

Voice of Rail Engineers

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INDIAN RAILWAYS TECHNICAL SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION**

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MASS DHARNA BY IRTSA SPIRITED SHOW BY RAIL ENGINEERS

Nearly 500 Rail Engineers from all over the Indian Railways, held a Protest Rally & Dharna on 8th Feb, 2016 at Jantar Mantar New Delhi - under the aegis of IRTSA - against the retrograde Report of 7th CPC.

A Delegation led by GS IRTSA submitted Memoranda to Cabinet Secretary, CRB & Members Empowered Committee for higher Pay Level & Gr-B & on other demands.



About 500 members of IRTSA from across all Railway Zones and Production units have participated in Dharna with spirit and vigor, held at Jantar mantar, New Delhi on 08.02.2016 against retrograde recommendations of 7th CPC. They have expressed their strong resentment and frustration over the report of 7th CPC. It was regretted that Railways did not disclose to the CPC the agreements on the issues of pay & classification of posts.

Er.M.Shanmugam Central President IRTSA termed 7th CPC as worst ever in the history in general, particularly for Technical Supervisors. He condemned Railway Board for not communicating its decision on granting higher Grade Pay for JEs & SSEs taken in the departmental anomaly committee and the decision on grant of Group 'B' (Gaz) Status to senior supervisors. He asked the cadre to fight with vigour in the heart to achieve the goal.

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CEC IRTSA APPEALS FOR HIGHER PAY LEVEL & GROUP 'B'

Central Executive Committee (CEC) IRTSA in the meeting held at Constantia Hall YWCA New Delhi on 08.02.2016, seriously regretted that Central Government employees in general and Technical Supervisors in particular are seriously aggrieved by extremely adverse & unjust Report of the Seventh Pay Commission. CEC IRTSA appealed to the Government & Ministry of Railway to suitably modify the recommendations especially in respect of Pay Level of Technical Supervisors, Classification of posts and other main demands submitted to Chairman Empowered Committee.

CALL ATTENTION CANDLE LIGHT AGITATION BY IRTSA

Urges empowered committee to concede justified demands of Technical Supervisors

IRTSA held candle light agitation on 29th Feb at Annanur suburban Railway Station, Chennai to draw the attention of Empowered Committee on the main demands of IRTSA.



Pay Level 8 for JE, 10 for SSE, upgradation of 33% of SSE as Principal SSE in Pay Level 11, classification as Group 'B' (Gaz), meaningful BD, HN & Night Duty Allowance, increased training & PCO allowance, etc are the main demands highlighted in the agitation.

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

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“SUCCESS COMES TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE”



Editorial

DISAPPOINTMENT CONTINUES LETDOWN BY 7TH CPC & UNION BUDGET NO RELIEF IN INCOME TAX, EXCEPT MINOR CONCESSION IN LOWEST SLAB

PF Withdrawal proposed to be Taxed

Union budget presented by Finance Minister on 29th Feb, turn out to a disappointing one for majority of countrymen and more particularly for salaried tax payers.

FM has proposed no changes in existing income tax slabs in the Budget for FY 2016-17. Nil tax for income up to Rs.2,50,000, 10% tax for income from 2,50,000 to 5 Lakhs, 20% tax for income from Rs. 5 Lakhs to 10 Lakhs and 30% tax for income above 10 Lakhs.

Insignificant relief, rebate on income tax for those earning upto or below 5 lakhs has been increased from Rs.2000 to Rs.5000.

For first time house buyers, additional exemption of Rs.50,000 for housing loans up to Rs.35 lakh, provided cost of house is not above Rs 50 lakh.

NPS with 1.15 crore members have savings totalling Rs.1.1 lakh crore. Accumulated savings under NPS that are fully taxable at the time of retirement are proposed to be taxed 60 percent of the retirement corpus, instead of exempting retirement corpus 100 percent, FM has proposed to tax EPF and other superannuation pension funds.

FM have find a new way of taxation through Employees' Provident Fund which have around Rs.10 lakh crore of retirement savings from 8.5 crore members. EPF contributions, income and the final corpus at the time of retirement are tax free now. But FM proposed 60 percent of tax at the time of withdrawal.

At the same time Government extended amnesty scheme to tax evaders and black money holders. By paying tax at 30 percent, 7.5 percent surcharge and 7.5 percent penalty one can declare his un-disclosed income / asset and the declarant can enjoy immunity from prosecution. But for Governments' inefficiency thousands of crores of money could have been collected as tax. This amnesty does not end here, Government has decided to infuse Rs.25,000 crore into state owned banks to compensate them from the burden of bad loans in the FY 2016-17.

Bad loans written off by public sector banks between 2004 and 2015 are Rs.2.11 lakh crore. Bad debts written off by 29 Government owned banks between 2013 and 2015 are worth of Rs.1.14 lakh corer. More dangerously Government says that, no consolidated list is available on biggest defaulters whose bad debts are to the tune of Rs 100 crore or more. Still, the finance ministry has proposed to infuse Rs 70,000 crore over the next four years. Capital infusion by the government is always at the taxpayers' expense and at the cost of higher allocation for critical sectors such as health and education.

Stressed assets, including non-performing assets (NPAs) and restructured loans are accounted around Rs.7 lakh crore which is roughly 6% of GDP.

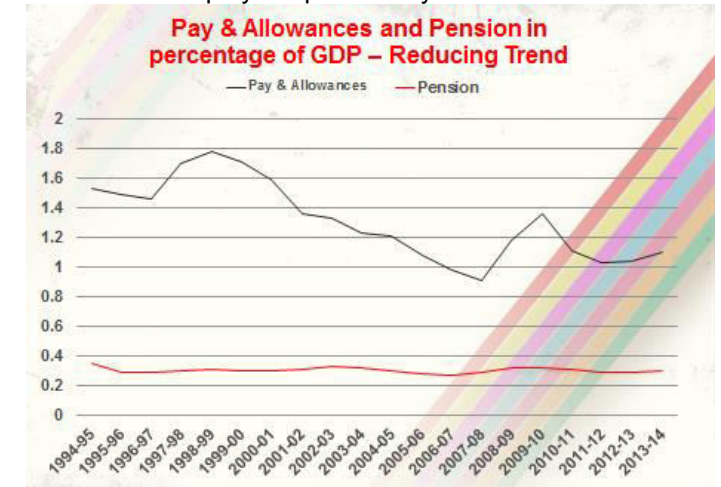
On the other side, in the last decade Government had entirely new income in the form of spectrum auction. Spectrum auction within the 800, 900, and 2100 megahertz bands saw record bids to Rs1.1 lakh crore in march 2015. Mega Spectrum Auction expected to fetch Rs 5.4 lakh crore in mid-2016.

Still, Government feels that a lot of burden to pay for its employees which is not justified due to following facts

1. Pay & allowances in terms of GDP has come down from 1.53% in 1994-95 to 1.10% in 2013-14. During this period pension also come down from 0.35% to 0.30% in terms of GDP.
2. Almost during this period entirely new income through spectrum action has increased Government income.
3. Income through Coal auction has also increased.
4. Income through taxes on petrol, diesel, etc increased substantially.
5. Crores of bad loans have to be recovered.

Still Government & Financial experts feel Government employees taking away lion's share.

Finance & economy management can be done sill in a better way, accommodating justified demands of Government employees particularly of Technocrats



..Candle light agitation Continued from page-1



....Mass Dharan by IRTSA continued from page-1

Sri.Harchandan Singh, GS/IRTSA addressing the gathering said that Government should not neglect this nerve cadre who plays key role in safe running of trains. He said that 7th CPC had just reflected the views of Departments without judicially considering submissions made by IRTSA, 7th CPC did not played its assigned role in determining the Pay level of vital categories particularly for the category of Technical Supervisors, he lambasted. He said that Empowered Committee should work judiciously to modify the recommendations of 7th CPC. He insisted that Technical Supervisors may resort to "Work to Rule", if main demands of IRTSA were not addressed.



To show their solidarity with the genuine demands of IRTSA, Federation leaders addressed the Mass Dharna. Sri. Guman Singh President NFIR in his address said that 7th CPC rendered injustice to on-field categories of Technical Supervisors and Technicians.



Com. Shiv Gopal Misra, GS/AIRF, while addressing the gathering said that all should be prepared to go for Work-to-Rule as the government is silent on the genuine demands made by NJCM and also said the Trade Unions/Federations will not be responsible for the dire consequences. He expressed his apprehension that Empowered Committee may turn out to be an Eye-wash. AIRF is striving hard for the betterment of Technical Supervisors and also said that he knows how hard is their Duties, Role & Responsibilities in safe running of trains as he had been a Technical Supervisor. He further said that upgrading of post of in-charge SSE is more inevitable now. He assured his fullest support for Technical Supervisors in all respects.

Dr.M.Raghaviah, GS/NFIR, while addressing said that NFIR & AIRF were fighting unitedly for the betterment of Railwaymen since it is crucial time now to keep away the differences and fight for common cause to modify most damaging report of 7th CPC. He said that it is unfortunate that 7th CPC had cheated Railwaymen particularly Technical Supervisors, Chairman 7th CPC has gone back from his own words that all the SSEs will be classified as Group 'B'. Pay Commission is meant to independently study the duties, responsibilities & accountabilities to arrive the pay level, but 7th CPC bent to listen to Railway Board and Railway Board had betrayed Technical Supervisors by hiding

the facts from 7th CPC. It is not the failure of Federations or IRTSA, it is going to be failure of Railway Board for forcing the strike on Railwaymen, he said. He expressed his confidence over achieving higher pay level for JEs and SSEs as demanded by IRTSA and said that demand of Technical Supervisors appears as first item in the joint memorandum submitted by NFIR & AIRF. He reiterated that NFIR will always strive for the betterment of Technical Supervisors as they are the driving force of Indian Railways.



Earlier Er.L.N.Pathak Patron IRTSA condemned anti worker policies of Government & most damaging report of 7th CPC. He said that Railways have no career plan for its Engineers and it is going to be suicidal for Railways and the Nation.

Resolution of Main demands proposed by Er.Kalyan Banerjee, Working President IRTSA seconded by Er.R.B.Singh Zonal Secretary W.Rly was passed unanimously by the members of Mass Dharna.

Er. Darshan Lal, Working President, Er. K.V.Ramesh, Sr.JGS, Er. Venkata Ramana Moorthy Zonal Secretary SC Rly, Er. Ashoke Chowdhury Zonal Secretary CLW, Er. Vinod Kumar Zonal Secretary SWR, Er. O.N.Purohit Zonal secretary NWR, Er. R.K.Pandey Zonal Secretary NER, Er. V.P.Abdul Salam Zonal Secretary SR, Er. Mukesh Verma Zonal Secretary DLW, Er. Tamilmaran Working President SR, Er. Thirumaran President GOC, Er. Baldev Raj RCF and Er. Jagatar Singh RCF addressed the Mass Dharan. At the end of Dharna a procession towards parliament was led by Federation leaders.



IRTSA delegation led by GS IRTSA including Darshan Lal, K.V.Ramesh, R.B.Singh and N.V.Ramanamoorthy submitted detailed Memoranda to Cabinet Secretary, CRB, Secretary Implementation cell and Members Empowered Committee for higher Pay Level & Group 'B' to Technical Supervisors & on other demands.

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

IRTSA DELEGATE MEETING WITH MEMBER STAFF RAILWAY BOARD



On 9th Feb, a day after conducting very successful Mass Dharan at Jantar Mantar New Delhi, IRTSA President led a delegation to Railway Board to highlight and deliberate main demands of IRTSA. In the discussion with Member Staff Railway Board, the situation of Junior Engineers placed in the same pay level of Senior Technicians who are being supervised by Junior Engineers and stagnation of Senior Section Engineers particularly directly recruited Graduate Engineers were explained to MS. Senior Technicians getting promoted as JE in the same pay is also anomalous and against the recommendations of 6th CPC. MS was informed that Railway Board has not properly communicated decision taken in Departmental Anomalies Committee (Railways) held on 01.06.2010 to 7th CPC for improving the Grade Pay of JE & SSE based on higher duties, responsibilities & accountabilities shouldered by them. Also decision taken by Railway Board to place SSE in Group 'B' (Gaz) was not informed to 7th CPC, MS was told.

Memorandum on the following main demands besides other demands was handed over to Member staff.

- i. Pay Level of 8 for JE and 10 for SSE (*instead of Level 6 and 7 proposed by the 7th CPC*)
- II. Up-gradation of 33% posts of SSE as Principal SSE & placing them in level-11
- iii. Pay Level 8 to DMS, CMA & JE/IT and Level-10 CDMS, CMS & Sr. Er/IT.
- iv. Classifying SSE, CMS, CDMS & Sr.Er/IT as Group 'B'(Gazetted)

Memorandums were submitted to Chairman Railway Board, Financial Commissioner, Member Mechanical, Additional Member Staff and EDPC-II.

K.V.Ramesh Sr JGS, P.Baskaran, Org Secy, Lakshminaryanan Org Secy, B.Saravanan CEC member, Shanmugavel and M S V R Pandian Advisors were part of IRTSA delegates.

NEW BODY OF IRTSA SWR/OL

President	Er Sree Kumar, SSE/SIG/ASK
V. President	Er C C Rajesh, JE/C&W/ASK
Secretary	Er Chandan kumar jha, SSE/DRG/HQ/UBL
Treasurer	Er Biresh kumar, SSE/PWAY/DEPO/ASK
Org Secy	Er Hemant Verma, SSE/SIG/PROJ/ASK
Auditor	Er Deepak Raj, SSE/PWAY/CN/BNC

MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN RAILWAY BOARD BY IRTSA NE.RLY

IRTSA delegates of NE Railways led by Er.R K. Pandey Zonal Secretary, Er. Dinesh Chaturvedi Zonal Vice-President and many other office bearers including Er.S.N.Dubey, Er.D.C.Mishra, Er.Anirudh Prasad, Er.Ajay Yadav,Er.R.P.Singh,Er.Vinay Srivastava, Er.Arun Tripathi and Er.Alam met Chairman Railway Board during hi visit to Gorakhpur on 02.01.2016.

In their brief interaction IRTSA delegates expressed deep displeasure of Technical Supervisors on the retrograde recommendations of 7th CPC and appealed to CRB to initiate remedial actions by suitably modifying the recommendations of 7th CPC, particularly for the Category of Technical Supervisors. A memorandum on the demands of IRTSA also handed over to CRB.

GS IRTSA ADDRESS MEETINGS AT WESTERN RAILWAY

Er. Harchandan Singh GS/IRTSA addressed the Technical Supervisors / Supervising Engineers of Mahalaxmi Workshop on 6th Jan 2016. He has termed the 7th CPC report as all-time worst report in the history of Pay Commissions. The commission has acted as directed by Govt. which is shown in every concluding paras of each category, commission has mentioned that Govt. do not agree to demands, which was justified in previous para. What was the need for this commission for wasting so much time in paper compilation etc. as commission has not done any justice to deprived category. Hence, it may assumed that 7th CPC has acted as Sarkari Vetan Aayog he said.

Further, GS /IRTSA has termed IRTSA a movement similar to that of Vinova Bhav's Sarvodaya Andolan for the welfare of Technical Supervisors / Supervising Engineers category. During last 50 years of struggle IRTSA has fought with determination and with able leadership. Er. R. B. Singh Zonal Secretary has explained the history of IRTSA, since its inception in 1965 has fought with great vision and courage, that's why IRTSA achieved what was asked from 3rd, 4th and 5th pay commissions. Er. Anthony Francis JGS/ IRTS , Er. Hari. K, Er. Sanjay Girkar, Er. Anwar Saikh and others expressed their views, and sought clarifications from GS/IRTSA.

GS/IRTSA Er. Harchandan Singh also motivated members of Lower Parel Workshop on 14th Jan 2016 by explaining IRTSA's activities for the betterment of category for the past 50 years. He has asked young generation to come up to work with IRTSA for their good future. Er. R. B. Singh Zonal Secretary asked the Technical Supervisors / Supervising Engineers to join in IRTSA movement as veterans are also fighting with us. We will win this fight as like we have won in past with our visionary leadership he said. Er. Girish Bhat Org.Secretary/ CEC, N.K Jain Secretary, Er. SK Pal, Er. Kumar Bhivgade and whole team of IRTSA has done a good arrangement for conducting the meeting. Members of Parel Workshop sought many clarifications from GS/ IRTSA and he has given answers to all, Meeting was concluded with vote of thanks

**Members submit your annual membership for IRTSA
Rs.300 including annual subscription for "Voice of
Rail Engineers"**

From President's Desk

STRATEGY ADOPTED BY IRTSA TO PURSUE THE DEMANDS OF RAIL ENGINEERS (TECHNICAL SUPERVISORS) DURING THE LAST 4 MONTHS AFTER SUBMISSION OF 7th CPC REPORT.

- 7th CPC submitted its report on 19.11.2015.
- On 25.11.2015 ICF & SR- Zones conducted a Mega Demonstration in front of GM's Office at ICF and a resolution was passed against unrealistic & unjustified recommendations of the 7th pay commission and was sent to Railway Board & Minister for Railways.
- IRTSA opposed Finance Ministry's unilateral order to constitute an **"Implementation Committee"** straight away as if Government endorsed all recommendations of the above CPC report.
- IRTSA further stressed to constitute a High level committee to analyze the report of 7th CPC and to suggest to Government about incorporating required changes on most unacceptable and unjustified recommendations.
- IRTSA strongly pursued with JCM leaders to constitute such a high level committee and demanded to stall the functioning of the Implementation Committee without taking into account demands arising out of 7th CPC report.
- The Government constituted a High Level Committee and **"Empowered Committee of Secretaries"** headed by Cabinet Secretary and CRB as one of its Members.
- Now the Empower Committee has started reviewing the Pay Commissions report on the basis of collecting reactions from various Departmental Heads as well as from the various stake holders, Unions and Associations. It has paved way for the affected categories one more chance for echoing their voice in correcting certain most unjustified recommendations.
- **Er Harchandan Singh GS IRTSA** one of the most experienced trade unionist assisted by **Er. K.V. Ramesh Sr. JS GS/ IRTSA** prepared strong memorandums and placed before Empowered Committee, Ministers for Finance & Railways and Railway Board. They were also assisting organized labour in shaping out their demands.
- IRTSA team led by the Central President, met respected CRB, MS, MM, ML, Addl. MS, EDPC-I, EDPC-II and EDIR at their chambers during their camp at Delhi for more than a week. Many facts brought out by IRTSA were proved to be eye openers.
- Entire Railway Board was reminded of its own decision of improving the pay scales of JE & SSE and classification of SSE as Group 'B' (Gaz) well before the constitution of 7th Pay Commission and negligence from the part of Railway Board for not conveying its earlier decision to 7th CPC.
- Later the team met Honorable Minister for Railways, and raised the same issue and Honorable MR, directed his Administrative PS to verify the facts and then administrative PS forwarded the Memorandum to the respected FC for his commends.
- Then the team met the respected FC explained to him about the issues mentioned above. FC directed the team to explain all details to EDPC – II and FC said that he will deal the matter directly after getting the report from EDPC – II and ED – Finance.
- Finally the team met ED-IR and Addl. MS and informed them that IRTSA will stage a call attention Mass Dharna at Jantar Mantar on 08.02.2016 so that the Empower Committee will be posted about the issues for obtaining the positive response.
- On 25.01.2016, the team led by CP/ IRTSA met Shri. T.G. Venkatesh Babu, MP and Member of Standing Committee Finance. CP explained to him about the retrograde recommendations of the 7th CPC and sought his assistance to place it to the notice of the Honorable FM and Cabinet Secretary (Chairman Empower Committee). We are grateful to the respected MP who had made a strong recommendation in his covering letter and handed over the same to Honorable FM and forwarded it to the Cabinet Secretary. Letter in support of IRTSA demands from some other MPs were also sent to Railway Ministry.
- IRTSA organized a **MASS DHARNA** on 08.2.2016 at Jantar Mantar in which more than **500 Rail Engineers** from all parts of the country participated.
- Dr. M. Ragaviah ji, the Chairman JCM & GS/ NFIR, along with Shri. Guman Singh – President NFIR participated in the Dharna and assured the members that they will fight tooth and nail to find solution to the issues raised in the Dharna.
- Com. Shiv Gopal Mishra, Secretary JCM & GS/ AIRF attended the Dharna and strongly protested against the 7th CPC report and assured the agitated members that JCM and AIRF will support our cause in strong voice in the Empowered Committee.
- IRTSA team led by Er Harchandan Singh GS IRTSA submitted memorandum to Chairman Empowered Committee, CRB and Minister for Finance.
- On 09.02.2016, CP/ IRTSA and 4 CEC members got an appointment with respected MS at his chamber and MS was kind enough to spare more than 30 minutes in hearing our explanations and many queries made by him were clarified by CP with proofs. Respected MS assured the team that all possible steps will be taken to highlight to the Empowered Committee for upgrading Pay Scale of JE s and SSEs.
- **IRTSA will keep no stone unturned** for realization of promises made by the authorities. IRTSA will proceed in building momentum with the Empowered Committee. Railway Board. Railway & Finance Ministers will be continuously highlighted of the issue by appropriate channels.

PRESIDENT IRTSA ADDRESS IRTSA RCF



HIGHLIGHTS OF RAILWAY BUDGET 2016-17

Theme of Budget - Reorganize, Restructure Rejuvenate.

Operating Ratio - 2015-16 - 90% & For 2016-17- 92%.

- Restrict growth of Ordinary Working Expenses by 11.6% after building in immediate impact of 7th CPC.
- Reductions planned in diesel and electricity consumption.
- Revenue generation targeted at Rs. 1,84,820 crore

Vision:

By 2020, Reserved accommodation on trains available on demand, time tabled freight trains, high end technology to improve safety record, elimination of all unmanned level crossings, improved punctuality, higher average speed of freight trains, semi high speed trains running along the golden quadrilateral, zero direct discharge of human waste.

Achievements

- Commissioning of 2,500 kms Broad Gauge lines & 1,600 kms of electrification – highest ever.
- In 2016-17 - targeted commissioning 2,800 kms of track & target to electrify 2,000 kms
- **Commissioning of Broad Gauge lines** @ over 7 kms per day against an average of about 4.3 kms per day in the last 6 years. Would increase to about 13 kms per day in 2017-18 and 19 kms per day in 2018-19
- Generation of employment of about 9 crore man days in 2017-18 and 14 crore man days in 2018-19.
- **Dedicated Freight Corridor** - All contracts for civil engineering works to be awarded by March 31st 2016.
- **Make in India:** Finalised bids for two loco factories; proposed to increase the current procurement of train sets by 30%.
- **Partnership:** Cabinet approval for JVs with State Governments, 17 consented and 6 MOUs signed with State Governments. 44 new partnership works covering about 5,300 kms and valuing about Rs. 92,714 crore.

Improvement for unreserved passenger

- Unreserved superfast service & unreserved coaches with potable water and higher number of mobile charging points
- Sale of tickets through hand held terminals.

Improvement for Reserved passenger

- Generated over 65,000 additional berths
- Trains at speeds of 130 kmph and above.
- Full third AC service with an optional service for meals.
- Overnight double-decker on the busiest routes
- Facility of cancellation through the 139 helpline post
- Convert all operational halts into commercial halts for the benefit of the common man.
- Optional travel insurance for rail journeys at the time of booking
- Design and layout of our coaches to ensure higher carrying capacity and provision of new amenities
- Integrate all facilities into two mobile apps dealing with ticketing issues and for receipt and redressal of complaints and suggestions

- **High Speed Rail:** Passenger corridor from Ahmedabad to Mumbai being undertaken with the assistance Japan.

Suburban traffic: Launching a new investment framework for developing suburban systems in partnership with State Governments,

Freight

- Time-tabled freight container, parcel and special commodity trains.
- Access to container traffic in all terminals/sheds.

- India's first rail auto hub in Chennai.
 - Rail side logistics parks & warehousing in PPP mode.
 - Cold storage facilities on vacant land near freight terminals
 - Leasing of general purpose wagons
- Rail Development Authority :** To enable fair pricing of services, promote competition, protect customer interests and determine efficiency standards; draft bill to be ready after holding extensive stakeholder consultations

A new beginning

- Proposed to reorganize the Railway Board along business lines and suitably empower Chairman, Railway Board
 - To set up a Railway Planning & Investment Organisation for drafting medium (5 years) and long (10 years) term corporate plans
 - Forming a holding company of companies owned by IR
- Innovation:** by setting aside a sum of Rs. 50 crore for providing innovation grants to employees, startups and small businesses

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE 2015-16: Plan size for 2015-16 is currently estimated at 1,00,000 crore

Budget Estimates 2016-17: Railways are preparing a Plan size of Rs. 1,21,000 crore in 2016-17.

Compiled by K.V.Ramesh Sr.JGS IRTSA

Newly elected office bearers of EMU Maintenance workshop Avadi, S.Rly



ADDITIONAL LIST OF CEC MEMBERS IRTSA

Er.Arul Kumar - SSE/ICF - 9003149201

Er.A.Shankaragurunathan - SSE/ICF - 8056050346

Er.D.Aribaskar – SSE/ICF – 805050363

Task Force Members - Er.C.Anandan JE/ICF 8056050077 & Er.R.Suresh JE /ICF 805605323

HIGHLIGHTS OF UNION BUDGET 2016-17

- **No change in existing tax rates**
- **Ceiling of tax rebate under section 87A raised from 2000 to 5000 to lessen tax burden on individuals with income up to 5 lacs.**
- **Increase in the limit of deduction of rent paid under section 80GG from 24000 per annum to 60000, to provide relief to those who live in rented houses.**
- **For first time house buyers, additional exemption of Rs. 50,000 for housing loans up to Rs. 35 lakh, provided cost of house is not above Rs. 50 lakh**
- **Additional fiscal burden due to 7th Central Pay Commission recommendations and OROP.**
- **Withdrawal up to 40% of the corpus at the time of retirement to be tax exempt in the case of NPS. Same norms for EPF taxable. & superannuation funds, ie. 60% of corpus to be taxed.**
- **Annuity fund which goes to legal heir will not be taxed**

Candlelight Agitation by IRTSA in front of MMC Complex Chennai

Procession on wheels from GM's office ICF to Chennai Central

22nd Jan 2016: Members of Indian Railways Technical Supervisors Association (IRTSA) staged candlelight agitation in front of MMC Complex (Chennai Central Sub-urban terminal) against most damaging report submitted by 7th Pay Commission on 22.01.2016 between 18.15 hours and 19.00 hours.

Earlier Members of IRTSA working in ICF Perambur came on procession in two wheelers from GM's office ICF to Chennai Central.

Need for higher Pay scales for them have been grossly ignored by 7th CPC. Higher Recruitment Qualifications, Training, Job Requirements, onerous Nature of Duties, and increase in their Responsibilities due to modernization and introduction of high speed trains, etc. has not been considered at all.

Pay scale of JE is equated with senior technician who work under JE, in violation of Supreme Court Judgement. Pay scale of SSE is kept lower than non-core categories like accounts and teachers. SSEs are also not classified as Group 'B' (Gaz) as like their counterparts working in other departments.

Technical Supervisors / Supervising Engineers are very much agitated because Railway Board has not conveyed its own decision of improving the pay scales of JE & SSE and classification of SSE as Group 'B' (Gaz) to the 7th Pay Commission. In fact Railway Board made the submission against its own decisions.

The situation of no career progression for Technical Supervisors needs to be addressed immediately. JEs having the chance for only one promotion and SSEs having no chance for promotion have to be rectified. Most damagingly Graduate Engineers recruited as SSE are stagnated in their entry grade itself.

It is also denied that Government's expense on account of Pay & Allowances is getting increased. As per RBI statistics expenses on account of Pay & Allowances had come down from 1.53% of GDP in the year 1994-95 to 1.1% in the year 2013-14. Expenses towards pension also came down from 0.35% to 0.30% of GDP. During this period recommendations of 5th & 6th Pay Commissions were implemented.

7th CPC itself observed that financial impact on account of increase in pay, allowances & pension will be 23.55%. At present, without implementing 7th CPC Report, Year on year increase in the expenditure in both pay and pension has averaged about 11%. Thus real increase on account of increase in pay, all allowances & pension will be only 12.55% (23.55% – 11% = 12.55%).

M.Shanmugm President, K.V.Ramesh Sr.JGS, Tamilmaran Vice President S.Rly, and P.Baskaran Vice President ICF addressed the agitation. V.P.Abdul Salam Zonal Secretary S.Rly & V.B.Naryanan Zonal Secretary ICF made arrangements for the agitation.



..... Continued on Page-8

CANDLE LIGHT AGITATION AT CHENNAI

continued from page-7

THE HINDU • MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2016

Technical supervisors seek higher pay scale

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

CHENNAI: Members of Indian Railways Technical Supervisors Association staged a demonstration in the city last week in support of their demands, including the need for a higher pay scale that has been ignored by the seventh Central Pay Commission.

They said the higher recruitment qualifications, training, job requirements,

nature of their work and increase in responsibilities due to modernisation and introduction of high-speed trains were not considered. The members, working as Junior Engineer and Senior Section Engineer, denied that the government's expense on account of pay, allowances and pension will increase by 23.55 per cent and said the real increase will be only 12.55 per cent, a press release said.

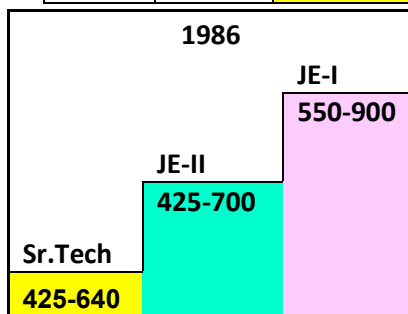
Published By N. Ravi at Kasturi Buildings, 859 & 860, Anna Salai, Chennai-600002 on behalf of KASTURI & S

**GENERAL BODY MEETING OF IRTSA RCF KAPURTHALA**

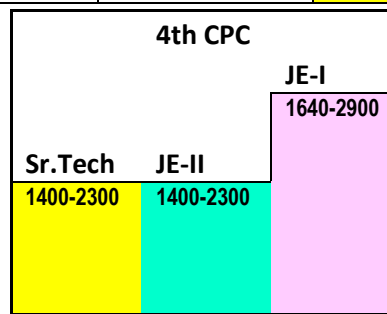
PAY EROSION OF JUNIOR ENGINEER (JE)

1. Sr. Technician working under JE-II.
2. JE-II was the promotion post for Sr. Technician and JE-I was the promotion post for JE-II.
3. 5th CPC recommended separate pay scales for Sr. Technician, JE-II & JE-I.
4. After 5th CPC Railways equated Sr. Technician pay with the pay of JE-II, violating the principle of Supervisor should be placed in higher pay than the persons being supervised.
5. 6th CPC recommended separate Grade Pay for JE and Sr. Technicians and stated that Grade Pay decides the hierarchy of the post, senior post placed in higher Grade Pay and promotion happens progressively in next higher Grade Pay.
6. After 6th CPC Railways equated Sr. Technician with merged GP for JE-II & JE-I ie. Two grade negative progression for JE-I.
7. 7th CPC ignored the facts and just recommended replacement scales.

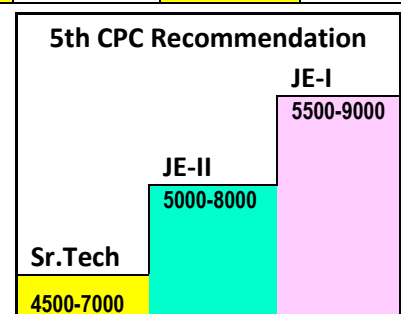
	3rd CPC	14.02.1986	4th CPC	5th CPC	5th CPC Modified	6th CPC Grade Pay	6th CPC Modified	7th CPC
JE I	550-900		1640-2900	5500-9000 (S-10)		4200		6
JE II	425-700		1400-2300	5000-8000 (S-9)		4200		6
Sr.Tech	No post	425-645	1400-2300	4500-7000 (S-8)	5000-8000	2800	4200	6



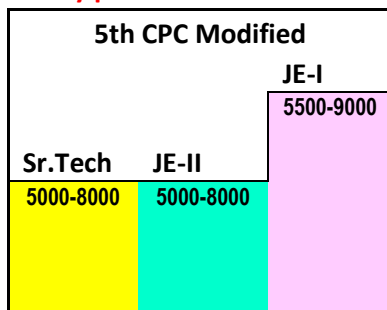
10% of Tech Gr-I upgraded as personal post scale Rs.425-640 and clearly placed below JE-II.



4th CPC recommended same scale to JE-II & Sr.Tech resulted in lot of litigation.

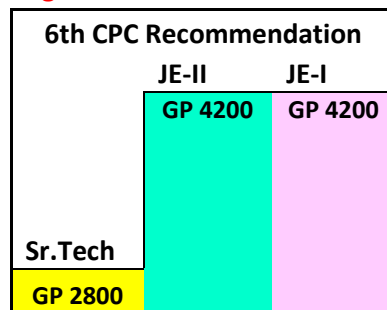


5th CPC cleared the anomaly created by 4th CPC. Recommended separate pay scale for JE-II & Sr.Tech

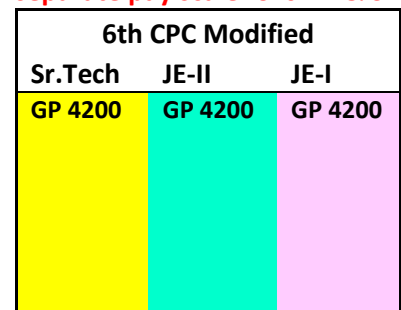


Rly upgraded Sr.Tech on par with JE-II violating the principle of supervisors should be paid more than those being supervised.

Sr. Tech made as cadre post pay fixation allowed.



6th CPC recommended separate Grade Pay for JE (JE-II & JE-I merged) & Sr.Tech and stated that senior post should have higher GP and promotion should happen progressively in higher GP.



Rly upgraded Sr.Tech on par with JE violating 6th CPC recommendation. JE-I is equated with Sr.Tech who were two grades below.

Note

- JE-I promoted from the pool of JE-II with entry qualification of Diploma.
- Job nature of JE is different, requires higher level of knowledge, qualification, training, expertise etc.
- Sr.Tech promoted from the pool of technician with entry qualification ITI.
- Sr. Technicians take the instructions from JEs. They are Guided, trained, monitored, etc by JE. Their performance is appraised by JEs

7th CPC		
Sr.Tech	JE-II	JE-I
L-6	L-6	L-6

7th CPC continued the anomaly?
A great injustice not only to JE but for Sr. Technicians also.

IRTSA MEETING WITH MOSR

IRTSA office bearers led by Er.Mukesh Verma Zonal Secretary DLW met Sri. Manoj Sinha Hon'ble Minister of state for Railways at Varanasi on 21st Feb 2016.



They held discussion with MOSR on main demands of Technical Supervisors and handed over memorandum on the following main demands

1. Junior Engineers (JEs) on the Railways may please be placed in Level 8 (instead of level 6); and
2. Senior Section Engineers (SSEs) may please be placed in Level 10 (instead of Level 7) in the new Pay Matrix.
3. Upgradation of 33% posts of SSE as principal SSE & placed in Level-11
4. Classification of SSE, CDMS, CMS & Sr.Er(IT) in Group 'B' instead of Group 'C' Gazetted like all other Departments and as per orders of DoPT

Sri. Sinha gave patient hearing and assured IRTSA delegates that he will initiate action after completion of Railway Budget proceedings.

General Body meeting of IRTSA EMU Maintenance Shed Avadi, S.Rly

IRTSA Avadi Car Shed Southern Railway conducted its General Body meeting at Railway Institute on 29th Feb. Sri. M. Shanmugam Central President graced as Chief Guest and in his speech explained activities of IRTSA for 50 years and particularly after the submission of 7th CPC report. Er.V.P.Abdul Salam Zonal Secretary S.Rly briefed about action taken by IRTSA during manhandling of supervisors in Chennai division. Er.K.V.Ramesh Sr.JGS IRTSA explained two court cases, for higher Grade Pay filed at CAT Chennai and Classification of SSE, CDMS, CMS & Sr.Er/IT as Group 'B'. Earlier Er.K.Perumal welcomed the gathering and at the end Er.John Britto proposed vote of thanks.

NEW OFFICE BEARERS OF IRTSA AVADI CAR SHED SR

Advisor	Er.C.Suryanarayana
President	Er.John Britto
Wrk. President	Er. G.Raveendran
Vice President	Er. C.Ajith Kumar & Er. A.Selvaraj
Secretary	Er.K.Perumal
Treasurer	Er. E.Girish
Jt.Secy	Er.Sarangi & Er.Srinivasa Rao
Org. Secy	Er.Manickavasagam
Asst.Treasurer	Er. H.K.Patro
EXE. Members	Er. Raja Malliga, Er.Boopathy, Er.M.S.Raja, Er.Ponnugangam, Er.S.Boovaragamoorthy, Er.Jettison Miranda & Er.Thyagarajulu.

Highlights of IRTSA memorandum submitted to Chairman empowered committee

On 8th Feb 2016, delegation of IRTSA led by Er. Harchandan Singh GS IRTSA submitted a memorandum to Chairman Empowered Committee and other members of the committee detailing on the following issues,

1. Pay level 8 for JE and 10 for SSE.
2. Up-gradation of 33% posts of SSE as principal SSE & placing them in level-11
3. Similarly placed Rail Engineers who have same recruitment qualifications as those of Technical Supervisors and who are working in CMT, Stores & Information Technology wings of Railways i.e. DMS, CMA & JE/IT may please be placed in same Level.
4. Classifying SSE, CMS, CDMS & Sr.Er/IT as Group 'B'(Gaz)
5. Common fitment factor of 3.15 times of 6th CPC basic pay.
6. Unequal pay rise proposed by 7th CPC – inadequate for PB-1 & PB-2, heavily in favour of higher grades
7. Annual increment of 5% of pay.
8. Two increments on Promotion & MACP.
9. Withdrawal of Unfair benchmark of "very good" proposed by the 7th CPC
10. Financial upgradation under MACPS in cadre hierarchy after 4, 8, 16 & 24 years – As per career progression of Group 'A' Officers.
11. Promotion of serving Graduate Engineers to Gr 'A'
12. Unjust factors adopted by 7th CPC to calculate allowances in 7th CPC scale - Raising of all Allowances as per multiple factor
13. Meaningful Breakdown Allowance, NH Allowance & Night Duty Allowance.
14. PCO Allowance at existing rate.
15. Extend PCO Allowance to CMT, Stores, Design & Drawing and other left out areas.
16. Teaching Allowance @ 30% of basic pay.
17. Risk & Hardship Allowance for sheds & depots and open line staff & Technical Supervisors.
18. Design Allowance for Design & Drawing Engineers.
19. Internet Allowance & Mobile Phone Allowance
20. Reduction of Abnormal deduction proposed for CGEGIS.
21. Withdraw National Pension Scheme.
22. Additional Pension from 65 years onwards

Court Case for Higher Grade Pay –

Next hearing is fixed on 10th March 2016 in OA No: 706/2013 – IRTSA Vs Union of India in CAT Chennai

Court Case for Grant Group-B (Gaz)

No:211/Pb2014 IRTSA Vs UOI in CAT Chandigarh. Hearing completed on 01.03.2016 and Judgment reserved.

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