COORDINATION OF BANK PENSIONERS' AND RETIREES ORGANISATIONS

(SBI Pensioners' Associations, AIBPARC, RBONC, AIRBEA & FORBE)

AND

ALL INDIA BANK RETIREES' FEDERATION

J-208, Vijay Rattan Vihar, Sector-15, Part II, Gurgaon-122001 Tel: 01244270198 Mob: 9868220338

Dated: 12.04.2021

Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Union Finance Minister, Government of India. New Delhi.

Respected Madam,

Sub: Improvement of Family Pension in the Banking Industry.

Kindly allow us to encroach upon your valuable time for a couple of minutes over the aforesaid issue which you are well acquainted with.

Introducing ourselves, we are the largest Coordination of various National level Bank Pensioners and Retirees Organisations (CBPRO) comprising of Federation of SBI Pensioners Associations, AIBPARC, RBONC, AIRBEA and FORBE along with All India Bank Retirees Federation representing all the Bank Pensioners and Retirees.

We offer hereunder the principal highlights of the above issue in chronological order for your kind perusal:

1.The Memorandum of Understanding signed on 22nd July, 2020 and the Bipartite Settlement/Joint Note signed on 11th November, 2020 by and between IBA and different Unions and Associations of the Industry categorically mentioned that the rate of Family Pension would be revised at uniform 30% of pay of the deceased employees/Officers Spouses without any ceiling subject to Government approval. Although the Managing Committee of IBA sent the recommendations for improvement of family Pension long back, its mention in Bipartite Settlement/Joint Note was a formal codification and the Retirees of the country had been under an impression that the same would be favourably resolved immediately after the Settlement was concluded.

2. We further understand that IBA also sent a detailed proposal along with financial implications and liabilities. As information available with us, IBA has already submitted the requisite papers, clarifications, cost analysis etc to the satisfaction of the Department concerned.

3. The above two developments are in consonance with the most re--assuring speech delivered by your good self in the 73rd Annual General meeting of IBA on 10th November 20 where you observed that the Retirees were as much important as customers and clients and they should be treated as Members of the same family. You had been kind enough to tell in unequivocal terms that the Bank Managements should see that the Retirees and their families stayed well. The Retirees also got the message from your interview with Business Line, Hindu that Chairman's and Chairman, IBA had been asked to consider actively the issues of improvement of family Pension and updation of Pension.

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4.**Madam**, from the answer given by the Government to the questions of Hon'ble Members of Parliament, we came to know that IBA on a recent date sent the recommendations in regard to Improvement of Family Pension and the Government was seized with the issue and it was under active consideration.

Respected Madam, it is now more than seven months since the first announcement of Improvement in Family Pension was made at the time of signing the MOU between IBA and UFBU. Large number of Bank Pensioners and their Spouses are at their advanced age. And Family Pension is a relief mainly to the Surviving Lady Spouses of Bank Pensioners. This proposed Improvement in Family Pension to the Living Spouses of the deceased employees/Officers who are maintaining their lives with a miserably-- low amount of Family Pension, in certain cases, the amount is not even sufficient to manage the cost of monthly medicine and not to speak about other bare minimum necessities, will be a Great Solace and Relief to such Family Pensioners.

In view of the urgency and on high Humanitarian Considerations, we seek your immediate intervention into the Issue on an extremely compassionate ground and facilitate the Government clearance at the earliest.

With Respectful Regards,

Yours Sincerely,

(K.V. Acharya) President, AIBPARC & Joint Convener, CBPRO

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(S.C. Jain) General Secretary, AIBRF