

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

C/O BANK OF INDIA OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION (EASTERN INDIA BRANCHES) BANK OF INDIA, KOLKATA MAIN BRANCH 23A, NETAJI SUBHAS ROAD, KOLKATA - 700 001

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Circular no. 71-22 Date: November 27, 2022.

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

Dear Comrade.

Sub: AIBPARC celebrates its 10th Foundation Day in style and grandeur at Hyderabad – a Decade of Vibrance and Struggle.

A VIEW OF DAIS





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A SECTION OF THE MASSIVE CROWD ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE



1.Occasion:

Members are aware that AIBPARC held its 1st General Body Conference at Delhi on 25th November, 2012. The organization completed 10 glorious years of its existence on 25th November, 2022. The 10th Foundation Day was observed through a celebration programme organised in the city of Hyderabad. The massive attendance of members and the firm pledge expressed by leaders to rededicate themselves for the cause of the Pensioners and the Retirees of the Industry made the occasion a special one and it would surely add a new feather to the cap of the organisation.

2.Venue:

It was the magnificent Auditorium of The Institution of Engineers of India located at Khairatabad and named as "Visweswarayya Bhavan". At 3.30 pm, all the seats were occupied. Then additional chairs had to be placed at the front, at all available corners of the Hall and even in stair cases. Still, about a hundred people stood outside to hear the speech of the leaders through public address system. The presence of more than 1,000 Retirees made the occasion a memorable one. The massive dais



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was tastefully decorated with banners of giant size, flowers and life size photograph of Com S.R. Sengupta, the Founding General Secretary of AIBPARC.

3. Kudos to the AP& Telangana State Committee:

Under the leadership of Com C. Gangadhar Yadav, the Working President, AIBPARC and Convenor, Celebration Committee, all the members of the State Committee and at least a hundred activists residing not only in and around Hyderabad but also from distant places of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh laboured very hard to ensure that the programme gets an optimum level of perfection. The organization puts on record its admiration and gratitude to all the senior citizens who made themselves available at morning and evening to see that leaders/ members coming from different parts of the country do not have any inconvenience.

4. Inauguration:

The function started with the patriotic song of "Vande Mataram". It was followed by the Lighting of the Lamp by the leaders and the guests and then paying floral tributes to Com S.R. Sengupta, the Founding General Secretary of the organisation. In the true tradition of a Trade Union Conference, of more than one thousand members mingled their voices with the shouting slogans on various demands of Retirees.

5. Message of Shri G. Krishna Reddy Garu, Hon'ble Union Minister, Tourism and Culture and Development of NE Regions:

Because of certain unavoidable assignments, the hon'ble Union minister could not make himself available on the occasion but he sent his good wishes and greetings for the success of the Conference. The message was read out.

6. Felicitation of Leaders:

Com. P.K. Sarkar, Former President, AIBOC & Advisor, AIBPARC, Com G.D. Nadaf, Former General Secretary, AIBOC and Advisor, AIBPARC and Com. Harvinder Singh, Former General Secretary, AIBOC were felicitated by the Leaders of AIBPARC with flower bouquet, Uttariya and a small Memento.

Com. Prabhakar, State Secretary, AIBPARC who has been steadily recovering from illness and Shri Brahma Reddy, Chairman, Institution of Engineers of India, Hyderabad, and a proud member of AIBPARC family were felicitated by leaders of AIBPARC.

7. Address by Leaders:

*A) Welcome address was offered by Com C. Gangadhar Yadav, Working President & Convenor, Celebration Committee. He thanked all the members of the state committee who made elaborate arrangements for bringing everything to perfection. He observed that the Retiree Organisations which had been formed in earlier years had not been able to function in the right direction and hence larger responsibility came upon the shoulder of AIBPARC. He complimented the leadership of AIBPARC (Both past and present) who have been relentlessly struggling for the betterment of the community.



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*B) Com P.K. Sarkar, Former President, AIBOC and Advisor, AIBPARC:

AIBOC applied its mind for several years to form and float an organisation of Retirees. The formal resolution was adopted in the Triennial General Body Conference at Bhubaneswar; then came the successful holding of convention at Nagpur from where two Convenors, Com S.R. Sengupta and Com Shantharaju had been appointed to work out the modalities and finally AIBPARC emerged with its regular structure and form at the Delhi conference held in 2012. He admired the large gathering; he welcomed the improvement of Family Pension as the best achievement of AIBPARC and hoped that Updation of Pension will also be achieved in future.

*C) Com G.D. Nadaf, Former General Secretary, AIBOC and Advisor, AIBPARC:

He highly appreciated the presence of a large number of Retirees in the meeting befitting the celebration. He recalled that when he had been the General Secretary of AIBOC, several unfinished tasks came upon him and one of such assignments was the formation of the Retirees organisation in the Industry. He narrated the developments in detail before the holding of the Nagpur Convention and paid tributes to the leaders who came forward to hold the Convention, He observed that each affiliate should celebrate the Foundation Day every year to augment vibrance in the organisation. He felt that the recognition of any organisation does not come in the form of a certificate issued by IBA or Government of India. It turns into reality through the actions done and programmes undertaken by the Organisation. He hailed improvement of Family Pension as a major achievement of AIBPARC and wished the organisation a bright future ahead.

*D) Com. Harvinder Singh, Former General Secretary of AIBOC:

He narrated all developments that took place before the holding of the 1st General Body Conference of AIBPARC at Delhi in 2012. He recalled the hard labour and involvement of the affiliates of AIBOC as well as of AIBPARC to make the first Conference a memorable one. He appreciated the enthusiastic functioning of AIBPARC in the interest of Retirees and greeted the large gathering. He assured of his help and support whenever needed.

*E) Com. S.BC. Karunakaran, Working President:

He congratulated the members who attended in large numbers and praised the elaborate celebration programme handled by Com C. Gangadhar Yadav and his competent team. He also congratulated Com K.V. Acharya on completion of his Presidentship of AIBPARC for 10 years. He dealt with 4 important issues before the Retirees -- Updation of Pension,100 percent DA neutralization for Pre-November,2002 Retirees, Medical Insurance and the issue of Special Allowance for computation of superannuation benefits. He analysed in great details the strong arguments in favour of each of the stated demands. He accused the Government of India and the IBA to deceive the Senior Citizens sometimes by keeping the eyes shut to the already existing provisions of Regulations and guidelines, and at other times by making wrong interpretation of judgements and statutes and also by inflation of costs on wrong assumptions. He called upon members to go on struggle to achieve lawful demands.



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*F) Com. P.S. Patki, Working President:

He observed that the organisation had certain issues in hand at the time of formation but in subsequent years, several other issues were added to the list and the process is endless. We shall have to handle each issue affecting our membership. In his opinion, the greatest contribution of AIBPARC was to offer a new direction to the movement of Retirees which was hitherto unknown. The demands of the Retirees had been incorporated for the first time in the Charter of Demands submitted by the serving organizations of employees and officers. He criticized the IBA for often issuing guidelines to member banks which have lack of clarity and there are lot many loose ends which do not have proper answers and as a result, different banks have made different interpretations of their own and Retirees have suffered. He referred to various positive judgements of DLCs and Courts passed on payment of gratuity and they have gone in favour of employees. IBA should take note of such judgements.

*G) Com. A.N. Krishnamurthy, Joint General Secretary:

He greeted the members for a huge assembly which is really befitting the celebration. As the time at the disposal of Retirees is short he called upon GOI and IBA to be more sensitive and responsive. He invited the delegates and observers from all affiliates to join the 4th General Body and Conference at Bengaluru which he promised will be a landmark event in the history of the organisation.

*H) Com. Ananth Krishna Rao, President, Associate Banks Retirees Organisations:

AIBOC in its foundation conference in 1985 thought about the issue of Pensioners. After prolonged negotiation, the agreement was signed in 1993 by Award Staff Organisations Officers Organisations. The same struggle is being carried forward by AIBPARC with zeal. We shall have to remind the government and IBA that it is not an alm given to beggars but it is a deferred wage of the employees which have been repeatedly told by various Courts.

*I) Com Nagesh, State Secretary, AIBOC and Vice President of the National Body:

He appreciated the efforts of AIBPARC for organizing such a large gathering of Retirees and assured of all help and assistance in case of need.

*J) Com. M. Chakrapani, President, State Committee:

He thanked AIBPARC for giving the task of celebration to the state Committee of AP & Telangana and expressed his satisfaction to see such a huge turnout from different parts of the Country.

*K) Com. Suprita Sarkar, General Secretary:

He made the following observations:

This is a day to convey thanks and gratitude to the organisation which floated AIBPARC and this is also the day to re-dedicate ourselves to the movement of Retirees.

He read out certain portions of the famous Policy Resolution adopted by AIBOC and declared that AIBPARC has fulfilled all the expectations of AIBOC and it is now the turn of AIBOC to see that this



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organisation gets a proper forum for negotiation at the national level. He re- asserted organization's gratitude to Com. P.K. Sarkar and Com G.D. Nadaf, former President, and General Secretary of AIBOC respectively for their great roles at the formation of AIBPARC. He expressed gratitude to Com Harvinder Singh, Former General Secretary of AIBOC who took the leading role in holding the First GB of AIBPARC at Delhi in 2012.

He mentioned a few recent happenings which display the commitment of membership to the movement and the firm resolve of the leadership to work out solutions for long unresolved demands.

- ** On the day of Dharna on 26th September 2022 at Jantar Mantar by very large number of Retirees, in the scorching heat of Delhi, an elderly member fainted. His colleagues took care of his health and came back again to participate at the Dharna. This is the level of commitment which can never go waste.
- ** On 4th October 2022, the Hon'ble Union Finance Minister gave a patient hearing to the leaders of AIBPARC and assured that the proper forum would look into the demands. Can such initiatives be wasted-- he asked.
- **At the intervention of The Hon'ble Union Finance Minister, IBA called AIBPARC leaders in a hurry and after having a negotiation of more than 3 hours asked if we were interested to talk further. He narrated in details how on each demand, the organisation submitted documents after documents in support of the demands and what was the response pattern of IBA. Can such developments of larger significance be ignored -- he asked.
- **He made an appeal to all the serving organizations to make an amendment to their charter on Retirees. It has been demanded that the Bank Retirees should get updation of Pension in line with central government employees. This demand gives rise to an impression that the updation is a new concept and it is to be brought afresh by GOI/IBA but fact remains that it already exists in BEPR (1995) and the demand should be redrafted as: IBA will have to implement Regulation 35.1 and it will have to declare the formula of updation in respect of each BPS/ Joint Note.

He called upon members to unite and fight -- the classical lesson to achieve the demands of working class.

* L) Com K V. Acharya, President, AIBPARC:

When our illustrious leader stood up to address as the last speaker, the members present greeted him with claps for his completion of 10 years as the President of the organisation.

Com Acharya made the following observations:

* He narrated in great details how the call came from the ministry and how the appointment was fixed with The Hon'ble Union Finance Minister. It was in fact the long-awaited outcome of the continuous struggle that AIBPARC has been pursuing -- starting from submission of an application before the Petitions Committee of the Parliament, submission of On- line memorandum to all who mean power, massive Dharna at Jantar Mantar etc. We cannot give assurances about when updation of Pension will come but we can assure that all reasonable efforts will be employed to achieve the demands.



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* He referred to IBA 's reluctance to invite us by a formal letter but when insisted, the officials did not hesitate to tell that they were calling us formally by telephone. Then in the larger interest, we did not make it a prestige issue and agreed to take part. He mentioned the courageous presentation of our case before IBA being backed with documents. All the questions lurking in the minds of members have been faithfully represented by the organisation.

*He made an elaborate mention of the discussion that the former Secretary, ministry of Finance had with the leadership of AIBPARC on the issue of the opportunity of being heard and how his efforts to prevail upon IBA failed at the intervention of certain organization of serving employees. He also criticised the most unwarranted comment of a leader in recent times that pension updation was not like a mango falling from the tree.

Finally, he said that the efforts which first came to the minds of AIBOC leaders in 1985, which was carried forward to signing of settlement in 1993 and which is now being pursued by AIBPARC with zeal will not be wasted. The Retirees have little time in hand and they are impatient. So we shall be on continuous follow up and struggle.

M) Com. Murlidhar Rao offered vote of thanks.

The meeting concluded with National Anthem.

Comrades, the calls of the 10th Foundation Day are:

- * March on with courage and conviction to the 4th Conference and General Body going to be held at Bengaluru on 28th & 29th January, 2023.
- * Unity and struggle are the two key words for success.
- *Fight, Fight and Fight -- we shall fight till we achieve success.

With best wishes and regards,

Comradely Yours,

Suprita Sarkar General Secretary.