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EDITORIAL

TWO AJUBA'S - AAP AND STRIKE BALLOT



Dear Comrades,

Recently two incidents must have surprised you. The biggest surprise out of it is, AAP formed Govt. in Delhi. But we should understand that this is not just a surprise, it is a public resentment. This public resentment was not for any individual but was against the policy makers and the planners sitting on the top of power. The common man was fed up with price rise, unemployment, Corruption and poverty. The people sitting on the top of power are so much involved in the corrupt system not realized the problems of common men. Even if they might have felt the problems of common man but they surrendered in front of the corrupt system. Under this situation when common man not found any way to come out from this situation then in the hope as a last resort they supported AAP who showed some light of hope. The proud of power is always broken by the common man. If we analyze the honesty, we save tested in secret ballot of unions recognition held recently on 25-27 April, 2013. Here it is pertinent to say that of AAP got power through common man resentment. This party should not be satisfied with the power changes but should change the system who made the common man annoyed, otherwise public feelings do not take much time to change.

Comrades, second surprise held on 20-21 dec., 2013 when in shivering cold the result of secret ballot for strike brought heat in Railway employees. This was also the result of resentment in the mind of Railway employees for a long back. Now the ball is in the court of Railway Board and Govt. of India. As far as we understand that Railway Ministry will take it seriously otherwise they can not escape from their responsibility after the serious effects of Railway Strike. We hope and wish that Indian Government and Rail Ministry will show its sensitiveness and on the other hand we also hope from our comrades, they will show their commitment for Railway employees and make strike preparation fast.

We are at the verge of struggle. Even though, you are in a fighting mood, we wish you and your family a Happy New Year. Happy Lohri, Happy Makar Sankranti and Happy Republic Day.

With best wishes!

(Shiva Gopal Mishra)

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FEEDBACK ON THE MEETING HELD ON 13.12.2013 BETWEEN THE MEMBER STAFF, RAILWAY BOARD AND GENERAL SECRETARY/AIRF ON STAFF GRIEVANCES

Ref: Strike Ballot

The Member Staff, Railway Board, invited the General Secretary/AIRF for an meeting today at 15.00 hrs. on the above noted subject.

During course of meeting, the General Secretary explained him all the circumstances under which AIRF was forced to take the decision of Strike Ballot.

He also explained him that, due to non-redressed of genuine long-pending demands of the Railway men, like removal of anomalies (Running Staff grievances, merger of Technician II with Technician I, GP Rest. 4800 to all the Supervisory Staff, abolition of GP Rest. 2000 for the purpose of MACP Scheme) Non-implementation of unanimously agreed decisions of the Railway Board – unanimous recommendations of Jr. Committee on Trackmen, regularization of railway accommodation in favor of wards of railway employees recruited under LARSGESS, extension of LARSGESS to the staff working TRD, Bridge and Power departments, cadre restructuring without matching savings, absorption of quasi-administrative offices staff in the Railways, parity in the case of Stenographers working in the field as well as Zonal Railways and Production Units, creation of additional posts in commensurate with increase in the number of trains and workload, stopping of outsourcing of perennial nature jobs, violating the provision of Contract Labour, etc. etc. Similarly, judgments of various courts, in regard to MACP in hierarchical grade, Accounts Staff and Stenographer, reckoning of 100% Casual Labour Service rendered as Qualifying Service for seniority and pensionary benefits, have not being implemented. On the one hand, Railways are said to be the second line of defence, but the Ministry of Railways have not done any effort to pursue the matter with the Government of India to bring all the Railwaymen in Old Pension Scheme, as has been done by the Home Ministry in regard to Defence Staff.

He explained to the MS, AM(S) and ED(IR), Railway Board, present in the meeting, that though we had all along advised the Railway Board, right from top to bottom, every decision of the General Council as well as 88th Annual Convention of the AIRF, and also in between no positive steps have been taken by the Railway Board in regard to Resolution of Charter of Demands submitted by the AIRF to the Railway Board, and that is the reason, our Patna 89th Convention of AIRF also put its seal on Strike Ballot (20-21 December, 2013) decision of the General Council of the AIRF as well as 88th Annual Convention of AIRF.

Though the Member Staff requested for deferment of date of strike ballot, Shri Mishra told him very clearly that now it is too late, and until there are some visible action from the Ministry of Railways and Government of India is taken, we would not be able to defer our strike ballot decision, decided by our General Council and Annual Convention.

In regard to continuation of dialogue, He explained that I would inform the Railway Board about the date, only after consulting the President/AIRF.

Com. Mukesh Galav, General Secretary, WCREU and AGS/AIRF was also present during the course of meeting.

The above is for your information, and the latest update on the subject.

All of you are requested to take strike ballot as seriously as had been taken in the General Council and Annual Convention of the AIRF and motivate the Railwaymen that, why we have been forced to go for strike ballot.

NEWS FROM AFFILIATES

NRMU/NR

65th Annual Convention of Northern Railwaymen's Union held at Lucknow from 8-10 December, 2013

The Triennial General Body Meeting (AGM) of Northern Railwaymen's Union hosted by Lucknow Division held on 8-10 December, 2013 at Lucknow in which near by 6000 thousands delegates and leadership of NRMU including Rly. employees in mass & large number of women committee members participated.

Com. Umraomal Purohit, President/AIRF inaugurated the Open Session. Com. Rakhal Das Gupta, Working President/AIRF, Com. K.L. Gupta, General Secretary/NERMU and AGS/AIRF were also present on the dias and address the gathering.

On this occasion Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, GS/AIRF/NRMU said the secret ballot for going on strike would be held on Dec. 20-21, 2013.

Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra said the Rly. Administration has agreed to accept several demands, including cadre restructuring, setting up 7th CPC & large number of pending demands.

Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra said the Central Govt. had failed to resolved pay anomalies arising from the 6th CPC, replace guaranteed pension scheme with the new pension scheme, reduce working hours and implement welfare schemes announced by former Rly. Minister.

Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra warned the Central Govt. of a "Chakka-Jam" if it remained indifferent to the demands and problems of railway employees.

Minister for Jail of Uttar Pradesh Mr. Rajendra Chaudhary said if the Rly. employees fought for their rightful demand, the Centre would have to accept them. He said that in 1974, when the Rly. employees' went on strike, the Central Govt. had to change it stand their demand.

NWREU

11th Annual General Body Meeting of NWREU was held on 13-15 November, 2013 at Jodhpur

The 11th Annual General Body Meeting of NWREU was held on 13-15 November, 2013 at Jodhpur. The delegate session was held on 14th November, 2013 at MBM Engineering College., Jodhpur. Distinguished leaders viz. Com. Umraomal Purohit President/AIRF, Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary/AIRF, Com. J.R. Bhosale, Treasurer/AIRF and others attends the meeting. Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra inaugurated and Com. Umraomal Purohit presided over the meeting. The AGBM organized by Jodhpur Workshop Branch of NWREU.

Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary expressed his pleasure on the performance of NWREU's rank and file in the secret ballot election of the reorganization of trade union in Indian Railways. Com. Mishra said that AIRF has succeeded in achieving some of the important demands of Rail workers in the last 3-4 months viz. setting up of 7th CPC, Cadre Restructuring, Upgradation of 3350 posts from Group 'C' to Group 'B' for which proposal has

been sent to Finance Ministry, Dispensing of written test exam in the recruitment under LARSGESS. These demand were achieved after decision taken by AIRF to go on strike. He said that planning for future course of action for the rest of demands of railway workers will be made in the ensuing Annual Convention of AIRF being held from 22-24 November, 2013 at Patna.

Com. J.R. Bhosale, Treasurer/AIRF and General Secretary/WREU was the special Guest of honour. He said that AIRF has demanded to raise the Income Tax limit over 2 to 3 lakhs, Scarp New Pension Scheme, maximum 8 hours duty of all categories of staff etc.

While presiding the meeting President/AIRF/NWREU Com. Umraomal Purohit said that Railway Board had made their mind to reduce the PLB for 78 days to 73 days for the year 2012-2013. We threatened if the Railway Board and Ministry of Railways insist to play with payment of PLB and reduce the number of days AIRF will have to ACT for direct action without any notice, ultimately we got it payments of PLB for 78 days was made. He said about formation and terms of reference of 7th CPC. He also demanded to include at least one Trade Union leader as a representative of workers in the 7th CPC.

Com. Mukesh Mathur, General Secretary/NWREU submitted his report. He said that he learned a lot under the guidance of Com. Umraomal Purohit and was trying his best for fulfilling the expectations of workers. He also explained in brief about the demands of railwaymen.

All the arrangements for the delegates were made in befitting manner by the team of Jodhpur Workshop Branch under the leadership of Com. Rana Pooran Chand Deep Singh, Branch Secretary.

The meeting was grand success.

ICFLU

ICF INSTITUTE ELECTION

The ICF Institute elections was held on 7.12.2013 for the post of 09 Directors (4 in Shell Division and 5 in Furnishing Division). Com. R. Ravi from ICFLU won first place defeating his counterpart NFIR candidate by a margin of 276 votes and Com. D. Baskaran by a margin of 20 votes to NFIR candidate.

This is the result of untiring efforts and hard work done by ICFLU valiant comrades.

RAILWAY UNIONS THREATEN TO STRIKE

More than 96 percent railway employees affiliated to the largest trade union in the national transporter have favoured a crippling “chakka jam” to pressure the government on their demands.

The strike could be called before the 2014 Lok Sabha polls if the government does not heed the 36-point demands of the union, said All India Railwaymen’s Federation (AIRF) after releasing the result of the ‘Strike Ballot’ which took place at all the zonal railways and production units over the weekend. “If the government and the Railway Ministry do not fulfil our main demands, we will have no option but to declare strike during February-March,” said Mr. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary/AIRF.

The ‘Strike Ballot’ saw the participation of over 10 lakhs employees. It would cost about Rs. 800 crore if the movement of trains comes to halt for a day.

Emboldened by the response, the NFIR which is affiliated the Congress's trade union wing, has now also decided to call for 'Strike Ballot'. Together, the two unions represent all the staff of the Indian Railways.

One of the main demands of the unions is scrapping the new Pension Scheme and jobs for wards of pensioners.

10th Annual Conference of Women Wing – NRMU

10th Annual Convention of Women Wing of Northern Railwaymen's Union held at Lucknow on 8.12.2014. More than 500 women workers of Northern Railway attended this Convention. The Convention was chaired by Com. Harjeet Kaur, Vice President/NRMU. In her welcome speech she highlighted the women's strength in Railways and also highlighted the position and problems of women joined Railways on compassionate ground.

Com. Harbhajan Singh, President/NRMU expressed about strike ballot and called upon for broad based unity. Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary/NRMU/AIRF stated that women organization is a very important part of NRMU/AIRF. He further said that women are empowered to give strength to the organization.

All Divisional Chairperson reported the activities during the year. Com. Shailesh Shukla, Workshop Division, Com. Pushpa Gupta, HQ Division, Com. Alka Litori, Lucknow Division, Com. Saroj Singh, Ambala Division, Com. Harbhajan Kaur, Ferozpur Division, Com. Parveena Singh, Moradabad Division, Com. Sonia Hasija, Accounts Division expressed the activities of their respective Division. Com. Poonam Sinha expressed the importance of unity. Com. Jaya Aggarwal Co-ordinator/AIRF highlighted about the privileges and opportunity achieved through organization which are examples of women in India as well as in Abroad.

Com. Saroj Dixit expressed delight on the women achievements and thanked to the participants.

RAILWAY BOARD ORDER'S

Sub: Expeditious disposal of vigilance cases involving public servants due to retire shortly.
Ref: Railway Board's letter No, 2009/V-1/DAR/1/2 dated 17.2011 and 12.6.2012.

Instructions have been reiterated time and again for according priority to vigilance cases of officials/officers nearing retirement. However, the fact remains that the mechanism for precluding "last minute" hurry requires further fine tuning. In fact, the Central Vigilance Commission has once again had occasion to observe that cases against Officers who are due to retire continue to reach them for advice only at the fag end of the service of such Officers. It is, therefore, once again requested that pre-emptive care may please be taken to initiate Disciplinary and Appeal proceedings well in time and thereby try and ensure that cases pertaining to officials nearing retirement are re3mitted to Board's office six months in advance.

(No.2009/V-1/DAR/1/2 dated 7.11.2013)

Sub: Open market recruitment against Cultural Quota on the railways – Videography of field-trials reg.
Ref: Letters No. E(NG)II/99/RR-2/3 dated 4.5.2000 and E(NG)II/2003/RR-2/4 dated 19.11.2003.

The issue of introduction of system of videography of assessment of talents in the relevant field on the basis of practical demonstration in open market recruitment against Cultural Quota on the railways on the lines of existing practice in Physical Efficiency Test (PET) of open market recruitment to posts in Pay Band-1 having Grade Pay Rs.1800 (erstwhile Group 'D') posts on the railways has been under consideration of this Ministry.

The issue has been examined and decision of the Board is hereby conveyed for videography of the same in open market recruitment against Cultural Quota on trial basis for a period of three years i.e. for the financial years 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16. The practice will be reviewed after 31.3.2016. Further, the concerned Zonal Railways/Production Units will bear the cost of expenses so incurred in such videography.

(No. E(NG)-II/2013/RR-2/2 dated 22.11.2013 (RBE No. 124/2013))

Sub: Rates of Dearness Allowance applicable w.e.f. 1.7.2013 to the Railway employees continuing to draw their pay in the pre-revised scale as per 5th CPC.

In continuation of Ministry of Railways letter of even number dated 16.7.2013, (PC-VI/323, RBE No. 70/2013) revising rates of Dearness Allowance w.e.f. 1.1.2013 in respect of Railway Servants who continue to draw their pay and emoluments in the pre-revised scales of pay (5th CPC Scales), the rates of Dearness Allowance admissible to these categories of employees shall be enhanced from the existing rate of 166% to 183% w.e.f. 1.7.2013. All other conditions as laid down in the Board's letter dated 17.11.2008 (RBE No. 179/2008) will continue to apply.

This issues with the concurrence of the Finance Directorate of the Ministry of Railways.

(Authority: MoF's OM No.1-3/2008-E.II(B), dated 7.10.2013)

(No.PC-V/2009/A/DA/1 dated 27.11.2013 (RBE No.125/2013))

Sub: Amendments in the norms of minimum qualifications for recruitment/promotion of teachers for classes I to VIII in Railway Schools (Primary and Trained Graduate Teachers).

Ref: Para No. 178 of IREM, Vol.-I (Revised Edition 1989).

The minimum qualifications for recruitment/promotion of Primary School Teachers, Trained Graduate Teachers and Post Graduate Teachers working in Railway Schools have been laid down in Board's letter No. E(P&A)I-87/PS-5/PE-9 dated 4.10.1989, which are in line with those laid down by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Delhi Administration for these categories of teachers.

2. National Teachers Education Council (NTEC) vide the Gazette Notification dated 23.8.2010, which was further amended vide its Gazette Notification dated 29.7.2011 has laid down the minimum qualifications for recruitment/promotion of teachers for classes I to VIII under the Right of Children to free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009.

3. The issue of updating the existing qualifications at par with those laid down by NCTE for recruitment/promotion of teachers for classes I to VIII has been examined by Ministry of Railways. It has been decided that the qualification as indicated in the Annexure to this letter will be applicable for recruitment/promotion of Primary School Teachers and Trained Graduate Teachers working in railway schools including Oak Grove School, Jharipani. These revised norms of minimum qualifications will be applicable for future promotion/recruitment of Railway's Primary School Teachers and Trained Graduate Teachers only. The qualifications prescribed are the same for both direct recruitment as well as promotion. As per the existing instructions, preference may be given, in case of direct recruitment to candidates possessing qualifications higher than those prescribed for the post.

4. There is no change in the existing minimum qualification for PGT as laid down in Board's letter No. E(P&A)I-87/PS-5/PE-9 dated 4.10.1989.

5. The above orders will take effect from the date of issue of this letter. Any selections already initiated would be conducted and finalized based on the notifications already issued.

DA/As above.

ANNEXURE

1. QUALIFICATIONS FOR TEACHEING POSTS IN RAILWAY SCHOOLS

A. Primary Teachers (Rs.9300-34800 + 4200/4600/4800) (Classes I-V)

- (i) Senior Secondary (or its equivalent) with at least 50% marks and 2-years Diploma in Elementary Education (by whatever name known)

OR

Senior Secondary (or its equivalent) with at least 45% marks and 2-years Diploma in Elementary Education (by whatever name known), in accordance with the NCTE (Recognition Norms and Procedure), Regulations, 2002.

OR

Senior Secondary (or its equivalent) with at least 50% marks and 4-years Bachelor of Elementary Education (B.El.Ed.)

OR

Senior Secondary (or its equivalent) with at least 50% marks and 2-years Diploma in Education (Special Education)

OR

Graduation and two year Diploma in Elementary Education (by whatever name known)

AND

- (ii) Pass in the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET), to be conducted by the appropriate Government in accordance with the Guidelines framed by the NCTE for the purpose.

B. Trained Graduate Teachers (Rs.9300-34800 + 4600/4800/5400)(Classes VI-VIII)

- (i) Graduation (in the teaching subject) and 2-year Diploma in Elementary Education (by whatever name known)

OR

Graduation (in the teaching subject) with at least 50% marks and 1-year Bachelor in Education (B.Ed.)

OR

Graduation (in the teaching subject) with at least 45% marks and 1-year Bachelor in Education (B.Ed.), in accordance with the NCTE (Recognition Norms and Procedure) Regulations issued from time to time in this regard.

OR

Senior Secondary (or its equivalent) with at least 50% marks and 4-years Bachelor of Elementary Education (B.El.Ed.)

OR

Senior Secondary (or its equivalent) with at least 50% marks and 4-years B.A/B.Sc. or B.A.Ed./B.Sc.Ed.

OR

Graduation (in the teaching subject) with at least 50% marks and 1-year B.Ed. (Special Education)

AND

- (ii) Pass in the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET), to be conducted by the appropriate Government in accordance with the Guidelines framed by the NCTE for the purpose.

AND

- (iii) Competence to teach through the medium/media as required.

2. Diploma/Degree Course in Teacher Education: A Diploma/Degree course in teacher education recognized by the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) only shall be considered. However, in case of Diploma in Education (Special Education) and B.Ed. (Special Education), a course recognized by the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) only shall be considered.

3. Training to be undergone: - A person –

- (a) With Graduation (in the teaching subject) with at least 50% marks and B.Ed. qualification or with at least 45% marks and 1-year Bachelor in Education (B.Ed.), in accordance with the NCTE (Recognition Norms and Procedure) Regulations issued from time to time in this regard, shall also be eligible for appointment to Class I to V up to 1st January, 2012, provided he/she undergoes, after appointment, an NCTE recognized 6-months Special Programme in Elementary Education;
- (b) With D.Ed. (Special Education) or B.Ed. (Special Education) qualification shall undergo, after appointment an NCTE recognized 6-months Special Programme in Elementary Education.

4. Reservation Policy - Relaxation up to 5% in the qualifying marks shall be allowed to the candidates belonging to reserved categories such as SC/OBC/PH.

5. Teacher appointed before the date of this order - The following categories of teachers appointed for classes I to VII prior to date of this Order need not acquire the minimum qualification specified in Para (1) above;

- (a) A teacher appointed on or after the 3rd September, 2001 i.e. the date on which the NCTE (Determination of Minimum Qualifications for Recruitment of Teachers in Schools) Regulations, 2001 (as amended from time to time) came into force, in accordance with that Regulation.

Provided that a teacher of class I to V possessing B.Ed. qualification, or a teacher possessing B.Ed. (Special Education) or D.Ed. (Special Education) qualification shall undergo and NCTE recognized 6-month special programme on elementary education.

- (b) A teacher of class I to V with B.Ed qualification who has completed a 6-month Special Basic Teacher Course (Special BTC) approved by the NCTE.
- (c) A teacher appointed before the 3rd September, 2001, in accordance with the prevalent Recruitment Rules.

6. (a) Teacher appointed after the date of this order in certain cases - Where a school has issued an advertisement to initiate the process of appointment of teachers prior to the date of this order, such appointments may be made in accordance with the existing qualifications prescribed for the respective posts.

- (b) The minimum qualification norms referred to in this order apply to teachers of Languages, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science, etc. In respect of other teachers i.e. Sr. Physical Education Teacher, Sr. Domestic Science Teacher, Music Teacher, Dance Teacher, Craft Teacher, Drawing Teacher, Demonstrator, Librarian, Lab. Assistant etc., the minimum qualification norms shall remain unchanged.

Sub: Recruitment/engagement of persons in Pay Band-1 (Grade Pay Rs. 1800) – Minimum educational qualification – regarding.

References have been received from various railway establishments seeking clarification whether relaxation in prescribed qualification permissible vide Board's letter of even number dated 9.12.2011 (RBE No. 166/2011) is applicable or otherwise to engagement of Substitute Bungalow Peons/Telephone Attendant cum Dak Khalasi (TADK) on the railways.

The matter has been examined and it is clarified that relaxation of minimum educational qualification stipulated in letter of even number 9.12.2011 does not cover substitute Bungalow Peons/TADK. (No. E(NG)-II/2-11/RR-1/11 dated 9.12.2013 (RBE No. 128/2013)

Sub: Qualification for recruitment of staff from open market in Pay Band-1 (Grade Pay Rs. 1800).

Attention is invited to this Ministry's letter of even number dated 9.12.2010 wherein minimum educational qualification for all recruitments against direct recruitment quota through all modes has been prescribed as **10th pass or ITI or equivalent.**

2. The issue whether candidates with 8th pass qualification and in possession of qualification of Course Completed Act Apprenticeship, who are granted National Apprenticeship Certificate (NAC) by National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) can be considered for appointment/engagement to posts in Pay Band-1 (Grade Pay Rs.1800).

3. The issue has been examined in consultation with Directorate General of Employment & Training (DGET), M.o Labour & Employment, Man Power Planning Directorate & Pay Commission Directorate of this Ministry and it has been decided that para 2 of Board's letter of even number dated 9.12.2010 may be read as under:-

The Ministry of Railways have decided that henceforth minimum educational qualification for recruitment in Pay Band-1 of Rs. 5200-20200 having Grade Pay Rs. 1800/- will be 10th pass or ITI or equivalent or National Apprenticeship Certificate (NAC) granted by NCVT. These instructions will be applicable for all future recruitment henceforth against direct recruitment quota through all modes.

4. Case decided in the past need not be re-opened.

(No.E(NG)-II/2009/RR-1/10Pt. dated 9.12.2013 (RBE No. 129/2013)

Sub: Revision of 1/3rd commuted portion of pension in respect of Government servants who had drawn lump sum payment on absorption in Central Public Sector Undertakings/Central Autonomous Bodies – Implementation of Government's decision on the recommendations of the 6th CPC.

A copy of Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DOP&PW)'s O.M. No. 4/30/2010-P&PW(D) dated 28.10.2013 is enclosed for information and compliance. These instructions shall apply mutatis mutandis on the Railways also.

2. A concordance of DOP&PW's O.Ms. referred to in the enclosed O.M. and Railway Board's corresponding instructions is given below:-

S. No.	DOP&PW's O.M.	Railway Board's corresponding instructions
1.	O.M. No. 4/38/2008-P&PW (D) dated 15.9.2008	Letter No. F(E)III/2005/PN1/23 dated 22.9.2008
2.	O.M. No. 4/30/2010-P&PW(D) dated 11.7.2013	Letter No. F(E)III/2005/PN1/23 dated 31.7.2013

DA/One.

(No.F(E)III/2005/PN1/23 dated 11.12.2013 (RBE No.130/2013))

**No.4/30/2010-P&PW (D), Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions
Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare**

Dated 28th October, 2013

Sub: Revision of 1/3rd commuted portion of pension in respect of Government servants who had drawn lump sum payment on absorption in Central Public Sector Undertakings/Central Autonomous Bodies – Implementation of Government's decision on the recommendations of the 6th CPC.

The undersigned is directed to say that orders have been issued vide this Department's O.M. of even number dated 11.7.2013 for revision of 1/3rd restored pension of absorbees w.e.f. 1.1.2006 by multiplying pre-revised 1/3rd pension by a factor of 2.26, if it is more beneficial than the revised 1/3rd restored pension as per this Department's O.M. No. 4/38/2008-P&PW(D) dated 15.9.2008. These orders have been issued in compliance of the order dated 27.9.2011 of the CAT Hyderabad Bench in OA No. 710/2010 read with their order dated 22.4.2013 in C.P. 26/2012.

2. Representations have been received from the absorbees pensioners, who had taken lump-sum payment in lieu of 100% pro-rata pension on absorption, that the benefit allowed to the absorbee pensioners in terms of O.M. dated 11.7.2013 is not adequate. These representations have been examined in this Department. The main thrust of these representation is that the 1/3rd restored pension may be revised w.e.f. 1.1.2006 by adding dearness pension and dearness relief as on 1.1.2006 along with 40% fitment benefit to the pre-revised 1/3rd restored pension.

3. The matter has been examined in this Department. The instructions for revision of 1/3rd pension were issued by this Department's O.M. No. 4/38/2008-P&PW(D) dated 15.9.2008, keeping in view the formula laid down by Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh in its judgment dated 24.12.2003 which was accepted in Supreme Court judgment dated 29.11.2006 and 24.7.2007. Hon'ble CAT, Hyderabad Bench in its order dated 27.9.2011 in OA 710/2010 inter-alia observed that the O.M. dated 15.9.2008 was legally sustainable. However, the Hon'ble CAT directed to pass an order so as to equalize the revised 1/3rd restored pension of absorbees with the revised pension of other Central Government pensioners.

4. Keeping in view the above direction of Hon'ble CAT, Hyderabad Bench, which was upheld by High Court of Andhra Pradesh and Supreme Court, orders were issued vide this Department's O.M. of even number dated 11.7.2013 to revise 1/3rd restored pension of absorbee pensioners to 2.26 times of the pre-revised 1/3rd restored pension. This is explained by the following example.

Pre-2006 full Pension	Pre-2006 1/3 rd restored pension	Revised full pension (for DR, etc.)	Revised 1/3 rd restored pension in terms of OM dated 15.9.2008	Revised 1/3 rd restored pension in terms of OM dated 11.7.2013
4073	3173	9207	6492	7173

The above formula for revision of 1/3rd pension is also in conformity with the demand made by the staff side in the meeting of National Council (JCM) held on 6.11.2012.

5. In view of the above position, no further change in the 1/3rd restored pension of the absorbee pensioners (who had drawn lump-sum payment of absorption in Central Public Undertaking/Central Autonomous Body) is required to be made. All the representations made by the absorbee pensioners and their Associations in this regard

stand disposed off accordingly. All Ministries/All Departments are requested to inform the above position to the absorbee pensioners.

Sub: Hostel facilities for single women Railway employees at all Divisional headquarters.

Following declaration by the then Hon'ble Railway Minister in his Budget speech (2013-14) in regard to provision of hostel facilities for single women Railway employees at all Divisional headquarters, the issue has been considered by the full Board.

2. The Board has decided that the single women Railway employees may be provided with hostel facilities at all the Divisional headquarters by making appropriate arrangement without any pay scale restrictions.
3. For this purpose the Zonal Railways may earmark appropriate number of Staff quarters without resorting to new constructions at appropriate locations and furnishing those units with basic necessities such as bare essential furniture, skeletal kitchen set up etc. Further, whenever new quarters are sanctioned, the first priority should be given to women hostel.
4. This issues with the concurrence of the Finance Directorate of the Ministry of Railways.

No. E(G)2013 QR1-09 dated 11.12.2013 (RBE No. 131/2013)

Sub: Grant of full sets of Post Retirement Complimentary Passes (PRCP) after 20 years of railway service.

A clarification was sought by one of the railway/unit as to whether weightage of 5 years in qualifying service in PRCP on voluntary retirement is to be continued or not.

2. After careful examination, President is pleased to decide that the weightage of 05 years in qualifying service for PRCP on voluntary retirement shall be discontinued. Further, it has also been decided that railway employee having railway service of 20 years or more shall be allowed to get full sets of PRCP. Accordingly columns 1, 2 and item (viii) under column 3 of Schedule IV (Post Retirement Complimentary Passes) of Railway Servants (Pass) Rules, 1986 (revised edition-1993) shall be amended as per ACS-74 enclosed.
3. The revised provisions will be effective from the date of issue of this letter.
4. In all other respects, the extant provisions of the Railway Servants (Pass) Rules, 1986 (revised edition 1993) shall continue to apply.
5. This issue with the concurrence of Finance Directorate of Ministry of Railways.

DA/As above.

(No.E(W)2013/PS5-1/7 dated 16.12.2013, (RBE NO. 132/2013)

Advance Correction Slip No. 74 to the Railway Servants (Pass) Rules, 1986 (Second Edition-1993)

Columns 1 (Category) and 2 (Number of passes admissible in one year) of Schedule-IV (Post Retirement Complimentary Pass) of Railway Servants(Pass) Rules, 1986 (Second Edition, 1993) may be amended as under:-

Category	Number of passes admissible in one year
1	2
Group A & B	
With railway service of 20 years or more	3 Sets
Group C	
With railway service of 20 years or more	2 Sets
Group D	
With railway service of 20 years or more	1 Set

2. Item (Viii) under column 3 of Schedule IV (Post Retirement Complimentary Pass) of Railway Servants (Pass) Rules, 1986 (revised edition-1993) stands deleted.

Sub: Restructuring of certain Group 'C' cadres.

Reference item 2 (Applicability to various cadres) of Board's letter No. PC-III/2013/CRC/4 dated 8.10.2013 (RBE No. 102/2013).

Both the Federations (AIRF/NFIR) had advised that Railways are facing difficulty in implementing the instructions contained in item 2 of Board's letter ibid regarding "only those temporary posts which are in operation for at least three years may also be taken into account for the purpose of applying revised percentage" and requested Board to amend this clause.

In view of the above, the matter has been reviewed by the Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) and it has been decided that existing instructions contained in item 2 of Board's letter PC-III/2013/CRC/4 dated 8.10.2013 (RBE No. 102/2013), may be revised as follows:-

Item	Existing instruction	Modified instruction
(2)	These orders will be applicable to the permanent regular cadres (excluding surplus & supernumerary posts) of the Open Line establishments including Workshops, Production Units, RDSO and Centralized Training Institutes. Only those temporary posts which are in operation for atleast three years may also be taken into account for the purpose of applying revised percentage. This will be subject to certification that these posts are meant for regular activities which will continue and not for any sporadic requirements.	These order will be applicable to the permanent regular cadres (excluding surplus & supernumerary posts) of the Open Line establishments including Workshops, Production Units, RDSO and Centralized Training Institute. Only those temporary post may be taken into account for the purpose of cadre restructuring subject to certification that these posts are meant for regular activities which will continue and not for any sporadic requirements. In the event of any temporary posts so reckoned being surrendered within a period of three years of their original creation, percentage distribution of posts in the cadre would also be suitably re-adjusted, not later than the time of the first subsequent annual review

This issues with the approval of Finance Directorate of the Ministry of Railways.

(No. PC-III/2013/CRC/6 dated 19.12.2013 (RBE No. 133/2013))

Sub: Revision of Training period for Commercial Clerks (Booking, Parcel & Goods.)

In view of the changed job requirements of Commercial Clerks, and with the approval of Board (MT & MS) it has been decided to revise the existing training schedule for the Commercial Clerks as under:-

S.No.	Course Details	No. of Days	Place of Training
1.	Coaching Theory	8	Concerned ZRTI/Trg. Centre
2.	Coaching Practical	2	Any Railway Station
3.	Parcel/Goods Training	8	Concerned ZRTI/Trg. Centre
4.	Parcel/Goods Practical	2	Any Railway Station
	Total Training period	20	

2. The 20 day training module will provide the relevant inputs pertaining to ticket sale through UTS/PCT, cash handling, details of various MIS & reports, preparation of returns, concessions, refunds, relevant rules of Commercial Manual and Coaching Tariffs, inputs from UTS manual and some salient features of customer care and relevant inputs pertaining to forwarding notes, P. Way bills, Railway Receipts, Coaching tariff, Parcel Management System, Terminal Management System and details of various Return, Balance Sheets & MIS.

3. The 20 days training programme on Coaching and Parcel/Goods consists of 16 days theory and 4 days of practical training as indicated above. The Course contents/training module is enclosed at **Annexure-A**.

4. Railways are required to implement this revised training schedule in respect of newly recruited Commercial Clerks (Booking, Parcel/Goods) joining hereafter, after their appointment on the Railways.

DA/Annexure-A.

(No. E(MPP)2009/1/34 Pt. dated 20.12.2013 (RBE No. 134/2013)

Revised Training Programme for Booking Clerks (Booking/Parcel/Goods)

S.No.	Training Module	Duration	Location
1.	Coaching Theory	8 days	
	i. Relevant rules of Commercial Manual & Coaching Tariff	1 day	Concerned ZRTI/Trg. Centre
	ii. Un-reserved Ticketing System & other types of tickets	1 day	
	iii. Concept of EFT/BPT and other money value books, warrants etc.	1 day	
	iv. Concession & Refunds	1 day	
	v. Details of various MIS & Reports	1 day	
	vi. Preparation of Returns & Coaching Balance Sheet.	1 day	
	vii. Inputs from UTS manual	1 day	
	viii. Salient features of Customer Care & Vigilance Awareness	1 days	
2.	Coaching Practical Practical hands-on training	2 days	At any Railway Station
3.	Parcel/Goods Theory	8 days	
	i. Concept of Forwarding Note, P.Way Bills & Railway Receipts	1 day	Concerned ZRTI/Trg. Centre
	ii. Relevant inputs of Commercial Manual	1 day	
	iii. Coaching Tariff (Parcel & Luggage)	1 day	
	iv. Military Tariff	1 day	
	v. Red Tariff	1 day	
	vi. Parcel Management System	1 day	
	vii. Terminal Management System	1 day	
	viii. Details of various Returns, Balance Sheet & MIS	1 day	
4.	Parcel/Goods Practical	2 days	At any Railway Station
	Total Training Duration	20 days	

REFERENCES FROM AIRF TO RAILWAY BOARD

Sub: Regularization of railway accommodation in favour of wards of railway employees recruited under LARSGESS.

Your kind attention is invited towards AIRF's meeting, held with the Railway Board (CRB, MS and FC) on 23.8.2013, wherein it was informed to us by the Official Side (Railway Board) that, necessary orders would be issued shortly to the General Managers of the Indian Railways for regularizing railway accommodation in favour of wards of railway employees recruited under LARSGESS.

It is a matter of serious concern that, despite elapsing a period of more than three months, nothings has been heard from the Railways for regularization of railway accommodation in favour of wards of the Railway employees recruited under LARSGESS.

An early action in the matter shall be highly appreciated.

(No. AIRF/24 (C) (299) dated 2.12.2013).

Sub: Payment of Aya Charges to the Railwaymen and their family members admitted as an indoor patient at Railway Hospital.

Ref: Ministry of Health's OM No. S.14025/23/2008-MS dated 30.6.2008.

Ministry of Health vide O.M. No. S/14025/23/2008-MS dated 30.6.2008 has sanctioned payment of Aya Charges with a monetary ceiling of Rs.2000/- to the employees covered under CGHS, undertaking treatment as an indoor patient in Hospital.

The Railway Board is requested to sanction payment of Aya Charges to the Railwaymen and their family members admitted as an indoor patient at Railway Hospitals.

(No. AIRF/101 (311) dated 30.11/5.12.2013).

Sub: Restructuring of certain Group 'C' cadres.

Ref: Rly. Board's letter No. PC-III/2013/CRC/4 dated 8.10.2013 (RBE No. 102/2013)

It is very unfortunate that, as per the instructions contained in para 2 of the aforementioned letter of the Railway, only those Temporary Posts, which are in existence at least for three years, are to be considered for the purpose of Cadre Restructuring. This restriction of three years is quite unfair, and in fact all the Temporary Posts, which are in existence, irrespective of any restriction, may be considered for taking into account for the purpose of Cadre Restructuring.

In this connection, it is worth-mentioning that, in past also, similar situation had arrived, and the same was rectified only at the instance of the AIRF, and the same was approved for the Temporary Posts in existence by the MS and FC Railway Board.

It will be in all appropriateness, if these posts are considered for Cadre Restructuring.

AIRF deserves that necessary amendments to the above quoted letter of the Railway Board must be issued at an earliest.

(No.AIRF364 (VI CPC)(315) dated 5.12.2013)

Sub: Effect of punishment for stoppage of increment inflicted under DAR.

The date of annual increment has been rationalized to July on the recommendation of 6th CPC. Problem has arisen in the matter of granting of annual increment when punishment for stoppage of increment say for 3 month or 6 month is inflicted. Say a punishment for stoppage of increment is inflicted on an employee in the month of April, May and June, one gets his next increment only in July of the next year, which in effect amounts to stoppage of increment for 12 months.

Hence, it is urged that special dispensation in the matter of granting of annual increment need be granted/provided when stoppage of increment for certain month is inflicted upon an employee.

(No.AIRF/01 (317) dated 12.12.2013)

Sub: Implementation of recommendations of 6th CPC – Merger of grade – Revised Classification and mode of filling up of non-gazetted posts – Scheme for filling up of vacancies after 31.3.2013.

Ref: (i) AIRF's letter dated 10.5.2013

(ii) Board's letter No. E(NG)I-2008/PM1/15 dated 24.5.2013 (RBE No. 51/2013)

Vide our letter, referred to at S.No. (i), we requested the Railway Board to keep open aforementioned scheme forever, instead of extending the same in the installments. But instead of doing so, Railway Board vide their letter referred at S.No.(ii) had extended the said scheme up to 31.12.2013.

It is worthwhile to mention here that, earlier Railway Board had started this scheme as **Pilot Project**, but now, this scheme has proved its worth, the delay in the name of Selection had been almost weeded out.

Since extension of the said scheme in the installments is creating lots of problems for the staff, the Board are requested to keep it open forever, otherwise extend it for a period of another one year i.e. **31.12.2014**.

(No. AIRF/Revised Classification (115) dated 1.1.2014)

Sub: Eligibility conditions under LARSGESS for specified safety categories in Grade Pay Rs. 1900 and Assessment Committee – Clarification thereon.

Ref: Railway Board's letter No. E(P&A)I-2012/RT-5 dated 3.1.2014.

While we are appreciating the decision taken by Railway Board on our demand to decentralize recruitment of wards of the railway employees in Safety Categories working in Grade Pay Rs. 1900 under LARSGESS to Divisional level, however, it is regretted that there is no mention about our reference for the same, whereas All India Railwaymen's Federation (AIRF), has been regularly pursuing this issue for quite sometime. The condition regarding service etc., have not been clarified which too should be at par with those working in Grade Pay Rs. 1800/-.

It is further requested that revised instructions as contained in Railway Board's letter, under reference, should also be made applicable in those previous cases, where no recruitment has been done by the Zonal Railways for the earlier cycle and the same should be done, as per revised instructions of the Board by the Divisions.

I would, therefore request you to kindly issue necessary instructions, as requested above, on the subject at an early date.

(D.O.No. AIRF/4152014 dated 6.1.2014)

RECORD NOTE OF DISCUSSIONS HELD ON 27.9.2013 BETWEEN BOARD (MS AND FC) AND THE STAFF SIDE ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED TO STUDY THE CAREER PROGRESSION AND PACKAGE FOR TRACKMEN – PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF POSTS OF TRACK MAINTAINERS REG.

The following officers and representatives of Federations (AIRF and NFIR) :

Official Side	Staff Side	
	AIRF	NFIR
1. Shri Subodh Jain, MS 2. Shri Rajendra Kashyap, FC 3. Shri Suresh Kr. Seth, AM(Staff) 4. Shri Alok Kumar, EDCE(G) 5. Shri Ragini Yechury, EDE(IR) 6. Shri Debashis Mallik, DE(IR)	Shri S.G. Mishra General Secretary	Sh. M. Raghavaiah General Secretary

The General Secretaries of the Federations mentioned that there is acute stagnation amongst the Trackmen cadre. There are cases where a Trackman is superannuating without any promotion. The Federations stressed that it is absolutely necessary that the cadre is revised in the ratio of 10:20:20:50 as was unanimously agreed and recommended by the Joint Committee.

Board (FC) stated that the cadre structure as recommended by the Committee if agreed and implemented will result in double or even triple jump in certain cases which may not be administratively desirable. However, considering the Federations' contention about the hardships being faced by the Trackmen category, revision in the percentage distribution in Track Maintainer-III and Track Maintainer – IV categories may be considered. The General Secretaries of the Federations however raised strong objection on this suggestion and insisted that revision is very essential in the higher grades of the cadre i.e. Track Maintainer-I and Track Maintainer-II.

Additional Member (Staff) intervened and stated that as was suggested in the CRC meeting, a viable solution at this juncture would be to consider revising the percentage distribution of the cadre of Track Maintainers in the ratio of 6:12:22:60 in lieu of the existing 3:6:20:71. Board (FC) agreed to this suggestion.

Although the Federations insisted for the percentage of distribution as per recommendation of the Joint Committee especially for 10% to Track Maintainer Grade-I, but finally it was agreed that presently 6% (Six percent) may be given to Track Maintainer-I category and after 2 (two) years to date of approval communicated by Board (17.8.2012), this percentage would again be reviewed upwardly.

It was agreed to process the matter accordingly.

.ALL INDIA CONSUMER PRICE INDEX				
(Base 2001 = 100)				
Month/Year	Base year 2001 = 100	Total of 12	Twelve monthly	% increase
	Average	months	Average	over 115.76* for DA
Nov. 2012	218	2490	207.50	79.25
Dec. 2012	219	2512	209.33	80.33
Jan. 2013	221	2535	211.25	82.40
Feb. 2013	223	2559	213.25	84.22
Mar. 2013	224	2582	215.16	85.86
April 2013	226	2603	216.91	87.37
May 2013	228	2625	218.75	88.97
June 2013	231	2648	220.66	90.61
July 2013	235	2671	222.58	92.29
Aug. 2013	237	2694	224.05	93.93
Sept. 2013	238	2717	226.41	95.58
Oct. 2013	241	2741	228.41	97.31

*Average Price Index for January, 2001

