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**All India Railwaymen's Federation**  
(Estd, 1924)

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**PROCEEDINGS OF THE 89<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION  
HELD AT PATNA FROM 22-24 NOVEMBER, 2013**

As per pre-notified schedule, the **89<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention** of the All India Railwaymen's Federation(AIRF) was held at **Patna**(East Central Railway) from **22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2013**. More than 20,000 participants, which include, different level office bearers of the affiliated unions of the AIRF, delegates and observers, started reaching Patna from every corner of the Indian Railways, by special trains and split coaches right from early morning of 21<sup>st</sup> November, and they were full of zeal and enthusiasm.

The host union, i.e. East Central Railway Karamchari Union, had made excellent arrangements for welcome, stay and meals etc. of the participants, and the station premises, right from Danapur to Rajendra Nagar Patna, were colourfully decorated with posters, festoons, wall-paintings, cut-outs and colourful lightings, which further added to the beauty of Patna City.

**WOMEN CONFERENCE**

The **14<sup>th</sup> Annual General Convention** of the All India Committee of Railway Women Workers of AIRF met at 10:00 hrs. on **22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2013** in **Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Nagar**(Rajendra Nagar), which was presided over by **Com. Ms. D. Shaleel**, Chairperson, All India Committee of Railway Women Workers of AIRF, wherein women participants from all the Zonal Railways and Production Units participated in large number. The significantly high number of participants proved that the involvement of women workers and their faith in AIRF and its affiliates is increasing day-by-day. The theme of the Convention was **"Stop Violence Against Women"**. All the Zonal Chairpersons were present on the dais along with the leaders of the Federation(AIRF). Ms D. Sheel offered warm welcome to all the leaders of the AIRF on the dais and the participants who came to Patna, coming all the way from different parts of the Indian Railways. The leaders of the AIRF were presented bouquet etc. by the women office bearers.

Inaugurating the Convention, **Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra**, General Secretary AIRF, described the significance of the participation of the women in the union. He also mentioned about the important grievances of the women employees as also the efforts made by the AIRF and its affiliates for the betterment and welfare of women employees. He emphasized that, it was only due to untiring efforts of the AIRF that two extra slots have been provided in the decision making fora, right from the Division to Railway Board level, to ensure their active participation. He further stated that basic facilities on the work place, removal of hurdles in the Child Care Leave etc. were achieved by the AIRF, for which he congratulated women activists for showing unity. He assured that, AIRF would leave no stone unturned to get the grievances of the women railway workers addressed. Com. Mishra praised the women activists for their active support during last secret ballot elections, held for the recognition of the unions in the month of April 2013. He also complimented women team of ECRKU under the leadership of Ms Eveline Barla and Ms K.F. Kullu for making the Convention a grand success. Com. Mishra also complimented Ms Champa Verma for her election as Vice President, Women Committee, ITUC(APR).

Presenting the Annual Report on women activities, **Com. Mrs. Jaya Agarwal**, mentioned in detail about the programmes and extracurricular works undertaken during the entire period at National level and by the Zonal Women Committees. A resolution, comprising of major issues related to women railway workers was thereafter passed unanimously, requesting the AIRF leadership to get these issues settled as early as possible.

Other leaders of the AIRF, present on this occasion, i.e. **Com. Rakhal Das Gupta**, **Com. J.R. Bhosale**, **Com. Harbhajan Singh Sidhu** and **Com. Salil Lawrence**, also addressed the conference.

**Com. Mrs. D. Shaleel**, Chairperson, then concluded the conference and thanked AIRF leadership for promoting the women workers in the organization and sparing their valuable time to address the participants.

Next day, a procession on the theme – “**Stop Violence Against Women**” was also taken out by the women participants, raising voice against violence, and an exhibition was also organized, focusing on the subject. A “**Signature Campaign**” was also launched on this occasion by the women participants to lodge protest against violence with the women in different spheres of life.

### **WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING**

To decide the programme and business of the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, AIRF Working Committee met at **12:00 hrs. on 22<sup>nd</sup> November**, as scheduled, in **Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Nagar**(Rajendra Nagar Patna) under the presidentship of **Com. Umraomal Purohit**, President/AIRF.

While welcoming Working Committee Members, **Com. Purohit** stated that this Convention is being held at a very crucial time and we would have to take certain important decisions. He also sought opinions of the Working Committee Members, as to whether Delegate Session was to be continued up to 24<sup>th</sup> November or the same could be completed by the late evening of 23<sup>rd</sup> November in the wake of Assembly Elections in five states of our country, going to be held during the last week of November onwards.

Minutes of the last Working Committee Meeting, held on **25-26 May, 2013 in New Delhi**, were confirmed and adopted unanimously.

General Secretary AIRF also made a brief speech and informed about the important issues, to be dealt in the present Convention and have to decide future course of action. He informed the House that, in the “**Manthan Shivir**”, organized by the AIRF on 25-26 June, 2013 in New Delhi, the results of secret ballot elections were discussed in detail and it was unanimously decided to launch struggle programme under the leadership of Com. Umraomal Purohit. He also admired the General Secretaries of the affiliated unions for making the **General Council**, held on 13.09.2013 in New Delhi, a grand success, that broke all the previous records, and had directed the cadre to conduct “**Strike Ballot**” on **20-21 December, 2013** on the 36-points Charter of Demands. He also stated that, **Com. Rakhal Das Gupta**, Chairman, Subject Committee, deserves special appreciation for his sincere efforts in preparing the resolutions. He also informed the House that, some of the General Secretaries have requested to conclude the Convention on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, so that they could reach their home timely to perform election duties and cast their votes in the State Assembly elections. The General Secretary also complemented the host union for making nice arrangements for the Convention.

Thereafter, the General Secretary of the host union, i.e. East Central Railway Karamchari Union, **Com. Sashi Kant Pandey**, briefed the House about the detailed programme of the Convention.

After discussion, it was decided to conclude the Convention on 23<sup>rd</sup> evening and to re-schedule the programme in such a way, that the entire business is transacted within this time.

Speaking on this occasion, **Com. Harbhajan Singh Sidhu** praised the strategy and efforts made by Com. Umraomal Purohit, inasmuch as the government could not reduce the number of days for PLB this year. He also

informed that Com. Purohit has been nominated as a member of the four members High Power Committee for Air India on IR issues in consideration of his vast experience.

The General Secretary proposed that, keeping in view market inflation, increase in the establishment expenses and affiliation fee of the ITF, affiliation fee of the AIRF needs to be increased from Rs.3 to Rs.6 per member.

While concluding the meeting, President AIRF, Com. Purohit, pointed out that, since there is some technical lacunae in the PLB agreement, we shall have to make all out efforts to get the same cancelled and to enter into a new favourable agreement, for which sustained struggle would also be required. He further mentioned that, market inflation and other factors definitely warrant increase in the affiliation fee of the AIRF, effective from the next year.

Finally, it was agreed to increase AIRF affiliation fee from **Rs.3 to Rs.5** per member w.e.f. **01.01.2014** to financially strengthen the organization.

**Com. J.R. Bhosale** requested the affiliated unions to submit their membership verification statement up to 31.12.2013.

**Com. Mahendra Sharma**, Regional Secretary(Asia/Pacific Region) ITF, was also present on this occasion.

General Secretary AIRF thanked Working Committee Members for extending cooperation and giving their consent to increase AIRF affiliation fee.

The meeting was ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

## **PROCESSION**

In the afternoon, a mammoth rally, which was participated by the office bearers of AIRF affiliates along with more than twenty thousand union activists, delegates and visitors, was taken out from Patna Jn. Railway station. The participants were holding the banners of their respective unions, cardboards describing the demands of the Railwaymen, in their hands and were shouting slogans of AIRF and their respective unions and demanding redressal of long pending demands of the Railwaymen. This massive rally, passing through the main streets of Patna City reached the venue of the Convention, and finally culminated into a mass meeting in the Open Session at **Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Nagar**(Rajendra Nagar Patna), the venue of the Convention.

## **OPEN SESSION**

The Open Session of the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention started at 16:00 hrs. in Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Nagar(Rajendra Nagar Patna), as per the schedule, wherein thousands of union officials, activists and delegates and visitors, coming from every corner of the Indian Railways, were present. The union activists were shouting slogans – **“AIRF Zindabad! Com. Umraomal Purohit Zindabad! Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra Zindabad!**

Along with AIRF leadership, **Shri Nitish Kumar**, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar, was present on the dais as **“Chief Guest”**, while **Shri Ram Sunder Das**, Ex. Chief Minister, Bihar State and Member of Parliament, **Shri Narendra Singh**, Agriculture Minister, Bihar Government, **Shri Vijay Krishan**, Ex. MP(RJD), were also present on the occasion as **“Guest of Honour”**.

Chairman Railway Board, **Shri Arunendra Kumar**, General Manager East Central Railway, **Shri Madhuresh Kumar**, Addl. General Manager East Central Railway, **Shri Ajay Shukla**, DRM Danapur, **Shri N.K. Gupta** and other Railway officials were also present on the dais to grace the occasion.

In addition, **Bro. Mahendra Sharma**, Regional Secretary(Asia/Pacific Region) ITF, **Com. U.S. Jha** Secretary General All India RPF Association, **Com. Raman Kumar** Secretary General IRPOF, were present on the occasion.

**The Chief Guest, Guest of Honour, Bro. Mahendra Sharma**, leaders of the Federation(AIRF), including **Com. Umraomal Purohit** and **Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra** and other dignitaries, along with Zonal Secretaries, present on the dais, were offered warm welcome by presenting them bouquet, shawls and mementos by the host union.

**Shri Aghnu Yadav**, General Secretary, Bihar State HMS and Chairman Reception Committee, in his welcome address, briefed the history of Patna and also talked about the tourist and pilgrimage places in and around Patna. He also spoke on the trade union movement and the struggles of the AIRF and ECRKU. While narrating about AIRF's achievements, such as PLB, Cadre Restructuring, Dearness Allowance to the Railwaymen, he stated that the AIRF has always remained on the forefront for the cause of the Railwaymen. He further stated that there are many challenges ahead, to be faced, but as the history says, AIRF is competent to do that. He also offered heartily welcome to all the dignitaries and the participants of the Convention and thanked them for visiting Patna.

While addressing the Open Session, **Com. Umraomal Purohit**, first of all offered warm welcome to Shri Nitish Kumar and other ministers of the Bihar Government, including **Shri Ram Sunder Das**. He also reminded the great work done by **Loknayak Jaya Prakash Narayan** and his remarkable contribution as President AIRF for the betterment of the Railwaymen. He further said that, Shri Nitish Kumar had also worked with Jaya Prakash Narayan, as such he very well knows the philosophy of the AIRF.

Com. Purohit explained the entire scenario of payment of PLB and this year's episode, when the government was inclined to curtail the number of days and added that it was only due to forceful opposition from the AIRF that the payment of PLB was made for 78 days without any reduction in it. He further opined that the agreement on the PLB is not favourable for the Railwaymen, as such we have decided to get it modified, creating full pressure on the government. He further added that, though he has never been in favour of "**Hunger Strike**", but this time he was prepared to sit on "**Hunger Strike**", in case there was any reduction in the PLB.

The President mentioned that AIRF had to decide for **Strike Ballot** on 20-21 December, 2013 in the "**Special General Council**", which met in New Delhi on 13.09.2013, just because the Government and the Ministry of Railways are dragging their feet in acceding to the major long-pending demands of the Railwaymen. He said that the other federation had always betrayed despite their commitment to fully support the Railwaymen's struggle, and this time also we cannot trust on them. He clarified that the AIRF always wants to smoothly run the Indian Railway System and not in favour of unwanted for strike, but the government is compelling us to decide for a direct action. He, therefore, directed the cadre to seriously prepare for the struggle to create another history, so that AIRF's credibility remains ever high and urged upon the Chairman Railway Board to take necessary measures, so that industrial peace does not get hampered.

**Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra**, General Secretary AIRF, speaking on the occasion, thanked the host union for making nice arrangements for the Convention and also complemented the participants who had reached Patna from each and every corner of the country to participate in the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the AIRF. He requested the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour to light up the lamp and inaugurate the Open Session.

Thereafter, the "**Chief Guest**", **Shri Nitish Kumar**, along with other dignitaries and leaders of the AIRF, lighted up the "**Deep**" to formally start the Open Session.

Continuing his address, Com. Mishra mentioned that, the historic 89<sup>th</sup> Convention of the AIRF is being held at Patna, where Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narayan had changed the history giving slogan of "**Sampoorn Kranti**", and "**Samajwad**" is our philosophy, which we have not only learnt from the books, but also from the history. "We are there to run the Railway System smoothly and efficiently, but in case the government do not accept our legitimate demands, our history says that, we have always fought bravely and never compromised with our issues", he added. He further said that, we can never bear with the injustice at any cost, this has been the reason, AIRF had to decided for "**Strike Ballot**" on our **36-point Charter of Demands**, which is scheduled to be held on **20-21 December, 2013** throughout the country.

He said that, there are 4.5 lakh youth, who are governed by New Pension Scheme, which is factually “**No Pension Scheme**” and the young cadre, along with 1.2 million membership of the AIRF, would continue our struggle against the atrocities and the New Pension Scheme. He said that AIRF has decided to fight for the apathy of 4.5 lakh outsourced or contractual workers over the Indian Railways and opposed contracting out perennial nature jobs.

Com. Mishra applauded the sacrifices of the Railwaymen and reminded that, almost around 600 Railwaymen have to scarify their lives, while performing their duties, for smooth running of the Railway System every year, which has been well acknowledged by the High Power Committee, constituted by the Ministry of Railway under the Chairmanship of Dr. Anil Kakodkar.

He warned the government that, AIRF would never permit selling out and dismantling of the Indian Railways at any cost and also demanded change in PLB formula by withdrawing the capital share from it.

He further reminded the efforts made by Shri Nitish Kumar as Hon'ble Minister for Railways in creating a “**Railway Safety Fund**” worth Rs.17,000 crore for improvement in the infrastructure, tracks, rolling stock, signalling system etc.

He mentioned that, being a free, independent and democratic trade union movement in India, the AIRF not only takes care of the Railwaymen, but also the entire society and the country, because if the society would break, the country cannot sustain, then what would be the fate of the Indian Railways.

He thanked the Chairman Railway Board as well as Hon'ble Minister for Railways for extending co-operation to AIRF and congratulated on the victory of the AIRF, particularly on the issue of PLB and withdrawal of Written Test and PET from the process of recruitment under LARSGESS. He again stressed upon the need of funding Rs.50,000 crore per annum for next 5 years from the General Exchequer to the Indian Railways for smoothly and efficient rail operations to fulfill the aspirations of the rail users.

Demanding restoration of “**Guaranteed Pension Scheme**” changing the NPS, removal of stringent punishment in SPAD cases, implementation of new HOER, 60% increase in the allowances, filling of the vacancies, removal of anomalies of VI CPC, employment to the wards of the Railwaymen, expansion of the scope of the LARSGESS to other categories and grade pay, Com. Mishra said that, we cannot sit peacefully without achieving these demands. He further said that, while new recruitment panels have been formed after long persuasions by the AIRF, still there remain more than two lakh vacancies over the Indian Railways, majority of which are in safety categories, which is quite serious. He further said that, we have to fight out the menace of introduction of new trains and creation of new assets without adding to manpower as well as infrastructure.

Concluding his speech, he thanked Ms Mamata Banerjee, the then Minister for Railways for her initiatives to liberalize old Safety Related Voluntary Retirement Scheme, launched by Shri Nitish Kumar, as LARSGESS. He said that the Railway Ministry must implement unanimous recommendations of the Departmental Anomaly Committee and Joint Committee on Package and Career Progression of Trackmen.

Thereafter, a Souvenir, published by the host union, East Central Railway Karamchari Union, to commemorate the event, was unveiled by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Nitish Kumar, in the presence of Com. Umraomal Purohit, Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, leaders of the Federation and other important dignitaries.

Addressing the mammoth gathering in the Open Session, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar and Ex. Minister for Railways, **Shri Nitish Kumar** said, “I want to thank **Shiva Gopal Ji** for inviting me in this 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the AIRF, which is being held after 30 years at Patna, and also heartily welcome all of you in this historic city of Bihar.”

In his around 45 minutes long speech, Shri Nitish Kumar talked about his long experience with the Railways, right from his student life up to his long tenure as Minister for Railways and said that, almost all the Indians have some linkage with the Indian Railways in their life.

He also recalled his experience while he was Minister for Railways and said that the safety of the Railways had been the major issue to be addressed, for which "**Railway Safety Samvads**" were organized, taking into confidence the then Hon'ble Prime Minister, wherein the grassroots workers were invited to share their experience related to safe rail operations, and the **Safety Related Voluntary Retirement Scheme**, and around rupees 17,000 crore "**Railway Safety Fund**" had been the outcome of these Safety Samvads, which had helped a lot in induction of wards of the Railwaymen, and renewal of assets, rolling stocks, tracks and signalling etc. that remarkably improved upon the total health of the Indian Railways. He further cautioned the Railways against indiscriminate increase in axle load, which may endanger safety of rail tracks.

He also informed about constitution of the "**Corporate Safety Plan**" and the idea of formation of new railway zones, which were initially opposed by the Federations also. Shri Nitish Kumar emphasized that the Railwaymen and the management at the apex level should understand their strength, and in case stand unitedly they can achieve a lot. He also mentioned about his achievements in Bihar as Chief Minister, particularly on the front of law and order, girls education, roads, electricity etc.

Having long association with Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narayan, he said, he has been fully conversant with the difficulties of the common man and the workers of the Railways in particular and firmly supported the demands of the Railwaymen, including regular payment of PLB without any ceiling. Concluding his speech, he expressed his well wishes for grand success of the Convention.

**Shri Madhuresh Kumar**, General Manager, East Central Railway, while congratulating ECRKU for emerging as "**Single Union**" in the secret ballot in East Central Railway consecutively for second time, said that, cordial industrial relations are necessary for running the Railway System smoothly and efficiently. He expressed satisfaction over the relations of ECRKU with the Railway administration and also wished the Convention a grand success.

Speaking on this occasion, **Shri Arunendra Kumar**, Chairman Railway Board, thanked Shri Shiva Gopal Mishra for inviting him in the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the AIRF at Patna and told that he has learnt a lot from the AIRF and particularly from Shri Shiva Gopal Mishra. He applauded the crucial role played by the AIRF in maintaining cordial industrial relations over the Indian Railways for quite some time and congratulated for securing payment of PLB without any reduction through sustained struggle. He also appreciated the endeavour made by the AIRF, and particularly Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, for dispensation of PET and Written Test from LARSGESS, for which he again congratulated the Railwaymen. Talking about the financial health of the Indian Railways, he opined that, to meet out the expenses, expected to incur on VII CPC report and other social obligations, increase in fare and freight has become inevitable.

He also informed about the works being done by the Ministry of Railways for improvement in Guard's Van, introduction of Warning System to avert run over cases of the Railwaymen on duty and other measures for overall betterment of the Indian Railways. He also appreciated the host union for organizing such a gigantic Convention of a great organization, AIRF.

Concluding his speech, he hoped that all the issues, agitating the Railwaymen, would be resolved with the cooperation of AIRF.

**Shri Mahendra Sharma**, Regional Secretary(Asia/Pacific Region) ITF, initially read out **Solidarity Message** of **Bro. Stephen Cotton**, Acting General Secretary ITF and **Bro. Mac Urata**, Secretary, ITF Inland Transport Sections – "It gives us great pleasure to convey to the AIRF's Annual Convention warm fraternal greetings of the 4.5 million transport workers, especially the railway workers, who together with other sections make up the global solidarity family of the ITF. Today railways worldwide are going through a period of major change, facing privatization, deregulation and liberalization resulting in fragmentation of the system, redundancies and job losses, the closure of unprofitable lines, outsourcing, sub-contracting and the promotion of precarious working. New forms of business and employment are emerging which do not always take safety standards and social consequences into consideration. The ITF and its railway section stresses the necessity to invest in the development of railways, to improve working conditions and safety measures, and to preserve the permanent character of jobs in the railway

sector rather than replacing qualified full-time specialists with outsourced, casual or precarious workers. In tackling the problems of climate change the expansion of rail network will be crucial. To achieve this goal, it is extremely important to have strong unions capable of negotiating with employers, governments and international institutions, to sign collective agreements which ensure decent conditions of railway workers. We wish you a very successful Congress and hope that you reach productive decisions on the future of railways in India, and on strengthening union power. Railway workers around the world are proud professionals who are dedicated to provide best services to those who use the railways. We stand together in solidarity to defend workers' rights in the transportation industry all over the world."

Bro. Sharma, thereafter appreciated the views of Shri Nitish Kumar that, it is not possible to totally privatize the Indian Railways, but regretted that privatization is still gradually taking place in certain Railway activities, which is quite unfortunate. He added that, this is resulting in reduction of permanent employees and proportional increase in the strength of contract labour, as perennial nature jobs are being outsourced to the contractors. It has, therefore, become the need of the day, he opined that, we all should fight for contract workers and formed their unions to protect their basic rights. He cited the example of Metro Railway and other undertakings related to the Indian Railway, the number of which has been increasing day-by-day. He, however, wished that the AIRF being a strong organization, shall take care of it.

Addressing the Convention, **Shri Narendra Singh**, Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Bihar Government, said, that the Indian Railways are playing a vital role in country's development, connecting its one corner to the another. He added that AIRF is a great organization, following the path of Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narayan, which can give direction to the entire trade union movement of our country. He further said that, corporatization, privatization, outsourcing etc. are leading to endangering the Railway System, therefore, there is urgent need to fight against these.

**Shri Raman Kumar Sharma**, Secretary General, IRPOF, also spoke on this occasion and expressed his valuable views, and stated that, he has come out of AIRF school, and still feel part and parcel of it. He said that, we are getting all sorts of cooperation from the AIRF and would reciprocate the same. He supported the demands raised by the AIRF.

**Shri Vijay Kishan**, Ex. MP(RJD), also addressed the Convention and praised the role played by **Com. M.N. Bajpayee** and **Com. S.K. Pandey**, who had supported the **J.P. Movement**. He further said that, AIRF being the strongest organization of the Railwaymen, has been struggling for socio-economic upliftment of the Railwaymen and protecting their rights.

**Shri U.S. Jha**, Secretary General AIRPFA, was also present on the dais, on our invitation, and was felicitated by the host union.

Com. Umraomal Purohit then concluded the Open Session and thanked Shri Nitish Kumar and other dignitaries for their benign presence.

### **DELEGATE SESSION – 23.11.2013**

The Delegate Session of the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the AIRF was started amid the slogan – **"AIRF Zindabad! Umraomal Purohit Zindabad! Shiva Gopal Mishra Zindabad! Har Zor Zulm Ki Takkar Mein Sangharsh Hamara Nara Hai"** at 10:00 hrs. in Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narayan Nagar(Rajendra Nagar Patna), when Com. Umraomal Purohit, President AIRF, was in the chair.

At the outset, the President welcomed the delegates and leaders present in the Delegate Session and briefed the state-of-affairs. Thereafter, **Com. Rakhal Das Gupta**, Working President AIRF, read out solidarity messages, received on this occasion, from various important dignitaries, such as – Hon'ble Minister for Railways, **Shri Mallikarjun Kharge**, Hon'ble MoSR, **Shri Kotla Jaya Suryaprakash Reddy**, Chairman Railway Board, **Shri Arunendra Kumar**, Secretary Railway, **Shri H.K. Jaggi**, Member Engineering, **Shri Subodh Jain**, Member Electrical, **Shri Kul Bhushan**, Financial Commissioner(Railways), **Shri Rajendra Kashyap**, **Shri D.P. Pande**,

Member Traffic, **Dr. P.S. Prasad**, Director General(Railway Health Services), **Shri P.K. Mehta**, Director General RPF, **Ms Ragini Yechury**, ED(IR), **Shri Arvind Kumar**, EDE(N), Railway Board and **Shri M. Raghavaiah**, General Secretary, NFIR, and international fraternity – **Bro. Masaharu Takei**, President, Japan Railway Union, **Bro. Tan Sri Zainal Rampak**, General Secretary, Transport Workers Union(Peninsular Malasya), **Bro. Nikolay Niki Forov**, President, Trade Union of Railwaymen & Transport Construction Workers' of Russia, **Bro. Stephen Cotton**, ITF Acting General Secretary and **Bro. Mac Urata**, Section Secretary, ITF Inland Transport Sections, **Bro. James P. Hoffa**, General President and **Bro. Ken Hall**, General Secretary-Treasurer, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, **Bro. Mahendra Sharma**, Regional Secretary(Asia/ Pacific Region) ITF and **Com. V.K. Keshab**, OS/HMS.

**Com. Venu Nair**, newly elected General Secretary of the National Railway Mazdoor Union, offered warm welcome to **Com. Umraomal Purohit and Shiva Gopal Mishra** by garlanding them.

## **CONDOLENCE MOTION**

The General Secretary AIRF, first of all, moved Condolence Motion to pay hearty tribute to those who passed away during this period, and two minutes silence was observed for the eternal peace of the departed souls.

Thereafter, minutes of the last Annual Conference(88<sup>th</sup>) of the AIRF were confirmed unanimously.

On being called upon, General Secretary presented a detailed report before the House.

In his 2 ½ hours presentation of his report, he discussed in detail, organizational issues, major demands of the Railwaymen, AIRF's stand and the efforts made for redressal thereof.

As per resolution adopted in the 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the AIRF, held at Visakhapatnam from 18-20 December, 2012, we had emphasized the demand for constitution of the VII CPC as per advise of Com. Umraomal Purohit, and this was also a major demand in the resolution adopted in the General Council Meeting of the AIRF, held on 13.09.2013 in New Delhi, he added. He further said that, after the announcement made by the Government of India for constitution of VII CPC, Terms of Reference of the same have been discussed with the Official Side.

Thanking the host union, i.e. ECRKU for successfully organizing the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the AIRF, he added that this report focuses on various challenges being faced by us nationally and internationally. He urged upon the delegates to deeply study and give their serious thought to it. He also told that he has tried his level best to discuss all the major issues in this report, right from socio-economic situation world over and the present state-of-affairs in regard to status of major pending demands, different organizational programmes organized and the agitations launched during this period. He emphasized the need to further the communication system to make it more efficient and faster. He added that, this being a comprehensive report of the AIRF, covers all the aspects and he sought valuable suggestions for further improvement in the same.

He appealed to the House that though we have won the secret ballot, but we must introspect ourselves and honestly improve our functioning to meet the future challenges. He said, organizing Youth, Women and Unorganized Workers should be our top priority.

**Com. J.R. Bhosale**, Treasurer AIRF, presented Accounts for the period 01.01.2012 to 31.12.2012.

He thanked AIRF Office for extending cooperation in running the organization efficiently and also the General Secretary AIRF for presenting a nice report in the House. He also thanked the leadership of the host union for organizing 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the AIRF in a befitting manner.

Thereafter, three draft resolutions, first on "**Socio-economic Problem**", second on "**Problems of the Railwaymen**", and the third on "**7<sup>th</sup> Central Pay Commission**", were respectively moved by **Com. Mukesh Mathur**, VP/AIRF and GS/NWREU, **Com. Mukesh Galav**, AGS/AIRF and GS/WCREU and **Com. Ch. Sankara Rao**, AGS/AIRF and GS/SCRMU. These resolutions were then seconded by **Com. Pijush Chakraborty**, Jt. GS/NFRMU,

**Com. Ch. Gandhi**, AGS/AIRF and GS/ECORSU, **Com. S.K. Tyagi**, Treasurer NRMU, respectively. The movers of the draft resolutions also discussed in detail about the background of the resolutions.

**Com. Rakhil Das Gupta**, said that, “we did give memorandum to Hon’ble Prime Minister as well as Minister for Railways on the long ending genuine demands of the Railwaymen, and if these demands are not get redressed, we will go for **Strike Ballot on 20-21 December, 2013**.” He appealed to the cadre to be prepared for total showdown, if our demands are not met.

A meaningful debate then took place on the General Secretary’s Report, and Draft Resolutions placed before the House, wherein **Com. Asish Biswas**, Jt. GS/NFRMU, **Com. P. Ganeshan**, WCM/AIRF/SRMU, **Com. A.M. D’Cruz**, AGS/AIRF, **Com. S.K. Pandey**, VP/AIRF, **Com. S.K. Brahma**, VP/AIRF, **Com. Harbhajan Singh Sidhu**, AGS/AIRF, **Com. D. Shaleel**, Chairperson, AIRF Women Wing, and made valuable suggestions.

The speakers broadly praised the General Secretary’s Report, as the same was complete and knowledgeable and also supported Draft Resolutions placed in the House. They also emphasized the need to take necessary steps for getting long pending major issues redressed, and to vigorously mobilize the Railwaymen for the forthcoming **Strike Ballot**, going to be held on **20-21 December, 2013** to create pressure upon the Government of India and Ministry of Railways to actively consider these 36-points Charter of Demands.

It was also decided unanimously to participate in the joint demonstration organized by the Central Trade Unions on 10-point Charter of Demands on **12<sup>th</sup> December, 2013** on the Parliament in masses.

Amid the slogans “**AIRF Zindabad! Com. Purohit Zindabad! Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra Zindabad! Hamari Ekta Zindabad! Har Jor Julm Ki Takkar Mein Sangharsh Hamara Nara Hai**”, all the three Draft Resolutions and Accounts were unanimously passed by the House as also the General Secretary’s Report was unanimously adopted.

Thereafter, it was decided that –

- (i) **To conduct Strike Ballot on 20-21 December, 2013 with full preparations.**
- (ii) **Next Working Committee Meeting of the AIRF will be held at Nainital(Izzatnagar Division of NERMU).**
- (iii) **The 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the AIRF will be hosted by South Western Railway Mazdoor Union;**

After that, elections of the Office Bearers, Zonal Secretaries and Working Committee Members of the AIRF, were conducted as per the agenda and having been elected unanimously, their names were read out by **Com. J.R. Bhosale**, Treasurer AIRF.

#### OFFICE BEARERS

Shri Umraomal Purohit, President/AIRF  
Shri Rakhil Das Gupta, Working President/AIRF  
Shri C.A. Rajasridhar, Vice President/ AIRF  
Shri S.K. Brahma, Vice President/AIRF  
Shri R.D. Yadav, Vice President/AIRF  
Shri Venu P. Nair, Vice President/AIRF  
Shri S.K. Pandey, Vice President/ AIRF  
Shri N. Nageswara Rao, Vice President/AIRF  
Shri J.R. Bhosale, Treasurer/AIRF  
One post of Vice President AIRF is vacant

Shri Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary/AIRF  
Shri K.L. Gupta, Asstt. General Secretary/AIRF  
Shri N. Kannaiah, Asstt. General Secretary/AIRF  
Shri Ch. Snakara Rao, Asstt. General Secretary/AIRF  
Shri Harbhajan Singh Sidhu, Asstt. General Secretary/AIRF  
Shri A.M. D’Cruz, Asstt. General Secretary/AIRF  
Shri Ch. Gandhi, Asstt. General Secretary/AIRF  
Shri Mukesh Galav, Asstt. General Secretary/AIRF  
Shri Salil Lawrance, Asstt. General Secretary/AIRF  
Shri Mukesh Mathur, Asstt. General Secretary/AIRF

## **ZONAL SECRETARIES**

Shri Ghanshyam Das, NRMU(NR)  
Shri S.D. Meena, WREU  
Shri Subhendu Mukherjee, ERMU  
Shri M.N. Bajpayee, ECRKU  
Shri U.C. Mishra, NWREU  
Shri Rakesh Srivastav, WCREU  
Shri W.A. Yadwad, SWRMU  
Shri Basant Chaturvedi, NERMU  
Shri Sisir Chandra Mazumder, MTPRMU  
Shri Karnail Singh, DCWRMU,  
Shri S.N. Singh, CLWRMU  
Shri L.N. Pathak, RCF/RBL

Shri G. Eswar Lal, SRMU  
Shri Manoj Kumar Behra, SECRMU  
Shri Y. Veera Raju, SCRMU  
Shri P. Umapathi, NRMU(CR)  
Shri Asish Biswas, NFRMU  
Shri K.B. Singh, NCRMU  
Shri N. Satapathy, ECoRSU  
Shri P. Mohan Doss, ICFLU  
Shri Rajinder Singh, RCFMU  
Shri D.G. Barloni, RWFUMU  
Shri Satish Kumar Bajpai, RDSO/LKO  
Dr. Pradeep Sharma, DLWMU

One post of ZS/AIRF is vacant

## **WORKING COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

### **NORTHERN RAILWAYMEN'S UNION**

Shri S.K. Tyagi  
Shri R.P. Singh  
Shri Narender Singh Sidhu  
Shri Daljeet Singh  
Shri C.S. Bajwa  
Shri U.K. Singh

Shri D.N. Chaubey  
Shri R.K. Pandey  
Shri A.K. Yadav  
Shri M.P. Chaubey  
Shri S.K. Rana  
Smt. Harjeet Kaur

### **WESTERN RAILWAY EMPLOYEES' UNION**

Shri R.C. Sharma  
Shri Nikhil Joshi  
Shri Sunil Harsh  
Shri R.K. Chattopadhyaya

Shri S.B. Srivastava  
Shri V.K. Sharma  
Shri Sanjay Kapoor  
Smt. Yashoda Hegde

### **SOUTHERN RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION**

Shri Md. Raffiquiddin  
Shri P. Palanivelu  
Shri A. Rajendran  
Smt. M. Renuka Lakshmi  
Shri S. Gopi Krishna

Shri P. Ganesan  
Shri Paul Maxwell Johnson  
Shri S. Veerasekaran  
Shri R. Kesavan  
Shri M. Govindan

### **SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION**

Shri K. Srinivas  
Shri K. Siva Kumar  
Shri Md. Farooq Ali  
Shri Y. Hanumantha Rao  
Shri P. Yugandhar

Shri G. Udaya Bhasker Rao  
Smt. N. Arundhathi  
Shri S.K. Yaseen Ahmed  
Shri K. Kaladhar

**EASTERN RAILWAYMEN'S UNION**

Shri Malay Kanti Das  
Shri Surjendra Kr. Bandyopadhyay,  
Ms Mun Mun Bhowmick  
Shri Pranay Kumar Das

Ms Chapala Banerjee  
Shri Labanya Kr. Banerjee  
Shri Bikash Dutta

**NATIONAL RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION**

Shri Y.G. Joshi  
Shri Ibrahim Khan Pathan  
Shri S.C. Dhiwar  
One post vacant

Shri P.T.S. Raja  
Shri Aditya Kumar Singh  
Ms Bebinanda Ashok Mothe

**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY KARAMCHARI UNION**

Shri D.K. Pandey  
Shri Vishwa Mohan Singh  
Shri B.S. Bhadoria  
Smt. E. Barla

Shri S.N.P. Srivastava  
Shri S.C. Trivedi  
Shri Santosh Kumar Tiwari

**N.F. RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION**

Shri Sudama Prasad Singh,  
Shri Dilip Kumar Chakraborty  
Shri Paritosh Paul

Shri Pijush Chakraborty  
Shri Samir Kanti Chakraborty

**N.E. RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION**

Shri S.P. Singh  
Shri Pradeep Dhar Dubey

Shri G.B. Singh  
Shri Vinay Kumar Srivastava

**WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY EMPLOYEES' UNION**

Shri Hussain Bux  
Shri Philip Oomman  
Shri Irshad Khan

Shri Ravi Jaiswal  
Ms Champa Verma

**NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY EMPLOYEES' UNION**

Shri Babu Singh  
Shri Anil Vyas  
Shri R.K. Singh

Shri Bhupendra Bhatnagar  
Shri Arun Gupta

**SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAYMEN'S UNION**

Shri S.K. Sinha  
Shri S.M. Jaiprakash

Shri Rajesh Dongre

**EAST COAST RAILWAY SHRAMIK UNION**

Smt. D. Shaleel  
Shri P. Nayak

Shri P.K. Pattsahani

**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION**

Shri I. Joseph  
Shri K.V. Raghavendra

Shri Noor Mohammed

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAYMEN'S UNION**

Shri S.N. Thakur  
Shri V.K. Yadav

Shri R.N. Yadav  
Shri V.S. Kansana

**S.E. RAILWAYMEN'S UNION**

VACANT

**C.L.W. RAILWAYMEN'S UNION**

Shri D.K. Dwivedi

Shri S. Kumar

**D.L.W. MEN'S UNION**

Shri Hari Shankar Yadav

Shri Arvind Kr. Srivastava

**D.CW. RAILWAY MEN'S UNION**

Shri S.K. Sahni

Shri Randhir Singh Chaudhary

**I.C.F. LABOUR UNION**

Shri J. Sreedharan

Shri M. Kathirvelu

**R.C.F. MEN'S UNION**

Shri Rajbir Singh

Shri Hari Dutt

**RWF MAZDOOR UNION**

Shri G.R. Ananda Reddy

Shri Srinivas

**MTP RAILWAYMEN'S UNION**

Shri T.K. Kundu

Shri Suvajit Pal

**RDSO KARAMCHARI SANGH**

Shri Satvir Singh

Shri A. Xavier

**RCF MEN'S UNION, RAE BARELI**

Shri Ritu Raj Shukla

Shri Rakesh D. Tiwari

The General Secretary AIRF informed that, the "First Yuva Sammelan" of the AIRF will be organized at **Patna** East Central Railway, the date of the same shall be intimated in due course.

**Com. Umraomal Purohit**, while congratulating the newly elected body of the AIRF, said, "I hope, you will do your best efforts to run this organization efficiently and smoothly."

He also suggested for holding General Council Meeting of the AIRF for two days for serious discussions on the challenges as well as organization.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.

No.AIRF/03

Dated: December 23, 2013

Forwarded to the General Secretaries, all affiliated unions, along with the copies of the resolutions referred to above.

Comradely yours,

Encl: Three Resolutions

**(Shiva Gopal Mishra)**  
**General Secretary**

# ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION

## RESOLUTION NO.1 - SOCIO ECONOMIC PROBLEM

The 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of All India Railwaymen's Federation(AIRF), held at Patna from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2013, notes with serious concern that after 66 years of independence disparity as existed during British regime are still continuing, causing serious unrest and tension in the society. Unemployment, undernourishment, death of mother during child birth, death of children below the age of 5 years are on the increase. The poor are becoming poorer and rich becoming richer. The rural people are migrating to urban areas for earning bread. But they could hardly get remunerative employment and are being compelled to live in Slams along with family members, inviting utter miseries and causing further dissatisfaction and tension. There is wide difference of facilities/amenities between urban and rural areas. It was no less a person than **Shri A.P.J. Abdul Kalam**, former President of the Country had held that "**Provide Urban Amenities to Rural Areas**" (PURA), which will discourage migration from village to township.

The growth of Gross Domestic Product(GDP) had reached a peak of 9.6% in the year 2006–07, but the same is on decline to below 5% during 2012 - 2013. The Gross Domestic saving went up to 36.8% during 2007 – 2008 has declined to 30.8% during 2011 – 2012. External debt as on 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2012 was \$ 376.3 billion, of that short term debt is \$ 91.9 billion. 25% of total external debt is hot money, which can be withdrawn any time to get engulf the country with economic depression. The economic depression of 1997 of Asian Countries was sudden withdrawal of hot money. Fiscal deficit for the year 2012–2013 up to September was ₹4.12 lakh crores which is 76% of the total fiscal deficit for the year. Current Account deficit has been increased from 0.4% of GDP during the year 2004–05 to 4.2% of GDP during the year 2011–2012. This is mainly because of import of hefty quantity of gold, coal etc which could be easily kept under control. It is apprehended that this may further be increased during current year.

Amount of Direct Tax forgone during 2010–2011 was ₹ 57,192 crores and during 2011–2012 was ₹ 51,292 crores and amount of ₹ 2,30,131 crores and 2,12,167 crores of Indirect Tax has been remitted for the similar period making a way for concentration of wealth amongst the handful of business magnets. In our country there are 54 billionaires in \$ 1.3 trillion economy, whereas there are same number of billionaire in Germany, the economy of which is three times than that of ours. There has been clamoring for unearthing of black money. There was no dearth of assurance from the Govt. to unearth the black money. General Anti Avoidance Rule was drafted long back but its implementation of the same has been deferred to April, 2016. It is apprehended that the same would be deferred further to provide scope to the Billionaires to avoid Tax and to part their black money in tax heavens.

The prices of all essential commodities have been on the increase without any proportion. There is no attempt from the government to arrest the price rise. Weight of food article in WPI basket is 24.31% while that of CPI for working class Index is 46.2%. As such, abnormal increase in the price of essential commodities has been biting them hard.

At the time of Independence of the country in the year 1947, 1 £ was equivalent to ₹ 10.66. 1 £ is now touching ₹ 100. Similar is the position of dollar, yen etc. in relation to rupee. Thus rupee has been devaluated like anything causing serious pressure on import bill. The **Current Account Deficit(CAD)** has gone up from 0.4 percent of GDP during 2004–2005 to 4.2 during the year 2011–2012.

The contribution of **Public Sector Undertakings** in the matter of economic stability and development, providing employment opportunity of the Country are worth mentioning but there is constant attack on their stability by disinvestment of their share and allowing Foreign Direct Investment. In August, 2013, the government have decided 100% FDI in Telecommunication Sector, 49% FDI in Print Media and FM Radio and 26% in Defence Production Units, however on case to case basis. The temples of Public Sector was created for the development of the country. But the policy has given good bye and the government is parroting the mantra of PPP.

PPP is not a panacea. It is not “**Public Private Participation**” In fact it is “**Privatization of Public Property**” in the name of PPP. Public properties are being handed over to the Private Players to mint money for their own.

Condition of small and marginal farmers are at stake. Due to poverty they are being compelled to sell their land on which they were depending and ultimately become land farmer in his own land. Number of farmers has fallen by 8.6 million to 118.7 million between the period 2001–2011 while the number of farm workers has been up from 37.5 million to 114.3 million during the same period. After beating drums ₹ 500 crores of farm loan has been waived out. Of that ₹ 150 crores has been swallowed by a half dozen of micro finance institutions. The CAG after examining the documents of ‘farm loan wave’ found that the records were tempered with and over written to pay good amount to the ineligible farmers. This discontentment amongst the farmers, farm workers and agrarian masses belonging to wide variety of social movement demonstrated before Parliament on 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2013 demanding fair land policy, remunerative price for their products and fair wages.

There is no dearth of Food Grains in the country. Tones and tones of food grains are getting rotten for want of storage facilities. But thousands of countrymen are dying due to hunger, since they have no purchasing power. After beating drums, Food Security Bill has been passed in the Parliament. But its universal implementation of the same has been deferred for a year i.e. after coming Lok Sabha Election is over. People apprehend that the same may be a election gimmick.

Millennium Development Goal shall expire in the year 2015. We are far away from the goal. In the matter of Human Development Index, we have skid from 119<sup>th</sup> position in 2010 to 134<sup>th</sup> in 2011. The Expenditure in education as percentage of GDP was 3.13% during 2010 – 2011 and the expenditure in health care was 1.29% during the same period. The standard of educational instruction of ours is very low. Our best educational Institution IIT/Kanpur stands at only 222 position in global standard. The basic amenities in the schools in the country are horribly absent. 11% school have no toilet. 18% have no separate toilets for girl students and 34% toilet are unserviceable, 20% school have no facilities of drinking water. The Hon’ble Supreme Court have directed the State Governments to provide basic amenities in the schools. There are number of occasions where Mid day meal were not properly served, causing illness and death amongst the students. There has been wide difference in the price of branded drugs and generic drugs. Death of mother during Child birth and death of children within 5 years of age are alarming. Social Protection Spending in India is only 1.7% of GDP, whereas even States of Sri Lanka & Thailand are spending 3.3% of GDP.

As per survey conducted by “**Walk Free Foundation**” 30 million Indians are living in modern slavery. The definition includes debt bondage, forced marriage and human trafficking.

Our country has the blessings of having 58% of total population as young workers in the age group between 15 to 59 during 2001. This will be added with about 63.5 million new entrants of younger age group between 2011–2016. It is expected that percentage of working age group will be more than 64% of the total population in the 2021 i.e. during next census period. It is necessary to train them for skill development so that they could be gainfully utilized. In this connection National Skill Development Corporation has been set by the Govt. up to train 34.70 million people by 2022.

The total employment both in organized and unorganized sector was 457.46 million during the period 2004–2005. This has been marginally increased by 2.67 million only to 460.22 million within a spell of five years on 2009–2010 even when the average growth rate of GDP for the same period was 8.4%. The percentage of workforce during 2011 was 39.8% of the population while it is 63% in Russia, 64% in USA, 70% in Brazil and 74% in China. Employment in Public Sector has come down from 177.95 lakhs during 2009 to 175.48 Lakhs during 2011. In Private Sector, of course, there has been marginal increase but mostly they are contract labourers free from hire and fire, getting meagre wages, having no social security. Over 6 crores people are waiting for employment after registering their names in Employment Exchanges. This unemployed problem has been telling badly on the social fibre of the country.

The Govt. has passed proposal on the floor of Parliament for FDI in retail whose Head Qrs. are USA, European Union and Japan. The market is totally captured by the multinationals. 5 Multinational companies produced

nearly half and ten largest firms provided 70% of total Motor vehicle. Just three companies are controlling soft drinks. Only two companies – Boeing and Airbus run the World's Commercial Aviation. Ten companies control about half the global seed market. There are mainly four Multinational retailers --- Walmart (USA), Carrefour (France), Metro (Germany) & TESCO (UK) have the retail market. This will badly effect the self employment / hired employment of lakhs and lakhs of people.

In a survey conducted by **World Economic Forum** India's position is 101 amongst 136 countries in the matter of gender discrimination, calculated on the basis of equality, education and health. Top position in this regard being occupied by Iceland, Finland and Norway. Unfortunately girl children are unwanted guests in our family. In India the ratio of men vis-à-vis women is 1000:940. There is a demand from the women folk that there should be 1/3<sup>rd</sup> reservation in Parliament and State Assemblies. The demand is very much justified. The representation of women in parliament is 45% in Sweden while in India it is only 11%.

In our country the girl child are not safe. There are umpteen cases of female trafficking, rape and murder. After Nirbhaya case of December, 2012 there was upsurge of people, compelling Govt. to set up a High Powered Committee headed by Justice J. S. Verma. The report of the committee has been accepted. Four accused in 16<sup>th</sup> December case have been awarded death penalty by the Trial Court. Even then rape and murder of women folk are taken place unabated across the country.

Corruption and criminalization are in rampant mainly at high places of the society. After 2G Spectrum Scam, Coal gate have come to the surface. In this connection the Supreme Court in its Ruling has held that all resources including air waves are public property. The Govt. is mere custodian of these assets. The Govt. must not hoard these resources for itself like it has with Coal gate. Chit Fund Scam of Sarada has swallowed thousands and thousands of Rupees of people of lower strata of the society. There was scam amounting to ₹ 5,600 crores committed by National Spot Exchange Limited. Number of bureaucrats and politician have been caught in the corruption net. The Supreme Court in it's judgment held that members of Legislature and Parliament found guilty by the Trial Court should not have any right to continue. The recommendations had to be accepted by the Govt. Judiciary, Legislature and bureaucrats are the pillars of democracy. There should be no place for corrupt / criminal people to be in any of the pillars of Democracy.

The Supreme Court in it's landmark judgment has held that as there is right to vote, there must be right to reject the candidates also. This bestowed the right to voters to reject even all the contesting candidates if all of them are adjudged as persons non grata. The judgment have been accepted by the Govt. for it's implementation.

On 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2013 Supreme Court has castigated a remark on the functioning of CBI saying, CBI was **"Caged Parrot"**, speaking in its master's voice. There is one parrot and many masters. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has held CBI responsible for changing their report at the instance of Law Minister Shir Aswini Kumar on coal Block allocation coup and ultimately the Law Minister had to put up his papers. Sometimes CBI is used to meet Political Vendetta.

This conference calls upon the Railwaymen to forge unity with the rest of the countrymen to fight against unemployment, price rise, disinvestment of Public Sector Undertaking, poverty, deprivation, exclusion, Gender Discrimination, corruption and criminalization, parking black money in Tax heavens and to compel the Govt. to use Natural Resources for Public good.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2 - PROBLEMS OF THE RAILWAYMEN**

The problems of railwaymen like filling up of vacancies, sanction of addition posts in commensurate with additional work load, scraping of New Pension Scheme, appointment of 7<sup>th</sup> CPC, removal of anomalies of 6<sup>th</sup> CPC, removal of ceiling of PLB, implementation of Welfare Schemes assured by the Railway Ministers, implementation of the recommendation of Joint Committee on the problems of Trackman, merger of Tech. Gr. II with Tech. Gr. I, provision of 4800 as apex scale in Gr. 'C', upgradation of posts from Group 'C' to 'B', merger of grade pay Rs. 2400 with Rs. 2800, treatment of 100% CL/CPC service as regular one, stepping up of pay of senior one, extension of the

scope of LARSGESS, demand for recruitment of wards of railwaymen, Accounts and other Ministerial staff, grievances of Loco & Traffic Running Staff, Traffic Operating, Shunting & Yard staff, Commercial & Ticket Checking staff, Artisan staff, technical supervisors, Supervisors of other Departments, P. Way staff, staff of Bridge and works of Civil Engineering Departments, Signal & Telecommunication Staff, Paramedical and other Medical staff, Health and Sanitation staff, staff of store department, Stenographers, EDP staff, Hindi Translators, Scientific staff, Train Escorting Duty staff etc. have been represented to the Ministry of Railways and the Govt. of India repeatedly and through demonstrations before Parliament on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 and 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2012. The problems were reiterated through a resolution during last 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of AIRF held in December, 2012 at Vishakhapatnam followed by subsequent representations at different levels. Subsequently AIRF in its Working Committee had to decide to conduct Strike Ballot. The Railway Board at the Apex level had held a negotiation with AIRF on the Charter of Demands on 23.08.2013 and certain issues were resolved.

The Govt. had placed the PFRDA Bill on the floor of Parliament on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2013. All the Unions affiliated to AIRF throughout the country has registered protest through various means against the PFRDA Bill. But brushing aside the opposition the Govt. have passed the Bill on the floor of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. The same is now waiting for the ascent of the President.

The General Council meeting of AIRF held at New Delhi on 13<sup>th</sup> September deliberated on the whole issues and decided to conduct Strike Ballot throughout the country on 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2013.

The Govt. have announced appointment of 7<sup>th</sup> Pay Commission on 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2013. The Railway Board have issued orders of restructuring of certain Gr. 'C' categories on 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2013.

During Strike negotiation in February, 2006, the Govt. had agreed to appoint a High Powered Committee to go into the question of duty hours and the other problems of Running staff and other Safety Categories of staff. The committee was appointed on 25.05.2011 after repeated representations. The committee has since submitted its report to the Railway Board on 23.08.2012. The recommendation of the Committee is far from satisfaction and the problems need to be addressed.

After reviving the whole situation, the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of All India Railwaymen's Federation (AIRF) held at Patna from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2013 demands on the Ministry of Railways and the Govt. of India to have negotiated settlements on all the following issues, failing which AIRF would be compelled to conduct Strike Ballot on 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2013.

1. Filling up all vacant posts.
2. Sanction additional post in commensurate with the increase in the number of trains and workload.
3. Stop outsourcing of perennial nature of jobs violating the provision of Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970.
4. Scrap New Pension Scheme and cover all Railwaymen with Pension and Family Pension Scheme as available to the staff appointed prior to 01.01.2004.
5. Recommendations of the Joint Committee constituted to study the career progression and package for Trackmen has been diluted arbitrarily. The recommendation should be implemented in to to.
6. Remove the ceiling limit of Rs. 3500 for the purpose of payment of PLB.
7. Raise the ceiling of Income Tax deduction to Rs.5.00 lakh.
8. Exempt Transport Allowance and Special Duty Allowance from the purview of Income tax deduction and also raise the Income Tax deduction ceiling on Running Allowance.

9. Remove all anomalies of 6<sup>th</sup> CPC as agreed upon in the meeting of Departmental Anomaly Committee and resolve all anomalies pending before NC/JCM Anomaly Committee.
10. Complete Cadre restructuring of left over categories.
11. Liberalize the procedure of GDCE, raise its limit from 25% to 50% of DR Quota and arrange to hold the examination at Zonal/Divisional level.
12. Merger of Grades of Technician Gr. II and Gr. I, duly granting GP of Rs.2800.
13. Provision of GP of Rs.4800 in place of Rs.4600 to all senior Supervisors.
14. Upgradation of 15% apex level Group 'C' posts to Group 'B'.
15. Settle the long pending grievances of Running Staff such as granting of Running Allowance w.e.f.1-1-2006 duly improving the ALK, Reduction in Duty Hours, Provision of Additional Allowance to Running Staff working in Goods Trains and also to Traffic Running Staff working as Goods Guards and Passenger Guards, improvements in the condition of Running Rooms and withdraw penalty of "**Removal from Service**" in SPAD cases etc.
16. Running Allowance be paid to the medically de-categorized Running staff kept on supernumerary posts and issue necessary clarification for payment of final settlement dues taking 55% of Pay into account.
17. Merger of Grade Pay of Rs.2400/- and Grade Pay of Rs.2800 for all categories of Staff.
18. Grant Parity to Stenographers working in the field office and that of the Secretariat in respect of Grade Pay.
19. Repair quarters, roads, drains and do not compel staff to stay in inhabitable quarters and pay House Rent Allowance to such staff.
20. Reckoning of 100% Casual Labour/CPC Service rendered as qualifying service for seniority and pensionary benefits pending with the Government in spite of Hon'ble Supreme Court judgment.
21. Issue order for stepping up of Pay of Seniors who are drawing less pay than the Juniors consequent on fixation of pay due to implementation of VI CPC recommendations between the direct recruits and promotees.
22. Stepping up of Pay of senior employee on par with junior employee consequent on modification of ACP Scheme as MACP and grant three financial upgradation on promotional hierarchy.
23. The Safety Related Voluntary Retirement Scheme has been modified as LARSGESS permitting the Railway employees in safety categories to give voluntary retirement so as to enable their wards getting appointed. The age should be extended up to 59 years.  
  
Expand the scope of LARSGESS amongst all categories of staff, re-consider the cases of candidates failed in PET and allot quarters to the wards at par with compassionate ground appointees.
24. Improvement of conditions in the Railway Hospitals and filling up of all vacancies of Doctors, Nurses and paramedical staff, regularization of the services of Contract Paramedical staff, provide Medical facilities to the staff posted in roadside stations and Ganghuts.
25. The demand of recruitment of wards of Railwaymen as Substitutes has not been implemented by the GMs of the Zonal Railways due to several restrictions imposed in the orders of the Railway Board. Moreover, there should be fixed quota for the wards of Railwaymen in all recruitments through RRBs and RRCs.

26. The Welfare Schemes announced in the Railway Budget, such as opening of Nursing Colleges, Medical and Engineering Colleges, Polytechnics, Kendriya Vidyalas for the children of Railwaymen, extension of medical facilities and pass to both dependant father and mother of Railway employees etc. are yet to be implemented by the Board. AIRF also demands reimbursement of full educational expenses up to Post Graduate level in case of wards of the Railway employees.
27. As per the decision taken in the DC/JCM Meeting 5% of the sanctioned strength of the Section Officers in the pre-revised scale of Rs.6500-10500 was earmarked to Non-qualifying Appendix III Accounts Assistants. Consequent upon the implementation of VI CPC recommendations, the same was revised to 1% of the combined strength of SOs & SO(A)s , reducing the percentage. The demand of increasing the same to 5% on the combined strength of SOs and SSO(A)s is still pending with the Railway Board. Also revise the pay scale of Accounts Staff w.e.f 01.01.1996 instead of 19.02.2003 as per judgement of Hon'ble CAT Ernakulam, Hon'ble Kerla High Court, and Hon'ble Supreme Court(Jose Sebastian & Ors. VS Union of India & Ors.). Review Petition No.1494 of 2013.
28. Settle the grievances of AC Mechanics and AC Attendants deputed to work on trains in respect of duty hours, accommodation in trains etc.
29. Even though several times the issue of absorption of Quasi-Administrative staff was discussed, no orders have been issued so far for absorption of Quasi-Administrative staff in the Railways.
30. Increase the amount of Fixed Medical Allowance and issue Smart Card to all RELHS beneficiaries.
31. Grant parity in pension and family pension to the staff/family retired prior to 01.01.2006.
32. Revise the rates of Risk Allowance and grant Patient Care Allowance to the staff of Medical Deptt. working in Kitchen, Store, Watching duties etc.
33. Limit duty hours of staff to a maximum of 7 hours a day and implement flexi timings for all female and Ministerial staff and exempt women Railway employees from Night Shifts in the open line.
34. Review the recommendation of High Powered Committee in consultation with AIRF.
35. Pay TA, OT, NDA, National Holiday Pay etc. regularly.
36. Increase the rate of Special Duty Allowance by 25% with retrospective effect from 01.01.2011.

### **RESOLUTION NO.3 – 7<sup>TH</sup> CENTRAL PAY COMMISSION**

As demanded during 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of AIRF held at Vishakhapatnam in December, 2012, the Govt. has announced the appointment of 7<sup>th</sup> CPC on 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2013. Meeting between representatives of NC/JCM led by Shri Umraomal Purohit, Secretary / Staff Side, NC/JCM and Secretary, DoPT was held on 24.10.2013 to decide Terms of Reference. During discussion the anomalies of 6<sup>th</sup> CPC were brought to the notice of the Govt. by the Staff Side representatives. It was also brought to the notice of the Govt. that number of the unanimous recommendation of the Departmental Anomalies committees, sent to the Finance Ministry are still gathering dust in the office of Finance Ministry, causing serious dissatisfaction amongst the employee. It was stretched during discussion that those anomalies should be resolved first. It was also pointed out that one real representative of Labour should be nominated as Member of the 7<sup>th</sup> CPC. It was urged by the Staff Side that the views of the Govt. in respect of Terms of Reference be sent early so that the Staff Side can formulate their views, which was agreed to.

The 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of All India Railwaymen's Federation (AIRF) held at Patna from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2013 demands that the wage revision should take place within the periodicity of 5 years as is being done in Most of the Public Sector Undertakings and the Terms of Reference be decided between Staff Side, NC/JCM and the Govt. of India and Notification appointing the 7<sup>th</sup> Central Pay Commission be issued early.