

INDIAN RAILWAYS TECHNICAL SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION

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No.IRTSA/49th CGB/

Date:

MINUTES OF CGB MEETING & 49TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF IRTSA HELD AT CLW, CHITTARANJAN, ON 11TH & 12TH NOVEMBER 2014

Central General Body (CGB) Meeting and 49th All India Annual Conference of IRTSA was held on 11th & 12th November, 2014, at Rabindra Manch, CLW, Chittaranjan.

The conference was well attended and very well arranged by CLW Unit of IRTSA.

CGB Members, Office Bearers & active members of IRTSA from all over Indian Railways participated in the CGB & CEC Meetings and Safety Seminar held during the Annual Conference.

The meeting was presided over by Er.M.Shanmugam, Central President IRTSA., assisted by Er. Surindernathan & Er. Darshan Lal.

1. Pre-Conference Seminar on Career Planning & Avenues of Promotion of Rail Engineers and Special meeting on the Grade Pay of CMT Engineers.

On 10th Nov 2014 a preparatory pre-Conference Seminar was held to discuss two burning issues of "Career Planning & Avenues of Promotion of Rail Engineers" and "Grade Pay of CMT Engineers" and New Pension Scheme etc.

i) Er.Ashoke Chowdhury, Sr.JGS, CEC IRTSA welcomed the gathering and briefly explained about the purpose of the Seminar.

ii) Er.K.V.Ramesh, Sr.JGS, CEC IRTSA elaborated on non-availability of proper career planning to Technical Supervisors / Supervising Engineers, Non grant of Group 'B' Gazetted status to senior Technical Supervisors and Anomaly in the Grade Pay of CMT Engineers. He also explained the details of the Case filed by IRTSA at CAT Chandigarh for grant of Group 'B' gazette status to SSE, CMS, CDMS & Sr.Er(IT) and that justice will soon be done to the category.

iii) Sri. Sanat Kumar Mandal and Sri. Iswar Chandra Hembram briefed about the CAT Kalkata Judgement for grant of Grade Pay of pre-revised scale of Rs.7450-11500 to CMA-I as per 6th CPC Report – in view of element of direct Recruitment of Engineering Graduates in their Cadre

iv) Sri.Sudipta Roy, Sri.Ranveer Singh and Sri.Sunil Prasad briefed about non availability of 15% or 7.5% of Incentive or PCO allowance to CMT Engineers even though they were doing the inspectorial work along with Technical Supervisors.

v) They also referred to non availability of 30% LDCE selection process for Group 'B' promotion to the CMT Engineers, which resulted in heavy stagnation in CMT organization.

vi) Er.Bipul Biswas of CLW explained about denial of financial upgradation under MACPS for Design & Drawing office Engineers who were recruited as Tracers, Junior Draftsmen and SE.

vii) Er.Harchandan Singh General Secretary IRTSA explained in detail about the action taken by IRTSA for better pay scale, career progression, Allowances, working condition etc for Technical Supervisors / Supervising Engineers at various levels including Zonal Railways, Railway Ministry, Government, Pay Commissions etc. as well as with the Recognised Federations.

viii) He said that IRTSA is highlighting the issues through Memorandums, personal Representations, Hunger Fast, Demonstration, Seminars, Meetings, etc or legal action on all the issues raised in the Seminar or in various CGB Meetings over the years.

ix) Er.V.P.Abdul Salam Zonal Secretary S.Rly called everyone to strengthen the platform of IRTSA which was strongly laid by the predecessors.

x) Er.M.Shanmugam Central President IRTSA explained about exhaustive memorandum submitted by IRTSA to 7th CPC in time and his meeting with Secretary 7th Pay Commission three times since its formation. He said that he held discussion with Secretary Pay Commission on Principle of Pay determination, Pitfalls of MACPS, Replacement Pay scales for Technical Supervisors / Supervising Engineers and implication of National Pension Scheme. He also explained about the issues of National Pension scheme.

2. CGB Meeting & Annual Conference

i) **Flag Hoisting**:- On 11th November 2014 Er. M.Shanmgam Central President IRTSA hoisted the Flag of IRTSA along with Er. Harchandan Singh GS/IRTSA and Er. K.V. Surendranathan, Wkg President/IRTSA. The Delegates & Office bearers of IRTSA were present in large number and raised the slogans on IRTSA Zindabad and Rail Engineers unity Zindbad.

ii) **Inaugural Session**:- Er.Kalyan Banerjee, Working President CEC & Er.Sugata Dutta Zonal Secretary CLW welcomed the delegates from all over Indian Railways.

iii) **Inaugural address by Central President**: In his inaugural address Er.M.Shanmgam Central President IRTSA wished that the dream of recognition for IRTSA becomes a reality during the Golden Jubilee year (2015) of IRTSA. He said that 7th CPC should recommend rightful pay scales to Technical Supervisors / Supervising Engineers which was denied by 5th & 6th CPC. He explained about his three meetings with Secretary 7th CPC. Even though New Pension Scheme (NPS) has to be scraped and all the employees who are appointed after 1.1.2004 have to be brought under old pension system, it is doubtful that Pay Commission / Government would scrap the NPS, hence 7th Pay Commission and Government should sincerely attempt to rectify pitfalls of NPS. He advised all Zonal Secretaries of IRTSA to conduct exclusive awareness meetings on NPS. He also requested the Ministry of Railways to continue with the Staff Council Representative System in all its Production Units. He urged all the Zones of IRTSA to effectively contribute "Clean Railways Campaign" and to come up with innovative suggestions for improving efficiency, Safety & earnings of Railways.

iv) **General Secretary's Report**:- Er.Harchandan Singh General Secretary IRTSA presented his annual report to the General Body. Er.K.V.Ramesh, Sr.JGS assisted him in the presentation of his exhaustive Report.

a) The report covered various important issues like Nation's economic situation, inflation, downsizing & privatization on Railways, details of exhaustive memorandum submitted by IRTSA to the 7th CPC, need for improving Railway fare structure, non-filling of vacancies in safety categories of Railways, ill impacts of decision of allowing FDI on Railways.

b) General Secretary highlighted the vital role of Technical Supervisors / Supervising Engineers which are being ignored continuously by the Railways & last two Pay Commissions, adverse working conditions in Railways, actions being taken by IRTSA in pursuance of various demands of the category at various levels – including legal remedies being sought by the Association especially for higher Grade Pay to JEs & SSEs and Group 'B' gazetted status to SSE/CDMS/CMS/Sr.Er(IT).

c) General Secretary referred to the interactions / meetings with Railway Board, Federations and Zonal levels, etc. for pursuance of demands. The report also appealed to the members for unity among Technical Supervisors / Supervising Engineers, intensive membership drive, contribution for struggle & legal fund and celebration of "GOLDEN JUBILEE YEAR OF IRTSA" in a befitting fashion. He thanked CLW Zone for the grand arrangements made for the conference.

d) GS also explained the Tasks and challenges before the Category and called upon the Rail Engineers to unite and join the struggle by IRTSA effectively for their own betterment.

e) Er KV Ramesh, Er Ashoke & Er Darshan Lal read out the Highlights of the Demands raised by IRTSA before the Seventh CPC and the Achievements of IRTSA in last 49 years.

– (For full text of General Secretary's Report please visit the website www.irtsa.net)

b) **Discussion on GS Report**: Er. B.D. Mishra, Er. Darshanlal, Er. P.K.Shukla Er. K. Gobinath, Er.E. Ramesh and others deliberated on General Secretary's report.

c) Reply by GS: While replying to the points raised by the Members, General Secretary explained about the far-reaching and in-depth memorandum submitted by IRTSA to the 7th CPC within the stipulated time and active discussion held with Federations & JCM leaders on the demands made before 7th CPC. He also impressed on the importance of both the recognised federations in Indian Railways and advised all Zones, Sub-units etc to maintain cordial relation with both the Federations and the working class as a whole as the administration had failed to treat the Technical Supervisors as a part of the management and to recognise IRTSA.

d). Statement of Accounts of IRTSA:- Er.O.N.Purohit Central Treasure IRTSA placed the Accounts statement of CEC IRTSA before the CGB.

e) Statement of Accounts of VRE: Er.K.V.Ramesh Manager VRE placed the statement of account of “Voice of Rail Engineers” (VRE) before the house.

f) Approval & adoption of GS Report & Statement of Accounts: General Secretary's report, statements of account for IRTSA and “Voice of Rail Engineers” were passed by CGB.

4. Zonal Secretaries' Report:- Second session on placement of Zonal Secretaries report was chaired by Er.K.V.Surendranathan Working President IRTSA. Er.Sugata Dutta of CLW, Er.B.Inbanathan of ICF, Er.R.Jayakumar of RWF, Er.P.K.Shukla of N.Rly, Er.V.P.Abdul Salam for S.Rly & SC.Rly, Er.Goutham Mukeerjee for E.Rly & SE.Rly, Er.M.K.Bhatnagar for RCF & DMW, Er.V.Amarnath for SWR, Er.R.B.Singh for WR & CR, Er.O.N.Purohit of NW.Rly, Er.Manish Kumar Srivastava of DLW presented their reports before the CGB. Er.M.T.Sujit Kumar of S.Rly explained the difficulties faced by Southern Railway under the single union recognition. Er.K.Gobinath Sr.Org.Secy made a report on his activities and tour to other zones.

5. Resolutions of Demands:- On 12th Nov, resolutions of demands were presented to the CGB by General Secretary assisted by Er.K.V.Ramesh, Er. M.K.Bhatnagar, Er.V.P.Abdul Salam and Er.R.B.Singh.

Demands on Recognition of IRTSA, Pay scales, Grade Pay, increment, career progression & promotional avenues, Incentive & Special Pay, MAPC Scheme, Allowances & merger of DA, Working conditions, Pension & retirement benefits, welfare, general amenities and other miscellaneous demands were presented before CGB.

Er.E.Ramesh, Er.Balramamurthy, Er.B.Prasad, Er.Nirmal Chandran, Er.Y.R.S.Banerjee, Er.Thirumaran, Er.Zaheer Hussain and others participated in the deliberations held on resolutions of demands. Resolutions on Demands were passed by the CGB after adopting suggestions and modifications suggested by members.

Separate resolution for continuance of Staff Council System in Production Units was also moved and unanimously passed by the CGB.

– (For final text of Resolutions of demands - please visit the Website www.irtsa.net)

g. Resolutions on line of action:- The CGB adopted following line of actions which was adopted by CEC earlier,

i.Line of action for Getting the demands conceded: CGB IRTSA noted that non-acceptance of the genuine demands of the Category was causing much frustration amongst the category as the same were quite genuine and non-acceptance thereof, is working as an impediments in effective discharge of the duties, posing a threat to the safety and efficiency on the Railways. The CGB therefore, appealed to the Government and the Railway Administration to accept the same early.

CGB advised the CEC IRTSA to pursue the Demands at all levels and authorized the President & General Secretary IRTSA to decide the line of action and issue directives thereon to all Units of IRTSA, for early realization of the outstanding Demands.

ii. Court Cases: a) CGB authorized the President IRTSA Shri.M.Shanmugam, General Secretary IRTSA Shri.Harchandan Singh and Senior JGS IRTSA Shri.K.V.Ramesh to take requisite steps to pursue the two pending Court Cases filed by IRTSA (Reg. Grade Pay & Group B) in CAT Chennai and CAT Chandigarh, respectively

b) CGB IRTSA also authorized them to file appropriate Appeals and Affidavits etc. in CAT, High Court and Supreme Court as required as per legal advice in respect of above said matters.

iii. Seventh Pay Commission: CGB appreciated the efforts of the President and General Secretary IRTSA and other CEC Members who helped them in preparing and submitting the exhaustive Memoranda to the Seventh Pay Commission.

CGB authorized the President & General Secretary IRTSA to take steps to effectively pursue the Charter of Demands placed before the 7th CPC and to constitute a Sub-Committee to appear before the Pay Commission for effective Oral Evidence before it.

iv. **Urgent need for funds for Court Cases and for the struggle as a whole:** CGB noted that there was an urgent need for intensify efforts to raise funds more vigorously, in order to meet with challenges ahead and high financial requirement for the court cases which may have to be taken up to the Supreme Court level – especially in respect of the Group B Case.

Appeal to Members: CGB appealed to all Rail Engineers to immediate pay *Struggle-cum-Legal Fund @ Rs.1000 per head by 31st December, 2014, if not paid in 2013 - 14.*

v. **Membership Drive:** CEC directed all Zones / Units & Sub units of IRTSA to *complete collection of Membership @ Rs.300 PA before 31st December, 2014 for the current year and before 31st March, 2015 for the year 2015.*

vi. **Central Quota:** *All Units & Sub-Units should send the Central Quota of Membership and Struggle-cum-Legal Fund to the Central Treasurer latest by 15th January for the year 2014 and before 30th April, 2015 for the year 2015.*

vii. **Proper maintenance & Audit of Accounts:** CGB directed all Units and Sub-Units to ensure Proper maintenance & Audit of Accounts at all levels. GS should issue guidelines for it.

viii. **GOLDEN JUBILEE YEAR OF IRTSA:** CGB resolved to observe the year 2014-2015 as the Golden Jubilee year IRTSA (starting from 27th November, 2014 to 27th November, 2015) celebrating the formation of IRTSA as a SOLIDARITY YEAR - to strengthen the organization all over India and to commemorate historic event in an appropriate and befitting manner.

ix. **Golden Jubilee Celebrations & Next Annual Conference:** CGB resolved that the next Meeting of CGB and Annual Conference of IRTSA be held at Chennai hosted by ICF Zone in conjunction with the Golden Jubilee Celebrations on 27th to 29th November, 2014.

9. **Election to CEC:-** Election for new CEC IRTSA was held before the concluding session. Er. Kalyan Banerjee, Working President CEC IRTSA acted as Election Officer along with Er.K.V.Ramesh, Er.M.S.V.R.Pandian and Er.Ashoke Chowdhary - conducted the - election. Er.M.Shanmugam, Er.Harchandan Singh and Er.O.N.purohit were unanimously elected as Central President, General Secretary and Central Treasurer respectively along with other office bearers.

- For complete list of office bearers please visit www.irtsa.net

10. **CEC MEETING OF IRTSA:-** Meeting of CEC IRTSA was held on 12th Nov from 8.00 AM to 10.00 AM. CEC adopted Line of action for getting the demands conceded, pursuance of Court Cases, representation to 7th CPC, membership drive & collection of struggle & legal fund, Golden Jubilee celebrations of IRTSA and other issues. General Secretary urged all the Zones & sub-units to properly close their annual accounts after appropriate audit.

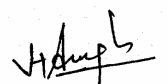
11. **Seminar on Safety on Indian Railways :-** On 11th evening a purposeful seminar on “Safety in Workshops, Production Units & Open Line of Indian Railways” was held at Rabindra Manch, CLW, Chittaranjan. Sri Ashok Kumar, CEE/P&I and Sri R. P. Mishra, CEE/TM jointly inaugurated the seminar by lighting the lamp. CEE/P&I also gave the inaugural address. Sri A. K. Mondal, CME/SF, other officers, union and association members, IRTSA delegates from various Railways and members of CLW Zone attended the seminar.

Er.M.Shanmugam Central President IRTSA explained the suggestions given by IRTSA for improving safety & performance of Railways. Power Point Presentation of Personal Protective Equipments and their proper usage were made.

CME/SF/CLW made an excellent presentation on “Safety on Indian Railways”. He also delivered the concluding address of the seminar.

Er.Kalyan Banerjee, Working President CEC IRTSA was felicitated by CEC IRTSA for his incredible contribution in the activities of IRTSA. At the end enjoyable orchestra was performed.

12. **Concluding Session:-** Newly elected CEC IRTSA met during the concluding session on 12th Nov afternoon. Er. M.Shanmugam, Central President IRTSA who is also President for ICF Zone welcomed all to the Golden Jubilee CGB to be hosted by ICF Zone at Chennai. Er.Kalyan Banerjee on behalf of CLW Zone and Er.Harchandan Singh General Secretary IRTSA on behalf of CEC IRTSA thanked everyone for making the conference memorable. Meeting concluded after a vote of thanks to the Chair and the Retreat of the IRTSA flag & handing over to next hosts at ICF.



(Harchandan Singh),
General Secretary, IRTSA