

ALL INDIA BANK PENSIONERS & RETIREES CONFEDERATION



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

Office of GS at: 4, Netaji Subhas Road, 1st Floor, Cubicle no: 170 KOLKATA- 700 001

Mobile: 9674188524, E-mail: aibparc2@gmail.com

Regd. Office: MAYUR VIHAR, PHASE – 1 57 A, POCKET 3, DELHI 110091

Date: September 26, 2025.

Senior Office Bearers

PRESIDENT SHRI K.V. ACHARYA, MOB - 9868220338

GENERAL SECRETARY SHRI S. SARKAR MOB – 9674188524

WORKING PRESIDENTS:

1. SHRI C. GANGADHAR
Yadav
MOB – 9440528806
2. SHRI P.S. PATKI
MOB – 8805607239
3. SHRI S.B.C.
KARUNAKARAN,
MOB – 9444772016
4. SHRI A.N.
KRISHNAMURTHY,
MOB NO. 9845697198
5. SHRI S. KUPPUSWAMI
MOB- 9444315928
6. Shri S.C. AHUJA
MOB: 9650068773

SR. VICE PRESIDENTS: 1. SHRI M.R. GOPINATH RAO MOB - 9886309244 2. SHRI R.S. TRIVEDI MOB - 9825049640 3. SHRI R.M. JOSHI, MOB NO. 9820127193 4. SHRI R. K. SHARMA MOB - 8171461116 5. SHRI RAM PAL MOB - 9784405801 6. SHRI K.S. RENGARAJAN MOB-9941304028 7. SHRI PAUL MUNDADAN MOR - 9895378557 8 SHRI PREM KUMAR MALHOTRA MOB- 9425156535 9. SHRI N.K. PAREEK MOB - 9829015773 10.SHRI S. NAGARAJ MOB - 9986644118 11.SHRI PRAKASH KAROTYA MOB- 9818821395 12. SHRI DAU DAYAL MAHESHWARI

MOB: 9958739618

Circular no 88-25

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

Dear Comrade,

Sub: Group Medical Insurance Scheme for Bank Retirees for the year November 2025 to October 2026 – AIBPARC's advisory to members of its affiliates to remain with the IBA policy to make it sustainable and viable in the long run.

1. Issue of GST loaded on annual premium of health insurance policies:

We are aware of the fact that the members have been suffering from a serious demoralizing effect because of the decision of the GST Council of not allowing exemption on the component of GST chargeable on the annual premium. We have been agitating on the issue of GST launched in 2017 as Tax Reforms for Exemption/ Reduction of GST on Health Insurance and we have made it a regular agenda item in all our memoranda and struggle. When the confusion started cropping up, we have written to the Hon'ble Union Finance Minister who happens to be the Chairperson of the GST Council, the Secretary of the GST Council, and the Chairman IBA.

Yesterday Our leaders stationed at Delhi, Comrades Shri Subhash Ahuja, Shri J D Sharma and Shri D K Hans visited the officials of the GST Council to impress upon the fact that the Retirees are eligible to get the exemption and they had explained in detail the Bank Retirees case for Exemption of GST on our Health Insurance Policy Premium. We hope for some forward movement on the issue by the GST Council and Government.

Meanwhile we are also looking into the option for legal course of action in view of the urgency of the issue. We will study the issue in depth and will not venture into any knee jerk reactions but will continue to pursue the issue from all angles.

However, the Fact remains that our efforts has not yielded the desired result so far and Banks after Banks have issued circulars calling for exercising options for availing Medical Insurance Policy suggesting to pay the GST on annual premium. We deem it necessary to send advisory to our Comrades about options for availing Medical Insurance for the year 2025--2026. Our struggle will continue to make it an item of getting the exemption of GST on our Medical Insurance Policy.

2. The issue of GST must not dissipate the gains achieved by us over a decade on Medical Insurance.

- **A)** Members will have to understand that the combined policy for the on-service employees and the officers and the Retirees for which we have struggled since 2016 and achieved in the previous year have also been continued for the present year. The retirees have got the benefit of cross-subsidization and the annual premium of the Base Policy has remained within a very reasonable extent.
- **B)** We have been consistently demanding that the cost of medical treatment has gone up substantially and upper limit of the health insurance should be upwardly hiked. This has been achieved. The upper ceiling applicable for



ALL INDIA BANK PENSIONERS & RETIREES CONFEDERATION



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

the Award Staffs, officers from scale I to scale V and officers in scale VI onwards has been increased. We do not have any hesitation to admit that we had demanded a running insurance limit from Rs.3 lakhs to Rs.7 lakhs in the Base Policy for all irrespective of cadre and each retiree could have applied his/ her option according to his/her affordability. This proposal was in line with the provisions of the CGHS Scheme for the Central Government Employees. Our efforts will continue.

- **C)** Our demand for creation of multiple slabs in the Base Policy has seen limited success. The award staffs have got the opportunity to opt for Rs. 3 lakhs or Rs.4 lakhs in the Base Policy. The officers in scale VI and above have got the opportunity to opt for Rs.5.25 lakhs or Rs.7 lakhs in the Base Policy. This is unfortunate that our demand for allowing the officers in the scale I to scale V to opt for Rs.4 lakhs and Rs. 5.25 lakhs have not been conceded.
- **D)** Members know that AIBPARC for about a decade has been demanding that the physically and mentally challenged dependent persons be included in the health insurance cover within the same premium limit. We have got limited success in as much as the demand has been conceded but we are not at all happy to see that the clause of add-on premium has been brought into picture. The number of such persons is few and the facility demanded by AIBPARC could have been agreed to on a very compassionate ground. Our struggle will continue.
- **E)** Members will be happy to know that to encourage more number of Retirees to join the scheme, it has been decided to allow any retiree who has not subscribed to the current insurance policy may join the policy of the year-November, 2025 to October, 2026.
- **F)** The limit of reimbursement of expenses has been upwardly revised in certain cases and several modes of treatment which were not allowed in the earlier years have been brought under the ambit of reimbursement in the current year. Members are requested to go through the circulars of respective Banks carefully to know about it.
- **G)** As regards the Top Up Policy, the Retirees will get the opportunity to opt for any one of the slab from Rs.1 lakh to Rs.4 lakhs. In the previous year, the organization had been highly critical about the exorbitant rate fixed for the Top Up policy. We have some consolation to see that in each compartment of the Top Up policy; the rate of premium has been on the lower side in comparison with that of the previous year.

3. Why AIBPARC is always in favour of remaining with the IBA policy:

- **A)** This is a product of long drawn struggle and settled bilaterally between IBA and UFBU at the industry level. We can always convey our demands to improve upon the terms and conditions which will be beneficial to the senior citizens. It has been proved over the years that several improvements have taken place.
- **B)** From the figures available from IBA circular, it will be evident that less than 20% of the total number of Pensioners and Family Pensioners have enrolled themselves in the scheme. It is not a good sign at all. In order to make this scheme viable and sustainable in the long run, more and more people will have to join the scheme.

4. Conclusion:

AIBPARC appeals to all the members of its affiliates to join the IBA scheme in totality. The organization can issue advisory only which is an honest counselling, but not in mandatory nature. They have their own choices. From our experiences in the past, we have seen that certain affiliates have gone for the Top Up policy managed by the Brokers. We are leaving this issue of Top Up policy on the prudence and wisdom of the respective affiliates with a request to make a very thorough appraisal of the option for Top Up policy offered by others.

With best wishes and regards,

Comradely yours,

K.V. Acharya. President, AIBPARC & Jt. Convenor, CBPRO Suprita Sarkar General Secretary