

# **ALL INDIA BANK PENSIONERS & RETIREES CONFEDERATION**

## **( A.I.B.P.A.R.C )**

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**(For circulation among all the members of the Governing Council of AIBPARC  
and Secretaries of different State Committees)**

- Sub :**
- (i) AIBPARC gears up organisational activities in Kolkata on 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2014.**
  - (ii) AIBPARC decides to intensify demonstrative actions to focus the aspiration of Retirees.**
  - (iii) Latest position of Reconciliation talks on Bipartite Settlement.**

Comrades,

Taking the advantage of holding of the meeting of governing council of AIBPARC in Kolkata on 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2014, the State Committee of AIBPARC, West Bengal convened a general meeting at Bharat Sabha Hall in the afternoon of 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2014. The historic hall was packed to capacity in the real sense of the term. Several members and volunteers even stood in staircases. Com. C.S. Panchadhyay, President of the State Unit presided over the meeting. The welcome address was offered by Com. B. Bhattacharya, Secretary State Unit.

Com. K.V. Acharya in his inaugural address praised the enthusiasm of members in this part of the country. He felt that the organisation will have to come up to the level of expectation of members. Quoting from Pension Regulations, he made a strong advocacy for updation of pension.

Com. S. R. Sengupta, General Secretary, observed that 10<sup>th</sup> Bipartite talks are in a crucial stage. Standing face to face with the stubbornness of IBA/Govt., UFBU is engaged in a grim battle to which we shall lend all support. Apart from what UFBU does, we shall be playing our role which will be of supporting nature. To achieve the demands, UFBU shall not hesitate to go for further demonstrative actions in near future.

Com. S. Sarkar, Joint General Secretary, asked the Retirees to remain physically fit, mentally alert and socially responsive. Throughout our entire service life, he observed, we remained part and parcel of the movement of working class and after retirement also we should continue to remain so in the interest of ourselves as well as the countrymen.

Com. A.K. Jana, former President, AIBOC complemented the organisation for achieving an unthinkable progress in a brief span of time. He observed that the aspiration of a group of people can succeed only when it gets orchestrated with the demands and interest of the common man.

Com. Chandrasenan, Secretary, Kerala State Unit and Com. Hans, Secretary, Delhi Unit spoke on the occasion. They conveyed the good wishes of respective states to the pensioners of West Bengal. They also narrated the activities of AIBPARC in respective states.

Com. B. Bardhan, treasurer, AIBOC, offered the vote of thanks.

## 2. Meeting of the Governing Council on 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2014.

Leaders came in large numbers from different parts of the country. The meeting followed the strict time schedule. It started at 10 am and concluded at 5 pm. It was highly participative and as many as 25 members took part in deliberations. The Governing Council took stock of all events that happened in last 4 months and made the following observations :

- The attitude of the Government and IBA towards Bankmen's wage revision is not at all responsive. IBA is showing an extra dose of stubbornness and lack of flexibility in wage revision talks. The 11% hike on pay slip components is extremely inadequate to do justice to the rational and just demands of the serving employees. AIBPARC urges upon all its members to take part in all demonstrations, rallies, etc. to show our oneness with our working comrades.
- AIBPARC notes with serious concern the apathy of IBA towards the just demands of the Retirees on grounds of cost etc. The body demands that immediate instructions should be issued by IBA to improve the family pension in line with RBI and also to put an end to the discrimination of DA formula applicable for pre-November 2002 Retirees. The governing council notes with tremendous anxiety the non-responsive attitude of IBA towards updation of pension. The body urges upon IBA to note that

several bilateral minutes are there on record where updation of pension has been promised and in Pension Regulation, there is clear cut pronouncement about it in regulation no. 35.1. There is no way to avoid it or by-pass on so called grounds of cost. Moreover the cost should be arrived at in a proper manner without unnecessarily inflating it without any scientific base.

- Governing council reiterates its earlier demands of the chance/scope of hearing the voice of retirees by IBA/government. As the very logical demand is being denied in a steady manner, the assembly takes the decision of holding another demonstration to draw the attention of society, political leaders, Government and IBA. The President and the General Secretary are empowered to fix up the date for such action and the nature of protest also. The house decides that the other components of the coordination committee – Federation of SBI Pensioners' Associations and also AIBRF be requested to take part in the protest actions and it is fervently hoped that the other components would respond favourably.

### 3. **AIBPARC declares demonstrative actions by Bank pensioners :**

General Secretary in consultation with President, being empowered by the governing council, took the decision that a “Dharna” programme will be organised by the Retirees of the Banking Sector at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi on 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 (Friday). On implementation of the programme, further instructions to affiliates will be given by subsequent communications. The affiliates will have to make all out efforts to double the number of participation than what happened in the last occasion. Other preparations are also to be done simultaneously.

### 4. **Bank strike and Latest position of Reconciliation talks on Bipartite Settlement :**

We reproduce the text of a communication dated 10.11.2014 received from Com. Harvinder Singh, General Secretary, AIBOC :

#### **QUOTE:**

*Further to the conciliation meeting held by the Chief Labour Commissioner (CLC), Ministry of Labour on 5<sup>th</sup> instant, IBA invited UFBU for a round of Bipartite Talks on our demands and accordingly today forenoon, discussions took place in Delhi between UFBU and IBA.*

*During the discussions, IBA continued with their pleading that in the context of reducing profits of the Banks, it would be difficult for them to accede to our demands but would however endeavor to improve their offer provided UFBU would substantially reduce the demand. From UFBU, we contested these arguments and reiterated that our demands are quite reasonable and workable and yet UFBU would be flexible if IBA would come up with an improved offer so that an amicable settlement can be reached ending the anxiety of the employees and officers.*

*After a lot of deliberations, with both sides maintaining their respective standpoints, UFBU indicated its willingness to revise its demand to 23 % keeping in mind the need to find an amicable solution to the issue. Unfortunately, IBA remained adamant and refused to improve their offer thus compelling a situation on us.*

*In this background, the adjourned conciliation meeting was held by the CLC Mr. P P Mitra, in the afternoon, in the office of the Labour Ministry. Representatives of the Ministry of Finance were also present during the conciliation proceedings.*

*In this meeting also IBA repeated their arguments and displayed their strike but without any improvement in their offer. Thus, the conciliation meeting ended without any positive result.*

*Hence, UFBU decided to go ahead with the proposed agitational programmes including the ensuing All India One Day Bank Strike on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2014 and Zonal Strikes from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> December 2014.*

*IBA must shed its obstinacy. The callous attitude displayed by IBA is forcing the UFBU to go ahead with its strike programmes and also to further intensify the agitation.*

*Comrades - March ahead – Let us display our strength in full – Let us make the strike actions a stupendous success.*

*Comrades, we call upon you to make the strike call of November 12, 2014 a grand success. All agitational programmes advised earlier including withdrawal of extra co-operation should be implemented in letter and spirit. The customers and public at large must be informed about the reasons for our going on strike. The print and electronic media should also be approached for giving wider publicity to the adamant approach of IBA and the Government.*

### **UNQUOTE**

The strike of 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2014 is a resounding success. Our members all over the country have participated in Dharnas and Rallies in a massive manner. We need to carry the struggle ahead in the same way as the interest of the serving brothers and sisters and our interest are inter-woven. There cannot be any laxity. Please march ahead. We must win.

With warm greetings,

Yours sincerely,