

**EDITORIAL**

**RAILWAY FINANCES CAUSE ANXIETY**

Never in its 159 years of existence the Indian Railways faced such a grave fiscal crisis as of now. When Parliament begins its budget session in mid-March, uppermost in the Cabinet's mind must be how to save the nation's largest public sector unit and its 1.4 million work force. The country has seen how the public sector Air India is on the brink of bankruptcy as oil companies have refused to fill its crafts with fuel unless heavy and long pending bills are paid. If such a situation grips the Indian Railways? Think of passenger trains remaining standstill for want of diesel supply at junctions. In that event there will be a civil warlike situation with millions of commuters will be on **Rasta Roko Agitation**. Unfortunately the current economic scenario of the Indian Railways makes such a specter real.

We in the All Indian Railwaymen's Federation(AIRF) have been pressing the Railway Board for over a decade for perspective planning to make the Railways productive and purposeful. The Indian Railway could have planned proper mutilation. But those had been at the helm thought only for today, never dreamt of tomorrow. The consequence is before us to see. Now only Minister of Railway has started saying that railways should not be treated for regional interests and should be planned in natural perspective.

What must worry us, the men behind the wheel and the machine, is the further escalation of oil price with the United States and its allies militarily encircling Iran, our important supplier of oil. The fall of our friend Iraq and mounting unrest in other oil-producing countries has already bit into India's oil supply lines. Then there is alarm clock sounding loud when it comes to getting money for rolling stocks which need urgent improvement. Economic melt-down the world over and spiraling prices, eroding rupee value, have only aggravated the problems of national economy.

With such a distressful scenario, decreasing resources and erosion in economic condition will only darken the horizon further. Though the AIRF also disfavors rail fare hike because the common man is already under pecuniary stress, but this does not bar the Administration from rationalizing the fare structure. It can charge more from those passengers who have the capacity to pay. The resultant surplus may then be passed on to the weak. Similarly the Administration can explore new avenues of revenue and means of resource mobilization. First in the list of such measures here comes the ruthless slashing of unproductive expenditure and eliminating waste, and above all, combating rampant corruption which alone will augment railway finances. According to one survey, financial corruption and illegal siphoning off of funds lead to 11 per cent erosion of resources. If only the Indian Railways are able to cut down waste and resort to austerity particularly at higher level there can be sizable accretion to reserves.

A media report says that the economic affairs committee of the Union Cabinet has suggested the Air India to float bonds to tide over its economic crisis. But such a measure can only be a patchwork approach and not a lasting solution.

The Railway Ministry has already sought special allocation of funds to the tune of Rs.45,000 crore and there is in everyday likely hood that the Union Planning Commission and Finance Ministry will be able to meet this demand. One thing, the railways will have to remember that economy based on loans does not provide problems to solution and it is not a sound economics.

We of the AIRF promise the Administration that the rail worker will not be found wanting in this hour of crisis. But there must a will to face the challenge.

Comradely yours,



(Shiva Gopal Mishra)

### **AIRF PROTESTS FREEZING OF VACANCIES - GS/AIRF WRITES TO CRB**

There is lot of discontentment among the rank and file in the Railwaymen all over the Indian Railways against Railway Board's letter No. 2011/M(N)/951/14 dated 10.10.2011, asking Zonal Railways to review large number of Group 'C' and 'D' vacancies, wherein it has been stated that the Chairman Railway Board has desired to freeze those posts. Though we do not believe that you could have directed in such a manner, but if it is correct, definitely it will invite confrontation between the Railwaymen and the Railway Administration.

As you are quite aware that because of non filling-up of lakhs of vacancies, Railwaymen are working under lot of stress and strain, and somehow we are managing industrial peace by counseling them that these vacancies would be filled shortly.

MR had very clearly given assurance, not only to us but even on the floor of the Parliament, that the Vacant posts will be filled shortly. While creating these posts, full justification was given by different departments, and after their strenuous and continuous persuasions, these posts have been created. We are shocked that, now the Railway Board wants to freeze these posts which will be against the interest of the Indian Railways and the serving Railwaymen. It is, therefore, requested that if such a letter has gone to Zonal Railways from the Railway Board, the same should be called back immediately for maintaining industrial peace prevailing over the Indian Railways.

### **PET CANCELLED**

It was the contention of AIRF that there is not meaning in holding PET test for the candidates under LARSGESS, as it is called liberalized scheme. The AIRF had demanded of the Railway Minister and Railway Board, that this test should be cancelled.

General Secretary/AIRF met MR twice and CRB few times on this matter. Accordingly, the MR accepted and board issued orders vide letter No. E(P&A)I-2010/RT-2 dated 3.1.2012 canceling the requirement of PET for appointment under LARSGESS.

**ADDITIONAL INCREMENT ISSUE - ONE MORE ACHIEVEMENT OF AIRF**

AIRF's long pending demand of granting annual increment to those whose date of increment fell between February to June 2006 w.e.f. July 2006 has been acceded to in the meeting of the National Anomaly Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2012. Order to this effect will be issued shortly.

Lakhs of employees will be benefited by this. We have achieved this, due to relentless struggle waged by AIRF and other Central Govt. Unions.

**FEEDBACK ON GENERAL MANAGERS' CONFERENCE HELD ON 11-12 JANUARY, 2012**

General Managers' Conference was held in Rail Bhawan, New Delhi on 11-12 January, 2012, in the backdrop of accident of Brahamaputra Mail that took place at Karonpuroto Station in Barharwa-Sahebgunj Section of Eastern Railway, wherein four passengers were dead while nine were injured. A goods train had also derailed at Khagaria(East Central Railway) just before this accident.

The conference started with the address of the Hon'ble Minister for Railways who, in his speech, express serious anguish on such avoidable accidents and asked to go into the root cause of the same as well as to discuss safety issues on top priority to find a solution for avoiding such accidents in future.

He, however, appreciated the work being done by the Railwaymen and stated that the Indian Railways is the most robust, cheapest and the best transport system in the world. He further added that we have best industrial relations, but such accidents reveal that the basic field work is not being done properly and there is no accountability for such accidents. The Hon'ble Minister for Railways opined that problem can be at any level, but its solution must be there and further stated that the training system definitely seems to be faulty.

He stated that he does not want to demoralize the system and this is high time to wake-up.

The Hon'ble Minister for Railways stressed that the Indian economy cannot grow without the Indian Railways and for that Indian Railways have to develop. He further stated that this conference must have a brainstorming session to find out a solution for safe running of the trains.

Shri K.H. Munniyappa, Hon'ble Minister of State for Railways, also addressed the conference and stated that there is pressing need for decentralization and delegation of powers down the line because the powers being centralized at the higher level, every important decision is unnecessary delayed and the system suffers a lot on this account including preventive maintenance. He further stated that the quality of work cannot improve till we will remain in the habit of accepting lower standard.

Member Mechanical, Railway Board, opined that there is some dilution in the training of the Loco Crew. He stated that there can be rail fracture because of bad condition of rolling stock also. He was of the firm opinion that the IRCA, a natural organization, must be re-organized properly to ensure safe rail operation.

Member Staff, Railway Board, stated that he is ready to amend/modify the recruitment and training policy to suit the organization.

Member Engineering, Railway Board, stated that out of 105 reported train accidents, 25 are on engineering account, out of which 45% are due to rail/weld failure. He, therefore, opined that there is an absolutely urgent need of cold weather patrolling, night inspections by the officers and supervisors. He further opined that overloading must be checked, which is also one of the cause of rail failure. He also stated that monthly route-wise plan must be prioritized for maintenance.

Member Electrical and Member Traffic, Railway Board, also talked about improvement in safety, audit and maintenance and operations.

Financial Commissioner(Railways) was critic of bad financial condition of the Railways.

Chairman, Railway Board, mentioned that proper procedures of operation and maintenance are not being followed and safety meetings at the DRMs level are not being done. Of late, inspection and training are also being diluted.

### **General Secretary/AIRF**

Speaking on the occasion, GS once again touched all the points, which he presented before the Level Safety Review Committee, and some of the points raised are appended below for your better appreciation.

- Large number of vacancies – more than 1,50,000 – in safety categories belonging to Running, Operating and Maintenance Cadre. Even Leave Reserve, Rest Giver and Trainee Reserves are not available.
- Infrastructure is being developed and new trains being introduced, without additional proper manpower.
- Indiscriminate surrender of posts on thumb-rule principle is counter-productive for an organization like Railways.
- Inadequacy of funds for replacement/renewal and maintenance of rolling stock, track and signalling.
- Inadequate facilities of training and that too without motivation to the trainees as well as trainers.
- New technology is being adopted without any arrangement for proper training of the staff.
- There are inadequate research facilities.
- Material/equipment failure is attributed to Human Failure – life cycle principle has not been fixed. The process of procurement being age old and traditional, the material input, even for safety

components, is delayed inordinately as also quality of procurement is not maintained because of lowest rate concept of the tenders.

- Running Staff must be provided with electronic safety backup, so that in case of any failure, trains may stop to avert accidents.
- Excessive stress on Railway employees on account of overburdening of workload.
- Long duty hours of the staff, particularly Running Staff, Trains Controllers, S&T Staff, Track Maintenance Staff, Elect. and Mechanical, Shed and Open Line staff, Traffic and Operation Staff etc.
- Breach of rest of the Running Staff due to (i) shortage of manpower and, (ii) inadequate Running Rooms facilities.
- Inadequate blocks for track maintenance due to over capacity utilization of routes.
- Fear psychosis – Minimum punishment, removal from service, particularly in case of passing signal at danger (SPADE). Long pendency of Discipline & Appeal cases also cause stress.
- Manning of unmanned level crossing.
- Assault on the Railwaymen, particularly on manned level crossings.
- Dying of staff on duty, particularly running-over of thousands of Trackmen.
- Recruitment of wards of the Railwaymen (recommendations of many Safety Committees and Commission's reports).
- Unauthorized encroachment on railway land near railway track.
- The condition of the Railway quarters and colonies is not conducive for proper rest in case of Running Staff and the staff engaged in maintenance of rolling stock, tracks and signalling.
- No proper counseling and inspection.
- Decision making process being extremely slow, sometimes it becomes irrelevant and out of context.
- Lack of proper mechanism for timely redressing staff grievances even at the lowest level adds to working with strain and stress, particularly by the staff of safety categories.
- No proper mechanism for motivation of railway staff and inadequate promotional prospects.

Apart from the above, General Secretary further mentioned that the Railway employees are feeling de-motivated and demoralized because of their long pending demands not being met. Report of the Joint Committee on Trackmen is wandering in the corridor of the Rail Bhavan without its implementation even after than 10 months of its submission. Similarly, unanimous recommendations of the Departmental Anomaly Committee are not being implemented, with the result that Running Staff are not getting Additional Pay, arrears of Running Allowance w.e.f. 1.1.2006, improved ALK (25%) and also their grade pay has not been changed. Supervisors of apex group 'C' are not getting GP of Rs. 4800, ASMs are not getting GP Rs. 4200, Cadre Restructuring Exercise has come to stand still, New Pension Scheme is creating lot of problems among the staff recruited on or after 1.1.2004. Non-filling up of more than 2.5 lakh vacancies is a potential danger for the safety of the Railways because the staff is over-burdened and over-stressed. The conditions of the Running Rooms are very bad, neither the staff are getting proper rest in the Running Rooms nor at home. Though in the LARSGESS, educational qualification has been relaxed and PET has been removed, but still written examinations has not been dispensed with. The condition of the Railway Colonies is very bad. Erroneous orders for the recruitment of Substitutes have not been withdrawn and noting is being done for the recruitment of the wards of the Railway employees as Substitute. Due to financial crisis, development of infrastructure has come to a standstill. Participative discussions through POM/DOM, meetings of the Safety and Running Rooms Committees, MPP, Training Manager's, Labour Advisory Committee have come to a grinding halt. All the pronouncements made by the then Hon'ble Minister for Railways, Ms. Mamata Banerjee, in her Rail Budget, viz. opening of Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas, Nursing Colleges, Medical Colleges, Engineering Colleges, ITIs/Polytechnics, "House for All", Mobile Medical Vans, are unaddressed.

Besides the above, General Secretary also raised the issue of merger of Technician I and II.

We are quite concerned for the passengers dying during the course of accident, but we are equally concerned over the staff dying on duty. Hundreds of Trackmen, Cabinmen, Shunting Staff, Loco & Traffic Running Staff have lost their lives throughout the year and we are unable to protect them. With all these problems, we are the part of the Railways and still every Railwaymen wish that there should not be any accident and the Railways should run safely. We are extending fullest cooperation in running the Railway System smoothly, but at the same time also hope a fair-deal to the Railwaymen, so that they should stand motivated.

#### **FEEDBACK ON THE MEETING BETWEEN GS/AIRF HON'BLE MR, CRB AND MS RAILWAY BOARD**

General Secretary, All India Railwaymen's Federation met Hon'ble Minister for Railways and once again handed over him a copy of the memorandum, submitted to him during AIRF's 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention held in Chennai on 14-16 November, 2011, along with copies of our letters written to him time and again on "Long Pending Demands of the Railwaymen" – Payment of arrears of Running Allowance w.e.f. 1.1.2006, ALI and 25% and other issues relating to Running Staff, Cadre Restructuring, Implementation on the unanimous recommendations of the Departmental Anomalies Committee, Implementation of the recommendations of the Joint Committee on Package and Career Progression of the Trackmen, upgradation of apex level Group 'C' posts, absorption of the staff working in the quasi-administrative offices/organizations connected with the Railways etc. etc. He has assured for positive action on the long pending demands of the Federation(AIRF).

He also met the Chairman and Member Staff, Railway Board and requested them to address long pending demands of the Railwaymen and also the memorandum submitted to Hon'ble MR. They have also assured us to look into the matter positively.

**GIST OF THE MEETING WITH THE MEMBER ENGINEERING AND FINANCIAL ADVISOR,  
RAILWAY BOARD WITH THE GENERAL SECRETARY/AIRF**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2012, meeting with Member Engineering and Financial Adviser. The General Secretary/AIRF demanded to merge P. Way Supervisor with JE from 1.11.2003. He said that this issue is of DC/JCM item No. 4.2011 and this issue was discussed with Additional Member Staff, Railway Board and was demanded to merge as earliest.

After this discussion Member Engineering assured to resolve this issue early.

Unresolved issues were also discussed with Financial Commissioner to resolve as early as possible. This issue specially arrear of Running Staff, ALK and issue of 25% of Running Staff, Cadre Restructuring, implement of Trackmen Committee Report, issue of Sr. Supervisors of Group 'C', Railway concerned Quasi administrative offices/organizations employees to be merged in Railway etc.

Financial Commissioner, Railway Board, assured to decide positively of such long pending demand.

**GENERAL SECRETARY/AIRF WRITTEN A LETTER TO RAILWAY MINISTER REGARDING INCLUSION  
OF DEMANDS OF THE RAILWAYMEN IN THE FORTHCOMING RAIL BUDGET**

I would like to convey my heartiest greetings and best wishes, and hope that the Railwaymen will get a morale boosting Railway Budget 2012-13.

It shall be highly appreciated, if the following demands of the Railwaymen are included in the forthcoming Railway Budget, to motivate the Railwaymen to perform their duties more efficiently.

1. Extension of LARSGES to the staff in GP Rs. 4200 that too on par with compassionate ground appointment and medically de-categorized staff.
2. Absorption of the staff working in the quasi-administrative organizations connected with the Railways.
3. In view of large number of vacancies, stress is being increased on the existing staff, which is endangering safety of the Indian Railways many a times. For safe running of trains, fill-up at least 50% of the vacancies through Substitutes and powers should be delegated to the DRMs and CWMs of the Workshops for immediate solution of the shortage of manpower.
4. Enhancement in the amount of Staff Benefit Fund from the existing Rs. 500 to Rs. 1000 to cope up with different welfare schemes, including higher education of girl child.

5. Provision of sufficient funds for maintenance and improvement in the condition of Railway quarters and Colonies.
6. Provision of sufficient funds for Mobile Medical Vans for health check-up of the Railway-men all over the Indian Railways, and for the same, minimum 6-8 Mobile Medical Vans will be required for all the Divisions.
7. Provision of more funds for the purpose of staff training and skill development.
8. Provision sufficient funds for staff amenities, particularly Barat Ghars, Railway Institutes etc.
9. Inclusion of names of both mother and father in Privilege Pass. There is a rule that after death of father, name of mother will be included in Privilege Pass. This emotionally hurts all the Railwaymen and their families.

#### **CORPORATISATION OF RCF**

Once again, Railways have planned Corporatization of Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala even after very well knowing that in the year 2006, the then Railway Minister had - after huge public anger and anti Government moment – not only taken back the decision but also assured not to repeat such a step again in future. Not only this, even the then General Manager of RCF had to quit the factory with great dishonour. The mute point here is - even after knowing all the above happenings very well what, prompted Railway Ministry to take such a decision why Railway Board can appear to be in such a short – memory situation. This is a serious matter of debate. It is said that this decision has been taken at the instance of PMO and Planning Commission. If the story is real, then the action becomes unpardonable. An advisory Committee was formed in haste, which was entrusted with the task of discussions with Federations and framed terms and references. As soon as AIRF came to know about this, We at once requested CRB to suspend this activity at once. We raised this issue during General Managers' Conference and told Railway Minister plainly that if this proposal is not withdrawn immediately, it would not be possible for Railways to keep proper relations with unions. Simultaneously, we ordered our RCF Men's Union to start very united and strong struggle.

The call of AIRF, yielded results and once again RCF staff showed exemplary united and started struggling .

The news of strong struggle reach Railway Board they were forced to talk to us which resulted in withdrawal of Corporatization proposed. We welcome our RCF Men's Unions' united struggle along with other sister organizations which gave me strength to get the Corporatization proposal withdrawn and also we thank Railway Board who unintentionally helped us to be united once again.

This had been a sample case. Government intends to not only corporatize but also privatize entire Railway system against which we have to struggle unitedly, which is the only option available with us.

**INSTEAD OF ECONOMIC CRISES THERE IS NO CURTAILMENT IN AMENITIES**

Shri K.K. Srivastava, Member Traffic, Railway Board has assured that though Railways are facing economic crises, yet there would be no let up in providing passenger amenities. He has stated that Railway earning is likely to have a shortfall of 3000 crores compared to projected income. He assured that Lucknow-Sultanpur segment of Railway electrification will be completed by June, 2013.

MT, while returning from Varanasi told in an informal discussion in his saloon that utmost attention of Railways are on punctuality of trains timings. Timely departure and arrival of trains, apart from observing the punctuality, tend to reduce crowding at stations. He told that along with maintenance of old Rail Lines, modernization of Railways is also getting due attention. He told that Railways had projected an earning of Rs. 1,45,000 crores during Financial year 2012-13 but it would reach up to 1,42,000 crores only. He told that efforts are being made to reduce the expenditure on Fuel and other avoidable expenses. He told it will take some time to operate start a duplicate Kashi Vishwanath express ex. Varanasi to Delhi on the time of duplicate Lucknow Mail. MT had also earlier discussed analytically the Mughalsarai-Varanasi and Varanasi-Lucknow segments operational aspects with senior officer.

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**  
**No.49011/31/2008-Estt. (C)**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions**  
**(Deptt. of Personnel & Training)**

Dated 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2012

**Sub: Recommendations of 6<sup>th</sup> Central Pay Commission – Applicability of revised Group 'D' pay scales to Casual Labourers with Temporary Status**

The supersession of this Department's O.M. of even number dated 12.9.2008 on the above subject it has been decided that the wages of Casual Labourers, who were granted the temporary status in terms of the provisions of the casual labourers (Grant of Temporary status and Regularization) Scheme, 1993 issued by this Department and were in receipt of wages based on the pre-revised S-1 scale as on 1.1.2006, may be worked out and paid on the basis of the Pay Band 1 with Grade Pay of Rs.1800 w.e.f. 1.1.2006 provided they are matriculate. In case of similarly placed non-matriculate temporary status casual labourers, the above benefit of Wages w.e.f. 1.1.2006 may be extended only after imparting the requisite, training by the respective administrative Ministries/Departments on the lines indicated in the MOF O.M. No. 1/1/2008-IC dated 24.12.2008.

This issues with the concurrence of Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure)

**COM. BIRU CHATTERJEE NO MORE**

Com. Biru Chatterjee, Working President, NFRMU left us on 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2012. He was a valiant fighter. He was AIRF Working Committee Member from 1964 to 2008 and Member Zonal PREM from 1977 to 2010. It is an irreparable loss to AIRF and NFRMU.

We pray the Almighty to give enough strength to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss and the departed soul may rest in eternal peace.

**COM. M.D. SATHE NO MORE**

Com. M.D. Sathe left for heavenly abode on 25.1.2012 at Vadodara in a private hospital at the age of 80 years. He had a severe heart attack and was in coma for a few days.

He worked as a Joint Divisional Secretary of WREU, Vadodara Division. He worked as Asstt. General Secretary, WREU from 1977 and thereafter as Vice President till 2004. Com. Sathe was an Educator of WREU for a long time.

We pray the Almighty to give strength to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss and the departed soul may rest in eternal peace.

**COM. T.N. BAJPAI REMEMBERED**

Northern Railwaymen's Union remembered Mazdoor Masiha, Com. T.N. Bajpai on his 10<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary. At Lucknow, thousands of Railway workers from Workshops and Open Line assembled at his statue and garlanded. Rich tributes were paid to him on this occasion by the General Secretary AIRF, Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, Com. Salil Lawrence, GS/SECRMU, Com. Uma Shankar Mishra, General Secretary, HMS(U.P.), Com. R.K. Pandey, Divisional Secretary, Lucknow Division, NRMU, Com. Ashok Yadav Workshop, Com. R.N. Bajpai Bridge, Com. Sia Ram Bajpai etc. All the speakers said that the deeds and works done by Bajpai Ji were for downtrodden and completion of his residual works will be real tribute to him. After that, a Mega Blood Donation Camp was organized to commemorate the occasion in the Railway Hospital, Lucknow.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Jagdeep Rail, DRM/LKO/NR, appreciated NRMU and AIRF for their bargaining as well as non-bargaining activities. On this occasion, CMS/LKO/NR, Shri Chaubey and Dr. Tulika Chanda, in-charge of State Blood Bank, King George Medical College, also addressed the gather. Shri S.K. Bajpai, President/HQ Division/NRMU, put vote of thanks.

**REPLY OF AIRF'S LETTER FROM RAILWAY BOARD**

**Sub: Fixation of minimum pension of all pre-2006 pensioners in pursuant to the judgement of CAT, New Delhi in O.A. No. 655/2010.**

I am directed to refer to your letters No. AIRF/44(333) dated 10.12.2011, No. AIRF/44(8) dated 9.1.2012 and No. AIRF/44 (9) dated 9.1.2012 on the above subject.

As regards implementation of CAT/PB/New Delhi's order dated 1.1.2011 vide which the Hon'ble CAT/Delhi has quashed the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (DOP&PW)'s O.Ms. dated 3.10.2008 and 14.14.2008 and has directed the respondents to re-fix the pension of pre-2006 retirees w.e.f. 1.1.2006, based on the resolution dated 29.8.2008, it is stated that the DOP&PW, the nodal department of the Government on pensionary matters has neither issued any instruction in consonance with the order of

the CAT, nor has any decision been taken by the Government in DOP&PW for giving full parity in pension to pre-2008 retirees with post-2006 retirees. Ministry of Railways, being an administrative Ministry is bound by the instructions issued by the nodal department, DOP&PW, and has no competence to take any unilateral decision in the matter.

**(No.2011/F(E)III/1(1)/18 dated 31.1.2012.)**

### **NEWS FROM THE AFFILIATES**

#### **SCRMU**

#### **BLOOD DONATION CAMP**

On the eve of Swami Vivekananda 150<sup>th</sup> birthday, celebrated all over India as National Youth Day. SCRMU, Youth Wing, Vijayawada Division organized blood donation camp at main union office, loco Colony, Vijayawada on 12.1.2012 in association the Lion's Club of Nuzveedu.

The programme was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Dr. A.K. Bhatnagar, CMS, Railway Hospital/BZA and also by Shri P. Srinivasulu, Sr. Divisional Personnel Officer, Com. Ch. Shankara Rao, GS/SCRMU. Shri P. Srinivasulu, Sr. DPO/BZA has garlanded the portrait of Swami Vivekananda in the premises of SCRMU main office/BZA. 70 young workers of SCRMU has donated blood in the camp.

Dr. A. Satya Narayana, Addl. CMS, Railway Hospital/BZA said that if the younger generation pledge and come forward to give blood voluntarily there will be no death of blood worldwide. Normally blood donation is a safe process and in normal cases about circulatory system at a slower rate, on average 36 days in healthy adult males.

Com. P.S. Charan, Divisional Secretary, SCRMU/BZA has stated that Youth Wing of the division is working effectively to meet the challenges in the society and for the development of the society. The Youth Wing under the leadership of SHAK IMTIAZ is moving forward and undertaking several non-bargaining activities besides solving the grievances of the Young workers. He appreciated all the blood donors for making this camp successful.

Around 70 young workers from Vijayawada Division has participated and donated their blood. Shri A. Venkateswara Rao, Lion's Club of NUZVEED has come forward to withhold this camp successfully in co-ordination by SCRMU/Youth Wing/BZA.

#### **WREU**

#### **ONE DAY TRADE UNION EDUCATION PROGRAMME AT DAHOD**

WREU Dahod(Electrical & Medical) Branch under the leadership of Com. Sunil Harsh, Branch Secretary and Smt. Perin Sophia Harsh, Working Committee Member/AIRF & Women Convener/WREU Dahod Branch organized one day Trade Union Education Programme in the Conference Hall of the Railway Hospital at Dahod on 22.1.2012, Smt. Rama Choudhari, ANO inaugurated the programme in presence of Com. Vikas Gupte, Treasurer/WREU and the leaders of dahod Workshop Branch by lighting a lamp before the portrait of Late Com. Maniben Kara. Com. Gupte and Com. Sunil Harsh dwelt upon various subjects, viz. (i) History of T.U. Movement in India and particularly on Indian Railways, (ii) The ideology of WREU/AIRF/HMS, (iii) One Union in One Industry, and (iv) Organizational set up of WREU and its

affiliation at National & International Levels. 35 youth and women participants were benefitted by the programme. Com. I.J. Ramwani, Branch Chairman and his team made all the necessary arrangements for the programme.

## **NRMU/CR**

### **A SPLENDID CONFERENCE OF RTMU**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Railway Theka Mazdoor Union was held on 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2012 in the Kalyan Institute ground. Over 1500 workers from all the units of RTMU attended the conference with spirit and enthusiasm. The workers of the units came in procession carrying flags and banners in their hands and shouting slogans to the venue of the Conference.

The meeting began with revolutionary songs of Com. Barve and Party (the cultural wing of the Union). Com. A.R.K. Reddy, President of the of the Union presided. Com. Reddy, Com. K.L. Bajaj, President, P.R. Krishnan, Secretary of CITU, Maharashtra, P.R. Menon, Working President, S.D. Gangurde, General Secretary of RTMU and several leaders of RTMU and NRMU. After Com. Reddy's initial address and condoling the death of two contract workers who were killed in an accident while on duty in Mumbai on 12.12.2011, Com. Menon offered welcome speech. After congratulating the workers and conveying new year greetings, Com. Menon spoke in detail about the growth of RTMU, its struggles, achievements etc. of the year. Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary/AIRF and Com. J.R. Bhosale, General Secretary/WREU arrived on the dais and joined the Conference.

Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra addressed the Conference in a very eloquence manner. At the outset he profusely congratulated the NRMU for organizing the contract workers in a well knit manner and dealing their matter in an effective manner. He also spoke about the serious problems of the contract workers of Railway Industry and all the other industries all over the country. He said that the only alternative is to unite them strongly under the banner of Union and wage relentless struggle. He offered all support to NRMU for its efforts. Thereafter Com. Bajaj and Bhosale spoke. They also narrated the plight of the unorganized workers and the need of holding organized action programmes.

Com. Shantaram Gangurde then presented his annual report containing all the events, activities and the results during the year.

Com. Y.G. Joshi, President/NRMU addressed the gathering. He spoke about the formation of the RTMU, its growth, struggles etc.

The meeting then elected Coms. A.R.K. Reddy as President, P.R. Menon, as Working President, Shantaram Gangurde as General Secretary and Prabhakaran as Treasurer and authorized them to select other office bearers and working committee members in consultation with the Divisional Secretaries of NRMU and the main activists of RTMU of the various units.

## **SECRMU**

### **8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SECRMU CONVENED IN BILASPUR**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual General Body meeting of SECRMU was held at the Railway North East Institute on 29-30 December, 2011 in Bilaspur. General Manager SECR Arunendra Kumar was chief guest of the meeting presided over by General Secretary/AIRF Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra.

Addressing the gathering Arunendra Kumar said that SECR has excelled in very fields due the efforts of employees who have always give their best. He said that considering problem of staff quarters, he discussed matter in Railway Board which sanctioned constructing additional staff quarters at Raipur and Brajrajnagar. He said that all the staff quarters from Type-I to upper category would be well furnished to provide better accommodation to the Railway employees and their family. He said that the demand of compassionate ground appointment is under review and a positive decision would be taken soon. He said that this year SECR is facing a target of 153.5 million ton loading which has to be achieved. According to the performance so far, SECR may fail by about 4 MT behind target.

He appealed the employees to put their best effort and increase daily loading so that they have been doing in all the preceding years. He said that he has discussed with the Railway Board officials that if they surpasses the target in both loading and revenue earning, they must be motivated with some percentage of the additional income so that the amount could be invested for staff welfare and upgrading traffic facility.

Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra GS/AIRF in his address said appreciated SECRMU General Secretary Salil Lawrence for opening a Trade Union Education Center which would start functioning in city from May 1, next year. He said that despite Railway employees putting their best efforts, Railway Board officials have preferred to look the other way with fingers crossed rather than resolving the crisis.

### **SECRMU ORGANISES TRADE UNION EDUCATION PROGRAMME 340 RAILWAY EMPLOYEES PARTICIPATE IN SIX DAYS INTENSIVE COURSE**

The SECRMU organized Trade Union Education Programme in Nagpur, Bilaspur and Raipur Divisions of SEC Railway from 5<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2011. Eight learned Resource persons from Public and Railway Administration conducted the programme and covered various topics.

Shri Salil Lawrence, General Secretary, explained the aims and objectives of the programme to the participants stating that such programmes induce confidence in railway employees in their day to day life prompting them to serve railways in a better way. The also serve the purpose of training them as trainers so tht they train other workforce alo. The ultimate aim is to benefit the Indian Railways as responsible service men of the public. He appreciated that the participants inn all the three Divisions took keen interest and participated whole heartedly in various activities and exercises. They also got knowledge of rules and regulations.

Shri Lawrence thanked the resource persons and Divisional Coordinators for making excellent arrangements. He thanked the General Manager and the Chief Personnel Officer of SEC Railway for providing all the facilities for conducting the programme efficiently. He acknowledged the efforts made by AIRF and HMS for their valuable guidance and introducing concept of trade union education programme to educate their cadre.

### **WREU HONOURS TALENTED RAILWAYMEN'S WARDS/NATIONAL PLAYERS**

WREU and J.C. Bank Ratlam branch jointly organized a programme to honour talented wards of Railway employees and also the national players on 25.12.2011 at Junior Institute Ratlam. Shri J.R. Bhosale, GS/WREU and Shri Lokesh Narain, DRM were the Chief Guests. It was presided over by Shri

Govind Lal Sharma AGS/WREU. Smt. Rashmi Narain, Chair person, Western Railway Mahila Samaj Sewa Samiti and other were given to around 500 students securing more than 60% marks in class 10<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, Graduation, Post Graduation, B.E., MBBS alongwith 50 National players.

Shri Shiv Kumar Jhalani, Ex. MLA, honoured Shri Govind Lal Sharma on his 76<sup>th</sup> birthday by giving him a shawl along with coconut. Divisional Secretary and President WREU Ratlam Division, Com. Shyam Baboo Srivastava and Manohar Pachouri also attended. The Programme was conducted by Shri Prakash Vyas and vote of thanks was given by Shri Rakesh Dubey.

Inter Departmental 20-20 Director's Trophy competition was held between 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> December.

### **WCREU HOLDS 7<sup>TH</sup> AGM AT KOTA**

WCREU held its 7<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2011 at Kota. More than 3000 Railway Employees from West Central Railway participated.

On 7<sup>th</sup> December, Youth and Women Conference was held in Umraomal Purohit Auditorium, Kota, which was attended by more than 1500 youth and women participants. The Conference was inaugurated by Chief Guest Dr. Ratna Jain, Mayor, Kota, by lighting the lamp jointly with Com. Rakhal Das Gupta Working President/AIRF, Com. Hussain Baksh, President and Com. Mukesh Galav, General Secretary. All the guests and dignitaries were welcomed by presenting them bouquets and garlanding them

Com. Rakhal Das Gupta briefly narrated the history of AIRF highlighting the achievements and stressed upon the need of unity and solidarity of the working class under one banner. Dr. Ratna Jain expressed happiness over the mass participation of youth and women in the conference. Com. Mukesh Galav pointed out that WCREU believed in "Organization through education" that provides the right direction and enhances the confidence of youth and women. Com. Champa Verma Chairperson, All India Women's Committee of HMS said that women were playing a pivotal role in Trade Union movement of the country. In the afternoon a massive rally of more than 3000 railway employees was taken out. Com. Rakhal Das Gupta, U.C. Tyagi, General Secretary/NWREU and Champa Verma led the rally in a Colourful *Baghi*. Divisional Youth Wing, Kota brought out 3 attractive tableaux for the rally which started from Union Office, passed through all the main roads and culminated at the venue for the Open Session.

The open session started by inviting the dignitaries to the dais and welcoming them by garlanding and presenting bouquets and shawls. Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary/AIRF stated that Trade Union Movement of the country was passing through a very challenging phase. After wriggling out of the worst economic turbulence which had swallowed thousands of jobs, throwing workers virtually on the streets to fend for themselves, the common man was facing galloping inflation and soaring food prices. The shrinkage of organized sector, adverse effects of the indiscriminate liberalization and privatization were staring in the face of workers. He also discussed ill effects of the New Pension Scheme. The Chief Guest of the Conference, Mr. Madhu Sudan Rao, Divisional Railway Manager, Kota congratulated the union for such a decent conference. Mr. Om Birla, MLA appreciated the efforts of Com. Mukesh Galav and his team of dedicated workers.

Delegate Session was held on 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2011. Com. Mukesh Galav presented the General Secretary's report before the house. Com. Irshad Khan, Treasurer placed the audited statement of Accounts before the house.

Chief Guest of the Session Com. Harbhajan Sidhu, President/NRMU expressed his concern over the inhuman working conditions of the unorganized sector workers. He advocated unity of the working class under one banner.

The house unanimously adopted General Secretary's report and statement of Accounts. Com. Hussain Baksh was elected as President, Com. Mukesh Galav as General Secretary and Com. Irshad Khan as Treasurer unanimously.

### **BLOOD DONATION CAMPS ORGANISED BY NRMU (CENTRAL RAILWAY)**

NRMU(CR) organized Blood Donation Camps in a big manner in many of its branches. In which large number of Railwaymen donated their blood.

**Igatpuri:** Igatpuri Branch of the Union organized a blood donation camp on 14<sup>th</sup> Dec., 2011 in the Union's office in co-operation with Arpan Rakta Peti and Rakta Vigatan Prayog Shala, Nasil.

Com. Menon, was the chief guest on the occasion. 110 employees including Secretary Com. Dhattrak and other office bearers donated blood. The camp was very successful.

**CST Auditorium:** CSTM located branches of NRMU jointly organized a blood donation camp at the auditorium of CSTM on 22.12.2011. Com. Y.G. Joshi, presided the function. Shri Satyaprakash, AGM was the chief guest. Shri Prashar, CPO, C. Rly. was present as a special guest. Com. Venu P. Nair, Divl. Secy. Of Mumbai Division conveyed vote of thanks. 138 employees donated blood.

**Kalyan:** Kalyan line and Traffic Running Branch in co-operation with Sankalp Blood Bank organized a blood donation camp at platform No. 1 on 10.1.2012. Coms. Namely Prakash Kamble, Shantaram Gangurde, Arvind Hiravale, Sageeta Mhatre, Ibrahim Jadhav and many others took active interest.. 89 employees contributed blood in the camp.

**Ballarsha:** As in every year a blood donation camp to commemorate the death anniversary of Smt. Sathiabhama Memon w/o Com. P. R. Menon was held at Ballarsha on 21.1.2012. Com. Menon, General Secretary, Rakesh Kumar, Vice President, Habib Khan, Divisional Secretary, Nagpur reached Ballarsha. Com. M. Venkateshwaralu, Chairman of the branch presided. 82 employees donated blood.

**Asangaon:** Kalyan Traffic and Line Branch organized a blood donation camp in corporation with Sankalp Blood Bank and KEM Blood Bank on 22.1.2012 in the memory of late Smt. Satyabhama P. Menon at Asangaon. The camp was inaugurated by Shri Sanju Kumar, SM Asangaon. Coms. P.R. Menon, GS, A.K. Mahendru, AGS, J.N. Patil, Secy. Kalyan (M) Branch and Vice President ECC Society visited the camp.

2006 units of blood were collected in the camp. Coms. Shantaram Gangurde, Working President, Prakash Kamble and 30 activist of Kalyan Traffic and Line Br. Took keen interest and make the camp successful.

**Nagpur:** On 25.1.2012, Nagpur General Branch organized a blood donation camp in the half of Nagpur Railway Hospital in co-operation with Jeevan Jyoti Hospital. The DRM, Nagpur Brijesh Dixit inaugurated the same. 60 employees donated blood.

**REMEMBERING COM. MADHU DANDAVATE**

The Kankavali Branch in keeping with its tradition every year, remembered the late Socialist leader Com. Madhu Dandavate on his sixth death anniversary on 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2011. On the occasion comrades of the branch gathered at about 11.00 hrs. and in the presence of local dignitaries garlanded the portrait of Com. Madhu Dandavate installed at the entrance of Kankavali station. After garlanding the portrait the comrades raised slogans of '**Com. Madhu Dandavate Amar Rahen**'.

The gathering was addressed by Sr. Journalist Shri Ashok Karmarkar, Smt. Shaila Malankar, Nagaradhyaksh and the Supdt. of police who was the chief guest. A blood donation camp was also organized in the branch office on the occasion.

**REFERENCE FROM AIRF TO RAILWAY BOARD**

**Sub: Revision of designation of matron/Chief Matron on Indian Railways.**

The category of Matron/Chief Matron working in different Railway Hospitals has represented that the designation of this category of staff in other ministries is Dy. Nursing Supdt., but the same is not existing in the Railways, as such they have demanded that their designation should also be revised as Dy. Nursing Supdt. On the analogy of other ministries under Government of India.

Since this demand of Matron/Chief Matron does not involve any financial implication, the Board are requested to consider this issue favourable and their designation may be revised as Dy. Nursing Supdt., as being demanded by this category of staff.

**(No.AIRF/433 (23) dated 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2012)**

**Sub: Committee to suggest improvement of working conditions in TTEs Rest Houses etc.**

**Ref: Railway Board's letter No. ERB-I/2011/23/36 dated 15.9.2011**

Railway Board vide their letter under reference have constituted a Committee to suggest improvement of working conditions in TTEs Rest Houses etc.

The Board are requested to add – "**Regular inspection of TTEs Rest Houses by the Zonal and Divisional Committees at par with Running Rooms**", in the Terms of Reference of the said Committee.

**(No.AIRF/Subcommittee No.110 (24) dated 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2012)**

**Sub: Recognition of Certificate of Purvamadyama offered by Uttar Pradesh Madhyamik Sanskrit Siksha Parishad**

**Ref: (i) Railway Board's letter No. E(NG)-II/2005/RR-1/29 dated 11.9.2009 and (ii) Jt. Secy., Govt. of Uttar Pradesh's letter No. 7798-7882/2004-05 dated 27.10.2004 (certified on 26.12.2011)**

The Government of Uttar Pradesh vide their G.O. referred to above at S.No. 2 have notified that the Certificate of Purvamadyama offered by Uttar Pradesh Madhyamik Shiksha Parishad shall be treated equivalent to High School Certificate issued by different Boards of Education, particularly Uttar Pradesh Secondary Examination Board.

The Railways are, however, denying appointment on compassionate ground to the wards of Railway employees possessing Certificate of Purvamadyama not treating the same on par with High School, which is highly unfair in the light of the G.O. of the Uttar Pradesh Government supra.

This issue was discussed by the undersigned with you informally also.

The Board are, therefore, requested to issue necessary instructions to all the Zonal Railways to consider above-mentioned Certificate on par with High School Certificate for the purpose of offering appointments on compassionate ground etc. to the wards of Railway employees possessing this Certificate in the interest of justice and parity.

**(No.AIRF/64(33) dated 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2012)**

**Sub: Grievances of the AC Mechanics deputed to work on trains**

AC Mechanics working in the technician grades, who are deputed to work on trains, have represented that they are facing lots of hardships on account of non-availability of sitting arrangements and Tool Boxes in the AC Coaches.

It is pertinent to point out that the AC Mechanics have to perform throughout the run of their coach as also during stabling hours for maintenance of the AC and security of the AC equipments besides charging of AC Coaches at the destination and *en-route*. This entails a continuous duty for almost 15-24 hours on the running train besides 8-10 hours of stabling.

It is quite unfortunate that this essential category of staff is not provided with any accommodation in the coach because AC Coach Attendant has been provided an accommodation outside the cabin which is occupied by the AC Coach Attendant for making arrangements of bedrolls etc. Its obvious impact is continuous standing of the AC Mechanic, and this discomfort often leads to serious ailments in the long-run, which result in joints pain, exhaustion, hypertension and cardiac problem etc.

The AC Mechanic has to carry vital tools for repair and upkeep of AC equipments in the AC Coaches. Nevertheless, there is no provision of any Tool Box etc. in the AC Coaches for keeping these tools safe and secure.

Owing to above cited problems, the Board are requested to issue necessary instructions to all concerned for providing suitable accommodation to AC Mechanics and space for keeping their tools etc. in the AC Coaches to mitigate their genuine grievance.

An early action in the matter shall be highly appreciated.

**(No.AIRF/159(137) dated 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2012)**

**RAILWAY BOARD ORDERS**

**Sub: Grant of cash award – complaint regarding misappropriation of government money in the purchase of gift articles by fraudulent acts**

In a vigilance investigation relating to distribution of group cash award on a Railway in kind, other than in cash, certain irregularities in the procedure for purchase of gift articles for distribution amongst the Railway officials has been observed. In this regard, it is desired that where award money is to be distributed in kind by way of gift articles involving expenditure, adequate care should be taken to ensure that normal purchase procedure is followed while processing with such purchases.

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

**(No.E(G)2011/AW1/140 dated 11.1.2012)**

**Sub: Additional set of uniform for Breakdown Staff**

Uniform to eligible categories of Railway employees is provided in terms of Dress Regulations – 2004 as amended from time to time.

A Committee of Advisers of Railway Board set up in connection with revision of rates of breakdown allowance has inter-alia recommended that non-monetary incentives like provision of an extra set of uniform may be considered separately to attract competent and hardworking staff for breakdown duty. This recommendation has been accepted by Board.

It has accordingly been decided that the breakdown staff may be provided with an extra set of uniform in addition to their eligibility as laid-down in the Dress Regulations. The categories and number of such Breakdown Staff may be intimated in due course.

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

**(No.E(W)2011/UN-1/9 dated 12.1.2012)**

**Sub: Order**

Further to Ministry of Railways order of even number dated 28.12.2011 and corrigendum dated 29.12.2011 constituting a *Committee of Additional Member/Advisor level officers to hold discussion with staff federations and to finalize Terms of Reference of corporatization of RCF, Kapurthala*, **Ministry of Railways(Railway Board)** have now decided that the constitution of the aforesaid committee stands dissolved with immediate effect keeping in view its earlier decision not to process the corporatization of RCF, Kapurthala.

**(No.ERB-I/2011/23/57 dated 16.1.2012)**

**Sub: Amendment to Indian Railway Establishment Code Vol.I (1985 Edition) Chapter V – Leave Rules & Appendix V – Study Leave Rules**

In exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to Article 309 of the Constitution, the President is pleased to direct that Appendix V of the Indian Railway Establishment Code Vol. I (1985 Edition) (Third Re-print Edition 2008) be amended as in the Advance Correction Slip No. 120 attached.

**(No.2011/F(E)-III/2(2)/3 dated 5.1.2012)**

**ADVANCE CORRECTION SLIP NO. 120**

1. Sub-rule (5) of Rule 1 under Sub-heading – Conditions of grant of study leave may be substituted with the following:-

- (a) In **Clause 9(ii)** for the words “**three years from**”, the words and brackets “three years(five years in the case of Railway Medical Service Officer who has been granted thirty-six months’ study leave under sub-rule 2 of rule2) from” shall be substituted;
- (b) In **Clause(iii)** for the words, “**three years after**”, the words and brackets “three years (five years in the case of Railway Medical Service Officer who has been granted thirty-six months study leave under sub-rule 2 of rule 2) after” shall be substituted;

2. In the said rules, in **Sub-Rule 1 of Rule 14** for the words “**three years after**”, the words and brackets “three years(five years in the case of Railway Medical Service Officer who has been granted thirty-six months study leave under sub-rule (2) of rule 2) after” shall be substituted.

3. In the rules in Form A, Form B, Form C and Form D for the words “**within a period of three years after**” the words “**within a period of three years/five years after**” shall respectively be substituted.

**Authority: Ministry of Railway's letter No.2011/F(E)-III/2(2)/3 dated 5.1.2012)**

**Sub: Implementation of Government's decision on the recommendations of the 5<sup>th</sup> Central Pay Commission – Revision of pension of pre and post-1986 pensioners/ family pensioners etc.- consideration of application for revision of pension/family pension**

A copy of DOP&PW's O.M. No. 45/86/97-P&PW(A)-Pt.-III dated 9.11.2011 on the above subject is enclosed for information and compliance. These instructions shall apply mutatis mutandis on the Railways also.

**(No.F(E)III/2008/PN1/12 dated 2.1.2012)**

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**No.45/86/97-P&PW(A)-Part-III dated 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2011**

**Sub: Implementation of Govt.'s decision on the recommendations of the 5<sup>th</sup> CPC – Revision of Pension of pre and post-1986 pensioners/family pensioners etc. – Consideration of application for revision of pension/family pension**

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Department's OM of even number dated 21.12.2006 wherein the date of submission of applications for revision of pension/family pension w.e.f. 1.1.1996 of pre-1986 pensioner/family pensioners in terms of this Deptt.'s O.M. No.45/86/97-P&PW(A-Part III dated 10.2.1998 was extended up to 31.12.2007. It was also decided to extend the date of submission of applications for revision of pension/family pension w.e.f. 1.1.1996 of pre-1996 pensioners/family pensioners with reference to this Deptt.'s OM No. 45/86/97-P&PW(A)-Part IV dated 8.5.1998 read with OM dated 30.9.1998 and dated 17.12.1998 for submission of applications by the pensioners/family pensioners covered under these OMs up to 31.12.2007.

In spite of extension of deadline for submission of application from time to time, there may be a few pensioners/family pensioners who could not submit application for revision of pension/family pension w.e.f. 1.1.1996 under the above mentioned orders. Some pensioner associations have requested for extending the date for submission of applications beyond 31.12.2007 in such cases. The matter was discussed in the 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee of Voluntary Agencies (SCOVA). It has now been decided that in case any pre-1996 pensioner/family pensioner submits an application for revision of pension/family pension in terms of the orders mentioned in para 1 above, the same may be considered and pension/family pension may be revised w.e.f. 1.1.1996 without insisting on any deadline for this purpose.

Ministry of Agriculture etc. are requested to bring the contents of these orders to the notice of heads of Departments/Controller of Accounts, Pay and Accounts Officer and attached and Subordinate Offices under them on top priority basis. All Pension Disbursing Authorities are also advised to prominently display these orders on their notice boards for the benefit of the pensioners/family pensioners.

**Sub: Interpretation of dependency criterion for grant of two family pensions under the CCS(Pension) Rules, 1972 which corresponds to Railway Service (Pension) Rules, 1993 – regarding.**

A copy of Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DOP&PW)'s O.M. No.1/11/2011-P&PW(E) dated 30.11.2011 on the above subject is enclosed for information and compliance. These instructions shall apply mutatis mutandis on the Railways also.

**(No.F(E)III/2005/PN1/16 dated 4.1.2012)**

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**  
**No. 1/11/2011-P&PW (E) dated 30.11.2011**

**Sub: Interpretation of dependency criterion for grant of two family pensions under the CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 – regarding**

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Departments' O.M. No. 45/86/97-P&PW(A)-Part I, dated 27.10.1977 and O.M. No. 45/51/97-P&PW(E) dated 5.3.1998 regarding eligibility of dependent parents, sons and daughters for receipt of family pension and the income/dependency criterion prescribed for that Attention is also invited to dependency criterion has been revised.

This Department has been receiving communications from various quarters seeking clarification whether in the wake of the O.M. referred to above, second family pension is admissible to a family pensioner who is already in receipt of an amount of family pension which is equal to or more than the dependency criterion.

It is hereby clarified that family pension admissible to a beneficiary in respect of one deceased employee/pensioner is not to be counted as income for the purpose of determination of eligibility for another family pension, which is admissible in connection with another deceased employee/pensioner. However, any other income/earning of the beneficiary under consideration will be counted forwards income for deciding eligibility for family pension.

It is further clarified that the sum of amount of family pensions admissible to a family pensioner as indicated above shall be regulated as per Rule 54 (11) (a) of the CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 as amended from time to time.

This issue with the concurrence of Department of Expenditure vide their I.D. No. 383/E.V/ 2011, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2011.

**Sub: Safety Related Retirement Scheme covering safety categories with Grade Pay of Rs. 1900**

**Ref: Board's letter of even number dated 11.9.2010, 28.6.2011 and 15.7.2011**

The issue of inclusion of some categories, dispensation of Physical Efficiency Test (PET), and relaxation of minimum educational qualification norms for recruitment under the LARSGESS has been under consideration of Railway Board for some time.

The matter has been considered by the Board, and in continuation of Board's letters of even number dated 28.6.11 and 15.7.11, following decisions are communicated:-

- (i) Trolleyman of Departments other than Civil Engineering may also be included in the list of Safety categories.
- (ii) To dispense with the requirement of PET for recruitment in the relevant categories under LARSGESS.
- (iii) To relax the prescribed minimum educational qualifications for recruitment under the Scheme in line with the recommendations of VI CPC and accordingly instructions have already been issued vide Board's letter No. E(NG)II/2011/RR-1/11 dated 9.12.2011 in this regard, giving(-1S) scale to non matriculates and non it is.

**(No.E(P&A)I-2010/RT-2 dated 03.01.2012)**

**Sub: Mode of dispatch of call letters to applicants**

**Ref: Ministry of Communications & IT's letter dated 23.2.2011**

The issue of mode dispatch of call letters to applicants for all written examinations has been under deliberation in Board especially as Department of Posts has discontinued the system of Under Certificate of Posting(UPC) vide their Circular under reference above. As per existing system the dates(eligibility/ineligibility) of candidates are invariably posted on the website of the RRBs to enable the candidates to know the status of their application in advance and also the provision of issuing duplicate admit card exists to take care of non-receipt of admit card/postal delays.

In view of above, Board have decided that for dispatching the letters to candidates following mode of dispatch should be adhered to with immediate effect:-

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Mode of Dispatch</b>	<b>Type of Communication</b>
1	Business Post (Ordinary)	For dispatch of Written Examination Call letters & Rejection letters
2.	Registered Post	For dispatch of letters to candidates for 2 <sup>nd</sup> stage examination/Aptitude test/ Skill Test/ Typing Test/ interview/ Document Verification/ Information for empanelment etc.
3.	Speed Post	

Onwards Employment Notification will carry a paragraph in bold letters that call letters would be sent by ordinary business post and the accepted and rejected list would be displayed on the Website of concerned RRB.

RRBs should ensure that the status (eligibility/ineligibility) of the candidates are invariably posted on the website of the RRB, in advance, to enable the candidates to know the status of their application. In case of non-receipt of Call letters the existing system of issuing duplicate call letters will continue.

**(No.E(RRB)/2011/25/13 dated 23.01.2012)**