

FEDERAL BANK RETIRED OFFICERS' FORUM (FBROF)



Registered under the Travancore-Cochin Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies Registration Act 1955 (1) No. ER. 702/2009
(An Organizational Wing of Federal Bank Officers' Association)
(Affiliated to All India Bank Pensioners and Retirees Confederation - AIBPARC)
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AIBPARC - IVth TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE AT BENGALURU - A THUNDERING SUCCESS

Retired Judge of Supreme Court, JUSTICE Dr. GOPAL GOWDA EMPHATICALLY DECLARES THAT UPDATION OF PENSION IS A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT & FUNDAMENTALLY RIGHT

Inaugurating the IVth Triennial Conference at the JNANA JYOTHI AUDITORIUM, BENGALURU CITY UNIVERSITY, BENGALURU on Saturday, the 28th January 2023 at 5 PM, Justice Dr. Gopal Gowda, Retired Judge of Supreme Court, declared that the just and legitimate demand of the Bank Retirees for PENSION UPDATION is our Fundamental Right and not giving it is a Fundamental Right Violation. Amidst thunderous applause, he very strongly advocated, with the support of the relevant clauses of the BEPR 35(1), 56 and the most important Articles of our Constitution, Supreme Court Judgements (the Famous DS Nakara Case), that the bodies that are responsible to represent the retirees and the authorities who are to hear and resolve the issues/demands should resolve the subject immediately as they are violating the Fundamental Rights of the



Hon. Justice Dr. Gopal Gowda, Retired Judge of Supreme Court inaugurates the 4th Triennial Conference. Com. K.V. Acharya (President), Com. Suprita Sarkar (Gen. Secretary), Com. G.D. Nadaf, Com. Harvinder Singh (Former Gen. Secretaries of AIBOC), Com. A.N. Krishnamoorthy (Gen. Convener) and Com. M.R. Gopinath Rao (Senior VP and State President of AIBPARC, Karnataka) are also seen

Retirees in this regard. He was attending the Conference, cancelling another engagement, his much solicited presence in the All India Lawyers Conference at Cuttack on the same day, for the importance of the AIBPARC National Conference. He was the Judge of High Court, Karnataka and the Chief Justice of Orissa High Court, before being elevated as the Judge of the Supreme Court.

The Inaugural function was attended by the 600 strong Delegates and Observers across the country, representing various affiliates of AIBPARC along with the Members of the affiliates and other public from Bengaluru and other parts and the Jnana Jyothi Auditorium was overflowing with 2000+ and extra seats had to be arranged with digital screen outside the hall.

Sri. AN Krishnamurthy, General Secretary of Canara Bank - Syndicate Pensioners and Retirees Association & General Secretary of the Karnataka State Unit of AIBPARC and also the General Convenor of the Conference, welcomed the gathering in the Public Meeting. Sri. K V Acharya, National President of AIBPARC & the Joint Convenor / Coordinator of CBPRO, presided. M/s G D Nadaf and P K Sarkar, former General Secretary and President respectively of AIBOC during the formation of AIBPARC and presently Advisors of AIBPARC, Sri. Harvinder Singh, former General Secretary of AIBOC who hosted the first national conference of AIBPARC at New Delhi as the State General Secretary of AIBOC - New Delhi Unit, M/s Gangadhar Yadav, P S Patki and S B C Karunakaran, the Working Presidents of AIBPARC, Sri. Suprito Sarkar, our General Secretary and Sri. M R Gopinath Rao, Sr. Vice President of AIBPARC & the State President of AIBPARC, Karnataka, also adorned the dias and spoke on the occasion.

The Public and Inaugural Function was preceded by the General Council Meeting at 9 AM on 28th January followed by the Business Session at 10 AM till 4 PM. The Business Session, truncated on the previous day for the Public Meeting, continued the next day, 29th January till 5.30 PM, culminating with the election of the Managing Council including the Office Bearers.



Sri. K.T. Thomachan (Gen. Secretary), Sri. Sathyamoorthy S. (Deputy Gen. Secretary) and Sri. Subba Rao T.V. (Vice President) speaks on General Secretaries report

FBROF was represented by Sri. KT Thomachan (General Secretary), M/s TV Subba Rao, VM Rajanarayanan and Paul Jose Mathew (all Vice Presidents), Sri. V O Pappachan and Sri. S Sathyamoorthy (both Deputy General Secretaries), Sri. EAMuhamed (Asst. Treasurer), Sri. L Easwaran, Smt. V Pushpa (both EC Members),



FBROF Team of Delegates and Observers attended the Triennial Conference

Sri. P A Jayaram (Zonal Secretary, BGR), i.e., 10 Delegates and 5 Observers, viz., and M/s D Munuswamy (Zonal Secretary - Chennai), Gita Joseph (Area Secretary - BGR), M G Ajith (Convenor Help Desk - BGR), G L Narasimham (Area Secretary - AP & Telangana) and Devassykutty Abraham (Former ZS & Member - Help Desk, BGR).

In the deliberations on the General Secretary's Report that followed the presentation of the report, 55 Delegates representing about 10 of the total Delegates, participated. On the first day of the Business Session, Sri. K T Thomachan, our General Secretary, presented our concerns about our parent body and the umbrella body of the Bank representative organisations not taking proper care of the Retirees issues, the apprehension about the implementation of updation of pension when resolved in Private Sector Banks, since the Private Sector Banks are not permitted to manage their Pension Trusts unlike in Public Sector and the need for appropriate support from RBI on updation, like provisions for amortisation just as in the case of Family Pension. He requested for necessary support for uniform implementation of Pension Updation in Public, Private and RRB's, uniformly. He also represented the discriminatory approach and problems faced by the retirees in Private Sector Banks like LVB, BOR, CSB, etc and requested for necessary support from AIBPARC. He also represented the issues related to anticipated Privatisation of Public Sector Banks and the resultant issues relating to Pension Buy Back Scheme. He also presented the ever increasing premium of Medical Insurance and related issues.

On the second day of the Business session Sri. Sathyamoorthy S, Dy General Secretary spoke on the delay in satiating our just and legitimate demand for pension updation, the need for a proper plan or road map for getting the issue resolved with required support from our parent body and our umbrella organisation, need for further compounded actions for an early resolution of our demands, etc. He also presented the issue of management of Pension Trusts of Private Banks that Private Banks also shall be permitted to manage their PTF or alternatives shall be explored. The high medical insurance premium, the administrative inconveniences faced with the change in TPA, etc., were also discussed. Some points on the financial statements and on the Resolutions also were mentioned in his presentation. Sri. TV Subba Rao, our Vice President, also represented FBROF in the deliberations.

Sri. K V Acharya was re-elected as the President and Sri. Suprita Sarkar was re-elected as the General Secretary. It was resolved to increase the strength of the Managing Committee to 152, including a President, 5 Working Presidents, 10 Sr. Vice Presidents, 25 Vice Presidents, a General Secretary, 5 Joint General Secretaries, 45 Dy General Secretaries, a Treasurer, a Joint Treasurer, and 60 Asst General Secretaries. Our President, Sri. Tom Thomas was re-elected as one of the Senior Vice Presidents and Sri. K T Thomachan, our General Secretary, who was a General Council Member was elected as Asst. Gen. Secretary. Additionally Sri. T.V. Subba Rao was also elected as Asst General Secretary. This is a great recognition for FBROF for its vibrance.

The conference was a resounding success in its contents and presentation. It was well organised and reiterated the demands, the efforts and cemented the optimism and the expectations that the much awaited resolution to the dear issues will be forthcoming by all probabilities, shortly.

UFBU WRITES TO IBA-ON DEMAND FOR UPDATION OF PENSION FOR PAST RETIREES

Consequent to the bilateral discussion with IBA, as a sequel to the decisions in the conciliation meetings before Dy. CLC, Mumbai on 27.01.2023, UFBU submitted a letter to IBA at the request of IBA to clearly spell out the demand on updation of pension, that UFBU demands that all the pensioners till the last revision of pay on 31.10.2017 shall be covered.

UFBU was demanding Updation of Pension in a phased manner, till recently. They have placed the demand for Updation of Pension only for those retirees who have retired till 31.10.2002, in the first phase, on the contention that their pension was low. It was also indicated by UFBU to consider further revision in stages, after considering the financial capability, paying capacity and the load factor of the Banks. They conveniently forgot what was in the Pension Settlement, the enabling provisions for Updation and that the payment was from the Pension Trust Funds which was nothing but our dues in lieu of management contribution to the PF.

AIBPARC has, however, all along been demanding for Updation of Pension for all Retirees, as agreed in the relevant settlements and in the lines of the Pension Updation for the Central Govt Employees and RBI. This turn of events, the change in the stand of UFBU has come on the strong and dedicated stand of AIBPARC and the perseverance and the persistence of AIBPARC in persuing their stance. It also comes after the AIBPARC National Conference, as a result of the resolutions, discussions, deliberations and the emphatic advocacy of our demand by the Retired Judge of the Supreme Court in his inaugural address and the understanding that AIBPARC is legally correct and fundamentally right. Now, when UFBU changes its stand, the stand of AIBPARC stands vindicated. This change in stand is definitely our success and it is only because of AIBPARC.

Sri. K.V. Acharya, National President, AIBPARC, writes:

(Quote):

"We welcome the right stand taken by UFBU, regarding Pension Updation issue, now demanding Updation of Pension to all pensioners along with every wage revision of serving Employees and Officers from 1986 to 2017. The Principled stand of AIBPARC is vindicated. Let us now fully gear up for resolving the issue to its logical conclusion. Our letter to CLC and our Bengaluru Conference highlighted the legal aspects clearly and categorically. We are very hopeful and confident. All the Best.

With Warm Regards...

K.V. Acharya

(unquote)

Comradely yours,



Thomachan K T
(General Secretary)