BANK OF BARODA RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION
(Estd. 1990-Regd. Trade Union Act. 1926 Reg. No. G/4766/90)
Affiliated to: All India Bank Pensioners and Retirees Confederation, Kolkata
CHAIRMAN
Shri V. T. Makwana
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National President: Shri J. G. Lakhawala, (M) +91-9825917351, jagdish_lakhawala@yahoo.com
Executive President: Shri Prakash Jain, (M) +91-9649906554, prakashjain627@gmail.com
General Secretary: Shri V. B. Chavan, (M) +91-9823063347, vbc_pune@yahoo.com

BOBROA/24/04/3 **Date : 06.04.2026**

CIRCULAR TO MEMBERS

Dear Members,

Re - Discussions & Decisions of GC held on 17/3/2026

The Governing Council meeting was held on 17 March 2026 at Baroda and commenced with a welcome address by Shri Bhagwati Patel who welcomed the delegates The Executive President, Shri Jatil Patel, expressed his happiness in meeting the newly nominated members of the Governing Council and noted with satisfaction that many of them are young retired officers, in line with the vision of Late K. L. Bansal our National President He referred to the series of online meetings of the BOBROA Re-Organisation Committee, where key recommendations regarding income generation, control of expenses, and induction of recently retired officers in BOBROA were discussed and later approved by Zonal Secretaries, Zonal Presidents, and the Governing Council during meetings held in 2025. Necessary constitutional amendments were passed suitably

He appreciated the successful and democratic conduct of elections for Zonal Committees across all 12 zones by the Chief Election Officer and Joint General Secretary Shri Harshad Desai. Based on these elections, nominations to the Governing Council and delegates to the General Body were finalized. He observed that the new committees have started delivering better results despite a decline in retirements compared to earlier years. While about 60% of members are from Bank of Baroda, efforts are being made to increase participation from merged banks. The current membership from such banks stands at 18%, with a target to increase it to at least 25% during 2026.

Shri Jatil Patel highlighted the need to intensify efforts to enrol recently retired officers, those who opted for VRS in recent years, and those who retired earlier but are not yet become members. He mentioned that data of such officers is already available with the zones. He set a target of enrolling 350 new members during 2026. He also acknowledged the encouraging financial contributions from certain zones, particularly Ahmedabad, Bareilly, Baroda, and Mumbai, with Mumbai being the top-performing zone during 2024–25 and expected to perform even better in the coming years. Members have contributed approximately ₹6 lakhs so far in 2026, with expectations of further contributions during the year.

Emphasizing financial prudence, he noted that the association has adopted cost-control measures, especially by reducing travel and accommodation expenses and increasing the use of online meetings, a practice strengthened during the COVID-19 pandemic. The association has also taken up with the bank the matter of restoring 1% preferential rate of interest on deposits, which is being pursued by AIBOBOA.

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Among policy decisions, it was noted that the association had decided to disassociate from RBONC in the November 2024 Governing Council meeting and continues its affiliation with AIBPARC. While the affiliation fees are fixed, expenses on meetings are being controlled through selective participation. It was also decided that no CSR activities will be undertaken through BOBROA funds at present. The association has earlier contributed ₹58 lakhs to the PM CARES Fund.

Regarding welfare measures, a revised policy for felicitation of senior members was approved. Members will now be honoured once upon attaining the age of 75 years with a silver memento of 8 grams, replacing the earlier practice of felicitation at 75 and 85 years with a 10-gram silver coin. This change was necessitated by the sharp rise in silver prices and the increasing number of eligible members. Members who joined after attaining the age of 75 years will also be considered for felicitation. It was emphasized that zonal activities should not be adversely affected by these changes.

In his address, Shri Jatil Patel also announced that he would not continue as an office bearer after serving the association for 22 years, though he would remain available to support BOBROA. He indicated that some other office bearers may also not continue in their present roles. He stressed that the organization must continue its work with unity and strive for further improvement in line with changing times.

In conclusion, he expressed confidence in the collective efforts of all members and emphasized the importance of strengthening membership, maintaining financial discipline, leveraging digital platforms, and ensuring sustained growth and effectiveness of the association.

The Joint General Secretary, Shri T. K. Balasubramanian, informed the house that he would be stepping down from his position after serving the organization for the last 20 years, citing personal reasons and a desire to take rest from active responsibilities. However, he assured that he would remain available and extend full support to the new team. He expressed his gratitude to the house for the continued support extended to him over such a long period. The house acknowledged his remarkable contribution and applauded his 40 years of dedicated trade union service to both serving and retired officers. His journey from an activist to Zonal Secretary of AIBOBOA, Director on the Bank's Board, and eventually Joint General Secretary of BOBROA was highly appreciated.

The Joint General Secretary and Chief Election Officer also expressed his desire to step down due to personal difficulties, while assuring his continued support whenever required. The house noted and appreciated his long tenure and valuable services rendered to the members of BOBROA. Members collectively expressed high regard for both leaders, acknowledging their significant role in membership growth, mobilization of financial contributions, and expansion of the association's activities. Their requests to step down were accepted by the house.

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The Governing Council confirmed the minutes of the meetings held on 7 November 2024 and 4th September 2025. The General Secretary requested the Council to discuss and adopt his report, approve the financial statements for the years 2022 to 2025, and take note of membership and donation data as well as the status of legal matters, which had already been circulated.

During discussions, the Zonal President of Pune, Shri D. B. Wadkar, suggested allowing family pensioners to vote and contest elections; however, the proposal was not agreed upon by the house. It was also decided to finalize nominations for the Ladies Wing, convene its meeting, and elect its Convenor.

The legal report was presented by Shri Thirumalai, Dy. General Secretary & Committee Member of legal group It was observed that several important cases, including pension Updation and ARB matters in Ahmedabad, and Special Allowance and gratuity cases in Kerala, were not being listed for hearing. The commutation case was not filed due to adverse judgments in Chandigarh High Court cases, and a stay had been received in the GST case. The house suggested filing applications for early hearings and closely following up for favourable outcomes. It was also decided to strengthen the legal group by inducting willing and capable members.

A proposal from the Chennai Zone regarding adoption of a budget system was discussed, and it was decided that further deliberations would be held with Shri Thirumalai by the finance department. The Pune Zone raised concerns regarding recovery under the buyback of furniture and fixtures provided to officers 10–12 years earlier. Other zones supported this issue. It was reported that the bank had debited pension and family pension accounts without consent, without providing full details of the asset accounts, and that recovery efforts involved persistent communication, sometimes in inappropriate language, even with lady officers and family pensioners. Members also felt that excessive amounts, including GST, had been recovered. It was informed that BOBROA has taken up the matter with the bank's CGM, requesting adherence to guidelines, provision of complete details including written down value calculations, and refund of excess recoveries wherever applicable. Members were advised to pursue individual grievances with the bank for resolution & inform us in case of need

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The Governing Council confirmed the constitutional amendments approved in the meeting held on 4th September 2025. A further proposal to empower the National President, in consultation with the General Secretary and Executive President, to appoint Joint Secretaries and Deputy General Secretaries was also approved.

The house thereafter adopted the General Secretary's report, approved the financial accounts, constitutional amendments, and took note of legal status of cases filed by the Association, membership, and donation data. Elections were conducted as per the constitution and election rules. Shri V. T. Makwana was re-nominated as Chairman, Shri Prakash Jain was unanimously elected as Executive President, Shri Sunil Chaubal as Finance Secretary, and Shri Jatin Trivedi as Assistant Finance Secretary. Recommendations from zones for 12 National Vice Presidents and 12 Assistant General Secretaries were also approved.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Shri R. K. Gupta, Joint General Secretary.

This is for your information

With Regards,

V B CHAVAN
GENERAL SECRETARY

<u>PLEASE CIRCULATE AMONGST ALL MEMBERS</u>