



OFFICIAL ORGAN OF WESTERN RAILWAY EMPLOYEES' UNION

Vol. 66 No. 11

NOVEMBER, 2016

Price :

Single : 3 Rupees

Pages 8

Annual : Thirty Rupees

DIVISIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF WREU-ADI

Western Railway Employees' Union, Ahmedabad Division, held its Divisional Executive Committee Meeting on 24th September, 2016 in the Lawn of Community Hall at Sabarmati. The meeting was presided by the Divisional Chairman - Com. Dinesh Panchal. Com. R. C. Sharma, President, Com. J. R. Bhosale, General Secretary and Com. S. K. Singh, Ex Divisional Chairman of WREU-ADI were special guests. The meeting was attended by all the Divisional Office Bearers, Branch officials and active workers of WREU-ADI including activists of Youth and Women Wings.

Com. H. S. Pal, Divisional Secretary, in his welcome speech thanked all for their active co-operation and support to the newly formed divisional team and informed about the achievements of WREU-ADI. He gave detailed report of the various activities of the Union during the current year and called upon the participants to be more proactive in the field so that grievances of the railwaymen are redressed timely and the Union is strengthened.

Com. J. R. Bhosale in his hour long speech informed various achievements at national level and at zonal level. He gave the current status of the various committees constituted by the Government of India for revision of minimum pay and fitment formula of the 7th CPC, improvement in Allowances & Advances, NPS, etc. He informed that the progress of these committees are not satisfactory and we should be in readiness for going on indefinite strike, call for which was deferred for a period of four months by NJCA on formation of these committees. He stated that WREU has taken up the issue of payment of 30% HRA to the employees working in urban agglomeration of Ahmedabad City and the matter is under active consideration of the GM and he is confident that a positive decision will be conveyed within a week's time. He congratulated the new team of WREU-ADI and exhorted them for united and concerted action for further strengthening the Union.

Com. R. C. Sharma expressed his happiness on the functioning of the new team of WREU-ADI. He

emphasized for strengthening the Union at branch level through various organizational programmes such as One Day Training Programmes, Grievances Collection Camps, Staff Contact Campaigns, etc. and also to form Youth and Women Wings at branch level and to involve more and more youth and women in core activities.

Com. Amrut Makwana, G. S. Yadav, Baldhari Mahaur, Misbahul Hasan, Kesardev Soni and Smt. Kamla Sharma also addressed the meeting.

On this occasion, Com. S. K. Singh, Ex Divisional Chairman, who retired on superannuation on 30.09.2015 was felicitated by the hands of the General Secretary and wished him fruitful, happy and healthy retired life. Com. S. K. Singh thanked the leadership of WREU for honouring him and assured to continue his services to the Union.

The meeting was conducted by Com. H. S. Pal and vote of thanks was conveyed by Com. Dinesh Panchal. Com. Panchal in his concluding speech emphasized the need of strengthening the Union and internal unity to fight against the various challenges ahead.

In the afternoon session, a meeting of all the Branch Secretaries, Chairmen and important officials of WREU-ADI was held in which functioning of the branches and organizational matters were discussed with General Secretary and President of WREU.

SANMAN SAMAROH

WREU-RJT held Divisional Executive Committee meeting at Community Hall Rajkot on 19.10.2016, which was attended by all Divisional office bearers, Branch Officials Youth and Women Committee members. Com. J. R. Bhosale, General Secretary, appreciated the excellent services rendered by the office bearers and activists of Rajkot Division in making the 96th Annual Convention of WREU held at Dwarka from 17-19 September 2016 a grand success. General Secretary highly appreciated the services of the dedicated volunteers in receiving more than 1000 delegates / visitors from all over Western Railway and making excellent boarding and lodging arrangements. He thanked the entire team, especially Divisional Chairman - Com. Mahesh Chhaya and Divisional Secretary - Com.

Nikhil Joshi, for making the 96th Annual Convention of WREU a grand success in all respects. He also thanked all the guests who had attended and graced the Conference.

General Secretary explained in detail the progress of the Core Committees appointed by Government of India for implementation of the 7th CPC Report in its entirety. He appealed all the participants for strengthening the unity of the Railwaymen for satisfactory implementation of the 7th CPC recommendations. He also informed about the 92nd Annual Convention of AIRF scheduled to be held at Allahabad from 8-10 November, 2016 and appealed all or attending the Convention in large numbers.

DEC MEETING OF WREU-BRC

WREU-BRC held its DEC meeting at Dakore (near Annand) on 20.10.2016. Com. Sadhna Trivedi presided over the Conference. Com. J. R. Bhosale, while inaugurating the Conference explained in detail the circumstances in which the proposed indefinite General Strike from 11th July 2016 was postponed for a period of four months by NJCA. He further narrated the steps taken by AIRF / NC-JCM for making payment of Dearness Allowance w.e.f. 01.07.2016, improvement in fixation formula of the running staff, extension of date of submission option after full implementation of 7th CPC recommendations and progress of the Committees appointed for – (i) One Rank One Pension; (2) New Pension Scheme; (3) Minimum wages and fixation formula; (4) improvement in House Rent Allowances and rejecting the retrograde recommendations of the 7th CPC in regard to stoppage / curtailment in number of allowances. He also narrated the demand of JCM for withdrawal of criteria of 'Very Good' Performance Appraisal Report for grant of promotion / MACP, restoration of all advances and drawal of increment after the period of 20 years services, etc. He congratulated the entire rank and file of WREU-BRC for their outstanding performance in enrollment of membership-2016 and hoped they will further improve it. After detailed report of the activities submitted by Com. Santosh Pawar, Divisional Secretary, number of organizational matters were discussed for making further improvement in Branch functioning. It has been decided to further improve the functioning of Youth and Women Committees. The DEC meeting was largely attended by all the Office bearers of the Branches and number of Railwaymen by taking their own leave and passes.

MAN-TO-MAN CONTACT BY WREU-BRC

WREU-BRC under the leadership of Com. Santosh Pawar, Jayanti Kala, H. P. Pandya, Jayesh Desai and their team organized 'Man-to-man Contact' and special organizational meetings at AKV and BH Branches on 08.10.2016. Around 90 WREU activists and office bearers of AKV branch led by Secretary - Com. Jayesh Patel and Chairman - Com. R. K. Purohit welcomed the Divisional Secretary

and his team with slogan shouting. Com. Santosh Pawar in his speech gave information about latest development at national level and appealed all to be united under the banner of WREU. They discussed the local problems and collected the grievances of the staff and assured that their grievances will be taken up at appropriate level and will ensure that the problems / grievances are solved at the earliest.

About 120 WREU activists were present in the meeting held at BH Union office, which was arranged by Bharuch & JMB branches. Com. Pawar emphasized the need of unity of the Railwaymen in order to thwart the efforts to privatize Indian Railways. He dwelt on the problems faced by Railwaymen and their families in getting medical treatment for want of doctor and staff in Dispensary/ Health Unit at BH and stated that this was brought to the notice of the GM during his visit at Vadodara and demanded for recognizing Global Sunshine Hospital at Bharuch for treatment of Railway medical beneficiaries. The team thereafter discussed various local problems and collected grievances from the staff. They visited the house of Late Com. Rishi Upadhyay, paid homage to Late Comrade and consoled the bereaved family members.

WREU-BRC SUBMITS MEMORANDUM TO GM

A delegation of WREU-BRC, consisting of Com. Santosh Pawar, Vinod Manjrawala, Mehul Desai, Sanjay Pawar and others, met General Manager, Western Railway, in the Chamber of DRM-BRC during his visit in BRC Division on 08.10.2016 and submitted a memorandum on staff grievances, such as problems faced by Railway medical beneficiaries of BRC division and PRTN Workshop staff in getting proper medical treatment for want of adequate funds not allocated to BRC Division; shortage of Doctors and Laboratory staff; delay in renewal of recognition of referral hospitals; unrest prevailing amongst the staff against ANO's working & attitude and also protested against closer of Kitchen of PRTN Hospital. The delegation requested the GM to look into these issues and instruct Medical Department to initiate suitable measures to redress the grievances.

WREU-RJT STAGE DEMONSTRATION

WREU-RJT held demonstration in front of DRM-RJT's Office during lunch hours on 18.10.2016 in protest against non-implementation of PNM decisions and assurances by the administration. Earlier also WREU planned indefinite dharna for solving pending grievances of the staff, which was postponed with specific assurances of the Rajkot Divisional administration that grievances raised by WREU will be solved expeditiously but failed to implement it. WREU delegation met the DRM with a request that the Divisional administration should take corrective actions as assured on different occasions, which was agreed to by the DRM and necessary instructions were issued to the officials concerned for taking action.

T.U.E.P. AT CHITTORGARH

WREU Ratlam Division organized Three Days Trade Union Education Programme for the office bearers and activists of Chittorgarh, Mandasaur and Neemuch Branches in Community Hall at Chittorgarh from 23-25 October, 2016. Com. J. R. Bhosale inaugurated the programme in presence of Com. Seema Kaushik, newly elected Vice President of WREU, Com. S. B. Shrivastava, Divisional Secretary and other divisional office bearers. General Secretary stressed upon the need of imparting education as a tool for strengthening the organisation and for creating awareness amongst the cadre. In his opening address, he briefed about the history of Trade Union Movement in the country and history of WREU/AIRF. Com. Dinesh Panchal, Com. S. B. Shrivastava, Com. Dinesh Dasora and Com. Shrikant conducted the programme and dwelt upon the subjects such as Grievance Handling and PNM Fora; Structure of Organization; Ideology of free, independent and democratic trade union movement and importance of conducting non-bargaining activities. Com. Mahesh Sharma, Janki Prasad, Yogendra Solanki and Com. Meena with the help of local activists made necessary arrangement for successful conduct of the programme.

WORLD DAY FOR DECENT WORK

On the occasion of World Day for Decent Work on 7th October, 2016, WREU BCT Division organized a Gate meeting at Mumbai Central Carshed, in which large number of Contract labours working in Carshed attended. Com. Vivek Kamble, Zonal Youth Convener of WREU and Com. Vivek Dhanawade, Convener, Youth Wing, Carshed Branch (both co-ordinators of HMS Youth Wing), briefed the contract labours about various legal rights under Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act and other labour laws. Meetings were also organized at J. R. Hospital, Mumbai Central and Union Office at Dadar, in which all the contract labours engaged at these places attended. The meeting at JRH was addressed by Sister N. S. Hiwale, Chairperson, Women Wing & W.C. Member/AIRF and at Dadar, Com. D.Y. Mahale, Wkg. Chairman, BCT Division, Com. Milind Raut, Secretary, Dadar Branch and Com. Milind Thakur, Secretary, Carshed Branch addressed the gathering.

MEDICAL CAMP BY CFO-ELECTRIC BRANCH BCT

CFO-Electric Branch of Mumbai Division organized Tetanus Booster Injection Camp & Staff Grievance Collection Camp in Coach Care Center, Mumbai Central on 14.10.2016. Com. J.R. Bhosale inaugurated the Camp in presence of Com. Prakash Savalkar, D. Y. Mahale, Prashant Kanade, P. Rajan and Senior Officers of BCT Division, viz. ADRM(T), Sr.DPO, CMS and Sr.CDO. Total 150 staff working in CFO Branch took benefit of the Camp. Sr.DPO in his speech appreciated the programme, especially

grievance collection and initiative of the Union officials to solve the grievances, and stated that he will do his best to look into these grievances and solve the problems at the earliest. He suggested that it will be more beneficial if a representative of the administration also take part in grievance collection and advised Union officials to inform about such camp to the administration well in advance so as to depute a competent officer from the administration's side.

The Branch officials distributed Income Tax Declaration Forms to the Railway employees working in Coach Care Center/BCT and also collected grievances from the employees on this occasion. Com. Vivek Kamble, Zonal Youth Convener & Office Secretary of the Branch co-ordinated the programme and Com. R.S. Khedekar, Chairman and Com. Amit Painter, Secretary and other office bearers and active members of the Branch took active part for successful conduct of the programme.

SEMINAR ON NEW PENSION SCHEME

WREU SBI Workshop Branch organized a Seminar on New Pension Scheme in the Auditorium of the Workshop on 24.09.2016. The Seminar was inaugurated by Shri J. H. Dave, CWM, SBI (Engg) Workshop. CWM appreciated the initiative of WREU for creating awareness about NPS amongst Railway employees and assured all possible support of the administration for such type of activities. More than 125 new entrants attended the Seminar. Com. Dinesh Panchal and Com. Vinod Manjrawala guided the participants on New Pension Scheme. Com. Rajeev Menon, Secretary, WREU SBI Workshop Branch, Saji V., Beenaben, N. K. Datta, Rajendra Sharma, S. K. Mandal, Lalit Kumar & others made necessary arrangements for successful conduct of the Seminar.

ONE DAY INFORMATION CLASS BY DHD W/SHOP BRANCH

WREU Dahod Workshop Branch organized One day Information Class on 13.10.2016 in G. B. Sukhi Sabhagruh for the Workshop staff for guiding them on Option / Undertaking to be given to the administration on opting 7th CPC pay scales. Com. Sanjay Kapoor, Branch Secretary, Com. Ajay Parvatiya, Joint Secretary of the Workshop Branch, guided the participants by various illustrations on case to case basis so that the employee can get maximum benefit out of Option.

WREU WOMEN WING CELEBRATES NAVRATRI

On the occasion of Navratri celebrations, **Women Wing of WREU-BVP** organized Ras Garba in the Union Office at Bhavnagar Para on 12.10.2016 in which large number of women employees from local Branches participated. Com. Nita Joshi and other activists of Women Wing made necessary arrangements.

On the eve of Navaratri, **Women Wing of**

JRH Branch organized Dandia & Ras Garba in the Auditorium of Jagjivan Ram Hospital on 10th October 2016. Almost all female employees of the Hospital working in the day shift participated in the Pooja and garba. In the beginning, Dr. J. P. Rawat, Chief Physician, and his fellow doctor addressed on the benefits of stress management and how to get rid of stress from daily life. Mrs Laxmi Dasgaonkar and Mrs Selvi, ANOs, JRH, Mr. G K Satpathy Vice Chairman, DRM-JRH Branch, were also present. Mrs. N. S. Hiwale, Chief Matron, AIRF Working Committee member & Chairperson of Women's Wing, Mumbai Division, along with other women activists of WREU organized the programme successfully.

Women Wing of WREU-BRC organized special Sharad Poonam Garba programme in PRTN auditorium on 14.10.2016 in which more than 90 women employees participated. Activists of Women Wing under the guidance of Smt. Sadhana Trivedi, Haresha Patel, Daxa Rathod, Jyoti Dava and others with the help of Com. Santosh Pawar and the whole divisional body made the programme very successful and memorable one.

GRANT OF HRA @ 30% TO STAFF WORKING IN ADI (UA)

Railway Board reclassified Ahmedabad (UA) as 'X' Class city/town based upon Census 2011 vide RBE 116/2015 and accordingly railway employees working in Ahmedabad (Urban Agglomeration) are entitled for HRA @ 30% w.e.f. 1.4.2015. However, the benefit of enhanced HRA @ 30% was granted only to employees working in Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation leaving aside the railway employees working in the entire Ahmedabad (UA) area. WREU raised this issue vide letter No. ADI/15/2015 dated 04.11.2015 and discussed with the GM under WREU GM PNM item No.19/2016. Accordingly, certified list of Ahmedabad (UA) areas was obtained from Census Bhavan, Gandhinagar. Finally, GM(E)CCG conveyed approval of HQ Finance for payment of HRA @ 30% to employees working in the entire Ahmedabad (UA) w.e.f. 01.04.2015 vide letter No.E/P&A/77/19/L dated 12.10.2016.

MEETING ON REVISION OF PENSION OF PRE-2016 PENSIONERS

A meeting was held at New Delhi on 17.10.2016 between the Staff Side (JCM) and the Committee set up to examine the feasibility of implementation of recommendations of 7th CPC for revision of pension of pre-2016 pensioners, wherein Staff Side, NC/JCM emphasized on acceptance of Option I and II; as recommended by the VII CPC. The Staff Side mentioned that, another proposal of the Pension Committee, which provides for Notional Fixation of Pay in successive Pay Commissions, and then calculating pension on the basis of revised pay in VII CPC, may also be considered as 3rd alternative.

MERGER OF RAILWAY BUDGET WITH THE GENERAL BUDGET

Union Cabinet has approved the proposals of Ministry of Finance on the merger of Railway Budget with the General Budget on the following administrative and financial arrangements:

- i) Railways will continue to maintain its distinct entity as a departmentally run commercial undertaking;
- ii) Railways will retain their functional autonomy and delegation of financial powers etc. as per the existing guidelines;
- iii) The existing financial arrangements will continue wherein the Railways will meet all their revenue expenditure, including ordinary working expenses, pay and allowances and pensions etc. from their revenue receipts;
- iv) The capital at charge of the Railways estimated at Rs.2.27 lakh crore on which annual dividend is paid by the Railways will be wiped off. Consequently, there will be no dividend liability for Railways from 2017-18 and Ministry of Railways will get Gross Budgetary support. This will also save Railways from the liability of payment of approximately Rs.9,700 crore annual dividend to the Government of India.

This will put an end to the age old practice of presentation of separate Railway Budget, which was started during British era in the year 1924 and continued even after independence till last year.

PLASTIC IDENTITY CARD TO PENSIONERS

DOPT revised specifications for issue of Pensioners' Identity Card as under:

- i) Pensioners' Identity Card should be in the prescribed format.
- ii) The Identity Card should be of the standard size of 8½ cm x 5½ cm.
- iii) Identity Card to pensioners retiring from the Railways may be printed as Plastic Identity Cards with the help of Duplex Thermal Colour Printer. Inhouse/ Outside printing facility may be used as appropriate, depending on the requirement.
- iv) The Pensioners' Identity Card will be issued to the retiring employees free of charge.

Henceforth, in Railways the Pensioners' Identity Card should be issued free of cost in compliance with the above specification. Duplicate card shall, however, be issued on payment of Rs.25/- under Misc Receipt at the nearest Railway Station/Cash Office. (Rly.Bd's letter No.E(W)2016/PS-5-8/1 dt. 29.09.2016 RBE No.115/2016)

RESTRUCTURING OF ARTISAN STAFF

As per the decision taken by the full Board in joint meeting on 22.07.2016, the Railway Board issued orders for up-gradation of Artisan Staff on Indian Railways vide letter No. PC III/2016/CRC/1 dated 30.09.2016 (RBE 116/2016). As per the said order, all other terms and conditions including the

condition of matching surrender shall be applicable in this case. WREU/AIRF has protested against the same and demanded for restructuring of Artisan Cadre without any matching surrender.

FILLING UP OF 13 $\frac{1}{3}$ % POSTS OF SR. CLERKS THROUGH LDCE

Railway Board decided that henceforth all Limited Departmental Competitive Examination (LDCE) including 13 $\frac{1}{3}$ % posts of Sr. Clerk may be conducted by the Zonal Railways/Production Units concerned by themselves in line with the LDCE for the post of Office Superintendent and Personnel Inspector. (Rly.Bd's letter No.E(NG)I-2008/PM-1/6 dt. 19.09.2016 RBE No.110/2016)

RE-MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF 'A-ONE' CATEGORY STAFF DECLARED UNFIT AND DE-CATEGORIZED DUE TO DIABETES MELLITUS

The Federation has raised the issue of debarment of in-service employee of 'Aye-one' categories who have been declared unfit due to Diabetes Mellitus prior to issue of Board's letter dated 20.05.2011 wherein the decision to allow employees in 'Aye-one' medical category who are suffering from Diabetes Mellitus to be declared fit for the respective category if the Diabetes is controlled on diet and/or on Tab. Metformin upto 2 mg/day only was conveyed. Accordingly, Board has decided to allow an appeal from employees de-categorized in the last two years immediately prior to the date of issue of initial order dated 20.05.2011 and relaxation in such cases to be considered on case to case basis subject to fulfillment of requisite mileages and successful completion of refresher courses and re-medical examination of the concerned employees in 'Aye-One' medical category with the rider that the person suffering from Diabetes Mellitus can be declared fit in 'Aye-one' medical category if Diabetes is controlled on diet and/or on Tab. Metformin upto 2 mg/day only. (Rly.Bd's letter No. 2008/H/5/18 dt. 05.08.2016)

REVIEW OF DUTY HOURS OF RUNNING STAFF

Railway Board has taken the following decisions based on the recommendations of the High Power Committee constituted to review the duty hours of the running staff and other safety related categories:

- i) In respect of Loco Pilots (Shunting) who are presently working on fixed roster basis, the existing provisions will continue.
- ii) In severe operational exigencies like acts of God, earthquakes, accident, floods, agitations and equipment failure, etc. the Controller should suitably advise the staff that they may be required to work beyond the limits prescribed.
- iii) Present classification of running staff under Railway Servants (Hours of Work & Period of Rest) Rules, 2005, should be maintained.
- iv) Subject to exigencies of service, a maximum

limit of 125 duty hours per fortnight should be laid down for all Running Staff.

- v) The limit of stay away from Headquarters for Running Staff should be fixed at 72 hours.
- vi) Continuous night duty for Running Staff should be limited to 4 nights with fourth night towards headquarters.
- vii) As regards the duration of outstation rest, there will be no change in the existing provisions.
- viii) Call notice period should continue to be a part of the headquarter / outstation rest.
- ix) There will be no change in the existing provisions for Periodical Rest. However, preference should be given to Periodical Rest for 4 periods of 30 consecutive hours.
- x) The principle and period of averaging reckoned for the purpose of payment of Overtime Allowance will continue as per existing guidelines.

The existing provisions of the Railways Act, 1989 and Railway Servants (Hours of Work & Period of Rest) Rules, 2005, other than those mentioned above, will continue to be in vogue. (Rly.Bd's letter No.E(LL)/2016/HPC/7 dated 13.10.2016)

CHILDREN EDUCATION ALLOWANCE – CLARIFICATION

It is clarified that E-Receipts produced by Railway employee as a proof of payment of fee, etc. may be treated as original and hence may be allowed for claiming reimbursement of Children Education Allowance. (Rly.Bd's letter No.E(W)2008/ED-2/4 dt.6.10.2016)

DEPARTMENTAL ANOMALY COMMITTEE

Ministry of Railways vide letter No.PC-VII/2016/DAC/1 dated 05.10.2016 constituted Departmental Anomaly Committee to settle the anomalies arising out of the implementation of 7th CPC recommendations, consisting of representative of Official Side and Staff side. Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, Com. Rakhal Das Gupta and Com. J.R. Bhosale are nominated from AIRF.

STAFF SIDE DEMANDED FOR AMENDMENT TO DEFINITION OF 'ANOMALY'

JCM (Staff Side) in the meeting of Anomaly Committee held on 25.10.2016 demanded amendment to definition of 'anomaly' as notified by DOPT in their OM No.11/2/2016-JCA dated 16th August 2016, as under:

1) Definition of Anomaly

- Anomaly will include following types of cases:-
- a) where the Official Side and Staff side are of the opinion that the vertical/horizontal relativities have been disturbed as a result of the Fifth Central Pay Commission Report in a manner leading to grave dissatisfaction and adverse impact on efficiency;
 - b) where the Official Side and Staff side are of the opinion that any recommendation is in

- contravention of the principle or the policy enunciated by the 7th CPC itself without the Commission assigning any reason;
- c) where the maximum of the Level in the Pay Matrix corresponding to the applicable Grade Pay in the Pay Band under pre-revised structure, as notified vide RS(RP) Rules, 2016, is less than the amount an employee is entitled to be fixed at, as per the formula for fixation of pay contained in the said Rules; and
- d) where the amount of revised allowance is less than the existing rate."

And requested for replacing the definition of 'anomaly' with what is stated in the OM dated February 6, 1998.

PROVISIONS IN RESPECT OF THE CONTRACT WORKER ON IR

With reference to the various provisions of the Contract Labour (R&A) Act, 1970, it is mentioned that the Zonal Railways and Production Units should strictly adhere to the Contract Labour Laws and inter-alia, ensure the following in particular:-

- i) The payment to the contract labourers should

be made through bank/cheque.

- ii) Identity Card should be issued to all contract workers.
- iii) Necessary steps should be taken to deduct Provident Fund from the payment made to the contract labour and ensure that the same is credited to their Provident Fund Account.
- iv) Medical facilities from ESI, if applicable.

All necessary steps as Principal Employer should be taken to ensure that the above provisions are strictly complied with. (Rly.Bd's letter No.E(LL) 2015/PNM/AIRF dt.20.10.2016)

ENDORSEMENT OF PAYMENT OF FMA TO BE MADE ON PPOS

Railway Board reiterated the instructions for making clear endorsement of payment of FMA (Fixed Medical Allowance) on the PPOs as per the Board's letter No.2012/AC-II/21/Misc. Matters dated 02.11.2012 to avoid hardship to the pensioners. FA&CAOs of all Zonal Railways/Pus are instructed to review and streamline the system. (Rly.Bd's letter No.2014/AC-II/21/(pt) dt. 29.09.2016)

FIXATION OF PAY AND GRANT OF INCREMENT IN THE REVISED PAY STRUCTURE - CLARIFICATIONS – REG.

Railway Board has clarified various aspects regarding fixation of pay in the revised pay structure as also pay fixation and grant of increment in future under revised pay structure consequent upon Railway Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 2016, as under:

| Sl. No. | Point of doubt | Clarification |
|----------------|--|--|
| 1. | As per the provisions of FR22 (I) (a) (1), the Government servants (other than those appointed on deputation to ex-cadre post or ad hoc basis or on direct recruitment basis) have the option, to be exercised within one month from the date of promotion, to have the pay fixed under this rule from the date of such promotion/appointment or from the date of next increment. Some of the employees, promoted between 01.01.2016 and the date of notification of RS (RP) Rules, 2016 had opted for their pay fixation on promotion/financial up-gradation under MACPS from the date of their next increment in the lower grade. Consequent upon notification of RS (RP) Rules, 2016 i.e. 28 th July, 2016, the option submitted by such employees has now turned out to be disadvantageous. Whether such employee may be allowed to revise their option under FR 22(I)(a)(1) at this stage. | Under the changed circumstances after notification of RS (RP) Rules, 2016, the employee may be allowed to exercise revised option for fixation of pay under FR22(I)(a)(1). Such revised option shall be exercised within one month of issue of this letter. Option so revised, shall be final. |
| | Whether employees appointed/promoted/during granted financial upgradation 02.01.2015 and 01.07.2015 will be entitled to grant of one increment on 01.01.2016. | Since the provisions of RS (RP) Rules, 2016 are effective from 01.01.2016, no increment shall be allowed on 01.01.2016 at the time of fixation of pay in the revised pay structure |

(Rly.Bd's letter No.PC-VII/2016/I/6/2 dt.20.10.2016 RBE No.124/2016)

OPTION REGARDING COMMUTATION OF ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF PENSION AFTER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 7TH CPC

DOPT vide O.M. No.42/14/2016-P&PW(G) dated 24.10.2016 decided that those pensioners who retired between 01.01.2016 and 04.08.2016 may be given an option not to commute the pension which has become additionally commutable on revision pay/pension on implementation of the 7th CPC in relaxation of Rule 10 of CCS (Commutation of Pension) Rules, 1981.

IMPORTANT EVENTS OF THE PREVIOUS MONTHS

Com. J. R. Bhosale, General Secretary, WREU, attended the following important events held in the last months - DEC meeting of WREU-BVP on 21.09.2016; Divisional Conference of WREU-ADI on 25.09.2016; Annual Convention of NWREU at Ajmer Electric Workshop on 24.09.2016; Annual Convention of NCRMU at Agra on 27.09.2016; Trade Union Education Class & meeting of Youth Wing at BRC on 28.09.2016; meeting in Pension Department at New Delhi on 5th and 6th October, 2016; Divisional Conference & Sanman Samorah at Rajkot on 19.10.2016; DEC meeting at BRC on 20.10.2016; Two days programme of 'We Socialist' at Mumbai on 21-22 October 2016; One Day Educational Programme at COR on 23.10.2016; and JCM National Council Standing Committee meeting on minimum wages and fixation formula and Allowances at New Delhi on 24-25 October, 2016.

WREU WISHES GOOD HEALTH TO GS/AIRF

Comrades, you all know that Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary/AIRF, could not attend the 96th Annual Convention of WREU held at Dwarka on 17th September, 2016 due to serious illness. He was in Central Hospital, Northern Railway, MAX Hospital and Vedanta Hospital in New Delhi. He has now resumed the office work.

WREU and Railway Sentinel wish him good health in all respects.

SOME OF THE ITEMS FINALIZED IN GM PNM MEETING

The following items were finalized in the GM PNM meeting held with WREU on 30th and 31st August, 2016:

ITEM NO.25/2016 AUGMENTATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND CREATION OF REVENUE CADRE FOR INCREASE LOAD OF LHB AND AC COACHES AT PL WORKSHOP

The work of augmentation of periodical/intermediate overhauling capacity from 15 to 30 LHB coaches per month is already sanctioned. Tender opened on 24.06.2015 DE @ cost of Rs. 11.52 Cr. and sanctioned on 17.04.2015. LOA for Civil work issued on 07.08.2015 cost Rs. 8.20 Cr. Shed column foundation work started from 3rd week of Dec. 15 is under progress. 2 machine

is under procurement through COFMOW i.e. (1) EOT crane 30/10 T-.P.O placed. (2) Guillotine shearing Machine – under procurement tender due on 14.06.2016, Elect.- NIT under preparation with Dy. CEE(C)-CCG.

Consolidated proposal from both Mechanical (220 posts) and Electrical Branch (419) posts as per latest target for the year 2016-17 is under preparation and process of recruitment will be initiated soon.

ITEM NO.37/2016 PROVIDING SUFFICIENT MANPOWER AND FACILITIES FOR SMOOTH AND EFFICIENT FUNCTIONING OF SSE(C&W) (BG) DEPOT SABARMATI

(i) Sufficient Manpower: Sabarmati yard is 'A' grade yard in which in every shift gang of 20 artisans is deployed. Provision of adequate number of LR & RG for these employees is done.

(ii) Sufficient lighting arrangement: Tower light is available in the Yard. Lighting is provided on rolling-out / rolling-in locations. Hand lamps are provided for under gear examination.

(iii) Pathway: Pathway of 01 meter width is provided on examination line.

(iv) Welding facility: Welding facility will be provided in Yard.

(v) Approach road: Pucca road from main road to running room is provided.

Item No. 81/2014 RECOGNITION OF STERLING HOSPITAL ON W. RLY., GUJARAT AREA

Sterling Hospital, ADI is already recognized. Proposal for Sterling Hospital, RJT has been sent for Board's sanction. Proposal for Sterling hospital, GIM is under process. Sterling hospital, BRC replaced by Sunshine Global hospital.

ITEM NO.63/2015 SHORTAGE OF ROOMS TO ACCOMMODATE PATIENTS' ATTENDANTS

Two additional floors above Parichar Sadan have been sanctioned under Works Programme for providing additional rooms to patient's attendants.

ITEM NO.56/2016 INJUSTICE TO STENO/S/ CAs WORKING IN BCT DIV. MUMBAI AREA

Indent has been placed for 40 Steno (English) and 73 Steno (Hindi) to various RRBs which include 11 Steno for BCT division.

ITEM NO.59/2016 NON-COUNTING PERIOD OF OUTSTATION HALT DUTY AS REGULAR ON DUTY PERFORMED BY AC COACH ATTENDANT (INDORE HQ) AND ALSO NOT COUNTING THIS PERIOD FOR PAYMENT OF O.T.

As per RBE 157/85, full credit is given for the time spent in travelling plus one hour prior to departure and one hour after the arrival of the train. If night duty falls during these hours, credit for the same is also given as night duty. Halting time at home station or at the out station (other than 1 hr of pre departure and 1 hr of post arrival) is not treated as duty.

Item No.42/2015 IRREGULAR RECOVERY OF OT, TA, NDA & NH MADE TO ASMs SELECTED

AS TFC. APPRENTICE UNDER LDCE QUOTA - RJT

RJT Division has been instructed vide letter dated 29.8.2016 that as per Railway Board's letter dated 17.4.2006 circulated vide PS No. 48/2006 employees selected as Traffic Apprentice through LDCE Quota and send for practical training period and hence they will be eligible for all allowances and privileges since no option was taken by RJT Division

ITEM No.78/2015 NECESSITY OF FULL-TIME HOMEOPATHIC DOCTOR AT JRH AND AYURVEDIC DISPENSARY AT CCG

Part-time Homeopathic Doctor has already been appointed at JRH-BCT. GM has approved the proposal for opening of Ayurvedic Dispensary at JRH and the case is under process for engagement of part-time Ayurvedic Doctor.

ITEM NO.53/2016 FILLING-UP THE POST OF GOODS GUARD IN SC. RS.5200-20200 GP 2800

The administration agreed to fill-up the posts of Goods Guard and orders are being issued.

ITEM NO.46/2016 ILLEGAL RECOVERY OF FAMILY PLANNING ALLOWANCE AT THE INSTANCE OF VIGILANCE DEPT.

Necessary clarification has been issued to all concerned as per Railway Board's letter dated 14.10.2008 in this regard. It is further clarified vide GM(E)CCG vide letter No.E(P&A)1064/0/2016 dated 09.09.2016 that FPA sanctioned from 01.01.2006 to 31.08.2008 will be as per old rates.

ITEM NO.72/2015 NON-PAYMENT OF OVER TIME ALLOWANCE AND RECOVERY OF ALREADY PAID O.T. AMOUNT – CASE OF SUPERVISORY STAFF MECH. C&W DEPT AT GIM

The divisions have been asked to stop recovery provisionally till the issue is decided vide letter dated 12.11.2015. The information regarding OTA has been called from the division and the file has been put up to the GM. General Manager has decided that whatever recovery has been made should be refunded.

ITEM NO.60/2016 STAFF BENEFIT FUND – CLUBBING OF THREE HEADS OF SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE PURPOSE OF SCHOLARSHIP OF GP RS.2400 AND BELOW (FOR MALE & GIRLS) AS WELL AS GP RS.2800 & ABOVE

For session 2014-15, all cases of Scholarship payment for Engg., Medical & professional courses has been passed and paid. For session 2015-16, Notification was issued on August 2015. Payment done Rs.4,41,00,000/- and for session 2016-17, Notification will be issued shortly.

CABINET APPROVES RELEASE OF DA/DR

The Union Cabinet has given its approval to release an instalment of Dearness Allowance (DA) to Central Government employees and Dearness Relief

(DR) to Pensioners w.e.f. 01.07.2016 representing an increase of 2% of the revised Basic Pay/Pension.

OBITUARY

Com.Vinayak Ganpat Khot (62), Ex AGS-WREU & Secretary, Parel W/shop Branch, popularly called as "NANA" passed away on 5.10.2016. Com. Khot was born on 28.06.1954 in Mumbai. He joined Parel Workshop as an Artisan on 3.12.1975 and retired as Sr. Section Engineer on 30.06.2014. He served the Union in various capacities such as Organizing Secretary, Joint Secretary and Branch Secretary of the Parel W/shop Branch. He was elected as AIRF Working Committee member in the year 2000 and as an Asstt. General Secretary of WREU in the 82nd AGM of WREU held at Jaipur. He was a strict disciplinarian and a very good coordinator and was instrumental in creating a band of young dedicated cadre of WREU in Parel Workshop. His last rites was conducted in Worli crematorium. A condolence meeting was arranged in Parel Workshop on 7.10.2016 in which large number of WREU activists and the Railwaymen paid rich tributes to Late Com. Vinayak Khot. Railway Sentinel & WREU send their heart-felt condolences to the bereaved family members of Late Com. Vinayak Khot.

Com. Ramesh S. Palande (64), President of Sthaniya Lokadhikar Samiti (SLS) breathed his last on 10.10.2016 in Mumbai. Born on 29.09.1952 in Khed, District Ratnagiri, he joined Western Railway as a sportsman (Boxer) in 1973. He joined WREU and become office bearer of PL-MX Workshop Branch in 1978. He left WREU and became General Secretary of SLS in 1985. He was elected as Vice President of Lokadhikar Mahasangh in 2001 and then became President of SLS on 09.01.2009. He was nominated as a member of ZRUCC in 2015. He was very popular amongst the Railwaymen and fought for the rights of the Railwaymen in various capacities. Railway Sentinel & WREU send their heart-felt condolences to the bereaved family members of Late Shri Ramesh Palande.

ALL INDIA CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

(Base 2001=100)

| Month/Year | Base Year 2001=100 Average | Total of 12 months | 12 Monthly Average | % Increase over 115.76* for DA |
|------------|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Oct. 2015 | 269 | 3104 | 258.66 | 123.45 |
| Nov. 2015 | 270 | 3121 | 260.08 | 124.67 |
| Dec. 2015 | 269 | 3137 | 261.41 | 125.82 |
| Jan. 2016 | 269 | 3152 | 262.66 | 126.90 |
| Feb. 2016 | 267 | 3166 | 263.83 | 127.91 |
| Mar. 2016 | 268 | 3180 | 265.00 | 128.92 |
| April 2016 | 271 | 3195 | 266.25 | 130.00 |
| May 2016 | 275 | 3212 | 267.67 | 131.22 |
| June 2016 | 277 | 3228 | 269.00 | 132.38 |
| July 2016 | 280 | 3245 | 270.41 | 133.60 |
| Aug. 2016 | 278 | 3259 | 271.58 | 134.60 |
| Sept. 2016 | 277 | 3270 | 272.50 | 135.40 |

* Average Price Index for January 2001