

**ALL INDIA BANK PENSIONERS & RETIREES CONFEDERATION
(AIBPARC)**

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For circulation among members of the Governing Council of AIBPARC

***With request to ensure that the circular reaches
the hands of as many members as possible***

**Subject: 20th September, 2013 at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi, will remain
a landmark event in the history of Pensioners and Retirees movement
in the Banking Sector of India.**

Comrades,

It was a bright and sunny morning in the capital. Right from 10 a.m. the senior citizens of the Industry started pouring in. By 11-30 a.m. it was a crowd of around 4000 grey-haired persons who first occupied the floor, then the 500 chairs and finally the gathering swelled to the street and the road was virtually blocked. There were only heads and heads beneath the shade of banyan trees and none left the ground till the entire proceedings were over by 3-30 p.m.

2. The surrounding all around was filled up with the sound of full throated slogans like AIBPARC Zindabad, AIBOC Long Live, UFBU Long Live; we want Revision of Pension; we demand end of discrimination in payment of DA; we demand improvement of family pension; we demand improved medical assistance/hospitalisation benefits; we demand option for pension to the Resignees and persons compulsorily retired; we demand extension of parity to private sector; we demand 50% of Basic Pay as pension for SBI and Associates; we demand negotiation tiers with government and IBA etc. The decorated stage with 25 chairs on it was having on it the well known faces of the leaders of Banks Trade Union movement in yester

years. Age has increased but enthusiasm has not decreased. The assembly consisted of Retired Employees, officers and Executives who travelled from every nook and corner of the country to make the gathering a really colourful and representative one.

3. Newly formed AIBPARC, Delhi State Committee, deserve endless thanks and praise. The leaders, activists and members of Delhi State laboured very hard to ensure 100% perfectness in each and every area of the programme. On behalf of the entire organisation, we offer them a smart salute for the job done. Special mention is made about Comrade Hans and Comrade Chodda and their countless followers who have collectively enhanced the prestige and glamour of the organisation in the capital. Let our Delhi State Unit march ahead in days to come. The proceeding of the day started with the welcome address delivered by Comrade Hans, State Secretary, who greeted all the senior citizens of the Banking Industry for participation in large numbers in this historical programme. The President of the State Unit also welcomed the participants.

4. **Comrade K.V. Acharya**, President described the event as a historical one and he hoped that it will have tremendous impact over Retirees' movement in the country in days to come. At his request, Comrade **S.R. Sengupta**, General Secretary, released a special edition of ARISE and the copy was distributed among participants. Comrade **Harvinder Singh**, General Secretary, AIBOC, was the next speaker. He enthused the gathering by his courageous assertion that AIBOC is an integral part of Retirees' movement. The interest of serving employees/officers cannot be different from that of the serving employees. Shri **P.K. Sarkar**, Ex-President of AIBOC and Ex-Convener of UFBU, observed that the scanty medical assistance and poor hospitalization schemes are the greatest cause of concern for the Retirees. The emphasis of the movement should be on this very important segment that affects all. He hopes that within one year from now, we shall celebrate our gains. **Sri Ananda Kumar**, senior Vice-President, AIBOC, informed the gathering that in IOB, their organisation made a calculation about the probable economic load in case updation of pension is allowed to the pensioners of the Bank. It has been found that it is almost a negligible percentage of profitability that would be spent for the purpose. Sri **Ratnakar Pathak**, the representative of the Resignee Officers' Forum made a strong presentation for the Resignee officers who having completed requisite number of years to get pension were not allowed to have the benefit. Sri **Suprita Sarkar**, Joint General Secretary, opined that the demands are legal and rational; the ways of agitation and movement are constitutional and the logical expectation is fulfillment of the demands. He also called for an immediate creation of negotiation forum where the voice of the Retirees will be heard. Comrade **K. Chandrasekharan**, Ex-President of Indian Bank

Officers' Association hoped that the movement of Retirees will not be an isolated one and it would be synchronized with the movement of workers in the country. Comrade **SBC Karunakaran** observed that the demand of Pension revision stands on a solid legal footing and it should not be looked upon as a gift by anybody. Comrade **P.S. Patki** painted out the pathetic plight of pre-1986 Retirees and thanked some of the Banks who at individual initiative increased the amount substantially. Comrade **Selvaraj** pointed out the agony of the private sector Banks and promised for relentless struggle to end the injustice and deprivation. Comrade **M.R. Gopinath Rao** observed that we are not demanding additional money as personal gift; we want that to which we are legally entitled. Comrade **K.B. Ballur** thanked all participants for their enthusiastic participation in the programme. He stressed the need for continued struggle till the demands are achieved.

5. The really colourful chapter of the entire proceeding is the address by three eminent Members of the Parliament. They are Comrade **Sitaram Yechury**, Shri **Prakash Javadekar** and Comrade **Tapan Sen**, General Secretary, CITU. Each one supported the struggle, promised for all out support to the cause and in the process made several important submissions in their deliberations. Their presence enthused the audience immensely and the organisation records its gratefulness to each one of them.

Sri **Tapan Sen** observed that their organisation supported the demand inside and outside the parliament. It is got to be synchronised with the larger movement of the working class who are also fighting for the cause "Pension for All". Sri **Prakash Javadekar** opined that the Union Government is taking an anti-farmer and anti-labour role in each decision and action. In all cases, due compensation is being denied. As an Ex-Bank employee, he knows the demands and he will continue to support the same.

Comrade **Sitaram Yechuri** told that government is giving huge concession to the industrial sector in the forms of incentive and it has also foregone revenue worth crores of Rupees which otherwise would have been the earning of the government and the money could be spent for the people. In spite of all such incentives, the industrial production is on the wane. Even if a fraction is spent out of it, the elder citizens can get dignity in life.

6. Comrade **S.R. Sengupta**, General Secretary was the last speaker. He said that it was a historical event created by the Retirees of the Banking sector. It is a pride for not only the participants but also for all the Retirees who would not make it convenient for them to come. He hoped that AIBPARC will soon become the loudest voice of the community of Retirees. He thanked all the MPs for their assiduous support. Comrade **Gangadhar Yadav** offered vote of thanks.

7. On 19th September, 2013 the leaders of the organisation met Sri **Krishna Ch. Deb**, Hon'ble Minister for Panchaeyti Raj and Tribal Welfare and briefed him with the demands. He assured the leaders of the organisation that he would talk to the Authorities concerned about the justness of our demands. Documents incorporating our demands have been handed over to the officials of the government and it has reached through proper channel the Ministry of Home and Finance, government of India. We demand that the voice of the Retirees of the Banking sector be heard and speedy action be taken. Comrade, please do not have a feeling that it is the end of a journey; it is just a beginning. Many more miles we are to walk and many more promises we are to keep. AIBPARC is on the job. Please unite, consolidate and agitate – this is the call of the hour.

With best wishes,

(S. R. SEN GUPTA)

GENERAL SECRETARY