



ALL INDIA BANK PENSIONERS & RETIREES CONFEDERATION (A.I.B.P.A.R.C.)



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Circular no -57-25

Date: July 22 , 2025

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

Dear Comrade,

Sub: 30 years Long Pending Issue of Updation of Pension of 10 lakh Bank Pensioners and Family Pensioners Awaiting for Justice.

We are reproducing here under the CBPRO Letter CBPRO/08-2025 dated 22.07.2025 written to the Hon'ble Union Finance Minister 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

COORDINATION OF BANK PENSIONERS' AND RETIREES ORGANISATIONS

(Federation of SBI Pensioners' Associations, AIBPARC, RBONC, AIRBEA, FORBE and AIBRAF)

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CBPRO/ Hon'ble FM/ Email/08/2025.

Date: July 22, 2025.

**Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman ji,
Hon'ble Finance Minister,
Government of India,
North Block, New Delhi.**

Respected Madam,

Sub: 30 years Long Pending Issue of Updation of Pension of 10 lakh Bank Pensioners and Family Pensioners Awaiting for Justice.

We beg to encroach upon your valuable time over the non- resolution of the undernoted issues with which you are totally conversant. Hence without much elucidation, we shall touch upon the bullet points only.

1. It is at your kind intervention with IBA only that several long-neglected demands got resolved through Bilateral agreements in the Industry. The issues include, inter alia, the improvement of family pension in line with the Central Government employees, the 100% DA neutralization for Pre-November, 2002 Retirees, the improvement of financial ex-gratia to Pre-01.01.1986 Retirees and their spouses, the granting of pension to the eligible Resignees etc., payment of Ex-gratia to Pensioners pending resolution of Updation of Pension.

2. In course of our two rounds of meeting with Your Good Self (we gratefully acknowledge the audience given), we have been astonished to see that you had a micro- level understanding of all the issues with which the Bank Retirees are confronted. **It is well known to you that the unsurmountable hurdle in front of which the Bank Retirees are most unfortunately standing today is the non - updation of Pension which stands frozen from the date of retirement and which never got upwardly revised till today (More than 30 years).**

*** The Bank Employees Pension Regulations (1995) is modelled expressly on the Central Government Pension Rules and RBI patterns.** The Government employees have their revision of pension at the time of implementation of each Pay Commission Recommendation and as allowed by GOI, pension updation has been regularly taking place at RBI w.e.f. 01.03.2019.

*** The BEPR (1995) is a Defined Benefit Pension Scheme and the payment of Pension does not depend on the yield of the Corpus. In other words, as Pension to Government Pensioners is paid out of Consolidated Fund of the Government (Central Government Budget which used to be invariably a Deficit Budget), the Bank Employees got entitled to it as a 2nd retiral benefit after surrendering their management contribution to PF account with interest.** The Corpus undergoes annual Actuarial Estimation as per AS 15 Revised as an Accounting norm only akin to Provision for NPAs made before arriving Net

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Profit. It is very pertinent to note here that Provision for NPAs is as per Regulators Guidelines whereas for Pension it is Statutory with force of law. Hence if there is any shortfall, the same is made good by the Banks. This is a statutory provision of the Regulations which is a subordinate legislation. But at the same time, we want to point out that Banks have been making huge profits by and large except some Banks for very few years showed losses in between mainly due to Policy Shifts by the Government, in 1990s, due to New Accounting Norms, and after 2014 due to large scale Write offs to clean the Balance Sheets of the of the Banks. Despite these adversities, the Banks are now making record profits. It also goes to the credit of the Banks that they were always showing high Operating Profits.

*** There is a spelt-out provision in BEPR (1995) vide Regulation 35 (1) - Appendix 1 with its amendment done in the year 2003 in terms of which the updation of Pension has been made universally applicable for all eligible Pensioners. Regulation 56 further categorically emphasizes that in case of any doubt in regard to implementation of Pension Scheme reference should be made to Government Pension Scheme.** This is really agonizing for us to note that despite our repeated representations to all the decision-making Authorities, the issue has been sidelined unfairly by IBA and now whimsically citing "Matter Sub-judice." as reason for not giving Updation.

* The Hon'ble Supreme court held that pension is a deferred wage and wage revision of serving Employees and pension revision for the Retirees are inseparable.

3. With the unresolved demand of Pension updation, another issue has surfaced w.e.f. 01.11.2012 since when one of the principal components of salary of the serving employees' as per Bipartite Settlement/ Joint Note has been the Special allowance which attracts Dearness allowance during their service time but which is not computed at the time of Calculation of Pension and Gratuity on their retirement. To such Retirees, pension updation will be virtually meaningless if Special allowance is not computed at the time of calculation of Pension and Gratuity. There is a well pronounced verdict of the Supreme Court in terms of which the special allowance which is paid to all without assigning any Special Duty and given ordinarily and universally to all across all cadre of Employees should be treated as Basic Pay and reckons for Superannuation Benefits.

4. You are well aware of the fact that the Retirees do not have any official forum where they can represent their legitimate grievances at periodic intervals. We have brought it to the notice of the DFS time and again that as per advice of GOI, IBA asked different Banks to form a grievance redressal cell at Corporate level of each Bank but at its own level, IBA is showing a growing reluctance to have Negotiation with apex level Retiree Organisations. Had there been any such official forum available for discussion, we could have tried our level best to sort out several issues like payment of premium of the health insurance policy for Retirees by the respective Banks, the serious discrimination in the payment of Dearness Relief to Pensioners again after removing the discrimination to Pre 2002 Retirees.

5. There are a few left outs in the Banking Industry who after serving the Banks for adequate number of years could not opt for Pension for various reasons. The number is very few. RBI, General insurance companies and NABARD have allowed such opportunities to the left outs. The facility may kindly be extended to a very few unfortunate persons on compassionate grounds whose number is less than thousand.

6. In the given circumstances, over more than a decade, we have been resorting to all the procedures which are permissible under the democratic and civilized social framework to ventilate our grievances. We have made endless correspondence with IBA, DFS, and all other

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Authorities who matter; we have sent e- memorandum to the Hon'ble Prime Minister, the Hon'ble Home Minister, and the Hon'ble Finance Minister; we have met the officials of DFS and also the officials of IBA (that too when DFS advised IBA to do so) and made our issues known to them.

We have made State level protest demonstrations and Centralised Dharnas on repeated occasions at Jantar Mantar, Delhi. On each occasion, we have submitted memorandum on our grievances. Since there is no forward movement, **the Retirees are presently engaged in a movement of Day long Hunger Strike culminating in a general meeting despite their age- and age-related Ailments. Unfortunately, in certain States we are not getting permission on the ground that our Advanced Age added with health problems may cause serious disastrous problems to those who sit on day long FAST. We are at a loss as to what we should do to get our Legal Right of Updation of Pension and Special Allowance as Basic Pay for arriving at Superannuation Benefits. We had submitted memorandum on number of occasions to IBA, Government, Mass On line Petitions again and again to Authorities, met All Concerned Authorities repeatedly, all in vain. Now what else can we do other than this extreme step of risking our lives? Even that the Authorities are not permitting. Bank Pensioners and Retirees are the only one section excluded by the Government from its Glorious Program of "Sab ka Saath, Sab ka Vikas, Sab ka Viswas" for all the Revolutionary and Exemplary Banking Services they rendered to this Great Nation. The insensitivity shown and the irrational and illogical stand taken by IBA has compelled we Pensioners and Retirees to take recourse to this Action Program. We are left with no option but to continue to Struggle to defend our Self Dignity of course abiding to the dictates of the Law enforcing Authorities. We hope the Government known for Governance will not further delay Implementation of the provisions of Bank Employees Pension Regulations 35.1 for Updation which is pending for more than Three Decades.**

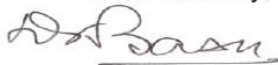
Respected Madam,

You will appreciate that the Retirees are aged and super- aged. They have little time at their disposal. Restlessness is normal. The usual Avenues for redressal of grievances are gradually getting choked and a distressing feeling of being left out and let down and uncared for is gripping 10 lakh Bank Pensioners and Family Pensioners.

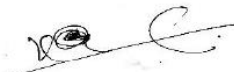
The issues are required to be addressed on a priority basis otherwise a good number of Bank Pensioners and Retirees will not be in the world to enjoy the legitimate rights. We make an earnest appeal to you to see that a grievance redressal cell at the industry level be formed at the earliest to redress the other grievances of Bank Pensioners and Retirees with due respect and care. **It is our conviction that Your Good Self's intervention and Your Ministry's initiative is an abject necessity to resolve the Updation of Pension with all urgency.**

With Respectful Regards,

Yours faithfully,



Dipak Kumar Basu
Joint Convenors, CBPRO



K.V. Acharya