

## ALL INDIA BANK PENSIONERS & RETIREES CONFEDERATION



(A.I.B.P.A.R.C.)

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Date: November 14, 2024.

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Circular no 136--24

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

Dear Comrade,

Sub: Removal of DA disparity adversely affecting the Pensioners

We are reproducing here under the text of our letter written on date to The Chairman, IBA on the above-mentioned subject.

This is for information of members.

With best wishes and regards,

Comradely yours,

Suprita Sarkar **General Secretary** 

Encl: As stated

AIBPARC/IBA/DA/Email/2024

Shri M.V. Rao, Chairman, Indian Banks' Association, Mumbai.

Respected Sir,

Sub: 1) Removal of DA disparity adversely affecting the Pensioners of prior to 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2022.

2) Extension of notional benefit of 100% DA neutralization to Pre-November 2002 Pensioners to compute the quantum of Ex-gratia.

We draw your kind attention to the following disparities (of which you are aware of) with the hope of an early redressal. Please note that on several occasions since signing of the 12th Bipartite Settlement/ 9th Joint Note, we have taken up the issue with IBA. You are also aware that this is one of the listed items in the Residual Issues. It had once come up for discussion but then again deferred on the plea that further discussions are necessary. We make an earnest request to you to kindly see that the issue is not dragged any further and an early resolution is arrived at.



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## A) In respect of Pensioners who retired prior to 01.11.2022:

The new pay scales of Award staff and officers as per provisions of 12th Bipartite Settlement /9th Joint Note have been constructed after merging Dearness Allowance corresponding to 8088 points to the Basic Pay as on 31.10.2022 after adding the agreed loading thereon. While doing so, simultaneously the Consumer Price Index (CPI) Series was changed from 1960=100 to 2016=100 for the purpose of DA calculation not only to Serving Employees/Officers but also to the Pensioners who retired and the Family Pensioners of those deceased employees/officers who died after 01/11/2022. Whereas, the CPI series i.e. 1960 = 100 remain same as hitherto in the case of pre-2022 Pensioners/Family Pensioners.

You are also aware of the fact that the GOI discontinued the CPI series under 1960=100 as far back in the year 1982 to apply CPI 1982=100 series and thereafter changed the CPI series on two occasions, one in the year 2001 and another in 2016. Yet, IBA chose to continue the same CPI series under 1960=100 by the application of certain factors for arriving at CPI points in the matter of DA payment, of course treating all the Pensioners alike in view of the provisions under earlier Bipartite Wage Settlements /Joint Notes agreed to between IBA and UFBU.

We feel that the recent division of Pensioners into pre and post 01.11.2022 Pensioners for the purpose of payment of DA under two different CPI series adopted after the implementation of 12th BPS/ 9th Joint Note is unfounded, devoid of logic and irrational. This discriminatory treatment has led to artificial classification within the homogeneous group of Pensioners again. Consequently, the Pensioners prior to 01.11.2022 have been adversely hit and prejudiced.

You will surely appreciate that IBA cannot have different base years among Pensioners who are a homogeneous class. IBA will have to merge the DA settlement by settlement and not straight way to the present level. It means that one person who retired say in the 6th BPS/ corresponding Joint Note should be first merged at the 7th BPS/ corresponding Joint Note on DA and using the DA factor, it is to be merged to the 8th BPS/ corresponding Joint Note and so on up to the current 12th BPS/ Joint Note to correctly arrive at the Basic pay for Retirees under each settlement.

## B) In respect of Pensioners prior to 01.11.2002:

The long pending grievance of the pre-2002 Pensioners, viz. the discrimination which was there from 1st May 2005 got rectified through the MOU signed between the representatives of IBA & UFBU on 28/07/2023 wherein the DA at 100% Neutralization was agreed to be paid to Pre-November 2002 Pensioners w.e.f. 1st October 2023. We place on record that IBA played a very positive role in redressing the said long pending grievance of the Pensioners who retired prior to 01.11.2002. The Pensioners belonging to the same bracket again became victims of deprivation of a legitimate benefit at the time of payment of ex-gratia, as agreed upon in the 12<sup>th</sup> Bipartite Settlement/ 9<sup>th</sup> Joint Note.

The arrears of ex-gratia were made payable from 1st November 2022 on the basis of the gross pension paid to the Pensioners as on 31st October 2022 whereas the effect of payment of DA at 100% Neutralization was agreed to take effect only w.e.f. 01.10.2023. As a result of which, the benefit of DA payment at 100% Neutralization did not accrue to those who retired prior to 1.11.2002 while extending the benefit of eligible ex-gratia based on the gross pension as on 31st October 2022. Several representations have been sent to IBA by AIBPARC in this regard. We hope that the same is under your active consideration. We once again request you earnestly to extend the benefit of 100% DA neutralization notionally for the purpose of calculation of ex-gratia so that the aged Pensioners who suffered a loss on account of the denial of retrospective implementation of 100% DA neutralization might get fair and equitable relief at this age.

We shall be thankful if you kindly look into the issues with sympathy and end discrimination.

With kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

K.V. Acharya. President, AIBPARC & Jt. Convenor, CBPRO Suprita Sarkar General Secretary