

ALL INDIA BANK RETIREES' FEDERATION (REGD.)

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

Ref. No. 2024/012

Date: 10.02.2024

The Office Bearers/ Central Committee Members/ State Committee Chiefs A.I.B.R.F.

Dear Sir,

Re: Updation of Pension

It is expected that 12th Wage Settlement will be concluded and signed in the forthcoming meeting between IBA and Unions scheduled to be held on 13.02.2024.

2. We expect that issue of ex-gratia proposed to be payable to pensioners will be addressed in this settlement as agreed in the MOU signed on 7.12.2023 and details of ex-gratia will be known.

3. After getting details of ex-gratia amount, we propose to hold office bearers' committee meeting to discuss and decide future action plan to achieve demand of updation as per RBI formula. In the proposed meeting the following issues will be considered:

- (a) Formula and quantum of ex-gratia for different groups of pensioners visa vis benefits likely to accrue on updation as per RBI formula for different groups of pensioners. It may be recalled in RBI pension has been updated twice- once in 2019 and second time in 2023. In 2019, Pension updation benefit was extended to pensioners retired up to 31.10.2012 and pension was revised under formula, 3.63 times for those retired between 1.1.1986 to 31.10.2002, 2.44 times for those retired between 1.11.2002 to 31.10.2007 and 1.76 times to those retired between 1.11.2007 to 31.10.2012. In second updation exercise in RBI approved by the government updation benefit has been extended to all pensioners retired up to 31.10.2017 with the increase in basic pension by 1.63 times. However, in RBI, updation benefit is not extended to family pensioners.
- (b) In the backdrop of above RBI formula, Ex-gratia amount is proposed to be granted to all pensioners retired up to 31.10.2022 and also to family pensioners.
- (c) Ex-gratia as documented in MOU is interim arrangement and does not take away rights of retirees to pursue demand of updation.
- (d) Ex-gratia will not be part of Pension Regulation. However, it will be part of 12th wage settlement to be covered under Industrial Dispute Act. In this background, whether it becomes legal right of pensioners to receive ex-gratia amount or it can be withdrawn/ stopped by banks arbitrarily as feared by some section of pensioners. This point will be discussed and examined in the proposed meeting.

4. AIBRF stand on ex-gratia benefit will be decided after holding discussion in the proposed meeting of Office Bearers' Committee. All our affiliates and state committees are requested not to give any reaction on announcement of ex-gratia details in the forthcoming wage settlement. They are further requested to wait for communication from the central office and outcome of the decisions of office bearers' meeting on the subject.

5. We also propose to convene Joint Meeting of apex level organizations in coming time to arrive at consensus for Joint action plan on Updation after signing of 12th wage settlement and after knowing details of ex-gratia benefits.

With Warm Greetings,

Yours Sincerely,

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(S. C. JAIN) GENERAL SECRETARY