

Central
President
Message



Sixth CPC
Struggle
Activities

June 2008 SCPC Struggle

UNPRECEDENTED WAR OF IRTSA AGAINST RETROGRADE RECOMMENDATIONS OF SCPC



IRTSA leaders met Com.U.Purohit and
Sri.M.Raghavaiah on 06.05.08 at JCM Office Delhi

IRTSA



**What you do today
Is the
Future you see tomorrow**

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OFFICE OF THE CONGRESS PRESIDENT
10 - JANPATH, NEW DELHI - 110 011


May 30, 2008

Dear Shri Shanmugam,

I have been desired to acknowledge with thanks, the receipt of your letter dated 6th May 2008, addressed to Smt Sonia Gandhi, President, All India Congress Committee, regarding Sixth Pay Commission.

Smt Gandhi has taken note of its contents.

Yours sincerely,


(GC Bhardwaj)

Shri M Shanmugam
Central President
Indian Railways Technical Supervisors Assn.
No.4, 6th Street, TVS Nagar
Padi, Chennai - 600 050

PRELIMINARY EXERCISE OF IRTSA

- ★ SCPC - constituted on 04-10-2006 – IRTSA, the first association submitted memorandum for grant of **interim relief on 06-11-06** it self.
- ★ An exhaustive data packed 300 page memorandum submitted to SCPC on 31-12-2006.
- ★ Central President had close interaction with NFIR in preparation of their memorandum reflecting all most all the views of IRTSA on several issues.
- ★ IRTSA's powerful argument of demands by power point presentation to SCPC's Expert Committee at Chennai yielded some fruitful results in the final recommendations of SCPC
- ★ Central President tendered oral evidence on behalf of NFIR at Bangalore on 10.05.2007 subjects related to Technicians and Technical Supervisors.

IRTSA MET HONOURABLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND CPI LEADER

A team of 20 struggle committee members of ICF and Southern Railway led by Central President met Com.D.Raja, National Secretary, CPI and Honourable MP on 3.06.2008 and stressed about the need to decide the new pay scales by 30.06.2008 and grant of Rs.25000 as interim arrears. Mr.Raja assured that he will discuss with Honourable PM and FM with regard to the issues and pursue.

SOME POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM SCPC ON DEMANDS IN OUR MEMORANDUM

- * JE/II & I merged – upgraded replacement scale of Rs.6500 – 10500 proposed which increases the chance of getting I-class pass.
- * Separate pay scale to Sr.Technicians and JEs
- * Running pay scale pattern in the form of pay band scales desisting stagnation and automatic mechanism of reaching promotive pay scale pending regularization of higher grade posts suggested.
- * SE scale upgraded to Rs.7450 – 11500 even though our claim to up gradation to Rs.8000-13500 not accepted.
- * Increment as percentage of basic pay.
- * Enhanced transport allowance and tuition fees.
- * Railway Employees can encash 10 days Earned leave at a time when he obtains his pass for travel and in total for 60 days this can be done while in service. These 60 days will not be included in the encashment of 300 days leave at the time of retirement.

PLEASE REMEMBER

These are all only recommendations. They are yet to be approved by the Govt. Even after the approval of Govt. it is to be watched whether departments like Railways implement them. IRTSA will pressurize Government to accept these recommendations while they take up the issues in the second stage of perusal.

Members be prepared.

MOST HURTING RECOMMENDATIONS OF SCPC

- * Upgraded replacement scale to SSE denied.
- * Pay scales to Technical staff on par with Non-Technical staff suggested
- * Unscientific method to determine new pay scales.

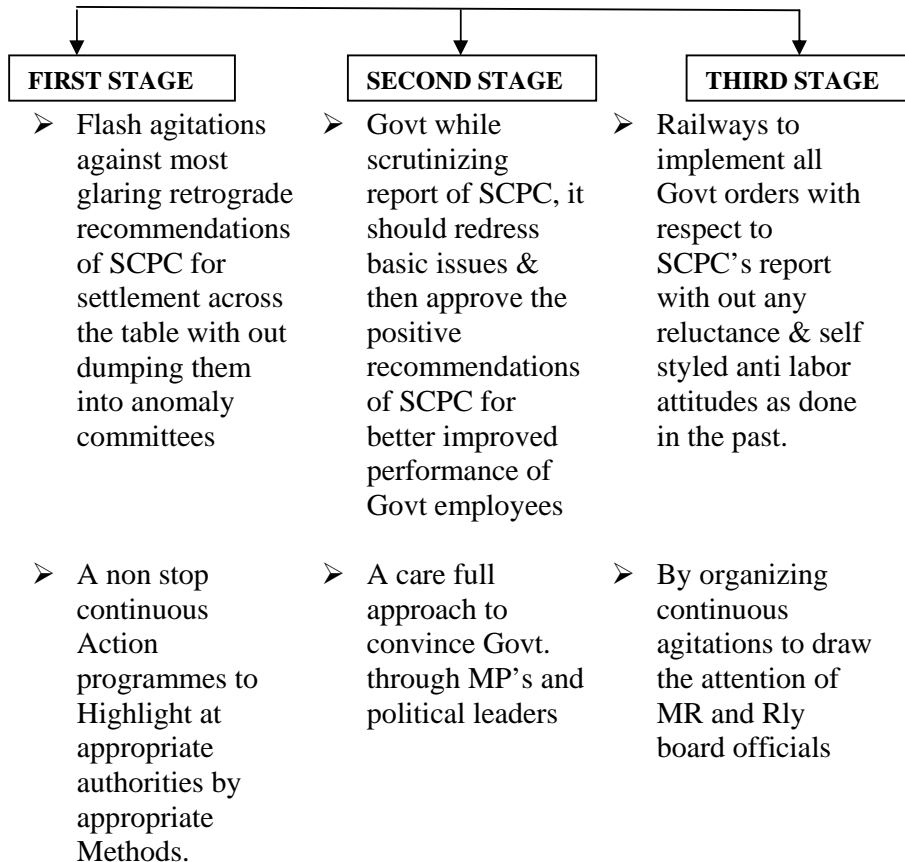
CERTAIN NEGATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS OF SCPC

- * CCA denied – holidays reduced.
- * Corporatisation of IR suggested.
- * Demotivating Grade pay – Pay Band concept
- * Demand for allowances denied – advances to be drawn from banks.
- * Exclusive job content, variations, responsibilities, accountabilities, working hours, work environment and working conditions of Technical staff and Technical Supervisors ignored .
- * Grant of Gazetted status, First class pass, Design allowance and Compensatory duty allowances not addressed clearly.
- * A demotivating modified procedure for pension payment mooted out.
- * Migration of talented existing experienced staff and reluctance of new recruits to join Indian Railways is a matter of deep concern in technical departments which went unnoticed.
- * SCPC rightly recognized the job content of certain categories like Staff Nurse, Primary School Teachers suggested even 4-grade up gradation but the combusive job content of Technical staff ignored, but SCPC went beyond one step to humiliate them by equalizing the pay scales of Technical staff on par with non technical staff.

STRATEGY PLANNED

It is decided to tackle issues connected with SCPC by 3-stage agitational programmes.

THREE STAGE ACTION PROGRAMMES



After release of SCPC report, it is only IRTSA reacted sharply instantaneously it is again IRTSA which worked out a resourceable strategy for redressal purpose. IRTSA started its first stage activity since last 120 days and IRTSA is happy that Government has realized about the lapses in SCPC report and hence has constituted a review committee on this issue.

- Flash agitations against most glaring retrograde recommendations of SCPC for settlement across the table with out dumping them into anomaly committees.
- A non stop continuous Action programmes to Highlight at appropriate authorities by appropriate Methods.
- It was decided to carry out the first stage activities on the following pattern.
 1. Action to highlight to public, Press and Visual media.
 2. Actions to highlight effectively to the central ministries and Members of Parliament.
 3. Action to highlight to the leaders of federations & JCM
 4. Action to draw the attention of Railway Board officers.
- During the last 120 days IRTSA indulged in several activities to fulfil the planned action.



CP Explains the issues to Sri. J.P.Choubey GS/AIRF on 22.04.08

THROUGH PRESS AND VISUAL MEDIAS

- * Two mega special meetings held on 11-02-2008 at Chennai and on 11-03-2008 at Salem with 800 participants in each meeting created great awareness and sense of unity among members
- * Several interaction meetings held repeatedly at more than 30 units of S.Rly and ICF on day to day basis on various areas boosted the morale of the cadre.
- * The candle light mid night agitation in front of Chennai Central & Tiruchirapalli Junctions and later at Jantar mantar- New Delhi is a land mark occasion of the Association, which highlighted our issues properly by press and visual medias.
- * The mega agitation in front of MMC-Complex at Chennai, a mega rally towards Parliament at New Delhi are all an unprecedented agitations organized by IRTSA.
- * Chain dharnas and demonstrations and mass representations of IRTSA have undoubtedly revealed the restlessness of our cadre over retrograde recommendations of SCPC.
- * **IT IS DOUBT FULL THAT WHETHER OTHER ASSOCIATIONS OR UNIONS WAS INVOLVED IN SUCH HECTIC ACTIVITIES LIKE IRTSA.**



CP explains our issues to Smt. Mohsina Kidwai MP at AICC office on 06.05.08

- * The retrograde recommendation of SCPC brought out in a nutshell were sent to around 200 MPs by first week of March 2008.
- * On 03-04-2008 a big team from ICF , S.Rly, Lucknow, RCF S.Rly , met Hon'ble **MOSR Sri.Velu** and explained to him that Technical Supervisors are demoralized as their scales are equated by SCPC to Non-Technical staff who assist the Technical Staff.
- * On 03.04.08 our representatives met CRB at his chamber on the instructions of **Honourable MR, Sri. Lalu Prasadji** and discussed.
- * On 22.04.2008, around 800 the agitating Engineers demonstrated in front of **Sri. P. Chidambaram Hon'ble FM's** residence and later once again at 8.00 pm on the same day met him and personally explained all issues briefly for about half an hour.
- * The Same team of 800 Engineers demonstrated by 10 am on 22.04.2008 in front of **Sri. Lalu Prasadji's residence**. After one hour of agitation, MR invited our delegates inside his residence and heard our issues with keen interest. **He directed the delegates to meet him once again at his chamber at Railway board by 19.00 hours on the same day.**
- * A delegate of 12 Engineers of IRTSA led by CP met the minister at 06.45pm on 22.04.2008 . **MR invited CRB** also to join the meeting. CP explained and narrated the issues of Technical Supervisors for 30 mins. MR asked CRB to take the contents of

our representation for including them in his proposed consolidated DO letter to Hon'ble PM.

- ★ On 06.05.2008 when a group of Engineers led by CP accompanied by Sri.K.V.Ramesh, ACT, Sri. Rehman, ZS/NR, Sri. Darsah Lal ZP/RCF, Tamilmaran, Chairman Struggle committee met **Smt. Mohsina Kidwai MP**, GS / AICC and a personnel advisor to **Smt. Sonia Gandhi**, Chairperson of UPA . CP explained her the need to utilize the opportunity of gathering support of Central Government Employees at this crucial time by attending to their grievances with regard to SCPC's injustice, she understood the importance and assured to the team that she would take up the issue with **Smt. Sonia Gandhi** and **Dr. Manmohan Singh**, Hon'ble PM.
- ★ On 07.05.2008, again CP, ACT and others met her at her residence by 4 pm, she recognized the team and reassured them that she will inform us to get appointment with **Smt. Sonia Gandhi** after she discussed the same with her.



A portion of procession at Parliament Street on 21.04.2008

FEDERATIONS AND JCM LEADERS

- ★ On 03-04-2008 a team lead by CP met the President and the Working President of NFIR at CEG room at Railway Board and explained our issues in brief.
- ★ In the month of March 2008 CP discussed every aspect of SCPC five times telephonically with Sri. M.RAGHAVIAH JI GS, NFIR and Sri. SHIV GOPAL MISHRA, VP, AIRF.
- ★ On 21-04-2008 Sri. SHIV GOPAL MISHRA himself inaugurated the mega rally of IRTSA and AIREF at Jantar mantar, New Delhi.
- ★ On the same day by 8pm Sri.M. RAGHAVIAH himself lit the first candle and inaugurated candle light agitation at Jantar mantar, New Delhi.
- ★ On 22-04-2008 CP and GS along with Zonal Secretaries of N.Rly, RCF, NERly, E.Rly, CLW, SCR, SWR, S.Rly and ICF met Sri.J.P. Chaubey, GS, AIRF, and requested him to pursue grant of two grade up gradation of pay scales to Technical Supervisors.
- ★ Later on 06-05-2008 CP and GS along with Zonal Secretaries and CEC leaders met Com. PUROHIT and other leaders at JCM office and appraised them about the injustice done to the Technical Supervisors.
- ★ Later the CP met Com. PUROHIT and held discussion for about 90 min's explaining our issues with data base statistics.

IRTSA team took maximum effort in drawing the attention of Railway Board officers

- ✳ On 23.03.2008, CRB, MM, FC visited ICF. Around 200 Engineers from ICF, S.Rly led by CP met them and explained to them all retrograde recommendations of SCPC.
- ✳ Again on 03.04.2008 CP along with K.V. Ramesh, ACT and by Kalyan Banerjee Z.Secy/CLW along with cadres from ICF S.Rly led by Sri. Tamilmaran, RCF cadre led by Sri.Dharshan Lal, Lucknow team led by Sri.P.C. Shukla met CRB and presented a detailed memorandum and met Advisor IR and stressed the necessity to enhance the Pay Scales of Technical Staff higher than the Non-Technical staff .
- ✳ On 21-04-2008 GS handed over memorandum after the Mass Rally at Delhi to Member staff at his chamber and appraised him of our demands.
- ✳ On 22.04.2008 CP, K.V.Ramesh,ACT, Er.Tamil maran, Er Rehman, Er Dharshan Lal , Er.Ashok, Er N.K.Sinha, Er.G. Krishna Rao, Er Anthony Lazarado, Er.Nirmal Chandran accompanied by leaders of AIREF met CRB in the presence of Shri Lalu Prasadji and issues connected to Technical Supervisors were well explained. As per instruction of CRB, CP & ACT prepared the demands in a nutshell and handed over the same to CRB by 23.04.2008

Achievements in the first stage agitation carried out by IRTSA continuously for 120 days

- ✳ IRTSA created great awareness among our own members about the recommendations of SCPC and awoken the brother Associations and unions to react against the recommendations of SCPC.
- ✳ Government was compelled to appoint a High Power Review committee against most retrograde parts of SCPC report, first time in the history of Pay Commission.
- ✳ The Federation leaders and JCM leaders were highlighted with tough voice this time about the continued injustice to technical staff since independence and sought their assistance in restoring the lost glory of this vital group of Railway men.
- ✳ First time in the History the Minister for Railways himself has shown keen interest in addressing our grievances.
- ✳ First time in the history the members of IRTSA have come out in a big way with massive manpower and monetary support to a great extent.
- ✳ A message to the appropriate authority were clearly given this time that Technical staff will never continue to be Deaf & Dumb for ever and they will be

compelled to restore their rights at any cost if their genuine grievances are not properly addressed.

- ✳ Combined memorandum of recognized Federation in Railways has included the issues of replacement scale of Rs.7500 – 12000 (Gazetted scale) to SEs and Rs.8000 – 12500 (Gazetted scale) to SSEs and JCM memorandum has also contains same with regard to replacement scale.
- ✳ The leaders of JCM have assured that the above scales will be pursued with the Review Committee at any cost.
- ✳ It is understood that Shri Lalu Prasadji, Honourable MR has also included the above allotment of scale in his DO letter to Honourable PM & FM.
- ✳ Railway Board is also understood that they have included the above upgraded scale in their brief to export committee.
- ✳ Dear Engineers please note that with out this much of pressure from our side the above progress of affairs would not have been possible.

IRTSA is probably the only categorical Association which has risen to such a height with magnificent activities by which the Government compelled to appoint the REVIEW COMMITTEE to look into the retrograde recommendation of SCPC. We thank the all members of IRTSA for their cooperation and participation.

WHAT NEXT WE HAVE TO DO

- ✳ No doubt we have succeeded in highlighting our issues most effectively in the first stage agitation which is not yet over as on date.
- ✳ Our demands of merging grades of SE and SSE and placed in the replacement scale of RS.10000 – 15200 and merging the grades of JE – I & II and placed in the scale of Rs.7450 – 11500 is pending before high power review committee's deposal.
- ✳ Our demand for arriving new pay scale on NNP increase with Broad Multiplying factor of 4.92 is also pending their disposal.
- ✳ Kindly note the above data based genuine demand has not been totally echoed by JCM and Federations.
- ✳ Kindly also note that in the past also we have succeeded getting higher pay scales to our cadre as per our demand even though the federations JCM and Railways has demanded much lesser than our requirement.
- ✳ If we intensify our first stage struggle with little more pressure it is possible to get better results.
- ✳ Kindly note that after appointing Review Committee Government has shirked its responsibilities and play the game cool.

- ✳ Unless heat is maintained in our future programmes also, the seriousness of everyone on SCPC will die down gradually.
- ✳ Hence we request that all the cadres of IRTSA should continue to cooperate with us with your spontaneous man power and monetary assistance so that IRTSA will continue its struggle till we achieve some thing better than what may otherwise come.
- ✳ All struggle committee members and office bearers of IRTSA should intensify the struggle fund collections at the rate of Rs.500 per head from the left out members and send to ACT at the earliest for further action.



**Mid Night Candle Light Agitation in Front of
Trichy Junction on 07.03.2008**

**MY DEAR ENGINEERS PLEASE REMEMBER
ACHIEVEMENTS ARE BORN OUT OF ACTIONS
AND**

**ACTIONS ARE BORN OUT OF THE COMBINED STRENGTH OF
MAN POWER AND MONETARY STRENGTH.**

DELAYED ACTIONS WILL LEAD TO DENIAL OF JUSTICE.

**WHAT YOU DO TODAY, IS THE
FUTURE YOU SEE TOMORROW**

***HENCE EMERGE OUT AS VIBRANT FORCE TO LOOK FOR
YOUR BRIGHTER FUTURE***

The first stage war is not yet over and still we have to go along way to find a fruitful result. We have to pursue the Review committee also which will be a Herculean task.

We have to cautiously approach the Government for accepting all the favourable recommendations of SCPC which will be another Herculean task.

Even after Government acceptance Railways may deny the benefit to the employees which are evident from our experience in the past. This will be a most crucial period in our struggle to mend Railways for accepting Government orders.

Kindly remember that much greater and enthusiastic support and patronage is solicited from your end so that IRTSA will bring much and much more benefit to you which will decide your life style in next 15 years until 7th Pay commission comes.

UNITED WE WIN, DIVIDED WE FALL

LONG LIVE IRTSA



Coordination meeting with AIREF at New Delhi



Protest in front of Chennai Central Station



Protest at Parliament Street



Sri.S.G.Mishra, GS/AIRF inaugurates
Mass Dharna at Jantarmanatar



Sri.M.Raghavaiah, GS/NFIR inaugurates
Candle light agitation at Jantarmanatar



Patron & CP greeted



Sri.U.Purohit hearing the views of IRTSA



**TRUE SPIRIT NEVER DIES
LONG LIVE IRTSA!**