



ALL INDIA BANK RETIREES' FEDERATION (REGD.)

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6th Conference Slogan- Pension Updation is Right of Bank Retirees

Ref. No. 2025/0016

Date: 03.03.2025

Shri Sameer Shukla

The Joint Secretary

Department of Financial Services

NEW DELHI

Respected Sir,

PENSION RELATED ISSUES OF BANK PENSIONERS

This has reference to our meeting with your good self in your office on 19.02.2024 when we had detailed discussion on various issues confronting the bank retirees. We are thankful to you for giving us a patient hearing & reacting positively on some of the issues. We do hope that these matters would be engaging your attention & the same would be resolved in near future to our satisfaction in particular annual review of ex-gratia amount as provided in Para 36 of Bipartite Settlement dated 8.03.2024.

While these issues are engaging your attention, there are some smaller but equally important issues, which we would like to place before your good self for your kind consideration:

1. UNIFORM DEARNESS RELIEF AT 8088 INDEX POINTS

Bank Pensioners retired under different Bipartite Settlements/ Joint Note (BPS for short) are getting different rate of Dearness Relief. At present there are 8 slabs of DA rate for such pensioners as follows:

- 1. Retired prior to 01-11-1992 - 2220 Slabs over 600 points -DA rate is 1487.40%**
- 2. After 01-11-1992 up to 31-03-1998 - 2083 Slabs over 1148 points -DA rate is 729.05%**
- 3. After 01-04-1998 up to 31-10-2002 - 1949 Slabs over 1684 points -467.76%**

4. **Retired on or after 01-11-2002 - 1798 Slabs over 2288 points -323.64%**
5. **Retired on or after 01-11-2007 - 1661 Slabs over 2836 points DA rate is 249.15%**
6. **Retired on or after 01-11-2012 - 1260 Slabs over 4440 points -DA rate is 126.00%**
7. **Retired on or after 01-11-2017 - 782 Slabs over 6352 points -DA rate is 54.74%**
8. **Retired on or after 01-11-2022 - 1.37 Points over 123.03 points – DA rate is 21.20**

The above rates are applicable from the month of February 2025.

Recently, under XII BPS, the Consumer Price Index series 1960=100, has been changed to that of 2016=100. This series is available for calculation of DR to only those pensioners, who have retired from November 2022 onwards whereas all the earlier pensioners are getting DR based on 1960 series. There is a wide difference in DA rate calculation now as instead of a slab of 4 points earlier, DR is being provided even on an increase of 1 point also, which is not available to earlier pensioners. As calculation of DR for different class of pensioners (retired under different BPS) is very cumbersome, we suggest that the remaining pensioners too should be brought at par with the pensioners of November 2022. Their DR up to 8088 points of index should be merged in their Basic Pension & thereafter, the DR should be calculated on the basis of 2016 series as available to November 202 pensioners. All the pensioners then would be getting same rate of DR without any confusion. In this regard it may also be mentioned that the Government has stopped publishing CPI figures on base year 1960 and now a days CPI figures are published only for 2016 base year.

As only DR is being merged with the Basic Pension, there would be hardly any increase in the total amount of pension, which would not impact the pension fund adversely. However, it would be important step to bring all pensioners at par for DA purpose and also important step towards Updation exercise.

2. PAYMENT OF COMMUTATION

In the matter of commutation, CCS rules provide that if commutation has to be paid twice on account of wage revision etc., commuted value of both the commutations would be recovered from the date of payment of commutation whereas in the BPR, no such provision is there. Banks are recovering commuted value from the date of retirement, while paying commutation second time, in cases of wage revision under Bipartite Settlement/ Joint Note. For example, if a person has retired after November 2022, he would be eligible for revised wages under XII Bipartite Settlement. The 12th BPS has been signed on 08.03.2024. While paying revised commutation to such an employee, the

commuted value has been recovered from the date of his retirement & not from the date of paying him commutation. Similar is the case of all pensioners, who have retired prior to signing of a particular BPS & were entitled to revised wages.

We request that the provisions of CCS pension rules be made applicable to the bank pensioners too in the matter of payment of commutation.

3. PENSION TO UNMARRIED/WIDOWED/DIVORCED DAUGHTERS

The Central Government pension rules (CCS rules for short), provide for pension to unmarried/widowed/divorced daughters irrespective of age, after both the parents have left this world. However, in Bank Pension Regulations (BPR for short), the upper age limit has been fixed at 25 years to get the pension even for such class of dependents. There are many cases, where both the parents have died during Covid leaving behind an unmarried/widowed/divorced daughter, who has to fend for herself in the absence of pensionary benefits. Such daughters are finding it very difficult to live on their own as there are no means of survival available to them.

4. FAMILY PENSION TO SPOUSE OF MISSING EMPLOYEES

In case of missing employees, there is a provision for providing pension to their spouse/dependent after two years. However, there is no such provision in BPR with the result that unless the missing employee is declared dead by a competent court of law, pension is not paid to the spouse of such employee. It takes anywhere between 7 years and 10-15 years depending on the court judgment.

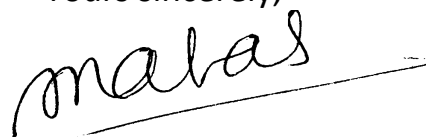
We request that the provision in this regard in Central Government should also be equally applicable to bank pensioners which would save many families from penury, in absence of pension & other terminal benefits.

We are annexing herewith the relevant OM of Central Government for your perusal & kind consideration.

We do hope that you would be kind enough to consider all the above suggestions with positivity & direct the concerned authorities to implement the same under BPR for bank pensioners.

With Respectful Regards,

Yours sincerely,

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

(SC Jain)

General Secretary

Annexures: OM No. F.No.1/17/2011-P&PW (E) dated 24/25 June 2013

Annexures: OM no. 38/79/2008/P&PW(G) dated 16.02.2009