UNITED FORUM OF RESERVE BANK OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

September 14, 2015

TO ALL MEMBERS
OF ALL CONSTITUENTS

Dear friends,

The United Forum met in Mumbai on 14th September 2015 with Shri S. V. Mahadik, (AIRBWF) in the Chair.

The meeting condoled the passing away of Com. Ramachandra Singh, the Treasurer of AIRBWF for long, a senior leader of Reserve Bank employees, on 10th September 2015 and observed silence in his memory.

The meeting took strong note of the stalemate on the issue of pension updation and opening of pension option – issues that are being patiently pursued by the United Forum for long eight years through silent rallies, parleys, representation to the Bank and Senior Govt. officials, but to no avail so far. RBI Board have taken up our cause with the Govt., Governors, both Dr. Subba Rao and presently Dr. Raghuram Rajan pursued the matter at various levels of the Govt. including Hon'ble Finance Ministers, but there has been no forward movement, much to the disappointment and anguish of RBI staff and retirees. Even Governor Dr. Raghuram Rajan had to flag the issue in his "overview" on Bank's Annual Report 2014-15; stating inter alia, that "long pending improvement in pension for our retirees also assume importance". When Governor himself acknowledges in the public domain that the "improvement in pension for our retirees" is "long pending" and important, why the issue is not being resolved, has to be clarified to the anxious staff, retirees and the United Forum, and has to be resolved in no time as the issues, to quote the Governor, are "long pending". Opening of pension issue involves only a few hundred employees / retirees.

The meeting has also taken note of Government's conceding the demand of "One Rank One Pension" for the military personnel. This is a welcome concept Govt. have introduced for a section of its staff and we strongly hope that in course of time other sections of working people and retirees will be brought under this for securing their future.

Further, the meeting resolved to fight the Govt's. move to gradually emasculate Reserve Bank of India in the name of regulatory reforms, and **Save RBI** by all means. RBI is a very important institution for national economy and sovereignty. It has proved its mettle during all twists and turns. To weaken it, as the Govt. is bent on, is deleterious to national interest. In the next session of the Parliament RBI Act Amendment Bill is being brought which will ring the death knell for the RBI. Already RBI have shrunk much. After the RBI Act is amended, many more important departments / jobs will go. The meeting decided to carry on nation-wide campaign against it, approach all political parties, democratic organisations, economists etc. to save this premier institution and have called upon all RBI employees and officers to stand solidly in defence of autonomy, independence, jurisdiction of RBI.

The United Forum have resolved that all our peaceful and persuasive efforts so far not having fructified we have no alternative but to intensify our efforts leading to a programme of <u>Mass Casual Leave by all sections of staff immediately after the festive season is over, i.e. by mid-November 2015</u> and meanwhile organized campaign have to be carried out everywhere. We have waited long and now being compelled to go for direct action to clinch the issue and ensure the future.

Let us gear up for actions, friends, clinch our reasonable issues and save this premier institution. Details of programme will be released shortly,

Yours fraternally,

With greetings.

(Samir Ghosh)

General Secretary
AIRBEA

(S.V.Mahadik)
General Secretary
AIRBWF

(C.M.Paulsil)
General Secretary
AIRBOA

(R. N. Vatsa)
General Secretary
RBIOA