

Voice of Rail Engineers

Official Organ of

INDIAN RAILWAYS TECHNICAL SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION

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Success comes after years of struggle First class pass to all JEs, CMAs & DMS

IRTSA's Long pending demand for First class pass to all JEs, CMAs & DMS and others in the Grade Pay of Rs.4200 has become a reality through Railway Board's letter No. E(W)2008/PS 5-1/38 dated 6th Jan, 2011 (RBE 3-2011). Decades old demand of IRTSA was finally met with after continuous & vigorous persuasion which peaked especially after the Sixth Pay Commission - supported by numerous statistics & series of logical arguments.

IRTSA thanked Minister for Railways Km. Mamta Banerjee, Railway Board officials & Com. S. G. Mishra, GS AIRF and Sri. M. Raghavaiah, GS NFIR and all others who understood the genuine demand and resolved it after prolonged negotiations.

RAIL ENGINEERS OBSERVED PROTEST DAY ALL OVER INDIAN RAILWAYS

Technical Supervisors / Rail Engineers all over Indian Railways observed protest day on February 23,2011 to protest against the attitude of Railways & the Government in not considering their genuine demands. Engineers wore the protest badges - highlighting their main demands. At the end of the day demonstrations were also held at the respective places and memorandums were handed over to the HODs. Rail Engineers expressed their feeling of humiliation in not getting the due recognition in spite of the fact that Technocrats are the prime & direct contributors to the Rail operation, performance, safety etc.

NEW MoSR Er. BHARATSIKH SOLANKI



Er. Bharatsinh Solanki has taken over as Minister of state for Railways on 21st January, 2011. Prior to this he was Minister of state for Power. He is MP, Lok Sabha from Anand constituency, Gujarat. He studied his BE, (civil engineering) at Birla Vishwakarma Mahavidyalay.

In addition he has been member

various committees like Committee on Commerce, Joint Committee on Office of Profit and Committee on Public Undertakings. He is also ex-President Gujarat Electricity Technical Employees Union. **IRTSA welcomes an Engineer as MoSR and hopes that he restores the lost glory of technocrats on Indian Railways.**

RAIL ENGINEERS TO HOLD MASS RALLY AT NEW DELHI on March 15

IRTSA fights for

Dignity & Self esteem of Engineers

Rally, Seminar & CEC Meeting of IRTSA will be held at Baroda House, New Delhi, on 15th March, 2011 – "To highlight the role & challenges before the Technocrats on the Railways". All CEC Members along with maximum number of Engineers & Active Members of IRTSA have advised to attend the programme positive.

NOTICE:

RALLY & CEC MEETING – IRTSA

It is hereby notified that a RALLY & CEC Meeting of IRTSA shall be held at New Delhi, on 15th March, 2011 – To highlight the role & challenges before the Technocrats on the Railways. All CEC Members along with maximum number of Engineers & Active Members of IRTSA are requested to please attend the programme positive.

AGENDA CEC MEETING

1. Report by Central President & GS IRTSA and Review of position of Demands
2. Report of Zonal Secretaries / CEC Members reg. Organisational Position & Protest Day in Feb., 2011.
3. Decision on Line of Action for pursuance of Demands.
4. Review of Organisational Position, Membership Drive & Struggle Fund Collections.
5. Programme for CGB Meeting & 46th All India Annual Conference - 2011
6. Any other Point with the permission of the Chair.

PROGRAMME: 15-3- 2011

RALLY at Baroda House New Delhi - 10 to 2 PM

CEC MEETING - Birla Mandir Dharamshala 2 to 4 PM
SEMINAR on "ROLE OF ENGINEERS IN IMPROVED PRODUCTIVITY & SAFETY ON THE RAILWAYS - In Workshops, Production Units, Sheds, Open-Line & Store Depots, C & M Labs, Drawing & Design Offices etc.

STAY ARRANGEMENT: Birla Mandir Dharamshala.

CONVENER: Er K. V. Ramesh, ACT & Zonal Secretary ICF.

All CEC Members of IRTSA are requested to gear up immediately and ensure en-mass participants in the programme through wide publicity.

Voice of Rail Engineers – (Previously Published as "THE RAIL SUPERVISOR")

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"SUCCESS COMES TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE"



Editorial**RAILWAY ENGINEERS DESERVE MORE DIGNIFIED STATUS**

Advancement of a nation is decided by the Engineering competence of the nation. Engineers have always performed the role of backbone in Nation building and contributed a lion's share in Development of the country. From manufacturing a small pin to constructing a huge Dam & launching of "Chandrayan" mission - engineers play important role which can not be substituted. Role of Engineers in the infrastructure developments like building and maintenance of roads, railways, communication network, Defence, power etc, in fields like agriculture, science and space technology, etc are indispensable. Nothing can be achieved in these departments with out the contribution of Engineers. No progress is made with out Engineers.

Indian Railways the transport major in India is offering cheapest, safest and environmental friendly transport to the nation connecting the country to its length and breadth. Fares of the Indian Railways are the only service which have not increased for nine continuous years, even after increases in fuel cost innumerable times and high inflation. Still the performance of Indian Railways is commendable for which Rail Engineers played a major role with out much addition to the infrastructure and reduced man power.

Even with the freeze in the fare for nearly a decade, the success story of Indian Railways which attracted international attention was possible only because of extremely large increase in productivity delivered by the technocrats/Engineers. From the year 2004-05 (just before the implementation of Sixth Pay commission) to 2008-09 (year of implementation of Sixth Central Pay Commission) the productivity of technocrats/Engineers on Railways increased substantially as shown below,

	1994-95	2008-09	% increase
Wagon Km / employee	13733.46	37294.40	171.6
Route Km / employee	0.039	0.046	18.1
Passenger Km / employee	199353.93	604640.69	203.3

This extraordinary productivity increase is not being transformed into any short of decent recognition to the Technocrats. The Technical Supervisors/Rail Engineers of Civil Engineering, Mechanical, Electrical and Signaling Departments are responsible for Train Operations, movement of goods, acquisition, maintenance and continuous improvement of fixed assets and rolling stocks. Their duties and responsibilities include safe running of trains, maintain highest order of safety, installation & fail-proof maintenance of track, locos, coaches, wagons, signaling system, overhead equipment etc. Other departments provide only necessary support to them to enable them to discharge their functions efficiently.

Indian Railways has been continuously upgrading its technology in train operations and maintenance, not only to provide services at the minimum cost but also to compete with other modes of travel like road transport, low budget airlines etc. For this purpose continuous induction of new technology is resorted to and improvements are being made

in the existing technology. The Supervisors being the first level of management and control in the field have to update their knowledge and skills and acquire new ones to adapt to new technology and guide/train the staff working under their control for safe and efficient induction of new technologies.

Overall Staff strength of IR has reduced by 13.5% from the year 1995 to 2009 as shown in the table. Staff strength in all technical departments was reduced by more than 20%, barring Electrical where electric traction is increased by 37.5%.

Departments	Strength 31.3.95	Strength 31.3.09	Increase decrease	%
Administration	48591	47127	-1464	-3.0
Accounts	29943	29869	-74	-0.2
Engineering	416851	335970	-80881	-19.4
Mechanical	410708	326758	-83950	-20.4
Electrical	155217	164086	8869	5.7
Stores	37321	28789	-8532	-22.9
S&T	75855	68299	-7556	-10.0
Commercial	113863	98542	-15321	-13.5
Transportation	188672	168100	-20572	-10.9
Medical	54050	47190	-6860	-12.7
RPF	55569	54166	-1403	-2.5
Rly. Board, RPSF	15411	17115	1704	11.1
Total	1602051	1386011	-216040	-13.5

For Technical Supervisors, the element of direct responsibilities in safe train operation, maintenance of assets, reduced man power, introduction of large number of new trains, addition of new assets, introduction of new technologies etc were not at all considered by fifth & sixth pay commissions. To make the situation even worst categories like accounts, teachers and nurses who were in the lower pay scales were given up-gradation in every pay commission and were placed even two grades higher than Technical Supervisors. To make the situation more worse and humiliating pay of categories which work under them were also equated to them even undermining supreme court judgment of "the supervisor pay can not be equal to the person being supervised". In making the condition from bad to worst in the name of generalization of pay scales Technical Supervisors are paid equal to the canteen staff.

It is extremely painful that not even the barest minimum concern was shown by anybody in deciding the pay of a JE/SSE who certifies the Rajadhani Express or 2.3 km long Pamban sea Bridge which is the nucleus to the core activity of Indian Railways. The uncared attitude of Railways/Government needs to be set right by any means. Engineers even should not hesitate to return their Degree / Diploma certificates to the Government, to emphasize strongly that services of Engineers are not at all recognized.

The present system of negotiation through organized forum also puts them in great disadvantageous position, since grievances of more than 150 categories have to be routed through single channel and dilution of genuine demands are inevitable. It is high time to grant separate recognition to Technical Supervisors Association - as granted to Engineers Associations in CPWD, MES and state Governments which got them decent pay, career progression, work environment etc. It is time for recognition of Indian Railways Technical Supervisor Association as proposed by various Committees on the Railways.

SCR Unit conducts Zonal Conference & Seminar on Indian Railways' "VISION 2020" GS IRTSA calls for Unity, Sacrifice & Continuous Struggle for justice

On 14th Feb, 2011, South Central Railways Zone, IRTSA conducted Zonal Conference and Seminar on IR's VISION 2020 at Senior Institute, Lallaguda, Secunderabad in impressive style. Sri.Basvaraj Saraiah, Honourable Minister for BC Welfare graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Er. Harchandan Singh, GS/IRTSA chaired the meeting.

Er.N.V.Ramanmurthy welcomed the Chief Guest and all other delegates from all over SC.Railway. Er.Saibaba, IRTSA founder member explained the history of IRTSA. Er.Harchandan Singh GS/IRTSA explained the continuous efforts made by IRTSA over the decades to achieve the demand of AC 2 tier Pass to all JEs and others. He condemned the step-motherly treatment given to the Rail Engineers by Railways and Government. IRTSA will fight to the end to achieve the genuine demands for Grade Pay of Rs.5400 to SSE/CMS/CDMS and Rs.4800 to JE/CMA/DMS he added. He appealed to all Rail Engineers to gather at New Delhi en-mass on 15th March to make the Rally by IRTSA a grand success. He appreciated the efforts by SCR Zone in organizing the conference in a grand manner. GS called for Unity, Sacrifice & Continuous Struggle for justice.

Earlier Er.K.V.Ramesh, Zonal Secretary/ICF made a Power Point Presentation on IR's VISION 2020 and explained Indian Railways ambitious plan of expansion in the years to come both in Passenger and Freight business. The presentation also explained the Employment policy and employees' welfare measures of Indian Railways.

Er. Umakanthudu, JE/ TRD Renigunta, Er. Dharmarao, SSE / C&W / Kakinada, Er.Salahuddin, SSE/ Wagon Workshop, Rayanapadu(Guntupalli), Er.Hargopal, SSE/Engg.Workshop/Lallaguda, Er.T.J.Jose, SSE/ELS/Lallaguda, Er.Gunavathi, Stores Dept., Er.Sriram, ICF, Er.Srinivasrao, JE/C&W/Kakinada, , Er.Dayanand, SSE/Printing press/Secunderabad, Er.MohanaRao, MEMU Car Shed, Rajamundri, Er.Ramulu, Car Shed/Moulali, Er.Ramesh, JE/Drg, Er.Narashima Reddy, Secy/HQ and others spoke on the occasion. (To set right spacing of this Para)

Zonal Secretary report, SC.Railway and the statement on accounts were passed unanimously by the house. Election for new Zonal Executive Committee was held. Er.Krishan Rao, Er.M.V.Ramanamurthy and Er.K.P.Cahri were elected as Zonal President, Zonal Secretary and Zonal Treasurer respectively. Er. Krishan Rao, thanked the Guests, GS, ZS ICF & the Delegates.

IRTSA MEETING AT MADURAI DIVISION, SR

Rail Engineers of Madurai Division, Southern Railway met of 21st February to discuss about the burning problems of Rail Engineers. Er.Balasubramani, President IRTSA/Madurai Division welcomed the gathering. Er.K.V.Ramesh, Zonal Secretary/ICF explained the current status of the issues of Technical Supervisors/Rail Engineers. Up-gradation of Grade Pay, Group-B status, withdrawal of uniform date of increment, anomalies of MACP scheme, incentive to open line staff & Engineers were explained by him. He also stressed upon the need to function in well organized manner at Divisional & Zonal level to meet challenges and work pressure due to the ever growing work load in the open line without any sort of additional infrastructure, man power, motivational package etc.

Er.K.Gobinath, JGS/CEC appealed to all the Rail Engineers to strengthen IRTSA. He told that many genuine demands are not being addressed by Government/Railways despite of IRTSA's vigorous persuasion by means of agitation, seminars etc. Both the Federations are very well enlightened on the heart burning issues of Technical Supervisors he added. Grant of Group-B status, injustice done to the Drawing cadre in granting financial up-gradation under MACPS, uniform date of increment, etc are some the main issues raised by Madurai Division Engineers. In his appeal Er.M.S.V.R.Pandian, Advisor, requested all to contribute their annual subscription and struggle fund immediately. Er.Muthaiah, Secretary Madurai division thanked every one and promised full cooperation in all the activities of IRTSA.

NEW YEAR AND PONGAL CELEBRATIONS AT ICF

On 27.1.2011 IRTSA, ICF unit celebrated New Year and Pongal celebrations in a grand manner. Smt. POMPA BABBAR, GM/ICF, graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Sri.Hemanth Kumar, CME/ICF was the Guest of honour on the occasion. Sri.Gulathi, COS/ICF, Sri.Rajendra Prasad, CE/ICF, Sri.S.Srinivas,CWE/Shell, Sri.K.S.Jain, CME/QC, Dy.HODs and many officers also graced the occasion by their valuable presence. Earlier K.V.Ramesh, Zonal Secretary welcomed all the Guests and Rail Engineers of ICF, South Central Railway and Southern Railway.

Dr.Ram Prakash, CMS/ICF made a Power Point Presentation on Stress Management. He explained in detail about the various stress, and ways and means to overcome them. The presentation was appreciated by all the audience present.

In his special address, Er.M.Shanmugham thanked the generosity shown by Kum. Mamata Banerjee, Honourable Minister for Railways in granting First class pass to all JE/CMA/DMS and other supervisors in the same Grade Pay. He also thanked the General Secretaries of both the federations, Railway Board officials who made the decade old demand of IRTSA become a reality. He also briefly explained the role played by IRTSA in building the fraternity between the working class and the Management.

Sri.Hemanth Kumar, CME/ICF, in his speech advised the Rail Engineers to work without much stress and wished every one of the ICF family a happy and prosperous new year. Chief Guest Smt. POMPA BABBAR, GM/ICF, in her inspiring and cheering address appreciated the positive role played by Technical Supervisors and IRTSA. She said that by their very nature of work as the backbone of the system supervisors are subjected to more stress and advised all to work in more organized manner which will results in reduced stress. She appreciated the efforts made by IRTSA in giving suggestions to the administration particularly on setting up of second unit of ICF and reorganizing the infrastructure along with the Southern Railway workshops. She told that the suggestions give by IRTSA is being considered by the policy makers at the highest level with due importance. Supervisors as representatives of the Management, who also stays permanently unlike the officers who works in ICF for a shorter period, has to won the Institution and work with determination & dedication to achieve short and long term goals the General Manager added. She advised everyone to add value in whatever activity they do and all the Supervisors should make a sincere effort to improve the work environment and efficiency.

Er.Jayaraman, Former President/IRTSA, S.Rly was also felicitated on the occasion. Er.K.Gobinath proposed the vote of thanks.

CHAIN OF MEETINGS IN S. C. Rly.

South Central Zone of IRTSA conducted series of meetings at Divisional/sub-unit level. Er.N.V.Ramanamurthy, Zonal Secretary, SCR along with other office bearers toured across South Central Railway. On 4th February meeting was held at Tirupathy sub-unit and Carriage Repair Shop, Tirupathy. In the Tirupathy open line meeting, Er.N.V.Ramanamurthy, Zonal Secretary, SCR, said that the unity and belief shown by the Open line Rail Engineers on IRTSA rejuvenated the activities of IRTSA in SC.Railway. Er.K.V.Ramesh, Zonal Secretary, ICF, explained the vigorous persuasion made by IRTSA especially during and after Sixth Pay commission with logical arguments well supported by the statistics to achieve the decade old demand of AC 2 tier pass to all JEs. Er.V.P.Abdul Salm, Zonal Secretary, Southern Railway, said that ever increasing work load of open line Engineers should be transformed in to Incentive to the staff and Supervisors of open line sheds and depots. Er.D.Nayak, Secretary, Tirupathy explained problems pertaining to Tirupathy like, inadequate number of quarters, poor water quality, non-availability of Hospital, requirement of Institute or recreation club etc. He explained the disadvantageous position of Rail Engineers of Tirupathy which improved all the way from a small MG station to an important terminal connected to all the parts of India and proposed to be a world class station. Being a major pilgrimage centre of India the cost of living sores high like Metro cities which is never being compensated, since Tirupaty is classified as un-classified city, he added.

In the meeting held at the Carriage Repair Shop, Tirupaty the substantial reduction in take home pay after the promotion to SSE from JE were raised by the Engineers. In his reply K.V.Ramesh, said that the issue had been discussed in length in 45th CGB of IRTSA held at Gorakpur and the demand of incentive rate (as like technicians & JEs) or 30% of basic pay to SSE has already been made. Ramanamurthy called up all Rail Engineers from Tirupathy to actively participate in all the activities of IRTSA. Abdul Salam said that strong platform laid by Er.Harchandan Singh and Er.M.Shanmugam should be strengthened by the younger generation for the betterment of the community. Er.Ramakrishnamurthy, Secretary, CRS/Tirupthy, highlighted the inadequate staff and supervisors available in Tirupathy workshop. For the outturn of 90 coaches per month only 70 supervisors are available, lowest among Indian Railways he added. Er.K.P.Chari, Treasurer SCR appealed for the membership subscription and struggle fund. Er.K.Joginder, President, CRS/Tirupathy proposed the vote of thanks.

NEW YEAR AND PONGAL CELEBRATIONS AT SOUTHERN RAILWAY

IRTSA, Southern Railway Zone, celebrated the New Year and Pongal in an impressive manner at the Basin Bridge Yard on 21.01.2011. In demonstration of solidarity with IRTSA and Strong Unity, Rail Engineers from Divisions, open line sheds & depots and work shops of Southern Railway assembled at the Basin Bridge Yard. Office bearers from ICF also participated in the grand celebration. A light music programme was conducted by the employees of Basin Bridge Yard. Er.Abdul Salam, Zonal Secretary, S.Rly welcomed the gathering. Er.M.Shanmugham explained the various activities of IRTSA for the improvement of Technical Supervisors. He also appreciated the Southern Railway Rail

Engineers for showing strong solidarity and confidence on IRTSA during the difficult times. He called upon all the Rail Engineers to face any hindrance bravely with the strongest unity.

Er.K.V.Surendranathan, Working President/IRTSA, Er.Tamil Maran, Vice President/IRTSA, Er.Munusamy, President S.Rly, Er.Sujit Kumar, Working President S. Rly, Er. Krishanasamy President BBQ Er. Raghavan, Secretary AJJ, Er.Nirmal Chandran, Secretary/BBQ, Er.Krishna Babu, Secretary/JTJ, Er.Basker, Secretary/Erode, Er.Kurien, Secretary/Avadi, Er.Thirumaran, President/GOC, Er.Thahir, Secretary/TBM also spoke on the occasion.

Earlier Er.Fathimadoss senior leader of IRTSA was felicitated on his superannuation from Railway Service in January 2011. The function concluded with a dinner.

SEMINAR HELD BY RCF IRTSA ON BURNING PROBLEMS OF TECHNICAL SUPERVISORS Er.Shiv Gopal Mishra, GS - AIRF assures for resolving the issues early

Seminar on burning problems and demands of technical Supervisors / Engineers of Indian Railways was held at Chandigarh on 30.01.2011 by RCF Unit of IRTSA and was attended by more than 200 Engineers from RCF, DMW Patiala, Northern Railway Workshops at Amritsar, Jgadhari & Kalka and Ambala Division.

Er Darshan Lal President IRTSA/RCF Unit and Member Staff Council RCF raised the issues pertaining to RCF Engineers / Technical Supervisors including Incentive to SSE & other left out areas as per recommendation of M/S RITES and handed over a memorandum to Com Shiv Gopal Mishra GS/AIRF on the burning problems and demands of Tech. Sup./Engineers for taking up the issues with Railway Board and early disposal thereof specially regarding Grade Pay of Rs.5400/- for SSEs, CMS,CDMS, Rs.4600/- for JE's, CMA & DMS and Group 'B' Gazetted status etc.

General Secretary IRTSA, Er. Harchandan Singh thanked Sh Shiv Gopal Mishra for getting all the Railwaymen 3 AC pass and specifically 2nd AC Pass to JEs and further requested to get other demands accepted which are long pending especially those for higher Grade Pay to all Engineers, upgrading of Posts to Group B and upgrading of CMAs I to Pre-revised scale of Rs7450-11500 - keeping in view their qualification of BE etc. The meeting was also addressed by Er Bedi Secy IRTSA ASR Workshop, Er Dhat from DMW/PTA and Er Kataria Secretary IRTSA JUDW.

Addressing the gathering Sh. Rajinder Singh General Secretary RCF Men's Union raised the genuine problem of the technocrats & also thanks Sh Shiv Gopal Mishra GS/AIRF for his tireless services to the Railwa-men as whole.

Er S.G Mishra GS/AIRF assured his complete support & all out efforts for early decision on major demands of the Rail Engineers-including improvement of their Grade Pay, upgrading of posts to Group B. PCO Allowance / Incentive to left out areas of RCF, higher Grade Pay to CMA I, uniform training period & Rs.4200 as stipend to JEs and counting thereof for MACP.

Units! Send Central Quota & Struggle Fund Through Bank Draft in favour of "IRTSA" only - to: Central Treasurer IRTSA, Er O. N. Purohit, 106, Suraj Nagar, Jodhpur-342008 (Ph: 09828024476 & 02912713123)

Zonal Conference of DMW Patiala held

GS calls for early acceptance of demands

Er. Harchandan Singh, while presiding over the Zonal Conference of the DMW held recently at Patiala, called for early acceptance of demands of Engineers on the Railways – especially for the time bound promotions and removal of anomalies and disparities after the Sixth CPC-keeping in view the additional qualifications, workload and responsibilities.

Er Rajinder Singh and other Office Bearers of the Unit – assured the GS of their full cooperation in strengthening IRTSA at DMW, Patiala.

Er Darshan Lal Senior Vice President CEC IRTSA recounted the achievements of IRTSA and called upon the Engineers to strengthen IRTSA at all levels for redressal of their outstanding demands and problems.

Shri Aggarwal, CME DMW, while appreciating the role of Technical Supervisors in maintaining the safety and productivity of the Railways, expressed his views in favour of a separate Pay Commission for the Railways for doing proper justice to the Railway men. He released a Calendar of IRTSA brought out by the DMW Unit.

GS - IRTSA ADDRESSES SUBUNITS OF SCR

On 14th February, Er.Harchandan Singh, GS - IRTSA along with Er. Krishan Rao, President - SCR and Er.K.V.Ramesh Zonal Secretary/ICF addressed three meetings in the sub units of South Central Railway. He explained the genuine demands of IRTSA like Recognition of IRTSA, Grade Pay of Rs 4800 to JEs/CMA-II/DMS, Grade Pay of Rs 5400 SSE/CMS/DMS/CDMS, Group-B gazetted status, Incentive/PCO Allowance to C & M, Drawing, Design, IT (EDP) & Store Engineers & other left out Shops, Incentive or Honorarium for Technical Staff & Technical Supervisors / Engineers in Sheds & Open Line Depots., Removal of anomalies in Modified ACP Scheme, Counting of Training Period for MACPs, Withdrawal of uniform date of Increment, etc.

In Moula Ali Car Shed, Er.Balraju, JE, welcomed the delegates and the gathering. Er.Ramudulu, SSE explained the dismal situation of nil promotion opportunity to the Rail Engineers in the Group-B selection who become far junior to the drivers due to the apathetic policy followed by Railways. Er.Venu, Secretary/Car shed, explained the dispute in framing the seniority of Junior Engineers after the merger by the Sixth Pay Commission. He also explained the non availability of rest house facilities to the Technical Supervisors going on official duty and the poor condition of existing rest houses.

In Moula Ali Diesel Shed, Er.P.R.Shivaram and other Engineers pointed out that Moula Ali Diesel Shed started with the maintenance of shunting locos is now maintaining 56 main line locos, 11 DEMU /DHMU with only around 360 men, the lowest staff ratio among Indian Railway Diesel sheds. No adequate training is being given to the staff and Supervisors, lot of work pressure with no time limit

In Electrical Loco shed, Lalguda, Er.Sathyanarayana Secretary/ELS welcomed GS and the Rail Engineers. Inadequate promotion opportunity, Group-B gazetted status to all Technical Supervisors atleast before retirement, scheduled working time, incentive in proportion to the increased work load, eligibility for over time, Er.T.J.Jose, Er.Srineevas also spoke on the occasion.

Allowances which will be increased by 25 %

- As the DA crosses 50% w.e.f. January, 2011

As the DA crosses 50% w.e.f. 1st January, 2011, following Allowances will be increased by 25% - as per accepted recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission:

1. TA / DA Rates on tour, Daily allowance on tour, Mileage allowance for journeys performed by taxi / auto-rickshaw/scooter/cycle (as eligible)
2. TA Rates on transfer
 - a. For journeys performed by taxi/auto-rickshaw /scooter/cycle (as eligible)
 - b. Rates of transpiration of house holds on transfer
3. National Holiday Allowance
4. Nursing Allowance, Uniform Allowance, Kit Maintenance Allowance & Washing Allowance
5. Project allowance and Comp (construction/Survey) allowance.
6. Natural Calamity Advance.
7. Bi-Cycle, Warm Clothing & Table fan advance
8. Festival advance
9. Night Patrolling Allowance.
10. Special Allowance for child care for women with disabilities and Education Allowance for disabled children
11. Conveyance Allowance
12. Children Education Assistance & Reimb. of Tuition fee.

IRTSA REFERENCE TO RAILWAY BOARD

Sub: Entitlement of 1st "A" Pass facility corresponding to the higher Grade Pay of Rs.4800 & Rs.5400 be granted under MACPS.

Ref: 1. Railway Board's letter No. E(W)2008/PS 5-1/38, Dated 06.01.2011 - (RBE No. 03 /2011)

2. Railway Board's letter No.PC-V/2009/ACP/2, Dated 12.01.2011 - (RBE No. 06 /2011)

3. As per Press release (dated 6.1.2011) of MoR Grade Pay is to be the sole criteria for entitlement of passes.

1. Revised pay limits for entitlement of Passes/PTOs as per Revised Pay) Rules, 2008, were decided by the Railway Board vide RBE 3-2011 (copy attached).

2. Ministry of Railways in its Press Release dated 6.1.2011 stated that, the new criteria of entitlement pass has been simplified with only Grade Pay as the sole criterion as against multiple variables like scales of pay, pay and date of appointment which were prevailing earlier.

3. MACP Scheme was extended to Railway employees vide RBE No.101/2009 dated 10.06.2009.

4. Railway Board vide RBE 06 – 2011 dated 12-1-2011 (copy attached) has clarified that the Grade Pay granted on account of MACP scheme shall be considered for the entitlement of Passes.

5. But the subsequent rider there on that the Grade Pay granted on account of MACP will not affect the status – has created a doubt about entitlement of "First A Pass" to those granted the Grade Pay of Rs.4800 & Rs.5400 under MACP. In no other Department of Central Government any distinction is made on the basis of Classification of Posts or status.

6. Ministry of Finance, Dept. of Expenditure, vide Office Memorandum, F.No.19030/3/2008-E.IV, Dated 23rd September, 2008 for the purpose of Entitlement for Journey on tour, Mileage Allowance for journeys by road, Daily Allowance on Tour, T.A. on transfer has grouped the employees based on Grade Pay only.

7. It is requested that the benefit of "1st Class 'A' Pass" be extended to the higher Grade Pay of Rs.4800 & Rs.5400 granted under MACPS. – **For Annexure visit www.irtsa.net**

HIGHLIGHTS OF RAILWAY BUDGET 2011-12

(Complied by K.V.Ramesh, Zonal Secretary/IRTSA, ICF Unit)

Staff welfare:-

- ✓ Liberalized Active Retirement Scheme for Guaranteed Employment for safety category staff extended to the staff in grade pay of Rs.1,900 from Rs.1,800.
- ✓ Extension of medical facilities to both dependent father and mother of the Railway employee.
- ✓ Scholarship for the girl child of gangmen and group 'D' employees to Rs.1,200 per month for higher education.
- ✓ Railway Vidyalaya Prabandhan Board (RVPB) to improve quality of education to children studying in 269 Railway schools.
- ✓ 20 Road Medical Vans to provide medical facilities in remote and inaccessible areas for Railway employees.
- ✓ 20 hostels for children of railway employees have been commissioned and another 20 would be set up next year.
- ✓ Five Polytechnics will be set up at Varanasi, Machlandpur, Vadodara, Bhilai and Hubli-Dharwad under MOU with Ministry of Human Resource Development.
- ✓ Additional expenditure of Rs.73,000 crore during the XI plan period after the implementation of Sixth Pay Commission recommendations.

Recruitment:-

- ✓ Recruitment process has already been set in motion for filling the vacancies of about 1.75 lakh in Group 'C' and Group 'D' posts.
- ✓ Filling up of about 13,000 posts in Railway Protection Force.
- ✓ Backlog of SC/ST/physically handicapped quota will be covered.
- ✓ Induction of 16,000 ex-servicemen by end of March 2011.
- ✓ Recruiting more than 1,200 ex-servicemen in RPF.

Training Centres:-

- ✓ New training centres at Kharagpur, Dharwad, Kolkata, Pune, Agra and Kurseong.
- ✓ Proposal to set up a state-of-the-art Institute for Tunnel and Bridge Engineering at Jammu.
- ✓ Proposed to open a Centre of Excellence in software at Darjeeling under the aegis of CRIS

Manufacturing Units:-

- ✓ The first coach from Rae Bareilly coach factory is expected to be turned out from the new plant within the next three months.
- ✓ New wagon factory in Orissa. Two more wagon units under JV/PPP mode, one each at Kolar and Alappuzha, Kerala, and one more at Buniadpur.
- ✓ Work on ICF, Perambur's second unit will start soon.
- ✓ Problems will be sorted out to set up the Palakkad coach factory.
- ✓ Burn Standard Company Limited and Braithwaite Company Limited have been brought under the administrative control of Ministry of Railways.
- ✓ Railways will set up a Bridge Factory in J&K.
- ✓ Metro coach factory at Singur/adjacent Polba.
- ✓ Proposed to set up a diesel locomotive centre in Manipur.
- ✓ Manufacturing industry for the indigenous production of large on-track machines at Uluberia and also tracks machine POH facility at the same place.
- ✓ Rail Industrial Park at New Bongaigaon and Jellingham.

Financial Performance:-

	2010-11	2011-12
Plan outlay	40,315 cr	57,630 cr
Freight loading	924 MT	993 MT
Gross Traffic receipt	94,840 cr	1,06,239 cr
Ordinary working expense	67,000 cr	73,650 cr
Operating ratio	92.1%	91.1%

Infrastructure addition:-

	2010-11	2011-12
Addition of New lines	700 km	1075 km
Gauge conversion	800 km	1017 km
Doubling	700 km	867 km
Electrification	1000 km	1000 km
Wagon procurement	16,500	18,000
Special trains	36,000	40,000
Number of new line surveys	190	107

- ✓ A non-lapsable Fund for railway projects in the northeast region has been created.
- ✓ Golden Rail Corridor between Delhi and Mumbai with the speed of 160-200 kmph.
- ✓ Dedicated Freight Corridor will be completed on 2016.

Power Plants:-

- ✓ Thermal power plant of 1,000 MW at Nabinagar is at an advance stage of construction.
- ✓ Second thermal power plant of 1,320 MW capacity at Adra is in the process of being set up.
- ✓ Proposed to set up a 700 MW gas-based power plant at Thakurli in Maharashtra.

Passenger Amenities:-

- ✓ Mechanised laundries at 45 locations for improving the quality of linen.
- ✓ Introduction of advance booking of retiring rooms.
- ✓ Introduction of new Super AC class of travel.
- ✓ Age for concession for women senior citizens is reduced to 58.
- ✓ For men, their concession increased from 30% to 40%.

New Services:-

- ✓ Nine Durgam Chattri trains.
- ✓ Two Double decker trains.
- ✓ Three Shatabdi expresses.
- ✓ Four Vivek Expresses.
- ✓ Four Kavi Guru Expresses.
- ✓ Ten Rajya Rani expresses.
- ✓ Four Janam Bhoomi Gaurav tourist trains.
- ✓ 56 new express trains, 13 passenger trains, 22 DEMU, 8 MEMU
- ✓ 33 trains' destination extended and 17 trains' frequency increased.
- ✓ 47 additional EMU services in Mumbai area, 107 suburban services will be augmented to 12 car EMUs from 9 car EMUs.
- ✓ 9 additional EMU services in Chennai area.
- ✓ 50 additional EMU services in Kolkata area
- ✓ 10 additional EMU services in Secunderabad area, 83 suburban services will be augmented to 12 car EMUs from 9 car EMUs

Safety :-

	2004-05	2009-10
Trains per day	16,021	18,820
Number of Passengers	538 crore	720 crore
Accident/Million train Km	0.29	0.17

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RAILWAY BOARD'S ORDERS

1.RBE No.03/2011, No. E(W)2008/PS 5-1/38, dated-6.1.11
Sub: Revised pay limits for entitlement of Passes/PTOs on the basis of Pay drawn in the Railway Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 2008.

Consequent upon revision of Pay Scales on the basis of decision of the Government on the recommendations of the 6th Central Pay Commission, the question of revision of existing entitlements to Passes/PTOs under the Railway Servants (Pass) Rules, 1986 (Second Edition, 1993) has been under consideration of this Ministry.

2. The matter has been examined and the President is pleased to decide that the entitlements of Passes/PTOs in respect of railway servants drawing pay in the Railway Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 2008 shall be as under

S.	Category	Type of Privilege Pass & PTO	Type of Duty Pass
1	<u>Group 'A' & Group 'B' (Gazetted)</u>	Ist Class 'A' Pass	Ist Class 'A' Pass
2	<u>Non-Gazetted employees</u>		
	(i) In Grade Pay Rs.4200/- and above	Ist Class Pass	Ist Class Pass
	(ii) In Grade Pay Rs.2,800/-	IInd Class 'A' Pass*	IInd Class 'A' Pass*
	(iii) In Grade Pay Rs.1,900/- and above but below Grade Pay Rs.2,800/-	One IInd Class 'A' Pass* in a year, remaining passes and PTOs of Second/Sleeper Class.	IInd Class 'A' Pass*
	(iv) Employees in Grade Pay : Rs.1,800/-	One IInd Class 'A' Pass* in a year, remaining passes and PTOs of Second/Sleeper Class.	Second/Sleeper Class.

*Note: In terms of the extant instructions, the holder of IInd Class 'A' pass shall be entitled to travel by AC-3 tier class in trains other than Rajdhani/Shatabdi/Duronto Exp. trains. IInd Class 'A' Pass is of yellow colour.

3. In all other respects, the provisions of the Railway Servants (Pass) Rules, 1986 (Second Edition, 1993) will apply.

4. The Railway employees who are already entitled to Ist Class Passes, shall continue to draw Ist Class Passes, irrespective of their eligibility in terms of these orders.

5. Necessary amendment to the Railway Servants (Pass) Rules, 1986 (Second Edition, 1993) shall follow.

2.RBE No. 6/2011, No.PC-V/2009/ACP/2, dated 12.01.11 Entitlement of Pass facilities under MACPS-Clarification reg.

Ref: Board's letter of even number dated 10.06.2009.

The issue regarding the entitlement of privilege and other passes in case of employees who have been granted financial upgradation under the MACP Scheme has been under consideration.

In terms of para 16 of Annexure of Board's letter referred to above, financial upgradation under MACP Scheme is personal to the incumbent and entitles the employee to certain benefits which are linked to the pay drawn by the employee. Hence, the benefit of Passes/PTOs corresponding to the next higher Grade Pay granted under MACP Scheme will be available to the employee. It is also reiterated that the grant of financial upgradation under the MACP Scheme does not entail any change in the designation, classification and status of an employee. Accordingly, the benefits related to higher status inherent in the higher Pay Band and / or Grade Pay is not available to such an employee who has been granted Grade Pay under the MACP Scheme.

3.No.E(Rep)1-06Transfer/Misc/1

Sub:- Inter Railway transfer cases- streamlining.

Ref:- Board's letters of even number dt. 23.10.2006 & 25.08.2008

The Conditions regarding completion of minimum service for consideration of Inter Railway own request Transfer of Group 'C' and 'D' employees, imposed vide Board's letters under reference, have been reviewed. Board has decided to withdraw the said conditions of completing minimum service laid down in Board's above quoted letters.

However, the system of putting transfer requests on web in the manner described in Board's letters under reference be expedited and there should be conscious efforts from Zonal Railway and PU administrations to consider request transfers in streamlined manner on regular basis so that the single largest reason for employees grievance is addressed in a regular manner.

4. No.2008/H-1/2/15, Dated 10.12.2010

Sub: Inclusion of legally divorced daughter of serving Railway employees and pensioners.

Arising out of demand raised by SIRF, it is hereby clarified that a legally divorced dependent daughter may be included in the list of family members in para 601 (5) (c) of IRMM 2000.

The rest of the contents of the above mentioned letters will remain unchanged.

Advance correction slip to para 601(5) (c) (ii) of IRMM 2000.

In para 601 (5), item (c) (ii) may be substituted as under:-
 Para 601 (5), item (c) (ii) : legally divorced daughters, widowed daughters, irrespective of their age, provided they are wholly dependent on the Railway employee.

5. No. E(W) 2007/CP-1/37, dated 10 -01-2011

Sub: Payment of Ex-gratia lump-sum compensation to families of Railway employees who die in harness on duty.

Ref: Board's letter No. E(W) 99/CP-1/1 dated 05.11.1999 (RBE No. 285/1999)

In partial modification of this office letter No. E(W) 99/CP-1/1 dated 09.02.2000, the clarification that the compensation payable under Workmen's Compensation Act (WCA) should be reduced from the lump-sum amount payable as Ex-gratis compensation is hereby withdrawn. However, the aggregate of the relief/Ex-gratis compensation paid from different sources of workmen compensation, viz. compensation under WCA, compensation under Section 124 of the Railways Act, 1989 as applicable, etc. is subject to the ceiling laid down

Railway Board orders continued in page-8

Railway Board's orders continued from page-7

in para12 of Annexure to Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare's O.M. No. 45/55/97- P&PW(C) dated 11.09.1998 circulated vide Board's letter No. E(W) 99 CP-1/1 dated 05.11.1999 as amended vide letter No. E(W) 2008/CP-1/7 dated 30.09.2008 notifying revised rates of compensation w.e.f. 01.01.2006. These orders are effective from 01.08.1997.

Sanction is also communicated to revision of the ceiling on aggregate amount mentioned in Para-12 of Annexure to the DOP&PW's O.M. dated 11.09.1998 ibid referred to above from Rs. 10 lakh to Rs. 20 lakh in each individual case w.e.f.01.01.2006.

6. No.2008/LMB/10/16, dated 27.01.2011**Sub: Entitlement of various types of accommodation based on the revised Pay Scales recommended by the 6th Central Pay Commission.**

Consequent upon the revision of the pay scales recommended by the 6th Central Pay Commission and as approved by the Government of India, the revised entitlement for allotment of the staff quarters will be as given below. This is in supersession of the Board's circular No.98./LMB/10/62 dated 10.01.2000 as amended from time to time.

S.N	Description	Type
1.	Staff with Grade Pay equal to or less than Rs. 1800	Type-I
2.	Staff with Grade Pay more than Rs. 1800 and upto 2400	Type-II
3.	Staff with Grade Pay more than Rs. 2400 and upto Rs. 4200	Type-III
4.	Staff With Grade Pay more than Rs. 4200	Type-IV
5.	Gazetted Officers with Grade Pay less than Rs. 6600	Type-IV
6.	Gazetted Officers with Grade Pav Rs-6600	Type-IV special
7.	Gazetted Officers with Grade Pay more than Rs. 6600	Type-V

Note-. No existing Type-IV or other types of quarters will be transferred from non-Gazetted pool to Gazetted pool merely because the number of staff eligible for such quarters in accordance with the above instructions happens to be less than the number of available quarters.

2. This order will come into force from the date of issue.

7. No. 1301 8 /1/2010-Estt. (Leave), Dated 30.12.2010 of Department of Personnel & Training**Sub: Child Care Leave to Central Government employees - regarding**

The undersigned is directed to say that subsequent to issue of this Department OM of even number dated 07/09/2010, this Department has been receiving references from various Departments, seeking clarifications. The doubts raised are clarified as under:-

1. Whether Earned Leave availed for any purpose can be converted into Child Care Leave? How should applications where the purpose of availing leave has been indicated as 'Urgent Work' but the applicant claims to have utilized the leave for taking care of the needs of the child, be treated?

Child Care Leave is sanctioned to women employees having minor children, for rearing or for looking after their needs like examination, sickness etc. Hence Earned Leave availed specifically for this purpose only should be converted.

2. Whether all Earned Leave availed irrespective of number of days i.e. less than 15 days, and number of spells can be converted? In cases where the CCL spills over to the next year (for example 30 days CCL from 27thDecember), whether the Leave should be treated as one or two spells?'

No. As the instructions contained in the OM dated 7.9.2010 has been given retrospective effect, all the conditions specified in the OM would have to be fulfilled for conversion of the Earned Leave into Child Care Leave. In cases where the leave spills over to the next year, it may be treated as one spell against the year in which the leave commences.

3. Whether those who have availed Child Care Leave for more than 3 spells with less than 15 days can avail further Child Care Leave for the remaining period of the current year?

No. As per the OM of even number dated 7.9.2010, Child Care Leave may not be granted in more than 3 spells. Hence CCL may not be allowed more than 3 times irrespective of the number of days or times Child Care Leave has been availed earlier. Past cases may not be reopened.

4. Whether LTC can be availed during Child Care Leave?

LTC cannot be availed during Child Care Leave as Child Care Leave is granted for the specific purpose of taking care of a minor child for rearing or for looking after any other needs of the child during examination, sickness etc.

Highlights of Union Budget 2011-12

- Exemption limit for the general category of individual taxpayers enhanced from Rs.1,60,000 to Rs.1,80,000 giving uniform tax relief of Rs.2,000.
- A new simplified form 'Sugam' to be introduced to reduce the compliance burden of small tax payers falling within presumptive taxation.
- Exemption limit enhanced from Rs.2,40,000 to Rs.2,50,000 and qualifying age reduced from 65 years to 60 years for senior citizens.
- Higher exemption limit of Rs.5,00,000 for Very Senior Citizens, who are 80 years or above
- Direct Taxes Code (DTC) to be finalised for enactment during 2011-12. DTC proposed to be effective from April 1, 2012.
- Allocation of Rs.2,14,000 crore for infrastructure in 2011-12. This is an increase of 23.3 per cent over 2010-11 and amounts to 48.5 per cent of total plan allocation.
- To boost infrastructure development, tax free bonds of Rs.30,000 crore proposed to be issued by Government undertakings during 2011-12.
- Additional deduction of Rs.20,000 for investment in long-term infrastructure bonds proposed to be extended for one more year.
- Hotel accommodation in excess of 1,000 per day brought under service tax.
- Tax on all services provided by hospitals with 25 or more beds with facility of central air conditioning.

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