

COORDINATION OF BANK PENSIONERS' AND RETIREES ORGANISATIONS

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To
Com. M.V.Murali,
Convener UFBU,
C/o State Bank of India Staff union,
SBI Buildings,
Bank Street,
Hyderabad 50095

Dear Comrade,

Sub: Long Pending Issues of Bank Pensioners and Retirees.

At the outset we wish to thank you all, the constituents of the UFBU, for having not only included for the **X Bipartite Settlement** Bank pensioners' and Retirees' issues in the Charter of Demands **but also ensured mandate from Banks for the whole of Charter of Demands** and not selectively only for those demands concerning the serving employees. It gave a sense of relief to all Bank Retirees that the serving Employees and Officers organisations are committed to the cause of the Retirees, and that Banks have also given the mandate to IBA to decide on these issues. Retirees are also happy that you are all pursuing the Bank Retirees issues and grievances even after the conclusion of X Bipartite settlement. We are hopeful and confident of getting your continued support to the cause of your elder brothers and sisters in future too. Some of the issues like Pension updation, 100% DA neutralization to all, Improvement in Family pension and improvement in medical Insurance Scheme are the issues of those who have already retired and those who are going to retire in future. Hence we strongly feel that a strong coordinated efforts by UFBU and Retirees' Organisations is very necessary. To make the coordination among the Retirees' Organisations easy and purposeful, the major Bank Retirees' Organisations have formed a coordinated body known as **COORDINATION OF BANK PENSIONERS' AND RETIREES ORGANISATIONS (CBPRO)** consisting of Pensioners Organisations from SBI and Public and Private Sector Banks. After the formation of CBPRO, apart from holding massive demonstrations and dharnas in Delhi and other State Capitals we are also pursuing the matters with Hon'ble Finance Minister, MOS Finance, Ministry Officials and the

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IBA. Though we have been getting solemn assurances from those whom we have met and discussed, nothing concrete has happened in regard to our issues so far.

Here we also want to point out that it is more than one year now after the conclusion of 10th Bipartite Settlement along with the Record Note in regard to Bank Retirees issues. The Record served the twin purpose of keeping these alive and ensuring continuity of mandate to IBA to discuss and resolve these issues. Some of the assertions/reasons made in the said Record Note were neither appreciated by you nor by the Bank Pensioners and Retirees. However we took it in our strides and hoped that the following issues mentioned in the Record Note would eventually get resolved within a year from the date of 10th Bipartite Settlement. The issues as you know are as under:

1. Uniform 100% DA Relief to pre Nov 2002 Retirees.
2. Improvement in Family Pension.
3. Pension updation.
4. Uniform Medical Insurance Scheme.

Apart from the above, we have also raised the following issues in all our earlier action programmes and correspondences:

1. Anomaly and discrimination to SBI Pensioners under 7th Bipartite Settlement.
2. Realignment of Pension to the SBI Retirees under 5th to 8th Bipartite Settlement.
3. One more option to left out Employees (including Compulsorily Retired and Resigned with pensionable service).
4. Improvement in Ex-gratia to pre 1986 Retirees.
5. Addition of notional service to Superannuation Pension to eligible Pensioners in terms of Reg.26

In spite of concerted efforts by all Retirees Organisations and support from UFBU and interventions by Ministers and Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice no tangible developments in regard to the issues have taken place so far. It is also a fact that bulk Retirements will take place in another two years resulting in almost all those who are covered under the **DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION SCHEME** retire with the above issues remaining unresolved. The robust Pension Corpus of about 150,000 crores will be left unutilized as the Retirees' population is also dwindling fast due to age. Hence there is a great urgency to put our best efforts to see that justice is done to the Bank Pensioners and Retirees. CBPRO is also further consolidating the Retirees' Movement.

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In the light of the above we earnestly request to all the constituents of UFBU to give the final push to the issues of the Retirees with the concerned authorities. In this connection we also wish to suggest to you that both the UFBU constituents and Retirees' Organisations can meet and work out the strategies. We request UFBU to organize such meetings as early as possible. We will deem it our privilege to participate in such meetings.

Thanking you,

Yours Comradely,



A.Ramesh Babu



K.V.Acharya

Joint Conveners