

ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION
ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF LOCO AND TRAFFIC RUNNING STAFF
13TH JULY, 2010, NEW DELHI

All India Conference of Loco and Traffic Running Staff started at 11:00 hrs. on 13th July, 2010, as scheduled, in Railway Badminton Hall Complex, Basant Lane, New Delhi, under the aegis of All India Railwaymen's Federation with full enthusiasm and was attended by around 5,000 Loco and Traffic Running Staff from all the 16 Zonal Railways across the country.

While delivering his welcome address, Com. Harbhajan Singh Sidhu, President Northern Railwaymen's Union, explained about the necessity and the context in which the present All India Conference of Loco and Traffic Running Staff was being organized in New Delhi. He also briefed about the problems being faced by the Running Staff particularly in respect of pay scales, allowances, working-hours, resting facilities and other working conditions etc. for which a lot of frustration and resentment is prevailing among this prominent category of Railway Staff.

During Inaugural Session, Shri A.K. Goyal, Member Staff Railway Board, Shri Keshav Chandra, Addl. General Manager Northern Railway, Shri M. Raghaviah, General Secretary NFIR, Shri Subhranshu, General Secretary FROA, Shri Jitender Singh, Secretary General IRPOF, Shri U.S. Jha, General Secretary All India RPF Association were also present on the dais besides office bearers of the Federation – Comrades N. Kanniah, C.A. Rajasridhar, U.C. Tyagi, R.D. Yadav, A.M. D'Cruz, Salil Lawrence, K.L. Gupta and J.R. Bhosale.

Before the inauguration, the officers, leaders of all the Federations and office bearers of AIRF were offered warm welcome by presenting bouquet, shawl and memento by Shri Harbhajan Singh Sidhu, President NRMU(NR), Shri S.K. Rana and R.P. Singh, AGSs/NRMU(NR), Shri Y.K. Sharma, Central Treasurer/NRMU, Shri K.N. Sharma and Subhash Sharma, Vice President of the union.

The Conference was then formally inaugurated by Com. Umraomal Purohit, President AIRF.

In his précised and brief Inaugural Speech, Com. Purohit also mentioned about the grievances of the Loco and Traffic Running Staff. He also added that the incidents that took place a few weeks back in Mumbai area were quite unfortunate and avoidable, in case Railway administration would have acted promptly on the demands already being persuaded by AIRF.

Com. Purohit stated that AIRF has always given top priority to the demands of the Running Staff and that is the reason that in spite of our pressure on the Railway administration, we have been able to protect the interest of the Running Staff. Giving one example he stated that the Running Allowance Committee 2002, which was full of retrograde recommendations, was buried down only on the threat of AIRF, that in case this report is implemented, AIRF will proceed to strike without any notice. He said that there are many problems and challenges and AIRF is looking

after them and assured to find the solution and in case of no solution, AIRF will not sit idle. It will start sustained struggle.

After Inaugural Speech of Com. Umraomal Purohit, Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary AIRF, while addressing the Conference, mentioned in detail about the need of holding Conference.

He recalled that constitution of the Fast Track Committee was just to buy time and not to make solution or to resolve the grievances of the Running Staff. Moreover, it was constituted without consulting us and therefore, AIRF did not take part in the discussions with this so-called Fast Track Committee.

The General Secretary also reminded the huge gathered participants from Running Staff cadre that it was only AIRF who opposed tooth and nail the move of Ministry of Railways to curtail the rate of Running Allowance and Pay Element as recommended by the Running Allowance Committee 2002 and thereby Ministry of Railways could not implement these retrograde recommendations of the said committee.

Shri Mishra said that after implementation of VI CPC, the Railway Board had almost decided to reduce the rates of Running Allowance to 10% from 30% and retirement benefits to 20% from 55%. But it was the pressure of AIRF, they could not do so. We had been able to retain 30% and 55%.

Shri Mishra further added that AIRF has already taken up all the major demands of the Running Staff, which include payment of arrears of Running Allowance w.e.f. 1.1.2006, upward revision of pay scale, enhancement in the rate of various allowances, retrospective increase in the rates of KMA on par with TA, improvement in the conditions of the Running Rooms, reduction in working hours, standardization of uniform, payment of adequate Washing Allowance, improvement in the locomotive cabin with air conditioning and provision of toilet, exemption of Running Allowance from Income Tax, reduction in working hours up to 8 hours for Running Staff etc. etc. and these issues are being agitated by the Federation in different Fora, including PNM and DC-JCM.

He also advised the delegates that on sustained persuasions and forceful arguments of the Federation, Ministry of Railways have not only made certain amendments in favour of Running Staff but also recommended upward revision of pay scales, Additional Allowance to Goods Pilot, Asstt. Loco Pilot and Goods Guard to the Ministry of Finance, which he hopes shall be acceded to in a couple of days.

The General Secretary emphasized that the demand of Asstt. Loco Pilot was given highest priority because of strenuous pressure from AIRF, thereby their cadre restructuring was undertaken and 80% of the ALPs were placed in the higher pay scale through the CRC.

He also added that AIRF is further pursuing the matter of revision of rates of KMA, so that there is no frustration left in this important category of staff

The General Secretary emphatically stated that it was only because of AIRF's sole efforts that the Central Government had to set up VI CPC, maximum benefit of which is being enjoyed by the bureaucracy as they have received lakhs of rupees as arrear and are also getting lucrative emoluments as per the recommendations of the said Pay Commission. He, therefore, added that, in case improvements are affected in the pay scales and other allowances of the Loco and Traffic Running Staff, the entire budgetary burden shall be made good by these staff by earning more and more revenue for Railway industry.

Shri Mishra emphasized the urgent need of constitution of the High Powered Committee to review working hours of the Running Staff as also of the safety category staff in general, which was agreed upon during the negotiations held after strike notice in the year 2006, so that reduction in their working hours could be affected in the wake of high speed and heavy load trains plying on the Indian Railways nowadays.

He further apprised the House of the efforts being made by AIRF to get Safety Related Voluntary Retirement Scheme modified to the extent that it becomes practicable and really useful for not only the staff of safety category but also for the entire Railwaymen.

The General Secretary was critic about the hue and cry of modernization of the Indian Railways and said that the pace of modernization is so slow that we are still lagging far behind not only in comparison with the developed countries but also as compared to recently developed nations like China. While there is urgent need, he said, of providing modernized electronic backup in the locomotives for safe running of trains so that any possibility of human errors may not lead to disastrous rail accidents earning bad name to the industry but a little has been done in this regard as on date.

Concluding his address, the General Secretary condemned the politicization of the trade union movement in the Railways and division of the workforce in the name of politics, caste, creed, regionalism, language etc. which would be detrimental not only for the workers but also for the Railway industry. He, therefore, urged upon the Loco and Traffic Running Staff gathered in the Conference to remain united under the banner of AIRF for their betterment and bright future.

After detailed speech of the General Secretary, Shri A.K. Goyal, Member Staff Railway Board, who was present as Guest of Honour in the Conference, was invited to speak on this occasion.

Shri Goyal while addressing the Conference mentioned about the agitations which were held in Mumbai area in suburban trains and said that it was quite unfortunate for the Railway industry.

He further said that the entire Running Staff should have faith in AIRF, the organization which has a history of sustained struggle for all categories of the Railwaymen and the demands of the Running Staff are being pursued by the Federation quite vigorously at all appropriate levels.

He assured the Conference that whatever betterment is possible in the case of Running Staff, be in their pay scales, allowance, working conditions, Railway Board is inclined to make all possible efforts in this respect, and they should rest assure that till he is Member Staff Railway Board, they should not at all have any presumption about any retrograde action from Ministry of Railways' side.

Shri Goyal informed the Conference that there have been many rounds of negotiations with the Federation, particularly pertaining to the issues related to Loco and Traffic Running Staff and whatever issues are within the competence of the Railway Board are being resolved with utmost priority and certain positive recommendations after detailed discussions with the Federation have been forwarded to Ministry of Finance for early sanction thereof. He expected early fruitful results on a number of grievances of the Running Staff.

The Member Staff while concluding his speech outlined the important features of Vision 2020 of the Hon'ble Minister for Railways which are ought to make the Indian Railways as number one organization not only in our country but also in the entire world.

After Member Staff, Shri Keshav Chandra, Addl. General Manager, Northern Railway, in his brief speech appreciated the hardworking of the Running Staff, which has resulted in making the Railway industry commercially viable.

He also mentioned that being a Mechanical officer he has been closely associated with Loco Running Staff right from his initial appointment in the Railways and knows the difficulties being faced by them very well. He also assured that the Railway administration will make all possible efforts to resolve their grievances as early as possible.

On being called upon, Shri Subhranshu, General Secretary FROA, made quite valuable speech and informed the Conference about the important steps being taken by the Ministry of Railways for the betterment of Running Staff.

He informed that the Railway Board has already sanctioned air-conditioning of the cabs of the locomotives under RSP, results of which will be visible during coming months. There would be facility of urinals also provided in the locomotive, he added and the Loco Control Scheme was also under review so that Loco Pilots are not compelled to operate varieties of locomotives at a time, which puts them under acute hardship because there are quite different systems of operation in various classes of locomotives being used on the Indian Railways as of now.

Shri Subhranshu also mentioned about the revision in Training Modules to ensure reduction in theoretical training and proportionate increase in practical training so that Asstt. Loco Pilots and Loco Pilots are imparted realistic and useful training for locomotive operation.

He further informed that Loco Inspectors would now be imparted initial training on their promotion so that they are able to counsel Loco Pilots properly and

20 more simulators of different kinds have been sanctioned by the Railway Board, which will be procured in near future and installed in different training centres, which would facilitate better training to Loco Running Staff in future.

The General Secretary FROA also expressed his concern over 20% vacancies of the Running Staff being continued in the system, which, he said, was not healthy for safe rail operation and is as well a hurdle while sparing the Running Staff for undergoing training.

He further informed that the Railway Board is planning to fill-up these vacancies on top priority and all the training centres have been asked to keep ready to impart training to new entrants on phased manner so that Heads are available in the system without inordinate delay.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri M. Raghaviah, General Secretary NFIR, thanked AIRF for organizing Running Staff Conference and inviting him and assured fullest cooperation.

He further said that he is always working in full cooperation with AIRF and promised the same in future too.

Thereafter, Shri Jitender Singh, Secretary General IRPOF and Shri U.S. Jha, General Secretary, All India RPF Association also addressed the gathering and assured full unity and cooperation of their respective Federations in regard to redress the legitimate grievances of not only the Loco and Traffic Running Staff but also of the entire Railwaymen.

S/Shri A.M. D'Cruz, P. Ganesan, Joe D'Suza, S.D. Meena, Dinesh Panchal, Daljit Singh, K. Nagbhushan, Venu P. Nair, S.K. Mishra, Dilip Dutta Choudhary, Chandra Sekhar Singh, Satyaveer Singh, Ashok Kumar Vyas, Sikander N. Khan, Md Farooq Ali, B.N. Shukla, K. Suresh, V.K. Sharma, Ravindra Sharma, Mahendra Singh, Subedar Singh, V. Ram Kumar, Bal Mukund Sen, Sanjay Massey, D. Srinivas, S.R. Khaja Mohiddin, Jasvinder Singh, Mukund Patel, Ashok Ghosh, Y.R. Dhote, Dayanand Yadav, M.K. Tripathi, S.M. Kapse, K.N. Singh, Swapan Guha, M.J. Khan, M. Rajeshwar Rao, B.K. Yadav, Manoj Pandey, R.V.S.S. Rao, B.M. Basha, Abdul Khalik, B.K. Prasad, N. Chatterjee and others were among the prominent speakers who briefed the House about the grievances of the Running Staff and the problems faced by them. They also made valuable suggestions to improve upon the working conditions of the Loco and Traffic Running Staff.

Important suggestions/demands made by them are listed below:-

- Loco Inspector category should be made Ex-cadre post.**
- Grade Pay and Pay Band should be protected at least till the next Pay Commission.**
- GP Rs.2400 to 80% ALPs.**

- **Benefit of stepping up of pay to the senior in case of junior getting more pay than the senior.**
- **Running/Mileage Allowance should be exempted from the purview of Income Tax.**
- **Facilities for natural call should be provided in the locomotives.**
- **Continuous 10-hour 60 decibel horn giving practice should be stopped.**
- **Maximum travelling distance (in case of Mail/Passenger drivers) should be fixed.**
- **One additional increment should be given on promotion between February and June.**
- **Revised the rates of Running Allowance and Overtime Allowances w.e.f. 1.1.2006.**
- **Settle the issues of the Running Staff early, as proposed by the “Anomaly Committee”.**
- **Classify the post of Loco Inspector as Avenue of Promotion for Loco Pilot (Mail/Express).**
- **Grant promotion increment for promotion within same grade pay.**
- **Grant Rs.5000 p.a. as Uniform Allowance to all Running Staff.**
- **Implement MACP Scheme early.**
- **Increase all other allowances like ALKM, MGKM, OSDA etc.**
- **Supply Subsidized Foods to Running Staff.**
- **Fill-up the vacancies of the Running Staff through GDCE.**
- **Names of the parents should be included in the Pass.**
- **Report of the Fast Track Committee should be scrapped.**
- **ALK should be increased from 160**
- **Issue Corrigendum on Removal from Service on passing danger signal.**

Shri Sudesh Kumar, Member Electrical, Railway Board, Shri Vivek Sahai, Chairman Railway Board, Shri S.K. Budhlakoti, General Manager, Northern Railway, Shri S.K. Seth, Chief Personnel Officer, Northern Railway, Shri A.K. Gupta, Principal Chief Engineer, Northern Railway, Shri R.N. Tripathi, Chief Medical Director, Northern

Railway, Shri Ashwani Lohani, Divisional Railway Manager, Delhi and a number of other officers from the Railway Board, Northern Railway Headquarters and Delhi Division belonging to different departments were also present to grace the occasion.

The Conference premises were over crowded by the participants and the representatives from electronic and print media on the arrival of Ms Mamata Banerjee, Hon'ble Minister for Railways. The entire gathering offered warm welcome to her by shouting different slogans praising her actions for the betterment of the Railway industry in general and the Railwaymen in particular.

The above dignities were offered warm welcome by presenting them bouquets, shawls and mementos by the President, Asstt. General Secretaries, Vice Presidents and Central Treasurer of NRMU(NR), before start of afternoon session.

In the afternoon session, on being invited to address the Conference, Shri Sanjeev Handa, Member Mechanical, Railway Board, stated that he has experienced a lot of improvements in the Running Staff cadre during the last few years.

He further said that awareness level, skills and insight vision has undergone tremendous improvement during the past few years in case of Running Staff.

Shri Handa expressed deep concern over the gap between the expectations and the results in case of Running Staff, which, he said, was a cause of avoidable frustration among this important category of the Railwaymen.

He, however, assured that the problems of the Running Staff shall be solved giving overriding priority and also informed in brief about the steps being taken by the Ministry of Railways in the direction of improving upon the working conditions, wages and other issues pertaining to Running Staff.

In the end of his speech, the Member Mechanical, called upon the Federation to give more and more representation to Running Staff in their leadership so that their grievances are solved promptly to their utmost satisfaction.

Shri Vivek Sahai, Chairman, Railway Board, on being invited to address the Conference, stated that the Railwaymen's category is quite fortunate as they will undergo definite progress because the Indian Railway are ought to progress in the coming years to keep pace with overall development of the country and the economy of the nation.

While all the Pay Commissions recommended better emoluments for the Railwaymen, he said, but the VI CPC has put-forward the recommendations which have lead to total change in the prevalent wage system of the Central Government Employees and therefore, a drastic change has undergone in the emoluments for the Railway employees also.

He further said that anomalies in the pay scales of different category is a regular feature after the report of each Pay Commission and the Ministry of Railways is making all possible efforts for their redressal in a fixed timeframe.

Shri Sahai further informed that negotiations are being held at Railway Board's level on various issues pertaining to Running Staff and the negotiated decisions have been sent to Ministry of Finance for obtaining their early sanction and are being pursued regularly by the Ministry of Railways.

He further informed the House that the provision of Rs.17,600 crore as "Safety Fund" by the former NDA Government was the result of initiatives taken by Ms Mamata Banerjee, the present MR in her previous regime and "Vision 2020" is also a precious document for the prosperity of the Railways and its workers.

He urged upon the audience to have full trust in their organization and the Ministry of Railways and assured them that their grievances will definitely be resolved, as he knows that Running Staff is most sensitive category directly involve in safe operation of train services and there is no need of resorting to any direct action, which involves dislocation of train services and causes unnecessary inconveniences to travelling public and the nation as a whole.

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

Welcoming Hon'ble MR, Ms Mamata Banerjee, on behalf of AIRF, Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary AIRF, placed memorandum containing various important demands.

Shri Mishra said that the Running Staff is under deep depression after the report of the Fast Track Committee because on the one hand it has not given anything, on the other they have shown their intention to snatch whatever Running Staff has achieved after sustained struggle.

He asked the MR to immediately direct the Railway Board to start discussion on the issue of arrears of Running Allowance w.e.f. 1.1.2006, increase in KMA.

He also demanded recruitment of the wards of the Railwaymen in the Railways on priority.

Com. Umraomal Purohit, President AIRF, then formally invited Ms Mamata Banerjee, Hon'ble Minister for Railways, who was present on the dais as Chief Guest, to address the Conference.

Ms. Mamata Banerjee, Hon'ble Minister for Railways, congratulated all the Railwaymen and its officers as a unique organization having policy making PREM. Those outsiders provoke about the privatization in the Railways be condemned. Railways are effectively performing because of hard work. Our bad name is taken in cases of accidents but are never complimented for good work. Our co-ordination at grassroots level has to be increased. Our monitoring system has to be strengthened. Privatization will never be done in the Railways till she is Minister.

The Railways should not go for strike. Politicians divide the Railwaymen. Railways will work with co-ordination. She believes in full transparency. HOER should be reviewed. Vacancies should be filled-in early.

She admitted huge shortage of staff in the category of Running Staff, Gangmen etc. For filling-up vacancies, Railway Board has been asked to examine old method of recruitments. Preference will be given to the wards of Railway employees in future recruitments.

Regarding better grade pay to Running Staff, case has been forwarded to Ministry of Finance, where she will pursue. We have already allowed new Safety Related Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

Highest Bonus of 75 days to the Railwaymen. She emphasized the need of higher education to the wards of Railwaymen. House for all scheme will be implemented. For education problem, health problem talk to the DRM. She emphasized the need of unity of the Indian Railway.

Hon'ble Minister for Railway while addressing the Conference vehemently exhorted that with the active co-operation of AIRF, she would like to do every thing possible to ameliorate the lot of staff directly involved with train operation activities.

While putting vote of thanks to Hon'ble Minister for Railways, Com. Purohit told the MR, though she is very strong, the Railway Ministry(Board) is showing its weakness while dealing with various issues. Nowadays, we are feeling that for every petty things, Railway Board is running either to MoF or DoPT. Such situation was never in the past.

He said that, he hopes that the Hon'ble MR will take note of it and will give enough strength to the Railway Ministry(Board) so that the issues can be resolved within the four walls of the Indian Railways.

While thanking the MR for her various announcements made in favour of the Railwaymen as well as their wards, he stated that every Railwaymen has hoped that the Indian Railways will definitely reach to its new horizons and the Railwaymen will get a new fair deal.

A detailed resolution, comprising of 24-point Charter of Demands pertaining to Loco and Traffic Running Staff, was also passed unanimously, which is placed as Annexure - 'A'.

In the end, Shri Harbhajan Singh Sidhu, President NRMU(NR) moved vote of thanks to all the dignities, leaders of the Federations and the participants of the Conference.

Thereafter, the Conference was concluded.

Wide publicity was given by the print and electronic media of this Conference.

ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION

ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF LOCO AND TRAFFIC RUNNING STAFF,

13TH JULY, 2010, NEW DELHI

RESOLUTION

PROBLEMS OF LOCO AND TRAFFIC RUNNING STAFF

This All India Conference of Loco and Traffic Running Staff, held in New Delhi on 13th July, 2010, notes with satisfaction the all out efforts being made by the All India Railwaymen's Federation for all round improvement in the wage structure and working conditions of the Running Staff.

The Conference also appreciates the efforts of AIRF and the action being taken by the Railway Board to resolve the genuine outstanding grievances of the Running Staff. However, urges upon the Ministry of Railways to further appreciate the outstanding genuine and burning grievances and to consider them favourably as these are causing serious unrest among the Loco and Traffic Running Staff.

With the introduction of long distance trains, high powered locomotives, heavy traffic density, introduction of automatic signalling, non stopped running of trains for hours together it has become imperative to classify duty hours of the Running Staff as "Intensive", but the Running Staff are being compelled to work even beyond 10 hours from "signing on" to "signing off". This issue was raised constantly by the AIRF for years together.

In the wake of strike negotiation, an agreement was reached between All India Railwaymen's Federation and Railway Board that a High Powered Committee would be appointed to adjudicate on the issue of duty hours of Loco and Traffic Running Staff. Unfortunately, despite repeated attempts of AIRF, the said committee is yet to be appointed.

Trains have been increased by leaps and bounds but the strength of Running Staff has not yet been augmented in commensurate with the increased number of trains and whatever sanctioned strength is there, vacancies running to the tune of 20-25 percent of the sanctioned posts are not being filled up. They are denied their periodical rest and whenever rest is allowed, the same is abrogated on the plea of shortage of staff. They are also denied their due leave as well on the same ground.

The Ministry of Railways had appointed a committee in the name and style of "Running Allowance Committee - 2002". The report of the said committee was totally anti-labour. It had recommended for reduction of Pay Element from 30 to 10 percent and element of Retirement Benefit from 55 percent to 20 percent. The AIRF had to

issue threat that if, the decision would sought to be implemented, the Railways wheel would come to grinding halt.

This time also Ministry of Railways had appointed a committee headed by EDPC, Railway Board. AIRF had urged upon the Ministry of Railways to settle all the burning grievances of the Running Staff bilaterally instead of putting them in cold storage in the name of so-called “Fast Track Committee”. After considering all the aspects, AIRF had decided not to participate in the deliberations of the said Committee.

This conference notes with satisfaction that due to sustained efforts of AIRF, attempt of the Railway Board to reduce treatment of Pay Element of 30% for different purposes and 55% in the matter of Retirement Benefits could be protected. But the Railway Board have refused to revise Kilometrage Allowance(KMA) of Running Staff, which is due to be raised w.e.f. 1.1.2006 on the revised pay structure of VI CPC and also to increase Running Allowance on the basis of revised rates of T.A. w.e.f. 1.9.2008. This Conference strongly demands for the revision of rates of Running Allowance with retrospective effect from 01.01.2006 on the basis of revised Pay Element and from 1.9.2008 taking the revised rates of T.A. into account.

After years of persuasions of AIRF, Finance Ministry had granted exemption of portion of Running Allowance from the purview of deduction of Income Tax and exemption limit was raised to Rs.6000/- p.m. w.e.f. 01.08.1997 on the premise of revision of rates of Running Allowance after introduction of revised pay scales as per report of V CPC. But this time after the report of VI CPC, despite protracted representations, the exemption limit has not yet been raised and the Running Staff are being compelled to pay Income Tax on T.A. element as well while T.A. is exempted from the purview of the deduction of Income Tax for the staff in general.

The VI CPC has granted same Grade Pay of Rs.4200 to all categories of Loco Pilots. The Pay Commission has granted an Additional Allowance of Rs.1,000 p.m. in favour of Loco Pilot (M&E) and Rs.500 p.m. in favour of Loco Pilot(Passenger). Sr. Loco Pilot(Passenger having same pay scale as that of Loco Pilot(M&E) and Sr. Loco Pilot(Goods) in the same pay scale as that of Loco Pilot(Passenger). But both the categories Sr. Loco Pilot(Passenger) and Sr. Loco Pilot(Goods) have been denied Additional Allowance. Similarly, Sr. Guard(Passenger) is also to be granted Additional Allowance of Rs.500/-. This Additional Allowance is treated as Pay only for the purpose of computing the quantum of Dearness Allowance(DA) which should be treated as pay for all purposes. On promotion, pay is fixed by granting an increment i.e. FR 22(C). But the same has been denied to Loco Pilots during their promotion. This Conference strongly feels that the discrimination, as stated above, should be resolved and Additional Allowance.

This Conference notes with satisfaction that after constant persuasions of All India Railwaymen’s Federation, Cadre Restructuring Committee has been formed. First meeting of the committee was held on 8th December, 2009. The matter of restructuring of Asstt. Loco Pilot was taken-up as first item and after hours of deliberation, 80% of Asstt. Loco Pilot was decided to be placed in GP of Rs.2400.

Ultimately, orders for the same have been issued on 30th April, 2010 effective from 1st May, 2010. This conference demands that similar restructuring exercise should be conducted for other categories of Running Staff at the earliest.

Running Rooms are the second home for the Running Staff. In fact, their stay in Running Room is more than their house. AIRF has been constantly demanding for improvement in Running Rooms. Various Accident Enquiry Committees/Safety Committees have also recommended for the same, but the condition of Running Rooms has not been improved, leading to erroneous problem for the Running Staff.

Running Staff are to maintain physical fitness right from first day to the last of their service. Running Staff are to live a erratic life because of their type of works. On de-categorization, they are facing lots of problems. This matter was highlighted before Justice Miyabhoy Tribunal, 1971 and improvement in this regard has been made. It is necessary that better medical facilities are extended to the Running Staff so that they can maintain their fitness for all time.

Running Staff are very much conscious about safe running of the Railways. In any accident, they are the victims. Although crossing of railway lines are prohibited as per the provisions of the Indian Railways Act, but the same provision has been acted more in violation than observance. In the event of any accident, Running Staff are being harassed by the police. This conference strongly feels that police harassment must be stopped.

This Conference of the Loco and Traffic Running Staff demands:-

- 1. Liberalised Safety Related Voluntary Retirement Scheme to be implemented for all Running Staff and their wards be given appointment in the Railways.**
- 2. Appoint High Powered Committee to review working hours of Running Staff as was agreed during strike negotiation in February, 2006 and duty hours of Running Staff from “signing on” to signing off” be reduced to 8 hours.**
- 3. Allot improved Grade Pay to all Asstt. Loco Pilots, Loco Pilots, Motormen, Loco Inspectors and Guards.**
- 4. 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. 01.01.2006.**
- 5. Enhancement in the Kilometre Allowance at par with Travelling Allowance.**
- 6. Raise Income Tax exemption limit from existing Rs.6000 to Rs.15000 p.m. with retrospective effect from 01.09.2008.**
- 7. Sanction additional staff for additional trains.**

- 8. Running Rooms are the second house of the Running Staff, condition of which is not satisfactory. As a result of which, Running Staff are not getting proper rest. This leads to safety hazard. Efforts should be made to upgrade Running Rooms, so that Running Staff can have proper comfort and rest.**
- 9. Immediately improve upon Engine Cabs with A/C and Toilets.**
- 10. Make payment of Stitching Charges and Washing Allowance at market rates.**
- 11. Running Staff to be provided with periodical rest at par with other field staff.**
- 13. Absence of Running Staff from Headquarters be restricted to 30 hrs.**
- 14. Immediately fill-up large number of vacancies of Loco & Traffic Running Staff for safe running of trains.**
- 15. Mail, Express and Passenger Loco Pilots be provided with assistance of ET/Shunter on arrival of their trains at destination.**
- 16. All Running Staff be allotted Railway accommodation of their entitlement, for which additional quarters may be constructed**
- 17. Enhance amount of compensation from present 10 lakh to 20 lakh for Safety category staff who die on duty.**
- 18. Re-designate Train Guards as “Train Manager”**
- 19. Improve promotional prospects of all categories of Loco and Traffic Running Staff through the process of Cadre Restructuring.**
- 20. Provide improved medical facilities to Running Staff.**
- 21. Absorb all medically de-categorized Running Staff with full protection of Pay and Allowances and future promotional benefits.**
- 22. Issue 1st Class Pass on Grade Pay Rs.4200.**
- 23. Provide Safety Device in the All Locomotive so that accident can be avoided.**
- 24. Give preference to the wards of Railway employees in Railway job.**

