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A.I.R.F.



All India Railwaymen's Federation

(Estd, 1924)

Rakhal Das Gupta
President

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OBITUARY

Dilip is no more. He left for heavenly abode in the early morning of 21st August, 2016 while he was undergoing treatment at B. R. Singh Hospital, Sealdah, Eastern Railway. On receipt of a frantic call from Raja, son of Dilip, MD of B. R. Singh Hospital was contacted. The Doctors also tried but all in vain. We have no word to console his son, wife and host of his friends and admirers.

His passing away, a personal loss for me. We had a long association since 1958. He joined as Clerk in Accounts Deptt. in N. F. Railway at Maligaon and joined N. F. Railway Mazdoor Union almost simultaneously, became secretary, Pandu Branch of N. F. Railway Mazdoor Union and Asstt. General Secretary of the Union after a brief period. He alongwith late Com. Indibor Konwar, and Rashamoy Dutta (both Central Office Bearers) were arrested from Maligaon Railway HQs on 18th September, 1968, just one before the 'One day token Strike' of all Central Govt. employees and was jailed at Guwahati Central Jail. Their arrest from Maligaon HQs. Just one day before the strike acted in disguise the total success of the strike. He alongwith others were suspended from services. This provided him the scope to move freely, devoting 24 Hrs. in Trade Union works.

For his family reason he took transfer to Metro Railway, Kolkata in the year 1973, organised Metro Railwaymen's Union and successfully led the Historic 20 day long strike of 1974. Entire Metro services came to a grinding halt. Generally in the evening during strike the comrades of Eastern Railwaymen's Union, S. E. Railwaymen's Union and Metro Railwaymen's Union used to meet at Esplanade to discuss next day strategy. One day, while I was in hide out heard BBC News that Dilip Mukherjee alongwith Bimal da (Bimal Dey, the General Secretary of Eastern Railwaymen's Union) were arrested from Surendra Nath Banerjee Park (adjacent to Esplanade, Kolkata). He alongwith many other Comrades were removed from services but ultimately all were re-instated.

Undaunted Dilip continued his activities for furthering the cause of workers, led a struggle at Metro and was dismissed from Railway services in the year 1981.

Alongwith N. P. Chatterjee and others he led many struggles of Metro Railway Workers. Being founder General Secretary of the Metro Railwaymen's Union he continued as such till 2012 and then chaired the M.T.P. Railwaymen's Union till his last breath. He was Zonal Secretary / AIRF for many years. But his indifferent health could not allow him to work hard.

He was one of the 'Blue eyed boys' of beloved Com. Priya Gupta from whom we all drew courage, inspiration and dedication.

We, on behalf of N. F. Railway Mazdoor Union and All India Railwaymen's Federation pay respectful homage to the departed soul.

May his soul Rest in Peace.


(Rakhal Das Gupta)
President