

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL BODY MEETING HELD ON 05-03-2017

AT MUNNURUKAPU SANGHAM, HYDERABAD.

The Annual General Body meeting of our Association for the year 2016 was held on 5th March 2017 at Kachiguda , Hyderabad .The meeting was attended by more than 1200 members. The meeting began at 10:30 am and the members were found busy in gleefully meeting their old friends and fully involved reminiscing their past pleasant memories.

The meeting was chaired by Sri Chakrapani ,the president of our association who extended a cheerful welcome to all the members present in the conference. In his opening remarks he thanked the membership for their support and said that as retirees we have no reason to strike with panic at merger of our bank with SBI and he assured the members that we ,by all means, be meeting in the same way in future also.

Before taking up the agenda items the members condoled the death of the following members by observing two minutes silence in memory of the departed souls and paid homage to them.

Late/sri PR Krishna rao-Achanta subramanyam-D.Padma rao – D.Surender rao –BR Satyanarayana-K.Venkaiah-Kishanrao kulkarni- V.Sairaju-K.Satyanarayana- G.Krishnaiah-NCH Satyanarayana charyulu-GBN Murty-N.SeetaramaRao- P.Annamraju—G.Bhasker-Vijayakumar jewargi- TV Desikan-Ashok Payati-S.Ram mohan rao-A.sreeramachandra murty- VK Latker- RK Rangrass(Mumbai)-Mohd.Muneer sahib- M.Venkateswara rao- M.Padmanabha-Ashok chitgopker- Hemant G.Dhumal – GM Rammohan and others

The president took up the agenda items and asked the secretary to place before the body the minutes of last general body meeting held in March 2016 for approval and the same were approved unanimously by the general body. The president then asked the secretary to inform the house, in brief, the developments taken place since last meeting.

The secretary in his report covered the issues of demonetization, merger of Associate banks with SBI, the pending issues of pensioners like denial of 100% DA neutralization to pre 2002 retirees, the anomaly of reduction of pension in X Bipartite settlement and improvement in family pension and other pending issues and court cases. As the time was up to receive and welcome the Managing Director of our bank who is the chief guest of today's function ,the discussion on the secretary's report was set to afternoon session.

The president extended a warm welcome to the Managing Director and profusely thanked him for accepting our invitation to be the chief guest and for his graceful presence on the occasion. He also extended a hearty welcome to Sri Harshavardhan Madabhushi Secretary ABOA : unit SBH and Sri Rajasekhar the President of SBH Staff Association and sri A Ramash Babu the convener of CBPRO, and the General Secretary, All India SBI Pensioners' Federation, Shri Raghava Rao, Gen.Secy State AIBPRC. The chief guest and other invitees were honoured with shawl and bouquet.

The president then asked the secretary to submit a brief presentation covering salient aspects of our Association (Secretary Brief was kept on our web site).

In his address Sri Ramesh Babu, said the bank men are clean and carry credibility but when the matter of genuine demands come for discussion we are not honoured. There were more than 4.5 lacs retirees in the banking industry and they are all divided. With the formation of CBPRO an umbrella organization for pensioners a massive dharna was held in Delhi in the month of December, 2015 and it is followed by several action programmes. In Jan 2017 conveners of CBPRO along with some members of its constituents met IBA officials at MUMBAI and gave a representation covering various demands calling for their attention. It is also planned to organize a big Dharna in Delhi on 15th March 2017 to build pressure on government for our demands. *In view of some positive developments the dharna is postponed. He suggested to follow all action programmes to build pressure on government to achieve our demands.*

Sri Rajsekhar, president SBH Staff Association in his address expressed happiness to see a galaxy of retirees at this big gathering. He said the AIBEA in their recent all India meeting held at Chennai a resolution is passed in order to bring and mount pressure on IBA and Government of India to achieve updating of pension. He greeted the retirees with all success in their endeavors.

Shri Harshavardhan Madabhushi in his elaborative address covered the history of the acquisition of Associate banks by SBI from 1963 till now and explained how the Government of India made it now to happen with all post haste with effect from 1st April 2017 without preparation. The scheme of acquisition only says that the salary of the employees will not be less favorable and there is no clarity about super annuation benefits and interse seniority. On 28th Feb a day's strike was conducted to press the issues of the serving employees along with retirees issues like 100% DA neutralization and improvement in Family Pension and other issues. He also informed that he drew the attention of the top management of SBI in their meeting on 4th Feb to consider the issue of adding 5 years notional service for calculation of pension to retirees under special voluntary scheme 2001 as is given in all other PSBs and State Bank of Patiala, before acquisition and it is given to understand that the management responded positively. He also said that updating of pension is also a statutory right as given in Regulation 35 of our Bank's pension regulations 1995. He assured that the working organizations shall fight for retirees' issues.

Shri Mani Palvesan, The Managing Director in his address lauded the retirees for their immense contribution to the bank. He also told that the merger along with it brings many advantages also since it creates a common banking platform and in the present case of Associate Banks almost all the systems being same there would be no inconveniences whatsoever. He wished a grand success to the conference.

Later, the senior members who have completed 75 years of age for the period from 01-04-2016 to 31-03-2017 were honoured by MD with a bouquet, a shawl and presented with a memento on the occasion

The secretary thanked the chief guest and other invitees for their graceful presence on the occasion and requested all to join for lunch

Post Lunch Session: The session commenced at 3 pm and the members are asked to respond to secretary's brief and give constructive advice so as to face the challenges in future. A good number of members participated in the discussion and a brief summary of the issues discussed and the replies given by secretary are given below.

Most of the members expressed concern with regard to merger of the bank with SBI and its consequences. Members also explained the origin of SBH, our emotional attachment with bank and praised Late Nizam and other founders of the bank and paid homage to all of them. It is also perceived by the members that we must keep the identity of the SBHREA distinct and also protect the assets, forming a trust if necessary. Some members expressed that we should continue to meet once in a year. Some members inquired about the fate of IBA medical insurance scheme and REMBS after merger. Some other members asked about the position of payment of pension by SBH Employees' coop society and SBH Officers 'society. Like wise inquiries were made about Holiday home reservation, welfare fund and funeral expenses. Clarification is sought whether the enhancement in gratuity will be given to retirees. Some of the members gave a detailed account of the injustice done to employees in X th wage settlement by reducing the amount of pension already being drawn, by not counting the special pay for calculation of retrial benefits. The details of the writ petition filed in this regard together with the stage of the issue in the court are also mentioned. The members also proposed to move a resolution to be passed by the general body to the effect that IBA should call and talk to the retirees 'Association regarding the retirees issues to obviate happening of any anomalies detrimental to the interests of the pensioners. Some of the members suggested that the web site of our Association be continued after merger. It is also suggested that the association may assist people undertaking social service like providing ambulances, running old age homes and making available the attenders to the disabled and bed ridden patients.

The secretary in his summary of replies said that the retirees, unlike in the case of serving employees, are not affected by merger and hence there is no need to become panic or over react to the present situation. Here I would like to draw the attention of the members that the scheme of acquisition has no clarity even for superannuation benefits and some allowances to be extended to serving employees and so not to speak of the retired staff. So far the transferee bank i.e SBI never said that they do not extend funeral expenses benefit or allotment of holiday home facility.

Some members circulated in social media after General Body Meeting that the General Secretary has no plans or ideas to protect the holiday home allotments and nothing in this regard was expressed with confidence in the meeting about clinching it. I am sure you will agree that no sane person will go before hand and argue before management not to deny them before they are denied. I am referring this now in the context that a section is indulging in social media circulating such unfounded apprehensions under the

garb of great saviors of retirees and I request every member to be cautious and carefully understand the malicious propaganda unleashed with motives. Many more such baseless and unverified issues are also aired through social media contrary to the facts and without putting to strict proof. It would have been appreciable if the member could have come out with a concrete suggestion instead of resorting to unfounded and imaginary allegations. It brings to my mind a beautiful maxim “ that to a person who has only a hammer in his tools kit , everything appears like a nail “ .

I once again request you to dispel all apprehensions connected with merger and our Endeavour is to keep the identity of our association intact. I have also clarified in the meeting that the retirees ‘associations in all the five associates will meet and exchange the views before proceeding further. In this issue also, mudslinging is done in social media saying that the General Secretary opined that there will no longer be SBH pensioners Association and the General Secretary is ready to take position in SBI Federation for merging SBHREA .There is no truth in that and it is only a fig of imagination , perhaps coming out of frustration and I pity for the poor knowledge and lack of understanding of the member that the General Secretary wields no power to do such acts and this alone acts as a testimony for the hollowness of such unpropitious publicity.

If any of our benefits are attempted to disallow, friends, we will request unions in other associates also to join us and we will take lead to fight for our rights.

Regarding the REMBS, it is a common scheme for SBI and Associate Banks and it will be continued along with SBI pensioners.

Regarding IBA Medical Insurance Scheme we paid premium under the present scheme and the policy will be in force till 31st October 2017 and any changes can be contemplated in the last calendar quarter of 2017 in consultation with unions.

Regarding cooperative societies I said categorically in the meeting since the discussions as to its structure and connected matters are underway and their general body will take a decision. From our side we have made a fervent appeal for continued payment of pension as before. Even this matter was made a big issue in the social media as a failure. It is totally an external factor over which we have no control .We neither form the electorate in these societies nor have any position as office bearer to influence their decisions. Yet, when we are soft peddling the issue using our good offices, a malicious propaganda is undertaken as I said in the maxim before. Friends, as we are given to understand that there may be some structural changes in the set up but the pension payment will be decided to be paid as before.

Regarding the gratuity enhancement the effective date is not yet decided by GOI and the payment will be made as per the GOI guidelines.

Regarding the resolution I said that this is one of the main demands submitted by All India Organizations of Bank retirees and several representations were given to GOI and the support of Members of Parliament is solicited. A mention about this is also made in secretary’s brief of the meeting on 5th March 2017. As this resolution will serve to exert pressure on AIBPARC to launch action programmes on this issue and it is for the

general good of banking commune, it is welcomed and the general body was unanimous in passing the resolution and the resolution was already sent to AIBPARC for further action.

Regarding the website there is no need to have any apprehension and it will be continued.

Regarding social work my understanding of the member's presentation was that the association has to run all these activities and I thought that the task would be stupendous, in the context of mergers. We also thought to look into the feasibility of creating a cell with social work oriented retirees to implement such programmes.

Finally friends I would like to say that nothing takes precedence over serving the interests of our membership. We should also bear it in mind that we are not trade union registered body nor do we have power to cripple the economy by strikes as we did before when we were in service. But that will not deter us from fighting for our demands. For sure we have other actions before us. Many among us have connections with people in power. Let us meet them and expose IBA and others about the denial of our rightful, legitimate and statutory benefits and use the social media to this rightful end and provide rocklike support to the All India Organizations to achieve our demands.

Lastly, I feel the acid test of our sincerity should not be in words but be in deeds.

The meeting concluded with vote of thanks.

(K.M.SASTRY)

HAPPY UGADI GREETINGS

SECRETARY

HYDERABAD

D/ 20th March, 2017.