Camp Office: J 208, Vijay Rattan Vihar, Sector 15 Part II, Gurugram 122001 Mobile: 9868220338 Email: acharyavedavyasa46@gmail.com

Dated 18.10.2020

Ms Nirmala Sitharaman Hon'ble Finance Minister Government of India North Block NEW DELHI

Respected Madam,

## PENSION UPDATION @6352 POINTS

We have been taking up various issues of pensioners including Updation of Pension with the IBA and the Government. As regards Updation of Pension we wish to submit the following details so as to put the issue in right perspective for your kind and favourable consideration:

1. Introduction of Pension in Public Sector Banks and other member Private Sector Banks was only after a long-drawn struggle by the Unions and Associations. **The Pension was eventually clinched only as a second benefit i.e. in lieu of Contributory Provident Fund.** Accordingly those who opted for Pension were made to refund the entire amount of the bank's contribution to provident fund including the interest accrued thereon and those who had retired after 1.1.1986, were asked to pay further interest on such amount from the date of settlement of PF till the date of refund in terms of Regulation 3 and 6. Even the Second Option came at a cost even to those who were continuing in the service of the bank. The amount so collected from the optees was also transferred to Pension Fund.

2. Regulation 5(3) provided that the Bank shall be a contributor to the Pension Fund and shall ensure that sufficient sums are placed in it to enable trustees to make due payments to beneficiaries under the Pension Regulations. It thus casts a mandatory obligation on the Banks to ensure sufficiency of the funds to meet the liability towards Pension and Family Pension in terms of Banks' Pension Regulations which includes Pension Updation as provided under Pension Regulation 35 (1).

3. Banks were required to contribute @ 10% per month of the Pay of the Employee in terms of Regulation 7(a) and additional annual contribution (Regulation 7(f)) after causing an Actuarial Investigation into the financial condition of the Fund as on 31<sup>st</sup> March every year so as to secure payment of the benefits under these Regulations.

4. Pension Regulation 35(1) of Bank Employees' Pension Regulations, 1995 originally provided that in respect of employees who retired between 1st January 1986 but before 1st November, 1987, basic and additional Pension shall be updated as per the formula given on Appendix -1. This Updation was effected to eligible retirees at the time of implementation of Pension Scheme in the Banks. The formula in

Camp Office: J 208, Vijay Rattan Vihar, Sector 15 Part II, Gurugram 122001 Mobile: 9868220338 Email: acharyavedavyasa46@gmail.com

the Appendix-1 was the same as applicable for Central Government Pensioners at that time.

5. Regulation 35 (1) was subsequently amended vide Government Gazette Notification No. 9 Dated 1st March 2003 and provided that the Basic Pension and Additional Pension, wherever applicable, shall be updated as per the formulae given in the Appendix 1. It made Updation of Pension applicable to all irrespective of their date of retirement. The reasons and objects of this amendment have been rendered meaningless by the inaction on the part of IBA & DFS by not implementing the amended provisions of Regulation 35 (1). Since this well intended amendment was not implemented, the Formulae in Appendix 1 also remained unupdated despite corresponding amendments in the formulae of updation for Central Government Employees with every Central Pay Commissions.

6. In view of such an Unambiguous provision for Updation in the Pension Regulations, Bank Pensioners have been demanding Updation of Pension for all the Pensioners from respective dates of their eligibility for the Updation. But after grant of Updation of Pension for the employees of RBI and also extending the same ti the Pensioners of NABARD, the Bank Pensioners have lowered their demand by requesting at least for the RBI Pensioners Updation Formula and with the same date of effect i.e. March, 2019.

7. We give below the details of our working including what would be the cost of Pension updation including SBI employees for your consideration.

It may however be noted that in the absence of complete Grade-wise break-up of Officer retirees available with us, the working of pension Updation is done by taking the maximum pension of a scale III Officer as a mean of all pensioners in Officers Cadre. Hence the actual cost would definitely work out less in view of the fact that in the year 2000 Special VRS took place and all were not drawing maximum pay.

It is also assumed that 100% D.A. Neutralisation would be granted for the pensioners retired from 1-01-1986 to 31.10.2002.

Factors for Each Batch of Retirees in line with RBI Pension updation implemented in March 2019 are arrived at here below:

o FOR TAKING RETIREES TO 1992 SETTLEMENT FROM 1987:(Batch 1)

 BASIC PENSION:
 1

 DA/DR MERGED:
 (1148-600)=548/4=137\*0.67
 =91.79% =0.9179

 BASIC PENSION AFTER MERGER =1+0.9179
 =1.9179

 NOTIONAL10%0F 1.9179
 =0.19179

 REVISED BASIC PENSION
 =1.9179+0.19179
 =2.11

 FACTOR FOR REVISED BASIC PENSION
 = 2.11

Camp Office: J 208, Vijay Rattan Vihar, Sector 15 Part II, Gurugram 122001 Mobile: 9868220338 Email: acharyavedavyasa46@gmail.com

#### • FOR TAKING RETIREES TO 1998 SETTLEMENT FROM 1992: (Batch 2)

BASIC PENSION: 1	
DA/DRMERGED: (1684-1148)=536/4=134*0.35	5=46.9%= 0.469
BASIC PENSION AFTER MERGER:	=1+0.469 = 1.469
NOTIONAL10%OF1.469	=0.1469
REVISED BASIC PENSION	=1.469+0.1469 =1.616
FACTOR FOR REVISED BASIC PENSION	=1.616

#### • FOR TAKING RETIREES TO 2002 SETTLEMENT FROM 1998: (Batch 3)

 BASIC PENSION:
 1

 DA/DR MERGED:
 (2288-1684)=604/4=151\*0.24 =36.24= 0.3624

 BASIC PENSION AFTER MERGER
 =1+0.3624 =1.3624

 NOTIONAL 10% AFTER MERGER:
 =0.13624

 REVISED BASIC PENSION
 =1.3624+0.13624 =1.49

 FACTOR FOR REVISED PENSION
 =1.49

#### o FOR TAKING RETIREES TO 2007 SETTLEMENT FROM 2002 : (Batch 4)

BASIC PENSION	1	
DA/DR MERGED:	(2836-2288)=548/4=137*0.18	3 =24.66% = 0.2466
BASIC PENSION AF	TER MERGER	=1+0.2466 =1.2466
NOTIONAL 10% OF	1.2466	=0.1246
<b>REVISED BASIC PE</b>	NSION	=1.2466+0.1246 =1.37
FACTOR FOR REVIS	SED BASIC PENSION	=1.37

#### o FOR TAKING RETIREES TO 2012 SETTLEMENT FROM 2007 : (Batch 5)

BASIC PENSION:	1		
DA/DRMERGED:	(4440-2836)= 1604	4/4=401*0.15 =	=60.15% =0.6015
BASIC PENSION A	FTER MERGER	=	=1+0.6015 =1.6015
NOTIONAL10%OF1	.6015	:	= 0.16015
REVISED BASIC PI	ENSION	:	=1.6015+0.1601 =1.7616
FACTOR FOR REV	ISED BASIC PENSIO	DN =	= 1.76

#### o FOR TAKING RETIREES TO 2017 MOU FROM 2012: (Batch 6)

BASIC PENSION: 1	
DA/DRMERGER: (6352-4440)=1912/4=478*0.10	=47.80% = 0.478
BASIC PENSION AFTER MERGER	=1+0.478 = 1.478
NOTIONAL 10% OF 1.478	= 0.1478
REVISED BASIC PENSION	=1.478+0.1478=1.6258
FACTOR FOR REVISED BASIC PENSION	= 1.62

### **USING THE ABOVE RESULTS, THE** FACTORS FOR PENSION UPDATION @6352 POINTS ON THE BASIS OF RBI FORMULAE ARE WORKED OUT AS UNDER:

1.1987BATCH	12.2*1.62=19.76
2.1992 BATCH	5.78*1.62= 9.36
3.1998 BATCH	3.59*1.62= 5.82
4.2002 BATCH	2.41*1.62= 4.39
5.2007 BATCH	1.76*1.62= 2.85
6.2012 BATCH	= 1.62

Camp Office: J 208, Vijay Rattan Vihar, Sector 15 Part II, Gurugram 122001 Mobile: 9868220338 Email: acharyavedavyasa46@gmail.com

TOTAL COST of Pension Updation @6352 Points as on August 2019 for PSBS on the lines of RBI Formula:

For PSBs:			
Batch 1	No. of	Pension	Total
SS CLK OFF Batch 2	Retirees 1453 2243 4284	Increase 8038 15478 30825	11679214 34717154 132054300
SS CLK OFF Batch 3	2328 4246 9290	6883 12860 26389	16023624 54603560 245153810
SS CLK OFF Batch 4	9266 32236 35417	5898 11105 23110	54650868 357980780 818486870
SS CLK OFF Batch 5	6370 7932 8312	6879 12017 20271	43819230 95318844 168492552
SS CLK OFF	12145 26696 31415	3476 5785 9956	42216020 114436360 312767740
Batch 6			
SS CLK OFF	13062 30910 36375	1572 2671 4360	20533464 82560610 158595000
Total Total	273980 273980	Per month Per annum	2804090000 3364908000
	oncionara		

## **FOR SBI Pensioners**

Batch 1	No of	Pension	Total
Retirees Increase			
SS	730	8038	5867740
CLK	947	15478	14657666
OFF	1026	30825	31626450

Camp Office: J 208, Vijay Rattan Vihar, Sector 15 Part II, Gurugram 122001 Mobile: 9868220338 Email: acharyavedavyasa46@gmail.com

Batch 2				
SS CLK OFF	2436		13050168 31326960 64283604	
Batch	3			
CLK		11105	40283340 106130485 252245650	
Batch	4			
CLK		12017	46460766 119749405 227906853	
Batch	5			
CLK		3476 5785 9956	29382628 61124310 114205276	
Batch 6				
CLK	9780 12234 13381	2671	15374160 32677014 58341160	
Total	130620	Per Month	1264693635	
Total	130620	Per Annum	15176323620	
Total No. of Cost Per annum Pensioners				
	273980 130620	 33649080000 15176363220		
Total	Total 404600 48825443220			
Rs.4882.54 Cr for 404600 pensioners				

Rs.5322.87 Cr for 441000 pensioners

Camp Office: J 208, Vijay Rattan Vihar, Sector 15 Part II, Gurugram 122001 Mobile: 9868220338 Email: acharyavedavyasa46@gmail.com

It is submitted that the Pension Funds of the Banks are quite healthy and can afford Updation of Pension using the same Factors as done in the case of RBI and NABARD without affecting the Balance Sheets at this juncture.

# Since the Public Sector Banks are State within the meaning of Article 12 of the Constitution of India and Banks Pension Regulation (35 (1)) providing for Updation of Pension, are Subordinate Legislation, it is a statutory obligation on the part of the Banks to periodically update the pension.

It is also ruled by the Hon'ble Supreme Court that Salary Revision and Pension Revision are inseparable and constitute a Legal right. It was also held that Pension is not a **Bounty and is a Deferred Wage**. It therefore naturally follows that whenever there is a revision of wages, the **Deferred Wages cannot remain constant**. Hence the demand for Pension Revision cannot be overemphasised.

The contention that the Banks are incurring losses which impede their capacity to pay is hollow as Pension Fund is not created out of profits and its provision does not find a place in the Profit & Loss Appropriation A/c of the Banks. Moreover, the Banks are forced to provide for NPAs despite losses. The provision for NPAs is a Regulatory Guidelines whereas the provision for Pension Fund in accordance with the Pension Regulation 11 constitutes a Statutory Provision. It is pertinent to submit that the Statutory Provisions have Precedence over the Regulatory Provisions. The introduction of Pension by signing the Settlement in the year 1993 is quite significant as many Banks were in Loss during 1992 and 1993 due to the Introduction of New Accounting Norms. Had the Pension been dependent on the profits of the Banks, it would not have been agreed to grant pension at that juncture.

Obtention of Actuary's Estimate is a requirement incorporated in the Pension Regulations for enabling the Banks to estimate the correct requirement of Additional provision on annual basis and cannot be construed as a hindrance to extend the benefits of Updation in terms of Regulation 35(1). Similarly, AS-15 (R) is an alien concept to the Banks Pension Regulations and cannot be allowed to interfere with the existing beneficial provisions like Updation of Pension in terms of Regulation 35(1). While Regulations which adversely affect the Pensioners even after Retirement by invoking Pension Regulation thrusting Disciplinary Proceedings and subjecting them to Punishments how a Legal Right of getting Pension Updation under existing Regulation 35(1) with every Wage Revision can be denied? In fact, only Bank Employees Pension Regulations contain a Categorical assertion by way of Regulation 35(1) providing for Updation of Pension and Regulation 56 asserts about reference to Central Government Pension Scheme.

As you are aware, the Banks Pension Scheme is similar to that of RBI and it was so referred to in the Pension Settlement. Pension Regulation 56 also provides that in case of any doubt, a reference shall be had to the Central Government Pension and Commutation Rules 1972. In as much as the Updation of Pension is available to the

Camp Office: J 208, Vijay Rattan Vihar, Sector 15 Part II, Gurugram 122001 Mobile: 9868220338 Email: acharyavedavyasa46@gmail.com

Central Government Pensioners and has also been extended to RBI and NABARD Pensioners, it would be unfair and unfortunate to continue to deny the benefit of Updation of Pension to Bank Pensioners despite there being a pre-existing provision under our Pension Regulation 35(1).

Hence it is submitted to favourably consider the legitimate demand of the Bank Pensioners for grant of Updation of Pension and settle the issue along with the signing of the 11<sup>th</sup> Bipartite Settlement.

With Regards,

Yours faithfully,

K V Acharya President AIBPARC & Joint Convener -CBPRO

Vor

S Sarkar General Secretary AIBPARC