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Railways files reply for IRTSA's Gr-B case in CAT Chandigarh IRTSA to file a rejoinder soon

IRTSA has filed OA No 211/PB/2014 at CAT Chandigarh pleading for Group 'B' Gazetted status to SSE, CMS, CDMS & Sr.Engineer/IT. IRTSA has been represented by Harchandan Singh General Secretary, Darshan Lal Working President, K.V. Ramesh Sr. JGS and 19 individual aggrieved Engineers working in RCF, Kapurthala and the respondents are Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Personnel & Training and General Manager RCF.

Respondents have filed their reply on 5th August 2014 and vehemently argued against the appeal of IRTSA. Respondents submitted that the Indian Railways is a multi-disciplinary operational system involving safety considerations in operation of trains. Human factor is a vital factor in above operations. Service conditions of staff are therefore required to be governed keeping in view functional, operational and administrative requirements of the organization to ensure safe, effective and efficient functioning of the system.

Railway employees are governed by separate set of rules adopted by Ministry of Railways based on administrative, functional and operational requirements.

Railway servants are governed by the Railway Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 2008, Railway Services (Conduct) Rules, 1996, Railway Services (Discipline & Appeal) Rules, 1968, the provisions of Indian Railway Establishment Code and various other Rules as notified / adopted by the Ministry of Railways.

Posts of staff employed under various Ministries of Government of India (other than Railways) are classified as Central Civil Service posts and are governed by Central Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 2008, Central Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1965 and various other Rules notified by Ministry of Finance or DoPT etc. and governing central civil services under above Ministries of Government of India. Above rules are not applicable to Railway service posts / Railway servants.

As per Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961, jurisdiction of DoPT in the matter of General Policy matters regarding classification of posts and grant of Gazetted status in relation to services excludes Railway Services.

The existing classification of Railway servants in Group 'D', 'C', 'B' & 'A' on the basis of the existing scales of pay will continue in the revised pay structure till further

President IRTSA meets 7th CPC

M.Shanmugam, Central President IRTSA who is also Chairman Indian Railways Integrated Technical Forum (IRITF) met Chairman & Secretary 7th Pay Commission on 25th August at Bangalore during 7th Pay Commission's visit to Bangalore. A memorandum on demands of Technical Supervisors / Rail Engineers mainly emphasizing on replacement Grade Pay of Rs.4800 to JE/CMA/DMS & GP of Rs.5400 to SSE/CMS/CDMS/Sr.Sr(IT), financial upgradation of promotional hierarchy, inclusion of training period for financial upgradation under MACPS, principles of pay determination and injustice done to the NPS employees was handed over. Shanmugavel, Advisor/IRTSA, V.P.Abdul Salam Zonal Secy/SR, M.T.Sujit Kumar Wkg. President/SR, K.Gobinath Sr.Org.Secy, E.Ramesh JGS, G.Aranganathan & B.Sarvanan were present with President IRTSA during his visit to 7th Pay Commission.

order except as may be specifically prescribed otherwise by Ministry of Railways (Railway Board). No change in the classification should be made in the revised scales.

In other Ministries Group 'B' posts are gazetted as well as non-gazetted. The Group 'B' on the Zonal Railways which are operational systems, are exclusively Gazetted posts. Keeping in view the functional requirements of above posts classified as Group 'B' (Gaz), there are much stringent norms / procedure for appointment to such posts. On the other hand, norms / standards for appointment to Group 'C' posts are much lower.

At present there are approximately 9,100 Group 'A' posts and approximately 8,200 Group 'B' posts on Railways, there are a whopping 2,12,000 Group 'C' employees in Grade pay Rs.4200 and 67,000 Group 'C' in Grade Pay Rs.4600. Reclassification of posts in Grade Pay Rs.4200 and 4600 as Group 'B' would give rise to numerous administrative, functional and operational problems / difficulties.

In Railways Group 'C' posts in higher scales / Grade Pay ever keep increasing under the mechanism of restructuring undertaken on periodic basis.

There is an administrative linkage between the number of posts in Group 'B' and Group 'A'. Increase in the number of Group 'B' posts would necessitate creation of additional Group 'A' posts. By merely classifying Group 'C' posts as Group 'B' on the scale of pay or criteria adopted by other organization would completely upset this equilibrium between Group 'B' and Group 'A' and there will be administrative chaos. ...

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"SUCCESS COMES TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE"



Editorial

Group 'B' to Senior Supervisors - Double standard of Railway Board Rly. Board not in mood to concede the demand even though it admits genuineness of demand.

Demand of Group 'B' Gazetted status to SSE, CMS, CDMS & Senior Engineer/IT is long awaited and it cannot be delayed further. IRTSA pursuing the demand with all levels has finally forced to seek legal remedies, since Railway Board has failed to read the sensitivity of the issue. Prolonging even the decision to upgrade portion of apex Group 'C' scale is not only major demotivating factor for employees, it will be also deceive for Railway administration.

Railway Board is forwarding the argument that, it need not follow Central Civil Service Rules and Pay Commission recommendations on classification of posts & DoPT's order thereafter.

But the fact is pay scales, promotional policies, avenue of promotions, classification of posts, Allowances and other staff matters are being reviewed by various expert bodies particularly by Pay Commissions at regular intervals with clear cut recommendations including their Administrative, financial & functional implication. These accepted recommendations are implemented in all central government departments. Classifying the scale belonging to these posts (SSE, CMS, CDMS & Senior Engineer/IT) as Group-B (gazetted) has been recommended by various Pay Commissions and accepted & implemented by Government through DoPT's order thereafter. Even though Railways is excluded (not exempted) from following the classification order issued by DoPT, there is also declaration made by DoPT to Fifth Pay Commission that *"the effort was to ensure that posts carrying similar functions were given similar classification"*.

Similarly placed posts with similar functionalities in Ordnance Factory (Ministry of Defence), CPWD, MES, Department of posts & Telecommunications, etc. in the Grade Pay of Rs.4600 are classified as Group-B (Gazetted). Even the similar posts available in various state Governments are also classified as Group-B (Gazetted).

During the Third Pay Commission & Fourth Pay Commission days Railways were having high number of unskilled workforce with conventional work execution methods. Over the years Railways have introduced lot of new technologies, upgraded its working system, and improved its productivity & safety through various methods, which warrants clear administrative reforms with higher number of managerial posts. Further, outsourcing of various activities and services involving crores of rupees has become prevalent in all the technical departments of Railways over the years. Effective execution of these outsourced activities needs higher degree of functional, operational and administrative requirements. Senior Supervisors are responsible for the proposal, finalisation, execution and validation of these activities. These facts have been ignored by the Railways in their reply filed at Hon'ble CAT Chandigarh.

Railway's argument that service conditions don't warrant classification of these posts as Group 'B' Gazetted is holding no merit. Service conditions in Railways - keeping in view functional, operational and administrative requirements of safe, effective & efficient train operations -

require enlargement of management cadre as evidently accepted by Railway Board as per file notings made by Member Staff, Financial Commissioner, Additional Member Staff, Railway Board etc.

It was stated by Member Staff that, *"whole Group-A cadre, Group-C cadre and Group-D cadres have been restructured and there has been reclassification of Group-D posts to Group-C posts in large number of categories. But reclassification from Group-C to Group-B has been very marginal and is needed for enlarging management Cadre."*

Railway's submission of increased financial burden on reclassification of these posts as Group 'B' gazetted is also wrong. Financial Commissioner of Railways granted formal concurrence for enlargement of management cadre accepting the requirement of massive supervisory officers (in junior officers' category) to meet the needs of huge outlay of plan expenditure and also growth in revenue expenditure. He also recorded that it was stated to be revenue (near) neutral proposal and if at all there is any marginal extra financial implications, which would be off-set by the possible savings from outsourcing.

Full Board meeting held on 29.11.2011 decided and directed that, *"a comprehensive proposal on restructuring involving Group-C, Group-B and Group-A cadres be worked out to enable Board to take a considered view"*.

Every department of central Government are increasing the number of gazetted posts for effective & efficient governance but the Railways are not doing so in spite of huge need of it on Administrative & functional justifications.

According to Census of Central Government employees published by Ministry of Labour, between the year 2001 and 2008 number of Group-B employees have increased to the tune of 35.65% from 1,59,517 to 2,47,822 despite of reduction of total number of employees to the tune of 24.5% from 38,76,395 to 31,11,610.

Year	Number of posts classified as Group-B	Total Central Government employees	Percentage to the total
2001	159517	3876395	4.12%
2008	247822	3111610	7.96%
Difference	(+) 35.65%	(-) 24.5%	

IRTSA's demand based on the recommendations of various Pay Commissions, Government's acceptance and implementation of the same thereafter holds merit. Similarly placed posts with similar functionalities in other Government departments are classified as Group-B (Gazetted). Railway Board agreed that there is an urgent need to increase the number of managerial posts for Administrative, functional & operational requirements of Railways. Percentage of Gazetted cadre is the least in Railways among all Central Government departments which need to be improved drastically since Railways is a multi-disciplinary operation system to ensure safe, effective and efficient train operations.

All these valid reasons which were accepted by Board Members at various points of time are not reflected in Board's reply filed at CAT Chandigarh and the Board vehemently argues against the plea made by IRTSA. Instead of taking double standard, Railway Board should declare all the proceedings happened in regard to this demand before Hon'ble Tribunal. In fact, Railway Board need not to wait for any Court direction. It can grant Group 'B' based on its own requirement.

IRTSA MEETING AT MATUNGA WORKSHOP/C.RLY./MUMBAI

GS IRTSA appeals to Railway Engineers to get united under IRTSA



IRTSA meeting was held on 4th August, 2014 at Matunga Workshop, Mumbai, Central Railway which was presided over by Er. Prabhakar Nalawade who is the convener of this workshop. Er. Harchandan Singh, GS/IRTSA & Er. K.V.Ramesh, Sr.Jt.GS/IRTSA were also present as the Chief Guests. The other active Engineer brothers including Er.R.B.Singh, ZS/IRTSA, Er. Subir Ray, Vice President/CEC/IRTSA also attended the Meeting. Er.Harchandan Singh & Er. K.V.Ramesh were warmly welcomed by Engineer brothers of Matunga Workshop, Mumbai. Er.R.B.Singh explained the history & achievement of IRTSA. Er.Kannan former Secretary IRTSA Matunga workshop briefly explained history of IRTSA. Er.K.V.Ramesh explained about the Memorandum submitted to 7th Pay Commission who was a key member for preparing the detailed Memorandum of 266 pages.

General Secretary, the founder of IRTSA who had come to this workshop after a period of almost 10 years greeted all the Engineers present on this occasion. He explained in his brief speech about the history of IRTSA which was formed in the year 1965 and since then, he had devoted his life with sincere & selfless participation for the welfare of the cadre. He said that 7th CPC cell worked day & night to prepare justification for the Charter of demands for 7th CPC approved by CGB held at Trichy / S.Rly which was submitted to 7th CPC on 26-5-2014. This showed the far sightedness of IRTSA, which planned for the 7th CPC well in advance. GS/IRTSA interacted with all the Engineers cordially & purposefully. He appealed for active participation of all the Engineers unitedly. He assured from the Dias that he would again visit Matunga Workshop. He requested the members to participate in the next CGB meeting & Annual Conference IRTSA to be held on 11th & 12th November, 2014 at CLW/Chittaranjan. He also appealed for 100% membership & contribution to struggle cum legal fund from this Unit. Earlier Er.L.Markantayan Vice President / IRTSA, K.V.Ramesh & R.B.Singh went around the shops and made arrangements for the meeting.

Following Members were nominated for the Adhoc Committee

Convener - Er.Prabhakar R. Nalawade
Members - Er.Jagdish Panday, Er. Mohan Chowdhari, Er. P.K.Singh

IRTSA MEETING AT PAREL WORKSHOP/C.RLY./MUMBAI

GS IRTSA gave emotional appeal to Supervising Engineers



IRTSA meeting was held on 5th August, 2014 at Parel Workshop, Mumbai, Central Railway which was presided over by Er. R.L.Prasad Yadav. Er. Harchandan Singh, GS/IRTSA & Er. K.V.Ramesh, Sr.Jt.GS/IRTSA were also present as the Chief Guests. Er. R.B.Singh, ZS/IRTSA, Er. Subir Ray, Vice President/CEC/IRTSA and L.Markantayan Vice President / IRTSA also attended the Meeting. Er. Harchandan Singh & Er. K.V.Ramesh were warmly welcomed by Engineer brothers of Parel Workshop, Mumbai. Er.R.B.Singh, Zonal Secretary Western Railway called upon Parel Workshop Supervising Engineers to actively participate in all activities of IRTSA which is only sincerely advocating the causes of the category. Er.K.V.Ramesh, Senior JGS IRTSA explained about legal action initiated by IRTSA. He briefly explained the Grade Pay case filed at CAT Chennai and Group-B Gazetted status to senior supervisors filed at CAT Chandigarh. He also explained about exhaustive memorandum submitted by IRTSA to 7th Pay Commission.

In his emotional speech to Parel Workshop Engineers Er.Harchandan Singh GS/IRTSA briefed the achievements of IRTSA over the period of 49 years right from 3rd Pay Commission days. Exclusiveness in the work nature of the category is being continuously highlighted by IRTSA at all forums. He said that IRTSA represented the issues of the category with purpose to Railway Board and Government at all time with enthusiasm and vigour. He said that immediately after the publication of 7th CPC public notice calling for memorandum from unions, Associations, etc., while everybody was busy in demanding the extension of last date for submission of memorandum, IRTSA swung into action coordinating all active members & office bearers throughout the country and submitted exhaustive memorandum on 26th May 2014. He appealed for active participation of all the Engineers unitedly. He requested all the Engineers to follow the IRTSA website regularly where the latest information are displayed to serve as a guideline & benchmark for others for preparing memorandum. He requested the members to participate in the next CGB meeting & Annual Conference IRTSA to be held on 11th & 12th November 2014 at CLW/Chittaranjan. He also appealed for 100% membership & contribution to struggle cum legal fund from this Unit. **Continued on page - 4**

IRTSA meeting at Parel : continued from page- 3

Earlier Er.Abbas Chaugule, Er.V.Makkalageri and Er.R.L.Prasad Yadav of Parel Workshop shared their views on the demands of IRTSA and they assured active participation from Parel Workshop.

Following Members were nominated for the Adhoc Committee

Convener - Er.R.L.Prasad Yadav
Co Convener - Er.S.S.Pandian
Members - Er.M.M.Dutt, Er.V.Makkalageri,
Er.K.T.Wani, Er. Anil Kumar, Er.Vaibhav V. Badwaik, Er.
H.K.Digarse, Er. Mohan Yadav, Er.Siyaram.

**CENTRAL PRESIDENT/IRTSA VISITS
RCF, KAPURTHALA**

M.Shanmugam, President IRTSA, along with K.Shanmugavelu Advisor IRTSA, E.Ramesh JGS and V.Balakrishnan visited RCF, Kapurthala on 09.07.2014. They were warmly welcomed at Jalandhar-Jn (RS) by Shri Darshan Lal, President/IRTSA-RCF Unit & office bearers of IRTSA/RCF. CP/IRTSA met Shri Pramod Kumar, GM/RCF and discussed issues pertaining to RCF supervising engineers. GM/RCF was keen on our approach to VII-CPC and interacted with team IRTSA cordially and purposefully. At 6 pm, in the midst of about 400 technical supervisors & trade union leaders of RCF at Parish Hall of RCF, CP/IRTSA delivered a PowerPoint presentation about the proposals of IRTSA to VII-CPC and interacted with members on the subject. Members were anxious to hear the compilation of facts supported presentation and appreciated the efforts of IRTSA in taking up the cause of technical supervisors to the notice of VII-CPC.

Earlier, President IRTSA addressed the gathering of executive office bearers of IRTSA-RCF Unit.

IRTSA meeting with Civil Engineers/SR

IRTSA meeting was conducted at Civil Engineering Training Institute Tambaram Southern Railway on 11th August. Chandan Kumar Jha welcomed K.V.Ramesh, Sr.JGS, V.P.Abdul Salam ZS/SR, M.T.Sujit Kumar WP/SR, Danapandiyarajan ZT/SR and JE & SSE of Civil Engineering department. Sujit Kumar explained about achievements of IRTSA particularly of First Class pass eligibility for all JEs from their entry to service itself. V.P.Abdul Salam explained the necessity for the open line Engineers to be united under the umbrella of IRTSA and he explained strenuous effort made by IRTSA to submit exhaustive memorandum to 7th Central Pay Commission.

K.V.Ramesh in his address briefed about important demands placed by IRTSA before 7th CPC. He also explained legal initiatives taken by IRTSA to achieve main demands of IRTSA. He explained about case filed at CAT Chennai by IRTSA for improved Grade Pay to JE & SSE and the case filed at CAT Chandigarh for grant of Group 'B' gazetted status to SSE/CMS/CDMS/Sr.Er(IT). He appealed to engineers of civil engineering department to actively participate in all the activities of IRTSA and requested every one of them to become members of IRTSA. Some of the JE & SSE become members of IRTSA immediately after the conclusion of meeting.

**Units! Send Central Quota & Struggle Fund
Through Bank Draft in favour of "IRTSA" to:
Central Treasurer IRTSA,**

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

**PRESIDENT IRTSA MEETS SECRETARY
PAY COMMISSION**

Shri M.Shanmugam, President IRTSA along with K.Shanmugavelu Advisor IRTSA, E.Ramesh JGS and V.Balakrishnan met Smt. Meena Agarwal Secretary 7th CPC at her chamber New Delhi. Executive Director Pay Commission Railways was also present during the discussions. IRTSA drew the attention of the Secretary about the individual memorandums of around 5000 supervising engineers and requested madam that the contents of the mass memorandum be given a serious note.

Most vital issues like grant of replacement Grade Pay of Rs.4800 Grade Pay to JE, CMS & CDMS, Rs.5400 for SSE, CMS, CDMS & Sr.Er(IT), removal of many anomalies arisen in MACP Scheme, principle of pay determination to the tune of four times of existing pay and injustice done to the post-2004 appointees in National Pension Scheme (NPS) were discussed.

Secretary 7th CPC gave a patient hearing and agreed that Pay Commission will study in depth on the demands made by IRTSA through its memorandum.

**President & General Secretary IRTSA
hold extensive discussion with
General Secretaries of Federations**

Er.Harchandan Singh General Secretary IRTSA & Er.M.Shanmugam, Central President IRTSA held extensive discussions with Sri.M.Raghaviah GS/IRTSA and Sri.Shiv Gopal Mishra GS/AIRF on the demands placed before Seventh Pay Commission. Principle of Pay determination, upgradation of certain categories, upgraded pay scales for Technical Supervisors / Supervising Engineers, upgraded pay scales for Group-D staff & Technicians working in all Technical departments of Railways, DA & other allowances, avenue of promotions, career planning, working conditions, anomalies in MACPS, principle of determination of pension, scraping of New Pension scheme etc. were discussed well in depth with both the General secretaries.

K.V.Ramesh Senior JGS IRTSA coordinated the discussions through personal contact and by email. Both the General Secretaries received the views sincerely and many of the suggestions proposed by IRTSA were accepted and included in the memorandums submitted to 7th CPC by NFIR and AIRF.

GS IRTSA Address W.Rly Engineers

IRTSA meeting was held on 21st July, 2014 at EMU Workshop, Mumbai, Western Railway which was presided over by Er, R.B.Singh, Zonal Secretary and other active Engineer brothers attended the Meeting. Shri Harchandan Singh, General Secretary/IRTSA was the Chief Guest who was warmly welcomed by the Senior Engineers of EMU Workshop. General Secretary IRTSA in his speech explained about the Memorandum submitted by IRTSA to 7th CPC and other matters. He said that 7th CPC cell worked day & night to prepare justification for the Charter of demands for 7th CPC approved by CGB held at Trichy / S.Rly in November, 2013. This showed the far sightedness of IRTSA, which planned for the 7th CPC well in advance. GS/IRTSA interacted with all the Engineers cordially & purposefully. He appealed for 100% membership & contribution to struggle cum legal fund from this Unit. GS IRTSA also addressed a meeting at Lower Parel.

President IRTSA visits RWF & SWR

On 26th & 27th August, M.Shanmugam Central President IRTSA visited RWF & SWR along with office bearers of IRTSA and addressed meetings. Er.K.L.Kushwah, President Bangalore division presided over the meeting held at Carriage depot Bangalore. Er.M.Pinto welcomed IRTSA delegates and Bangalore division Engineers. Er.K.V.Ramesh explained about two court cases filed by IRTSA for higher grade pay to JE & SSE and grant of Group 'B' gazette status to SSE/CMS/CDMS/Sr.Er(IT). Er.K.Gobinath briefed about activities of IRTSA for 7th CPC. President interacted with the members on various issues. Er.Meenakshisundram thanked President, office bearers and Supervising Engineers for attending the meeting.

In the meeting held at RWF, Er.Jayakumar, Zonal Secretary RWF welcomed all. Er.Indrasekar briefed about the representation made by RWF staff council to the 7th CPC. Er.K.V.Ramesh explained strenuous work being done by IRTSA in representing the demands of the category. He detailed about negative reply given by Railways to the case of grant of Group 'B' Gazetted status filed by IRTSA at CAT Chandigarh. He explained counter arguments that are proposed to be placed by IRTSA in the Hon'ble Tribunal. He also narrated the arguments being placed in CAT Chennai for grant of higher Grade Pay of Rs.4800 to JE & Rs.5400 to SSE. He appealed to all the members to spontaneously contribute IRTSA membership and Struggle / Legal fund.

Er.M.T.Sujit Kumar & Er.K.Gobinath explained about IRTSA's activities immediately after the formation of 7th CPC. Er.E.Ramesh explained the salient features of NPS and the most disadvantageous position of employees who were recruited after 1.1.2004. In his inspiring speech V.P.Abdul Salam urged everyone to realize the bad stature of the category and to support IRTSA with full force.

President narrated the activities of IRTSA during the crucial period of 7th CPC as well as previous Pay Commissions. He also explained about the injustice done to the employees recruited after 1.1.2004 in the way of NPS.

Er.Manjegowda President Mysore unit presided over the meeting held at Mysore workshop. Er.Ramakrishnan welcomed the delegates and Supervising Engineers. President and other office bearers addressed the meeting like the one held at RWF. Er.Vinod Kumar Zonal Secretary SWR and Er.Pavithran thanked CEC team headed by Central President and all the members.

IRTSA UNITS

Send your News, views & activities for publication in VRE & IRTSA Website www.irtsa.net to:

General Secretary, IRTSA

by Phone/SMS &/or Email to gsirtsa@yahoo.com

and K.V.Ramesh, Sr.JGS/IRTS

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Railways files reply to IRTSA's Gr-B case Continued from page - 1

Selection for filling up of Group 'B' posts on Railways is done based on the prescribed statutory rules and other instructions issued by Railway Board.

Procedures followed in other Central Government Departments is not of any relevance to Railways, as each department is free to evolve its own procedure for promotion etc. to suit their requirements. Railways cannot be expected to blindly follow the path followed by 'inclusive' organization.

Classification of posts in Grade Pay Rs.4600 as Group 'B' will give rise to demands for stenographic assistance, pass entitlements etc. This will result in operational cost of the Railways without functional or organizational needs.

Instructions issued by DoPT do not have much relevance to the classification of Railway services which is done by Ministry of Railways keeping in view their administrative, operational and functional requirements.

Hon'ble Supreme Court in a similar case gave its judgment stating that, *"the simplistic solution to classification merely based on the scales of pay might lead into various complications and might lead to administrative hierarchical imbalances in any particular organizations. Selection procedure for appointment to a particular group post and requirements of a department for classification of posts are valid considerations and any disturbance thereof would certainly lead to compounding problems. We, therefore cannot subscribe to the view that the scale of pay alone can be the criteria for classification of posts"*.

Technical supervisors who hail from organized services when once qualify the selection for Group 'B' then sky is the limit for career's progress. The post of Secy to GM/RCF, Dy.CME/Monitoring etc are being occupied by the officers were only Technical Supervisors just few years before.

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 - "Voice of Rail Engineers"
 - Policy, Syllabus & Question Bank for Selection - Group 'C' to Group 'B'
 - Latest Orders of Railway Board, DOP & MOF
 - Compendium of Rly. Board's Orders on SCPC
 - Codes and Manuals Indian Railways
 - IRTSA News & Circulars
 - Debates on vital issues
 - Post your own news, views & Articles
 - Interact with IRTSA leaders & other Engineers
 - Link to Website for Pensioners www.rscws.com
- AND MUCH MORE**

Major Developments on Railways during May - August 2014.

1. Indian Railways completed Udhampur-Katra Broad gauge line in the State of Jammu and Kashmir one of the landmark engineering marvel.
2. Automatic Train Protection System (TCAS) being developed indigenously by RDSO in association with Indian vendors.
3. Mobile Train Radio Communication system has been commissioned on 15th August 2014 covering the Metro Railway, Kolkata from Naopara to Kavi Subhash Nagar.
4. 30 additional mail and express trains have been covered under On-Board Housekeeping Service (OBHS) to ensure cleanliness in the trains on move. Altogether Indian Railways has implemented the scheme in 446 trains.
5. Budget allocation for cleanliness in the current year has been increased by 40 per cent over the previous year.
6. Continuing with its emphasis on increasing the speed of passenger trains, successful trial of semi high speed trains with 160kmph conducted between New Delhi-Agra.
7. Next Generation e-ticketing (NGeT); NGet system which can book 7200 online tickets instead of 2000 tickets per minute and now to attend 2,00,000 enquiries instead of 50000 per minute, launched.
8. Freight E-Demand system; In Freight train movement, the need for an on-line system for Registration and Demand for rakes and wagons has been finally met with the launch of the e-Demand module of the Freight Operations Information System (FOIS).
9. Freight E-Diversion system; The power of IT has been extended to revamp the current manual process of diverting coal rakes among the Power Houses and Corporations of Electricity Board through the new "e-diversion system".
10. Go India Smart card; This is a pan India smart card to enable passengers to pay for tickets for long distance reserved, unreserved, and suburban journeys as a pilot project.
11. Train Enquiry Mobile App; Indian Railways has enhanced the Train Enquiry system by developing a Mobile App and a desktop application for Windows 8 platform.
12. Passenger friendly ticketing scheme; A new scheme called the Yatri Ticket Sewa Kendra (YTSK) Scheme has been launched in August 2014. Under this scheme, agents of Indian Railways can operate ticketing terminals at various locations in the cities and towns for issuing reserved tickets and unreserved tickets.
13. A new Rail Neer plant at Ambernath (Mumbai) of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC).
14. Station development; Shareholder Agreement and Development Agreement for the functioning of Indian Railway Station Development Corporation (IRSDC) have been signed.
15. Electrification; Electrification of 591 route kilometres of railway track has been undertaken.
16. Solar power plant; Solar Power Panels of total 2.1 MW capacity installed and commissioned at Rail Coach Factory, Rae Bareli. At present, this factory is functioning completely on solar power.
17. Energy conservation; Indian Railways introduced Hotel Load Locomotive in regular service in Lucknow-Raipur Garib Rath express resulting in substantial fuel saving. Integral Coach Factory has turned out 1400 Horse Power DEMU with engine which is smaller in size and has Electronic Fuel injection and meets Tier-1 emission requirements. Thus, the DEMU is not only fuel efficient, but it is also environmental friendly.
18. Meghalaya got its first rail connectivity with the completion of Dubhnoi-Mendipathar new line in August.
19. During this period against the target of 125, a total number of 176 unmanned level crossings were eliminated.
20. More than 60 Kms. doubling of railway lines in different sections were completed during this period.
21. Air conditioned double-decker trains have been introduced for commercial run on 3 more routes.
22. Improving catering; Indian Railways also strengthened its monitoring mechanism for improving catering in trains and stations. In a recent move, 13 catering agencies were penalized with Rs. 1 lakh each for their negligence in serving quality food to passengers in the trains.
23. In order to clear extra rush of passenger during this peak summer season, 8778 trips of special trains were made run. Also 25452 extra coaches were attached on temporary basis. 40 extra coaches are attached on permanent basis.
24. New wagons have been designed with ERP lining and with sliding roof for transportation of salt and other commodities.
25. To keep pace with the modern means of internet media, Indian Railways launched its three social media platforms namely Facebook, Twitter and You Tube with the URL @railminindia.
26. Railway sportspersons as a part of Indian contingent at recently concluded Commonwealth Games-2014, (CWG) at Glasgow, Scotland, again brought glory to the nation by bagging 9 medals out of total 64 medals won by India.
27. Recruitment; A total of 16,299 candidates have been empanelled for recruitment in Indian Railways during June to August 2014. 341 ex-servicemen have also been empanelled for recruitment during the same period. A total of 76000 candidates are also targeted to be empanelled by 31st March 2015.
28. New Railway courses; Courses in subject related to Railway Engineering Transport Management are being introduced shortly in association with IIT, Kharagpur.
29. Railway Minister had a detailed interaction with General Managers and DRMs of all Zonal Railways for speedy implementation of important railway projects and programmes.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has been allowed in infrastructure development of Indian Railways. Ministry of Railways contends that FDI will provide a permissible framework to foreign investors who are keen on making investment in rail sector. All Trade Unions including IRTSA, are opposing the decision of Government on permitting FDI in Railways.

INDIAN RAILWAYS TECHNICAL SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION

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

C.Hq. 32, Phase 6, Mohali, Chandigarh-160055. Email-qsirtsa@yahoo.com (Ph:0172-2228306, 9316131598)

NOTICE

CGB MEETING & 49TH ALL INDIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, IRTSA TO BE HELD AT CLW, CHITTARANJAN ON 11TH & 12TH NOV, 2014

It is hereby notified that CGB Meeting & 49th All India Annual Conference of IRTSA shall be held at CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS (CLW), CHITTARANJAN ON 11TH & 12TH NOV, 2014.

Meeting of CEC, IRTSA shall also be held along with the CGB as per following programme.

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

AGENDA

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

DETAILED PROGRAMME

1a	Date & Timings	I) CGB Meeting:	i) 10 AM to 8-30 PM on 11.11.14 ii) 10 AM to 2 PM on 12.11.14
		II) CEC Meeting:	8 AM to 10 AM on 11 & 12.11.14
		iii) Seminar on Career Planning & Avenues of Promotion of Rail Engrs. – Incl. Engg Graduates, JEs, SSEs, D&D, Stores Ers of WS/PUs/Open-line.	4-30 to 6-30 PM on 10-11-2014
		iv) Inter-action on New Pension Scheme (NPS)	7 PM to 8-30 PM on 10-11-14
1b			
2	Venue	RABINDRA MANCH, CLW, CHITTARANJAN	
3	Residential Accommodation	Details of acc. to be intimated in subsequent Notice. Specific allocation at the Reception Counter at Chittaranjan Rly. Station	
4	Delegation fee	Rs 300 per head for CGB. Rs.100 for Special meeting on 10 th November 2014.	
5	Chairman conf. com	<i>Er. Kalyan Banerjee, Working President CEC IRTSA Mob: 9434735722,</i>	
6	Convener conf. committee	<i>Er. Sugata Dutta, ZONAL SECRETARY IRTSA, CLW. Address: Vivekananda Palli, West Rangamatia, Rupnarayanpur, Burdwan, West Bengal. MOB NO – 09732047217 EMAIL – sugatadutta69@gmail.com</i>	
7	Co- convener conf. committee	<i>Er. Ashoke Chowdhury, Sr. JGS, CEC IRTSA, ADD: Room No. 14, Hostel No. 1, Technical Training Centre, CLW, Chittaranjan- 713365. MOB NO – 09434123105 EMAIL: chowdhuryashoke@gmail.com</i>	
8	Transportation	Will be available from Chittaranjan Railway station on prior intimation	
	Reception Counter	One reception counter each at Chittaranjan Rly Station & the venue	
9	<i>OPEN Session followed by SEMINAR on SAFETY: 4 PM onwards on 11-11-14</i>		
10	POSTERS - (sample copy in next page)	# Posters be got printed locally in larger size (A-3, A-2 or 18"x22" or 20"x30" size) as per quantity locally required - for wide publicity	

SPECIAL SEMINAR BY IRTSA ON PROMOTIONAL AVENUES OF RAIL ENGINEERS

- on 10th Nov, 2014 from 2 to 6 PM at CLW CHITTARANJAN:

IRTSA shall be holding a "Seminar on Career Planning & Promotional Avenues of Rail Engineers on 10-11-2014 at CLW Chittaranjan on the eve of CGB Meeting & 49th Annual Conference of IRTSA to be held there on 11th & 12th November, 2014. It is especially being held in view of lack of avenues of promotion for Engineering Graduates, JEs, SSEs, C&M, D&D & Stores Engineers in WS/PUs & Open-line on Railways. All Rail Engineers please attend.

CLARIOAN CALL TO RAIL ENGINEERS: There are numerous demands and problems of Rail Engineers which IRTSA is regularly pursuing at all levels at the Railway Board, DOP and Pay Commissions as well as in the Courts. IRTSA has many achievements to its credit, due to untiring efforts, struggle and sacrifices of brother Engineers over the last 5 decades - as can be viewed on our website www.irtsa.net. But there is much else to be done. Main pending demands of IRTSA are included in the Poster enclosed herewith. We seek the full support and cooperation of all brother Rail Engineers to actively & effectively join the ongoing struggle, strengthen IRTSA and to attend the above programmes in large numbers. – HS GS IRTSA

RAIL ENGINEERS

MARCH TO CHITARANJAN TO ATTEND EN-MASS CGB MEETING & 49TH ALL INDIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF IRTSA AT CLW CHITARANJAN

ON 11TH & 12TH NOVEMBER, 2014
TO HIGHLIGHT GENUINE & LONG PENDING DEMANDS

MAIN DEMANDS

1. Recognition of IRTSA - as in CPWD & MES – to discuss & resolve the problems of Rail Engineers / Technical Supervisors on the Railways, as recommended by RAIC & RRC.
2. a) Grant of interim relief till implementation of the 7th Pay Commission Report.
b) Merger of 100% DA with Pay.
3. a) Grade Pay of Rs 4800 to JEs, CMA II & DMS.
b) Grade Pay of Rs 5400 to SSE, CMS, CDMS & Sr.Er/IT
c) Pre- revised Scale of Rs.7450-11500 to CMA- I like other Engg. Graduates.
4. a) Time Bound promotions from JE to AE & J.A. grade
b) Combined “Cadre Restructuring” of posts in Group A, B & C
5. a) Upgrading of adequate % of posts from Group C to Group ‘B’ (Gaz.)
b) Upgrading of posts of SSE, CMS, CDMS, Sr.Er/IT to Group ‘B’ (gaz).
c) Abolition of SCRA & Promotion of serving Engg. Graduates in Group C to Group A.
6. a) Revision of Rates of Incentive Bonus w.e.f 1.1.06 at 2.26 times of then existing Rates.
b) Grant of Incentive Bonus to SSE on actual basic pay or Grade Pay – after MACPS
- 7.a) PCO Allowance to C & M, Drawing/Design, IT & Store Engineers in Workshops & PUs
b) Incentive or Honorarium for Technical Supervisors & other Technical Staff
- in Sheds & Open Line Depots & Store Depots – for additional workload.
8. Removal of disparity in Pay of Promotees & Direct Recruits after 6th Pay Commission.
9. a) Counting of Training Period for MACPS
b) Financial up-gradation on promotional hierarchy instead of GP hierarchy
c) Counting of Past service of P-Way Supervisors as JEs for grant of MACPS
d) Promotion through LDCE be considered as Entry Grade for MACPS
e) MACPs to JEs & SSEs (Design & Drg) considering upgraded GP as entry.
- 10 Exemption of all Allowances from Income Tax (as per recommendations of 5th CPC).

Issued by Central Head Quarters IRTSA

INDIAN RAILWAYS TECHNICAL SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION

COURT CASE OA NO.211/PB/2014

Court Case Reg. Group B to SSE, CMS, CDMS & Sr.Engineers (IT) - IRTSA-vs-UOI, CAT Chandigarh, on 8-9-14, directed remaining two Respondents - other than Railways - to file reply before next Date on 8-10-14. IRTSA will file Rejoinder to Railway's Reply in this period.

COURT CASE OA NO.706/2013

Court Case Reg. grant of Rs.4800 Grade Pay to JE & Rs.5400 to SSE – IRTSA Vs Union of India. Railways has been asked to file their reply in CAT Chennai before 25th September. IRTSA has filed Miscellaneous application to include GM ICF & GM Southern Railway as additional respondents.

CAT Calcutta directs Railways to decide within two months on Grant of Grade Pay Rs.4600 to CMA-I

CAT Calcutta has given its order to grant Grade Pay of Rs.4600 to CMA-I within 2 months as these posts have an element Graduate in Engineering as entry qualification. Since Railway Ministry is yet to decide on grant of Grade Pay of Rs.4600 in PB-2 in terms of para 3.4.7 of 6th CPC recommendation to the CMA-I the OA was disposed of with the consent of the parties with a direction upon the Railways to decide the matter within two months or else to refer the matter to the anomalies committee if there is already one in Railways arising out of 6th CPC or to refer the matter appropriately to the 7th CPC. IRTSA will decide line of action in CGB.

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