



Association of Retired IOB's Employees

Regd. Office : No.6/4, III Lane,
1st Floor, M.K. Amman Koil Street, Mylapore, Chennai - 600 004
Cell : 99413 04028 Email : ksrseetha1945@yahoo.co.in, thyags_2000@yahoo.com
Website : www.thearise.org

PATRON

J.D. SHARMA,
PRESIDENT - IOBOA

K. ANANDAKUMAR,
GENERAL SECRETARY - IOBOA

PRESIDENT

K.S. RENGARAJAN

CHIEF ADVISOR

A.S. SABHARWAL

VICE PRESIDENTS

M.R. GOPINATHA RAO

K.V. ACHARYA

V. GOPINATH

K. PURUSHOTHAM

GENERAL SECRETARY

S.B.C. KARUNAKARAN

JOINT SECRETARY

V.N. RAVINDRANATH RAO

S. KRUPARAM

R. RAMADURAI

TREASURER

S. THYAGARAJAN

JOINT TREASURER

N. SEKHAR

ORGANISING SECRETARY

V.M. KRISHNAMURTHY

EC MEMBER

P. KRISHNARAJ

30th October 2010

To

Dear Comrades,

ARISE - NEWS AND VIEWS

MR.A.NAMASIVAYAM JOINS ARISE

Since our last circular it has been an eventful period with our membership gaining momentum. Most people bask in reflected glory while only few add shine to whatever they are associated with. We in IOB have been proud to have one such exception and he is none other than **Mr.A.Namasivayam**. **ARISE** has been blessed by his decision to join it. We are proud to announce the glad news that **Mr.A.Namasivayam** has become the member of **ARISE** on 12th July 2010. While we requested him to lead the organisation he assured to be a guiding spirit to make **ARISE** strong. Ruminating over the past he was full of anecdotes that gave a graphic account of the growth-path of IOB. Unmindful of none responding to the knocks **ARISE** should continue to knock the doors of Management/ Government. Retirees have no bargaining strength but they have the moral strength behind them, the strength of dedication and devotion with which they worked for decades to further the interest of the Bank. This is the sum and substance of the message **Mr.A.Namasivayam** gave us. We assure **Mr.A.Namasivayam** that **ARISE** will never get tired, never give way to despair but will continue to knock the doors with optimism and hope.

Second Option for Pension

Second option for pension is welcome by all though it has come as a bitter pill as all retirees irrespective of their date of retirement have been asked to contribute extra 56% of their PF Contribution. Adding to their woe Retirees have been advised (Only in Indian Overseas Bank) that they have to refund the entire Bank's PF plus 56% of it without netting the Pension commutation. We have impressed upon the management that it would be difficult for most

retirees to mobilise the bank's contribution of PF itself which they would have spent over the years. So it would be almost impossible for them to mobilise the extra 56% without netting the commutation. On our taking up and the sincere efforts of **Mr. K. Anandakumar**, Officer-Director and General Secretary of IOBOA and the piloting of our cause by the Chairman and Managing Director with the Government Director, this decision has now been reversed. We are happy to advise that bank has agreed for netting up commutation. Still there is no relief for family pensioners as they have no commutation facility because of which response for Second Option from family pensioners is very poor.

Another irritant that came in the way of Second Option is the insistence by our bank of medical certificate from a Government Doctor unlike other banks which only require a medical certificate by any doctor holding MBBS degree. IOB alone has made it tough by asking retirees to get a certificate from a government doctor. Retirees are mostly well into their 70s and living in various parts, some of them in remote places – It will not be easy for the retirees to find a government doctor and even if they find he will not be free to do this work for all the retirees. Aggrieved Retirees rightly felt that they are men and women in flesh and blood who till the other day were working with the bank, working by the bank and working for the bank and the bank should not have therefore stipulated such harsh conditions. We are thankful that the Bank has since kindly heeded to our request and agreed to accept the prescribed certificates from any registered medical practitioner holding MBBS Degree.

When Banks were weak in 90s they offered Pension in lieu of PF to all employees, that too with retrospective effect but when Banks are strong they chose to extend Pension as second option only after share of pension cost by the optees though all these optees have in the past shared the cost of pension in the wage load when they were not beneficiaries of pension. How could it be called ***second option for an existing Pension scheme*** if retirees have to refund more than Bank's PF but not get pension from date of retirement and if retirees earlier eligible during first option would be now excluded ?

Bank managements have already drawn the retirees' flesh by asking for 56% over and above surrender of Bank's PF contribution and hence made it unattractive to a quite a good number of old retirees and definitely not an option at all to family pensioners in the absence of commutation. Do banks want to be helpful to make more retirees opt for pension or want to be obstructive to keep as many as possible out of pension scheme. Keeping old people out of pension and leaving them to a life of plight is not what one can be proud of. We implore the managements to be humane and helpful so that maximum number of retirees opt for pension. Most cruel is denial of pension to normal VRS retirees. A special VRS retiree who got an extra-package with only 15 years of service would be eligible to opt but a not our bank normal VRS retiree with even 30 years' service on account of a diabolic interpretation of the whole settlement. It is an insult to Constitutionally guaranteed equality. This decision defies logic, reason, fairness and good conscience. We have requested UFBU to get this anomaly corrected. Our patrons, the General Secretary **Mr. K.Anandakumar** and President **Mr.J.D.Sharma** of IOBOA have been specially requested to take up with our bank and AIBOC for early resolution of this issue. We have to appreciate that our bank sent repeated reminders to branches to contact retirees who were yet to opt for pension.

At this juncture we have to thankfully acknowledge that the Bank has favourably responded to our suggestion to put it on its web-site the updates of names of persons from whom Pension-option applications (as on 7.10.2010) have been received. Retirees can check the fate of their applications and if their names do not find place may take up immediately with PAD-CO with copy of application already sent and may also contact our Treasurer **Mr.S.Thyagarajan** (Mobile: 9840733991 email:thyags_2000@yahoo.com) for follow-up.

Meeting at New Delhi

We had our local General Body meeting at New Delhi on 14th August 2010. We have no words to express the pains taken by our Chief Advisor **Mr.A.S.Sabharwal** to call for this meeting at a short notice and make it a success. **Mr.K.V.Acharya**, our Vice President, in his inimitable style delegated responsibility to make more members active in the organisation. **Mr.R.S.Sampath**, and **Mr.V.K.Tikkoo**, **Mr.Vinay Kumar Sethi**, AGS (IOBOA) called up every member and reminded them to ensure cent percent attendance. Contribution of IOBOA's local office bearers **Mr.G.C.Gulati** (Vice President) **Mr.D.K.Hans** (Deputy General Secretary) and **Com.Mohan** (Assistant General Secretary) and other officers of Delhi require special mention. Meeting was attended by all cutting across cadre and rank. All the retired General Managers residing in Delhi **M/s. J.K.Gupta**, **G.S.Matta**, who was the ED of Punjab & Sind Bank, **M.K.Chaturvedi**, **S.S.Sharma**, **B.L.Arora**, **A.C.Kher**, **P.K.Chaturvedi** and **P.S.Antal**, other retired executives, retired office-bearers of various associations like **Mr.Sewa Ram**, retired officers & award staff attended in full strength. Weather played foul and the sudden heavy downpour choked traffic and still the members braving all hardship made it to the venue and the meeting lasted full 3 hours. There was a brief welcome speech by **Mr.A.S.Sabharwal** followed by fraternal felicitation from **Mr.G.C.Gulati**. Our President **Mr.K.S.Rengarajan** delivered the presidential address giving the status position. **Mr.K.V.Acharya** narrated the challenges before **ARISE** in particular and before Retirees' organisations in general. He gave a detailed account of the Writ petition filed at Delhi High Court for Pension updation, Pension upgradation, 100% DA Neutralization etc. Following interaction by members the undersigned the General Secretary replied. He spoke at length the mindset of people that is the cause of most of the problems in this country to which no management is an exception. It is not the dearth of money in the kitty but dearth of compassion and unwillingness to move up to the next stage in Value-System is responsible for the maladies we face today. For instance, Demand for extension of last-rite expenses of Rs.5000 to Special VRS retirees is still under consideration – Is it poverty of means or poverty of compassion? For any request we make, the calculator is out but not the heart. No employee is compensated fully for his work while in service and the compensation-deficit (called 'Deferred wage") shall have to be, therefore, made good after retirement. Retirement means cessation of service but not cessation of employer's commitment to the well-being of employees after retirement. He emphasised the need for sound financial position to fight legally most of the cases because of the hostile mindset of managements. We cannot afford to lose a good case for want of good advocacy. Members spontaneously responded to foot the entire legal bill from Delhi Unit alone. A former General Manager contributed immediately at the end of meeting Rs.5000 towards corpus for legal expenses. Others also phone up to take up contributions from them as and when required. The meeting ended with Vote of Thanks delivered by **Mr.S.S.Sharma** retired General Manager.

Meeting at Lucknow

This meeting was suddenly scheduled during our visit to New Delhi. Thanks to the efforts of **Mr. K.C. Khandpal**, the convenor and Mr.Khanna ably guided by **Mr.Satish Chaturvedi** (Deputy General Secretary-Uttar Pradesh) and **Mr.Anil Kumar** (Assistant General Secretary – Lucknow of IOBOA) the meeting had a tremendous draw. About 50 retirees attended the meeting. **Mr.K.C.Kandpal** chaired the meeting and Retired General Manager **Mr.P.K.Chaturvedi** delivered the welcome speech followed by fraternal felicitation by **Mr.Satish Chaturvedi**. President **Mr.K.S.Rengarajan** spoke at length on the present status and the undersigned the General Secretary gave a graphic account of the status of our various demands. Members overwhelmingly urged the leadership to pursue vigorously the pending requests with the management and if necessary to go for legal remedy. The meeting ended with vote of Thanks.

Meeting at Hyderabad

ARISE held its meeting at Hyderabad in 18th July 2010 called by our Vice President **Mr.K.Purushottam** (former General Manager) and **Mr.P.S.Ramesh**. Members attended in full strength. Our president **Mr.K.S.Rengarajan** addressed the members giving a graphic detail of the developments and clarified the queries of members.

Meeting at Mumbai

Mr. K.B.Chavan our Regional coordinator at Mumbai called for the meeting of Maharashtra local body on 21.10.10. Meeting was held at Dadar, Mumbai. He was well assisted by several retirees. Office bearers of IOBOA, **M/s Ravi.N.Shetty** (Senior Vice President), **N.P.Menezes** (Assistant General Secretary) and **Mr.Harihar Mahadev** (Assistant General Secretary) lent tremendous support. There was overwhelming response from all members cutting across ranks. All the retirees executives settled in Mumbai made it to the venue. The Meeting Hall was packed with retirees who took the pain of travelling great distance to attend the meeting and meet old friends. Some retirees from neighbouring Gujarat also came to the meeting notably **Mr. Rohit A. Bhatt** our Regional coordinator. **Mr.K.B.Chavan** and members of Maharashtra proved that they Commercial capital of India would not lag behind National Capital in extending support to **ARISE**. Next meeting has to be in Kolkata, the Cultural Capital of India and **Mr. Amar Mukherjee** our West Bengal coordinator is doing a tremendous job there. After the welcome speech by **Com.K.B.Chavan**, **Mr.V.Krishnaswamy** (General Manager) made a brief speech giving his greetings to the members assembled. **Mr.R.P.Bharati** (Deputy General Manager) also came to extend his greetings. **Mr.A.V.Dugade** (Former Executive Director) praising **Mr.K.B.Chavan** for giving updates to him and thanking all IOBIANS to have made him feel more at home in their company and converted him into an IOBIAN advised the members to keep their spirit always high as after all, retirement from IOB should not be retirement from active life and all should learn to share and give in the evening of their life. **Mr.D.K.Patel** (Former General Manager) greeted the members. **Mr.K.S.Rengarajan**, the President gave the presidential speech. **Mr.M.R.Gopinath Rao**, Vice President dwelt at length the reason for the birth of **ARISE** and emphasised the need for **ARISE** to become the only organisation of Retirees in IOB. **Mr.K.V.Acharya** spoke at length on the discrimination between Government employees and Bank employees in the matter of

pension. He gave an account of the cases in Delhi High Court filed by members praying for Pension updation, Pension upgradation, 100% DA neutralization to remove the above discrimination. **Mr.S.Thyagarajan**, Joint Treasurer but who does most of the work at ARISE office apart from keeping accounts gave a brief but meaningful speech. I, the undersigned traced the cause for the problem of retirees which is that the powers that be in this country are basically feudal in their mindset and never they ask themselves “ Why should we not?” instead of “Why should we” whenever employees have grievances to be addressed. Of all the stake-holders most shabbily treated are the retirees and we as a nation do not want to *move up in our Value system*, rather we shamelessly slip down the Value system. The hard bargaining made by IBA to give 2nd option for pension and wage revision and the present interpretations in denying 2nd option to many people are manifestations of our going down in the *value system*. Western Pension funds unmindful of loss of earnings decided to pull out their investments in Vedanta on coming to know that its mining operations are exploitative at the cost of poor tribals and environment. Such acts are called “Acts with Values” and not bottom-line driven acts.

Members raised very many queries. Clarifications were given by me to the queries of the members. All the members remained present throughout the meeting and wished that such meetings should be held atleast once a quarter. **Mr.K.B.Chavan** gave his assurance for the same while **Mr.A.V.Dugade** came forward to meet partly the expenses of the meeting. Such was the bonhomie on that day.

Mr.S.A.Bhat retires – The present Chairman & Managing Director **Mr.S.A.Bhat** is retiring at the end of this month. Though all the issues raised by us received a sympathetic response from him they could not go beyond the consideration stage till now. We are still thankful to him for the patient hearing he gave to us. We wish him a happy retired but active life. Best wishes from **ARISE** to him and his family.

The following members are being Co-opted/re-designated as Office bearers for the posts mentioned against them.

R. Ramadurai	:	Joint Secretary	97898 90172
S. Thyagarajan	:	Treasurer	98407 33991
N.Sekhar	:	Joint Treasurer	98402 18428
K.B. Chavan	:	Organising Secretary (Maharashtra)	09969037358
Rohit A. Bhat	:	Organsing Secretary (Gujarat)	098249 90758
K.S. Narasimhamurthy	:	Organising Secretary (Karnataka)	097408 13009
G.Kesavakumar	:	Regional Co-ordinator – Hyderabad	Res: 040-27792960 093910 07897
A. Narasiah	:	Hyderabad	040 27003002 094402 37110
N. Rajendran	:	Nagapattinam / Mayiladuthurai	94420 66722

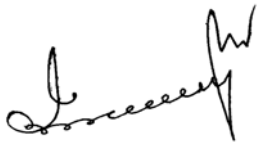
Kerala High Court has given a verdict in favour of employees directing payment of arrears at 1684 points from date of retirement.

Happy Deepawali- Festival of lights is fast approaching. Darkness of Evil shall go from our life and the light of Enlightenment shall dawn on us. We wish all our members a very **HAPPY DIWALI.**

**SECOND OPTION FOR PENSION
NETTING OF COMMUTATION ALLOWED
MEDICAL CERTIFICATE FROM ANY DOCTOR WITH MBBS QUALIFICATION ALLOWED**

With warm regards,

Yours Comradely,



(K.S. RENGARAJAN)
PRESIDENT



(S.B.C. KARUNAKARAN)
GENERAL SECRETARY

ARISE ZINDABAD !
OUR UNITY ZINDABAD !
LONG LIVE ARISE !