

FOUNDATION CONFERENCE OF ALL INDIA UNION BANK PENSIONERS & RETIREES FEDERATION AT KOLKATA ON 16TH SEPTEMBER, 2012 - A GRAND SUCCESS

The Foundation Conference of All India Union Bank Pensioners & Retirees Federation – AIUBPARF was held on 16th September, 2012 at Kolkata. Truly, it was a memorable day for the Pensioners & Retirees of Union Bank of India that a grand movement of veterans of the Banking Industry became a reality with the birth of All India Union Bank Pensioners & Retirees Federation. It was also a happy occasion that the birth of this Federation was at the hands of the All India Union Bank Officers' Federation (AIUBOF), in line with the directions of All India Bank Officers' Confederation (AIBOC) for promotion an Organisation to protect and nurture the well-being of Pensioners and Retirees of our Bank.

The benign presence of presence of many Senior Leaders of All India Union Bank Officers' Federation and the blessings from one of the tallest leaders of Trade Union Movement for the Officers in the Banking Industry – Com. Shanti Sen Gupta confirmed that the birth of the new organization for Pensioners and Retirees augured well.

Com. Bagchi, Ad-hoc Committee Member, AIUBPARF, in his address, welcomed all the leaders, delegates, observers etc., He recalled some of the major issues confronting the Pensioners and Retirees of our Bank. He called upon all the Pensioners and Retirees of our Bank to rally round the new Organisation promoted by AIUBOF. He was emphatic that an Organisation supported by the Serving Officers and backed by All India Bank Officers' Confederation – AIBOC would alone be able to secure legitimate benefits to the Pensioners and Retirees of our Bank.

Com. S.R. Sen Gupta, Joint Convenor, All India Bank Pensioners & Retirees Confederation, in his inimitable style, expressed his happiness to be present on the occasion of the birth of a new Organisation – AIUBPARF, which was truly an historic Occasion. It also signaled the coming together of serving employees and the veterans of the Bank on the same platform. He then traced the history of the initiative of AIBOC taken in October, 2010 which culminated in the Foundation Conference of All India Banks Pensioners and Retirees Confederation in March, 2012 at Nagpur. He exhorted the audience to launch the fight on its own. He then narrated the true incident of the General Manager of Indian Bank who retired 10 years ago drawing less than that of a Sub-ordinate staff drawing Pension today. He listed the following major issues for redress:

- Up-dation of Pension at regular intervals as is being done in the case of Central and State Government employees- Pension Option to Retirees under Voluntary Retirement Scheme of Officers' Service Regulations of various

Banks

- Pension option to Resignees who have completed minimum service as stipulated in the Pension Regulations i.e. 20 years- 100% D.A. neutralization in case of pre 01.11.2002 retirees- Improvement in Medical Assistance Scheme. (He cited the availability of Central Government Health Scheme to employees including those retired from Central Government which ensures uniform medical treatment in specified hospitals. They were also being dispensed with medicines)

Com. R.K. Choudhury, Regional Head, Kolkata Region was the Chief Guest. Comrades B.N. Shukla, Bihari Patel, N. Govindarajulu, K. Padmanabhan, B.N. Bhattacharjee, Officer representative on the Board of our Bank, M.A. Sattar, Harish Padiyar, M.R. Rana spoke on the occasion.

Com. P.K. Sarkar, General Secretary, AIUBOF hailed Com. Sen Gupta as the Leaders' Leader of Officers' movement in the Banking Industry and was proud to be part of the movement. It was in line with the directions of AIBOC, he had advised all the State Units to enroll the Retirees as Associate Life Members of the Organisation. In this context, he drew the attention of the house to the existence of a similar arrangement in the Gujarat State Unit years ago. He drew attention that thousands of P.F. optees could get second option for Pension because of the sustained efforts of AIBOC and AINBOF. He was emphatic that all the Retirees have shed their sweat and blood for the growth of the Organisation.

Com. Sarkar made a pleasant announcement of one-time donation of Rs.2.00 lacs from AIUBOF to AIUBPARF.

Com. P.B. Thomas presented the Vote of the Thanks.

Com. K. Padmanabhan, Ad-hoc Committee Member, AIBPARC presented the Policy Resolution and it was unanimously passed by the General Body. He then presented the Draft Bye-laws of the Federation (already circulated to members) and they were approved with the replacement of word "Confederation" with "Federation." It was unanimously approved by the house.

Com. Padmanabhan presented a panel of members to form the team of Office-bearers. It was seconded by Com. Saroj Mohanty and the panel was unanimously approved by the house.

It is always said "Good Beginning is half done". The dawn of All India Union Bank Pensioners & Retirees Federation had begun well. The strength of any Organisation depends upon its members and we need to grow at a rapid pace. Every member was requested to mobilize membership and to highlight that our movement was backed by AIUBOF and AIBOC, frontal organizations in Banking Industry which alone would be able to deliver results effectively.