

INDIAN RAILWAYS TECHNICAL SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION

{Estd. 1965, Regd. No.1329 at Delhi, under Indian Trade Union Act, 1926}

Website <http://www.irtsa.net>

Harchandan Singh,
General Secretary, IRTSA
Email: gsirtsa@yahoo.com



C.Hq. 32, Phase 6, Mohali
Chandigarh-160 055
(Ph. : 0172-2228306, 9316131598)

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MESSAGE OF GS IRTSA FOR 45TH FOUNDATION DAY OF IRTSA

Dear Brother Engineers,

It gives me a great pleasure to greet you all on the occasion of 45th Foundation Day of IRTSA. Our continuous struggle and commitment to the cause of "Justice for Rail Engineers" has brought in many achievements over the last 45 years – of which we are all proud.

Improvement in avenues of Promotion through Cadre Restructuring, elimination of long years of stagnation at every stage, re-designation of Technical Supervisors as Engineers, reduction in number of scales from 6 (*up to early 70s*) to just 2 scales at present, better relativity by third and fourth Pay Commissions, grant of Incentive to SSE (*at least in workshops*), grant of some Allowances (like that for Boxing & Disbursement of wages) and upgrading of over 1500 posts from Group C to Group B over the years are some of the major achievements.

There are still miles to go and the struggle must go on steadfastly. There are serious anomalies and disparities in the Pay structure and avenues of promotion – especially from Group C to Group A & B.

Sixth Pay Commission had done a great injustice to the employees in PB 2, by allowing only a nominal increase of 2.26 times of Pay of Fifth CPC to them as compared to much higher rise of 3 to 3.4 times given to the Officers in Group A (in PB 3, PB 4 & above). But the worst sufferers at the hands of both Fifth and Sixth Pay Commissions were the Engineers / Technical Supervisors who were treated worst than the Accounts & Nursing Staff – who have always been in lower scales than the former.

Even the existing relativity of Pay structure of Engineers / Technical Supervisors - after Third & Fourth Pay Commissions - had been disturbed by the Fifth and Sixth Pay Commissions. CMA I (with recruitment qualification of BE & MSc) were treated even more adversely by being singled out to be left in the Grade Pay of Rs.4200 – in spite of clear cut recommendations of Sixth CPC to grant Grade Pay of Rs.4600 to posts with Engineering Graduate as recruitment qualification.

There were many other Anomalies in the Report of Sixth Pay commission. IRTSA has been representing and agitating against these Anomalies in SCPC Report, ever since its submission in March, 2008. Meanwhile, over 2 years have passed since the acceptance of the Report of Sixth Pay Commission. But still the orders have not yet been issued by the Railway Board on some issues like the Revised Entitlement of Passes and Revised coverage under the Group Insurance Scheme etc. No decision has yet been taken on the revised distribution of Posts after the merger of scales. Even the orders on Revised Designations were "Provisional"

No major decision has yet been taken in National Anomalies Committee (NAC). Even the recommendations of Departmental Anomalies Committee (DAC) – (for higher Grade Pay of Rs.4600 to JEs & Grade Pay of Rs.4800 to SSEs & CMS etc.) have yet to be approved by the Ministry of Finance. Cadre Restructuring Committee (CRC) has yet to start working in right earnest.

Duties, responsibilities and job requirements of Front Line Engineers / Technical Supervisors have increased manifolds over the years due to modernization and sophistication of the Rolling Stock and Locomotives as well as those of the Signal & Telecommunication, Works, P-way and Bridges etc. on the Railways. But it was regrettable that neither the last two Pay Commissions nor the Railway Board have given the due credit for the same while determining their Pay Scales or Grade Pay – in spite of strong recommendations for better status, emoluments and for better Avenues of Promotion for them, made by the Railway Accident Inquiry Committees and Railway Reforms Committee etc.

All this has greatly demoralized the Rail Engineers. This is bound to adversely affect their efficiency and in turn, that of the system as a whole.

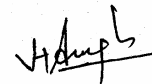
CGB - IRTSA shall be meeting at Gorakhpur on 10th & 11th December, 2010 and shall take stock of all these aspects and decide the future course of action so as to ensure that the Anomalies of Sixth CPC are removed, other grievances of the Engineers be redressed early and steps be initiated by the Railway administration to promote greater job satisfaction of Rail Engineers / Technical Supervisors.

On the eve of the Foundation Day of IRTSA, I appeal to all Rail Engineers to strengthen IRTSA at all levels and to actively join our struggle for the upliftment of Rail Engineers; and to join us in our continuous pursuit for justice.

I also urge upon you all to attend en-mass the 45th Annual Conference and CGB Meeting of IRTSA at Gorakhpur on 10th & 11th December, 2010, to make it a grand success and to give your valuable suggestions for making our struggle more effective - for the betterment of the Rail Engineers.

With best wishes, Jai Hind, Long live IRTSA.

Yours fraternally,



Harchandan Singh,
General Secretary IRTSA