

## MASS DHARNA BY IRTSA

Nearly 500 Rail Engineers from all over the Indian Railways, held a Protest Rally & Dharna on 8th February, 2016 at Jantar Mantar New Delhi - under the aegis of IRTSA - against the retrograde Report of 7th CPC.

Later on a delegation led by GS IRTSA submitted detailed Memoranda to Cabinet Secretary, CRB & Members Empowered Committee for higher Pay Level & Group B to Technical Supervisors & on other demands.

About 500 members of IRTSA from across all Railway Zones and Production Units participated in Dharna with spirit and vigor, held at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi on 08.02.2016 against retrograde recommendations of 7<sup>th</sup> CPC. They expressed their strong resentment and frustration over the report of 7<sup>th</sup> CPC. Members expressed that they were betrayed by Administration on the issues of justified pay & classification of posts.

Er.M. Shanmugam, Central President IRTSA termed 7<sup>th</sup> CPC as worst ever in the history in general, particularly for Technical Supervisors. He condemned Railway Board for not communicating its decision on granting higher Grade Pay for JE & SSE taken in the departmental anomaly committee and the decision on grant of Group 'B' (Gaz) Status to senior supervisors. He insisted upon the cadre to fight with fire in the heart to achieve the goal.

Shri Harchandan Singh, GS/IRTSA addressing the gathering said that Government should not neglect this nerve cadre who plays key role in safe running of trains. He said that 7<sup>th</sup> CPC had just reflected the views of Departments without throwing light judicially on the submission made by IRTSA & Federations. 7<sup>th</sup> CPC never played its role in determining the Pay level vital categories particularly for the category of Technical Supervisors he lambasted. He said that Empowered Committee should work judicially to modify the recommendations of 7<sup>th</sup> CPC. He insisted that Technical Supervisors should resort to "**Work to Rule**", if main demands of IRTSA were not addressed by Railways properly.

To show their solidarity with the genuine demands of IRTSA Federation leaders addressed the Mass Dharna. Shri Guman Singh, President NFIR in his address said that 7<sup>th</sup> CPC rendered injustice to on-field categories of Technical Supervisors and Technicians.

Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, GS/AIRF, while addressing the gathering said that all should be prepared to go for **Work-to-Rule** as the government is silent on the genuine demands made by NJCM and also said the Trade Unions/Federations are not responsible for the dire consequences. He expressed his disbelief that Empowered Committee may turn into an Eye-wash attempt made by Government. AIRF is striving hard to the betterment of Technical Supervisors and also said that he knows how hard are their Duties, Role & Responsibilities in safe running of trains as he had been a Technical Supervising Engineer. He further said that the post of in-charge SSE is more inevitable now. He assured his fullest support for Technical Supervisors in all respects.

Dr.M. Raghaviah, GS/NFIR, while addressing the gathering said that NFIR & AIRF is fighting unitedly for the betterment of Railwaymen since it is crucial time now to keep away the differences and fight for common cause and to modify most damaging report of 7<sup>th</sup> CPC. He said that it is unfortunate 7<sup>th</sup> CPC has cheated Railwaymen particularly Technical Supervisors. Chairman 7<sup>th</sup> CPC has gone back from his own words that all the SSEs will be classified as Group 'B'. Pay Commission is meant to independently study the duties, responsibilities & accountabilities to decide the Pay Level (of a particular category), but the Pay Commission was bent to listen to Railway Board and Railway Board has betrayed Technical Supervisors by hiding the facts. It is not the failure of Federations or IRTSA, it is going to be failure of Railway Board for forcing the strike on Railwaymen, he said. He expressed his confidence over achieving higher Pay Level for JEs and SSEs as

demanded by IRTSA and said that demand of Technical Supervisors appears as first item in the joint memorandum submitted by NFIR & AIRF. He reiterated that NFIR will always strive for the betterment of Technical Supervisors as they are the driving force of Indian Railways.

Earlier Er.L.N. Pathak, Patron IRTSA condemned anti-worker policies of Government & most damaging report of 7<sup>th</sup> CPC. He said that Railways have no career plan for its Engineers and it is going to prove suicidal for Railways and the Nation.

Resolution of Main demands proposed by Er.Kalyan Banerjee, Working President IRTSA seconded by Er.R.B. Singh, Zonal Secretary, W.Rly was passed unanimously by the members.

Er. Darshan Lal, Working President, Er.K.V. Ramesh, Sr.JGS, Er.N.Venkata Ramana Murthy, Zonal Secretary SC Rly, Er. Ashoke Chowdhury, Zonal Secretary CLW, Er.Vinod Kumar, Zonal Secretary SWR, Er. O.N.Purohit Zonal secretary NWR, Er. R.K.Pandey, Zonal Secretary NER, Er.V.P.Abdul Salam, Zonal Secretary SR, Er. Mukesh Verma, Zonal Secretary DLW, Er.Tamilmaran, Working President SR, Er.Thirumaran, President GOC, Er.Baldev Raj, RCF and Er.Jagtar Singh, RCF addressed the *Mass Dharna*.

At the end of *Dharna* a procession towards Parliament House was led by Federation leaders.