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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CIRCULAR NO. 33/16.

21.10.2016.

(For circulation among all the members of the Managing Committee as well as the Governing Council of AIBPARC, Special Invitees, State Secretaries and Advisors with a request to percolate the information to the grassroots.)

Dear Comrades,

SUB: RENEWAL OF MEDICLAIM COVER FOR BANK RETIREES.

We are reproducing hereunder the letter written to the Chairman, IBA on the above referred subject. This is for information of members.

With good wishes,

(S. R. SEN GUPTA) GENERAL SECRETARY

Quote:

21.10.2016.

The Cairman, Indian Banks Association, Mumbai.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Renewal of Mediclaim Cover for Bank retirees.

No elucidation is necessary to impress upon you the fact that the festive season has not been so joyful to the bank retirees of our country. One year back, they came under the cover of an industry-wise cover with a high hope that it would be permanent solution to their respective health hazards which in present time requires spending of a huge sum of money. The hope was not a baseless one in view of Government's letter dated 24.02.2012 which desired to formulate a medical insurance scheme for both serving people and the retired employees and there was no mention that premium would have to be borne by individual retiree.

With the signing of the bipartite settlement and with paucity of time at hand, there was little scope before the retirees to give a second thought over the subject and almost all of them became a part of the scheme. At the time of doing so, they discontinued the existing policies which they had and now in an advanced age it is impossible to revive the same. Although our demands for reimbursement of the amount paid by retirees by individual banks would continue, it had been our natural expectation that the retirees at the time of renewal would not be put to further hardships. Our organisation and the apex body CBPRO have already represented before you well in advance.

The hopes being belied, the instruction for this year has come upon the retirees as a shockwave. Many older retirees draw a sum of pension which can be termed as "scanty" and it is very difficult for them to pay the premium without resorting to taking of loans from relatives and friends which is surely a humiliating proposition at an advanced age. The condition of family pensioners is rather pathetic. IBA as well as Govt. of India should have applied their mind over the pathetic plight of such groups.

You are aware of the fact that different banks will be realizing the amount of premium at the escalated rate from individual pensioner's account within a period starting from 24th October to 28th October, 2016. It is not too late. IBA should favourably consider all the aforesaid factors and instruct the member banks to reimburse the amount already deducted. Last but not the least, we shall be writing to you very soon about the statistical data base provided by different banks in respect of premium paid and claims received. We want a transparent position in this regard.

Yours faithfully,

(S. R. SEN GUPTA) GENERAL SECRETARY