

ALL INDIA BANK EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

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5-10-2021

Com S K Bandlish Convener, United Forum of Bank Unions Chandigarh

Dear Comrade,

Reg: Premium on medical insurance policy for retirees Ref: UFBU's letter to IBA dt. 20-9-21 & their letter to UFBU dt. 4-10-21

We are in receipt of your email of date forwarding the letter from IBA seeking the views of UFBU on ways and means to reduce the premium on policies.

As requested by you, we submit herein our suggestions for reducing the premium on the policy for retirees.

One of the main basis of charges levied by the hospitals relate to bed charge / room rent. The various rates of treatment vary according to bed charge. Hence a reduction in bed charge to some extent will result in reduction in total hospital bill.

Secondly, under the Policy, the bed charges are uniform for all centres, from the biggest metro cities to the smallest towns. We know that the hospital bed charges/room rent varies from center to center and the rates are more in bigger cities than towns. Hence a view can be taken to prescribe different ceiling on bed charges/room rent under the Policy for different towns based on population group, etc. with a view to reduce the total hospitalisation bills.

Thirdly, certain reasonable ceilings can be prescribed for various package treatments for different surgical operations/treatments, etc. which would also result in reduced Claim Ratio and enable reduction in premium.

Fourthly, we can request and prevail upon the IBA to persuade the Government to reduce the GST rates on medical insurance premium for senior citizens, which will also be a relief to the retirees.

Fifthly, we can take up with the IBA to decide or recommend to the Banks to extend some subsidy on the premium rates for the retirees.

What is equally important is to ensure retirees-friendly procedure for cashless treatment, easier claims procedure and quicker reimbursement.

Yours comradely,

C.H.VENKATACHALAM
GENERAL SECRETARY