



**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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Date: 13.10.2020.

Circular no 91--20.

For circulation among members of Governing Council, Special Invitees, State Secretaries and Advisors.

Sub: Group Medical Insurance Scheme for Bank Retirees for the year 2020--21.

We are disturbed to note that National insurance Company, the Insurer for the above scheme, has made a unilateral change in the provisions of Super Top up policy.

2. When the earlier Communication of the company reached, different Banks sought for clarification on different issues. In reply to such letters, the company clarified at point no 2 that "Officers who opt for 3 Lacs sum insured in Base policy can avail upto 4 lacs in super top up policy."

3. Almost all the Banks have issued Circulars specifying the above mentioned provision. Retirees in large numbers in such category have deposited premium along with declaration wherever needed. Now when a few days are left, a changed Communication has started coming to different Banks from 11th October, 20 onwards. We apprehend that similar Communication will be sent to other Banks and such Banks will re--revise their Circulars and create a lot of chaos in the field.

4. We are quoting from the text of the latest Communication of the company: "We draw your attention to the point no 2 of the trail mail. There is a correction in the same. The point should be read as:

"Super Top up is only available to Retiree Award Staff who opts for 3 Lacs and Retiree Officer who opts for 4 Lacs sum insured in Base policy."

5. We have written to IBA that such type of contradictory Communication is possible only when IBA gradually becomes invisible leaving the channel of communication to Banks free for the Insurer. The letter which is self explanatory is reproduced hereunder for information of members.

6. Our affiliates are requested to remain in touch with respective Banks. Once when such re--revised Circular is issued, Banks may be asked immediately to identify the cases and contact the affected members at their given mobile number and arrange for necessary action to rectify the situation created by such loosely- handled Communication--system. It will also be demanded that the interest of a single Retiree should not suffer in an adverse manner for no fault on his part.

With best wishes and regards,

Comradely yours,

Suprita Sarkar
General Secretary

Quote:

DATE: October 12,2020.

AIBPARC/IBA/MEDICLAIM/Email/20

The Chief Executive,
IBA, Mumbai.

Dear Sir,

**Sub: Indecisiveness of National insurance Company LTD plunged the Retirees in chaos---
more proactive role of IBA is the need of the hour.**

Since formulation of the Group Medical Insurance Scheme for Bank Retirees in the year 2015--16,we have been accustomed to an Industrial practice that IBA would first float RFP to choose the eligible Insurance company ; then talks will follow between IBA and the said company about implementation of various terms and conditions and the issue would be cleared through the available Bilateral mechanism comprising of IBA and UFBU. This year for reasons not known to us, we are observing right from the beginning that the role of IBA is blurred and its growing invisibility from picture has brought the insurance company in the forefront of the communication --channel. The inevitable result is chaos in regard to shifting of stand by Banks time and again and endless suffering of Retirees. We are noting hereunder the various contradictory Communication issued by the NICL from time to time.

2.In the first Communication dated 19.09.20, NICL informed two different categories--- Rs.4 Lacs(Base) and Rs.3Lacs(Base) for Officers and Award Staff respectively with and without domiciliary with a super Top up policy of Rs 5 Lacs for Officers and Rs 4Lacs for Award Staff.From 23rd September,20 onwards, different Banks started issuance of Circulars in pursuance of NICL guidelines and Retirees started depositing annual premium.

3.The 2nd mail of NICL came to member banks on 05.10.20 and it was followed by IBA's mail on the same day being addressed to MDs& CEOs informing graded sum insured for Base policy and Super Top-up policy. In the said Communication, it was made clear that an Award Staff could opt for super Top up policy for Rs 1Lac to Rs 4 Lacs and an officer could choose super top up for Rs 1 to R 5 Lacs. It was also told that an officer who opts for a base policy of 3 Lacs could avail Rs 4Lacs in super Top up Policy. In pursuance of this guideline, different Banks started issuance of Circulars from 6th October,20 onwards. We donot have any hesitation to say that we hailed the proposal for two reasons--- the voice of IBA was heard again and that it would help the Retirees of comparatively lesser financial capabilities. As far as our information goes,7(seven)Banks have already come out with Circulars in line with the contents of this paragraph.

4.This is pertinent to mention that NICL sent an exhaustive Communication to different Banks on 9th October,20 at 12.30 pm where the responsible Officials reiterated the following:
An Award staff can opt for a super Top up policy of Rs 1 to 4 Lacs. An Officer can choose super Top up of Rs 1to 5Lacs.An Officer who opts for Rs 3 Lacs in SI Base policy can avail upto Rs 4 Lacs SI in super top up policy. In this communication, NICL also conveyed the room rent charges in respect of the proposed MEDICLAIM covers of Rs 1&2Lacs instead of informing it beforehand. In other words, a chaos persists because of a withdrawal syndrome suffered by IBA.

5. This is not the end of the ordeal. We came across a Circular issued by a Bank as on a recent date on Medical Insurance Scheme of Bank Retirees. In the said Circular, we found that an Award staff could opt for a sum insured of Rs 1to 4Lacs in super top up and an officer could choose a sum insured of Rs 1to 5 Lacs in super Top up policy. In the said Circular, there was no mention of the

fact that an officer who could opt for a base policy of 3 lakhs, could also avail super top up policy upto Rs 4 Lacs. When we were in touch with different knowledgeable sources , we again got another disturbing news that NICL was going to issue another correction memo to all member banks that they are going to make further changes to their earlier Communication and it would be that an officer can avail super Top up facility only if he/she opts for a base policy of 4 lacs.

6.Let us have a look at the scenario that is going to emerge from tomorrow onwards:

A. Most of the Banks will have to re-issue Circular. For certain Banks, it will be an issuance for the third time.

B. There are many Officer- Retirees who have already deposited premium by opting a base policy of Rs 3 Lacs and a super Top up of Rs 4 Lacs. It would be very difficult for the bank to contact and get revised mandate and additional premium.

C. It would create a ridiculous situation for the Banks and the organizations for no fault on their parts.

D. The physical, mental and financial harassment of the Retirees cannot be compensated by any means.

We write all these things out of terrific anguish. We donot have any desire to hurt any person or institution. We wish that the age old and time- tested practice be followed where uniform guideline would come to member banks through IBA and not Such type of advisories from Insurance company which would change again and again in vital parameters resulting in suffering of people and liquidation of authorities. we earnestly request you to intervene without any loss of time and ensure that no further change proposed by the Insurance company is entertained.

With regards,

Yours faithfully,



Suprita Sarkar
General Secretary