

# Circular No. 85/19

Date:23.10.2019

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

Dear Comrade,

Sub: Demonstrative programmes to be arranged in all state capitals /important centers of the country to draw the attention of all concerned to the long – neglected demands and aspirations of the retirees of the Banking Industry.

Members are aware that AIBPARC /CBPRO have been continuously following up the issues of pensioners & retirees with government of India/ Indian Banks Association and various constituents of UFBU for a quick and honorable resolution of the demands of the elder citizens of the industry. As a result of this, some awareness has been created in some corners but it is definitely not upto the level of the desired extent. The wage revision talks (Bipartite negotiation) is currently under progress. We are happy that the major constituents in general and AIBOC in particular are mentioning the demands of retirees in each sitting and demanding quick resolve.

- At this crucial stage of negotiation, we should not try to survive on the borrowed strength of UFBU/AIBOC. We have our leaders at different centers; we have our state committee at different states and union territories and above all we have the solid backing of more than 1 lakh membership with us. We shall have to organize massive demonstrations in all state capitals and important centers to display our anguish and aspiration to all authorities concerned and to the society as a whole. Keeping this aim in mind, we have approached the joint conveners of CBPRO to think actively over the issue and ensure that the retirees may come upon the streets in large numbers to give vent to their feelings. We are expecting favourable communication from CBPRO within a reasonable time.
- Our principal issues are :

**Updation of Pension:** Our request for updation of pension derives its strength from the provisions of Bank Employees Pension Regulation clause no 35(1) which reads as: basic pension and additional pension wherever applicable shall be updated as per formula given in appendix 1(gazette notification no 9 dated 01.03.2003). Regulation 56 also provides that in the matter of application of these Regulations regards may be had to the corresponding provisions of central civil service rules 1972 or central civil service (commutation of pension ) rules 1981. Our request

for updation of pension is further supported by the fact that government has granted the facility of updation of pension to RBI pensioners recently.

#### Improvement in family pension scheme:

There was a solemn assurance by the IBA in the Record Note signed with the leaders of UFBU during May'2015 that necessary improvement in line with government employees would be done but nothing has happened so far. Our demand is that the family pension in banks should be made at par with the scheme of central government and RBI pensioners @ 30% of the last drawn basic pay without any cap as against the present slab rates @30% ,20% & 15% where lower percentage being assigned to higher pay with specified ceiling .

#### 100% DA neutralization to Pre November2002 Retirees:

The Bank employees and officers who retired on or after 01.11.2002 were given the benefit of 100% DA neutralization by bringing them under the uniform DA formula instead of tapered DA. However, Pre –November 2002 retirees were left out of such facility in an arbitrary manner. Our demand is that this discrimination is to be removed by extending the benefit of 100%DA neutralization and they should be brought under uniform rate of DA.

### **Medical Insurance scheme for Bank Retirees**

Every year the premium is steadily going up and at present it is almost sky-high. It is becoming gradually impossible for retirees to bear the burden of such a high amount. The position of family pensioners and older pensioners drawing a meager monthly pension beggars description. Although IBA was instructed to make a scheme for the retirees, government never indicated that the premium is to be borne by the retirees themselves but in reality it has happened. In the given circumstances, our demand is that either the premium is to be fully absorbed / subsidized by the Bank or all the retirees of the Banking Industry are to be brought under the central government health scheme (CGHS). Bank provides free health care to the serving employees and the full time directors of the board. Why then a discriminatory treatment will be meted to the retirees ?

## Forms of agitational programme:

Keeping all the above demands in the front line, all state committees / affiliates of AIBPARC will start preparation to hold massive demonstration / dharna in important places of state capitals and other centers wherever possible to highlight the demands of the elder citizens of the Industry. **Depending upon the organizational convenience, the date of the programme may be suitably fixed up on any day between November 11 to November 30,2019.** 

# Need of regular flow of information to the central office

All leaders /veterans /activists /affiliates are requested to keep the central office informed about two things – date of demonstration /dharna and a report on the success of the programme. This can be sent at the email of the organization .

With best wishes

Suprita Sarkar General Secretary