

ALL INDIA BANK RETIREES' FEDERATION (REGD.)

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

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SILVER JUBILEE YEAR (1994-2019)



Ref. 2020/435

30.08.2020

The Office bearers / Central Committee Members
A.I.B.R.F.

Dear Comrades

Re: Office Bearers Meeting through video conferencing

On Saturday 29.08.2020

Re: Proceedings

Office Bearers Meeting as scheduled was held on 29.08.2020 through video conferencing. Attendance was 100 per cent and all 48 office bearers were present in the meeting.

2. In the meeting, the issue of Group health Insurance scheme and its relevant issues with special reference to forthcoming renewal due on 1.11.2020 were discussed at length. About 30 Office Bearers participated in the discussion and presented their views like (a) expressing their concern on steep increase in premium rates of IBA policy in last 3 years and consequence of this, it has resulted in fast decrease in rate of participation (b) overall review of IBA policy (c) review of steps taken by AIBRF toward reduction of premium for next renewal (d) present status of availability of alternate group policy with affordable premium in compliance of resolution passed in Delhi Conference on the subject (e) Consideration of two alternate proposals available (f) Problems being faced by affiliates/ members in dealing with TPAs.

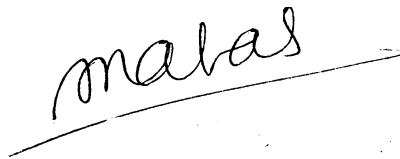
3. After the deliberations and detailed reply on the above points given by the General Secretary, the following decisions were taken unanimously

- It was noted by the house that process of inviting tender and finalizing premium rates for next renewal in IBA has already started and likely to be completed in coming days. AIBRF has taken several organisational steps in last one year representing IBA/ UFBU for reduction in premium to make the policy affordable for all section of retirees. Suggestion given by AIBRF include capping on certain claims, reduction in GST rates on premium, subsidy from banks on premium etc. In view of this, the house decided to wait for outcome of tender process and response of IBA/ UFBU on our suggestions and then take formal decision of launching alternate policy for left over.
- AIBRF shall continue to take organisational steps on regular basis to bring improvements in IBA scheme to ensure that it becomes viable and sustainable scheme on long term basis

- (c) AIBRF shall launch organisational programs in coming days once Covid situation improves for bringing down GST rates on premium and uniform subsidy for payment of premiums.
- (d) On the proposal of Oriental Insurance Company in circulation, it is observed that it is omnibus type policy available on shelf like other group insurance policy launched by banks and available on shelf. It was also noted that this policy is designed for retirees from all sector. The house was of the view that It may be considered at local/ regional level if found suitable by affiliates/ local groups of individual retirees. On such omnibus policy, AIBRF has hardly any role to play. However. while adopting such policy and recommending to retirees, precaution may be taken to see that it does not disintegrate retirees on health insurance issue and cause damage to the concept of uniform medical scheme for bank retirees which we have been able to achieve in last 5 years with long struggle and it has given new dimension and direction on the issue of health insurance resulting into important and powerful issue for retirees. In the coming years, if we are able to achieve uniform subsidy for payment of insurance premium for retirees, for which beginning is already made in SBI, migration of left over to main stream will be strenuous task for the organisation as we have witnessed in exercise of pension option noticed between 2000 to 2010.
- (e) The house took note of tailor made proposal for group insurance already available to AIBRF. Efforts may be made to obtain some more tailor made proposals so affordable alternate insurance scheme may be introduced for left over retirees as per the direction of General Council decision in Delhi conference, in due course after seeing outcome of tender process of IBA for next renewal. For this purpose sub-committee of 3 members consisting (1) Chairman (2) President & (3) General Secretary was constituted who will look into all aspects of alternate tailor made proposals and submit the report by end of September, 2020 for taking final decision by Office- Bearers Committee.
- (f) The resolution circulated was adopted with some modifications unanimously expressing AIBRF stand on health insurance. Copy of modified resolution is enclosed .
- (g) It was decided to hold one more meeting of office bearers to discuss other pending items of agenda.

With warm greetings,

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'mabas', is written over a horizontal line.

(S.C.JAIN)
GENERAL SECRETARY

RESOLUTION CUM PROPOSALS ON HEALTH INSURANCE

ADOPTIOED BY OFFICE BEARERS

MEETING TO BE HELD ON 29.08.2020

1. It is noted with satisfaction the continuous actions/ steps taken by AIBRF during last one and half years since Delhi Conference by way of submission of representations to IBA, UFBU , Members of Parliament offering suggestions to ensure reduction in premium and other improvements needed in the scheme to make the group insurance policy affordable. AIBRF efforts and struggle have been found to be continuous , extensive and intensive.

2. In Delhi Conference, concern was expressed on steep increase in premium rates in IBA policy during last 4 years making it gradually unaffordable for large section of retirees. Unanimous resolution was passed by the general Council for exploring possibility of alternate policy for retirees at affordable premium so maximum number of retirees can participate in the scheme. This meeting once again retreads AIBRF commitment to take all possible steps to find suitable group policy at affordable premium, within IBA scheme or if situation so warrants, outside IBA scheme.

3. In view of inherent benefits likely to accrue in coming days and track record of liberal claim settlement in last 5 years giving confidence to retirees in going for treatment in case of need without much financial burden on them, in Core Committee Meeting held in June 2020 it was decided that as far as possible first preference of retirees for group insurance should be IBA policy. It is now affirmed and resolved that AIBRF shall continue to take steps to bring improvements in IBA scheme simultaneous with efforts/ steps for reduction of premiums to make affordable for one and all.

4. AIBRF has made sustained efforts for reduction of premium and offered several suggestions in this regard It is seen that AIBRF suggestions are under active consideration of UFBU and IBA and some of them may be positively considered while finalizing terms and conditions of next renewal. In view of this, it is resolved that at all India level, retiree under the banner of AIBRF should wait for final outcome before taking final view on alternate policy.

5. It is further resolved that AIBRF should continue to take simultaneous steps to hold discussion with insurance companies for designing suitable group insurance policy as an alternate with affordable premium in case need arises after outcome of terms and conditions for renewal finalized by IBA. While identifying such policy, it should be ensured that fine balancing is drawn

between affordable premium and terms and conditions for claims which do not put undue pressure on retirees. It should be ensured that such policy should be of all India character with common entry and exit dates. Further, it should be ensured that any policy identified outside IBA should also provide option of Super Top Policy.

6. Since last few years AIBRF has launched sustainable and continuous organisational action programs to achieve demand of subsidy from bank managements on uniform basis and bringing GST rates from present 18 percent to Zero level on payment of insurance premium as a part of long term solution for sustainability of the group health insurance scheme for retirees. It is further resolved that AIBRF shall continue its organisational efforts and pursue them vigorously till they are achieved.

7. Office bears Committee meeting took decision to appeal our affiliates, office bearers, central committee members to explain AIBRF stand on health insurance policy and its continuous struggle to the membership in order to remove their confusion and misgivings so we can work in coordinated manner in this area.