



ALL INDIA BANK PENSIONERS' & RETIREES' CONFEDERATION (A.I.B.P.A.R.C.)

C/O BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION (EASTERN INDIA BRANCHES) BANK OF INDIA, KOLKATA MAIN BRANCH 23A, NETAJI SUBHAS ROAD, KOLKATA – 700 001

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

<u>Circular No.22-20</u> Date: 24.02. 2020.

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

Dear Comrade,

SUB: IBA's mysterious communication to Shri V.M. Seshasayan on issues under Negotiation with UFBU.

Members might have seen in what's app a letter written purportedly by IBA to Shri Seshasayan. The contents of the letter is not fact based. Joint Convenors of CBPRO have taken up the issue with Convenor, UFBU. We are reproducing hereunder the letter dated 24.2.20 for information of members.

With best wishes,

(Suprita Sarkar) General Secretary

Dated:24.02.2020

Com. Sanjeev K. Bandlish Convener, UFBU General Secretary, NCBE

Dear Comrade Bandlish,

IBA's mysterious communication to Shri V.M. Seshasayan on issues under Negotiation with UFBU.

We are surprised and shocked to read the contents of a letter purported to have been written by IBA to Shri V.M.Seshasayan in respect of Ex - Gratia and Pension Updation. The said letter which is in circulation in the social media is causing massive anxiety and repercussions raising serious doubts about the intentions of IBA in regard to issues already under discussions with UFBU.

Rightly UFBU has made substantial headway in Wage Negotiations through continuous and sustained agitations, Action Programmes and Resolute Negotiations.

But It is quite strange, disturbing and also intriguing that the IBA should now choose to write to individuals on Industry level issues when negotiations are going on with Apex UFBU Organisations and there by conveying to all concerned its self-imposed artificial restrictions of being only a Voluntary Organisation of Bankers with mere advisory position that too only on getting mandate from the Member Banks.

It is a matter of record that the IBA in the past had negotiated with the UFBU in matters concerning Pension related matters in Wage Negotiations like-

- 1 .7th Bi-partite Settlement Applying Different DA index merger for New Basic Pay construction to serving Employees and Officers.
- 2. 8th Bi-partite Settlement Correction of the above retrograde Clause by applying identical DA index merger, of course from 2005 which was later on made effective from 1998, thankfully due to Hon'ble Supreme Court order
- 3. 9th Bi-partite Settlement- Granting of Second Option of Pension to those who are left out including Special VRS Retirees and later on to normal VRS Retirees. Here again the Hon'ble Supreme Court further extended it to Compulsorily Retired Employees and Officers also.
- 4. 10th Bi-partite Settlement Record Note Regarding Retirees Issues covering Family Pension, Updation of Pension, Uniform DA to all Retirees irrespective of date of Retirement, Medical Facilities etc.

5.benefits of Encashment of Privilege Leave to CRS Employees and Officers and other Pensioners related matters

Things being so, it has become a routine and lame excuses for IBA to protract issues for no reason or rhyme by raising the bogey of being only a Voluntary Organisation and mandate etc.

It is amusing to note that IBA often cites monetary burden and cost implications in Negotiations whereas the fact is that the present plight of the Banks is mainly due to big Corporate NPAs and certainly not due to lack of efficiency of the work-force of the Banks. In fact, every Bank is making huge Operating Profits which is the real yard stick of the efficacy and efficiency of Bank Employees and Officers.

As far as Bank Pensioners and Retirees issues are concerned all the Banks have sufficient funds in their Pension Fund and invariably the Auditors and Actuaries have also in the Balance Sheets of the Banks year after year certified that enough provisions have been made to the Pension Fund as per the provisions of Bank Employees Pension Regulations to enable the Banks to meet their Pension obligations. Some of the Banks have even transferred the amounts from Pension Fund to their Profit and Loss Account on the ground of having made excess provision to Pension Fund. One such classic example is Punjab National Bank.

We thought it fit to bring to the kind notice of UFBU Leadership with a request to urge upon the IBA not to jeopardise the present Wage Negotiations Process including Retirees issues by sending misleading and untrue reasons to individuals causing anxiety to Serving Employees and Officers and Retirees.

It should be the endeavour of IBA to become very sensitive to the reasonable expectations of the very aged Super Seniors of the Banking Industry.

While we appreciate the New Culture of IBA to respond to letters written by individuals we fervently hope that at least now onwards the same culture and respect is shown to the letters of Apex Bank Pensioners and Retirees Organisations with a very objective view of resolving their Long Pending Issues.

With Regards,

Yours Comradely,

(A.Ramesh Babu) (K.V. Acharya)

Joint Conveners, CBPRO