

Date: August 02.08. 2023.

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

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

Dear Comrade,

Sub: 100% DA neutralization to Pre - November, 2002 Retirees - Advice of IBA should encompass all eligible pensioners who are covered under BEPR(1995)- special reference to erstwhile LVB and BORL.

We are reproducing hereunder the text of our letter written on date to The Chairman, IBA on the above referred subject.

This is for information of members.

With best wishes and regards,

Suprita Sarkar General Secretary.

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Quote:

AIBPARC/IBA/DA neutralization/email/2023 Date: August 02, 2023.

The Chairman, IBA, Mumbai.

Respected Sir,

Sub: 100 %DA neutralization to Pre-November 2002 Retirees--Advice of IBA should encompass all eligible Pensioners who are covered under BEPR(1995).

From the Minutes of Understanding arrived at between IBA and UFBU in the meeting held on 28th July,2023,we learn that the issue is presently awaiting clearance of DFS, MOF, GOI and on receipt of the same, the formal advice of IBA to Banks is supposed to be issued. We request you kindly ensure that the clearance is given at the earliest. From our experience of previous years in similar situations, we like to make the following submission before you for your kind consideration:

1. The benefits, as agreed upon in the Minutes, are extendable to all Retirees of the mentioned category who belong to State Bank of India, various Nationalized Banks and Private Sector Banks which had been members to the Agreement of Pension Settlement in the year 1993. But the general practice followed by IBA in regard to communication of any subsequent improvements in Pension –related matters is that IBA issues uniform guidelines to Member Banks to the Bipartite Settlement/Joint Notes. At the time of doing so, please do remember the exceptional situation prevailing in two Banks--Erstwhile LVB taken over by DBS and BORL taken over by ICICI Bank Ltd. The interest of Pensioners in both the Banks is at serious jeopardy. We offer hereunder a short recital for your ready reference and rectifying actions.

2. Erstwhile Lakshmi Vilas Bank Ltd:

This is well known to you that DBS after taking over of LVB has denied the enhancement of Family Pension at the uniform rate of 30% implemented at the industry in line with central government employees and RBI Retirees to the eligible Family Pensioners who are still covered under BEPR (95). The said Bank, on being approached, took a position that IBA had not marked the copy of communication to the effect to DBS and as result the benefits had not been extended. We have a strong apprehension that a similar type of situation may arise in DBS in regard to extension of the benefits of 100%DA neutralization to Pre-November,2002 Retirees . Your good self will surely agree with us that the improvement of family pension and 100%DA neutralization are subsequent improvements in the interest of Pensioners and all such benefits should be extended to all eligible pensioners who are covered under provisions of BEPR (1995) irrespective of such Acquiring Bank being parties to Bipartite Settlement/Joint Note or not. Otherwise wherein lies the sanctity of Agreements and understandings arrived at Industrial level?

3. Erstwhile Bank of Rajasthan Ltd merged with ICICI Bank Ltd:

BORL had also been one of the 58 Banks which are parties to the Pension Agreement signed in the year 1993. Subsequently, it got merged with ICICI Bank Ltd which is not a party to the Bipartite Settlement/ Joint Note. Still the Bank has been paying pension and family pension to eligible persons with revised DA at every 6 months. The Bank also paid arrears of DA due to re-fixation of Basic pay to those who retired between 01.04.98 and 30.04.05. Surprisingly, however, ICICI Bank Ltd did not give effect to the enhancement of Family Pension at the uniform rate of 30% implemented at the Industry level in line with central government employees and RBI Retirees. Though the Bank is maintaining a conspicuous silence, it transpires to us that they will be taking the shelter of not being a party to the wage settlement. Similar such fate may await in regard to the implementation of the resolution of 100%DA neutralization to Pre-November, 2002 Retirees.

We once again urge upon you that subsequent improvements of Pension - related issues should be extended to all pensioners who are covered under the provisions of BEPR (95) irrespective of the said Bank's not being a party to wage revision settlements.

We make an earnest request to you to kindly apply your mind over the issue and make a special mention about the pensioners of both the Banks in your Advisory otherwise the interest of senior citizens of such Banks will be at serious jeopardy.

With kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

K V Acharya. President, AIBPARC.

& Convener, CBPRO

Suprita Sarkar General Secretary.