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All India Railmen's Federation
(Estd. 1924)

4, STATE ENTRY ROAD,
NEW DELHI-110055
INDIA

No.AIRF/55

Dated: March 25, 2021

The D.G.(H.R.),
Railway Board,
New Delhi

Dear Sir,

Sub: Amendment in pre-requisite condition for Drafted Crew Controller/Power Controller

Presently, pre-requisite condition, to be fulfilled for Drafted Crew Controller/Power Controller, is 75,000 km. actual footplate working as per Railway Board's letter **No.E(P&A)II-2007/RS-14 dated 26.03.2009(RBE No.51/2009)**.

In some of the Railways difficulties are being faced in posting of Drafted Crew Controllers/Power Controllers on account of above condition as some of Loco Pilots working on Diesel Traction do not fulfil condition of 75,000 km. actual footplate working, even in their 10 years service as Loco Pilot, with the result that, the incumbents, who are working as Crew Controller/Power Controller, are not being sent back to their original cadre of Loco Pilot after expiry of their three years tenure due to non-availability of Loco Pilots fulfilling the said condition for drafting them to work as Crew Controller/Power Controller.

AIRF, therefore, urges that, the condition prescribed for posting of Drafted Crew Controllers/Power Controllers needs to be amended, and the same should be as under:-

“75,000 km. actual footplate working or 05 years service as Loco Pilot, whichever is earlier”.

Prior to issuance of RBE No.51/2009, pre-requisite condition for drafting of Crew Controllers/Power Controllers from the category of Loco Pilot used to be quite liberal.

This would facilitate posting of Drafted Crew Controllers/Power Controllers after completion of 05 years service as Loco Pilot even if they could not complete 75,000 km. actual footplate working.

An early action in the matter shall be highly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

(Shiva Gopal Mishra)
General Secretary

✓Copy to: P.E.D.(I.R.), Railway Board – for necessary action please.

✓Copy to: General Secretaries, All Affiliated Zonal Unions – for information.

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4, STATE ENTRY ROAD,
NEW DELHI-110055
INDIA

No.AIRF/24(C)(78)

Dated: March 27, 2021

**The Chairman-Cum-CEO,
Railway Board,
New Delhi**

Dear Sir,

Sub: Withdrawal of the Line Boxes of Running Staff

This is to draw your kind attention towards AIRF's earlier letter of even number dated **6th March, 2021**, whereby it was explained that, majority of Running Staff, both Loco and Traffic, is badly agitated on account of withdrawal of their Line Boxes at the instance of the Railway Board.

The system of Trolley Bags, instead of Line Boxes, is having undernoted discrepancies, causing undue hardship to Running Staff:-

- (a) Space in Trolley Bags is insufficient to keep Walkie-Talkie set along with Spare Battery, HS Lamp and LV Board (for Guards), Night Dress, Spare Uniform, Spare Spectacles, Undergarments, Bedsheets and Towels, Slippers, Winter/Rain Coats etc.
- (b) Detonators are explosive material, therefore, to carry them in public places, such as platforms and on service roads, could be a violation of the Arms/Explosives Act and Railway Act.
- (c) Collectively, with these items, Trolley Bag will weigh nearly 10 kg., and it will not only be very difficult to carry while coming to duty on two wheeler, walking in yards etc., but also endanger the lives of the people in case of any untoward incident.
- (d) At most of the stations, Running Rooms are far away from Crew Lobby and the staff need to walk more distance, duly pulling Trolley Bags on road.
- (e) It will also be a big risk for Loco Pilots/Guards to keep Detonators/Explosives at their residences.
- (f) Loco Pilots/Guards have to walk within/outside the Yard, where they may have to commute/traverse on uneven terrain and rough roads.

Keeping above difficulties in view, it would not be fair to replace Line Boxes with Trolley Bags, as is being done in some of the Divisions of the Zonal Railways forcibly, without consulting Organised Labour.

This being a sensitive issue, AIRF, therefore, urges that the practice of replacement of Line Boxes with Trolley Bags should be stopped immediately and the issue be discussed threadbare with AIRF before going ahead with this new practice.

This may kindly be treated as "Most Urgent".

Yours faithfully,

(Shiva Gopal Mishra)
General Secretary

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4, STATE ENTRY ROAD,
NEW DELHI-110055
INDIA

No.AIRF/561

Dated: March 27, 2021

The D.G.(R.H.S.),
Railway Board,
New Delhi

Dear Sir,

Sub: Clarification on regularization of absence during COVID-19 pandemic lockdown period – Reg.
Ref.: Ministry of Pers., PG&P, DoP&T (Govt. of India)'s O.M. No.13020/1/2019-Estt(L) dated 01.03.2021

Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Personnel & Training (Government of India) vide their Office Memorandum referred to above, has issued further clarification on the issue of regularization of absence during COVID-19 pandemic lockdown period in case of Central Government Employees of different Ministries/Departments.

It has been stipulated in para 3 of the said Office Memorandum that, “it is further clarified that this Department's OM dated 28.07.2020 has been issued in view of the circumstances that the country is going through due to COVID-19 situations and the unavoidable problems faced by the Government employees in different sectors under the Government of India. A general terminology has been adopted to cover all kinds of problems faced by the employees due to COVID-19 situation. The said OM may not touch all specific circumstantial problems faced by all employees under the Government of India; however, an interpretation of such circumstances in congruence with the clarification made in the above OM is adoptable”. Meaning thereby that, different Ministries/Departments can take decision on case to case basis, considering specific circumstances of the case, in congruence with the clarification issued vide DoP&T's O.M. dated 28.07.2020.

AIRF, therefore, urges that, suitable instructions in regard to the above be issued to all the Railway Administrations, in the light of the aforementioned Office Memorandum dated 01.03.2021, so that, cases of regularization of absence during COVID-19 pandemic lockdown period of Railway Employees, which have not been decided properly as yet, could be dealt with accordingly and judicially, so as to mitigate the hardships being faced by the employees concerned on this account.

Yours faithfully,

(Shiva Gopal Mishra)
General Secretary

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4, STATE ENTRY ROAD,
NEW DELHI-110055
INDIA

No.AIRF/82(226)

Dated: March 30, 2021

The Chairman-Cum-CEO,
Railway Board,
New Delhi

Dear Sir,

Sub: Validation of Privilege/Post Retirement Complimentary Passes/PTOs in Festival/Special Trains

This refers to AIRF's letter bearing number even dated **21st December, 2020**, on the above-mentioned subject. As explained therein, Privilege/Post Retirement Complimentary Passes/Privilege Ticket Orders(PTOs) are issued to Railway Servants, in exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to Article 309 of the Constitution, to travel by the trains.

Prior to the lockdown, that was invoked w.e.f. 24/25.03.2020, due to COVID-19 Pandemic outbreak, in the country, all the Railway Employees(both Serving and Retired) were enjoying benefit of travelling in the trains, and there were only some restrictions on travelling in Rajdhani/Duronto/Shatabdi Express Trains. Now, a large-number of trains have resumed operation, but the same are running with the tag of "**Special/Festival Trains**" and Railway Passholder Employees(both Serving and Retired) are restricted to avail reservations at the scale of Rajdhani/Duronto/Shatabdi Express Trains in terms of Railway Board's letter **No.E(W)2016/PS 5-1/10 dated 12.07.2017(RBE No.68/2017)**, which is highly unfair and unjustified.

Railway Employees have been enjoying facility of travel in the trains on Railway Passes/PTOs since British Era, unfortunately, this privilege is now being virtually denied by restricting their reservations at the scale of Rajdhani/Duronto/Shatabdi Express Trains, in other Ordinary Express Trains also which are being operated with the tag of "**Special Trains**". There is, therefore, serious resentment amongst the Railway Employees on this account. It may also be noted that, holiday season is just to start for school going children of Railway Employees, and they are likely to face avoidable hardship due to the aforementioned restriction of reservation in the trains.

AIRF, therefore, desires that the aforesaid restriction of reservation at the scale of Rajdhani/Duronto/Shatabdi Express Trains should be abolished forthwith in all the trains expect Rajdhani/Duronto/Shatabdi/Humsafar Express Trains, so that, Railwaymen and their family members can plan their journeys in a hassle-free manner.

This may please be treated as "**Most Urgent**".

Yours faithfully,

(Shiva Gopal Mishra)
General Secretary

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4, STATE ENTRY ROAD,
NEW DELHI-110055
INDIA

No.AIRF/567

Dated: March 30, 2021

The Chairman-Cum-CEO,
Railway Board,
New Delhi

Dear Sir,

Sub: Implementation of various modules of HRMS
Ref.: Railway Board's letter No.PC-VII/2020/HRMS/16 dated 26.03.2021

As you are aware that, AIRF and its affiliates have been opposing implementation of HRMS due to various shortcomings in these modules as was pointed out earlier.

In response to a decision taken by AIRF Standing Committee, all the affiliates of AIRF observed protest against implementation of HRMS on 25th March 2021.

Even Retired Employees Associations all over the Indian Railways have expressed displeasure/apprehensions over HRMS application (especially Pass Module). It is pointed out that, none of the Retired Employees can operate Personal Computer/Laptop and none of them uses Smartphone, and they will be compelled to approach a Cybercafe to draw Complimentary Passes and Reserved Tickets through IRCTC website, wherein OTP will be required to be shared with Cybercafe Operator, thus compromising with Privacy/Security or they will be compelled to generate OTP and rush to Reservation Counters in haste. In most of the remote locations/road-side stations, data signals are a rare feature. Thus, obtaining Pass and Ticket has been made practically impossible. It is improper to compel Railway Employees (both Serving and Retired) to adopt the change overnight and force them to draw Passes/PTOs through HRMS module.

In view of the above, AIRF strongly protests against HRMS Modules and demands provision to exercise option for availing Manual Pass/PTO or E-Pass/PTO to all Serving and Retired Railway Employees.

Yours faithfully,

(Shiva Gopal Mishra)
General Secretary

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- ✓Copy to: GSs, All Affiliated Unions – For information.