ALL INDIA BANK PENSIONERS' & RETIREES' CONFEDERATION (AIBPARC)

Camp: Chennai 1st Floor, 6/4 3rd Iane M K Amman Koil Street Mylapore, Chennai 600004

19.05.2015

Shri. Arun Jaitley Hon'ble Finance Minister Government of India New Delhi

Respected Sir,

SEEKING YOUR URGENT INDULGENCE TO INTERVENE FOR RESOLVING DECADES' OLD BANK PENSIONERS' AND RETIREES' ISSUES

We are the Confederation representing retirees in the Nationalised Banks and Private Sector Banks.

There are very many issues concerning retirees that remain unresolved for decades now inspite of favourable provisions in respective Service Regulations of bank employees and officers. In fact these benefits are already obtaining in Central and State Government for their employees. None of the demands of the retirees are new or unique, but are already prevalent in Central and State Government and in RBI. Banks are in fact built adequate corpus and made adequate provisions to extend the benefits listed below like Pension Updation, Gratuity etc. The Department of Financial Services taking a sympathetic view of our grievances communicated to IBA to hold discussions with retirees organisation, but IBA refused to discuss the issues concerning the retirees on the plea that all these form part and parcel of wage revision settlements, for which they are already holding negotiations with multiple unions representing officers and employees. Not wanting to make an issue on who should negotiate, we agreed to wait patiently for negotiations with unions to resolve our issues.

But, we are dismayed by the indications given by the negotiating unions that IBA is not inclined to concede major issues concerning retirees and pensioners even though these issues form part of the Charter of Demands submitted by UFBU and mandate was obtained from all Banks for holding discussions on the entire Charter of Demands.

Pension being a deferred wage all pension related issues used to be part of wage settlement. In fact it was replied by the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance Shri. Namo Narain Meena to an unstarred question No.196 on 6.8.2013 in Rajya Sabha that IBA negotiates salary and service conditions of employees and as



part of negotiations, the terms of payment of pension are also discussed alongwith the salary revision.

While this is the position in law, fact and tradition, any attempt to exclude the issues of Pension from the wage settlement will be a great disappointment to senior citizens many of whom are in their eighties drawing a meager Basic Pension of Rs.1700/-, due to non-implementation of Pension Updation, 100% D.A neutralization etc. It is curious that everything that is not advantageous is sought to be introduced for Bank Pensioners citing CCS Pension Rules applicable to central government employees. However, anything that is available in CCS Pension Rules which is advantageous for Bank Pensioners is steadfastly refused.

It is not late even now for IBA to reconsider its stand and settle the following in the 10^{th} Bipartite settlement itself as all these are legitimate and legal entitlement and within the paying capacity of the Banks requiring no additional contribution other than what has to be contributed as per the 10^{th} Bipartite Settlement that is going to be signed most probably on 22^{nd} May 2015.

- 1. Re-implementation of Pension Updation that has already been provided under Regulation 35 (1) and Regulation 56.
- 2. Uniform 100% D. A neutralization to all pre 1.11.2002 retirees in conformity with Article 14 of the Constitution of India that has been upheld in D.S.Nakra's case. It is already available in RBI.
- 3. Uniform formula of 30% of Basic Pay for family pension with no ceiling irrespective of the scale of pay of the deceased employee so as to do away with the discrimination and to be in conformity with Article 14 of the Constitution of India that has been upheld in D.S.Nakra's case. It is already available in RBI.
- 4. Extension of Pension Option to all resignees and retirees who have completed Pensionable service of 20 years that has been upheld by High Courts.
- 5. Leave Encashment to all Compulsory Retirees as upheld by Courts.
- 6. Uniform Medical Scheme to all retirees. It may be noted that medical and hospitalization reimbursement is already available to retired Chairman, Managing Director and Executive Director.

Sir, your goodselves will agree that -

- It is not a fair policy to drive senior citizens to seek remedies always in Courts.
- ❖ It is also not a fair policy to go back on commitments made when pension scheme was introduced.



- ❖ It is also not a fair policy to deny Pensioners of their full right to not only to the yield but also to the entire corpus lying in Pension fund.
- ❖ The present pension corpus of Rs.1,14,000/- Crores as on 31.3.2014 with further periodical contributions to the corpus has to be used for retirees past and future and cannot be allowed to lapse without being used for the benefit of retirees.
- It is not fair to refuse discussion of Retirees' issues.
- ❖ In short, it is not fair to short-change senior citizens in the Banking Sector of their rightful share in the evening of their life.

Sir, we request your kind indulgence to intervene urgently and instruct IBA to settle all the above issues which are pending for more than two / three decades in the ensuing 10th Bipartite Settlement itself, for which act of kindness, the whole lot of senior citizens in banking industry will remain ever grateful to you and our Government.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

K V ACHARYA
PRESIDENT