Draft Minutes of Meeting held by Board on 07.02.2014 in the Committee Room with Federations (AIRF and NFIR) on issues raised by the Federations.

The following officers and representatives of Federations attended the Meeting:

Official Side	Staff Side	
1.Shri Arunendra Kumar, CRB 2.Shri A.K. Mital, MS 3.Shri Rajendra Kashyap, FC 4.Shri Kul Bhushan, ML 5.Shri Alok Johri, MM 6.Shri D.P.Pande, MT 7.Mrs.Ragini Yechury, EDE(IR) 8.Shri A Venkata Reddy,EDPC-I 9.Mrs.Neera Khuntia, EDPC-II 10.Shri Debashis Mallik,DE(IR)	AIRF 1.Shri Umraomal Purohit, President 2.Shri Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary 3.Shri Rakhal Das Gupta, Working President.	NFIR 1. Shir Guman Singh, President 2. Shri M. Raghavaiah, General Secretary 3. Shri R.P.Bhatnagar, Working President

The following issues were discussed:

(1) New Pension Scheme:

Federations mentioned that why there should be two sets of Pension Schemes for railwaymen. They brought out that the New Pension Scheme has not been made applicable to the Defence Forces as well as the Para- military forces under MHA. They further brought out that the working of the railwaymen is totally different than that of other Ministries of the Government of India. The NPS is causing great amount of discontentment amongst some 4.5 lakhs railway employees, who have joined the Railways after 01.01.2004. So, this needs to be withdrawn.

From the Official Side, it was agreed that a letter would be written from the MR to the Finance Minister. Necessary material/justification may also be furnished by the Federations for the proposed reference, so as to jointly draft a letter within a week. Federations agreed to this.

(2) LARSGESS

(a) Inclusion of additional categories as demanded by the Federations:

After discussions that the 5 (five) categories viz., Electrical Power Staff, Track Machine staff, Bridge staff, TRD, and PWI Khalasis, also impact Safety on the Railways, it was agreed to include these categories in LARSGESS.

(b) Quarter retention by wards of railway employees appointed under LARSGESS:

After discussions, it was agreed that that quarters occupied by the employees taking VRS under the LARSGESS Scheme may be allowed retention of accommodation in the name of only those wards who are eligible for the same type of accommodation, and for others, the wards may be considered for a fresh allotment as per their entitlement on out of turn basis.

(3) Upgradation of apex level Group 'C' posts to Group 'B':

Matter has already been referred to MOF/DOP&T.

MS and FC will meet Secretary, Ministry of Finance and DOP&T to resolve the matter urgently.

(4) Career Progression of Trackmen-Percentage distribution of posts of Track Maintainers:

It was agreed that the percentage distribution of posts in the ratio of 6:12:22:60 as decided in the separate meeting held on 27.09.2013 would be implemented for which matching surrender would not necessarily be from the Trackmen cadre only.

(5) MACP anomalies:

Specific issues of MACP would be identified by the Federations and will be discussed separately with MS and FC after the Budget Session.

Thereafter, the issues would be raised by FC and MS with DOP&T and MOF.

(6) Running Staff issues:

On the suggestions of the Federations, it was agreed to form a Joint AM's Committee with both the Federations which will deliberate on various running staff issues where both Federations will be involved. The Committee will function in a time bound manner.

As regards the Loco Inspectors, the 5 (five) zones viz., Central, South Central, WCR, ECoR and NE Railway may also implement.

(7) Cadre Restructuring - Implementation difficulty:

It was decided that this issue would be discussed in a meeting of CPOs and FA&CAOs so as to expedite implementation.

(8) Absorption of Quasi Administrative Staff:

It was agreed that this issue would be discussed with the Federations separately by MS and CRB..

(9) Poor Maintenance of Railway Colonies:

Federations brought out in great detail that there is an urgent need to improve the state of Railway Colonies.

It was agreed to provide more funds for its up-keep in the next Budget.

(10) Better Health Care:

The Federations brought out the need to have better medical facilities for Railwaymen. They suggested that Mobile Medical Vans be made available so that staff can avail medical facility in remote/roadside stations.

It was agreed to look into the same.

For the other issues raised by the Federations, it was agreed to constitute a Fast Track Committee in association with both the General Secretaries so that those issues can also be resolved in a time bound manner. This was agreed to.

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