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All India Railwaymen's Federation

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PRESS RELEASE

ALL INDIA LOCO & TRAFFIC RUNNING STAFF CONFERENCE

All India Loco and Traffic Running Staff Conference was held in Badminton Hall, Northern Railway, New Delhi, under the banner of **All India Railwaymen's Federation on 13th July, 2010**. Thousands of members of Loco and Traffic Running Staff attended the Conference. They were highly agitated at the lukewarm attitude of the Ministry of Railways in meeting their genuine demands. The following main demands of the Running Staff were raised in the conference:-

- (1) Appoint High Powered Committee to review working hours of Running Staff as was agreed during strike negotiation in Feb.2006 and total duty hours of Running Staff from "signing on to signing off" be reduced to 8 hours.
- (2) Allot improved Grade Pay to all Asstt. Loco Pilots, Loco Pilots, Motormen, Loco Inspectors and Guards.
- (3) Grant Additional Allowance in favour of all categories of Loco and Traffic Running Staff and treat the same as pay for all purposes, including retirement benefits.
- (4) Payment of Running Allowance w.e.f.01/01/06.
- (5) Raise Income Tax exemption limit from existing Rs.6000/- to Rs.15000/- p.m. with retrospective effect from 01/09/2008.
- (6) Upgrade Running Rooms with all facilities.
- (7) Immediately improve upon Engine Cabs with A/c and Toilets. Also improve the Breaks of Guard.
- (8) Make payment of Stitching Charges and Washing Allowance at market rates.
- (9) Running Staff to be provided with periodical rest at par with other field staff.
- (10) Liberalized Safety Related Voluntary Retirement Scheme to be implemented for all Running Staff and their wards be given appointment in the Railways.

- (11) Immediately fill-up large number of vacancies of Loco & Traffic Running Staff for safe running of trains.
- (12) All Running Staff be allotted Railway accommodation of their entitlement near their headquarter, for which additional quarters may be constructed.
- (13) Enhance amount of compensation from present 10 lakh to 20 lakh for Safety category staff who die on duty.
- (14) Re-designate Train Guard as “**Train Manager**”.
- (15) Issue 1st Class Pass on Grade Rs.4200.
- (16) Provide Safety Device in the All Locomotive so that accident can be avoided.
- (17) Job to all unemployed wards of Railway employees in the Railway Industry .

The conference was addressed by the prominent National Trade Union leaders of the railways including **Shri Umraomal Purohit President AIRF, Shiva Gopal Mishra General Secretary AIRF, Harbhajan Singh Sidhu, President, NRMU** etc. They expressed unhappiness at the tardy and prevaricating policy of the Ministry of Railways.

In the evening, **Hon’ble Minister for Railways, Ms Mamata Banerjee, Shri Vivek Sahai, Chairman, Railway Board, Shri S.K. Budlakoti, General Manager, Northern Railway** along with other high ranking officers of the railway attended the conference.

Railway Minister Ms. Mamata Banerjee while addressing the Conference vehemently exhorted that with the active cooperation of AIRF she would like to do every thing possible to ameliorate the lot of staff directly involved with train operation activities.

Chairman Railway Board Shri Vivek Sahai assured the audience that he will try his level best to solve problems of Loco and Traffic Running staff. He described the category of Running Staff as the most sensitive category who are directly involved in the safe operation of train services.

A memorandum containing the above demands of the Running Staff of Indian Railways was presented to the Minister for Railways who gave assurance that the demands of the Running Staff will be considered sympathetically.

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