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

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No.AIRF/24(C)

Dated: March 18, 2013

The Secretary(E),  
Railway Board,  
New Delhi

Dear Sir,

**Sub: Proceedings of "All India Safety Seminar of Loco Inspectors" held on 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2013 in New Delhi**

We are sending herewith proceedings of "All India Safety Seminar of Loco Inspectors" held on 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2013 in New Delhi.

The Board are requested to address the grievances of the Loco Inspectors contained in the attached proceedings.

Yours faithfully,

-sd-

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

DA/As above

Copy to: General Secretaries, all affiliated zonal unions, along with a copy of above cite proceedings.

DA/As above

**“PROCEEDINGS OF “ALL INDIA SAFETY SEMINAR OF LOCO INSPECTORS” HELD ON 25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2013 IN NEW DELHI**

An “All India Safety Seminar of “Loco Inspectors” was held on 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2013 in T.N. Bajpai Memorial Hall, 12 Chelmsford Road, New Delhi which was attended by hundreds of Loco Inspectors from all the zonal railways across the country.

The seminar started at 10:00 hrs. in the morning, and at the outset, “**Chief Guest**”, **Shri Keshav Chandra**, Member Mechanical, Railway Board, other railway officers General Secretary AIRF, **Shri Shiva Gopal Mishra**, **Shri K.L. Gupta**, **Shri Salil Lawrence**, both Asstt. General Secretary AIRF, were presented bouquets.

Talking about the background of holding this “**Safety Seminar**”, the General Secretary AIRF, **Shri Shiva Gopal Mishra**, in his keynote address explained in detail the working conditions of the Loco Inspector and the Loco Running Staff as a whole and their legitimate problems warranting early redressal.

He particularly expressed his anguish on difference in emoluments of pre and post promotees from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2006 and explained, how vigorously it is being chased by the AIRF at Railway Board’s level. He also supported all the demands of the Loco Inspectors and promised to pursue them at all levels, including Railway Board and Government of India.

The Member Mechanical Railway Board, **Shri Keshav Chandra** addressing the participants discussed in details the various aspects of Loco Inspectors as also talked about various technical issues related to entire Loco Running Category. He also made certain valuable observations in regard to safety of train operation. The Member Mechanical also assured that the issues related to working conditions and other grievances of Loco Inspectors and other Running Staff shall be given specific attention by the Ministry of Railways for quick redressal thereof. Shri Keshav Chandra while concluding his address also talked about the situation of Signal Passing at Danger (SPAD) which is extremely crucial in railway safety.

Thereafter, Executive Director (Mech. Engg.) (Tr.), Railway Board, **Shri Vivek Kumar** and E.D.E.E. (RS), Railway Board, **Shri Ved Pal**, also spoke on this occasion and threw light on various safety measures and other related issues. They also informed the participants about the various steps being undertaken by the Railway Board in regard to improvement in working conditions and safety of train operation.

**Shri Kul Bhushan**, Member Electrical, Railway Board, who also graced the occasion, was offered warm welcome by presenting beautiful bouquets and General Secretary AIRF, applauded his efforts in regard to innovative ideas and overall upliftment of Loco Inspectors and other Loco Running Staff in regard to their working environment and other bonafide grievances. The Member Electrical, addressing the “**Safety Seminar**”, talked in detail about various technical and electronic backup going to be introduced on Indian Railways for averting train accidents as also incidents of Signal Passing at Danger (SPAD). Shri Kul Bhushan, while admiring the work of Loco Inspectors and other Running Staff in safe rail operation, discussed in detail their valuable contribution in smooth running of railway network. He also assured that the genuine problems of this vulnerable category of staff shall be duly taken care of on priority basis and said that since he has worked at various positions in different parts of the Railways, he is fully aware of these issues. While concluding his speech, Member Electrical, Railway Board, assured that the financial

crisis shall not be any embargo in resolving the major genuine issues of these staff during the time to come and the Railway Board would take all necessary steps for quick redressal thereof. He also mentioned that the General Secretary AIRF has been regularly pursuing the demands of the Railwaymen in general and the Loco Running Staff and Loco Inspectors in particular. On having been raised by him; the anomaly in the pay scale of Loco Inspectors(pre and post promotees of January 2006) is being actively considered by the Railway Board and hope it would be resolved shortly.

General Secretary AIRF, **Shri Shiva Gopal Mishra**, expressed his heartfelt thanks to **Shri Kul Bhushan**, Member Electrical, **Shri Keshav Chandra**, Member Mechanical, E.D.M.E.(Traction), E.D.(R.S.), Railway Board, DRM/DLI/NR and other railway officers for making it convenient to grace the occasion and for their valuable and informative speech delivered in the safety seminar.

After the Inaugural Session, **Shri Dilraj Singh CLI/UMB & ADS/NRMU(NR)**, **Shri Dada Hayath CLI/SCR**, **Shri P.T.S. Raja CLI/CR & COB/NRMU(CR)**, **Shri Bhupender Kumar CLI/TKD/NR**, **Shri Ram Briksh LI/MAU-BSB/NER**, **Shri Arun Saxena CLI/RTM/WR**, **Shri Sashidhar Prasad LI/DNR/ECR**, **Shri M.J. Khan CLI/BPL/WCR**, **Shri A.K. Singhal LI/MB/NR and COB/NRMU(NR)**, **Shri Harish Arora CLI/NCR**, **Shri K. Ravi Chandran CLI/TBM/MAS/SR**, **Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Chandel CLI/JHS/NCR**, **Shri N.K. Mishra CLI/LKO/NR**, **Shri Bhagwan Das SLI/TRS(OP)/MGS/ECR**, **Shri A.K. Srivastav CLI/ STA/ JBP/WCR**, **Shri Mukesh Kumar Srivastav CLI/GKP/NER**, **Shri Sanjay Sharma CLI/All/NWR**, **Shri C.R. Diwakar SLI/Mumbai/CR & Chairman, Panvel Branch NRMU(CR)**, **Shri A.K. Kennedy CLI/Mumbai and Secretary, LRS Branch/Mumbai Division/NRMU(CR)**, **Shri S. Shiv Balan CLI/JTJ/MAS/SR and Deva Raj Dass, CLI/NBQ/NFR** took part in the deliberations and explained typical working conditions of the LIs, the problems being faced by them, besides their grievances related to working hours, weekly rest, wage and allowances, running room facilities, etc. etc. All of them made very informative speech and gave valuable suggestions.

Speaking on this occasion, **Shri Shiva Gopal Mishra**, General Secretary AIRF, stated that the AIRF is fully aware of the problems of the entire Running Staff in general and the Loco Inspectors/Sr. Loco Inspectors in particular. He also emphasized that the contribution of the Running Staff and the Loco Inspectors in railway safety can never be underestimated because they are the forefront staff in train operation. Shri Mishra further informed that the major issues related to Loco Running Staff and the Loco Inspectors have already been taken up by the AIRF up to apex level and we are trying our best that, in SPAD cases, the quantum of punishment prescribed by the Railway Board should be reviewed, and the punishment should not be on thumb rule, but as per gravity of the case. He also added that the Loco Inspectors have a number of genuine problems and Railway Board officials who have addressed this seminar do appreciate them and have equally assured to take urgent necessary action for redressal thereof. Shri Mishra told that the number of Loco Pilots assigned to a Loco Inspector/Sr. Loco Inspector is too high and impractical and other duties assigned to them are such that they cannot perform them in a proper manner with requisite attention, which he told, is definitely a safety hazard. The General Secretary expressed his anguish that minimum per-day kilometreage fixed for Loco Inspectors are too inadequate and discriminative as also ALK is quite insufficient. He criticized the Railway Administration to deprive Loco Inspectors of LARSGESS which is equally available for their colleague Loco Pilots and demanded that Loco Inspectors and Sr. Loco Inspectors should not be kept outside the purview of this scheme.

The General Secretary AIRF also demanded that the medically de-categorized Loco Running Staff and Loco Inspectors should not be deprived of Running Allowance, they should be provided with fixed weekly rest, subsidized food and separate resting facilities in Running Rooms, there should be adequate arrangements of Leave Reserve, Rest Givers, Training Reserve for Loco Inspector, no protocol duty should be assigned to them and the

medically de-categorized staff may be utilized as Loco Inspectors for stationary duties, the vacancies of LIs need to be filled up quickly just from the date of occurrence, they should be paid guaranteed KMA, etc. etc.

The undernoted conclusions were drawn after thorough and detailed deliberations held in the seminar.

- ▶ The pay of Loco Inspectors/Chief Loco Inspectors promoted before 1.1.2006 needs to be stepped up on par with those promoted after 1.1.2006
- ▶ There was almost consensus that the selection to the post of LI should be from amongst Loco Pilot (Passenger) so that there is no status problem to Loco Inspector while dealing with Sr. Loco Pilots.
- ▶ The payment of daily kilometreage should be on par with Loco Pilots and not on actual basis.
- ▶ Loco Inspectors Category is required to be provided with Laptop so as to discharge their duties timely and efficiently.
- ▶ Cases of SPAD should not be the responsibility of the assigned Loco Inspector, in case he was not on footplate inspection at the time of the incident.
- ▶ There should be in-depth study of SPAD cases in regard to the circumstances and other conditions which result in such cases.
- ▶ As there are around 48 types of locomotives on the Indian Railway System, both electrical and diesel, therefore, to be acquainted with all technical aspects of all kinds of locomotive is next to impossible, therefore, there should be separate groups of LIs for electrical and diesel traction and the types of locomotives assigned to a LI should also be limited for effective discharge of their duties.
- ▶ The category of Loco Inspectors is equally required to be covered under LARSGESS.
- ▶ There should not be any emolument loss on promotion from Loco Pilot to Loco Inspector.
- ▶ Visibility of signals in a number of cases being quite inconvenient, particularly in case of GM Class locomotives while working on long hood, there is urgent need of technical solution of this problem.
- ▶ Blowing of whistle/horn on all level crossing gates and other locations in running trains creates unbearable problems to the Loco Running Staff and Loco Inspectors on footplate inspection. This may be modified by providing some audio alarm on all level crossing gates which should start blowing as soon as locomotive reaches the board of W/L placed before the level crossing gate and should continue till complete and safe passing of trains from the particular level crossing gate.
- ▶ There is urgent need of fixed duty hours, that too with no continuous night working and with fixed weekly rest in the interest of safety for the Loco Inspectors category.
- ▶ The mechanism of filling up of vacancies needs to be improved to ensure quickly filling up of vacancies particularly in safety categories.
- ▶ Proper accommodation and rest room facilities in running rooms with subsidized food need to be provided for LIs.
- ▶ They should be classified under “**Intensive**” Classification.

- ▶ No protocol duty should be assigned to this category.
- ▶ There should be proper arrangements of training for LIs.

It was resolved that the above important issues should be vigorously pursued with the Railway Administration and the Ministry of Railways for quick redressal thereof so as to ensure railway safety.

The seminar thereafter concluded with a vote of thanks to the chair.

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