

# ALL INDIA BANK RETIREES' FEDERATION (REGD.)

D/1/ Sector C Scheme No. 71 Indore 452009

E-Mail ID [sharbat\\_123@rediffmail.com](mailto:sharbat_123@rediffmail.com) Mobile: 8966019488



**SILVER JUBILEE YEAR (1994-2019)**

Ref. 2020/433

09.08.2020

The Office bearers/ Central Committee members/ State committee Chiefs  
A.I.B.R.F.

Dear Comrades

**Re. AIBRF STRUGGLE TO ACHIEVE DEMAND OF PENSION UPDATION**

Pension updation is the most important and high priority demand of AIBRF for last more than one decade. It affects each and every pensioner numbering about 5 lakhs in the banking industry. Further, there is undue delay in addressing demand of updation.

## **BRIEF REPORT ON AIBRF STRUGGLE TO ACHIEVE DEMAND OF PENSION UPDATION**

AIBRF firmly believes in making all possible organisational efforts and struggle whenever needed to achieve pending demands of bank retirees. This has been track record of AIBRF of last 25 years. It may be mentioned that after sanction of updation of pension in Reserve Bank of India in March, 2019, AIBRF launched unprecedented massive action programs as a part of organisation efforts during the period of last 15 months. Brief Report on our efforts and struggle to achieve demand of pension updation is given in the **attached Annexure running into 95 pages**. The letters and circulars attached with the report clearly spell out AIBRF stand on method and basis to be followed to achieve the demand of updation in the ongoing settlement. Main highlights of organisational efforts made by AIBRF in this direction are given below :

- (a) Compressive deliberations and discussion on RBI formula of pension updation in the Core Committee meeting held in Delhi on 2.05.2019. It was decided in the meeting unanimously that AIBRF should work on continuous basis to achieve pension updation in the banking industry on the lines of RBI formula. Stand of the AIBRF in this regard was shared with CBPRO representatives also in the meeting held on 3.05.2019.
- (b) AIBRF submitted periodical representations on updation issue to UFBU Convener and its constituents to seek their support for achieving the demand.
- (c) Meeting UFBU Leaders in delegation to seek their support to achieve demand of pension updation. Under this program, We met AIBOC GS in Delhi on 20.05.2020 and in Kolkata in December 2019 shared AIBRF stand on updation and also data available with us, met in delegation to UFBU Convener in Chandigarh in January 2020 and AIBEA GS in Pune in February, 2020.

- (d) Launching All India action programs during the months of June & July, 2019 when Dharna programs at more than 60 centers in India were organized by AIBRF state committees wherein resolutions were passed in support of updation of pension demand and they were submitted to PMO under signature of more than 1.00 lakh members.
- (e) During Action programs organized in the months of June and July, AIBRF delegations met several Members of Parliament and central Minister including Shri Santosh Gangwar on 13.8.2019 and submitted representations for sanction of updation of pension.
- (f) Second Phase of action programs in support of Updation was launched during the months of December, 2019 to January 2020. Under this program, at more than 160 centers in the country, AIBRF activists organized Dharna programs in groups to draw attention of the members of public on pending demands of bank retirees and obtained **signatures of more than 5 lakh people** on the petition addressed to the Prime minister which was later submitted to PMO for consideration. The signatories included Members of Parliament , MLAs, Mayors, Jila Panchyat Presidents, Doctors, advocates, Chartered accountants and prominent personalities of the area. This program was huge success.
- (g) AIBRF Karnataka State Unit women wing delegation **met honorable Finance Minister, Smt. Nirmala Sitaraman in Bangalore on 17.02.2020** and submitted memorandum on pending demands of bank retirees including Updation of pension. She was kind enough to spent more than one hour with the delegation, listened the delegation patiently and gave instructions to the officials to consider pending issues of bank retirees. It was **one of the best and very effective organisational efforts** to move closer for achieving pending issues.
- (h) During continuous campaign organized in last 5 years in support of pending demands of bank retirees, AIBRF delegations have met **10 CENTRAL MINISTERS AND ABOUT 100 MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT** , Leaders of UFBU, Central Trade Union Leaders to seek support for pension updation demand.
- (i) AIBRF organized historical Centralized Dharna program was organized at Jantar Mantar in Delhi on 23.03.2017 where large number of bank retirees from all parts of the country participated in it and the rally was addressed by **21 members of parliament** belonging to different political parties. After the rally, AIBRF delegation met DFS Secretary and submitted memorandum on pending demands of bank retirees including pension updation.
- (j) Based on the representations submitted by AIBRF delegations, **on 5 occasions during the year 2019, the issue of updation was raised in the Parliament during question hours.**

#### **AIBRF TRACK RECORD OF LAST 25 YEARS FOR ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE CAUSE OF BANK RETIREES.**

AIBRF was formed in 1995 when retiree movement in banking industry was virtually unknown. Today, AIBRF enjoy pioneer position in retiree movement in banking industry which nobody can snatch from us. When many retiree organisations were not in existence, AIBRF through its continuous organisational efforts and **STRUGGLE** could contribute significantly in ensuring **some historical achievements** for bank retirees which are proving to be milestone for bank retirees

- (a) Sanction of Ex-gratia payment to pre-1986 retirees in 1997. AIBRF organized Dharna program before the parliament in support of this demand
- (b) Successful legal battle up to Supreme Court for achieving benefit of notional service to more than 1.20 lakh VRS optees in the year 2009. It has given benefit of increase in basic pension from Rs. 250/ to Rs. 1800 per month besides onetime payment of arrears of about Rs. 650 crores in 2009. Because of AIBRF efforts, today, this group of retirees have been getting additional monthly pension ranging from Rs. 1500 to Rs. 5000 per month (including DA) for last 11 years
- (c) **Because of organisational efforts and struggle of AIBRF, there was historical achievement in the form of ONE MORE PENSION OPTION to about 90000 retirees and family pensioners.** Today this group of

retirees are leading dignified, respectable and financially secured life. **In AIBRF we all feel proud of this achievement. Because of AIBRF efforts, one more pension option provided opportunity to retirees to correct historical blunder committed due to wrong and mischievous perception spread about the pension scheme among them.**

- (d) Achieving demand of establishing **Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM)** in banks for resolution of individual issues/ bank level matters of the retirees through discussion in periodical meetings with the management. This mechanism is working well in many public sector banks and helping in resolution in thousands of matters of disputes without litigation.
- (e) After 2010 also, AIBRF journey of organisational efforts and struggle continues on regular basis and we are happy to see that because of AIBRF efforts, many long pending demands are getting resolved. Some examples are, leave encashment to compulsorily retired employees since 2002, pension option to Compulsorily retired employees in 2018, benefit to specialist officers under Regulation 26, benefit of 1616-1684 as per Supreme Court order to all eligible and **most important and historical achievement is improvement in family pension at par with RBI/ Government sector sanctioned very recently.**

### **AIBRF STAND ON PENSION UPDATION**

AIBRF stand on the demand of PENSION UPDATION is absolutely clear and unambiguous. **AIBRF want updation exercise should be carried in the ongoing settlement positively on the lines of RBI.** All AIBRF communications issued during last one year confirms and support this stand on Updation. In RBI, pension updation exercise has been carried out by adopting the following two steps.

- (a) **STEP NO. 01: Merger of DA in to basic pension for all groups of retirees at the agreed Index. In March 2019 exercise in RBI , DA was merged at index of 4440.**
- (b) **STEP NO. 02. Improve merged basic pension at the agreed load factor. It was 10 per cent in RBI during the last exercise.**

In last letter No. 2020/ 428 dated 25.07.2020 of AIBRF addressed to UFBU Convener on the issue of updation, we have retreated and spelled out exactly above two steps to work out updation in banking industry as per the consistent stand reflected in our letters and communications. If you see history of 11 wage settlements finalized so far, improvement in basic pay of employees is exactly worked out by following the above two steps only as referred above and none other than it.

To achieve the demand of updation, AIBRF shall continue follow the following path/ strategy

- (a) Continuous struggle and organisational efforts
- (b) Achievement through negotiated settlement
- (c) Close coordination with UFBU constituents.
- (d) Seek support and favorable consideration from Government, IBA authorities and bank management.
- (e) To make efforts to create favorable opinion of the public in support of updation and other demands.
- (f) Coordination with other retiree organisations along with employees' unions for forging unity among working class
- (g) AIBRF has not taken and shall not take any steps which have potential to create divide among unions and retiree organisations.
- (h) AIBRF believe in extending due credit to all players involved in the negotiated settlement for any achievement.
- (i) AIBRF strongly condemn any criticism in the nature of character assassination and personal nature.

We are happy to note that AIBRF continuous organisational efforts and struggle of last one year as detailed above and in the Annexure has already brought one big achievement in the form of improvement in family pension. Further, We can tell with confidence that we are now moving forward closer to our another demand

of PENSION UPDATION. Final picture on this count will emerge in next 90 days. This period is very crucial for all the retirees. We therefor appeal to the membership to keep pertinence with positivity , confidence in the organisation and ignore rumors being spread in social media.

We have come across some communications issued by retiree organisations and individuals spreading the news that AIBRF is against updation of pension in the 11<sup>th</sup> settlement and want to postpone it to 12<sup>th</sup> settlement. We can only say that such news being spread is **totally BASELESS, MISCHEVIOUS, MISLEADING AND WITHOUT ANY SOUND FOOTING.** We condemn such action which has potential to waken retiree movement. AIBRF record is open and transparent chapter. We have full confidence in our membership and know they will not be misled by such baseless news.

**We would request our affiliates to bring contents of this circular to the AIBRF cadre by mass circulation on what Sapp, Face book and other means of social media.**

With Warm Greetings.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'maha', is written over a horizontal line.

(S.C.JAIN)  
GENERAL SECRETARY

