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A.I.R.F.
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(Estd, 1924)

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NEW DELHI-110055
INDIA

No.AIRF/PREM(Policy)

Dated: July 30, 2011

The Secretary(E),
Railway Board,
New Delhi

Dear Sir,

Sub: Provision of Laptops/Notebooks to officers in lieu of Desktops
Ref: Board's letter No.2010/C&IS/Committee/Laptops/3/Pt. 1 dated 30.3.2011

The Railway Board vide their letter under reference have decided to provide the following facilities for the officers:-

- (i) Provision of laptops with a cost ceiling of Rs.55,000/- each to the officers in confirmed JA Grade and above.
- (ii) Provision of Notebooks with a cost ceiling of Rs.25,000/- each to the officers below JA Grade.
- (iii) The above cost ceiling shall be inclusive of all accessories.
- (iv) The codal life of Laptops/Notebooks may be taken as four years.
- (v) The above shall also be applicable in cases of procurement on replacement of existing laptops upon completion of their codal life.
- (vi) Provision of Notebooks, as per cost ceiling, by the Centralised Training Institutes during the period of probation to the probationers. The same may be taken back once the probationers leave the institute for field training or posting etc.

We have requesting the Railway Board for the provision of additional facilities to PREM Members since long and a committee was appointed to look into this.

The Board are requested to issue necessary orders for the provision of above-mentioned facilities to PREM Members at the Railway Board level and also Zonal and Divisional levels.

An early action in the matter shall be highly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

(Shiva Gopal Mishra)
General Secretary

Copy to: GSs, all affiliated zonal unions. This refers to GS/SCRMU/SC's letter No.SCRMU/CO/726 dated 25.7.2011.

No.AIRF/34

Dated: July 30, 2011

The Secretary(E),
Railway Board,
New Delhi

Dear Sir,

Sub: Revision of rates of stipend of apprentices and trainees on Railways - Mechanical Department

Ref: Board's letter No.PC-V/2008/PS/1(Stipend)(RBE No.100/2011) dated 29.6.2011

Orders for the revision of rates of stipend of apprentices/trainees of Electrical and S&T Departments have been issued vide above cited letter of the Railway Board.

However, orders for the revision of rates of stipend of apprentices and trainees of Mechanical Department are still awaited.

It is requested that the orders for the revision of rates of stipend of apprentices/ trainees of Mechanical Department may also be issued early, including those for JE Gr. II Mechanical and Workshop as well as SSEs of Mechanical and Workshop cadres.

It is further requested that orders for JEs and SSEs of Drawing and Design cadres may also be issued early.

Yours faithfully,

(Shiva Gopal Mishra)
General Secretary

Copy to: General Secretary, all affiliated unions – for information.

No.AIRF/32

Dated: July 28, 2011

The Secretary(E),
Railway Board,
New Delhi

Dear Sir,

**Sub: Supply of shoes and uniform to Artisan Staff of Engineering
Department**

Permanent Way Artisan Staff of Engineering Department are considered as the backbone of the Indian Railways as their function is a key for smooth running of the locomotives in safe condition.

All over the seasons, round the clock, they have to perform duties on foot in open environment. Their work should not only be appreciated but on the contrary the man-hour they put in should be awarded with some extra benefits rather than others as they assist to earn values for the Railways.

It is unfortunate that in spite of continuous devoting to duties for earning values for the Railways, they are deprived of receiving uniform, rain coat and gum boot. This is great injustice to this cadre. Endangering their life, they have to run on ballast without any precaution of wild creatures, reptiles, climatic conditions(heat/thunder/storm and heavy rain).

Looking the nature of job, importance of this category staff, its sensitivity, dangerous situation and climatic environment faced by Permanent Way Artisans, they should also be supplied summer, winter and monsoon uniforms.

The Board are requested to include Permanent Way Artisan Staff of Engineering Department for supply of shoes and all seasons uniform.

Yours faithfully,

(Shiva Gopal Mishra)
General Secretary

Copy to: General Secretaries, all affiliated zonal unions. This refers to GS/WREU/ Mumbai's letter No.F/BRC/2/11 dated 10.1.2011.

No.AIRF/82

Dated: July 27, 2011

The Secretary(E),
Railway Board,
New Delhi

Dear Sir,

Sub: Validity period of Identity Cards issued to retiring/retired railway employees

Ref: Railway Board's letter No.E(W) 2003/PS 5-8/1 dated 24.8.2006

Family Identity Cards are issued to retiring/retired railway employees as per Railway Board's letter *supra* with a validity of seven years' only. These Identity Cards are the only authentic identity proof of the Railway employees and their families while travelling in trains on Complimentary Passes. Retired railway employees are required to get fresh Identity Card issued after expiry of original Identity Card, having seven years validity, for which they have to wonder from pillar to post as also their avoidable expenses on this account.

In this connection, it would not be out of context to mention that the Medical Identity Cards issued under RELHS do not bear any validity period as also PAN Cards issued by the Income Tax Department are without any validity period, and in both the cases, photographs of the employees concerned are imposed on these Identity Cards.

The Board are, therefore, requested to communicate necessary instructions to all the Railway administrations for issuing Identity Cards to retiring/retired railway employees without any validity period so that Senior Citizens are not compelled to face undue hardship on this account.

An early action in the matter is solicited.

Yours faithfully,

(Shiva Gopal Mishra)
General Secretary

Copy to: General Secretaries, all affiliated unions. This refers to GS/NWREU/ JP's letter No.NWREU/24/2011/138 dated 7.7.2011.

No.AIRF/82

Dated: July 22, 2011

Shri A.K. Nigam,
Adviser(IR),
Railway Board,
New Delhi

Dear Sir,

Sub: Issue of Pass/PTO and Post Retirement Complimentary Pass – Validity thereof

Ref: Railway Board's letter No.E(W)2010/PS-5-17/1 dated 3.6.2011/E(W)92-PS-5-1/1 dated 26.3.1993

Railway Board are aware that reservation in any class of accommodation in trains is now available 90 days in advance from the date of commencement of journey. Present, validity of Privilege Pass/PTO is four months only, and in case Pass/PTO holder intends to get confirmed reservation, normally he will left with only one month validity of Pass/PTO issued in his favour in case he seeks reservation 90 days in advance. This virtually sets an uncalled for limit of one month for completion of journey even for the family of Railway employees in case of any social or otherwise requirement to set on outstation.

As per ACS No.68, a provision has been made by the Railway Board that next year Privilege Pass can be issued in the preceding year with a validity of four months.

The Board are, therefore, requested to make provision in the Pass Rules in such a way that the Privilege Pass/PTO may be issued in 90 days in advance with a normal validity of four months after the date of commencement of journey.

An early action in the matter shall be highly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

(Shiva Gopal Mishra)
General Secretary

Copy to: General Secretaries, all affiliated unions – for information.

No.AIRF/5-A

Dated: July 20, 2011

The Secretary(E),
Railway Board,
New Delhi

Dear Sir,

**Sub: Earmarking of posts for promotion of non-Appendix-3
qualified Accounts Assistants in the merged cadre of
Sr. SO(A/C) and SO(A/Cs)**

**Ref: (i) AIRF's letter No.AIRF/5-A(587) dated 23.9.2010
(ii) Railway Board's letter No.PC-V/98/I/11/23(Pt) dated 14.7.2011**

Orders of the Railway Board, contained in their letter under reference, are most shocking because up till now an indication was given to the Federation that 5% posts of SO(A/Cs) earmarked for promotion of non-Appendix-3 IREM Examination qualified A/Cs Asstt. will be calculated on the merged strength of SO(A/Cs) posts, based on the recommendations of VI CPC.

It is quite unfortunate that instead of increasing number of posts, based on 5% formulae, Railway Board have decided 1% of the merged cadre. This will reduce avenue of promotion and reduction in number of posts.

AIRF, therefore, desires that the orders issued by the Railway Board vide their letter referred to above should be kept in abeyance and the matter should be discussed threadbare with the Federation, and such orders should be implemented only after discussion with the organized labour.

An early action in the matter shall be highly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

**(Shiva Gopal Mishra)
General Secretary**

Copy to: General Secretaries, all affiliated unions – for information.