



ALL INDIA BANK PENSIONERS' & RETIREES' CONFEDERATION (A.I.B.P.A.R.C.)



C/O BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION
(EASTERN INDIA BRANCHES)
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Date: July 25, 2023

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For circulation among members of the Governing Council, State Secretaries, Special Invitees, Advisors, Affiliates, Constituents of CBPRO and Members.

Dear Comrade,

Sub: GMISR for the year November 23 to October 24.

We reproduce hereunder the text of our letter written on date to The Chairman, IBA on the above referred subject for information of members.

With best wishes and regards,

Comradely Yours,

Suprita Sarkar,
General Secretary

Quote:

AIBPARC/GMISR- NOV-23-OCT-24/email/23.

Date: JULY 25,2023

The Chairman,
Indian Bank Association,
Mumbai.

Respected Sir,

Sub: Group Medical Insurance Scheme for Bank Retirees for the year November 23 to October 24.

Please refer to our earlier letter no: AIBPARC/IBA/GMISR-23-24/email/23 Dated: 21st July, 2023 on the above referred subject wherein we have already given vent to our initial thoughts on the issue. In continuation of the subject matter of the said letter, we request you to clarify on certain very Important issues mentioned below:

1. In the minutes dated 19.07.23, signed between UFBU and IBA, on the Bank Nationalisation Day, we are told that the need has arisen to review the scheme as applicable to the retired employees/officers with a view to enable possible reduction in the premium payable by them. This assertion gives an indication that the review is being attempted to introduce certain good and beneficial opportunities for employees in the policy which already exists. After this, at serial no. a, it has been told that the scheme applicable to the retired employees and officers will be a separate scheme. **This statement again creates a feeling that a decision has already been taken**



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that the existing scheme for Retirees will not be clubbed with that of the serving employees contrary to the demands of the 3-man committee. There is a need and scope to review realistically the policy to the advantage of retirees more so when the Banks have posted a net profit of Rs. 104,000 crores.

2. Being face to face with volley of questions raised by members, we had the opportunity of contacting Shri Dilip Saha, GS, AIPNBOA who had signed the minutes for and on behalf of AIBOC. He had clarified as under:

“It had been emphasized at every meeting that this proposed policy is in addition to the existing policy for Retirees so that the discussion for a new policy should not be construed as replacing the existing policy. IBA noted the position and it is recorded that the proposed policy is in addition to the existing policy. There is no ambiguity or confusion in this.”

We demand that this particular aspect should be clarified by officials of IBA too who happen to be the signatories to the paper.

3. We have also known from Shri Dilip Saha who happens to be the signatory for and on behalf of AIBOC:

“the issue was raised for clarification that if a Retiree incurs bed charges higher than the proposed one, say by 25%, but angioplasty is done within the ceiling amount, the insurance company /TPA may deduct 25% of angioplasty cost too. IBA noted the concern and made changes to propose that bed rates and surgery rates would be made independent of each other, meaning that the patient in above case have to pay difference of bed charge but will get full reimbursement of surgery charges upto the ceiling without deduction and without linking to bed charges.”

You will surely appreciate that the Retirees will have to spend more than two months in an atmosphere of uncertainty. When the minutes dated 19.07.23 have already come into public domain, IBA is under obligation to clarify certain very important things described above in a transparent mode of communication.

4. We have also known from an official paper available in public domain that another signatory on behalf of a major Award Staff Union has opined that as per the understanding arrived, premium charges for the base policy of 2 lakhs will be funded by Banks either fully or partially which will be finalized after obtaining quotes from the insurance company for the policy and after assessing total financial burden on this count. We request IBA to clarify this issue also before the Retirees for whom so much brain storming is being done. **You will surely appreciate that as per the understanding arrived at, there will be two sets of offers before the senior citizens and he/she will have to choose anyone within a short period of time. It can naturally be expected that the in-principle understandings should be ventilated for a well-reasoned decision-making process. It is also to be clarified as to whether the proposed funding for 2 Lacs of base policy in the alternate policy will be made available to the retirees who will opt for the existing policy.**

5. Now let us have a look to whatever is going to emanate:

A) The Retirees demanded relief and it is possible only in two ways- combination of the policies of the Retirees and serving employees so that the claim ratio comes down and by subsidization of premium by the Bank.

B) The alternate policy which has been offered with many things remaining un-clarified, a person with limited financial capabilities, if admitted to hospital, will have to bring a huge amount from his own resources and it will always remain a question mark where from he/she will arrange for the money. The only motto has been reduction of premium without any application of mind as to whether it will bring any relief to the person for whom it is meant for. The ceiling has been so low that the remaining portion in most cases will be huge to bear with.

C) As regards the existing policy, only one thing has been told that the premium will have to be borne by the Retiree himself/ herself. **Our demand is that the existing policy must be a combined one so that**



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the claim ratio can come down and some reduction in premium is available and that subsidization is done by the Banks.

This will be our earnest request to you to have an application of mind over our views and be kind enough to direct your thought process in such a way as to deliver some real good to the Retirees.

With kind regards.

K V Acharya
President, AIBPARC

Suprita Sarkar
General secretary