



# Western Railway Employees' Union

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**J. R. Bhosale**  
General Secretary

No.CCG/3/2022

Dated 15-02-2022

To  
**Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti**  
General Manager,  
Western Railway,  
Churchgate.

Sub: Replacement of Line Box for Loco Pilots/Guards.

We have received messages from running staff of RTM division that a message have been issued through Running staff Crew Lobbies for withdrawal of Line Boxes within a period of one week. In this connection we want to apprise you that this issue was raised by WREU through AIRF in Departmental Council Meeting vide Item No. 04/2012. A separate meeting was held with both the Federations on 15-09-2021 in the Committee room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Rail Bhavan, New Delhi. This was again discussed with AM(Traction) and AM(TT) in the Departmental Council Meeting held on 06-10-2021. According to best of our information, no outcome is received about the issues raised in the Departmental Council Meeting. The Board have issued some instructions which are not known to us but the same were circulated by COM(G)'s letter No.T.225/16 Consolidated Replacement of Line Box dated 18-01-2022 reducing the total number of items carried in Line Box by Loco Pilots,(Passenger/Goods) and Guards(Passenger/Goods). It is also mentioned in the instructions that Walkie-Talkie sets and Detonators shall be issued from Crew Lobby at the time of signing-On and same shall be returned by Crew at the time of signing-Off. The Loco Pilots and Guards have to remain away from their HQ's around 48 to 72 hrs and they have to keep with them minimum two dresses, drinking water some medicines and in case of Guards have to carry First-aid box. They also have to carry protective clothes according to the seasons, Linen and blankets as these things are not being provided in Running rooms and Running trains.

According to revised GR&SR the reduced items and personal belongings approx. will be weighing more than 15 kgs and they will have to carry it from their home to crew lobby and by adding walkie-talkie and detonators collected from crew lobby again they will have to carry such heavy materials from crew lobby to their work place i.e Loco engine or Guards Brake Van/SLR the distance may be more than 1 to 1.5 km. In many occasions there is no proper path way between crew lobby and work place.

There is lot of unrest amongst the Loco Pilots and Guards about the approach of the administration for replacement of Line Boxes as no Railway employee is asked to carry such heavy material while performing their duties from their residence to workplace and vice versa. Wherever use of line boxes are forcibly withdrawn the employee concerned are facing lot of difficulties in carrying these materials. The majority of running staff are beyond 45 yrs of age and facing nature and age related problems. Looking to the problems faced by the running staff they still desire that the administration should continue with the Line Boxes by fitting them in Loco Engines and Brake Van/SLR with reduced size. Union would like to discuss this issue with you before any step being taken for replacement of Line Boxes without proper arrangement being done. Since there is no specific guideline issued by the Railway Ministry and Local administration for carrying such materials, hence forcing the running staff to carry the materials is not correct.

In case of Western Railway situation varies from place to place. As regard Mumbai Division there are running HQ's and Crew Lobbies at BCT, BDTS, JOS, BVI, BSR, BL, UDN, ST and NDB. Numbers of trains are being terminated unscheduled. Running staff are not being given fix duty at any particular HQ and they have to travel with such heavy materials in suburban trains which are very difficult. Similar is the position in other divisions.

You are therefore requested to advice all the DRMs not to replace the Line Boxes and explore the possibility of fitting them in Loco as well as Guard Cab.

  
General Secretary