



SYNDICATE BANK PENSIONERS & RETIREES ASSOCIATION (REGD.)
(Affiliated to AIBPARC, a wing of AIBOC)

CENTRAL OFFICE

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(PLEASE CIRCULATE TO ALL MEMBERS/ RETIREES)

Circular No: 1/2016

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Dear Comrades,

YEAR 2015 - SOME NOTABLE EVENTS

10th Bipartite Wage Settlement signed

After a prolonged struggle by Bank Employees the much awaited settlement for wage revision was signed by UFBU. The increase in the load was 15% but the rise in Basic Pay was just 2%. A special allowance was created which helped boost gross salary but it was not to be reckoned for pension. It was agreed to make two Saturdays in a month as holidays. Despite euphoria generated on the eve of settlement no benefit was extended to the retired staff. The settlement received mixed reactions from various sections of employees and severe criticism from the retired.

Record Note on demands of Retirees Signed

For the first time a overall view of IBA and UFBU on the demands of bank retirees were recorded by way of a Record Note. The note created a furore among retirees and retiree-organisations, which were totally unhappy over the raw deal meted out to the retired staff. Preamble of the note stating that there was no Contractual relationship between the bank and the retired employee was unacceptable. A silver lining in the Record Note was that all the demands were discussed. IBA merely expressed need for studying cost factor in conceding the demands but did not oppose. This has given a scope for further discussions in the matter. AIBOC continued to pursue the matter.

1st Joint MEETING BETWEEN BANK AND SBPRA HELD

In a historical development the management of the bank held discussions with SBPRA on retirees' issues on 3.3.2015 at Head Office, Manipal. SBPRA was represented by Com. RK Sarma, President and Com. C Gangadhar Yadav, General Secretary. A beginning was made to explore negotiated solutions to the pending issues. The meeting was utilised to fully appraise the management of the sentiments and expectations of the retirees of the bank. Our view points were driven home and the management was convinced about the genuineness of the retirees' demands.

CBPRO FORMED

All the 5 organisations of the Pensioners and Retirees of banking industry sat together on 28th July 2015 at New Delhi and took a decision to form a coordination body viz Coordination of Bank Pensioners and Retirees Organisations (CBPRO). The CBPRO immediately commenced work and has taken up the retirees issues with IBA and Govt. A detailed action programme was chalked out which included a massive Dharna at New Delhi.

IBA MEDICAL INSURANCE

A group medical insurance scheme was introduced by IBA for all the serving and retired staff of banking industry. MOU was signed with United India Insurance Co. Bank issued guidelines vide HO CYC Circular No.33/2015/CYC/0012/HO/ SWD/ HEALTH-INS Date: 24.08.2015. The favourable aspects of the scheme are: No restriction of age at entry level; coverage of pre-existing diseases; No medical exam for joining the scheme; option to withdraw. But difficulties are faced by the retirees due deficiencies in implementation of the scheme. Moreover the initially agreed domiciliary treatment expenses

reimbursement is being denied now. This has caused a lot of heartburn. Let us hope IBA/Banks will plug the loopholes and ensure smooth implementation of the scheme.

2nd JOIN MEETING HELD WITH THE BANK

The second meeting between the bank and SBPRA was held on 28.09.2015 at HO: Manipal. SBPRA was represented by Com. RK Sarma, President and Com. K Suresh Babu, Secretary. Sri Gopinath T Iyer who was about to assume full charge of Personnel Department as General Manager (P) on retirement of Sri Kamath on superannuation on 30.09.2015 assured that he will extend his full support to SBPRA in serving the cause of retirees and their welfare. On most of the issues Management was favourable and agreed to take up the matter with appropriate authorities. Important among such issues was demand for reimbursement of 50% of premium on medical insurance. We are constantly pursuing the agreed items.

AIBPARC TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE HELD AT KOLKATTA

Second Triennial Conference i.e. General Body meeting of All India Bank Pensioners and Retirees Confederation (AIBPARC) was held in Kolkatta on 15th and 16th of November 2015 exactly three years after conduct of the first conference. Retirees' issues were deliberated and action programme chalked out. Com. K.V. Acharya (IOB) and Com. S.R. Sengupta (BOI) were elected as President and General Secretary respectively. Among the other office-bearers elected were Com. Dinker S Punja (Udipi) as Senior Vice President; Com. C Gangadhar Yadav (Hyderabad) as Vice President; Com. R K Sharma (Delhi) as Dy. General Secretary; Com. N. Rajkumar (Tiruvananthapuram) as Dy. General Secretary and Com. S. B. Sai Prakash (Bengaluru) as E. C. Member from SBPRA.

CHENNAI FLOODS

Chennai and adjoining districts of Tamil Nadu suffered unprecedented rain and floods during the third week of November. People suffered untold misery. Colossal loss of property was reported. Incessant rains lasted for over 10 days. The city of Chennai was marooned. All roads over-flooded and were closed; ground floor houses in the city were under water. Only method of movement possible was with the help of boat. Railway tracks were under water. Airport runway and tarmacs were under knee deep water. All trains and flights were cancelled. No supply of essential commodities. Normalcy was restored with the Support and sympathy emanated from all-around.

MASSIVE DHARNA STAGED JANTAR MANTAR NEW DELHI BY CBPRO

Bank Retirees created history at Jantar Mantar New Delhi on 11th December, 2015. A Day long Dharna and Demonstration was stages by all the retiree organisations under the banner of Coordination of Bank Pensioners and Retirees organisations (CBPRO). Several Thousand Bank Retirees participated. Prominent leaders of serving organisations, retiree organisations and Central Trade Unions also participated and demanded Government/IBA to concede the genuine demands of bank retirees without further delay and pledged to intensify the agitation with further actions. AIBOC supported the cause by declaring one day strike. A conciliation meeting was held by Dy. Chief Labour Commissioner (central) with AIBOC and IBA. IBA assured to expedite cost calculation in respect of retirees demands viz. 100% DA neutralization for pre-2002 retirees; improvement in family pension and merger of DA at CPI 4440 points. On the issue of Medical Insurance Scheme IBA agreed to pursue with Insurance Company for reimbursement of domiciliary treatment expenses as per original terms and conditions of Scheme for retirees of banking industry. CBPRO and AIBPARC will follow up the matter further.

With warm greetings
Yours comradely,



C Gangadhar Yadav
GENERAL SECRETARY

SBPRA - ZINDABAD
AIBPARC - ZINDABAD
CBPRO - ZINDABAD