



ALL INDIA UNION BANK PENSIONERS AND RETIREES FEDERATION
(Affiliated to All India Bank Pensioners & Retirees Confederation – AIBPARC)
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E Circular No.15/2016

11th May, 2016

TO ALL AFFILIATES/MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

Sub: Bank Pensioners & Retirees' Issues – Letter addressed to Mr. E.M. Sudarsana Nachiappan, Hon'ble Chairman, Parliamentary Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice by Comrades Com. Ramesh Babu & K.V. Acharya, Joint Convenors of CBPRO

We are pleased to reproduce the letter dated 05th May, 2016 addressed to Mr. E.M. Sudarsana Nachiappan, Hon'ble Chairman, Parliamentary Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice by Comrades Ramesh Babu & K.V. Acharya, Joint Convenors, CBPRO on Bank Pensioners & Retirees' Issues. This letter was in response to the letter dated 13/04/2016 addressed to the former by the Deputy Chief Executive, Indian Banks' Association. We request you to kindly circulate among your members.

With kind regards,

Yours Comradely,

(N. GOVINDRAJULU)
GENERAL SECRETARY

A.Ramesh Babu K.V.Acharya
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Dated: 05.05.2016

Shri E.M. Sudarsana Nachiappan,
Hon'ble Chairman.

Parliamentary Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice
Room No 126,
Rajya Sabha Secretariat,
Parliament House Annex,
New Delhi 110001

Respected sir,

Sub:- Bank Pensioners' and Retirees issues.

We request your good self to refer to our various letters seeking your good offices in resolving the long pending issues of Bank Retirees. We are extremely thankful to you for taking up our matter with the IBA and Government of India. However we regret to state that in spite of your sincere and serious concerns the IBA is still dodging the issues with unreasonable and unacceptable stand on the burning issues pending for nearly three decades.

Recently we have come across through the Social Media a letter dated 13.04.2016 written by IBA to your good self in response to your directions in regard to holding discussions and negotiations with the Bank Retirees' Organisations. We wish to bring to your kind notice that the reasons given by IBA not to hold discussions with Retirees' Organisations are neither rational nor humanitarian in approach. It looks as if the aging Retirees have to wait indefinitely unmindful of their getting very old and many have left for heavenly abode without getting the minimum justice in regard to their issues. This has hurt the sentiments of the Senior Citizens of the Banking industry very deeply.

The contention of the IBA that they don't have the mandate from the Member Banks to negotiate with the Retirees' Organisations is far from truth as they had never asked for any mandate from the Member Banks so far in this regard. It is customary that the IBA seeks the mandate from respective Member Banks in respect of negotiations with the Serving Employees and officers Organisations in respect of Wage negotiations and other issues and it is also equally customary that the Member Banks give mandate to the IBA for negotiation and discussions with the Unions and Associations. But unfortunately IBA has avoided this exercise for the reasons best known to them so far as Bank Retirees' Organisations are concerned.

It is also wrong on the part of IBA to state that the multiplicity of Retirees Organisations is a constraint to have negotiations with the Retirees Organisations and also no set procedure is there to get the membership details of Retirees Organisations. This stand of IBA is not correct as the same IBA is negotiating with multiplicity of Serving Employees and Officers Organisations in regard to wage negotiations etc. It is true that quite a number of such serving Employees and Officers Organisations have formed a singly body known as UFBU and the negotiations take place. In addition to UFBU there are other two-three serving Employees/Officers Organisations with whom also IBA negotiates. So far as Bank Retirees' Organisations are concerned all the major Industry Level Retirees Organisations have come together and formed themselves into a single body namely Coordination of Bank Pensioners' and Retirees Organisations (CBPRO) representing the entire Banks Retirees community of over four lacs. Yet the IBA doesn't want to negotiate with the Retirees' Organisations which in effect amounts to condemnation of the Bank Pensioners and Retirees Organisations by the IBA.

The IBA in their letter to your good self contends that it would not be appropriate to discuss with Bank Retirees' Organisations. We wonder is it appropriate on the part of IBA to ignore the Bank Pensioners' and Retirees Organisations, the formation of CBPRO and keep hanging the Bank Pensioners' issues for nearly three decades after the Pensions Regulations came into force in November 1995?. Is it legally and morally right on the part on IBA to distort the Provisions of Pension Regulations and refuse to implement it fully? The Bank Employees Pension Scheme is a Defined Benefit Pension Scheme unlike Defined Contributory Pension Scheme (which came into operation after 2010). In a Defined Benefit Pension Scheme it is the obligation on the part of the Banks to pay the Pension exactly as

per the provisions and it is a statutory obligation whether it is Government or any other Public Sector Undertaking where Pension Scheme is in existence as per the Defined Benefit Pension Scheme.

In view of the above, we once again request your good self to urge upon the Government and IBA to redress the grievances of the Bank Pensioners' and Retirees immediately.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,

A.Ramesh Babu K.V.Acharya
Joint Conveners