



**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
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Circular no. 116/20

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

Dear Comrades,

Sub: Pension Updation and other long pending issues of the Retirees.

Our organization has today sent a representation to the Chairman, IBA on the above subject.

The copy of the letter is being reproduced hereunder for information of members.

With best wishes and regards,

Comradely Yours,,

(SUPRITA SARKAR)
GENERAL SECRETARY

Quote:

The Chairman,
IBA, Mumbai.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Updation of Pension.

With reference to the above subject, We like to draw your kind attention to the following facts:

1) We have been taking up the pending issues of Bank Pensioners and Retirees for several years and the Improvements in Family Pension @ 30 % at par with Central Government and RBI Pensioners, Updation of Pension, 100% DA Neutralisation to Pre-November 2002 Retirees, Free Medical Insurance, Reckoning of Special Allowance for Computation of Superannuation Benefits, and Pension to Resignees have been our core issues

2) The Retirees of the Banking Industry were highly enthused and sensitised to hear the unequivocal and reassuring speech of Smt Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Union Finance Minister in the 73rd AGM of IBA on 10th November ,2020 in regard to the Updation of Pension, Improvements in Family Pension and Medical Insurance etc. Her speech was punctuated by all the care and concern to the pensioners when she said that the Retired Bank employees be treated as same family members and like Defence Personnel due care be taken of the Retired Bank Employees and their pending issues settled early. The affectionate touch towards Bank Retirees reflected in her address to the 73rd AGM of IBA spoke volumes about the intent of the Union Government to resolve the pending issues of Bank Pensioners and Retirees. You also IBA, have been very much inclined to consider our Requests sympathetically. Now that the Honourable Finance Minister herself has made known the Well-Meaning Intentions of the Government so emphatically both during Her Interview to Business Line and while addressing the AGM of IBA, Sir, you will appreciate that it was natural for the hopes and aspirations of Bank Pensioners and Retirees to go up as they saw the strong signals of resolution of their genuine pending Issues alongwith the just concluded Salary Revision. Hence we were all anxiously waiting for the Good News along with the just concluded wage Settlement.

3) We were happy to see the improvements in Family Pension as demanded by us find a place in the 11th BPS and Joint Note for Revision of Salary for the serving Employees and Officers. But it was much short of the expectations which were raised by the speech of the Honourable Finance Minister as the other important issues like Updation of Pension, Medical Insurance, 100% DA Neutralisation etc remained unaddressed in the BPS/Joint Note. We have a fond hope that IBA under Your dynamic Leadership shall resolve these also on top priority.

4) We understand that the Updation of Pension has been facing the major roadblocks due to lack of clear understanding of our contention and hence we once again submit the following facts for your kind and sympathetic consideration:

a) Revision of Salary and Revision of Pension are inseparable as held by the Courts. Sir you will appreciate that the Pension being a deferred wage cannot remain static and unrevised when the wages are revised periodically. Non- Updation of Pension alongwith every periodical Revision of Salary is ex-facie illegal and needs correction.

b) Every Bank has constituted its Pension Fund to meet the liability of payment of Pension and Family Pension in terms of Bank Employees Pension Regulations 1995. These Regulations are

statutory in nature having been made in exercise of the powers conferred by Clause (f) of Sub-section (2) of Section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act 1970 by the Boards of the Banks after consultation with the RBI and with the previous sanction of the Central Government. It is thus clear that it is an avowed obligation on the part of the Banks to ensure that the Pension Regulations are implemented in letter and spirit.

c) Regulation 35 (1) provides that Basic Pension and Additional Pension, wherever applicable shall be updated as per the formulae given in Appendix-I. (as duly amended and published in the Gazette of Government India in March 2003).

d) Pension Fund has been constituted in terms of Regulation 5 (1) for the sole purpose of provision of Pension or Family Pension in accordance with the Pension Regulation 5 (2).

e) The Bank shall contribute to the Fund and ensure that sufficient sums are placed in it to enable the Trustees of the Fund to make due payments to the beneficiaries under these Regulations.

f) In terms of Regulation 7 (a) Bank shall contribute @ 10% per month of the Pay of the Employee and additional contribution as may be required to secure payment of the benefits under these Regulations shall be made by the Bank annually in terms of Regulation 11 after causing an Actuarial Investigation as on 31st March every year.

g) Since Banks have been following these Regulation and the Funds in every Bank are subject to Audit, we believe that the Funds have got adequate sum to afford the liability arising out of the Updation of Pension, which is about Rs.5,322 crores per annum including SBI. The robust health of the Pension Funds of all the Banks would make it affordable without a dent to Balance sheets.

5) In as much as the Government has already granted further Updation of Pension to RBI Pensioners w.e.f. 1.3.2019 and is further extended to the Pensioners of NABARD, we the Bank Pensioners have nurtured a fond hope that even if we were the last in the Banking Sector to be extended the benefit of Updation of Pension, we shall be given the same alongwith the 11th BPS/Joint Note by taking the RBI formulae as the basis.

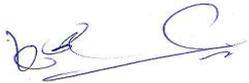
6) It is also pertinent to submit that Regulation 56 says "In case of doubt, in the matter of application of these regulations, regard may be had to the corresponding provisions of Central Civil Service Rules,1972 or Central Civil Service (Commutation if Pension) Rules,1981..... may from time to time determine".

7) Sir, You will surely appreciate the level of anxiety that we have in our mind. Records will speak that Pension Updation did not take place since 1992 and about 100,000 Pensioners and large number of Family Pensioners of the Industry have left the world for their heavenly abode during the intervening period with a painfully inadequate monthly pension with a deep sense of hurt and neglect. Same is the condition of a large number of surviving Elder Citizens of the Industry who are just waiting for a beneficial declaration by Yourself immediately in line with the Sympathetic and Affectionate attitude displayed towards Bank Retirees by Hon'ble Union Finance Minister that they (the Retirees) would get the opportunity to have a better life with Dignity in the evening years of their life. The urgent Updation of Pension shall help remove the Pension disparity between GM who retired in 1990s vs-a-vis a Clerk who retired recently and so on for Officers of All Scales and Staff.

Sir, in view of all that has been said in the foregoing paragraphs, We make an earnest appeal before you to implement the Pension Updation in the Industry as a Long Overdue Gift for the New Year 2021 in recognition of their Past Services who Revolutionised Banking as the most Dependable and Dexterous Vehicle of Economic Prosperity even in times of Challenging Crisis. We earnestly request You and hope You will recommend to the Government to implement the Pension Regulation on Updation and ensure long awaited Justice to Bank Pensioners and Retirees.

With regards,

Yours faithfully,



(K.V. ACHARYA)
PRESIDENT, AIBPARC
& Joint Convener, CBPRO



(SUPRITA SARKAR)
GENERAL SECRETARY,
AIBPARC