



ALL INDIA BANK PENSIONERS' & RETIREES' CONFEDERATION

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

C/O BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

(EASTERN INDIA BRANCHES)

BANK OF INDIA, KOLKATA MAIN BRANCH

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(For circulation among all the members of the Managing Committee as well as the Governing Council of AIBPARC, Special Invitees, State Secretaries and Advisors of AIBPARC.)

Dear Comrades,

Sub : FERVENT APPEAL OF BANK RETIREES TO HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER
OF OUR COUNTRY – LETTER OF CBPRO DATED 23.03.2018

We reproduce hereunder the text of the above letter for information of members.

With best wishes,

(SUPRITA SARKAR)
GENERAL SECRETAY

QUOTE :

Dated: 23.03.2018

**To, Shri Narendra Modiji,
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India,
PM Office, North Block,
New Delhi.**

Hon'ble Sir,

FERVENT APPEAL BY BANK RETIREES

We wish to invite your kind attention to the correspondence resting with our letter dated 19.02.2018 on the above subject, a response to which is being eagerly awaited by the Senior and Super Senior Citizens who served the nation and the hitherto neglected sections of society as Bank Officers and Employees for 30-40 years. We are continuously being driven to the brink as a vanishing tribe losing its members on a regular basis. Each of such losses causes severe pain to us as the elders exit the world without being given the legitimate entitlements for serving the Nation. Sir, honestly speaking, your ascendance to the position of Prime Minister of our Great Nation had raised the genuine and legitimate aspirations of our members who are more than 400,000 in number (representing all the Banks) about early resolution of their grievances.

Sir, in our letter under reference, we had listed seven important and unresolved issues on page 3 for your kind and sympathetic consideration and favourable disposal. But the pressure has been mounting on us to request you once again to bestow your urgent, personal and kind attention in respect of the following three issues while treating the remaining issues for early favourable disposal by the concerned Ministry:

1. Updation of Pension and Additional Pension: The issue of updation of Pension is also pending before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi/Hon'ble Supreme Court of India despite there being a clear provision for updation of Pension and Additional Pension wherever necessary as per Bank Employees Pension Regulation 35(1). It is also pertinent to submit that the Pension Updation as provided under Regulation 35(1) was implemented by the Banks at the time of introduction of Pension in the Banks during 1995-96 for those Pensioners who had retired between 01.01.1986 and 31.10.1987 and were eligible for updation of Pension at that point of time. The Banks in consultation with IBA refused to update the Pension in subsequent years thereby showing a cynical disregard to the provisions of Regulation 35(1) which being a subordinate legislation have the force of law and also supported by notification in the Gazette of India. It is painful that some of the Retired Bank Chairmen draw lesser Pension than even a class IV

retiree from Government. We humbly request Your Good-self to kindly intervene in the matter for getting the issue of Pension updation resolved at the level of Government and IBA.

2. Uniform Family Pension @ 30% of Basic Pay: While the Pensioners of RBI and Government have the facility of Uniform Family Pension @ 30% of Basic Pay, the Bank Pensioners are allowed 15% of the Basic Pay with an upper ceiling fixed for Family Pension. Consequently the Family Pensioners of deceased Bank Employees including those who are the spouse of the General Managers/Executive Directors/Managing Directors are getting a Family Pension ranging from as low as Rs. 4,000/- to a maximum of Rs. 14,000/- depending on the date of retirement, the cadre and grade of the Retiree. It is painful that the Family Pensioners are expected to pay for their Medical Insurance Premium to the extent of Rs. 40,000/- annually under the IBA's Medical Insurance Scheme for Retirees thereby leaving nothing for their sustenance. It is worth mentioning here that the Bank Employees and Officers were given the facility of Pension in lieu of Contributory Provident Fund. But the provision of post retiral Medical Insurance at a high premium has led to some of the Family Pensioners virtually getting Medical Insurance in lieu of Family Pension. Sir, doesn't it sound ironically cruel? Apart from having merits, improvement in Family Pension at par with Government and RBI Pension deserves to be settled urgently on humanitarian grounds too.

3. Rationalisation of Medical Insurance Scheme for Bank Retirees: IBA has introduced a Medical Insurance Scheme for Bank Retirees from 2015 on the advice of the Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance. It is pertinent to submit that the Department of Financial Services in its communication dated 24.02.2012 had advised IBA to introduce a Medical Insurance Scheme for both Serving and Retired Employees. While introducing the scheme, the premium for Serving Employees was borne by the Banks and in case of Retired Employees it is charged to the Retiree/Family Pensioners concerned. Such a discriminatory treatment with regard to payment of premium is against the spirit of Government's communication which did not specify differential treatment with regard to coverage, quantum, premium etc. The disappointment of Bank Retirees gets further compounded since the Retired Chairmen/MDs/EDs are entitled for free and complete medical reimbursement as is applicable to the serving Chairman/MD/ED. Why such a discriminatory treatment is being meted out to less privileged lower level Bank Retirees vis a vis serving Employees? It may be appreciated that the Pensioners/Family Pensioners are made to pay the exorbitant premium out of their Pension thus robbing them of a substantial portion of their meagre Pension as mentioned under point no. 2. It is therefore requested to rationalise the Medical Insurance Scheme for Bank Retirees/Family Pensioners by advising the Banks to bear Premium and provide cover similar to the cover provided under the Serving Employees policy.

Hon'ble Sir, we as Senior Citizens are appealing to Your Good-self as a last resort with a fond hope that you are the ultimate authority in the Government playing the role of a good guardian to render justice wherever it is unduly denied. The forthright approach and transparent Governance under your distinguished leadership are the hallmark of your style of managing the affairs of our nation which have placed India in the next higher orbit amongst nations of the world. We feel a great sense of pride in being Indian Citizens and your individual contribution for such an elated feeling gives us confidence that our genuine grievances will be redressed by you.

Looking forward for justice at your hands,

With respectful regards,

Yours faithfully,

A.Ramesh Babu

Joint Conveners

K.V.Acharya