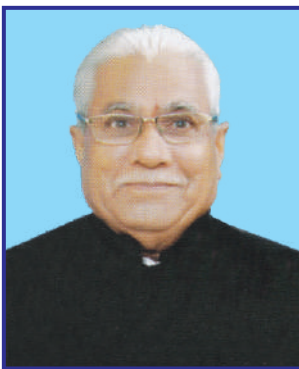


### From the Desk of Editor



#### Dear Subscribers and Railwaymen,

First of all, I wish all the WREU members and their family members a Happy & Prosperous New Year 2024. We have conducted number of activities during this period. ITUC Asia Pacific 5<sup>th</sup> Convention was held at Bangkok on 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2023. The problem faced by the working class in this region were discussed and it has been decided to organize meetings, dharnas, procession for achieving the pending demands of the working class in their respective countries. It has also been decided to give preference for organizing the workers in unorganized sector. Youth and

Women's for creating pressure on the respective governments for considering workers demands. We have conducted Strike Ballot for scrapping the New Pension Scheme and application of Old Pension Scheme to all Railwaymen on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2023 all over Western Railway. Educational classes for new entrant in railway services were conducted in all the divisions and workshop/units for attracting the new comers for joining the union. 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention and Youth Conference was organized in Vadodara on 08<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2023. Both the meetings were largely attended and addressed by General Secretaries of AIRF and Hind Mazdoor Sabha. Shri S.K. Albela, PCPO, Western Railway, Shri Jitendra Singh, DRM-BRC and other officials have also attended, addressed and blessed the conference. It has been unanimously decided to implement the resolutions passed in 99<sup>th</sup> AIRF Convention held at Mumbai on 08-11-2023. I hope decision of JFROPS to organize 8hrs Relay Hunger Strike will be voluntarily implemented on entire Western Railway from 08-01-2024 to 11-01-2024 before DRM offices, important branches and HQ office. 2024 is a very important year for labour movement in this country. All of us have to unite and fight for justice for achieving our pending demands and secure our recognition in Secret Ballot Election.



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
Dec-22	381	4469	372.41	42.46
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
*Average Price Index for January 2016				

**103<sup>rd</sup> AGM OF WESTERN RAILWAY EMPLOYEES' UNION**



**CEC MEETING**

**99<sup>th</sup> AGM of AIRF HELD IN MUMBAI.**





**CEC METTING OF WREU**

Central Executive Council Meeting of WREU was held on 07-11-2023 in Jagdish Ajmera Hall. Com. R.C. Sharma chaired the meeting. Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary/AIRF inaugurated the meeting and addressed the mass gathering of representatives of WREU. At the beginning Com. R.C. Sharma and J.R.Bhosale welcomed Shri Shiva Gopal Mishra. Com. Mukesh Galav, General Secretary/WCREU, Com. Mukesh Mathur, General Secretary/NWREU, Com. Praveena Singh, (National Convenor Women's Wing/AIRF), Com. R.P.Gupta and Com. Prashant Kanade were on the dais. Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra in his address thanked the cadre of WREU for successfully organizing all agitational programmes on the clarion call of JFROPS. He guided about strategies to strengthen the organization and struggle to achieve Old Pension Scheme for all Railwaymen. Com. J.R.Bhosale gave thanks to all representatives and participants in the CEC meeting.

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

Western Railway Employees' Union held a seminar while celebrating birth centenary of Late Socialist Leader and Ex. Minister of Railways, Finance & Deputy Chairperson of Planing Commission. Prof. Madhu Dhandavate in which Dr. G.G.Parekh a Veteran Socialist Leader and freedom fighter who is completing 100 years of age in next month was the Chief Guest. In his speech Dr. G.G.Parekh shared the experience with Prof. Madhu Dhandavate and recollect the memories of Quit India Movement, Socialist Movement in India and Goa Liberation Movement in which Prof. Madhu Dhandavate was very active along with the other senior leaders in the movements. Dr. G.G. Parekh emphasized the simplicity and moral values and principles followed by Prof. Madhu Dhandavate throughout his life. The seminar was addressed by Com. Mukesh Galav, General Secretary/WCREU, Com. Mukesh Mathur, General Secretary/NWREU, Com. Tyagi, President/NRMU (Northern Railway), Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary/WREU and Com. R.C.Sharma, President/WREU.

**99<sup>th</sup> AGM of AIRF HELD IN MUMBAI.**

99<sup>th</sup> AGM of AIRF was held in Mumbai on 08-11-2023 in Central Railway Institute at Parel. Working Committee of AIRF was held at the same venue from 9.00 to 10.30 hours followed by Delegate session from 11.00 hrs to 16.00 hrs. Dr. N. Kanaiah, President/AIRF chaired the delegate session. Before the session starts all leaders on the dais were welcomed with Shawl, Flower bouquets and Memento by Com. Venu P. Nair, General Secretary/NRMU. Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary/AIRF presented the General Secretary Report before the house for discussion and Dr. Shankar Rao, Treasurer/AIRF placed Audited Accounts before the house. 13 resolutions placed and seconded by the leaders on the dais. The Jam-packed venue of red volunteers was enthusiastically shouted slogans AIRF Zindabad, Mahila Shakti Zindabad,

Yuva Shakti Zindabad and NPS Go Back. NRMU (Central Railway) has made good hospitality and other arrangements for the participants. In the evening the Open Session was held at Babu Genu Stadium (Kamghar Stadium), Senapati Bapat Marg, Nr. Prabhadevi Railway Station at 17.00 hrs. Thousands of delegates from all over India were present in the open session. Comrades of Western Railway Employees' Union organized a procession from Lower Parel Workshop to the meeting venue through Prabhadevi railway station premises led by Com. R.C.Sharma, J.R.Bhosale and other HQ leaders and Divisional Secretary, Divisional Chairman of all divisions. Participants were holding the Union flags and banners. WREU comrades reached meeting venue with red shirt, red flags, banners, bunch of 99 red colour balloons in large number. The bunch of balloons were released by President, General Secretary, Working President/AIRF and General Secretary -NRMU. Shri A.K.Misra General Manager-Western Railway, Shri Naresh Lalvani, General Manager, Central Railway, Shri S.K.Albela, PCPO, Western Railway, Shri Niraj Verma, DRM-MMCT, Shri Rajnish Goyal, DRM-Central Railway and all office bearers and guest were present on dais. Dr. N.Kanaiah, Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, Com. J.R.Bhosale, Dr. Shankar Rao and other senior leaders addressed the mass gathering.

### YOUTH CONFERENCE

Youth conference of Western Railway Employees' Union held on 08-12-2023 in Railway Auditorium at Pratap Nagar in which large number of youth and women participated. On this occasion a huge rally was taken out from Pratap Nagar railway station enroute to railway colony and DRM office complex to the meeting venue. Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary, Com. R.C.Sharma, President and Com. Sanjay Pawar, Divisional Secretary/WREU -BRC led the procession in an open jeep. Youths and women in red attire enthusiastically participated in the procession with union banners and flags. The conference was inaugurated by Shri Jitendra Singh, DRM-BRC in presence of Com. J.R.Bhosale, Com. R.C.Sharma, Com. P.K.Walunj, General Secretary/HMS-Gujarat and all senior leaders of WREU on the dais by lighting the lamp. The conference was chaired by Shri Harkesh Meena, Chairperson of Youth wing-WREU. The youth team of WREU-BRC welcomed the Chief Guest, Distinguished guests and leaders on the dais by presenting flower bouquet. Shri Jitendra Singh, DRM-BRC in his speech appreciated the team WREU-BRC and its leadership for co-operation and support extended to the administration for sorting out staff matters on priority and timely. Com. J.R.Bhosale in his speech expressed his gratitude to the administration in general and BRC specifically for all sorts of help from the administrative side for successfully organizing 103<sup>rd</sup> AGM of WREU. Com. R.C.Sharma in his speech asked the youths to become more active and aggressive to strengthening the union and struggles to achieve the prime demand of Old Pension to all railway employees.

Com. Harkesh Meena, Youth Chairperson extended thanks to all participants also gave thanks to all Divisional Secretaries, Chairman of all divisions and non-divisional branches for bringing youths on main

stream in union activities. Number of Youths from all divisions and non-division branches have actively participated in the discussions in the conference.

### 103<sup>rd</sup> AGM OF WESTERN RAILWAY EMPLOYEES' UNION

103<sup>rd</sup> AGM of Western Railway Employees' Union held on 09-12-2023 at Shri Sayajirao Nagar Grih, Akota, Vadodara. A huge rally was organized from WREU divisional office near railway station to the meeting venue, the rally covered around 2.5 kms. Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary/AIRF and Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary/WREU, Com. R.C.Sharma, President/WREU led the rally in an open Jeep. Large number of Youth and Women participated in rally, participants were in Red T.Shirts and enthusiastically shouting slogans WREU Zindabad AIRF Zindabad.

The open session was inaugurated by Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary/AIRF by lighting the lamp along with Com. Harbhajan Singh Sidhu, General Secretary/HMS, Com. J.R.Bhosale, Com. R.C.Sharma and HQ office bearers. The function was graced by Shri S.K.Albela, PCPO-Western Railway, Shri Jitendra Singh, DRM-BRC, Shri Sunil Bisnoi, Sr. DPO-BRC, Smt.Kusum Bhosale better half of Com. J.R.Bhosale. All Zonal office bearers, Divisional Secretaries/Chairman and Chairman/Secretary of Non-divisional branches and Convenor and Chairperson of Women's wing and Youth wing were present on the dais. Chief Guest, other distinguished guest and leaders on the dais were welcomed with flower bouquet, Shawl and beautiful memento by Divisional Chairman/Secretary and other office bearers of WREU/BRC division.

On this occasion WREU celebrated 75<sup>th</sup> year (Platinum Jubilee of Hind Mazdoor Sabha) in a befitting manner. Com. Harbhajan Singh Sidhu, General Secretary/HMS in his speech explained the National political scenario and the recent result of Assembly Elections held in five states. He highlighted the hardships faced by the Trade Union movement in India and the Central Governments move to privatize the Airports and other major installations controlled by Government of India which will badly affect the employees working in these institutions. Com. Harbhajan Singh Sidhu in his lambasting speech commemorate the struggles of leaders and cadres of WREU/AIRF/HMS and affiliates of HMS in Central and State Government establishments to achieve the rights what we are enjoying presently, though the present government is persistently trying to withdraw the rights of employees one by one either way. He said that we should strengthen our organization and struggle to fight against Anti Labour Policies of Central Government also to achieve the targeted demand of guaranteed Old Pension Scheme to all State and Central Government employees including railwaymen, school teachers and other employees. He appreciated the leadership of WREU and the cadre for organizing all agitational programmes in a befitting manner on the call of HMS.

Com. R.C.Sharma, President/WREU chaired the open session. Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra in his inaugural

address appreciated the leadership and cadre of WREU for its active participation in all agitational programmes held on the clarion call of AIRF and JFROPS. He asked the cadre to be ready to strengthen the struggle to achieve the prioritized demand of guaranteed Old Pension Scheme to all Central Government Employees including Railwaymen. Shri S.K. Albela, PCPO and Shri Jitendra Singh, DRM-BRC in their speech appreciated the matured leadership of WREU as well as AIRF. Com. J.R. Bhosale gave thanks to all leaders and distinguished guests.

In the delegate session General Secretary report and Audited Accounts unanimously passed, appointment of M/s. Ashok Dalal & Co. was done and Shri Jitendra Satapara was elected as Vice President of WREU unanimously. The 3 Member Election Tribunal was appointed with Shri Santosh Pawa, Shri Nikhil Joshi and Smt. Manisha Dhangar, as a Convenor. 13 Resolutions unanimously adopted by the 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of AIRF held in Mumbai were unanimously passed and adopted by the 103<sup>rd</sup> AGM of WREU held in Vadodara. The delegate session was concluded at 6.00 pm with vote of thanks by the chair.

### **MAHAPARINIRWAN DIWAS OF BHARAT RATNA DR. BABA SAHEB AMBEDKAR**

On the occasion of 67<sup>th</sup> Mahaparinirwan Diwas of Bharat Ratna Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar on 06-12-2023, youth team of Mumbai division under the guidance of Divisional Secretary and Divisional Chairman distributed Biscuits and drinking water at Platform No.1 at Dadar Station to the devotees of Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar on their visit at Chaityabhoomi Dadar. Com. J.R. Bhosale, Shri Sheelbadra, ADRM (Infra)-Mumbai Division, Smt. Shakuntala Waval and Shri O.P. Bhairva, Zonal President and General Secretary of All India SC/ST Association visited Dadar and appreciated and encouraged the youth team of WREU for their active participation on this noble cause. Com. Vivek Kamble, Anand Jadhav, Sunder Virkar, Sanjay Parihar and others did the commendable job.

Administration observed 67<sup>th</sup> Mahaparniwandiwas at Goonj Hall, Mumbai Central. In which Com. Prashant Kanade, Jitendra Singh and Anita Satpute and others were present along with DRM, ADRMs and Sr. DPO. Anita Satpute, Women's wing leader addressed the gathering and all present in the hall paid homage to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar.

The function held at Samvad Hall, GM building was attended by Com. J.R. Bhosale, General Secretary along with General Secretary SC ST & OBC Association, AGM, other PHODs and President paid rich tribute to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar.

### **INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

On the occasion of International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 a Seminar of Women employees was held by Mumbai division at Borivali Branch Office. In which large number of Women employees attended. Com. Prashant Kanade, Jitendra Singh, Kumkum Nagendra (Zonal

Convenor-Women's Wing) and Anita Satpute, Divisional Co-ordinator Well-being programme – AIRF addressed and guided the participants.

Western Railway Employees' Union Electrical and Medical Branch, Dahod observed International day for elimination of violence against Women on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Gathering of Women employees near New OPD premises in Railway Hospital, Dahod was addressed and guided by Com. Perin Sophia Harsh, Branch Secretary and Women's Wing leader.

### **STRIKE BALLOT HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> AND 22<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER, 2023**

Strike Ballot/Secret Ballot held by all divisions and non-divisional branches over Western Railway on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2023 as per the unanimous decision taken by the JFROPS (NJCA) for an indefinite strike in support of Single Point demand of Scrap/Withdraw No Guarantee New Pension Scheme and restore defined and Guaranteed Old Pension Scheme for all Central Government employees including railway employees appointed on or after 01-01-2004. All employees including Youth and Women actively participated in the Strike Ballot. More than 96% employees polled their opinion in favour of indefinite strike for restoration of Old Pension Scheme to all.

### **WORLD AIDS DAY**

WREU E&M DHD observed World AIDS Day on 1st Dec 2023 at Railway Main Hospital DHD. Large number of employees present in the function which was addressed by Com. Perin Sophia Harsh, Branch Secretary E&M branch and Women's leader-WREU. CMS-DHD gave a brief speech regarding the spread, cause, precautions and treatment of the disease. A Red ribbon (logo) was pinned upon everyone representing the Theme “LET COMMUNITIES LEAD”

### **PROTEST MEETING AT AZAD MAIDAN ORGANISED BY KRUTI SAMITI**

A mass protest meeting held by Kamgar KarmachariSanghthnaSahyukt Kruti Samiti (KKSSKS) at Azad Maidan on 28-11-2023 in which large number of employees of various organization affiliated to HMS Maharashtra participated and expressed their protest on Anti-Labour policies of government. Gathering was addressed by Com. J.R.Bhosale, Working President-AIRF and National Treasurer-HMS, Com. Sanjay Wadavkar, General Secretary-HMS-Maharashtra, Kamgar KarmachariSanghthnaSahyukt Kruti Samiti (KKSSKS) and other senior leaders of KKSSKS.

### **LANDMARK DECISION OF ILO RIGHT TO STRIKE IS FUNDAMENTAL**

In a crucial decision the ILO governing body has voted in favour of seeking a resolution from the International Court of Justice (ICJ) over a long standing dispute between workers and employers' representatives related to the right to Strike. ILO Jurisprudence affectively means that the right to strike



derives under International Law from ILO conventions 87 (Freedom of Association) and 98 (Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining). For nearly 10 years there has been an impasse on the issue at the ILO between the workers representatives, who support the ILO Jurisprudence, and the representatives of employers under the ILO constitution, questions such as this can be sent to ICJ. In the voting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November, 99 government representatives on the governing body voted with the 14 Worker delegates to send the issue to the ICJ. Just 7 voted with the employer group which also has 14 members while 2 governments abstained.

### NATIONAL LEVEL TUEP OF AIRF

National Level Trade Union Education Programme of AIRF affiliates exclusively for Women held at Haridwar, Northern Railway from 27-12-2023 to 31-12-2023. Com. Smita Patel, Jayshree Patel, Namita Kumayu, Rupal dholakia, Kakoli Mukhopadyay and Manisha Dangar represented WREU in the Trade Union Education programme. Total 92 women union representative from all over India participated in the Trade Union Education Programme.

### 23<sup>rd</sup> BGM OF WOMEN EMPLOYEES

AIRD's 23<sup>rd</sup> Biennial General Body Meeting of Women employees was held at Haridwar on 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> December, 2023. Hundreds of women employees from all Zones participated in the meeting and discussed their problems and working conditions. Resolutions were unanimously passed on various topics and demands. From WREU 18 Women employees were nominated to participate in this meeting. Apart from that number of women employees also attended this meeting by arranging their own leave and passes.

### ITUC – AP CONFERENCE HELD AT BANGKOK

Com. J.R. Bhosale, General Secretary, Western Railway Employees' Union & Working President of AIRF attended International Conference of ITUC-AP held at Bangkok from 20<sup>th</sup> November to 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023. Com J.R. Bhosale addressed the gathering on 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2023. The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) represents 191 million members of 337 affiliates in 167 countries and territories. Com. J.R. Bhosale was unanimously elected as Internal Auditor for next 4 years.

### WARM WELCOME TO COM. SHIVA GOPAL MISHRA AT MUMBAI

Western Railway Employees' Union, Mumbai division led by Com. Prashant Kanade, Chandraprakash Upadhyay, Milind Thakur and other senior leaders have given warm welcome to Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary, AIRF on his arrival at Mumbai Central by Rajdhani Express on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2023. Large number of youths with Red flags and banners were present at the venue.



**PAREL WORKSHOP BRANCH MET CWE**

WREU, Parel Workshop Branch led by Com. Prashant Deshmukh, Uday Khot and other Office bearers along with Com. J.R. Bhosale, General Secretary, WREU met Shri Sandeep Rajvanshi, CWE-Western Railway on his visit at Parel Workshop on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 and presented a Flower bouquet and photo frame of Ganeshji (Lalbaugcha Raja)

**UNITED FARMERS' FORUM AT AHMEDABAD**

Large number of Comrades led by Com. Dinesh Panchal and Com Ghanshyam Yadav gathered with flags and banners in support of rally/meeting held by United Farmers' Forum on 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 at Ahmedabad.

**ZONAL TUEP AT ADI DIVISION**

Zonal Youth Trade Union Education Class held at Sabarmati in ADI division from 25<sup>th</sup> November to 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 was attended by 20 Youths from ADI, RJT and BVP divisions. Com. J.R. Bhosale, General Secretary, WREU and Com. R.C. Sharma, President, WREU guided the participants. Com. Dinesh Panchal and other educators gave lectures on Union history and trained the youths for their future endeavor in WREU and in Trade Union Movement.

**BVP DIVISION CONDUCTED TUEP**

BVP division conducted two Trade Union Education Programme in the month of December, 2023. The first programme was conducted at JLR Union Office from 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2023. This programme was inaugurated by Com. Rajiv Ranjan, Organizing Secretary of WREU-BVP in presence of other educators and railway officers. 20 Youth participants were benefited by this programme. Com. Rajiv Ranjan and Com. Deepak Kumar Singh rendered their services as Educators.

Another programme was conducted at BVP Union office (Menon Bhavan) from 27-12-2023 to 29-12-2023. 20 Youth participants were benefitted. This programme was inaugurated by Shri Amar Pratap, Sr. DPO-BVP in presence of Com. Ajayraj Singh Gohil, Vice President-WREU and Com. Dinesh Panchal, Education Director and Vice President of WREU. Com. Dinesh Panchal, Deepak Kumar Singh and R.N.Trivedi-Ex. APO & Ex. Divisional Chairman of WREU-BVP rendered their services as Educators. Com. S.K.Srivastava guided the local comrades for successful conduct of both these programmes.

**SNEH SAMMELAN OF NEW ENTRANTS**

CFO-Electrical Branch, Mumbai Central organized a social gathering (Sneh Sammelan) on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2023 at POH Building Hall in which large number of newly recruited employees attended which was addressed by Com. Prashant Kanade, Milind Thakur, Ajit Kumar, Parvez Shaikh, Vivek Kamble, Alpesh

Rathod etc. A slide show on history of Western Railway Employees' Union shown in the programme.

### **SPECIAL CLASSES FOR JE-LDCE ASPIRANTS**

WREU-Dahod Workshop Branch organized a Special training session for a period from 20-11-2023 to 02-12-2023 from 18.30 to 20.30 hrs in WREU Hall for JE-LDCE aspirants in which 60 candidates attended. Com. Tribhuvan Phatak, Anup Kumar, Raza Mohammed Khan, Krishna Kumar Sahu, Bharat Indore, Ashutosh Mishra, Soneri Pada, Vinod Sinha guided and trained the candidates. All participants extended their gratitude to Com. Sanjay Kapoor, Dharmendra Kumar and Vinod Sinha for organizing the class in a well manner.

### **HMS-MAHARASHTRA CORE COMMITTEE MEETING**

A preparatory meeting of Core Committee of HMS Maharashtra held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023 in Union Hall, WREU Complex in which Com. Vikas Gupte, Treasurer, WREU & HMS- Maharashtra attended. The meeting decided to hold a mass protest Mochra from 14.00 hrs. to 17.00 hrs. on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at Azad Maidan in protest of Anti labour policy of government.

### **JOINT MEETING HELD BY CE(TMC)-CCG**

On the demand of General Secretary/WREU a joint meeting was called by CE(TMC)-CCG on 12-12-2023 for discussion on the grievances of staff working in TMC organization. WREU sent its divisional wise agenda to the CE(TMC) on 11-12-2023 as sought by the administration. Com. Prashant Kanade, AGS and Divisional Secretary in Mumbai and Com. Rajan P. AGS-WREU represented the union in the Joint meeting and discussed the agenda issues as well as other burning issues with CE(TMC). The administrative side was represented by Shri Raju Bhadke, CE(TMC), Shri Mukesh Agarwal, Dy. CE(TMC)-CCG, Shri Deepak Pardesi, Dy. CPO(Engg.)-CCG and Shri Nagda, Dy. CPO(IR).

### **CIVIL DEFENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS**

Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary-WREU alongwith Com. Prashant Kanade, AGS & other Office Bearers of PL & MX attended Civil defence day celebration at Mahalaxmi Sport ground on 13-12-2023. Shri Ashok Kumar Misra, General Manager-Western Railway and Chief of Civil Defence, Western Railway received salute of Parade of Civil Defence volunteers. The celebrations attended by PHODs of Western Railway, DRM, ADRMs and branch officers of Mumbai division, CWM-PL & MX workshops.

### **WARM WELCOME TO SHRI R.N.SUNKAR, DG (INFRA.), RAILWAY BOARD**

WREU -RTM welcomed Shri R.N.Sunkar, DG(Infrastrure), Railway Board on his arrival at Ratlam station on 17-12-2023 by presenting Shawl, flower bouquet by Com. Manohar Singh Barath and Com. Narendra Singh Solanki and others. They have presented him a portrait of Shri R.N.Sunkar made by railway employee

of Ratlam division.

### **ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF RAILWAY PENSIONERS FEDERATION**

Railway Pensioners Federation of ADI held its Annual General Meeting on 29-11-2023 at ADI. Com. R.C.Sharma, Vice President/AIRF and President/WREU was the Chief Guest. Shri Sudhir Kumar Sharma, DRM-ADI was the guest of honour. Com. Ghanshyam Yadav, Divisional Chairman/WREU -ADI and Com. Dinesh Panchal, Divisional Secretary/WREU -ADI were also attended the conference. During the Annual General Meeting a Souvenir was released by Com. R.C.Sharma, Shri Sudhir Kumar Sharma and other distinguished guest on the dais. The Railway Pensioners Federation at ADI is functioning under the advice of its Chief Advisor, Com. R.C.Sharma, President-WREU. The organization functioning very well under the leadership of Retired WREU activists.

### **ROUSING WELCOME TO COM. SHIVA GOPAL MISHRA AND COM. J.R.BHOSALE AT RATLAM**

WREU -RTM gave a rousing welcome to Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra General Secretary/AIRF and Com. J.R.Bhosale, Working President/AIRF and General Secretary/WREU on their arrival at Ratlam for attending Pensioners Conference on 17-12-2023. Both the leaders were profusely garlanded by the comrades of Ratlam led by Com. Manohar Singh Barath and Com. Narendra Singh Solanki and others.

### **CENTRAL GOVERNMENT & RAILWAY PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE**

Central Government & Railway Pensioners Association held its Annual Convention on 17-12-2023 on the occasion of National Pensioners Day. Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary/AIRF was the Chief Guest of the Convention. Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary/WREU and Com. Govindlal Sharma, President/HMS-Madhya Pradesh were graced the function. Large number of pensioners participated in the Convention. Com. Prakash Chandra Vyas lead the team of Pensioners as its President. The organization is functioning very well and giving service to the pensioners. Com. Manohar Singh Bharat, Divisional Secretary and Com. Narendra Singh Solanki, Divisional Chairman attended the function. In the convention a beautiful Souvenir "Sankalp" released by the Chief Guest Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra and other distinguished guest on the dais.

### **WREU FELICITATED GM AND AGM**

Com. R.C.Sharma, President/WREU and Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary /WREU felicitated Shri Ashok Kumar Misra, General Manager and Shri Prakash Bhutani, AGM, Western Railway on 19-12-2023 by presenting Shawl, a Memento in the board room of GM office during celebration function of achieving 5 Railway Minister Shields by Western Railway.



Shri Ashok Kumar Misra, General Manager, Western Railway felicitated Com. R.C.Sharma, President/WREU and Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary/WREU by presenting a beautiful Memento on the occasion of a celebration in the Board room on the eve of achieving 5 Railway Minister Shields by Western Railway. The felicitation function was attended by all PHODs of Western Railway.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF WCREU AND NWREU

Com. J.R.Bhosale, Working President/AIRF and General Secretary/WREU attended Annual General Meeting of WCREU on 22-12-2023 held at Jabalpur and addressed the gathering in the open session. Com. J.R.Bhosale was welcomed by Com. Mukesh Galav, General Secretary/WCREU by presenting a Shawl and flower bouquet.

Com. J.R.Bhosale, Working President/AIRF and General Secretary/WREU attended Annual General Meeting of NWREU on 23-12-2023 held at Jaipur and addressed the participants in the open session. Com. J.R.Bhosale was welcomed by Com. Mukesh Mathur, General Secretary/NWREU by presenting a Shawl and flower bouquet.

### PENSIONERS CONFERENCE AT NAVSARI

Pensioners organization under the aegis of WREU functioning at Navsari on Mumbai Division led by Com. Dada Bramne, ex. Office bearer of Billimora branch and retired employee held his Annual meeting at Navsari on 17-12-2023 which was attended by Com. R.P.Gupta, AGS/WREU and incharge of RRPAs, Mumbai as a Chief Guest. Large number of pensioners attended the meeting.

### WREU LEADERS HANDED OVER MEMORANDUM TO GM AND PHODs

**WREU/BRC** led by Com. Sanjay Pawar, Aditya Morya and other office bearers and leaders submitted a Memorandum on staff grievances to Shri Ashok Kumar Misra, General Manager, Western Railway on 01-12-2023 on his visit to BRC.

**WREU/RJT** led by Com. Mayur Gadhavi, Com. Mehta and others handed over a Memorandum for staff and pensioners grievances to PCMD, Western Railway on her visit at Rajkot on 22-12-2023.

**WREU/RTM** led by Com. Manohar Singh Baroth and Narendra Singh Solanki and others handed over a Memorandum for staff grievances to Shri Ashok Kumar Misra, General Manager, Western Railway on his visit at Ratlam on 07-12-2023.

Yusuf Meher Ali Centre and Socialist leaders, friends and well wishers of Dr. G.G.Parekh, a Veteran Socialist Leader and freedom fighter organized a grand function in honour of him on his attainment of 100 years in the Convocation Hall of Mumbai University on 29-12-2023. Shri Raj Mohan Gandhi the grandson of Mahatma Gandhi was the Chief Guest. This function was attended by Shri Balchandra Mungekar, ex. Vice Chancellor of Mumbai University and Member of Planning Commission and Shri Hussain Dalwayi, Ex. MP. All these prominent speakers throw light on current socio economic and political situation of the country and stress upon coming together to protect our hard earned rights which are granted to us through Constitution of India. Com. Vikas Gupte attended the same.

Another grand function which was attended by famous personalities was organized at Tara Village, Panvel, the Karma Bhoomi of Dr. G.G.Parekh.

Com. Vikas Gupte successfully attended in Certificate Course on Industrial Relations and Employment Laws in Hybrid mode from 20-10-2023 to 02-12-2023. This course was designed as per the International Labour Organizations Guidelines and was organized by Employers Federation of India (EFI) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). Com. Vikas Gupte and Com. Shyam Nayak (NRMU-C.Rly) were nominated for this course by General Secretary-HMS-Maharashtra. Online sessions were conducted on various related topics from 20-10-2023 to 27-11-2023 and face to face training sessions were conducted at Gujarat State Fertilizers Corporations, Head Office at Vadodara on 01<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2023 followed by Online examinations.

A meeting of Standing Committee of National Council (JCM) held on 15-12-2023 under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (PP), DOPT in which officials from various departments/Ministries participated. Com. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary/AIRF and Secretary, Staff Side led the Staff Side members in which Dr. N. Kanniah, President/AIRF and Leader-JCM(NC) and Com. J.R.Bhosale, Working President-AIRF and General Secretary/WREU and Leader-JCM(NC) participated from AIRF. Issues raised in the meeting

1. To issue instructions to the MOD to hold regular meeting with Staff Side to resolve the issues. It was also raised by the Staff Side that Standing Committee as well as National Council should be held in time.
2. To issue government orders to extend the period of option to switch over to the 7<sup>th</sup> CPC Pay Scales for a period of one year upto 25-08-2017.
3. To issue instructions that Service Association under CCS (RSA) Rule 1993 and Employees Co-operative Societies/Bank which are covered under the Central Societies Act and respective State Government Co-operatives Act are out of purview of Rule 15(1) of CCS(Conduct) Rules 1964.

4. Not to withdraw the 3<sup>rd</sup> MACP in GP 4600/- granted to the Industrial Employees of Defence Ministry.
5. Orders to be issued by Ministry of Health for extending CGHS benefits to the employees in Industrial Establishments under Western Naval Command, Mumbai
6. Revision of Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme under GPF for Central Government Employees.
7. Restoration of Festival Advance to the Central Government employees.
8. Extending revised option for the employees who were given entry pay benefit on promotion in the 6<sup>th</sup> CPC Pay scales to switch over to 6<sup>th</sup> CPC pay scales w.e.f. 01-01-2006.
9. Extension of LTC-80 one time relaxation in the case of employees who availed LTC to Andaman and Nicobar Island (A&N) by purchasing Air Tickets from other than authorized agents.
10. Payment of FMA to Pensioners of National Institute of Ayurveda.
11. Restoration of facilities and concession withdrawn by railways to senior citizens.
12. Pension to the exempted from the purview of Income Tax.
13. Disability Pension of War Heroes to be exempted from Income Tax.
14. Revision of benefit of Deposit Linked Insurance coverage from GPF.
15. Enhancement of Bonus ceiling limit of Casual Labours consequent on enhancement of bonus calculation ceiling of Central government employees.
16. Modification for grievance redressal mechanism.
17. Implementation of government decision on 7<sup>th</sup> CPC recommendations on Risk Allowance to the Central Government Employees including Defence Civilian employees.
18. Restoration of Commuted Portion of Pension after 12 years.
19. MACP to be made effective from 01-01-2006 in implementation of the Judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court
20. Grant of one additional increment for those who retired on Superannuation on 30<sup>th</sup> June
21. Applicability of the 7<sup>th</sup> CPC pay revision for those retired on 31-12-2015.
22. To specify time frame for the completion of disciplinary cases in the case of Pensioners.

### OUTSET ITEMS RAISED BEFORE GENERAL MANAGER

Following Outset items raised before General Manager in GM PNM held on 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2023

1. Implementation of revised Percentage of Nursing Category- Medical Department, Western Railway.
2. Incorrect denial benefit of Old Pension Scheme to Act Apprentices recruited in the year 2004/2005 as a Substitute- Case of Act Apprentices recruited as per Railway Board's order dated 21-06-2004
3. Supply of Safety Gadgets to staff working in TMC organization.
4. Provision of potable water on way side stations, ADI division.
5. Severe Shortage of Railway Quarters in ADI Division.
6. Disparity amongst employees working as Artisan, Gr. III in S&T department resulted into deprival for promotion to the post of JE/Signal (LDCE).
7. Difficulty faced by the patients due to large number of vacancies of Lab Technician at PRTN Hospitals
8. Undue harassment to Commercial Staff by banning Private Sick



9. Unsafe working condition due to operation of Outdated crane in Electric Loco Shed-BRC.
10. Unsafe Working-Operation of Goods Trains without Train Manager in BRC division.
11. Non forwarding of applications to Elect-Loco-Workshop Dabhoi
12. Poor functioning of Pension Adalat in Divisions - Hardship faced by the Pensioners/Family Pensioners.

### GS/AIRF'S REPRESENTATION

AIRF vide its letter No.AIRF/101(314) dated 21-12-2023 addressed to DG(RHS), Railway Board for inclusion of dependent parents of the employees for providing medical facilities under CGHS scheme.

### RAILWAY BOARD ORDERS

Railway Board vide RBE No.120/2023 dated 02-11-2023 has issued guidelines for appointment on Compassionate Ground of Children born to second wife of deceased railway employee.

Railway Board vide RBE No.122/2023 dated 07-11-2023 has issued clarification for selection for promotion within Group 'C' posts and introduction of 100% Objective Type Multiple Choice Questions for Departmental Selections/LDCE etc.

Railway Board vide letter No.D-43/12/2018-F(E)III dated 10-11-2023 issued guidelines for inclusion of railway servants recruited against the posts/vacancies advertised/notified prior to 22-12-2003 under Railway Service Pension Rule 1993.

Railway Board vide RBE No.123/2023 dated 10-11-2023 has issued clarification regarding reservation in promotion to Persons with Benchmark Disability (PwBD).

Railway Board vide letter No.2022/H/5/1/NER/Dalbir dated 14-11-2023 issued guidelines regarding medical fitness of employees who have undergone LASIK Surgery for various posts including PME.

Railway Board vide RBE No.124/2023 dated 16-11-2023 has issued guidelines for framing of recruitment rule for the post of Prosthetist & Orthotist in Level-6 of 7<sup>th</sup> CPC Pay Matrix. Minimum education qualification for the post is degree in Prosthetics & Orthotics (B.P.O) from a recognized University and age limit from 20 to 30 years.

Railway Board vide RBE No.131/2023 dated 30-11-2023 has issued clarification on extended Zone of consideration and Upper age relaxation in Intermediate Apprentice Examination to the Persons with Benchmark Disability (PwBD) employee.

Railway Board vide letter No.2023/E(LL)/SHW/6 dated 30-11-2023 issued guidelines on organizing Sexual Harassment at Workplace Prevention Week over the Indian Railways. Zonal Railways are advised to commemorate the week in the run up to 09-12-2023 as "Sexual Harassment at Workplace Prevention Week".

Railway Board vide RBA No.33/2023 dated 08-11-2023 has issued advice to all Zonal Railways and PFA's on Authorization of IDFC First Bank Limited for handling e-freight on behalf of Ministry of Railways and approval of eFPB for collection, settlement and reporting of e-freight collection and allotment of Privilege Code for Settlement with RBI/CAS.

Railway Board vide RBA No.34/2023 dated 09-11-2023 addressed to all Zonal General Manager's issued guidelines for Physical Verification of Railway Pensioners at Banks with a suggested Checklist for guidance of staff nominated for verification of Pensioners at the Banks.

Railway Board vide RBA No.36/2023 dated 24-11-2023 addressed to all Zonal General Manager's in continuation of RBA No. 29/2023 dated 22-09-2023 issued guidelines as regard to Strengthening Internal Checking Mechanism of Salary Bills.

Railway Board vide RBE No.132/2023 dated 01-12-2023 has issued timeline for transfer on Mutual exchange basis for Non-gazetted railway employees over Zonal Railways.

Railway Board vide letter No.PC-VII/2023/HRMS/15 dated 04-12-2023 issued guidelines launch of Leave encashment Submodule of leave module in HRMS, facilitating the employees for applying for leave through Mobile App of HRMS and auto credit of leave into leave account of employees and verification thereof.

Railway Board vide RBE No.133/2023 dated 04-12-2023 has issued clarification on Reservation in Promotion to the Persons with Benchmark disabilities (PwBD).

Railway Board vide RBE No.138/2023 dated 13-12-2023 has issued guidelines for induction of Track Maintainers, Assistant Deport (Stores) and House Keeping Assistance in to other departments against 10% lateral intake in workshops.

Railway Board vide RBE No.139/2023 dated 12-12-2023 has issued guidelines for revision of yardstick for Mechanical department.

Railway Board vide RBE No.145/2023 dated 20-12-2023 has issued guidelines for provision of seeking vigilance clearance before nomination of officers as Members in Selection Committee.

Railway Board vide RBE No.146/2023 dated 21-12-2023 has made an Amendment in IREM Vol. I vide Advanced Correction Slip No.286. Inserted below existing para 189(i) "the post of Commercial-cum-Ticket Clerk (Pay-Level 3 of the 7<sup>th</sup> CPC Pay Matrix) under the 33 1/3% quota shall be filled by the process of general selection based on Merit (Not Seniority)"

Railway Board vide RBE No.149/2023 dated 29-12-2023 regarding Fixation of pay to Running staff on promotion to the General Posts clarification reg.

**OUR NEW VICE PRESIDENT**

In the 103rd AGM held at Vadodara on 08/09<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, **Com. Jitendra Satapara, Divisional Chairman WREU/RJT** was unanimously elected as one of the Vice President of WREU. We wish him all success in his future endeavors

**NEW DIVISIONAL SECRETARY-RJT**

Due to retirement on superannuation of Com. Nikhil Joshi w.e.f 30-11-2023, **Com. Mayurdhvaj Gadhavi** (B'com.), Accounts Assistant under Sr. DFM-RJT unanimously co-opted to the post of Divisional Secretary of Rajkot division in the Division Council Meeting held on 30-11-2023 at Rajkot in presence of Com. J.R.Bhosale, General Secretary and R.C.Sharma, President. Com. Jitendra Satapara, Divisional Chairman - RJT chaired the meeting. Com. Jagdish Singh G. Trackman-1, KMBL and Com. Ashok Kumar, ESM-DL-SUNR are nominated as one of the Divisional Office Bearers and Com. Rupalben Dholakia, one of the Divisional Office Bearer has elevated to the post of Divisional Treasurer.

**VETERAN RETIRED**

1. **Com. Nikhil Joshi**, COS- Stores/RJT division and Divisional Secretary-RJT, Vice President-WREU retired on 30-11-2023. He joined in railway service as a Station Master, on medical de-categorization absorbed as OS in Stores department and promoted upto the post of COS. He was very active and popular amongst the cadre.
2. **Shri Kuldeep Chand Sharma** (K.C.Sharma) CTI (Mobile Squad), Incharge of Free Squad and Joint Secretary of WREU Grant Road branch and Working President of MBS-IRTCSA retired on superannuation on 31-12-2023 after successful service of 35 years. Railway Sentinel wish him all successes in his retired life.

**ORBITURY**

1. **Com. Basudev Acharya**, ex. MP and National Leader of CPM and Former Chairman of Railway Standing Committee left for heavenly abode on 13-11-2023.
2. **Smt. Appi Seena Poojary**, mother of Sanjeeva S. Poojary, Computer Operator working in WREU HQ office-GTR left for heavenly abode on 27-10-2023.
3. **Com. Kripashankar Asthana**, Ex. Branch Secretary-Dahod Workshop left for heavenly abode on 11.11.2023 at Vadodara.
4. **Shri Salu Pavlu Dabhre**, age 89 years and ex. Office staff of WREU HQ left for heavenly abode on 16-12-2023. His funeral was held at Holy Cross Church, Nirmal, Nalasopara (West)



# BIRTH CENTENARY CELEBRATION OF PROF. MADHU DHANDAVATE



## Elimination Of Violence Against Women



## Trade Union Education Program



## Youth Rally at Vadodara



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