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स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इण्डिया ऑफिसर्स एसोसियेशन State Bank of India Officers' Association (Patna Circle)

All Letters to be Addressed to the General Secretary Regd. No. 1872 of 1975 (REGISTERED UNDER TRADE UNION ACT - 1926)

State Bank Building West Gandhi Maidan Patna - 800 001

CIRCULAR NO. 43 /2019

DATE : 25.11.2019

TO, <u>ALL MEMBERS</u>

DEPENDENCY - CHOOSING PARENTS OR PARENTS IN LAW

We reproduce hereunder the text of the **AISBOF Circular No.** 108 dated 25.11.2019, the contents of which are self-explicit.

With warm greetings,

(Ajit Kumar Mishra) GENERAL SECRETARY

OUR UNITY : ZINDABAD-ZINDABAD S.B.I.O.A. : ZINDABAD-ZINDABAD

TEXT

No.6466/66/19

The Deputy General Manager (IR), State Bank of India, Corporate Centre, Madame Cama Road, **Mumbai- 400 021** Date: 15.11.2019

Dear Sir

DEPENDENCY – CHOOSING PARENTS OR PARENTS IN LAW

Keeping in view of the social responsibility, to remove gender bias and to provide employees the flexibility to take care of either parents or parents-in-law, eligibility criteria were modified in X Bi-partite Settlement [Ref No. P&HRD. SI. No: 368/2015 - 16 [Circular No: CDO/P&HRD-IR/24/2015 - 16 dated 26.06.2015]. We reproduce the relevant part of this circular hereunder:

(vii) Definition of Family:

For the purpose of medical facilities and for the purpose of leave fare concession, the expression family of an employee shall mean –

- b) The term wholly dependent family member shall mean such member of the family having a monthly income not exceeding □ 10,000/- p.m. If the income of one of the parents exceeds □ 10,000/- p.m. or the aggregate income of both the parents exceeds □ 10,000/- p.m., both the parents shall not be considered as wholly dependent on the officer employee.
- c) A married female employee may include her natural parents or parents-in-law under the definition of family, but not both, provided that the parents/parents-in-law are wholly dependent on her.

**Note: For the purpose of medical expenses reimbursement scheme, for all employees, any two of the dependent parents/ parents-in-law shall be covered.

2. However, we understand that the true spirit of the modifications is being rampantly misinterpreted by the operating functionaries across Circles. The following is clear from the revised definition of "Family" and the ***Note* thereto.

- a) Intent of the above revision is to provide opportunity/flexibility to take care of either parents or parents in law, based only on one aspect – i.e. income criteria (not any other criteria like parents/in-laws have other earning sons/daughters as is being misinterpreted often)
- b) **Note to definition makes it clear that for medical expenses reimbursement scheme "for all employees" any two dependents – either parents or parents in law shall be covered. The words "all employees", is ignored and there has been misinterpretation in implementation. It is emphatically clear that all the employees are eligible to choose either parents or parents-in-law.

3. This modification was brought in to recognize the independence and right of employees to take care of their parents or parents in law as per their necessity. It was a step towards gender equality and to remove bias; to provide an opportunity and flexibility to the employees to take care of parents/parent in-laws. This needs to be left to the independent decision of employees and not to interfered with or misinterpreted.

4. We would be glad if you can issue the necessary clarifications instructions on this.

With regards,

Yours sincerely

Porte

(Soumya Datta) General Secretary