

SYNDICATE BANK PENSIONERS & RETIREES ASSOCIATION (REGD.)

(Affiliated to AIBPARC, a wing of AIBOC)

CENTRAL OFFICE

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

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(PLEASE CIRCULATE TO ALL MEMBERS/ RETIREES)

Cir.No. 29/2016

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Dear Comrades,

**SECOND TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE - A MEMORABLE EVENT
HON'BLE UNION LABOUR MINISTER INAUGURATED AND
ASSURED ALL HELP IN SETTLING RETIREES ISSUES**

The Second Triennial All India conference i.e. 2nd General Body Meeting of SBPRA held at Hyderabad on 27th November 2016 will remain in our memory indelibly forever. The conference marks crossing of yet another milestone by SBPRA. The mammoth size of the conference and scale of success was far beyond expectations of our own members and well wishers. It was so because nobody imagined that even the retirees' conference could be held in such a grand manner with meticulousness. The Reception Committee consisting of a team of 25 local office-bearers worked for many days to ensure marvellous experience to those attending the conference. The delegates coming from different parts of the country were warmly received at the Railway Stations etc on arrival and were brought to respective hotels where stay arrangements were made. Transport was also arranged to and fro the venue on the conference day. Excellent food was arranged at the conference. There was nothing to pinpoint and as such everybody unanimously praised the reception committee for the arrangements – reception, transport, conference venue, food, stay etc. The pristine way and precision with which each item of programme and agenda was conducted had to be seen to be believed. It was a revelation to one and all and a proof that the retirees too can conduct massive events. The proceedings of the conference were replete with unity, camaraderie, joy, enthusiasm, purpose and determination. The resolve to achieve the long pending demands and to fulfil the genuine aspirations of the veterans was vividly on display. We have succeeded in attracting the attention of press, public and the people's representatives to the issues involved. The conference has sent a clear message to the management, IBA and Govt that the retirees' organisations have come to stay and have to be taken seriously and that their long pending issues have to be resolved sooner. Above all, the conference proved to be a source of strength and unity for all the suffering and struggling retirees of banking industry in general and syndicate bank retirees in particular.

INAUGURAL SESSION

The venue of conference was the auditorium of Visweswarayya Bhavan i.e. the Institute of Engineers India, Khairatabad Hyderabad. It was beautifully decorated with grand banners of SBPRA, AIBPARC, and banners welcoming the Chief Guest and Guests of Honour. Celebration began with the members pouring into the conference hall well before the scheduled time of 10.00 AM. Nearly a thousand members witnessed the session which included 320 elected delegates from Ten Zones of the Association, general members of SBPRA, leaders and members of fraternal unions both serving and retirees of other banks, well wishers and a huge contingent of press & media. The programme commenced with the invitation of dignitaries to the dais by Com. K Suresh Babu, Secretary. A warm reception with loud applause and echoing slogan shouting was extended to the Guests of Honour Sri. K T Rai, General Manager from Corporate Office of Syndicate Bank who attended the conference on behalf of MD & CEO of the Bank; Com. K V Acharya, President of AIBPARC; Com. A Ramesh Babu, Jt convenor of CBPRO; Shri S P Sharma, FGM of the bank, Hyderabad; Com. Prakash Karotya, Com. S A Manjrekar and Com. Vilas Nayak, President, General Secretary and Treasurer of SBOA respectively; Com. Syed Iqbal, Dy General Secretary of SBEU; Com. A V V Raghava Rao, State Secretary of AIBPARC; The Special Invitees Com. D Rakshit, our former President, Com. HV Coelho and Com. V Doraiswamy, former Presidents of SBOA; Com K Ananda Kumar, Vice-President & M R Gopinatha Rao, Dy General Secretary of AIBPARC; AIBPARC State Committee Members Com K Prabhakar (CBI), Com K Purushotham (IOB), Com T V S L Narasimha Rao (Vijaya Bank) & Com N Ram Mohan Rao (UCO Bank). The meeting was presided over by Com. R K Sharma, our President. The dais also consisted of SBPRA office bearers - Com. C Gangadhar Yadav, General Secretary, Com. K. Suresh Babu, Secretary, Vice Presidents Com. N Rajkumar, Com. PS Agrawal, Com. A Venkatesan and Com. P N Rama Mohan Rao; Treasurer Com. G S R Sarma and the Reception Committee Chairman Com. G Dasarathi Rao. Several Executives of the bank Viz., DGMs Sri A S Alagarsamy, Sri P Palanisamy, AGMs Sri P Swaminatha Rao, Sri K V S Mani and Sri Vipin Kumar graced the occasion. Well before arrival of the Chief Guest the house came to order by seating of the dignitaries and the participants. All the seats were occupied and the Hall was overflowing. Soon the Chief Guest Hon'ble Sri Bandaru Dattatreya, Union Minister for Labour and Employment arrived at the venue. As he entered the Hall a rousing reception was extended and the hall reverberated with the full throated slogans by the participants. He was escorted to the dais by both the GMs of the Bank and the General Secretary Com. Gangadhar Yadav. As the formation of dais was complete, floral bouquets were offered to the dignitaries by Reception Committee members individually. Proceedings began with an Invocation Sloka recited by Com. K Srinivas,

presently working at RO City Hyderabad. In his Welcome Address Com. G Dasarathi Rao, Chairman of the Reception Committee thanked the Central Committee for giving an opportunity to Hyderabad comrades to host the second consecutive triennial conference. He welcomed one and all to the beautiful and historical city of Hyderabad and informed about elaborate arrangements made for comfortable stay, transportation, and arrangements at the Conference Hall and offered all help and hospitality to the delegates. He also stated that the conference was being held at a time when the retirees of banking industry were languishing for want of justice and many issues of the retirees were unresolved and expressed confidence that deliberations there would help evolve appropriate decisions to tackle the challenges confronting the retirees and take the retirees movement forward. Com. R K Sharma, President, in his introductory and opening remarks welcomed the gathering and expressed happiness to be part of such a grand celebration. He announced that the membership of SBPRA crossed 7000 mark and congratulated all the Zones for accomplishing the target under membership mobilisation. He exhorted the leaders and members to achieve a membership of 10000 before next triennial conference. He expressed confidence that the Association would strive hard to fulfil the aspiration of the members. Thereafter the Chief Guest was joined by all the dignitaries on the dais in lighting the ceremonial lamp to mark inauguration of the conference. Simultaneously tributes were paid to the Founders of Syndicate Bank. A huge banner with grand photographs of Late S/Sri Tonse Upendra Anant Pai, Vaman Srinivas Kudva and Tonse Madhav Anat Pai which was displayed on the stage was garlanded by the Chief Guest, the General Managers of the bank and other dignitaries. Then the house stood up to pay Homage to all the beloved leaders and members of Association and noted national and internal personalities who passed away during interregnum by observing silence for a couple minutes. Delivering Key Note Address Com. Gangadhar Yadav, General Secretary profusely thanked the Hon'ble Union Minister for inaugurating the conference and for being sympathetic to the retirees which has given a big morale boost to the retirees in the banking industry. He also recollected that Hon'ble Sri Bandaru Dattatreya Ji had attended 1st triennial conference in the year 2013 and blessed SBPRA. The General Secretary also thanked bank's GM Sri K T Rai and other dignitaries for their presence at the conference and supporting SBPRA in all respects. He stated that bank retirees have served in the banks for many years and with their service and sacrifice the banking industry could withstand national and international turbulence many times. He added that bank employees have always been in the forefront to implement Govt. Programmes, be it PMJDY; work related to demonetisation of currency or any other weaker section upliftment Schemes. That Bank retirees have a legitimate right to get their minimum requirements met by the Banks and Govt. Associations at bank as well industry level have been formed to bring all the retirees together to collectively fight for their rights. An Apex body viz. CBPRO comprising of 5 national organisations with a total membership of nearly three lakhs was in

place. Efforts were made to bring all retirees under this umbrella organisation. He listed Long pending demands such as Pension Updation; Improvement in family pension; Improvement in Health Insurance scheme; 100% DA neutralisation to pre-2002 retirees; pension to left over retirees; and expressed anguish that Govt., IBA and Bank managements were yet to take retirees issues seriously, forget about solving them and that retirees have a long way to go in pursuit of their demands. He stated that retirees are not free loaders living on the banks as parasites but that they are only getting back their deferred wages. He urged the Chief Guest and Management Representatives to ponder over the point as to why the retirees were made to move from pillar to post with a begging bowl when all their demands can be met without hurting or burdening anybody or affecting the balance sheets of the bank out of the colossal pension corpus built with contributions from retirees. He fervently appealed to the Chief Guest to help the retirees in settling their demands. Speaking on the occasion Com. A Ramesh Babu, General Secretary of SBI Pensioners Federation and Joint Convener of CBPRO explained about the formation of CBPRO and efforts made in pursuit of settlement of retirees demands. He appreciated SBPRA team for their role in strengthening the retirees' movement and congratulated them for the grand show on display at the conference. Shri S P Sharma, FGM Hyderabad gave an account of the present day activities in the bank and the achievements made by the bank. He offered all help to the retirees of the bank. Sri K T Rai, General Manager, Corporate Office Bengaluru recalled his experiences during his service in Hyderabad and excellent relations he has had with the present leadership of SBPRA. He read out a message sent through him by the MD& CEO of the bank. The MD expressed regret for inability to make it to the conference due to urgent meeting at Delhi with Govt and offered all help to the retirees of the bank and cooperation to SBPRA in resolving the grievances. Sri K T Rai stated that he has always been supportive and sympathetic with the retirees and assured that he will appraise the MD about the proceedings of the conference, the sentiments and expectations of the participants. He also assured to work for resolving the pending issues at bank level. The Chief Guest Hon'ble Minister Sri Bandaru Dattatreya Ji spoke at length. He praised the pioneering efforts made by the Founders of Syndicate Bank in the service of the nation. He expressed surprise that the bank pensioners were not given Pension Updation and other genuine benefits as in the case of central government employees. He appreciated the role of the bank employees in implementing the Govt. schemes and especially the yeomen service rendered in the wake of demonetisation of currency notes. He assured to take up the matter with authorities concerned appropriately. He also offered to accompany Retirees team to the Finance Minister for speedy resolution of the issues. We thank Hon'ble Minister for the nice gesture of inaugurating the conference and supporting our cause. After brief break for a few minutes for tea and seeing off the Chief Guest the proceedings resumed. Com. Prakash Karotya, President SBOA spoke about the developments in the bank and the steps taken by SBOA

to safeguard the interest of the staff. Retirees being the Seniors, he sought their guidance and assured to extend fullest support to SBPRA and to pursue all the pending issues with the bank. He also added that efforts will be made to take up and resolve the issues of Retirees in the ensuing Wage Revision Negotiations. Com. Syed Iqbal, Dy General Secretary of SBEU acknowledged the good work done by the retirees of the bank while in service and that the present day staff was enjoying the fruits of the same. He elaborated about IBA Health Insurance Scheme. He expressed solidarity with SBPRA and offered his services in resolving the retirees' issues. Com. AVV Raghava Rao, Secretary of AIBPARC AP/TS State Unit greeted the conference. Com. V Doraiswamy, Former President of SBOA expressed happiness in associating with the activities of SBPRA. He said he was overwhelmed by the continued love and affection he was receiving from his erstwhile colleague members and office bearers even after so many years of leaving the bank. He suggested to the leadership of AIBPARC to see that UFBU as a strategy should impose a pre-condition that next wage revision talks would be resumed only after resolving retirees' issues. Com D Rakshit, former President of SBPRA congratulated leaders and members for excellent conference and wished all success in organisational activities. K V Acharya, President of AIBPARC was the star speaker at the conference. He spoke at length. His address was heard with rapt attention. His address was so informative that though it was past lunch time the participants stayed glued to their seats. He narrated about developments before and after inclusion of retirees' demands in the charter of demands submitted by UFBU constituents, grand success of Dharnas staged with mammoth gathering by AIBPARC and CBPRO at Delhi and Mumbai, Signing of Record Note by UFBU and its fallout, support extended by AIBOC in the aftermath of Record Note, various steps taken by AIBPARC to convince the Ministers and officials of DFS in Govt. of India about the need to provide a suitable platform for negotiation and settlement of demands of retirees of the banking industry. He observed that there was a perceptible change in the approach of Govt. consequent to the Dharnas and that it was a welcome development in pursuit of solution to the pending issues. Attempts to convince DFS on several occasions on pending issues and discussions held with IBA were explained. It was clearly explained that Updation issue failed to draw needed attention earlier due to three different urgent issues needed to be addressed during all the three past bipartite settlements viz. Attempt by IBA to keep four loss making banks out of common bipartite to be thwarted; DA 100% neutralisation to be clinched; and Now-or-never situation to clinch second option for Pension. He expressed confidence that the Govt was convinced about demand for DA neutralisation for pre-2002 retirees and improvement in Family Pension and hoped that the issues would be resolved soon. He reiterated the need for unity and strengthening the movement under the banner of CBPRO. He congratulated the team of SBPRA for organising such an excellent conference. The meeting ended with Vote of thanks by Com CU V T N Dutt, Zonal Secretary of Hyderabad. Lunch followed.

DELEGATE SESSION

The delegate session commenced with the full throated slogans echoing in the hall at about 3.00 PM. All the Central Committee and the Special Invitees - SBOA General Secretary and President were on the dais. Com. R K Sharma presided. After President calling the house to attention and verifying the quorum the proceedings began. Thereafter Com S A Manjrekar General Secretary, SBOA was requested to address the house. He gave a detailed account of how they were involved in the membership mobilisation of SBPRA by undertaking a gigantic task of addressing letters to all the seventeen thousand retirees of the bank. He assured to associate in strengthening the organisation. He gave an account of present position of improvements in payment of Gratuity, Leave Encashment, Reckoning of Average Pay for pension in case of Reg 20(3) etc. Thereafter agenda was taken up and the business was conducted briskly. Com. C. Gangadhar Yadav, General Secretary, narrated about the Triennial Zonal Meetings (Zonal conferences) conducted successfully at all ten zones viz. Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow (Meerut), Mumbai, Trivandrum and Udupi. Members irrespective of the cadre in which they retired i.e. General Manager to Sub-staff have participated in large numbers. The meetings at all the centres have witnessed a lot of enthusiasm and fervour demonstrating thereby comaraderie, solidarity and determination to fight against injustice. Elections to the zonal office-bearers posts and delegates were conducted in a most orderly manner. Representatives from all the 50 Regions of the bank have been elected covering every nook and corner of the country. Despite old age, distance, cost and other logistical problems, nearly 3000 members attended the meetings and took part in the democratic process of election, which has no parallel among retirees' organisations in the banking industry. The General Secretary congratulated one and all in this regard. Thereafter he presented a Report on the activities of the Association for the period under review. When the portion on Homage and tribute to prominent personalities of national and international fame who passed away during review period was read out, the house once again stood up to observe silence for a couple of minutes as a mark of respect. The General Secretary's Report was brief but covered all the relevant organisational matters and tasks ahead. Along with it audited financial statements for years ending 31st March, 2014, 2015 and 2016 were also placed before the house. Several members deliberated on the report and made some suggestions for future implementation. Some participants suggested that the monthly subscription of the membership should be increased. General Secretary in his reply gave clarifications. He stoutly refused to accept the suggestion for increasing the subscription amount. Both the report of activities and the financial statements were approved by the house unanimously. Thereafter, the following amendments to the constitution/Byelaws of the Association requiring changes in Clauses No.9Bb; 11a2; 11a4 and 14 of constitution/Byelaws of the Association were approved unanimously.

1. Addition of one post of Chairman to Central Committee
2. Addition of five Central Committee Members
3. All the above posts to be filled in by nomination by Central Committee.
4. Delegates to be elected at the rate of one for every 30 members.
5. Maximum number of Zonal Committee members of a Zone to be increased to 25 from the present 20
6. Duties of Office bearers: Chairman shall be the Advisory Head of the Association and shall preside over all the meetings of the Association.
7. President shall preside over all the meetings of the Association in the absence of Chairman. Other duties of President remain unchanged.
8. The CC members shall perform duties/functions as may be entrusted or delegated to them by Central Committee/Respective Zonal Committee.

Then the house passed unanimously the policy resolutions on pending issues viz. Pension Updation, Uniform DA, Increase in Family Pension, Pension option to the resignees, CRS and other eligible cases, improvement in Medical Insurance Scheme. The house authorised appointment of Auditor from Hyderabad. The proceedings were summed up by the President. Then the house appointed Com. B N Bhat as Returning Officers to conduct the elections. The dais was vacated. Vote of thanks was proposed by Com K Suresh Babu. Thereafter elections were held in terms of Constitution and Bye Laws of the Association. Office-bearers for ensuing triennial term were elected unopposed.

GREETINGS

Shri Arun Shrivastava, Managing Director & CEO of Syndicate Bank has conveyed his best wishes for the success of the conference. Com. Dinker Punja, our Chairman who could not attend the conference due to a family function conveyed his best wishes for the success of the conference. Greetings were also received from Com. S R Sengupta, General Secretary and Com. Suprita Sarkar, Joint General Secretary and several central office bearers of AIBPARC and many present and former General Managers, senior executives of the bank; present and former office bearers of SBOA and SBEU and several well wishers. We hereby convey our gratitude to all of them.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Comrades, we have made history by conducting the second triennial conference of the Association at Hyderabad in such a grand manner. We salute the rank and file of our membership for standing by us at all times and encouraging us and ensuring success of the conference. We are sure this organisation is on the right track and will go on to conduct many more triennial conferences in future. The preparations and the conduct of the event have already galvanised the activities and boosted the morale of the members. Let us strengthen the organisation further so as to serve its objective of getting the retirees demands achieved and their aspirations fulfilled. It is heartening to note that the conference was widely

covered by press and the news has appeared in various local editions. We place on record our deep appreciation of the excellent work done by members of Reception Committee and thank them. We congratulate the new team of office bearers and wish them all the best. We once again thank one and all.

NEW TEAM OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DESIGNATION</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
COM. R K SHARMA	PRESIDENT	DELHI	8171461116
COM. N RAJKUMAR	VICE PRESIDENT	TRIVANDRUM	9846319319
COM. P S AGRAWAL	VICE PRESIDENT	AKOLA (M. R.)	9922997095
COM. A VENKATESAN	VICE PRESIDENT	CHENNAI	9444271590
COM. RAM MOHAN RAO	VICE PRESIDENT	UDIPI	9880071191
COM G S R SARMA	VICE PRESIDENT	HYDERABAD	9642804770
COM K R RAMAPPA	VICE PRESIDENT	BANGALORE	9686231463
COM.C GANGADHAR YADAV	GENERAL SECRETARY	HYDERABAD	9440528806
COM. K SURESH BABU	SECRETARY	HYDERABAD	9885661991
COM. R S R PRASAD	TREASURER	HYDERABAD	9010731351
COM. K MURUGANANTHAM	JOINT SECRETARY	CHENNAI	9840839396
COM. P V PAVITHRAN	JOINT SECRETARY	KANNUR	9496187325
COM. H A N REDDY	JOINT SECRETARY	BANGALORE	9449850190
COM. CUVTN DUTT	JOINT SECRETARY	HYDERABAD	9885866333
COM. K S TANTRY	JOINT SECRETARY	UDIPI	9740948848
COM. R B DAS	JOINT SECRETARY	BHUVANESWAR	8763404848
COM P K AGARWAL	JOINT SECRETARY	MEERUT	9412209379
COM JAGANNATH CHAUBE	JOINT SECRETARY	BHOPAL	9425376928
COM. GOPENDRA SHARMA	JOINT SECRETARY	DELHI	9811563018
COM. K B DHOK	JOINT SECRETARY	NAGPUR	8275044857
COM. VISWAS B UTEKAR	ZONAL SECRETARY	MUMBAI	9821159310
COM. CUVTN DUTT*	ZONAL SECRETARY	HYDERABAD	9885866333
COM. S NAGAVELU	ZONAL SECRETARY	CHENNAI	9444696266
COM. PN VIJAYAN NAIR	ZONAL SECRETARY	ERNAKULAM	9605555690
COM. MADHAV V KAMATH	ZONAL SECRETARY	MANGALORE	9880358447
COM. SURAJ PRAKASH	ZONAL SECRETARY	MEERUT	9719761107
COM. SWAPAN MITRA	ZONAL SECRETARY	KOLKATA	9874972875
COM. S B SAI PRAKASH	ZONAL SECRETARY	BANGALORE	9880289685
COM. GOPENDRA SHARMA*	ZONAL SECRETARY	DELHI	9811563018
COM H V DAVE	ZONAL SECRETARY	AHMEDABAD	9879011702

PS:*Office bearers who originally got elected as Zonal Secretaries at the Zonal Meetings were elected for different posts at the General Body. Co-options will take place to one of the posts vacated by them later. Chairman post and Additional CC members will be filled by nomination by Central Committee in due course. SBOA President & General Secretary will be Spl. Invitees to CC.

With greetings

Yours comradely,

C Gangadhar Yadav
GENERAL SECRETARY

SBPRA - ZINDABAD
AIBPARC - ZINDABAD
CBPRO - ZINDABAD