

PRATHYASA

A Bulletin of Reserve Bank Retired Employees' Association, Kochi
(Reg.No. ER 18/09) (E-mail : mos1234@gmail.com)
C/o M.O. Sebastian, 116,Al-Fia Nagar, Cochin University Road , Kochi -682 022

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PENSION UPDATION

There has been no further development in the matter of pension updation since the issue of our bulletin in August last. As members are aware, there were some positive developments last year and in the first half of this year too, as the Bank had been actively pursuing the matter with the Central Government with a proposal to amend the Pension Regulations to provide explicitly for updation of pension by the Bank. Suddenly, all activities have now come to a stand still. Even in respect of certain improvements in the family pension and pension scheme reportedly cleared by the Government, the Bank has not yet issued administrative orders implementing the same, for unknown reasons.

WRIT PETITION ON UPDATION

The Division Bench of Bombay High Court, in its orders dated 10th August 2012, had asked the Bank for its views on the contention of our Sr Counsel Rafique Dada that it would be necessary for the Bank to hear the petitioners before taking any action for withdrawal of updation given by it to the pre- November 1997 pensioners to avoid unnecessary litigation. The Bank, in this context, filed an affidavit on 11-9-2012 raising mainly two issues:

(1) Due process of hearing the petitioners has already been concluded with Government passing a speaking order dated 23rd October 2009 and that the principle of natural justice requiring a hearing to be given before taking an adverse action has already been followed and (2) The Bank has forwarded a proposal to the Government seeking their approval to amend the Pension Regulations to provide explicitly for updation of pension by the Bank which is under the consideration of the Government.

The All India Association filed a rejoinder dated 4th October 2012, as under:

(1) In its speaking order, the Government categorically stated that it was not passing any order or giving any direction to the Reserve Bank in the matter

(2) If the RBI Pension Regulations are amended as proposed by the Bank, it would explicitly provide for updation of pension in the said Regulations but at the same time it would not distract from the fact that updation can be effected without such an explicit amendment. Throughout its communication with the Government including through resolutions passed by the Central Board of the Bank, and its affidavit filed earlier in the Writ Petition, the Bank had consistently taken a stand that updation of pension was effected within the purview of its Pension Regulations and that no amendment was required for the same. In the aforesaid circumstances, it was prayed that the petition deserved to be allowed on merit.

The hearing scheduled for 29th October 2012 did not come up that day. The next date is yet to be notified by the Court.

MAF Scheme

MD India Healthcare Services (TPA) Pvt Ltd has sent to all MAF members a simplified claim form designed by the United India Insurance Company in consultation with RBI, along with a check list, Mandate Form of ECS , a list of latest net work hospitals, etc. Since future medical claims will be entertained strictly on the basis of the new format, such of our members who have not yet received the new claim form and other enclosures may contact MD India, Kochi.(Shri Shreejith Rajan on 9349004423- Email Id : shreejithr@mdinida.com)

Smt Josephine George, A.M. has been posted in the Medical Desk at Kochi Office vice Smt Mohana Kumari and her E mail ID is: josephinegeorge@rbi.org.in. (Phone No: 0484-2402667/2402911-Extn 303).

Thiruvananthapuram Unit of Retired Employees' Association

The Thiruvananthapuram unit has sent a letter dated 18th September 2012 to All India Association (with a copy to other units) requesting them to seriously consider seeking the intervention of the Supreme Court by filing a writ petition, for getting the updation issue resolved. They have suggested that the cost of legal expenses for the purpose could be collectively borne by all units.

The Managing Committee of our unit at its meeting held on 26th November 2012 deliberated, among others, the points /issues raised in the Thiruvananthapuram unit's letter and decided to fully support their views and to convey the same to the All India through a suitable letter. Accordingly, Kochi unit too sent a communication to the All India Association requesting them to arrange to examine the feasibility of filing a writ petition in the Supreme Court, without awaiting the final outcome of the ongoing case against the roll-back of pension updation, in the Bombay High Court.

The Managing Committee has also decided to consult an Advocate of repute to get his opinion as to whether it is feasible for our unit (being a registered body) to file a special leave petition directly in the Supreme Court.

The comments of "Retirees" HITGUJ on "Prathyasa" published in the September 2012 issue

"We are happy to receive a copy of August 2012 issue of 'Prathyasa' a news bulletin of Reserve Bank Retired Employees' Association, Kochi. The issue covers, apart from the news items published in the " HITGUJ", those concerning the retirees of Kochi Office of the Bank. The effort is worth emulating by other units of our Association as it serves the dual purpose of keeping retirees informed of the news at the All India as well as local levels. We Congratulate Reserve Bank Retired Employees' Association, Kochi for the initiative and wish "Prathyasa all success".

We would like to pass on the entire compliments to Shri K.G .K Pillai on whose sole efforts and ideas that the bulletin has taken the shape, grown and reached this stage.

PPR's Book "A Bunch of Flagrant Roses"

The Book authored by Shri P.P Ramachandran, (Retd Dy DGM DBOD Mumbai) with a foreword by Shri S.S Tharapore, Former Dy Governor contains a diverse assortment of essays, articles, speeches, travelogues, book reviews and correspondence with great personalities. His essays cover a variety of subjects like

religion, science, mythology and articles on a number of interesting subjects. The book has been published by Academic Foundation and is priced at Rs 595/-

Shri Ramachandran, popularly known as PPR in his wide friend circle, is a voracious reader, a good orator and writer and has deep knowledge and academic interest in a variety of subjects.

Annual Get-Together

Our Association plans to organize an annual get-together of our members with family, somewhere in the 2nd week of January 2013. The venue and the exact date of the function can be decided upon, only after getting a minimum response from members. Members may, therefore, please convey their willingness to participate in the function over phone to the Secretary (Cell No 9895178211/9400541930) or the President, Shri C A Jacob(Cell No 9895163429). The function is proposed to be held during day time as was done last year.

New Membership

The Association has been making a vigorous campaign for new enrollment since the last AGM held in June 2012 and we are glad to inform our members that the following nine retirees from the Bank have joined our fold. 1. Shri K. Sivadas 2. Smt. Susan Annie John 3. Shri G.S. Pai 4. Shri P.A. Balan 5. Shri V.R. Sudevan 6. Shri K. Gopalakrishnan 7. Shri K.K. Mohanan 8. Smt. Sabita Varma Balachandran 9. Shri M. Aithu. Their full address and contact number are given overleaf(Page 4)

We extend a very warm welcome to each one of them and wish them good luck and happy days ahead.

QUOTE FOR THE MONTH

Never forget the importance of living with unbridled exhilaration. Never neglect to see the exquisite beauty in all living things. Today, and the very moment, is a gift.

Stay focused on your purpose. The Universe will take care of the rest.

Edited by Shri M.O. Sebastian, Secretary. Ph: 0484-2541930,9895178211

Acknowledgements: 'HITGUJ'

List of new members with full address and phone numbers

Serial No	Name and address	Phone Number
140.	Shri K. Sivadas Flat No B-2, Kailas Apartments North Fort, Thrippunithura Dt. Ernakulam Pin: 682 306	9495597439
141.	Smt. Susan Annie John 35/2563G, Banjara Gardens, South Janatha Road, Palarivattom, Kochi -682 025	0484-2340729 9037085711
142.	Shri G.S. Pai 40/8578, vishakom, T D Road Kochi-682035	0484- 2364483
143.	Shri P.A. Balan Puvath House, P.O. Perakam (via) Chavakkad, Pin: 680 506	0487-2509773
144.	Shri V. R. Sudevan Velekkat House, P.O. Karayamuttom Dt. Trichur, Pin: 680 567	0480-2837823 9745392185
145.	Shri K. Gopalakrishnan(Life member) " Sreevalsm" P.O. Anamangad (via) Perinthalmanna, Pin: 679357	04933-205618 9447458936
146.	Shri K.K. Mohanan Kalaparambil House, Khandakarnan Veli, North Paravur, Dt. Ernakulam Pin: 683513	9446491974
147.	Smt. Sabita Varma Balachandran(Life member) 15, Palm Green Garden Villas, Kunjan Bava Road Ponnuranni, Vyttila P.O. Kochi- 682019	0484-2112172 9995822041
148.	Shri M. Aithu Puthiyakudi House, Parayil Road, Elamakkara , Kochi- 682026	9495425397