



ALL INDIA BANK PENSIONERS' & RETIREES' CONFEDERATION
(A.I.B.P.A.R.C.)



C/O BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION
(EASTERN INDIA BRANCHES)
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Date: July 21, 2023

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For circulation among members of the Governing Council, State Secretaries, Special Invitees, Advisors, Affiliates, Constituents of CBPRO and Members.

Dear Comrade,

Sub: Group medical insurance scheme for Bank Retirees for the year November 23 to October 24.

We reproduce hereunder the text of our letter written to The Chairman, IBA on date on the above referred subject for information of members. The copy of the letter has also been. endorsed to all the Constituents of UFBU for information.

With best wishes and regards,

Comradely Yours,


Suprita Sarkar,
General Secretary

Quote:

AIBPARC/IBA/GMISR --23--24 /email/23

Date:: 21st July,2023.

The Chairman,
Indian Banks Association,
Mumbai.

Respected Sir,

Sub: Minutes of understanding of the meeting held between IBA and UFBU on 19.07.23 in respect of Medical Insurance Scheme.

The aforesaid document has ironically come in the public domain on 19 th July,2023-- a day which is very near and dear to our heart to remember the glories of the past and to take a pledge to fight against the threats to privatization and all forms of injustice. This also came in the year when IBA is celebrating, citing that it is their Eighty years of Glorious existence. The paper has sent a shock wave to the senior citizens of the Industry since it has made serious qualitative and quantitative degradation to the existing terms of the policy.

Our views in this regard are placed hereunder for your kind information and active consideration.



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1. The understanding is being arrived at to do something good to the Retirees but strangely enough the views of the Apex level Retiree organisations are not being formally heard. The practice is grossly unfair. Our humble question is: Does IBA need an authorisation from Banks to allow the " Opportunity of being heard"? How long the nearly Seven Lakh Senior Citizens of the Banking Industry are going to be denied the opportunity of being heard about their Grievances?
 2. The original guidelines of GOI issued in the year 2012 to evolve a scheme of health insurance for the Retirees did not stipulate that the senior citizens of the Industry would have to bear the burden of premium but the said guidelines have been distorted time and again and this document is no exception to the process followed.
 3. The qualitative and quantitative degradation to the existing terms and conditions have been devastating in nature --a) there has been an abrupt reduction to the amount of the base policy at Rs 2 Lacs b) Reduction of per day bed charges and ICU charges has been fixed at a miserably low amount causing real financial hardships to people availing the policy c) the imposition of ceiling or capping as it is called in respect of reimbursement of cost against certain specified diseases has no connection with the ground level realities at all.
 4. In case of hospitalization involving surgery, by the present Indian standard of clinical establishments, the Retirees in many cases will get a reimbursement of half the cost involved. Being fully aware of the resultant consequences, the document aims at a shocking mockery to the senior citizens.
 5. The concept of Top-- Up policy (1 Lac to 10 Lacs) is not at all well clarified. Whether the dis-- allowed expenses under the Base policy will be covered by the Top up policy is not clear. It requires elaboration in respect of coverage as well as premium on Top up policy.
 6. Management has completely shaken off its responsibilities in regard to their most minimum duties towards the employees of the past years. Managements have also shown scant regard to the sentiments of the Hon'ble Union Finance Minister while addressing You All in IBA's Annual General Body Meeting calling upon you to take care of the Past Employees of the Banking Industry as part of your own family.

It appears from the wordings that the cost of the base policy will also have to be borne by the Retirees as against the current belief in circulation that the Banks will bear it that too when Banks have been making huge profits.
 7. The Retirees are still unaware of the amount of premium that they will have to pay and it will depend on the tendering process to be initiated by IBA in future months. The burden of uncertainty is to be borne for couple of months to know the pricing.
 8. We are shocked to see that some of the beneficial recommendations made by the 3 -- men committee vide their letter dated 02.06.23 have not found any place in the document. They are: a) The group medical insurance policy should be a combined and composite one for the serving and the retired employees and b) The premium of the base policy will have to be borne by the Bank management.
 9. **We have reliably learnt that this alternate policy will run side by side and parallelly with the existing IBA policy but there is no mention of it in the policy document.**



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10. The minutes carries a message of anxiety and uncertainty to all the senior citizens. Even the BPL population is taken better care by the Government. There should be more clarity and above all a gesture is required to be displayed to create a sense of confidence that management is eager to take care of the welfare of its past employees.

We still firmly believe that IBA will understand and appreciate the anxieties of the Bank Pensioners and Retirees and come out with a respectable medical relief scheme for the Past Employees and Officers of the Banking Industry.

With Kind Regards,

Yours Sincerely,

K V Acharya
President, AIBPARC
& Joint Convener, CBPRO

Suprita Sarkar
General secretary

CC: The Convener and all the Constituents of UFBU for kind information and necessary action.