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Advance Notice for Diamond Jubilee All India Conference & ACGB of IRTSA



Dear Zonal Secretaries, CEC office bearers & active members of IRTSA,

Sub: Advance Notice of Diamond Jubilee (60th) All India Annual Conference and Annual General Body Meeting of IRTSA to be held on 11th & 12th November, 2025 at ICF.

IRTSA was formed in November 1965, with an

objective to unite & strive for better service conditions and emoluments of the Technical Supervisors on the Indian Railways. IRTSA provides a strong platform for Technical Supervisors/Rail Engineers working on Indian Railways and continuously striving for welfare & upliftment of the category for acceptance of their genuine demands. It has made remarkable achievements during these 60 years and continues to strive to overcome the challenges before us and to scale bigger heights in the years ahead.

The Diamond Jubilee (60th) All India Annual Conference & Central General Body Meeting of IRTSA will be hosted by IRTSA Zone of Integral Coach Factory (ICF) Chennai on 11th & 12th November 2025.

All zonal Secretaries, CEC office bearers and active members of IRTSA are requested to propagate the message to all members of IRTSA and to make necessary plans to attend the Diamond Jubilee Conference with large number of delegates. Further details will be given in future communications.

Expecting cooperation from all,

Thank You,

Long Live IRTSA

Yours' farternally

K.V.RAMESH

General Secretary, IRTSA

Zones & Sub Units

There is an urgent need for funds for persuasion activities of IRTSA. Central quota of annual membership subscription, struggle fund and legal fund contribution may please be deposited in "irtsa@sbi" or sent to Central Treasurer.

Persuasion of demands

General Secretary IRTSA visits New Delhi Meets CRB, Member (Finance), Member (Infra), DG (HR), AM(Staff) & PED(N) Mets General Secretaries of AIRF and NFIR

29th July 2025: K.V.Ramesh General Secretary IRTSA along with Er.Mahendra Bishnoi & Er.Pankaj Kumar Mairawa of RCF visited Railway Board for pursuing some of the main demands of IRTSA.



Team IRTSA with Sri.Satish Kumar CRB & CEO



Team IRTSA with Ms. Usha Venugopal Member Finance

Team IRTSA met CRB, Member Finance, Member Infrastructure, DG (HR), AM (Staff) and PED (N) at Railway Board, submitting memorandums on the following issues GS IRTSA briefed on the justifications.

- 1) Classification of posts of SSE, CDMS, CMS & SE(IT) in pay level-8 as Group-B.
- 2) Counting of training period of JE, SSE and other technical staff for financial upgradation under MACPS.
- 3) All available and arising DR vacancies of SSE may please be filed through promotion from eligible JEs, until recruitment of Graduate Engineers as SSE through RRB.
- 4) Unjustified comparison of grades of running staff at lower pay level with Technical Supervisors in Mechanical and Electrical departments for the purpose of promotion/selection to Group-B.
- 5) Creation of work charged Senior Section Engineer (SSE) posts in Integral Coach Factory (ICF) for manufacturing "Vande Bharat Train Sets", which is agreed in principle by Hon'ble Railway Minister.

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"SUCCESS COMES TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE"



Editorial

Long pending genuine demands of JEs & SSEs have to be addressed without further delay

Indian Railways an intensive human resources driven organization with strong work force of 12.5 lakh is having established human resources department and system to address grievances and demands of its employees. Even though Railways is making attempt to address the demands raised by different categories, there are important demands yet to be resolved. Unresolved demands can have significant ramifications for both employees and Railways. These effects are often hidden but can severely impact an organisation's bottom line.

Some of the demands of the category of Technical Supervisors / Rail Engineers are hanging on for long time, despite of raising them many times with policy makers. Genuineness of the demands well understood by Railway Board, are not materializing due to missing links and misinterpretation.

Grant of Group-B status for SSEs, inclusion of training period for the purpose of financial upgradation under MACPS, filling up of vacancies, early completion of cadre restructure exercise, creation of posts of SSE & JE, etc are some of the main demands continuously persuaded by IRTSA with appropriate justification briefed here under.

Classification of posts of SSE, CDMS, CMS & SE(IT) in level-8 as Group-B - IRTSA hails formation of Railway Board committee (Railway Board Order No. ERB-I/2024/23/65, dated 20.11.2024) to examine issues relating to Supervisory Categories. The committee was mandated to recommend modalities to improve the promotional prospects and allotting classification as Group-B. IRTSA submitted justification for the demand of 100% upgradation of posts of SSE, CDMS, CMS & SE(IT) from level-7 to level-8 w.e.f. 01.01.2016 on par with accounts supervisors that will reestablish lost parity and do reasonable justice for removing the stagnation among SSEs. For improving the accountability in the system and to improve the status, IRTSA demands all SSE, CMS, CDMS & SE(IT) in level-8 (around 25,000) having element of direct recruitment in L-6 & L-7 should be classified as Gr-B in first phase. In second phase of implementation, Indian Railways should follow the classification aligning with classification of DoPT.

Counting of training period of Junior Engineers (JEs), Senior Section Engineers (SSEs) and other Technical non-gazetted staff for financial upgradation under MACPS - The exclusion of the training period from financial upgradation under MACPS has resulted in discrimination against Technical Supervisors in the Railways, especially compared to their counterparts in other Central Government Departments, where the training period is considered for MACPS.

All the available and arising DR vacancies of SSE may please be filed through promotion from eligible JEs, until recruitment of Graduate Engineers through RRB - Direct recruitment quota in the post of SSE with the entry qualification of degree in Engineering is 20% of sanctioned strength in SSE. 20% DR quota remains same since 1987 even though many changes happened in the cadre structure of Technical Supervisors and steady increase in percentage of SSE. DR quota in SSE has increased to 13.4 posts from 5.4 posts for 100 sanctioned posts. Last RRB notification for the posts of SSE was issued in the year 2015. Now approximately 8500 SSE posts are laying vacant because of

non-recruitment for nearly 10 years. As a temporary measure, all the available and arising DR vacancies of SSE may please be filed through promotion from eligible JEs, until recruitment of Graduate Engineers through RRB.

Cadre restructure is long due. Last Cadre restructure recommendations were implemented w.e.f. 1st Nov 2013. IRTSA demands for percentage distribution revision in the category of Technical Supervisors after adding 10,000 posts to Junior Engineers keeping in view substantial rise in their duties and responsibilities over the years due to increased train operations and introduction of modernization and sophistication.

The anomalies created subsequent to the modification done in 6th CPC recommendations by placing both **Junior Engineer and Senior Technician in GP Rs.4200/PL-6 could not be rectified till date**. Violation of Supreme Court's judgement on supervisors to be placed in higher pay scale than employee being supervised, and accepted 7th CPC recommendations, "when the employee receives a promotion or a non-functional financial upgrade, he/she progresses one level ahead on the horizontal range" are to dealt by Railways suitably before formation of 8th Central Pay Commission.

IRTSA submits memorandum to Fin Minister & Rly Minister on payment of PLB in realistic terms and commensuration with 7th CPC pay matrix

Highlights

Issues with Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB)

i) Ceiling not in commensuration with 7th CPC pay matrix: Monthly wages ceiling for PLB was not revised from Rs.7000 to Rs.18,000 after implementation of 7th CPC recommendations w.e.f. 01.01.2016. Ceiling of Rs.7000 remains same for ten years.

ii) Stagnant PLB Amount: The PLB amount of ₹17,951 has not increased for the past ten years, ignoring even inflation. Since implementation of 7th CPC pay matrix, rate of DA increased to 55% up to January 2025. PLB should have been increased by Rs.9800 atleast in proportion to DA increase since 2016.

iii) PLB is not in proportion to number of equivalent days announced: Last year PLB equivalent for 78 days wages were announced. But, Rs.17,951 paid as PLB was not in proportion to 78 days wages. PLB paid per day worked out to be Rs.230 (Rs.17,951/78 days), whereas minimum pay per day for starting basic pay of Rs.18,000 in level-1 plus 55% DA is Rs.930.

iv) No weightage for employees working in Pay Level- 2 and above: PLB calculation gives no weightage for employees working in Pay Level 2 and above, shouldering higher responsibilities for improving productivity.

v) PLB paid not in proportion to improved Railway performance: Improvements in the productivity of goods and passenger traffic not reflected in the PLB paid to employees.

It is therefore requested that

a) Revision of Ceiling Limit for Pay Level-1:

The ceiling limit for Pay Level-1 employees for the purpose of PLB should be revised to ₹18,000 plus Dearness Allowance (DA).

b) Removal of Ceiling Limit for Pay Levels 2 and above: The ceiling limit of PLB should be removed for employees working in level-2 and above and the calculation of PLB should linked to Pay level the employees are working.

IRTSA submits memorandum & suggestions to Sri.L.Murugan Union Minister



12th July, ICF Chennai: K.V.Ramesh General Secretary IRTSA along with office bearers submitted memorandums on important demands of IRTSA and suggestions for Railway improvement to **Dr. L.Murugan, Hon'ble Minister of State in the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting and Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, with the request to forward the following to Shri. Ashwini Vaishnaw, Hon'ble Minister for Railways** with his favourable remarks.

1) Suggestions for infrastructure improvement in Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Southern Railway and upcoming South Coast Railway.

2) Important issues of Technical Supervisors/Rail Engineers.
a. Classification of posts of SSE, CDMS, CMS & SE(IT) in pay level-8 as Group-B.

b. Counting of training period of JE, SSE and other technical non-gazetted staff for financial upgradation under MACPS.
c. All available and arising DR vacancies of SSE may please be filed through promotion from eligible JEs, until recruitment of Graduate Engineers as SSE through RRB.

3) Creation of work charged Senior Section Engineer (SSE) posts in Integral Coach Factory (ICF) for manufacturing "Vande Bharat Train Sets", which is agreed in principle by Hon'ble Railway Minister.

General Secretary IRTSA briefly explained the demands to Sri.L.Murugan. He has agreed to forward the memorandums on demands and suggestions to Railway Minister.

Meeting with Shri. Ganti Harish Madhur Balayogi, Member of Parliament



30th July 2025: Team IRTSA met Shri. Ganti Harish Madhur Balayogi, Hon'ble Member of Parliament at his residence in New Delhi. GS IRTSA explained about suggestions to be forwarded to Hon'ble Railway Minister. MP shown interest in the suggestions given for utilisation of around 420 acres of Railway lands for Railway purpose. He got into the insight of demand of grant of Group-B status to SSEs and creation of 30 work charged posts of SSE in level-8 at ICF for manufacturing Vande Bharat train sets. He promised to highlight the issues appropriately with Railway Minister after getting latest updates from Railway Board.✉

Persuasion of demands continued from page-1

6) Suggestions for infrastructure improvement in Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Southern Railway and upcoming South Coast Railway were submitted and briefly explained to CRB and Member Infrastructure.



Team IRTSA with Sri. Naveen Gulati Member Infrastructure

Cordial meeting with DG (HR): General Secretary IRTSA thanked DG (HR) for the modifications done by Railway Board in 70% Group-B selection, the candidates for Viva Voce and assessment of record of service should be called to the extent of six times the number of vacancies in the order of seniority and to do away with grading of candidates as 'Good / Out Standing'. GS IRTSA explained unjustified comparison of grades of running staff at lower pay level with Technical Supervisors in Mechanical and Electrical departments for the purpose of promotion/selection to Group-B. For filling up of vacancies DG (HR) said that Railway Board is in the process of considering filling the vacancies and he agreed hardship being faced by JE & SSE due to shortage of man power particularly in open line. DG (HR) briefed about meeting held with Finance Ministry regarding removal of unjustified ceiling limit of Rs.43,600 for payment of Night Duty Allowance (NDA) to Railway Employees.

Meeting with AM (Staff) & PED: After brief discussion on the demands placed by GS IRTSA, AM (Staff) asked Team IRTSA to meet PED(N) and explain him the demands in detail particularly counting of training period of JE, SSE and other technical staff for financial upgradation under MACPS. Team IRTSA met PED (N) in his chamber and explained him all issues mentioned above.

Group-B for SSEs: CRB, Member (Infrastructure) and DG (HR) received the demand of Group-B favourably. Team IRTSA was told that report of the committee formed by Railway Board on Group-B is under active consideration of Railway Board. Top management of Railway Board is in principal agreement of increasing number of Group-B posts in Railways.



Team IRTSA with Smt. Pramila H.BhargavaAM (Staff)



Team IRTSA with Sri. Rajeev Singh PED/E(N)

Team IRTSA meeting with General Secretaries of Federations



Dr.M.Raghaviah General Secretary NFIR and Com.S.G.Mishra General Secretary AIRF held discussions about 8th Central Pay Commission, Cadre Restructuring, Group-B status to SSEs, issues pertaining to MACPS, Night Shift Allowance, Revision of Central Government Employees Group Insurance Scheme as proposed by the staff side and coverage under Medical Insurance for Railway Employees and their dependent family. The issue of upgrading of APAR in Northern Railway Mechanical workshop, Amristar was specifically highlighted to GS AIRF for early redressal. Both the General Secretaries told next meeting of CRC will be convened shortly. General Secretary IRTSA invited both General Secretaries for the Diamond Jubilee (60th) All India Annual Conference & Central General Body Meeting of IRTSA to be hosted by IRTSA ICF Zone at Chennai.

General Secretary IRTSA addresses Office bearers of IRTSA RCF Zone

31st July 2025: K.V.Ramesh General Secretary IRTSA addressed office bearers of IRTSA RCF Zone. Er.Darshan Lal Central Working President welcomed the office bearers. Er.Jagtar Singh Zonal Secretary IRTSA RCF, Er. Amrit Lal Chaudhary, Sr.V.P, Er. S K Bharti V.P, Er.Baldev Raj JGS, Er.Surjit Singh JGS, Er. Gajendra Pal Singh Chauhan, Er. Harminder Singh, Er. Darshan Singh, Er. Gurjeet Singh Organising Secretaries CEC IRTSA and Office bearers of IRTSA RCF zone present in the meeting.



GS IRTSA explained about his meetings with CRB, Member (Finance), Member (Infrastructure), DG (HR), AM (Staff) and other officers in Railway Board. GS IRTSA spoke about increasing work load for SSE & JE because of huge -



- outsourcing, quality issues because of engagement of unskilled technicians employed by contractors, non-filling up of vacancies in Technician and Technical Supervisors cadre, major threats for Railway PUs through manufacturing and maintenance contract for Vande Bharat Sleeper train sets, etc. He briefed about activities in CRC, 8th CPC, grant of Group-B for SSEs, 70% selection for Group-B, night shift allowances, recruitments, etc. President, General Secretary and other office bearers of RCF Employees union felicitated GS IRTSA.

Grand farewell for Er.Surjit Singh Central Treasurer IRTSA on his superannuation from Railway service



K.V.Ramesh General Secretary IRTSA, along with Er.Darshan Lal Working President IRTSA, Er.Jagtar Singh Zonal Secretary RCF, Er.Baldev Raj JGS, Er.Surjit Singh JGS and other office bearers felicitated Er.Surjit Singh Central Treasurer IRTSA on his superannuation from Railway service on 31st July at RCF.



GS IRTSA felicitates Er.G.P.Singh Sr VP IRTSA RCF



Er.G.P.Singh Senior Vice President IRTSA RCF zone felicitated by K.V.Ramesh GS IRTSA on 31st July at RCF on his superannuation from Railway service.

Railway Board & Government Orders

Railway Board letter No. E(NG)/I-2025/1C-I/1 (RBE No.65/2025), dated 07.07.2025

Subject: Counting of Stay-at-Home period during COVID-19 Lockdown as duty for railway servants undergoing training for the purposes of increments.

Ref: E(NG)/I/90/IC 1/1 dated 04.02.1991 (RBE 25/91)

As the Railways are aware, the training period spent by a railway servant, whether on remuneration of stipend or otherwise, is to be treated as duty, provided it is followed by confirmation, for the purposes of increments.

2. One of the Zonal Railways has sought to know whether the period spent at home during nation wide lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic be reckoned as duty also for the purpose of increments.

3. It is hereby clarified that the Board had already issued instructions vide RBE No. 109/2020 on releasing of held up payments of stipends to the trainee railway servants for the period they had stayed at home during the lockdown due to COVID-19, subject to a condition that this period must not exceed six months.

4. In view of this, the matter has once again been examined and it has further been decided that as a one-time measure the stay-at-home period (up to a maximum of six months only) of trainee railway servants due to nationwide lockdown due to COVID-19 may be treated as duty for the purposes of increments.

Railway Board letter No. No. 2012/F(E)II/1(1)/4 (RBE No.66/2025), dated: 07.07.2025.

Subject :- Extension of benefits of 'Retirement Gratuity and Death Gratuity' to the Railway Employees covered by Unified Pension Scheme.

Ministry of Finance, Department of Financial Services, has vide Gazette Notification No. FX-1/3/2024-PR dated 24th January, 2025 introduced the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) as an option under the National Pension System (NPS) for the recruits to the Central Government civil services w.e.f 01.04.2025 giving one time option to the Central Government employees covered under the National Pension System (NPS) for inclusion under the Unified Pension Scheme. The same has been adopted on Railways vide Board's letter number F(E)II/2025/UPS/1 dated 18.03.2025.

2. Accordingly, it is clarified that the Railway employees covered under Unified Pension Scheme shall be eligible for benefit of 'Retirement gratuity and Death gratuity on the same terms and conditions as are applicable to the Railway employees covered under the National Pension System in terms of Board's letter No. 2012/F(E)III/1(1)/4 dated 05.09.2016.

O.M. of P&PW(D) – Part (2)/E- 10640, Dated 23.07.2025

Subject: - Reduction of Pension Commuted Period -reg.

The undersigned is directed to refer representation received regarding restoration of Commuted Pension after 12 years instead of 15 years for consideration.

2) In this regard, it is stated that Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare is the nodal Department for formulation of policies relating to pension and other retirement benefits of Central Government civil employees covered under the Central Civil Services (Pension) rules, 2021. The implementation of such rules/instructions, etc, lies with the administrative Ministry/Department/ Organisations of the employees covered by these rules.

3) The law regarding commutation has been well settled by the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide their judgement dated

9.12.1986 In Writ Petition Nos.3958-61 of 1983 "Common Cause" Society and others (Petitioners) Vs Union of India {1987 (1) SSC 142} in 1986. The Supreme Court considered all relevant factors like interest rate, mortality rate etc., and the commutation table in existence in 1986 and gave a decision that the commutation period should be fixed at 15 years. The Hon'ble Delhi High Court of Delhi in their judgement dated 17.01.2019 in WP(C) No.1222/2015 filed by Forum of Retired IPS Officer (Foripso) Versus Union of India and another observed that the pension, commutation of pension etc. are policy matters. which are examined and decided on the basis of recommendations of the Pay Commissions by the authorities. Further, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its judgement dated 15.04.2019 in Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal(C) No(s). 8852/2019 (arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 17.01.2019 in WP(C) No.1222/2015 passed by the High Court of Delhi at New Delhi) delivered that "we have no reason to entertain this petition. Accordingly, the special leave petition is dismissed."

Also Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana, in their order of CWP no. 9426 of 2023 (O&M) dated 27.11.2024 (containing 808 writ petitions) regarding restoration of commuted pension after 12 years have directed to effect recoveries which were stayed by way of interim orders.

"In view of the above judgements/orders of Hon'ble SC, it has been settled that the matter regarding restoration period of commuted pension to be decided by the Government."

4) Accordingly the restoration period of commuted pension to be decided by the Government.

Railway Board letter No. E(NG)/I/2022/PM5/5(E-3404144) (RBE No.81/20125), dated 11.08.2025

Sub: Filling up the post of Junior Engineer in pay level-6 against 25% LDCE quota.

Ref: i) Board's letter No. E(NG)/I/99/PM7/17 dated 25.08.2003 (RBE No.145/2003).

ii) Board's letter No. E(NG) II/2001/RR-I/6 dated 29.08.2014 (RBE No. 92/2014).

One of the Zonal Railways has sought a clarification regarding the relevance of educational qualification of ITI/Act Apprenticeship in Electrical Trade or Diploma in Electrical Engineering Branch for selection to the post of JE/Mechanical in pay level- 6 against 25% LDCE Quota (also historically known as Intermediate Apprentice Quota) and similarly the relevance of ITI/Act Apprenticeship Trade in Mechanical or Diploma in Mechanical Engineering Branch for selection to the post of JE/Electrical in pay level-6 against the 25% LDCE Quota.

2. The matter has been examined in consultation with the Technical Directorate and attention of Railways/PUs is drawn to the instructions issued vide RBE 92/2014, wherein, the educational qualification of Diploma in Mechanical/Electrical Engineering has been used interchangeably for JE/Mechanical as well as JE/Electrical posts inter alia other subjects & sub streams of these subjects mentioned therein. Attention is also drawn to the instructions issued vide RBE 127/2003, wherein, Graduation in these Engineering subjects has also been allowed to be a permissible qualification for the 25% LDCE Quota, if other eligibility conditions are fulfilled.

3. Therefore, it is clarified that the subjects of Electrical/Mechanical Trades and Diploma/Graduation in Electrical/Mechanical Engineering Branch including their sub stream Branches, if any, may be allowed to be a relevant

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trade for the purposes of Act Apprenticeship/ITI Trade, for the selection of JE/Mechanical and JE/Electrical respectively, against the 25% LDCE Quota.

Railway Board letter No. E(NG)/2025/PM1/3 (RBE No.75/2025) Dated 28.07.2025

Sub: Conduct of Departmental examination through Computer Based Test (CBT) — regarding constitution of Selection Committees and Question Paper Setter.

Ref: Board's letter No. E(NG)/2022/PM1/36 dated 08.02.2024 (RBE No. 11/2024) & Board's letter of even no. dated 26.05.2025 (RBE No. 47/2025)

It has come to the notice of the Board that certain practical difficulties are apprehended by some of the Railways regarding the implementation of instructions contained in Board's letter dated 26.05.2025 concerning departmental selections through Computer Based Test (CBT).

2. Some Railways have raised concerns about the stipulation in RBE 47/2025 that the Question Paper Setter would be one of the three members of an appropriate selection committee of Zonal/Unit level.

3. The Board has examined the matter and a Flowchart of activities involved in the centralised format of CBT and Division/Unit wise format of CBT is being enclosed for easier appreciation of the process of CBT.

All Railways/PUs may take action accordingly.

Railway Board letter No. No. F(E)IN/2025/UPS/1 (RBE No.76/2025), dated: 29.07.2025.

Subject:- Option to avail benefits under Old Pension Scheme on death of Railway servant during service or his discharge from Railway service on account of invalidation or disability for Railway Servants covered under Unified Pension Scheme – reg.

Ministry of Finance, Department of Financial Services vide Notification No. FX-1/3/2024-PR dated 24th January, 2025 has introduced Unified Pension Scheme as an option under National Pension System for the recruits to the Central Government civil services with effect from 01.04.2025 giving one time option to the Central Government employees covered under the National Pension System (NPS) for inclusion under the Unified Pension Scheme(UPS). The same has been adopted on Railways vide Board's letter of even number dated 18.03.2025.

2. UPS has been notified as an option under the NPS. Therefore, it has been decided that the Railway employees who opt for UPS under NPS shall also be eligible for option for availing benefits under UPS or the Railway Services (Pension) Rules, 1993 or the Railway Services (Extraordinary Pension) Rules, 1993 in the event of death of the Railway servant during service or his discharge on the ground of invalidation or disablement.

3. Every Railway servant covered under the National Pension System who opts for Unified Pension Scheme shall, at the time of joining railway service, exercise an option in Form 1 for availing benefits under the UPS or under the Railway Services (Pension) Rules, 1993 or the Railway Services (Extraordinary Pension) Rules, 1993 in the event of his/her death or boarding out on account of disablement or retirement on invalidation. Existing Railway Servants, who have opted for the Unified Pension Scheme under the National Pension System, shall also exercise such option as soon as possible after the notification of these clarifications.

4. The option shall be exercised to the Head of Office who will accept the same after verifying all the facts submitted therein and place it in the service book. A copy of the option

shall be forwarded by the Head of Office to the Central Recordkeeping Agency through the Drawing and Disbursing Officer and the Pay and Accounts Officer for their record. The Pay and Accounts Officer shall also make suitable entry in the online system indicating the details regarding the option exercised by the Railway servant.

5. Every Railway servant shall, along with the option in Form 1, also submit details of family in Form 2 to the Head of Office. The Head of Office shall, on receipt of the Form 2, acknowledge receipt of the Form 2 and all further communications received from the Railway servant in this behalf, countersign it indicating the date of receipt and get it pasted on the service book of the Railway servant concerned, The Head of Office on receipt of communication from the Railway servant regarding any change in the size of family shall also incorporate such a change in Form 2.

6. The option exercised may be revised at any number of times by the Railway servant before his retirement by making a fresh option intimating his revised option to the Head of Office. On receipt of the revised option, the Head of Office and the Pay and Accounts Officer shall take further action as mentioned above.

7. A Railway servant who is discharged on invalidation or disability shall be given an opportunity to submit a fresh option at the time of such discharge. Where such Railway servant does not exercise a fresh option or is not in a position to exercise fresh option at the time of discharge, the option already exercised by the Railway servant shall become operative. Where no option was exercised by the Railway servant and the Railway servant is not in a position to exercise an option at the time of discharge, his case will be regulated in accordance with para 10 below.

8. In the case of death of a Railway servant while in service, the last option exercised by the deceased Railway servant before his death shall be treated as final and the family shall have no right to revise the option.

9. Where a Railway servant who did not exercise an option and dies before completion of service of fifteen years, his family will be granted family pension in accordance with the provisions of the Railway Services (Pension) Rules, 1993 or the Railway Services (Extraordinary Pension) Rules, 1993, as the case may be, as a default option.

10. Where a Railway servant is discharged from Railway service on account of invalidation or disability before completion of service of fifteen years without exercising an option, and is also not in a position to exercise an option at the time of discharge, he will be granted invalid pension or disability pension in accordance with the provisions of the Railway Services (Pension) Rules, 1993 or the Railway Services (Extraordinary Pension) Rules, 1993 as the case may be, as default option;

11. In all other cases, where no option was exercised by the Railway servant, the claim of the Railway servant on discharge from the service and that of the family on death of the Railway servant shall be regulated in accordance with **the regulations to be framed in this regard.**

12. In cases where the option exercised by the deceased Subscriber or the default option for benefit under the Railway Services (Pension) Rules or the Railway Services (Extraordinary Pension) Rules becomes infructuous on account of non-availability of an eligible member of the family for grant of family pension under the Railway Services (Pension) Rules, 1993 or the Railway Services (Extraordinary Pension) Rules, 1993 such option would be

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deemed to have become invalid and the benefits admissible under the Unified Pension Scheme shall be granted in accordance with **the regulations to be framed in this regard.**

13. A Railway servant, who had exercised option or in whose case the default option is for availing benefits under the Railway Services (Pension) Rules, 1993 or Railway Services (Extraordinary Pension) Rules, 1993 on death of Railway servant during service or his discharge from service on account of invalidation or disablement, as the case may be, further action will be taken by the Head of Office for disbursement of benefits in accordance with the provisions of the Railway Services (Pension) Rules, 1993. Where the death or disablement of the Railway servant is attributable to Railway service, further action will be taken by the Head of Office for disbursement of benefits in accordance with the Railway Services (Extraordinary Pension) Rules, 1993 subject to fulfillment of all the conditions for grant of benefits under those rules.

14. If on death of the Railway servant during service or his discharge from service on account of invalidation or disablement, benefits are payable under the Railway Services (Extraordinary Pension) Rules, 1993 or the Railway Services (Pension) Rules, 1993, the Government contribution and returns thereon in the accumulated pension corpus of the Railway servant shall be transferred to Government account. The remaining accumulated pension corpus shall be paid **in lump sum in accordance with the regulations to be framed in this regard.**

15. In the case of death of a Railway servant during service or his discharge from service on account of invalidation or disablement, who had exercised option or in whose case the default option is for availing benefits under the UPS, such benefits may be granted in accordance with the regulations to be framed in this regard.

File No. 1/3/2024-PR, Ministry of Finance Department of Financial Services (Pension Reforms Section) dated 25.08.2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)- Introduction of one-time one-way Switch facility from UPS to NPS- reg.

The undersigned is directed to refer to the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) notified by the Ministry of Finance vide Notification No. F. No. FX-11312024-PR dated 24th January 2025, for Central Government employees covered under the National Pension System (NPS).

2. It has been decided that a one-time, one-way switch facility from UPS to NPS shall be made available to all Central Government employees who have opted for UPS. This switch facility may be exercised by UPS optees any time not later than one year prior to the date of superannuation or three months prior to the deemed date of retirement in case of voluntary retirement, as applicable. Similar provisions will be made for resignation and cases of Rule 56J, with minor modifications as necessary. If switch facility not exercised as per aforesaid timelines, the employee shall continue under UPS by default.

3. The switch facility will not be allowed in case of removal, dismissal or compulsory retirement as a penalty or for cases where disciplinary proceedings are ongoing or contemplated.

4. Once the switch facility is availed, the provisions of the PFRDA (Exit & Withdrawal under NPS) Regulations, 2015

shall apply. The concerned employee shall cease to be eligible for assured payouts and UPS benefits. The Government's differential contribution (4%) at default investment pattern will be worked out and shall be credited to the individual's NPS corpus at the time of exit.

5. Ministries/Departments are requested to bring the contents of this O.M. to the notice of eligible officers/officials under your administrative control.

IRTSA LOSSES ONE OF ITS INTELLECTUAL LEADER

**Er.Sudarshan attained lotus feet of the GOD
After long battel he left the world at 19.20 hrs
on 15.07.2025**



Friend, guide & philosopher

Shri.Sudarshan, SSE (Drg) SR HQ was highly intelligent and committed SSE and IRTSA leader.

His contribution for IRTSA activities in framing demands, preparing memorandums, preparing submissions before central pay commissions, propagating activities of IRTSA were immense.

His vast knowledge in Engineering and varied fields were astonishing. His contribution for suggestions presented by IRTSA on various occasions were immense. His guidance and advise were available at all time.

IRTSA expresses its heartfelt condolences to the family members

Sri.Ela. Ganeshan Nagaland Governor & Former Member of Parliament No more

15th August, 2025: Veteran leader Sri.Ela.Ganeshan, Nagaland Governor and Former Member of Parliament passed away at the age of 80 today at Chennai in a private hospital.

During his tenure as Member of Parliament (Rajya Shaba) he was supportive to IRTSA and forwarded demands of IRTSA to Railway Minister.

IRTSA expresses its deep condolences.



Now Pay your IRTSA membership subscription through QR-code or UPI ID **irtsa@sbi** IRTSA-Current A/c No. **43054348149** at SBI ICF Branch, Chennai. IFSC Code: **SBIN0013065**. After transfer of fund inform **Er.Y.R.S.Banerjee**, Asst. Central Treasurer, Mob No. **9003149567**.

This CEC account is in addition to account maintained at RCF by Central Treasurer. Zones, sub units & members can deposit their fund in any one of the accounts.

CEC office bearers

- All the CEC communications are being done through WhatsApp group “CEC IRTSA” as well as through other groups.
- A separate record will be maintained for CEC IRTSA office bearers for recording their presence in the meetings, agitations, seminars, etc organised by CEC IRTSA.
- All the CEC office bearers are requested to remit their annual membership subscription, struggle fund and subscription for “Voice of Rail Engineers” immediately and inform respective Zonal Treasurers and Central Treasurer.
- All are requested to mobilize 100% annual membership subscription from their zones & sub units.

All Zones / sub-units are requested to deposit membership subscription, Struggle fund, donations, etc. in IRTSA central account Name: IRTSA, Account No: 10083429358, IFSC: SBIN0050540, State Bank of India, RCF, Hussainpur, Kapurthala. (Branch Code-50540) and inform Er. Surjit Singh, Central Treasurer C-301, Silver Palm Apartments, Jalandhar Kunj, Jalandhar-144021 (9714301044)

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IRTSA meeting at Electric Loco Shed Arakkonam Southern Railways

26th Aug 2025: K.V.Ramesh General Secretary IRTSA and Er. Sunil Kumar addressed SSEs and JEs of Electric Loco Shed, Arakkonam, Southern Railways. Er.Parthasarathy accompanied General Secretary and Er.Sunil Kumar. Er.S.A.Subani and Er.G.B.Bhavani Kumar welcomed IRTSA office bearers and members of Arakkonam Loco Shed. Er.Bhavani said that activities of IRTSA will be revived in the loco shed soon and members of loco shed will actively participate in all zonal and national activities organized by IRTSA.



Er.Sunil Kumar gave introduction about IRTSA and requested all JEs and SSEs to be members of IRTSA. He said tireless efforts of President, General Secretary and other office bearers of IRTSA achieved 50% upgradation of SSE for level-7 to level-8 and then to NFU to level-9.

K.V.Ramesh General Secretary IRTSA explained achievements of IRTSA and demands being followed by IRTSA. He called upon all the members to be with IRTSA and to contribute membership subscription and struggle fund. GS also requested members to give necessary inputs to represent demands of IRTSA to 8th CPC.

In the discussion held with GS/IRTSA some of the JEs expressed their concern regarding delay in promotion to SSE from JE due to unwillingness given by some of the seniors. Some of the members expressed their dissatisfaction and hardship faced by them because of denial of IRT to other zones for long time. Many of the members expressed concern about vacancies and not recruiting SSE through RRB. It was also told by members that due weightage has to be given for technical employees who work for 48 hours a week against 45 working hours by some other categories.



IRTSA submits detailed Memorandum on major demands of Design & Drg Engineers

IRTSA submitted memorandum to DG (HR) and others explaining following demands in detail.

- 1) Considering entry as GP Rs.4600/level-7 for the purpose of MACP to all the directly recruited Graduate Engineers in Design and Drawing Cadre.
- 2) Cadre Distribution on par with Technical Supervisors.
- 3) Grant of PCO allowance / Incentive Bonus to the Design & Drawing Engineers working in Production units & Workshops.