



ALL INDIA BANK PENSIONERS' & RETIREES' CONFEDERATION

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

C/O BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

(EASTERN INDIA BRANCHES)

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

Dear Comrade,

**Sub : Historical Dharna-cum-Demonstration at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi
on 07.01.2019 at the Joint call of CBPRO & AIBRF.**

It was a chilly and foggy winter morning of Delhi. Cold wind was blowing from both sides of the Dharna Manch. Several thousand pensioners and retirees of the Banking Industry braved the inclement weather and started gathering at the venue from 10 am onwards. The optimum attendance was recorded at 11 a.m. when by any rough estimate the crowd swelled somewhere between 4500 to 5000. AIBPARC puts on record its thanks and admiration to all the leaders of the Delhi State Committee for taking a pro-active role in mobilizing the crowd. Special thanks must be given to Comrades D.K. Hans, A.K. Nagar, R.K. Sharma and all other members of the committee. Even if it is not possible to mention all the names, we convey our gratitude to all those who made it a point to be present in the dharna and be a party to the glorious chapter of the retirees movement in the country. We mention hereunder the principal highlights of the programme :

- Leaders of all the constituents of CBPRO and AIBRF were present on the dais. Leaders of AIBOC & AIBEA adorned the dais also.
- Com. Debasis Ghosh, President, AIBOC was the first speaker. He congratulated the crowd for the enthusiasm and energy displayed by them. He informed the gathering that a few days back, AIBOC went on a day's strike on issues which include, inter alia, the demands of retirees. He made a bold declaration in the midst of applaud that AIBOC would not be the party to any bilateral agreement unless the reasonable demands of the retirees are not addressed.
- Com. Ramesh Babu, General Secretary, State Bank of India Pensioners' Association and Joint Convenor, CBOPRO referred to the tremendous success with which the joint programme of dharna and demonstration are taking place in different parts of the country. He observed that when enthusiasm and energy are so high, it can be safely expected that the most logical demands of the retirees will be attended to.
- Com. S.C. Jain, General Secretary, AIBRF congratulated each and everyone present in the huge gathering. He narrated in brief the injustice meted to the different segments of retirees. He made special mention of pre-November 2002 retirees, very meager family pension to the spouse of the deceased etc. As the pension corpus is robust, Govt./IBA

should not make unnecessary hesitation to settle the issues. He hoped that the success of today is not an end in itself but it will consolidate further.

- Com. S. Sarkar, General Secretary, AIBPARC, congratulated the gathering on behalf of the organisation. He observed that the constituents of CBPRO and AIBRF took the decision of joint demonstration at different places of the country a few months back in the city of Delhi. All of us knew that the gatherings would be well attended but we never expected that there would be such an electrifying effect on the entire community of retirees and as a result the gathering at every centre had been beyond our expectation. A message should go to IBA, Union Government, all serving unions and the society as a whole that the issues of retirees should no more be ignored.
- Com. Rabindra Kumar Gupta, General Secretary, SBI Officers' Federation, Delhi and a senior office bearer of AIBOC congratulated the participants for a spectacular gathering. He reported the gist of dialogue that AIBOC had with IBA so far and informed that in every such occasion, the retirees' issues have got a place.
- Com. K.V. Acharya, President, AIBPARC and Joint Convenor, CBPRO, before starting his speech raised in loud voice the slogan of unity and solidarity and the huge crowd instantly responded to it. He made a fervent appeal to all the serving unions and associations to be sensitive and sympathetic to the demands of the pensioners and retirees. He observed that the demand of updation of pension is not something which is unheard of; it has clearly been spelt out in Rule 35.1 of Pension Regulations. It is really unfortunate that every time we have to hear about the so called cost factor. It is a statutory obligation on the part of the banks to ensure adequacy of pension fund and this fund at present is so robust and massive that the demands of the retirees can be safely met with.
- Com. J.P. Sharma, Vice-President, AIBEA insisted on the solidarity of serving people and retirees on all issues which are currently under negotiation. He assures the gathering that AIBEA will stand solidly by the side of their senior colleagues.
- Com. D. Raja, Member of the Parliament, assured the assembly that he was, he is and he will be always supporting the demands of the bank pensioners. As Parliament Session was adjourned for the day, it will not be possible for him to raise the issue today but he will mention it in the earliest possible opportunity.
- Com. D. D. Maheswari of RBONC congratulated the gathering and expected that this unity will be consolidated further.
- Com. D.B. Gupta, President, AIBRF, made a mention of the pathetic plight of pensioners in making the payment of an unthinkable high amount for premium for getting them medically insured. He wanted an end to it.
- The General Secretary of AIRBEA expressed his oneness with all the demands of the retirees and he wished that in future days, the programme should continue for longer period of time.
- Com. T.N. Goel, a very senior leader of the bank officers' movement remained present and by his brief speech he enthused the audience and requested them to fight unto last.
- Com. Niranjana Mishra, Vice-President, AIBRF congratulated the audience.
- Com. N. K. Pareek, Vice President, AIBPARC narrated the inhuman treatment meted to the retirees. He observed that the retirees deserve a more civilized treatment.
- **The entire programme right from beginning to end was conducted and coordinated by Com. D.K. Hans of AIBPARC and Com. A.K. Bansal of AIBRF.**

- We shall be failing in our duties if we do not mention that a good number of pensioners from Jaipur and other adjoining places like Chandigarh and different stations of western U.P. also took part in the programme.
- Com. J.D. Sharma, a former senior leader of AIBOC and presently a senior leader of AIBPARC, Delhi state, offered vote of thanks to the organizers, to the members present, to the administration and police and to all concerned for making the entire programme a huge success.
- **At the end of the programme, the assigned officials accompanied the leaders of the various organisations to the Department of Financial Services, Govt. of India and a memorandum was submitted to the Secretary of the Department. The leaders were to submit a similar memorandum to the Managing Director of Punjab National Bank who happens to be the Chairman of IBA. As he was out of station on the day, the memorandum will be submitted within a day or two by the leadership.**

Comrades, we have a high hope that the success of the programme at national capital will further strengthen the unity and solidarity of the pensioners and retirees. The coordination and cooperation among CBPRO & AIBRF will be consolidated further in days to come.

With best wishes,

(SUPRITA SARKAR)
GENERAL SECRETARY