

FEDERAL BANK RETIRED OFFICERS' FORUM (FBROF)



(An Organizational Wing of Federal Bank Officers' Association)
(Affiliated to All India Bank Pensioners and Retirees Confederation - AIBPARC)
Regd Office: FBOA Centre, FBOA Road, Aluva - 683101
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FBROF/Circular No. 15/2014-'16

Aluva
15/02/2016

To
All Members of FBROF

Provident Fund Issue - Letter Sent to MD & CEO of the Bank

As the Provident Fund Issue is not getting resolved inspite of our taking up the matter with the Bank on 24/04/2014 and again on 05/02/2015, it was decided by our Executive Committee to take up the matter with the MD & CEO of the Bank expressing our serious concern in the matter. Accordingly we have sent a letter dt.24/12/2015 to the MD & CEO of the Bank. A copy of the letter is enclosed.

There has been no posting of the case for the last 2 years and there has been no progress for the last 4 years in respect of the appeal pending before the Division Bench of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala.

Your President, General Secretary and Vice – President met GM (HR) in the 2nd week of Jan, 2016 and expressed our serious concern in not getting our balance of PF contribution. We have demanded payment of the amount from the Bank's own funds as there has not been any progress in the case pending for over 22 years. GM assured to take all efforts to speed up the case and agreed to inform our serious concern to the higher authorities.

FBOA has assured us all support and PF issue was included as a major demand, among other things, in their Charter of demands. A call for Nationwide strike on 18th Jan, 2016 was deferred and at the time of settlement of the Charter of demands it has been agreed by the management in the minutes "to aggressively pursue for the urgent disposal of the dispute pending before Hon'ble High Court relating to PF".

We are actively following up the matter and will plan our future course of action if there is no progress in the matter in the next couple of months.

Updation of Pension to Retirees – IBA Agrees for Cost Study

We are happy to inform members that IBA has agreed for a cost study on updation of Pension to Retirees and related issues. A report is expected in the next 3 to 4 months.

This has been agreed in the minutes by IBA at the conciliation meeting dt.08/12/2015 in the background of the one day Nation wide strike call as on 11/12/2015 given by AIBOC.

This is definitely a major achievement for us as it is the 1st time IBA has agreed for a cost study on updation of pension and will be of immense support in our march forward.

Allowing Commutation of Pension to Smt. Rajamma George Varghese, W/o late. George Varghese (PF – 872), Kottayam

We are happy to inform members that at last Bank has allowed commutation of pension to Smt. Rajamma George Varghese, W/o late. George Varghese, Kottayam. A great injustice has been rectified now.

It is nearly 2 years since we had taken up the issue with the Bank and we have been continuously following up the matter.

We are thankful to leaders of FBOA for their full support and active follow up of the issue with the Bank.

Releasing additional Security for Staff Housing Loan in the form of deposits in respect of Officers retired prior to 01/02/2011

We are happy to inform members that the Bank has now agreed to release additional security for Staff Housing Loan (for the outstanding amount at the time of retirement) in the form of deposits in respect of officers retired prior to 01/02/2011 also. We have been following up the issue for the last 5 years.

Our thanks are due to leaders of FBOA for the achievement. They have been following up the issue actively and had given us full support.

Family Meet – 2016 at Aluva a Grand Success

We are happy to inform members that Family Meet – 2016 held at Periyar Club, Aluva on 17/01/2016 was a Grand Success. Nearly 400 members and family members participated in the event inspite of so many weddings on that day.

Shri. K R Mohanachandran, Chief General Manager, Federal Bank inaugurated the event.

A talk by Dr. C D Varghese, Professor, St. Thomas College, Thrissur was very informative.

Shri. P I Bose, Treasurer, FBOA and Shri. Babu Thomas, Secretary, Federal Bank Executives' Forum offered felicitations.

It was a great occasion to meet former colleagues and friends. Everybody enjoyed the good food and the various entertainments organised by Shri. Raju Philip, Convenor and Shri.S M Noushad, Joint Convenor of the Entertainments committee.

Our congratulations to Shri. K V Kuriakose, EC member and General Convenor, Joint Convenors and Convenors and members of various organising committees for organising the event in a colourful manner.

AIBPARC News

2nd Triennial General Body Conference of AIBPARC at Kolkata on 15th and 16th Nov, 2015

The 2nd Triennial General Body Conference of AIBPARC was held at Kolkata on 15th& 16thNov, 2015

Shri.Harvinder Singh, General Secretary, AIBOC and National leaders of various retirees' organisations addressed the meeting.

Shri. P V Mathew our President was elected as the Senior Vice – President and your General Secretary was elected to the National Executive.

The conference was attended by Shri. P V Mathew, President, Shri. V Kailasnath, General Secretary, Shri. Xavier Gregory, Vice – President and Shri. K Ravindran, Jt. Secretary.

Dharna by CBPRO at JantarMantar, New Delhi on 11/12/2015

A Dharna was organised by the Confederation of Bank Pensioners and Retirees Organisations (CBPRO) at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi on 11th Dec, 2015 to highlight our major demands before the authorities and the public. Affiliates of all 5 federations participated in the mammothDharna.

Shri.Harvinder Singh, General Secretary, AIBOC and National Leaders of various retirees' organisations addressed the gathering.

Your General Secretary and Shri. K Ravindran, Jt. Secretary participated in the Dharna.

Our members from New Delhi -Shri.GopendraNath Sharma, Shri. K K Mohandas, Shri. C M. Duggal and Shri. Man Mohan Gupta also actively participated in the Dharna.

A call for Nationwide strike on 11/12/2015 by AIBOC, coinciding with our Dharna at New Delhi, demanding, among other things, updation of pension for retirees was a great show of support and solidarity. The strike was deferred at the last minute with IBA agreeing, among other things, for a cost study of updation of pension to retirees.

New Medical Insurance Scheme for Retirees

The New Medical Insurance Scheme for retirees as per the 10th Bipartite Settlement was implemented in our Bank w.e.f. 4th Dec, 2015. Members and spouses are covered for an amount of Rs. 4.00L.

It has been informed by H.O that Id cards and brochures with details of the scheme are getting ready and will be sent to retirees shortly.

For emergency, E – Card can be obtained by contacting United India/ TPA E – Mail ID anju.sebastian@vidalhealthtpa.com. Details / Forms can be downloaded from our website www.fbrof.com.

Zonal / Area Meetings

Kottayam Zonal Meeting

Kottayam Zonal meeting was held at Press Club, Kottayam on 22/11/2015. A good number of members participated.

There was active discussions on various issues. Members expressed their anguish and dismay at not getting balance of PF contribution from the Bank. They expressed in one voice that they are ready for any action programmes in this regard.

Shri. P V Mathew, President, Shri. V Kailasnath, General Secretary, Shri. K Ramakrishnan, Treasurer and Shri. Tom Thomas, EC Member attended the meeting.

Family Meet cum – Zonal Meeting at Bangalore

A Family Meet cum Zonal Meeting was held on 29/11/2015 at the picturesque Radiant Resort near Bannarghatta at Bangalore. A good number of members and families took part.

Everybody enjoyed the day with songs sung by many.

Congratulations to Shri. P Shyaman, Zonal Secretary and Shri. George Thomas Area – Secretary for organising the Family Meet in a Grand manner.

Shri. V Kailasnath, General Secretary and Shri. K Ravindran, Jt. Secretary attended the meeting.

Kannur and Kozhikode Area Meetings

Kannur and Kozhikode Area meetings were held on 5th & 6th Dec, 2015 respectively. Both meetings were well attended and members actively took part in the discussions.

Shri. P V Mathew, President, V Kailasnath, General Secretary, Shri. K Ravindran, Jt. Secretary and Shri. P Prabhakaran, EC Member attended the meetings.

Alleppey Area Meeting

A meeting of members of Alleppey Area was held on 13/12/2015. The meeting was well attended and there was active discussions.

Shri. V Kailasnath, General Secretary, Shri. K Ramakrishnan, Treasurer and Shri. Cyriac Kurian, EC Member attended the meeting.

Aluva Area Meeting

A meeting of members of Aluva Area was held at FBOA Hall, Aluva on 19/12/2015. The meeting was well attended and there was active discussions on various issues.

Shri. Xavier Gregory, Vice – President, Shri. V Kailasnath, General Secretary, Shri. K Ravindran, Jt. Secretary and Shri. K Ramakrishnan, Treasurer attended the meeting.

Thrissur Area Meeting

A meeting of members of Thrissur Area was held on 26/01/2016.

The meeting was well attended and there was active discussions on various issues.

Shri. V Kailasnath, General Secretary and Shri. K Ravindran, Jt. Secretary attended the meeting.

With Regards and Best Wishes

Yours Sincerely,



V Kailasnath
General Secretary

- Encl: 1. Copy of letter dt. 24/12/2015 addressed to the MD & CEO of the Bank.
2. Address updation (Sl Nos. 967 to 1006) of members is enclosed. This may please be kept along with the Address directory.

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FBROF / HR- 11 / 2014 – '16

Aluva

24/12/2015

Shri. ShyamSrinivasan
Managing Director & CEO,
The Federal Bank Ltd
Corporate Office
Aluva – 683 101

Sir,

Reg : Balance of Provident Fund Contribution payable to Retirees withheld by the Bank.

We draw your kind attention to our earlier letters No. FBROF/ FB-2/ 2013 – '14 dt23/04/2014 and No. FBROF/ HR-6/ 2014 – '16 dt.05/02/2015 on the subject.

We are sorry to note that no positive steps have been taken by the Bank to pay the balance of Provident Fund Contribution to the Retirees, though nearly 2 years have passed after our bringing the matter to your kind attention.

We had highlighted the plight of the Retirees in not getting back the balance of their Provident Fund Contribution, one of the prime retiral benefits, from the Bank. The PF Contribution was made to the Bank in good faith by way of salary deduction. The Bank cannot be absolved of its responsibility as employer to pay back the PF Contribution in full with interest at the time of retirement. The plea that the matter is before the Court etc is untenable and cannot be justified.

The Officers are in no way responsible for the steps taken by the Bank in transferring the PF account from the Provident Fund Commissioner and the resultant imbroglio and the present uncertainty.

The Bank had assured to take effective steps to speed up the case before the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala and to get orders without delay. But, we are sorry to note that no postings have

taken place during the last 2 years and the appeal before the Hon'ble High Court is pending for more than 4 years now.

It is amply clear that the follow up of the case from the Bank's side has not been satisfactory at all, to say the least. Moreover, the stand that Provident Fund balance will be paid only as and when received through the Court is highly deplorable and tantamount to escaping the liability and responsibility as employer.

Many of the retired Officers are hard pressed for money. Many are ill and in dire need of large amounts for their medical and other pressing family needs. The PF amount held up in legal wranglings is making life difficult for them. The matter cannot go on like this indefinitely.

We wish to bring to your notice that all our members are agitated over the issue of non – payment of balance of PF Contribution. Tempers are already flying high over the lackadaisical attitude of the Bank and we may not be able to hold them back for long.

It may be noted that the amount due to the Retirees is only a portion of the total amount held up.

We trust and hope that you will understand thegrowing frustration in the minds of the Retirees in the matter and issue necessary orders to release the amount to the Retirees from the Bank's own funds without waiting for the Court orders which may take many more years to reach its logical conclusion when none of the present Retirees will be left on this earth.

We shall be glad if you will kindly grant us an appointment to meet you personally in our endeavour to discuss and find a solution to this issue pending for a very long time.

Thanking You,

Yours Sincerely,



V Kailasnath
General Secretary

