arbitrary manner. We request you to remove such arbitrary discrimination by extending the benefit of 100% DA neutralization and covering them under uniform rate of DA instead of tapered DA payment.

Since Bank Pensioners and Retirees have been bearing the blatant discrimination on the above count we request you to help resolve the above long pending issues and render justice.

Thanking you
Yours faithfully

Sd/-
(K.V. Acharya)
Joint Convener, CBPRO

Sd/-
(S.C.Jain)
General Secretary, AIBRF //Unquote