

ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION

125/E, Inbar Road, New Delhi.

AIRF/150-B

May 30, 1974.

To  
All the General Secretaries  
of the affiliated unions  
and  
Working Committee Members/AIRF.

Dear Comrades,

Sub: May 1974 - General Strike.

...

At the outset, I salute and congratulate the Railwaymen and the Union workers for their 20-day historic strike. I am sure that the performance of the Unions of the AIRF has been excellent and matchless. You are perhaps aware that I was arrested while coming from Amritsar to attend the meeting with the Railway Minister on the 2nd May, 1974. On my reaching Jail, I found that Com. George Fernandes and other 19 office bearers of the Unions including the Genl. Secretary of the All India Loco Running Staff Association, Shri P.K. Barua and the Asstt. Secretary General of the AIUC, Com. H.S. Choudhary were also there. After the withdrawal of the strike, we were released on the 28th May in the evening.

A meeting of the Action Committee of the NCCRS was held and minutes of the same are being sent to you, separately.

On the 29th May, 1974, I along with Com. Umraomal Purohit called upon the Chairman, Railway Board, Shri M.N. Bery. Our discussions lasted for one and a half hours. In the course of discussions we made out the following points:

1. Railway employees and others who are in jail should be released immediately and it was suggested that the Railway Administration should take a lead in the matter in order to restore normalcy. We also drew his attention to the notices, discharging/removing/dismissing a large number of Railway employees all over the Indian Railways and we suggested that all the employees should be taken back on duty setting aside the orders of the removal/discharge/dismissal, etc. He did not commit. However, it was learnt that the Board might communicate instructions on the issue regarding reinstatement.
2. Resumption of duties by the employees: Specific cases of N.F. Railway, S.E. Railway, Eastern Rly. and Northern Railway where employees were not allowed to resume duties were cited by us. In the course of discussion, we suggested that the issues involved could be sorted out by General Managers by discussions with General Secretaries of the affiliated unions of the Federation, so

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that normalcy is quickly restored. However, he did not commit.

3. Withdrawal of facilities: The facilities of Railway telephones, passes and special casual leave have been withdrawn by the Railway Board. We wanted the restoration of Railway Telephones, immediately. The Chairman said that the Board has decided not to derecognise the AIRF and its affiliated unions, but the withdrawal of facilities will continue for some time. This withdrawal of facilities in the unions does not snatch away the right of the affiliated unions and their branches for discussions of the problems of the Railwaymen with the various authorities at various levels. I would, therefore, suggest that contacts should be established by the Central offices of the Unions with the General Managers and by the Divl. Office Bearers of the Unions with the Divl. Supdts. in order to get the employees back to work. While no concrete conclusion could be arrived at even after a long discussion, but it is felt that the position will be clear in a few days.

I will be meeting the Member Staff, Railway Board today. I will also meet the Chairman, Railway Board again and also the Minister of Railways. I will be addressing you a letter after a couple of days or earlier after firm decisions of the Govt. are known on the subject.

The strike has been a grand success. The morale of the railwaymen is very high. At many places the employees went to resume their duties in processions with banners and leaflets and shouting slogans of victory. Even though we did not succeed in achieving our demands, but we fought with determination and now the Govt. and the Board will not take the railwaymen and their organisation casually and will think twice before coming to any confrontation.

The President of the AIRF and other leaders will be visiting many important centres of the railwaymen to acquaint themselves with the post-strike situation and also to upkeep the spirit of the employees. I hope similar action will be taken by the leaders of the affiliated unions.

The Working Committee of the AIRF will meet in New Delhi on the 8th and 9th June, 1974, to review the post-strike situation and also to find out the ways and means to streamline the organisation.

The National Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle will meet subsequently. In the meantime, Action Committee will continue to meet and look after the problems of the railwaymen.

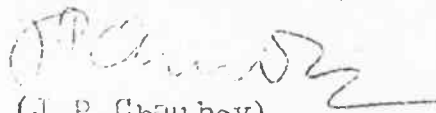
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In the course of our discussions with the Chairman, Railway Board we again impressed upon the Chairman, the need of treating the Railwaymen as 'Industrial Workers' and that the claims of their wages, pay scales should be dealt with separately and should not be linked with the civil servants of the Govt. of India and the Central Pay Commission.

The Convener of the MCCAS will be addressing a letter on the subject to the Minister for Railways.

With fraternal greetings and good wishes,

Yours fraternally,



(J.P. Chaubey)  
for General Secretary.

ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION

125/E, Babar Road, New Delhi.

AIRF/160-B

May 30, 1974.

To  
All the General Secretaries  
of the affiliated unions and  
Working Committee Members/AIRF.

Dear Comrades,

Congratulations and greetings to all of you. One phase of the glorious struggle has ended, and those who say that the railwaymen have lost are either fools or knaves or a combination of both. In the circumstances, the unilateral withdrawal of the strike was a right decision for us to take, though nothing would have pleased all of us more than to have a settlement on all the demands. But in a struggle of the size and sweep of the national strike by railwaymen and especially in the context of the Government's response to our action, it may take some time for us to reap the fruits of our efforts. Provided, of course, we keep up the pressure. After this great struggle, everyone will think a hundred times before challenging us to fight again.

We should now get on with the various tasks of consolidation.

Firstly, the workers in jail must be released. At the same time, all workers must return to work, and we have to take steps at various levels to see that no one is kept away from his duties. At the local levels, some junior officers may try to act revengefully. We must fight back all these efforts unitedly and with determination. Where charges of violence etc. are involved, immediate steps must be taken to provide the best legal assistance to the workers. Local Action Committees must also take the responsibility to provide financial and other assistance to those workers and their families who may still be out of their jobs. We should take up the cases of all workers irrespective of whether they are members of our unions or not.

Next is the question of further negotiations. The Government's offer of talks is there, but unless we keep up the pressure, things may get delayed. So, our meetings, demonstrations etc. demanding an early settlement should continue.

The third thing we must do is to make an evaluation of the strike on each zone, division and branch. It should be an honest evaluation. Where did we succeed and where did we fail? Why? How many men participated in the strike? At what point did the workers break before police atrocities? Why? What was the role of our office bearers

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and active cadres? What was the role of the other sister unions? How did the local people help us in the strike? These and other questions have to be truthfully answered. I would like reports being prepared at the branch, divisional and zonal levels in great detail at once. We should recognise the weaknesses that showed up during the struggle, and think and plan on methods to avoid such mistakes in future.

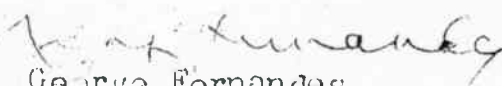
Fourthly, we should counteract all the efforts the administration will now make to break our ranks. There are the rewards they want to give to strike breakers. We must approach these men and ask them to give in writing that they do not seek any rewards for having worked during the strike. This, we should do at every branch. Those who worked during the strike should be won over to our side. We should educate them and tell them how their behaviour is against the cause of the railwaymen.

There will be other methods employed to create differences among railwaymen and between their organisations, but we should not fall prey to such attempts.

The meeting of the Working Committee is being held in New Delhi on June 8 and 9. The meeting will start at 9.00 A.M. on June 8. I am looking forward to meeting you at the meeting.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes  
President.

Parliament House  
New Delhi  
May 13, 1974

Dear Giriji,

We the undersigned members of Parliament wish to draw your attention to the serious dislocation of the national economy caused by the Railway stoppage which was imposed on the workers by the Government.

Apart from being the President of the Republic, you have been a pioneer of the trade union movement in general, and of Railway trade unionism in particular. You cannot, therefore, be indifferent either to the lot of the workers or to the deteriorating state of the national economy.

The Government has issued a Notification ~~xxx~~ under the Payment of Wages Act exempting the Railway Board from their obligation to pay to the workers their earned wages. Thousands of arrests have been made, women and children have been lathi-charged, eviction notices have been served on the workers who live in Railway quarters. These workers are also threatened with cut in electricity, water and food supply.

As you probably know, negotiations were to be resumed on 2nd May between the Railway Ministry and the representatives of the railway workers after the finalisation of the minutes of the discussions on 1st May. The Convener of the Action Committee of the NCCRS Mr. George Fernandes, was to return from Lucknow on 2nd May to participate in the negotiations. However in the dead of night, hundreds of arrests were effected under MISA and DIR. DIR, including that of Mr. George Fernandes and two other members of the Action Committee. Among the arrested leaders was also Mr. V.R. Malgi, the General Secretary of the NRMU (Central Railway), who died of heart attack within hours of his arrest by the police.

On the one hand, the Government says that it does not wish to continue confrontation with the workers, that it realises the need for a rationalisation of the wage structure, and that the Bonus Review Committee is seized of the question of application of the Bonus Act to Railwaymen, the Railway Minister maintains in Parliament that bonus and wage revision (outside the purview of the Pay Commission Report) are non-negotiable. The Prime Minister has declined to concede the demand of parity (or industrial wage), even in principle. She goes on saying that the Government's concessions to labour have not led to increase in production and productivity.

As far as Railwaymen are concerned, we can say on the basis of irrefutable evidence that labour productivity on the Railways and in the workshops has been continuously going up in the last 20 years while the number of workmen employed in workshops has gone down. Similarly, the real wages of the railway workers have suffered serious erosion as a result of the rise in prices. This has been conceded even by the Pay Commission. In the last two years, there has been a further sharp decline of the real earnings of the Railway workers as a result of the phenomenal rise in prices.

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We would, therefore, urge upon you to intervene in the dispute and persuade the Government to resume negotiations with the Action Committee of the NCCRS. The representatives of Railwaymen have given up their demand that the arrested people should be released before the negotiations are resumed. Those members of the Action Committee, who are in jail, can be brought to the negotiating table to participate in the discussions even while they continue in detention. If the Government ~~Government~~ gives up its inflexible and contradictory attitude and its insistence on withdrawal of the strike and resumes negotiations in earnest, we are confident that an honourable settlement can be reached very quickly and Railway services restored immediately thereafter.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- Niren Ghosh (CFI(M)  
" Bhupesh Gupta (CFI)  
" L.K. Advani (J.S.)  
" Madhu Limaye &  
Madhu Dandavate  
(Socialist)  
" Rajnarain (SSP)  
" Abdul Khader (DMK)  
" Dandapani (DMK)

Shri V.V. Giri,  
President of India,  
New Delhi

Madhu Limaye  
Member of Parliament  
(Lok Sabha)

12, Gurudwara Rakabganj Road,  
New Delhi  
May 12, 1974

Dear Shri S.A. Dange,

Reference our discussion at Ajoy Bhavan on 11th May, 1974.

From the press reports, it seems that the Action Committee of the National Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle has rejected the Government formula conveyed to the Committee by some Opposition leaders.

Even before the letter reached the Committee made a surprising announcement at the meeting of the Congress Parliamentary Party to the effect that this was not a Government formula at all but that it was suggested by "a member" at the meeting of the Prime Minister with the Opposition leaders in Parliament. The repudiation by Mrs. Gandhi of the formula put forward by the Food and Agricultural Minister before the entire Opposition shows how difficult it is to pin down the Government to anything!

You suggested on 11th May that while the Railwaymen's representatives should give up their insistence on the release of arrested people, the government should also drop its condition that the strike should be withdrawn simultaneously.

To remove all misunderstanding, it is necessary to point out to the Government that negotiations will have to be held with the entire Action Committee, including those members of the Committee who are in jail, and not with the truncated Committee. The Government cannot be allowed to choose the negotiators by making selective arrests. The negotiators have been chosen by the National Convention of Railwaymen already. The unity of Railwaymen is a precious thing and must be preserved at all costs. The Central Trade Union Organisations and Opposition parties must, therefore, make it absolutely clear that all members of the Action Committee have to be brought to the negotiating table. There should be no difficulty in bringing the Convener and members of the NCCRS, who are in detention, to the table to participate in negotiations and in sending them back to custody after adjournment.

Apart from this, the Government will have to modify its position on the substantive issues involved. Mr. L.N. Mishra has declared time and again in Parliament that bonus and parity are non-negotiable.

Since some people felt that the Prime Minister's speech in reply to the No Confidence Motion in the early hours of the morning of 10th May 1974 is a bit more flexible, I asked for the official version of her speech. I am enclosing herewith the relevant excerpts from the Lok Sabha debates. I have deliberately isolated these portions from the thrusts and repartees which are an inevitable feature of such a debate.

What she has said about rationalisation of the wage structure, I have put in a separate category, and I have put her refusal to concede these points, even in principle, in the category of negative statements.

The discussion amongst us should proceed on the basis of this position of the Government as stated by the Prime Minister.

In regard to bonus, the Government have taken a contradictory stand. On the one hand, they say the bonus demand cannot be considered. At the same time, they keep



on mentioning the Bonus Review Committee which is supposed to consider this issue. Mr. A.I. Sharma of the INTUC has been repeatedly saying that the Bonus Review Committee is seized of the question of bringing workers in the industrial and commercial establishments under the Government of India within the purview of the Bonus Act. If that is so, what prevents the Government from formally amending the terms of reference of the Bonus Review Committee? At least why does not the Government agree to formally write to the Bonus Review Committee asking them to consider the question of applying the Bonus Act to the Railway workers also?

In regard to the question of wage revision, in the course of our discussions, we examined the various concepts that have emerged. You said that what we should ask for is the granting of an industrial wage to the railway workers as distinguished from civil service pay. The National Coordination Committee wants job classification with the need-based minimum wage as the bench mark. It has also advanced the concept of parity with public sector undertakings as an interim measure. Mrs. Gandhi herself has admitted that there are anomalies and contradictions in the wage structure and that there is need for rationalising it. But after admitting this, she says that this is a long term affair and that this has to be done without causing dislocation or upward revision of wages. How to achieve these contradictory objectives is a riddle to me. Her statement that there has been no increase in production and productivity is, as far as the railway workers are concerned, absolutely inapplicable. As you have yourself pointed out in the IRWF - INTUC publications based on official documents, Labour productivity has increased by 64 per cent during 1950-51 to 1972-73. You have also pointed out that according to the Railway authorities the productivity of workers in Railway workshops has gone up by 54 per cent during the same period. On the other hand, the report of the Third Pay Commission has admitted that the real earnings of the Lower Division Clerk have come down by 10 per cent, of an Upper Division Clerk by 18 per cent and of 'A' Grade railway driver by 22 per cent! In the last two years, there has been a further erosion in the real earnings of Railwaymen due to the phenomenal increase in prices. In view of this, the Government cannot take the position that they will not negotiate the question of the approximation of the wage structure in the Railways with the wage structure in the public sector undertakings.

The opposition parties and the Central Trade Union Organisation cannot merely act as a post office and send to the National Coordination Committee formulae which the Government considered themselves free to repudiate. Unless they are in a position to assure the Railway workers and their representative organisation - National Coordination Committee - that the Government have modified their rigid stand in regard to the two substantive issues involved, what is the point in creating an impression that these formulae constitute a substantial advance towards a solution of the problem?

The Central Trade Union Organisations have already given a call for a national general strike on 12th in support of the railway workers. It is also necessary that political parties should take steps to mobilise public opinion in favour of the just struggle for railwaymen and against the repressive and reactionary tactics of the government, its bureaucracy and its police forces.

You are both the General Secretary of the AITUC as well as the Chairman of your party. As Party Chairman and the senior most leader of the working class movement in the country, it is your duty to bring parties and trade unions together for considering what further action the working class organisations can take after 15th May as well as what steps the political parties can take for mobilising public support for the Railwaymen's struggle so that sufficient pressure is generated for achieving a speedy honourable solution of the dispute.

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(Madhu Limaye)

Shri S.A. Dange,  
New Delhi

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ALL INDIA RAILWAY EMPLOYEES CONFEDERATION - DELHI  
(A federated body of all categorical/departmental Associations).

16th

~~16th~~ May, 1974

To: All Presidents and General Secretaries and leaders of the constituents and other categorical colleagues.

As you are aware, we joined National Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's struggle with some hesitation because we were not sure whether political leaders controlling railway organisations like AIRF, AIFUC-controlled IRWF and Jan Sangh controlled BRMS were really interested in cause of railwaymen or in their own political ambitions but after we joined NCCRS, we gave clarion call to all of you to do everything in your power to carry the battle to the bitter end and achieve success.

Our faith in political leaders has since been belied and we now wonder whether it was right on our part to join the NCCRS. Various kinds of reports are in air in Delhi. One report says George Fernandes and important AIRF leaders got themselves arrested in collusion with Government as they were not sure whether they would be able to lead strike and that if they got landed in jail, they would come out as heroes. There is another report that the Dangeites of IRWF who have alliances with ruling party, got George Fernandes and other AIRF leaders arrested so that they could grab leadership of railwaymen. It is therefore not surprising that top leaders of the IRWF including S.A. Dange, Parvati Krishnan, P.K. Kumaran and Sri Krishna remained free and were not arrested. Parvati Krishnan and Sri Krishna were arrested only on May 14 but why not earlier is the question. Many people feel that they were arrested by Govt. at request of/

/CPT to counter the charge about selective arrests made in his letter of 12th May to Dange, by Madhu Limaye.

The CPI-M leaders in the P & T and Central Government employees gave call for indefinite strike from May 10, 1974. It is learnt that this call also was politically motivated and Marxists wanted to score over Dangeites. The Dangeites, in turn, foiled this attempt of Marxists by refusing to support the strike of P&T employees and Central Govt employees. The strike has also fizzled out and the Marxists have also withdrawn the strike call. To say least, we did not expect this type of 'solidarity' from P&T employees and Central Government employees who are so much in grip of the

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political leaders. The strike of R&T employees and Central Government employees being called off in only two days damaged so badly our struggle.

We were all along aware of differences between all these political leaders and we were also aware that each one of them was only ambitioning for power at expense of the railwaymen. Yet they showed in public that they were united. But now they have started quarrelling in open. In this connection, we are enclosing a letter written by Madhu Limaye, M.P. of the Socialists to Mr S.A. Dange, Genl. Secy. of the AIUC on 12th May, 74 and the reply sent by Mr. Dange to him on 13th May. The letters, which having appeared in all leading newspapers, speak for itself. In their bid to grab leadership, the Dangeites suggested that negotiations should be held with the Government by those leaders who had not been arrested so far. In this manner, the Dangeites hoped to exclude from the talks George Fernandes and other leaders of AIRF who are in jail. This was not liked by Mr. Madhu Limaye who belongs to Socialists like Mr. George Fernandes. Mr. Limaye insisted that arrested leaders should be released and should be associated with negotiations. On the other, Mr. ~~xx~~ Dange criticised Mr. George Fernandes for making policy statements from the jail. The reason was quite obvious. George Fernandes wanted to maintain his leadership even while in jail but the Dangeites do not want this.

The Socialist Party and Marxists are on one side and the Dangeites on other side. The Jan Sanghis of BRMS are somewhere in between but they are also weaklings and are after power like the others.

In view of the above facts, ~~wkxg~~ these politicians can be expected to betray the cause of the railwaymen. If it serves their political motives, each and everyone of these political leaders can betray the poor railway workers.

The inside fights of the political leaders who have now come in open pose serious threats to railway strike and ultimately the workers will suffer. The Govt. will victimise them and these political leaders will do nothing.

.p.t.o.

Already thousands of workers have been arrested and dismissed from service. That will happen to them. We are now convince that if we had launched our own separate agitation without any support or without associating ourselves with political leaders, we would have done much better. It is unfortunate that some of our own leaders fell into trap of political leaders and dragged confederation into the strike. We do not want to mention individuals at present because our own unity, i.e. unity of the Confederation and categorical associations is at stake and should be maintain at all costs. The situation now very confusing and the Railway Ministry appears bent to break the strike. Should we allow our workers to be unnecessarily victimised because we fell into the trap of the political leaders. The time has come for us to now ponder whether the Confederation and the All India Loco Running Staff Association should unilaterally withdraw from the strike and break all links in the politicians which have brought thousands of our workers to distress. All categorical and departmental association leaders may think it over and take early decisions themselves. If we do not act now, not only will the railway workers be doomed but the political leaders will finish the categorical associations and also our Confederation which we have built up with so much of labour and hard work.

Genuine leaders of the Confederation  
Railwaymen's unity Hindabad.

Letter of Madhu Limaye

Madhu Limaye  
 Member of Parliament  
 Lok Sabha

12-Gurdwara Rakabganj  
 Road, New Delhi-1  
 12th May, 1974

Dear Shri S.A. Dance,

Reference our discussion at Aiay Bhawan on 11th May, 1974.

From the press reports it seems that the Action Committee of the National Coordination

Committee for Railwarmer's struggle has rejected the Government formula conveyed to the Committee by some opposition leaders.

Even before the letter reached the Committee, Mrs. Gandhi made a surprising announcement at the meeting of the Congress Parliamentary party to the effect that this was not a govt. formula at all but that it was suggested by 'a member' at the meeting of the PM with the opposition leaders in Parliament. The repudiation by Mrs. Gandhi of the formula put forward by the Food Minister before the entire opposition shows how difficult it is to pin down the govt. to anything.

You suggested on 11th May that while the railwaymen's representatives should give up their insistence on the release of arrested people, the Govt. should also drop its condition that the strike should be withdrawn simultaneously.

To remove all misunderstanding, it is necessary to point out to the Govt. that negotiations will have to be held with the entire action committee including those members of the committee who are in jail, and not with the truncated committee. The Govt. cannot be allowed to choose the negotiators by making selective releases. The negotiators have been chosen by the National Convention of Railwaymen already. The unity of railwaymen is a precious thing and must be preserved at all costs. The Central Trade Union organisations and opposition parties must therefore make it absolutely clear that all members of the Action Committee have to be brought to the negotiating table. There should be no difficulty in bringing the Convenor and members of the NCERS who are in detention to the table to participate in negotiations and in sending them back to custody after adjournment.

Apart from this, the govt will have to modify its position on the substantive issues involved. Mr. L.N. Misra has declared time and again in Parliament that bonus and parity are non-negotiable.

Since some people felt that the PM's speech in reply to the No confidence motion in early hours of the morning of 10th May 1974 is a bit more flexible, I asked for the official version of her speech. I am enclosing herewith the relevant excerpts from the Lok Sabha debates. I have deliberately isolated these portions from the trusts and repartees which are an inevitable feature of such a debate.

What she has said about rationalisation of the wage structure, I have put in a separate category, and I have put her refusal to concede these points even in principle, in the category of negative statements.

The discussion amongst us should proceed on the basis of this position of the Govt as stated by the P.M.

In regard to bonus, the govt. have taken a contradictory stand. On the one hand they say the bonus demand cannot be considered. At the same time they keep on mentioning the Bonus Review Committee which is supposed to consider this issue. Mr. A.P. Sharma of the INTUC has been repeatedly saying that the Bonus Review Committee is seized of the question of bringing workers in the industrial and commercial establishments under the Govt. within the purview of the Bonus Act. If that is so, what prevents Govt. from formally amending the terms of reference of the Bonus Committee. At least why does not the Govt. agree to formally write to the Bonus Committee asking them to consider the question of applying the Bonus Act to the railway workers also.

In regard to the question of wage revision, in the course of our discussion we examined the various concepts that have emerged. You said that what we should ask for is the granting of industrial wage to the railway workers as distinguished from civil service pay. The National Coordination Committee wants job classification with the need based minimum wage as the bench mark. It has also advanced the concept of parity with public sector undertakings as an interim measure. Mrs. Gandhi herself has admitted that there are anomalies and contradictions in the wage structure and that there is need for rationalising it. But after admitting this, she says that this is a long term affair and that this has to be done without causing dislocation or upward revision of wages. Now to achieve these contradictory objectives is a riddle to me. Her statement that there has been no increase in production and productivity is as far as the railway workers are concerned absolutely inapplicable. As you have yourself pointed out in an INTUC-ATMUC publication based on official documents, labour productivity has increased by 64 per cent during 1950-51 to 1972-73. You have also pointed out that according to the railway authorities the productivity of workers in railway workshops has gone up by 54% during the same period. On the other hand the report of the Third Pay Commission has admitted that the real earnings of the Lower Division Clerk have come down by 10% of an Upper Division Clerk by 18% and of 'A' grade railway driver by 22%; In the last two years there has been a further erosion in the real earnings of railwaymen due to the phenomenal increase in prices. In view of this, the govt. cannot

take the position that they will not negotiate the question of the approximation of the wage structure in the railways with the wage structure in public sector undertakings.

The opposition parties and the Central Trade union organisation cannot merely act as a post office and send to the National Coordination Committee formulae which the govt. considered themselves free to repudiate. Unless they are in a position to assure the railway workers and their representatives organisation - national Coordination Committee that the Govt. have modified their rigid stand in regard to the two substantive issues involved what is the point in creating an impression that these formula constitute a substantial advance towards a solution of problem.

The central trade union organisations have already given a call for a national general strike on 15th in support of the railway workers. It is also necessary that political parties should take steps to mobilise public opinion in favour of the just struggle of railwarman and against the repressive and reactionary tactics of the govt its bureaucracy and its police.

You are both the Genl Secy of the AIUC as well as the Chairman of your party. As Party Chairman and the senior most leader of the working class movement in the country, it is your duty to bring parties and trade unions together for considering what further action the working class organisations can take after 15th May as well as what steps the political parties can take for mobilising public support for the railwaymen's struggle so that sufficient press is generated for achieving a speedy and honourable solution of the dispute.

With good wishes,  
Yours sincerely,

Sh. S. A. Danze.

Madhu Limave

Letter of S. A. Danze

All India Trade Union Congress  
24 T.M. Munshi Lane (Canning Lane) New Delhi

13 May, 1974

S. A. Danze, General Secy., AIUC has released to the press the reply sent by him to the letter addressed to him by Sri Madhu Limave.

My dear Madhu Limave,

I have received your letter undated but obviously of 12th May.

You have raised many points in your letter. So it may require a long reply. But I do not just now wish to do so. I will deal with some questions regarding the tactics to be pursued in order to secure a satisfactory settlement of the strike.

..7



At the present moment negotiations as such have come to a dead end. That dead end was brought about by the Govt side arresting George Fernandes and others, even while the negotiations had not concluded. That was certainly a provocative and immoral act.

Despite those arrests and partly because of them, the railway workers carried out a magnificent general strike on the whole railway system. There is no question that they deserve congratulations and unreserved support for their just struggle.

At the same time when workers go on strike they also want the leadership to find ways of settlement of the strike. In the case of railways it is much more so as they cannot like a factory or workshop remain on strike for months on end. Hence everyone has to exert to find a way to settlement.

The initiative taken by the opposition parties in Parliament to meet the Govt. was a welcome step. But the formula that 'unofficially' emerged from the meeting could not provide the solution.

Simultaneous releases, calling off the strike and negotiations to be resumed would mean that once the strike is called off and leaders are released, the negotiations could drag on for months. Hence the Action Committee did well to reject that formula.

But we cannot leave matters in that deadlock. So we did suggest that both sides resume negotiations without preconditions on either side.

It seems from your letter that this point has cut up you and your friends. You think that we want to negotiate and settle over the head of those who are in jail, that we, who are out due to what you call 'selective arrests' are 'truncated' people, who have no right to negotiate.

If by 'selective arrests' you mean that Communists are left out, while your partymen are arrested, you are totally mistaken. Hundreds of communist workers and railway leaders are also in prison. As regards our feeling 'truncated', the less said the better.

In fact, there have been hundreds of strikes, in which negotiations have been carried on by strike committees when their leaders have been arrested.

And there are instances when leaders in jail have assumed all powers and even called off strikes from inside jail without meeting the strikers or their committees as you may remember, you and George once did in Bombay in a Municipal transport strike. We in 'the truncated Action Committee' have no such intension.

But I must frankly state that if those who are in jail go on issuing statement of policy or call upon govt to come to jail and hold negotiations, it is overstepping the bounds of leadership and relations it should have with 'truncated body' outside.

When we proposed that negotiations be resumed by dropping the two preconditions by either side, we did mean that those outside would talk with govt and if any prospect of settlement come up on the horizon, the final decision would be taken only after full consultation and consent or otherwise with those in jail. This approach was suggested to break the deadlock and not to enter into any kind of settlement only by those who are outside jail. And let me also state that those outside, which includes people like you also are quite capable men to do the job.

I do not want to pick up any quarrel in the present atmosphere. Hence, your statement that 'unity of railwaymen is a precious thing and must be preserved at all costs' is absolutely correct. But why should that unity be broken, if someone suggests that talks be resumed without preconditions? How can there be a final settlement without the release not only of the leaders but the thousands of workers who are in jail.

You must remember railwaymen's unity has not come about so easily. Only last year the AIRF leadership was opposing and denouncing the struggles of locomen and other categories while we intervened on their behalf. The Conference of 27th February called by the AIRF and George Fernandes was the first step ever towards some united front of all railway organisations. The establishment of the Coordination Committee inspired the railwaymen as neverbefore for the first time in history. Let us keep it up. But the way you are pursuing things makes me a little worried.

As regards the question of industrial wage and bonus, I do not go by what the PM has said in a debate. Let her or her Ministers say what they want to at the negotiating table.

I do not wholly agree on your formulations on the wage question. But we need not argue it here. For example, when during the negotiations, we raised the question, George agreed to take off the word 'parity' from his formulation. You now speak of 'approximation'. In my opinion, George need not have substituted 'parity' by demanding 75% wage increase. He did it to point out the difference between annual earnings by the workers in public sector undertakings and those in railways. To point out the difference is one thing and demand 75% wage increase is another. That played into the hands of the govt who said that to grant 75% wage increase is just preposterous. I am just pointing this out as an instance of want of coordination among the leaders at the negotiating table. Any way let me not argue all this in detail.

The point now is how to find a way out of the deadlock. The workers' sacrifices are great, their behaviour is heroic. But the govt is getting adamant. So at this juncture, let us not keep them in the deadlock by arguing on some of our 'inner relations'. No one wants to settle without consultation with those in jail. But if there is a possibility, do not prevent even those 'truncated' ones outside to make an effort to break the deadlock, about which though I have no very high hopes. But let us try and not give up the efforts. Even if the Devil intervenes and helps to bring about negotiations, I will have no objection. It is the interests of the lacs that are paramount and not the question as to who brings about the talks and settlement.

Yours sincerely,

S.A. Dange.

P.S. Just when I was sending this to you, I learnt that you have released your letter to the press. This will cause more harm than good. You leave me no alternative but to release my letter to the press though it was not written with that view. I feel that you should not have done so to the press. Any way, it is your choice.

Yours sincerely,

S.A. Dange

Following is the letter written by Shri George Fernandes to Shri Jayaprakash Narayan, in reply to his telegram received at Tihar Jail:

Tihar Central Prison  
New Delhi  
May 18, 1974

My dear Jayaprakashji,

Many thanks for your telegram which reached me last night. Earlier in the day, I had seen its text in the Indian Express. I have also received your earlier telegram.

In Jail, isolated as I am from most members of the Action Committee, I am not capable of taking decisions one way or the other. All decisions have to be taken by the NCCRS and its Action Committee and unless the government makes it possible for us to meet, the present impasse will continue.

During the last two days, President Giri, who like you, is a former President of the All India Railwaymen's Federation, has also made some proposals for settling the railwaymen's dispute and the strike. According to newspaper reports which are my only source of information here since I have been denied interviews with all my trade union and party colleagues including Members of Parliament, President Giri has made certain concrete suggestions to the Prime Minister.

I believe that in what President Giri has reportedly said and in what you have stated in your telegrams to the Prime Minister and myself, there is a way to end this strike. The point is, will the Government accept it?

Today's newspapers report that the political Affairs Committee of the Cabinet at its meeting yesterday, has rejected the advice tendered by President Giri and yourself on ways and means of settling the strike. Mr. L.N. Mishra who attended the meeting as a special invitee seems to have told the PAC that the Army, the police and the mughals at the Rail Bhavan between themselves will still break the strike.

So it appears to me that the only course open to the railwaymen is to keep fighting which is what they are doing. The Railways keep lying about the return to normalcy in keeping with their earlier lies that only 8% of the workers had gone on strike. The radio is putting Hitler's minions to shame, though to me what is more galling is the realisation of the existence of so many so-called journalists and writers in this wretched capital who keep selling themselves for a pittance to Rail Bhavan and to the Information and Broadcasting Ministry.

Be that as it may, I am proud of the railwaymen and their wives and children and other relatives. They are fighting as few others have fought at any time anywhere. This heroic struggle waged with such great determination and courage can never be suppressed.

I hope your health is improving rapidly and you will soon be able to resume your normal activities. My colleagues and I broke our hunger strike yesterday, though I continue to be deeply distressed at my helplessness to protest railwaymen's families who are victims of

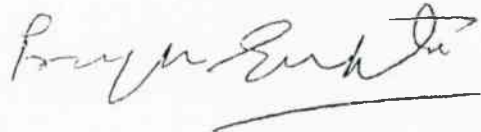
government's barbarity. But it is comforting to remember that we have your moral support. You do not know what it means to me, particularly at this moment.

With affectionate regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-  
George Fernandes

Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan,  
Vellore Hospital  
Vellore.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George Fernandes", is written above a horizontal line.

Opposition Leaders Meet  
Prime Minister

May 18, 1974

Subject: Memorandum to the Prime Minister  
regarding the settlement of railway strike

Dear Prime Minister,

We the following leaders of the Opposition parties in the Parliament submit the following suggestions in connection with the Strike of Railwaymen:

1. We request that the Government should not adopt a rigid attitude and arrive at an honourable settlement with the representatives of railwaymen.
2. With this end in view the railwaymen's dispute should be immediately brought to the negotiating table and talks should be resumed with the Action Committee of the National Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's struggle.
3. Some of us have been witnesses to unwarranted cruelties against railway employees, including harrassment of women; threats of eviction, mass arrests and victimisation. We demand that immediate steps should be taken to end this repression.
4. We feel that if these steps are taken promptly, atmosphere conducive to breaking the present deadlock in railways can be created.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,  
Sd/- S.N. Mishra (Cong-0)  
Bhupesh Gupta )  
Hiren Mukherji) CPI  
Jyotirmaya Bose)  
Samar Mukherji ) CPI(M)  
Tridip Chaudhary (RSP)  
Era Chezhiyan (DMK)  
Digvijay Narain Singh (Cong-0)  
Jagannath Rao Joshi (JS)  
Rabi Ray (SSP)  
Madhu Dandavate (SP)

(These Opposition leaders were present during discussions with the following Ministers)

1. Smt. Indira Gandhi (Prime Minister)
2. Shri Jagjivan Ram
3. Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed
4. S. Swaran Singh
5. Shri Uma Shankar Dikshit
6. Shri L.N. Mishra
7. I.K. Gujral
8. Shri Om Mehta

*Madhu Dandavate*

The discussions on strike situation took place at the

Copy of telegram  
received by Shri Samar Mukherji, M.P.  
regarding cruelties committed against railway employees

Samar Mukherji, MP

4 Asoka Road,  
New Delhi  
May 20, 1974

Dear Smt. Gandhi,

The opposition leaders drew your attention to the unwarranted cruelties against railway employees and their family members including women and children when they met you on the 18th last. They also mentioned that your government is resorting to brutal repressions for crushing the railway strike. Your reply was that the Government do not want to crush the strike through repressive measures. But unfortunately the actual reality is just the opposite to what what you have stated.

You assured the opposition leaders that if actual cases are brought to your notice you will see that they are stopped. Daily we are getting reports of oppression from various Railway Centres.

I am sending to you four telegrams which I have received recently, two from two Members of Parliament and one from Shri Jyoti Basu and another from Assam for your attention and immediate intervention.

Yours sincerely,  
Sd/-  
Samar Mukherji

Encl:

Smt. Indira Gandhi  
New Delhi

Bilassipara : REIGN OF TERROR PREVAIL IN RAILWAY COLONY  
NEWBONGAIGON BONGAIGAON POLICE INHUMANLY TORTURING PEACEFUL  
RAILWAY SERVANTS AND THEIR FAMILY AND FORCIBLY MAKING  
THEM SIGN DOCUMENTS OF SABOTAGE WORK . NCCRS and JCA New  
Bongaigon Bongaigon .

2) Malda:

Since Eighth may Fiftyfive railwaymen kept in  
concentration camp under wrongful confinement and terror  
forcing them join duties armed forces parading railway  
colony frequently(.) Wages of several employees withheld  
(.) Area Manager FR Sarcar Dy.CME/Diesel/ launching brute attack  
attack and refused political parties joint delegation  
interview with employees wrongfully confined and humiliated  
me and other political leaders(.) Ration being refused  
Malda peoples fury tense(.) Request immediate intervention  
redress withdrawal of armed forces and Area Manager  
Dinesh Jodhdar Member Parliament Malda

3) Asansol

Brutal repression by police on railwaymen and their  
families including women at Asansol Ondal Sitarampur Stop  
Many are wounded stop hundreds of workers have left their  
quarters in fear stop about two hundred workers  
their relatives including women arrested stop condemn this  
police repression stop demand their immediate release stop  
police repression be stopped: Robin Sen

4) Calcutta

Combing operation and violence against railway workers  
and their family mounted in chittaranjan workshop  
Kharagpur and Santragachi and other West Bengal  
Areas stop urge immediate intervention.

All India Railwaymen's Federation

121B Babar Road,  
New Delhi  
May 20, 1974

Dear Comrade,

I congratulate you and through you all the railwaymen of the zones for the splendid manner in which they have participated in the strike.

Instead of responding to the most reasonable demand of the NCCRS for the resumption of negotiations without any preconditions, the Government has been further intensifying its efforts to crush the strike and to create confusion among railwaymen by false propaganda through the AIR and official press statements. The Government has gone to the extent of using the Police, CRP, ESF, etc. for terrorising the women and children of railwaymen.

So long as the Government continues to depend upon its forces of coercion and suppression, the railwaymen have no other alternative but to continue the strike.

The spontaneity with which the railwaymen responded to the call of the NCCRS for a strike and the cool determination and voluntary discipline that the railwaymen have been showing so far in the face of all sorts of cruelties being perpetrated by the Police have been gratefully appreciated by the whole trade union movement of the country. I am sure that the railwaymen will not permit themselves to be provoked by the repression to which they and their families are being subjected and will continue to maintain voluntary discipline in their ranks as they have done so far.

What is heartening in this hour of our great trial is that almost the whole of the trade union movement is wholeheartedly supporting our just struggle.

Our struggle is just. It is only for a negotiated settlement of our just demands. Let us continue the struggle with determination and discipline, so long as the Government does not adopt a reasonable attitude.

Yours sincerely,

*Pritya Gupta*  
(Pritya Gupta)  
General Secretary

To All General Secretaries of the  
affiliated Unions and  
Working Committee Members of the AIRF

*Railwaymen's Union Lucknow.  
Solidarity and unity  
will pay in the long run  
our magnificent  
struggle cannot  
go down  
Success is definitely ours.*



FEDERATION OF NATIONAL P & T ORGANISATIONS

T-3, Atul Grove  
New Delhi-110001

No.....22-5/BA.

Dated...29...5...1974

To

Sri Priya Gupta,  
General Secretary,  
A I R F,  
New Delhi-1.

Dear friend,

I enclose herewith copy of my Circular dated 12th May, 1974 which reproduces my statement dated 7th to the Press in regard to solidarity action.

I have since received two letters from the P&T Board. One of them calls for my explanation on alleged infringement of D I R No. 119. The other asks me to show cause before the 12th June, why my Federation should not be derecognised.

This is for your information. I have endorsed a copy of this letter to the Secretary, Staff Side, National Council (JCM) for suitable notice.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

*sd*

(K. RAMAMURTI)  
Secretary-General

*copy to Secy, Staff Side, NC(JCM) for  
favour of suitable notice please*

*sd*

*Approved  
Part. Ch. Ramani*

*100*

*1/2*

FEDERATION OF NATIONAL P & T ORGANISATIONS

No. 22-5/SA.

T-3, Atul Grove  
New Delhi-110001.

To

Dated 29.5.1974

All Members,  
Federal Working Committee,  
FNPTO.

Dear colleagues,

Proposal of Govt. to derecognise the FNPTO

I enclose herewith copy of the following papers:-

- (i) Letter No. 39/25/74-SR. dated 18.5.74 from the DGP&T to the SG, FNPTO,
- (ii) Letter No. 22-5/SA dated 21.5.74 from the S G, FNPTO to the DGP&T,
- (iii) Letter No. 39-25/74-SR dated 25.5.74 from the DGP&T to the SG, FNPTO, and,
- (iv) Defence of India Rule No. 119 of 1971 made under DOI Act, 1971.

Sri Virendra Kumar, General Secretary, NURMSE-Class III had endorsed the call for solidarity action by issuing a Circular. He has also received a show-cause notice. The other Affiliates of the FNPTO are not affected.

The President and I have had discussions with the Hon'ble Minister (C) on the subject.

You are aware that the AIAOEA and the AIRMSEU-Cl. III (affiliated to the NFPTK) had served notices of strike and gone on strike. They had been served with show-cause notices and the TU facilities granted to them had been suspended by the DG,P&T.

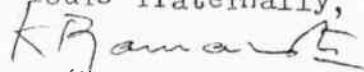
The Calcutta High Court heard a Writ Petition in the matter and has issued orders staying suspension of TU facilities granted to the 2 said Unions.

None of the other Organisations which embarked upon strike action has received any show cause notice. But, the P&T Board is in a hurry and is unable to distinguish between a strike and solidarity action.

In my Circular XIII dated 23.5.74, I had referred to the letter of the DG,P&T calling for my explanation in regard to alleged infringement of DIR 119.

I have time up to the 12th June, 1974 to reply to the Show-Cause Notice. The Federal Working Committee should meet to consider the situation and take appropriate action. The FWC may meet on the 10th or 11th June. I shall issue the Notice for the FWC Meeting shortly.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,  
  
(K. Ramamurti)  
General Secretary.

Copy of letter No. 39/25/74-SR dated 18.5.74 from the Member Admn, P&T Board addressed to Sri K. Ramamurti, SG, FNPTO.

"The attention of the Government has been drawn to a Circular No. VIII/23-14/PC dated 12.5.74, issued over your signature to all Circle Secretaries of the Affiliates of the FNPTO. In that connection I am directed to enquire whether the said Circular has been issued by you in your personal capacity or under the due authority of the concerned executive body in your Federation. Government note in the said Circular the text of a Press Statement issued by you on 7.5.74 which is reproduced as follows:-

"It appears that no collective industrial action by the Central Government Employees will ever be permitted by Government. The Employees have the hobson's choice of accepting whatever Government dole out or being victimised and suppressed if they protest. The intention of Govt. in arresting the Leaders of the Railwaymen engaged in serious negotiations is patent.

"The Federation of National P&T Organisations has not served any notice of Strike and is not participating in the Strike.

"But the FNPTO exhorts its entire membership to embark upon a solidarity action with the Railwaymen. The Members should attend office punctually wearing black badge, sign the attendance register, and, thereafter do not work for half to one hour between 10 to 11 hours in every office on every day of the Rail Strike. The time may be changed according to local convenience. Short of a Strike, the Members should lend mass support in such manner as may be appropriate to local circumstances. All Coordinating Committees at all centres should send a telegram appealing to the Prime Minister to intervene, release all arrested, resume negotiations and restore a peaceful and cordial atmosphere".

2. Government desire to point out that the action taken by you is a contravention of rule 119 of the Defence of India Rules, 1971. The question as to what further action is to be taken in this matter will be decided on receipt of a reply to this letter. Kindly send a reply so as to reach the P&T Board on or before the 27th May, 1974. In case no reply is received by that date, Government will assume that the above Circular has been issued by you in your individual capacity and would consequently consider themselves free to take such action as may be deemed necessary in the circumstances of the case.

Sd/ D.N. Ramchandani  
MEMBER (ADMINISTRATION)

-x-x-x-

#### 119. ESSENTIAL SERVICES

(1) This Rule applies to all employment under the Central Government or the State Government and to any employment or class of employment which the Central Govt. or the State Govt., being of opinion that such employment or class of employment is essential for securing the defence of India and civil defence, the public safety, the maintenance of public order, or the efficient conduct of military operations, or for maintaining supplies and services essential to the life of the community, may, by notification, declare to be an employment or class of employment to which this rule applies.

EXPLANATION -- For the purposes of this rule, "employment" includes employment of any nature, and whether paid or unpaid.

(2) (a) The Central Govt. or the State Govt. may, by general or special order, direct that any person or persons engaged in any employment to which this rule applies, shall not depart out of such area or areas as may be specified in such order.

(b) Any order issued under Clause (a) shall be published in such manner as the Govt. making the order considers best calculated to bring it to the notice of the persons affected by the order.

(3) Any person engaged in any employment or class of employment to which this rule applies, who -

(a) disobeys any lawful order given to him in the course of such employment, or

(b) without reasonable excuse abandons any such employment or absents himself from work, or

(c) departs from any area specified in an order under sub-rule (2) without the consent of the authority making that order,

and any employer of any person engaged in an employment or class of employment to which this rule applies, who without reasonable cause,

(i) discontinues the employment of such person, or

(ii) by closing an establishment in which such person is engaged causes the discontinuance of his employment,

shall be deemed to have contravened this rule.

EXPLANATION 1 -- The fact that a person apprehends that by continuing in his employment he may be exposed to increased physical danger is not a reasonable excuse within the meaning of clause (b)

EXPLANATION 2 -- A person abandons his employment within the meaning of clause (b), who, notwithstanding that it is an express or implied term of his contract of employment that he may terminate his employment on giving notice to his employer of his intention to do so, so terminates his employment without the previous consent of his employer.

(4) The Central Government or the State Government may by order regulate the wages and other conditions of service of persons or of any class of persons engaged in any employment or class of employment in which this rule applies.

(5) If any person contravenes any provision of this rule or of any order made under this rule, he shall be punishable, without prejudice to any action which may be taken against him under any other law for the time being in force, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both.

\*\*\*\*

Copy of letter No. 22-5/SA dated 21.5.74 from the S G, FNPTO addressed to Sri D.N. Ramchandani, Member (Admn), P&T Board.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of your letter No. 39/25/74-SR dated 18.5.74. It was delivered to me at 5-15 PM on the 18th through a special Messenger.

So far as the exhortation for "no work" for half to one hour is concerned, I enclose herewith copy of my Circular dated 17.5.74 for your information and record. I may add that none refused to perform any work, none disobeyed any order given, and, none left over any given work undone on any day. This may please be noted.

In para 2 of your letter under reference, it is stated that the action taken by me is in contravention of Rule 119 of DIRs, 1971. To enable me to reply to the allegation of contravention, it appears to me that some more information is necessary. I am to request you to be good enough to provide me a reasonable and fair opportunity by furnishing complete information on the following points:-

- (i) Whether any notification was issued by the Central Govt. declaring the P&T Services as Essential for the purposes mentioned in DIR No. 119(1).
- (ii) Whether, as a retired employee, I am still deemed to be engaged in any employment or class of employment to which DIR 119 applies, and,
- (iii) Which action taken by me has contravened the provisions of DIR 119.

I shall be thankful for the favour of an immediate reply.

I am further to request you to grant me time 7 days from the date of receipt of reply to this letter to furnish a reply to your letter under reference.

\*\*\*\*

Copy of letter No. 39-25/74-SR dated 25.5.74 from the Member (Administration) P&T Board addressed to the S G, FNPTO.

"I am directed to refer to the correspondence resting with your letter No. 22-5/SA, dated 21.5.74 and to state that the Government have noted that you have not denied having issued on the 12th May, 1974, a call for showing solidarity with the strikers in the Railways by, inter alia, abstaining from work for half to one hour every day during the period of the strike. Government desire to point out that the exhortation to abstain from work amounts to a strike and attracts the provisions of rule 119 of the Defence of India Rules, 1971. In the circumstances, Government have found it necessary to take a serious view of the Circular and after taking all factors into consideration, Government have tentatively come to the conclusion that the recognition accorded to your Federation should not continue. Before a final decision is taken in the matter, Govt. desire to give you an opportunity to make any representation that you may wish to make as to why your Federation should not be de-recognised. Your representation, if any, should reach the P&T Board on or before the 12th June, 1974. In case no representation is received within this time limit, it will be assumed that you have no representation to make and Government would consider themselves free to pass any order they deem proper in the circumstances of the case.

2. In the meantime, the normal facilities afforded to your Federation are being suspended pending a final decision on the question of withdrawal of recognition.

\*\*\*

Sl/ D.N. Ramchandani,  
Member (Administration)

# N. F. Railway Mazdoor Union

Registered No. 425  
(Affiliated with A. I. R. P.)

Calcutta Branch  
11, Convent Lane  
Calcutta-15



Pandu, Assam

Ref. No. MUKA/Victimisation/74

Dated 29-5-1974

To  
The General Secretary,  
N.F. Railway, Pandu.

Sub:- Victimisation.

AIR/1608

Dear Comrade,

In continuation to my letter of even no. 28-5-74 I am to inform you that Shri Anil Kr. Chakraborty, Sr. Typist under DCO S/PST has also been removed from service with effect from 24-5-74 under Rule no. 14 (II) of the Rly. Servant (D & A rule) 1968 issued by COS/N.F. Rly/M.G.

Hence, kindly include name of Shri Anil Kr. Chakraborty, Sr. Typist in the list sent to you on 28-5-74 for taking necessary action as deemed fit.

This is for your information

Please ack: receipt.

Yours faithfully,

(Mrunal Chatterjee)

(2)

Copy to (1) Shri Priya Gupta, General Secretary,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation, New Delhi

(2) Convener, N.C.C.R.S./Calcutta

for information and necessary action

please.

Ullah

(M. Prasad Chatterjee)  
Secretary,  
N. F. RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION,  
CALCUTTA BRANCH.





# Eastern Railwaymen's Union.

Registered under Indian Trade Union Act 1926 (Regd. No. 2770)

Recognised by the Eastern Railway Administration.

Affiliated to The All India Railwaymen's Federation.



*zili*

**Dinal Doy**  
**General Secretary**

**CENTRAL OFFICE**

23 & 24, Strand Road.

No. Strike/74.

Cal-1 28th May, 1974.

**The General Manager,**  
**Eastern Railway,**  
**Calcutta-1.**

**Sub: Withdrawal of strike notice**  
**issued on 23.4.1974.**

Dear Sir,

I am directed to inform you that the strike notice served by the Union on 23.4.74 is hereby withdrawn from immediate effect and all concerned have been advised to resume their duties at the earliest. I trust that there will be no difficulty on the part of the railway employees who were on strike to join their duties and to request you to kindly inform all concerning authorities accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

Actg. General Secretary.

Copy forwarded to the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) for information and necessary action.

Sd/-

Actg. General Secretary

Copy forwarded to the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) Calcutta for information and necessary action.

Sd/-

Actg. General Secretary

Copy forwarded to Shri P.riya Gupta, General Secretary, AIRF, in reference to his Wire dated 27-5-74.

*[Signature]*

Actg. General Secretary.

*A.M. 10.10*

May 31

President

There was a telephone call from Shri N.C. Roy Choughury of Kharaghpur. He informs 15,000 cases of dismissals which are increasing daily.

He desired to know if any orders regarding reinstatement of dismissed and removed employees have been issued from Delhi. He was however advised that the same is expected within a couple of days.

He also wishes to talk to you on your arrival.

  
(Sarhad)

*f*



# एन० ई० रेलवे मजदूर यूनियन (NERMU)

(द्वि-दलित यूनियन ऐक्ट के अन्तर्गत पंजीकृत, भाल इन्डिया रेलवेमेन्स फेडरेशन एवं हिन्द मजदूर  
समा से सम्बद्ध तथा एन० ई० रेलवे प्रशासन द्वारा मान्यता प्राप्त)

सदस्य-नेशनल सेफ्टी काउंसिल

सदस्य-सहायक सिद्ध

सहायकी-कन्हैया लाल गुप्ता

केन्द्रीय कार्यालय

गोरखपुर

पत्र सं० NERMU/1111/16/74

दिनांक 25.5.74

The General Manager,  
N.E. Railway,  
Gorakhpur.

FOR KIND ATTENTION OF MR. P. S. CHOPRA.

Dear Sir,

Subj:- Withdrawal of strike,

Ref:- Working President's letter dt. 30.4.74.

....

Under the powers vested in me by the General Body Meeting of N.E. Railway workers Union held at Gorakhpur on 27th February, 74, I hereby withdraw the strike from 6 P.M. of 27th May, 74. This may kindly be connected with this office letter of even no. dated 23.4.74.

It will be appreciated if necessary orders are issued to reinstate all removed/discharged/terminated staff in accordance with the assurance given by the Railway Board so that the situation may normalise. You may kindly use your good offices for getting released all railwaymen arrested in the wake of strike.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

General Secretary.

Copy to:-

1. The District Magistrate, Gorakhpur for information. He is requested to kindly take necessary action so that all railwaymen and others arrested in connection with railwaymen strike are released forthwith in accordance with the Govt. of India's decision.

General Secretary.

2. Copy to the Regional Labour Commission, Kanpur
3. Copy to the Regional Labour Commissioner, Banbad
4. Copy to the Chief Labour Commissioner, Delhi.
5. Copy to the General Secretary, ALL India Railwaymen's Federation New Delhi.
6. Copy to the Regional Conciliation officer, Police Line, Gorakhpur.

*Cum*  
General Secretary

30/5/74  
31/5/74  
A 1111/16/74

Confidential,  
No.E(SS)10-37/10.

All HODS  
All DSs,  
All Extra-Divl.Officers,  
N.E.Railway.

N.E.RAILWAY  
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER  
Gorakhpur, Dated 25th May, 1974

Sub:-Railway Strike in May, 1974.

In connection with the above, the principle of 'No work-  
No pay' shall be applied in all cases of staff, who have absen-  
ted themselves. There will also be break in service in their  
cases. The record of attendance shall be carefully checked.

2. Subject to the above, further broad guide lines of the  
act on to be taken in respect of staff, who have joined duty  
or returning to duty after absence are given below.

- a) Staff, who come back to duty unconditionally may be  
taken back to duty. If any of them has indulged in acts  
of violence, departmental action should be taken against  
him.
- b) A number of staff, who participated in the above strike  
have been removed/dismissed from service under Rule 14(11)  
of D.A.R.-1968. These employees may have submitted their  
appeals to the appellate authorities. The appellate  
authorities may consider each appeal on its own merit.  
These ex-employees who have not taken an active part in  
the strike and who are considered desirable for retention  
shall be allowed to come back to duty.
- c) As regards staff, who have been arrested under the  
provision of the D.I.R. and who have been let off on  
bail, the competent authority may consider whether their  
arrest was for any acts of violence, intimi-dation or  
sabotage. If not, they can be taken back to duty after  
getting a written undertaking from them that they will  
serve the Administration faithfully. Their being taken  
back to duty shall be without prejudice to any action  
that may be taken on receipt of Court's judgement.
- d) As regards cases where employees have been convicted by  
the court, further instructions will follow.

No.AD/Con/74-Strike/Pt.II

Copy forwarded to all Sectional Officers at H.Q. WAO/GKP, GKC  
& AAO/DSA, DSO/IZN, BSB, LJM, SPJ, AAO/W&S/SPJ and JAO/GG, WA and DSA  
Izatnagar for information.

Sd/-P.N.Talwar

For GENERAL MANAGER

Dt.31.5.1974

Sd/-

For F.A. & CHIEF ACCOUNTS OFFICER/AD.



3457  
4/6/74

# एन० ई० रेलवे मजदूर यूनियन

(NERMU)

(इंद्र यूनियन ऐक्ट के अन्तर्गत पंजीकृत, आल इन्डिया रेलवेमेन्स फेडरेशन एवं हिन्द मजदूर  
समा से सम्बद्ध तथा एन० ई० रेलवे प्रशासन द्वारा मान्यता प्राप्त )

सदस्य-नेशनल सेफटी कार्टिसल

अध्यक्ष-बसावन सिंह

आरखा अध्यक्ष-श्री रामसिख पान्डेय

पत्र सं० NERMU/Sl. No. 74

महामंत्री-कन्हैया लाल गुप्त

आरखा मंत्री-मुन्नी लाल

प्रधान शाखा

गोरखपुर

दिनांक 4/6/74

The General Secretary,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
New Delhi.

AM/7/60/5

Dear Friend,

Sub:- Detention under HISA.

Shri B.C. Ghose, Working President of the Union had been here on 22.5.74 in connection with giving local advice to our local advocates. He has since drafted a representation to be filed on behalf of those persons who have been detained under HISA before the Advisory Board. The draft is being enclosed for you in this letter with a request that the local advocates may kindly be circulated the same if you deem it necessary. Shri B.C. Ghose has since left for Katihar and G. Ghati tour and will be back to Patna on 27th via Calcutta. On the same date he will argue before the District Bench of Patna High Court the cases under HISA filed by him for the detainees of Katihar.

Rest all O.K.

Yours sincerely,

DA/as above.

General Secretary.

*Handwritten:* 11/11/68

I the undersigned belonged to Scheduled Caste Communities denounce a press statement appearing in the daily news papers dated 26th and 27th April, 1974 regarding the non-participation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe Railway Employees on Indian Railways in the forthcoming indefinite strike from May 8, 1974. This is purely an act of so called leaders of Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribes Railway Employees who are not bothered for the uplift of the community and integration of this down-trodden community is the main stream of 2 million railwaymen.

This is purely an economic battle which will be more beneficial to the backward classes in respect of Bonus and other Financial Benefits, which is direly needed for the uplift of the Scheduled Caste Employees in railways particularly for better education for their children and to lead a decent standard of life.

I assure to our 2 million railway brothers that we will fight them shoulder to shoulder as a comrade in arms.

Since the decision as appeared in the news papers in the name of All India Scheduled Caste/Tribe Railway Employee Association has not been approved by the G.E.C. and seems to be taken by one or two persons and not accepted by the whole community. Therefore, I appeal to all the members of SC/T Rly. Employees ~~not~~ to participate in the proposed general strike which is ment for general causes.

*Handwritten:* Babu Ram  
(Babu Ram) 27-4-74

All India S.C. & ST Rly. Emp. Asso. N. DLI.

Copy to Shri George Fernandes, Convenor, National Coordination Committee for railwaymen struggle, 125-E, Babar Road, New Delhi.

Copy to Shri Gian Chand, Convenor, Coordination Committee, N. Rly., Baroda House, New Delhi.



# एन० ई० रेलवे मजदूर यूनियन (NERMU)

(ट्रेड यूनियन ऐक्ट के अन्तर्गत पंजीकृत, आल इन्डिया रेलवेवेल्स फेडरेशन एवं हिन्दू मजदूर  
समा से सम्बद्ध तथा एन० ई० रेलवे प्रशासन द्वारा मान्यता प्राप्त)  
सदस्य-नेशनल सेफ्टी काउंसिल

अध्यक्ष-खसावन सिंह

महासचिव-कन्हैया लाल गुप्त

केन्द्रीय कार्यालय

गोरखपुर

पत्र सं० NERMU/...../74

दिनांक ..... ३१.५.७४.

The General Manager,  
P. . Railway,  
Gorakhpur.

FOR KIND ATTENTION OF SHRI P. CHO SA.

Dear Sir,

Sub:- MISMANAGEMENT OF STRIKE FORTY.

The Union is concerned with bringing the position to normalcy after calling off strike in accordance with the decision of National Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's Union. In its supreme duty the following difficulties are being faced:-

1. Dismissal of staff whose services have been terminated under rule 14(ii) of R.A.R., 1953:

According to information available about 250 staff at Gorakhpur is out of job on this score. I am further given to understand that some of executive officers are even not receiving their presentations and some of the executive officers are forcing the employees to file regret letter for their conduct and needful action. This does not suit in the circumstances when according to Govt. of India the strikers would be allowed to join their jobs straightway with consequential effect on break in service. This position may kindly be got checked up and necessary orders given.

2. Warrant cases:

You are aware that Ministry of Labour have since withdrawn the application of Payment of Wages Act in the wake of railwaymen's strike. A good number of staff of Signal Deptt. have not been paid their wages for the month of April, 74 till date. Necessary orders may kindly be given for arranging their payment.

3. Medical Assistance:

Some of the removed railway employees usually do need urgent medical assistance. They are to file app. within the period of 45 days. It is therefore submitted that necessary arrangement be made as a matter of good-will gesture to allow them medical facility till their cases are finally disposed of.

4. Warrant cases:

According to information warrant against some of the staff are still enforced. In accordance with the decision of Govt. of India necessary directions to the effect have been given by the Ministry of Home Affairs to Civil Authorities. You are also requested to kindly intervene so that the staff under warrant are allowed to resume duty and necessary arrangement made to withdraw the complaint from Civil Authorities against them.

contd....2....

( 2 )

9. Break in service:

It will be appreciated if necessary arrangements are made to direct executive officers to give benefit of leave, passes etc. admissible under Rule T.S.S. in regard to break in service for those who have participated in strike.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

*C*  
(K. P. CHATTERJEE)  
for General Secretary.



# N. F. Railway Mazdoor Union

Registered No. 425  
(Affiliated with A. I. R. P.)

Calcutta Branch  
11, Convent Lane  
Calcutta-15

Head Qrs.  
Pandu, Assam

EXPRESS

MV/CA/Victimisation.

Dated 23.5.74. 197 .

Ref. No. \_\_\_\_\_

The General Secretary,  
N.F.Rly.Mazdoor Union,  
Maligaon.

Sub: Victimisation.

Dear comrade,

The following members of our Union have been removed from services on dates noted against each of them. -

<u>Sl.No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Design.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>under rule No. by whom</u>
1.	Sri Murari Mohan Chatterjee	ASK	20.5.74	14(II) of the Rly. Servant (D&A) Rule, 1923 issued by COS/ILF.R./MLG.
2.	" Mrinal Kanti Chatterjee	Sr.Clerk	24.5.74	-do-
3.	" Biswa Rajan Nag	-do-	-do-	-do-
4.	" S.K. Roy Chowdhury	-do-	-do-	-do- by CPO.
5.	" B.N. Singha	- Hd. Clerk-	-do-	-do- -do-
6.	" Samir, Kr. Roy chowdhury	Jr.Clerk	-do-	-do- -do-
7.	" Swapan Kr. Saha Banik	- Jr. Clerk	-do-	-do- -do-
8.	" Mrisikesh Banerjee	- R. Sorter	-do-	-do- -do-
9.	" Ajoy Kr. Ghose-KH.		-do-	-do- by COS.
10.	" Bhajoo	-do-	-do-	-do- -do-
11.	" Keshori Singh	-do-	-do-	-do- -do-
12.	" Rajdhari Mahato	-do-	-do-	-do- -do-
13.	" Balkissan Chaubey	-do-	-do-	-do- -do-
14.	" Nimai Naskar	-Subs-KH.	-do-	-do- -do-
15.	" Md. Mazid	-do-	-do-	-do- -do-

P TO

This is for your information and necessary action please.

Please acknowledge receipt.

Cordially yours,

(MRINAL CHATTERJEE)  
Secretary/H.F.R.M.U./CA.

Copy to -

- (1) Sri Priya Gupta, General Secretary, All India Railwaymen's Federation, New Delhi.
- (2) Convenor/ICCRS(Calcutta)  
for information and necessary action please.

*Mrinal Chatterjee*  
(MRINAL CHATTERJEE)  
Secretary/H.F.R.M.U./CA.



JAI BHARATHI

# South Central Railway Mazdoor Union

(Registered & Recognised, Affiliated to AIRF & HMS)

Lallaguda Workshops Branch

INKILAB ZINDABAD

Chairman : E. R. BALLIAH  
Secretary : D. YADAGIRI  
Treasurer : RAMULU

7-C Railway Building,  
Accounts Office Compound,  
SECUNDERABAD-500025.

Ref. SCRMU/Divl./SC

Date 08-1-1974 .....

To  
The President,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
125-E, Babar Road,  
New Delhi. 1

Dear Comrade,


Sub: 1. Victimised Employees of 1960 Strike and  
their service after reinstatement.  
2. Advance Payment on 25-2-74.

.....

1. A bunch of 35 mercy representations of the Victimised Employees of Secunderabad in 1960 Strike was handed over to Shri Priya Gupta by Shri M. Loganathan, Vice President in the month of November, 1973. All the 35 employees were taken back to service afresh without counting their previous service. They have represented to consider their cases on mercy grounds and condone the break in their service. In short they are particular about the restoration of their seniority from the dates of their original appointment. I request you to kindly take personal interest in this matter and see that their grievance is redressed.

2. The employees are particular about their payment well in advance in the month of February, 1974 i.e. on 25-2-74. You can well imagine the reasons for this. Holi falls on 8-3-74 and hence the employees require money in advance to purchase clothes etc. If any other ground appears to be more reasonable to you, the claim may be presented that way. However I request you to press a demand with the Railway Board and ensure that the payment is made on 25-2-74.

Yours faithfully,

  
(D. Yadagiri)  
Secretary.

Copy to : ✓ The General Secretary/AIRF/NDLS for information.  
" " The Treasurer/AIRF/NDLS for information.

**SOUTH EASTERN  
RAILWAYMEN'S UNION**

Affiliated to A. I. R. F. & A. I. T. U. C.  
RECOGNISED BY S. E. RAILWAY ADMINISTRATION.  
REG. NO. 3580

दक्षिण पूर्व रेलवेमेन्स यूनियन

CENTRAL OFFICE  
UNION BUILDING  
KHARIDA, KHARAGPUR (W.B.)  
PHONE : P. A. T. 348  
RLY. 2787

M. C. Bosechoudhuri  
General Secretary.

No. B/20  
UR/79 21 November 1973

To  
The General Secretary,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
New Delhi-1.

Dear Comrade,

Sub: Victimisation of Union Officials  
in Nagpur Division of S.E. Railway.

The General Manager of this Railway Shri G.S.A. Saldanha in his bid to quell the Railwaymen's legitimate agitations at gun-point had ordered fire on a demonstration of Railwaymen at Hingir organised by the Raigarh branch of this Union. As a result of firing opened by Railway Protection Force, two gangmen/Chaitram and Baliram were killed on the spot and one young Pointman lost his left hand and one gangman, Sirkaro, is suffering from Paralysis of half the body as a consequence of severe bullet injury in the brain. This unprecedented and dastardly murder of Railwaymen evoked widespread protest and three Divisions viz. Chakradharpur, Bilaspur and Nagpur were completely paralysed for two days.

Now the General Manager who walked in the path drenched with the blood of Railwaymen decided to mount an attack on this Union and he found a worthy lieutenant in Shri P.C. Luther, Divisional Superintendent, Nagpur.

Luther claims himself to be an expert in handling labour. Retrenchment of casual labour including those on CPC scales of Pay is a part of his monthly routine. Loco-Running staff and all other categories of Railwaymen are constantly harassed with Charge-Sheets. He selected Dongargarh branch of this Union as a target. Dongargarh has earned the disrepute during the last decade for its acute water scarcity during December. During the Summer in 1972, due to total mis-management the water scarcity even caused dislocation of train services. Distress of the Railwaymen and their families knew no bounds. During the Summer the Union organised agitations for water and it is only as a sequel to the agitation water supply was improved.

Luther issued Charge-Sheets on a mass scale to those who took part in the agitation and resorted to ruthless wage cuts. After Hingir firing he was further emboldened and decided to transfer the Secretary of Dongargarh branch Shri G.C.S. Rao.

One of the lieutenant of Luther was Shri Raghubirsingh, Station Master at Dongargarh. Raghubirsingh's deals of corruption were detected by the Railway Vigilance Organisation who recommended termination of his service at 55 years of age in public interest but after his removal from service, Luther extended his hand of support to him. The Railway Board was influenced by Luther, A.P. Sharma and Rameshwar Pandey an I.P. from Madhya Pradesh. Thus Raghubirsingh was re-instated and he was restored to the Office-Bearership of S.E. Railwaymen's Congress. But the Railwaymen vehemently resented when Raghubirsingh was posted back at Dongargarh as Station Master. The President of this Union, Comrade Indrajit Gupta, A.P. had spoken to the Railway Minister to stall re-installation of Raghubirsingh at Dongargarh. Possibly at the intervention of the Railway Minister both General Manager and the Divisional Suptt. retraced their steps and issued orders to post Raghubirsingh at Ihari.

In return of this defeat Luther wanted his pound of flesh. G.C.S. Rao is a Goods Clerk at Dongargarh and he is in turn for promotion in the next higher grade. On this plea the Divisional Suptt. issued orders for transfer of G.C.S. Rao on promotion to Madasa (Maharashtra) though there was

Madhu Limaye

12, Gurudwara Rakabganj Road,  
New Delhi 1

22 November 1973

Dear Shri Giriji,

Subject: Charge Sheet against  
Shri Lalit Narain Mishra

With reference to the meeting which the delegation of M.Ps and Bihar M.L.As had with you in connection with the presentation of a memorandum against the Railway Minister, we wish to give below the supplementary charges which need thorough and impartial investigation.

1. When Shri L.N. Mishra took over as Foreign Trade Minister, he established contacts with Indian nationals operating from across the Nepal border and allowed them to continue their smuggling activities in an open and legal manner. He allowed them to send to India stainless steel, synthetic yarn, fabrics and readymade garments on a big scale. For the 1971 elections, large sums of money were taken by Shri L.N. Mishra from these smugglers. It was only because of our persistent criticism of the Indo-Nepal trade racket that when the Treaty came up for revision, certain clauses were incorporated in it which put some curb on the smugglers' activities.
2. In the last quarter of 1971, contrary to the declared policy of the Government to import cotton through the Cotton Corporation/S.T.C. and other Governmental agencies, Shri L.N. Mishra gave the cotton merchants of Bombay a permit to import one lakh bales of cotton. We have been informed by very reliable sources that a sum of Rs. 30 lakhs was given to Shri L.N. Mishra as consideration for the favour granted by him to the cotton merchants.
3. Shri L.N. Mishra's relations with a business man, Shri Santosh Kumar Tulshan (Jhunjhunwala) are very close. This "business man" is using all sorts of undesirable methods to influence Government officers and Ministers. A permit for exporting one lakh bales of raw jute was given to this gentleman by Shri L.N. Mishra's Ministry. An exception was made only in his favour; the rest of the jute exports was effected through governmental agencies. This gentleman had no particular experience of jute trade. An advantage was sought to be taken of the shortage created by Pakistani invasion of Bangladesh and the total disruption of its economy in the wake of this aggression. Many factories abroad were at that time faced with closure, and these foreign countries were prepared to pay a very high price for raw jute in 1971. On this transaction this party made Rs. 70 lakhs out of which a substantial portion went into the pockets of Shri L.N. Mishra.
4. The Foreign Trade Ministry formulated a fraudulent scheme of barter and export houses. Shri L.N. Mishra's close relationship with this Tulshan enabled him, before and after Shri Mishra took charge of the Ministry, to get import entitlements. Against these import entitlements/ import licences stainless steel was imported on which the premium was very heavy. This person earned a tidy sum of Rs. 3 crores in these transactions! Tulshan's Karnataka Exports, it is further alleged, have cheated the Mysore Government to the tune of Rs. 27 lakhs.

Several other firms have also exploited this barter and Export Houses Scheme. Under the Scheme, the export houses, in fact, became import houses. I wrote a detailed letter to the new Commerce Minister on this subject. He took a long time to reply to the letter. When finally he replied, he only sought to whitewash the whole shady scheme. However, because of the admitted irregularities, the whole scheme had to be scrapped.

5. When Shri L.N. Mishra was Foreign Trade Minister, he used the services of one C.B.I. officer, Shri Darbari, to collect money against permits, licences and quotas granted to different individuals and firms by his Ministry. The C.B.I. officer provided a good cover for Shri Mishra's nefarious activities. Shri Darbari did not hesitate to abuse his position and is reported to have manipulated licences for his own son. Some T.V. sets were also imported by this officer. Some Congress M.Ps protested against this and one top civil servant in the Foreign Trade Ministry also demanded his recall from the Ministry. The same gentleman has now been taken up in the Railway Ministry. Shri Darbari's activities have been the subject matter of questions and explanations in Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha. Shri L.N. Mishra has sought to take shelter behind the Personnel Department's recommendation for Railway(Labour) Intelligence. But the fact of the matter is that this Department was unaware of the remarks of the Commerce Ministry civil servant against Shri Darbari. The file had never been sent to the Home Ministry; the recommendation of Shri Darbari's name was made in ignorance of the Commerce Ministry's evaluation of Shri Darbari's work! But Shri L.N. Mishra was not unaware of the charges against Shri Darbari! He had been informed by the Congress Rajya Sabha Members themselves.

6. Shri L.N. Mishra violated the provisions of the Tariff Commission Act under which it is obligatory for the Government to place its Reports before Parliament within three months of their submission, along with the Government decisions thereon. For a long period, Shri Mishra suppressed these reports enabling the manufacturers of artificial yarn and fibre to earn enormous amounts on which very little tax has been paid by them. Nylon filament yarn constitutes only 10 per cent of the total production of man-made yarn/fibre. But even in this limited sector, the five monopoly spinners were enabled to make fantastic profits as the following table would show:

Name of company	Year	Gross Profit
1. J.K. Synthetics	1971-72	8.42 crores
2. Modipon	"	4.67 "
3. Nirlon	"	2.07 "
4. Century Enka	"	2.82 "
5. Garware	"	1.84 "

These profits, of course, do not include the blackmarket earnings on which they pay no tax. These profits are estimated to be at least Rs. 10 lakhs a day!

Similarly, rayon monopolists like Birlas have been making a lot of money, thanks to the pro-monopolist attitude of Shri L.N. Mishra, the then Foreign Trade Minister. The monopolists conferred on Shri Mishra a very rich monetary reward. Upon my re-election to the Lok Sabha, I raised the question of suppression of Tariff Reports and his successor, Shri D.P. Chattopadhyaya had to apologise for the suppression of these Tariff Commission Reports for which Shri L.N. Mishra was as a matter of fact responsible. Suppression of Tariff Reports became a settled policy of the Government and two other Ministers (Industrial Development and Petroleum) also had to apologise for this lapse.

7. After Shri L.N. Mishra became Railway Minister, he began to establish close contacts with the contractors and their agents, and started taking commission on Railway contracts and purchases. The sums involved are very large.

8. The country today is suffering from acute shortage of essential commodities, including coal. The Steel Mines Ministry claims that coal production, after nationalisation, has, instead of decreasing, increased marginally. The increase may be purely notional inasmuch as the private mine owners were concealing their actual production and selling it off secretly without paying taxes and that immediately after nationalisation, this concealment stopped for some time. Under the new dispensation, the malpractice is being revived by the officers of the nationalised coal mines. Any way in the short run marginal increase in coal production was shown by Government statistics.

It is true that the demand for coal from power stations and other industries is growing. Even so, there should not have been such widespread shortage and increase in prices. Apart from the Mines Ministry, Railways are also responsible for aggravating this crisis. Taking advantage of the psychology of shortages, the Railway Minister started exploiting the anxiety of the private sector to ensure a continuous flow of coal supplies. For wagons allotment, Shri L.N. Mishra started taking money. It is believed that there is a daily collection of Rs. 2 lakhs. The aforementioned Tulshan (Jhunjhunuwala) is now acting as the Minister's agent in this work. Allotment of one goods train for coal fetches, knowledgeable people say, at least Rs. 6 lakhs. On other essential commodities the illegal gains are even higher. Shri Mishra's transfer from the empire of the foreign trade ministry to the Railways did not stop his money-making activities. There can be no doubt that coal and railways are the key to India's economy recovery and progress. Even power output and steel production depend on the efficient running of these two Ministries. Shri L.N. Mishra's activities are not only immoral but they are positively harmful to economic survival and growth.

Our colleagues from Bihar have already listed in the first Memorandum the instances of loot carried out by the Mishra family in Bihar. The above charges are even more serious than those listed in the first Memorandum.

Your term comes to an end in August next year. In this last year of your term, unless you assert yourself, the drift on the economic front cannot be halted. The common people are undergoing terrible hardships which have been aggravated by the greed and corruption of the Ministers and officers. Shri L.N. Mishra is easily the king of these corrupt Ministers and officers.

The Prime Minister's reliance on black money and her support of Maruti have enabled unscrupulous Ministers like Shri L.N. Mishra to amass wealth with impunity.

May we request you, therefore, to appoint a Commission headed by a retired judge of integrity like the former Chief Justice Koka Subba Rao to probe the charges made against Shri Mishra and members of his family?

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-  
(Madhu Limaye)

Jyotirmoy Bosu

Shri V.V. Giri,  
President of the Republic of India,  
Rashtra Pathy Bhavan  
New Delhi.



*9/10/74*  
*Amr/160-B*

The Deputy Chief Personnel Officer (1A),  
Northern Railway Headquarters,  
Baroda House,  
New Delhi

Sub: Appeal on behalf of Sri Jagadish Lal Luthra,  
Clark, Operating Branch, Headquarters Office  
against the order of dismissal from service  
purported to have been passed by the Senior  
Personnel Officer (1A) on the 16th May, 1974  
and served on the appellant on the 3rd June,  
1974 being order No. E-142/341.

Ref: Your letter No. E-142/341, dated 27.6.1974.

...

Sir,

The allegations in paragraph 1 of the said order  
are factually incorrect and baseless.

2) That in terms of notice given by the Union, the  
strike was to commence from 8th May, 1974.

3) That therefore, there was and could not have been,  
in the circumstances any occasion for threatening or intimidating  
the workers to go on strike prior to 8.5.1974, whether legal  
or illegal.

4) That the appellant could not in these circumstances  
have asked the staff not to work from 2.5.1974.

5) That if as alleged the appellant had acted in  
the manner alleged on the 2nd May, 1974, and if his activities  
of 2nd May, 1974 were considered such as to warrant dismissal,  
there was no reason why no action was taken against him prior  
to 16th May, 1974, when the alleged order of dismissal was  
purported to have been passed, and the order was not communicated  
when until the strike had terminated and for five days thereafter.

6) That the appellant being arrested on defunct  
charges on 7th May, 1974 just a day prior to the commencement

Contd.

of the strike, the dismissing authority had naturally forced the order on allegations prior to 7th May, 1974.

7) That if what has been alleged against the appellant had been done by him in the Headquarters Office, itself, on the 2nd May, 1974, the matter must have been known to the Senior Personnel Officer (HQ) who sits in the same office, the same day soon thereafter and action would have been taken against the appellant immediately thereafter and he would not have been allowed to work in the office uninterrupted thereafter until his arrest on the 7th May, 1974.

8) That it is clear from the above that the allegations were fabricated by some person and falsely made against the appellant.

9) That application of the Rule 14(11) in these circumstances is unwarranted.

10) There should have been no reason for not holding an enquiry into the allegations, if they could be specified so clearly and the time lag for making the dismissal order was certainly sufficient to hold an enquiry.

11) That even so Rule 14(11) is not intended for such occasion as this.

12) That in view of the order being appealable the reasons for not holding an enquiry under Rule 9 and 13 of the Railway Servants (R&A) Rules should have been communicated to the appellant so as to enable him to file an effective appeal under Rule 13 of the Rules.

Contd.

13) That in absence of disclosure of such materials the appellant's right of appeal under Rule 18 stands curtailed.

14) That Rule 14(ii) does not make the decision of the disciplinary authority final nor does it prevent disclosure thereof, on the contrary the very fact that the order under Rule 14(ii) is appealable makes the disclosure a must and subjects the decision of the disciplinary subject to order by appellate authority.

15) That appellant's rights under article 31(2) have not been curtailed or in any manner, affected by Rule 14(ii) which merely provides that inquiry under Rule 9 and 13 would be avoided by such order. It does not take away the right under Article 31(2), apart from the Rules.

16) That the principles of natural justice require that the appellant is entitled to be heard before he is condemned in the manner sought to be done in paragraph 1 & 2 of the order and the punishment is imposed against him on the basis thereof.

17) That the Rule 14(ii) does not, nor even does it purport to, take away this right of Andi Altran Partem which is independent of the Rules and besides the Rules.

18) That much before 7th May, 1974 even so early as 7.4.1974 the Govt. of India had in collaboration with the State Govts. and District Officers and Railway Officers, prepared list of persons to be dealt with in different manner, that is by dismissal, removal, etc. in the event of commencement of strike on 8th May, 1974, and even both steps in pursuance thereof to arrest quite a large number of leaders and active

XXXXXXXXXXXX

Contd.

members of the All India Railwaymen's Federation, NCCRS and the Unions affiliated wherein called their constituents. The appellant although a very ordinary worker of the Union just have been so chosen for dismissal so that he had been arrested on 7th May prior to the strike and dismissed while still in jail custody.

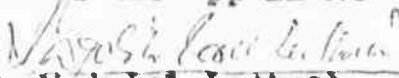
19) That the appellant being a faithful Trade Unionist was certainly a worker of the Union which was engaged through the AIRF and NCCRS in negotiated settlement and anxious for its resumption even after it was abandoned by the Railway Ministry and which was expecting conciliation and adjudication to follow notice under Section 22 of Industrial Dispute Act.

20) That as such the appellant could not have called for or threatened people to go on strike on the 2nd May, 1974.

21) That the appellant has been equally faithful to his work and did never commit any such act subversive to discipline and even had urged for a strike notice, whereof had been given by the Union under the Industrial Dispute Act and by adopting legal process.

That in these circumstances it is requested that the appeal may be allowed and the order of dismissal passed by Senior Personnel Officer be set aside and the appellant be reinstated with effect from the date of the order with full benefits.

Yours faithfully,  
Signature of the Appellant

  
(Jagdish Lal Luthra)  
A2/56, Safdarjang Enclave,  
New Delhi.

Dated: July 30, 1974.

" UNITY IS STRENGTH "



Tele Phone : 374813  
Gram : RAILEADER

## Western Railway Employees' Union

Regd. Recognised & Affiliated to AIRF & HMS

**Confidential:**

Ref. No. WREU/Strike/74/20

Date 31-5-74 19

To  
The General Secretary,  
WREU GTR,  
Bombay-7.



Dear comrade,

Today I met collector Rajkot in connection with withdrawal of Defence of India Rules cases which are pending in court of law and employees who are released on bail.

It has been informed by him that no instructions are received from Gujarat Govtt. Gandhinagar in this connection so far.

A complete list of staff has already been despatched to you for Rajkot in this connection.

This is a general issue and you are requested to take early actions through central Home Ministry to all State Govtt.s. to withdraw all DIR cases of strikers before all the cases come on hearing by the court authorities.

I hope early actions under advise will be highly appreciated.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

(J. M. Acharya)  
Divisional Secretary,  
WREU RJT. & Member working committee,  
AIRF.

Copy to:- General Secretary,  
AIRF Delhi for n.a. please.

Head Office :  
Grant Road, Rly. Station,  
BOMBAY-7

President,  
Miss MANIBEN KARA

General Secretary,  
U. M. PUROHIT

Secretaries,  
JAGDISH AJMERA  
K. C. TRIVEDI

Divisional office :  
Kothi-Compound,  
RAJKOT

Divisional Chairman,  
SOMAJI SONAJI

Divisional Secretary,  
J. M. ACHARYA

Divisional Treasurer,  
JIWATRAM D. J.

Rly., Auto Telephone 348

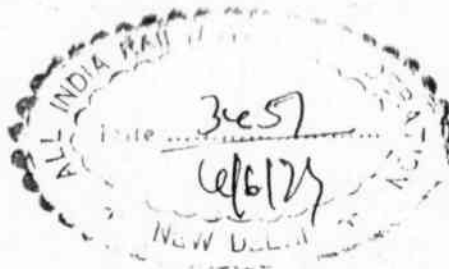
A 11/12/74

" The assumption that the worker was fundamentally wrong and the employer fundamentally right, was the result of a psychology vitiated by subservience to the capital idealogy."

DR. RADHA KRISHNAN

From

Smt. RAHMATHUNNISA,  
1/3, Teeds Garden,  
I. Street, Perambur,  
Madras.11.



Madras.11,  
Dtd: 30.5.74.

To

Shri L.N. Mishra,  
Railway Mini-ster,  
New Delhi.

For Personal attention of our kind  
Minister.

Thro' Shri Piloo Mody M.P.

17/160B  
If nothing else could be set right, if you have a mind, the administrative machinery should atleast be made effective and efficeint. The main cause for the discontentment of the public is the administrative lapses and delayed tactics, as I can see things. The Railways must appoint an Administrative committee or set up a cell to deal with public complaints impartially and effectively.

In my one case, I had been appealing to all concerned from a long time to grant me the family pension as per rules since I become a widow due to the death of my hubband H.Sathar Khan, Gr.II, Clerk, SAD's/W/PER office. S.Ry., Madras.23, on 31.1.68 on account of Heart failure. Even though I am eligible for the family pension days are being pulled on to see that I am also dead. These procedures are not fair for the poor people like me. Even after your letter to Shri Piloo Mody M.P. ( no. MR/6320/A.73 dated 20.1.74) no effective action appears to have been taken so far.

Kindly order the Board to finalise my issue in terms of the existing rules and grant me the family pension.

Kindly excuse me for the inconveniences caused to you.

Soliciting an early favourable reply.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

\* *Rahmathunnisa*  
( RAHMATHUNNISA ).

एन० इ०

(मजदूर यूनियन)



(द्वितीय यूनियन ऐक्ट के अन्तर्गत पंजीकृत, ध्यान)

समा से सम्बन्ध तथा एन० इ० रेलवे प्रोडरेशन एवं हिन्दू मजदूर

तदस्य-नेशनल सेप्टी के. वान्यता (ग्राम)

सहायकी-कन्हैया लाल गुप्त

सहयक्ष-बसवन्त सिंह

केन्द्रीय कार्यालय

गोरखपुर

30.5.74

पत्र सं० NERMU/..... Fed.13

The General Secretary,  
A.I.R.F.,  
New Delhi.



Dear Friend,

*HMF/1604*  
*[Signature]*

In accordance with the decision of National Co-ordination Committee for Railwaymen Struggle the strike was called off copy of which has already been endorsed to the Federation and other authorities. Arrangements are being made to get the arrested persons released all over the railway. Only in 2 cases at Gorakhpur summary trial was made and two of our comrades working as Substitute Engine Cleaner were convicted one month rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs.25/- each in default one month's R.I. Action was taken further for getting the order stayed from the competent court of law. Distt. Judge, Gorakhpur stated operation of the order and granted bail. These persons were convicted under DLR and other provision of Criminal Procedure Code. Over the N.E. Railway about 1,000 employees including important trade union workers have been served with termination/removal/dismissal orders. The percentage of such employees have since been allowed to resume duty on the basis of their submission of regret letter.

We have taken strong view of the decision and have written to the General Manager about such action of the Executive officers. The reaction of the G.M. is still awaited. Many of the simple strikers have not been allowed to resume their duties by the administration. This position has also been brought to the notice of the G.M. who has come to Gorakhpur just morning from his Patna tour where he had gone to attend Shri L.N. Mishra, Railway Minister. Kindly let us know when the Federation executive (Working Committee or General Council) is scheduled to meet. This information is required to adjust our own programme. We have directed all the employees whose services have been removed/dismissed under Rule 14(ii) of DAR, 1968 not to file appeal immediately till we receive the same from our Working President, Shri B.C. Ghose. Most of our active trade union workers are adhering to and still out of employment. This information is being sent to you for your needful action and direction. Comrade K.L. Gupta is still in Jail and is expected to come out by 31st May, 74.

with regards,

Yours youngerly,

*[Signature]*  
General Secretary.

Copy to Shri B.C. Ghose, at Patna. He will kindly contact Shri Basawan Singh and intimate him about the details.

General Secretary.

*H/11/17/60-11*



*File*

R.K. Avenue  
Patna-800004  
29.5.1974

My dear Chatterjee,

Just received your telegram. I have sent you the following reply.

"Appeal still not advisable <sup>await</sup> ~~against~~ reinstatement.  
Starting Ranchi thirtyfirst enroute <sup>Ganesh</sup> Ghatsila.

Basanta Chose.

I am of the view that it would not be desirable to file appeal now for very cogent reasons. Firstly we must wait for reinstatement of those whom the administration takes back unconditionally. Those who are not reinstated alone need file appeal.

Those reinstated may have to take action against refusal/xx withholding of wages/between May 8 and 27th after the application has been made by the Unions for reference of Industrial Dispute under Section 12 of I.D. Act. None of the Unions has withdrawn strike notice and the notice remains. The strike has not been ~~can~~ launched by either the AIRF or any Union, the plea of calling off of strike would not be available in that case.

If appeals are filed now without waiting for reinstatement, the appellate authority may reduce the punishment to censure or withholding increment or any other minor punishment leaving these reinstated with no remedy. The appellate authority may pass that order, now that <sup>normally</sup> ~~namely~~ is being restored by a show cause <sup>to</sup> complying with the Rules.

I would not like to take any risk. I would rather wait until ~~the~~ 44 days for these <sup>May</sup> appeals draft will be ready by the 17th latest.

It will also be necessary after <sup>every</sup> ~~any~~body has been released to convene a meeting of the Central Council or convention of the Union and requisition convention of AIRF to consider matter arising out of action of the administration



administration from May, 2 and the period following the same.

My tentative programme is as under:-

Start by plane on 31st May for Ranchi at 13.55 Hrs.

Leave Ranchi by Plane on 1st June at 14.45

Reach Dum Dum Air Port 1st June at 16.15

Leave Dum Dum for Gauhati on 2nd June

by flight no. 209 at 11.20

N.F.R.M.U. programme till 6th

Return to Calcutta on 6th by flight no. 210

Start for Ranchi by Ranchi Express.

Go to Tansa (Dist Sundergarh) on 8th June,

Return to Ghatsila on 14th June,

15th June Jamshedpur

16th June Chaibasa

18th June Ranchi

20th June Hazaribagh

21st June Reach Patna in night.

21st June onward stay at Patna.

Trust this will find you all well. With affectionate wishes to you all.

Your affectionately,

*Basanta Chandra Ghose*

Sri K.R. Chatterjee,  
59, Humayunpur,  
Gorakhpur.

(Basanta Chandra Ghose)

- Copy to (1) Sri Priya Gupta, 125 E, Babur Road, New Dolki-1.  
(2) Sri Rakhal Das Gupta, N.F. Rly. M. Un. Pandu, Gauhati. 12  
(3) Sri Bimal Dey Gen Sec. Eastern Railwaymen's Union  
23-24 stand Road, Calcutta-  
(4) Branch Secretary N.F. Rly, Masdher Union, Katihar

# Young Employees Railway Peace Council

President :  
Joginder Lal Bhatnagar  
291/E, Railway, Colony.  
Punjab Line,  
GHAZIABAD.

Head Office :  
Eucce's Staff Complaints Bureau  
Railway Road, Ghaziabad.  
Meerut (U.P.)

General Secretary :  
Surinder N. Sharma  
"Saraswati Bhawan,"  
Jatwara-Dasna Road.  
GHAZIABAD.

Ref. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date May 30, 1974.

Tb,  
3 sub  
31/5/74

1. Shri J. P. Chaubey,  
President,  
U. R. N. U., 126 Babar Road,  
New Delhi.
2. Shri P. N. Sharma,  
General Secretary,  
U. R. N. U., 166 Panbkuin Road,  
New Delhi.

Dear Comrade,

I hope you will please excuse me for addressing this direct appeal to you requesting you to consider a shake up of your Executive Council in the wake of the results of the May 1974 unsuccessful strike, which has brought untold hardships and miseries to thousands of railway workers and their families and had done uncalculable harm to our national economy.

2. This state of affairs has set the minds of every sober and sane element amongst the railway workers, to a new line of thinking. It is being felt by everyone of them that the induction of outsiders and political leaders in the railway trade unions has brought no spectacular gains to the workers, rather on the other hand they have brought misery on them. The outsiders and political leaders who are associated with the railway trade unions simply drag these organisations in the fulfilment of their political ideologies and use the workers as pawn in their game of political manoeuvring.

3. We have seen the unhappy results of every strike during the last few months sponsored by such leaders. These are before us to chalk out our future line of action.

4. No doubt it is the birth right of a worker to strike. But this should be our last weapon and should be used very sparingly and after very careful assessment and thought when all methods representations, negotiations, arbitration etc. fail. But to resort to this weapon while negotiations are on with the Government cannot but bring misery and hardship in its trail causing hardship to millions of our countrymen and destroy the economic growth of our country.

See file  
B  
A.R.F./60-23

(2).

Our demands should be genuine and within the capacity of our Government to comply. The other course was understandable during the time of Britishers, but now, when our own brothers and sisters are at the helm of affairs, who have been voted to their chairs by us, it is very unrealistic to confront them with such demands; force them to accept them or face a general strike. We are a poor nation, struggling hard to develop our national economy to give every one of our national reasonable necessities of life. In the present times the touch stone for all our activities should be based on our motto "COUNTRY FIRST AND EVERYTHING AFTERWARDS."

5. It is true that Appendix XIII of State Railway Establishment Code Vol. I. provides inclusion of a certain number of outsiders as Honorary Members, but this provision was made during the time of Britishers who in order to keep their hold on the activities of Unions wanted men of their choice to guide and conduct the affairs of railway unions according to their wishes. Much water has flown in the ganges ever since. A railway worker of today is fully conscious of his rights and privileges and there is no dearth of competent, sober and sincere leadership amongst the workers today who can pilot the union affairs discreetly and efficiently keeping the welfare of the workers and the country in the forefront.

6. I, would therefore, earnestly appeal to you on behalf of our council to put this matter before the Central Councils of your Union and consider the replacement of the present leadership of outsiders by suitable labour leaders amongst the railway employees.

7. In the end I may assure you that we have no personal motives or any axes to grind by giving this suggestion. We are not averse to healthy trade unionism nor we would support the Government in any anti-worker legislation. We are anxious to see the growth of healthy trade unionism with the flame of nationalism and patriotism burning in every heart so that no one could act or behave in a manner that may jeopardise our national growth and the prosperity of our countrymen.

8. If you have any misgivings or doubts about our stand, we would be too pleased if you give us a look up any day at your convenience for discussion and clarifications.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,  
*S. K.*  
(SURRENDER NATH SHARMA).



# Western Railway Employees' Union

( REGD. RECOGNISED & AFFILIATED TO AIRF & HMS )

BOMBAY DIVISION

NANDURBAR - Branch.

Head Quarter Office :

GRANT ROAD ( East )

BOMBAY - 7.

Phone: 374813-Rly. Auto 4317

Branch Office :

NANDURBAR

Date 18-5-74

To  
Gen. Venkatesh Karia  
President  
Western Railway Employees' Union,  
Mumbai

Ref. No.

3453  
4/6/77

Sub: - Victimization of K.R. Nair, Guard  
Nandurbar.

Ref: - DDO BCT's No. Con. B/308/1082/136 of  
18-5-74.  
2. WRO HQ circular No. 66/74 of  
21-5-74.

...

Dear Comrade,

With reference to the above, this is to point out that Shri K.R. Nair, Guard-Nandurbar & member of NCCRS NDB who bravely organized and jumped into the battle was arrested on 10-5-74.

2. On 28-5-74 he reported for duty was handed over a letter of his Dismissal under above number in which it is laid down regarding his dismissal under Discipline & Appeal Rule 14(VI) of Railway Servant (DB A) 1968. He is dismissed from 18-5-74.

3. He is not involved in violence sabotage or not done any damage of any Mly. property. He has been arrested by the Police merely as he was on strike under D/R 1971.

4. He is thus victimized in the battle. The information is being communicated for necessary action and to do all round possible efforts to reinstate him into services as early as possible.

Yours fraternally.

*Rajaram Z.*

Secretary

W R E U, NDB

Western Railway Employees' Union  
NANDURBAR BRANCH OFFICE  
Station Road, NANDURBAR  
Dist. DHULE

The roll played by the leaders of Congress Union have not even heard in labour class movement . They gone to such a below standard that they actively participated and co-ordinated with the Police and Railway Officials to catch as many workers and labour leaders as possible from the houses and hiding places. So many workers have been handed over to the Police from the duty places and the Police severely beten them while in custody. The workers so arrested include those with whom they got personel enmity. Some of these officials even carried pistols and other wepons and acted as if they are the Police authorities.

Due to above reasons the strike from 8-5-74 as planned and organised earlier could not be materilised on a large scale. At any way we cannot blame the workers as the brutal repression terror tactics and intimidation let loose by the Police, Railway administration and Officials of the Congress Union was so terrible. There was also no practical support from the left parties (political) during this trouble period. The Railwaymen at Jhansi are eager to play their part in the strike once the Police and PAC are left Railway area.

On date there are 205 men locked up in the Central Jail Jhansi being detained under various false charges of the Railway strike. An equal number of workers and leaders are out. All of them are being dismissed or suspended by the Railway administration.

Most of the workers who turned up for duty after 8th have been insulted by the Railway administration and officials of the Congress Union. These workers have been compelled to join duties to draw their wages. Such workers are being asked to give written statements about their activities in the strike and also about the leaders who motivated them. In several cases workers were detained in the administrative offices for days together as they refused to give declarations to the satisfaction of the Officers. Transfer and other sorts of vivtimitisation is also going on at large scale. Even relatives and friends of the striking workers and leaders are being subjected to victimisation.

Inspite of immobilisation and repression the workers are not demoralised. Even after going through a very hard days of jail life without proper permissible facilities and medical care the moral of those in jail are very high and there is no need to be worried over them till an honoura settlement is achieved.

Yours fraternallly,

*W. R. D.*

for SANGHARSHA SAMITI :

*W. R. D.*  
The General Secretary,  
N. R. D. U., BB.

The General Secretary,  
N. R. D. U., BB.

# NATIONAL RAILWAY MAZDOR UNION

WORKSHOP BRANCH JHANSI.

45, Manohar Pura Nagre,

JHANSI (U. P.)

Date.....27-4-74.

Ref No...../S/Struggle/74.

Recd 30/5/74

Dear Comrade,

Sub:- Railway Strike-- JHANSI:

I am directed to report as under in connection with the above for your kind information ~~and also to inform you that the above mentioned~~

*HMP/160/1*

The strike at Jhansi started from 0-00 Hours on 3-5-74. 3 leaders of this Unit have been arrested on 2-5-74 and the Police was chasing other important Office Bearers through out the night of 2/3-5-74. In the strike held on 3-5-74, 100% employees participated. These strikers through peaceful means had virtually paralysed the working up to 11-30. But the trouble flared up when a Police force consisting of P.A.C.; appeared in large number at the Railway Station and a reign of terror unleashed on the striking Railwaymen. To begin with the Police thrown Children of Railwaymen, who have assembled to see the strike, on Railway track and then beaten them without any consideration of their age. The Police also thrown teargas followed by heavy lathi charge on the employees. After discharging the workers from station they attacked Railway Institute. There also they lathicharged and arrested so many workers and outsiders. After that the Police suddenly surrounded the strikers gathered on a large scale between Loco Shed and Workshop. Under the cover of tear gas shelling the Police lathi charged on the workers at their maximum possible scale. Because of these actions at 3 places within a short period a large number of employees terribly injured and arrested. The Police men even not spared ladies and children from brutal lathicharges. They also set fire on cycles and a Fandal. The vessels used to supply water to the strikers also searched and taken away by the Police. As they failed to arrest the workers to their anticipated strength, the Police got inside of the houses and dragged and beaten the men flock and thrown them into Police Van.

In the evening of 3-5-74, 144 was declared not only over Railway area but also private colonies where Railwaymen are residing. Under the shelter of 144 they chased the Railwaymen and public at Bazar and beaten all those who happened to be there. Arrest and terror tactics went on unchallenged. From news papers it is understood that a Policeman was dead and a light engine (diesel) was derailed and set on fire.

Yet the workers could manage to continue the strike on 4-5-74 also. From early morning of 4-5-74, the Police along with P.A.C., started another round of most heavy lathicharge on Railwaymen followed by arrest. On account of the Police actions the workers planned to join duties and to re-start the strike from 3-5-74. It is to point out that the reign of terror and intimidation created by the Police at the instance of Railway authorities was so brutal that in the history of Jhansi similar one has not been heard even during British period. The Police, P.A.C. and Railway authorities adopted such dirty methods on Railwaymen and their families ~~against~~ which are in fact against all democratic principles with a total disregard for all laws and human canons of civilised behaviours. Due to these repression the workers preferred to be on hiding than to face the Police at any cost. A majority of the workers though not demoralised in their main moto of strike joint duty with a hope to get a shelter from the Police and PAC. The condition of those who attended duties were more terrible than to face brutal actions of the Police. Each and every Officers under the shelter of Police treated the workers as mere slaves. All hard earned facilities through constant struggle for years together, have been withdrawn overnight. In short the working conditions so drastically changed ~~to~~ to suit with the will and wish of those Officers. There is hardly any one full of hearted. The so called loyal workers are also facing the same trouble and have realised their mistakes.

(P.T.O.)

from.

A/M/1/60-B

Hariga Chattervedi  
E/L/3845 of 14/5/69  
Asst. Luggage Clerk  
Bombay Central.

11<sup>th</sup> May Nineteen Seventy



To. All India Railway Employees Union.

Suggestion's for Railway Welfare & way to strike the Government for from Base's

① Payment's should reach direct to Home's without fail & there should be no without pay. in.

Case of Sick. the Railway Doctor should reach to the Home of Rly Employees. & if

He is not sick than only in the presence of family member's He (the Doctor) should mark ABSENT.

② Every Detensary (Rly) must have full address of the Railway families.

③ There must be full care of families & of Railway Employees & the sons of Railway Servants should get I Preference's in Railway Services.

④ In Case of Acciden Accident or Death or in the State of D. Border of Mental Disease's. Rly should pay full payment to the ~~and~~ wife of Railway Employee's & All Care's must be taken for there health.

5<sup>th</sup>

All must get Rly Quarter's & this industry which is only Earning maximum. must get Full salary minimum.

{	Rs 10	for	Daily	IV	Class.
	Rs 15.	for		III	Class
	Rs 20	for		II	Class
	Rs 25	for		I	Class



Salary means a lively HOOD in.

Dear

There must be Ration SHOP seprate  
for Rly Employees & according those  
Family member's they should be sent  
Full Ration. &

Luggage Clerk's can afford.

Properly the Ration shops &  
Supply to all the Railway Servant's  
the Ration. I & Salary later on.

Insure there life I & II treat  
them as Bone's & Brain's of  
NATION.

WITHOUT Railway NO Business  
NOTHING. You can  
Long live Railway Union.  
Harish Chatter.

V. P. Trivedi

Divisional Secretary  
Northern Railwaymen's Union  
Director

O & R Railway, P. Co-op. Bank Ltd.

Ref. No.....

25/26, Atya Nagar

Residence 1  
11/39 (F) Railway Quarters  
Charbagh, Lucknow.

Dated 19.4.74

H/11/2/60/1

Respected Chaube Ji,

We have decided to observe May day on 1st May 1974 at Lucknow. Local units of Central Govt employees have also agreed to participate.

It will be best occasion

President  
may kindly  
see

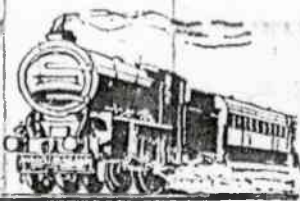
if Sri George Farmanak, give his valuable time to grace the occasion. Kindly

confirm per heavy fall programme i.e. arrival to departure so that we may announce this soon.

Sri J. P. Chaube,  
Treasurer  
H/11/2

With regards,

J. Sunkh  
(V.P. Trivedi)



# NORTHERN RAILWAYMEN'S UNION

Registered & Recognised

Affiliated to : ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION & HIND MAZDOOR SABHA

## DELHI DIVISION

Divl. President  
Com. Amar Singh  
Divl. Secretary :  
Com. M. P. Dutta

Divisional Office :  
120-E, BABAR ROAD,  
NEW DELHI-110001



*Handwritten:* AIRP/164

Ref No. NRMU/DLI Divn./74

Dated April 1974

The Inspector General of Police,  
Delhi State, DELHI.

Reg:- Harassment by-Police Department to Our Office-Bearers.

It has been brought to my/our notice that your office has created a separate C.I.D. Cell in each Distt; of Delhi. There is a Cell under S.F. (C.I.D.), they are experienced persons and know how to deal or talk with Organised Labour. Some raw, un-experienced and rude behaviour people have been off & on harassing and threatening our Union Office-Bearers at Shakurbasti, New Delhi Area, DelhiKishan Ganj Area and other places. Thus they are trying to widen the gulf between Organised Labour and Police Department. Our Union is affiliated to Hind Mazdoor Sabha and All India Railwaymen's Federation. There had been full cooperation with the local Police. This Trade Union People are engaged in a "LIVING WAGE", "BONUS" and other grievances. Trade Union strength with their employer. The Police should in no case be a party to suppress, harass or threaten peaceful bread earners.

*Handwritten:* struggle

If Railwaymen get Minimum Rs.350/-, Police Constable will automatic get the same as such. Police should be a non-party, Impartial and peace living force.

*Handwritten:* Subordinates

It is hoped you would immediately instruct your S.Ps. of all Districts to issue instructions to their Subordinates to behave in a decent and respectful way, under advice to us.

With regards.

Yours faithfully,

*Handwritten signature of M.P. Dutta*

(M.P. Dutta)

Divl; Secretary N.R.M. Union, New Delhi.

*Handwritten note:* Copy forwarded to Com. George Fernandes  
Civilians National Coordinating Committee to  
write to Home Minister under address

J.P. Chaubey,  
President.

30th May,

4.

My dear Bahugunaji,

Re : Release of arrested Railway personnel  
from U.P. prisons.

...

Today, some of the office bearers of my Union met me and explained that the employees detained under MISA at Meerut have not been released in spite of the fact that quite a few days back the Govt. of India have issued necessary instructions on the subject.

I have also reports that a large number of employees continued to be detained in prisons at various places in U.P. In some places, in many cases the employees have been released on personal bonds. I hope that in a state where the Chief Minister is himself a Trade Unionist there should not be any delay in releasing the personnel arrested under MISA or DIRM.

Today, I wanted to contact you from Delhi on phone, but you were out of station. I am, therefore, sending this letter.

I shall be grateful if you could kindly take immediate action so that the personnel are released immediately.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Shri H.N. Bahuguna,  
Chief Minister of U.P.,  
Lucknow

  
(J.P. Chaubey)

- c.c. to :
1. Genl. Secy. NRMU, New Delhi.
  2. Genl. Secy. NRMU, Gorakhpur
  3. Divl. Secretaries:
    - a) Allahabad,
    - b) Moradabad,
    - c) Lucknow
    - d) Workshops (Lucknow)/NRMU

for information and necessary action.

...

J.P. Chaubey.

AIRB/LCO-B

May 30, 1971.

Dear Shri Govind Narain,

Re : Release of railway employees arrested under  
MISA.

...

The Home Minister has made a categorical statement which appeared in the press that the persons arrested under MISA in connection with the railway strike will have to be released.

I have received intimation that the Andhra Pradesh State Govt. have released only some of the employees detained under MISA at Hyderabad and other employees who were also arrested under MISA have not yet been released. The Chief Secretary, Andhra Pradesh has stated that he was awaiting clearance from the Centre in respect of some of the Railway employees. This, however, appears amazing. Nevertheless, I am addressing this letter so that you might write to the State Govt. of Andhra Pradesh to release all persons detained under MISA in accordance with the policy announced by the Govt. of India.

I shall be grateful if you could kindly send us a line in reply.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(J.P. Chaubey)

Home Shri Govind Narain, ICS,  
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of India,  
(Ministry of Home Affairs)  
North Block,  
New Delhi.

Copy to the General Secretary, SCRMU, Secunderabad,  
for information in reference to Shri Madhavan of the  
Socialist Party's telephonic intimation to the undersigned.

...

J.P.Chaubey.

AIR/160-B/233

May 30, 1974.

Dear Shri Bary,

Re : Release of Shri A.V.K. Chaitanya and other  
Railway employees from Hyderabad Prison.

...

While the Home Minister has made a categorical statement that the railway employees who were detained under MISA will be released soon, the Chief Secretary of the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh has stated that he has not received any clearance from the Centre in regard to the release of some of the railway employees which include Shri A.V.K. Chaitanya.

It may be stated here that many persons detained under MISA have been released and only 9 have been kept detained. It appears that the State Govt. will release these persons in consultation with the Railway Administration.

I shall be grateful if you could kindly look into the matter and do something urgently to secure their release.

An early action in the matter will oblige.

Yours sincerely,

  
(J.P. Chaubey)

Shri M.N. Bary,  
Chairman,  
Railway Board,  
New Delhi

Copy to the General Secretary, SCNU,  
Secunderabad, for information.

...

ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION

125/E, Babar Road, New Delhi.

AIRF/Strike/74

21st May, 1974.

From: Priya Gupta,  
General Secretary,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
125/E, Babar Road,  
New Delhi-1.

To  
The Secretary General,  
I.L.O.,  
Geneva (Switzerland).

Dear Sir,

Sub: Complaint against the Govt. of India.

...

Kindly find herewith a complaint lodged by All India Railwaymen's Federation (AIRF) representing 1.7 million of workers in India. The complaint speaks for itself.

We earnestly request you to take up the matter with all the seriousness that it deserves and send a facts finding commission to investigate the whole matter at your earliest.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Encl: One in 6 sheets.

Sd/-  
(Priya Gupta)  
General Secretary/AIRF

AIRF/Strike/4

23rd May, 1974.

Copy to all the General Secretaries of the affiliated unions and Working Committee Members of the AIRF for favour of information.

...

*Priya Gupta*  
(Priya Gupta)  
General Secretary/AIRF.

## COMPLAINT TO THE I.L.O.

\*\*\*

The strike by Indian Railwaymen who number nearly 1.7 millions could have been averted had there been sincere good faith in collective bargaining on the part of the Government. Instead the Government has virtually declared a war on the striking Railwaymen and their leaders and let loose a reign of terror.

2. What the Railway workers demanded was nothing beyond the reasonable and normal demands of a trade union. The 6-point Charter of Demands which formed the basis of the abruptly-terminated negotiations are :-

- i) Railwaymen to be treated as industrial workers with full trade union rights, eight hours' work per day, scientific job evaluation of all railwaymen with need-based minimum wage to be the floor, pending which parity in wages with centrally-administered undertakings, like IAT, HSL, HAL, BHEL, etc. to be conceded.
- ii) Dearness Allowance to be linked to the cost of living index with full neutralisation for every rise of 4 points in a 6-months period.
- iii) Bonus at the rate of one month's wages for the preceding two financial years.
- iv) Decasualisation of all casual Railwaymen.
- v) Adequate and subsidised foodgrains and other essential commodities to be distributed through departmentally-run shops.
- vi) All victimisation cases to be withdrawn.

3. The Prime Minister has herself admitted in Parliament that there was 'irrationality' in the wage structure in the country and that it needed to be changed. That there are acute hardships due to high prices, nobody can deny, more particularly to this vulnerable section of workers.

4. This Charter was adopted at the National Convention of Railwaymen held on February 27, 1974. Earlier the All India Railwaymen's Federation (AIRF) submitted the Charter of Demands on November 8, 1973. It is on the basis of these demands that the Railway Minister called on February 5, 1974, the Union representatives for talks at an open meeting. Accordingly, they met the Railway Minister on February 5, 1974. The Minister wanted some time to consider the demands and also to have consultations with the Prime Minister.

5. The National Co-ordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle (NCCRS) called the Action Committee (formed at the above National Convention of 27th February, 1974) and also forwarded the Charter of Demands to the Railway Minister on March 4, 1974, with a request to settle the demands. The NCCRS made it clear that failure to settle the demands will inevitably lead to an indefinite general strike of Railwaymen.



6. The first serious move in resolving the dispute was taken by the Labour Minister when, on the basis of newspaper reports about the likelihood of a Railway Strike, he invited various trade union leaders for talks culminating in a round table discussion on April 11, 1974.

7. The Railway Minister met the members of the NCCRS on April 12, 1974. He deputed his authorised representative, Mr. G.P. Warriar to meet the Union representatives on April 15, 1974. The negotiations did not register any meaningful progress.

8. The NCCRS, following the unsuccessful meeting of April 15, 1974, announced that a strike notice be served by April 23, 1974, for the strike to begin from 6.00 Hrs. of May 8, 1974, if no honourable negotiated settlement was there for the just demands of Indian Railwaymen. At that the Railway Minister met the NCCRS on April 18, 1974. The Minister deputed a team headed by the Deputy Minister for Railways to continue discussions from April 20, 1974.

9. Discussions started on April 20, 1974. The Deputy Railway Minister wanted the National Federation of Indian Railwaymen, the other recognised Federation also to be present in the meeting. The NCCRS representatives did not object to that. The meeting, however, made no progress in resolving the disputed points.

10. Mr. Shafi Mohd. Qureshi, the Deputy Minister for Railways had to rush to Kashmir upon the death of his father. The proposed discussions were postponed till April 27, 1974. With that, precious time was lost.

11. On his arrival, the Deputy Railway Minister and his team resumed discussions which continued till April 30, 1974. No settlement was in sight. It rather came to a deadlock.

12. At that stage the Railway Minister, Mr. Lalit Narain Mishra himself came to meet the NCCRS, i.e. on April 30, 1974, itself. The Minister agreed to reopen the discussion on all the demands of the Charter. The Minister suggested that the next negotiation meeting be held on May 1, 1974. The NCCRS suggested that the Railway Ministry should reduce to writing whatever they have to say against each of the demands of the Charter discussed before the team headed by Deputy Railway Minister, Mr. Qureshi which was agreed to be the basis for further negotiation with Railway Minister on May 2, 1974.

13. The NCCRS members suggested that May 1, being the May Day, it would not be possible for all of them to meet at Delhi, since many of them would be away from Delhi. The Minister agreed to hold the meeting instead of May 1, on 2nd May, 1974, at 09.30 Hrs.

Contd.

14. Before the break of day light of 2nd May, 1974, however, Mr. George Fernandes, President, AIRF and the Convener of the NCCRS and many other members of the NCCRS with other important leaders were arrested. Thus the negotiations were scuttled. Due to this, unwarranted and unilateral provocation, spontaneous reactions were expressed by stoppage of work in some places and there was complete collapse of the entire railway system from the morning 6.00 A.M. of May 8, 1974. Thereafter, what followed was virtually a reign of terror. There were repressive measures of all kinds like termination of services, dismissal, break of service, forcible removal, (eviction) from Railway quarters of the striking men and their families, the army personnel asking the wives of the striking railwaymen at bayonet point to disclose the whereabouts of the absentee husbands or face eviction from quarters, terminating the services of even confirmed employees with 30 years of service by a simple letter by persons holding lower ranks than the appointing authorities, compelling the Territorial army personnel (who are railwaymen), to run trains even without any training in the new section, i.e. to use them as Strike Breakers and Black leggers.
15. Many thousands of railway workers from different railways have so far been removed from service. The number of arrested workers is over 25,000.
16. It may also be pointed out that the AIRF and its constituent unions had placed the above demands for over years but no meaningful negotiations took place nor there were genuine efforts on the part of the government to resolve the dispute.
17. The arrests were made and repressive measures were undertaken much before the strike started.
18. If it is contended the negotiations failed, the dispute should have been referred to conciliation machineries under Industrial Disputes Act.
19. The arrests of the leaders have made things impossible for the NCCRS members to meet thereby and take decisions at the continuing emergency situation. That there is conspiracy to scuttle the Negotiated settlement will amply be proved from the fact that Home Ministry was persuaded to issue a circular directing State Governments to make arrests in consultation with the Railway General Managers and Divisional Superintendents. On demands of the Members of Parliament this circular was laid on the table of Parliament of India.
20. The treatment meted out to the recognised Trade Union Federation (AIRF) and its constituent unions has clearly violated the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Rights to Organise 'Convention, 1948' and also the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining, 'Convention 1949'.

Contd.

21. The violation is clear in respect of Article I of the Convention 98 in view of the fact that the Administration has been exhorting loyal members of the Union by threats, intimidation, persuasion or rewards to relinquish their membership of Unions or causing the dismissal or of otherwise prejudicing a worker by reason of Union membership. It also violates article II of the same Convention.

22. Under the circumstances, the All India Railwaymen's Federation (AIRF) which is a recognised National Organisation of Railwaymen in India, urge upon the Committee on Freedom of Association, the Governing Body itself, and the Fact Finding and Conciliation Commission on Freedom of Association of International Labour Organisation, according to Article 14 and 25(3) and article 26 of the Procedure, for the Examination of Complaint alleging Infringements of Trade Union Rights.

...

# HIND MAZDOOR SABHA

(NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS)

President

**A. Subramaniam,**  
M. L. A.

General Secretary

**Mahesh Desai**

Secretaries

**Ram Desai**

**Vasant Kulkarni**

Treasurer

**Kisan Tulpule**

Nagindas Chambers,  
167, P. D'Mello Road,  
Bombay-400 038. (India)

Ref. No. 317/74

MAY 11, 1974

The General Secretary  
All India Railwaymen's Federation  
125/E, Babar Road, New Delhi

The Secretary to the  
Government of India  
Ministry of Labour, New Delhi

The General Secretary  
All India Trade Union  
Congress  
24, Canning Lane  
New Delhi-1

The Chairman  
Railway Board  
New Delhi

Mr. R.C. Pradhan not HMS Representative

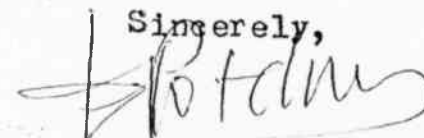
Dear Sir,

In the press reports concerning a meeting of representatives of Central Trade Union Organisations held in Delhi on 9th May, 1974 Mr. R.C. Pradhan is reported to have represented the Hind Mazdoor Sabha.

On behalf of the Hind Mazdoor Sabha I have been directed to inform you (a) that HMS had no intimation of this meeting, (b) that HMS had not authorised Mr. R.C. Pradhan to attend it on its behalf, and (c) that Mr. R.C. Pradhan is not a representative of the Hind Mazdoor Sabha.

Please note that Hind Mazdoor Sabha does not consider the decision of Bharat Bundh on the 15th May, 1974 as having been taken with its consent. Nor does HMS consider itself represented on the Co-ordinating Committee set up at this meeting for this purpose. In order to spare us the unpleasantness of contradicting publicly the correctness of such "meetings" and "decisions" kindly do not allow anybody to participate in such "meetings" and "decisions" as HMS representative unless he is specifically authorised by HMS to do so.

Sincerely,

  
Office Secretary

Grams: HINDMAZDUR

Tel: 26-2186

**HIND MAZDOOR SABHA**  
( NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS )

President

**A. Subramaniam,**  
M. L. A.

General Secretary

**Mahesh Desai**

Secretaries

**Ram Desai**  
**Vasant Kulkarni**

Treasurer

**Kisan Tulpule**

Nagindas Chambers,  
167, P. D'Mello Road,  
Bombay-400 038. (India)

Ref. No.

319/24


**MAY 10, 1974**

Dear friend :

Please find enclosed a copy each of the  
Statements issued by this office in relation  
to the Strike.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,



**Vasant Kulkarni**  
Secretary.

The General Secretary  
All India Railwaymen's Federation  
125/E Babar Road  
New Delhi-1.

Encl: 2.

L/T.

Cable.

New Delhi

May 9, 1974.

TO

MR. PHILLIP SEIBERT

MEMBER PARLIAMENT

WEST GERMAN RAILWAY UNION

FRANKFURT

(WEST GERMANY)

---

INSPIRE OUR HONEST EFFORTS FOR NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF RAILWAYMEN DEMANDS TWO LAKHS INDIAN RAILWAYMEN ON INDEFINITE STRIKE FROM EIGHTH MAY DUE TO GOVERNMENT SCUTTLEING NEGOTIATIONS BY ARRESTING GEORGE FERNANDES PRESIDENT A.I.R.F. AND CONVENER RAILWAYMENS STRUGGLE COMMITTEE (.) SOLICIT SYMPATHY AND HELP (.) PRESSURISE INDIA GOVERNMENT.

PRIYA GUPTA

---

Not to be X

telegraphed X

(Priya Gupta)  
A.I.R.F., 125/E, Babar Road, New Delhi.  
May 9, 1974.

UNION INTERNATIONALE DES SYNDICATS  
DES TRAVAILLEURS DES TRANSPORTS  
(F. S. M.)

TRADE UNIONS INTERNATIONAL  
OF TRANSPORT WORKERS  
(W. F. T. U.)

UNION INTERNACIONAL DE SINDICATOS  
DE TRABAJADORES DE LOS TRANSPORTES  
(F. S. M.)

МЕЖДУНАРОДНОЕ ОБЪЕДИНЕНИЕ  
ПРОФСОЮЗОВ ТРУДЯЩИХСЯ ТРАНСПОРТА  
(в. ф. н.)

MEZINÁRODNÍ ODBOROVÉ SDRUŽENÍ  
PRACUJÍCÍCH V DOPRAVĚ  
(S. O. F.)

SECRETARIAT:  
OPLETALOVA 57  
PRAGUE 1 — TCHECOSLOVAQUIE  
TELEPHONE: 22 12 16

ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE:  
INTERTRANSPORT PRAGUE

Ref. MR/ 215

Prague, May 6, 1974

Brother George Fernandes,  
President,  
AIRF,  
125/E Babar Road,  
NEW DELHI 1

- India -




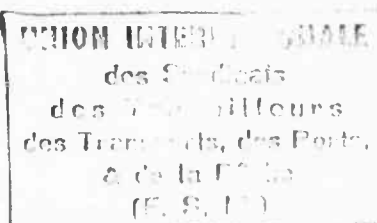
Dear Brother,

Thank you very much for your cable which reached me Friday last. Immediately after we discussed the matter in our Secretariat and resolved to send a telegramme to the Prime Minister / a copy is enclosed herewith for your ready reference/, as well as to issue a Press declaration inviting our affiliated and friendly organisations to extend their support and solidarity to their class brother in case of general strike of Indian railwaymen/ see the enclosure/.

Wish you every success in the struggle and await to hear from you,

Yours fraternally,

  
Debkumar Ganguli  
General Secretary



# All India Railway Employees Confederation

The Federal Body of all Category, Departmental and Service Associations and Unions on all the Indian Railways.

Secretary General :

N. S. BHANGOO

Secretary Finance :

R. R. SHARMA



K. P. RAMASWAMY

President,

Station Master, Thanjavur, S. Ry.

Rayapuram - MADRAS-13.

Date.....

27/5/74.

To The General Secretary,  
I.R.E.C., New Delhi.

Dear Sir, After the negotiations broke on an unexpected decision for personal reasons I left Delhi without taking leave of you all. I reached home safe to Madras.

Protests against arrest of leaders were conducted in various parts of Southern Railway, especially near the strike started that very day. The I.R.E.C. strike from 27/5/74 onwards, all members from all categories have fully participated; many leaders members were taken into custody. The repression is heavy here.

Along with thousands of members I stand firm for the idea that I.R.E.C. full success is achieved.

I am always available for participation in any work in making of the I.R.E.C.

With best regards,

Yours Comradely,  
K. P. Ramaswamy

PRESIDENT:

K. P. Ramaswamy

ALL INDIA RAILWAY EMPLOYEES CONFEDERATION

STATION MASTER.

RAYAPURAM, MADRAS-13.



ALL INDIA RAILWAY EMPLOYEES CONFEDERATION

The Federal Body of all Category, Departmental and Service Associations and Unions on all the Indian Railways.

Secretary General  
N.S. Bhangoo

Secretary Finance.  
R.R. Sharma

K.P. Ramaswamy  
President.

Station Master, Rayapuram,  
Madras - 13

Dated 9/5/1974

To

The Convenor,  
NCCRS, New Delhi

Comrade Shri Priya Gupta,

After the negotiations broke on an unexpected decision for personal reasons I left Delhi even without taking leave of you all. I reached home safe to Madras.

Protests against arrest of leaders were conducted on massive scale in Southern Railway, actually here the strike started that very day. The General Strike from 8/5 is very successful and all workers from all categories have fully participated, many leaders and workers are taken into custody. The repression is heavy here.

Along with thousands of workers I stand firm on the call of the NCCRS till success is achieved.

I am always available for participation in any further meeting of the NCCRS.

With best regards,

Yours comradely,

Sd/- K.P. Ramaswamy,

President,  
All India Railway Employees  
Confederation,  
Station Master, Rayapuram, Madras.

Copy to Shri Priya Gupta ji for information.

*Ch. S. Ch.*  
13/5

1223  
31/1/74

ALL INDIA RAILWAY EMPLOYEES CONFEDERATION - DELHI  
(A federated body of all categorical/departmental Associations).

16th

~~16th~~ May, 1974

To: All Presidents and General Secretaries and  
leaders of the constituents and other categori-  
cal colleagues.

As you are aware, we joined National  
Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's struggle  
with some hesitation because we were not sure  
whether political leaders controlling railway or-  
ganisations like AIRF, AIUC-controlled IRWF and  
Jan Sanch controlled BRMS were really interested  
in cause of railwaymen or in their own political  
ambitions but after we joined NCCRS, we gave  
clarion call to all of you to do everything in  
your power to carry the battle to the bitter end  
and achieve success.

Our faith in political leaders has since  
been belied and we now wonder whether it was right  
on our part to join the NCCRS. Various kinds of  
reports are in air in Delhi. One report says George  
Fernandes and important AIRF leaders got themselves  
arrested in collusion with Government as they were  
not sure whether they would be able to lead strike  
and that if they got landed in jail, they would  
come out as heroes. There is another report that  
the Dangeites of IRWF who have alliances with  
ruling party, got George Fernandes and other AIRF  
leaders arrested so that they could grab leadership of  
railwaymen. It is therefore not surprising that  
top leaders of the IRWF including S.A. Dange,  
Parvati Krishnan, P.K. Kumaran and Shri Krishna  
remained free and were not arrested. Parvati  
Krishnan and Sri Krishna were arrested only on  
May 14 but why not earlier is the question. Many people  
feel that they were arrested by Govt. at request of/

The CPI-M leaders in the P & T and Central  
Government employees gave call for indefinite strike  
from May 10, 1974. It is learnt that this call also  
was politically motivated and Marxists wanted to  
score over Dangeites. The Dangeites, in turn,  
foiled this attempt of Marxists by refusing to  
support the strike of P&T employees and Central  
Govt employees. The strike has also fizzled out  
and the Marxists have also withdrawn the strike  
call. To say least, we did not expect this type  
of 'solidarity' from P&T employees and Central  
Government employees who are so much in grip of the

File  
AIRF/16-8  
pto

political leaders. The strike of P&T employees and Central Government employees being called off in only two days damaged so badly our struggle.

We were all along aware of differences between all these political leaders and we were also aware that each one of them was only ambitioning for power at expense of the railwaymen. Yet they showed in public that they were united. But now they have started quarrelling in open. In this connection, we are enclosing a letter written by Madhu Limaye, M.P. of the Socialists to Mr S.A. Dange, Genl. Secy. of the AIWUC on 12th May, 74 and the reply sent by Mr. Dange to him on 13th May. The letters, which having appeared in all leading newspapers, speak for itself. In their bid to grab leadership, the Dangeites suggested that negotiations should be held with the Government by those leaders who had not been arrested so far. In this manner, the Dangeites hoped to exclude from the talks George Fernandes and other leaders of AIRF who are in jail. This was not liked by Mr. Madhu Limaye who belongs to Socialists like Mr. George Fernandes. Mr. Limaye insisted that arrested leaders should be released and should be associated with negotiations. On the other, Mr. ~~Mr~~ Dange criticised Mr. George Fernandes for making policy statements from the jail. The reason was quite obvious. George Fernandes wanted to maintain his leadership even while in jail but the Dangeites do not want this.

The Socialist Party and Marxists are on one side and the Dangeites on other side. The Jan Sanghis of BRMS are somewhere in between but they are also weaklings and are after power like the others.

In view of the above facts, <sup>these</sup> ~~wise~~ politicians can be expected to betray the cause of the railwaymen. If it serves their political motives, each and everyone of these political leaders can betray the poor railway workers.

The inside fights of the political leaders who have now come in open pose serious threats to railway strike and ultimately the workers will suffer. The Govt. will victimise them and these political leaders will do nothing.

Already thousands of workers have been arrested and dismissed from service. That will happen to them. We are now convince that if we had launched our own separate agitation without any support or without associating ourselves with political leaders, we would have done much better. It is unfortunate that some of our own leaders fell into trap of political leaders and dragged confederation into the strike. We do not want to mention individuals at present because our own unity, i.e. unity of the Confederation and categorical associations is at stake and should be maintain at all costs. The situation now very confusing and the Railway Ministry appears bent to break the strike. Should we allow our workers to be unnecessarily victimised because we fell into the trap of the political leaders. The time has come for us to now ponder whether the Confederation and the All India Loco Running Staff Association should unilaterally withdraw from the strike and break all links in the politicians which have brought thousands of our workers to distress. All categorical and departmental association leaders may think it over and take early decisions themselves. If we do not act now, not only will the railway workers be doomed but the political leaders will finish the categorical associations and also our Confederation which we have built up with so much of labour and hard work.

Genuine leaders of the Confederation  
Railwaymen's union Hindabad.

Letter of Madhu Limaye

Madhu Limaye  
 Member of Parliament  
 Lok Sabha

12-Gurdwara Rakabganj  
 Road, New Delhi-1  
 12th May, 1974

Dear Shri S.A. Dange,

Reference our discussion at Aiay Bhawan  
 on 11th May, 1974.

From the press reports it seems that the  
 Action Committee of the National Coordination

Committee for Railwaymen's struggle has rejected the Government formula conveyed to the Committee by some opposition leaders.

Even before the letter reached the Committee, Mrs. Gandhi made a surprising announcement at the meeting of the Congress Parliamentary party to the effect that this was not a govt. formula at all but that it was suggested by 'a member' at the meeting of the PM with the opposition leaders in Parliament. The repudiation by Mrs. Gandhi of the formula put forward by the Food Minister before the entire opposition shows how difficult it is to pin down the govt. to anything.

You suggested on 11th May that while the railwaymen's representatives should give up their insistence on the release of arrested people, the Govt. should also drop its condition that the strike should be withdrawn simultaneously.

To remove all misunderstanding, it is necessary to point out to the Govt. that negotiations will have to be held with the entire action committee including those members of the committee who are in jail, and not with the truncated committee. The Govt. cannot be allowed to choose the negotiators by making selective arrests. The negotiators have been chosen by the National Convention of Railwaymen already. The unity of railwaymen is a precious thing and must be preserved at all costs. The Central Trade Union organisations and opposition parties must therefore make it absolutely clear that all members of the Action Committee have to be brought to the negotiating table. There should be no difficulty in bringing the Convenor and members of the NCCRS who are in detention to the table to participate in negotiations and in sending them back to custody after adjournment.

Apart from this, the govt will have to modify its position on the substantive issues involved. Mr. L.N. Misra has declared time and again in Parliament that bonus and parity are non-negotiable.

Since some people felt that the PM's speech in reply to the No confidence motion in early hours of the morning of 10th May 1974 is a bit more flexible, I asked for the official version of her speech. I am enclosing herewith the relevant excerpts from the Lok Sabha debates. I have deliberately isolated these portions from the trusts and repartees which are an inevitable feature of such a debate.

What she has said about rationalisation of the wage structure, I have put in a separate category, and I have put her refusal to concede these points even in principle, in the category of negative statements.

The discussion amongst us should proceed on the basis of this position of the Govt as stated by the P.M.

In regard to bonus, the govt. have taken a contradictory stand. On the one hand they say the bonus demand cannot be considered. At the same time they keep on mentioning the Bonus Review Committee which is supposed to consider this issue. Mr. A.P. Sharma of the INTUC has been repeatedly saying that the Bonus Review Committee is seized of the question of bringing workers in the industrial and commercial establishments under the Govt. within the purview of the Bonus Act. If that is so, what prevents Govt. from formally amending the terms of reference of the Bonus Committee. At least why does not the Govt agree to formally write to the Bonus Committee asking them to consider the question of applying the Bonus Act to the railway workers also.

In regard to the question of wage revision, in the course of our discussion we examined the various concepts that have emerged. You said that what we should ask for is the granting of industrial wage to the railway workers as distinguished from civil service pay. The National Coordination Committee wants job classification with the need based minimum wage as the bench mark. It has also advanced the concept of parity with public sector undertakings as an interim measure. Mrs. Gandhi herself has admitted that there are anomalies and contradictions in the wage structure and that there is need for rationalising it. But after admitting this, she says that this is a long term affair and that this has to be done without causing dislocation or upward revision of wages. How to achieve these contradictory objectives is a riddle to me. Her statement that there has been no increase in production and productivity is as far as the railway workers are concerned absolutely inapplicable. As you have yourself pointed out in an IRWF-INTUC publication based on official documents, labour productivity has increased by 64 per cent during 1950-51 to 1972-73. You have also pointed out that according to the railway authorities the productivity of workers in railway workshops has gone up by 54% during the same period. On the other hand the report of the Third Pay Commission has admitted that the real earnings of the Lower Division Clerk have come down by 10% of an Upper Division Clerk by 18% and of 'A' grade railway driver by 22%. In the last two years there has been a further erosion in the real earnings of railwaymen due to the phenomenal increase in prices. In view of this, the govt. cannot

take the position that they will not negotiate the question of the approximation of the wage structure in the railways with the wage structure in public sector undertakings.

The opposition parties and the Central Trade union organisation cannot merely act as a post office and send to the National Coordination Committee formulae which the govt. considered themselves free to repudiate. Unless they are in a position to assure the railway workers and their representatives organisation - national Coordination Committee that the Govt. have modified their rigid stand in regard to the two substantive issues involved what is the point in creating an impression that these formula constitute a substantial advance towards a solution of problem.

The central trade union organisations have already given a call for a a national general strike on 15th in support of the railway workers. It is also necessary that political parties should take steps to mobilise public opinion in favour of the just struggle of railwaymen and against the repressive and reactionary tactics of the govt its bureaucracy and its police.

You are both the Genl Secy of the AIUC as well as the Chairman of your party. As Party Chairman and the senior most leader of the working class movement in the country, it is your duty to bring parties and trade unions together for considering what further action the working class organisations can take after 15th May as well as what steps the political parties can take for mobilising public support for the railwaymen's struggle so that sufficient press is generated for achieving a speedy and honourable solution of the dispute.

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Sh. S. A. Danze.

Madhu Limaye

Letter of S. A. Danze

All India Trade Union Congress  
24 M. Munshi Lane (Canning Lane) New Delhi

13 May, 1974

S. A. Danze, General Secy., AIUC has released to the press the reply sent by him to the letter addressed to him by Shri Madhu Limaye.

My dear Madhu Limaye,

I have received your letter undated but obviously of 12th May.

You have raised many points in your letter. So it may require a long reply. But I do not just now wish to do so. I will deal with some questions regarding the tactics to be pursued in order to secure a satisfactory settlement of the strike.

..7

At the present moment negotiations as such have come to a dead end. That end was brought about by the govt side arresting George Fernandes and others, even while the negotiations had not concluded. That was certainly a provocative and immoral act.

Despite those arrests and partly because of them, the railway workers carried out a magnificent general strike on the whole railway system. There is no question that they deserve congratulations and unreserved support for their just struggle.

At the same time when workers go on strike they also want the leadership to find ways of settlement of the strike. In the case of railways it is much more so as they cannot like a factory or workshop remain on strike for months on end. Hence everyone has to exert to find a way to settlement.

The initiative taken by the opposition parties in Parliament to meet the Govt. was a welcome step. But the formula that 'unofficially' emerged from the meeting could not provide the solution.

Simultaneous releases, calling off the strike and negotiations to be resumed would mean that once the strike is called off and leaders are released, the negotiations could drag on for months. Hence the Action Committee did well to reject that formula.

But we cannot leave matters in that deadlock. So we did suggest that both sides resume negotiations without preconditions on either side.

It seems from your letter that this point has cut up you and your friends. You think that we want to negotiate and settle over the head of those who are in jail, that we, who are out due to what you call 'selective arrests' are 'truncated' people, who have no right to negotiate.

If by 'selective arrests' you mean that Communists are left out, while your partymen are arrested, you are totally mistaken. Hundreds of communist workers and railway leaders are also in prison. As regards our feeling 'truncated', the less said the better.

In fact, there have been hundreds of strikes, in which negotiations have been carried on by strike committees when their leaders have been arrested.

And there are instances when leaders in jail have assumed all powers and even called off strikes from inside jail without meeting the strikers or their committees as you may remember, you and George once did in Bombay in a Municipal transport strike. We in 'the truncated Action Committee' have no such intension.



But I must frankly state that if those who are in jail go on issuing statement of policy or call upon govt to come to jail and hold negotiations, it is overstepping the bounds of leadership and relations it should have with 'truncated body' outside.

When we proposed that negotiations be resumed by dropping the two preconditions by either side, we did mean that those outside would talk with govt and if any prospect of settlement come up on the horizon, the final decision would be taken only after full consultation and consent or otherwise with those in jail. This approach was suggested to break the deadlock and not to enter into any kind of settlement only by those who are outside jail. And let me also state that those outside, which includes people like you also are quite capable men to do the job.

I do not want to pick up any quarrel in the present atmosphere. Hence, your statement that 'unity of railwaymen is a precious thing and must be preserved at all costs' is absolutely correct. But why should that unity be broken, if someone suggests that talks be resumed without preconditions? How can there be a final settlement without the release not only of the leaders but the thousands of workers who are in jail.

You must remember railwaymen's unity has not come about so easily. Only last year the AIRF leadership was opposing and denouncing the struggles of locomen and other categories while we intervened on their behalf. The Conference of 27th February called by the AIRF and George Fernandes was the first step ever towards some united front of all railway organisations. The establishment of the Coordination Committee inspired the railwaymen as neverbefore for the first time in history. Let us keep it up. But the way you are pursuing things makes me a little worried.

As regards the question of industrial wage and bonus, I do not go by what the PM has said in a debate. Let her or her Ministers say what they want to at the negotiating table.

I do not wholly agree on your formulations on the wage question. But we need not argue it here. For example, when during the negotiations, we raised the question, George agreed to take off the word 'parity' from his formulation. You now speak of 'approximation'. In my opinion, George need not have substituted 'parity' by demanding 75% wage increase. He did it to point out the difference between annual earnings by the workers in public sector undertakings and those in railways. To point out the difference is one thing and demand 75% wage increase is another. That played into the hands of the govt who said that to grant 75% wage increase is just preposterous. I am just pointing this out as an instance of want of coordination among the leaders at the negotiating table. Any way let me not argue all this in detail.

The point now is how to find a way out of the deadlock. The workers' sacrifices are great, their behaviour is heroic. But the govt is getting adamant. So at this juncture, let us not keep them in the deadlock by arguing on some of our 'inner relations'. No one wants to settle without consultation with those in jail. But if there is a possibility, do not prevent even those 'truncated' once outside to make an effort to break the deadlock, about which though I have no very high hopes. But let us try and not give up the efforts. Even if the Devil intervenes and helps to bring about negotiations, I will have no objection. It is the interests of the lacs that are paramount and not the question as to who brings about the talks and settlement.

Yours sincerely,

S.A.Dange.

P.S. Just when I was sending this to you, I learnt that you have released your letter to the press. This will cause more harm than good. You leave me no alternative but to release my letter to the press though it was not written with that view. I feel that you should not have done so to the press. Any way, it is your choice.

Yours sincerely  
S.A.Dange

A/11/24/60 - B

April 20, 1974.

My Dear Com. Kapoor,

I am in difficulty to reach Amritsar, as scheduled on 1st May due to a marriage ceremony which I have to attend. However, I may come to Amritsar on the 3rd of May or even on April 27th, whichever suits you.

Please confirm these dates and excuse me for the inconvenience caused for the change in programme.

Yours sincerely,

( J.P. Chaubey )

Shri S.P. Kapoor,  
Branch Secretary,  
N.R.M.U. Amritsar Workshop  
Amritsar  
G.T. Road.

No. ATRF/160-B

Dated April 20, 1974.

Dear Com. Blyth,

I have already written to you about the impending general strike by Railwaymen in India. As I wrote to you, we are keen to arrive at a negotiated settlement of the dispute, and thereby avert the strike.

You may have already written to the authorities in India. In which case, I shall appreciate it if copies of the letters were also endorsed to me.


I am now making a special request. Could you depute a senior colleague from the I.T.F., preferably the Secretary of the Railwaymen's Section to India for a few days to help us in our effort to settle the dispute. We would also want him to advise us on matters relating to working hours and wage differentials between various categories of railwaymen as also in regard to job evaluation.

We shall meet the local hospitality of your representative, and shall be grateful if his transport cost to and from India were borne by the I.T.F.

The situation is hotting up fast, and so we would want help immediately.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes

President.

Com. C.H. Blyth,  
General Secretary,  
International Transport Workers' Federation,  
Maritime House, Old Town, Clapham,  
London, SW4 0JR.

No. AIRF/160-A

Dated April 19, 1974.

Dear MAMA,

I have just now seen the Text of your letter to the "Times of India". Did the "Times" carry it? Please send me a clipping, if they did.


I am also happy that you organised a massive demonstration before the Japanese Consulate. If any news about this appeared in any of the Papers, please send me clippings thereof, too.

Yesterday you mentioned certain statistics on the Telephone. Some of them were not accurate. For instance, the total Earnings of the Railways last year were around Rs. 1,100 crores and not Rs. 1,600 crores. Figures of Social costs are correct.

I hope Strike preparations are proceeding vigorously on our Railway.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President.

Shri V.R. Malgi,  
General Secretary,  
National Railway Mazdoor Union,  
Seva Sadan, Dr. Ambedkar Road,  
Parel, Bombay-12.

# National Railway Mazdoor Union

SEVA SADAN, DR. BABASAHEB AMBEDKAR ROAD, PAREL, BOMBAY-12.

No. ITF/123

Date 11-4-1974

The Consulate General of Japan,  
1, Carmichael Road,  
BOMBAY - 400 026.

3167  
12/4/74

Dear Sir,

SUB: RAILWAYMEN'S STRIKE IN JAPAN

Our Union, or for that matter, we believe no other trade Union Organisation, nay! any other organisation, has ever brought a demonstration on the offices of the Consulate General of Japan functioning in this country. This is chiefly because of the centuries old continued friendly relations existing between our countries. We are confident that even the demonstration that we have brought on your office to-day evening will not affect the position and the friendship and understanding will continue to grow further and further.

We have been impelled to bring this demonstration of Railwaymen on your office to-day because of our links of solidarity with the Railwaymen of Japan, who are on STRIKE for the last couple of days for achievement of their just and fair economic demands.

It needs no mention that the Railwaymen world over are carriers of development, progress and prosperity. Our brother Railwaymen in Japan profited forfeited willingly, their several valuable and hard earned rights and privileges for more than two decades, immediately after the devastating second world war, so that the programme of reconstructions of the nation could be speeded up uninterruptedly. This entitles them for returns in the form of increase and improvement in their living standards, leave, holidays and other social and cultural needs.

Being deeply concerned with struggling brother railwaymen in Japan, the ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION, the apex body of our Union, gave a call for staging demonstrations on the offices of the Consulate General of Japan all over India. To-day's demonstration is brought in pursuance of it.

We urge upon your goodself to convey our concern and feelings to the concerned authorities in Japan. The authorities may also be urged on our behalf to settle the just strike demands of brother Railwaymen of Japan without any further delay.

With greetings,

Yours faithfully,

*V. B. Mahadeshwar*  
(V.B. MAHADESHWAR)  
SECRETARY

C / General Secretary A.I.F.F.  
New Delhi

NATIONAL RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION  
Seva Sadan, Dr. Ambedkar Road,  
Parel, Bombay 12

No. STRGL/150

7-4-1974

ALL BRANCH SECRETARIES, NRMU.  
ALL OFFICE BEARERS, NRMU.  
ALL WORKING COMMITTEE MEMBERS NRMU.

Dear Comrades,

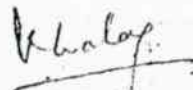
Reproduced below is the text of General Secretary NRMU's letter dated 7-4-1974 addressed to the Editor, Times of India, Bombay for your information :

"This has reference to your editorial under the caption 'STAND FIRM' (April 6th). You have stated that the payment of bonus is being considered by a Tripartite Committee, whose report will be in the government's hands within the next month or so. But you do not know that a joint delegation of both the All India Railwaymen's Federation and the National Federation of Indian Railwaymen had met the Union Minister for Labour on 17-2-1974 at 3.30 PM seeking clarification as to whether the Bonus Review Committee have any reference for consideration of bonus for Railwaymen. The Labour Minister clarified that there was no change in the original terms of reference of the Bonus Review Committee nor was there any change in the attitude of the government towards the payment of bonus to the industrial employees of the government. It is on record that Shri R.K. Khadilkar, the former Labour Minister, had said in the Parliament that the question of payment of bonus to government employees will be considered after receipt of the Report of the Pay Commission. The employees demanded that as soon as the Report of the Pay Commission is available this question should be settled by bilateral negotiations. The issue of bonus was again raised in a meeting of the group of Ministers with representatives of the Staff Side on 6th July 1973. The Finance Minister assured the Staff Representatives that their views had been noted and would be brought to the notice of the Cabinet. Since then nothing has been done by the government.

As regards the second demand, all that the Railwaymen are demanding is adequate wages to meet their basic needs in respect of food, clothing and shelter so as to enable them to maintain a state of health and efficiency. At present even with the so called improvement by the Pay Commission, the wages of Railwaymen have been pegged down at such a low level that the Railway worker is not able to buy his minimum requirements to ensure his health and productive efficiency. While the wages of the government employees are deliberately being pegged down at a low level, pay increases are being given in public sector industries and the wage disparities have been widening day by day. When there was delay in publishing the Pay Commission's Report, the government's spokesman attributed the delay due to formulation of a comprehensive wage policy, but it is evident that the indecisiveness on the part of the government to evolve the wage policy at the national level still prevails, and this has resulted in a wage anarchy. On Railways a consistent effort is being made to peg down the real wages of their employees at the pre-war level, which has perpetuated the strife and it has only created serious obstacles in the successful operation of the Railway system. Whereas in other industries, there have been continuous wage increases. While on the one hand the government says that the Railways are playing the most significant part in the planned economic development and prosperity of the country and for this purpose all out efforts have to be made by all the concerned parties to keep the Railways moving, no efforts have been made or is there a chance in the near future to narrow the gap between the Railway workers and other employees working in the public sector undertakings. The recent work stoppages are essentially because of the frustration prevailing in the minds of Railwaymen due to inordinate delay in the settlement of their day to day grievances and more because their demands relating to job evaluation, wage parity with public sector undertakings etc. are not being met.

accepts the principle of parity of wages in the public sector undertakings it can be implemented phase-wise. If the government shows the courage to change the administrative structure of Railways, its procedure of accountal and labour policy, the Railways will be able to give a better performance in all respects. It is often argued that there are large number of people in the country, whose condition is much worse than that of the Railway employees and therefore the Railway employees are ill-advised to demand higher wages. The answer to this has been often answered by the Planners themselves that the Railways are the principal transport system in the country and its efficient functioning is necessary for the fulfilment of the targets of the Plan and its achievement of economic progress in general. If the future of economy is depending on the efficiency of Rail transport system, is it not imperative to ensure that adequate supplies of essential goods are provided to those who are in the front line of battle for economic development. It is of course true that every social and occupational group in the country has its own role to play in the entire process of economic development, but just as it is necessary to lay down priorities in the sphere of planned production, it is equally necessary to lay down priority in the field of planned distribution of scarce supplies and essential commodities. If the government fails to make up its mind and attempts to please every one in this situation of grave economic crisis and has necessarily been confused in its approach to wage policy who is to be blamed? All that the Railway employees are seeking is wage parity with public sector employees. As regards their contribution, it has been enormous when viewed in the context of a social gain and the performance of public sector undertakings. The present deterioration in the industrial relations is essentially due to the government's policies in not following healthy industrial relations policies and encouraging division among the Railwaymen, which has naturally re-coiled on the Railway Administration itself. Railwaymen are fully conscious about the implications of the strike and are very keen to seek a negotiated settlement. Therefore, instead of asking the Railway Minister to 'stand firm' to crush the Railway employees' movement, it is better to advise the Railway Minister to settle the disputes around the table."

Yours fraternally,



GENERAL SECRETARY.



~~XXXX~~  
Action Committee: 3-07pm. 20/4/74.

Present: Parvatik Kishan. J.P. Choube  
Kumaran: Phatak. Bangor. Ramaswamy  
Koukale. Fernandes.

Decision:

1. We shall not discuss NTR  
demands.

~~2. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~~~

2. Stick to our 6-points.

3. Agreement on principle of  
~~self~~ negotiating facilities  
details to be worked out  
among us. Demand to  
be taken up last.

for





# Dakshin Railway Employees' Union,

(Regd. No. 3069)

**CENTRAL OFFICE**

**GOLDEN ROCK  
TIRUCHY-4.**

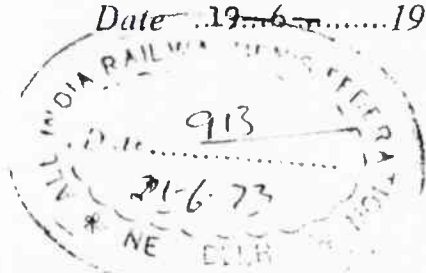
(S. India)

PRESIDENT :

*K. Ananda Nambiar*

Date: ~~19-6-73~~ ..... 1973

The General Secretary,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
NEW DELHI.-1.



Dear Comrade,

Sub: United activity - General Strike of all the  
Railwaymen in India.  
Ref: General Council resolution of the AIRF of 19-4-73.

*Handwritten initials*

We have gone through the resolution of the AIRF held at Delhi on 19-4-73 and have noted the spirit expressed in it for united struggles against the recommendations of the third Pay Commission.

*Handwritten note: AIRF/160*

The Central Executive Committee of the DREU met at GOC on 17-6-73 and have adopted a resolution to join with all other Unions and to call a General Strike to win the basic demands. A copy of the resolution passed is enclosed for your information.

We shall be thankful if you would take early steps to organise Joint Councils of Action at all levels and advise your affiliate to extend their hand of co-operation in this connection to make the agitation and the General Strike a complete success.

Thanking you

Yours fraternally,

*R. Srinivasagobal*  
GENERAL SECRETARY.

Encl: ONE

Copy to:

The General Secretary, Southern Railway Mazdoor Union,  
Madras.

*Handwritten number 7*

No. AIRF/160-B

Dated April 19, 1974.

Dear Comrade Sharma,

I have your letter of 14th as also your other communications regarding Mr. M.L. Gupta's behaviour.

I took up this matter yesterday, during the negotiations, with the Railway Minister. He has stated that he would look into the matter.


However, we should now be prepared for all kinds of pin-pricks and harassment from the Railway authorities. The bureaucrats are not going to take our challenge lying down. They will fight back as ruthlessly as they are capable of.

You mention in the last para. of your letter that if the present attitude of Mr. Gupta continues, there will be disorder and whatever you have achieved so far will be lost. Our organisational effort should be such that it can withstand these attacks. I would, therefore, urge that you adopt a militant line in your dealings with the Divisional Superintendent.

It has been agreed yesterday, during the talks, that no workers would be transferred during the pendency of the negotiations.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President.

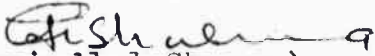
Com. Govindlal Sharma,  
Divisional Secretary,  
Western Railway Employees' Union,  
RATLAM.

This is affecting our organisation particularly at this stage when we are successfully near ~~the~~ to the fruits.

You are requested to please contact the Railway Minister for this and have the instructions issued to Shri M.L.Gupta to cancel or withdraw all such circulars because there is great agitation amongst the staff and they will never like to wait for the results of the negotiations and if the things are not put right early, they will start working accordingly and will become out of control at that stage.

It is, therefore, once again requested to please look <sup>in</sup> the ~~xxxx~~ matter and anyhow get these instructions cancelled which are issued by Shri M.L.Gupta, DS-RTM, snatching all the privileges from Railway Employees.

Early instructions may please be issued otherwise what we have so far achieved will all be in dis-order and rather lost. This may be given importance and priority please.

  
(Govindlal Sharma)  
~~DIVISIONAL SECRETARY~~  
DIVISIONAL SECRETARY,  
W.Rly. Emp. Union,  
Ratlam.

# WESTERN RAILWAY EMPLOYEE'S UNION

(Regd. Recognised and Affiliated to A. I. R. F. & H. M. S.)

HEAD OFFICE :  
RAILWAY STATION BLDG (EAST)

GRAND ROAD, BOMBAY-7  
Crain : RAIL LEADER  
Phone : 374313 ( BOMBAY )

PRESIDENT :  
PADMASHRI  
MISS MANIBEN KARA  
GENERAL SECRETARY :  
UMRAOMAL PUROHIT

SECRETARIES :  
JAGDISH AJMERA  
K. C. TRIVEDI  
C. KURIACOS

DIVL. CHAIRMAN :  
N. P. BHATNAGAR

VICE DL. CHAIRMAN  
B. S. DONGRE  
LAXMANSINGH

DIVL. SECRETARY :  
GOVINDLAL SHARMA

IT. DIVL. SECRETARIES :  
BHARAT BHUSHAN  
MANGILAL SHARMA  
R. G. ASKANI  
M. D. SHUKLA  
H. S. BHAMBRA

DIVL. ORG SECRETARY  
SAMY SANTIAGO

#### BRANCHES:

UJJAIN  
PIPLOD  
DAHOD  
INDORE  
MHOW GEN.  
MHOW MECH.  
RATLAM MECH.  
RATLAM GEN.  
RATLAM TFC.  
CHITORGARH  
NASIRABAD  
NEEMUCH

#### ORGANS :

RAILWAY SENTINEL  
RAIL MAZDOOR

RATLAM DIVISION

Urgent Please.

DIVISIONAL OFFICE  
442, RLY. QUARTERS,

Station Road, RATLAM

Ref No RTM/ORG/STRG/74/4-101 Date 14-4-1974.

- 3159  
19/4/74
1. Shri George Fernandiz,  
President, All India Rly. men's Federation,  
125/E, Babar Road,  
New Delhi.
  2. Shri Umraomal Purohit,  
General Secretary,  
Western Rly. Employees' Union,  
Grant Road,  
Bombay-7.

Reg:- Policy adopted by Shri M.L. Gupta,  
Divisional Superintendent, W.Rly. Ratlam.

-----

Due to the movement started by us from 2-4-74 to 10-4-74, Shri Gupta, D.S.-RTM, have started harassing the Rly. employees by various ways under the guidance of rival trade Union (WRMS) to the extent that he shifted one of our Office-Bearer from Ujjain Br. and that our Divisional Chairman Shri N.P. Bhatnagar, Section-Controller is also shifted. He has also proposed many transfers in the interest of administration.

The worst he did is with-drawal of the privileges and rights of multitude of Rly. men working on this Division e.g. stopping issue of passes and PTOs, not sanctioning leave, stopping accepting Sick Certificates of Rly. Employees from Private Doctors. He is now trying to harass all such workers and Rly. employees who participated in the struggle week from 2/4 to 10/4/74. In this connection we have also sent a telegram to you and copy to others but so far nothing is heard.

P.T.O.

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/160-B(231)

April 22, 1974.

Dear Lalit,

I have received a telegram from our affiliate on the N.F. Railway, informing us that Shri Prem Bahadur Thapa (Kanch) was arrested by the police on the 14th of April, 1974.

You had given us an assurance at the meeting of April 18, that during the pendency of the talks no worker would be arrested. What has happened on the N.F. Railway is in clear breach of that assurance.

May I request you to order the immediate release of Shri Prem Bahadur Thapa? May I also urge that the Siliguri comrades re-arrested on April 23, be released forthwith?

Yours sincerely,

George Fernandes

Shri Lalit Narain Mishra,  
Minister for Railways,  
Rail Bhavan,  
New Delhi.

Wm

# WESTERN RAILWAY EMPLOYEES UNION

( AFFILIATED TO AIRF & HMS )

Head Office :  
Grant Road  
BOMBAY 7

3224  
22/4/74

Divisional Office :  
Station Building  
AJMER

Ref. No..... Strike/74.

Date..... 20-4-74..... 197

My Dear Choubay Ji.

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the resolution passed by the Western Railway Engineering Inspectors' Association for your information and further necessary action.

With kind regards

Yours fraternally  
*Samuel Baptist*  
(SAMUEL BAPTIST)  
Divisional Chairman

Shri. J.P. Choubay

Member. AIR F. & member coordinating committee -  
New Delhi.

*File*

*Proposed*  
*Acadip to resolution*

Copy of the Resolution passed by the Western Railway Engineering Inspectors' Association.

The Western Railway Engineering Inspectors' Association hereby resolved that no member of WREIA will join, cooperate, help or do any act which might give any help in launching this strike.

The reasons for the firm stand of WREIA are given below:

1. We have very close and cordial relations with WRMS and NFIR, who have not been taken into confidence by AIRF.
2. Our Association was never called by them in any of their meetings as confirmed by our Working President of WREIA.
3. It has been learnt that commanding and leading associations like Loco Running Staff and Guards Council have disassociated from them for reasons that they have not come with clean hands and open heart while seeking the cooperation of the association. They have refused to set apart any proportionate share for these associations from the struggle fund collected by the AIRF.
4. Their demands are pre-matured, untimely and unjust in face of pending negotiations before the Bonus Review Committee and decisions arrived at in J.C.M. with the NFIR and AIRF before the Standing Committee regarding implementation of the Third Pay Commission's recommendations.
5. They have not yet declared the date of strike and not given notices as required under Sections 22 and 24 of the Industrial Disputes Act 1947 and 1957.



Cables 12 April 74 10 am to Delhi

1) Mr. V. V. Giri  
President of India  
Rashtrapati Bhavan  
New Delhi

2) Mrs. Indira Gandhi  
Prime Minister  
Lok Sabha  
New Delhi

3194  
20/4/74

Let me express my sincerest thanks to have had the opportunity to meet you at the occasion of a recent visit to railway trade unionists in your great country.

May I ~~also~~ appeal to you to induce solutions for fulfilling the demands presented by the large railway trade unions in their just struggle to acquire a fair wage for a hard and responsible work to the benefit of the Indian economy.

Very respectfully yours

Philipp Weibert

President of the Railwaymen's Union of West-Germany

President of the EEC-Committee of Transportworkers Unions

3) Mr. Raghunatha Reddi  
Labour Minister  
Lok Sabha  
New Delhi

4) Mr. L. N. Mishra  
Railway Minister  
Lok Sabha  
New Delhi

Returning from a visit to Indian railway trade unionists I appeal to you to offer solutions for fulfilling the demands presented by the large railway trade unions in their just struggle to acquire a fair wage for a hard and responsible work to the benefit of the Indian economy.

We have learned that Indian railwaymen are very responsible in achieving solutions if your Government should be ready to forward a reasonable offer to their legitimate demands.

Let me add that the high productivity of European railways last not least results by having established a high wage standard in the railway companies before.

Very respectfully yours

P.S.

Pres. ...

No. AIRF/6013

Dated April 20, 1974

Dear Comrade Vashi,

I have your letter of 18th April. The talks are on with Mr. Mohd. Shafi Qureshi, Dy. Minister, Railways, representing the Government. Frankly, I do not expect much to happen. We should be prepared to launch our strike with effect from 8th May. I hope you are doing all that is necessary to ensure a total success of the strike.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes

Shri H.K. Vashi,  
Convenor,  
N.C.C.R.S.,  
Divisional Office,  
Pratapganj Road,  
BARODA-2.

No.AIRF/308

Dated April 20, 1974


Dear Comrade Banerjee,

I have your letters on the dispute raised by Com. Bachi Ram Joshi as also on the Demands Week programme.

I hope you are doing everything necessary to to organise a complete strike in the R.D.S.O.

With greetings,

yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President

Shri S. Banerjee,  
Secretary, R.D.S.O. Karmachari Sangh,  
Union Office,  
Qr.No.II/106.B RDSO Colony,  
Manak Nagar,  
Lucknow-11.

No. AIRE/320


Dated April 20, 1974.

Dear Comrade Banerjee,

I have your letter of 16th April enclosing the particulars required for affiliating your organisation with the Federation. As I had mentioned in an earlier letter, your application will be placed before the next Meeting of the Working Committee. I assure you that there will be no problem in granting you affiliation.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes

President.

Shri S. Banerjee,  
Secretary, R.D.S.O. Karmachari Sangh,  
Union Office,  
Qr. No. II/106-B RDSO Colony,  
Manik Nagar,  
Lucknow-11.

160. A

April 20, 1974.

My Dear Com. Kapoor,

I am in difficulty to reach Amritsar, as scheduled on 1st May due to a marriage ceremony which I have to attend. However, I may come to Amritsar on the 3rd of May or even on April 27th, whichever suits you.

Please confirm these dates and excuse me for the inconvenience caused for the change in programme.

Yours sincerely,



( J.P. Chaubey )

Shri S.D. Kapoor,  
Branch Secretary,  
N.R.M.U. Amritsar Workshop  
Amritsar  
G.T. Road.

# South Central Railway Mazdoor Union

(Registered & Recognised, Affiliated to AIRF & HMS)

## CENTRAL OFFICE

President: G. M. PATHAN  
Gen. Secretary: A. V. K. CHAITANYA, B.A. (Hons.)

7-C Railway Building,  
Accounts Office Compound,  
SECUNDERABAD-500025.

Ref. SCRMU/Accounts

Date 29-4-1974

The General Secretary,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
NEW DELHI.

Dear Comrade,  
Sub: POSTERS.

Com. Yousoff, Assistant Secretary of our Hyderabad Branch is deputed to bring the Posters (5000 English and 1000 Hindi) intended for our Railway from AIRF's Office. Please handover the Posters to him to enable us to send the same to all our Branches at the earliest.

An amount of Rs. 600/- (Rupees Six Hundred) is sent through Com. Yousoff. Kindly receive and send the receipt for the same.

Reservation for the return journey of the bearer may kindly be arranged from Emergency Quota as the bundle of Poster has to be brought here.

Yours fraternally,  
*A. V. K. Chaitanya*  
(A. V. K. Chaitanya)  
General Secretary.

① Rs. 600/- with H. Subramanyam  
1/5/74  
② A sum of Rs. 200/- has been given as his travel Exp. by the Genl. Secy. for getting Air Ticket to the President for Hyderabad. H. Subramanyam 1/5/74

# South Central Railway Mazdoor Union

(Registered & Recognised, Affiliated to AIRF & HMS)

## CENTRAL OFFICE

President: G. M. PATHAN  
Gen. Secretary: A. V. K. CHAITANYA, B.A. (Hons.)

7-C Railway Building,  
Accounts Office Compound,  
SECUNDERABAD-500025.

Ref. SCRMU/ 8-45

Date 29-4-1974.....

The General Secretary,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
New Delhi.

Dear Comrade,

Sub: Victimization of Railway Employees for  
Participation in 1969 General Strike.

.....

The following employees have been removed from service  
for their participation in 1969 General Strike and are  
yet to be taken to duty.

1. Con. Annagan, Fitter, Lallaguda Workshop/SC.
2. Con. Satyan Kevlar, FSK, Lallaguda Workshop/SC.
3. Con. L. Ramesh Ch. Ramesh, S&M Workshop/PT/SC.
4. Con. L. Ramesh Ch. Ramesh, Coal Checker, L&D Shed/SC.
5. Con. L. Sundaram, Mineman 'B'/L&D Shed/SC.

These cases are still pending in the PT Meeting of the  
Railway Board and our Federation. However, these names  
are sent as per Con. Choubey's telephone conversation on  
27-4-74 for ready reference.

Yours faithfully,

*A. V. K. Chaitanya*

(A. V. K. Chaitanya)  
General Secretary

ALL INDIA LOCO RUNNING STAFF ASSOCIATION

Regd.No.NAT/38

mal  
Secretary.  
Com. R.P.Sharma.  
Northern Railway,LRSA.

Hd.Qrs: Lumding(Assam)  
Camp: New Delhi.  
Dated: 30th April 1974

Dear Comrade,

I have come across a copy of the enclosed circular purported to have been issued by you. As reference to working committee decisions and talks with myself has been referred to in this circular, a copy of the same should have been forwarded to me, which you have not done. Hence I have to request you to confirm whether you have issued the same, so that it may be placed in the next working committee meeting for a decision.

In the meanwhile I have to point out, that the resolution of the working committee has been duly signed by Com. Sabapathy and your assumption is incorrect.

The other arguments mentioned by you were duly considered by the working committee. After having considered all those, it was decided that

- 1) as the LRSA, have all along been advocating united struggle for common basic demands, it is our policy which has succeeded in bringing about this unity and we have the responsibility of not merely carrying out this unity but also leading the united struggle.
- and 2) As basic demands for which we are also vitally interested, are involved, a fighting organisation like LRSA cannot remain a silent spectator, much less act as strike-breakers. Our decision to join the NCCRS, despite our differences with AIRF, came out of this consideration.

Regarding victimisation, I had told you that the NCCRS as a whole has taken the responsibility for the out come of the struggle. Besides the LRSA carried on with severe victimisation and secured cancellation through struggles. We must have faith in our capacity to fight out any issue concerning Loco Running Staff.

Since our organisation is noted for its democratic functioning and unity, I would appeal to you to respect the decision of the working committee and immediately withdraw this circular and secure full participation of our organisation in case the strike comes about. You should specially note the fact that the officers Federation has refused to take up strike-breaking activities and stenographers Association has also decided to join the struggle. No genuine follower of LRSA can, therefore, act as strike-breaker in the circumstances.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

*P.K. Barua*  
(P.K.Barua) 30/4/74  
Secretary General

Encl-1

Copy to Shri Mewalall, President, Northern Railway LRSA and other Zonal Office.

Bearers Divisional Office Bearer and Branch Secretary Northern Rly.LRSA for information. They are requested to ensure implementation of the working committee decision which has already been circulated.

Copy to Com.M.R.Sabapathy, President and all other Central Office Bearers and members of the working committee for information. They are also requested to advice Shri Sharma, telegraphically about the decision of the working committee.



TRUE COPY

BUREAU INTERNATIONAL DU TRAVAIL

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A  
L

OFFICINA INTERNACIONAL DEL TRABAJO

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE

MAY 8, 1974

Address (Postal): CH 1211 GENEVE 22  
Telegrams INTERLAB GENEVE  
Telex: 22.271  
Telephone 31 24 00 & 32 62 00

RefNo. TUR 1-33-0

Mr Priya Gupta  
General Secretary  
All India Railwaymen's  
Federation  
125-E Babar Road  
NEW DELHI - 1 (Inde)

Dear Mr. Priya Gupta,

I was sorry to learn from your letter dated 2 May of the arrest of your President, Mr George Fernandes.

I am enclosing a copy of an ILO document explaining the procedure for the examination of formal complaints and I would call to your attention paragraphs 9 and 10 particularly.

If you should need any further information, please let us know.

Yours sincerely,

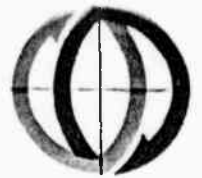
For the Director-General

Sd/-  
H. A. DUNNING,  
Chief of the Workers' Relation Branch  
Relations and Conference Department

\*\*\*\*\*



International Transport Workers' Federation  
 Fédération Internationale des Ouvriers du Transport  
 Internationale Transportarbeiter-Föderation  
 Federación Internacional de los Trabajadores del Transporte  
 Internationella Transportarbetarefederationen



ITF, Maritime House, Old Town, Clapham, London, SW4 0JR

Head Office: Maritime House, Old Town, Clapham,  
 London, SW4 0JR

Telephone: 01-622 5501/3

Telegrams: Intransfe, London, SW4

To affiliated railwaymen's  
 organizations

Circular no. 66/Rw.7

Please address all communications to the General Secretary  
 and confine each letter to one subject only.

our Ref. Our Ref. Date 3 May 1974

Dear Friends,

Arrest of Indian Railwaymen's Leaders

On 2 May, the Indian government ordered the arrest of some three hundred officials of Indian railwaymen's unions, including George Fernandes, President of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation (AIRF), an ITF affiliate.

The arrests were the government's response to the AIRF's call for a strike on 8 May in pursuit of its claims for improvements in wages and conditions and for an end to the employment of casual labour. The AIRF has for months sought settlement of its claims through negotiations but has been given no satisfaction.

The ITF sent the following cable to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi today:

APPALLED AT MASS ARREST INDIAN RAILWAYMEN'S  
 LEADERS STOP SUCH ACTIONS GRAVELY VIOLATE  
 ALL ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS OF INDUSTRIAL  
 RELATIONS AND CAN ONLY EXACERBATE EXISTING  
 BITTERNESS STOP CALL ON YOU IMMEDIATELY TO  
 RELEASE ALL CONCERNED AND TO COMMENCE  
 MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS TO SETTLE RAILWAYMEN'S  
 GENUINE GRIEVANCES

and we know the AIRF would be greatly encouraged if you could send a similar message deploring the government's actions and registering your support for our affiliate.

Yours fraternally,

C. H. Blyth  
 General Secretary

3  
 15/74  
 15

copy in file  
 make  
 R



## INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE

- 8 MAI 1974

Adresse postale: CH-1211 GENEVE 22  
Télégrammes: INTERLAB GENEVE  
Télex 22.271  
Téléphone 31 24 00 & 32 62 00

Mr. Priya Gupta,  
General Secretary,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
125/E, Babar Road,  
NEW DELHI-1.

Réf. n° TUR 1-33-0

(Inde)

Dear Mr. Priya Gupta,

I was sorry to learn from your letter dated 2 May of the arrest of your President, Mr. George Fernandes.

I am enclosing a copy of an ILO document explaining the procedure for the examination of formal complaints and I would call to your attention paragraphs 9 and 10 in particular.

If you should need any further information, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

For the Director-General:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'H.A. Dunning'.

H.A. Dunning,  
Chief of the  
Workers' Relations Branch,  
Relations and Conference Department.



# एन० ई० रेलवे मजदूर यूनियन

(NERMU)

(द्वि-दू नियम ऐक्ट के अन्तर्गत पंजीकृत, आल इन्डिया रेलवेमेन्स फेडरेशन एवं हिन्दू मजदूर  
समा से सम्बद्ध तथा एन० ई० रेलवे प्रशासन द्वारा मान्यता प्राप्त)

सदस्य-नेशनल सेफ्टी कार्सेसिब

अध्यक्ष-लसावन सिंह

महासचिवी-कन्हैया लाल गुप्त

केन्द्रीय कार्यालय

गोरखपुर

पत्र सं० NERMU/Lisc.13.

दिनांक 21.5.74.१६

Shri V.V.Giri,  
President Indian Union,  
Rashtrapati Bhavan,  
New Delhi.

Your Excellency,

The Railwaymen detained in Central Jail, Gorakhpur have directed me to convey their sentiments to you in regard to repressive measure of Govt. of India which they are having with their employees who are on peaceful strike.

The Railwaymen have dared to convey their sentiments and agony to you with their own conception about your carrier. You had been founder member of All India Railwaymen's Federation to which this union is an affiliate. Not only this it is your leadership that the Trade Union movement came out of cross road in beginning of nineteenth century. They have got full confidence that your intervention will bring early settlement and there will be peace over the industry. For the present the staff are in distress on account of indiscriminate termination of services, issue of warrant, eviction from railway quarters etc.

Your Excellency may kindly consider the matter and direct your Government to treat their employees not as enemy but as friend with all sportsman spirit.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

General Secretary.

Copy to Smt. Indra Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, New Delhi for information.

General Secretary.

Copy to National Co-ordination Committee for railwaymen struggle, P25-E, Babar Road, Railway Quarters, New Delhi.

General Secretary.

Priya Gupta,  
General Secretary.

No. ATRE/16-11

Dated May 2, 1974


Respected Dr. Parekh,

I am very much shocked to learn about the death of our revered leader, Comrade V.R. Malgi, this morning at Bombay, while in the custody of the Police after being arrested earlier. Hardly a fortnight ago he was with us all here and little have we been prepared for this sad moment. His end is particularly poignant when we realise that in his death too he has truly served the cause of his fellow railwaymen, totally ignoring his delicate health. We are, indeed unable to stand up to the realisation, a valiant fighter, a wise counsel and a gentle friend has left us all disconsolate at this crucial moment, a delicate phase in our struggle for achieving some of our basic demands. Our sense of loss is stupendous, the void he has created being really difficult to fill. We bow to his great memory at his moment, in silent prayers.

May we request you to kindly convey to the members of the bereaved family our sincerest condolences on this occasion? May God give them the fortitude to stand up to this loss, which the entire railwaymen's fraternity considers its privilege to share.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
(Priya Gupta)

ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION

MS: RAILWAYMEN

PHONE: 4094

AIRF/160-B

May 2, 1974.

*2/peled* Dear Mrs. Malgi,

On learning about the sad demise of Mr. V.R. Malgi, this morning in Bombay, our dearest comrade and a fraternal brother of two million railwaymen of India, we are deeply shocked and grieved at the event. Comrade Malgi who has served the cause of the Railway workers since last 20 years has left a deep impact on us and on the workers a new inspiration to carry on ideals to endless times.

The All India Railwaymen's Federation, the Northern Railwaymen's union and other affiliates here wish to convey our condolences to the departed soul of our brother Com. Malgi and to the near & dear ones of his family. We, here in our office paid rich tributes to Com. Malgi and observed 2 minutes of silence to pray for his soul and eternal rest.

May God grant you strength to overcome this sudden grief.

*With regards*

Yours fraternally,

*Priya Gupta*

( Priya Gupta )  
General Secretary

&

on behalf of all the members  
of the A.I.R.F.

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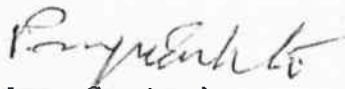
No. AIRF/160-B

Dated May 2, 1974

Respected Shri Prem Sagar Gupta,

I am in receipt of your resolution passed and adopted in the 3rd May Strike Committee of Delhi on 2nd May, 1974. I am very much thankful for your kind and sympathetic attitude towards the cause of the railwaymen. We hope that in future you will always guide us after extending full co-operation in our coming struggle.

Yours comradely,



( Priya Gupta )  
General Secretary.

Shri Prem Sagar Gupta,  
Convenor,  
3-May Strike Committee,  
4/7 Asaf Ali Road,  
New Delhi-110001

No. AIRF/160- B

Dated May 1, 1974.

Dear Comrade Chaitanya,

Your Assistant Secretary of the Hyderabad Branch of the S.C.R.M.U., Shri Syed Yousuf, has come to Delhi to-day to ask for the posters. The posters - 3,000 in English and 1,000 in Hindi - intended for the South Central Ry. Mazdoor Union are being sent with him, as desired.

The amount of Rs.600/- has also been received from Shri Yousuf as sent by you in this connection and the relative receipt therefor is also being handed over to him.

As for the reservation for the return journey of Shri Yousuf, I have told Shri Sarhaddy who will do his best in spite of very busy traffic on account of the current summer holiday season.


You might have read from the newspapers details about the current negotiations with the Railway Ministry and how in spite of best efforts a negotiated settlement could not as yet be achieved and the talks have almost come to a deadlock yesterday, despite of Com. George Fernandes's most effective arguments on all the items in the Charter of Demands. Shri L.N. Mishra, the Railway Minister, came in and intervened yesterday and assured to do his best for resolving the dispute, and fixed the meeting for the purpose on 2nd May, with the representatives of the NCCRS and the NFIR. We would be meeting at 9 A.M. in the Railway Board's office.

The question of victimised employees also came up and the cases of the 1960 Victimised employees also were argued vigorously and cogently. Dy. Minister, Shri Mohd. Qureshi assured due consideration and matters will be pursued earnestly.

Our sincerest desire and matching efforts will bring in success in the long run, but let us not relax our campaign and prepare for the strike action in full vigour.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
Priya Gupta  
General Secretary.

Shri A.V.K. Chaitanya,  
General Secretary,  
South Central Railwaymen's Union &  
Assistant General Secretary, AIRF,  
Railway Accounts Office Compound,  
Secunderabad.



No. AIRF/160-B

Dated May 1, 1974


Dear Comrade Bhatnagar,

Yours of 23rd April regarding letters to the Officers. I have already done the needful, though an open letter is not considered advisable.

The strike is now inevitable and I hope you are working overtime to organise it to a total success.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President

Shri J.N. Bhatnagar,  
Western Ry. Employees' Union,  
Divisional Office,  
Station Building,  
Aimer.

# WESTERN RAILWAY EMPLOYEES UNION

( AFFILIATED TO AIRF & HMS )

Head Office :  
Grant Road  
BOMBAY 7

Divisional Office :  
Station Building  
AJMER

Ref. No. ....



Date 23-4 1974

Respected George Sahle,

I am writing you this letter with the hope that my submission will find due consideration.

I would like that you may address letters to the Officers known to you and an open letter <sup>to others</sup> ~~to the Rly officers~~ on the Indian Rlys on the following ~~lines~~ points.

① What is the position of an officer and what should be his approach towards the staff working under them.

② Whether they should work as loyalists or as tradition inherited from British regime and should they deal their staff as masters or as their leaders in respective units.

③ Should the officers not recall the resolution passed a year back at Delhi wherein they have decided not to work as strike breaker on the demand of bonus. Should this be allowed to remain on papers or it needs to be acted upon. Not only this, like class III & IV staff, do they not want parity with JAS & JPS officers. Have they forgotten that in the past on the combined list Rly officers used to be next

- to IAS and so also in respect of scales of pay. Now they are even below IPS and therefore should they not put their heads together on this issue, in which they have been agitating for past many years.

(4) Basically they ~~are~~ <sup>are</sup> employees at higher strata in Rlys set up and not employers and therefore should <sup>they</sup> not think along with class III + IV. Should they not ponder over these demands and be with this man as head of the team and be guide to their own kith + kin.

(5) Should they allow Govt. aft. 26 years of independence to treat them as tools to break the solidarity of working class and show their loyalty which should have given way since independence.

(6) The officers should not be ~~par~~ panicky about their future as the entire cadre of class III + IV will remain at their back & the first condition of settlement would be no injury to this cadre else the entire cadre would resort to strike to ensure no ~~is~~ victimisation.

(7) What is happening today is that neither PM nor Rly Minister has told them as to what should they tell their staff

WESTERN RAILWAY EMPLOYEES UNION  
( AFFILIATED TO AIRF & IIMS )

Head Office :  
Grant Road  
BOMBAY 7

Divisional Office :  
Station Building  
AJMER

Ref. No.....

11 page

Date..... 197

in regard to the demands but they have only advised them how they should deal with the preparation of strike and what measures they should take to break the strike.

⑧ should they not refuse to be traditionally loyal as in british regime ~~and~~ as if loyalty ~~is~~ is not the property of ministers and officers ~~in~~ in independent india which was true in british regime as it was ~~through~~ through these loyal officers through whom the india was dominated & administered.

I hope your intelligent address to these officers will create great impact and little ~~that~~ thinking amongst them will have its own effect.

With regards

Sh. George Fernandez

President

ADRF

125F Balak Road  
New Delhi

yours truly

J. B. Shetty

No. AIRE/160A

Dated May 1, 1974

Dear Comrade Palit,

I have your letter of 28th March regarding the Co-ordination Committee set-up at the Zonal level. I hope the matter has since been settled.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

*WJ*  
George Fernandes  
President

*6/6*

Shri S.K. Palit,  
General Secretary,  
Ticket Checking Staff Welfare Committee,  
N.F. Railway,  
Allipurduar.

Sudha Krishna Palit.

482/A, Arambdo Colony,

P. o. Alipurduar Jn.

Dist. Jalpaiguri.



From S. K. Palit

General Secretary  
Ticket Checking Staff Welfare Committee  
N.F. Railway, Alipurduar

To

The Convenor,  
Joint Action Committee,  
C/o General Secretary / Mazdoor Union  
N.F. Railway, Pandua

1) Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that a joint meeting was held at Pandua on 22nd + 23rd instant under the Presidentship of Com. George Fernandez where all the General Secretaries of the Zonal Categorical Associations were called except Ticket Checking Staff Welfare Committee. The reason of which is not known to me.

It is heard, one Sri Rabintram, Ticket Collector, New Bongaigaon represented himself as a member of this organization and included in the Joint Action Committee. I like to let you know very clearly that Sri Rabintram is not even a member of this organization and has got no right to represent himself without having any consent from the undersigned.

This is for your kind information please.

Yours faithfully

sd/-

Copy to Com. George Fernandez, President / ADRF,  
125/A, Duttar Road, New Delhi for information please *S.K. Palit*

General Secretary, 29/13  
Ticket Checking Staff  
Welfare Committee,  
N.F. Ry. HQ Alipurduar Jn.

No. AIRF/ 160 B

Dated May 1, 1974.

Dear Comrade Surya Lal,

I hope you are doing everything necessary to ensure the participation of the Switchmen, Cabinmen and Levermen on all the Railways in the now inevitable general strike.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

George Fernandes  
President

Shri Surya Lal,  
Convenor,  
All India Switchmen, Cabinmen & Levermen  
Advisory Council,  
374, Attarsuiya,  
Allahabad.

No. AIRF/1608

Dated May 1, 1974

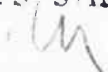
Dear Comrade Abraham,

You have written to me about the average mileage allowance. The matter is engaging our attention. Please inform your other colleagues also.

I hope you are doing everything possible to organise an effective strike in your area.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President

Shri P. Mathews Abraham,  
Guard,  
Southern Railway,  
Podanur.  
Olavakkot Division.



2798  
29/3/74

ALL INDIA SWITCHMEN, CABINMEN & LEVERMEN ADVISORY COUNCIL  
-----

Cir.No.2/74

374, Attarsuiya,  
Allahabad:  
Dated: 25 March '74.

All Divisional & Branch Convenors,  
N.Rly/E.Rly/C.Rly/S.C.Rly/S.E.Rly/S.Rly/N.E.Rly/N.F.Rly.

Dear Comrade,

Re: Preparation for Struggle to achieve Demands:  
-----

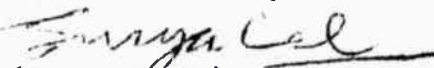
We have to be prepared for the struggle as only through struggle we could get our grievances redressed and genuine demands fulfilled. Past experience has shown that only sacrifice and struggle yields fruitful results. The recent agitations of Loco Running Staff, Supervisory Staff of Carriage & Wagon Department and Guards could be cited as instances in this respect.

Through this letter I want to remind you of the decision of Railwaymen taken at the National Convention at Delhi on February 27, 1974, presided over by Comrade George Fernandez, President of the All India Railwaymen's Federation. After prolonged and mature consideration that it was decided to resort to an indefinite strike after 10th April, 1974, from a date to be announced later, to achieve the 5 common demands of Railwaymen. The time for action is now not far off and we have to be prepared for the call.

As a first step in our struggle, we have to start with "Work-to-Rule" agitation, sometime between the 10th and 15th April, 1974. The exact date for launching the movement would be communicated to you in time. In the mean time you have just to organise meetings of Switchmen, Cabinmen, Levermen and Pointsmen in your respective areas and make them fully conscious of the struggle ahead and explain to them the various implications and objects of the 'Work-to-Rule' agitation.

You will be posted with the details of the agitation very soon.

Yours comradely,

  
(Surya Lal)  
Convenor.

.....

One copy to  
the President  
A.P.S. / 1948

2799  
29/3/54

अखिल भारतीय किसानों, केविन मैन तथा गैर मैन परामर्शदात्री समिति  
२७४ गुरुकुला, इलाहाबाद ।

परिपत्र नं० २-७४ दिनांक २५ मार्च, १९७४  
भारतवर्ष की सम्पूर्ण रेलवे ।

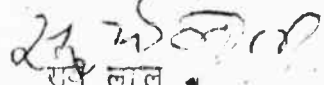
प्रिय सार्थी,

विषय:- मांगों की पूर्ति हेतु संघर्ष के लिए तैयारी ।

हमें संघ के लिए तैयार होना है क्योंकि संघर्ष के द्वारा ही हमारी शिकायतें दूर हो सकती हैं और हमारी मांगों की पूर्ति हो सकती है । अतीत के अनुभवों ने यह दर्शाया है कि त्याग और संघर्ष से ही फलदायक परिणाम निकलते हैं । इस संबंध में तीनों रनिंगस्टेशन, केरिज और वेगन विभाग के सुपरवाइजरी कर्मचारियों तथा गाड़ लोगों के हतास के आंदोलन का हमारे सामने ज्वलन्त उदाहरण है ।

इस परिपत्र के द्वारा मैं रेल कर्मचारियों द्वारा दिल्ली में २७ फरवरी ७४ को राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन में निरक्षी अध्यक्षता अखिल भारतीय रेलवे कर्मियों के संघर्ष के समाप्ति सार्थी जार्ज फरनान्डीज ने की थी, लिखे गये निम्नलिखित बातों को याद दिलाना चाहता हूँ । लम्बे और गहन-विचार-मंथन के बाद इस सम्मेलन में रेल कर्मचारियों ने अपनी प्रसामान्य मांगों की पूर्ति के लिए अनिश्चित कालीन हड़ताल का आग्रह लेने का निश्चय किया था । सम्मेलन में तय पाया गया था कि इस हड़ताल की १५ अप्रैल के बाद की किसी तिथि की घोषणा रेल कर्मचारियों के सभी संगठनों के प्रतिनिधियों द्वारा गठित रेल कर्मचारी संघर्ष समन्वय समिति करेगी । क्रियात्मक कदम उठाने का दिन अब बहुत दूर नहीं है । आवाहन पर हमें संघर्ष क्षेत्र में उतरने के लिए तैयार होना है । अपने संघर्ष के प्रथम चरण के रूप में हमें नियमानुसार काम आन्दोलन देखना है । इसके आन्दोलन को अप्रैल में देखने के लिए १० और १५ अप्रैल ७४ के बीच की कोई तिथि होगी जिसकी सूचना आपको बाद में दी जायेगी । अभी आपको अपने क्षेत्र में रिबचमेन, केचमेन, लीवर मेन और प्वाइन्टमेन लोगों की संघर्ष आयोजित कर उन्हें आगामी संघर्ष के लिए जागरूक करना है तथा यह समझना है कि नियमानुसार काम आन्दोलन का क्या अर्थ होगा और उद्देश्य है ।

इस आन्दोलन के व्योम-से आपको संप्र-अगत कराया जायेगा

  
रवी लाल  
संयोजक

4789  
29.3.74

Station: Podamm  
Date 26.3.74

From P. MATHEWS ABRAHAM  
Guard/  
Southern Railway,  
.....Podamm... (OLAVAKKODE Division)

To Shri George Fernandez,  
President,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
125/E, Babar Road,  
NEW DELHI.

Sir,

Sub: Average mileage allowance for spare days - regarding.  
:-:-:

I wish to bring the following facts for your kind and immediate action at the appropriate forum.

Due to the cancellation of the Trains for the reasons best known to the authorities alone, I am denied of the mileage allowance for the days on which I am kept forcibly as spare. This has resulted in considerable monetary loss to me which may invariably affect my retirement benefits.

You are aware that the mileage allowance is taken as "PAY" for all the purposes i.e. Pass and other fringe benefits. Besides this even for reflecting recovery, the mileage allowance is taken into account. The mileage allowance is considered as Pay Part, incentive part and to meet the pocket expenses. Thus it is an inseperable part of pay. Denial of a part of pay is a great injustice. Further it will badly affect the retirement benefits of the innumerable employees who will be retiring in the coming months.

In this connection, I invite your attention to the representation made to you through the General Secretary/SRMU/Madras Egmore.

I request your goodself to take up this issue immediately with Brat Board and arrange for granting average mileage allowance for all the days during which I am kept as spare for administration reasons.

With regards,

Yours faithfully,

P. G. Math

No. AIRF/160-A

Dated May 1, 1974.

Dear Comrade Gupta,

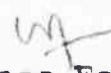

You have written to me regarding the upgradation of posts of Senior Scale Officers. Obviously, the Railways have double standards. They have all the resources to ~~the~~ meet the needs of the Officers and when it comes to the workers, they have financial problems.

The only reply that we can possibly give to this attitude is to go for an effective action, which will put sense in the heads of the bureaucrats.

I hope you are doing everything necessary to organise an effective strike in your area.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President 

Shri C.L. Gupta,  
Chairman,  
National Railway Mazdoor Union,  
Faridabad Branch,  
5-J-63, FARIDABAD N.I.T.

# नेशनल रेलवे मजदूर यूनियन

## NATIONAL RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION.

Head Office : SEVASADAN, DR. BABA SAHEB AMBEDKAR ROAD, PAREL BOMBAY-12

Ref. No. ~~MEB/NRMU~~ FDB/NRMU/UPGRADATION/74.

Branch Office :

~~Methuro~~ Line Branch

Date..... 24th March, 74.

5J-63, FARIDABAD N. I. T.

Respected Com. Fernandes,

Sub: Upgradation of posts of senior scale  
officers to Junior Administrative grade.

I am enclosing herewith a copy of letter No.E(o)111-74PM6/59 of 12.3.74 from the Railway Board to the General Managers of All Indian Railways under which 66 senior scale officers of Engg: Deptt: have been promoted to Junior Adm. Grade against the upgraded posts.

It is also to inform that 5 additional Chief Engineers posts have already been upgraded from ENCS (Junior Adm. to Senior Adm.) in Central Railway and likewise, must have been upgraded in other zonal Railways.

It is also learnt that similarly junior scale Class I posts are being upgraded to senior scale Class I. But there is no upgradation of any posts for Class III employees or Class IV employees. This upgradation has been made almost in all departments of Indian Railways. You would be astonished to note that in Class III and Class IV services of the Railway, the rate of promotion is so slow that an employee has to complete his entire service in only one or two grades whereas an officer recruited as Asstt: Officer junior scale class I gets very quick promotion and within a spell of 15 to 20 years of service he gets promotion upto senior Administrative grades.

You would realise from above that the so-called socialistic pattern in India is only to benefit the Administrative Officers and not for middle class or low class people.

The justified step of the Railway Board should have been to upgrade the posts of Class IV and Class III employees first and then Class I and over.

.....2.

# नेशनल रेलवे मजदूर यूनियन

**NATIONAL RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION.**

Head Office : SEVASADAN, DR. BABA SAHEB AMBEDKAR ROAD, PAREL BOMBAY-12

Ref. No. MLB/NRMU/

Branch Office :

Mathura Line Branch

5J-63, FARIDABAD N. I. T.

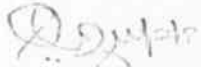
Date.....

-2-

I do not want to go in details of all this politics, but as a trade unionist I have to bring these facts to your knowledge so that due consideration may be given by you to draw the attention of the public and press of these anomalies and also the lower staff be represented suitably.

With due regards,

Cordially yours,



( C.L. GUPTA )  
CHAIRMAN, NRMU,  
Faridabad Branch.

j.

No. AURE/160-8

Dated May 1, 1974.

Dear Comrade Mishra,

I have your letter of 25th April. I am sorry if an invitation was not sent to the Bharatiya Rail Vidyut Karmachari Sangh, it must have been only because we did not have the name and address of the organisation with us. As you know, we had issued a public invitation to all railwaymen's organisations, to participate in the National Convention and most of those who came did so on the basis of the public invitation. I am writing to Comrade R.D. Sharma seeking his association with the National Co-ordination Committee for Railwaymen's struggle. I hope you are doing everything necessary to organise a total strike on 8th May.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

George Fernandes  
President.

Shri U.C. Mishra,  
Secretary,  
Western R. Employees' Union,  
Abu Road.

No. AIRF/160-B

Dated May 1, 1974

Dear Comrade Sebastian,

I have the copy of your printed Memorandum to the Railway Minister on the problems of the Class III employees. As you are aware, we are currently engaged in seeking the settlement of certain very fundamental issues concerning railwaymen. Once we are through with the present situation, we shall attend to these matters, though I feel that with reclassification and regradation of all railwaymen only most of these issues can become irrelevant.

I hope you are doing everything necessary to organise a total strike in your area.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

George Fernandes  
President

Shri G.S. Sebastian,  
President,  
Skilled Employees' Committee,  
Southern Railway Workshop,  
Golden Rock,  
Trichy-4.



# Skilled Employees' Committee,

S. RLY, WORKSHOP, GOLDEN ROCK, TRICHY-4.

Date 24.4.1974.

3343 -  
27/4/74

To

**Hon. Railway Minister,**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, NEW DELHI.

Dear Hon. Sir,

Sub : Justice to Grade completed to Class III Employees in the fixation in revised scale.

On behalf of the Class III employees who had reached the maximum of the skilled grade and get stagnated in the same grade for a number of years, we beg to represent the following :-

We were made to stagnate in one and the same grade for more than 27 years. We had reached the maximum of the skilled as early as 1968 & 1969 and thereafter get stagnated at the maximum Rs. 180-00 of the skilled grade. On repeated representations, the Govt. have sanctioned an increase of Rs. 5-00 i. e., from Rs. 180 to Rs. 185 and placed us stagnated at that stage.

The advent of the Pay Commission created a ray of hope in our minds that the Commission would grant us suitable higher emoluments giving due weightage to our long service and experience. But its recommendations belied our hope and we are sadly let down. The Commission has equated us with those drawing Rs. 175-00 and fixed us at Rs. 358, as those drawing Rs. 175. In other words our service for the 7 years of incremental stage was set at naught and we have been pushed back to 1966 time scale. Thus the Commission instead of offering any betterment in our emoluments, has singled us out and effected a cut in the salary. This is too harsh, and inhuman.

In the year 1968, when our Pay was raised to Rs. 185 by adding Rs. 5, we ought to have been legitimately upgraded to HSA Gr. II (Rs. 130 - 212) and had it been done we would have reached the maximum of even HSA Gr. II in 1972 itself. In that case, the Third Pay Commission would have recommended the corresponding revised scale of Rs. 330 - 480, effective from 1-1-73. Unfortunately we were stagnated at Rs. 185 itself ever since 1968 and the Pay

P. T. O.

Commission has stabbed us in the back making us the losers. In the name of justice, the Commission should have atleast fixed us at Rs. 410 adding the last incremental amount of Rs. 10 in the revised scales with the maximum of that scale, viz., Rs. 400 in the same way as the last incremental amount of Rs. 5 was added with Rs. 180.

**HENCE WE DEMAND :-**

That we should be treated as having been upgraded as HSA Grade II from the year 1968 and given the fixation in the revised scale for HSA Gr. II.

**OR**

Atleast we should be fixed at Rs. 410 as explained above and we may be upgraded as HSA Gr. II.

We submit that our long service and experience make us amply eligible to be treated as HSA Gr. II and fixed at Rs. 410 atleast and by so doing we may be given a consolation that our stagnation for 27 and more years is broken and a change in the pay scales is given, so as to enjoy increment benefit for a period 7 years remaining in the HSA Gr. II revised scale and to retire at Rs. 480 with a peace of mind.

In the matter of Incentive Bonus, 0-78 rupees per hour was granted with effect from 1-7-68 and we ought to have been allowed Rs. 1-22 with effect from 1-12-68, consequent on the conversion of DA as Dearness Pay. Now as a result of the Third Pay Commission fixation, we should be allowed Rs. 1-64 per hour with effect from 1-1-73. Similar enhancements in the quantum in HRA, OT, Night Duty Allowance and City Allowance should also be made applicable to us.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,



PRESIDENT.



SECRETARY.

Copy to :-

Comrades.

- 1 General Manager,  
SOUTHERN RAILWAY,  
Park Town, MADRAS-3.
- 2 S. M. W.  
Golden Rock, TRICHY-4.
- 3 S. A. O. (W S)  
Golden Rock, TRICHY-4,
- ✓ 4 Mr. GEORGE FERNANDES,  
President A. I. R. F, NEW DELHI.
- 5 Mr. PRIYAGUPTHA,  
General Secretary, A. I. R. F.  
New Delhi.
- 6 Mr. SHARMA,  
NFIR New Delhi.

- 7 A. K. Gopalan, Member of Parliament,
- 8 M. Kalyanasundaram, "
- 9 T. Krishnan, "
- 10 Boobeshguptha, "
- 11 S. M. Banrri, "
- 12 Heiran Mukkerge, "
- 13 Vazbay, "
- 14 T. V. Anandhan, "
- 15 T. K. Srinivasan, "
- 16 Madhulimaye, "
- 17 Jothirmoye Bashu, "
- 18 - Deputy Railway  
Minister New Delhi
- 19 K. Anandha Nambian  
DREU - GOC
- 20 - G. Ramachandran  
SRMU - T.PJ

No. AIRF/160 B

Dated May 1, 1974

Dear Comrade Sharma,

I have your letter of 21st April. I am sorry I could not be in your midst for the May Day rally. Com. T.S. Choudhury informs me that all of you are now working hard to organise a total strike. I hope the unity of action will help us build lasting unity in the interests of all the railwaymen. The strike is now inevitable and we shall consider no sacrifice too great to see that victory is ours.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

George Fernandes  
President

Shri Govindlal Sharma,  
Divl. Secretary, W.R.E.U.&  
Convenor, MCCRS,  
Office of the Western Ry. Employees' Union,  
Quarter No.442,  
Near Rly. R.M.S. Office,  
RATLAM.

**Govindlal Sharma**

Divl. Secretary, W. R. E. U.  
& Convener,  
N.C.C. for Rly. men's  
Struggle, Ratlam.

Ref. No. ....

Office of the W. R. E. U.  
Employees Union, Qr. No. 442,  
Near Rly. R.H.S. Office,  
RATLAM. Date.....

*30/4/74*  
Dated: 21st April, 1974.

Dear Shri George,

Thank you for your encouraging letter No. NCC/1/74 dated 11.4.74 as well as dated 13.4.74. The Action Committee at Ratlam is going ahead as per your instructions.

I am glad to inform you that we have had talks with Shri H.S. Choudhary, Member, Central Co-ordination Committee and General Secretary, All India Loco Running staff Association. Not only he has joined the ensuing struggle, but he has also addressed a big public meeting arranged by our Co-ordination Committee, Ratlam near D.S. Office on 20.4.74 and declared full support and participation in the All India Rly. men's strike commencing from 8th May, 1974. Tonight also we have called a meeting of all the Categorywise Associations including the Loco Running Staff Assn. to include them in the Action Committee. I will convey the results to you thereafter.

Almost all the railway staff on Ratlam Division are badly pressing me for arranging your visit to Ratlam Division at the earliest in addition to that of Shri Gajananraoji Gokhale, Working President of Bhartiya Railway Mazdoor Sangh. I should be grateful if you could decide to fix 1st May, 1974 for your impending visit to Ratlam. It would be better if you could also request Shri Gokhaleji and bring him with you to Ratlam on 1.5.74 and confirm this programme early to enable us to arrange and prepare fully.

The big public meeting arranged by us on 20th April, 1974 at Ratlam was addressed by Shri Hukumchandji Kachhwal, Member of Parliament and President, Bhartiya Railway Mazdoor Sangh and Dr. Laxminarayanji Pandey, Member of Lok Sabha who gave memorial speeches to the large gathering of railwaymen and public and prepared them for the strike.

p.t.o.

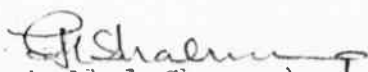
Incidentally, It is also pointed out that the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh (perhaps on the instructions of Shri Mohanlal Gupta, Divisional Superintendent, Western Railway, Ratlam) has issued orders not to give permission for using loudspeakers for our meetings and other programmes. Despite our constant persuasion and requests, the permission to use loudspeaker for our public meeting held on 20th April, 1974 was deliberately not granted till 18.00 hours. It was only when Dr. Laxminarayanji Pandey, M.P. spoke to the Collector, Ratlam, Shri Parmar that this permission was granted with great trouble. The Collector, Shri M.S. Parmar does not even care for the M.P.'s request.

On 19.4.74, there was a big rally of railwaymen from Railway Station, Indore to Rajwada Chowk, which ultimately converted into a public meeting. S/Shri Kalyan Jain & Sadli Mohan Nigam of Socialist Party, Shri Anant Lagu, Communist Party, Ramswaroop, Zonal President of SMs/AMs' Association spoke among others in the meeting.

On 20.4.74, Similar procession and public meeting were also held at Bhow.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
(Govindlal Sharma)

Shri George Fernandes,  
Convenor,  
National Co-ordination Committee  
for Railwaymen's Struggle,  
125/E, Babar Road,  
NEW DELHI-1.

No. AIRF/160 B

Dated May 1, 1974

Dear Comrade Ramaprasad,

I have yours of the 9th April. Please let me know immediately the latest developments in regard to the strike in the workshops.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

George Fernandes  
President

Shri R. Ramaprasad,  
Convenor,  
Co-ordination Committee,  
Southern Railway Workshops,  
Mysore South.

To

Shri *George Fernandez*

Date: 7/4/74

Respected Sir,

The Co-ordination committee of the Southern Railway Workshops, Mysore South consisting of the representatives of the Indian Railway Technical Supervisors' Association, Southern Railway Employees Sangh, Southern Railway Mazdoor Union, Dakshin Railway Karmik Sangh and Railway Labour Union approach your kindness with the following appeal for your kind perusal and timely intervention at appropriate level and arrange for an early settlement.

The incidence amounting to your intervention is briefed as follows:

A vacancy of an Assistant Shop Superintendent existed in the Machine Shop, Southern Railway workshops, Mysore South since 1971. The above vacancy is one reserved for Scheduled Caste from the date of its arising, adhoc arrangements were done twice to fill up the vacancy from other than the S.C. candidates. No attempts were made to constitute a selection board and post a selected candidate against the S.C. reserved quota. After the departure of Sri M.V. Varadharajan, who was officiating on adhoc against the above vacancy was transferred to Efficiency Cell, Madras and the vacancy was kept unfilled from September, 1973 till 30th March, 1974, and the work was being managed with the existing staff during the above period. No efforts were taken by the administration to fill up the vacancy during this period although senior S.C. candidate was readily available at Mysore Workshops.

All in a sudden, on the morning of 30.3.1974, Sri Radhakrishnan of Perambur shops (Loco works) arrived in Mysore shops stating that he has been posted to Mysore shops as an Assistant Shop Superintendent purely on adhoc measure against the vacancy in question. He is neither a selected candidate nor senior to any of the local candidates. He is not a Scheduled Caste as well. As such, it was so surprising and disappointing to note that such a candidate is posted against the reserved vacancy, the fact of which is well known to the administration only.

It is intended to emphasise and highlight to your kindness that the policy so far adopted in any workshop is to post only the senior-most local candidate whenever postings are being resorted to purely on Adhoc measure. In posting Sri Radhakrishnan, the administration has isolated the general principle adopted for years. The posting has been done intentionally by suppressing the local candidates including the Scheduled Caste candidates by sending adverse reports against them.

This great injustice was protested by the entire Mysore Workshops staff of all categories. Work has been brought to a stand still from 1.4.74 A.M. and continued due to the absolute non-co-operation and adamant attitude of the administration, we would specifically mention here that the protest is being carried on with absolute non-violence to ensure falling in line with the policy of our father of our nation Sri Mahatma Gandhiji.

Efforts were made to negotiate at all levels, but to our misfortune the administration has not cared to give patient and careful hearing and decide the issue in a justified and favourable manner. Having exhausted all the possible official resources, we are compelled to approach the political authorities who are the ~~people's~~ peoples' representatives and in whom we confide.

We earnestly seek your brilliant high source of intellect and use your good office and impart justice for which act of kindness we will be ever grateful to you, Sir.

Yours faithfully,

*R. Ramaprasad*  
(CONVENOR)

Co-ordination Committee.

# BHARATIYA RAILWAY MAZDOOR SANGH

(INDIAN RAILWAY WORKERS FEDERATION)

President

Shri Hukumchand Kachwai  
M. P.

Working President

Shri G.S. Gokhale

## भारतीय रेलवे मजदूर संघ

(भारतीय मजदूर संघसे संलग्न)

Secy. Genl.

Shri Amaldarsingh

Secy. Genl. (org.)

Shri Manohar Phatak

Phone : 4 8 3 5 6

१६, विडसर प्लेस  
नई दिल्ली-१



३३, मोतो भवज डिसिल्हा रोड,  
दादर बम्बई-४०००२८

L. No. NCCRS/74

Date 28th April, 1974.

Dear Shri George,

AIRP/160 - 11  
Sadar Nameskar, Thanks for your letter No. AIRF/160-B(I) dated the 6th April, 1974.

I am sorry to have it to my lot again to write to you about the conditions in the NCCRS Office. On 23rd April, 1974 you have issued few words of guidance - Railway Strike. The letter containing the guidance was received by us on 27th after noon. We are forwarding it to our workers on zones today. But obviously it can't be received by them before the 1st of May, as today is Sunday and the letters would commence the journey from tomorrow only.

You can imagine what would be the reaction, <sup>when</sup> of ~~lacks~~ of workers, spread over far away places, anxious to have a word from us, see that the guidance had reached to them after full eight days since it was issued.

All this could have been avoided if delivery of the letters through a messenger had been arranged on 23rd April, 1974 itself.

We leave it to you to find the way out. On our <sup>part</sup> ~~part~~ we assure that whenever NCCRS Office has some difficulty, we will be quite willing to come over to the office on a phone call to receive the papers.

With greetings,

Brotherly Yours,

( GD Sohony )

Dy. Secretary-General

334  
30/4/74



Secretary.  
Com. R.P.Sharma.  
Northern Railway, LRSA.

Hd.Qrs: Lumding(Assam)  
Camp: New Delhi.  
Dated: 30th April 1974

Dear Comrade,

I have come across a copy of the enclosed circular purported to have been issued by you. As reference to working committee decisions and talks with myself has been referred to in this circular, a copy of the same should have been forwarded to me, which you have not done. Hence I have to request you to confirm whether you have issued the same, so that it may be placed in the next working committee meeting for a decision.

In the meanwhile I have to point out, that the resolution of the working committee has been duly signed by Com. Sabapathy and your assumption is incorrect.

The other arguments mentioned by you were duly considered by the working committee. After having considered all those, it was decided that

- 1) as the LRSA, have all along been advocating united struggle for common basic demands, it is our policy which has succeeded in bringing about this unity and we have the responsibility of not merely carrying out this unity but also leading the united struggle.
- and 2) As basic demands for which we are also vitally interested, are involved, a fighting organisation like LRSA cannot remain a silent spectator, much less act as strike-breakers. Our decision to join the NCCRS, despite our differences with AIRF, came out of this consideration!

Regarding victimisation, I had told you that the NCCRS as a whole has taken the responsibility for the out come of the struggle. Besides the LRSA carried on with severe victimisation and secured cancellation through struggles. We must have faith in our capacity to fight out any issue concerning Loco Running Staff.

Since our organisation is noted for its democratic functioning and unity, I would appeal to you to respect the decision of the working committee and immediately withdraw this circular and secure full participation of our organisation in case the strike comes about. You should specially note the fact that the officers Federation has refused to take up strike-breaking activities and stenographers association has also decided to join the struggle. No genuine follower of LRSA can, therefore, act as strike-breaker in the circumstances.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,  
*P. K. Barua*  
(P.K.Barua) 30/4  
Secretary General

Encl-1

Copy to Shri Mewalall, President, Northern Railway LRSA and other Central Office.

Divisional Office Bearer and Branch Secretary Northern Rly. LRSA for information. They are requested to ensure implementation of the working committee decision which has already been circulated.

Copy to Com.M.R.Sabapathy, President and all other Central Office bearers and members of the working committee for information. They are also requested to advise Shri Sharma, telegraphically about the decision of the working committee.

949

# D. L. W. MEN'S UNION

Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi

[ Regd. Under Trade Union Act & Affiliated to the All India Railwaymen's Federation ]

From - R. P. SINGH,

General Secretary,

& Convener of the Joint Action

Date 30th April, 1974

Ref No. ....

To  
Shri ... ..

President, A.I.R.

New Delhi.

3006  
2474

Respected Sir,

on 29/4

Since Com. T. N. Bajpai has visited this place, I have the pleasure and privilege to intimate you that a historic mass meeting was addressed by him at 10-00 hrs. before the General Manager's office. People greeted him and in the hall the Joint Action Committee has been authorized to impose a public curfew in the days of strike. In this regard a resolution has been adopted unanimously. Volunteers will keep a watch over the situation. There are 2000 Ply. Quarters in the colony. A grand successful programme at DLW ever experienced moved the Railwaymen here for a week of strike.

Com. Bajpai addressed a Press Conference in the office of the "Patrikar Sangh" in the city which was attended by 13 Press representatives including PTI, UNI and AIR reports.

They be addressed and guided the meeting of 200 workers at DLW again to make the strike a success.

Earlier Shri T. N. Bajpai addressed a Railwaymen meeting at Diesel Shed, Muzhalsarai in the morning in the working hours which was attended by the staff Supervisors alike.

Kindly come down our here for only an hour for your youngest babies. Mass meeting will be arranged at 10-00 hrs. i.e. just after workshop hours. Strike notice has already been posted. A copy might have reached you. With regards.

Yours faithfully,  
R.P.S.

Shri T. N. Bajpai flew to ... on 28.4.74 at 17-00 hrs by Dibrugarh Express. He ... addressed a workers meeting at ...

M/S-11/A  
L  
25

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/160 R

April 30, 1974.

Dear Mr. George,

I have your letter of 20th April, 1974, addressed to me C/o. Railway Ministry. I am indeed sorry it is not possible to change the date of the strike. I know the strike will cause tremendous hardship to everyone including the railwaymen, but the Govt. is not helping us to avert the strike. I hope we shall get the sympathy and support of all those who have taken the pain to understand our cause.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

George Fernandes

Mr. A.C. George,  
No.1, Rukmani Nivas,  
Davidayal Road,  
Mulund,  
Bombay.

As far as the passenger traffic is concerned, September is the lull period - In fact, till a few years back there was a system of concessional travel on railways during September to attract and boost up passenger traffic. Even the last All India Government employees' strike, as a result of which the Third Pay Commission was set up, was in the month of Sept.

As you are a politician and labour leader looking after the welfare of common-men, could you kindly give a serious thought to the views expressed above and reconsider the decision to launch the indefinite strike from May 8 and avoid the vacation period if at all a strike becomes inevitable.

Wishing you all the best in your endeavours to redress the grievances of railwaymen,

Yours faithfully,

A.C. George

पहला मोड़ First fold

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र कार्ड  
INLAND LETTER CARD

Shri George Fernandes,  
C/o Shri Mohd. Shafi Qureshi,  
Deputy Minister for Railways,  
Rafi Bhavan, (Railway Board),  
NEW DELHI.

पिन PIN



प्रेषक का नाम और पता :— Sender's name and address :—

A.C. George,  
No. 1 Mukkamti Nivas,  
Devidayal Road,  
Kurlund, Bombay.

पिन PIN

इस पत्र के अतिरिक्त कुछ न भेजिए। NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

दूसरा मोड़ Second fold

A.C. George.

No. 1 Rukmani Nivas,  
Devidayal Road, Mulund,  
Bombay, Dt. 20-4-1974.

To:

Shri George Fernandes.

Dear Sir,

Re: RAILMEN'S PROPOSED STRIKE.

There was a hope amongst the public that the proposed strike by railwaymen might not materialise and it was brightened on seeing the newspapers on 19th that a committee has been set up to go into the demands of railwaymen. But, today's news that Unions have been directed to serve strike notices before 23rd belied the hope.

While I join a number of non-railwaymen in appreciating the cause for the present struggle launched by railwaymen under your leadership, I should say that the public reaction to the time chosen by you for the indefinite strike is not very favourable and it is feared that the valuable public sympathy would be lost. Apart from the adverse effect the strike may bring about on the national economy about which the majority of common-men may not be in a position to appreciate, almost everyone in this vast country will be put to a lot of inconvenience and losses if passenger traffic comes to a standstill during summer vacations. It is during the period mid April to June, people make out advance programmes to go out to meet their relatives, attend marriages etc., celebrate the marriages of their children and undertake journeys for ~~important occasions~~ hundred-and-one reasons. Surely they would not like to be stranded nor to refrain from undertaking journeys for important events as it would mean a long wait for another vacation. The extent of passenger traffic during summer can be gauged from the number of special trains run throughout the country, the long queues for booking (which is now one month in advance) at train originating stations and the statistics of booking of passengers published by railways from time to time.

It is learnt that a number of railwaymen themselves are not in a position to fulfil some of their social and personal obligations during this summer as there is a ban on granting leave - at least ~~for~~ a long leave, and they have to wait for another vacation.

Perhaps the All-India Railway Employees' Confederation might have chosen this period for the strike on an misconceived thought that the Government may come to an acceptable solution as it may not like to cause inconvenience to the public. We know our Government and those in power. Last year, through communication between the two Metropolitan Cities - Bombay/Madras - remained suspended on the trunk rail route because of the agitation launched by the Sholapur Division staff for a merger with the Central Railway and ~~it~~ it took about a month for restoration of trains. One cannot expect a better and swifter ~~action~~ ~~of~~ ~~our~~ ~~Government~~ if the proposed strike

George Fernandes,  
President

AIRF/160-11

April 30, 1974.

Dear Com. Sivasankaran,

I have seen your interesting leaflet dated 25th April, 1974 on how to fight the strikes. You need to educate yourself on the working class movement and the problems facing the working people.

Yours fraternally,



George Fernandes

Dr. T.N. Sivasankaran,  
Convener  
Indian's Secretariat for  
Safeguarding the Republican  
Rights of Indians,  
Secretariate,  
Rajaji Hall,  
Muthupet,  
Tanjore Distt.

140 B.

1



Shri Unraomal Kurohit  
General Secretary  
Western Railway Employees' Union  
Grant Road Station/East

55-1

BOMBAY - 400007

190-600  
36-75  
55-151

No. AURE/160(e)

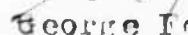
Dated April 29, 1974

Dear Comrade Sharma,

I have your letter of 23rd April  
regarding the behaviour of Mr. Bhatnagar.

The matter is being looked into.

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President

Shri R.C. Sharma,  
Divisional Vice Chairman,  
Western Railway Employees' Union,  
Divisional Office,  
Power House Road,  
JAIPUR-6.





# Western Railway Employees Union

(REGD. RECOGNISED AND AFFILIATED TO AIRF & HMS)

K. C. Jain  
Divisional Secretary

*Confidential*

P. & T. 66078  
Rly. Auto No. 695  
DIVISIONAL OFFICE,  
POWER HOUSE ROAD,  
JAIPUR-6

No. FL/Org/30/74-49

Dated 23-4-74.

Com. George Fernandes  
President, AIRF

3336  
27/4/74  
Sub:- Untoward behaviour by DSO  
Shri L.A. Bhatnagar at Phulera  
on 20.4.74.

Dear Comrade,

On 20.4.74 Shri L. A. Bhatnagar DSO JP arrived at about 18.30 hrs at Phulera in Rail Motor coach. Shri Bhatnagar having noticed a badge ( *श्री ए. एस. ए. के. के. के.* ) pinned on the shirt of two of the employees got annoyed and rebuked and insulted them for being disloyal to the Government and loyal to themselves. This was seriously objected to by the Railwaymen present on the platform and agitation started against him. He straight away walked into Station Supt's chamber and kept sitting upto late hours in the mid night. The mob of nearly four hundred persons shouted slogans against his anti-labour attitude and in favour of Rail Strike. The crowd consisted mostly of new faces as known to us and it was also actively mobilized by certain officials of WMS.

Subsequently it resulted in total stoppage of work in Phulera yard including the Carriage and Wagon and other departments for about four hours. Despite other passenger and goods trains the worst hit train was 2 In Mail which suffered a detention of about three hours at adjoining station for want of line clear from Phulera. The position was normalised by Senior Div. Engineer Shri Jain who was then present at FL station and acting as Emergency Officer. The problem boiled out to be was that the agitated mob wanted Shri Bhatnagar to go back and quit FL whereas Shri Bhatnagar was found adamant and obstinate to leave FL on the face of specific orders and instructions from his superiors i.e. Senior Div. Engineer ( Dy. rank ) and D. S. Jaipur. Resultantly with the stoppage of work the tenseness in the atmosphere grew every hour.

At about 01.30 hrs on 21.4.74, the Senior Div. Engineer Shri Jain requested with folded hands all the staff abstaining from work to resume their duty leaving their demand of Shri Bhatnagar quitting Phulera and specifically stated in the crowd that he is yet to see a disobedient and obstinate officer like Bhatnagar. On our persuasion the staff returned to their duties at about 1.40 hrs after having a written declaration from Shri Jain that Shri Bhatnagar has refused to carry the instructions given to him to go back and would be going to officers rest house along with him and early morning he would leave FL. No sooner he left the station the work resumed normalcy.

Shri Bhatnagar has lodged a complaint with



# Western Railway Employees Union

(REGD, RECOGNISED AND AFFILIATED TO AWP & IWS)

**K. C. Jain**  
Divisional Secretary

P. & T. 66078  
**Rly. Auto No. 695**  
DIVISIONAL OFFICE,  
POWER HOUSE ROAD,  
JAIPUR-6

No.

Dated

Continued -

Station officer Govt. Railway police Phulera for having insulted, abused, manhandled and obstruction in performance of duty etc. Another case has also been registered on the basis of the complaint made by Railway Protection Force for causing detention to trains. The Chief Security Officer had been pressing very hard and with certain other influences like of the D. S. etc, they have been successfully in getting both the cases registered with SOGRP in which M/ Srs Radhey Shyam, R. C. Sharma, V.K. Kala and S. C. Singh and other have figured in the complaint.

Seemingly this derogatory step of the administration can hardly bring about any break in the morale of the workers, however you are requested to take all urgent and possible steps to nullify this action at all appropriate levels.

With best regards.

Yours Sincerely,

( R. C. Sharma )  
Div. Vice Chairman At FL

Copy to :-

1. Shri Umrao Mal Purohit  
Gen Secretary WREU Bombay.
2. Shri K. C. Jain  
Div. Secretary Jaipur

Encl:-

1. The copy of the message issued.
2. The Commitment of Senior Div. Engineer and Emergency Officer at Phulera.

No. AIRF/166 (C)

Dated April, 1974.

Dear Comrade Bhatnagar,

I have your letter of 24th April.  
I shall try to visit Ajmer before 8th May,  
though my preoccupation with the negotiations  
could create some problems.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

George Fernandes  
President

Shri J.M. Bhatnagar,  
Divisional Secretary,  
Western Railway Employees' Union,  
Ajmer.

are in full swing of strike only. Govt.  
will not give any-firing without blade of  
overs.

FF we are failure on this issue  
will lead us here to ~~extra~~ accept-  
gated of shoe and sleepers from the workers

here in the field. please do the needful.  
regimen favourable reply.

Yours Sincerely  
N. Lal

(A.M. P. 22)

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र कार्ड  
INLAND LETTER CARD



To

Shri George Fernandes

President

All India Railwayman Federation

125/E, Babar Road,

New Delhi - I

पिन PIN

तीसरा मोड़ Third fold

प्रेषक का नाम और पता :— Sender's name and address :—

From A. M. Patel

Railway Colony

Miyagam.

D. H. B. ROAD

पिन PIN

W. Rly.

Gujrat.

इस पत्र के भीतर कुछ न रखिए NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

A.I.R.F.

To

Shri George Fernandez,  
President,  
All India Railwaymen Federation,  
125/E - Babar Rd, New Delhi.

Comrade Fernandez,

I was before the Radio news at 20 o'clock evening heard the news on Delhi Station about the appeal of Dy. Railway Minister Shri Goshi for not giving strike notice when the discussion on our demands i.e. negotiation is in process. It is the dirty game of the Government to break our strike tempo. They were to discuss on 8th of April extended to 10th, 11th to 15th and again to 18th, 20th, 22nd and again now on 27th April. The programme is surprising, the Govt. is totally not in favour of our demands.

Please for the sake of all Railwaymen do not change the strike date 8th of May, you stop discussing with the Govt. otherwise there are every possibilities of arrest. If you are caught - we will loose our guide for further action on our demand issue.

Further there is adverse impression created by our extension of strike dates. The Railway men

Amsattal M. Patel  
Branch Secretary,  
WREU, Miyagam Branch,  
Railway Colony, Miyagam  
Dr. 23-4-24.

Mr

Ames  
24/4/73

Respected George Salts,

We would very much like you to visit Africa and in this connection the dates would suit us are 2nd + 3rd May 1979 as 4th is Saturday 5th is Sunday + 6th is gazetted holiday.

Will you let these dates confirm either of the above - 1e 2nd or 3rd May if convenient - as no other date is feasible of May would suit.

Kindly advise programme by return.

With best wishes and regards

Yours truly  
for Blakely



No. ATRK/160 (C)

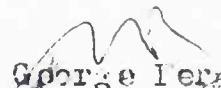
Dated April 29, 1974

Dear Comrade Attarsingh,

I have yours of 22nd April. I have received glowing reports of the preparations made by Jhansi comrades. All the Office bearers of the various Branches in Jhansi must sit together and bring about greater co-ordination, so that not only the strike preparations but also our organisational work is conducted efficiently.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President

Shri Attarsingh,  
Chairman,  
Workshop & Store Branch,  
45, Manohar Pura Nagra,  
JHANSI (U.P.)



266

15/4/74

# National Railway Mazdoor Union

WORKSHOP BRANCH JHANSI.

Attarsingh,  
Chairman,  
Workshop & Store Branch,  
Jhansi:

45, Manohar Pura Nagra,  
JHANSI (U. P.)

Ref. No.

A/S/Strgle/74.

Date 22-4-74.

Respected President,

Thank you very much for your kind letter No. AIRF/160-B of 13-4-74. I have conveyed your congratulation to all concerned which has cultivated another round of magnificent strength among the Trade Union Workers of this ~~and~~ further respect and faith towards the leadership of the organisation at the highest level.

Regarding our activity I can assure you that we are on the top and the position is so sound that a strike at any time on your call is a very easy task at Jhansi. During these days, since the demand week is organised, daily gate meeting, corner meetings, man to man contact, recruitment of more and more strong volunteers, Vanitasarnelan etc are going on. Even though the declared date of the strike is on 8th may, we are not keeping our strength and cadre idle. Daily programme are given to the cadre for day to day organisational activities of incoming strike. In fact we do not want a notice of even a day as our cadre is ready at a short notice.

Hoever, it is felt that the preparations of ~~the~~ other branches of the division is ~~not~~ satisfactory, more work is required to bring them into the standard of workshop branch. In my opinion lack of co-ordination is the main reason for such a position. I am endorsing a copy of this letter to Com: Malgi also for arranging presence of one Office bearer from Hd. Qrs for the purpose.

Yours fraternally,

*A Singh*  
(ATTARSINGH)

Com: George Fernandes,  
President, A.I.R.F.,  
New Delhi.

C/- Com: V.R. Malgi, General Secretary:  
For kind information and N/A.



No. ATEP/60 (c)

Dated April 29, 1974

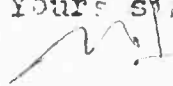
Dear Comrade Bhagat,

I have seen your letter of 24th April regarding non-delivery of letters. You did not enclose a copy of your letter to the Post Master as mentioned in yours. However, I hope the Post Master will have, by now, taken steps to ensure timely delivery of your letters.

I note that there has been no information whatsoever from your Union regarding the preparations for the general strike. I hope you have been active in organising the movement and have set up the Co-ordination Committee.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President

Shri B.H. Bhagat,  
General Secretary,  
C.L.W. Railwaymen's Union,  
St. No.33, Qrs.No.11/33,  
CHITTARANJAN.

# CLW-RAILWAY MEN'S UNION

Affiliated to A. I. R. F.

Regd No. 4927

F

President :

SRI PRIYA GUPTA  
General Secretary AIRF

General Secretary : B.N. Bhagat.

Address : St. No. 33, Qrs. No. 11/3B.

Working President :

SRI MONOJ BASU  
E. Rly. Men's Union.

CHITTARANJAN

C. No. CRMU/3 (Misc.)

Dated the 24-4-1974.

To  
The General Secretary,  
A.I.R.F.,  
125E, Babar Road,  
New Delhi -1.

Respected Comrade,

Sub :- Misplacing and misdelivery of important letters.

It is a matter of grave concern to note that the important letters and other papers and circulars etc. issued by the federation from time to time addressed to the Union Secretary are not being received properly and timely. It is presumed that the postal department is misplacing and misdelivering the letters and circular etc. other than to the undersigned's residence. As a result Union is not receiving all the informations in due time which is putting us in troubles specially in the crucibles ours of forth coming struggles. The matter has been brought to the notice of the local postmaster a copy of which is also enclosed.

In view of the above, I request the favour of your kindly looking into the matter and paying necessary attention to the effect that the issuing of letters and circulars etc. are made in a most ensured process so that the misdelivery to the other organisation save to the CLW Railway Men's Union is avoided.

Enclo: 1.

Fraternally yours,

( B. N. BHAGAT )  
General Secretary

No. AIR/60(c)

Dated April 29, 1971

Dear Comrade Manasivayan,

I have your report on the women's rallies. Congratulations, to all those comrades who organised these magnificent rallies. I have no doubt that the Southern Railway will be in the vanguard when action starts on 8th May.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President

Shri N. Manasivayan,  
General Secretary, Southern Ry.  
Mazdoor Union & Convenor, MCKRS, S.Ry. unit,  
No.43/A, Railway Quarters,  
Egmore,  
Medina-3.

NATIONAL CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE FOR RAILWAYMEN'S STRUGGLE

(SOUTH-ZONE)

No.Rmu/c/175

No.48/A, Railway Quarters,  
Egmore, Madras 8,  
Dated: 20-4-1974

To

Shri George Fernandes,  
President,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
NEW DELHI

Dear Comrade,

Sub: Report on the Women's Rally conducted in S.Rly.,  
under the banner of the NCCRS -South Zone  
on 20.4.1974 ---

I am glad to inform you about the successful Women's Rally conducted today evening under the banner of the National Co-ordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle - South Zone at Madras. In the Rally which was held in all the divisional headquarters, wives and womenfolk of Railwaymen participated with unexpected zeal and enthusiasm. The following is the brief report on the activities in each division.

MADRAS: About 1000 women and children took part in the procession and rally. At the end of the rally, a memorandum addressed to the Prime Minister of India through the General Manager was handed over to the Chief Security Officer of the Railway. The rally was impressive and slogans in support of the charter of demands of Railwaymen were raised.

TRICHY: About 1700 women and children participated. It was an unprecedented and inspiring one. Notable aspect of the day was that about 20 per cent of the residents of Trichy Railway Colony turned out for the rally with their children.

MADURAI: Over 1000 ladies attended the rally. Since the Divl. Supt. declined to receive the memorandum, he was gheroad by the ladies for some time forcing him to come out and receive the memorandum in person. The situation was tense and charged with emotion for some time. Tactful handling of the situation by our comrades warded off an untoward incident.

GUNTAKAL: Over 400 ladies and children participated and the rally aroused the feelings of the Railwaymen adding to the tempo of activities connected with the General Strike. *Muslim women with parda attended.*


OLAVAKKOT: Report awaited.

MYSORE: Report awaited.

The Zonal Co-ordination Committee is scheduled to meet on the 24th instant after serving strike notice on 23rd instant on the G.M. The meeting is a crucial one in which very important decisions and programme of action will be finalised to ensure total and complete general strike on 8.5.74. A report will be sent to you after the meeting.

With Greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
(M. Namasivayam)  
Convenor

No. ATRF/ 160 (c)

Dated April 29, 1974


Dear Comrade Sinha,

I have your letter of 24th April, and the copy of the Memorandum from Railway Typists. I assure you the Federation will take up this matter at all appropriate forums.

I hope you and your colleagues are doing everything necessary to organise the indefinite general strike from 3th May, on the 6-point Charter of demands. On the success of this strike depends the settlement of other demands and grievances of the railwaymen.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President

Shri Rai B.N. Sinha,  
Head Typist/S.N.(W)'s Office,  
Central Member/A.I.R.E.A.,  
Office of the Superintendent,  
Mechanical (W/Shop),  
Eastern Railway,  
JAMALPUR.

Rai B.N.Sinha.  
Head Typist/S.O(W)'s Office,  
Central Member/A.I.R.T.A.  
& Branch President/AIRTA.  
-----

Office of the  
Superintendent Mechanical(W/Shop),  
Eastern Railway,  
Dated, Jamalpur, the 24th. April '74.  
-----

To  
The Chairman, A.I.R.F./and  
National Co-Ordination Committee  
of Railwaymen's Struggle,  
125/E, Babar Road,  
NEW DELHI.  
-----



Dear Comrade,

Sub:-Memorandum from Railways' Typists in all grades.  
-----

A copy of the above memorandum is forwarded to you for your necessary action on the demands. The said memorandum is itself clear and I think you will appreciate that even the Constitutional right has been denied to this category by the Railway Board in as much the Typists are finally to retire as a Head Typist and the same is painful only due to their proficiency in Type-writing in addition to their academical qualification equivalent to the Clerks, who have the opportunities to become Chief Clerks, Office Superintendents and even Officers. So to say the typists' additional qualification has proved a curse to them and they have been debarred to get suitable remuneration for this additional qualification like the Aderma Operators, Computer Operators, Telephone Operators etc.

So far their avenue to Stenographers, the same is allowed only in the lowest grade and that by acquiring Stenography or Engineering or any further academical qualifications one can be even the Engineer Magistrates etc.etc. and what to say of being Stenographers, and thus it cannot be said to be the avenue of promotion to a certain category in its trade. And as such neither the Ministry of Railways is justified in giving their such plea nor the Pay Commission has bestowed Justice to this category by simply recommending the corresponding clerical scales of pay to the Typists in existing 3 grades only vide Art.29, Page 101 of Volume-I of their Report.

You are, therefore, requested to kindly persue this issue with the Railway Board and Ministers, after the present problems are solved, and thanks,

Enc:One, in 2 sheets.  
-----

Comradely Yours,

*Rai B.N.Sinha*

Dated: 24-4-1974.

The Secretary (Pay Commission),  
Railway Board,  
NEW DELHI.

Submitted individually

(Through Proper Channel)

Sir,

Re: Grievances of Typists on Indian Railways.

We, the undersigned Typist working in Mechanical, stores, Accounts, Electrical, Medical, Security, Engineering Departments of the Eastern Railway, approach your goodself with the following with a fervent hope that the submissions made herein will receive favourable consideration.

The Typists on the Indian Railways have been, for many years in the past, struggling by constitutional means, for better avenue of promotion and service conditions, but all these years they have met with nothing more than despair. In fact, the Typists' cadre is the most neglected cadre of all the cadres on Indian Railways. There is no advancement beyond the Grade of E.210-380(AS) and majority of them have been stagnated on the maximum of their Grades. The chances of Typists in other Government, Quasi-Government and Private Sectors are much more brighter and thus there is always a dearth for recruitment. Instances are not wanting where many Typists who join Railways have left the job for better prospects outside.

The qualifications required of a Typist for recruitment are in no way lesser than those required of a Clerk. In fact, he is required to possess, at his own cost, the additional qualification of Typing, which is a technical qualification. To facilitate efficient day-to-day working, they are expected to maintain a good vocabulary and apply their common-sense to type out shabbily and illegibly hand-written drafts with a decent get-up. In fact, their function in an Office can well be compared with that of a Heart in human body, and a heart cannot be neglected. Additional qualification should, as a general rule, fetch better chances, but in the case of Typists on Indian Railways alone it proves to be contrary. Moreover, the Typists' job is arduous as it is more concentrative, heavy and reflects adverse effects on eyes and chest. The mortality due to deadly diseases like T.B. is more in this class of staff than in any other.

The Second Pay Commission, in its Report, very rightly recommended that this category should be merged in the category of Clerks, so that the Typists working on Indian Railways may get more promotional chances and other benefits, which are being enjoyed by their counter-parts. But the Railway Board, adopting their rigid attitude, did not agree to the recommendation and gave their decision to keep this cadre as a separate one. In one of the P.N.M. Meetings with A.I.R.F. they agreed to bring the Typists at par with Clerks as far as upgradation was concerned, but they have fallen back on their promise and no avenue of promotion beyond the grade of E.210-380(AS) has been provided for the category of Typists.

p.t.o.



An exhaustive Memorandum dated 6-7-1970, giving in detail the demands of Typists supported with justification was furnished to Shri Raghubar Dayal, Hon'ble Chairman, Third Pay Commission, New Delhi. Amongst the many demands, those which relate directly to Typists on Indian Railways alone are given in brief herein below:-

OPERATING ALLOWANCE:

On Railways certain categories of staff are given some special pay in recognition of technical qualification acquired by them even during the course of their employment. In certain Quasi-Government and Private Sectors, Typists are given some special pay for extra technical qualification of typing. Typists on Indian Railways should, on the same analogy be given Operating Allowance of Rs. 50/- each for extra technical qualification possessed by them before their appointment.

INCENTIVE SCHEME:

In the fast industrially developing country "Incentive Scheme" has proved most successful to take best out of their employees and with this end in view, on Railways also it has been introduced for various categories of staff like Stenographers in the shape of additional increments, some workshop staff in the shape of incentive bonus etc. Typists are not covered with this Scheme, though they work on Machines. The Typists are called to work extra hours or during Holidays/Sundays. They are put on special jobs where they have to put in extra efforts. Incentive in the shape of additional increments for extra proficiency would encourage staff.

ONE RUNNING GRADE:

In comparison to the lucrative scales of Typists in certain Quasi-Government and Private Sectors, the grades of Typists on Indian Railways are very poor. The adequate initial recruitment grade as suggested in the Memorandum would attract candidates for this class of service on Railways. Extra typing qualification needed, limited future prospects and social requirement of this category warrants special consideration.

ENHANCEMENT OF THE EXISTING PERCENTAGE AND FURTHER CHANNEL OF PROMOTION:

Enhancement of percentage of present 3 overlapping grades and provision of 10% posts beyond 210-380/- was sought for. Alternatively, it was suggested that grades beyond 210-380 in the Ministerial cadre and all ex-cadre posts should be opened as a channel of promotion for the Typists, as in the case of Clerks to avoid disparity. This is a just demand and should receive favourable consideration.

However, this Commission ill-conceived that the promotion prospects of Typists on the Railways upto the grade Rs. 210-380 (AS) compare favourably with the prospects of personnel in the clerical stream, and that they have more appropriate promotion outlet to Stenographers than induction in the clerical grades at the higher levels.

It is pleaded by the Commission that Typists within their first 5 years of service have an option to go to Clerical Cadre. But what about those who are barred from option to go to Clerical Cadre? The Ministry of Railways are afraid that it would lead to a number of practical difficulties in providing clerical jobs to the Typists, specially those in the higher grades if their merger in clerical cadre were effected. Thus, as a result of Government's decision on the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission, such staff are left with only two alternatives, either to become Stenographers or to retire as Typists. It is really surprising that the Commission expects Typists in higher grades, most of whom would practically be on the verge of their retirement, to take up Stenography and aspire to become Stenographers in their advanced age. This would not be a satisfactory solution.

The recruitment conditions of Typists and Clerks are identical except that Typists are required to possess additional qualification of typing. Refusal of providing adequate, though not better, avenue of promotion to one class of staff with higher qualification and providing avenue of promotion even upto Class (I) service to the other, with lesser qualification, is a breach of Indian Constitution.

Article 16(1) of the Constitution clearly lays down that "There shall be equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters relating to employment or appointment to any Office under the State". This is a fundamental right and its sanctity is inviolable. It unequivocally prescribes elimination and not perpetuation of any existing discrimination among the State Services. The Typists employed on Indian Railways, however, still continue to labour under serious disabilities in the matter of conditions of service vis-a-vis their contemporaries in the clerical cadre which, in reality, amounts to discrimination and is totally repugnant to the letter and spirit of the above quoted article of the Constitution.

Wg, therefore, request your honour to kindly review the case on what has been stated above and meet the demands favourably at your earliest.

Thanking you,

Yours obediently,

1. Rai B. N. Smita, Head Typist  
SM(O)'s/Jamalpur

2. S. N. Chowdhury  
Sr. Typist / SM(O)'s Office.  
Jamalpur

Cop. to : Hon'ble Railway Minister, Ministry of Railways.  
Rail Bhavan, New Delhi, for information and  
necessary action please.

" Chairman, Railway Board, New Delhi, for information  
and necessary action please.

P.S.R.

3. ... M...  
S.M. (W)'s office  
Jamalpur.

4. R. N. Sarkar  
S.M. (W)'s office / Jmp

5. N. C. Das - G...  
S.M. (W)'s office / J.M.P.

6. B. K. Bhattacharya  
S.M. (W)'s office, Jmp

7. M. D. Das  
S.M. (W)'s office / J.M.P.

8. ...  
S.M. (W)'s office, E.R./J.M.P.

9. ...  
S.M. (W)'s office, J.M.P.

10. ...  
S.M. (W)'s office / J.M.P.

11. P. K. ...  
Typist, S.M. (W)'s office  
Jamalpur.

12. ...  
Sr. Typist  
S.M. (W)'s office,  
Jamalpur.

13. D. K. Bhattacharya  
Sr. Typist -  
S.M. (W)'s office  
Jamalpur (Bihar)

14. ...  
Typist / ASO / RPF / office  
Jamalpur.

15. ...  
Sr. Typist, S.M. (W)'s office  
Jamalpur.

16. N. K. Bhattacharya  
Typist: S.M. (W)'s office  
Jamalpur.

17. ...  
Sr. Typist  
S.M. (W)'s office  
Jamalpur (Monghyr) Bihar

18. ...  
Sr. Typist, S.M. (W)'s office, Jamalpur.

19. ...  
Sr. Typist, S.M. (W)'s office E.R./  
Jamalpur Monghyr/Bihar

20. ...  
Sr. Typist, S.M. (W)'s office, Jamalpur

21. H. D. Bhattacharya  
Head Typist, DEOS' office, Jamalpur.

22. ...  
Sr. Typist,  
DEOS' Office / Jamalpur.

23. ...  
Sr. Typist,  
S.M. (W)'s office, J.M.P.

24. ...  
Sr. Typist / Mid. Supdt. / J.M.P.

25. ...  
Typist, W.E.E.'s office Jamalpur.

26. ...  
Typist, C.M.T.'s office Jamalpur

27. ...  
Hd. Typist  
W.A.O.'s Office, Jamalpur.

28. ...  
Sr. Typist.  
W.A.O.'s Office / Jamalpur.

29. ...  
Sr. Typist  
W.E.E. / Jmp

30. Binata Chakrabarty. Typist.  
D.O.'s office, E.R. Jamalpur.

31. ...  
Sr. Typist  
AEN(T) J.M.P.

32. ...  
Sr. Typist  
S.M. (W)'s office / J.M.P.

34. K. L. ...  
35. ...  
36. ...

No. ATRN/160(c)

Dated April 23, 1974

Dear Comrade,

I have your letter of 25th April. I assure you the Federation will take up the case of the Stenographers at all appropriate forums.

I am indeed happy to know that your members will be participating in the general strike.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President

The Secretary,  
All India Railway Stenographers'  
Association,  
Jhansi Branch,  
JHANSI - U.P.

278

ALL INDIA RAILWAY STENOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION  
JHANSI BRANCH.



Jhansi, NEW DELHI  
Dated: 25th April, 1974.

Respected Sir,

The Jhansi Division Stenographers are thankful to you for the prompt reply to our communication, from the inner core of their heart. Your letter has brought a new life to this drought stricken and orphan category after having received a Step motherly treatment from the Pay Commission and the recent orders of the Railway Board regarding Pooling of Stenographers (attaching One senior scale stenographer with two officers) and reducing the strength of Stenographers to 2/3rd of the Officer's posts, thereby resulting in curtailment of chances of promotion to Junior Stenographers.

You have infused energy, enthusiasm and interia amongst us and we assure that this will continue till our goal is reached, not only for our category but for the common cause also.

While we are persuading our branches on Railways and the Central office to elect the right path and we are sure that we will succeed in doing this but due to short period, we have no other alternative but to approach you for championing our legitimate cause.

The talks will be on from the 27th A.N. and our unfortunate category finding no way out, request you and the AIRMSA to help us in solving some of our grievances which are as follows :

1. Cancellation of Railway Board's letter No.E(NG)III-73/PC/52 dated 4-3-1974 regarding Pooling of Stenographers.
2. Parity of Indian Railways Stenographers pay scales with their Counter parts in Railway Board's office.
3. Opening Avenues of promotion to the Clerical cadre as has been done to Clerks to come over to the Stenographer's cadre.
4. Automatic creation of Stenographers post in higher grade with the creation of ~~mk~~ the Officer's post.
5. Provision of Steno for each officer irrespective of rank.

The JHANSI DIVISION Stenographers will keep up the name and fame of the Great Rand. of Jhansi and will not lack behind in making most severe sacrifices for the uplift of the masses.

This letter is being addressed to you after having read the minds of hundreds of Stenographers working on the Central Railway as well as various other zones of Railways, who toe our line of action.

A sizeable number of Stenographers by now has already sought membership in the AIRMSA as the membership of AIRMSA is open to the Stenographers also as per their Constitution. The AIRMSA has therefore, full authority to speak on behalf of the Stenographers to ameliorate their grievances.

With kind regards,

Yours fraternally,



SECRETARY

All India Stenographers Association,  
Jhansi Branch.

↳ Railway

Shri George Fernandes,  
President,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
& Convenor National Co-ordination  
Committee, New Delhi.

Copy to Shri Chandrika Prasad M.P. President AIRMSA New Delhi for information and with a request to champion the cause of Stenographers through the forum of AIRMSA and thus paving a way for cent percent membership of Stenographers in AIRMSA at this opportune time.

Copy to Shri G.S.Gokhale, President B.R.M.S. New Delhi for information with a request to champion the cause of Stenographers through their forum. This request is made specially as the Stenographers category as a whole owes its indebtedness to Shri Thengdi ji under whose patron ship this category has prospered. Shri V.P.Kohli our Ex.General Secretary is closely associated with the BRMS and also very well known to Shri Thengdi ji can apprise you on the subject, in detail in case of any further elaboration or need of any delegation at short notice.

Secretary,

All India Stenographers Association,  
Jhansi Branch.

↳ Railway

No. AIRR/160(C)

Dated April 29, 1974

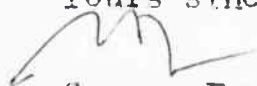
Dear Comrade,

I have the copy of your letter of 6th April, addressed to the Secretary (Pay Commission), Railway Board, regarding the grievances of Typists. The issue is already engaging the attention of the All India Railwaymen's Federation. However, any progress in settling it will be only after the current agitation on the general demands is concluded.

I hope you are doing everything necessary to bring about a total strike on the Railways.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,



George Fernandes  
President

Shri P.S. Mohare,  
President,  
All Indian Railway Typists Association,  
Head Typist,  
c/o General Manager's Office,  
Central Railway,  
V.T. Bombay.

(Under certificate of Posting)  
ALL INDIAN RAILWAY TYPISTS' ASSOCIATION,  
( C. Rly. Zonal Head Quarter's Branch )  
2nd Floor, C.M.'s Office, C. Rly.,  
V. T. Bombay.

Ref. AIRTH/24/74

AIRTH

dt 6<sup>th</sup> April 1974

The Secretary (Pay Commission),  
Railway Board,  
NEW DELHI.



Dear Sir,

Re: Grievances of Typists on Indian Railways.

The Typists on the Indian Railways have been, for many years in the past, struggling by constitutional means, for better avenue of promotion and service conditions, but all these years they have met with nothing more than despair. In fact, the Typists' cadre is the most neglected cadre of all the cadres on Indian Railways. There is no advancement beyond the Grade of Rs.210-380(AS) and majority of them have been stagnated on the maximum of their Grades. The chances of Typists in other Government, Quasi-Government and Private Sectors are much more brighter and thus there is always a dearth for recruitment. Instances are not wanting where many Typists who join Railways have left the job for better prospects outside.

The qualifications required of a Typist for recruitment are in no way lesser than those required of a Clerk. In fact, he is required to possess, at his own cost, the additional qualification of Typing, which is a technical qualification. To facilitate efficient day-to-day working, they are expected to maintain a good vocabulary and apply their common-sense to type out swiftly and illegibly hand-written drafts with a decent get-up. In fact, their function in an Office can well be compared with that of a Heart in human body, and a heart cannot be neglected. Additional qualification should, as a general rule, fetch better chances, but in the case of Typists on Indian Railways alone it proves to be contrary. Moreover, the Typists' job is arduous as it is more concentrative, heavy and reflects adverse effects on eyes and chest. The mortality due to deadly diseases like T.B. is more in this class of staff than in any other.

The Second Pay Commission, in its Report, very rightly recommended that this category should be merged in the category of Clerks, so that the Typists working on Indian Railways may get more promotional chances and other benefits, which are being enjoyed by their counter-parts. But the Railway Board, adopting their rigid attitude, did not agree to the recommendation and gave their decision to keep this cadre as a separate one. In one of the P.N.M. Meetings with A.I.R.F. they agreed to bring the Typists at par with Clerks as far as upgradation was concerned, but they have fallen back on their promise and no avenue of promotion beyond the grade of Rs.210-380(AS) has been provided for the category of Typists.

An exhaustive Memorandum dated 6-7-1970, giving in detail the demands of Typists supported with justification (copy enclosed for ready reference) was furnished to Shri Raghubar Dayal, Hon'ble Chairman, Third Pay Commission, New Delhi. Amongst the many demands, those which relate directly to Typists on Indian Railways alone are given in brief herein below:-



OPERATING ALLOWANCE:

On Railways certain categories of staff are given some special pay in recognition of technical qualification acquired by them even during the course of their employment. In certain Quasi-Government and Private Sectors, Typists are given some special pay for extra technical qualification of typing. Typists on Indian Railways should, on the same analogy be given Operating Allowance of Rs.50/- each for extra technical qualification possessed by them before their appointment.

INCENTIVE SCHEME:

In the fast industrially developing country "Incentive Scheme" has proved most successful to take best out of their employees and with this end in view, on Railways also it has been introduced for various categories of staff like Stenographers in the shape of additional increments, some workshop staff in the shape of incentive bonus etc. Typists are not covered with this Scheme, though they work on Machines. The Typists are called to work extra hours or during Holidays/Sundays. They are put on special jobs where they have to put in extra efforts. Incentive in the shape of additional increments for extra proficiency would encourage staff.

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In comparison to the lucrative scales of Typists in certain Quasi-Government and Private Sectors, the grades of Typists on Indian Railways are very poor. The adequate initial recruitment grade as suggested in the Memorandum would attract candidates for this class of service on Railways. Extra typing qualification needed, limited future prospects and social requirement of this category warrants special consideration.

ENHANCEMENT OF THE EXISTING PERCENTAGE AND FURTHER CHANNEL OF PROMOTION:

Enhancement of percentage of present 3 overlapping grades and provision of 10% posts beyond 210-380 was sought for. Alternatively, it was suggested that grades beyond 210-380 in the Ministerial cadre and all ex-cadre posts should be opened as a channel of promotion for the Typists, as in the case of Clerks to avoid disparity. This is a just demand and should receive favourable consideration.

However, this Commission ill-conceived that the promotion prospects of Typists on the Railways upto the grade Rs.210-380(AS) compare favourably with the prospects of personnel in the clerical stream, and that they have more appropriate promotion outlet to Stenographers than induction in the clerical grades at the higher levels.

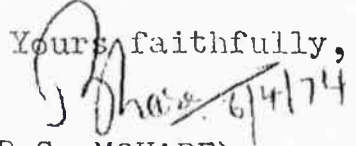
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Much discontent prevails in the minds of this class of staff and this would give vent to frustration and lethargy. The Association, therefore, urges the Railway Board to review afresh the case of Typists on Indian Railways, on what has been stated above, and meet their demands at their earliest.

Yours faithfully,

  
(P.S. MOHARE)  
President.

Copy to:

The General Secretary, A.I.R.T.A., New Delhi.

The President, A.I.R.F., C.R.M.S., N.R.M.U., M.R.K.S. for information and extending support to the cause of Typists on Indian Railways in whatever way possible.

The General Manager, Central Railway, Bombay V.T. for information.

The President, All Zonal Branches, A.I.R.T.A. He is requested to furnish similar representation to Railway Board through his Branch and also furnish individual (Departmentwise) representation from Typists working under his Zone by making suitable amendments, as per specimen enclosed.

ALL INDIA RAILWAY TYPISTS ASSOCIATION.

From : S.C. Gupta,  
General Secretary.

I.R.C.A.'s Office,  
New Delhi-55.

No. AIRTA/GS/70

Dated: 6th July 1970.

To,

Shri Baghubar Dayal,  
Hon'ble Chairman,  
Third Pay Commission,  
Vigyan Bhawan Annexe,  
1st. Floor, NEW DELHI.

Respected Sir,

The All India Railway Typists Association is really grateful that your goodself has asked all the Unions, Associations etc. etc. to submit their papers for their Demands with their justification. I, the General Secretary, All India Railway Typists Association, on behalf of all Typists working on Indian Railways, hereby submit the Broad principles of their Demands with brief justification, with the hope that this small down-trodden and neglected category of Typists which is a separate cadre on Railways, unlike other Departments of Central Government, will surely get sympathetic consideration by your kind hands this time.

BASIC PRINCIPLES.

1. The Pay-scales for the post of initial Typists in the Railway should be fixed keeping in view :-

- i) The Educational qualifications required for the appointment of the Typist.
- ii) Extra typing qualification needed for the job. The labour and arduousness of the job must also be kept in view, besides the time and period spent on acquiring this extra technical knowledge.
- iii) Limited future prospects may also be kept in view while determining the minimum scales of pay of the typists.
- iv) Social requirement of this category must also be kept in view, as predominantly, the lower middle class supply this category inherit social obligations which are much more than in any other class of the society.

2. Once the minimum scale of the typists is determined on the basis of above principles, provision of their future prospects, and also annual increase in the emoluments must also be decided.

I, therefore, demand on behalf of the typists working on Indian Railways, that out of THREE alternative Proposals, any one may kindly be recommended to the Government for acceptance :-

PROPOSAL - 1.

- i) Operating Allowance.
- ii) Incentive Scheme.
- iii) One Running Grade, like L.T.C. and Bank etc.
- iv) Further Channel of Promotion.

PROPOSAL - 2.

- i) Operating Allowance.
- ii) Incentive Scheme.
- iii) Enhancement of the existing percentage upgradation with promotion of Chief Typist, as under :-

1. Typist 30%
2. Senior Typist - 35%
3. Head Typist - 25%
4. Chief Typist - 10%

iv) Further channel of Promotion after the grade of Chief Typist.

### PROPOSAL - III.

Merge the cadre of Typists into the Clerical cadre, as recommended by the Second Pay Commission fixing their seniority in the different grades from the date of promotion in their grades in which they are working.

#### BRIEF JUSTIFICATIONS .

##### Item 1 - OPERATING ALLOWANCE.

In this context, the justification put forth for grant of this operating allowance is that the typists are required to possess additional Technical Qualification of Typing with the Minimum speed of 40 words per minute, correctly and neatly. This Technical Qualification required to a Typist is "EXTRA" in addition to the minimum qualification of Matriculation.

On Indian Railways, certain categories are granted the Machine Operating Allowance, in the shape of Special Pay, in recognition of their technical qualification which they acquire after appointment on the expenses of the Government, whereas a Typist is required to possess this additional qualification before joining the service at his own expenses.

In Departments other than Railways, wherever this category exists, like Air Lines Corpn., Banks and L.I.C. etc. all typists in their initial stage are given some special pay in recognition of their acquiring of this Extra Technical Qualification of Typewriting.

It is, therefore, requested that Operating Allowance may kindly be recommended to pay to Typists working on Indian Railways in the shape of some special Pay.

##### Item 2 - INCENTIVE SCHEME.

On Railways, typists are not only attending their normal work of typing as is being attended to by the typists working in other Departments where they have a routine type of work only, the typists working on Railways, have also to attend the D.A.R. and accident enquiries conducted by the Departmental Officers, even beyond their rostered duty hours, without any extra remuneration or overtime. They have also to accompany with the Officers on line (on tour) in D.A.R. and accident enquiries, where they have to type out the proceedings of enquiries and Inspection Reports of Officers, even in their Saloons in running trains, irrespective of the day or night.

For this, one is to require to attain proficiency in Typing and good speed, so that he may be able to type out all the proceedings and Inspection Notes etc. correctly, nicely, neatly and legibly. This proficiency can only be attained by one individual when he is doing some special efforts to attain the required proficiency.

It has been accepted by the Government that to give encouragement to the staff to acquire proficiency in their work, so that such staff may be the asset of the Office and in certain cases they have given some Incentive in form of One or Two increments e.g. in the case of stenographers.

It is, therefore, stressed that, this category which is the Back-Bone of the Railway Administration should also be granted a few increments under this scheme similarly.

Item 3 - ONE RUNNING GRADE :

You will kindly find that on Railways this category has been given three overlapping grades at present viz. Rs.110-180 ; (ii) Rs.130-300 , (iii) Rs.210-380, but in L.I.C., Banks and in a few other Government Organisations, which are also more attractive in the initial appointment stage itself : viz :-

(1) In State Bank of India.

Rs.154-8-170-10-210-15-270-20-310-25-410-30-500 (1 running grade)

(2) In L.I.C. of India.

Rs.170-7-177-8-209-10-269-12-305-15-380-20-500.(1 running grade)

(3) In Air Lines Corpn. of India :

(i) Jr. Grade Rs.150-10-200-15-245-20-335-25-510 ) (2 running  
(ii) Jr. Grade Rs.325-20-385-25-560-40-640. ) grades).

As it has been decided by the Railway Board to keep this category as a separate one, then we also expect that Pay Scales given by other Departments to the Typists, may also be given to the Typists working on Railways on the same basis.

It is, therefore, demanded at this stage we should be given the following one running grade instead of three overlapping grades keeping in view that the ratio between the lowest and the highest wages being 1:5 .

Rs.250-10-300-15-375-20-475-25-600-30-750.

It is also brought to your kind notice that overlapping grades on Railways are not at all beneficial, because when an employee gets promotion from one grade to another, either he would have been drawing the minimum of the next promoted grade or he might be getting more than the minimum of the promoted grade. Thus, at the time of promotion, he is not at all benefitted financially and feel no encouragement even on promotion.

It is, therefore, requested that this situation should be avoided once for all, giving to this category only one Running grade as requested above.

Item 4 - ENHANCEMENT OF THE EXISTING PERCENTAGE :

In all other categories except Typists staff have got their further channel of promotion after the grade Rs.210-380 and it has also been recommended by the National Labour Commission that the lowest grade in the category should be very minimum.

It is, therefore, stressed that if Item No.3 above (i.e. One Running Grade) is not acceptable to the Government, due to certain reasons, then the following percentage may kindly be considered for the category of Typists :-

1. Chief Typists ----	10%
2. Head Typists ----	25%
3. Senior Typists ---	35%
4. Typists -----	30%

It is also pointed out that while refusing to give further channel of promotion in this category, the Railway Board put forward the argument that the typists, can be promoted as Steno- this category has got further avenues of

promotion, but a Typist, without knowing the Shorthand, which every individual cannot learn easily, cannot get promotion as stenographer, as a regular measure.

The Railway Board also put forward the argument that a Typist cannot be given the post of Chief Typist, as in that promotion he will not be shouldering any higher responsibilities. If this is the contention of the Railway Board, it is requested that all grades beyond Rs. 210-380 in the Ministerial cadre and all ex.cadre posts should be opened as a Channel of Promotion for the Typists of different grades, as in the case of Clerks, so that the Typists may erase the impression of the Railway Board that they are incapable to shoulder any higher responsibility, which is a blot on this category having the additional qualification, which has become the SIN on the Railways. It is also the wish of the typists working on Indian Railways that the anomaly 'Once a typist is always a typist' should be wiped off and their dream and expectation that they are also one of the important part of the Railway Machinery, may be fulfilled, and they may feel proud of being typists on the Indian Railways.

It is further requested that for all selections, Syllabus may be prescribed for the Written/Oral tests, so that the typists can also do well and prove their ability in shouldering the higher responsibilities.

Item 5 - FURTHER CHANNEL OF PROMOTION :

In this context, it is urged that when the staff having the same qualifications, what a typist possesses, can be promoted even upto the Gazetted Rank, then it is not at all agreeable by any learned man that why only the Typists are singled out for this benefit.

In the Democratic country like India, the future prospects of one category must not be less than what may be allowed to other categories of employees, having the same standard of education at their recruitment stage.

It is, therefore, stressed that this Category should also be allowed for such promotions for which its counterparts are eligible.

Item 6 - MERGER OF CADRE OF TYPIST INTO THE CLERICAL CADRE.

The Second Pay Commission, in its report, very rightly recommended that this category should be merged in the category of Clerks, so that the typists working on Indian Railways may get more promotional chances and other benefits, which are being enjoyed by their counter-parts. To support the above contention, the Commission remarked as under :-

"In other departments and in the Secretariat, typists are only a functional group and they are drawn from cadre of Lower Division clerks and put back on clerical work and get promotion as Upper Division Clerk in the normal course. This category of typists exists only on Railways and nowhere else. Hence, this category should be merged in the clerical cadre."

But the Railway Board, adopting their rigid attitude, did not agree to the above recommendation and gave their decision to keep this cadre as a separate one. This was the main root cause that the typists working on Indian Railways were very much dejected and frustrated, as they have been debarred from their legitimate rights of promotion as are being enjoyed by their counter parts who are also allowed to go upto the post of Gazetted Officers.

I, therefore, demand to very kindly merge this small category of typists into the category of clerks, if either of the first two proposals (i.e. Proposal I and Proposal II) are not acceptable to the Government, due to certain reasons so that they may also get better chances of promotions etc. like that of their counterparts fixing their seniority in the different grades from the date of promotion in their grades in which they have been working.

### GENERAL DEMANDS.

#### 1. DEARNESS ALLOWANCE :

While calculating the rise in the cost of living, rise in prices of all such commodities which the middle class society are expected to use, due to advancement of the Industries and the Societies as well of the Country, must be taken into account, in the absence of which the calculation will not give correct picture and basing the Dearness on such figures, it will not be justified in any case Dearness Allowance which the Government must compensate in full, if the financial standard once decided for the category, is to be maintained.

#### 2. BONUS :

It is a quite apparent that the Railways is the biggest commercial concern of the country and it is earning maximum Revenue for the country. But no BONUS Scheme is introduced till now, in this big commercial concern, just like other Govt. undertakings/organisations viz. I.I.C., Banks etc. in which the Bonus scheme is prevailing and their employees are granted BONUS to the extent of some percentage of NET PROFIT, say about 25 to 50 per year, or amount equal to 1½ or 2 months of their basic pay, per year.

The reasons as to why this BONUS scheme is not being introduced in this big commercial concern of Railways, are best known to the administration.

So, it is requested to very kindly consider the matter of introducing the BONUS Scheme on Indian Railways also and grant at least 25 to 30% of the NET PROFIT or the amount equal to 1½ or 2 months of Basic pay, as BONUS to the employees serving in this big commercial concern of the country, i.e. on Indian Railway.

#### 3. RATIO BETWEEN THE HIGHEST & LOWEST MINIMUM WAGES :

Difference between the Highest & the lowest wages must be settled once for all, keeping in view the present standard of living of the general ranks of the people of India. One side, millions are striving for the minimum wage, where as on the other side, Government is allowing a few to lead the life of kings which is not be fitting with the pronounced policy of the Government.

It is, therefore, requested that the ratio between the Minimum and the Maximum should not be more than 1:8.

#### 4. RETIREMENT BENEFITS :

(a) Retirement benefits should be adequate so that the retired employees must be able to lead an independent life without being dependant on any one.

(b) After Retirement, he must be able to have his own accommodation or alternatively his pension remuneration must include the rent to be paid by him for his accommodation.

5. GRADUATE & POST GRADUATE ALLOWANCE :

At present the country is faced with a serious problem of educated unemployment. There is an equally serious problem of under-employment, wherein good number of educated persons are employed as Clerks, because the suitable jobs according to their qualifications are not available. But the Nation is certainly making use of their higher mental faculties and sometimes, they are entrusted with higher responsibilities, while working in lower positions.

It is a matter of great pity that there is no Incentive provided to them by the Government to relieve them from the sense of frustration and to display more interest and bring more efficiency in their official dealings.

It is, therefore, suggested that keeping in view the state of under-employment of such persons, their plight should be given sympathetic consideration by this Commission and some allowance by way of Graduate Allowance be recommended to the Govt. as is at present, prevalent in certain Govt. undertakings like Banks, and I.I.C. of India etc.

PRAYER :

Lastly, I hope and pray on the behalf of the typists working on Indian Railways, that this Memorandum would not go without touching your kind heart and the day will not be far off when your humble memorialist will become aware of the necessity to consider the genuine grievances and demands as mentioned above, of these humble and loyal typists working on Indian Railways who are the BEAUTY AND BACK BONE of Railway administration, looking to their working conditions, hours of work, duties and responsibilities.

With kindest regards;

Yours very truly,

sd/- S.C. Gupta,

For & On behalf of all India Railway  
Typists' Association.




No. ATRF/160(C)

Dated April 29, 1974.

Dear Mr. David,

Your letter of 23rd April. You may  
send your case to my Office.

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President.

Shri Jossey David,  
Christ Church,  
Ranikote,  
Hyderabad-500001  
A.P.

(291)

My dear Mr. J. Manohar.

A/11/2/1974

I am Justice David who wrote to you while you were at Hyderabad and you replied saying that you will see the Railway Minister regarding my case.

I shall thank you to let me have your address, enabling me to put my entire case before you. It is more than 7 years I am writing to the Rly. Minister and also to the P.M. but no one cares to do justice.

Thanking you for an early reply.

With kind regards

Your Truly  
Justice David  
Rtd Bm. Chg.

Christ Church  
Rambote  
Hyderabad 500001

A/D



Second Fold



पोस्ट कार्ड  
POST CARD

केवल पता  
ADDRESS ONLY



To  
Shri George Fernandes,  
All India Railwaymen's  
Federation,  
125-E Babar Road,  
Railway quarter  
NEW DELHI.

N. E. RAILWAY MALDOOR UNION:

Fed. 13

Gorakhpur 29.4.74

Respected Shri George,

I am in receipt of your kind letter addressed to Comrade. General Secretary whose contents have since been noted. Comrade K.L. Gupta is out of headquarters in connection with organisational tour and will be coming by the second of May, 1974. He will be replying to your letter only after his arrival.

Rest all O.K.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

12/11/74  
Shri George Far-  
nandese,  
AIRF/New Delhi.

*Chatterjee*  
(K.R. Chatterjee)

29.4.74

No. AIRE/160(c)

Dated April 29, 1974.

Dear Comrade,

I have your letter of 24th April and the copy of your Resolution extending support to the railwaymen's struggle. I am indeed grateful to you for the unqualified support you have extended to the railwaymen.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President

The General Secretary,  
The Rajasthan Bijlee Works Federation,  
Jodhpur.

दुनिया के मजदूरों एक हो।

# राजस्थान विजली नल वर्कर्स फ़ैडरेशन

(रजिस्टर्ड एण्ड रिक्वांगनाइज्ड)

क्रमांक FEW/

रेल मन्त्री,  
भारत सरकार,  
नई दिल्ली.

महोदय,

सोजतीगेट के बाहर,

जोधपुर।

दिनांक

१६

इस पत्र के साथ हम हमारे पैडरेशन - राजस्थान विजली नल वर्कर्स पैडरेशन के जोधपुर में दिनांक - 14-16 अप्रैल, 74 को श्री रोडमन्तला की अध्यक्षता में सम्पन्न 9 वें ऑपरेशन में स्वीकृत प्रस्ताव - रेलवे कर्मचारियों की हड़ताल के सम्बंध में मोज रहे है और मांग कर रहे है कि रेलवे कर्मचारियों के नेताओं से बातचीत कर उनकी मांगों को शीघ्र हल किया जाय।

आशा है, आप इस सम्बंध में शीघ्र पत्राचारक कार्यवाही कर हमें सूचित करेंगे।

भावदीय,

हो

जनरल सिक्रेटरी,

राजस्थान विजली वर्कर्स पैडरेशन, जोधपुर.

क्रमांक - एफईडब्ल्यू/74/

दिनांक - अप्रैल, 74

प्रतिनिधि सूचनाथी स्वम् आवश्यक कार्यवाही हेतु प्रेषित :-

- (1) श्रम मन्त्री, भारत सरकार, नई दिल्ली.
- (2) चेयरमन, रेलवे बोर्ड, बडादा हाउस, नई दिल्ली.
- (3) जनल सिक्रेटरी ऑल इण्डिया रेलवे वर्कर्स पैडरेशन, नई दिल्ली.
- (4) जनल सिक्रेटरी, ऑल इण्डिया प्री रेलवे मेन्स पैडरेशन, नई दिल्ली.
- (5) सिक्रेटरी रेलवे वर्कर्स यूनियन, जोधपुर.
- (6) सिक्रेटरी, वारटन रेलवे एम्प्लोईज यूनियन, जोधपुर.
- (7) जनरल सिक्रेटरी, राजस्थान ट्रेड यूनियन कांग्रेस, जोधपुर.

जनरल सिक्रेटरी,

राजस्थान विजली वर्कर्स पैडरेशन,

जोधपुर.

सलमन --

“विद्यया”

petroleum. club.

To

Mr. Fernandes

A/11/1608

Please do not show your power by the destructive way. If you are a National Leader prove it by some constructive way. Do you know - Railwaymen is all corrupted. Without paying Rs. 5/- to Rs. 20/- we do not get advanced ticket. Even after getting the ticket if we do not pay Rs. 2/- to Rs. 5/- to T.C. we do not get seat.

Did you ever tried to remove these corruption from the Railwaymen. Do you know there are such thousands of corruption in the Railway Dept. By the name of a Leader you are destroying our country. If God is there in this universe surely he will take revenge on you. He will destroy you and you will die like a mad Dog. This is the voice of the suffering public of India.

Your faithfully  
Mr. Tamy  
and others

No. ATRF/

Dated April 27, 1974.

Dear Comrade Namasivayam,

Regarding: Vijaywada Resolution of the  
All-India Loco. Running Staff  
Association.

...

Your telegram dated the 23rd instant  
seen to-day on return from tour. As requested, I  
have photographed to you to-day the text of the  
Resolution adopted by the A.I.L.R.S.A. at their  
Vijaywada Session held on the 12th April, 1974,  
as concerning their decision in the context of the  
May 8 railwaymen's strike.

I, however, send you herewith a copy  
of their resolutions, in which the portion conveyed to  
you to-day has been underlined.

Yours fraternally,

(J.P. Gaubey)

Encl: One

Com. M. Namasivayam,  
General Secretary,  
Southern Railway Hazdoor Union,  
No. 48/A, Railway quarters,  
Mysore,  
Madras-5.

*Text manipulated  
at 1.45 pm  
27/4/74  
by Mr. Ravindran*

*attached*



Phonogram.

New Delhi April 27, 1974.

To

NAMASTIVAYAM  
GENERAL SECRETARY  
SOUTHERN RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION  
48/A RAILWAY QUARTERS  
MADRAS - 8.

RESOLUTION  
YOUR TELEGRAM TWENTYTHIRD (.) ALLRSA VIJAYAWADA /  
RELEVANT PART READS QUOTE REGARDING THE JOINT  
STRUGGLE OF RAILWAYMEN, IT IS DECIDED THAT THE  
ALLRSA WILL JOIN SUCH STRUGGLE ON COMMON ISSUES  
AT THE CALL OF NATIONAL COORDINATION ~~OF~~ COMMITTEE  
OF RAILWAYMEN'S STRUGGLE (.) FURTHER THE ALLRSA  
URGES THE NCC MEMBERS AND THE OTHER CENTRAL GOVT.  
EMPLOYEES ORGANISATIONS TO COME FORWARD FOR THE  
UNITED STRUGGLE IN THE NATIONAL LEVEL WHICH IS THE  
MAIN IDEAL OF THE ALLRSA BASED ON BURDWAN AND  
VARANASI RESOLUTIONS QUOTE ENDS (.) LETTER  
FOLLOWS.

GENERAL SECRETARY RAILWAYMEN

Not to be  
telegraphed.

(J.P. Chaubey)  
for General Secretary, A.T.R.F.,  
125-E, Babar Road, New Delhi-1  
Dated April 27, 1974.

① Phonographed at the time of 1.45 p.m)

*Reveendran*  
5/27/74  
(Reveendran.K.)



# D. L. W. Men's Union

DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI

( Regd. under Trade Union Act & Affiliated to the All India Railwaymen's Federation )

Rly. Qr. No. 578-E, D.L.W/Varanasi.

Ref. No. ....

Dated 27.4.1974.

*AIRF/16-13*

President

T. N. Bajpai

Respected Shri George,

Working President

Sagar Singh

We the workers of the D.L.W. Varanasi have the pleasure to communicate that your clarion call for the strike has highly impressed all the employees and all are awaiting your instructions enthusiastically for action on the fixed date.

Vice-President

Kanhaiya Lal Gupta

R. K. Singh

General Secretary

R. P. Singh

At present you have taken tremendous and tedious job in your hands for the cause of twenty lakhs of Railwaymen whose eyes are fixed towards you and therefore, we hesitate to divert your attention anywhere else. But the general feeling of the D.L.W. employees is that your presence amongst us at least a few days earlier to the strike date is essential to give us fresh encouragement in time.

Asstt. General Secretary

R. C. Pandey

R. C. Singh

Treasurer

S. P. Mishra

We, therefore, request you to kindly arrange to visit D.L.W. to give us strength to join the call of the strike unitedly.

With kind regards.

Yours,

(R. K. Singh)

Shri George Fernandes,  
President - AIRF.  
125-E, Baber Road,  
NEW DELHI.

3354  
30/4/74

Lucknow

April 27, 1974

Dear George Fernandes,

60-B  
You must have read in the Newspapers about the arrangements being made by the Government/Railway Board to weaken the proposed strike by the Railwaymen. Cancellation of trains on all the railways is one such step.

You are a great Trade Unionist and I am sure you must have thought out your own strategy/plans to make the strike successful. However, one idea has struck me which I want to put forward for your kind consideration.

I would suggest that on 7th May 1974 you may issue a statement, directing all the Railway Employees to squat on the track at all stations and not to allow any movement of trains on any part of the railways.

We wish you a Grand Success,

Yours admirably,

Sejai  
Railwaymen of  
-Lucknow

316

*Handwritten signature/initials*

2915  
26/4/74

Northern Railwaymen's Union,  
Divl. Office, New Delhi.

No. NRMU/IS/74

Dated 23/4/74

All Branch Secretaries/NRMU  
Delhi Divn.

Sub:- Indefinite Strike from 8/5/74 at 6 A.M.

*AI/12/160 B*

You must have by now received the  
General Secretary/NRMU Circular dt. 17/4/74.  
Please send your day to day activities so as to  
reach twice a week i.e. on Wednesday and Saturday  
positively.

Committees suggested by Genl. Secretary  
be formed without any further delay. Torch light  
processions should be taken out on alternative days.  
Mass contacts with the Railway Workers is call of the  
day. There should be no ~~sign~~ sign of any weakness  
at any level at this juncture. Your Victory is certain

Yours comradely,

*Handwritten signature*

*Handwritten signature*

(S.P. Dutta)  
Divl. Secretary.

Azad/

Copy to *Teena Singh* *ARIR*

No. AIRF/160. 8

Dated April 19, 1974.


Dear Comrade Murthy,

I have your letter of 11th April and the Newspaper clippings. Please convey my condolences to the family of Comrade L. Frederick.

I am indeed happy that the Union resorted to action and put sense into the bureaucrats, whose heartlessness brought about the death of a worker. Please also convey my greetings to all the workers who took part in this struggle. I would like the Union to collect some Funds for the family of the deceased workman.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President.

Shri K.S.N. Murthy,  
Vice-President,  
South Central Ry. Mazdoor Union,  
483, Railway Building,  
Vilavawada-1.

# South Central Railway Mazdoor Union

( Registered and Recognised )  
 Affiliated to A. I. R. F. & H. M. S.

K. S. N. Murthy,  
 Vice - President.  
 Ch. Srihari Rao,  
 Divisional Secretary.

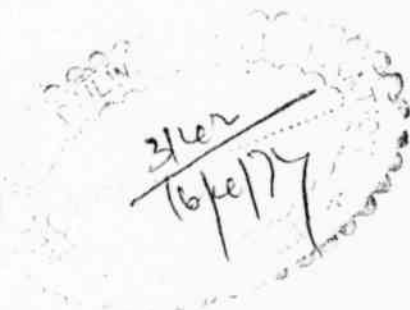
483, Railway Building,  
 VIJAYAWADA-1.

Ref. No. SCRMU/DS/

Date 11.4.74

*A. O. A.*

To  
 The General Secretary,  
 AIRF - INDUS



Sr,

Re: Lightening agitation at Vijayawada.

The Paper cuttings, 'Hindu' and 'Sriharam Express' dt-11.4.74 are enclosed herewith which are self explanatory to the incident- took place yesterday (ie) on 10.4.74. The refusal of DS/BDA to keep the supervisory official under suspension pending enquiry caused sparked the agitation.

Incidentally, we may recall here that when one of the su. police of Babbarjunta Shed was assaulted by ALF/R/BTTR on 4.7.73, DMR/BDA was reported to have sent suspension order of the official concerned. But DS/BDA did not approve. Here lightening agitation took place there on 19.7.73.

Yours fraternally,  
 K. S. N. Murthy

zonal -

No. AIRF/160-11

Dated April 19, 1974.

Dear Comrade Singh,

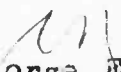
Yours of the 8th April addressed to the General Secretary, A.I.R.F., reached here on the 16th. As the General Secretary is away from Headquarters due to illness, I am replying the letter.

I hope your Struggle Fund collection has reached the target. I also hope that the unity achieved will be sustained throughout the struggle, which is now inevitable.

The earlier Posters and Booklets are completely exhausted. You will receive the next Poster which the Federation is bringing out shortly.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President.

Shri R.P. Singh,  
General Secretary,  
D.L.W.MEN'S UNION,  
VARANASI.

mensu/org/74 A I R F

The General Secretary,  
A I R F, New Delhi.

81K April, 74.

Dear Comrade,

Sub:- Preparation for Strikes at D.L.W.

A joint meeting of all Trade Unions and associations was held by the undersigned on 28th March, 1974. 43 persons of different organisations turned up in the above meeting wherein it was explained to form a joint front to fight for the six demands with a minimum struggle fund of Rs. 15,000 and other co-ordination committees of citizens, lawyers and students and volunteers.

After deliberations, it was decided to form a Joint Struggle Fund and Joint Action Committee. Each participating organisation gave the names of two persons for the Joint Action Committee. The undersigned was elected as Convenor of the Joint Action Committee and Shri J P Tiwari (Secretary, Mazdoor B Saugh) as Treasurer. Immediately Shri Laxman Prasad Srivastava, Secretary, Ministerial Staff Association told me repeatedly that I would be the target of the Administration, so I should give the responsibilities of the Convenor to Shri Indra Deo Singh (Secy, Mazdoor Union). I kept quite quiet and expressed my feelings to elect Shri Indra Deo Singh as Convenor which was agreed by the majority.



The next day, again in the meeting of the Joint Action Committee, Shri Tallan Pd raised the same issue to consider which was supported by Marudor Union President, a member of the J.A.C. which was bitterly criticised by other members namely the politics to ~~have~~<sup>grab</sup> some key post of the Joint Action Committee and they declared the Joint Action Committee useless if changes are ~~being~~<sup>proposed</sup> and desired.

Shri I. D. Saigal has, however, been decided to be the Chairman of the Joint Action Committee to have a smooth running.

A mass meeting was held on the 27th March to announce the united front for the struggle for 6 demands which was largely attended. Each group of J.A.C. spoke on the issue and lastly a resolution was adopted to declare our freedom to call for indefinite strike, if the Govt. does not come to a written negotiation on the 6 demands by 10th April 1974.

Rs. 2000/- have been collected on 1st and 2nd April. Workshop (major) payment would ~~be~~ be on 10th April. Demands week was observed with complete love, zeal and strength. Daily meeting, dharna, torch light procession and Demonstration are the main features of the Demands-week. Now some strong feeling for the strike has been created. Progress would be intimated

524  
to you time to time.  
S/Shri Brijendra Gupta, J.P. Chaur. and George Fernandes are requested to visit D.L.W. very soon to have the idea of the people working and to give main stream for us.

You are requested to kindly ask the office of the National Co-ordination Committee to send all sorts of posters (100 each) and Hand Bills (5000) to us in time with the money to pay. We would send the amount next day or some V.P.P. arrangement may kindly be done for us. Any how papers should reach here in time to guide and educate the people. For all purpose I may kindly be intimated by wire or kindly phone 65571 to Shri Sagar Singh for important.

Demands week from April 2 to 8 was observed ~~to~~ successfully with different programmes of massive rallies, meetings, demonstrations, Torch light processions and Dharma etc. S/Shri R.K. Singh & F.D. Singh (D.L.W. Men's Union), F.D. Singh & Ved Prakash (Mazdoor Union) J.P. Tiwari & R.P. Sharma (Mazdoor Sangh) U.S. Rai & Kartik Goswami (Ex Cabmal Staff Assn) Harihar Singh (Ministerial Staff Association) participated in the Dharma on 6-4-74. Badges were put on by each and every employee of the D.L.W.

On 8th April 1974 there was a unprecedented massive demonstration (Daily papers say 5000 workers) was led by Shri K.L. Gupta zonal secretary, AIRF and vice President of the Union and others of the joint action committee. The demonstration marched to the labour colony through officers colony where it was turned into a mass meeting which was addressed by Shri. Sagar Singh, K.L. Gupta and others.

On 5th April 1974 a torch light Procession was taken out by us along hundreds of us which paraded the complete colony area.

Receipt Books were distributed to shop committees which will collect Struggle fund on 10.4.74.

Every body is new and this is first chance for us for such preparations. You are requested to send confidential and open advices through which we would be able to understand the strategy - Technique.

How to maintain communication while some prohibitory orders were imposed? How to engage others if the first line is removed from the scene? and similar problems may kindly be replied at the earliest.

With greetings

yours faithfully

R.P.S.

(R.P. SINGH)  
General Secy

132  
Poe

ALL INDIA N.G. AUDIT & ACCOUNTS ASSOCIATION

Reynolds  
Staff

B-6/4 Gangeram Hospital Marg,

New Delhi-60.

Grams: 'AUDITFLAG'

Phone: 587804

No. AIA/H. Qrs/Cl-17/74

Dated: 18-4-'74

To

Secretaries of all Units,  
Working Committee Members, &  
Office bearers.

Dear Comrades,

ACT WITH ALERTNESS AND COMPLETE ALL ORGANISATION TASKS

All Units have to complete the following Organisational tasks without fail during this very month of April, '74:-

1) Remittance of balance of Headquarters Quota for the period from 1.1.'73 to 30.4.'74 calculated @  $\frac{1}{3}$  of total collection of monthly subscription of 50P per member. Only a few Units have been regular in sending remittances and this has been affecting the functioning of Headquarters in a very big way.

2) Remittance of Audit sale proceeds for 2/74 Issue and advance for 3/74 issue of Audit. Only 3 Units have so far complied with this request from the Headquarters.

3) Submission of details of total collection of subscription for years 1967 to 1973 (Calendar years), the amounts of H.Qrs. quota for above years actually remitted and their schemes to clear the arrears on account of Headquarters quota for the above period. They should also indicate their upto date balances while giving their proposals regarding clearance of arrears. Only 8 units have so far done it.

4) Remittance of Immediate Relief calculated on the basis of Rs. 2/- multiplied by their total membership to be finally adjusted against the Headquarters share of the fighting fund to be decided by the forthcoming meeting of the Working Committee. Only 3 Units have so far sent certain amounts on ad-hoc basis. The total amount of fighting fund collected to date may also be intimated.

The compliance report should be sent by all Units at their earliest. All members of Working Committee, before they leave for New Delhi, should specifically ensure that these tasks have been fully implemented and draw out a complete written report to be placed before the meeting of the Working Committee.

Only when we implement our decisions seriously, we would be in a position to compel authorities to take our representations also seriously. I am confident that before we meet in our Working Committee we will be taking all the steps in a very determined way and thus end casualness in our Organisation.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,



(S.K. VYAS)  
SECRETARY-GENERAL.

Gram: RAILWAYMEN

Phone: 40947

NATIONAL CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE FOR RAILWAYMEN'S STRUGGLE

Convenor  
George Fernandes

125-B, Babar Road,  
New Delhi.

No. NCC/1/74

Dated April 18, 1974

To

ALL UNIONS/ ASSOCIATIONS

Dear Comrade,

Enclosed is the text for a poster to be issued by every organisation attached to the National Co-ordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle. Please send 6 copies of the posters issued by your organisation to our office.

You are also requested to issue leaflets and other propaganda material to educate the workers on the issues involved in our struggle. Copies of the same should also be sent to us for our records.

The Action Committee at its meeting on April 16 decided that all railwaymen, without any exception, should participate in the strike from 6 hours on May 8, 1974. However, in so far as the maintenance of water supply and electricity for domestic consumption by railway is concerned, we shall have to post the required number of volunteers to attend to break-downs etc. Similarly, we shall have to post volunteers to attend to acute cases in the railway hospitals.

I hope you are making all the necessary preparations to meet all eventualities. We are negotiating with the Railways, and will continue to negotiate. But if the talks should fail to deliver the goods by the evening of May 7, nothing will stop us from launching the indefinite general strike from May 8.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Encl: Copy of  
poster.

*George Fernandes*  
George Fernandes  
Convenor.

Gram: RAILWAYMEN

Phone: 40347

NATIONAL CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE FOR RAILWAYMEN'S STRUGGLE

Convener  
George Fernandes

125-B, Babar Road,  
New Delhi.

No. NCC/1/74

Dated April 18, 1974

To  
All Unions/Associations


Dear Comrades,

The Action Committee is of the view that between now and May 8, we should organise one Central rally at each Zonal headquarters to be addressed by the Central Leaders of the National Co-ordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle.

I would request you to arrange such a rally at your zonal headquarters and intimate to us the date of the rally so that we could arrange for the participation by the Central leaders in this rally.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes  
Convener.

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF R&T EMPLOYEES

No. F/50(PC-III)

R&T HOUSE,  
9, Pusa Road,  
New Delhi-5.  
April 17, 1974.

To:

ALL CIRCLE SECRETARIES,  
N.F.P.T.E. Unions.

Meeting of Circle Secretaries at Delhi on the  
28th & 29th April, 1974 in the context of the  
decision of S T R I K E taken by the National  
Co-ordination Committee of Action of Railwaymen.

....

Dear comrade,

In pursuance of the consensus reached in the National Convention called by the AIRF on the 15th March, 1974 at DELHI in which we had participated along with the Conveners of the Circle Co-ordinating Committees, wherein it was decided that the NFPTE should take steps to organise an indefinite S T R I K E along with the Railwaymen and also decided to organise campaign from the 2nd to 8th April, 1974 culminating from the 2nd to 8th April, 1974 culminating in mass rallies, processions and also raising FIGHTING FUND. The details relating to these have been published in the R&T CRUSADER (April, 1974) posted to you on the 25th March, 1974.

Further, the Branch/Divisional/Circle Unions have been asked to provide a mandate to the Circle Secretaries who are required to attend a meeting of all Circle Secretaries in the third week of April, 1974.

The Railwaymen have since fixed the date of indefinite S T R I K E to commence from the 8th May, 1974. The N.F.P.T.E. has now to finalise its programme.

The Circle Secretaries are, therefore, called upon to assess the situation as far as the R&T employees are concerned and are requested to reach New Delhi before 28th APRIL, 1974 with a M A N D A T E from the Circle Unions regarding the steps to be taken to synchronise our action with the Railwaymen in order to win the BASIC DEMANDS already submitted to the Government by the Confederation and the NFPTE which are common for the Railwaymen also.

You are requested to reach New Delhi in time. Notice of meetings of the CWC of the All-India Unions are issued separately by the respective General Secretaries.

The meeting of the Circle Secretaries will commence at 9 a.m. on the 28th April, 1974 and will be held at the R&T HOUSE, 9, Pusa Road, New Delhi-5 to consider the following agenda :

1. Indefinite Strike decision of the Railwaymen. Our decision to join the strike and allied issues.
2. Organisational matters.
3. Any other subject.

Yours fraternally,

( *[Signature]* ),  
Secretary-General.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
President

*[Handwritten signature]*  
for information  
please

*[Handwritten signature]*  
18/4/74

*[Handwritten signature]*  
AGRE

भारत सरकार  
रेलवे मंत्रालय (रेलवे बोर्ड)  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(RAILWAY BOARD)

No. E(RR) 73 RR-28

नई दिल्ली-१, तिथि  
New Delhi-1, dated 18-4-1974

The General Secretary,  
A. I. R. F., 125/E,  
Babar Road,  
New Delhi-1.

Dear Sir,

Sub:- Payment of Air Fare and Incidental  
charges for the 4th February meeting.

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your  
letter No. AIRF/160-B(220) dated 10th April, 1974  
on the above subject.

Yours faithfully,

*M. V. Jayaraman*

(M. V. Jayaraman)  
for Secretary, Railway Board.

*Muler*  
*3/5*



## ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION

125-E, Babar Road,  
New Delhi.

No. AIRF/160-B

April 16, 1974

Dear Comrades,

The National Co-ordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle meeting in Delhi yesterday has adopted a resolution (copy enclosed) calling upon the railwaymen to launch an indefinite general strike from 6 hours on 8th May, 1974. Strike notices have to be served to the General Managers of the Zonal Railways on or before April 23, 1974. A proforma of the strike notice is being mailed to all organisations that are a part of the National Co-ordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle. Wherever possible, the strike notices should be served on the General Managers collectively by all General Secretaries of the Unions/associations/organisations, organising at the same time massive demonstrations at the Zonal Headquarters. You should take initiative in this matter.

There are only three weeks left for our struggle. Every minute is precious from now on, and we should spend all our time, energy and resources in organising the railwaymen effectively for the biggest ever action launched by the railwaymen. It has been observed that in certain places united struggle committees have not yet come into existence. In certain places, there are more than one committees functioning, though I must say that in most places the work of Co-ordination Committees is going on smoothly and vigorously. I am told that in certain places there are disputes about who should be the convenor of the Committee. I would appeal to you not to get involved in such disputes. It does not matter who is the convenor of the Committee. What matters is how effective will be the struggle and what will be the role of our organisations in that struggle. The Nagpur meeting of our General Council had made the following suggestions for the effective conduct of the struggle:-

1. Action Committees of the Union <sup>at</sup> all levels.
2. Joint Action Committee with all those organisations that are willing to make common cause with our struggle,
3. Women's Committees to bring about total involvement of the women from railwaymen's families in the struggle.
4. Volunteer Corps to meet any situations <sup>which</sup> may be created by the enemies of the Struggle.
5. Peoples Committee consisting of prominent citizens, representatives of other working class organisations, lawyers, journalists and other public personalities to support the action of Railwaymen.

( 2 )

Any decision in this respect may kindly be communicated even on phone so that we may act accordingly.

Anxiously awaiting for your kind reply.

Thanking you,

Yours friendly,

DA/1 Bank Draft  
No. B/M 139135.

  
(GENERAL SECRETARY.)

ALL INDIA LOCO RUNNING STAFF ASSOCIATION

\*\*\*

The following Resolutions were adopted in the Working Committee meeting held at Vijayawada on 12th. April, 1974:

\*\*\*

The request and announcement of Hon'ble Deputy Railway Minister, Chairman, Loco Running Staff Grievances Committee, in the Committee on 6.4.1974 and its subsequent meeting on 10.4.1974 and 11.4.1974 for asking postponement of Work-to-Rule to settle up the following issues:

- 1) The issue of North Frontier Railway including the victimisation and implementation of 10 hours working rules will be settled up in favour, within 15 days.
- 2) The decision of pending grievances will also be given in favour within 15 days.
- 3) All package deal will be disclosed immediately are discussed in the Working Committee and decided to postpone the Work-to-Rule and 10 hours working Rule Movement for 15 days. Keeping a good faith on the Minister's assurances, failing which the Association will resort the Work-to-Rule and implementation of 10 hours working Rule from 29/30-4-1974(Mid-night).

During this movement if any loss to the Railways and inconvenience to the Travelling Passenger and Public, the Railway Ministry will be solely responsible.

Regarding the Joint Struggle of Railwaymen, it is decided that the ALLRSA will join such struggle on common issues at the call of National Coordination Committee of Railwaymen Struggle. Further, the ALLRSA urges the NCC Members and the other Central Govt. Employees Organisations to come forward for the United Struggle in the national level which is the main ideal of the ALLRSA based on Bardwan and Varanasi resolutions.

Sd/-  
(M. R. Sabapathi)  
President/ALLRSA.

...

34  
ALL INDIA LOCO RUNNING STAFF ASSOCIATION

Camp : New Delhi.  
Dated : 16th April, 1974.

To

Com. K.K. Barua,  
Secretary General,  
A.I.L.R.S.A.,  
Lumding.

Dear Comrade,

As decided in the Working Committee, both Com. Chowdhury and myself reached New Delhi on 15.4.74 to take part in the negotiations and also the meeting of the National Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's struggles. The negotiations were over within sixty minutes and the stand of the Railway Ministry was not to concede a single demand or to withdraw penal measures to create a congenial atmosphere for negotiations. Attempts to have a meeting with the Railway Minister or to have a firm date for such meeting also did not succeed.

In this background the meeting of the NCCRS started at 3 P.M. While discussions were going on information was conveyed that the Railway Minister would meet the Action Committee on 18th April, 74 at 16 hrs. Com. Federation wanted the NCCRS to call the work-to-rule programme which had already started, as a programme of the NCCRS. This was, however, accepted and the resolutions adopted in the meeting fixing the date of the General Strike (6 A.M. of 8th May, 1974) is enclosed herewith. You would kindly note that all Zonal organisations have to serve notice of strike on 23.4.74 and send copies to the office of NCCRS. All of them have to be instructed properly. In view of time available with us, I am endorsing a copy of this report and the resolution to the Zonal Secretaries for service of the notice.

I am also enclosing a copy of the circular, embodying the decisions taken by the Action Committee in its meeting held on 16.4.74 for your information and necessary action.

You would kindly notice the appeal made by the NCCRS about the sectional agitations made in the last para. The Com. Federation has withdrawn the work-to-rule movement. Both Com. H.S. Chowdhury and myself availed of the opportunity to meet the Chief Labour Commissioner, Labour Minister and the Deputy Minister of Railways on date. I am enclosing a copy of the letter issued to D.M.R. for your information. I have been informed that the Sub-Committee meeting has been fixed on 22nd April, 74 and the Grievance Committee meeting would be called on 26th or 27th April, 1974, the exact date would be fixed in a day or two.

In view of these developments both Com. Chowdhury and myself feel that the work-to-rule movement should be postponed. The final decision should be taken at the earliest opportunity when we meet at Delhi.

With greetings,

Yours comradely,

*S.K. Dhar*  
(S.K. Dhar)

Copy forwarded to  
all Zonal Secretaries  
and Working Committee's  
Members.

ALL INDIA LOCO RUNNING STAFF ASSOCIATION

Hd. Qrs. Qr. No. L39B,  
Loco Colony,  
Landing (Assam)  
Camp: New Delhi.

Regd. No. NAT/38.

Dated: 16th April, 1974.

To

Shri Mohd. Safi Qureshi,  
Deputy Minister for Railways,  
Chairman,  
Loco Running Staff Grievance Committee.

Dear Sir,

We would like to draw your attention to the talks held on 6th, 10th and 11th April, 74 in which you had assured us finalisation of the issues & if the decision for work to Rule movement is deferred for a fortnight.

The Working Committee of the Association which met at Vijayawada on the 12th and 13th April, 74 last, had discussed the issue and in response to your appeal decided to defer movement by a fortnight with the hope that the assurance would be fulfilled. This decision was made known to Shri Srinivasa DS-BZA as desired by you and efforts to contact you on telephone were also made. We hope you have since been informed about this by him by now.

In the circumstances, we would request you to fix up a meeting of the Grievance Committee well before 29th April, 74 finalise the pending demands and the NF railway question. This is very much necessary in view of the fact that penal measures have since been stepped up in NF and other railways. Kindly also issue instructions for implementation of these decisions which are kept back in the name of 'package deal'.

Kindly do needful.

With kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

1. S.K.Dhar  
2. H.S.Chowdhry  
Members  
Grievance Committee.

Copy to:

Shri R.S.T.D'Mello,  
Chief Labour Commissioner (C),  
New Delhi.

37



# एन.ई. रेलवे मजदूर यूनियन

(NERMU)

(इस यूनियन ऐक्ट के अन्तर्गत पंजीकृत, आल इन्डिया रेलवे मजदूर फेडरेशन एवं हिन्दू मजदूर संघ से सम्बन्ध तथा एन.ई. रेलवे प्रशासन द्वारा मान्यता प्राप्त)  
सदस्य-नेशनल सेप्टी कार्पोरेशन

सदस्य-सहायक सिद्ध

सहायकी-कर्मचारी लाल गुप्त

केन्द्रीय कार्यालय

गोरखपुर

पत्र सं. NERMU/..... Fed.13

दिनांक 15.4.74

The general secretary,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
New Delhi.

Dear Friend,

Sub:- Apropos telephonic talk with Shri J.P. Chaubey  
Treasurer of the A.I.R.F.  
.....

I am directed to enclose herewith a Bank Draft for Rs.1300/-  
towards affiliation fee for the year 1973.

It has not been possible for me to leave Gorakhpur for the  
present due to many other very urgent engagements. Comrade Basawan  
Singh, President of the Union had been here from 8th April to 12th  
April, 74 and gave detail picture of preparation for our struggle -  
indefinite strike of the different divisions over this railway and  
the machinery is being geared up for strike.

In accordance with the decision of the National Convention  
Committee, Coordination Committees were formed and protest week  
observed from 2nd to 8th April, 74. Demonstrations were held at  
divisions on 8th April, 74 and at Gorakhpur on 6th April. The date  
of the demonstration at Gorakhpur had to be changed as on 8th April,  
74 being Monday all workshops were closed.

On 6th April, 74 a massive demonstration was held which  
converted into meeting under the Presidentship of General secretary,  
(B.D. Kumar) All India Loco Running Staff Association. A memorandum  
was also handed over to the G.M. (copy enclosed for ready reference)  
for onward transmission. The speakers from all categorical associa-  
tions assured audience that they would also go for indefinite strike  
in accordance with the decision of National convention committee.

As desired by the comrade President <sup>A.I.R.F.</sup> Central Executive  
Committee meeting was called upon from 10th to 12th April, 74 wherein  
Branch secretaries and Branch Presidents were also called as invitees.  
On 9th April, 74 we could gather from Shri Sansar Chandji of A.I.R.F.  
office that comrade President will not be able to leave Delhi due to  
acute sickness of his mother-in-law.

During the observance of "week" demonstrations were held at  
all Junction stations where even Assistant Rank Officers are posted  
(AMO, AEN, ASTE and AME) and memorandums were handed over to them. On  
8th April, 74 before the meeting was organised by the coordination  
Committee before the railway station (Gorakhpur) under the President  
ship of Shri Ramakant Pande, Secretary of Gorakhpur Fertiliser  
Corporation of India where the chief speakers were from Bhartiya  
Mazdoor Sangh, Ministerial Staff Association, Socialist Party,  
Loco Running Staff Association and others. Comrade Basawan Singh  
President of the Union was last speaker. We are still having regular  
gate meetings at different places for alerting the railwaymen for  
the job to be undertaken by them. Incidentally it is mentioned  
that the Central Coordination Committee formed over this railway  
will be meeting at 19th April, 1974 again to take stock of the  
situation/gearing up its machinery.

.....2.....

1974  
Draft deposited  
in the Bank  
19/4  
11/17/74

L  
Registration  
Gorakhpur



# एन० ई० रेलवे मजदूर यूनियन (NERMU)

(द्वारा यूनियन एक्ट के अन्तर्गत पंजीकृत, आन-इन्डिया रेलवेमेन्स फेडरेशन एवं हिन्दू मजदूर  
संघ से सम्बद्ध तथा एन० ई० रेलवे प्रशासन द्वारा मान्यता प्राप्त)

सदस्य-नेशनल एम्प्लॉयी कोर्पोरेशन

महामंत्री-कन्हैया लाल गुप्ता

केन्द्रीय कार्यालय

गोरखपुर

दिनांक 15.4.74 ई

अध्यक्ष-बसावन्त सिंह

पत्र सं० NERMU/Fed.13

The General secretary,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
New Delhi.

Dear Friend,

sub:- Payment for the posters, badges  
and book-let.

ref:- Your office letter No. AIRF/160-E  
(IX) dt. 3rd. April, 1974.

....

The letter under reference is hereby acknowledged. Till date we have not received Central posters from the office of the A.I.R.F. although it is seen from the statement that 2,000 posters were despatched. The amount ~~for~~ paid for the posters may kindly be credited on affiliation fee account. The union got posters printed from local press.

Thanking you,

Yours friendly,

*Am*  
General Secretary.

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/100-B

Dated April 15, 1974

Dear Dr. Varna,

Many many thanks for yours of March 18,  
1974.

When we met yesterday, you said that your Annual General Meeting scheduled for 19th and 20th April, was likely to be postponed. In the circumstances, may I suggest that my letter, seeking the support of your organisation in our agitation be circulated to your members with the request that they extend all possible support to the both at the time of the negotiations and should the negotiations fail, during our strike?

The newspapers report that officers are observing a Demands Week. I take it that the Railway officers are also taking part in this. Kindly convey the solidarity and support of the AIRF to all officers in their fight for justice.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes

Dr. S.S. Varna,  
Federation of Rly. Officers'  
Associations,  
Room No. 348, Rail Bhavan,  
New Delhi.



Federation of Railway Officers' Associations

Room No.348  
Rail Bhavan

New Delhi - 1

Vic President : Dr. S. S. Verma

General Secretary : Pratap Narayan

Date March 18, 1974

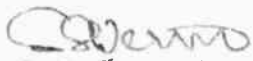
Dear Shri Fernandes,

Thanks for your letter No.AIRF/160B(V)  
dated 4th March 1974.

As desired, the resolution and the  
press note sent by you will be placed before  
our Annual General Body meeting proposed to be  
held at Madras on 19th and 20th April 1974.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely

  
(Dr. S. S. Verma)

Shri George Fernandes  
President  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
125/E, Babar Road,  
New Delhi-1

226  
22/3/74

# All India Railway Employees Confederation

The Federal Body of all Category, Departmental and Service Associations and Unions on all the Indian Railways.

Secretary General :  
N. S. BHANGOO

Secretary Finance :  
R. R. SHARMA

K. P. RAMASWAMY  
President,

Station Master, ~~Thamjavur~~ Jn. S. Rly.

Rayapuram  
Date 10/4/74 Madras - 13

Dear Comrade George, I hope you received my telegram issued today. Southern Railway authorities have refused my leave & prevented me from participation in the Coordination Committee Meeting.

With the (copy-enclosed) enclosed letter I will see the EPO/Madras tomorrow, but I cannot foresee the result. If they further refuse, I may not be able to take part in the meeting on 15/4.

I request that you take up the matter with appropriate authorities and cause necessary instructions to permit my leave

With best regards,

2557  
11/4/74

Yours Comradely,  
K. P. Ramaswamy  
President / Confederation  
10.4.74.

K.P. Ranganany,  
Station Master,  
Rayapuram,  
Madras-13.

Dated 10/4/74

2998  
M/174

To

The Chief Personnel Officer,  
Southern Railway,  
Madras

Through DGS/1113.

Ref:- DPO N/P420/1 dt.8-4-74.

Sub:- 12 days LAF from 11-4-74.

Sir,

I had applied for the above leave, to lead the delegation of confederation in the meeting with the Union Labour Minister and also to participate in the National Co-ordination Committee meeting at Delhi, but it is not sanctioned.

These meetings are intended to review the progress of the various negotiations held between the Unions and Federations and the Government of India on the six points charter of demands and then decide appropriate action to safeguard the interests of the Railway workers. My actual participation in these meetings both as the President of the All India Railway Employees Confederation and also a member of the Co-ordination Committee representing the south is essential to shape the decisions; without the President the Confederation is unable to act.

As reported in the Press it will be seen that the Labour Minister for the present is holding meetings separately and jointly with various unions and I am informed that several such meetings will be held as and when developments occur by him and also by the Railway Minister with a view to avert a strike in the Railway.

I attempted yesterday to talk to some of the authorities to leave last night to be at Delhi on 11-4-74, but of no avail.

Hence this appeal to you to kindly re-consider and permit me to avail the leave.

Failure to lead the Confederation to play its proper role at this crucial stage will be a serious loss not only to the organisation and the national-level decision but personally to me.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

*[Signature]*  
M/174

Copy to  
Commenor, NCCRS  
1. 11.1

359  
Sh. Mohammed Shafie Qureshi,  
Deputy Railway Minister,  
New Delhi.

Dear Sir,

Reg: Your visit of Railway Colony-Moresarai-  
in a CULTURAL EVENING on 11th April, 1974.

It is a well aware fact that there has been a full scale onslaught on Railwaymen by the Government Machinery under your command with lots of falsehood attributed to counter the genuine demand of the railwaymen. Therefore, your visit to this " CULTURAL EVENING" in the Railway Colony is being resented by the Railwaymen who have been put in an economic-turmoil by not considering their general demands and forcing them to apply the sanction of labour. They are also unhappy that the Government sources are propagating against the railwaymen by dubbing them as politically motivated. This is a travesty of the facts.

We want to reiterate, as hitherto have reiterated at number of occasions, that our demands are pure and simple economic demands and these should not be dubbed as politically motivated. You may be knowing them but here we avail the opportunity of your presence in the Railway Colony and reproduce them to tell exactly as to what these are:

Demands:

1. Minimum pay to Railwaymen-Rs. 350/ P.M. on adhoc basis and appointment of a wage body.
2. Bonus to all Railwaymen.
3. Full neutralisation of DA.
4. Decasualisation of all Casula Labour.
5. Grainshops facilities to railwaymen.
6. Job evaluation, classification and gradation of all posts.

DEMANDS OF LOCAL RESIDENTS OF MORE SARIA COLONY:

1. Adequate full time of water supply to the Quarters.
2. Front and back-sides of quarters should be constructed Pucca.
3. White Washing and petty repairs should be immediately done.
4. Proper attention for sanitation of the colony.
5. Provision of Medical Mobile Van for the Railwaymen in colony.

We sincerely hope that you would kindly make suitable arrangements to attend to above noted local demands also. We also demand that Neogitations on general demands of the Railwaymen should be purposefully done.

Faithfully Yours

*Handwritten signature*

*Handwritten signature*

*Handwritten notes:*  
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was  
u to  
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200

Sh. Mohammed Shafie Qureshi,  
Deputy Railway Minister,  
New Delhi.

Dear Sir,

Reg: Memorandum of the Licensed Porters of Delhi  
for his visit of Moresarai in CULTURAL  
EVENING on 11th April 1974.

We have learnt that you have been visiting Moresarai Railway Colony in some CULTURAL EVENING PROGRAMME today. We avail this occasion to explain the difficulties of the Licensed Porters, the lowest of the Society, and sincerely expect to do something to alleviate our sufferings. On your last visit to Delhi Station in September, 1973 you very kindly assured us to consider our difficulties but our problems still remained unattended. We again approach your honour to please pity on our fate and do something positive to solve our problems. Our problems are:

1. Reinstatement of 22 Licensed Porters of Delhi and New Delhi who were convicted by the courts on minor charges and were fined from Rs. 5/ to 50/- No where in India or elsewhere in the world of socialist democracy livelihood are snatched on such minor charges. Last time in September, 1973 you had ordered Sh. A.B. Lal CCS Northern Railway to restore our numbers but no body has taken cognisance of your orders so far. These Licensed Porters are starving ; kindly help.
2. There should be some arrangements to attend to our problems by the administration, to consider:
  - (a) Security of our jobs.
  - (b) Reviewing of terms of agreement.
  - (c) Automatic increase in portorage charges on price index.
  - (d) Provision of Sheds.
  - (e) Adequate and timely supply of uniform.
  - (f) Indoor medical facilities.
  - (g) Supply of metal badges in lieu of those lost.
  - (h) Appointment of eligible porters in Railway service.
  - (i) Promotion of Licensed Porters' Jamadars.
3. Our labour value should be respected. Some arrangement should be made through public system to educate public not to misbehave with us.

We hope these problems will receive your kind attention before we go in for agitation to get them redressed.  
Thanking you,

Faithfully Yours,

Northern Railway Licensed Porters Assn.  
Delhi.

*(Handwritten signature)*

The Deputy Railway Minister,  
Government of India,  
Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.

Dear Sir,

Reg: Your visit to Moresarai in some Cultural  
Evening Programme on 11th April, 1974.

We, the Bookstall Vendors, working under the Agents of M/S A.H. Wheelers & Co. are the lowest earning members of the society. The Agents do not pay us adequate remuneration of our working day and night and thus they deprive us from passing a respectable life in the society. Despite our work for more than 12 hours we hardly get commissions etc of about Rs. 100 with average whereas the Company has been earning Lakhs of ruppees by defrauding us and also not serving the public in a manner it should. The Company is taking more benefits from the Railway than it pays the amount in return. We, the vendors, humbly pray that each of the vendors of the station may be allowed to have his own contract of Bookstall or atleast grant contract to our Cooperative Society which has long been registered in Delhi in the name of the Northern Railway Bookstall vendors Cooperative (Industrial) Society Ltd. We have deposited our membership fee in the Cooperative Bank and we are ready to stand for any surety or gurantee which the adminstration would like us to undergo.

We have at least a dozen of problems with the Agents for which we are seeking redressal either through the courts or through the agency of the Chief Labour Commissioner. We want that the peace of the station should ~~be~~ not be disturbed but the Company and its Agents at Delhi are trying to create a situation which may compel us to agitate against them at the station. We hope that you would kindly make wise the Company by cancelling their contract at Delhi station.

Thanking you,

Faithfully Yours,

NR Vendors Association, Delhi.

Ashok Kumar

*[Handwritten signatures and stamps]*

## ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION

125-E, Babar Road,  
New Delhi.

No. AIRF/160-B

April 16, 1974

Dear Comrades!

The National Co-ordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle meeting in Delhi yesterday has adopted a resolution (copy enclosed) calling upon the railwaymen to launch an indefinite general strike from 6 hours on 8th May, 1974. Strike notices have to be served to the General Managers of the Zonal Railways on or before April 23, 1974. A proforma of the strike notice is being mailed to all organisations that are a part of the National Co-ordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle. Wherever possible, the strike notices should be served on the General Managers collectively by all General Secretaries of the unions/associations/organisations, organising at the same time massive demonstrations at the Zonal Headquarters. You should take the initiative in this matter.

There are only three weeks left for our struggle. Every minute is precious from now on, and we should spend all our time, energy and resources in organising the railwaymen effectively for the biggest ever action launched by the railwaymen. It has been observed that in certain places united struggle committees have not yet come into existence, in certain places, there are more than one committees functioning, though I must say that in most places the work of Co-ordination Committees is going on smoothly and vigorously. I am told that in certain places there are disputes about who should be the convener of the Committee. I would appeal to you not to get involved in such disputes. It does not matter who is the convener of the Committee. What matters is how effective will be the struggle and what will be the role of our organisation in that struggle. The Nagpur meeting of our General Council had made the following suggestions for the effective conduct of the struggle:-

1. Action Committees of the Union of all level.
2. Joint Action Committee with all those organisations that are willing to make common cause with our struggle.
3. Women's Committees to bring about total involvement of the women from railwaymen's families in the struggle.
4. Volunteer Corps to meet any situations may be created by the enemies of the struggle.
5. People's Committees consisting of prominent citizens, representatives of other working class organisations, lawyers, journalists and other public personalities to support the action of Railwaymen.

At that time the National Co-ordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle had not come into existence. Yet we had thought and planned to associate all organisations of railwaymen in our struggle. To-day, only they will emerge as the leaders of railwaymen who give the most militant and dynamic leadership during the struggle. Only they will remain relevant who are willing to make the greatest sacrifice for the cause of the railwaymen. It is, therefore, my earnest appeal to you to see that small disputes on who is to be what in committees does not come in the way of our organising an effective movement.

A detailed circular on the preparations to be made for the strike will follow. Just now, spare no efforts to consolidate the unity and to create a leadership that will stake everything to lead the strike to a successful end.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,



George Fernandes  
President.

To

All Affiliated Unions and  
Working Committee Members/A.M.E.

Encl: Copy of Resolution,  
Copy of strike notice.



---

(Union/Association/Federation)

Dated the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1974

To

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of the employer)

Dear Sir,

In accordance with the provision contained in sub-section (1) of section 22 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 I hereby give you notice that I propose to call a strike on 8th May, 1974 at 6.00 A.M. for the reasons explained in the annexe.

Yours faithfully,

General Secretary.

ANNEXE

Statement of the case .

Non-fulfilment of the following demands:-

- 1.(a) All Railwaymen be treated as industrial workers with full trade union rights including the right to negotiate.
  - (b) The working hours of Railwaymen shall not exceed eight hours per day.
  - (c) There shall be job evaluation of all Railwaymen through a scientific system to be followed by their reclassification and regradation with the need-based minimum wages as the wage for the lowest paid worker.
  - (d) Pending the completion of job evaluation and reclassification, immediate parity in wages with those of workers in Central Undertakings, viz., HMT, BHEL, HSL, HAL etc.
2. Dearness allowance linked to the cost of living index with full neutralisation for every rise of 4 points in a six months period.

Contd... 2/

3. Bonus at the rate of one Month's wages for the years 1971-72 and 1972-73.
4. Decasualisation of all casual railwaymen and their confirmation in service with all benefits given to them with retrospective effect.
5. Adequate and subsidised foodgrains and other essential commodities through departmentally-run shops.
6. All victimisation cases should be withdrawn.

Copy to:-

1. Conciliation Officer (Central) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(here enter office address of the Conciliation Officer in the local area concerned).

2. Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zone.

3. Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), New Delhi.

# WESTERN RAILWAY EMPLOYEES UNION

(REGISTERED RECOGNISED & AFFILIATED TO A. I. R. F. & H. M. S.)

BHAVNAGAR DIVISION

No. 3201 Date 15-4-1974.

Head Office  
Grant Road Station  
BOMBAY No. 7

President  
MISS MANIBEN KARAI

General Secretary  
U. M. PUROHIT

Secretaries  
JAGDISH AJMERA  
K. C. TRIVEDI

C. S. MENON  
Divisional Secretary  
10, Near Rly. Station,  
BHAVNAGAR PARA

Dear Shri Jagdish Bhai,

The following Telephone Numbers may be noted.

1. 4110 for Ashwin Mehta/Metswani Ben.

This Phone is available in the House just adjacent to Mehta & the people are reliable and confidential.

2. 5176 Shri J.C.Shah/Indira Ben. This Phone is also in the house next door and people alright.

3. 6387 Shri Arun Desai/Manjula Ben. This Phone is in the house next door of Shri Desai in Shastri Nagar.

Yours sincerely,

(C. S. Menon)  
Divisional Secretary.

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/160 S


April 13, 1974.

Dear Com. Singh,

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 17, 1974. I am sorry for the delay in reply. Do convey my congratulations to all your colleagues for their magnificent display of unity.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,



George Fernandes

Shri A. Singh,  
Chairman,  
Workshops & Store Branch,  
45, Manohar Pura Nagra,  
Jhansi (UP).

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIR/160-B

April 13, 1974.

Dear Com. Murugesan,

I have yours of 22nd March, 1974.

We shall insist on weightage for seniority when this issue comes up for discussion.

I hope your Ad-Hoc Committee is doing everything necessary to help the railwaymen's struggle.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes

Shri D. Murugesan,  
Secretary,  
All Central Govt. Employees Ad-Hoc Committee,  
Tambaram,  
Madras-45.

380

27

# ALL CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AD HOC COMMITTEE

TAMBARAM, MADRAS-45

President : R. JAGANNATHAN

Secretary : D. MURUGESAN

Treasurer : D. SHANMUGAM

Dated 22nd March, 1974.

My dear Comrade,

I am one of those privileged delegates No.345 representing All Central Government Employees Ad hoc Committee, who attended the Convention convened by you on 27th and 28th ultimo. I congratulate you heartily for your grand success in securing the co-operation of almost all the Unions of the Railways.

Incidentally I like to suggest you while taking up the issues for discussion with the Ministry to insist on reckoning in some form weightage for seniority which is a very vital item that would go a long way in healing the wound caused by the Pay Commission to those elderly men of service by equating them with new entrants.

Thanking you,

Yours fraternally,



(D.Murugesan)  
Secretary

To

Shri George Fernandez,  
President,  
All India Railwaymen Federation,  
Babar Street,  
NEW DELHI.

27.3.74  
25/3/74

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/ 160 A

April 13, 1974.

Dear Com. Chatterjee,

This refers to your letter of March 8, calling upon your Zonal and Divl. units to form Coordination Committees and participate in the wider action that the Railwaymen will have to launch. I am glad that the Coordination Committees have by now come into existence almost at all levels and the railwaymen are uniting for action as never before.

The AIRF extends all support to the Work-to-Rule movement that you are launching from the middle of this month. I have written to Com. Lahiri in this respect, also.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,



George Fernandes

Shri H.S. Chatterjee,  
President,  
All India Station Masters'  
Association,  
Camp Office: C126/A,  
Railway Settlement,  
P.O. Adra (Purulia).

3821  
All India Station Masters' Association. Indian Railways. 1359.

No. Immediate/Call-Attention/1

President Indian Railways. Barakar  
Dated, 8th March, 1974.

All Concerned  
Indian Railways & Central Govt. Employees.

In terms of prolonged historical decisions of the AISMA/MAS, AIREC/MAS from 15th to 17th February, 1974 and Railwaymen's National Convention/DLI of 27/2/74, you are hereby directed to form immediately "RASTRIYA RAILWAYMEN SANGHARSHA SAMANYA SAMITI" at all tiers to formulate strategy of actions and complete collection of 'Struggle Fund' @ Rs.3/- per member of the Association on or before 31.3.74 in addition to 'Central quota' & Amritsar AGM quota @ Rs.50/- per division.

In order to demonstrate First Phase of broad-based joint massive struggle amongst the Central Government Employees so long propagated, it is emphatically directed that pending finalisation of the date and time of withdrawal labour by all Central Government Employees, who are supposed to meet at Delhi on 15th & 16th March '74, you should equally and effectively honour the decisions of the AIREC /MAS & Delhi National Convention of 27.2.74 by means of demonstrating on 25/3/74 (AISMA) & 2/4/74 (AIREC), observing 'Demands Week' from 2/4/74 to 8/4/74 (National Delhi Convention) and launching 'Work-to-rule' from odd hours of 14/15th April '74 as spelt out by this Association and duly ratified by the AIREC/MAS.

An ultimatum has already been pronounced by the National Railwaymen's Convention Delhi dated 27.2.74 demanding negotiated settlement with the "RASTRIYA RAILWAYMEN SANGHARSHA SAMANYA SAMITI" on the basic demands on or before 10.4.74 whereafter the date of 'Withdrawal of Labour' would be fixed in consultation with all Central Government Employees organisations.

All Zonal & Divisional Units are advised to adopt appropriate decision well in advance to resist victimisation in course of 'Work-to-rule' otherwise known as 'Safety-in-toto'.

*Read this*  
Please, <sup>read this</sup> top most urgent and acknowledge.

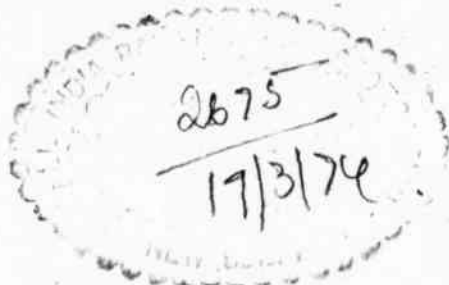
Sri K. P. Ramaswami  
President/AIREC.

✓ Sri George Fernandes  
President/AIRF.

Comradely yours.

*H. S. Challa*

President,  
All India SMs, Association  
Indian Railways





George Fernandes,  
President.

AIR/ 224-11

April 13, 1974.

Dear Com. Upadhyaya,

I have your letter of March 18, 1974, addressed to Com. Priya Gupta. Com. Gupta has not been keeping well and he is presently undergoing treatment at Calcutta.

If you telephone to the Federation Headquarters and inform us of your convenience we can fix a time to discuss the problems mentioned by you in your letter.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes

Shri R.P. Upadhyaya,  
Hon'y. Genl. Secretary,  
Indian Railways,  
Claims Comm'l. Inspectorate  
Staff Court II,  
IIC/165, Nehrunagar,  
Ghaziabad.

# Indian Railways

Claims Commercial Inspectorate Staff Council 110/165, Nehrunagar,

1922 NEW GANDHI NAGAR

GHAZIABAD

Dated..... 18th March, 1974.

My dear Gupta,

4  
2/3

I have been authorised by the Executive Committee of the Indian Railways Claims Commercial Inspectorate Staff Council, in a meeting held at Ghaziabad on the 17th March, 1974, to write this letter to you. The Executive Committee in its meeting held at Varanasi on the 9th February '74 and at Ghaziabad on the 17th March, '74, appreciates the stand taken by you in extending invitations to all the Categorized Unions of the Indian Railways, as a result of which the Joint General Secretary, Sri B.B.Srivastava, attended the two meetings held at your Office ~~xxxxxx~~ during January, and February, 1974. In this connection, I am to request you to please send all correspondences at the above mentioned address, for speedy circulation and necessary action.

I have further been asked by the Executive Committee to request you to fix up a date for a meeting with a few representatives of the Council in connection with certain issues and burning topics that are being faced by the members of the ~~association~~ council. In this connection, I would like to suggest 2nd April, 1974 at your Office. The time may please be fixed by you. Please acknowledge early.

Thanking you, and assuring you of all cooperation,

Yours Sincerely,

*P. P. Upadhyay*  
Hony. Genl. Secretary.

Shri Priya Gupta,  
Hony. General Secretary,  
A.I.R.F.,  
125/E, Babar Road,  
NEW DELHI.

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/160-8

April 13, 1974.

Dear Com. Shyam Behari Lal,

This is to acknowledge the receipt  
of your letter of March 29, 1974.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,



George Fernandes

Shri Shyam Behari Lal,  
Branch Secretary,  
Northern Railwaymen's Union,  
South Hallet Road,  
Mushtaq Manzil,  
Moradabad.



# नार्दन रेलवे मेन्स यूनियन

(पंजीकृत, मान्यता प्राप्त एवं आल इंडिया रेलवे मेन्स फेडरेशन तथा  
हिन्दू मजदूर सभा से संबन्धित)

सध्यक्ष:-

सचिव:-

पत्र संख्या ना. रे. मे. यू. / लोको / 74.

केन्द्रीय कार्यालय  
११५ ई बाबर रोड, नई दिल्ली  
शाखा कार्यालय  
साउथ हैलट रोड, मुहताक मंजिल  
मुरादाबाद

दिनांक... 29/3/74.....

The General Secretary,  
NIRMU, Central Office,  
New Delhi.

Dear Comrade,

Re:- Mass Meeting of the Railwaymen at Moradabad on  
6-4-74.

The above mass-meeting under the auspices of the N.I.Rly Men's union will be held at Moradabad on 6-4-74. The railwaymen are feeling proud that the President of the AIRF comrade George Fernandez will address the meeting. All the citizens who are sympathetic to the common cause and are willing to co-operate with the Railwaymen in their struggle, have been informed and most of them will attend the mass meeting. Learned citizens and social workers and members of other labour organisations of the District have proposed for a press conference with the AIRF President after the mass meeting and they have also proposed for a community dinner in the evening.

I would therefore request your goodself to kindly contact the president and let me know the final and accurate programme to enable me to inform all concerned and make arrangements accordingly.

Yours Comradely,  
*(Signature)*  
(Shyam Behari Lal)  
Branch Secretary.

C/- President Shri George Fernandez AIRF, 125E Babar Road, New Delhi for his kind information.

.....

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/160 B

April 13, 1974.

My dear Namasivayam,

I have your circulars of 10th and 11th April, 1974. Needless to say that you are doing magnificent work. I would suggest your sending copies of your circulars, especially *two* dated 10th and 11th April, 1974, to all our Zonal Unions.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes

Shri M. Namasivayam,  
General Secretary,  
Southern Railway Mazdoor Union,  
Madras.

2

SOUTHERN RAILWAY MAZDOR UNION, MADRAS

Telegram: 'RAILWAYMEN'

Phone: Rly: 2727

P & T: 2735

48-A, Rly. Qrs.,

Gandhi Ilwin Road,

Egmore, Madras-8.

Dt. 11-4-74

No. Rmu/c/21

All Divisional Secretaries.

Dear Comrade,

As I have talked to you over the phone, kindly arrange to call for a meeting of the Divl. Council on the 15th or 16th April, 74. The meeting is primarily to chalk out plan for the remaining days for a total strike and to re-dedicate ourselves to the cause of Railwaymen. The office-bearers and active workers should take the following oath in the Divisional Council:

"I ....., Office-bearer of ..... Branch hereby solemnly take a oath that I will strike work as per the call of the National Co-ordination Committee for Railwaymen Struggle and court arrest in the cause of Railwaymen to achieve the six-point charter of demands and to uphold the dignity of Railwaymen who are not treated like other employees of public sector undertakings in the matter of emoluments and other benefits."

The proceedings of the Divisional Council should be given wide publicity.

On the 20th April, 74 Women's Morcha should be conducted. They should go in a procession and assemble before the Divl. Offices in support of the demands of the Railwaymen. They should also submit memorandum to the Railway Minister through the Divisional Supdt.. This procession should be mammoth in size and sisters, mothers, wives and children of Railwaymen should participate in the Morcha. Everyone of us should actively canvass the support of the women.

With Greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
General Secretary.

Copy to the Branch Secretaries for information. Every Branch should also conduct similar women morcha in their respective branch headquarters. The date will be advised later on my return from Delhi.

Copy to President, All India Railwaymen's Federation, and the General Secretary, AIRF for information please.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION, MADRAS  
(Central Office)

PST Phone: 37725  
Rly. Phone: 2727

No.Rmu/c/

No.48/A, Railway Quarters,  
Egmore, Madras 8, Dt. 10.4.1974

To  
All Branch Secretaries;  
Divisional Secretaries

Dear Comrade,

It is most heartening that the preparations for strike is going ahead in a perfect manner. I appeal to you to put in more efforts so that within the next ten days, there will be a situation when the call for strike can be put into effect at any moment. It is essential that the Coordination Committee functions without any hitch and there should be no rivalry under any circumstances between the participating units of the Coordination Committee. We must act as a cushion when there is misunderstanding.

It is distressing to note that the Coordination Committees have not been formed in some of the branches because of the fact that SRMU is strong and therefore, has no need for forming Coordination Committee for a successful struggle. Coordination Committees are formed to project a united image before the workers, not only the workers belonging to a particular area but to others in other areas also. Such branches are, therefore, directed to form Coordination Committees immediately. They must advise the Central Office of their having done so.

It is needless for me to suggest that for the next 20 days the branches should not take up cases and go to divisional offices to look into the cases. The Branches should declare a 'Holiday' for normal activities for another 20 days. Office-bearers and Committee members of the branches should take leave or absent themselves and concentrate on contacting the workers in their jurisdiction and devising ways and means for a total strike in their branch jurisdiction. Nothing should occupy their time other than the preparatory work for the Strike.

- Note:
1. The Divisional Secretaries should ensure that the above instructions are complied with in toto.
  2. All the Branch Secretaries are requested to give the residential addresses where future important correspondence can be sent.

With Greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
GENERAL SECRETARY

SOUTHERN RAILWAY MAZDOR UNION, MADRAS

Telegram: 'RAILWOMEN'

Phone: Rly: 2727

P & T: 37755

42-A, Rly. Qtrs.,

Gandhi Park Road,

Chennai, Madras-8.

Dt. 11-4-74

No. Rmu/c/21

All Divisional Secretaries.

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With Greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
General Secretary.

Copy to the Branch Secretaries for information. Every Branch should also conduct similar women morcha in their respective branch headquarters. The date will be advised later on my return from Delhi.

Copy to President, All India Railwaymen's Federation, and the General Secretary, AIRF for information please.



SOUTHERN RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION, MADRAS  
(Central Office)

PSE File No: 52725  
Riy. File No: 2722

No. Rmu/c/

No. 48/A, Railway Quarters,  
Egmore, Madras 8, Dt. 10.11.1974

To  
All Branch Secretaries;  
Divisional Secretaries

Dear Comrade,

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- Note:
1. The Divisional Secretaries should ensure that the above instructions are complied with in toto.
  2. All the Branch Secretaries are requested to give the residential addresses where future important correspondence can be sent.

With Greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
GENERAL SECRETARY

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/160-8

April 13, 1974.

Dear Com. Indibor,

I have your letter of 9th April, 1974.  
I am glad ~~that~~ <sup>for</sup> great efforts you and your colleagues  
are making to create necessary sanctions to compel  
the Railway Board to settle the demands. The strike  
now seems to be inevitable and nothing should be  
left for tomorrow. I am glad that all left parties  
are backing us in Assam.

Even as we are carrying on a wider  
movement we must do everything to strengthen our  
organisation. I am sure, your colleagues are doing  
everything in that direction.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes

Shri Indibor Konger,  
Working President,  
N.F. Railway Mazdoor Union,  
Pandu,  
P.O. Gauhati-12,  
Distt. Kamrup (Assam)

# N. F. RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION

Registered Under Trade Union Act. (Registered No. 425)

Recognised by N. F. Railway Administration

Branch Office :  
GAUHATI

Ref. No. MA/42/0/74/6

3005 -  
72/4/74

DATED 3/4 1974

Dear Shri Fernandes.

Domestic. Time to Time we have received the development of the present situation. All the left political parties of Assam hold a meeting on 5th April/74 at central union office Pno... and extend full support and sympathy to our demands.

more over they separately hold a meeting at socialist party meeting and decided to call a larger meeting on the line that you have decided at Delhi. copy of the memorandum submitted to S.M. for Prime Minister is sending herewith to you interested.

All are O.K. no more.

With love and affection.

Yours sincerely

Juditor Xing

Working President

N. F. Railway Mazdoor Union

Gauhati

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIR/160-1

April 13, 1974.

Dear Com. Sharma,

I have your letter of April 9, along with some Press clippings. I am glad that the Jansatta carries the corrections.

I hope you are doing everything necessary to make the strike a success in your area.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

George Fernandes

Shri Sitaram Sharma,  
Secretary, ADI Branch 1,  
Western Railway Employees' Union,  
Old Running Room,  
Near Railway Hospital,  
Ahmedabad-2.

395



Western Railway Employees' Union

(REGISTERED (NO. 5) RECOGNISED & AFFILIATED TO AIRF & IIMS)

Divisional Office :  
New Mahal Taluk  
Falahpuri Road,  
BARODA-2.

Area Office :  
Old Running Room,  
Near Railway Hospital,  
AHMADABAD-2.

REF. NO.

DATE 9.4.74

Comrade George Fernandes,  
President All India Railwaymen's Federation.  
New Delhi.

.....

As you know well there was hot discussion between Shri Raval Press Reporter of Jansatta and us during the Press Conference at Ahmedabad on 3rd April, 1974 in Union Office. The Press cuttings of the same daily ~~xxxxxxx~~ dated 1.4.74 and 3.4.74 are enclosed herewith for your ready reference.

It need not be mentioned that Shri Raval was fully convinced and he ultimately invited us at his press on 4.4.74. Comrade U.N. Vashi further discussed this issue with Shri Raval and Shri Pancholi in details nearly for 45 minutes and the result is that the fresh views of the same Editor are published in the issue of same News-Paper on 3.4.74.

This is for your information please.

D.A. :-  
2 Press Cuttings

With Regards,  
Yours sincerely,

(Sitaran Sharma)  
Secretary ADI Branch 1.

Copy to Com. U.M. Purohit General Secretary WREU Bombay.

Ho

Head Office : Grant Road Station, Western Railway, Bombay.

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIR/ *1/10/74*

April 13, 1974.

Dear Com. Saikia,

I have the copy of your letter of March 23, 1974, addressed to the Works Manager, which reached here on April 5 and has put up before me today.

Frankly, I am not in favour of Hunger Strikes. We should have other forms of effective action.

*been* I hope the issue under dispute might have *L* settled by now.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

*George Fernandes*  
George Fernandes

Shri J.M. Saikia,  
Secretary,  
N.F. Railway Mazdoor Union,  
Dibrugarh (Assam).

N. P. RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION  
DIBRUGARH.

No. NU/DBRT/NS/74

Dated, 23-3-1974.

To  
The Works Manager,  
N.P. Railway, Workshop,  
Dibrugarh (Assam).

2577  
S/11/74

Dear Sir,

Sub : 36 hours relay hunger strike  
from 25-3-1974.  
Ref : Your l/No. E/301/1 dated 6-3-1974.

So far item No. 1 of our notice No. NU/DBRT/NS/74 dated 26-2-1974 is concerned, it is not correct to say, as you assumed, that the facts have been misrepresented to us.

The matter of retrenchment of 41 (fortyone) substitutes have already been discussed in details in the tripartite meeting held between the Works Manager, Dibrugarh Workshop, N.P. Railway Mazdoor Union and the Labour Enforcement Officer (Central), Dibrugarh on 18-3-1974 on one hand and in the contact meeting between this Union and the Additional Chief Mechanical Engineer, N.P. Railway at Dibrugarh on 21-3-1974 (in which the Works Manager/DBMS was also present) on the other.

The principal points at issue are that :-

(I) The question of sponsoring of the candidates by the Employment Exchange did not arise because of the fact that almost all of these 41 candidates were children, immediate dependents and relatives of Railway Employees vide para 6(b) of letter No. Rect/432 dated 30-11-1973 of the E/41/SPHX(c)

General Manager, N.P. Railway, Pandu, which reads as under :-

"Those who may be working as substitutes/temporary labour or those without any job on the Railways. These should be considered along with substitutes/temporary labour within the SOE quota, provided they are registered with the Employment Exchange although they may not be sponsored by the Employment Exchange."

(II) Section 25A of the Industrial Dispute Act, 1947 says that "where any workmen are retrenched, and the employer proposes to take into his employ any person, he shall, in such manner as may be prescribed, give an opportunity to the retrenched workmen to offer themselves for re-employment and the retrenched workmen who offer themselves for re-employment shall have preference over other persons."

(III) If the industrial peace is the concern of both the Railway administration and the organized labour, the Union finds it difficult to accommodate itself with the unilateral actions of the Works Manager/DBMS in terminating the services of 41 workmen. It also appears that the Works Manager had also not consulted higher Railway authorities before embarking on such drastic measure, as a result of which so many persons have been put into untold sufferings in these days of economic stringency.

contd... Page 2.

ST  
resident  
anyway  
see  
DB  
12/4

In the light of the above facts, the Works Manager had assured the Additional Chief Mechanical Engineer, N.F. Railway and the N.F. Railway Mazdoor Union, in the aforesaid contact meeting held on 21-3-1974 that it would be possible to form a panel of candidates with the 41 retrenched workmen along with other with a view to filling up vacancies as would occur, whereby it would be possible to reinstate the said 41 workmen within 2(two) months from this.

The Union therefore earnestly hopes that the administration would kindly honour the assurance and thus help the unfortunate 41 workmen to get themselves reinstated.

In the light of the above facts, the Union has decided to postpone the proposed 36 hours relay hunger strike in front of the DBWB gate from 25-3-1974.

The Union however, reserves to themselves the right to revive the programme of launching the hunger strike if the assurance given by the administration is not honourably fulfilled within two months time from now.

A list of the retrenched 41 workmen together with Employment Exchange registration number along with relationship of Railway Employees is enclosed vide annexure "A".

Thanking you,

Enc: -

Annexure "A" in *three sheets*.

Yours faithfully,

( J.N. BAIKIA )  
SECRETARY.

N. F. RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION  
DIBRUGARH.

Copy to :

- (1) The Chief Mechanical Engineer, N.F. Railway/Maligaon.
- (2) The Chief Personal Officer, N.F. Railway/Maligaon.
- (3) The Labour Enforcement Officer(C), Chowkidinghee, Dibrugarh.
- (4) The Assistant Labour Commissioner(C), Silpukhri, Gauhati.
- (5) The Deputy Commissioner, Dibrugarh.
- (6) The General Secretary, N.F. Railway Mazdoor Union, Pandu.
- (7) The General Secretary, All India Railwaymen's Federation, 125/E, Babar Road, New-Delhi-1 for information and necessary action please.

Enc: -

Annexure "A" in *three sheets*.

( J.N. BAIKIA )  
SECRETARY.

N. F. RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION  
DIBRUGARH.

*23/3/74*



Annexure "A" of I/No. WT/DBRT/WB/74 dated 23-3-1974.

<u>Sl. No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Employment Recd. No.</u>	<u>Relationship.</u>	<u>Address.</u>
1.	Paban Das	1169/73	Son of Shri K. Das, Chief clerk (G) WB's office	Kadamoni, Dibrugarh.
2.	Sankar Medhy	1156/73	Son of Jogneswar Medhy (B/Waker/Retd.) DBWS.	Naliapool, Dibrugarh.
3.	Rajendra Pd. Sarma	3288/72	Brother of Shib Charan Sarma, Chowkider under ACOS/DBRT.	Gabhrupathar, Dibrugarh.
4.	Julan Singh Roy.	1272/72	Son of Rithu Roy Retd. skilled Fdy./shop/DBWS.	Chalkhwa, Bongalgaon, Dibrugarh.
5.	Prodip Barua.	3902/72	Brother of R.K. Barua, skilled Carriage shop, DBWS.	Barbari Rly. Colony, Dibrugarh.
6.	Punaram Mech.		Brother of D. Mech, OC/RPF. DBWS.	Khaliamari, Dibrugarh.
7.	Tejon Deb Nath.	2111/71	Son of R.M. Deb Nath, Retd. F.S.II Boiler shop/DBWS.	Barbari Rly. Colony, Dibrugarh.
8.	Sujit Deb Nath.	702/73	Son of Durga Charan Nath, Retd. Painter, DBWS.	Gabhrupathar, C/O. Gouranga-Kutir, Dibrugarh.
9.	Provakar Biswas,	2319/72	Son of K.D. Biswas, Mistry Boiler shop, DBWS.	Barbari Rly. Colony, Dibrugarh.
10.	Dilip Kr. Dey.	93/73	Son of Mani Gopal Dey, Skilled in Machin shop/DBWS	Barbari Rly. Colony, Dibrugarh.
11.	Dilip Kr. Sen.	297/73	Son of Mandalal Sen, Carpenter, DBWS.	Barbari Rly. Colony, Dibrugarh.
12.	Jagdev Routh.	1070/73	Son of Jagannath Routh, Retd. B/Smith/DBWS.	Punjabiline, Kadamoni, Dibrugarh.
13.	Erinal Kanti Chowdhury	830/73	Uncle of Mukul Chowdhury, Sr. clerk (E), WB's Office.	Barbari Rly. colony, Dibrugarh.
14.	Chinmay Dam,	4180/71	Son of K.R. Dam, Retd. Painter, DBWS.	Gabhrupathar, Gourangakutir Dibrugarh.
15.	Haradhan Achorjee.	2713/73	Brother-in-law of late Ranjit Achorjee, Expired. Mistry/Wagonshop DBWS.	Barbari Rly. Colony, Dibrugarh.

P-2

16.	Babul Das.	2830/72	Son of Manindra Das, Retd. Welder/DBMS.	Barbari Rly. Colony. Dibrugarh.
17.	Sunil Rakshit.	1064/73	Son of Surendra Rakshit, Retd. skilled, Machin shop/DBMS.	Kadamoni, Dibrugarh.
18.	Parimal Dey.	994/73	Son of Surendra Dey. Retd. Mistry Wagonshop/DBMS.	Gabhrupathar Dibrugarh.
19.	Samar Rajnan Chakraborty.	1111/71	Son of Sudhir Chakraborty, skilled. Mill-wright shop/DBMS.	Kadamoni. Dibrugarh.
20.	Hema Kanta Handique		Son of Baburam Handique, Boiler Maker/DBMS.	C/O. Father.
21.	Monohar Singh Deb.		Son of Sardar Karam Singh Deb, Retd. Mistry/DBMS.	Gabhrupathar, Dibrugarh.
22.	Anulya Sarma	2036/72	Son of Jagan Sarma, Retd. R/Smith/DBMS.	Waliapool, Dibrugarh.
23.	Narayan Debnath	1554/73	Son of Chandra Haran Debnath Retd. B.M.C. under DMF/TSE.	Kadamoni. Dibrugarh.
24.	Priya Ranjan Aich	3876/72	Brother-in-law of Shri S.P. Das Gupta, Instructor, DBMS.	Barbari Rly. Colony. Dibrugarh.
25.	Probir Ranjan Dutta	2705/72	Son of late Nabin Ch. Dubba, Expired Fitter/Millwright shop/DBMS.	Malukpathar Bairagimath, Dibrugarh.
26.	Manager Thakur	728/72	Uncle of Shri Kamada Towari, C/O. AGON/DBMS.	Panjabiline, Kadamoni, Dibrugarh.
27.	Rama Sankar	18/71		Waliapool Bazar. Dibrugarh.
28.	Bijon Borgohain	530/71	Uncle of Goutam Gogoi, Retd. Carriage shop/DBMS	Malukpathar, Dibrugarh.
29.	Man Bahadur Kanar,	924/73	Brother-in-law of Shri Tap Bahadur Kanar, Peon/Time office/DBMS	Kadamoni. Dibrugarh.
30.	Ran Akbal Gupta	803/66		Gabhrupathar, Dibrugarh.
31.	Narsing Prasad.	3802/71		Batgach Tin all Gabhrupathar, Dibrugarh.
32.	Billp Kr. Dey.	1032/69	Son of G.C. Dey Moulder/DBMS	Gabhrupathar Masterpara, Dibrugarh.

Contd to 19-3

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/160-B

April 13, 1974.

My dear Bimal,

I have yours of April 8, 1974.  
I am indeed happy at the tremendous progress  
you have made in organising the railwaymen  
on your railway. I hope even while the workmen  
are being organised for action on a common  
platform you are also doing everything necessary  
to see that your union becomes stronger at all  
places.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes

Shri Bimal De,  
General Secretary,  
Eastern Railwaymen's Union,  
Calcutta.



# Eastern Railwaymen's Union.

Registered under Indian Trade Union Act 1926 ( Regd. No. 2770 )

Recognised by the Eastern Railway Administration.

Affiliated to The All India Railwaymen's Federation.

**Bimal Dey.**  
General Secretary &  
Convenor of NCCRS-E. Ry.

**CENTRAL OFFICE**

23 & 24, Strand Road,

No. Strike/74.

Cal-1 8-4-1974.

Dear Com. George,

Re:- Observance of the "Demand Week" from  
2nd to 8th April- 1974.

The 'Demand Week' initiated by the N.C.C.R.S. has been a great success all over the Eastern Railway. We have not seen such enthusiasm and zeal in the minds of the Railway Workers even in 1960 when the Eastern Railway was closed for a few days. Joint programme has been observed in every nook and corner of this Railway and the Railwaymen in common wore the badges of NCCRS with pleasure and pride. The week was observed with colourful processions, squatting and demonstration continuously. On 6th April '74, hundreds of Railwaymen squatted on all important Railway Stations and in all working places all over the Divisions and Workshops. In Kanchrapara and Liluah Workshops particularly thousands of Railwaymen came out of the Shops and joined the processions organised by the N.C.C.R.S. and our Union. Almost everywhere our Union took the lead. There are some discordant views prevailing amongst the Carriage & Wagon Workers. On 6th April '74 the employees of Headquarters offices squatted in hundreds taking leave at New Koilaghat Franises from 10 hrs. to 17 hrs as per decision of the Zonal Committee of the N.C.C.R.S. and there was also a mass rally at 1 P.M. where Sri C.S. Coakhle, Member of the Action Committee spoke and myself presided. The President of the West German Railwaymen's Union Com. Phillipp Seibert came to New Koilaghat Building in the morning and addressed the squatters and accorded full support to the demands. Likewise there was Squatting Programme at Howrah Station, Sealdah Station, Kanchrapara, Liluah, Jamalpur, Sahibganj, Jhajha, Asansol, Moghalsarai and everywhere in the branch Headquarters of this Union. In some places of Bihar, processions were led defying 144 Crpc. On 8th mammoth rallies were organised at Calcutta, Howrah, Sealdah, Kanchrapara, Jamalpur, Danapur, Moghalsarai, Asansol, Dhanbad and other places all over the Eastern Railway. The constituents of the N.C.C.R.S. attended and spoke in support of the ensuing struggle and confidence has been created in the minds of the rank and file of the Railwaymen all over the Eastern Rly. after formation of the different Committees of the N.C.C.R.S. Our Branches are collecting Struggle Funds and the Railwaymen are willingly and enthusiastically subscribing to the funds. Much money have been collected in the branch coffer and I will be able to let you know the exact figure of such collection shortly.

p.t.o.....

The atmosphere of the Eastern Railway has changed a lot. Although the Administration is becoming stiff the Railwaymen are uniting under the banner of the N.C.C.R.S. with determination and confidence. In my assessment the Eastern Railway will be able to make a good record of the struggle ahead.

Gist of this letter may kindly be published in the "Indian Railwaymen" and the "Pratipaksha"

Com. George Fernandes,  
S/114, Panchsila Park,  
New Delhi-110017.

Yours Comradely,

(Bimal Dey)  
General Secretary *Bimal Dey*  
Convenor- N.C.C.R.S.-E. Ry.

As/-

.....

Copy to:- The Editor,  
"Indian Railwaymen"  
New Delhi.  
&  
The General Secretary,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
125/E, Babar Road,  
New Delhi, for information.

*Bimal Dey*  
(Bimal Dey)  
General Secretary *Bimal Dey*  
Convenor- N.C.C.R.S.-  
Eastern Ry.

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIR/160-B

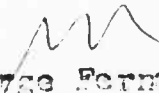
April 13, 1974.

Dear Com. Reddi,

I am sorry for the delay in acknowledging your letter of March 12, 1974. You must have seen the resolutions adopted at the 15th March Conference and also the proceedings of the conference. In the meanwhile, the Railwaymen are getting ready for the agitation and hope that others also will be able to join us.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes

Shri A.C.Reddi,  
Amantapur-522325  
(Tenali RMS)  
Andhra Pradesh.

Amavullalur,  
The 12th Mar, 74.  
At 08.56 PM.

From:

A. C. Reddi,  
&

B. V. Bhaskara Rao,

Members of the Steering Committee of the P&T Unions in Euntweand  
Prakasam Districts. ( Andhra Pradesh )

To

Com George Fernandes, President,  
A. I. R. F.

Dear Comrade George,

Sub: Formulation of Charter of Demands in  
the ensuing Convention - - - Immediate  
Demands of the Euntwea Departmental  
Agents in the P&T Deptt - - -  
Enlistment - - - Regarding  
\_\_\_\_\_

We are very much delighted for taking this first  
and a purposeful opportunity of addressing you  
with a deep sense of Sincerity Service and a crystal  
clear understanding towards the torn lives of more  
than 2½ lakhs of the terribly exploited Euntwea  
Departmental Agents in the Posts & Telegraphs Deptt.

He will take another opportunity to send you the available literature on this section of the Employees. You are requested to have atleast a brief conversation on the problems, working and wage conditions of these poor-employees with the valiant comrade P. Purushothama Raju, Asst Circle Secretary Postal Class III Union, Andhra Pradesh, Com L. Damodara Rao, Secretary, State unit of the Confederation of the Central Govt Employees & workers, Andhra Pradesh, Com K. Arudinarayana, General Secretary Postal P-IV union (C.H.Q.) and Com K. G. Bose, President, National Federation of P & T Employees. Com P. Purushothama Raju is an authority on these employees problems. It will be of immense help to you. He has submitted a scientific Memorandum to the Federation on the basis of which the Federation has submitted the basic Memorandum to the one-man Extra Departmental Committee headed by Shri Madan Kishore, a retired P & T officer which was less in quantity. Com Purushothama Raju would have appeared before the Committee for giving 'Oral evidence' on these employees problems. He is a basic level worker on these employees problems. Today he is <sup>in</sup> midst of these employees.

K.T.O



The L.D system is in vogue ever since prior to 1927. This was introduced by the 'British Exploiters' in pursuance of their cheap labour policy. With the advent of the independence this system should have either been departmentalised or Scientific wages on the basis of the working hours be given. But this is not done till today on the consistent, constant efforts and agitations by the Employees and unions a one-man committee headed by Shri C. V. Rajan in the year 1957 to review the basis of <sup>remuneration</sup> ~~recommendation~~ for ED. Agents and to make recommendations there-on. A little was being done. Many a hurdle are being placed by the administration in implementing the few useful recommendations of the aforesaid Committee. A stiff fight is on with the administration to get the canopy of benefits made available by the Committee. This sufferings are on steep increase day by day. Again a one-man Committee with Shri Madan Kishore as a Chairman was appointed in October, 1970 to review the basis of <sup>remuneration</sup> ~~return~~ and make recommendations there on. The Committee submitted its retrograde report pushing back the awkward working and wage structure to that existing prior to 1950. A series of agitations took place in protest against the retrograde recommendations and they are on.

K. T. O.

A report of these struggles by the E.D. Employees may come up for discussion in the convention. we are sure appropriate decision will emerge. In this context we sincerely believe that you will play a predominant role!

In nut-shell these employees working and wage structure is not governed by the statutory provisions. They are entitled for their monthly allowances - ranging in between Rs 59-50 (minimum) and Rs 77-00 (Maximum) for the work hours ranging in between 2-5 hrs. They are entitled to no leave, OTA, house rent, medical reimbursement allowance, uniform and amenities and facilities that are made available to the Departmental Staff. Some extent these employees can be compared with the casual labour. There no other exploited section in the central services like the Section of Employees.

Hence your timely attention is drawn on the subject. A thorough discussion on these employees condition has to take place. Their main demands departmentalization and Rs 150/- as minimum wage are to be spelt out. Deep resentment and misunderstandings are amongs the E.D. Staff on the genuine thinking of the organisation in achieving these demands. Hence their demands be placed in the First and Second place of the Charter of Demands in order to bring about a wide publicity on these employees conditions and mobilise the progressive forces to achieve the demands.

Yours Fraternally  
V. C. Reddy  
K. Bhaskar Reddy

P.S. Com. P. Purushothama Reddy  
attending the convention.

Copy to 1) Com. K. G. Bose, President,  
NFTE, ~~1~~

2) K. Adinarayana, General  
Secretary

Postal Union C.H.G.  
New Delhi

3) Com. L. Damodar Rao,  
Secretary

A.P. state unit of  
Confederation of  
Central Govt. Employees  
and workers.

4) Com. P. Perushottama  
Royi, Assistant Circle  
Secretary, Postal III  
union,  
Andhra Pradesh.  
(KTY)

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/160-//

April 13, 1974.


The Branch Secretary,  
Northern Railwaymen's Union,  
Mushtaq Manzil,  
South Hallet Road,  
Moradabad.

Dear Comrade,

I am glad at the progress you are  
making in uniting the railwaymen for a general  
strike.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,



George Fernandes  
President.



# Northern Railwaymen's Union

Registered & Recognized, Central Office 115/E Babar Road, New Delhi  
(Affiliated to : All India Railwaymen's Federation and Hind Mazdoor Sabha)

President :

Secretary :

Letter No. NRMU/Loco Sp 1/74.

Loco Branch Office :

Mushtaq Manzil  
South Hallet Road,  
MORADABAD.

Date 29/3/74.....

The Divl. Secretary,  
NRMU, Divl. Office,  
Near Kapor Co.,  
Moradabad.

Dear Comrade,

Reg:- Implementation of the resolution adopted at National Convention of the Railwaymen held at New Delhi on 27/2/74

Ref:- Your letter No. NRMU/LB/74-Strike dated 27/3/74.  
.....

As desired, the position is explained as under:-

1. Action committee has been formed.
2. Joint Action Committee with all the organisations that are willing to co-operate on the common cause has been formed.
3. Women's committee has been formed.
4. Volunteers corps have been formed.
5. People's committee of prominent citizens has been formed.
6. Rs 500/- have been sent to centre towards the struggle fund.

Other instructions will be followed by this branch.

Yours Comradely,

*Chy. K. K.*  
Branch Secretary.

C/- Shri J.P. Chouhey, President NRMU, Control Office-New Delhi.

C/- " B.D. Vasikisth General Secretary, NRMU/New Delhi.

.....

28/3/74  
29/3/74

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/16-11

April 13, 1974.

Dear Com. Anjaneyulu,

I have yours of 23rd March, 1974,  
informing us about the formation of the National  
Coordination Committee. I hope you are doing  
everything necessary to bring about an effective  
strike.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,



George Fernandes,

Shri A. Anjaneyulu ,  
Secretary,  
South Central Rly. Mazdoor Union,  
Dronachallam Branch,  
Dronachallam (S.G. Rly.).

413

15



# SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION,

REGISTERED

RECOGNISED

AFFILIATED TO AIR & HMS

(HQ'S SECUNDRABAD)  
ORONACHELLAM BRANCH

A. ANJANEYULU  
Secretary.

S. VENKATESWARA RAO  
Chairman

N. SUBRAMANIAN  
Treasurer.

Ref: SCR MU/DNC/




Camp .....  
Date 23.3.1974

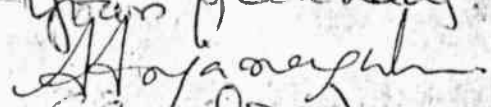
To  
The General Secretary  
SCRMU/SC

Dear Comrade,  
As per the instructions of the C.C. today's  
had taken initiative to form the Branch  
Coordination Committee as per the  
all the representatives of the association to meet  
in mydore union office. Initial meeting  
it is resolved unanimously to form the committee  
and the following are members

- (1) Com. S. Venkateswara Rao chairman / SCRMU / Ore Branch  
as Convener.
- (2) A. Anjaneyulu Secretary, SCRMU / Ore Branch - Member
- (3) P. Hanumantha Asst. Secy " " " "
- (4) Shauk Rehaja Mohiuddein member SCRMU / Ore Branch
- (5) C. Narayanaiah Secretary / DMKS / Ore Branch
- (6) Syed Mohammed " " / AIRSA / " "
- (7) K. Venkateswaram Vice chairman " " "
- (8) ~~S. S. Kaide~~ S. S. Kaide member / AIRSA / Ore
- (9) K. N. Chann " " " "
- (10) P. R. K. Rao Asst. Secy, " " "
- (11) P. R. K. Rao ASM / Ore  
1970

The Committee was originally intended to meet  
once in a week (every Sunday or earlier if  
necessary) to discuss and assess the progress and  
to decide the follow up action as part of the activities  
of the National Coordination Committee.

  
Chairman  
(Secretary, Coordination Committee)  
the Branch

Yours faithfully,  
  
(Secretary)



AIRF/160-A

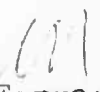
April 13, 1974.

Dear Com. Indibor,

I have a copy of your letter of April 8, 1974, to the Prime Minister, containing the Charter of Demands.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes

Shri Indibor Konger,  
Convener (N.F.Zone),  
Rastriya Rail Mazdoor  
Sangharsh Samanaya Samity,  
(N.F.Zone),  
Gauhati-12.

RASTRIYA RAIL MAZDOOR SANGHARSH SAMANAYA SAMITY  
(N.F.ZONE)

GAUHATI-12  
April 8, 1974

To  
The Prime Minister,  
Government of India,  
New Delhi.

Through General Manager, Northeast Frontier Railway

Dear Madam,

Six-point Charter of Demands formulated in the  
National Convention of Railwaymen held at  
New Delhi on 27th February 1974.

The railwaymen all over the Northeast Frontier Railway have been observing a Demands Week from 2nd to 8th April 1974 in pursuance of the decision taken at the railwaymen's convention held at New Delhi on the 27th February 1974.

Having considered retrograde in its entirety, the recommendations of the Third Central Pay Commission have been rejected by the railwaymen. The Convention noted that the revision of railwaymen's salary took place in 1959 and, in the intervening 15 years railway fares and freights have been revised upwards at least 17 times without providing for any revision in the wage structure of the railwaymen. The Dearness Allowance granted to the railwaymen from time to time could only partially compensate the serious erosion in the wages due to high rise in prices of essential commodities. According to the Third Pay Commission itself, between 1960 and 1972 the real wages of railwaymen have come down by 10% to 22% and, between 1972 and 1974, there has been a further unbearable erosion in the real earnings of the railwaymen. The fact is that, the railwaymen are today poorer than what they were in 1947.

Further to the notes served by Shri George Fernandes, Convenor of the National Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle, I would reiterate the six-point Charter of Demands herein below for your consideration and immediate negotiated settlement, failing which the railwaymen will have no other alternative but to give a call for total strike in the Railways.

The six-point Charter of Demands is as follows:-

p.t.o.

CHARTER OF DEMANDS

1. (a) All railwaymen be treated as industrial workers with full trade union rights including the right to negotiate.  
(b) The working hours of railwaymen shall not exceed eight hours per day.  
(c) There shall be job evaluation of all railwaymen through a scientific system, to be followed by their reclassification and regradation with the need-based minimum wage as the wage for the lowest-paid worker.  
(d) Pending the completion of job evaluation and reclassification, immediate parity in wages with those of workers in the Central undertakings like HMT, BHEL, HSL, HAL, etc.
2. Dearness Allowance linked to the cost of living index with full neutralisation for every rise of 1 points in a six-month period.
3. Bonus at the rate of one month's wages for the years 1971-72 and 1972-73.
4. Decasualisation of all casual railwaymen and their confirmation in service with all benefits given to them with retrospective effect.
5. Adequate and subsidised foodgrains and other essential commodities through departmentally run shops.
6. All victimisation cases should be withdrawn.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

*Indibor Konger*

(Indibor Konger)  
Convener (N.F. Zone)

RASTRIYA RAIL MAZDOOR SANGHARSH SAMANAYA SAMITY

Copy to -

1. Minister for Railways, Government of India, New Delhi
2. Minister of Labour, Government of India, New Delhi

for information and necessary action.

*Indibor Konger*  
(Indibor Konger) 8/9/74  
Convener (N.F. Zone)

RASTRIYA RAIL MAZDOOR SANGHARSH SAMANAYA SAMITY

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/

April 13, 1974.

Dear Com. Surya Lal,

I have the copy of your circular  
No. I/74, dated March 21, 1974. I hope you have  
by now geared up your organisational machinery  
to campaign for the impending struggle of the  
railwaymen.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

George Fernandes

Shri Surya Lal,  
Convener, AISCLAC  
374, Attarauliya,  
Allahabad

Cir. No. I/74.

374, Attarsuiya,  
Allahabad:  
Dated: 21st March '74.

All Divisional & Branch Convenors,  
NORTHERN RAILWAY: EASTERN RAILWAY  
C.RLY. S.C.RLY. S.E.RLY. S.RLY. N.E.RLY N.F. RLY

Dear Comrade,

Reg: Avenue of promotion of Switchmen as A.S.Ms.

*Copy  
Principal  
IRF/HDLs*

Reproduced below is a copy of Railway Board's letter wherein the Board have agreed to open the avenue of promotion of our category to the post of A.S.Ms even relaxing the educational qualifications upto 8th standard. This we could achieve on constant pursuation and pressing our demand by A.L.R.F. in their P.N.M. Meeting at the Board's level.

You may take up the issue at your respective levels and ensure implementation of the Board's orders ensuring a maximum number of our fellow workers get the benefit.

Yours comradely,

*[Signature]*  
(Surya Lal)  
Convener.

....

Copy of Railway Board's letter No.E(NG)L-73PMI/80 dt.11/1/74 to G.Ms All Indian Railways.

Sub:- Promotion of Switchmen as A.S.Ms.

In terms of Board's letter No. E(NG)65PMI/17 dt. 30/4/66 read with letter No.E(NG)L-73PMI/30 dt. 31/3/73, Switchmen/Levellers/Cabinmen should be considered for promotion to the lowest grade of Asstt. Station Masters provided they are Matriculates and are not above 42 years of age. The Board have had under consideration the question of relaxation of educational qualifications for the purpose of promotion of these staff and they have decided that:-

- (i) For posts of Asstt. Station Masters operating independently on the open line, the staff who have studied upto Matric standard, even if they have failed, may be considered.
- (ii) In the case of posts of A.S.Ms in the initial grade, operating in route relay interlocking cabins or at stations, where there is another Sr. A.S.M. concurrently incharge, staff may be allowed the relaxation in educational qualifications upto the 8th Class (Middle School Standard).
- (iii) The staff who are thus allowed relaxations in educational qualifications should first be subjected to a written test for adjudging their suitability and only those who pass and are otherwise considered suitable should be sent for training as A.S.Ms in the Rly. Zonal Trg. School. At the end of the training course also, they should be subjected to the usual qualifying examination. Suitable remarks should be passed in the history sheet of those falling under the category indicated in (ii) sub-part to ensure they are posted only at stations where they are qualified to work.

Please acknowledge receipt.

sd/- Dwarka Dass  
Asstt. Director, Estt., Rly Board.

.....

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/

April 11, 1974.

Dear Com. Chadha,

I have the copy of your cyclostyled  
letter of April 6, 1974, addressed to the Member  
Staff, Railway Board.

The AIRF is seized with the various  
issues raised by you.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

George Fernandes

Shri Brij Mohan Chadha,  
General Secretary,  
Indian Railways Telephone Operators  
Association,  
115/E, Babar Road,  
New Delhi.

INDIAN RAILWAYS TELEPHONE-OPERATORS ASSOCIATION

115/E, Babar Road, New Delhi.

IRTOA/2/74

6th April, 1974.

The Member Staff,  
Railway Board,  
New Delhi

Dear Sir,

Re : Burning problems of Indian Railways  
Telephone Operators.

\*\*\*

There are some burning problems of the Indian Railways Telephone Operators over which the Telephone Operators all over Indian Railways are very much agitated. These problems are given below for finding out a solution at an early date so that the grievances of the Telephone Operators are redressed:

1) Telephone Operators - Classification under the Hours of Employment Regulation.

This matter was also raised by the All India Railwaymen's Federation vide its letter No. AIRF/184(545), dated 28.4.71, but no decision has so far been taken.

ii) Posting of peon in the Indian Railway Telephone Exchanges for 24 hours service.

This matter was also raised by the AIRF, vide its letter No. AIRF/184(653), dated 3.7.71, but the decision of the Board has not been taken so far.

iii) Yardstick for the Indian Railway Telephone Operators. ...

Since there is no prescribed yardstick for the Indian Railway Telephone Operators, it is requested that some yardstick for this category of staff may be fixed for their promotion, etc.

iv) Special Pay at the rate of 10% of the Basic pay. ...

Since this special pay at the rate of 10% of the Basic Pay is given to the Telephone Operators of the Indian Railways for the last 20 years, it is, therefore, requested that the special pay at the rate of 10% of the basic pay may continue in the revised scales of pay for the Telephone Operators, also.

v) Immediate publication of Pay Scales for the Telephone Operators. ...

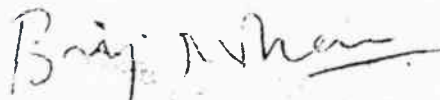
No pay scales for the Telephone Operators of the Indian Railways have so far been published by the Railway Board, over which the Telephone Operators all over the

Indian Railways are very much agitated. It is, therefore, requested that the Pay Scales for the Telephone Operators may kindly be published and out by the Railway Board in order to avoid any hardship to the staff.

The Board is requested to kindly look into all the 5 demands of the Telephone Operators given above from (i) to (v) and find out their solution to avoid hardship to the staff.

An early action in the matter will be highly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,



(Brij Mohan Chadha)  
General Secretary.

Copy to the General Secretary/AIRF, for favour of information and necessary action at their end.

...



George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/ 160-B

April 11, 1974.


Dear Com. Sharma,

I have yours of April 5, 1974.

I shall fix a programme for your area at the  
earliest opportunity.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,



George Fernandes

Shri Tulas Ram Sharma,  
General Secy, President,  
Pradesh Railwaymen's Union,  
T-16/1, Railway quarters,  
Ludhiana-1.

428  
7  
**NORTHERN RAILWAYMEN'S UNION**

REGISTERED & RECOGNISED

Affiliated to :-

ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION & HIND MAZDOOR SABHA.

Central Office :  
115-E, Babar Road,  
NEW DELHI.

Branch Office :

F-16/1, Railway Quarters,  
LUDHIANA-1.

Ref. No \_\_\_\_\_



Dated 5.4.1974. 19

Dear George Sahib,

On 16th. ultimo, when I alongwith other comrades met you at Railway Station, Ludhiana, You had promised to pay visit to this division in the First week of April.

So far we have not received any intimation from you regarding your programme. Kindly send your programme immediately.

With revolutionary greetings,

Comradely yours,

*T.R. Sharma*

(Tulsi Ram Sharma)

Central Vice President, NRMU,

Member working Committee AIRF.

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/160-B

April 11, 1974.

Dear Com. Paritosh,

I have yours of 1st April. There is nothing surprising in the objection which our friends are raising. Many of them apparently ~~be~~ that with the success of our movement their existence will become irrelevant. I can only express my surprise that they should be upset at the intensity of our preparation. f.c.

The Railway Minister has agreed to hold talks. I don't think anything will come out of it. We must be prepared for strike by the end of this month.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,



George Fernandes

Shri paritosh Banerjee,  
President,  
Eastern Railwaymen's Union,  
23&24, Strand Road,  
Calcutta.

George Fernandes,  
President.

ALRF/ 160 B

April 11, 1974.

Dear Com. Subramaniam,

I have the copy of the circular  
to your units and also a copy of your bulletin.  
I hope you are doing everything possible to  
organise action on your Railway.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes

Shri S. Subramaniam,  
General Secretary,  
S.E. Railway Labour Union,  
88B, Garden Reach Road,  
Calcutta-23.



# Eastern Railwaymen's Union.

Registered under Indian Trade Union Act 1926 ( Regd. No. 2770 )

Recognised by the Eastern Railway Administration.

Affiliated to The All India Railwaymen's Federation.

Paritosh Banerjee  
President.

**CENTRAL OFFICE**

23 & 24, Strand Road.

No. President/c

29/3  
6/4/74

Cal-1 1st April, 1974

Dear Comrade George,

Certain reaction was seen in the badges and posters printed from Delhi. Some of the categorical unions and Co-ordination Committees in this zone objected as the badges were without demands and as the engine was there in the badge, they remarked that the symbol of AIRF has been printed. Some of them has also objected for having the posters in the name of AIRF and not in the name of H.C.C.R.S. Regarding the price of the badges at the rate of 10 paise each, there was also objection. While forming H.C.C.R.S. (Zonal) Com. Bimal De has become the Convenor for Eastern Railway Zone. But in certain divisions the categorical Unions and the Co-ordination Committees were pressing for convenorship. Of course, the position is such only in such places where we are weak. There was report that some categorical unions in Eastern Railway zone have started work-to-rule from some time past and some of these categorical unions appeared to be planning for such stray actions. I think it will be harmful if unilateral action started at this moment. The Railway authorities along with State Government, home department are taking all out preparations against the strike. The date for strike should be fixed. I am writing this to you so that you may know the movements of some of the categorical unions and discuss this in the next meeting if necessary.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

Paritosh Banerjee

Shri George Fernandes,  
President/AIRF  
125.E, Babar Road,  
New Delhi.

S.E.RLY.LABOUR UNION  
22B, GARDEN REACH ROAD,  
CALCUTTA-23.

No. Org/1974

Dated: 28/3/1974.

To  
All Branch Secretaries and  
Central Office Bearers,  
S.E.Rly.Labour Union.

Dear Comrades,

Re :- All India struggle for demands chartered by  
AIRF and other Railway Trade Unions.

-----ooOoo-----

Enclosed herewith is a resolution adopted by the National convention of representatives of Rly. Trade Unions held at New Delhi on 27.2.74. The resolution is self explanatory. This Union's supports the demands mentioned therein as well as the policy and programme of the AIRF & other trade unions represented therein. As a follow up of the action of the resolution, the following steps may be taken from your end.

1) Select two representatives from each Division and two also from each Branch for the participation in the Divisional and Branch level co-ordinating committees. The members for the Divisional Committee should be as far as possible Divisional Secretary & one central office hearer in the Division.

In the All India Co-ordinating Committee, this Union has been allowed membership as a participant. The names of nominees for the Divisional level and Branch level co-ordinating committees may please be sent to me early so as to reach by 10.4.74 positively.

2) The National convention has also decided for observing a Protest ~~3~~ week from April 2 to April 8 and on these dates Branch Council meetings or mass meetings or demonstrations may be held as convenient to the Branches if possible by coordination with other Unions/Associations who have agreed to be in the National/Zonal coordination.

3) Regarding collection of struggle fund, the books will be supplied to you as soon as available for collections.

Considering the present Rly.Trade Union situation, strengthening AIRF through participation of its programmes and policies have become very necessary as the Union supporting AIRF, it is imperative that we implement the decisions of National coordinating committee in right earnest and thereby serve the Rly.men's cause.

Our participation in the coordinating committee at Divisional/Branch level should be on the explicit condition that this form is not used by any constituents for any campaign against the AIRF. The moment our representatives find any such attempt, they will withdraw or not participate in the coordinating committee.

With greetings,

Encl: As above.

Yours fraternally,

*S. P. ...*  
GENERAL SECRETARY,  
S.E.RLY.LABOUR UNION.

ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION

125/E, BABAR ROAD, NEW DELHI-1.

NATIONAL CONVENTION OF RAILWAYMEN

Resolution adopted in the meeting of 27.2.74.

The National Convention of Railwaymen is gratified to note the emerging unity of purpose and action among railwaymen as symbolised by this convention through the many mass actions conducted by railwaymen in recent times in support of their long pending demands.

The Convention would like to emphasise that only through lasting unity and effective action would railwaymen be able to fulfil their role as the vanguard of the working class movement in India, even while securing the over-due improvement in their working and living conditions.

The Convention is concerned at the failure of the Railway Ministry to bring about a settlement of the various general and Sectional demands of railwaymen, more particularly, demands relating to wages, dearness allowance, bonus, decasualisation of casual labour and provision of adequate and subsidised foodgrains and other essential commodities to Railwaymen. While the Railwaymen quite justifiably expected the Railway Ministry to concede their demand for a need-based minimum wage, the least the Railway Ministry should have done was to concede the Workers' demand for parity in wages with the public sector undertakings of the Government of India.

The Convention rejects the argument advanced in certain quarters that the Railways cannot afford to meet the workers' demands as that would entail additional financial burden on the railways. While there is tremendous scope to avoid wastage and introduce economies on the railways and in the process find financial resources to meet the workers' legitimate demands, it is the height of absurdity to suggest that paying to the railwaymen wages equal to those available to workers in other public sector enterprises would mean an increase in the railway fares and freight rates.

The convention would like to point out that the last time the railwaymen's salaries/wages were revised was 1959, and in the intervening fifteen years, railways fares and freights have been revised upwards at least seventeen times without providing for any revision in the wage structure of railwaymen. If Dearness Allowance has been revised it was only to compensate for the rising prices due to the failure of the Govt. to hold the price line, and even there, the inadequate neutralisation has resulted in actual reduction of the real wages of railway employees. According to the III Pay Commission, between 1960 & 1972, the real earnings of an LDC on the Rlys. have come down by 10%, of a UDC by 18%, of an 'A' Grade Rly. Driver by 22%. Between 1972 and 1974 there has been a further erosion in the real earnings of rly. men due to the enormous increase in the prices of all essential goods. The fact is that railwaymen are today poorer than what they were 14 years ago.

The Convention hereby calls upon the Rly. Ministry to forthwith concede the following ~~and~~ urgent and common demands of railwaymen :

S. Subramanian

Contd....2..

(a) All railwaymen be treated as industrial workers with full trade union rights including the right to negotiate.

(b) The working hours of Railwaymen shall not exceed eight hours per day.

(c) There shall be job evaluation of all railwaymen through a scientific system to be followed by their reclassification and regradation with the need-based minimum wage as the wage for the lowest-paid worker.

(d) Pending the completion of job evaluation and reclassification, immediate parity in wages with those of workers in the Central Undertakings, viz. HMT, BHEL, HSL, HAL, etc.

2. Dearness allowance linked to the cost of living index with full neutralisation for every rise of 4 points in a six month period.

3. Bonus at the rate of one Month's wages for the year 1971-72 and 1972-73.

4. Decasualisation of all casual railwaymen and their confirmation in service with all benefits given to them with retrospective effect.

5. Adequate and subsidised foodgrains and other essential commodities through departmentally run shops.

6. All victimisation cases should be withdrawn.

The Convention calls upon the Rly. Ministry to open negotiations on these demands and arrive at a settlement thereon by April 10, 1974.

The Convention serves an ultimatum on the Rly. Ministry that if a settlement on these demands is not forthcoming by that date, the railwaymen will consider themselves free to resort to an indefinite general strike with effect from any date thereafter.

The Convention urges all participating organisations to form Coordinating Committee at every possible level and to observe a Demands Week from April 2 to 8, 1974 under the joint auspices of these Committee.

The Convention calls upon the railwaymen to unite as never before and to forge the necessary sanctions to compel the Rly. Ministry to settle the demands of the railwaymen. It warns the railwaymen to beware of forces that may try to sabotage this great effort at united action.

Railwaymen, more than any other section of people, are aware of the implications of a railway strike on the nations economy. They are also fully conscious of the inconvenience that is caused to the people when the railways grind to a halt.

*S. R. ...*

Contd.....3.....



The Convention wants to emphasise that if railwaymen are today compelled to take the decision for a strike, it is only because the Railway Administration has ~~createe~~ - created situation in which no other alternative offers itself for the railwaymen to bring about a settlement of their legitimate demands.

The Convention hopes that the emerging unity of action among railwaymen will open the eyes of the Railway Administration to the realities of the situation and force them to concede the legitimate demands of the workers. Should, however, a strike become inevitable, the Convention appeals to the working people, youth, students and the rural masses to support the workers' just struggle and at the same time exert pressure on the Government to meet the Workers' demands.

.....

*S. Subramanian*

No. LU/Org.

Dated: 18/3/1974.

*[Faint, illegible handwritten notes and scribbles]*

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/160-B

April 11, 1974.

Dear Com. Surendra Mohan,

I have your letter of April 8, and the statement adopted by the left parties meeting on April 4 and 5, 1974. We shall do the needful in the matter.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes

Shri Surendra Mohan,  
General Secretary,  
Socialist Party,  
16-17, Vithalbai Patel House,  
Rafi Marg,  
New Delhi-1.

CHAIRMAN :  
JORGE FERNANDES  
GENERAL SECRETARY :  
SURENDRA MOHAN

# SOCIALIST PARTY

Central



Office

16-17, VITHALBHAI PATEL HOUSE,  
RAFI MARG, NEW DELHI-1

TELEGRAMS : SAMAJWADI  
TELEPHONE : 386765  
JOINT SECRETARIES :  
BRIJ MOHAN TOOFAN  
PROF. VINOD PRASAD SINGH  
TREASURER :  
K. G. MAHESWARAPPA

April 8, 1974

President,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
New Delhi.

Dear Comrade,

I am enclosing herewith copy of the statement adopted by the joint meeting of various left parties on April 4-5, 1974, at New Delhi for your consideration.

The parties which joined the meeting were:

Communist Party of India (Marxist)  
Communist Party of India  
Workers Party of India  
Forward Bloc (Marxist)  
Biplavi Bangla Congress  
Revolutionary Socialist Party  
Socialist Unity Centre of India  
Socialist Party

I request you to give particular consideration to the appeal made in the statement to various mass organisations to join in the nationwide mass protest day on May 3. I invite your organisation to accept the appeal and join with left and democratic parties and other mass organisations in this action and help make it a powerful expression of the people's discontent.

Yours sincerely,

*Surendra Mohan*  
Surendra Mohan  
General Secretary

Encl:

6 April 1974

CALL FOR NATION-WIDE MASS PROTEST ACTION  
BY LEFT PARTIES

We, the representatives of Socialist Party, Communist Party of India, Communist Party of India (Marxist), Revolutionary Socialist Party, Socialist Unity Centre of India, Workers Party, Forward Bloc (Marxist), Biplavi Bangla Congress, met on 4th and 5th April and briefly reviewed the present economic and political situation in the country, especially the spiralling prices, growing unemployment, the deteriorating condition of workers, middle class employees, the agricultural labour and peasant masses, the upsurge of the students and youth and determined struggles of various sections of the working people. We, as a result of this review, have come to the conclusion, to channalise these struggles and effectively combat the anti-people policies of the Government, for the urgently needed changes in its policies, it has become necessary for all the left and democratic parties and mass organisations of different sections of our people to jointly go into action. We have agreed that 3rd of May 1974 be observed as a day of Nationwide protest action, simultaneously in all the States, and voice the following agreed popular demands.

The form of action in each State will be decided by the parties participating in this meeting in consultation with such other left and democratic parties and mass organisations that broadly share the call for action by this meeting and the forms of action may include, demonstrations, dharnas, gheraos and bandhs, depending on the situation in each State and on the basis of consensus arrived at among the left and

democratic parties as well as mass organisations of that State.

The proposed nationwide action will not only highlight the urgent demands including those for changes in government policies but also the imperative need in the present situation, for forging the broadest possible unity in action of the popular forces. There should be a serious effort to draw in all other left and democratic forces and the suffering masses following other parties.

While fighting anti-people policies of the Government and for the urgently needed changes in government policies as well as other measures, the left and democratic parties, participating in this meeting, call upon their supporters and others to see that people's discontent is not misdirected and exploited by Rightist parties, other reactionary forces and vested interests in whatever garb they may appear.

#### THE POPULAR DEMANDS

1. To check spiralling prices:

(a) Immediate State take over of the wholesale and trade, free from bureaucratism/corruption, in wheat, rice, coarse grains, pulses, sugar, edible oils, kerosine, cloth, matches and essential drugs.

(b) Compulsory procurement of all the marketable surplus of food grains from the producers, exempting the small and medium producers, as well as taking over stocks of the other essential commodities.

(c) Distribution of all these essential commodities through fair price shops, cooperatives and retail shops, all under the supervision of people's

committees, at fixed prices within the reach of common people.

(d) Supply of fertilisers, diesel, seeds and other essential inputs to the peasants at fixed and fair prices giving priority to small peasants.

(e) Wide disparities in price that exist now between industrial and agricultural goods should be narrowed down.

(f) Dehoarding of hidden stocks of wholesalers and landlords, and exemplary punishment for hoarders, blackmarketeers, speculators and adulterators.

(g) Demonetisation of currency notes of Rs.100/- and higher denominations, and other measures to unearth blackmoney.

Reduction of taxes and levies on all essential commodities of mass consumption, and upward revision of the same on luxury goods and on affluent sections;

Imposition of capital levy and clubbing of agricultural and nonagricultural income for the purpose of Income-tax;

Ceiling on income and urban property.

(h) Immediate nationalisation, free from bureaucratism and corruption, of sugar, textiles, drugs, jute and cement industries, plantations and foreign capital.

## 2. Workers and employees

(a) Establishment of a democratic industrial relations system including unconditional recognition of trade unions by secret ballot;

(b) Need-based minimum wage, full neutralisation of the rising cost of living and bonus, to all workmen and employees of government and non-government sectors including local bodies.

### 3. Agricultural Workers and Peasants

(a) Radical land reforms to abolish landlordism in whatever form it exists and distribution of land to the agricultural workers and poor peasants free through statutory popular committees, priority being given to scheduled tribes and scheduled castes.

(b) Adequate statutory minimum wages and social security for the agricultural workers;

Free allotment of house sites and provision for cheap houses for agricultural workers;

cancellation of debts of agricultural workers and peasants.

(c) Remunerative prices for peasants for their agricultural produce; Reduction of tax and debt burden on the peasantry;

Provision of cheap credit, irrigation facilities, electricity and other inputs for the peasants.

### 4. Ending Unemployment

Speedy expansion of employment opportunities by radical land reforms and by rapid industrialisation, implementation of irrigation and rural electrification schemes, provision for drinking water in all villages; implementation of free and compulsory primary education upto the age of 14 and eradication of illiteracy.

Immediate steps to be taken to overcome power shortage and for reopening of closed factories, mines and

establishments, to avoid lay offs and to reabsorb all these workers retrenched or laid off.

Provision for employment or unemployment relief.

5. Against Corruption

Corruption in public life should be combated and ended.

6. End Repression

End emergency and scrap Defence of India rules and Maintenance of Internal Security Act and other preventive detention laws. Release all those thousands of young militants, and other political prisoners, who are kept in jails without trials or as undertrials for prolonged periods. Stop atrocities on prisoners in police or in jail custody.

Restore full civil liberties.

---

Note: While the representatives of Socialist Unity Centre of India have generally agreed with the above demands they wanted to record that their party stood not only for State takeover of wholesale trade of these essential commodities mentioned above but also the retail trade as well.

In so far as the agricultural workers are concerned, the representatives of the S.U.C.I. were of the opinion that instead of the land being distributed to them the agricultural workers should be provided with jobs throughout the year and statutory minimum wage guaranteed. However, the S.U.C.I. representatives



2445  
stood for the distribution of land to the poor and landless peasants, with which there was no disagreement.

7. Resolution on Railwaymen's Demands:

This meeting is/has considered opinion that all efforts should be made to bring about a negotiated settlement and if the Government refuse to arrive at such negotiated settlement and the Railwaymen go on strike on account of that, the participating parties will give full support to the just, democratic, industrial action of the railwaymen.

This meeting also demands that the Government of India to immediately carry out their agreement and reduce the working hour of Loco Running Staff to 10 hours, and avert their call for work to rule.

---

Note: There appeared in sections of the press certain incorrect versions about the proceedings. It is hoped that the full text of the resolution will clarify the position.

AIR/16-8

April 11, 1974.

Shri J.N. Choudhery,  
President,  
Eastern Railwaymen's Union,  
Mokameh Branch,  
Mokameh (Eastern Rly.).

Dear Comrade,

I have the copy of your letter to the General Secretary, Eastern Railwaymen's Union. I do not think that you should be particularly perturbed if some group refuses to cooperate with the Struggle Committee. We should continue our efforts to bring everyone on one platform. The most important thing is to make the workers conscious that only through the grass-root unity their demands will be met.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes .  
President.

44  
Form :- REEMPLOYEE

# Eastern Railwaymen's Union.

MOKAMEH BRANCH

Registered under Indian Trade Union Act 1926 ( Regd No. 2770 )

Recognised by the Eastern Railway Administration

Affiliated to the All India Railway men's Federation

J. V. Choudhary

No. 08/10KH/Strike

2069  
3/4/79

Date 06.4.79

To  
The General Secretary,  
Rlymen's Union  
23/29 Strass Road, Calcutta-1

4/84

D/Sir,

Re. Formation of National  
Coordination Committee for  
Rlymen's Struggle.

I am to inform you that a  
local Committee of the above has  
been formed. The list of the Committee  
is attached herewith. For the right  
to inform you that the local union  
of the Rly Carriage and Wagon  
Council, Mokameh is not participat  
ing for the reasons best known  
to the members concerned. P.T.O

# Eastern Railwaymen's Union.

MOKAMEH BRANCH

Registered under Indian Trade Union Act 1926 ( Regd No. 2770 )

Recognised by the Eastern Railway Administration

Affiliated to the All India Railway men's Federation



II

No .....

Date .....

This will be great but beach  
for our coming struggle if it  
do happen in future also.

I am therefore request you  
to contact with the leaders of  
the CR by carriage + w/w Council  
and persuade them to instruct  
the local union to participate  
in the N.C. CR Struggle.

Thanking you.

Yours Faithfully

J. M. Honohoy  
President

✓ Copy to Sr. George Fernandes,  
President AIRF, 125C/Debar  
Road New Delhi for information

471  
 List of the N.C.E.R. Lymca's Struggle  
 MKA and Porambo.

Convenor - Sri J. Choudhary  
 President C.R.M.U./MKA

Members -	Representatives -
C.R.M.U. -	Sri P.D. Shakti
C.R.M.U.	" R.K. Chakravarty
	" R.V. Kumar
	" Tripathi
AISMA -	" Balshwar Pandey
	" SP Verma
T.L.A.	" Banwar Das
S & Tele Com	" Sholcha Ram
	" Saby Nayan
	" Muzi Mistry
Divl Co-ordination -	A.K. Singh
	" Ram Duler
Loco Running Staff -	Banshee
	M.K. Das
TXR Association -	Dr. Pal
All India Signaller Association	" R.M.P. Singh
	" B. Singh
Groupmen Association	Jango
Switch man & Sign Staff	Rameshwar
	Ram Chandra
C & W Council -	M. S. ...

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/ 160-B

April 11, 1974.

Dear Com. Konger,

I have your letter of 4th April, 1974. I hope you will use your influence to create a new consciousness among the railwaymen so that our action may give a total success at all levels. You must also do everything necessary to gear up your union for the now inevitable strike of the railwaymen.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,



George Fernandes

Shri Indibor Konger,  
Working President,  
N. F. Rly. Mazdoor Union,  
Pandu,  
Gauhati-12,  
Distt. Kamrup (Assam)

451

# N. F. RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION

Registered Under Trade Union Act. (Registered No. 425)

Recognised by N. F. Railway Administration

Branch Office :  
GAUHATI

Ref. No. MU/C/Feed/74

DATED 4-4-1974

Dear Shi Fernandes,

Sorry that I could not meet during your last visit to PNO.

In the last meeting held on 23rd March, 1974 under the presidentship of Com. Biru Chatterji, J. General Secretary, N.F. Ry. Mazdoor Union in the Central Office and all the affiliated and non-affiliated organisations attended a meeting. The meeting unanimously elected Shi Indiraj Konger, Working President as Convener of Rashtriyā Railmazdoor Sangharsh Samanaya Samity, N.F. Zone.

This is for your information.  
With best regards,

Yours Comradely  
Indiraj Konger  
(I. Konger)  
Working President,  
N. F. Ry. Mazdoor Union.  
Pandu.

22/3  
6/4/74  
N.F. RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION

AIR/ 160 B

April 11, 1974.

The Secretary,  
National Railway Mazdoor Union,  
Itarsi Branch,  
Itarsi

Dear Comrade,

I have yours of March 31, 1974.

I am indeed happy to see the progress made  
by you in uniting the railwaymen in your  
jurisdiction.

I hope you will be able to organise  
a total strike in Itarsi and neighbouring areas.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes  
President.



43-  
**National Railway Mazdoor Union**

( Affiliated to A. I. R. F. )

**ITARSI BRANCH.**

Ref. No. IT/NRMU/Struggle/74/1

Dated 27.3.1974

To  
The General Secretary,  
National Rly Mazdoor Union,  
Parel, Bombay-12.



Dear Comrade,

Sub:- Strike preparation.

In accordance with the decision and directives of the National Convention held at New Delhi on 27.2.1974 and C.E.C. meeting on 17th and 18th March 1974 at Bombay, a joint meeting of both the branches i.e. The General and Diesel & Loco-Rg. was held on 21.3.1974 in presence of Shri V.B.Mahadeshwar, Secretary, H.O., Shri K.P.Sarathi, General Secretary, A.L.L. M.A. also attended on invitation forming a " Struggle Committee"

In the evening a large attended public Meeting of Railwaymen was held. Presided by Chairman Shri - R.K.Shukla and main speaker was Shri V.B.Mahadeshwar, who explained in detail leading the decision of National - covension.

On 25th Shri P.R.Menon, our working President visited Itarsi, when he addressed a largely attended meeting in the New Yard and workers meeting in the Union Office.

A second meeting was again held representing both the branches and all major Associations at Itarsi to conduct the struggle with Shri R.K.Shukla, as Convener.

On 31st, Two committees one of prominent citizens, Advocates, and Doctors and another of Women was formed.

In the same evening a largely attended Public Meeting was held, presided by Shri R.K.Shukla, Convener and addressed by :-

Srvashri.	S.M.Dolzake,	AYM/SMS representing.
"	K.P.Sarathi,	L.R.S.A. "
"	Bhure	A.I. S & T A. "
"	S.L.Dubey	A.I.T&R A. "
"	S.P. Mishra	Advocate, Social Worker.
"	B.D.Agrawal.	do-

P.T.O.

457

# National Railway Mazdoor Union

( Affiliated to A. I. R. F. )

ITARSI BRANCH.

Ref. No. ....

Dated .....

Page two.

Besides, all categorical Associations representatives were also attended.

Besides elaborate programme of Struggle from 2nd April to 3th April by the Local Committee has been formed which is enclosed for your information. Further instructions are awaited, if any.

Yours Sincerely,

*U. Smithy*  
Secretary.

C/- General Secretary A. I. R. F. New Delhi  
for Publication

*U. Smithy*  
Secretary

AIRF/ 160-A

April 11, 1974.

The Secretary,  
All India Railway Stenographers  
Association (Regd.),  
Central Railway,  
Jhansi

Dear Comrade,

I have the copy of your letter, dated April 9, addressed to Shri Chandrika Prasad, M.P., President of your Association. I am indeed pleased at the decision taken by your branch and the request contained in your letter to your President to associate the organisation with the mainstream of the railwaymen's movement.

This morning newspapers contained a statement from Shri K.L. Nagpal, General Secretary of your Association to the effect that the Association will not associate itself with the movement that may be launched by the National Coordination Committee. There is of course a condition that if the demands of the Stenographers are not settled then they may consider going on strike from April 20. There is an obvious contradiction in this position. But that is not the point. The Railway Board and the enemies of the Railwaymen's movement are using Shri Nagpal's statement as that we are in a divided house. I would request you and other branches of your Association to persuade your Central leadership to join us in our wider action.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,



George Fernandes  
President.

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/160-8

April 10, 1974.

My dear Sibnath Babu,

I have your postcard of 5th April, 1974. It was a good idea of writing the Hindi Patra in Roman Lipi. At the AIRF's Office I do not have a machinery for the Hindi Patra in Hindi Lipi. Hence, this letter in English.

I am indeed delighted that even at this age you are offering yourself to serve the cause of the railwaymen. Your moral support will help us in our determination to wage a decisive struggle on the railways.

All indications point out that a struggle on the railways is now inevitable. The workmen, fortunately, are today more united than ever before. If the Railways do not see sense they will have to face the biggest ever Railway Strike in the next few days, and I have no doubt about the outcome of this struggle.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

George Fernandes

Shri Sibnath Banerjee,  
63/1, Kali Banerjee Lane,  
Howrah.

Full Reports

1. Feb 27, 74 New Delhi
2. Dec 26 + 27, 1973 - Madras
3. 25.1.74 Convention

N.B Ordinance o  
Illegality ko hie  
tair raho aur  
ar sabko tair  
rako.

Sib,

INDIA RAILWAYS  
93  
POST CARD  
केवल पता  
ADDRESS ONLY  
DELHI

Shri. George Fernandes  
President A. J. R. F.  
125/E Baker Rd  
New Delhi-1.

पिन PIN

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/160-8

April 10, 1974.


Dear Com. Sunny,

I have your letter, dated the 1st April, 1974. I am glad to hear that you had a successful Dharna.

I hope your efforts will also help in strengthening the organisation of the railwaymen under the banner of your Union.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,



George Fernandes

Shri P. S. Sunny,  
Secretary,  
S.C. Railway Mazdoor Union,  
Railway Building-45,  
Tenali Branch  
Tenali (S.C. Rly.)

63/ Kali Bangjoo Sena  
Muzummat  
Hindi bitto / 5-4-74  
Renu Lipi

Pre Satti,  
Ae India Ry shikha  
ka lie jo 'united' karni  
konahalo, is lie kadhari  
deta hun.

jo, Conference, Convention  
lagana bolaya, unka para  
report mithe se khuraki  
hoge. Badhoke mo kahi  
majhe jo kuni the satti  
kahi khane ta lie rope hun  
kaha o Tum unka  
bitto o sathacha lena.  
Again acta hun.  
St. tumhari  
Sib Nath Bangjoo



# South Central Railway Mazdoor Union

(Registered and Recognised) Regd. No 2934  
AFFILIATED TO AIRF & H M S

Chairman: A. Kailasam.  
Secretary: P. S. Sunny.  
Treasurer: D. Bala Krishna Murthy.

Railway Building-45  
TENALI  
Tenali Branch

Ref: RMU / TEL. / Struggle/74

Date 1-4-1974.

To

The General Secretary,  
All India Railwaymen Federation,  
NEW DELHI.



Dear Comrade,

As per the direction this Branch has conducted a public meeting near Tenali Railway Station which was attended by a large gathering of about 500 on 28-3-'74. Our zonal General Secretary Sri A.V.K.Chaitanya addressed the meeting and explained in detail the demands of the railwaymen and the preparation for the ensuing struggle. The zonal Vice-president Sri K.S.N.Murthy vividly described the various efforts of our leaders to have a negotiated settlement of our demands and the adamancy of the Government in defeating them. He ~~emphasised~~ <sup>emphasised</sup> the audians to put all their efforts in the ensuing struggle to attain our goal.

A 'Dharna' was also conducted on 30-3-'74 near Tenali Railway Station and all the office bearers and executive members have participated in it to express the determination to sacrifice anything to achieve the legitimate demands of the railwaymen. The same was conducted for 24 hrs. from 8 A.M. on 30-3-'74 in a specially erected 'pandal' with several sign boards eliciting the public about our genuine demands.

Yours fraternally,

Copy to the General Secretary, S.C.R.M.U. & P.S.Sunny.  
Copy to the Divisional Secretary, S.C.R.M.U.  
for information and necessary action please.

Yours fraternally,

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/Ho-1

April 10, 1974.

Dear Com. Pritish,


I have your letter of 31st March, 1974.  
I am indeed sorry that your organisation is not  
represented on the United Struggle Committee.  
I shall have this matter taken up at the next  
meeting of the Committee.

I am indeed grateful to you for the  
keen interest that you are taking in the Railwaymen's  
movement. A strike now is inevitable.

I hope you will put your best efforts  
to make it a success.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes  
President.

Shri Pritish Chanda,  
Secretary,  
All India Committee,  
United Trades Union Congress,  
Camp: "Sahas-Kanan",  
Boring Road,  
Patna-1.

# UNITED GRADES UNION CONGRESS

## ALL INDIA COMMITTEE

48, LENIN SARANI (DHARAMTALA STREET) CALCUTTA-13 (INDIA)

President : Sri Shibdas Ghosh

General Secretary : Sri S. K. Pramanik

Secretaries : Sri P. Chanda

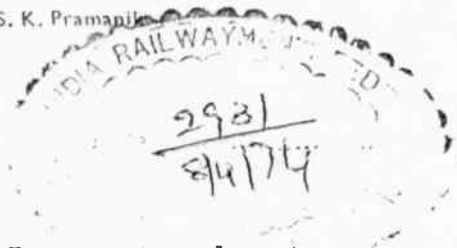
Sri Fatick Ghosh

Sri Tapas Dutta

Sri Sitiesh Dasgupta

Camp: "Suhas-Banan"  
Boring Road, P A T N A -1  
Dated 31-3-74 197

Ref No.



Dear Comrade,

*8/4*

You remember that at the last All India Convention of Indian Railwaymen on 27th Feb, last at Delhi in course of my speech, I on behalf of my Organisation suggested for the formation of United Struggle Committee of all Railwaymen for which AIRF to play its role as rallying centre. ~~KANAKA~~

In fact after that convention you have developed such National level struggle committee - which has been given shape in a small meeting which was held with some chosen representatives on 28-2-74.

Now, it is a matter of regret that in the National Committee for struggle while representatives from AITUC, CITU, BMS have been included, unfortunately UTUC (Lenin Sarani) have been excluded and it looks conspicuous.

You know well, that, UTUC (LS) has played its role in developing and maintaining Unity in Railway TU Movement. In the interest of United struggle, UTUC (LS) should be included in the National Committee for struggle. *However, still there is time to correct the step.*

I ought to have written this to you earlier, but because of my preoccupation in Bihar, I could not do so.

Expecting your early reply,

Comradely yours,

*P. Chanda*  
(Pritish Chanda)  
SECRETARY,  
All India Committee, UTUC(LS)

To

Com. Georze Fernandez,  
PRESIDENT, A.I.R.F.  
125, Babar Road,  
NEW DELHI



AIR/160-8

April 10, 1974.


The Secretary,  
N.F. Railway Mazdoor Union,  
Dibrugarh (Assam).

Dear Comrade,

I have the copy of your letter of  
3rd April, 1974, to the ACOS, N.F. Railway,  
Dibrugarh. I hope, this issue will be resolved  
without your resorting to action.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes  
President.

462  
29/30  
9/4/74

N. F. RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION  
DIBRUGARH.

No. MJ/DBRT/S/74

Dated, 3 - 4-1974.

To  
The A.C.O.S/DBRT.,  
N.F.Railway.

Dear Sir,

Sub : TOOL DOWN/PEN DOWN STRIKE  
ON 20-4-1974.

Ref : Long outstanding staff grievances  
consolidated and submitted through  
a Memorandum to S.S.O/PNO at DBRT  
on 27-3-74, copy to ACOS/DBRT.

This is to communicate the decision of the agrieved staff of the Stores Depot/DBRT, as taken in a mass demonstration held on 2-4-74, to go on for a Tool-down/Pen-down strike from 20-4-74; if their legitimate demands grievances are not fulfilled latest by the 24 hours on 19-4-74.

This is for your information and necessary action please to avert the impending crisis.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.  
N. F. RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION  
DIBRUGARH.

Copy to : (1) COS/PNO., (2) COS(P)/PNO., (3) CPO/PNO.,  
(4) General Secretary, AIRF/New-Delhi.  
(5) General Secretary, N.F.Railway Mazdoor Union,  
Fandu., (6) Labour Enforcement Officer(C),  
Dibrugarh.

SECRETARY.  
N. F. RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION  
DIBRUGARH.

3/4/74

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/160-B

April 10, 1974.

Dear Com. Trivedi,

I have your letter of 5th April, 1974.  
and the enclosed newspaper. I had earlier received  
a first-hand report of your meeting and demonstration.  
Lucknow is a key point and you must do everything  
necessary to see that we have a total strike in that  
area.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes

Shri V.P. Trivedi,  
Divl. Secretary,  
Northern Railwaymen's Union,  
25/26, Arya Nagar,  
Lucknow

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRF/160-*B(21)*

April 10, 1974.

The Branch Secretary,  
All India Trains Clerks Association,  
Aimer (Rajasthan).

Dear Comrade,

I have the copy of your letter to  
the Railway Minister. The AIRF is seized with  
this question and will do its best in the  
matter.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

*GF*  
George Fernandes

George Fernandes,  
President.

AIR/ 160-B

April 10, 1974.


The Secretary,  
National Railway Mazdoor Union,  
Bina Branch,  
Bina (Central Railway)

Dear Comrade,

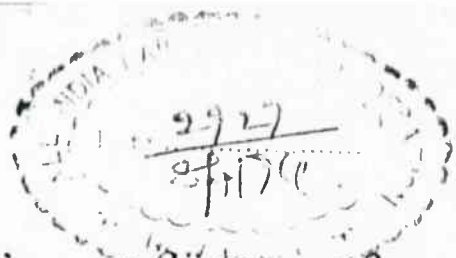
I have your letter of 3rd April, 1974,  
regarding formation of the Coordination Committee.  
I hope you will do every thing necessary to bring  
about a total strike in your jurisdiction.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes  
President.

466



National Railway Majdoor Union Bina Branch

No. NRMU/Bin/struggle

Sl. No. 3/4/74

To

General Secretary

All India Railwaymen's Federation

New Delhi 1.

Subj: - Formation of National Council Committee at Bina.

Dear Sir

As per direction received the format of Coordinating Committee is arranged at Bina and the names of such representatives are given below.

1. National Railway Majdoor Union Bina Branch

1. Shi R.S. Shrivastava

2. " M.L. Sharma

2. All India Loco running Staff Associa

2.1. Shi M. Narain Driver

2. " Kallu F/ma

3. All India Guard's Council

1. Shi J.P. Sharma

2. " R.C. Saxena

4. All India Train Examining Associates

1. Sh Madho Pal

2. " L.G. Gola

5. All India Station Master's Associa

1. Shi J.P. Vashu

2. " S.T. Rao

6. Engg Staff associa

1. Sh G.M. Wankhede

2. G.S. Pyagi

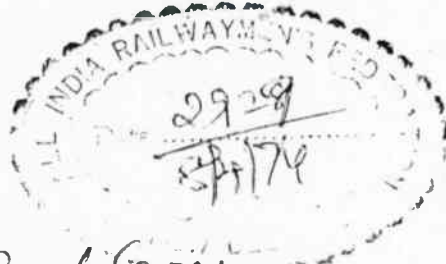
Shi S.C. Upadhyaya & Sh J. Dabey Secy NRMU Bina

Convenor: II

# WESTERN RAILWAY EMPLOYEES UNION

( AFFILIATED TO AIRF & HMS )

Head Office :  
Grant Road  
BOMBAY 7



Divisional Office :  
Station Building  
AJMER

Ref. No.....

Date..... 4-4..... 1974

To The Genl Secy

AIRF New Delhi

Subj: Strike after 10-4-74

PL find herewith a copy of handbill issued by All India loco running staff association which is in the name of Sh Y. D. Sharma driver grade B Ajmer (zonal president) and Sh. Hari Singh Chaudhry (zonal president confederation of categorical associations & Genl Secy AIRSA western zone).

Sh Hari Singh Chaudhry has attended the meeting on 27th July along with Sh. Dhar. Sh. Hari Singh has called for meeting of categorical associations of western Rly at Ratlam and issues referred to for the meeting are work to rule from 15/4/74 and introduction of 10 hours duty.

This is just for your information and enlightening us in the matter. Pl advise attitude of BR & BRMS people in loco

ellevig staff association is Hawalal  
group of sethi and moradabad division  
jansangh group.

So far as western Rly is concerned  
their attitude is hostile and they are  
trying to harm as much as they can.  
Our position in respects of other categories  
excluding Sms/ASms whose role is delicious,  
is quite good.

I hope to get a reply soon.

yours Couradely  
Jasbhatnagar



George Fernandes,  
President.

AIRE/160.11

April 10, 1974.

Dear Com. Bhatnagar,

I have your letter of April 4, 1974 and the enclosures. I had already received a copy of that Hand Bill from our colleague in Moradabad.

We should not be upset at the attitude of some of these people at the local level. The most important thing just now is to build the unity of the railwaymen. A struggle is inevitable and it is only the united will of the railwaymen that will see us through the victory.

I hope you are doing every thing possible to rally the largest number of people in the Coordination Committee.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
George Fernandes

Shri J.N. Bhatnagar,  
Divl. Secretary,  
Western Railway Employees Union,  
Station Building,  
Ajmer (Rajasthan).

AJAS/160-B

April 10, 1974.

Dear Mrs. Banerjee,

Yesterday when a group of railwaymen met you to request you to support their just and legitimate demands and persuade the Railway Minister to settle the demands and avert the otherwise inevitable strike, you are reported to have told them, among other things, that I am taking money from foreign countries and that I am enemy no. 1 of the country.

I take it that you have in your possession evidence to prove that I am receiving money from foreign countries. I would request you to submit that proof to the Government and prosecute me for being enemy No.1 of the country.

Yours sincerely,

George Fernandes  
President.

Mrs. Mukul Banerjee,  
Member of Parliament,  
6, Farozshah Road,  
New Delhi.

m'



# All India Railwaymen's Federation

(Estd. 1924)

125/E, BABAR ROAD, NEW DELHI-1.

AIRF/160-B (24)

April 10, 1974.

Dear Lalit,

I am glad we met <sup>last</sup> ~~this~~ evening, though I am disappointed at the fruitless exercise we went through. When I received a telephone message earlier in the day from Rail Bhavan suggesting that I come in the evening and meet you and Mr. Bery separately, I was under the impression that some meaningful negotiations or at least some serious efforts at understanding each others positions, were on the agenda.

You must believe me when I say that in my twentysix years of trade union work, I have hardly come across an employer who displays such a contemptuous attitude towards the workers' organisations as the Railways are presently doing. And those who display a similar attitude are some village yobels who have struck it good in towns and though catapulted into the role of employers are so full of an inferiority complex that they must take their workmen and their organisations for granted to feed the ulcers of their ego.

Before meeting you, I spent an hour with Mr. Bery trying to persuade him to take the initiative to settle the demands of the railwaymen. He had nothing to say, apart from a repetition of the terribly boring theme of the capacity to pay. The only other point he made was that railwaymen like other public sector employees were not engaged in producing marketable commodities. I asked what about the S.T.C., Banks, L.I.C., etc ? He had nothing much to say on that.

Contd.....2/

Page two

You shocked me by the casualness of your approach. Especially, when you said that you came to know about our demands recently through newspapers. This is not the way industrial relations and employer-employee relations are handled in any civilized system. The barrenness of my talks with you and with Mr. Bery makes me feel that Rail Bhavan is not willing to negotiate and settle the demands of the railwaymen. The entire approach seems to be to fence <sup>force</sup> a confrontation in the hope of breaking the workers' solidarity and their morale.

When I drew your attention to the constant propaganda made by certain newspapers (at the instance of Rail Bhavan) that I have failed to meet you despite your invitation, you said that these newspapers were indulging in wrong reporting. I would request you to direct your publicity department not to put out such false stories in their daily handouts.

The Labour Minister is meeting us tomorrow. But unless the Government takes a policy decision on the subject, what good will come out of his efforts is not clear to me.

Let me, however, reiterate our earnest desire to have a negotiated settlement on the railwaymen's demands. I hope you will not let us down in this matter.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*George Fernandes*  
George Fernandes  
President.

Shri L.N. Mishra,  
Minister for Railways,  
Rail Bhavan,  
New Delhi

rn\*

ALRF/160-B(220)

10th April, 1974.

The Secretary (B),  
Railway Board,  
New Delhi

Dear Sir,

Re : Payment of Air Fare and Incidental charges  
for the 4th February meeting.


...

On an invitation from the Railway Minister, Shri George Fernandes, President of the All India Railwaymen's Federation flew from Bombay on the 3rd to Delhi to attend the meeting convened by the Railway Minister on the 4th February, 1974 and on the 5th he has to fly back to Bombay.

The air fare spent in coming and going was Rs. 440/- each way. The incidental expenses and the daily allowance as admissible under the extent rules may also be paid to him.

It is, therefore, requested that necessary action may kindly be taken to reimburse the expenses at an early date.

Yours faithfully,



(J.P. Chaubey)  
for General Secretary.

Northern Railwaymen's Union,  
Divl. office, New Delhi.

No. NRMU/GS/DS/74.

Dated 10/4/74.

The Genl. Secretary/NRMU,  
New Delhi.

Dear Sir,

Sub:- Meeting with Shrimati Mukul Bannerjee, M.P.  
on 9/4/74 at 6/30 plm.

As desired about 20 to 30 delegates from each category met Mrs. Mukul Bannerjee, M.P. at 6 F. Shah Road, New Delhi at 6/30 p.m. to 7/15 p.m. M/s. Raghubir Chand Branch Secy. NLS Mr. Durga Dass Divl. President H Q Divn. Mr. N.D. Vashisht Mr. Raj Kumar and few other attended.

Mrs Mukul Bannerjee was told that Railwaymen grievances were neither political, motivated nor inspired by any political party but genuine demands viz. Industrial Workers Bonus, job evaluation, Reclassification, Minimum Need Based Wage, Cheap grain shop, Full D.A., Decasualization, 8 hours duty and so on, when Modern Bakery Workers Cement Workers, Steel Workers get more than 350/- why not Railway men should get the same wage. She told that grievances are genuine but strikers-is no solution as poor man will suffer She was told that we want negotiated settlement, Govt. must discuss these demands around the table at one stage she told that Mr. George Fernandez is enemy No. 1 and the Govt. cannot negotiate with him. He is taking money from Foreign Country. At the stage I told them not to use such words, we strongly protested as we have got greatest regard for our President and we cannot bear any word against him. If it is proved anything let the law take its course but such irrelevant words cannot be generated. She told that she would forward our grievances to the Railway Minister but strike if done by the workers will be dealt with violence and they would be beaten badly and finally led by me (Mrs. Mukul) with the help of her workers. We protested against her attitude of violence and she was cooled down. We promised to forward our grievances to the Rail. Minister.

Submitted for information

ues) completely,

Copy to Genl. Secy/AIRP &  
Chairman National Coordination  
Committee for information pl.

(M.P. Datta)  
Divl. Secretary.

Azad/

*F/1/808*  
**N. F. RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION**

**DIBRUGARH BRANCH**

AFFILIATED TO ALL INDIA RAILWAYMENS' FEDERATION

HEAD OFFICE :— PANDU, REGD. NO. 425

No. MU/DBRT/Struggle/74

*2959*  
*10/9/74*  
Date 1-4-1974

To  
The Convener/U.C.R./DBRT.,  
The Convener/Workshop Council/DBRT.,  
The Secretary/A.I.E.R.S.A./DBRT.,  
The Secretary/Engineering Staff Association/DBRT.,  
The Secretary/Yard & Cabin Staff Association/DBRT.,

*D/comrade,*  
SubL Formation of Co-ordination Committee  
at all possible levels as per resolution  
of the National Convention held on  
27-2-74 at New Delhi.

*M*  
Thank you for your letter dated 20-3-74 and 19-3-74.  
Zonal Railway Co-ordination Committee in N.F.Railway has since  
been formed at Pandu on 23/24-3-74. Divisional Co-ordination  
Committee in TSK Division has also been formed. We all are to  
translate the directings of the National Committee at this level.

With a fraternal greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Branch Secretary,  
N. F. RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION  
DIBRUGARH.

Copy to : (1) The Secretary, Ministerial Staff Association/DBRT.  
(2) The Secretary, Stock Holders Association/DBRT.  
for information and necessary action.

Copy to : (1) The General Secretary, N.F.Railway Mazdoor Union, Pandu  
(2) The General Secretary, A.I.R.F., New Delhi  
(3) The Convener, The National Co-ordination Committee  
for Railwaymen's struggle, New Delhi for information.

*M*  
Branch Secretary,  
N. F. Railway Mazdoor Union,  
Dibrugarh. *1/4/74*

No. AIRF/160-B (1x)

April 9, 1974

The General Secretary,	
N.E. Railway Mazdoor Union,	Rs.400/-
Eastern Railwaymen's Union,	Rs.4,405/-
Western Railway Employees Union,	Rs.3,290/-
National Railway Mazdoor Union,	Rs.4,495/-
N.F. Railway Mazdoor Union,	Rs.1,877/-

Dear Comrade,

Kindly send by return mail a sum of  
Rs. ~~4~~ on account of the cost of  
posters, badges and booklets.

I would also draw your attention to  
my letter of March 20, 1974, with even number  
in which I have requested every affiliated  
union to send 20 Ps. per member as a special  
levy to meet the strike organising expenses.  
May I request you to do the needful immediately.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

~~Sax~~ George Fernandes  
President.



AIRF/160-B(ix)

April 9, 1974.

The General Secretaries  
of All affiliated unions

Dear Comrades,

I would like to draw your attention to my letter of even number dated March 20, 1974 in which I have requested every affiliated union to send 20 Paise per member as a special levy to meet the strike organising expenses. May I request you to do the needful immediately.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely



George Fernandes  
President.

rn\*

Phone: 40947

Gram: RAILWAYMEN

ALL INDIA

N'S FEDERATION

125-E, Babar Road, New Delhi

AIRF/160-8

April 9, 1974.

General Secretary  
all affiliated Unions &  
Members of the Working Committee.

Dear Comrades,

Sub: GENERAL STRIKE BY RAILWAYMEN.

The NFIR has now come out openly against the strike decision of A.I.R.F. and the National Convention. The General Secretary, NFIR in his Circular No. IV/CAC/1/74 dated April 6, 1974 has communicated the following instructions to its affiliated unions and Working Committee Members. The three paragraphs of the circular are reproduced below:

"The consensus in the Action Committee during this meeting on 28th and 29th March was that it was difficult and indeed impossible to follow the line of the AIRF, and that in order to save the railway trade union movement it was inevitable for the NFIR once again to take up an independent stand. Hence the Action Committee concluded not to associate with the strike move of the AIRF, but to reiterate at the same time the NFIR's determination to resort to direct action unless the Bonus Review Committee accepted the demand of the NFIR and the Government granted Bonus accordingly."

"So far as the demands pertaining to the Pay Commission's report and the Miabhoj Tribunal are concerned, as a result of the discussions held over the last week at various levels, the conviction of the NFIR has been further confirmed that no direct action is necessary in the solution of these questions. On the question of Bonus, however, the NFIR re-affirms its demand and reiterates its decision to resort to direct action unless the Government concedes the demand. If the Bonus Review Committee accepts the demand of the NFIR so much the better, but if it does not accept the demand, the NFIR's determination to resort to direct action would still prevail till and until the Government concedes the demand and removes the discrimination being presently exercised against the railwaymen."

"Thus while dissociating from the strike move of the AIRF, unions affiliated to NFIR and their Branches are requested to continue their reiteration of all demands as mentioned above. In short the position is that the NFIR re-dedicates itself to the demand already made regarding Bonus, and so far as other matters are concerned, as steps are already being taken on that behalf, there is no question of direct action for the present."

It will be seen that the NFIR is not only opposed to the united struggle by the Railwaymen, it also does not stand for the grant of parity in wages for Railwaymen, with those of the public sector undertakings.

Yours faithfully...

Contd....

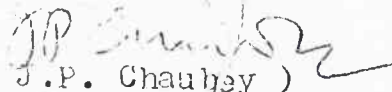
The NFIR inspite of its complete dis-association with the strike decision and to oppose it, maintains that they also stand for action on the demand of Bonus. The General Secretary/NFIR in his circular, closely following the line given by the Prime Minister and the Railway Minister, has stated that railwaymen's decision for strike on the 6 Point Charter of demands is a political move and he has urged its affiliated unions to propogate these amongst the railwaymen.

You are already aware that the NFIR did not accept the invitation to attend the February 27th National Convention and has now come out openly in support of the Government, as they did during the 1960 and 1968 strike.

The affiliated unions are advised to propogate amongst the railwaymen the anti-trade union and anti-railway men attitude of the NFIR. Once again NFIR has proved itself to be a Government sponsored organisation aimed at breaking the Railwaymen's movement

With greetings,

Yours frate ally,

  
( J.P. Chaubey )  
For General Secretary.

rn\*

41

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY.

No.E/201/7/Con.

Meligan, dt.26.11.70

To  
All staff.

It has been observed that railway employees are holding meetings inside railway premises such as inside workshops, inside stores depots and within office compounds. It is pointed out that this practice is extremely objectionable and has to be stopped forthwith. All staff are hereby warned that if any one of them is found organising or attending a meeting inside Railway premises or at places of work he/she will render himself/herself liable to severe disciplinary action as such action on his/her part will amount to misconduct arising out of violation of Administrative instructions. Meetings of employees can be held on open grounds away from places of work with the permission of the Railway Authorities concerned if such open grounds fall within the Railway boundary.

sd/-  
for GENERAL M.N.GER.

Copy to All Officers and Supervisory staff. Any infringement of these orders must be promptly reported to CPO at Head quarters and DSS in the division.

Copy to CSO/Pandu. He will please instruct staff under his control that these orders should be strictly enforced.

sd/-  
for GENERAL M.N.GER.

ALL INDIA RAILWAY STENOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION (REGD.)  
JHANSI BRANCH.

JHANSI, April 9, 1974.

Respected Babu Chandrika Prasadji,  
M.P., President, A.I.R.M.S.A., New Delhi.  
Sir,

Due to long reticence on the part of our Headquarters (AIRSA: All India Rly. Stenographers Association) and in the best interest of the category, we feel it our duty at this juncture to approach your goodself with the request to kindly also keep in view the fate of Stenographers on the Indian Railways, while negotiating/bargaining with the Government, in case no one from our AIRSA side represents in the Joint Action Committee Meeting with the Govt. We fully agree with the aims and objectives and the stand taken by A.I.R.M.S.A. in the present struggle under your great leadership. We fully endorse the six popular demands.

2. The Stenographers' on the Indian Railways is the worst affected category, in that every Pay Commission insted of improving have further worsened their lots by downgrading the pay scales with no avenues of promotions. To add an insult to the injury the Railway Board have given a further jolt to this category by issuing letter dated 4.3.74 (copy enclosed for ready reference) ordering pooling of Stenographers on the Indian Railways, thereby effecting shrinkage of cadre, marring promotional chances of Junior Stenos and putting in additional burden on Senior Stenos by provision of one Steno between two Senior Scale Officers. Great discontentment is, therefore, prevalent amongst the Stenos on the Railways. These orders do not apply to Railway Board's Stenos. Their Grades are higher than those on Indian Railways and they are provided better avenues of promotion in Board's Office. In this connection, it may be added here that our Association (AIRSA) has been fighting for bringing parity with Board's Stenos but up till now it has not been able to achieve its aim. On the contrary the Railway Administration has further worsened the lot of Railway Stenographers.


3. We had a general meeting of Stenos on the Division on 27.3.74; a copy of resolutions passed in this meeting is enclosed for your information. In this meeting it was decided to associate with AIRSA, as by keeping ourselves aloof from the mainstream we cannot achieve any good results. We have decided to join hands with AIRMSA in the common struggle and also condemned the Board's letter quoted above.

4. In view of what is stated above, we fervently hope that you will very kindly accede to our request and take up the issue of Railway Stenographers, as this category also belongs to the Ministerial staff and there is provision in the Constitution of AIRMSA that Stenos can become the members of this body.

Hope this finds you in excellent fettle.

With kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

  
~~Secretary, A.I.R.S.A., Jhansi~~  
Secretary, A.I.R.S.A., Jhansi  
Branch, Jhansi, Central Rly.

Copy forwarded to :-

- 1) Shri George Fernandes, President, A.I.R.F., New Delhi.
- 2) Shri Somashekar Rao, Acting President, A.I.R.M.S.A., New Delhi.
- 3) Shri Gokhale, President, A.I.R.E.O., New Delhi. (S.R.M.S.)
- 4) Shri D.B. Thengadi, President, Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh, New Delhi.
- 5) The President, Bhartiya Rail Mazdoor Sangh, New Delhi.  
for information and similar request for taking up the issue of Stenographers in the Joint Action Committee Meeting.
- 6) Shri K.L. Nagpaul, Steno to DSTE, DS's Office, New Delhi,  
General Secretary, All India Rly. Steno's Association, New Delhi.  
He is requested to join the...

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Item No. 272 - Pooling of Stenographers.

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No.HPB/228/R/Steno/Policy, Pt.II -- Board's letter No.E(NG)III-73-PO/52 dated 4-3-1974 in continuation of their letters No. PC/4/IS-5/OS-17 dated 22-1-65 and 19-4-65 on the above subject is reproduced below for information and guidance for all the staff :-

Reference Board's letter No. PC/4/IS-5/OS-17 dated 22-1-65 and 19-4-65 according to which Stenographers attached to Officers in Senior Scale and above should be in Scale Rs. 210-425/-.

The Board desire that there should be Pooling of Stenographers for Officers at the senior scale level and the normal arrangement should be that one Stenographer is attached to two Senior Scale Officers.

It has also been decided that while existing posts need not be reduced additional posts for officers at any level will not be sanctioned till the number of posts of Stenographers attached to Senior Scale Officers is brought down to at least two-thirds of the Officers' strength.

Phone: 40947

Gram: RAILWAYMEN

ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION

George Fernandes  
President

129-B, Babar Road, New Delhi

AIRF/160-B(215)

April 7, 1974.

Dear Mr. Mishra,

I have seen the newspaper reports that I have refused to meet you despite several invitations from your side. There was a news item a few days ago in the Times of India which said that I have not met you for 3 months.

In the newspapers one also comes across a consistent denial from the Railway Minister that the AIRF or the National Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle have forwarded to the Railway Ministry any demands or communicated the intention of the Railwaymen to agitate on their demands.

I do not know why half truths or misleading statements are being consistently made through the press on the demands submitted by us and on the alleged invitations from you to us.

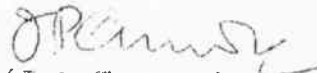
The AIRF submitted the Charter of Demands on November 2, 1973. It is on these demands that you called us for talks at an open meeting on February 4, 1974. We met you on February 5, when you sought some time to consider the demands and also to have consultations with the Prime Minister. I wrote you a letter on March 2, 1974, reminding you of your promise to have serious negotiations after consultations with the Prime Minister. In the intervening period the AIRF wrote to the Member Staff, Railway Board on February 9, 1974, seeking negotiations on the basis of the discussions held by us on February 5, 1974. All this is on record and cannot be denied.

On March 4, 1974, I addressed you a letter enclosing therewith a copy of the Resolution adopted at the National Convention of the Railwaymen of February 27, 1974, and urged that you take necessary steps to bring about a settlement on the demands contained in the resolution. That letter has not been acknowledged so far, but I have record of the receipt of that letter in your office.

In so far as my meeting with you is concerned there has not been any invitation from your side for any meeting except the open invitation extended to us on February 4, on the basis of which we met you on February 5, 1974. You have not cared to acknowledge my letter of March 2, 1974, though the Member Staff wrote to me on March 16, 1974, inviting me for discussions on any day after March 28, since he was to be away till that date. I proposed a meeting on March 29th, but due to my absence from Delhi on that date, the meeting had to be postponed. Since then I have been constantly in touch with the Railway Board to be told that the Member Staff is out on tour.

Overleaf.....

of Mr. Qureshi he should himself attend the meeting on behalf of the Govt. It will, therefore, be seen that there has been no lack of response on behalf of the railwaymen for coming to a negotiated settlement, and if anybody is to be blamed it is the Govt. of India which has so far not entered into any serious negotiation on the demands and has been delaying the settlement. The Railwaymen would like to assure the Parliament and the country that they are ready for a negotiated settlement and if the strike still takes place on the 8th May, as scheduled, it would be entirely on account of lack of response on the part of the Govt. for a negotiated settlement. It is, therefore, urged that the public and their accredited representatives may call upon the Govt. to enter into a serious discussion on the Charter of Demands and come to a negotiated settlement without any avoidable delay.

  
(J.P. Chaubey)

President/N.R.M.U.,  
&

A Member of 13 Men Negotiating  
Committee.

...



S.E.RLY. LABOUR UNION  
68B, GARDEN REACH ROAD, CALCUTTA-23.

No. LU/REP

Date: 31.5.74.

To  
The General Manager,  
South Eastern Railway,  
Garden Reach.

Dear Sir,

Re :- Victimization of Rly. Employees in connection  
with the Strike of May '74.

-----oo000-----

This Union regrets to bring it to your notice that inspite of the strike being called off from 28.5.74, still a large No. of Railwaymen all over the system have not yet been allowed to resume duties. These men are of the following categories :-

- (a) Those who are removed/dismissed from service without being given an opportunity to show cause or prove their innocence.
- (b) Those who are suspended without being arrested by the Police.
- (c) Those who are arrested by Police and suspended.

The Union urges your Administration to instruct all the Officers to put the Rly. men under categories (a) and (b) on duty and with regard to the cases coming under the category (c) also, State Government be approached for expeditious review of their cases and their release by Courts immediately. Till then, they can also be allowed to resume their duties irrespective of the Court Case or not as the parties concerned are unnecessarily kept under suspension.

The Union further notes with dismay the eviction notices issued to several Railwaymen to vacate their quarters. This move of the Rly. Administration is not legally correct as the quarter holders are the allottees and are bonafide tenants and are paying rent every month. The Union urges that such notices wherever issued should also be withdrawn.

With regard to the imposition of Break-in-Service and Pay cut, the Union desires to inform you that this issue is being now discussed by NCCRS and AIRF with the Railway Board and till a settlement is arrived at, both the above steps may be kept in abeyance as these penal measures might be a big handicap for the restoration of healthy relationship between the Labour and the Management in Indian Railways.

An early action on the lines suggested above will be very much appreciated.

Encl: Nil.

Yours faithfully,

*S. Subramanian*  
GENERAL SECRETARY.

S. L. RLY. LABOUR UNION  
88F, Garden Reach Road  
Calcutta- 23.

No.. NCCRS/1974  
Dt. 29/5/74

o  
All Branch Secretaries &  
Central Office Bearers,  
S. E. Rly. Labour Union.

Dear Comrades, Re:- Post strike situation.

You are aware the historic and heroic strike was called off by the Action Committee of NCCRS on and from 28/5/74 and this union being a constituent of the NCCRS has no other option than to implement it. The contribution of this union's units during the strike is very much praiseworthy. Many of our men have been arrested or dismissed and details are being collected and will be sent to branches very soon. Notable among the arrested are comrades P.V.Rama Rao Divl. Secretary WAT and B.N. Prasad Branch Resident of SHM. Warrants of Arrests were reported to have been issued against all our activists and central office bearers who participated in the strike. Among the dismissed persons are comrades Nil Kumar and P. Suryanarayan Central Office Bearers of Waltair, N.S.R. Reddy of Waltair B.N. Prasad and S.N. Bhattacharjee Branch Office bearers of SHM. At Waltair also several of men viz. S. Narayana, A. Tirumal Rao, M. Appa Rao, .Appa Rao, D. Apparao, M. Surayanan and K. Ramulu are under suspension. This list is illustrative and not exhaustive and more information is awaited from the branches and areas of struggle.

In the post strike situation the following steps should be energetically taken by all concerned:-

- 1) The unity of Rly. men must be maintained at all costs and the forum of NCCRS should be activated for all intents and purposes.
- 2) Send to the Central office the lists of employees removed/dismissed, arrested under different sections, suspended, charge sheeted under D&A rules or any other rules. Defence counsels may also be arranged for defending cases.
- 3) Hold meetings of branches to coordinate our activities and make the Rly. men feel that we are alive to the responsibility of bringing all our comrades back to work.

Against Break-in-service and Pay cut we are waiting for NCCRS Hd. Qrs. directive and from our union a suggestion is being sent to them for instituting some cases in High Courts.

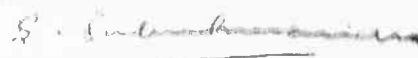
A detailed report on the strike evaluation be also sent for record in the office and for sending it in a compiled form whole to both the AIRF and NCCRS.

Struggle fund or membership drive should proceed as usual interrupted.

Please arrange an early compliance of this circular and post this office information every week including assistance required from the central for meeting with the situations.

With greetings;

Yours fraternally

  
( S. Subrahmaniam )  
General Secretary.

V. P. Anirudi  
Secretary  
Northern Railwaymen's Union  
Divl. Director  
O & R Railway, P. Coop. Bank Ltd.

Ref. No. NRMU/S-237/c/74

Office:  
25/26, Arya Nagar  
Residence:  
11/39 (F) Railway Quarters  
Charbagh, Lucknow.

Dated 5/4/74

- 1) The Gen. Secy.  
NRMU / New Delhi
- 2) The President  
AIRF / New Delhi

Dear Com.

Re: Demand week + Mass Rally

As per direction of AIRF, Mass Rally was arranged on 4th April 1974, in Gandhi Park Charbagh, Lucknow. Except NFIR and AIRSA all association participated. Meeting started at 10/30 and ended at 21/ P.M. Memorandum containing 6 points demand was handed over to the General Manager, who had been to at Lucknow + was leaving for New-Delhi by 20/4 train. The plate-form No 5 was full with our workers. S/Sri J.P. Chauhan, + T.N. Bajpai also addressed the Rally.

Copy of 'National Herald'.  
Showing photo is attached.

(V.P. Anirudi)  
Divl. Secy.

NCC/21/74

April 6, 1974.

Dear Comrade Rao,

Thank you for your letter of April 1, 1974. I hope you are doing everything necessary to make the forthcoming struggle of the railwaymen a great success.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

George Fernandes

Com. G. Janardhana Rao  
Asstt. General Secretary  
South Central Railway Employees Union  
Aranathi

rn\*

AIRF/160-BCI)

April 6, 1974.

Dear Comrade Sohani,

I have your letter of March 27th.

I am indeed sorry for the inconvenience your representative was put to while he was here in the AIRF Office to collect the badges.

Considerable coordination has been achieved among various organisations of the railwaymen in connection with the proposed strike. Some problems are bound to occur we shall have to try our best to smoothen them out. From my side, I have been constantly telling our unions to see that maximum coordination is achieved.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

George Fernandes  
President.

Com. G.D. Sohani  
Dy. Secretary General  
Bhartiya Railway Mazdoor Sangh  
19, Windsor Place  
New Delhi

rn\*

# भारतीय रेलवे मजदूर संघ

Bharatiya Railway Mazdoor Sangh

( FEDERATION OF INDIAN RAILWAY WORKERS )



IBRAHIM MANSION,  
2ND FLOOR, POIBAWADI,  
PAREL, BOMBAY 12.

पत्र क्र. ....

L. No. *NCEERS/* .....

Delhi Office :-  
19, WINDSOR PLACE,  
NEW DELHI

2800  
29/3/54

इब्राहिम मंगलान, २ रा माला,  
पोयबावडी, परेल,  
बम्बई-१२.

दिनांक .....

Date. *27-3-54* .....

**PRESIDENT:-**  
Shri H.C. Kachhaway  
President *M.P.*  
~~Shri Ram Swaroop Vidyaarthi~~  
~~Advocate New Delhi~~  
Working President  
Shri G.S. Gokhala

**Vice President :-**  
~~Shri Hukamchand Kachhwal M.P.~~  
~~New Delhi~~  
Shri Ram Kuberalal Shrivastava  
Gorakhpur  
Shri G. Ramlu Secunderabad

**Secy Genl. :-**  
Shri Amaldarsingh Bombay

**Secy. Genl ( ORG. )**  
Shri Manohar Phatak

**Dy. Secy. Genl.**  
Shri B. S. R. Sastry Secunderabad  
Shri Q. D. Sohani New Delhi  
Shri R. B. Moitra Calcutta

**Secy Finance :-**  
Shri S. R. Chitrao Bombay

**Head Office :-**  
Loti Bhuvan, D'silva Road,  
VADAR, BOMBAY-28.

Dear Shri Fernandezjee

The formation of the National coordination committee for Railwaymen's struggle has caused tremendous enthusiasm among the Railwaymen throughout the country. The unprecedented unity achieved mainly through your efforts is now required to be effectively mobilised for the success ~~success~~ of the struggle. In view of this it is most important that the workers of unions and federations do not show any slackness which may result into discouragement of the masses. All the programmes chalked out and the preliminary spade work is required to be executed with utmost promptness.

In this connection we have to make some suggestions. At certain places workers of the unions associated with the coordination committee are not coming forward to form local committees ~~are~~ ~~not~~ As far as the non/AIRF unions are concerned we feel we should address the unions or federations concerned endorsing copies to you. For the affiliates of AIRF and its office, it is quite necessary and appropriate to write to you. We have been advised by our affiliates on the Central and Northern Railway that, on the Northern Railway in General and on the Bombay Division of the Central Railway the workers of AIRF affiliates appear to be shy of convening and also joining the local committees.

# भारतीय रेलवे मजदूर संघ

Bharatiya Railway Mazdoor Sangh

( FEDERATION OF INDIAN RAILWAY WORKERS )



IBRAHIM MANSION,  
2ND FLOOR, POIBAWADI,  
PAREL, BOMBAY 12.

Delhi Office :-  
19, WINDSOR PLACE,  
NEW DELHI

इब्राहिम मंशन, २ रा माला,  
पोयबावडी, परेल,  
बम्बई-१२.

पत्र क्र. ....

दिनांक .....

L. No. ....

Date .....

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

PRESIDENT :-

Shri H.C. Kachway,  
M.P.

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Working President  
Shri G.S. Gokhala

Vice President :-

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

New Delhi

Shri Ram Kuberal Shrivastava  
Gorakhpur

Shri G. Ramlu Secunderabad

Secy. Genl. :-

Shri Amaldarsingh Bombay

Secy. Genl ( ORG. )

Shri Manohar Phatak

Dy. Secy. Genl.

V. B. S. R. Sastry Secunderabad

~~G.D.~~  
Shri D. P. Sohani New Delhi

Shri R. B. Moitra Calcutta

Secy Finance :-

Shri S. R. Chitrao Bombay

Head Office :-

Moti Bhuvan, D'silva Road,  
DADAR, BOMBAY-28.

speciman to our affiliates.

We have to request you to please ~~XXXX~~ see that in the success of the joint struggle. Immediate steps be taken to improve the things. On our part we assure you of full cooperation and receptivity for any suggestions.

We hope the spirit behind this communication will be appreciated.

With regards.

Brotherly yours

( G.D. Sohani )  
Deputy Secretary General  
for BHARATIYA RAILWAY MAZDOOR SANGH

willin



# भारतीय रेलवे मजदूर संघ

BHARTIYA RAILWAY MAZDOOR SANGH TP.No.43350.  
10, Windsor Place,  
New Delhi 1.

( संघः भारतीय मजदूर संघ )

Camp Varanasi  
दिनांक 16<sup>th</sup> April '73

140

G/\*1\*.

Dear Shri Peter Alvaris,  
Shri\* President, A.I.R.F.  
New Delhi.

You know very well that the B.R.M.S. had its biannual session at Varanasi on 15th and 16th April 1973, This session has resolved that there is a necessity for a long, united and well prepared fight against the Central Government to solve the problems arising out of the meagre recommendations of the Third Pay Commission's Report and also for Bonus to Railwaymen.

The conference has put upon me the responsibility to take appropriate decisions in the above matter.

Since it is very clear to us that it is only by working in cooperation with you and the A.I.R.F. that we can think about any successful battle, I shall like to see you in this connection at your earliest. Shri Amaldar Singhji has already reported to me and to our executive the talks you had with him. I shall like to report you in person the discussions that took place in <sup>the</sup> executive on these talks and allied issues.

Will you therefore kindly fix up with Shri Umprakash Aghi, the Office Secretary Bharatiya Mazdur Sangh, 10, Windsor Place, New Delhi 1, the date, place and time when we can meet according to the convenience of both of us please.

Sincerely yours,

G. S. Gokhale  
( G. S. Gokhale. )

Working President.

Shri Peter Alvaris,  
President, A.I.R.F.,  
125, E, Babar Lane,  
NEW DELHI. 1.

372  
20/4/73

As per instructions  
Shri Peter Alvaris contacted  
Mrs Aghi at Delhi. Mr. Gokhale  
will contact her in  
27/4/73, P. S. R. J. S.



AIRE/160-B

April 6, 1974.

Dear Comrade Chakraborty,

I have your telegram. I am indeed sorry I cannot visit Kharagpur on April 9th. I shall be coming some other date in the 3rd week of April.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

George Fernandes  
President.

Com. S. Chakraborty  
Workshop Staff Committee  
Kharagpur

rn\*

AIR/160-B

April 6, 1974.

Dear Comrade Manjrekar,

I have your letter of March 29th.

I would request you to withhold your Work-to-Rule movement till the current dispute on the major demands of the Railwaymen is settled or till the time we have come out of our present agitation which will culminate in a General Strike if the demands are not settled by mutual negotiations.

Please let me know what you intend doing in the matter.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

George Fernandes

Com. G.M. Manjrekar  
General Secretary  
O.H.E. Staff Association  
P.P.Kanani Bldg.  
Dr. Ambedkar Road  
Kalyan, Distt: Thana

Copy forwarded to General Secretary, National Railway Mazdoor Union for information.

rd\*

AIRP/160-B(i)

April 6, 1974.


Dear Comrade Gupta,

I have your letter of April 2, 1974.

I shall talk to our friends on the various points raised by you in your letter.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President.

RR\*

(559)

(1)

# CENTRAL RAILWAY O.H.E. STAFF ASSOCIATION BOMBAY.

( Regd. No. 6051 )

Your Ref.

Our Ref. CHW/G/74-4/1.



OFFICE :

P. P. Kanani Bldg.  
Dr. Ambedkar Rd.,  
KALYAN, Dist. Thana.

29.04.1974.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

To

1. The General Manager,  
Central Railway, Bombay V.T.
2. The Chairman, 'Railway Board' New Delhi.
3. The Railway Minister, New Delhi.

Sir,

Since the Railway Administration absolutely neglected our genuine demands:


1. stoppage and withdrawal of Direct recruits -on intermediate grades in supervisory categories - such as Journeymen, Apprentice Mechanics and newly recruited Apprentice Chargemen 'C'.
2. Job evaluation.
3. Minimum Pay should not be less than Rs.600/- P.M.M under the minimum wages Act.
4. Requisitions of Uniforms to the staff, at least to class IV.
5. introduction of insurance scheme since the staff has to work under High Voltage circuits and Heavy Traffic conditions.
6. Reorganisation of department by implying the proper percentages of the staff according to categories.
7. special allowance based on Hours for the staff working in Acidic area.

574

"It is decided to adopt 'WORK TO RULE' procedure on and from Tuesday 00.00hrs of date 16.04.1974, till such time our all above mentioned genuine demands are not fulfilled." Please note and Acknowledge.

(G.M.Manjrekar.)  
General secretary.

- Copy to:
1. Shri George Fernandes, 'PRESIDENT' AIRF. ) For informa-
  2. President of India. ) tion and
  3. Prime Minister of India. ) further N/A.
  4. N.R.M.U. HQ. 'General secretary'. ) please.
  5. Divisional superintendent ) for information Pl.
- Central Railway BB. )

  
(G.M.Manjrekar.)  
General secretary.

# The National Federation of P&T Employees

PRESIDENT: Om P. Gupta

DADA GHOSH BHAWAN,  
I, PATEL ROAD.

D.O. No. F/50(JA).

NEW DELHI-8 April 2, 1974.

1 859  
2/6/74  
Dear Com. George,

4/5  
The Convention held on the 15th March, 1974 called upon all sections of Central Government employees "to close their ranks, build up unity and gear up machinery to meet the challenge". With a view to ensure that the P&T workers and others play their due role in the event Railwaymen go on strike, we are making all efforts to forge unity in the N.F.P.T.E.

It is however unfortunate that our efforts to complete these tasks have so far failed because of non-cooperation of other friends.

You know that both the N.F.P.T.E. and the Confederation stand divided. In spite of the decision of the Registrar of Trade Unions in our favour and Government recognition thereupon, some friends continue to function in the name of N.F.P.T.E. and therefore we pressed that the two lists of office-bearers be merged and a common set of office-bearers be drawn up for the interim period till regular elections are held in the whole organisation. We insisted upon realisation of this unity as a pre-condition to joint efforts for rallying P&T workers in the event of a strike which is inevitable. We strongly feel that unless all of us in N.F.P.T.E. jointly conduct negotiations, jointly assess the results and then jointly take a decision, strike in the P&T is very difficult to organise especially when another independent organisation, i.e., F.N.P.T.O. exists.

They want us to negotiate and keep to themselves the right to assess the results. None can accept such a position.

A coordinate action, as would be done with FNPTO, is not possible with these friends who function in the name of N.F.P.T.E. because both the groups being independent are free to issue circulars, press statements etc. which on occasions may be contradictory. We have thus refused to form a joint committee with them. Unless we unite at the

top, we can't forge unity at the base.

This does not, however, effect our commitment to do our best when Railwaymen go on strike.

It is very strange that these friends who had to postpone their decision of "strike before December" on the plea that unity be restored, should refuse to unite on the basis of any formula but desire to function independently and thus keep the movement divided. We have told them that we are prepared to hold fair and democratic elections to establish a proper leadership. We have also suggested that disputes at branch levels (about 200 out of 4000 branches) be resolved by mutual consultation and elections be held within 2 - 4 months under supervision of mutually agreed persons. It is unfortunate that neither they have accepted our proposal nor have they made any concrete counter-proposals.

It is not very difficult to understand their opposition. In fact, their resolution of unity as pre-condition for action is only a safety valve evolved by a section of their leadership which is traditionally anti-strike. They are very vociferous for action only to avoid strike. They will talk about unity but will not allow it to materialise so that no action is feasible. In 1968 also this group persuaded other friends to send a joint circular accusing us of imposing strike on them and becoming a tail of the A.I.R.F.

Difficulties in the Confederation are also somewhat similar but easier to resolve. I had made some suggestions to Com. S.K.Vyas. So far he too is non-committal about it.

I am writing this to you not only to keep you informed of the difficulties created in building up unity in the N.F.P.T.E. but also to avoid possible misunderstanding at a later stage if P&T workers are not able to play their traditional role.

I shall feel thankful if you could persuade these friends to see some sense and change their attitude.

With best regards,

Yours fraternally,

*Om P. Gupta*  
(OM P. GUPTA)

Com. George Fernandes,  
President,  
A.I.R.F.,  
125/E, Babar Road,  
New Delhi-1

N.F.I.R.

# National Federation of Indian Railwaymen

CENTRAL OFFICE

166/1, Panchkuian Road,  
NEW DELHI-1.

Ref: IV/CAC/1/74

Dt: 6th April, 1974

To: ALL THE AFFILIATED UNIONS AND  
MEMBERS OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE

Dear Friends,

Members of the Central Action Committee met at New Delhi on 28th and 29th March 1974. In the course of the meeting the prevailing situation on the Railways was reviewed with particular emphasis on the course of action to be adopted by the NFIR. The demands made by the NFIR, the change in the attitude of the AIRF, the developments during the last couple of months which in effect have changed the candour of the agitation, the Government's attitude in general, and the progress of the work before the Bonus Review Committee were all discussed in great detail.

The Members of the Action Committee met the Finance Minister, Shri Y.B. Chavan, and the Railway Minister, Shri L.N. Mishra, on 29th March 1974. The position of the NFIR, particularly regarding the Bonus was explained to the Finance Minister. The NFIR explained that the claim of Bonus for Railwaymen was irrefutable and so far as the NFIR was concerned there was no question of going back on this fair demand which must be accepted. The whole question of Bonus was discussed in greater details and the Finance Minister gave a sympathetic hearing. The Committee came back after its meeting with the Finance Minister with the impression that the Government are seriously and earnestly seized of the problem.

In the course of the meeting with the Railway Minister, the Action Committee not only laid stress on the demand for Bonus for Railwaymen but also raised the various issues arising out of the Pay Commission's report and the implementation of the Mishroy Tribunal's award regarding the revision of the hours of employment and increase in the rates of casual labour. These discussions also were held in detail and the Railway Minister assured that so far as the implementation of the Mishroy Tribunal's recommendations was concerned, the question was already under serious consideration of the Government, and within a matter of days the Government would take its decisions on the same. The Railway Minister fully appreciated the demand of the NFIR for the appointment of the Anomalies Committee and assured that he had already made a statement for the appointment of such a Committee and that, in view of the matters explained by the NFIR, he would take steps to expedite the appointment of the Committee so that anomalies arising out of the Pay Commission's recommendations could be sorted out without delay.

The Railway Minister also heard from the Members of the NFIR Action Committee the problems pertaining to the upgradation of staff, and informed the Committee that the NFIR had already been assured by the Railway Ministry, through a letter that the Railway Board had already taken in hand the question of the re-distribution of percentage of posts, and an endeavour would be made to finalise the matter without delay. He also assured that the NFIR would be consulted in the matter.

AIRF/ 160-B

April 6, 1974.

Dear Comrade Sivaraman,

I am glad to note from your letter of March 25 that all the unions of workers in the Integral Coach Factory have formed a Coordination Committee to conduct the strike. I hope your union will provide the necessary leadership during the coming general strike.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

George Fernandes  
President.

en\*





# I. C. F. WORKERS' UNION MADRAS

(Affiliated to A.I.R.F. Regd No. 3713)

President

T. SIVARAMAN

Zonal Secretary, A.I.R.F.

Genl. Secretary

K. PADMANABHAN

Date 25th March, '74.

To


The General Secretary,  
All India Railwaymen Federation,  
125E, Baber Road,  
New Delhi-1.

Dear Comrade,

Our I.C.F. Workers Union have formed a National Co-ordination Committee of Railwaymen, I.C.F. Unit under the Presidentship of Com.K. Padmanabhan, on 21-3-1974, with the other Unions and Associations of the Integral Coach Factory. We have formed the co-<sup>ordination</sup> operation committee to implement the decisions and resolutions of the National Co-ordination Committee of Railwaymen's struggles, and the programme of nation wide "demands week" from 2nd to 8th April, 1974. On 8th April, mass rally will be conducted by the working class of I.C.F., in front of the I.C.F. Administration as per directive of the National Co-ordination Committee of Railwaymen's struggle. Meanwhile the Co-ordination Committee of our I.C.F. Unit will conduct lunch-hour meeting and also we have started colony door to door canvassing at colony educate the workers to ~~participate~~ /to participate in the "demands week" and the forthcoming nation-wide "General strike" of the Railwaymen.

With kind regards,

Yours fraternally,

  
(K. Padmanabhan)  
General Secretary.

25/3

AIRE/160 B

April 6, 1974.

Dear Comrade Malgi,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated March 26, 1974, regarding preparation for the strike.

I hope the 'Dharna' was a great success. I shall appreciate receiving reports from various representatives about the 'Dharna'.

Please see that those branches which have still not send their Strike fund, do so immediately.

The Jabalpur and Jhansi Division need special attention. How is the situation in this division? I want to pay a visit to Jabalpur and Katni sometime in the 3rd week of this month.

Please keep speaking to the Press constantly.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

George Fernandes  
President.

Com. V.R. Malgi  
General Secretary,  
National Railway Mazdoor Union  
Seva Sadan, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Road  
Parel,  
Bombay-400012

rn\*

569

Telo. { Gram : RAILWAYMAN  
Phone : 442052  
" : 7711 C. RLY.

# National Railway Mazdoor Union

SEVA SADAN, DR. BABASAHEB AMBEDKAR ROAD, PAREL, BOMBAY-400 012

STRGL-150

V.R. MALGI  
GENERAL SECRETARY

Date 26-3-1974.

Comrade George Fernandes,  
President, A.I.R.F.,  
New Delhi.

2803  
29/3/74

Dear Com. George Fernandes,

RE: PREPARATION FOR THE STRIKE.

In accordance with the directive issued by you, I am submitting a report on the activities of the National Railway Mazdoor Union during the last week.

2. The Central Executive Committee of the Union met on 17th instant at Bombay and endorsed the resolution passed by the National Convention of the Indian Rlymen.

sent

3. On 18th instant a massive demonstration was staged before the Office of the General Manager, Central Rly. and a mass rally of railway workers of both Central & Western Railways was held at Azad Maidan. This massive rally was addressed by Miss Mani Ben Kara, Sarvashri Umraomal Purohit, V.R.Malgi, V.B.Mahadeshwar and Com. George Fernandes.

7/3

4. On 23rd instant, a Volunteer Corps has been formed with Shri N.R.Bawiskar, Treasurer of the N.R.M.U., H.O. as the Chief Organizer, simultaneously setting up various Volunteers' Squads at important places with the local people as Leaders. Proper coordination machinery has been set up between volunteers throughout Bombay VT & Kalyan. So far we have enrolled over 500 volunteers between Bombay, VT and Kalyan. The process of enrolment continues vigorously.

5. On 24th instant a meeting of railway workers was held at Lonavla at 10 A.M. and a Joint Action Committee was formed. A meeting of women of Lonavla was also held and a Committee for 'Railway Kamgar Sangharsh Samiti' was formed on the same day.

5.1. I went to Poona and addressed a Press Conference in Poonam Hotel. In the afternoon, we held a meeting of the important citizens and Trade Union leaders to form 'Sangharsh Sahayak Samiti'. Shri Shantaram Divekar, Mayor of Poona City, has agreed to be the Chairman of the 'Sangharsh Sahayak Samiti', and Comrades A.D.Bhosle and B.D.Joshi have been nominated as the Convenors of the 'Sangharsh Sahayak Samiti'. The other Members of the 'Sangharsh Sahayak Samiti' are - Dr.Kumar Saptarshi; Sarvashri Baba Rao; B.H. Rajhans and other Trade Union Leaders. The Committee is going to meet again and co-opt other persons from the Poona City to support the demand of railway workers.

5.2. A Women's Committee is also going to be formed and a meeting for the same is being called.

5.3. In the evening, we addressed a rally near the Railway Parcel Office, Poona, which was presided over by Com.H.N. Singh, Zonal Secretary, AIRF.

# National Railway Mazdoor Union

SEVA SADAN, DR. BABASAHEB AMBEDKAR ROAD, PAREL, BOMBAY-400 012

: 2 :

Date \_\_\_\_\_

No. \_\_\_\_\_

This rally was addressed by Dr.Saptarshi, V.R. Malgi, S/Shri B.N.Rajhans, Shantaram Divekar, Mayor of Poona. The formation of the Joint Committee of the 'Sangharsh Sahayak Samiti' for Railwaymen was also announced at this rally.

5.3.1. Similar Committees have also been formed at Dehu Road.

6. On 25th instant, a joint meeting of the Unions and Associations was held in the H.O. of the NR.M.U. at Parel, and a Zonal Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle, has been set up with the undersigned as the Convenor.

7. On 28th instant, a meeting of all the volunteers and active workers of the participating Organizations, has been convened to chalk out programmes for intensifying the campaign for the struggle.

7.1. Instructions have also been issued to form Division-wise and Branch-wise Committees.

8. Our Branches are taking the initiative for spearheading the movement. I have got reports that at certain places where the 'struggle fund' was not collected, a beginning has been made to collect the 'struggle fund'.

9. Reports further indicate about vigorous preparations being made all over the Central Railway for staging 24-hour 'dharna' from 8 A.M. on 2nd April to 8 A.M. on 3rd April 1974.

10. Comrades P.R. Menon, Working President; C.Radhakrishnan; V.B.Mahadeshwar; George John, Secretaries; N.R.Bawiskar, Treasurer; R.S.Bhatnagar; Vice President at Gwalior; D.P.Thakur, Divisional Organizer HGF and L.R. Thakur, Vice President at Nagpur G.A.Sharma, Vice President at Jabalpur; H.N. Singh, Zonal Secretary, AIRF and a number of others are on their legs to prepare for the struggle.

11. Since Com.V.B.Mahadeshwar is\* keeping indifferent health, he is staying in Bombay and I will be leaving for Delhi on the 27th instant in accordance with your letter.

12. During my absence, the H.O. of the Union will be manned by Comrades V.B. Mahadeshwar and N.R.Bawiskar, to whom all important instructions may be issued.

With fraternal greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
(V.R. MALGI)  
GEN. SECRETARY.

Com.George Fernandes,  
President,  
All-India Railwaymen's Federation,  
125-E, Babar Road,  
New Delhi.

AIR/160-B(1)

April 6, 1974.

Dear Comrade Sohani,

I have your letter of March 27th.

I am indeed sorry for the inconvenience your representative was put to while he was here in the AIRF Office to collect the badges.

Considerable coordination has been achieved among various organisations of the railwaymen in connection with the proposed strike. Some problems are bound to occur we shall have to try our best to smoothen them out. From my side, I have been constantly telling our unions to see that maximum coordination is achieved.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

  
George Fernandes  
President.

Com. G.D. Sohani  
Dy. Secretary General  
Bhartiya Railway Mazdoor Sangh  
19, Windsor Place  
New Delhi

rn\*

AIRE/160-8

April 6, 1974.

Dear Comrade Chakraborty,

I have your telegram. I am indeed sorry I cannot visit Kharagpur on April 9th. I shall be coming some other date in the 3rd week of April.

with greetings,

Yours sincerely,

George Fernandes  
President.

Com. S. Chakraborty  
Workshop Staff Committee  
Kharagpur

RM\*

President :

MANIBEN KARA

General Secretary :

UMRAOMAL PUROHIT

Secretaries :

JAGDISH AJMERA

K. C. TRIVEDI

C. KURIAKOSE



Tele {  
Phone: 374813

## Western Railway Employees' Union

Regd., Recognised & Affiliated to AIRF & HMS

Railway Station Bldg., (East,)

Grant Road,

BOMBAY-7. (WB)

*AAAF/160-B*

Ref. No. RS/3/74

Date 28th March 1974.

General Secretary,  
A.I.R.F., New Delhi

Sir,

Re: Posters and Badges

We were informed on phone that posters and Badges for WRBU will be sent with catering staff of Frontier. We enquire from the staff and learnt that C.Rly. had taken delivery of posters from Dadar Station. Other posters were delivered to Kota Ratlam and Baroda. Thus for Bombay Division, no posters are available.

We have not received 'badges'.

Kindly send posters and badges with bearers and and also advise further.

Thanking in anticipation.

*Jagdish Ajmera*  
(Jagdish Ajmera)  
for General Secretary.

AIR/ 160. B


April 6, 1974.

Dear Com. Jha,

I have just now seen your circular explaining why a 'Dharna' in Katihar was not possible. I hope the restrictions imposed by the Civil Authorities are not coming in the way of our strike preparations.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,



George Fernandes  
President.

Com M.S. Jha  
Secretary,  
N.F. Ry. Mazdoor Union,  
Katihar

rn\*



AIR/ 160-A

April 6, 1974.

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With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

George Fernandes  
President.

Com M.S. Jha  
Secretary,  
N.F. Ry. Mazdoor Union,  
Katihar

in\*

AIRE/160-8

April 6, 1974.

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With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

George Fernandes  
President.

Com M.S. Jha  
Secretary,  
N.F. Rly. Mazdoor Union,  
Katihar

m\*

528  
N. F. RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION  
KATIHAR.

Dear Comrades,

2853  
3/4/74

The civil authorities have imposed restrictions on the 24 hrs Mass squatting (Dharna) programme commencing from 8 A.M. of 29th March/74 in front of DS/building which was proposed to focus the 6 charter of Demands adopted by the National convention of Rlymen at New Delhi.

The programme of Dharna was to be held peacefully and it was fully constitutional and the information of the programme had been given to the Rly authorities as well as local authorities well in advance.

4/4  
But sorry to inform you that the bureaucratic officials of the Govt. who seem to have resorted to anti labour activities, at least at Katihar, have started crushing the democratic trade union activities and have imposed prohibitions on observance of the mass squatting (Dharna). Despite convincing plea given by the unions and right from Rly officials to the District Magistrate the authorities did not accord permission for the same.

Our intelligence report is that the Rly administration have arranged to get the union leaders arrested to curb the coming struggle on flimsy grounds. Hence on advice of the central union leaders we are refraining from to days Dharna but this can not repress our struggle.

We shall launch civil disobedience soon against such orders.

Be ready and unite yourself for the coming struggle.

With revolutionery greetings.

Comradely yours,

M.S.Jha.

/SECRETARY  
N.F.RLY MAZDOOR UNION,  
KATIHAR.

2  
To General Secretary,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
125/E, Babar Road, New Delhi.

579  
**Northern Railway Men's Union**

Mechanical & Electrical Branch  
MORADABAD.

(Registered, Recognised & Affiliated to A. I. R. E)

Central Office:-

115.E, Babar Road. NEW DELHI-I

Divisional Office:-

South Hallet Road, MORADABAD.

Ref. No. NRMU/MB/74-Strike

Dated..... 27.3.74.....

1  
2/4 A/M/2/1608  
The General Secretary,  
N.R.M.U. 115E-Babar Road,  
New Delhi.

Comrade,

Reg:- Mass meetings held at Sitapur city  
and Hardoi. (Balamau Branches).  
\*\*\*\*\*

On 25.3.74 a mass meeting was held at  
Sita pur City and on 26.3.74 at Hardoi Railway  
Stations about 300 employees at SPC. and about  
500 employees at HRI. were assembled.

Shri T.N.Bajpai and my self addressed  
the meetings.

At Hardoi Shri T.N.Bajpai took more than  
two hours and the staff was so much impressed  
with the speech that so many employees offered  
their two days wages for struggle fund.

Both the meetings were presided by Shri  
S.S.Khanna Divisional Treasurer.

Yours comradely,

*K.D. Bhagi*  
(K.D.BHAGI)

Divisional Secretary

Copy to:- General Secretary A.I.R.F. 125E, Babar  
Road, New Delhi for information pl.

(58)

# Northern Railway Men's Union

Mechanical & Electrical Branch

MORADABAD.

(Registered, Recognised & Affiliated to A. I. R. E)

Central Office:-

115.E, Babar Road. NEW DELHI-1

Divisional Office:-

South Hallet Road, MORADABAD.

Ref. No. NPMU/MB/74-Strike

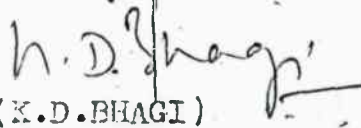
Dated 31.3.74.

The General Secretary,  
N.R.M.U. 115E, Babar Road,  
New Delhi.

Comrade,

I have to inform you that on 30.3.74 as per programme already circulated vide this office of even No: dated 27.3.74 I reached Bareilly by 6 DN. Mail and had four gate meetings, at Washing Line-Train Lighting depot, Loco Shed, Railway Station, and in Traffic Yard at 9/- hrs; 12/-hrs; 14/- hrs; and at 16/- hrs. respectively. My self, Shri Darshan-Singh and Shri R.D.Sharma Br. Secy. BE. Branch addressed the meetings. The aim and objects of the struggle were explained and in all the meetings staff assembled were very much impressed and there was resentment amongst them against the Govt. for not fulfilling the legitimate demands put forward by the Administration and the staff promised for any kind of sacrifice to achieve the goal.

Yours comradely,

  
(K.D.BHAGI)

Divisional Secretary

Copy to: General Secretary A.I.R.F. 125E, Babar Road, New Delhi for information pl.

Branch Secretaries/Presidents,  
Northern Railway Men's Union,  
Saranath Division.

Dear Comrades,

You are fully aware that as per decision of all India Railway Men's Federation STRIKE is a must and it is the 1st and foremost duty of the Branch Secretaries and Presidents to see that the strike is given utmost success. Almost all of you have got the experience of previous strikes which were held in 1960 and 1965 and in these strikes most of the Office Bearers failed to participate in strike. It is the duty of the Office Bearer that not only he himself should participate in strike but it is his utmost duty to get the strike success in their local branches by all means. If the Office Bearer himself remains away from strike, it is a blot upon him as well as on the CIO and the blot on the organization can not be teleported.

It is therefore impressed upon you to keep in touch with all the workers working in your local branches and in order to achieve the goal it is your 1st and foremost duty to prepare the workers for strike.

It is also added that if they feel that any office bearer of the branch lags behind and does not propagate the aims and objects of struggle amongst the members and employees in general and any office bearer is reluctant to go on strike they are fully empowered to recommend to the General Secretary and the undersigned for his ousting from Office Bearer ship of the branches and may accept such persons who have got faith on the ORGANIZATION, can mobilize the workers, are prepared to go on strike and see the STRIKE success.

I hope that you will not lag behind and will do your utmost to have a successful strike.

REMEMBER that the ORGANIZATION is ABOVE ALL and if any one who so ever he may be, tries to defame the organization and keeps himself away from the struggle is our enemy and no leniency is to be shown to him.

Yours cordially,

H. D. Jha,

(A. S. 22121)  
Divisional Secretary

Copy to:-

All Divisional Office Bearers and General Secretary  
and President A. S. U. for information please.

No. - NRM/MD/74-Subu DH- 31/3/74

Shri \_\_\_\_\_  
Branch Secretary N.R.M.U.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Branch.

Comrade,  
General Secretary N.R.M.U. has informed that he along-with Shri \_\_\_\_\_ President N.R.M.U. are reaching Madras on 6.3.1974 and has desired to meet all the Office Bearers of the Branches. It is therefore desired that all the Office Bearers must reach MD, on 6.3.74 latest by 12/- hrs.

Reconcentration at D.S. office has been arranged on 6.3.74 as per directives of the Centre. You are requested to come with maximum number of staff on 6.3.74 too.

Shri J.P. Chaubey President N.R.M.U. has instructed that a purse of Rs. 1000/- is to be presented to Shri George - Fernandes on 6.3.1974 by the Madras Division. It is therefore desired that all the branches must come with a amount not less than 1,000/- so that the purse be got presented.

You might aware that in the Central Council meeting held at MD, on 28.1.74, it was decided that the branches having membership of 200 or above will send Rs. 1000/- and the branches having the membership of 100 or above will send Rs. 2000/- latest by 31.3.74 but none is seems to be serious to implement the decision. It is therefore stressed upon you that you must bring a sum of Rs. 1000/- on 6.3.74. Please treat this most urgent.

Yours cordially,  
H. D. Hegde  
Divisional Secretary

Copy of the above to all Divisional Office Bearers,  
General Secretary and President NRMU for information pl.

NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
Shri \_\_\_\_\_

Branch Secretary N.R.M.U.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Branch.

No. - NRM/MD/74-Subu  
DH- 31/3/74

Comrade,  
President N.R.M.U. had given the call to collect ONE DAY PAY as struggle fund from the Railway Employees. I feel that the directives of the President have not been implemented by the Office Bearers themselves what to say of others.  
You are therefore directed to collect amount equal to one pay from each Office Bearer and bring the same with you while coming to Madras on 6.3.74 and the said amount will be deposited in the struggle fund account of the Division.  
Please treat it as most urgent.

Yours cordially  
H. D. Hegde  
Divisional Secretary

Copy to:- All the Divisional Office Bearers,  
General Secretary and President NRMU for information pl.

NCC/1/74

April 5, 1974.

Dear Com. Sarkar,

I am in receipt of your letter No. BDC/74/5, dated 25.3.74, giving the names of your representatives for the Coordination Committee. The names have been noted. You have remitted an amount of Rs.25/- towards the expenses of running of the office of the Coordination Committee. Since it was agreed in the meeting that every participating organisation will remit Rs.50/- towards the expenses, you are requested to send Rs.25/- more.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,



(for George Fernandes)  
Convener

Shri Satya Narayan Sarkar,  
President,  
Indian Railway Coal & Ash  
Handling Mazdoor Union,  
Bandel Junction,  
Distt. Hooghly.



NCC/1/74

April 5, 1974.

Dear Com. Sarkar,

This is to thank you for your letter No. ADCC/NCC/74, dated the 25th March, 1974, forwarding the names of your representatives to the Coordination Committee. You are now requested to send a copy of the Resolution ratifying the decision of the National Convention.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,



(for George Fernandes)  
Convener.

Shri S.K.Sarkar,  
General Secretary,  
Asansol Divl. Coordination  
Committee,  
496A, Old Station,  
Railway Colony,  
P.O. Asansol,  
Distt. Burdwan (West Bengal)

NCC/1/74

April 5, 1974.

Dear Com. Subrahmaniam,

I have your letter No.Org./74,  
dated 28.3.74, advising the names of your  
representatives for the Coordination Committee.  
I am happy to know that you have already ratified  
the Resolution of the National Convention.

The names of your representatives to  
the Coordination Committee have been noted.

As advised by you, the amount of Rs.50/-  
remitted by you has not so far been received by  
this office. Kindly check up.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,



(For George Fernandes)  
Convener.

Shri S.Subrahmaniam,  
General Secretary,  
South Eastern Ry.Labour Union,  
88B, Garden Reach Road,  
Calcutta-23.

NCC/1/74

April 5, 1974.

Dear Com. Ghatak,

I am in receipt of your letter No. UCR/NFR/1-74, dated 26.3.74, forwarding the names of your representatives to the Coordination Committee. As desired by you, a copy of the Resolution adopted in the National Convention of Railwaymen held at Delhi on 27th February, 1974, is being sent herewith. You are requested to ratify this resolution and send one copy to this office.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,

Encl: as above.

(for George Fernandes)  
Convener

Shri S.K. Ghatak,  
Convener,  
United Committee of Railwaymen,  
N.F. Railway,  
Maligaon, C/o. CEE's Office,  
Gauhati-11 (Assam)

All M.T.P.(Rlys) Bombay. Staff.

Dt- 3 April 1974.

Dear Friends,

On behalf of M.T.P.(Rlys) co-ordination Committee for Railwaymen struggle, we convey our heartiest congratulations to all the staff for making the "Dharna" on 2-4-1974 a grand success which was only possible due to the solidarity and united action of the staff. The demonstration on the same evening at V.T. Station was also done grandly with the overwhelming response from the staff. But still, some staff are hesitant to come forward openly to support the struggle by participating in the programme of demonstrations processions and meetings. We appeal to such of those of the employees to join us unitedly and spontaneously to effectively make the Demand's Week a great success. The programme for the Demands ~~week~~ week has been brought out and distributed to all the staff. All are requested to participate in day to day programme as surely as possible to strengthen struggle of all Railwaymen

United action will only win our Demands. This is the time to unite and strike.

"ONE FOR ALL AND ALL FOR ONE".

National co-ordination Committee for Railwaymen's struggle Zindabad.

M.T.P.(Rlys) Co-ordination Committee Zinda Bad-

(A.T. Paratkar)

(A.M. Shaikh)



AIRF/

2nd April, 1974.

The Editor,  
Pioneer,  
Lucknow

Dear Sir,

I have read your Editorial Comments in your daily, dated the 2nd April, 1974 under the caption "The Ultimate Strike". In this connection I would request you to kindly publish this letter in your esteemed daily in order to put the record straight:

"The railwaymen are not asking for moon as is being made out by the Railway Minister in one of his utterances. The Railwaymen are asking for parity in wages, obtaining in public sector undertakings for comparable professions, jobs and works. Today, the total wage of a Class IV employee in the Railways is Rs.227/- per month as against Rs.350/- and above given to the Cement Workers under an Award of the Union Labour Minister and in all public sector undertakings of Hillai, Durgapur and Rourkela, etc. The wages of the Class III and Class IV employees working in the nationalised banks, Reserve Bank of India and Life Insurance Corporation of India are still higher.

Bonus has been given to all the industrial workers in the country excepting those in the Railways, P&T and Defence Factories, who are also industrial workers. This demand has been under discussion in the JCM for over 2 years and the Govt. has been evading a decision.

The Govt. employees drawing salary of Rs.300/- are given only 75% neutralisation as Dearness Allowance against 100% given to the employees of the State Trading Corporation and elsewhere in the public sector undertakings.

The resolution adopted by the Annual Convention of the All India Railwaymen's Federation in October, 1973 at Secunderabad and also the resolution adopted by the National Convention of the Railwaymen held in Delhi on 27th February, 1974, representing all the Railwaymen's Unions/Associations have urged the Govt. of India for a negotiated settlement.

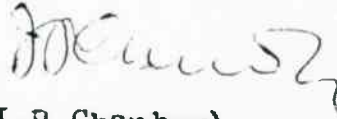
Mr. George Fernandes, President of the AIRF in the meeting convened by Shri L.N.Mishra, Minister for Railways on the 4th February, 1974, personally urged the Minister for Rlys.

Contd.

to open negotiations for a Charter of Demands of the Rail- Union Minister for Labour, Shri Planning Minister, Shri D.P. Dhar are also present. As a functionary of the AIRF, I can assure you that the AIRF has been willing and is still willing for a negotiated settlement and does not stand on false prestige. Mr. George Fernandes ever since his election as the President of the AIRF in October, 1973, has been trying for a negotiated settlement and it is the Govt. of India which has been evading a settlement.

It will, therefore, be appreciated that the impression which is being created that the Railwaymen are not eager for a settlement, but going ahead with their strike is arbitrarily based with the intention to malign the railwaymen in the eyes of the public."

Yours faithfully,



(J.P. Chaubey)  
 For General Secretary.

Treasurer

President

Pragnanand P.

Be

3/4/74

ALL INDIA LOCO RUNNING STAFF ASSOCIATION

Regd. No. NAT/38

HQ. Lunding

Dated 31/3/74

Camp: New Delhi.

To

Com. P.K. Baruah,  
Secretary General,  
AILRSA

Dear Comrade,

As per the decision taken in the working committee meeting on 18/3/74 at Varanasi, I have written a letter to the Convenor National Co-ordination Committee of Railwaymen's struggle asking clarification on some points. The copy of which have already been sent to the Zonal Secretaries of the respective zones like Southern, Northern, Western and N.F. and the same copy also sent to you and the President. Because the allegations were against the activities of AIRF, the reply has received from the AIRF. alongwith the following copies on 31/3/74.

1. Copy of the letter written to AIRF by the President Guard Council appreciating their support in the Guard's recent work to Rule Movement.
2. Resolutions taken in the Central Govt. Employees Convention on 15th and 16th March, 1974.
3. Copy of the letter written by the AIRF in support of the R.F. Rly Loco Running Staff agitation.

In the letter itself the AIRF has stated that they have got full sympathy to our proposed "Work to Rule" movement on and from 15th April '74. Of course, they did not give any categorical reply to the charges brought against their unit in the above mentioned railways but they have brought allegation that in some places our association did not attend in the Joint Meeting convened by the AIRF unit. They mentioned specially about our unit of Batinda of Northern Railway whereas others have attend the same.

Since the Working Committee meeting and the AGM have authorised us to make every possible effort for the joint movement, I feel in the present face of the Govt.'s serious onslaught, we must not refuse to attend in any joint meeting but we should encourage the same. Because it is already proved that we are the champion of joint movement. By our serious effort only, in the Railway Industry joint movement is building up and it is inevitable in near future only.

I am herewith circulating all these copies for the information of all Central Office bearers and Zonal Secretaries.

With greetings,

Yours comradely,

( S.K. Dhar )  
Joint Secretary General  
A.I.L.R.S.A.

TELEPHONE: 40947

GRAM: RAILWAYMEN

ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION

(Estd. 1924)

125/E, BABAR ROAD, NEW DELHI-1.

AIRF/160 -B

Shri S.K.Dhar,  
Joint Secretary General,  
All India Loco Running Staff Association,  
Camp: Yellow Building,  
P.O. Anara (R.S.),  
Distt. Purulia (West Bengal)

Dear Comrade,

We have received your letter of 19th March, 1974. Shri George Fernandes is out on tour and, therefore, I am sending you a reply to avoid any delay.

We have not yet received a copy of the Resolution, adopted by your Annual Conference wherein your Association has to ratify the decision of the National Convention, held on the 27th February, 1974.

The AIRF have issued necessary instructions in accordance with the decision taken by the National Convention and the National Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle to all its affiliated unions. We have received reports that many of the participant organisations could not issue instructions to their local units which delayed the formation of the local committees. From the Northern Railway and particularly the Bhatinda, we have received reports that the representative of the All India Loco Running Staff Association did not attend the meeting convened by our affiliated unions to form the Coordination Committee. Similar reports have also been received in regard to the representatives of some other organisations from other places also. It is, however, expected that there would be a growing realisation amongst the local units of the various participant organisations and that they would faithfully implement the decision of the Convention. Nevertheless, the AIRF would again reiterate its instructions for compliance.

In regard to the "Work-to-Rule" movement launched by the Guards, it may be pointed out that the AIRF supported this movement actively and at no stage the AIRF's support was withdrawn. The press report, appearing in a section of the press was contradicted by Com. Umraomal, Purohit, Asstt. General Secretary of the Federation on the next day. The President of the Federation also issued a Statement supporting the "Work-to-Rule" agitation of the Guards and reiterating AIRF's determination to support the movement until and unless an agreement was reached. The President of the Guards Council in his communication dated the 17th March, 1974, has expressed his gratitude for the co-operation extended by the AIRF. I enclose herewith a copy of the letter for your



information. I also enclose herewith a copy of the Resolution adopted in the National Convention of the Central Employees held on the 15th and 16th March, 1974.

The AIRF has always condemned the attempts of the railway administration to victimise the employees for trade union activities and also for detention of the employees under MISA. I can assure you that the AIRF will make full efforts to see that victimisation of the Loco Running Staff, which you have referred in the last paragraph of your letter, is vacated.

The AIRF also fully supports your decision to launch "Work-to-Rule" campaign from 15th of April, 1974 also also to implement 10-hour duty in all the Railways from the 15th of April, 1974.

You will appreciate that after our decision on the 27th February 1974, for a united struggle, it should be the endeavour of each unit of the National Coordination Committee to have coordinated action on such issues. However, it will be possible for us to discuss the whole issue when you will be in Delhi in connection with the meeting of the National Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle.

Yours fraternally,

Encl: as above.

Sd/-

( J.P. Chaubey )  
for General Secretary.

COPY

ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S COUNCIL

General President

R.P.Yadav, M.P.,  
4C, North Avenue,  
New Delhi-1.

General Secretary

C.L.Upadhaya  
72, Takia Ganeshganj,  
Lucknow-1 (U.P.)

No. 363/74

Dated March 17, 1974.

Dear Shri Fernandes,

I thank you for your D.O. letter No. AIRF/163, dated 15th March, 1974, and have full appreciations for the moral and active support, sympathy and help which has been expressed through your letter under reference.

However, I have been misunderstood that I sought recognition for the AIGC which may please be noted.

I look forward to your and your organisation's support in future too.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

( R.P. Yadav )  
General Secretary.

Shri George Fernandes,  
President,  
All India Railwaymen's Federation,  
125/E, Babar Road,  
New Delhi.

TELEPHONE: 40947

TELEGRAM: RAILWAYMEN

ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION

(Estd. 1924)

125/E, BABAR ROAD, NEW DELHI-1.

AIRF/36/89/260(B)

March 30, 1974.

The Secretary (E),  
Railway Board,  
New Delhi.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Large-scale arrests, detentions and suspensions  
of Railway Staff under MISA on NF. RAILWAY.

.....

The AIRF has noted with pain, anguish and concern the wave of mass victimisation, including arrests and detentions of the Loco Running Staff in particular and the other railway employees in general, let loose by the Railway Administration on the N.F. Railway. This has created widespread resentment amongst the railway employees in general and the Loco Running Staff in particular on the N.F. Railway and the affiliated union of the Federation on the N.F. Railway has been protesting against these repressions, victimisation and detentions of the railway employees. The All India Loco Running Staff Association has also been protesting against these arrests, suspensions and detentions of the Loco Running Staff on the N.F. Railway.

The decision of the Govt. for 10-hours working by the Loco Running Staff has not been implemented, so far. The Ministry of Railways have been holding out assurances for implementation of the agreement arrived at between the Ministry of Railways and the All India Loco Running Staff Association.

The AIRF, requests the Board that immediate steps may kindly be taken to sort out the issues involved so that normalcy is resorted and suspensions and arrests are vacated and the working of 10-hour duty is given start before it becomes too late.

An early action in the matter will oblige.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

( J.P. Chaubey )

for General Secretary

Copy forwarded to Shri S.K.Dhar, Joint Secretary General,  
All India Loco Running Staff Association, Camp:  
with reference to the last para of his letter dated  
March 19, 1974.

46  
National Railway Mazdoor Union  
WORKSHOP BRANCH

45, Manohar Pura Nagra,  
JHANSI (U. P.)

Ref. No. W/S/STRGL/74.

Date 17-3-74.

General Secretary,  
AIRF, New Delhi.

Dear Comrade,

Sub:- Historical Successful agitation launched by  
Railway Staff of Jhansi area on 16-3-74 and total  
hold up of Railway movement from 7-30 hours to 17-00hrs.

Of late due to indifferent attitude of RPF staff towards  
other sections of Railway men a tense situation was pre-  
vailing at Jhansi. More than once this branch has  
requested the higher authorities to change their attitude  
and stop harassment of Railway Staff but no change  
could be seen.

15  
On the morning of 16-3-74 near about 16 on duty employees  
of CSM and S T department have been arrested by the RPF on the  
plea that they have crossed the Railway line at Jhansi  
Railway Station. It is needless pointout that the staff of  
both the departments are working on railway lines and without  
crossing the Railway line, it is not at all possible for  
them to perform their duty. This very fact is fully known to  
a 'Sainik' of RPF department. It is therefore clear that  
the officials of the RPF who ordered arrest of on duty  
Railway Staff done it with bad intention to harass the  
workers. It was a strange practice as far as the railway  
men is concerned to lodge the workers in armed, barracks.  
The labour leaders available on the spot approached the  
concerned RPF official for immediate release of the workers  
but they were threatened to be opened fire upon them.

The Divisional Mechanical Engineer also promptly tried his best to release the workers, but the RPF officer not only refused to oblige but also insulted him.

Seeing no other alternative, the workers of both the departments stopped working to get a honourable release of their co-workers. The news spread very quickly all over Jhansi and other departments also joined with them. Within one hour the work of all other departments came to standstill. The Railwaymen marched to the railway station shouting slogans against RPF and demanding immediate action against the RPF officials involved in the arrest.

The news came to workshop during meal hours. No one turned up for work after meal hours. The workshop staff including AO(S&W), store, and office staff marched to the station immediately.

More than 99% Railway staff Jhansi stopped work and assembled in the station. On this occasion all the unions <sup>and</sup> associations stood together and the entire activities of Railway came to stand still.

At this stage, the CRMS leadership suggested and favoured a march to DS's office for handing over memorandum to DS Jhansi, which further excited the crowd who shouted upon them and demanded that the DS should come over to the Railway station and give guarantee and decision in public to the effect <sup>that</sup> the RPF staff involved in the arrest and harassment of on duty staff be shifted immediately from Jhansi and drastic action taken against them to put an end to such bad practice for ever. This was indeed a justified and unanimous demand from all corner of agitators. At this stage, the NRMU took over full fledged agitation activities and leadership of the agitation and the demand was conveyed to DS-Jhansi. The local MP and Civil authorities present on the station also supported the demand. Though the DS-Jhansi agreed with the spirit and justification behind the demand, he afraid to <sup>not</sup> come out of his chamber. Efforts made by all corner for changing the <sup>not</sup> look and approach of DS Jhansi have not succeeded. This has resulted into further delay to restore working.

In the end, at about 17-00 hours the DS Jhansi was compelled to come out of his chamber and address the agitators at the Railway Station itself. On his assurance in public to direct the RPF Inspector to CSO -BBVT by first available train and to conduct an immediate enquiry by the representatives of employees and administration and taking adequate action on the basis of the finding of the enquiry itself the agitation ended without any untoward incidents. Here it is pointed out that had the DS taken a reasonable stand earlier to meet the situation promptly which he had taken at 17-00 hours, the normalcy could have been reached within a couple of hours of its beginning.

In the second stage when the local administration was approached

to regularise the period ~~xxxxx-xxxx-xxx-xxxx~~ of absence of staff who participated in the agitation by granting ~~2~~ 1 day/ 1 day leave as the case may be, it was told they are waiting for further instructions from CPO-BBVT in the matter ~~and~~ before ~~it is~~ received no action can be taken. It is therefore requested that the competent authority may kindly be approached to issue instructions to local administration to regularise period of absence by granting leave.

It is stated that on the organisational point of ~~view~~ of labour movement the agitation in question loadged by the staff of Jhansi area was historical and succes as it was the first full ~~length~~ launching of agitation at Jhansi. If the present tempo is maintained properly, no doubt that it will help us in our next programme of strike.

Yours faithfully,

*R Singh*  
Chairman,  
Workshop & Store Branch,  
Jhansi.

Copy General Secretary NRMU Parel, for information  
He is requested to take urgent suitable action to get instruction issued from CPO-BBVT in the regularisation of absence of the staff.

NCC/1 | 24

March 28, 1974.

The Post Master,  
New Delhi G.P.O.

Dear Sir,

All money orders addressed in my name either as Convener of the above Committee or as President, A.I.R.F. may be handed over at my office, in my absence, to Mr Krishanand, Office Assistant; whose signatures are attested below.

Yours faithfully,

(Krishna Nand)  
attested.

George Fernandes

rn\*

# WESTERN RAILWAY EMPLOYEE'S UNION

(Regd. Recognised and Affiliated to A. I. R. F. & H. M. S.)

RATLAM DIVISION

HEAD OFFICE :

RAILWAY STATION BLDG (EAST.)  
GRAND ROAD, BOMBAY-7  
m : RAILEADER  
ne : 374813 ( BOMBAY )

DIVISIONAL OFFICE

442, RLY. QUARTERS,  
Station Road, RATLAM

PRESIDENT :

PADMASHR  
MISS MANIBEN KARA  
GENERAL SECRETARY:  
MRAOMAL PUROHIT  
SECRETARIES :  
AGDISH AJMERA  
C. C. TRIVEDI  
S. KURIACOS

Ref No RTM/ORG/STRG/74/3-0

Date 26-3-1974.

All Branch Secretaries, and  
Members of Divisional Body,  
W.Rly. Emp. Union, Ratlam Division.  
( )

Dear Comrades,

In continuation of my previous letter regarding Struggle under which minutes of the Joint Meeting were already sent to you, it is further to inform you that -

1. As per directives given by the Headquarter Office, you might have also formed the STRUGGLE COMMITTEE by now on the same lines.

~~2. As such in continuation to this meeting~~  
Regarding demonstration on 8th. April, 1974, it was unanimously decided on 25-3-74 (Meeting held in our Office with other Associations) that demonstration will be made jointly on 8-4-1974.

3. As such in continuation to this a meeting of all the Branches of W.Rly. Emp. Union on RTM Divn. will be held on 8-4-1974 at Ratlam.

It is, therefore, requested to please advise the names for your Branch directly to the Divisional Superintendent, Ratlam with the Signatures " For. Divisional Secretary, W.R.E.U." for the relieving purpose immediately.

4. The meeting was held on 25-3-1974 at Ratlam with the following Associations who were present and have participated in it. They have also fully supported to your action:-

- 1) SMs/ASMs Association.
- 2) Signal and Tele. Comm. Staff Association.
- 3) A. India Rly. Tech. Super. Association.
- 4) W.Rly. Karmachari Parishad.
- 5) All India Rly. Ministerial Staff Association.
- 6) All India Rly. Mechanical Staff Association.
- 7) All India Rly. Train Examiners Association, etc.

Except Running Staff Association (Drivers/Firemen) every one was present and proposed the action as agreed to by all.

P.T.O.

DIVL. CHAIRMAN :  
4. P. BHATNAGAR  
VICE DL. CHAIRMAN  
S. S. DONGRE  
AXMANSINGH  
DIVL. SECRETARY :  
OVINDLAL SHARMA  
DIVL. SECRETARIES :  
HARAT BHUSHAN  
JANGILAL SHARMA  
G. ASKANI  
I. D. SHUKLA  
I. S. BHAMBRA  
IL. ORG SECRETARY

SAMY SANTIAGO

BRANCHES :

JJJAIN  
IPLOD  
DAHOD  
NDORE  
HOW GEN.  
HOW MECH.  
ATLAM MECH.  
ATLAM GEN.  
ATLAM TFC.  
CHITORGARH  
NASIRABAD  
NEEMUCH

RGANS :

RAILWAY SENTINEL  
RAIL MAZDOOR



It is further requested to please contact SM/ASMs branch on these lines on your section as well as other Categories and the action Committee be formed, and list sent to this office.

Every one was agree with the proposed action and as such the programme is as under, to be observed from 2-4-1974 to 8-4-1974.

- i) Gate meetings at Ratlam on 2-4-1974.
- ii) On 3-4-74. Public Meeting at Ujjain.
- iii) On 4-4-74. Public Meetings at Indore and Mhow.
- iv) On 5-4-74. " " at COR in the morning.
- v) On 5-4-74. " " at NMH in the evening.
- vi) On 6-4-74. " " at DHD.
- vii) On 7-4-74. JOINT MASHAL JULOOCE at Ratlam.
- viii) On 8-4-74. Demonstration in front of D.S.'s Office, Ratlam and Open Meeting at Ratlam.

You are requested to please contact each other at yours and fix your programme accordingly without any delay and arrangements should be made accordingly.

Copy of list of Members of action committee meeting may please be sent to this office early.

Yours Comradely,

Encl:-

*Govindlal Sharma*  
(Govindlal Sharma)  
DIVISIONAL SECRETARY,  
W.Rly. Emp. Union,  
Ratlam.

Copy to:-

1. The General Secretary, W.Rly. Emp. Union, GTR, Bombay-7.
2. The President, All India Rly:Men's Federation, New-Delhi. ✓

# WESTERN RAILWAY EMPLOYEE'S UNION

(Regd. Recognised and Affiliated to A. I. R. F. & H. M. S.)

RATLAM DIVISION

HEAD OFFICE :

RAILWAY STATION BLDG. (EAST)

GRAND ROAD, BOMBAY-1

Gram : RAILEADER

Phone : 374813 (BOMBAY)

PRESIDENT :

PADMASHR

MISS MANIBEN KARA

GENERAL SECRETARY.

UMRAOMAL PUROHIT

SECRETARIES :

JAGDISH AJMERA

K. C. TRIVEDI

C. KURIACOS

DIVL. CHAIRMAN :

N. P. BHATNAGAR

VICE DL. CHAIRMAN

B. S. DONGRE

LAXMANSINGH

DIVL. SECRETARY :

GOVINDLAL SHARMA

JT. DIVL. SECRETARIES :

BHARAT BHUSHAN

MANGILAL SHARMA

R. G. ASKANI

M. D. SHUKLA

H. S. BHAMBRA

DIVL. ORG SECRETARY

SAMY SANTIAGO

BRANCHES :

UJJAIN

PIPLOD

DAHOD

INDORE

MHOW GEN.

MHOW MECH.

RATLAM MECH.

RATLAM GEN.

RATLAM TFC.

CHITORGARH

NASIRABAD

NEEMUCH

ORGANS :

RAILWAY SENTINEL

RAIL MAZDOOR

DIVISIONAL OFFICE

442, RLY. QUARTERS,

Station Road, RATLAM.

Ref No RTM/ORG/STRG/74/3-41/3 Date 25-3-1974.

To:

The President,  
All India Railway-men's Federation,  
Babar Road,  
New-Delhi.

Sub:- General Strike.

Dear Comrade,

In continuation of my letter and Reports vide No. RTM/ORG/STRG/74/3-41 dated 15-3-1974, further developments are as under:-

i) The Loco Running Staff Association at Ratlam have started writing something unpleasant and adverse towards the Convention on the "Notice-Board" of Loco-Shed, Ratlam in hindi and the gist of which runs as under:-

"GEORGE FERNANDIZ is only acting in the way as appearing and in real it is not so what he says. He is a dishonest man. Be careful from him. He is a deceiver" etc.

ii) They have also given news-items in the Local papers - Hindi Daily "Nai-Duniya" from Indore and Hindi Daily " Swadesh" Indore.

iii) Loco Running Staff Association do not agree with the decision taken in the Convention at New-Delhi, and that they are not going to take part in the so said strike.

2. What is the position of All India Loco Running Staff Association now, at your area in particular and to what range you assess it as per the information gathered confidentially by you from other reliable sources.

3. They have also raised some objection on 25/3/74 before S.M.s/ASMs Association in a meeting that till such/'G. Fernandez' is a CONVENOR of this Convention, they will not participate in this struggle/strike.

Though there is no response to be worried on the above remarks of Shri H.S. Chowdhary expressed on 25-3-74 in the Meeting of SMs/ASMs held at RTM, they are making the wide publicity of their views.

P.T.O.

/time

I have also arranged for a joint meeting to-day (5-3-74) and the minutes of the same alongwith the Hand-Bills published are enclosed herewith for your information and requiring further necessary guidance in this regard.

Yours:- 2,

Yours Comradely,

*G. Sharma*  
(Govindlal Sharma)  
DIVISIONAL SECRETARY(WREUnion)  
and CONVENOR.

CCY:-

Shri Umraomal Purohit, General Secretary, Western Railway Employees Union, Grant Road, Bombay-7. for information and further necessary action please.

# Southern Railway Mazdoor Union, Madras

(Regd. No. 3067 Recognised-Affiliated to AIRI)

CENTRAL OFFICE

48-A, RAILWAY QUARTERS  
ECMORE, MADRAS-8

Date 17.3.1974 \_\_\_\_\_ 19

President :  
RAMACHANDRAN  
General Secretary :  
M. RAMASIVAYAM

Ref: Rmu/c/

Dear Comrade,

*ANP/60*

We are grateful that you complied with your request for a visit to Madras on the 29th March 74. Kindly let us know by telegram by what plane you are coming to Madras and whether it will be possible for you to remain on the 30th also to address the Special General Body of the Southern Railway Mazdoor Union. If your programme elsewhere does not permit you to remain on 30th kindly let us know when you are leaving Madras and to which place.

As we have to prioritise plus publicity, information by return will be usefull. Our efforts to contact you in the Federation Office failed (there was no response at 5.50PM though train was going on.) and we could not get correct information either from JCM Office or the Party Office or from your residence when I contacted on the same day.

With Greetings,

Yours faithfully,

(M. Ramasivayam)  
General Secretary.

*2826*  
*94/74*

CONFIDENTIAL.

THE BHARATIYA RAILWAY MAZDOOR SANCHI.

Camp Office: NEW DELHI.  
March 3, 1974

To  
All Office-bearers of BRMS Unions, branches and units.

Dear Brothers,

All our union-headquarters must have received by this time a circular letter dated 1st March 1974, from Mr. George Fernandes, Convenor of the National Co-ordination Committee for Railwaymen's struggle. In future also you will continue to receive such types of circulars for implementing certain decisions of the sangharsha Samiti.

In implementing these circulars you will have to exercise some discretion following the aims and objectives of BRMS as spelled out from time to time.

For example, at the BRMS head-quarter level, we have already implemented the first item of the above-mentioned letter. The name of the one representative and one alternate member of our Unions has already been given by us to the struggle Committee. On all matters of policy and finance, we have decided to keep links with Sangharsha Samiti through our All-India head-quarter only. This is applicable to item no. 3 and 6 also. The items 3 of the circular requires each union to enter into correspondence directly in the Convenor of the Co-ordination Committee. Our unions should avoid this method. They must keep themselves in continuous touch with our Bombay and Delhi offices. As soon as the funds permit we are likely to operate the New Delhi office as our centre of struggle Committee. While Bombay office shall remain union head-quarters for normal trade-union matters. At the moment however you will have to bear with dual working for sending you correspondence. In any case the important thing is our organisational network must remain internally is that tact air, we should not mix up Sangharsha Samiti as if to shift our centre from BRMS to that body. The categorivise association are likely to Commit this mistake and unknowngly get their identity lost in the process, we must avoid that mistake.

Similarly the amount of Rs. 50/- on behalf of each union shall be paid directly by BRMS head-quarters from the huge amount of funds which you are expected to remit to BRMS head-quarters.

.....Cont.

The item 2 of the letter regarding ratification of resolution should be implemented to add grace to the working of Sangharsha Samiti. This letter can be gone directly to the convener.

The item 4 of the letter requires us to form co-ordination Committee of all possible levels. This is our idea of cadre-level unity. The word 'possible' can carry mischief. Our view is to form such Committee at all levels-Zonal, Divisional, Branch, unit and even category. All our units must be instructed to take immediate steps to take initiative in forming such Committees. If somebody has already formed such a Committee, we should get ourselves included in it. In forming these committee the PRMS can enjoy equal status as AIRF on theoretical grounds. Practically the status of our representative shall depend on our respective strength. What is more important however is to get a place in these Committees, befriend each member of the Committee and their close activists and increasingly guide the action of these Committees on genuine trade-union lines.

In our respect we are likely to be in a more privileged position than AIRF. The most of the categorinise unions and specially those belonging to running staff categories may be in a mood to welcome us more than anybody else. This opportunity must be seized both is to achieve the success of the struggles and our solidarity with all ranks of railwaymen.

The NFIR unions have not yet decided to participate in the struggle. Some of our AIRF comrades had in the past developed close alliance with these NFIR people. Now the requirement of the struggle is that this horning must stop. There has been a divorce at the top and their continuation of connections at lower levels may give birth to the illegitimate issue. The interests of railwaymen require that vigilance must prevail over this affair of the past and AIRF must not only vociferously disclaim these NFIR disruptors but give even more concrete proof that they are now treating them as enemies of working-class unity and giving them a treatment that must be given to a enemy during the life and death type of struggle. This battle must be carried forward in all other walks of life such as co-operative credit societies, staff canteen etc. At each of these places the AIRF comrades must be required to denounce their former NFIR colleagues, isolate them first from positions of influence and then from mass mind. They should thus be forced to either made NFIR

.....Contd.

join the battle or made to resign from NFIR & burn even its paper name or face the wrath of the masses.

This is the way in which we must work on all cadres of Railwaymen and give correct guide-lines to the Railwaymen's great struggle.

Item no 5 of the circular relates to collection of funds. As has been said in that item each union/association is expected to collect its own fund and contribute for joint expenses at respective levels. Now as you are all aware this is our weakest point and we must rectify it instantly. Others are bound to belittle and humiliate us on this ground so long as we continue to be weak. In the first meeting of co-ordination Committee the AIRF declared that it has already collected Rs. 10/- lakhs by operating on some Zones and are trying to make their target of Rs. 25/- lakhs. On Central Railway they have declared that they are in position to give their badges as per 7 (b) of the letter to each and every railway <sup>Employee</sup> ~~Now~~ this is an attempt both to humiliate us and develop a sense of belonging in each railwayman towards AIRF. There is no use quarrelling over such matters. They are part of the game. The way out is to remedy the weakness by collecting sufficiently matching funds.

In a joint-front technique it must always be remembered that each participant. He is a comrade where the needs of unity and struggle require him to act as comrade-in-arms, while in each other matter he is a rival who is competing with others to make his policy-line and influence prevail over the entire masses. The communities have used this technique as their master-strategy in conducting resolutions in different countries and the course of resolutions has always depended on the extent to which they have been able to operate this technique in each detail of the evolving and ever-mobile character of the struggle. It is time that our people now master this technique with a surprising speed.

You will be able to acquire this mastery by making a group-study of these circulars and applying them at the field-level. Even though these circulars are earmarked as confidential. They are not meant to be kept in the drawer of the recipient. On the contrary, you should take out sufficient copies of these circulars, distribute it widely to all activists as a confidential document and encourage them to study and implement the

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instructions contained therein. By confidential it is only meant that they are not to be distributed to the general public, though there too, the instructions given therein must act as a back-ground policy-line in all propaganda in development of tactical lines.

The item no. 7 (c) of the circular viz., massive demonstration of 3th April, 1974 has to be indeed a master-stroke in mobilisation. The earlier programme of badge-wearing from 2nd to 8th April is in a way of few greater importance for the ultimate success of the struggle. If we can really make each railwayman wear this badge for a week, it will be a unique demonstration of solidarity. This has been again our idea about mass involvement and we must attach highest importance to this aspect.

The item 7 (d) of the circular which gives freedom to each local unit of each participations union/association to devise its own ways and means to i) popularise demands ii) create necessary sanctions to achieve these demands iii) educate public opinion and iv) prepare railwaymen for an indefinite strike, is in fact a very valuable freedom. It indicates that there is no one union of Railways which is conducting this struggle on any uniform basis but what is emerging is in a fact entire movement of the mass of railwaymen guided by so many unions. In this way each participating union has equal chances to mobilise and influence the masses under the banner of joint struggle and thus prove its mettle to emerge as the strongest and most competent leader of this mass. This is for a test and opportunity and we shall have only to thank ourselves if we fail to understand the scope and significance of this opportunity. Each enlightened activist must therefore take upon himself this task of giving a leadership to the entire struggle and simultaneously create many more enlightened activists to shoulder this great task.

Kindly study each line of the circular and read back all previous and further circulars as well. The circulars that may come to you each time from the struggle committee in the critical way in which pains have been taken to explain the underlying significances and potentialities of this first circular, a copy of which is enclosed herewith for ready reference.

Yours sincerely,

*G. S. Gokhale*

(G.S. GOKHALE)  
WORKING PRESIDENT



Telc: 40947 (P&)  
81-270 (Rlys)

Telegram: RAILWAYMEN

NATIONAL CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE FOR RAILWAYMEN'S STRUGGLE.

(RASHTRIYA RAIL MAZDOOR SANGHARASH SAMANUYA SAMITI)

125-E, Babar Road,  
NEW DELHI.

No. NCC/1/74

Dated March 1, 1974.

To

All the participating,  
Unions/Association/Organisations, of the Railwaymen.

Dear Comrade,

Reg: Implementation of the resolutions adopted at the National Convention of the Railwaymen held at New Delhi on 27-2-74.

The National Convention of Railwaymen held at New Delhi on the 27th February, 1974 was largely attended by the representatives of all the railwaymen's Union/Associations and organisations. The NFIR and its affiliated unions who were also invited to attend the Convention, however did not participate. The Convention appointed a National Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle and decided that the Committee will consist of representatives of all the participating unions/Associations and organisations. A copy of the Resolution is enclosed herewith for ready reference.

The first meeting of the National Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's struggle was held on 28-2-1974, at 125/E, Babar Road, New Delhi with Com. George. Fernandes in the Chair. After deliberations the following decisions were taken.

1. All participating unions/associations and organisations will send name of one representative from each of their organisations and also one additional name for alternate membership of the Coordination Committee at their earliest.
2. All the participating unions/associations and organisations will ratify the resolution of the Convention in their respective forums and send copies of the resolution so adopted by their organisations to the Coordination Committee's office and also communicate necessary instructions to their local units.
3. The office of the Coordination Committee will be at 125/E Babar Rd. New Delhi-1, and all correspondence addressed to the Convener of the Coordination Committee should be sent to this address.
4. As resolved by the Convention all participating organisations shall form Coordinating Committees at all possible levels.
5. Each participating organisation will collect its own struggle Fund. However, for joint expenses the funds will be contributed by each participating Union/Association/Organisation according to the requirements.
6. All participating Unions/Associations and organisations will immediately contribute Rs. 50/- each for the expenses of the office of the Coordination Committee at their earliest.
7. During the "Demands Week" from 2nd to 8th April, 1974, the following minimum programme should be observed by all the constituent unions/associations and organisations of the Coordination.

- a) All railwaymen will wear badges during the week from 2nd to 8th April, 1974. The badges will be printed in the name of the Coordination Committee. A specimen badge will be supplied to all the participating organisations by the office of the Coordination Committee.
- b) Badges will be printed by the local units of all the participating unions/associations/organisations.
- c) On 3-4-74, massive demonstrations shall be arranged jointly by all the unions/associations/organisation in front of their respective Divisional/and Zonal Headquarters.
- d) The local units of the participating organisations shall take all necessary steps to popularise the Tailwaymen's demands and to create necessary sanctions to achieve these demands as also to educate public opinion and prepare the railwaymen for an indefinite General Strike.

8. The next meeting of the Coordination Committee will be held on 15th April, 1974, at 125/E, Babar Road, New Delhi-1. from 1-00P.M.

Yours fraternally,  
Sd/-  
GEORGE FERNANDES  
CONVENOR.

615  
NCC/1/74  
NATIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE FOR  
STRUGGLE, TINSUKIA :

No. NCC/1/74

Dated 20th March, 1974.

To:

All Railwaymen,

Dear Comrades,

In pursuance of the resolution adopted in the historic National Convention of Railwaymen held at Delhi on 27th of February, 1974 under the Presidentship of Comrade George Fernandez, all the Organisations of Railwaymen of Tinsukia area in a joint meeting held on 15th of March, 1974 under the Presidentship of Comrade B.N. Thakur ratified the Delhi Resolution, formed a NATIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE FOR RAILWAYMEN'S STRUGGLE, Tinsukia area, as a common forum to launch a struggle for the achievement of the following genuine and legitimate demands :-

- 1.(a) All Railwaymen be treated as Industrial workers with full trade Union rights including the rights to negotiate.
- (b) The working hours of Railwaymen shall not exceed eight per day.
- (c) Scientific job evaluation, reclassification and regradation with the need based minimum wage as the wage for the lowest paid workers.
- (d) Pending the completion of job evaluation, reclassification & immediate parity in wages with those workers in the Central undertaking viz; HPS, BHEL, NCC etc.
2. D.A. be linked to the cost of living index with full neutralisation for every rise of 4 points in a six month period.
3. Bonus @ one months wage for 1971/72 and 1972/73.
4. Decasualisation of all casual railwaymen and confirmation
5. Adequate and subsidised foodgrains and other essential commodities, through departmental runshop.
6. All victimisation cases should be withdrawn.

The National Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's struggle Tinsukia, has been formed with the following participating Organisations of Railwaymen of Tinsukia area :-

- 1) N.F. Railway Mazdoor Union, Tinsukia Branch.
- 2) United Committee of Railwaymen, Tinsukia Branch
- 3) All India Station Master's Association, Tinsukia.
- 4) All India Loco Running Staff Association, Tinsukia.
- 5) All India Carriage & Wagon Staff Council, Tinsukia.
- 6) All India Carriage and Wagon Staff Council, Tinsukia Goods.
- 7) All India Ministerial Staff Association, Tinsukia.
- 8) All India Yard & Cabin Staff Association, Tinsukia.
- 9) All India Guard's Council, Tinsukia.
- 10) All India Electrical Staff Council, Tinsukia.
- 11) Trains Clerk Advisory Committee, Tinsukia Division.
- 12) All India Commercial Clerks' Association, Tinsukia.

The National Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's struggle Tinsukia calls upon the Railway Ministry to open the negotiations on these demands and arrive at a settlement thereon latest by 10th of April, 1974.

This National Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's struggle, Tinsukia, serves an ultimatum on the Railway Ministry that if a settlement on these demands is not forthcoming by that date (10.4.74) the Railwaymen will consider themselves free to resort to an indefinite general strike with effect from any date thereafter.

This National Coordination Committee for Railwaymen's struggle Tinsukia directs the Railwaymen to observe a Demands week from April 2 to 8, 1974, by wearing badges and holding a joint demonstration including service of a Memorandum containing the charter of demands.

B.N. THAKUR  
( B.N. THAKUR ) 27/3  
Convenor,  
National Coordination Committee for  
Railwaymen's struggle, Tinsukia.

AIR/ 160 A(Y)

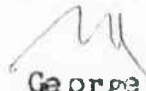
March 7, 1974.

Dear Comrade Banerjee,

Thank you for your letter of February 24, 1974. You must have received the decisions of the National Convention. I hope your organisation will do everything possible to bring about a successful strike of the Railwaymen so that their long pending demands are settled.

With greetings,

Yours sincerely,



George Fernandes  
President.

Shri M.L. Banerjee,  
General Secretary,  
Eastern Railway T.R.D.  
Workers' Association,  
S.Rly. Traction Deptt.,  
AnugrahaNarayan Road Station,  
P.O. Jamhor,  
Distt: Aurangabad (Bihar)

rn\*

भारत सरकार  
रेलवे मंत्रालय (रेलवे बोर्ड)  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(RAILWAY BOARD)

✓  
160-13

No. E(LR)74ND/1-3.

नई दिल्ली-१, तिस्र  
New Delhi-1, dated

*Phalguna* १९७४  
5-3-1974.

The General Secretary,  
A.I.R.F., 125/E, Babar Road,  
New Delhi-1.

Dear Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. A.I.R.F./100-3 (935) dated December 20, 1973 requesting for a formal meeting to settle the problems of Locomen.

Yours faithfully,

*G.N. Sharma*  
(G.N. Sharma)  
for Secretary, Railway Board.

File

2636  
12/3/74.



125/E BABAR ROAD  
NEW DELHI-1

Umraomal Purohit,  
Asstt. General Secretary.

No. AIRF/160-B (VIII)

February 18, 1974.

Dear Com.

I am enclosing, herewith, an invitation from Com. George Fernandes, President/AIRF for the Conference of All Central and State Govt. Employees' Organisations to be held on 15th and 16th March, 1974, at Delhi to chalk out the direction of now an inevitable struggle on the basic demands of the Govt. employees. As mentioned therein the details of the Conference will follow.

You are meanwhile requested to communicate further to all organisations affiliated to your organisation and known to you.

We may kindly be informed of the participating organisations and the number of delegates from each of them at your earliest.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

*Umraomal Purohit*  
( Umraomal Purohit )

Encl: as above.

Shri \_\_\_\_\_

Divisional Co-ordination Committee  
Eastern Railway - Asansol.

....

From: Sri S.K. Sarkar,  
Divl. Secretary,  
Asansol.

Dated : 18th May'73.

To: (1) The General Secretary,  
Eastern Railway Mens' Union,  
Eastern Railway, Calcutta.  
  
(2) The General Secretary,  
All India Rly. Mens' Federation,  
New Delhi.

*File  
Strike file  
Rajkumar*

Dear Comrade,

Sub:- Strike Call given by All India  
Rly. Mens' Federation on 27th  
August, 1973.

----

We have come to know from various sources, that on the issue of minimum wages and payment of Bonus to Rly. men, your Union is going to launch strike throughout the Indian Railways on and from 27th August, 1973. Our Association also feels the necessity of such strike, and as such wants to extend our full co-operation for the success of this Strike.

We believe that you will take necessary efforts to advance the struggles of Rly. men as well as to conduct the strike with the co-operation of all.

Expecting your early communication please.

Thanking you.

Yours comradely,

*S.K. Sarkar*

(S.K. Sarkar).  
Divisional Secretary.

Copy to Eastern Railway Mens' Union, \_\_\_\_\_ Branch  
for information and necessary action please.

Copy to Divisional Co-ordination Committee \_\_\_\_\_ Branch  
for information please.

*S.K. Sarkar*

Divisional Secretary.

D. B. Thengadi  
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT  
( RAJYA SABHA )



57, South Avenue,  
New Delhi.

Date: 25-1-73

File  
A/RP/1657

36  
27/1/73

To. C/1/AIR

My Dear Priya Gupta ~~+~~ Babu,

Kindly excuse me for this delay in replying your letter dated 8-1-73. I was on tour and returned here only today.

I quite agree with your way of thinking. With a view to eliminate repetition of past experience and ensure success in the next move it is absolutely essential, and even inevitable that all the organizations in the field must form a united front without any reservation. If at this juncture we stand on false notions of prestige or prejudice, all of us would be doing a great disservice to the general cause of the employees.

As you are already aware, the IBS is having its affiliate in the Railways, i.e., Harshika Railway Laxdhar Singh. It would be in the interest of things if you write to Sri. Amal Das Singh, General Secretary, IBS, in this respect. Also it would be possible for me to advise him to extend full cooperation to your move.

I am sure that as your personal thinking is employee-oriented and of course trade unionist, you will certainly appreciate the advisability of this suggestion.

With best regards and Bhulobasha.

Yours sincerely,

*D. B. Thengadi*

(D. B. Thengadi.)

Address.

Sri Amal Das Singh.

c/ Gen. Secy - IBS - B.R.M.S.

3 Mohi Bhawan, 2nd floor - Dr. D. Silva Road

Dadala - Bombay 28

27/1



# ALL INDIA RAILWAY EMPLOYEES CONFEDERATION

(The Federal Body of all Category, Departmental and Service Associations and Unions on the Indian Railways)

President :

K. P. Ramaswamy.

Secretary General :

N. S. Bhangoo

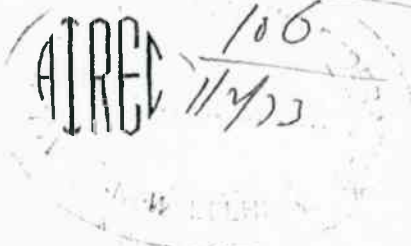
Secretary Finance :

R. R. Sharma

Office :

43/12. Rly. Colony,  
Kishan Ganj, DELHI-7.

Date 29.1.1973.



To

Sh. K. Kulkarni,  
Genl. Secretary, NFIR

Sh. Priya Gupta,  
Genl. Secretary, AIRF.

Dear Sir,

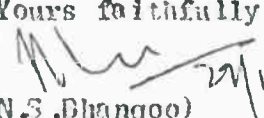
The Bonus and the rational pay scales on the basis of need-based minimum wage are the foremost demands of the Railwayman today and fortunately ~~th~~ all the unions on the Railways are unanimous on these. The confederation has been one of the organisations to raise these demands on the Railways and in its last working committee meeting on 27th and 29th Nov. 1972 had resolved to go for a joint action of confrontation with the Government if these demands are not conceded.

It is understood that NFIR and AIRF are conducting strike ballot and are committed to go for direct action if this demand is not met. For the success of this struggle it is quite imperative that the leading organisations take steps to unite all the workers on one platform and launch this movement otherwise the result can be anybody's guess. It may be stated that whereas the confederation with all its constituent units is ever willing to build and participate in any ~~genu~~ genuine movement of the Railwaymen in particular and the working class in general, it is not prepared to see its rank and file being betrayed at the last moment and made to suffer under politically motivated agreements and decisions without their participation at the time of such agreements. So if you want the participation of all Railwaymen and success of this struggle you are requested to hold discussions with all unions/associations recognised or unrecognised without any reservations and form joint committees at all levels i.e. central, zonal and divisional and carry out the strike programme. In this task we assure you our best co-operation.

~~It~~ It will be appreciated if you could reply me at the earliest in this connection so that necessary directive may be issued after discussing the details. In case no response is received from your side it will be understood that you want to pursue your ~~own~~ old policy of Go it alone with some motive and consideration. In that case our units will not like to face the old consequences by joining the strike on your call alone and will have to chalk out our own line of action in a mass meeting with full responsibility to achieve the demands.

With kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

  
(N.S. Bhangoo)  
Secretary General.



ALL INDIA LOCO RUNNING STAFF ASSOCIATION

Dear Sir/Madam,

We have the pleasure to request your presence, co-operation, and Good-will in the ensuing Annual General Meeting of All India Loco Running Staff Association Scheduled to be held at Burdwan Railway Colony Foot Ball Ground on the 20th. & 21st. January, 1973.

With thanks,  
Yours Sincerely,

*Ranjaykrishna Roy*

Dated, Burdwan,  
the 16 / 1 / 1973.

Chairman,  
Reception Committee.

To Sni *Unya Gupta*  
General Secretary  
All-India Railwaymen's Federation  
103, Babarz Road  
New Delhi

Reception Committee  
A. I. F.  
BURDWAN  
Burdwan Loco  
PO: Dt. Burdwan  
West. Bengal.