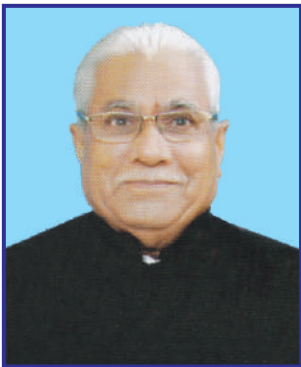




### From the Desk of Editor



#### From the Desk of Editor

Dear Subscribers and Railwaymen,

First of all, I wish Happy Healthy & Prosperous 2024 to the members and their families of Western Railway Employees' Union and well-wishers of Railway Sentinel. The Hind Mazdoor Sabha's 34<sup>th</sup> Triennial Convention and Platinum Jubilee Celebration were held at Nagpur from 03-01-2024 to 05-01-2024. Activists including youth and women from the Affiliated Unions from all over the country have participated and made the convention every success. The Relay Hunger Fast was held on 08-01-2024 to 11-01-2024 from 09.00 hrs. to 17.00 hrs in all the divisions and branches all over Western Railway in protest of

governments adamanies of non-considering the demand of all Central Government, State Government, Semi State Government employees, School Teachers and Corporation employees for restoration of Old Pension Scheme for all government employees. The National Youth Day was observed all over Western Railway. The Parel workshop branch of WREU organized a blood donation camp and collected 273 units of blood on this auspicious day. The Pratap Nagar workshop also collected 80 units of blood on the same day. The Western Railway Employees' Union welcomed Shri V.A.Malegaonkar, New PCOM. WREU felicitated Shri Rajesh Choudhary on his promotion in SAG as CPO(G). The union also felicitated Smt. Manjula Saxena for her promotion in HAG grade. WREU participated in heritage walk on the occasion of completing 125 years of Churchgate HQ office. Union also participated in the lightning show on 02-01-2024 and a grand cultural programme on 28-01-2024. During this period Annual Conference of HMS-Gujarat was held at Baroda on 28-01-2024. We welcomed Com. P.K.Walunj as Advisor and Com. Santosh Pawar as General Secretary-HMS-Gujarat and all office bearers elected in Gujarat State Council. Western Railway Employees' Union have participated in Birth Centenary Celebration programme of Late Prof. Madhu Dhandavte ji on 21-01-2024 in Y.B.Chavan Hall, Mumbai. The get-together programme was organized by Railway Retired Pensioners Association in Jagdish Ajmera Hall on 26-01-2024. The 10<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Late Umraomal Purohitji was observed all over Indian Railway on 27-02-2024. On the occasion of Centenary year of AIRF, a Postal Stamp was released by Shri Ashwini Vaishnav, Hon'ble Minister for Railways, Communications,

#### ALL INDIA CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (Base 2016 = 100)

Month/Year	Base year 2001=100 Average	Total of 12 months	Twelve Monthly Average	% increase over 261.41* for DA
Jan-23	382	4491	374.25	43.16
Feb-23	382	4513	376.08	43.86
Mar-23	383	4533	377.75	44.50
Apr-23	386	4551	379.25	45.07
May-23	387	4567	380.58	45.58
Jun-23	392	4587	382.25	46.22
Jul-23	402	4615	384.58	47.11
Aug-23	401	4641	386.75	47.88
Sep-23	396	4659	388.25	48.52
Oct-23	399	4677	389.75	49.09
Nov-23	401	4697	391.42	49.73
Dec-23	400	4716	393.	50.34

\*Average Price Index for January 2016

(Contd on Page 3)



General Manager inaugurated Blood donation camp at Churchgate on 1st March 2024 and donated blood voluntarily.



Late Shri Madhu Dandavate birth centenary concluding ceremony in Mumbai – Team WREU with Com. S.G. Mishra, GS-AIRF.



HMS-Gujarat State AGM and HMS Platinum Jubilee celebrations at Vadodara.



AIRF Centenary year Postal stamp released on 27th February, 2024 at New Delhi. →



← Late Com. Umraomal Purohit Memorial Tennis Ball Cricket Tournament – Ratlam



Late Com. Umraomal Purohit Memorial Tennis Ball Cricket Tournament – Mumbai.



(Contd from Page 1)

Electronics & Information Technology (Government of India) on 27-02-2024 at Karnal Singh Stadium, New Delhi. All the Central Trade Union leaders and dignitaries from Railway Board had attended this function at New Delhi on this historical occasion and appreciated services of ex. AIRF leaders more particularly Jay Prakash Narayan, V. V. Giri, Jamnadas Mehta, J.P. Choubey and Umaromal Purohit ji. They also appreciated the services rendered by present AIRF leadership. Western Railway Employees' Union organized cricket tournaments all over Western Railway and seminar on the subject Mazdoor Ekta Diwas was organized by Maniben Kara Foundation. The union felicitated CWE, PCME, Com. Santosh Pawar in February 2024.

Demonstrations were held all over the Western Railway in support to Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM) agitation and Industrial/Sectoral Strike and Grameen Bandh on 16-02-2024 called by Joint Platform of Central Trade Unions/ Independent Sectoral Federations/Associations. Youth of WREU have celebrated Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Jayanti on 19-02-2024 in Mumbai Central. The JFROPS have unanimously decided in its core committee meeting held on 28-02-2024 to have protest demonstrations all over the country at working places on 11-03-2024, to serve a Strike Notice on 19-03-2024 for an indefinite strike commence from 01-05-2024 (International Labour day) for demand of Old Pension Scheme and appointment of 8<sup>th</sup> Central Pay Commission.

I hope our Rank and file will take all these issues to the Railwaymen for creating a larger unity for making proposed indefinite strike successful.

### **34<sup>TH</sup> TRIENNIAL CONVENTION OF HMS HELD AT NAGPUR**

34<sup>th</sup> Triennial Convention and Platinum Jubilee celebrations of Hind Mazdoor Sabha was held at Nagpur from 03-01-2024 to 05-01-2024. On this occasion a rally was organized in which more than 5000 workers participated. The 34<sup>th</sup> Triennial Convention was graced by prominent International Leaders, Com. Shoya Yoshida, General Secretary, ITUC Aisa Pacific, Shri Ariel B. Castro, Desk Officer ACTRAV-ILO, Geneva, Shri Ajay Rai, General Secretary-NTUC-Nepal, Dr. Fahimuddin Pasha, Director-ITUC-AP (workers'rights), Shri Ashish Jaiswal- member of Legislative Assembly, Chairman Mining (Cabinet Minister), Shri. Krupal Balaji Tumane-Member of Parliament, Shri Gilbert Hougbo, Director General ILO. Com. Harbhajan Singh Sidhu, General Secretary-HMS, Com. Raja Sridhar, President-HMS, Com. J.R.Bhosale-Treasurer-HMS, Working President-AIRF and General Secretary-WREU, Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary-AIRF, Com. S.N.Pathak, Mukesh Galav, Champa Verma, Ravinder Himmtai (General Secretary-BMS), Com. Damle (Secretary-AITUC) were on the dais. A total of 1807 delegates from different parts of India participated in the convention and large numbers of women workers representing organized, unorganized, agriculture and other sectors attended the convention. The open session of the convention was held in Aamdar Niwas addressed by all prominent leaders present on the dais. The delegate session was addressed by Com. Raja Sridhar, President-HMS and Com. Harbhajan Singh Sidhu presented General Secretary report before the house. The convention unanimously and unopposed elected Com. Raja Sridhar as President, Com. Harbhajan Singh Sidhu as General Secretary and Com. J.R.Bhosale as Treasurer of HMS. The convention unanimously opposed implementation four Labour Codes and demanded the Labour Laws favourable to workers of this country should continue. The convention also demanded the government should control price rise. Trade Union rights should also be honored by the respective governments. The females and youth have attended this convention in large number.

### **RELAY HUNGER FAST ON WESTERN RAILWAY**

As per the decision taken by the JFROPS at National level, a Relay Hunger Fast was held on 08-01-2024 to

11-01-2024 from 09.00 hrs to 17.00 hrs in all divisions, important branches in divisions and non-divisional branches. Divisional Secretaries, Divisional Chairman and other senior leaders addressed the participants in Relay Hunger Fast on 11-01-2024 on the concluding day. Com. R.C.Sharma, Dinesh Panchal and Ghanshyam Yadav addressed the participants in Relay Hunger Fast at ADI. Com. S.K.Srivastava and Ajayraj Singh Gohil addressed the participants at Bhavnagar. Com. Nikhil Joshi, Jitendra Satapara and Mayur Gadhvi addressed participants in Relay Hunger Fast at Rajkot. Com. Manohar Singh Barath, Narendra Singh Solanki and Seema Kaushik addressed the participants at Ratlam. Com. Santosh Pawar, Sanjay Pawar and A.P.Mourya addressed the participants at BRC. In Mumbai Com. J.R.Bhosale addressed the participants in Relay Hunger Fast at Parel Workshop and also addressed the Gate meeting held at PL workshop. He also addressed workers at SBI, ADI and BRC on 09-01-2024. Com.R.P.Gupta addressed the participants at BDTS, Com. J.R.Bhosale, R.P.Gupta, Vikas Gupte, Prashant Kanade and Jitendra Singh addressed the gathering at Coach Care Depot, Mumbai Central.

### **NATIONAL YOUTH DAY**

On the occasion of National Youth Day on 12-01-2024 a Blood Donation camp was organized under the aegis of Maniben Kara Foundation by Parel & MX branch at the Union office premises in association with JRH Hospital Blood bank. The camp was inaugurated by Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary/WREU in presence of Com. Prashant Kanade, Prashant Deshmukh, Uday Khot and others. Shri Parivesh Sahu, CWM-PL was the Special Guest in the blood donation camp, in his inspiring speech CWM-PL has appreciated the cadre of WREU for organizing such a noble activity as a part of Welfare movement. A total 273 units of blood collected from the camp. Youth and Women's teams of PL & MX branch successfully organized the camp under the guidance of Com. Prashant Deshmukh, Uday Khot and other office bearers.

WREU - PRTN workshop branch in association with Dhvani Blood Bank Centre, Vadodara organized a blood donation camp on 12-01-2024 on the occasion of National Youth Day at PRTN workshop. The blood donation camp was inaugurated by Shri H.C.Jangid, CWM-PRTN in presence of Shri Kalimuttu, Dy. CME, Shri Amit Dhanaware, AWM-PRTN and Com. Sanjay Pawar, Divisional Secretary-BRC. Total 80 units of blood collected from the camp. Youth team of WREU PRTN under the guidance of Com. Bharat Makwana and Jitendra Prasad successfully organized the blood donation camp.

### **HERITAGE WALKS WITH WREU**

On the invitation of PCPO-Western Railway, Com. J.R.Bhosale, R.C.Sharma, R.P.Gupta, Vikas Gupte, Rajan P., Shaikh Nasir, Mahendra Rathore, R.P.Menon, Vagaria and other leaders of GLO and Accounts-Churchgate had a heritage walk and visit in heritage exhibition with PCPO, Dy. CPO(HRD) and Dy. CPO(IR) on 17-01-2024 on the occasion of completion of 125 years of GLO building, the head quarter of Western Railway, a listed prominent heritage building in Mumbai.

### **HERITAGE WALKS WITH RRPA-MUMBAI**

On the occasion of completion of 125 years of GLO-CCG building, the head quarter of Western Railway, members of Retired Railway Pensioners Association functioning under the aegis of WREU led by Com. R.P.Gupta, AGS-WREU had a heritage walk and visited heritage gallery at GLO building-Churchgate-Mumbai on 23-01-2024 in which large number of Pensioners and family pensioners associated with RRPA participated. Smt. Anita Satpute, a trained guide has explained the Pensioners about the history of BB& CI Railway and Western Railway and the history and planning behind construction of GLO building.

### **ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF HMS-GUJARAT HELD AT BARODA**

Annual Conference of HMS-Gujarat held at Railway Auditorium, Pratap Nagar on 21-01-2024 in which

large numbers of Private and Government sector employees especially women employees participated. The conference was inaugurated by Com. Harbhajan Singh Sidhu, General Secretary-HMS, addressed by Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary -WREU and National Treasurer-HMS, Com. R.C.Sharma, President – WREU, Com. P.K.Walunj, Santosh Pawar and others. On this occasion Com. P.K.Walunj unanimously elevated as Advisor-HMS-Gujarat and Shri Santosh Pawar, AGS-WREU as General Secretary-HMS-Gujarat.

### **BIRTH CENTENARY CELEBRATION OF PROF. MADHU DHANDAVATE**

On the occasion of birth centenary celebration of Prof. Madhu Dhandavate, asplendid function was held in Yashwant Rao Chavan Pratisthan (Y.B.Chavan) Auditorium at Nariman Point on 21-01-2024. The function was chaired by Dr. G.G.Parikh a prominent Socialist leader, who has completed 100 years of age in December, 2023. Shri Sharad Pawar, Faruq Abdulla, Smt. Medha Patkar, Pritviraj Chavan and Shiva Gopal Mishra (General Secretary/AIRF) etc., graced the function. All these prominent leaders addressed the gathering and shared their experience with Prof. Madhur Dhandavate in their speech. Com Vikas Gupte, Zonal Treasurer and other youth leaders of WREU Suburban area attended the conference.

### **TIL GUD SAMARAMBH AND LADIES GET-TOGETHER**

**WREU PL-MX Workshop Branch** organized Til Gud Samarambh on 07-02-2024 in Cultural hall of Parel Workshop. Com. Yogini Durafe, Org. Secretary of MbPT Dock and General Employees' Union, Mumbai was Chief Guest. Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary, Western Railway Employees' Union accompanied by Com. R. P. Gupta and Com. Rajan, both AGS, Western Railway Employees' Union and Com. Vikas Gupte, Treasurer graced the occasion. Large numbers of women employees gathered in union office and exchanged flowers, Til Gud, memento and greeted each other for future endeavor. A very well composed cultural programme was staged showing the importance of function and festivals in the women life and old folk songs were also presented. Smt. Manish Dangar, AIRF Working Committee Member and Smt. Kavita Devlekar, Youth Co-ordinator of Workshop Branch coordinated the entire program under the leadership of Com Uday Khot and Com. Prashant Deshmukh, chairman and secretary of the branch and entire team of youth wing supported the Women Wing.

**WREU EMU-POH branch-MX** organized Til Gud Samarambh on 24-01-2024 in Workshop Auditorium. Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary-WREU was the Chief Guest, function was attended by Com. Prashant Kanade, Rajan P., Shri Bhargav, AEE(EMU), Shri. Ram Yerna, AEE(EMU), Smt. Bhavna Yerna, Smt. Manish Dangar, working committee members - AIRF and Smt. Kavita Devlekar (Leader women's wing – PL workshop). Large number of women employees attended the function and greeted each other with flowers and Til Gud. Smt. Swati Murudkar, Joshna Samjheand others under the guidance of Com. ShivjaiPalve and Com. N.K.Mistry successfully organized the programme.

**WREU -BAMY branch** organized Til Gud Samarambh on 30-01-2024 on the occasion of Makar Sankranti. Smt. Akriti Srivastav, Sr. CDO-BDTS was the Chief Guest. Large numbers of women employees gathered in union office at Bamyand exchanged flowers, Til Gud, memento and greeted each other for future endeavor. Smt. Sonal Kadam, Kalpana Koithe, Usha Meshram of women's wing were ably and successfully organized the function.

**WREU -Andheri branch** organized Til Gud Samarambh for women employees on 02-02-2024 on the occasion of Makar Sankranti in Andheri branch office. Large numbers of women employees gathered in union office and exchanged flowers, Til Gud, memento and greeted each other for future endeavor. Women's leaders of ADH branch ably and successfully organized the function.

**WREU-CFO/Electrical branch** organized Til Gud Samarambh on 22.2.2024 in Rajdhani-POH building

hall at Mumbai Central. Large numbers of women employees gathered in the hall and greeted each other with flowers, Til Gud, memento. Smt.Vijaya Kashikar, Smt.MamtaChipkar, Smt.Shital Marathe and Smt.Sujata Chavan successfully organized the function under the guidance of senior leaders.

### **GET TOGETHER OF RAILWAY PENSIONERS OF RRPA**

On the occasion of Republic Day on 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 a get together of Pensioners/Family Pensioners held at Jagdish Ajmera Hall under the aegis of RRPA. Shri Dinesh Lad, National Cricket Coach and receipt of prestigious Dronacharya Award was the Chief Guest. The function was graced by Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary/WREU, Dr. Shishir Raul, Cardiologist-JRH Hospital, Com. Rajan P., AGS-WREU, Com. Vikas Gupte, Treasurer-WREU and Miss Nita Bajpai, Retired SPO and a prominent social activist. Distinguished guest and leaders on the dais were welcomed with flower bouquets and shawl by leaders of RRPA. The pensioners above 80 years old were felicitated during the function. A charitable organization named Chaitanya Foundation explained about a pendant appended with a scan code useful to the old age persons especially those who are suffering with Alzheimer's or dementia. They explained that while scanning the scan code appended in the pendant will navigate to a website where the basic data and contact details and other vital details of the patient stored and recorded/registered. Once such patients/individuals unable to trace his/her own location or address due to the disease any person can help them by scanning the scan code appended in the pendant thereon to search out the full details of that individual/patient suffering with Alzheimer's or dementia to help out he/she to reach their house or their doctor. Chaitanya Foundation has distributed the pendants to all retired employees attended the get-together function. All leaders and guests on the dais were addressed the pensioners and extended gratitude to the Chaitanya Foundation for their helping hand to the society especially to the old age people. Com. R.P. Gupta, AGS-WREU, Ramsevak and other leaders of RRPA successfully organized the Get-together.

### **WREU FELICITATED AND WELCOMES OFFICERS OF HQ**

Team WREU led by Com. J.R.Bhosale and other senior leaders met and welcomed, Shri V.A.Malegaonkar new PCOM, Western Railway on 12-01-2024 in his chamber and welcomed him with flower bouquet, shawl and a photo frame of lord Ganesh.

Team WREU led by Com. J.R.Bhosale and other senior leaders felicitated on 12-01-2024 with flower bouquet to Shri Rajesh Choudhary, Chairman-RRC on his promotion as CPO(G), Western Railway.

Team WREU led by Com. J.R.Bhosale and other senior leaders felicitated on 31-01-2024 Smt. Manjula Saxena, CPO(Adm.) on her promotion in HAG grade. Team WREU felicitated Shri Pradhan, CMPE(DSL) on his promotion as CWE-Western Railway.

WREU-RTM felicitated Smt. Manjula Saxena, CPO(Adm.)-Western Railway on her visit at Ratlam on 07-02-2024 with flower bouquet and shawl.

### **FAREWELL TO PCME-WESTERN RAILWAY**

Team WREU led by Com. J.R.Bhosale and other senior leaders presented flower bouquet, shawl and a photo frame of lord Ganesh to Shri Surbhit Mathur, PCME-Western Railway on 31-01-2024 on the day of his retirement on superannuation from railway service and greeted him best wishes for his future endeavor.

### **WREU FELICITATED COM. SANTOSH PAWAR**

WREU- BRC division and PRTN branch felicitated Com. Santosh Pawar, AGS-WREU on his election as



General Secretary-HMS-Gujarat and Com. Bharat Makwana, Chairman-PRTN workshop on his nomination as Working Committee Member-HMS-Gujarat. The felicitation function held in union office hall at Baroda. Com. Sanjay Pawar, A.K.Morya and office bearers of nearby branches as well as comrades of Pratap Nagar workshop profusely garlanded both the leaders and greeted them best wishes for future prospects.

### **MEMORANDUM TO GENERAL MANAGER, WR AT ADI, BVP AND AMALNER**

**WREU -ADI** led by Com.Dinesh Panchal and Ghanshyam Yadav welcomed Shri Ashok Kumar Misra, General Manager-Western Railway on his visit at Ahmedabad on 19-01-2024 and submitted a Memorandum of staff grievances to General Manager and discussed and highlighted the grievances.

**WREU-BVP** led by Com. Ajayraj Singh Gohil, Com.S.K.Srivastava and other office bearers met Shri Ashok Kumar Misra, General Manager -Western Railway on his visit at Bhotad station in BVP division on 09-02-2024 and welcomed with flower bouquets, they have handed over a Memorandum for staff grievances to the General Manager.

**Amalner Branch** of Mumbai division handed over a Memorandum of staff grievances to Shri Ashok Kumar Misra, General Manager, Western Railway on his visit at Amalner on 13-02-2024. Com. Pravin Kale and other office bearers of branch were welcomed the General Manager with flower bouquet. They have handed over a memorandum for staff grievances to the General Manager.

### **COM. R.C.SHARMA, PRESIDENT WREU FELICITATED**

**WREU-ADI** division felicitated Com. R.C.Sharma, President-WREU on 12-02-2024 on his nomination as Chairman of Local Advisory Board of DattopantDhongadi National Workers Education and Development Board-Gujarat. Com. Dinesh Panchal, Ghanshyam Yadav and other divisional office bearers and large number of activists of WREU gathered in union office at ADI and profusely garlanded and greeted Com. R.C.Sharma.

### **COM. UMRAOMAL PUROHIT MEMORIAL CRICKET TOURNAMENT**

Com. Umraomal Purohit Memorial cricket tournament organized by WREU -BRC in Railway Sports Ground-Pratap Nagar was inaugurated by Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary -WREU and Working President -AIRF on 12-02-2024. The inaugural function was graced by DRM-BRC, Sr. DEN(HQ)-BRC and Com. Santosh Pawar, AGS-WREU. Youth team of WREU-BRC ably organized the cricket tournament successfully.

### **COM. UMRAOMAL PUROHIT MEMORIAL CARROM AND BADMINTON TOURNAMENT**

Com. Umraomal Purohit Memorial Carrom, badminton and underarm tennis ball cricket tournament organized by WREU Carshed branch-Mumbai Central from 12-02-2024 to 15-02-2024 which was inaugurated by Shri Dharmendar, Sr. DEE(RS)-BCT graced by Smt. Rajvinder Kaur, DEE(RS)-BCT, Shri Pawan Garg, ADEE(RS)-BCT, Com. Prashant Kanade, Com. Rajan P., Com. Chandraprakash Upadhyay and other leaders. Youth team of carshed under the guidance of Com. Milind Thakur and Rajesh Mhatre successfully organized the tournaments.

### **COM. UMRAOMAL PUROHIT MEMORIAL TENNIS BALL CRICKET TOURNAMENT**

Com. Umraomal Purohit Memorial Tennis ball cricket tournament organized by WREU-RTM was

inaugurated by Shri Rajnish Kumar-DRM/RTM in presence of Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary-WREU and Working President -AIRF, Com.Manohar Singh Barat, Narendra Singh Solanki and other office bearers. The tournament was held from 20-02-2024 to 25-02-2024. A total of 16 teams were participated. Youth wing of WREU-RTM worked hard for successfully organizing the tournament.

### **COM. UMRAOMAL PUROHIT MEMORIAL CIRCKET TOURNAMENT AT MUMBAI.**

Com. Umraomal Purohit Memorial Tennis ball cricket tournament held in Western Railway Sports Complex Mahalaxmi was inaugurated and revealed the Trophies by Sameer Dighe, Former International Cricketer on 23-02-2024. The inaugural function was graced by Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary-WREU and Working President-AIRF and Shri Shakil Ahmed, Sr. DEE(Coaching)-BCT, Shri Ramnath Patil, President, AIOBC Association, Shri O.P.Bhairava, General Secretary, AISC-ST Association, Com. R.P.Gupta, Vikas Gupte, Rajan P., Jitendra Singh, Prashant Kanade, Chandraprakash Upadhyay and other leaders. Total 36 teams participated in the tournament. Final match was played on 27-02-2024 in between Mechanical Eleven; Mumbai Central vs Mechanical Eleven, BDTS and the Mechanical Eleven, Mumbai Central won the tournament. The prize distribution ceremony held at Mahalaxmi Sports Complex on an open stage was graced by Shri S.K.Albela, PCPO, Western Railway, Shri Raju Bhadke, CE(TMC)-CCG, Shri Akash Sharma, Sr. DPO-BCT, CWM-MX, Dy. CME-MX, AEE-MX, APO-MX, Com. Vikas Gupte, Treasurer-WREU , Rajan P., AGS, Prashant Kanade, AGS, Jitendra Singh, Divisional Chairman, Smt. Shakuntala Waval, President-AISC-ST Association and Shri O.P.Bhairava, General Secretary-AISC-ST Association. Before the final match of the tournament an exhibition match of Women's team of JRH Hospital and Parel workshop held in which Parel workshop won the match. Medals and Trophies to the winner and runner up of Women's cricket match and the winner and runner up, Man of the match, Man of the Tournament, Best Bowler, Best Batsman of men's of cricket tournament gave away by Shri S.K.Albela, PCPO, Western Railway, Shri Raju Bhadke, CE(TMC)-CCG and other distinguished guests. Com. Vivek Kamble gave vote of thanks to all the distinguished guests, participants of the tournaments, WRSA etc. Youthsof WREU Mumbai area is successfully organized the cricket tournament.

### **MAZDOOR EKTA DIWAS**

On the occasion of 10<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary of Com. Umraomal Purohit the then General Secretary/President-WREU, President-AIRF-ITF and General Secretary – NC-JCM(Staff Side) held a seminar on 27-02-2024 as Mazdoor Ekta Diwas in Jagdish Ajmera Hall Grant Road. Com. Rajendra Giri, Director of Maniben Kara Institute, Mumbai was the main speaker who have remembered the lessons taught by Com. Umraomal Purohit, the stalwart leader of Trade Union movement in India and the then President of ITF-London. Com. R.P.Gupta, Vikas Gupte, Rajan P., Prashant Kanade, Jitendra Singh, Kum Kum Dongre, B.P.N.Nair, Vivek Kamble, Uday Khot, Praful Jamsundekar and D.Y. Mahale shared their experience with the great leader. All participants in the seminar paid a rich tribute to the great leader and observed two minutes silence and paid homage.

### **SHRADHANJALI SABHA**

On the occasion of 10<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary of Com. Umraomal Purohit ji, shradhanjali sabha held at Baroda, Ratlam, Ahmedabad, Rajkot and Bhavnagar divisions. Large number of union activists specially youth and women gathered in the shradhanjali sabha and paid rich tribute to the great leader and observed two minutes silence and paid homage.

### **DEMONSTRATION BY HMS-GUJARAT**

A mass demonstration was held by HMS-Gujarat in front of District Collector Office at BRC and



Ahmedabad on 16-02-2024 in support to the farmers' agitation. The demonstration held at BRC was led by Com. Santosh Pawar, General Secretary -HMS-Gujarat, Com. Sanjay Pawar and other leaders of HMS and WREU. They have handed over a Memorandum to the District Collector, BRC. Com. Dinesh Panchal, Ghanshyam Yadav and other leaders of HMS and WREU led the demonstration with front of District Collector office -Ahmedabad and handed over a Memorandum to the District Collector. Com. Manohar Singh Barot, Narendra Singh Solanki, Seema Kaushik and other leaders of WREU-RTM held at demonstration in front of DRM office -RTM and Memorandum addressed to President of India handed over to DRM-RTM.

### CHATRAPATI SHIVAJI MAHARAJ JAYANTI

Youths of WREU Mumbai division organized a gathering of Youth and Women on 19-02-2024 at WREU-CEG office premises on the occasion of Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Jayanti celebrations. Large number of youths and women from CFO-Electrical branch and nearby branches in Mumbai Central were participated. Com. Vivek Kamble, Sunder Virkar, Anita Satpute, Anand Jadhav etc., addressed the gathering.

### AIRF CENTENARY POSTAL STAMP RELEASED

On the occasion of Centenary celebrations of AIRF a grand gathering was held in Karnail Singh Railway Stadium, New Delhi on 27-02-2024 in which thousands of Union activists of affiliated unions from all over India participated. Shri Ashwini Vaishnav, Hon'ble Minister for Railways, Communications, Electronics & Information Technology (Government of India) has released Postal Stamp of AIRF on the occasion of completion of 100 years dedicated service. It is the first time that a postal stamp of a Trade Union has released. The historical function was witnessed by large number of railway employees from all the nook and corners of the nation. The function presided by Com. Dr. N. Kanniah, President-AIRF addressed by Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary-AIRF and Com. J.R.Bhosale, Working President-AIRF. The function was aired through Youtube link and National Visual and Print Media along with social media have given wide coverage of the function. The AIRF has completed its glorious 100 years of service to the Railwaymen successfully.

### BLOOD DONATION CAMPS ORGANIZED BY WREU

**CHURCHGATE:** WREU-Mumbai organized a Blood Donation Camp at Churchgate station in association with JRH Blood Bank on the occasion of 96<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Late Com. Umraomal Purohitji, ex. President-AIRF and ITF-London and 82<sup>nd</sup> birthday of our beloved Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary-WREU and Working President-AIRF on 01-03-2024. This camp was inaugurated by Shri Ashok Kumar Misra, General Manager and the camp was graced by Dr. (Smt.) Hafeezunnisa Rehaman, PCMD, Smt. Majula Saxena, CPO (Adm.), Smt. Pramila Singh, CPO(IR), Shri Rajesh Choudhary, CPO(G), Shri Sumit Thakur, CPRO, Shri Sachin Sharma, Secy. to General Manager, Shri Ujjwal Deo, DGM(G) and other dignitaries. Com. J.R.Bhosale, HQ office bearers of WREU and leaders of youth and women wing welcomed all the distinguished guests with floral bouquets. Hon'ble General Manager appreciated the noble work done by WREU on various occasions. General Manager by donating blood encouraged the WREU cadre. The camp received overwhelming response. Total 135 units of blood collected during the camp. The Blood donation camp was successfully organized by the youth and women team of Mumbai area under the guidance of Com. Prashant Kanade, Divisional Secretary in assistance of Churchgate branches of WREU.

**ANDHERI:** Blood donation camp was also organized on 01-03-2024 in association with Blood Bank, Sion Hospital and Medical college-Mumbai at Andheri railway station which was inaugurated by Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary-WREU. The activist of Suburban branches of Mumbai division under the guidance of Com. Jitendra Singh, Divisional Chairman-WREU-Mumbai whole heartedly participated for

successfully conducting the blood donation camp wherein 83 units of blood collected.

**RATLAM:** Blood donation camp was organized on 01-03-2024 at Ratlam in association with Manav Seva Samiti Rakt dan Kendra, which was inaugurated by Shri Rajnish Kumar, DRM-Ratlam graced by ADRM and all Branch Officers. The activists of local branches of Western Railway Employees' Union under the leadership of Com. Manohar Barath, Com. Narendra Solanki actively worked hard for the success of blood donation camp wherein 55 units of blood collected.

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF INTERIM NATIONAL BUDGET

Smt. Nirmala Sitaraman, Hon'ble Finance Minister presented the Interim Budget in the Parliament on 01-02-2024. Hon'ble Finance Minister highlighted various programmes of Central government for women, youth and poor. She said that the Indian Economy has seen a profound transformation and the Central government carried out structural reforms, she said that the government's focus was on four major castes- women, youth, poor and farmers.

Key highlights (i) Government provided free food for 80 crores people through various schemes. (ii) Direct benefit transfers of Rs.34 lakh crore through PM Dhan Yojana (iii) PM Vishwakarma Yojna scheme provides end to end support to artisans (iv) Up-skilling and re-skilling was a focus for the government and over 1.4 crore youth were trained under the Skill India Mission (v) The government will subsidize the construction of 13 million affordable houses in rural areas (vi) Government will encourage cervical cancer vaccination (vii) Ayushman Bharat scheme will be expanded to Asha Workers and Anganwadi workers (viii) New department Matsyasampada to be set up to address the needs of fisherman (ix) 40000 normal rail bogies will be converted to Vande Bharat standards (x) Government proposed to maintain the same Tax rates to Direct and Indirect taxes including Import duties (xi) 11.1% increase in Capital expenditure outlay for 2024-2025 announced (xii) Economic growth projections- GDP growth-FY-2023-2024, real GDP growth- 7.3%. There are no visible programs proposed for the benefit of working class and also to address the unemployment by the Finance Minister.

### GENERAL SECRETARY/AIRF'S REPRESENTATIONS

General Secretary/AIRF vide its letter No.AIRF/55 dated 15-01-2024 addressed to The Secretary (E), Railway Board as regard to implementation of ILO convention C-001, Article 8- Ratified by India, to provide "defined time intervals for taking food and attending calls of nature while on duty" for the Loco running staff of Indian Railway and to provide this by amending the Railway Act 1989 and Railway Servants hours of work and periods of rest rules (HOER) 2005.

General Secretary/AIRF vide its letter No.AIRF/5(I) dated 24-01-2024 addressed to The Financial Commissioner, Railway Board as regard to conducting Appendix-III examination for filling up the post of Sr.SO in Accounts department.

General Secretary/AIRF vide its letter No.AIRF/64 dated 29-01-2024 addressed to DG(HR), Railway Board and requested to increase the number of vacancies Asst. Loco Pilot in commensurate with the actual requirements of the Zonal Railways in the Centralized Employment Notification (CEN) No.1/2024 dated 20-01-2024 while inviting applications from the eligible candidates.

General Secretary/AIRF vide its letter No.AIRF/53 dated 30-01-2024 addressed the DG(HR), Railway Board and requested to enable Zonal Railways to follow present procedure/practice being followed for holding GDCE/LDCE selections and to continue it without affecting any major change therein. Urged to circulate a calendar for such selections to all the Railway administrations so that can adhere to the dates for

holding these selections in time.

General Secretary/AIRF vide its letter No.AIRF/50 dated 30-01-2024 addressed to DG(HR), Railway Board as regard to grant of special casual leave to organ donors in terms of DoP&T instructions dated 25-04-2023 and to implement DoP&T instructions in Railways in this regard.

### NJCA SUBMITTED A MEMORANDUM TO FINANCE MINISTER

Joint Forum for Restoration of Old Pension Scheme (NJCA) submitted a Memorandum vide No. JFROPS/NJCA/2024 dated 10-01-2024 to Smt. Nirmala Sitaraman, Hon'ble Minister of Finance, Govt. of India demanding Defined and Guaranteed Old Pension Scheme in place of New Pension System to the entire Central Government employees including railways, defence, postal, Income-Tax, Accounts and Audit, Central Secretariat, ISRO, DAE etc. Autonomous bodies, Parliamentary Forces, all the State government/Union Territory employees, including Primary Teachers, High School and Higher Secondary Teachers, College and University Teachers etc.,

### DOPT ORDERS

Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare dated 01-01-2024 regarding Amendment to CCS (Pension) Rules, 2021- Allowing female Government precedence to her husband in the event of marital/discord leading to filing of divorce proceedings in a Court of Law or filling of a case under Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act or Dowry Prohibition Act or Indian Penal Code.

Director Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, Central board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, New Delhi has issued a Clarification on the effect of pension cut on the amount of family pension, in case of death of retired government servants during the currency period vide its letter No. F.No19012/26/2023-Ad.IVA dated 20-12-2023. Accordingly, the Penalty of Pension cut imposed on a government servant under Rule 8 of CCS (Pension) Rule 2021 is not applicable for Payment of Family Pension.

### ORBITURY

**Shri Vasu Mitra, SSE(Sig)-BYR, Somnath Uttam, ESM-Gr. I, Shri Sachin Wankhade, Asst.(Sig)** died in a knock down incident at km 49/18 between BSR-NIG Section on Up local on 22-01-2024 at about 20.55 hrs. while performing duty. Railway Sentinel mourns on the unexpected and unfortunate death of 3 employees and paid tribute to the departed and heavenly abode soul.

**Shri Dikshant Pandya, JE(C&W)** and Vice Chairman, Mechanical Branch - RTM division expired on 21-01-2024. Railway Sentinel paid rich tribute to the departed soul.

**Shri Dadasaheb Bhosale**, elder brother of Com. J.R.Bhosale General Secretary/WREU expired at his home town-Satara in Maharashtra on 12-02-2024 at the age of 102 years. Railway Sentinel paid tribute to the departed soul.

**Shri Bal Mukund Purohit**, ex. Branch secretary-Dholakia branch and Divisional Organizing Secretary-BVP expired on 13-02-2024. He was very active in union during his service in railways. Railway Sentinel paid tribute to the departed soul.

The Core Committee of JFROPS(NJCA) has decided that there is no alternative left but to resort to direct action by all the constituent Trade Unions collectively, and unanimously decided to serve upon **Indefinite Strike Notice** as per relevant rules on 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2024 and **Indefinite Strike** to commence on 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2024 i.e. on International Labour Day.



**Relay Hunger Strike from 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 all over Western Railway**



**Parel Workshop**



**Ratlam**



**PRTN Workshop**



**Ahmedabad**



**Rajkot**



**Mumbai**



←  
**10th death anniversary of Late Com. Umraomalji at Grant Road.**



**WREU-ADI handed over Memorandum to General Manager.**



←  
**34th Triennial Convention and Platinum Jubilee Celebration of HMS at Nagpur.**

→  
**Car shed Branch-Mumbai organized Carrom Tournament**



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