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VIJAYA BANK RETIREES' ASSOCIATION (Regd)

(Affiliated to AIBRF)

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To All Members.

Dear Friends,

VIJAYA BANK MANAGEMENT DENIES DEMOCRATIC RIGHT OF THE RETIREES, RESOLUTE RETIREES RESPOND.....

13th December was a red letter day for our organisation, thanks to the determination of our members. The Dharna on the pavement of M G Road in front of Head Office building was massive, mammoth and memorable. The event was a culmination of collective conviction. The discipline and determination displayed by hundreds of members- retired General Managers to retired Substaff - defeated the dubious design of the management to disturb the dharna.

Efforts were made by the management to thwart our programme. Vested interests made futile attempt to sabotage the agitation. The retirees treated the misleading propaganda by them as insult to their intelligence. Management threatened to initiate legal and Police action against the retirees who are Senior Citizens. Nothing shook the confidence of retirees.

It was a show of solidarity, it was a display of determination to realise the legitimate aspiration of the retirees and above all it was a message to the power that be that Vijaya Bank Retirees are not afraid of fighting for their cause when all other methods fail. Retirees converged before the Head office of the Bank, defying their age, health and difficulties involved. Persons who could not walk also joined with the help of their wards and walking sticks. Members from nearby centres like Hassan, Mysore, Tumkur etc. also joined the Programme. Women in large numbers participated. The event gave a new direction to the retirees movement under the banner of VBRA. The retirees assembled there declared in one voice that this is the beginning of the struggle - a struggle long drawn and challenging.

The Bank did not allow the retirees to enter the Bank's compound to sit in a peaceful Dharna. All Security personnel were deployed at the gate. We decided to stage Dharna on the pavement of the busy M G Road in front of the Head Office. Police were called to disburse the retirees from the pavement. But the Police, understanding our legitimate grievance and peaceful programme, did not disturb us. They were impressed about the manner in which our members observed the programme. The full throated slogan shouting and massive participation attracted the attention of thousands of people who passed through the road. **The management pushed us to conduct the program in full vicinity of the general public giving unprecedented publicity to the Dharna.**

One Kannada Television channel Telecasted our program in the "Breaking News". Dharna that commenced before 9.30 AM ended at around 11.30 AM. The grit, determination and resolve of retirees were unparalleled. The management and their agents should understand the situation.

13th of December, 2014 belonged to our members. We salute our meembers who participated in the Dharna unmindful of their age and ill health. The self respect of retirees who built up our great instituion was wounded by the contemptous attitude of the management.

THE EVENTS THAT PRECEDED THE DHARNA :

Our Association has been making efforts and attempts for quite some time to resolve our legitimate and reasonable issues. Representations were made to CMD, ED and the GM- Personnel. All our efforts failed. Except empty assurances that they would look into the matter there was absolutely no forward movement. Many a times they asked, "Why only your association is making these demands". When all our efforts to have a peaceful resolution failed, we had no other option but to think of organizational actions. We have given the management enough notice about our further course of action. When the Association put the management on notice of our resolve to commence the agitation by Dharna they tried to prevent it, but without any concrete steps on our issues. Veiled threats were made. Nothing did deter our resolve. We were called for a discussion with the Management on 12th December. Though it was too late, three of our office bearers - President, General Secretary and the Treasurer - met the General Manager (Personnel). Except usual evasive, illogical expressions and sermons nothing concrete was forthcoming. We told the GM that we cannot withdraw the agitation without any positive response. The GM informed that the management would not permit the retirees to enter the compound on 13th. The management threw a challenge at us and we boldly accepted it.

Friends, the agitation on 13th is only a beginning. The irresponsible, inefficient and indifferent management will test our resolve. Only wise people, who are capable of knowing the consequences would see reasons and the writing on the wall. Let us show the management that we are consistent in our resolve to secure justice from their unwilling hands. We re-emphasise that we have asked for only those facilities and welfare schemes which are already available in various banks and implementation of IBA instructions and direction of Parliamentary Committee for pensioners and Senior citizens.

Other related developments will be informed separately.

UNITY IS STRENGTH.

With Greetings,

Truly yours,



(B, MANOHAR SHETTY)
CHAIRMAN



(C. GOPINATHAN NAIR)
PRESIDENT



(K. VISHWANATH NAIK)
GEN SECRETARY

We request our member to spread the message of our activities to non-members and enrol them in our fold.

Please visit our websites : vbra.in and aibrf.com.