

C/O BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION (EASTERN INDIA BRANCHES) BANK OF INDIA, KOLKATA MAIN BRANCH 23A, NETAJI SUBHAS ROAD, KOLKATA – 700 001 Mobile : 9674188524, EMAIL aibparc2@gmail.com

Circular 32--21. Date: July 16,2021.

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

Dear Comrade,

Sub:52nd anniversary of Bank Nationalization--Our remembrance and Promise.

This year on 19th July, We shall be celebrating the 52nd anniversary of Bank Nationalization in India. This is a day that remains very near to our hearts and no Bank Employee/Officer will ever forget the revolutionary significance of the day till he/she is on earth. For us it is a day to remember the glorious past, to view the present with caution and care and to make promises for the future.

2. The passing of ownership **from private to public hands** paved the way for opening of thousands of Branches in the remotest corners of the country, creation of employment opportunity for a huge chunk of educated youth, bringing revolution in Agriculture and allied activities, extension of credit to the newly defined Priority Sector **including formulation of DRI scheme** for the Have-nots. The Banks turned to be the most effective tool in the hands of the Government for economic upliftment of the country.

3. The nationalized Banks withstood the challenges of the Prudential Accounting Norm and the concept of Income Recognition which had been alien to the standard of economy practised in India. Even in the face global collapse of Internationally recognised Banking giants, the Banks in India proved their intrinsic strength. There is no doubt that huge Write--offs, Loan--waivers and participation in different kinds of non--profit making assignments had its adverse impact upon the health of the institution. As Banks have taken part in all programmes of the Government including Jan Dhan yojna and played a crucial role at the phase of Demonetization, it is the turn of the country to come forward to the rescue of the Bank in case there is any temporary set back. Privatization cannot be the panacea of all evils.

4. This is really unfortunate that in the Pandemic situation when Banks have greater roles to play in boosting up the economy of the country, Government is thinking to sell out a few nationalized banks. This is nothing but pushing backward the wheels of History. It will

Senior Office Bearers PRESIDENT:

SHRI K.V. ACHARYA, MOB - 9868220338

<u>GENERAL</u> <u>SECRETARY</u> SHRI S. SARKAR MOB – 9674188524

#### TREASURER

SHRI A. N. MUKHERJEE MOB-9830302997

WORKING PRESIDENTS:

1.SHRI K.B. BALLUR MOB – 9481101106

2. SHRI P.S. PATKI MOB – 8805607239

3. SHRI C. GANGADHAR YADAV. MOB – 9440528806

4. SHRI S.B.C. KARUNAKARAN,

MOB – 9444772016

SR. VICE PRESIDENTS: SHRI M.R. GOPINATH RAO MOB – 9886309244 SHRI R.S. TRIVEDI MOB – 9825049640 SHRI P.V.L.N. SHARMA MOB - 9440779797 SHRI R. K. SHARMA MOB - 8171461116 SHRI RAM PAL MOB – 9784405801 SHRI S. KUPPUSWAMI MOB- 9444315928 SHRI TOM. THOMAS MOB - 9447661680 demolish the level of public confidence that has been built over decades in State--owned Banks. Who will take care of the safety of people's money ?Who will extend credit facilities to the much--needed sectors? Who will offer selfless services to the common man in remotest part of country? Have we not seen in recent past that private sector Banks--one after another are winding up their business and helpless depositors are running frantically for withdrawal of funds? These valid questions are required to be answered. We have an earnest request to the Government to roll back its decision.

5.We call upon our members to take part in all programmes declared by UFBU/AIBOC in protest against the threat of Privatization. We know that in different parts of the country, free movement of elder citizens is still not allowed. So our members in permissive situation will please make full--throated participation in all such programmes and others whose movements are still restricted will exploit the digital way of registering protest. AIBPARC in its last GC meeting held on 8th July,21 decided that whenever normalcy( free from Coronascare) will be restored, our organization will implement its own programmes too against the proposed move for privatization.

6.Apart from joining the protest--demonstrations(wherever possible), the members of the Governing Council of AIBPARC will also on this day (19th July) send protest letter by email to Union Finance Minister individually in the given format demanding immediate resolve of the Long--pending issues of Retirees. Let it be a day of self-assertion. Each and every member of the Governing Council of AIBPARC is being requested to sign the memorandum (copy supplied herewith) and send the same by email to Hon'ble Union Finance Minister at email id:

appointment.fm@gov.in.Members of GC are also requested to send the mail positively on 19th July,2021 and a confirmation of doing the same may please be sent to the undersigned so that we can circulate the digital protest to our members.

With best wishes and regards, Please stay safe with family,

Comradely Yours,

Suprita Sarkar, General Secretary.

Enclo: The format stated above.

SHRI K.V. ACHARYA, MOB - 9868220338 **GENERAL** SECRETARY SHRI S. SARKAR MOB - 9674188524 TREASURER SHRIA. N. **MUKHERJEE MOB-**9830302997 WORKING **PRESIDENTS**: **1.SHRI K.B. BALLUR** MOB- 9481101106 2. SHRI P.S. PATKI MOB - 8805607239 3. SHRI C. GANGADHAR YADAV. MOB - 9440528806 4. SHRI S.B.C. KARUNAKARAN, MOB - 9444772016 SR. VICE **PRESIDENTS:** SHRI M.R. GOPINATH RAO MOB - 9886309244 SHRI **R.S. TRIVEDI** MOB - 9825049640 SHRI P.V.L.N. SHARMA MOB - 9440779797 SHRI R. K. SHARMA MOB - 8171461116 SHRI RAM PAL MOB - 9784405801 SHRI S. KUPPUSWAMI MOB-9444315928 SHRI TOM. THOMAS MOB - 9447661680

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Date :19<sup>th</sup> July,2021

Smt.Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Finance Minister, Government of India, New Delhi.

Respected Madam,

## Sub: Issues of Bank Pensioners and Retirees --waiting for Justice.

Myself, a member of the Governing Council of AIBPARC, like to lay before you the following facts for your kind consideration:

The organisation I belong to (AIBPARC) and the Conglomerate of Retirees Organisations of which AIBPARC is an integral part (CBPRO) have been writing to Your Good Self for resolving the under noted issues as We do believe that you have a lot of concern for the elder citizens of the Banking Industry.

Madam, you will surely appreciate the level of anxiety and anguish in the minds of the Retirees for their problems remaining un-attended for a long time. Myself having a representative--character in the Organisation feel that I am duty bound to reflect the anxiety and anguish of Bank Pensioners and Retirees before You and other Concerned authorities . Let me be permitted to narrate in brief the issues that require an urgent attention :

# 1.Improvement of Family Pension in line with the Government Pensioners and RBI Pensioners.

The above issue has been finalized in the Industry--level negotiation between IBA and United Forum of Bank Unions. It has been documented in the MOU signed in July,2020 and also in the Bipartite Settlement/Joint Note signed in November,2020. There was an announcement by the Government on the floor of the Parliament that the issue was under active consideration. IBA sent its formal recommendation long back and the clarifications sought for have reportedly been offered.

The delay in clearance by the government is causing anxiety and anguish in the minds of a large number of women Family Pensioners who in the advanced age of their lives are finding it very difficult to manage their livelihood with a scanty amount of Family Pension. The Pandemic has further aggravated the situation. In last 16 months, several thousand Pensioners and Family Pensioners have passed away due to the cruel touch of Covid-19 leaving behind their widows in a desolate state.

WE make an earnest appeal to you for an early clearance.

### 2.Updation of Pension:

For a Bank Retiree, the amount of Basic Pension remains frozen since the date of retirement. It is not updated simultaneously along with periodical revision of pay of serving employees. Although the Bank Employees Pension Regulations,1995 incorporated a specific provision (Regulation 35.1 which for further duly amended in 2003) for such updation, no tangible step has been taken so far to implement the same. We got an information that IBA recently formed an Internal Committee to study the subject. As an important stakeholder, our organization lodged its claim to be consulted on the issue but no response came nor the Updation done.

#### 3.100 per cent DA neutralization for pre--November,2002 Retirees

An artificial barrier has been created to deprive the above mentioned segment of elder Retirees by denying 100 pc uniform DA neutralization to them and thereby flouting the spirit of standardization and also the verdict of the Oft--quoted Nakara case.

#### 4. Consultative Status for the Retiree -- Organizations :

This is really unfortunate that the organizations of Retirees do not have any consultative status to share the table of formal negotiation with IBA. It is paradoxical to note that IBA asked all the Banks to create a grievance-redressal machinery at Bank level for the Retirees but denied the same at the Industry level. It is an area where we seek your kind intervention. The prime call of the civilized society is to hear the legitimate voice of the elders. If a structured forum for negotiation is offered, the long list of un-resolved issues could have been sorted out through effective negotiation.

#### 5. The issues taken up at different points of time but remaining unresolved:

The list includes, inter alia,

(A) Full Subsidisation of the premium of Group medical insurance policy by the Bank as per the advice of DFS letter Dated 24th February 2012 ,(B) Revision of the existing amount of ex gratia which is paid to a handful of surviving Pre--01.01.1986 Retirees,(C) Reckoning of Special allowance for calculation of superannuation benefits,(D) Wrongful recovery made from Pensioners on account of payment of commutation arrears arising out of SC judgement,(E)An opportunity to opt for Pension by a small group of Left--outs and also by the eligible Resignees in line with the opportunity given by RBI, (F) immediate payment of stagnation Increment by all Banks to eligible Pensioners of a specified group and (G)immediate attention to the problems faced by different Private sector Banks which are parties to the Bipartite Settlement / Joint note.

Madam, your open assertion in the 73rd AGM of IBA that the Retirees should be looked upon by the Bank and also by the existing employees as the members of the same family has greatly enthused and comforted the entire Bank Pensioners and Retirees community and we are writing to you with the high hope that issues of the Retirees would be looked into on a priority basis with due sympathy. This may please be noted that the time at the disposal of the Retirees is short as they belong to the senior and super senior segment of society.

With kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

Signature:

Designation in the Organisation:



# ReplyForward