

ALL INDIA BANK RETIREES' FEDERATION(REGD.)

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



SILVER JUBILEE YEAR (1994-2019)



Ref. N.2019/310

05.09.2019

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

Dear Comrades,

Re: Supreme Court Judgment on Contempt Petition filed by retirees of
erstwhile SBM

We find that on 04.09.2019 Supreme Court has delivered judgment on Contempt Petition filed by some retirees of erstwhile State Bank of Mysore providing long waited and much needed relief to the affected retirees for payment of benefits available to retirees who opted for special VRS announced in 2000/2001. It is welcome development.

2. In this regard we observe that for last a few days some of activists on social media have been commenting and spreading unfounded rumors that the contempt petition is connected to the matter of 1616-1684 and its related issues and circulating contents of judgments before it was written and approved by honorable Supreme Court. In this process they were seen passing uncharitable comments on AIBRF and its leadership.

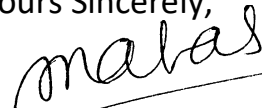
3. In this connection we would like to mention to refresh the memories of our members and for their correct understanding that in banking industry in 2000/2001 Special VRS scheme was introduced wherein more than one lakh bank employees left banks opting VRS under the scheme. However subsequently through executive order this group of VRS optees were denied benefits of Notional Service available under Regulation No. 29. To secure justice K. Mohandas of Bank of India and many other retirees with the support of retiree organisations affiliated to AIBRF fought legal battle which culminated in Supreme Court judgment directing banks to extend benefits of notional service to special VRS optees and consequential monetary benefits. This judgment was delivered in 2009. Immediately thereafter with active support of AIBRF arrears amounting to 650 crores were paid and pension was re-fixed to the eligible pensioners in most of the banks. However Allahabad Bank and Vijaya Bank managements were initially reluctant to implement Supreme Court judgment. But with active support and intervention by our affiliates in these banks in subsequent years the benefits were extended to the eligible retirees of these banks too.

4. However some associate banks of SBI including erstwhile SBM , all these years refused to implement Supreme Court order in this regard. After gap of almost 10 years eligible pensioners of SBM has now received this much needed and long delayed relief which eligible retirees in other banks have been enjoying this benefit for last several years.

5. No doubt it is victory for our brethren in SBM and deserves all compliments and congratulations from us.
6. But it is unfortunate that some activists out of their anxiety and prejudice are giving different color to the whole issue and making attempt to project AIBRF and retiree movement in poor shape. We request our membership to be vigil from such elements and ignore unauthenticated messages circulated. It may be once again clarified that this contempt petition has nothing to do with the matter of 1616-1684 and related issues.
7. As regards payment of arrears for commutation difference arising out of Supreme Court decision on 1616-1684 matter issue is being dealt by AIBRF. IBA has already sent clarifications to many banks on the issue and our affiliates are actively pursuing the matter with individual banks. We hope this issue will get resolved in coming days.
8. We expect mass circulation of this communication among membership by our office bearers, central committee members , state bodies and activists to give correct picture on the issue and remove confusion created.

With Warm Greetings,

Yours Sincerely,

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

(S.C.JAIN)

GENERAL SECRETARY