



ALL INDIA BANK RETIREES' FEDERATION (REGD.)

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Ref No. 2026/0175

Date: 14.06.2026

The Office Bearers / Central Committee Members / State Committee Chiefs
A.I.B.R.F.

Dear Sir,

Re: Pension Updation – Organisational Efforts and Recent Developments

Pension Updation continues to be the core and most important demand of bank retirees. For the last ten years, AIBRF has been consistently and vigorously pursuing this issue through a series of **sustained organisational initiatives and action programmes**. These efforts have included:

- (a) Conducting Dharna-cum-Demonstration programmes at more than 120 centers across the country over the last decade to draw the attention of the Government, IBA and bank managements.
- (b) Submission of memoranda to more than **10 Union Ministers**.
- (c) Personal submission of memoranda to over **150 Members of Parliament**.
- (d) Online transmission of memoranda on Pension Updation to more than **700 Members of Parliament**.
- (e) Submission of over **50,000 online representations** to the Prime Minister's Office.
- (f) Submission of a petition signed by nearly **one lakh bank retirees** to the Prime Minister's Office.
- (g) Raising the issue of Pension Updation **nine times** during Question Hour in both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

(h) Representation by the Karnataka State Committee Women's Wing before the Hon'ble Finance Minister at Bengaluru in February 2020 seeking support for Pension Updation.

Impact of AIBRF's Organisational Efforts

As a result of these sustained efforts, several positive developments have taken place:

(a) AIBRF's programmes received extensive coverage in national and regional newspapers throughout the country, creating widespread awareness among the public regarding the plight of bank pensioners.

(b) Several Union Ministers and more than 50 Members of Parliament wrote to the Hon'ble Finance Minister supporting and recommending Pension Updation for bank retirees.

(c) The Parliamentary Committee on Government Assurances examined the issue and recommended consideration of Pension Updation on humanitarian grounds.

(d) The issue was formally raised by UFBU during negotiations for the 12th Bipartite Settlement.

Ultimately, the issue progressed to a stage where the following provision was incorporated in the **12th Bipartite Settlement dated 08.03.2023:**

Para 36 of 12 BPS – Ex-gratia for Pensioners (including SBI)

"The Unions/Associations have been demanding periodical updation of Pension along with wage revision settlements. The issue regarding updation of Pension is already sub-judice before various courts including the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The Unions/Associations requested that, without prejudice to the court cases, some ex-gratia may be extended to the pensioners/family pensioners and it has been agreed that some ex-gratia amount could be considered for the current bipartite period i.e. from 01.11.2022 to 31.10.2027."

While the above provision fell short of full Pension Updation, it nevertheless represented a modest but significant beginning. It clearly demonstrated that continuous organisational pressure compelled IBA to acknowledge and consider the issue. Though AIBRF does not agree with IBA's stand that pendency of court cases is an obstacle to Pension Updation, the fact remains that the issue entered the negotiation framework primarily due to sustained organisational efforts.

Present Opportunity – 13th Bipartite Settlement

AIBRF's efforts have continued unabated during the last three years and have been intensified through a series of nationwide programmes. We now understand from recent communications issued by the Department of Financial Services (DFS) that discussions and negotiations for the **13th Bipartite Settlement** are likely to commence shortly.

This presents a golden opportunity for bank retirees to secure a satisfactory and comprehensive solution to the long-pending demand for Pension Updation. Keeping this objective in view, AIBRF has already announced a series of action programmes through Circular No. 2026/163 dated 21.05.2026 under the banner:

"AIBRF National Campaign for Pension Updation"

The campaign will be launched shortly after completing necessary consultations and preparations. We firmly believe that the sustained efforts of the last decade have created a favorable environment and that the forthcoming settlement process provides a realistic opportunity for achieving meaningful Pension Updation for retirees.

M.C. Singla Case Pending in the Hon'ble Supreme Court – Recent Developments

We have learnt through various news reports and documents circulating on social media that the **M.C. Singla case relating to Pension Updation**, presently pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court, has been identified for **possible resolution through the Lok Adalat mechanism**.

As part of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's initiative titled "**Samadhan Samroh**", commencing on 21.04.2026 and culminating in a Special Lok Adalat on 21st, 22nd and 23rd August 2026, a pre-Lok Adalat conciliation meeting in the M.C. Singla case was held on 12.06.2026. **All parties to the case, including petitioners and respondents, were invited by the Hon'ble Court to participate in the process.**

In our understanding, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has thereby provided an **additional window for exploring a mutually acceptable resolution of the dispute**. Participation in such proceedings does not deprive any petitioner of the right to reject any proposal that may emerge or to insist upon adjudication of the matter through regular judicial proceedings.

However, it appears from communications available in the public domain that the **petitioners have chosen not to participate in the conciliation process**. The legal and practical implications of this decision, including its possible impact on future hearings and the Court's approach to the matter, will become clear only in the course of subsequent developments.

AIBRF does not wish to speculate on the outcome of the legal proceedings. The matter remains before the Hon'ble Supreme Court and deserves utmost respect.

AIBRF's Stand

Irrespective of developments in the court proceedings, AIBRF shall continue to pursue the issue of Pension Updation vigorously at the organisational level. We remain firmly of the view that Pension Updation is a legitimate and long-pending demand affecting lakhs of retired bank employees and family pensioners. It is a matter that requires resolution through constructive dialogue, negotiations and policy intervention.

Accordingly, all affiliates, office bearers and activists are requested to actively participate in the forthcoming **AIBRF National Campaign for Pension Updation** and strengthen our collective efforts to achieve this vital objective.

With greetings,

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'mabas', written over a horizontal line.

(S. C. JAIN)
GENERAL SECRETARY