



ALL INDIA BANK PENSIONERS' & RETIREES' CONFEDERATION

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

C/O BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

(EASTERN INDIA BRANCHES)

BANK OF INDIA, KOLKATA MAIN BRANCH

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**(For circulation among members of the Governing Council,
Special Invitees and State Secretaries with a request
to percolate information to the grassroots)**

- Sub : (1) Minutes of the meeting of all 5 apex level organisations of Pensioners & Retirees of the Banking Sector held at Delhi on 28th July, 2015.**
(2) AIBPARC gears up its organisational activities in different parts of the Country.

Dear Comrade,

We have already intimated the highlights of the above meeting through our circular No. 32/15 dated August 5, 2015. Members of Governing Council from different parts of the country have expressed their willingness to know the full details of discussion. We are, therefore, reproducing the entire text of minutes for information of members. It may please be noted that in the list of objectives there may be a few additions and the same will also be communicated to members in due course.

Text :

MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON CO-ORDINATION OF THE FEDERATIONS OF BANK PENSIONERS AND RETIREES HELD ON 28-07-2015 AT NEW DELHI.

A meeting for bringing together the major apex level organizations of the Bank pensioners and retirees was organized on 28-07-2015 at New Delhi. The following Federations of Bank Pensioners and retirees attended this meeting.

1. Federation of State Bank of India Pensioners' Associations
2. All India Bank Retirees' Federation
3. All India Bank Pensioners' & Retirees' Confederation.
4. Retired Bank Officers' National Confederation and
5. All India Retired Bank Employees' Association

The participants from the above organizations are furnished in the Annexure hereto.

2. Before the commencement of this meeting, two minutes silence was observed in memory of former President Shri A.B.J.Abdul Kalam. Shri P.P.S.Murthy, General Secretary, Federation of S.B.I Pensioners 'Associations', while welcoming all the participants stated that this meeting is very important for strengthening the movement of Bank Pensioners and Retirees by bringing together all their important apex level organizations. He conveyed that the disappointment caused to the pensioners by the 10th bipartite Settlement and the declarations made in the Record

Note released by I.B.A along with the 10th bipartite settlement have created the need for collective and combined efforts by all the above organizations. Shri R.N.Banerjee, President, Federation of SBI Pensioners' Associations brought to the notice of the participants the efforts made by his Federation over the last 25 years including the legal action for securing legitimate pension benefits from S.B.I. He said collective efforts by all of us with commitment are necessary for resolving our common issues.

3. Shri S.C.Jain, General Secretary of All India Bank Retirees' Federation referred to the challenges before us and the disappointment and frustration of the pensioners after the 10th bipartite settlement was concluded. He is in favour of co-ordination for bringing unity among all of us. He said that U.F.B.R.O was formed for this purpose. They could achieve certain benefits in the form of Ex-gratia to pre 1-1-1986 retirees and their spouses, could arrange for establishing grievance redressal machinery and secure the facility of one-more pension option. He felt that U.F.B.R.O could itself be utilized for the purpose of our co-ordination. He does not however have any reservation on forming a new organization of all the above Federations. He considered that we should explore the legal option for securing the updation of pension by obtaining an expert legal opinion.

4. Shri K.V.Acharya, President, All India Bank Pensioners' & Retirees' Confederation favoured the immediate formation of co-ordination of the above five Federations of Bank Pensioners and Retirees. He said that exgratia to pre 1-1-1986 retirees was granted first by the Indian Overseas Bank in 1996 before other Banks provided this facility. He said that I.B.A should discuss with the organizations of Bank Pensioners and Retirees on issues concerning them. He said that although we have reservations on the position taken by I.B.A as disclosed in the first paragraph of the Record Note, there are certain salutary features offering scope for providing some improvement in our pension benefits. We therefore need to explore the possibility of taking advantage of these observations made in the Record Note. He also brought to the notice of the participants the various programs of action taken by his Confederation for focusing and resolving the issues of the pensioners. He said that the provision for the updation of pension is statutory and denying the updation of pension is in violation of this regulation. He also suggested that our Co-ordination could be widened by including the corresponding organizations of R.B.I and L.I.C. As age is not with us, he felt that there is a need for us to forge our unity without delay.

5. Shri R.D.Deshpande, General Secretary, Retired Bank Officers' National Confederation shared the view that the time is now ripe for all of us to take a positive decision on forming our co-ordination. Our members would not be satisfied without beneficial results. He said that our issues should get prioritized and action plan drawn up. He said that the second option issue of the resigned and those left overs should be addressed. Shri R. Acharya of All India Retired Bank Employees' Association concurred with the view on forming a co-ordination of all the above organizations.

6. All the participants agreed to enlist the support of U.F.B.U and other organizations of the serving employees of Banks All the participants unanimously agreed on forming a co-ordination of all the above five Federations with the following objectives, structure, name, action plan, code of conduct, finance and Joint Action Committee..

I.Objectives

- a. To remove the discrimination caused in the payment of dearness relief to pre 1-11-2002 pensioners.
- b. To secure the upgradation of basic pension/ family pension by merging dearness relief neutralized with 100% up to 4440 points as on 31-10-2012.
- c. To secure family pension at 30% of pay uniformly to all on the same basis as followed by Reserve Bank of India. To remove the extant ceiling on family pension of Rs, 5,930/ and Rs.9, 284/ on Ninth and Tenth bipartite pay scales respectively, pending consideration of this proposal,
- d.. To take steps for securing improvements as obtaining in the Pension Scheme of Reserve Bank of India
- e. To secure the updation of pension on every revision for meeting aging needs of Bank pensioners.
- f. To secure improvements in medical facilities to the pensioners and family pensioners.
- g. To take steps for strengthening the Pensioners/ Retirees Movement in the Banking Industry by mobilizing more members and by bringing together the multiple organizations of Bank pensioners/retirees in each Bank if any and
- h. To serve the ageing members of our society and co-ordinate with similar organizations in the service of the aged.
- i. To secure pension option for the resigned and all left overs with eligible pensionable service.

II. Structure

The Structure can be a collective body without a formal registration under the Societies Act for the time being or as may be decided at this meeting

III. Name.

The participants agreed to form a new organization in the following name with the above five Federations as its members.

Confederation of Bank Pensioners and Retirees Organizations (C.B.P.R.O)

IV.. Action Plan

Our action plan may be decided according priority to achieve our above objectives.

- i. Our first option can be to represent our issues with the Government/ IBA/ Management of Banks through negotiations/ meetings.
- ii. To seek political support.
- iii. To seek support through print and visual media and press conferences
- iv. To fix a time frame for the above negotiated efforts depending on the developments
- v. Depending upon the progress through negotiated efforts, the other program of direct actions like peaceful Dharna or agitation can be planned..
- vi. Against decisions taken deliberately causing untenable and unjust deprivation and discrimination to the pensioners, legal action may be necessary. We should get prepared to resort to legal action, although it is very costly and time consuming. Before taking a decision on resorting to a legal action, sufficient funds should be mobilized.

V. Code of Conduct

- i. All members of this apex body should work together for achieving our objectives by strengthening fraternity among ourselves.
- ii. All members of this body would do well to commit themselves against any mutual criticism or against carrying on any activity which would not be conducive for maintaining the unity amongst them and
- iii. All members of this body should give an assurance that they would always abide by the decisions taken by this body.

VI. Finance

All travelling expenses incurred for attending the meetings of the co-ordination/action committee and also for program action to be organized at different centres will be borne by the respective organizations. The expenses for the future meetings of this committee can also borne by the respective host organization. For the present, finance would be required only for meeting the expenses connected with communications. A token contribution from each member should be sufficient for this purpose .Any other suggestion is welcome.

VII. Formation of a Joint Action Committee

This Committee may consist of a convener and two members each from the Federations. Shri R.N.Banerjee, President, Federation of SBI Pensioners' Association proposed Shri P.P.S.Murthy, General Secretary of Federation of SBI Pensioners' Association as the first convener of the Joint Action Committee. Shri S.C.Jain said that he would consult his Governing Council in this regard, as the mandate given by his Governing Council on forming this co-ordination stipulates his nomination as the first convener.

6. For the purpose of representing our core pension issues as per the above objectives, a draft of our appeal will be prepared. Shri S.C. Jain, General Secretary of A.I.B.R.F has agreed to prepare the draft of our appeal. It was decided to hold the next meeting before the end of August 2015. The list of the participants and the Resolution Passed at this meeting are enclosed.

P.P.Sankaranaryana Murthy
General Secretary
Federation of SBI Pensioners' Associations
Chennai
31-07-2015
Unquote

ii) **Organisational meetings :**

Our central office received information of assembly of retirees from different places and some such information are being narrated hereunder :-

Retirees meet at Visakhapatnam and Vizianagaram :

On 8th July, 2015 a largely attended meeting of pensioners and retirees took place at Visakhapatnam. Members present in the meeting expressed their anguish and anger against IBA's denial of the rightful demands of the retirees. Com. S. Mohan and his associates took all pains to organise the meeting in a grand manner. On 9th July, 2015, another meeting took place at Vizianagaram. Attendance was fairly good in both the places, District Committees were constituted. Com. A.V.V. Raghava Rao, State Secretary, A.P.-Telangana State Committee addressed both the meetings. He appealed to all the pensioners to rally behind AIBPARC in launching a strong movement against the discrimination meted to pensioners. He demanded that updation of pension should be done along with signing of each bipartite settlement. Com. G Vasudeva Rao, President, BOIOA, addressed the Visakhapatnam gathering. Com. Mohan Rao and Com. Appala Raju addressed the gathering of Vizianagaram. We convey our good wishes to the newly elected members of the district committee.

iii) **ARISE organises meeting at Kolkata on 8th August, 2015.**

A well attended meeting of the members of ARISE took place at Kolkata on 8th August, 2015. Com. Amar Mukherjee organised the meeting. He apprised the members about bank level developments on issues pertaining to the retirees. Several senior executives attended the meeting. Members were enthused to see their presence. Com. S. Sarkar, Joint General Secretary, AIBOC and Com. Pulak Dasgupta, Organising Secretary, West Bengal State Committee addressed the house. Shri Sarkar informed the house that larger coordination among different retiree organisations is the call of the hour and joint action programmes are expected to be declared by the coordinating body soon. He appealed to members to come over temporary set backs in the movement and expressed confidence that light will be seen definitely at the end of the tunnel.

iv) **Other efforts of the organisation :**

UFBU will be meeting within a few days to discuss the issues on which talks will be held with IBA. We have been sending a representation to several constituents of UFBU to take up our issues with all seriousness and invite our representatives to remain present in such discussions. Members are aware that there has been resentment in the minds of retirees who superannuated in 2013,14 & 15 for reduction of their net pension and resultant recovery of the excess amount paid. We have noted the views expressed by UFBU in this regard. We are not convinced with the logic. We are examining the issue and necessary representation will be submitted to IBA and also to UFBU. Developments in this regard will be displayed by way of circulation in our website within next few days.

With best wishes,

(S. SARKAR)
JOINT GENERAL SECRETARY