



**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. 43/20

dated 25.06.2020

(For circulation among members of the governing council of AIBPARC,
State Secretaries, Special Invitees and Advisors.)

Dear Comrades,

Sub : Donation by Pensioners and Retirees at the call of AIBPARC to PM CARES FUND



Leaders of AIBPARC are handing over the Bank draft for Rs.2.12 crore towards Covid Donation to Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, Hon'ble Minister of State for Finance at North Block, New Delhi on 24.06.2020. In the Photograph, from right to left are: Com. D.K. Hans, State Secretary, AIBPARC (DELHI), Com. K.V. Acharya, President, AIBPARC, Hon'ble Minister, Com. Dr. J.D. Sharma, Vice President, AIBPARC and others.

Please refer to our earlier circular 42-20 dated 12.06.20 on above subject wherein we informed that the Demand Draft for Rs.2.12 crore being the first phase of accumulated Donation by members/affiliates would be handed over to Authorities concerned by our leaders. Further to the said circular, we have pleasure to inform that a delegation of senior leaders, headed by Com. K.V. Acharya, President, called on Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, Hon'ble Minister of State for Finance Department on 24.06.20 and handed over a Bank Draft of Rs.2.11.79.926/-. The initiative of AIBPARC got wide appreciation. It will be very pertinent to quote the English translation of the tweet made in Hindi by Shri Anurag Singh Thakur on 24.06.2020 : **“The office bearers of All India Bank Pensioners & Retirees Confederation handed over an amount of Rs. 2.12 crore by means of a cheque on behalf of their Confederation for PM Cares Fund to fight against Corona Virus. Your Contribution to fight the battle against Corona is invaluable.”**

In course of our dialogue with Hon'ble Minister, we submitted a memorandum containing some of our long-pending and unresolved issues. We got the assurance that the issues would be looked into. We are reproducing hereunder three documents for your information and perusal: 1. A press release issued by the organisation. 2. Covering letter enclosing the demand draft. 3. Memorandum submitted by AIBPARC. We shall be requesting our members to go through all the three documents which are being reproduced hereunder :

We wish all of you remain safe and secured with members of your families.

With best wishes,



(K.V. ACHARYA)
PRESIDENT



(SUPRITA SARKAR)
GENERAL SECRETARY

QUOTES :

DOCUMENT NO. 1 – PRESS RELEASE :

Dated: 24.06.2020

P R E S S R E L E A S E

All India Bank Pensioners & Retirees Confederation, an apex organization of the Bank Pensioners & Retirees – both Public Sector & Private Sector Banks which is an apolitical & independent organization promoted by All India Bank Officers Confederation appealed to its members to voluntarily contribute towards PM-CARES FUND, so as to become a part of COVID19 WARRIORS in our nation's fight against global pandemic. Responding to the call of the confederation, the members voluntarily and liberally contributed for the noble cause and the total contribution of Rs 2.12 Crores was perhaps the highest amount of donation by any organization of the pensioners in the country.

A delegation of the senior officer bearers of the confederation lead by Shri. K.V.Acharya, President , accompanied by Dr.J.D.Sharma, Vice President, Shri. D.K.Hans, State Secretary, Delhi, Shri. A.K.Nagar, President, Delhi State and others called on Shri. Anurag Singh Thakur, Honourable Minister of State for Finance and handed over a Bank draft for Rs 2,11,79,966/-

(Rs Two Crores Eleven lacs Seventy Nine thousand Nine hundred and sixty six only) to him at Delhi. The noble gesture by the Senior & Super Senior Citizens of the Banks is a reflection of their concern, compassion & commitment for the society, more particularly the economically weaker sections and unorganized labour affected very adversely by the outbreak of coronavirus.



K.V.Acharya
President, AIBPARC



S.Sarkar
General Secretary, AIBPARC

QUOTE DOCUMENT NO. 2 – COVERING LETTER TO HON'BLE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE :

Dated:24.06.2020

To

Shri. Anurag Singh Thakur
Honorable Minister of State for Finance,
Govt of India,
New Delhi

Respected Sir,

Our Humble Contribution of Rs 2,11,79,966/- to PM-CARES FUND – COVID19

We wish to introduce ourselves as a Confederation of the Organisations of Bank Pensioners & Retirees – both Public Sector & Private Sector Banks. Ours is an apolitical & independent organization promoted by All India Bank Officers' Confederation. We imbibe a culture of giving back to the society which has made us what we are today. It is with this humane spirit, we appealed to our affiliates and members to voluntarily contribute out of their meagre fixed pension towards PM-CARES FUND and become part of COVID Warriors in our nation's fight against the global pandemic. The bank pensioners, family pensioners and the retirees have liberally contributed for the noble cause and total contribution aggregate to Rs 2,11,79,966/- (Rs Two Crores Eleven lacs Seventy Nine thousand Nine hundred and sixty six only). It is also noteworthy that many of our members have made direct contributions to PM-CARES FUND and also Chief Minister's Relief Funds in different states.

We are conscious that the task of fighting COVID19 is mammoth for the Government and our humble contribution shall be only a drop in ocean. However, it gives us immense satisfaction that all our members who have contributed for this cause have done so voluntarily and liberally. For all of us in AIBPARC, it is a matter of great pride to handover a Bank Draft No. 086091 Dt 11.6.2020 issued by Bank of India, Mission Row Branch, Calcutta in favour of IOB A/c: PM-CARES FUND for Rs 2,11,79,966/- (Rs Two Crores Eleven lacs Seventy Nine thousand Nine hundred and sixty six only) to your goodself and thus become an integral part of the Team COVID Warriors.

Kindly accept our humble contribution and oblige.

With Regards,

Yours faithfully.



K.V.Acharya S. Sarkar
PRESIDENT AIBPARC



General Secretary

Encl: Bank Draft for Rs 2,11,79,966/-

QUOTE : DOCUMENT NO. 3 – MEMORANDUM ON OUR ISSUES :

Dated:24.06.2020

Shri. Anurag Singh Thakur
Honorable Minister of State for Finance,
Govt of India,
New Delhi

Respected Sir,

Pending Issues of Bank Pensioners & Retirees

We wish to introduce ourselves as a Confederation of the Organisations of Bank Pensioners & Retirees – both Public Sector & Private Sector Banks representing more than 1,25,000 members. Ours is an apolitical organization promoted by All India Bank Officers' Confederation. We are also a Constituent of Coordination of Bank Pensioners & Retirees Organization (CBPRO) which consists of pensioners of almost all banks including SBI pensioners. Our President Shri. K.V.Acharya is the Joint Convenor of CBPRO alongwith Shri. Ramesh Babu of SBI. We have been taking up the issues of Bank Pensioners & Retirees with the Govt of India, Dept of Financial Services, Indian Banks' Association & Banks.

We have many pending issues to be resolved by the Government & Indian Banks' Association which are under consideration at different stages. Out of all the pending issues, the following long pending issues deserve immediate and favourable consideration more so because our members are a vanishing tribe and many have already left the world without their legitimate dreams having been realized. It is with this compassion; we earnestly request your goodself to resolve atleast the following issues to provide succour to our members who are senior & super senior citizens in the evening of their life:

1. Improvements in family pension at par with Government & RBI pensioners

Even though the Banks' Pension Scheme was drawn on the lines of Government & RBI Pension Schemes, the family pension in Banks is quite inferior as it provides for a tapering slab rate ranging from 30% to 15% where higher basic pay above a specified threshold attracts only 15% of last drawn basic pay as against 30% uniform rate in case of Government & RBI family pension. Consequent to our taking up the issue with IBA & DFS, IBA was kind enough to agree to our request and accordingly have sent their recommendations to DFS for revising the family pension in Banks to 30% at par with Government & RBI family pension about a year ago. Sir you will appreciate that most of the family pensioners are elderly widows and hence deserve utmost compassion and sympathy. Hence, we request you to get the same approved by the Government at the earliest.

2. **100% DA Neutralisation to Pre November 2002-Retirees:**

The Officer retirees in the Banks were getting tapered DA on their Basis pension. This anomaly was rectified at the time of salary revision in May 2005. However, while implementing 100% DA Neutralisation, the benefit was not given to those who had retired before November 2002. Sir, you will appreciate that price rise affects all pensioners in equal measures and hence an artificial classification on the basis of the date of ret. *irement violates Article 14 of the constitution. The arbitrary denial of 100% DA Neutralisation to the oldest of the pensioners is therefore unreasonable and unfair. We therefore request your intervention in advising IBA & DFS to remove the anomaly and oblige.

3. **Pension Updation/Revision**

Pension scheme in the banks was introduced in 1995 with effect from 1.1.1986. Pension Regulation 35(1) provided that Basic pension and additional pension shall be updated in respect of those who retired between 1.1.1986 & 31.10.1987 as per the formula given in Appendix-I. Accordingly the updation was implemented. With a view to facilitating updation alongwith future salary revisions, Pension Regulation 35(1) was amended vide Gazette Notification in March 2003 as follows:

“Basic Pension & Additional Pension wherever applicable shall be updated as per the formula given in Appendix I”

This amendment to Pension Regulations made the provision for updation an open ended one. However, it remains unimplemented. Sir, you will appreciate that even the Honourable Supreme Court has held that wage revision and pension revision are inseparable. The Govt of India has already implemented Pension updation/revision in Reserve Bank of India with effect from 1.4.2019. In as much as our pension scheme is akin to Government Pension Scheme & RBI pension scheme, we request you to consider the pending pension updation issue favourably and oblige.

4. **Medical Insurance Scheme for Bank Retirees**

The Department of Financial Services advised IBA & the Banks vide its letter dt. 24.2.2012 to evolve a medical insurance scheme - both for serving & retired employees. Accordingly, a new medical scheme was introduced at the behest of IBA in the year 2015-16. While introducing the New medical insurance scheme, the premium was borne by the banks for serving employees and the retired employees who deserved the benefit of medical insurance scheme the most, were given the option to join the scheme only on payment of premium by individual retirees. Since the communication from DFS did not stipulate the payment of premium by the beneficiaries, the implementation was a distortion which adversely affected the pensioners. We have been demanding for the premium to be borne by the banks in respect of retirees too. Alternatively, we should be covered under a scheme on the lines of CGHS for which one-time fixed contribution may be collected from the retirees at the time of retirement from the service. It is pertinent to mention here that the medical insurance premium for the retirees was Rs 7500/- with OPD facility at the time of introduction of the scheme in 2015-16 but it has now been successively enhanced to more than Rs 95000/- with OPD facilities during the year 2019-20. With the meagre fixed pension, the pensioners & family pensioners are finding it difficult to make both the ends meet. Under such circumstances, the hefty premium charged to Banks' pensioners and retirees is simply unaffordable. A levy of 18% GST on the premium and also on hospitalization bills comes as bolt from the blue. We request your urgent help in this regard.

5. **Reckoning of Special Allowance for Superannuation benefits**

In the last salary revision (wef 1.11.2012), a special allowance as a specified percentage of basic pay and also attracting DA was introduced. However, it was not reckoned for superannuation benefits viz. pension & gratuity. Such exclusion is ultravires and ex-facie illegal. Honourable Supreme Court has held that there cannot be two pays- one for monthly salary & other for computation of pension. In another case, it was held by the Honourable Supreme Court that any allowance which is attracting DA and is of permanent nature, not assigned to performance of any specific duties and also paid during the period when the

employee is on leave is to be treated as a part of basic pay. The banks are reckoning this allowance for the purpose of encashment of leave also. The special allowance paid by the bank fulfils the criteria laid down by the Honourable Supreme Court. We therefore request that the said special allowance may please be reckoned for computation of pension & gratuity in respect of those pensioners who have retired after 1.11.2012.

With Regards,

Yours faithfully,



K.V.Acharya S.Sarkar
PRESIDENT AIBPARC



General Secretary