

INDIAN RAILWAYS TECHNICAL SUPERVISORS' ASSOCIATION

(Estd. 1965, Regd. No.1329, Website <http://www.irtsa.net>)



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No:IRTSA/Org-3

Date:04.11.2024

Dear, All Zonal Secretaries and CEC office bearers,

Sub: Minutes of IRTSA CEC NZ meeting held on 26th October 2024.

Central Executive Committee (North Zone) meeting of IRTSA was held on 26th October at Dr.Ambedkar Bhavan, Sector 37A, Chandigarh between 10.30 hours and 14.15 hours.

1) Er.Darshan Lal Central Working President welcomed Chairman, General Secretary and all CEC members from North Zone.

In his speech Er.Darshan Lal Central Working President thanked Er.Harchandan Singh for making a strong platform for Technical Supervisors and leading the Association nearly for half a century. He said IRTSA RCF zone is making all arrangements to host 59th All India Annual Conference & CGB of IRTSA at RCF on 27th December in a grand manner. He added that all IRTSA members of RCF are contributing whole heartedly for the success of the Conference. He welcomed all the CEC and active members for the conference.

2.1) Er.Harchandan Singh Chairman in his opening speech appreciated the efforts made by RCF zone for arranging CEC NZ meeting in a short period of time. He said all CEC members should visit zones other than their zone regularly and advised to divide the sub units zone wise for making a Calendar to visit them. Chairman said IRTSA has achieved the 67% in the apex grade of Technical Supervisors from 6%. There were many achievements to the credit of IRTSA still there are demands to achieve. Among them the most important is getting Group-B status for SSEs he said.

2.2) Felicitation to Er.Darshan Lal Central Working President: Er.Harchandan Singh Chairman felicitated Er.Darshan Lal Central Working President who will be retiring on 31st December 2024 for his selfless service and untiring efforts for IRTSA at Zonal and national level.

2.3) Contribution for "Voice of Rail Engineers": Chairman said that "Voice of Rail Engineers" official journal of IRTSA is being published bi-monthly regularly. Printing of physical copies of "Voice of Rail Engineers" was suspended at the time of CORONA pandemic, only on-line publication is being done at present. He appealed to all CEC members to make efforts to revive publishing "Voice of Rail Engineers" in physical mode and asked Rs.1000 per member as donation for "Voice of Rail Engineers". On his behalf Chairman donated Rs.5000 for printing of "Voice of Rail Engineers". Following his step contribution of Rs.21000 by RCF Zone, Rs.3000 by ICF zone and Rs.1000 by NR Zone were made in the meeting.

3.1) General Secretary's Report: Er.K.V.Ramesh General Secretary in his report briefed on the pursuit activities carried out by Central President and General Secretary on the demands of IRTSA. He briefed about the meetings held with Sri.V.Somanna & Sri.Ravneet Singh Minister of State for Railways, Chairman Railway Board, Member (T&RS), Member (Infra), DG (HR), AM (Staff), AM (HR), AM (Fin) and other officers. GS briefed on the meetings held with both of AIRF & NFIR General Secretaries and discussions held on the demands of IRTSA. General Secretary appreciated very good meetings organized by during his visit to Golden Rock Workshops SR, Mid-life Rehabilitation & Refurbishment Workshop Sonipet NR, Izzat Nagar Workshop NE Rly and Amristar workshop NR. He requested all other zones and sub units to arrange similar meetings.

3.2) General Secretary briefed on the following important general and demands specific to the category

- 1) Earlier decision on cadre restructure.
- 2) Formation of 8th Central Pay Commission.
- 3) Grant of Non-functional upgradation (NFU) to level-9 for SSEs and other Supervisory cadres after 4 years of regular service in level-8 without restriction of 50% of posts in level-8. It was highlighted that present upgradation violates the similar methodology adopted for Accounts Supervisors, the recommendations of the 7th Central Pay Commission, and the approval given by the Ministry of Finance.
- 4) Grant of Group-B status to all SSE, CMS, CDMS & SE(IT)
- 5) Huge vacancies in SSE posts throughout Indian Railways because of non-recruitment of Engineering graduates since 2015. GS IRTSA requested since no RRB notification has been issued so far for recruitment of SSE, as one time measure existing vacancies in SSE post may be filled through promotion from JE.
- 6) Creation of Technical Supervisors posts for new assets and new trains like Vande Bharat train sets.
- 7) Creation of posts of SSEs in level-8 in ICF for higher level of supervision in the manufacturing, testing & commissioning activities of "Vande Bharat" train sets.
- 8) Grant of notional increment (as due on 1st July/1st January) for the pensionary benefits to those employees who had retired on 30th of June/ 31st of December before drawing the same.
- 9) Pay level-8 for left out categories including SE (IT).
- 10) Cases of promotions in the pre-revised pay structure between 01.01.2006 and the date of notification of RS (RP) Rules 2008 and the subsequent merger of the pre-revised pay scales of the promotional and the feeder posts in a common Grade -fixation of pay.
- 11) Menace of outsourcing.
- 12) Providing opportunity for submitting representations against gradings below "very good" recorded in APARs for the year 2020-21, 2021-22 & 2022-23 for the purpose of MACPS.

3.3) Unified Pension Scheme (UPS): General Secretary presented comparison of UPS, NPS and OPS. He also briefed about short comings of UPS compared with OPS.

3.4) General Secretary briefly explained pending case OA 1568 / 2017, IRTSA Vs UOI, at CAT Chennai, pleading pay level-7 for JE and pay level-8 for SSE and other issues. He appealed for contribution of membership and struggle fund from all members.

3.5) Resolutions on demands: General Secretary proposed resolutions on main demands of IRTSA. Er.E.Ramesh Vice President proposed resolution on creation of posts in Technical Departments including Technical Supervisors for new assets and new train operations on 1:1 basis without any matching surrender.

4) Zonal Secretaries' report & CEC members report

4.1) Er.K.Gobinath Zonal Secretary ICF in his speech pressed for creation of posts particularly in Technical Supervisors category, Group-B status for SSEs, separate designation for SSE level-8 post and reduction of DR quota of SSE to 10% from existing 20%. He also briefed on UPS. He presented a brief on main demands of the category which were covered in GS speech.

4.2) Er.Jagtar Singh Zonal Secretary RCF said as per Chairman's wish all 21 CEC members of RCF has donated Rs.1000 each for printing of "Voice of Rail Engineers". Issues pertaining to grading of APARs has been settled at RCF. He informed that provision of air conditioners in the rooms of SSEs has been accepted by RCF administration. Provision of laptops for SSEs is raised with RCF administration by IRTSA. On the demand made by IRTSA shortage of JEs were addressed by GM RCF by recruiting JEs. Zonal Secretary also said that individual issues including DAR cases are being attended by IRTSA RCF unit.

4.3) Er.B.S.Bedi Secretary Amristar workshops said restoration of OPS will only render equal justice for all Government employees. He requested for earlier positive decision on providing opportunity for submitting representations against gradings below "very good" recorded in APARs for the year 2020-21, 2021-22 & 2022-23 for the purpose of MACPS, since many of the seniors are deprived of financial upgradation under MACPS.

4.4) Er.Rohit Yadav of Jagadhri workshop assured IRTSA Jagadhri workshop will follow all the directions given by CEC IRTSA and welcomed central leadership to visit Jagadhri Workshop.

4.5) Er.E.Ramesh Vice President said that Railway Board's letter on reengagement of retired staff against vacant posts on contractual basis has to be opposed. Reengagement in Technical Departments particularly Technical Supervisors will affect the safety in train operation. He said Railway should complete all recruitments for vacant posts on war footing.

4.6) Er.Baldev Raj JGS objected to the modification made in the procedure for selection to Group-B posts against 70% seniority quota. He added allowing all employees working in level-6 and above with three years of service and those securing more than 80% marks classified as outstanding will be allowed to supersede the seniors is defeating basic principle and purpose of 70% seniority quota.

5) It was agreed unanimously to represent the demands on restoration of OPS, modification in procedure for selection to Group-B posts against 70% seniority quota and withdrawal of Railway Board's letter on reengagement of retired staff against vacant posts on contractual basis.

6) Er.K.V.Ramesh GS IRTSA proposed vote of thanks.

Thank you

Long live IRTSA

Yours' truly



K.V.RAMESH
General Secretary, IRTSA