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CEC IRTSA URGES UPON GOVERNMENT TO RESOLVE BURNING PROBLEMS OF RAIL ENGINEERS

1. CEC IRTSA met on 12.06.2015. at Dr. Ambedkar Bhavan Chandigarh from 10.00 Hrs to 18.00 Hrs and was presided over by M.Shanmugam Central President IRTSA.

2. INAUGURAL SPEECH BY PRESIDENT:- Er. M.Shanmugam CP IRTSA briefed about the IRTSA delegations meeting with Member Mechanical followed by separate meetings with Sri. M. Raghaviah, GS/NFIR & Sri. S.G. Mishra GS/AIRF on 11-6-2015.

He said that all eyes are on Indian Railways. While Government is taking actions to put the project implementations & developments of Indian Railways on fast track mode, workforce of Indian Railways have to respond to demanding situation. Running of semi high speed trains & introduction of high speed trains are in top priority on the Government's agenda. Dedicated Freight Corridors under a separate Corporation will take away huge revenue from Indian Railways. Installing high speed permanent way, signalling system, high speed rolling stocks & locos and their maintenance will be opening the gate way for FDI. Already NPS has put the employees in disadvantageous position further FDI & indiscriminate privatisation may add to the trouble of the Railway men, he added.

He further said that JCM (staff side) is very serious in going for an Indefinite Strike due to Government's lukewarm approach towards the working class.

President also briefed about his meeting with Secretary 7th CPC at New Delhi & Bangalore. He appreciated the efforts made by Er. Darshan Lal, Wkg. President / IRTSA and Er. KV. Ramesh & their team, in arranging and effectively representing the case of Rail Engineers through the Oral Evidence on behalf of IRTSA before the 7th Pay Commission at Jodhpur.

He advised all the Zones / Units to celebrate Golden Jubilee of IRTSA in flying colours. He briefed on celebration of Golden Jubilee of IRTSA by various Units including "Golden Jubilee Cricket tournament" organised by IRTSA at Chennai between 12 teams of ICF & Southern Railway. He mentioned about the Seminar organised by IRTSA ICF Zone on the topic Swachh Bharat Abhiyan at TTC Auditorium ICF on 18th Feb, 2015. Present generation office bearers of IRTSA had a glimpse of some of its **Continued on page – 4.....**

IRTSA PROTESTS AGAINST RECOMMENDATIONS OF DEBROY COMMITTEE REPORT

Protest meeting of Technical Supervisors / Rail engineers held on 1st week of July 2015 all over Indian Railways, expressed its deep anguish over the recommendations of Dr. Bibek Debroy Committee constituted by Indian Railways which submitted its Report recently for Mobilization of Resources for Major Railway Projects and Restructuring of Railway Ministry and Railway Board.

Mass meeting urged the Government not to implement the recommendations of Dr. Bibek Debroy Committee, such as unbundling the activities of Indian Railways, setting up of independent RRAI with quasi-judicial power but without any accountability, setting up of Indian Railway Manufacturing Company (IRMC) to separate Railway Production units from Railways, bringing back licensing regulations, selling / leasing of Railway lands through proposed SPV Real Estate Investment Trust (RETI), opening all activities including manufacturing & maintenance of rolling stocks & locos, assets creation, train operation with the independence of fixing their own tariff rates, private owing of train formations & their maintenance, opening DFCCIL to private operators even without seeking permission from Railways, disinvestment of CONCOR, dismantling medical activities being carried out by Indian Railways, closing down of Railway Protection Force, lateral entry for higher level management posts, reorganization of existing structure without minding the advantages of specialization it possess now, etc. IRTSA observed that all these recommendations are only aiming at complete privatization of Railways which need to be stopped.

TERM OF 7TH PAY COMMISSION EXTENDED

Union Cabinet gave its approval for extension of the term of the 7th Central Pay Commission by four months up to 31.12.2015 for submission of its Report to Government.

GOLDEN JUBILEE OF IRTSA

**RAIL ENGINEERS JOIN ENMASS
50TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE & CGB
MEETING OF IRTSA TO BE HELD ON
27TH & 28TH OCT 2015 AT CHENNAI**

➤ See Notification on Page – 8

➤ Charter of Demands on Page - 6

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"SUCCESS COMES TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE"



Editorial**DEBROY COMMITTEE REPORT – PRE DETERMINED, BIASED & ONE SIDED TO PRIVATISE ENTIRE INDIAN RAILWAYS**

Dr. Bibek Debroy Committee constituted by Indian Railways to give its recommendations for “*Mobilization of Resources for Major Railway Projects and Restructuring of Railway Ministry and Railway Board*” submitted its report.

Committee observed the following major handicap of Railways:

- a) Railways not allowed fixing its own fare structure based on actual operational cost.
- b) Many projects are enforced on Railways on regional, political & social reasons rather than commercial viability.
- c) Non allocation of meaningful fund to complete projects within stipulated time.
- d) 11,709 projects requiring Rs. 4,94,911 crores approved by Railway Board and 29,447 projects requiring Rs.9,313 crores approved at Zonal & Divisional level are pending.
- e) Due to uni-gauge policy, Railways is required to invest heavily on already existing routes, diminishing chances for Railways to expand its route length.
- f) Mixed traffic of freight & passenger including super-fast, express & ordinary trains in same track considerable reduced average speed of trains.
- g) Concessions in fare due to social & political decision are not compensated by Government.
- h) Operation of branch lines and suburban section which are not viable even to get the operation cost, leave alone return on capital invested.
- i) Cost of social obligation to the extent of Rs.25,000 crores annually is not compensated to Railways.
- j) Only Railways bear cost of policing from its own resources.
- k) Very minimum autonomy given to functional heads like GM and DRM, etc.

Ignoring all the above observations, the Committee totally side-tracked and made ignominious, impractical anti-employee recommendation for full privatization of Railways.

Committee has proposed RRAI (Railway Regulatory Authority of India) with quasi-Judicial power independent of Railway Ministry which can do economic regulation, including, wherever necessary, tariff regulation; safety regulation; fair access regulation, including access to railway infrastructure for private operators etc, but the committee has not specified anything about RRAI's accountability & responsibility.

Committee has proposed a SPV called IRMC (Indian Railway Manufacturing Company) under which control existing & upcoming Production Units can be brought down and in future this SPV can be handed over to private. Railways shall be required purchase its rolling stocks & locos from the SPV at higher cost including taxes & duties. But Railways is already having its own financial institution Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) to finance its rolling stock procurement. Almost the entire incremental rolling stock procurement, whether of coaches, wagons or engines, is done through this route. As of March 2014, IRFC had leased to IR 3,794 electric locomotives, 3,495 diesel locomotives, 41,432 coaches and 1,85,362 wagons, adding up to Rs. 1,12,266 crore in value.

Committee recommended that ownership of one of the largest land bank spread across the country owned by IR shall be shifted to proposed REIT (Real Estate Investment Trust) in conjunction with domestic financial institutions. This SPV can assess the value of these properties and can sell or long term lease them.

Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFCCIL) is the most viable project conceived & being implemented by IR and likely to give very good return to IR. Committee recommended that the new tracks presently being built as part of the two freight corridors should be allowed to private operators even without seeking permission from IR. By this one recommendation 55% revenue earned by IR through its Freight operation will land in private operators' stake.

Committee also recommended for disinvestment of profitable PSU of Indian Railways Container Corporation (CONCOR) which is worth of Rs.30,000 crores.

Committee observed that Railways have lost its share of business to Roadways, but it has not detailed the reasons beyond the control of Railways for that. Autonomy given to National Highways Authority of India is not extended to Railways. Land procurement ordinance done for expansion of NH, non-transferable fund generated for NH, special fuel cess for road development, etc are not extended to IR, committee ignored these facts. Golden Quadrilateral and North-South & East-West corridors of NH with six / eight lane are implemented with special status, not a single project of this type is extended to Railways, the committee failed to highlight this major lacuna.

Committee recommended tapering off the employee strength out of 1.5 lakh vacancies going to arise in next three years. This can turn into a major safety problem when vacancies in safety category are not getting filled. Recommendation of lateral entry of Group 'A' officers from other Departments are only aimed at speeding up of privatization of Railways.

Committee analysed performance & financing pattern of various world Railways and included them in its report, at the same time committee has not clearly made the point that all the Railways in the world are being compensated by their respective Government for the cost of PSO (Public Service Obligation).

Implications to ordinary citizen, country's economy are not quantified by the committee after thrown open the fare structure to RRAI without the control of Railway Ministry. How the fare structure will change? Whether it is going to increase or decrease? What relief or burden it will impose on citizens or on the system? – These sensitive basic questions are not answered when the committee is making upside down change proposals.

Committee also not thrown light on the benefits or detriments happened after opening major Government owned service departments to private. The facts remain that INDIA POST still carry the message to any part of the Country for 50 paise through its post card, whereas courier service are allowed to charge 20 times to 50 times higher than that. Autonomy has not been extended to Doordarshan, but private channels are allowed to earn huge profit.

Indian Railways which is utilized by millions of citizens plays vital role in social, economic, manufacturing, and agriculture development of the country, important contribution in nations' defence preparedness, responds first during natural calamity, etc cannot be divided and handed over to private operators. Committee's recommendations aimed for full privatization Indian Railways need an outright rejection and absolute condemnation by the Ministry of Railways & Government.

IRTSA DELEGATES MEET MEMBER MECHANICAL



6th July, 2015 - IRTSA delegates led by its Sr.Vice President Er.B.Inbanathan, met Sri. Hemanth Kumar, Member Mechanical Railway Board during his visit to ICF.

Er. K.V.Ramesh Senior JGS IRTSA briefly explained three demands to MM. Functioning of Supervisors' recreation club in ICF which was sanctioned some time ago, Continuance of Staff Council in ICF and all other Production Units & continuance of 18th staff council in ICF until the judgement by Hon'ble High Court and creation of posts in proportion to increased workload on account of enhanced annual outturn and due to commissioning of LHB shed in ICF. Memorandums on 3 subjects were handed over to MM.

Earlier MM was felicitated by B.Inbanathan, K.V.Ramesh & E.Ramesh. V.B.Naryanan Zonal Secy, K.Gobinath, P.Baskaran, M.Rajaprabahar, G.Aranganathan, S.Karunakaran, Boominathan, Anto, Shankaragurunathan, Aribaskar, B.Saravananand other office bearers were present.

MEETING OF IRTSA OFFICE BEARERS WITH GS NFIR



12th July, Sri.M.Raghaviaha General Secretary NFIR addressed to office bearers of IRTSA at AGS Complex Villivakkam Chennai. Er.Rajaprabakar JGS/IRTSA welcomed Sri.M.Raghaviaha GS NFIR, Er. M.Shanmugam President IRTSA, Sri. Suryaprakasam GS SRES, Sri.M.K.Sukumaran President ICF MS and office bearers of IRTSA. On behalf of 1994 Apprentice Mechanic batch he expressed his profound gratitude to GS NFIR for solving their pay fixation issue which was long pending.

Sri.Suryaprakasam GS SRES explained tireless efforts being made by GS NFIR towards the betterment of Railwaymen. Sri.M.K.Sukumaran President ICF MS assured that ICF MS will extend its friendly support to IRTSA in its entire endeavor.

Er.K.V.Ramesh Senior JGS IRTSA while thanking GS NFIR for his strenuous efforts for the betterment of Railwaymen said that demand of Group B to Sr. Supervisors

remain elusive and need to be addressed immediately. He requested to GS NFIR to further pursue the anomalies of MACPS particularly the case of Design Graduate Engineers, inclusion of training period for the purpose of MACPS, MACPS based on cadre hierarchy, etc. Er.M.Shanmugam Central President IRTSA thanked GS NFIR for pursuing the demands of Technical Supervisors whole heartedly and said that exclusive pay scales for Technical Supervisors will come to reality after 7th CPC. He recalled the services rendered by Sri.Rajaraman, Sri.Kesav Kulkarni and other leaders of yesteryears. He explained briefly about interaction with Sri.Choubayji, Sri.S.G.Mishra and other leaders by himself and IRTSA office bearers.

Sri. M.Raghavaiah GS NFIR in his address expressed his appreciation to the committed IRTSA team led by M.Shanmugam for feeding important information, ideas, etc to the Federation. He expressed his regret for not able to meet the demand of Group B (Gaz) to senior Supervisors in spite of sincere effort made by him and Federation. He condemned the attitude of Railway Board for unnecessarily referring the issue to Ministry of Finance & to 7th CPC. He explained discussion held in MACPS anomaly committee and points raised by K.V.Ramesh. GS NFIR added that Indian Railways is in a crucial juncture and tough days are ahead, particularly after the submission of Dr.Debroy committee report. The committee without studying the technical & safety requirements of Indian Railways, recommended for privatising all the activities of IR under a regulator with quasi-judicial powers, will only harm the Railways & the nation he said. He expressed his fullest support to IRTSA and assured that all the demands pertaining to Technical Supervisors category will be attended honestly by the Federation. Er.K.Gobinath VP IRTSA proposed vote of thanks. The meeting ended with dinner hosted by 1994 batch apprentice mechanic batch.

IRTSA MEETING AT GOLDEN ROCK WORKSHOP, S. RLY

GOC unit of IRTSA Southern Railway Zone conducted Pay Commission awareness meeting on 29th May 2015. Er.Zaheer Hussain & Er.Rajagopalan welcomed K.V.Ramesh Senior JGS/IRTSA, V.P.Abdul Salam Zonal Secretary S.Rly and members of Golden Rock workshop. Er.Thirumaran Secretary IRTSA/GOC recalled 48th CGB of IRTSA which was hosted by GOC S.Rly in grand manner. Er.Kasinathan appreciated efforts made by IRTSA/GOC office bearers to resolve the issues of charge sheet to Supervisors, unwanted transfer of supervisors, etc. Er.Kannan sought clarification about the Court Cases filed by IRTSA.

Er.V.P.Abdul Salam Zonal Secretary thanked committed team of IRTSA/GOC unit for successful hosting of 48th CGB of IRTSA and briefed about the activities of IRTSA. He appealed to all members to contribute for IRTSA membership & struggle fund. Er.K.V.Ramesh explained oral evidence given by IRTSA to 7th CPC at Jodhpur. He explained the Power Point Presentation done by him to the 7th CPC on Grade Pay, Classification of posts, Avenue of promotions, MACPS & Allowances pertaining to the category and purposeful interaction done by Chairman & members 7th CPC after the PPP. He also explained briefly about the OA No 706/2013 filed by IRTSA at CAT Chennai demanding higher Grade Pay to JE & SSE and OA No 211 PB 2014 at CAT Chandigarh demanding Group 'B' Gazetted status to SSE, CDMS, CMS & Sr.Er(IT). Er.Pugzhanthi proposed vote of thanks.

Minutes of CEC Meeting (Continued from page 1)

veteran leaders from Southern India on 20th March at Chennai in an impressive Golden Jubilee meeting at Chennai, he added.

The anomaly created in pay fixation for 50 Apprentice JEs of ICF who were recruited during the year 1994 & 1995 of same RRB panel and absorbed during the year 1996 & 1997 was settled recently through IRTSA besides many other issues, he said.

3. REPORT OF GENERAL SECRETARY IRTSA:- General Secretary in his report to the CEC IRTSA, Er. Harchandan Singh said that various Zones / units of IRTSA had observed Demand Cum Protest Day in April 2015. Various Units have celebrated Golden Jubilee of IRTSA, He called upon all the units to organize programmes in commemoration of IRTSA Golden Jubilee in true spirit – highlighting the struggle & achievements of IRTSA in the last 50 years.

He said that 7th CPC is likely to submit its report by the end of August 2015. Unlike 6th CPC which didn't hear the views of categorical Associations properly, 7th CPC has given chance to many organisations / associations - including IRTSA - to represent their views specifically pertaining to their categories besides hearing to JCM & recognised Federations etc.

7th CPC had had called IRTSA for oral evidence at Jodhpur, the opportunity was very well utilised by IRTSA team consisting of next generation leaders of IRTSA led by Er. Darshan Lal, Er KV Ramesh, Er ON Purohit, Er. M. Bhatnagar, Er. Jatana and Er. Jagtar Singh. He said that exhaustive memorandum submitted by IRTSA to the 7th CPC & the PPP (Power Point Presentation) and the oral evidence by IRTSA team before the 7th CPC were very impressive and self-explanatory and most effective on the demands of the category. GS/IRTSA especially appreciated the contribution made by K.V. Ramesh Sr.JGS / IRTSA in preparing the memorandum to 7th CPC and giving the PP Presentation before the 7th CPC.

He added that IRTSA President & General secretary were also in constant touch with the leaders of both the Federations & JCM and helped them in formulating the demands of staff side.

He said that NPS should be an additional option for Central Govt employees and not a replacement of the existing Defined Pension Scheme which should be restored forthwith to all the Post 2004 appointees.

GS/IRTSA said that communication had improved very much through our journal "**Voice of Rail Engineers**", SMS, Emails, IRTSA Website "www.irtsa.net" and IRTSA Groups on Facebook and WhatsApp.

GS/IRTSA also explained the status of two cases filed by IRTSA at CAT Chennai & CAT Chandigarh for Grade Pay & for Group B to Rail Engineers. He said that lot of points in favour of the cases were gathered by IRTSA through information under RTI act and had been added in the Rejoinders to CAT and in the Supplementary Memorandum to be submitted early by IRTSA to 7th CPC (since submitted on 17-6-2015).

4. DETAILS OF ORAL EVIDENCE BY IRTSA BEFORE 7TH CPC:- Er. K.V. Ramesh Sr.JGS IRTSA explained to CEC the details of Evidence and PPP made before the 7th CPC and very active inter-action held with Chairman & the members of 7th CPC. He highlighted following main points which were presented before 7th CPC:

- a. Hierarchy of Technical Supervisors in Indian Railways – Supervision of Five grades of Skilled besides ministerial staff including Chief Office Superintendent etc.
- b. Determination of new Grade Pay / Pay scale should be by Job Evaluation duly taking into account Duties, responsibilities and accountabilities shouldered by each category / post and Technical categories which shoulder direct responsibilities, should be placed one grade higher than non-technical & supporting categories (as prior to 5th CPC).
- c. Disturbance of vertical relativity between JE and Sr.Technician who work under JE in violation of 5th & 6th CPC recommendations and in violation of settled law that an equal cannot be over an equal.
- d. Disturbance of vertical relativity between SSE and Chief OS. Who work under them in violation of settled law that an equal cannot be over an equal.
- e. Categories which were in the Pay Scale of Rs.425-700 after 3rd CPC are placed in GP Rs.4800/4600, whereas JE-I who were in the pay scale of Rs.550-750 are placed in GP Rs.4200.
- f. Disregard to Duties & Responsibilities shouldered by SSE. Exclusive pay scales (Rs.840-1040 & 840-1200) recommended by 3rd CPC for Technical Supervisors were diluted and many categories who were in two grade below are placed in GP Rs.5400/4800 by 6th CPC. Scale of SSE was placed over Group 'A' & Group 'B' posts previously but now degraded.
- g. Un-just denial of common multiplication factor for SSE by 5th CPC to the disadvantage of SSE and its impact carried over to 6th CPC.
- h. Highest Recruitment Qualification of Engineering Graduate for SSE/CMS/CDMS with 1 year training and their continuous stagnation in recruitment grade for more than 20 years.
- i. Incumbents of SSE, CMS, CDMS & Sr.Er/IT are stagnated in same grade since 4th CPC. The being - Meager number of Posts in Group A & B vis-à-vis Group C on the Railways which is proportionately much less as compared to all other Central Government Departments. Promotion chances limited to vacancies arising in 4200 Group 'B' posts for nearly 70,000 Technical Supervisors/ Rail Engineers.
- j. Non implementation of previous pay commission recommendations & DoPT orders on classification of posts as Group-B Gazetted. Posts carrying similar functions have to be given the same classification as per DoPT's assurance to 5th CPC.
- k. Cadre restructuring didn't bring any relief to senior supervisors (SSE/CMS/CDMS).
- l. Draw backs in the MACPS & Allowances pertaining to the category.
- m. Discrimination in Grade Pay of CMA-I which has the element of DR with Graduate in Engineering Graduation & MSc etc.

5. ADDRESS BY ER. DARSHAN LAL WORKING PRESIDENT IRTSA: Er. Darshan Lal, (who headed IRTSA delegation at Jodhpur in the meeting with 7th CPC) briefed the CEC that the delegation effectively presented the case of the category of Technical Supervisors which always received a raw deal and got grievously inadequate pay scales, promotional avenues etc,

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Minutes of CEC Meeting of IRTSA (Cont. from page – 4

Graduate Engineers recruited in the GP Rs.4600 remain in same Grade Pay without any promotion & JEs after getting one promotion to SSE remain in same Grade Pay for many years. Proposal of Railway Ministry sent to Finance Ministry to upgrade the Grade Pay of this category, were well highlighted to 7th CPC.

He thanked President & GS/IRTSA on keeping full confidence on next generation leaders and guiding them in making forceful argument before the 7th CPC.

6. REPORT OF ZONAL SECRETARIES & CEC MEMBERS:

a. Er. Mayank Bhatnagar Zonal Secretary RCF Unit IRTSA briefed CEC about the activities at RCF, observance of Protest day at RCF and united continuous efforts being made by IRTSA RCF Zone in resolving the local issues.

b. Er. R.K.Pandey Zonal Secretary NE. Rly briefed about the meeting held at DLW Varanasi during the visit of Central President. He asked for the visit of central leadership to NE Railway.

c. Er. N.V.Ramanmoorthy Zonal Secretary SC Rly briefed about intensive membership drive done in SC Rly, meeting on Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, tree plantation programme, massive meeting held at Lalaguda Workshop during the visit of President, etc. He said that communication has been made more effective among SC Rly members through WhatsApp forming 30 groups.

d. Er. R.B. Singh Zonal Secretary WR explained about meetings held at Western Railway & Central Railway during the visit of General Secretary IRTSA.

e. Er. B.D. Mishra & Er.P.K. Shukala explained the activities of IRTSA in Northern Railway.

f. Er. Satyanarayan of SWR thanked IRTSA leadership for resolving the issue of non-implementation of Cadre Restructure orders in the category of Technical Supervisors of SWR Engineering department. He raised the issue of merger of PCO cadre with shop floor in SWR.

g. Er. Baldev Raj of RCF raised the issue of CUG SIM card to all Supervisors and incentive to SSE as per RITES recommendations.

h. Er. Kiran Kumar TPJ Divisional Secretary said that since all the new projects are being handed over to RVNL, there is a danger of construction wing of engineering dept being closed.

i. Er. Sakthivel SSE/Works demanded restoration of 6 increments for additional qualification AMIE etc and Project allowance for construction staff, removal of bonus ceiling etc.

j. Er. A. Ganesh Babu briefed about work done by ICF Zone in publishing "Voice of Rail Engineers" and asked all the zones to subscribe for it in huge numbers so that printing & publishing will become economically more viable.

k. Er. R. Ravi of ICF explained the organisational structure of IRTSA ICF Zone which is divided into two units Shell & Furnishing and further sub divided into 3 groups each for effective functioning.

l. Er. Kanaka Raju, Er. Lakshminarayanan, Er. Mahaboo Basha and others also spoke in the meeting on various issues before the category.

7. **RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY CEC IRTSA:-** Following resolutions were adopted by CEC IRTSA after deliberations. Suggestions & Changes proposed by Er. E. Ramesh & others were adopted.

Reg Proposed Strike by CG employees from 23-11-15

CEC IRTSA was of the considered opinion that lukewarm attitude of the Government on the genuine demands of employees – forcing the proposed indefinite Strike from 23-11-2015, by the Central Government employees – including the Railway men – will seriously impair development and economy of the country - adversely affecting public convenience, disrupting train operations.

CEC IRTSA earnestly appealed to the Central Government to accept the genuine demands of the employees in the interest of justice, industrial peace and development of the country. (Copy of Resolution attached)

Resolution for resolving of burning problems of Technical Supervisors on Railways: CEC IRTSA urged upon the Government and the Railway Board to redress the problems of Technical Supervisors / Rail Engineers and to accept their genuine demands. (visit www.irtsa.net for Resolutions)

Resolution on line of action: CEC IRTSA authorised the President & General secretary IRTSA to pursue the Demands at all levels and also authorized them to decide the line of action and issue directives thereon to all Units of IRTSA, for early realization of the outstanding Demands.

CEC Resolved to have an Meeting of CEC IRTSA be held at Delhi on in September 2015 to discuss and analyze the Report of the 7th Pay Commission & to decide the line of action thereon as well as to agitate against Bibek Debroy Committee Report and for realisation of various long pending demands. All CEC Members were asked participate in the CEC Meeting positively.

Resolution Reg Golden Jubilee Celebrations of IRTSA: CEC Directed all units of IRTSA to appropriately celebrate the Golden Jubilee Year of IRTSA at all levels.

CGB Meeting & 50th Annual Conference of IRTSA: CEC Resolved that the Golden Jubilee Celebrations and 50th Annual Conference & CGB Meeting of IRTSA be held at Chennai on 27th & 28th Oct, 15 with IRTSA/ICF as the host.

Conference Fund: Er. Harchandan Singh contributed Rs.1000 for the Golden Jubilee celebrations and appealed to all CEC Members to voluntarily contribute for the same. Charbagh spontaneously contributed Rs.10000 and JUDW Rs.5000. Others agreed to send the same later.

8. **ADDRESS BY SRI. L.N. PATHAK ADVISOR IRTSA:-** In his speech Sri. L.N. Pathak Advisor IRTSA congratulated members of IRTSA during the Golden Jubilee year of IRTSA and cherished the fond memory of initial days of IRTSA with the initiative of young Harchandan Singh then a 3rd year Apprentice Mechanic. He regretted that even though many committees had recommended recognition of IRTSA for Safety reasons, Government had failed to do it. He urged upon all the Technical supervisors to unite under the umbrella of IRTSA. He cautioned CEC IRTSA that drastic changes are about to come in Indian Railways and the category of Technical Supervisors have to face the challenge standing in forefront. New economic policy adopted after 1991 had not brought any benefit to working class and trade unions were not able to change the adverse impact of it. Rakesh Mohan Committee or Bibek Debroy Committee are only aiming privatisation of Railways which has to be fought tooth & nail, he said.

While explaining demands made by Federations to 7th CPC he said that Federations are demanding exclusive higher pay scale for Technical Supervisors as existed after

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Minutes of CEC Meeting of IRTSA (Cont. from page 5)
3rd Pay Commission. Unity among central Government employees only will mend the Government to hear the voice of working class and called upon everyone to participate in the strike call given by JCM (staff side). He also advised IRTSA members to maintain liaison with the Federations. 9. Meeting dispersed after a vote of thanks

Protest by IRTSA at Various Zones against the recommendations of Debry Committee Report



RAIL ENGINEERS MARCH TO CHENNAI TO ATTEND EN-MASS GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS & 50TH ALL INDIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE & CGB MEETING OF IRTSA

ON 27TH & 28TH OCT, 2015
TO HIGHLIGHT GENUINE &
LONG PENDING DEMANDS
MAIN DEMANDS

1. RECOGNITION OF IRTSA
2. MERGER OF 100% DA WITH PAY W.E.F. 1-1-14.
3. 40% INTERIM RELIEF FROM 1-1-2014 DUE TO DELAY OF 7TH CPC REPORT.
4. 40% FIXATION BENEFIT OF 7th CPC.
5. WITHDRAWAL OF NEW PENSION SCHEME (NPS).
6. A) REPLACEMENT GRADE PAY OF RS.4800 FOR JE/CMA/DMS
B) REPLACEMENT GRADE PAY OF RS.5400 IN PB-3 FOR SSE/CMS/CDMA/SR.ER(IT).
C) RESTORATION OF PRINCIPAL SSE POST EQUIVALENT TO RS.6600 GRADE PAY
D) REPLACEMENT GRADE PAY OF 5TH CPC SCALE OF RS.7450-11500 TO CMA-I
7. A) TIME BOUND PROMOTIONS OF RAIL ENGRS. EVERY 4 YEARS
B) PROMOTION OF DR ENGG. GRADUATE SSE TO CLASS I WITH SPL QUOTA IN IRES & SCRA.
8. ANNUAL INCREMENT OF 5% OF BASIC PAY.
9. 10% OF BASIC PAY AS FIXATION BENEFIT ON PROMOTION.
10. REMOVAL OF DISPARITY IN PAY OF PROMOTES & DRS CREATED AFTER 6TH CPC.
11. CLASSIFICATION OF SSE, CMS, CDMS & SR.ER/IT IN GROUP B GAZETTED.
12. PLB ON REAL WAGES. REMOVAL OF PAYMENT CEILING OF RS.3500.
13. GROUP INCENTIVE SCHEME FOR DIESEL & ELECTRIC LOCO SHEDS & OPEN LINE DEPOTS FOR ADDITIONAL WORKLOAD.
14. INCLUSION OF ALL GROUP 'C' EMPLOYEE UPTO SSES IN INCENTIVE SCHEME.
15. INCREASE IN EXEMPTION LIMIT FOR INCOME TAX TO RS.5 LAKHS.

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IRTSA FILES REJOINDER IN CAT CHENNAI IN OA 706/2013 FOR HIGHER GP FOR JE & SSE

After a prolonged delay Government has filed its reply to IRTSA OA 706/2013 at CAT Chennai demanding higher Grade Pay for JE & SSE. Immediately IRTSA has prepared the rejoinder and filed it on 2nd July 2015. Following main points were included in the rejoinder besides other points,

As per established law, an equal cannot be over an equal and that Promotion implies advancement to a higher grade & Supervisor should be in a scale higher than Supervised.

Pay is not commensurate with the duties and responsibilities shouldered by them in safe and punctual train operations, their hierarchical position, duties and responsibilities to supervise a large work force.

JE & SSE shoulder direct responsibilities of safe, efficient & Failure proof production, repair, maintenance, & operation of rolling stocks, locomotives, P-Way, works, Bridges, Signal & Telecommunication, overhead equipment and other asset & equipment on Railways.

Pay Scale of Senior Section Engineer (SSE) has always been higher than pay scales of Supervisors of other departments in Railways. After the Third Pay Commission highest pay scales of Rs.840-1040 and Rs.840-1200 were allotted to the apex scale of Senior Technical Supervisors.

3rd CPC kept the pay scale of Master Crafts Man (now Senior Technician) Rs.425-640 below than JE Pay scale of Rs. 425-700. Considering the degree of skill, strain of work, experience involved, training required, responsibility undertaken, mental and physical requirements, avenues of promotion available and horizontal and vertical relativities, etc 3rd CPC recommended higher pay scales to JE & SSE.

4th Pay Commission recommended same pay scale of Rs.1400-2300 to JEs and for Mistries & Senior Technicians working under JEs resulted in hierarchal confusion and disturbed vertical relativity.

5th CPC accepted that the identical pay scales of Master craftsman, Mistry and Chargeman (now JE) have resulted in a large number of court cases.

Violation of 6th CPC recommendations by Government - 6th CPC observed that promotion & feeder cadres being placed in identical pay scale is anomalous and recommended that employees on promotion will get monetary benefit on promotion in the form of the increased grade pay apart from the benefit of one additional increment.

6th CPC recommended that the Grade Pay of Rs.4200 for JE I & II (merged together) and the Grade Pay of Rs.2800 for the Senior Technicians but the Railway Board later on changed Grade Pay of Senior Technicians to Rs. 4200, which made the situation of JE I (Pre-revised scale of Rs.5500-9000) two grade above Senior Technician, but who have since been placed in the same Grade Pay of Senior Technician.

Both 5th CPC & 6th CPC had recommended different Pay scale / Grade Pay for JE & Sr. technicians, by placing Sr. technicians pay scale / Grade Pay below that of JE. Respondents upgraded the pay scale / Grade Pay of Sr. technician on par with JE violating the principles of natural justice in that "supervisor should be placed in

higher pay scale than those being supervised".

In railways only Technical Supervisors are being recruited in the higher Grade Pay of Rs.4200 (JE) & Rs.4600 (SSE) with one year induction training.

Railway Ministry had agreed for higher Grade Pay for Technical Supervisors (JE & SSE) as recorded in item-3 of Minutes of the Departmental Anomalies Committee (Railways) held on 01.06.2010.

PRAYER:

i) To issue direction to the Government to enhance the Grade Pay of Junior Engineers on Railways to at least higher than those of the Senior Technicians working under them; And

ii) To enhance the Grade Pay of Senior Section Engineers on Railways to adequately above the Grade Pay of Junior Engineers and the Chief Office Superintendents working under them, with all the consequential benefits of arrears of pay and allowances with interest @ 18% per annum from the date the amount became due to the actual date of payment.

iii) To pass any other order or direction deemed fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case;

COURT CASES UPDATES

HIGHER GP TO JE & SSE

**OA NO 706/2013 AT CAT CHENNAI
NEXT HEARING POSTED ON 07.09.2015
IRTSA FILLED A MISCELLANEOUS
APPLICATION IN CAT CHENNAI TO EXPEDITE
THE CASE**

GROUP 'B' GAZETTED FOR SSE, CMS, CDMS & SR. ER(IT)

**OA No 211/PB/2014 IN CAT CHANDIGARH
NEXT DATE OF ARGUMENT IS POSTED ON
30th September, 2015**

IRTSA UNITS & SUB-UNITS!

**SEND CENTRAL QUOTA & STRUGGLE FUND
Through Bank Draft in favour of "IRTSA" to:**

**Central Treasurer IRTSA,
Er O. N. Purohit, 106, Suraj Nagar, Jodhpur-
342008 (Ph: 09828024476 & 02912713123)**

SUBSCRIBERS! "VOICE OF RAIL ENGINEERS"

**SEND SUBSCRIPTION FOR VRE @ RS.80 PA TO
MANAGER VRE, K.V. RAMESH,**

**G3 - LIKITH HOMES, 3, LAKSHMANAN NAGAR
WEST STREET, PERAVALLUR, CHENNAI-600082
OR DEPOSIT YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IN CURRENT**

**ACCOUNT NO: 000902000003440,
INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK, AYANAVARAM, CHENNAI-23**

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INDIAN RAILWAYS TECHNICAL SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION(Estd. 1965, Regd. No.1329, Website <http://www.irtsa.net>)C.Hq. 32, Phase 6, Mohali, Chandigarh-160055. Email-gsirtsa@yahoo.com (Ph:0172-2228306,9316131598)

No. IRTSA / CHq / NOTICE CGB-2015

Dated : 22.08.2015

GOLDEN JUBILEE & 50TH ALL INDIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE WITH CGB & MEETINGS OF IRTSA ON 27TH & 28TH OCT 2015 CHENNAI

It is hereby notified that GOLDEN JUBILEE & 50TH ALL INDIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND CGB MEETING OF IRTSA SHALL BE HELD AT CHENNAI ON 27TH & 28TH OCT 2015.

CEC IRTSA SHALL MEET IN CONJUNCTION ON 27TH & 28TH OCT 2015, AS PER DETAILS BELOW.
(Due to extension of term and delay in submission of 7th CPC Report there will be no CEC Meeting on 26-10-15 – as advised earlier)

All Members of CGB & CEC, all Zonal/Unit Secretaries of IRTSA, are requested to please attend the meeting(s) positively, along with all other active members & Subunit Secretaries etc.

It is a historic event as being the Golden jubilee of IRTSA. Rail Engineers must attend in large numbers. Please get Advance Reservations early & pursue others also for the same.

AGENDA

1. Inauguration	c) In CAT Chandigarh for Group-B (Gaz).
2. Address by President IRTSA	8. a) Discussion on the problems of Rail Engineers of Workshops, Production Units, Open Line Depots, Diesel & Electric Loco / EMU Sheds, C&M Labs, Drawing & Design Offices, IT & Store Depots& NPS etc.
3. a) Annual report by General Secretary b) Report on Account by Treasurer.	b) Resolutions of Demands
4. Report by Zonal Secretaries & CEC Members.	c) Review of Govt. responses to the charter of demands
5. Constitutional Amendments, if any.	d) Line of Action for realization of demands.
6. Open Session & Seminar	9. Election of CEC, IRTSA.
7. a) Report on Presentation by IRTSA to 7 th CPC . b) Position of Court cases filed by IRTSA in CAT	10. Any other point with the permission of the Chair.
i) In CAT Chennai for Higher Grade Pay.	

DETAILED PROGRAMME

1	Date & Timings	I) CGB Meeting:	10 AM on 27.10.15 to 4 PM on 28.10.15
		II) CEC Meeting:	8 to 10 AM & 4 to 6 PM on 28.10.15 (or as reqd)
		iii) Open Session & Seminar	6.30 PM to 8.30 PM 27.10.15
2	VENUE – CGB MEETING	T.K.A. THIRUMANA MALIGAI *, MTH ROAD, VILLIVAKKAM, CHENNAI (OR AT: AMBEDKAR AUDITORIUM AT ICF – IF AVAILABLE AFTER RENOVATION)	
	CEC MEETING	MAHARAJA MINIHALL, MTH ROAD, VILLIVAKKAM, CHENNAI (OR AT: AMBEDKAR AUDITORIUM AT ICF – IF AVAILABLE AFTER RENOVATION)	
3	Accommodation	Paradise Rest House, Triplicane, Chennai - On prior information	
4	Delegation fee	Rs 500 PER HEAD	
5	Chairman Conf com	ER. M.SHANMUGAM, CENTRAL PRESIDENT IRTSA MOBILE: 09443140871	
6	Convener (General)	ER. V.B.NARAYANAN, ZONAL SECY / ICF, MOBILE: 09003149359	
7	Conveners Conf. committee	Er.K.V.Ramesh-9003149578, Er.S.Karunakaran-9003149358 Er.E.Ramesh-9003149666, Er.K.Gobinath-9003149416 Er.Rajaprabakar-9003149354, Er.T.I.Anto-9003149839 Er.Y.R.S.Banerjee-9003149567, Er.R.Ravi-8056050137	
8	Transportation	Will be available from Chennai Railway Station to Venue on prior intimation	
	Reception Counter	One reception counter each at Chennai Central & Chennai Egmore& the venue	
9	POSTERS	Posters be got printed locally in larger size for wide publicity (as on Page 6 inside).	

Sd/- Harchandan Singh,
General Secretary, IRTSA

All CEC & CGB Members & Zonal Secys.& Sub-Unit Secretaries, IRTSA are requested to:

- I) PLEASE GIVE WIDE PUBLICITY FOR ENMASS PARTICIPATION OF ENGINEERS IN TE CONFERENCE.
- II) PLEASE GET ADVANCE RESERVATIONS FOR BOTH SIDES JOURNEY FOR ALL DELEGATES IMMEDIATELY
- III) PLEASE PAY CENTRAL QUOTA & STRUGGLE-CUM-LEGAL FUND – IF STILL DUE.