



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



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Circular no: 69-24

Date: July 17, 2024

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

Dear Comrades,

Sub: Senior office bearers of AIBPARC take stock of all contemporary events affecting the interest of Bank Retirees

Members are aware of the fact that a meeting of CBPRO was held on 11th July, 2024 at YMCA Tourist Hostel, New Delhi and the outcome of the said meeting has been conveyed to members by our circular number: 68-24 dated July 14, 2024.

Our organisation invited the working Presidents, Senior Vice Presidents, Advisors, members of the Medical sub-committee and a few senior leaders to remain present at the CBPRO meeting which started at 10 am and continued for next three hours.

We seized the opportunity of the presence of the senior leaders to discuss all contemporary issues affecting the interest of Bank Retirees in our afternoon session. This meeting also continued for three hours. The decisions taken in the meeting are informed hereunder for information of members.

a) Group Medical insurance scheme for Bank Retirees:

Members expressed their satisfaction at the decision that a combined policy would be taken for the serving employees/ officers and the retirees for the year November 24 to October 25. They also congratulated IBA and UFBU for taking a pragmatic decision to reduce the burden of annual premium of the health insurance policy.

Members also advised the organization to take up with IBA and UFBU the following issues with immediate effect:

The premium of the Retirees should be the same as that of the serving employees/ officers. The facility of the Top Up policy should also be settled through negotiations and it should not be left to the discretion of the Insurance companies. At the time of floating the bid, this issue should be clearly mentioned that the premium of the top up policy should also be the same for the in- service people and the Retirees otherwise there is a risk that the Insurance company might fix up a premium of Top Up policy at an exorbitantly high level as it happened in the previous year causing terrible inconvenience for the senior citizens of the industry.



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b) Payment of Ex-gratia to the Pensioners and Family Pensioners of Private Sector Banks:

Members shared the anxiety and anguish faced by the Pensioners of the Private Sector Banks since till today the payment has not been made to them. Leaders expressed satisfaction at the constant follow up made by AIBPARC in regard to sending of advice to all Private Sector Banks at a very early date. The members were unhappy to note that the issue has been marked as an item under the "Residual issues". It was also noted with anxiety that in the Minutes between IBA and the Award Staff Organizations in the month of March, 2024, it has been agreed to settle the issue within six months i.e. within September, 2024. The meeting resolved that the follow up measures of AIBPARC will continue for early issuance of advice.

C) The issue of non-computation of special allowance for the purpose of calculation of gratuity and pension.

The members took note of the judgement of the Division Bench of the Uttarakhand HC which clearly told among other things that the special allowance was to be treated as a Basic Pay for the purpose of calculation of Gratuity.

It was decided that CBPRO/ AIBPARC would go on following up the issue at the levels of IBA and GOI as done in the past and at the same time would have strict vigil over the developments at Delhi HC whereas per SC order all the pending cases before various HCs have been shifted.

The members present also discussed the Notifications in the official gazette of GOI made by PNB where amendment of Pension Regulations in regard to definition of "pay" for the purpose of calculation of Pension has been made by inserting the following sentence: "**provided further that the special allowance introduced wef 1st November,2012 shall be excluded**".

The amendment will be effective from 28.06.2024 (date of Notification). Pension Regulations cannot be amended with retrospective effect and amendments cannot be retrograde to the interest of the Pensioners. It strengthens our demand for reckoning Special Allowance for Superannuation Benefits.

D) Restoration of commutation:

There is no implicit or explicit rationale to determine the period of 15 years to have restoration of the commuted value of pension. The Hon'ble HC of Punjab and Haryana granted an interim stay in the case of a group of pensioners of Union Bank of India and the same has been implemented by the Bank. The pensioners of some other Banks, as we understand, are in the process of filing similar writ petitions before the same HC.

Our Lawyer is of the view that when same kind of orders for other Banks can be obtained, then the Retirees organisation can go ahead. This is no doubt, a forward movement.

E) Other issues:

Members also exchanged views on several other issues like representation of Pensioners in the Pension Trust, increasing the quantum of Staff welfare fund and specific earmarking of portion for the Retirees etc.

F) Call for Tree Plantation along with other Programs on the occasion of Bank Nationalization Day Celebration is made by the President and General Secretary.



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The meeting extended thanks to the AIBPARC, Delhi state committee for taking all pains in successful holding of the CBPRO meeting as well as AIBPARC meeting of Senior Office bearers. Com. N K Pareek, Senior Vice President proposed Vote of Thanks.

With best wishes and regards,

Comradely yours,

K.V. Acharya.
President, AIBPARC
& Joint Convenor, CBPRO

Suprita Sarkar
General Secretary