# UCOBANK RETIREES' ASSOCIATION KARNATAKA (Regd)

(Regd as S.No: 699/97-98 Dated 20/01/1998 with the Registrar of Societies, Karnataka) Regd Office: C/o UCOBank, 3rd Floor, 13/22, Kempegowda Road, Bangalore-560009 Website: urakar.com

UBRA-KAR/CIR/110/2014-2017 16/05/2017

To All Members of our Unit.

Dear Comrades,

#### Sub: CBPRO Letter to convener of UFBU regarding matters of Retirees

### Ref: CBPRO letter dated 15/05/2017

Please find reproduced CBPRO Letter No NIL dated 15/05/2017 for information

Yours faithfully,

Ravindra Krishna

# **COORDINATION OF BANK PENSIONERS AND RETIREES' ORGANISATIONS**

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То

Com. Sanjeev Kumar Bandlish, Convener, UFBU C/o State Bank of India, Local Head Office, Plot No 1, Sector 17 A, Chandigarh 160017

#### Dear Comrade,

### Sub: Bank Retirees Issues

We are happy to note that the negotiations on ensuing wage Revision have commenced on 2.5.2017. We hope that with the vibrant leadership of UFBU constituents, the talks will be taken to its logical conclusions getting a fair and decent wage revision for Bank Officers and Employees. As you are aware the following issues pertaining to the Bank Retirees have been pending for a long time:

- 1. Extension of Uniform DA to Pre-2002 Bank Retirees.
- 2. Improvement in Family Pension.
- 3. Updation of Pension.
- 4. Medical Insurance Premium to be borne by the Banks as a welfare measure.



A Unit of All India UCOBank Pensioners' Federation, Kolkata Affiliated to All India Banks' Pensioners' and Retirees' Confederation





Dated 15/05/2017

You will appreciate that these issues of Bank Retirees were the subject matter of Negotiations even during the last salary revision. IBA agreed to sign A Record Note covering the issues of Retirees with a solemn assurance for resolving the issues in due course. The Bank Retirees are worried as all the above issues still remain unresolved. Now that the Next Wage Revision has commenced we hope that the residual issues of the Retirees will get priority and settled immediately. We therefore request you to take up these issues on priority and on an urgent basis with IBA and ensure early resolution of the same more so when the majority of the Retirees are in the evening of their life.

We also wish to mention that we have been following up these issues with the Government and IBA with our limited resources. But we consider **UFBU** as an effective forum to negotiate all the issues concerning the Bank Retirees and UFBU will succeed in clinching the resolution of the issues. We had occasion to meet the IBA and Officials in the Ministry in the recent times to explain the pending issues in detail. We have also been representing to IBA, Government and various constituents of UFBU through our letters, mail/Discussions. In our recent communication to the Ministry we had explained about the pending issues including the concept of affordability and cost factor as under:

- 1. In the first place Pension in the Banking Industry is not given out of Profit as wrongly being claimed by the IBA.
- 2. In Banks Pension is given under the Defined Benefit Pension Scheme and is given as a deferred wage.
- 3. Pension is given in lieu of the CPF surrendered by the Bank employees and Officers once they opted for Pension.
- 4. Pension fund is originally created out of the CPF so surrendered.
- 5. The Pension Fund gets accruals every year by way of interest earned on the fund and Investments made out of the Fund.
- 6. Presently the Pension Fund of all the Banks including State Bank of India put together easily exceeds more than Rs 2,50,000/- crores approx as on March, 2016 and the amount would be higher as on March, 2017.
- 7. The Pension Scheme in the Banks is a close ended scheme because it is available to only those who are recruited before April, 2010.
- 8. In fact there was literally no recruitment in the Banking Industry from 1985 almost upto the year 1999 and those who are recruited after the year 1999 would be Retiring after another 17-18 years.
- 9. So naturally the average age of present Retirees is above 70 yrs and quite a good number of them are at very advanced age of more than 85 yrs where as the Pension Corpus is very huge which will continue to remain huge even after almost all the Retirees cease to exist.
- 10. So far as the Family Pensioners are concerned, their case is simply pathetic as many of them are spouses of deceased Bank Employees (mostly women) with a meagre Pension ranging from Rs 4000/- to Rs 14000/- including DA.
- 11. All the above Pending issues when considered will not affect the Banks even a bit as the entire amount will be paid out of the Pension Fund already available and the Fund will sustain even for all future commitments.
- 12. Any provision to be made under AS 15 (Revised) is only a one time dispensation for future contingencies which are very remote going by the presence of the strong Pension Corpus. Such provisions have to be necessarily made before arriving at the Profit as Payment of Pension is a Revenue Expenditure.
- 13. All the Banks are making huge Operating Profits which is a clear proof of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Employees and Officers of the Banks both Past & Present.
- 14. Uniform DA to Pre-2002 Retirees will remove the discrimination they are suffering from and will give some relief to them from the vagaries of the Price Rise.
- 15. As regards Medical Insurance Scheme is concerned the minimum expectation of Bank Retirees is that the Banks should bear the premium cost as is being done in the case of serving Employees and Officers.

16. The Bank Retirees have immensely contributed to the overall growth of the economy of the Nation especially after the Nationalisation of the Banks and carried out all the Programmes and Policies of the Government very successfully more recently Jan Dhan Yojna, Mudra Loans, Demonetisation etc.

We wish to point out that the issues relating to cost of updation of Pension and their affordability are non issues from the Employees and Officer's point of view as it is obligatory on the part of the Banks to make adequate provision to ensure that all the benefits under Pension Scheme are met out of the Pension Fund. Bank Employees Pension Regulation has very clearly spelt out about the constitution of the Pension Fund and payment of Pension thereof with Updation. The Regulations have laid down clearly about the contribution to the fund and it is nowhere provided that employees and officers have to make any contribution to the fund except surrender of CPF along with the interest accrued thereon. The contentions of IBA and Government about affordability and Profitability constraint are beyond the scope of Pension Regulation. It is once again clarified that contributions to the Pension Fund by the Banks are in the nature of Revenue Expenditure and do not form part of Profit & Loss Appropriation Account as such contributions are made before arriving at the Profit.

You have been very kind and supportive to the issues of Retirees. We know that the above inputs may be already available with you. We earnestly request you to resolve the above long pending issues at the earliest and give relief to the ageing Senior Citizens of the Banking Industry which will bring lot of solace and dignity to the Bank Retirees and their families in the evening of their life.

With Warm Regards,

Yours Comradely,

A.Ramesh Babu

Joint Conveners

K.V.Acharya