



## **ALL INDIA BANK RETIREES' FEDERATION (REGD.)**

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Ref: 2022/ 669

24.09.2022

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

Dear sir,

### **Re: Renewal of Group Medical Insurance for retirees for 2022-23**

As you may have come to know that IBA has since announced terms and conditions for renewal of Group Insurance Policy for 2022-203 and member banks have started issuing circular on it for implementation. Circular in this regard issued by bank of India is enclosed for your kind information.

2. We find that there is steep increase in premium rates for the renewal. It is really shocking and has come as surprise. It is simply unaffordable for large number of retirees. We fully share concern of retirees on this count.

3. As you are aware, AIBRF has been making all possible efforts at the organizational level since June, 2022 to ensure reduction in premium rates for the renewal. Our suggestions included free policy up to Rs. 2 lakhs to all retirees, clubbing policy of employees, reduction in GST rates and retirees even ready for diluting some terms and conditions of the existing scheme though it would hit claim amount adversely for the retirees in order to reduce the premium rates and making it affordable for all. In this regard several representations were sent to IBA and UFBU constituents for their consideration in last 4 months. **We were also given very clear signals that AIBRF suggestions in the matter are under active consideration and all possible steps will be taken to ensure reduction in the premium to make the policy affordable for all retirees.**

4. **We are at loss to understand that even AIBRF suggestions for diluting some terms and conditions like room rent reduction etc. where entire hit retirees are ready to take without any financial burden on bank managements/IBA were not considered by IBA.** We don find any logic for not considering it. **It is shocking that IBA is keeping representatives of retirees who are real consumers and bear entire financial cost are kept out of the whole process of discussion, negotiation and finalization of terms and conditions in the name of mandate.** We have demonstrated enough patience and organizational maturity in last 8 years through whole hearted efforts to see that the insurance scheme becomes a meaningful welfare measure for bank retirees even if AIBRF is not directly involved in the discussion process at any level. But we find that the existing system of negotiation for medical scheme has not worked well for retirees despite total cooperation by AIBRF. We are at dismay to see that group Insurance policy of retirees has now turned out to be completely COMMERCIAL ONE AND COMPLETELY SACRIFICNG BASIC ELEMENT OF WELFARE for which it was introduced. It is matter of concern that there has been consistent violation of terms of settlement in preparing and implementing group medical insurance scheme in the past **Now time has come to demand and work for direct involvement of retiree representatives.**

5. AIBRF is committed to work for it fast and swiftly to ensure that retirees are involved in the process of finalizing terms and conditions of the scheme to protect interest of retirees and to ensure compliance of Government of India directives issued in 2012 to give reliable medical scheme to retirees with subsidy support. This the right of retirees. **We expect entire working class in banking industry to support our demand and expectations for involvement of retirees in the process.** However, the basic responsibility is of AIBRF and retiree organizations to work and pursue it to achieve it. We also make appeal to our cadre that it is not time to criticize anybody in the matter as we are of the considered opinion it will not help in resolution of the issue and rather may create confusion among the members. **It is time to come in action and AIBRF is ready for it. We request AIBRF cadre to show full confidence in the organization.**

6. **In view of the above developments, AIBRF is in the process of finalizing action programs at the organizational level as well seeking legal intervention at appropriate forum to press our demand and move swiftly in the shortest possible time after holding discussion at the appropriate organizational forum.**

7. In the meantime, we request our affiliates to circulate contents of the terms and conditions of the renewal and request them to take proper and objective decision on it. AIBRF is of the view that remaining completely out of health insurance may not be in the best interest of retirees. despite increase in premium there are some slabs like 1 to 3 lakhs and discounted rates for family pensioners/ single pensioners can be considered for renewal as per financial capacity and individual requirement..

With Warm Greetings

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. C. Jain', is written over a horizontal line that extends across the width of the signature.

**(S. C. JAIN)**  
**GENERAL SECRETARY**