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## Editorial Board

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Editor

### Editorial Assistance

Prashant Kumar Pattnaik

### Editorial Correspondence

EDITOR, *Indian Railways*,  
Room No. 411, Rail Bhawan,  
New Delhi-110001.  
Tel. : 47845374, 23383540, 23385072  
43416, 43628 (Rly.)  
Email : editorindianrailways@gmail.com

### Business Communications

**Prashant Kumar Pattnaik**  
**Business Manager** *Indian Railways*,  
Room No. 310, Rail Bhawan,  
New Delhi-110001.  
Tel : 47845378, 45378 (Rly.)  
Email : bmpr310rb@gmail.com

### Sub Editor

Dalip Kumar

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# From The Editor

**S**hri Amit Shah, Union Minister for Home Affairs flagged off New Delhi-Katra “Vande Bharat” Express in New Delhi on 3<sup>rd</sup> October in presence of Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry. Indian Railways has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for facilitation of green initiatives and energy efficiency in manufacturing facilities and railway workshops.

Driven by the endeavour to provide comfortable service to the passengers for far-flung areas where stoppages of premier trains are not possible, Indian Railways has launched 9 Sewa service trains on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 to provide last mile connectivity. In constant pursuit of technological upgradation to provide safer, faster, efficient and more punctual train operations at Delhi-Howrah route, Indian Railways has installed most advanced electric interlocking system on Grand Chord route. With its continuous effort in improving punctuality, half yearly punctuality performance of Indian Railways has been improved to 74.21% in 2019-20 in comparison to 67.05% during last year.

Indian Railways has launched one touch Automatic Ticket Vending Machines (ATVMs) at 42 suburban stations of Central Railway to ease load on ticketing system and to facilitate passengers in avoiding long queues. Besides augmentation of coaches in regular trains, Indian Railways is running about 2,500 special services for better crowd management during festive season to ensure smooth and comfortable journey to the passengers. In order to bring transparent and customer friendly refund system for reserved e-tickets, Indian Railways has introduced a new OTP (One Time Password) based refund system for tickets booked through authorized Railway ticketing agents.

In pursuit of paperless, efficient, transparent and expeditious establishment, Indian Railways has adopted e-office system in collaboration with RailTel. Pilot project is launched for implementation at Modern Coach Factory, Raebareli, for ushering in “Industry 4.0” in the country in partnership with IIT, Kanpur. Ministry of Railways has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indian School of Business covering several aspects including executive education programmes, developing research opportunities, developing case studies and pedagogical materials, and creating of a future-ready leadership pool for the Indian Railways.

Sh. P.C. Sharma has assumed charge as Member (Materials Management) and Sh. Pradeep Kumar has assumed charge as Member (Signal & Telecommunication) in Railway Board. New General Managers of Eastern Railway and South East Central Railway have assumed their charges. This magazine conveys best wishes for their new assignments.

This issue also contains news from Zonal Railways, Production Units, Railway PSUs alongwith various interesting articles from eminent writers. ■



Shri Amit Shah along with Shri Piyush Goyal, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Dr. Jitendra Singh and others seen flagging off 'Vande Bharat' Express

Minister for Home Affairs Shri Amit Shah on 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2019 flagged off the New Delhi-Katra 'Vande Bharat' Express in New Delhi in presence of Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister for Health & Family Welfare, Science & Technology and Earth Sciences Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region (I/C), Prime Minister's Office, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of State of Railways Shri Suresh C. Angadi. Chairman, Railway Board Shri Vinod Kumar Yadav, other Members of Railway Board and General Manager, Northern Railway were also graced on the occasion. This is the second 'Vande Bharat' Express after the New Delhi-Varanasi semi-high speed train flagged off by Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi in February this year. The coaches of this train are indigenously manufactured at the Chennai Rail Coach Factory.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Amit Shah congratulated Ministry of Railways for giving a big gift to the people of the country in the occasion of Navratras. He said that religious tourism has a very important role in the development and progress of Jammu-Kashmir. Every citizen of India has a desire to visit Vaishno Devi Temple at least once in the lifetime. From the day he took charge, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi put forward a vision to connect

## Shri Amit Shah Flags Off the New Delhi-Katra 'Vande Bharat' Express

places of religious interests across the country with a safe, efficient and comfortable high-speed railway network. A number of steps have already been taken by the Government to facilitate pilgrims to visit the places of their religious interest. The 'Vande Bharat' Express is one big step in that direction while keeping in mind speed, scale and service as the prime priority, he said.

Shri Shah said that PM visualises Railways as the lifeline to achieve his vision of a \$5 trillion economy. 'Vande Bharat' is a hallmark of the success of 'Make in India' and the potential that it holds in giving a boost to the economy. This is evident

with the speed at which the development and modernisation of railways is taking place under Shri Modi's leadership, he added. Home Minister said, "Railways must keep this fast paced development profile going on in full swing and achieve Prime Minister's vision of a \$5 trillion economy".

Remembering Mahatma Gandhi on his 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Shri Shah said that Bapu gave a philosophy to the world of how to derive simple solutions to the biggest of problems. One such philosophy during the freedom movement was 'Swadeshi' and railways played an integral part in Gandhiji's struggle for freedom by forming a connect with the people of India, he said. Shri Shah expressed pride in saying that this 'Vande Bharat' Express is totally 'Swadeshi' and is at par with the latest rail transport technology across the world. This train is a big tribute that Shri Modi has given to the ideals of Bapu, with his vision of 'Make in India', he added. The Home Minister urged the Railway Minister to chart out the role of Railways in Gandhiji's journey during the freedom struggle, during the 'Gandhi@150' celebrations.

Speaking on the abrogation of Article 370, Shri Shah said that Article 370 was a roadblock in Jammu-Kashmir's development and its true integration with India. He expressed confidence that after its removal, the evil of terrorism would be completely eliminated from Jammu Kashmir. He added that "I believe



A view of the 'Vande Bharat' Express

that in the next 10 year, Kashmir would be the leading UT on development parameters. The beginning has happened with the flagging off of the Vande Bharat express. It is a big gift from PM Modi to the people of J&K by bringing development in the UT and giving a boost to religious tourism there", he said.

Concluding his address, Shri Shah expressed great satisfaction on the way Railways is getting transformed on the lines of 'Make in India' and making an unprecedented contribution in the growth of the economy.

Speaking on the occasion Shri Piyush Goyal said that "Today, Vande Bharat is going to be launched between New Delhi to Katra on the auspicious occasion of Navratri in the presence of Shri Amit Shah. The blessing of Mata Vaishno Devi will give a thrust to the development of Jammu Kashmir and Vande Bharat is an example of that development which is going to start its journey today. The entire family of Indian Railways assure that Indian Railways will always assist Minister of Home Affairs in this series of development of Jammu Kashmir. Vande Bharat will serve like Shrivankumar, it will help common people take their parents to Katra. Today I applaud the efforts of employees of Indian Railways who are working in the arrangement of this train. As aspired by Prime Minister that stations will be converted into the hub of technology and expansion of Indian Railways will connect villages to the rest of the country. Today, 5000 stations have been equipped with the free Wi-Fi facilities. Indian Railways has

also succeeded in making its all stations healthy and clean and Indian Railways has conducted cleanliness programme across 6500 stations. Under the direction of Home Minister in regard to safety, Indian Railways has installed CCTV in trains and stations which will provide a safe environment to the railway passengers. Shri Goyal thanked all railway employees for their effort in the development of India and wished Vande Bharat run in every corner of the country.

Speaking on the occasion Dr. Harsh Vardhan said that 'At the outset, I would like to congratulate the Indian Railways on the achievement of this project. I believe, the Vande Bharat is best in class technology in compared to other modern trains. Dr. Harsh Vardhan praised the effort of Indian Railways for furnishing the state-of-the-art facilities. Indian Railways has provisioned all its stations with escalators, waiting-room with class features, LED lights, special toilets, digital board at the entrance and exit. Indian Railways has brought a sea-change in the development of trains and stations.

Speaking on the occasion Dr. Jitendra Singh said that modern technologies have been introduced in the railways by the Government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. He said first such train named Vande Bharat Express from Delhi-Varanasi was flagged off by the Prime Minister earlier this year and this is the second such train which will connect Delhi with Katra. The Minister said that Katra is not only a tourist

- Railways A Lifeline to achieve PM's Vision of \$5 trillion economy, The same way it was during Babu's Freedom Struggle: Shri Amit Shah
- 'Vande Bharat' Express is a big gift from PM Modi to the people of J&K by bringing development in the state and giving a boost to religious tourism there: Union Home Minister
- The blessings of Mata Vaishno Devi will give a thrust to the development of Jammu Kashmir and Vande Bharat Express is an example of that development which is going to start its journey today: Shri Piyush Goyal
- Indian Railways has installed CCTVs in trains and stations which will provide a safe environment to the railway passengers: Shri Piyush Goyal
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan praised the efforts of Indian Railways for providing the state-of-the-art facilities
- Vande Bharat Delhi-Katra train to carry the message of PM's 'New India' to Jammu and Kashmir: Dr. Jitendra Singh
- As our Prime Minister dreamt of providing first class facilities to evberry poor of the country, Indian Railways is today going to fift Vande Bharat between Delhi-Katra

destination, bu the faith of Indians is associated with it. Dr. Jitendra Singh, who holds the charge of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), said that Kamakhya-Katra Weekly Express train was flagged off by the Prime Minister in the year 2016. The train connects two most religious places of the country, he added. The Minister added that train journey is not only a journey for us, but manifestation of our sentiments. Speaking about the recent developments in J&K, Dr. Jitendra Singh said the Government took a decisive step on 5<sup>th</sup> August this year by abrogating the Article 370 in Jammu & Kashmir. Flagging off the Delhi-Katra train is the second gift by the Prime Minister, he added. He said that these steps will provide new opportunities to J&K,

which were hitherto deprived. The Minister said that this train will carry the message of PM's 'New India' to Jammu and Kashmir.

Minister of State of Railways in his address said that as our Prime Minister dreamt of providing first class facilities to every poor of the country, Indian Railways is today going

to gift Vande Bharat between New Delhi and Katra to the Nation. Indian Railways is fully on the path of modernization, integrating the best technologies for smooth operation of trains. In this direction, the team of Indian Railways will always work together to ensure this. I wish every success to Officers and Engineers of Indian Railways.

Speaking on the occasion Shri Vinod Kumar Yadav welcomed the Minister of Home Affairs, Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry, other dignitaries and all the employees of Indian Railways in the launch of Vande Bharat. He said that we are fortunate that the second Vande Bharat is going to be flagged off by Minister of Home Affairs. Indian Railways has today brought in modern technology in the operation of trains. The first Vande Bharat had been flagged off last year by Prime Minister of India. Today by the launch of Vande Bharat, railway



Inside view of Executive Chair Car of Vande Bharat Express

passengers will get speedy travel to Jammu Kashmir. It is capable of running at high speed. Indian Railways is committed to offer modern facilities to railway passengers.

#### Salient Features & Backgrounder

Speed, Scale and Service are the hallmarks of this Make-in-India success story. The first Vande Bharat Express, New Delhi to Varanasi was flagged off on 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 by Prime Minister with service on all days except Monday and Thursday. Vande Bharat Express has been tested at 180 kmph and can run upto maximum speed of 160 kmph on passenger service. The Vande Bharat Express has more seating capacity than the conventional Shatabdi train with equal number of coaches. The train has 16 highly advanced air-conditioned coaches including 2 executive class coaches. All Coaches are equipped with automatic doors; GPS based audio-visual passenger

information system, onboard hotspot, wi-fi for entertainment purposes, and very comfortable seating. The chairs in executive class can rotate freely to face the direction of motion or the fellow co-passengers. All toilets are Bio-vacuum type. The lighting is dual mode, viz. Diffused for general illumination and personal for every seat. Every coach as a

pantry with facility to serve hot meals with hot and cold beverages. Advance insulation has been provided to keep heat and noise to very low levels for additional passenger comfort. Facility for Divyangjan to enter Driving Trailer coach using wheelchair and persons with disabilities friendly toilets have also been provided.

The train has continuous windows for modern and sleek look. Aerodynamic shape of the nose cone and fully sealed gangway are in line with the overall theme of the modern train set and will lead to lowered energy requirement by reduction of air drag. As another step toward green initiatives, the train has been provided with regenerative brake system which can lead to savings of up to 30% in electrical energy consumption. The present Vande, Bharat to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra shall be running at a maximum speed of 130 km on this route and shall cover the distance between New Delhi-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra in 08 hours. A reduction of 4 hours from the current fastest train, will thus be achieved. This will meet the demand of passengers for a high speed, direct and premier service to Katra from New Delhi.

More features have been incorporated in this rail service to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra to increase passenger comfort. The area for the pantry facilities has been increased, deep freezers have been added, there is wider access area in vestibules, anti-spall film has been provided on window glasses, individual access panel for window blinds, improvements in washroom amenities, provision of centralized loading of infotainment data, etc. Roller blind sun screen has been provided on look out glass to protect train pilots from glare and improved insulation is there to reduce noise level in driver's cab. Phone handsets have been provided for direct communication between train pilots and guard.



Inside view of AC Chair Car of Vande Bharat Express

## India and Switzerland Decide to Carry Forward Working Together in the Area of Rail Transport

India and Switzerland decide to carry forward working together in the Rail Transport sector.

The two sides at meetings that concluded on 22 October, 2019 have followed upon the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of Joint Working Group (JWG) held between two sides after the MoU for cooperation in rail sector was signed in 2017.

The Indian side was led by the Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry Shri Piyush Goyal at these high-level delegation meetings. The Swiss delegation comprising Swiss Officials from Department of Transport and representatives from Swiss companies was led by Her Excellency Simonetta Sommaruga, Federal Councilor and Head of the Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy & Communications.

The Swiss Federal Councilor thanked the Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry Shri Piyush Goyal for the prompt



Shri Piyush Goyal is seen addressing the meeting

response in arranging an interactive session with the delegation and the representatives of Swiss companies working in the area of Rail Transport to showcase their expertise and new products. She stressed the need for a continuous dialogue between the two sides to advance the common interests in finding innovative solutions to technological issues in Railways. Shri Goyal, while thanking the Swiss delegation, impressed upon the Make-in-India to enable their products to be competitive in India and use it as a platform for the global market. He directed that

issues raised by Swiss companies in respect of expeditious clearance at RDSO and development of new products should be resolved and clarified by the Railway Board. The discussions in Joint Working Group focused on Freight and Passenger Cars, Railway Electrification Equipments, Multimodal transport and tunneling technology. It was also agreed during the meeting that a regular system of follow-up will be institutionalized to monitor the progress of interactions and implementation in time bound manner. ■

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## Shri Piyush Goyal Launches Jaipur-Sikar-DEMU Passenger Service

Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry Shri Piyush Goyal inaugurated 79603/04 Jaipur-Sikar-Jaipur DEMU (6 days a week) Service between Jaipur and Sikar through Video-Conferencing on 21 October, 2019. Member of Parliament from Sikar Shri Sumedhananda Saraswati participated in the inaugural ceremony from Ringas. This service will operate on the newly Gauge converted Jaipur - Ringas section. Details of Jaipur-Sikar Service are as under: -



Shri Piyush Goyal along with Members of Railway Board seen flagging off DEMU Passenger Services from Rail Bhavan (left) Shri Sumedhananda Saraswati from Sikar (Right)

79603 Jaipur-Sikar Passenger	↓	Stations	↓	79604 Sikar-Jaipur Passenger
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11.40/11.45	A/D	Ringas	A/D	15.00/15.05
13.10	A	Sikar	D	14.00
Days of Run	:	Six Days a week (Except Sunday)		
Commercial Stoppages	:	All Stations on Jaipur-Ringas-Sikar Section		

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## Minister of Railways Flags Off Sarbat Da Bhala Express

On the occasion of the 550<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of “Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji” Indian Railways is paying obeisance to the Holy Guru by contributing to the yearlong celebrations in its own way. The Railway Station in the heritage town of Sultanpur Lodhi, the place where the Saint received enlightenment, is being upgraded with modern amenities. In this connection, Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Science and Technology and Earth Sciences Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Minister for Food Processing Industries Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal and other

dignitaries flagged off the extension of train no. 12037/12038 New Delhi - Ludhiana Intercity Express upto Lohian Khas (via Jalandhar) with new number and name (22479/22480 “Sarbat Da Bhala” Express) on 4 October, 2019 at New Delhi station. On this occasion, Members of Railway Board, General Manager, Northern Railway & senior Railway officials were present. Speaking on the occasion Shri Piyush Goyal said that the new train will serve the Sikh pilgrims visiting Sultanpur Lodhi on 550<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Guru Nanak ji (Prakash Parv).

He added that the teachings of Guru Nanak ji should be followed in our lives. This is the important step

### HIGHLIGHTS

- “This train will serve pilgrims by providing connectivity to Sultanpur Lodhi”: Shri Piyush Goyal
- “Sarbat Da Bhala Express, the name of the train reflects the teaching of Guru Nanak ji which symbolises goodness of the humanity”: Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal
- “Indian Railways doing commendable service by providing convenient travel facilities to pilgrims visiting Sultanpur Lodhi”: Dr. Harsh Vardhan

by Railways as it will provide connectivity to pilgrims visiting Sultanpur Lodhi on 550<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Yesterday, second Vande Bharat Express was flagged off which will provide connectivity to pilgrims to Mata Vaishno Devi. He congratulated



Shri Piyush Goyal, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal along with other dignitaries are seen flagging off Sarbat Da Bhala” Express. Also seen Shri P.S. Mishra, Member Traffic, Railway Board

all dignitaries present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal said, “I am thankful to Shri Piyush Goyal ji for providing a new train to Sultanpur Lodhi, where Guru Nanak ji spent 14 years of his life and approving the name of train “Sarbat Da Bhala” which means “Goodness for All”, the name of the train reflects the teaching of Guru Nanak Ji. She added that Railway Ministry has sanctioned the upgrade of Sultanpur Lodhi station and trains from important Sikh pilgrim cities like Nanded, Patna

Sahib have been connected to Sultanpur Lodhi. After 70 years, wishes of Sikh pilgrims have been granted.”

Speaking on the occasion Dr. Harsh Vardhan said that this is an auspicious occasion as the new train will directly connect the National Capital to Sultanpur Lodhi. The Railways is doing commendable service by providing convenient travel facility to pilgrims visiting Sultanpur Lodhi.

#### About the Train

The train no. 22479/22480 ‘Sarbat Da Bhala’ Express starts

from New Delhi at 7.00 hrs and have stoppages at Shakurbasti, Bahadurgarh, Rohtak Jn, Jind, Narwana, Tohana, Jakhal, Sangrur, Dhuri, Jalandhar City, Kapurthala, Sultanpur Lodhi en-route in both directions and reaches Lohian Khas at 14.55 hrs. In return, the train no. 22480 starts from Lohian Khas at 15.35 hrs and reaches at New Delhi at 23.35 hrs.

The train runs on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday (five days a week). The composition of the train is AC Chair Car coaches-2, Second class sitting coaches-6, General Coaches-7. ■

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## Shri Piyush Goyal Releases ‘Station Cleanliness Survey Report’, Inspects Display of Cleaning Tools & Equipments and Inaugurates Exhibition on Mahatma Gandhi at National Rail Museum

Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry Shri Piyush Goyal released the ‘Stations’ Cleanliness Survey Report’ (Cleanliness assessment of Non-suburban and Suburban Stations 2019). He was participating in an event to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of the Mahatma Gandhi at a function organized in New Delhi Railway Station.

Railways’ response to the call of cleanliness all across the country by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has



Shri Piyush Goyal along with Chairman and Members of Railway Board releasing the 'Cleanliness Survey Report'

made cleanliness at stations, rolling stock and premises a prime focus. On the occasion of the 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of the Father of the Nation, Indian Railways organized a slew of activities connected with cleanliness on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2019.

Chairman, Railway Board Shri Vinod Kumar Yadav, other Members of Railway Board, General Manager, Northern Railway along with senior Railway officials were present on the occasion.

Shri Piyush Goyal and other Dignitaries also went around the Exhibition on Mahatma Gandhi and displays of Tools & Equipments used for cleaning purposes. They understood the features of the Bio-toilet and inspected the new generation coaches being used by the Railways. Under the initiative of waste and scrap

management, a sculpture of Bapu made from scrap material was showcased, which was highly appreciated by all. The Minister also inaugurated an exhibition on Mahatma Gandhi at National Rail Museum through Video Conferencing.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Piyush Goyal said that "Today we are committed to develop India as a Clean India, Healthy India and Prosperous India. Indian Railways is doing its bit to provide a clean and

hygienic environment to the travelling people. There is a need to value the change emerged in the mindset of common people. Today, India is one of those countries which give priority to cleanliness. Today, cleanliness programme is being conducted over 6500 stations across Indian Railways to showcase the efforts putting in by Indian Railways to keep trains, stations and railway premises clean. Indian Railways has celebrated Swachhta Pakhwada from 16<sup>th</sup> September to

2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2019. Indian Railways has also banned single use plastic across its premises today onwards. Shri Goyal added that as safety is accorded first priority, Indian Railways has started manufacturing LHB coaches only and these LHB coaches are being equipped with bio-toilets.



Shri Piyush Goyal is taking a view of the exhibition of Mahatma Gandhi

## Indian Railways Launches Nine 'Sewa Service' Trains

Indian Railways launches nine 'Sewa Service' Trains on 15 October, 2019 to connect smaller towns around major cities. These services were launched by the Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry Shri Piyush Goyal along with Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Science and Technology and Earth Sciences Dr. Harsh Vardhan and Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Steel Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, from New Delhi by inaugurating Delhi-Shamli passenger train. Other trains were flagged off through Video-Conferencing connected to the terminal stations where these trains are to start. Minister of State of Railways Shri Suresh C. Angadi, MP, Lok Sabha Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi and other dignitaries were also present on the occasion. Out of these nine 'Sewa Service' trains in eight States, four trains will run on a daily basis and other five will run six days a week.

- **Vadnagar - Mahesana DEMU (6 days a week) - Gujarat**
- **Asarva - Himmatnagar DEMU (6 days a week)- Gujarat**
- **Karur - Salem DEMU (6 days a**

- week) - Tamil Nadu**
- **Coimbatore - Pollachi Passenger (6 days a week)- Tamil Nadu**
- **Coimbatore - Palani Passenger (Daily)- Tamil Nadu**
- **Yesvantpur - Tumkur DEMU (6 days a week) - Karnataka**
- **Murkongselek - Dibrugarh Passenger (Daily) - Assam**
- **Bhubaneswar - Nayagarh Express (Daily) - Assam**
- **Delhi - Shamli Passenger (Daily)**

Speaking on the occasion, Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal said, these trains will provide connectivity to the far-flung areas where stoppages of premier trains was not possible. These trains will act as link trains to serve the common man of the country. The Minister recalled the connect of Mahatma Gandhi to the Railways. Remembering Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, on the occasion of his birth anniversary, Shri Goyal said that the former President during his childhood in Rameswaram had memorable experience with Indian Railways.

Shri Goyal pointed out that it is a unique concept to start these nine Sewa trains with layover/spare rakes as a part of 'sweating of assets' initiative by the Indian Railways. This was part of strategies of Indian Railways to have better utilization of the rolling stock without any requisition for new rolling stock. On this occasion, I want to thank Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji for his vision to transform Railways as the engine of growth in the economic and social development of the country." He further added that Railways has taken transformational steps like Cleanliness campaign in Railway premises across the country, Wi-Fi facility at 5000 Railway stations, installation of Bio toilets in coaches to clean the tracks, Ayushmann Bharat facility in Railway hospitals across the country. Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Steel, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan expressed his gratitude to Shri Piyush Goyal and Ministry of Railways for starting a new Sewa Train from Bhubaneswar to Nayagarh. He also appreciated the significant steps taken by Railways for the development in Odisha.

Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Science and Technology and Earth Sciences, Dr Harsh Vardhan said that the new Sewa Trains will connect small stations enroute. These trains will be highly beneficial



Shri Piyush Goyal, Dr. Harsh Vardhan and Shri Dharmendra Pradhan flagging off the nine Sewa Service Trains, at New Delhi Railway Station. Shri Suresh Angadi, Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi and other dignitaries are also seen

to the common people especially those who come to metro cities for jobs and education.

He congratulated Railways for taking an important step in the betterment of life of common citizens of the country. Minister of State of Railways, Shri Suresh C. Angadi said that Indian Railways has always endeavoured for providing comfortable services to its passengers. The short distance Sewa trains will be a boon to common citizens of the country. He said connectivity to the last man has

been the constant focus of Railways and to provide better services to the citizens. These trains will run on the "Hub and Spoke" Model, thereby facilitating passengers to use these trains to reach the "Hub" for availing onward journey to other major stations. Indian Railways plans to run more trains on similar model to serve the passengers of smaller towns and cities. These measures are also expected to boost the earnings of the Indian Railways to help in strengthening the economy. ■

- These Sewa trains will provide connectivity to the far-flung areas where stoppages of premier trains were not possible: Shri Piyush Goyal
- Sewa Service' trains have been planned with spare rakes as a part of 'sweating of assets' initiative by the Indian Railways to have better utilization of the rolling stock

## Railway Minister Meets the Leaders of Railwaymen's Federation



Shri Piyush receiving a Memorandum from Dr. Raghavaiah. Also seen Shri Guman Singh and Shri Vinod Kumar Yadav along with others

Shri Piyush Goyal, Railway Minister met the leaders of the Railwaymen's Federation at 21.30 hour on 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 at Rail Bhavan, New Delhi. During the meeting, the Railway's performances and recent decisions of the Railway Ministry came up for discussion. On behalf of NFIR, its President Shri Guman Singh and General Secretary Dr. M. Raghavaiah have participated in the discussion.

NFIR leaders have urged upon the Railway Minister to see that Railway Ministry ensures prior consultations on any policy proposal. In this context, NFIR leaders mentioned the recent actions of the Railway Ministry towards handing over of trains to private operators, corporatization of Railway Pro-

duction Units, closure of Workshops/Printing Presses etc., which have been causing disappointment among Railway employees. Responding to the points raised by NFIR, the Railway Minister has assured that on all such matters, prior consultations through formal meetings will be ensured. The Minister also advised Chairman, Railway Board who was also present in the meeting to take action accordingly. NFIR leaders also suggested that the Railway Ministry should provide proposals on change of policies with proper details to enable the Federations to study and discuss further, for arriving at conclusion in the overall interest of Railways and Railway employees. The Railway Minister has agreed to

this suggestion and assured that the Railway Board will furnish details on each subject.

NFIR General Secretary has also handed over to the Railway Minister a list containing the proposals of Railway Ministry, pending with Ministry of Finance on staff upgradation, implementation of 7<sup>th</sup> CPC recommendations on certain categories. In view of the substantial improvement on safety front, the Railway Minister has complimented the Federations and appealed for working jointly for the overall good of Railways and Nation. NFIR has also assured that valid suggestions will be placed before the Railway Ministry for enhancing the Indian Railways earnings and safety standards. ■

## Shri Suresh C. Angadi Holds Video Conference with Zonal Railways, Production Units and Divisions



Shri Suresh Angadi along with Chairman and Members of Railway Board holding video conference with Zonal Railways, Production Units and Divisions

On 25 September, 2019 a video-conference by Minister of State of Railways Shri Suresh C Angadi, Chairman Railway Board Shri V.K. Yadav and all Board Members with Zonal Railways and Divisions held. At the outset, Chairman, Railway Board congratulated all divisions and zones on improved Key Performance Index as KPI of 38 Divisions in August 2019 was more than 80% of total 68 Divisions, against earlier only 15 Divisions were above 80%. North Central Railway under guidance of its General Manager Shri Rajiv Chaudhry has performed exceptionally well as Agra and Allahabad secured place among top 10 Divisions of IR and only NCR and WR had 2 Divisions in top 10 list.

The Minister of State Shri Angadi wished Happy Dusherrha to all Railwaymen in advance. He emphasized that railway personnel will have to work harder to surpass

dreams associated to railway of the citizens of India. Chairman, Railway Board emphasized that safety remain our foremost priority and urged upon divisions to complete all safety related works as per assigned targets. Important safety works flagged in the video conference were interlocking of Manned LC above 50000 TVU, fitting of fire and smoke detector in coaches. He further added that disaster management plan of each division must be updated and mock drill of ARTs and ARMEs should be carried out on regular basis.

Chairman, Railway Board conveyed that Railway need to move towards "Ease of living for citizens" which is also desired by the Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi. Chairman Railway Board emphasized that this will require massive capacity augmentation for which action plan for 5-10 years must be made and implemented. He

added that Eastern and Western dedicated freight corridors commissioning, upgradation of existing grand quadrilateral route of Delhi - Howrah & Delhi - Mumbai routes to 160 kmph, elimination of all Manned Level Crossing on major routes, modernization of Signalling System etc. should be done on priority basis. Eastern and Western dedicated freight corridors are targeted to be commissioned by December, 2021. Approx 58 % of EDFC falls on NCR territory and a major section of EDFC between Khurja - Bhadan is expected to be opened for commercial operation very shortly. He also mentioned that Private train operations and corporatization of PUs are also important items and need to imbibed in right prospective.

Chairman, Railway Board complemented all railways on improved punctuality performance. North Central Railway with sustained

efforts has registered improvement of 9.44% in punctuality over last year which is 2<sup>nd</sup> best performance among all zonal railways. NCR's performance on punctuality front is very important, keeping in view the operation on supersaturated routes which are operating at 160 % of it's designed capacity. Sustained efforts by Agra, Allahabad and Jhansi Divisions with close monitoring from NCR Headquarters has paid this rich dividend. On Swachhata front various activities underway in Swachhata Hi Seva and Swachhata Pakhwara were discussed and all Zonal Railways complemented by Minister of State and Chairman, Railway Board for works done on

cleanliness front. Advisor EnHM informed that detailed modalities for stopping use of single use plastic below 50 micron thickness with effect from 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019. He also added that bottle crushing machines shall be installed at all major stations for which revised guidelines are being issued.

General Manager, North Central Railway Shri Rajiv Chaudhry during the conference informed Railway Board that North Central Railway is moving forward in punctuality improvement despite saturated sections and registered punctuality of 64.3% in August, 2019 against 59.6% in July, 2019. Shri Chaudhry further informed Railway Board that with

commissioning of EDFC between Bhadhan - Khurja section, there will be capacity to run more Coaching trains from Kanpur for which terminal facilities argumentation are being planned. He also assured board that with replacement of Route Relay Interlocking at Allahabad more trains can be originated from Allahabad too. He also apprised board that adequate Railway land is available at Jhansi (Prayagraj) and coach maintenance facilities should be developed. On assistance front General Manager Shri Chaudhry requested Board to allot new accident relief train for Jhansi & hopper wagons for ballast movement etc. ■

## Shri Suresh Angadi Felicitates Two RPF Personnel of Southern Railway

On 22 October, 2019, Minister of State for Railways, Shri Suresh Angadi had felicitated two Railway Protection Force personnel of Southern Railway at Bangalore in presence of DG/RPF for having saved the precious life of passengers during their duty hours. In a daring act, the two constables Shri S.V. Jose and Shri Jambulingam of Chennai Division had exhibited high degree of bravery and instant alertness on duty and saved the life of two passengers who had fallen down in

the gap in between the moving train and platform.

Both the constables were appreciated for their exemplary presence of mind and passenger safety consciousness. A brief gist of the two incidents is as follows:

On 1 June, 2019, Shri S.V. Jose, Constable while on duty at Chennai Egmore Railway Station noticed that Shri Ashwini Kumar and his daughter Anmol Sharma attempting to board T.No. 16865 Exp., in PF No.4. Meanwhile, when the girl lost

her balance while boarding and fell into the gap, Shri Jose acted swiftly and pulled her out of danger and saved her life.

On 9 June, 2019, Shri Jambulingam, Constable while on duty at Mambalam Railway station noticed one girl aged 15 yrs., attempting to board an EMU train, lost her balance and was about to fall into the gap in between the train and platform.

Shri Jambulingam acted swiftly and pulled her out of danger and saved her life. ■



Shri Suresh Angadi felicitating Shri S.V. Jose and Shri Jambulingam for exhibiting high degree of bravery

## Shri Suresh C. Angadi Visits Rail Wheel Factory, Yelahanka, Bengaluru

Shri Suresh C Angadi, Minister of State for Railways and Shri P. C. Mohan, MP visited Rail Wheel Factory (RWF), Bengaluru on 16 October, 2019.

Shri Angadi interacted with Shri Rajiv Kumar Vyas, General Manager, senior officers and staff of RWF and reviewed the performance of RWF. He gave thrust to perform as per the requirement of the nation.



Shri Suresh Angadi and Shri P. C. Mohan with General Manager, officers and staff

The General Manager brought out that there has been a significant increase in production of wheelsets and axles over the last year and reaffirmed the commitment of RWF to find new avenues for growth. Possibilities of export of RWF wheels was also discussed. Shri Suresh Angadi, later visited the factory and appreciated the manufacturing processes of cast wheels and forged axles. ■

## Minister of State of Railways Holds Review Meeting at Naharlagun

Minister of State of Railways Shri Suresh C Angadi inspected the Bogibeel Bridge site on 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 and he was briefed about the structure of the 4.94 kilometre long bridge by the senior officials of N.F. Railway.

Shri Angadi on 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2019 reviewed the existing railway services and also ongoing construction works that are going on in Arunachal Pradesh during a meeting with Shri Sanjive Roy, General Manager, N.F. Railway and Shri N.K. Prasad, General Manager



Shri Suresh C Angadi inspecting the infrastructure of Naharlagun Railway station, also seen Shri Sanjive Roy

(Con)/N.F. Railway at Naharlagun Railway Station.

While interacting with media at Naharlagun, Shri Angadi said that safety is the first priority of Indian Railways and all endeavors are undertaken to ensure safe running of train. Minister also informed that on-time train running and cleanliness in railway premises are also given due importance for the benefit of railway passengers. Initiatives taken in this regards are already resulted into significant improvement in both the aspects

throughout Indian Railways. Shri Angadi also informed that completion of all the pending/ongoing projects will be given due importance for early completion as targeted. He also informed that Prime Minister's desire of improvement of connectivity of entire Northeast is being followed upon by the Indian Railways. Shri Angadi also hold discussion with the Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh Shri Pema Khandu about various issues connected with the development of railway infrastructure in the state. Development of tourism in Arunachal Pradesh with the involvement of railways was also discussed during the meeting. On 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 Shri Angadi also called on the governor of Arunachal Pradesh Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.) and discussed about strengthening of railway network and improvement of connectivity in the state for overall economic development and strategic importance of the state. ■



Shri Angadi distributing Cloth bags to discourage use of single-use plastic at Naharlagun Railway Station

## New Member (Materials Management), Railway Board



Shri P.C. Sharma

Shri P.C. Sharma has taken over as Member (Materials Management), Railway Board and Ex-

officio Secretary to Government of India on 11 October, 2019. Prior to this, Shri Sharma was working as General Manager, Metro Railway, Kolkata from 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 to 10 October, 2019. He is an Indian Railways Stores Service (IRSS) officer of 1981 batch. During his long career, Shri P.C. Sharma has held several important assignments in Railways including Principal Chief Materials Manager, Western Railway,

Mumbai, Chief Materials Manager in Rail coach Factory, Kapurthala, Northern Railway, Railway Electrification, Allahabad as as Executive Director in Railway Board during the period from 1986 to 2013. He has a wide experience of having worked as Divisional Railway Manager, Nanded from 2013 to 2015. Shri Sharma started his career in North Eastern Railway, Gorakhpur in 1983. ■

## New Member (Signal & Telecom), Railway Board



Shri Pradeep Kumar

Shri Pradeep Kumar has taken over as Member (Signal & Telecom), Railway Board and ex-officio Secretary to Govt. of India on 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2019. Prior to this, Shri Pradeep Kumar was working as Director General, National Academy of Indian Railways (NAIR). Shri Pradeep Kumar is an Officer of Indian

Railway Service of Signal Engineer (IRSSE) of 1981 batch.

Shri Pradeep Kumar is Bachelor of Engineering (Electronics & Communication) and Master of Engineering (Communication Systems) from University of Roorkee (now IIT Roorkee) & Master of Business Administration (Marketing & Finance) from Southern Cross University, New South Wales, Australia. Shri Kumar joined Northern Railway in 1983. During the course of his illustrious career, Shri Kumar has held several important executive and managerial positions on Indian Railways. He has served on Northern Railway, South Eastern Railway, South Central

Railway, West Central Railway, Railway Electrification, Railway Board and RailTel Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, besides serving as DG/NAIR, Vadodara. Some of the important assignments during his service include Additional General Manager, West Central Railway, Jabalpur, Chief Safety Officer, South Eastern Railway, Kolkata, Divisional Railway Manager, South Central Railway, Vijayawada, Executive Director (Signal Project) & Director (Telecom.), Railway Board, New Delhi, General Manager (Business Development) and Executive Director in RailTel, New Delhi. ■

## New General Manager of Eastern Railway



Shri Suneet Sharma

Shri Suneet Sharma has joined as General Manager of Eastern Railway on 19 September, 2019. Prior to his joining to the new post, he was General Manager, Modern Coach Factory, Raebareilly. A Special Class Railway Apprentice

(SCRA) Officer of 1978 batch, Shri Sharma comes with strong technical background and has expertise in various facets of Railway working. He worked at various levels – Zonal Railways, Workshops, Diesel Loco Sheds. Shri Sharma has 34 years of experience of working in Indian Railways. He has been known for introducing various administrative reforms including simplification of procedure for establishing new benchmarks in Indian Railways. He has a major contribution in bringing modernization in Railways as well as conservation of energy and

preservation of environment.

While in Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi, he played a pivotal role in conversion of Diesel Locomotives to Electric Locomotives to achieve Indian Railways' aim of 100% electrification.

Shri Sharma was Divisional Railway Manager, Pune, Central Railway, Chief Rolling Stock Engineer (Freight), Central Railway, Chief Mechanical Engineer (Planning), Central Railway, Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer, Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi. ■

## New General Manager, South East Central Railway



Shri Goutam Banerjee

Shri Goutam Banerjee has taken over as General Manager of

South East Central Railway on 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2019. Prior to joining as General Manager, South East Central Railway, he was Principal Chief Electrical Engineer (PCEE) of South Eastern Railway, Kolkata. Born on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 1961, Shri Goutam Banerjee did his B.Sc. Engg. (Hons.) from National Institute of Technology (NIT), Raurkela. An officer of 1982 batch of Indian Railway

Service of Electrical Engineering (IRSEE), Shri Banerjee worked in various important capacities in Indian Railways. He worked as Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) in Kharagpur Division of South Eastern Railway. He also worked as Chief Safety Officer (CSO) in Eastern Railway and Deputy General Manager (G) in South Eastern Railway.

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The participants of the Convention are seen showing the Souvenir published on this occasion

The National Convention of National Federation of Indian Railwaymen (NFIR) was held on 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 at Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh. Besides Working Committee, General Council & Delegates Session, the Open Session was held at 17.30 Hrs. on 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 in which over 10,000 delegates and activists of NFIR Unions from all Zones and Production Units have participated.

Shri Sajjan Singh Verma, Minister of PWD and Environment (Government of Madhya Pradesh) was Chief Guest while Shri Manoj Pande, Member Staff, Railway Board attended the Open Session as Guest of Honour. The General Secretary, Western Railway Mazdoor Sangh (WRMS) Shri J.G. Mahurkar in his welcome address explained the historic background of Ujjain City and welcomed dignitaries and all participants. A Souvenir published by WRMS containing messages of Railway Minister Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of State of Railways Shri Suresh C. Angadi and other high dignitaries conveying their best wishes for the grand success of NFIR National Convention was released by the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour.

While speaking, Shri Sajjan Singh Verma, Minister of PWD and Environment (Government of Madhya Pradesh) said that Indian Railways is the biggest family of India and Railway employees are performing their duties with devotion to ensure that the passengers reached their destination safely and punctually. He conveyed his best wishes to the participants of the National Convention of NFIR.

Addressing the Open Session of over 10,000 participants Shri Manoj Pande said that for the good functioning of any organization, it is necessary that there should be a good relationship between the workers and management and for this, the role of the Trade Union is very much important. While

## National Convention of NCIR

apprising of Indian Railways income in the current year which has been ₹72,532.54 crore Shri Manoj Pande said that the expenditure also increased which is around ₹68,779.06 crore. He further said that action has already been taken for filling the vacancies, while MACPS benefits have been extended to the employees by issuing revised orders on APAR. While greeting all the participant warmly, the Member Staff said at the end that "we all are bund towards Swachh Bharat, it is our responsibility to keep clean our stations, working places, not to throw utensils here and there and do not spoil the walls by pasting posters.

Addressing the Open Session, Shri Raghavaiah has narrated glorious history of Indian Railways and said that despite adverse working conditions in the field the Railway employees have been performing well. He urged upon the Government of India and Railway Ministry to implement the agreements reached with the Federation on staff demands without further delay. He also urged upon the Government of India to consider the proposals of two successive Railway Ministers for exempting railways from National Pension system (NPS).

The two days National Convention passed resolutions on the following:

- Compliments to Rail Workers & Rank and File of NFIR.
- Safety
- Abolish National Pension System (NPS) in Railways.
- 7<sup>th</sup> CPC Issues
  - a) Revise Minimum Wage

from ₹18,000 to 26,000 per month w.e.f. January, 2016 & revise Fitment Formula.

- b) Implementation of 7<sup>th</sup> CPC Recommendations.

- Stop Corporatization of Railway Production Units, Privatization, Outsourcing and Closure of Establishments.
- Continue Railway Printing Presses.
- Redressal of Staff issues and implementation of Agreements.
- Abolish GP ₹1800 Pay Level-1 in Railways in view of enhanced entry qualification.
- Productivity Linked Bonus – Remove salary calculation ceiling.
- Enhancement of Income Tax exemption limit in the case of Running Staff.
- Ensure payment of Risk & Hardship Allowance to staff belonging to safety and public interface categories.
- Reintroduce Modified Safety Related Retirement Scheme (MSRRS) for wards appointment.
- Resolve MACPS issues.
- Abolish 12 hours duty in Railways.
- Filling of vacancies.
- Absorption of Railway Act Apprentices against vacancies.
- Regularize Quasi Administrative Staff against vacancies.
- Reckoning of Total Temporary Status Casual Labour Service as Regular Service for Pensionary benefits.
- Intern Railway Request Transfers.
- Facilities/Amenities to women employees in Railways.
- Children Education Allowance and Hostel Subsidy.
- Facility of Privilege/Complimentary Passes and Medical Facilities to the parents of Railway employees.
- Action Plan for realization of demands as well pending issues.
- In the course of National Convention, Conferences of Young Workers and Women were also conducted. ■



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# INFOGRAPHICS



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1. Shri Piyush Goyal speaking at the celebration of 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in a befitting manner on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 over entire Indian Railways
2. Shri Suresh C. Angadi alongwith Chief Minister of Karnataka, flagged off the Extension of Kochuvele-Bangalore Daily Express to Mysuru. Also inaugurated enhanced passenger amenities including a reserved lounge & an escalator on PF6 at the Mysuru railway station.
3. Shri Suresh C. Angadi, Minister of State of Railways alongwith Shri Som Parkash, MoS, Commerce & Industry, flagged off the New Delhi-Ludhiana-Lohian Khas 'Sarbat Da Bhala Express' Intercity Train from Sultanpur Lodhi Railway Station on 4 October, 2019
4. Shri Suresh C. Angadi alongside Chief Minister of Karnataka flagged off the Extension of Kochuvele-Bangalore Daily Express to Mysuru. Also inaugurated enhanced passenger amenities including a reserved lounge & an escalator on PF6 at the Mysuru railway station.
5. Shri Suresh C. Angadi chaired a meeting of regional legislators, officials from Karnataka State regarding various developmental issues including remodeling of the existing Belagavi railway station & a new ROB at LC381 (Tilakwadi). Instructed officers to adopt a constructive approach.
6. A surprise visit by Shri Suresh C. Angadi to the Rail Wheel Factory at Yelahanka, Bengaluru on 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2019. This production unit has been indigenously manufacturing rolling stock wheels.
7. Congratulations to Prithvi Sekhar from Integral Coach Factory, Chennai for winning gold in the men's final of the World Deaf Tennis Championship held in Antalya, Turkey.
8. Indian Railways has been awarded by Ministry of Skill development for exhibiting outstanding contribution towards development of future workforce through engagement of apprentice during FY 2016 to 2019.



1. Shri Suresh C Angadi flagged off 22701/02 Visakhapatnam-Vijayawada-UDAY Express (AC Double Decker Train) from Visakhapatnam: a long cherished dream of this region. This specially designed train with striking interiors, display screens & cushioned seating takes only 5½ hours to cover 350 km!
2. Shri Suresh C Angadi met officials of Railway Board on 15 October, 2019 and directed them to expedite approvals for Bangalore Suburban Rail Project.
3. Shri Suresh C Angadi felicitated RPF personnel for outstanding performances throughout and launched the Crime Manual of RPF at a function held at the Rail Wheel Factory, Yelahanka, Bengaluru on 22<sup>nd</sup> October.
4. Shri Suresh C Angadi Flagged off Train No. 06542 Vijayapura - Yesvantpur Daily Special Express on 22<sup>nd</sup> October. It's the first train to connect the newly opened Hosapete-Kotturu section to Bengaluru and would boost trade, commerce and tourism.
5. "Indian Railway - Riding the High Technology Wave" Attended the 13<sup>th</sup> International Railway Equipment Exhibition & International Rail Conference 2019.
6. Confluence of policy makers & corporate leaders from around the globe, focusing on rail infrastructure, global trends in technology, logistics, energy efficiency, environment, Make In India and exports
7. Indian Railways' Buddhist Circuit train ran from 19-26 October, 2019. The train covered important Buddhist destinations such as : Lumbini, Bodhgaya, Sarnath, Kushinagar significant to Gautam Buddha's life in both India and Nepal.

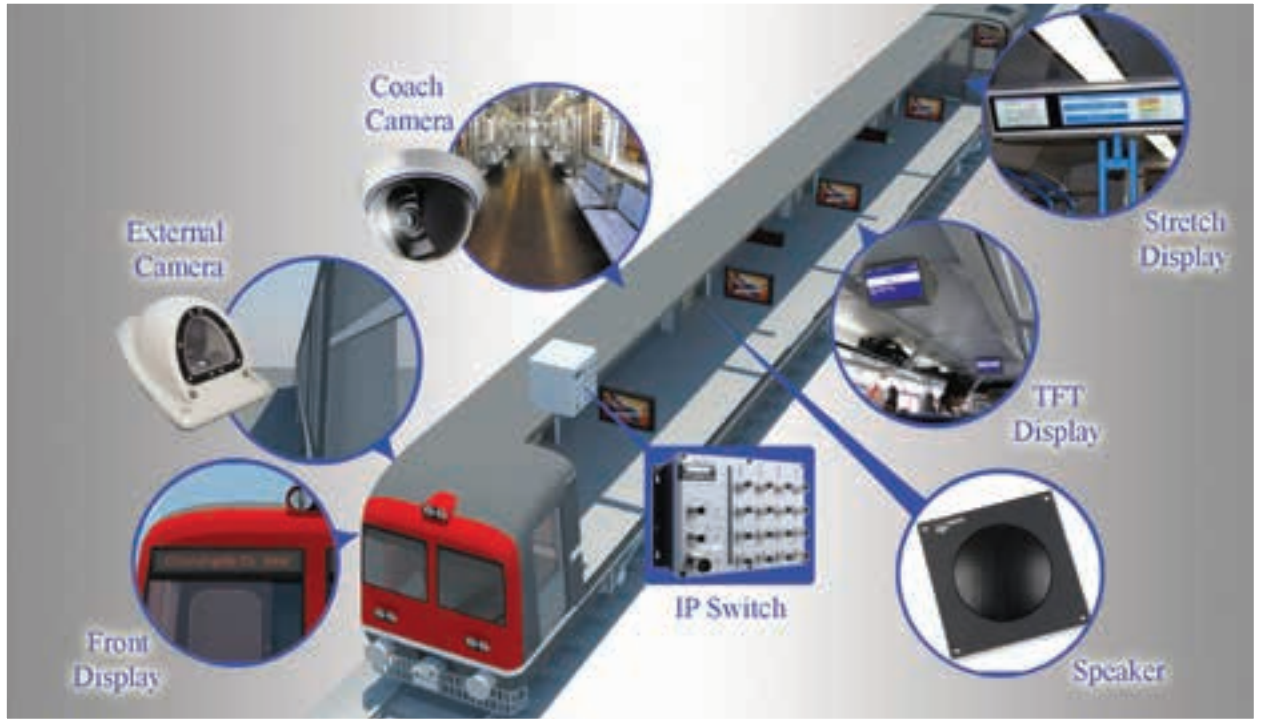


1. Beautiful paintings at Jodhpur Railway Station.
2. A wall painting made by Shri Jimmy Shekh, a tourist from West Indies at Haridwar Railway station. The theme of painting is based on holy river Ganga.
3. Celebrating Mahatma Gandhiji's 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary Year by painting Diesel Locomotives with the Mahatma's picture on the backdrop of the National Tricolour. 15 Painted Locos are running on the Mumbai-Pune and Mumbai-Konkan route. Work of painting 7 more locos is in progress.
4. Indian Railways team became overall champion in the 59<sup>th</sup> National Open Athletics Championship held at Ranchi.
5. Half Marathon Race held at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium New Delhi. In this event Ms. L. Surya, Southern Railway won Gold medal Ms. Parul Choudhary, Western Railway won Silver medal and Ms. Chinta Yadav, Western Railway won Bronze medal.
6. Asia's Largest Railway Transportation Event : 13<sup>th</sup> International Railway Equipment Exhibition at Aerocity, New Delhi (October 22-24).
7. Shri V.K. Yadav, Chairman Railway Board inaugurated the Health ATM Kiosk for public use at Lucknow Junction station of NER. By paying only Rs 50 one can get his health report on 16 important health parameters.



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## Pilot Project for Ushering in 'Industry 4.0' in the Country, is Launched

A Pilot Project for ushering in 'Industry 4.0' in the country, is launched for implementation at the Modern Coach Factory (MCF), Raebareli. The Ministry of Railways and Department of Science & Technology have joined hands in partnership with IIT/Kanpur for taking up a unique project on 'Industry 4.0' by launching a Pilot Project for implementation at Modern Coach Factory, Raebareli.

The launch ceremony saw exchange of Ideas between Railway Board (Member Rolling Stock), Shri Rajesh Agrawal, Secretary Department of Science & Technology Shri Ashutosh Sharma, Professor N.S. Vyas of IIT Kanpur, DG RDSO Shri Virendra Kumar, General Manager MCF Shri V.M. Srivatsava some other senior Officials of the Railway Board and the Ministry of HRD.

Speaking on the occasion, Secretary Department of Science & Technology Shri Ashutosh Sharma said that his department has recently launched a new programme "Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Systems (ICPS)" to foster and promote R&D in this emerging field of research. He said about 4000 crore rupees are expected to be spent in years to come in this area. Railway Board (Member Rolling Stock), Shri Rajesh Agrawal, said that today's initiative is expected to make India an advanced Industrial economy with exponential growth in jobs.

'Industry 4.0' commonly referred to as the fourth industrial revolution, is a name given to the current trend of automation, inter-connectivity and data exchange in manufacturing technologies to increase productivity. Industry 4.0 is

a complex Cyber-Physical Systems which synergizes production with digital technologies, the Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence, Big Data & Analytics, Machine Learning and Cloud Computing.

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in his address in Houston, USA on 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept' 2019 had highlighted the importance of 'Industry 4.0' in global economy and India's advantage.

The project launched today would be undertaken under the aegis of "Technology Mission for Indian Railways" (TMIR). It would be implemented by a consortium of Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Human Resource Development and Ministry of Science & Technology on an investment sharing model for taking up identified railway projects for applied research and use on Indian Railways for advancement and modernization.

Industry 4.0 is a complex cyber/physical digital system. Therefore, the architecture to be conceptualized and formulated in MCF initially would be gradually expanded in a phased manner to encompass all complexities that constitute Industry 4.0 in all manufacturing spheres in the country.

Full transition to the digital factory using 'Industry 4.0' across entire value chain from design to production will help enhance productivity hugely by providing insight into production process to take the decisions in real time basis, minimizing human errors by effective monitoring to ensure that resources are put to the best utilization measured by, what is called the Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE).

Such a National Policy for

Advanced Manufacturing envisages that manufacturing sector should contribute at least 25% to GDP. All over the world, countries who have been able to achieve phenomenal growth, could do that with the advent of rapid strides in manufacturing sector. This initiative in Railways may have wider ramifications to spur growth in defence production as well as in private manufacturing sector also.

Modern Coach Factory (MCF), Raebareli was established as a State of the Art coach manufacturing unit with the capacity to manufacture 1000 passenger coaches annually and has modern automated machines and robotic fabrication lines. During last one year, MCF has increased its production phenomenally to 1425 LHB coaches in 2018-19 vis-à-vis 710 LHB coaches in 2017-18. This was enabled significantly by the adoption of elements of Industry 4.0. on sophisticated machines. Inspection of MCF by the Prime Minister in December 2018 has been an inspiration to proliferate this initiative.

In view of the continuous demand for higher speed coaches with comfort of international level and to meet the demand of a continuously growing economy, there is a need to employ the tools which will improve the productivity to next higher level with greater product flexibility.

Industry 4.0 would be based cyber/physical digital system and would involve various packages, systems, applications and Hardware within Design/Planning, Networking and Production to be added in a modular and incremental manner in MCF

Various shops under the ambit of Industry 4.0, areas such as Inspection, Machining, Welding, Measurement etc., will also be provided with the initial & Bigdata Analytics, Artificial-Intelligence etc. ●

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## Ministry of Railways Holds a Presentation Session with Examination Conducting Agencies (ECA) to Assess their Potential to Hold Large Recruitment Examinations

Railway Recruitment Control Board, Ministry of Railways, held a presentation session on 26 September, 2019 with major Examination Conducting Agencies (ECA) to assess their strength and potential to hold large recruitment examinations for Indian Railways.

Indian Railways being the largest employer of manpower, has given over 1.5 lakh employment and almost equal number is in the pipeline. Railway Examinations invite a large number of applications running into

lakhs and more. Last year, one of the examinations had about 1.89 crore candidates which is a record.

Conducting such large scale examinations successfully has been a matter of concern and, hence, Examination Conducting Agencies are selected after minutely scrutinising their credentials and potentials. To broad base the choice of Agencies, Indian Railways held a presentation session with Examination Conducting Agencies for which notification was issued a week back.

Agencies from all over India participated were on the occasion. The presentation was followed by interactive session with Chairmen of Railway Recruitment Boards who were also present during the session. Based on the interactions, the Railways is expected to float tender for selecting the Examination Conducting Agency for holding the forthcoming examinations of Non-Technical Popular Categories and Miscellaneous Categories, to be held in the coming months. ■

## Most Advanced Electronic Interlocking System Installed on the Grand Chord route

Most advanced Electronic Interlocking System has been installed on the Grand Chord route. The measure is expected to help Indian Railways speed up trains and to achieve its future objective of reducing the travel time between Delhi and Howrah to about 12 hours from the existing 17-19 hours.

Grand Chord is part of the Howrah-Gaya-Delhi line and Howrah-Allahabad-Mumbai line. It acts as a link between Sitarampur, (West Bengal) and Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay Junction, Uttar Pradesh, and covers a stretch of 450 kms falling in North Central Railway (NCR) Zone of Indian Railways, which maintains and operates 53% portion of this New Delhi-Howrah route. This achievement becomes possible by replacement of the 65-year old outdated Mechanical Signalling System with the most advanced and safer Electronic Interlocking System at Tundla station in Uttar Pradesh now.

Around 500 persons worked day and night without break from 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2019 to 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 to execute this complex and challenging work in minimum possi-

ble time and with minimum inconvenience to public using innovative and out of the box methodologies and meticulous planning.

Tundla Jn. is an important station on this super-saturated route operating 160% of its designed capacity. Tundla also connects mainline with Agra Cantt. Jn. This important Electronic Interlocking work at Tundla Jn. was having 613 route combinations which is only second to Kharagpur in South Eastern Railway with 800 routes. Despite being extremely important from train operation point of view, Tundla Jn. was still continuing with mechanically interlocked signalling system of 1955 vintage. This system required manual operation of levers for receipt and dispatch of trains from 5 different cabins. Manual operation and coordination among cabins took approximately 5-7 minutes to handle each train at important Jn. station thus limiting its handling capacity to maximum 190-200 train on daily basis. Further Mechanical signalling also required upgrade to match with global safety standards in train operation. Layout of Tundla

Jn. also needed important changes to accommodate longer trains and more route combinations for efficient train operations.

Need for this change was felt a long back ago and work for remodeling and removal of Mechanical signalling was sanctioned way back in 1998-99, however actual execution got delayed due to extreme pressure of train operation at Tundla Jn. station as execution required cancellation of sizable number of trains which was not feasible unless an innovative and out of the box solution to this problem was found by NCR in 2019. Realizing the importance of this work, GM, NCR, Sri Rajiv Chaudhry motivated and guided the team of multi-disciplinary team of planners who came out with innovative solution to utilize newly constructed eastern dedicated freight corridor section between Bhadhan-Khurja section for diversion of some goods trains bypassing Tundla Jn. thus minimizing cancellation of passenger trains during execution of this work.

On the historic day of 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2019, 65 years old Mechanical Signalling system was replaced by

the most advanced and safer system of Electronic Interlocking. With commissioning of this system and some post commissioning works expected to be over by 17.11.2019 following major benefits shall be achieved in trains operation:

- Train handling time to be reduced from existing 5-7 minutes to 30-60 seconds through centralized power cabin enhancing handling capacity of Jn. to 250 per day from existing 200 maximum, thus less detention of trains outside Tundla and improved Punctuality of Trains.
- Train operation towards Agra will be immensely benefitted with two additional platforms and extension of three existing platforms no. 3,4&5 to cater full length trains on main line.
- All UP-direction yard lines are now fit for passenger train move-

ment thus efficient handling of more coaching train.

- Length of Yard lines increased to handle longer freight and passenger trains.
- Double exit facility provided to Medical Relief Train (ARME) for immediate movement in both sides during accidents etc.
- Centralized fail-safe operation through power cabin by just click of the mouse button replacing cumbersome, inefficient and manual operation spread across 5 cabins. Substantial saving on manpower requirement.

This work will go a long way in improving punctuality of trains on New Delhi-Howrah main line and benefits shall be manifold during incoming foggy season through safe and detention free handling of trains at Tundla Jn.

## Indian Railways Starts a Pilot Project, Allowing e-Commerce Consignments on its EMU Services in Non-Peak Hours

Indian Railways started a pilot project, allowing e-commerce consignments on its EMU services in non-peak hours. As a part of innovative pilot project, carrying of e-commerce consignment of Amazon in EMU services commenced from Sealdah to Dankuni in EMU local (suburban services) managed by Eastern Railway. The pilot project is initially for a period of three months where total 7 MT of consignment per day has been allowed to be carried. The rate chargeable is that of Luggage Rate (Scale L - highest scale) i.e. ₹ 5537 per day. This pilot project of booking consignments in EMU service is the first of its kind in Indian Railways.

The consignment is allowed to be carried in vendor compartment alongwith other vendors in non-peak hours (i.e. 11.00 hrs to 16.00 hrs.), thus causing no disruption/inconvenience to the existing system.

This project is to benefit both

**Eastern Railways allows amazon to carry its consignments from Sealdah to Dankuni in EMU local (suburban services) in vendor compartment**

Railways and e-commerce company M/s. Amazon. Railway will be benefitted through generation of revenue without putting any additional stress or burden on existing system whereas Amazon will be benefitted through reduced transit time.

The route viz. Sealdah to Dankuni was preferred by M/s. Amazon for quick movement of their consignment to the existing facility at Dankuni. Upon success of the pilot project, other routes may also be taken up by Amazon and other e-commerce companies may also be interested.

## Indian Railway launches One Touch ATVM for Fast Ticketing at 42 Suburban Stations of Central Railway

Indian Railways has launched 'one touch ATVM' at 42 suburban stations of Central Railway to render fast ticketing to millions of commuters over Mumbai Suburban Network. Railway passenger can avail the service of this new machine from today onwards at 42 suburban stations. This new machine will reduce the waiting time of the passengers and allow passenger to avoid standing in long queues. The new machine is loaded with the user friendly and uncomplicated procedure which will greatly ease the load on ticketing system of Mumbai Suburban Network. A total of 92 ATVMs has been installed at 42 suburban stations.



The salient features of one touch ATVM is that a passenger can obtain a ticket in just two steps instead of earlier six steps on a regular ATVM. One touch ATVM will show one screen display for selecting single/return journey tickets. The passenger can select desired station in the distance slab, just press tab "upto station" either for journey tickets or return journey tickets. The passenger can get platform ticket also with single touch.



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## SCR Loco Pilots Go Hi Tech – Join Digital Band Wagon

South Central Railway marching towards digitalization has taken steps to introduce Android based Tabs (Tablet PCs) in the working of Loco Pilots and reduced the burden on them by implementation of Common Line Box system.

Loco Pilots are vital to the organization and play a key role in train operations. Generally, Loco Pilots before deploying for duty have to undergo vigorous training on technical and safety aspects like classification of signaling arrangements, working system & trouble shooting of Electric and Diesel engines, road knowledge, track conditions such as caution orders, speed restrictions, up and down



Fi zone. In addition, E-rough journal is also incorporated in the TABs for entering the voluminous data by the Loco Pilots, which otherwise they used to write manually. This initiative is both paperless and environment friendly. Presently, Loco Pilots working in Mail, Express and Passenger Trains of Vijayawada Division have been supplied with these Tablet PCs and the

response from the Loco Pilots is very positive. Plans are on hand to supply to all the Loco Pilots on the Zone.

routes etc. apart from learning good driving skills.

To update their knowledge while working all the Loco Pilots need to carry reference books like General & Subsidiary Rules, Troubleshooting Manual on Electrical Engines & Diesel Engines, Accident Manual, Working Time Tab and Rough journal for writing the detailed data while on run. During emergencies Loco Pilots refer to these books to take appropriate action. All these manuals are weighing around 10 kgs and during emergencies generally Loco Pilots will be in panic situation and searching for the reference manually in the books is time consuming. In order to provide easy access with single reference South Central Railway has developed an in-house Android App and loaded the same in the Tablet PC along with all the reference Manuals. Whenever they need any reference on any subject related to their working, Loco Pilot has to simply type the word or sentence of the subject in the search box of the Tablet PCs, to get entire details on that subject. Moreover, it is hardly weighing 300 grams and easy to carry. Modifications and additions to the existing manuals and rules will be done from one nominated control point and will be automatically updated to all TAB users whenever they come into the purview of Crew Lobby Wi-

### Introduction of Common Mini Line (CML) Boxes

In addition, Loco Pilots usually carry personal equipment line box equipped with all essential tool kit, protection equipment and communication equipment which are required in day to day working. Personal Line boxes have to be loaded and unloaded from locomotive at the time of commencement and completion of duty by Loco Pilots. The process is very laborious and requires huge manpower due to involvement of huge number of line boxes.

To overcome the difficulties with Personal Line Box, South Central Railway has introduced the system of Common Mini Line (CML) Box in all the six divisions of the zone, which has eliminated requirement of loading/unloading of Line Boxes. CML boxes are loaded at first zonal crew change point of SCR and remains in the engine till next zonal crew change point. Thus, Loading and unloading of CML box within SCR zone is fully eliminated except at zonal crew change points. CML boxes occupy less space, lesser in weight and size compared to earlier line boxes. Requirement of number of tool kits, protection equipment



Old personal line box and new CML box



New CML Box

and communication equipment is reduced due to one line box for loco instead of individual staff. No dedicated space is required for storage at Loco Pilot lobbies as in the case of earlier method. No Box boys are required for loading/unloading. This has resulted in overall recurring monetary saving of

approximately Rs 1 crore per annum. Introduction of Common Mini Line (CML) Boxes in place of Personal Line boxes over the zone is also recognized as one of the Best Innovation at Railway Board Level.

On this occasion Shri Gajanan Mallya, General Manager opined that Loco Pilots are the core strength

of Railways and expressed his happiness for the efforts being adopted by the SCR to improve the working conditions of Loco Pilots. He also said that efforts are on hand to provide Air Conditions in the locomotives on gradual manner and advised to extend these facilities to the entire Zone at the earliest. ■

### A Report by PR Deptt., SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY

## Parvati Dome: The Other Name of Inspiration

This is a story one of courageous rebellion that's echoed throughout the members of the vast family of Indian Railways. This rebellion though, is one of braving one's circumstances to fight for a future that's better than it is today -- a story of sudden grief, and hope, of redemption, and women empowerment. In the

dimly lit town of Purulia, one woman stands between safety and certain misfortune. With a green and red flag in her hands, she stands in the deathly stillness of the night, signalling the oncoming train to pass safely. She is Parvati Dome, railgate-woman of South Eastern Railway.

For two whole years, she has been tirelessly serving Indian Railways performing an exemplary job ensuring that the yearning eyes of train drivers rest on the flag in her hand, signalling that it's safe to pass. Earlier, this was a job restricted to only men, but now women like her proving age old stereo-types wrong by showing that they aren't any less.



Her life, though, was anything but easy. Stricken by poverty, education was a luxury that she could never afford while growing up. Her husband, Jugnu Dome, was a railway employee but due to unfortunate circumstances, in 2017, he had an untimely death in his prime. With no other option, Parvati joined as gate-woman at Purulia, in Adra Division of South Eastern Railway, 2 years after her husband's untimely demise.

Before joining, she was taught to sign her name by a local teacher. For 15 days, she was given training by Railway administration, and then, she joined as a railgate-woman at Cuttin Railgate near Purulia Station, in Adra Division. In a week, she has night-duty twice from 10PM - 6AM.

Initially she was afraid, and often felt tired and sleepy. But, the mother in her found unwavering strength having two children. One, a son, named Dev, in Class 10. Another, a beautiful daughter, Deepika, in Class 8. They live together, as a small, but resolute family within the halls of Purulia Rail Colony. She doesn't fear for her safety and her utmost

priority to ensure that the duty and the responsibility bestowed on her, is dutifully executed. When asked about her job in a documentary film by the Public Relations Department, South Eastern Railway, the ever-courageous 35 year old Parvati, said, "When one's brave, there's nothing one can't do." Parvati, stands as a shining example of equality and the strength in women. Incredible reminder that in Indian Railways, every shred, nook, and corner throbs and burns with powerful women who're shattering stereotypes in their own miniscule, yet significant ways. South Eastern Railway is making all out efforts towards Woman Empowerment and Parvati is a symbol of our success. ■



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# Wrinkles and Beauty

**Ms. Manju**

Jt. Director, Railway Board

When the first grey hair appears on our head, it is a critical juncture in life. We go to the mirror with a sinking feeling of dread and try to pick out the evidence---one here, two there. But the more we pull out, the more seem to come in.

Getting old is an inevitable process of life. Why to look at aging as an enemy? It happens whether one likes it or not and no one is set apart from growing old ; it comes to us all. Youth passes from everyone, so why deny it? Getting older should not be such a big deal. Childhood has one kind of beauty, youth another and old age its own special beauty. If there is anything behind a face, that face improves with age. Lines show distinction and character. They show that one has lived, that one may know something. Grey hair, small lines and wisdom are beautiful accessories to carry while growing old gracefully.

What does "aging gracefully" mean? "Aging gracefully" is a euphemism to mean "Looking old, but embracing it". It is a phrase often used to describe someone who isn't looking as good as he or she once did. But is that the only interpretation that can be affixed to the term? Perhaps "aging gracefully" doesn't necessarily have to refer to age or appearance but rather the attitude people have as they go through the various stages of life. "Aging gracefully" doesn't mean you have to wear your wrinkles with pride..instead you need to do whatever is necessary to stride into your older years with confidence. For some people this may mean simply embracing the natural

science of aging without visiting a plastic surgeon on the way, for others it means taking steps to match their outside appearance with the way they feel inside. If one feels energetic and youthful internally, then there is no shame in getting a facelift, tummy tuck to keep their body at the same level. Ultimately, it comes down to personal needs and desires.

And yet we are continually bombarded with anti aging products and tempted with youth restoring plastic surgery. Whether we consciously acknowledge it or not, the pressure or desire to be beautiful is a heavy weight to carry. If an aging person is distracted by a futile attempt to remain ageless, not only is he funneling a large percentage of his hard earned income towards maintaining the status quo, he is basing his identity or work on his exterior and remaining dependent on outside approval for his esteem.

In all of this, it is important to remember that loving makeup or fashion or skin care or hair dye is perfectly normal. It's alright to want to look your best and feel healthy as you age, what isn't alright is feeling like you have to alter your appearance to look youthful, just to be accepted in society. In other words only do what feels good to you. The real issue has nothing to do with weather one uses makeup or not, gains weight or lose it, have surgery on it, dress up or down, makeover clothing and faces and bodies into works of art or ignore adornment altogether. The real problem is our lack of choice

In the media, aging men are often portrayed like fine wine while women are compared to expired milk banished to the back of proverbial fridge. In most cases, aging gracefully is synonymous with "you can stop trying now". The actresses who are most applauded for aging gracefully are those that look old but not too old--beautiful but not in a way that would make it obvious that they have used any botox after plastic surgery. In other words, they are made to age youthfully.

It is said, "Beautiful young people are accidents of nature but beautiful old people are works of art". Old age

brings the freedom to take on a second career, find fulfillment in new hobbies or to recapture the pleasures of youth but the last years of life spent in these pursuits are often full of frustrations and regrets. By contrast, from a spiritual perspective, the second half of life is the natural time to turn from physical satisfactions to inner growth. This is the time when we need to concentrate on spiritual development if we are to fulfill our highest potential and realise our immortality. All the religions of the world agree that death is not the end of life, only the end of one chapter. The immortal dweller within the body, however, our real self is unaffected by these changes. It was never born, it can never die.

The body is a temple of the Lord and if looked after with care is beautiful even in old age. We show respect for the Lord, the Self within by keeping the body healthy and beautiful. Where books, movies, television and our eating habits and exercise are concerned, we must be vigilant to see we are not indulging the senses at the cost of the health of our body or mind. It is not that we cultivate an ascetic attitude. It is just the opposite. We do not modify the body but see that every day it gets what it needs for health so that it can be a valuable, vital instrument until our last day. Even in the evening of their life, some old people have a beautiful, healthy body because they are always aware that this temple has to be kept in good order, swept with the mantram broom and purified through daily practice of meditation. There is a joke about a man going to a barber and asking do you have anything for grey hair. "Yes", the barber says, "Respect". Real living comes from making a contribution to life. This is the paradox of life when we cling to the body, it loses its beauty but when we do not cling to the body and use it as an instrument given to us to serve others, it grows with a special beauty as we can see from the lives of many great saints and mystics. When our consciousness becomes pure, even the body begins to reflect its light. ■

# Introduction of Several IT Initiatives by Indian Railways

**Ashish Kumar**

Sr. Section Engineer /  
Mechanical-DSL,  
Western Railway H.Q.

The Digital India programme launched by the Government of India with an aim of transforming the country into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy ensures that Government services are available to citizens more efficiently by introduction of IT initiatives.

The objective of the mission is to build participative, transparent and responsive governance to reach out the citizens in support of service with the help of digital technologies which includes IT initiatives for transformation in various fields resulting improvement in revenue enhancement, cost reduction, asset management and maintenance, energy conservation, environment protection, HRD, material management, financing, operational technology and the most important – customer satisfaction of course.

Indian Railways has always focussed on adoption of new technologies to improve train operations and provide better passenger experience to its customers. In this series, Indian Railways has introduced various IT initiatives. Initiatives taken by Indian Railways in this regard are multidimensional finally aiming to provide better passenger experience directly or indirectly.

According to analysts, the Digital India plan could boost GDP up to \$1 trillion by 2025. It can play a key role in macro-economic factors such as GDP growth, employment generation, labour productivity, growth

in number of businesses and revenue leakages for the Government. Many such IT initiatives have been under taken by IR having a considerable economic impact.

As per the World Bank report, a 10% increase in mobile and broadband penetration increases the per capita GDP by 0.81% and 1.38% respectively in the developing countries. India is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest telecom market in the world with 915 million wireless subscribers and world's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest Internet market with almost 259 million broadband users. The penetration of mobile devices may be highly useful as a complementary channel to public service delivery apart from creation of entirely new services which may have an enormous impact on the quality of life of the users and lead to social modernization. To encash this opportunity IR has developed many apps as well as web portals that are yielding influencing impacts such as mobile app for freight operation monitoring named as 'Parichaalan' Growing use of free Wi-Fi across train stations has been added to passenger amenities.

Online Scrap Monitoring System or O-SMS is an app developed in-house by Jaipur Division for online monitoring of railway scrap from generation to final disposal. It aims to organize railway scrap management to benefit both, the seller and the buyer, by ensuring expeditious realization of value. The use of live stock database shall help in performance audit for actual collection of scrap including monitoring targets. It also provides single point facilitation to all buyers in scrap identification based on location and various other parameters.

RASTA (Railway Assets Summarized Tracking Application) a Mobile App (Available On Google Play Store) developed by NCR aims to Mapping of Railway Assets like Station, Level Crossings, Bridges & YATRI RASTA (Railway Approach to Station Tracking Application) is aimed for helping Public at the time of Transportation for Navigate the desired Stations of NCR.

The major changes in the technology space will not only brought changes to the economic system but will also contribute to the environmental changes. The

next generation technologies will help in lowering the carbon footprint by reducing fuel consumption, waste management, greener workplaces and thus leading to a greener ecosystem. Paperless Unreserved ticketing on mobile phones was launched on 25 December, 2014 at Mumbai and has since been expanded to suburban sections of Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Secunderabad and New Delhi-Palwal section of Northern Railway. This has eliminated the need for passengers to stand in queue for getting tickets for journey in unreserved compartments of trains. The ticket is delivered on the Mobile Phone and is embedded with QR Code. This service has added to passenger convenience. About 4 lakh passengers per day are booking tickets on Mobile phones.

Moreover, Records Maintenance System Web Application has been developed In-house by IT Centre NWR and has been implemented fully across NWR. Records Maintenance System provides the location of Record/Files in appropriate Floor/Room No/Almirah/Rack/Shelf in the Record Room. Raw data about the Name of file, File No, Date of commencement & completion of work, Total Cost of project, date of Destruction of record, Record Custodian has already been ported through Backend for whole of NWR's Records. Any Record issued to any officer can be directly seen on the web portal along with the date of issue. Updating of New records digitally has allowed dispensing the practice of keeping bulky ledgers for record keeping and issue/Receipt. This has resulted in saving tremendous amount of Man Hours and has also increased the efficiency.

Technocrats have to meet the reality of limited resources which is a daunting challenge for enterprises of all sizes and so does IR. The traditional role of IT Infrastructure is being rapidly reshaped by the global Digital Transformation.

Railways have experimented with tracking of trains using GPS devices with these GPS devices located in the locomotive. For a sustainable solution, a Real Time Train Information System is being implemented, whereby GPS tracking devices would communicate using satellite

communications. The trials have been successful. Apart from this, data logger systems already available in track circuited stations are being used at major interchange points to capture arrival/departure information on trains. In an effort to computerise the transactions of the station master, a Computerised Train Signal Register is going live at 650 stations and this enables arrival/departure information to be transmitted to the Control Office Application and the National train Enquiry System directly from the station master's desk.

Many IT initiatives undertaken in Store Department are proving fruitful for efficient Material Management and better inventory management. In line with the Government's Digital India initiative, WCR Materials Management Department has effectively used the digital framework available as iMMS, we conceptualized and got added a new programme to iMMS for more effective dealing with surplus/inactive/NIL AAC items. This has tremendously contributed towards transfer of unwanted inventory to needy locations visible online on real time basis. Also, any procurement officer is informed regarding such excess items at other locations, so that they may take informed procurement decision; resulting in avoidance of locking of precious funds in such purchases. With proper and effective monitoring through this newly introduced Digital Tool; the West Central Railway Materials Management Department has achieved leaner and smarter Inventory Management.

Railway Depot Management System has been developed by NWR for centrally managing the Depot / Consignee Store located remotely under each designated officer or department. RDMS system has the facility to manage e-DTR entry and issuing of materials and facility of generating stock demand and non stock Indent and also keeping / Tracking the e-DTR and Indent. RDMS system has been developed to enhance the efficiency of maintaining store data and procuring or generating Indent through online system, so that data shall be available online and information on the store inventory



can be obtained as and when required. Also Consignee depot user who has generated Indent shall able to monitor its progress and its status can be obtained by tracking the indent online. Also system has been developed in such a fashion that it follows the existing protocol of maintaining of S&T Railway Depot. store and Indent generation procedure. It shall also help in get rid of maximum manual supervision of ledger and DTR books. A Mobile application on Android platform has also been developed to get access of depot data to find the material details. E-DTR based RDMS system is designed with cloud based architecture, can be hosted in cloud environment too.

Several IT initiatives have also been implemented in Commercial Department too. Handheld Terminals are being provided to the Train Ticket Examiners to be able to check the reserved coaches, allot the vacant berths and transmit information on available berths to the subsequent stations. The HHT can also access the ticketing application and collect excess fares as per rules. The terminal can potentially connect to a Point of Sale machine and charges can be collected digitally. HHTs for TTEs will help in updating status of passenger list of the whole train. It will bring more transparency in the system. Over the last four years, the capacity of the website has increased to 20,000 tickets per minute starting from 2000 tickets per minute in 2014, a ten-fold increase. Apart from the capacity, the entire user experience has been improved substantially with the launch a new interface with easier navigation and standard views that enable the passengers to transact smoothly. New features have been

added that enable better planning of journeys aiding the passenger to obtain confirmed tickets.

Complete tendering activity of Indian Railways for procurement of goods, services & works and e-auction of scrap sale is on Indian Railway e-Procurement System (IREPS). IREPS system is largest such G to B portal in India. It has helped in achieving objectives of transparency, efficiency and improving of ease of doing business. During 2017-18, 4,44,000 e-tenders valuing more than ₹1,50,000 crore were issued on IREPS. Online scrap sale of ₹2800 crores was also done last year through e-auction. 90,000 vendors have registered themselves on IREPS website. Central Vigilance Commission has recognized and awarded the system under "Vigilance Excellence Award - 2017" for outstanding contribution in the category of "IT initiatives for transparency in the organization".

Centralized Automated Emergency Hooter System in Bhopal Division for ordering Accident Relief Trains Rail Netra-GPS based tracking system for relief assets

Rail Good Work Portal, an initiative of Transformation Cell is to provide an on-line platform to all Zones, Divisions, Production Units, RDSO and CTIs where than can freely share the good works being done by them. This would encourage easy and fast adoption and replication of these good works across Indian Railways. GMs, DG/NAIR & DG/RDSO, PHODs, DRMs and Directors of CTI are authorized to upload the good work being done by their units. The good work can be viewed by all. The Portal has been developed and is being maintained by CRIS. Indian Railways has been at the forefront in adopting technology and has recently undertaken several IT initiatives to improve train operations and provide better passenger experience. Hence, the Indian Railways is leveraging information technology systems greatly for improving the passenger experience, reduce costs, better traffic management etc and as better technologies arrive eg Artificial Intelligence (AI), data analytics etc, these can be used to further take IR to next level and be on par internationally. ■

# My Trip To Japan - The Land Of Rising Sun

**V. Subramanyam**

Retired PCMM/Indian Railways

For a long time I have been wanting to visit Japan, to see not only that quality obsessed country, but also to travel by their famed bullet train, about which I have been hearing for the past 50 years.

In March this year an unexpected opportunity threw up for me when a close relative of ours hinted that his family was planning to reach India for a holiday in June 2019 via Japan. On hearing this, I told him that I would like to join him so that I can see Japan and also experience travel by the Bullet trains. I am lucky that this was taken seriously by him and his wife. However he desired that not only I and my wife visit Japan along with them, but also others of his family such as his parents, his US based sister's family join. Despite many of us being senior citizens, all were happy to join. The preparations for the trip started at a feverish pace and even before I could blink, his sister booked the air tickets for all of us online and we got the tickets by email in no time. The next day we got the confirmed hotel reservations by email again. Thus my request finally resulted in 5 families consisting of 16 of us, of which 7 were senior citizens, 5 energetic knowledgeable youngsters and 4 children travelling together to Japan and enjoying the country for 8 days in June this year, which was an unfulfilled dream till then. The youngsters formed themselves into a team to plan and execute all the activities for the group. All of us assembled at



Tokyo Railway Station

Bangalore for the trip which commenced on 19<sup>th</sup> June by Singapore airlines and ended on 28<sup>th</sup> June at Bangalore, where most of the India based relatives of the leader live.

The single entry tourist visa for the visit was obtained from Japanese consulate without any hassles. The visa was valid for entry for 3 months, with permission for stay in Japan for 15 days. Among all of us, there was a discussion on how much Japanese currency Yen was to be carried, as none of us had visited Japan earlier. Based on net (Google) information that many shops in Japan accept only cash there and also that in buses no change would be given if the cash tendered is more than the fare, I tried to buy the currency notes in their lowest denomination of 1000 Yens, but the same was not available anywhere either at Bangalore or Chennai. So as an experimental measure I

bought a travel card from my bank loading it with some Yens. Others in our group carried cash in 10000 Yen notes. Actually, it was found that carrying currency even in higher denominations was a better option, as shops were entertaining even higher denomination notes and tendering the balance without any problem. All of us also bought overseas travel insurances to take care of any contingencies.

The journey by Singapore airlines itself was very enjoyable due to the quality of the aircrafts and the attention provided by the crew with smiles. The male stewards were smart young men dressed in impeccable suits with tie where as the female air hostesses appeared to have descended from the heaven in their beautiful two piece silk uniforms. To my surprise they all spoke excellent English too!. The breakfast and food provided were excellent and enjoyable.

We had to change the plane at Singapore Changi airport and I thought we would get an opportunity to roam around and see the entire airport as we had heard a lot about it through e mails, videos, whatsapp messages and so on. But to our disappointment we were told that we need a transit visa to enter all areas of the airport and hence this desire could not be fulfilled. But the fully carpeted transit lounge of the airport itself was very good with interesting display of horticultural works, flowers, statues etc and lined up with a very large number of duty free shops and was a sight by itself befitting such a famed international airport.

Originally on landing at Japan, we had planned to take a train from Narita international airport, the entry point for Japan, to Tokyo. But considering that our group had 17 luggages to be dragged, the team decided against it and opted to travel to Tokyo by Airport Express Bus. It turned out to be a good decision, as not only the loading at the airport and unloading of the luggage at the hotel were done by the bus driver himself, but it also gave us an opportunity of feeling Japan on the very first day of landing, during the one and half hours journey from the airport to Tokyo city.

The reservation for all of us had been made in good hotels in 3 different places for our visit and so all of us enjoyed a stay of exceptional comfort during our visit. In Tokyo, the hotel where we stayed is situated just opposite the Imperial palace, where the Royals live even now. It is said that the hotel was once owned by the Royals themselves. The location is the centre of Japanese Government offices and is studded with many beautiful high rise buildings, including the parliament of Japan called DIET. We stayed at Tokyo for 3 days, the next 3 days at Japan's old capital Kyoto and finally at Narita for the last 2 days near the airport.

Of course several places of tourist interests were visited, since interests of others in our group was mainly places of interest. So at Tokyo we visited a famous 1380 years old Buddhist temple called Sensoji temple constructed in the Japanese

style, got a bird's eye view of Tokyo from a height of 340 metres of Tokyo tree tower, the Imperial palace park and then a busy Newyork Times Square like Shubiyu Square. The Sensoji temple looks fresh even today. We also did a roof top tour of Tokyo on a tourist bus, enjoying the breath-taking view of the city of Tokyo with many beautiful modern buildings, neat road network without pot holes and beautiful bridges. Later at Kyoto, a city situated 500 km from Tokyo, we visited a couple of Buddhist and Shinto shrines all looking fresh though ancient, the old and well preserved castle of Samurai kings and a deer park at a place known as Nara, about an hour train journey by Japanese EMUs. These trains have far superior looks, and are very clean and run punctually. The suburban trains looked more like our metro trains and not like the EMU coaches running at Mumbai, Kolkata or Chennai. We also attended a paid demonstration of Japanese Tea serving ceremony while at Kyoto. The lady who performed the ceremony was wearing a Kimono dress, the Japanese traditional dress worn by them on festival days. In fact we could witness a large number of even young Japanese women wearing the same Kimono dress while visiting their shrines. It is another story that the tea prepared by observing an elaborate ritual by the lady was a concoction not to our taste being in the form of a watery green pulp and created out of just green tea leaves!.

Whereas the deer parks are generally fenced off in most of the places, but at Nara, about 200 spotted deers with some males having fully grown antlers (the tree like growth on their heads) were seen roaming freely among the tourists. The tourists were enjoying the company of the deers by touching, patting and stroking them, taking photos while feeding them. It was a great sight for all of us and I can say we all took at least 50 photos and videos with those deers. While trying to feed a group of deers myself with some deer feed cakes sold in the park, a stag (male deer)

pounced on me to capture his share with such a ferocity, that I fell down on my back with a thud, making every body anxious. But fortunately I did not sustain any injuries. Then only I saw a warning board nearby, installed by the authorities to be careful about the wild behaviour of the deers roaming there!.

My first objective of visiting Japan was to see their way of life which ensures quality in every aspect, whether it is goods or services. Just one look at Tokyo or Kyoto, you will realise how quality defines the Japanese. The cities are so clean that one cannot believe, unless one has seen it. There was not even a speck of dirt anywhere whether it is a building, or road, street or a bus or a train or Railway station. The cities that we visited were of course free from dust and I don't know whether this was due to some special measures taken by the Japanese. All buildings looked fresh as if constructed and inaugurated only the previous day. There were no dark lines on the walls of the buildings due to rain and other things. The markings on the roads such as lanes, pedestrian crossing zebra lines, vehicle stopping lines in white were all fresh and not faded. All the signal lights were working. Even the shops and restaurants were extremely clean. We had our food in as many as six Indian restaurants and all were exhibiting the same Japanese quality of cleanliness. The signages were both in Japanese and English, both on roads and in Railway and subway stations. Announcements in trains, railway stations and buses are made both in Japanese and English. All Railway stations and underground subway station concourses and approach passages are lined with beautiful shops like what we see in airports. The trains and buses are absolutely punctual, not only in Tokyo but also in Kyoto and Nara. In all trains and buses, LED boards indicate the next stops both in Japanese and English. At important stops, a Japanese staff guides the passengers into the buses in an orderly manner. All people stand in queue for getting into a bus or train.



A clean Nagoya Railway station



Garbage bins at Nagoya Railway station

Queuing on the left is observed meticulously. Majority of the taxis were found to be of TOYOTA make. The drivers are extremely polite, decent, careful and steady while driving. All in uniforms and guided by GPS for routes. The respecting of traffic signals is absolute not only by the vehicle drivers, but also by the pedestrians. The driver's license details are displayed with their photos in every taxi. The buses and taxis stop at the assigned places with an unimaginable precision and the gates open exactly at the predetermined location not only for the trains, but also at the bus stops. No beggars were seen on the streets or Railway Platforms or subway paths. No stray dogs or cattle anywhere. Surprisingly not even pet dogs were seen anywhere on the streets. The walls are absolutely clean without graffiti or pasting of posters of any kind. There are many and the experience on such matters is unending and unbelievable.

Then the people! One should wonder whether there can be more friendly and helpful people anywhere else on this earth! Always smiling and always helpful, bowing with their heads notwithstanding the language barrier. Always well dressed. We did not see a single Japanese shabbily dressed in any of the cities. Some ladies took special interest in the silk sari worn by the ladies of our group and enquired where they can be bought and how they are worn in such a beautiful manner. A couple of Japanese floored me by having knowledge about India. One Japanese lady, on hearing that I am from Chennai, greeted me with "Vanakkam" in Tamil. Another gentleman started conversing in broken Hindi, stating that he is

learning Hindi. Then two incidents will explain how considerate they are.

While returning from Kyoto to Tokyo, all the 16 of us got into a Tokyo bound train with 17 heavy luggages, thinking that the Japan Rail Passes bought by us for one week unlimited travel would be valid by that train. On boarding, there was an announcement stating that the passes were not valid by that train implying that all of us were required to buy tickets costing ₹12000 each for travelling by that train. In panic, one of the ladies got down with a luggage piece too and before others could react, the train door was shut and the train started moving. She was also having all our Japan Rail Passes. So in a way the 15 of us were travelling without tickets and I started worrying on that count too. However within minutes the matter was informed to the ticket checking staff and appreciating our helplessness, he not only advised us to get down in the next station due to come in half an hour's time, but also helped to establish contact with the lady left in the previous station. Thereafter all of us got down at the next station and the lady also joined us by the following train. But for the goodness of that Japanese staff, the lady would have been stranded and all of us would have been made to pay a heavy penalty for our getting into that train inadvertently. In another incident, while travelling from Tokyo station to Narita with all of our 17 luggage items, we noticed that the trains were halting only for about a minute. So when our train was due to arrive, we explained our difficulty of loading 17 luggage items into the train within the halt time of 1 minute, to a Tokyo station

staff in uniform. On hearing this, he smilingly guided us to the entry location of a normal coach and on the train's arrival stood there to ensure that not only all of us got into that heavily crowded coach, but also all the luggages were loaded before the closure of the door. He even physically lifted and loaded some of the luggages into the coach, bowed and then smilingly waved his hands while the train started moving. These things happening in a foreign country to us are unforgettable.

One more thing about the Japanese. They do not expect or accept tips for any of the services. We used the airport buses and later hotel airport and station drop services of the hotels several times. In all these travels, all the 17 pieces of luggages were loaded and unloaded by the drivers themselves single handedly and no tip was expected or paid. Only bowing of heads and greetings by waving of hands while leaving us. We utilised the taxis several times and only the exact fare was paid every time mostly in cash without tips. If the cash paid was more, the exact balance cash was returned by the drivers. The same experience in restaurants serving Indian foods too. What a contrast with experience in the West or our own country!

And finally, about my dream of travelling by the bullet train locally named as Shinkansen Express trains in Japan coming true! To minimise the train travel costs, the team booked Japan Railway passes in US itself, before leaving for India. Then at the Japan entry airport Narita, actual tickets were issued with a validity of 7 days. Each pass costed about ₹20000, with permission for unlimited travel by Japan Rail

operated trains, where as a single journey ticket by bullet train from Tokyo to Kyoto costs about ₹ 12000. So it made a sense to buy the Japan rail pass for our journeys by the bullet train and also for some local trips by trains.

We landed at Tokyo Railway station, a very big station with 6 to 7 levels, on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of our visit, for embarking on our first ever journey by the Japanese Bullet train. The group and even my wife could not understand my excitement about the journey. I was waiting for the train to arrive and get in at the earliest . Actually the train that arrived was not from a coach washing shed, but an incoming train after travelling about 700 kms, the same distance as NewDelhi to Bhopal or Lucknow. From the outside, each coach painted in milky white with a pair of blue coloured bands at the window sill level, resembled a plane's passenger cabin. The windows are exactly like that of aircrafts. As soon as the train stopped and the passengers alighted in an orderly manner, a set of cleaning staff entered the coaches and completed the cleaning of coaches, toilets, trash boxes etc in just 10 minutes and also rotated all the seat panels by 180 degrees so that passengers can face the direction of travel. Such an arrangement is desired by every passenger without exception. We all then entered the absolutely clean chair



Tokyo-Narita Express rake



Tokyo-Narita Express rake

cars with our luggages and in 5 five minutes time the train started its next journey of 700 kms, after he driver of the train closing the doors of all coaches by remote control. The members of our group as my co-passengers were not at all believing that the train would soon travel at about 300 kms per hour and were skeptical about it. Indeed for a few minutes the train appeared to be moving only like our Indian trains, but it was already travelling at about 80 KMPH even before leaving the station yards. Then by using the Google maps, one of our boys started monitoring the speed which was 80 kmph to start with, then became 100, 120, 150 , 190, 210, 240 and so on in no time, to the utter disbelief of our people. At full speed the train was clocking about 290 kms per hour, unthinkable till now in our system. Hope the same or even superior standards are achieved in the ongoing Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project under execution now in our country. The high speed was sustained for several minutes during the run and the full distance of 513 km between Tokyo and Kyoto was covered in just 2 hours and 40 minutes with 5 intermediate stops, thus recording a displacement of 200 kms per every hour. There are a few other nonstop bullet trains that cover the same 513 kms in just 2 hours, which we could not choose due to nonsuitability of timing. The journey was extremely comfortable. There was no violent shaking that we experience in our high speed

trains so far at even 140 KMPH. On the return journey from Kyoto also we travelled by another bullet train, thus fulfilling my 50 year dream. I can never forget the joy and thrill that as a Railway man I experienced, while travelling at that speed most comfortably in those clean and stylish high quality bullet trains.

Even other trains are not lacking in appearance and quality, though not having the same speed as bullet trains. The double decker coaches are looking extremely nice, fresh and shining with no sign of dulling or peeling of painting or any rust showing up. All suburban Rail coaches resemble our metro rail coaches. The Tokyo Narita airport express train coaches travelling just 80 km per hour are looking like the coaches of the new train18 rake now running as Vande Bharat Express, between NewDelhi and Varanasi. All in all I feel very lucky to have enjoyed a far superior experience in Japan than any other cities that I had visited so far. All credits to the team of 5 young people of our group who planned and executed the tour so successfully and in such an enjoyable manner. The Japanese deserve all the compliments for keeping their Nation and cities so well. No doubt they are a leading economy with a stamp of quality in all aspects of their life. One day, will our country reach that Japanese standard and all our intercity trains run like bullet trains? That is a big question! ■



Inside of a suburban train

# A True Story of Grit, Determination and Sacrifice by Railwaymen

**Dr. Suresh D. Mane**  
(Retd.) ADME/ KJM, South  
Western Railway, Bangalore



like radiators etc. This section too is headed by a senior section Engineer and has few section engineers, junior engineer, technicians and supporting staff.

An incident happened in Bangalore city itself during fall 2011. On 18-10-2011 evening KJM shed control room received a call about Alco diesel loco No.13345 of KJM (Multiple Unit with 13118) having failed at Whitefield yard. The message was low lube oil tripping and low water in radiator in the WDG3A loco. The control room personnel conveyed the message

**D**iesel loco sheds cater to the maintenance of about 4800 diesel locomotives on IR as on 2014-15. These sheds have around 500-1500 employees and were mostly established post 1960 when ALCO locomotives manufacturing was started in India. These sheds are normally divided into Mechanical and Electrical maintenance which are again sub-divided into various section for maintenance such as Power pack section, under truck section, heat exchanger section in mechanical department and Traction motor section, alternator section, control system section etc under electrical department. Both the departments have around 10 to 15 sections each.

South Western Railway has 2 diesel sheds in its jurisdictions, one at Bangalore (Krishnarajuram-abbreviated KJM) and the other at Hubli at its zonal Head quarter. KJM shed is one of the best maintained sheds which takes care of maintenance of all sorts of locomotives be it mainline locomotives, passenger locomotives, goods locomotives or shunting locomotive. Both the two types of locomotives viz. ALCO-American locomotive company (since 1960) and GM-EMD General Motors Electromotive division locomotives (Since 1990) and their numerous configurations are maintained by this shed meti-

culously. KJM shed was established in 1983 originally to cater to maintenance of ALCO locomotive and over the years and has undertaken various innovative measures to improve reliability of its locomotives and lately undertaken maintenance of GM EMD locos (high hp locos)

What makes this shed unique is the technical staff be it supervisors or technicians are keen in knowing, understanding the technologies adopted in the locomotives and update themselves to provide the best possible maintenance as per laid down schedules. The senior staffs groom the new recruits train them not only on technical aspects and working conditions. The staffs is Punctual well disciplined, committed and dedicated to their profession and are at the service of the nation round the clock. Any shed locomotive failure at any point in time is attended by the shed staff irrespective of holidays, day or night condition, location of failure etc.

Today if we claim India is really progressing IR is one of the major contributor for this progress and to IR diesel loco shed are the backbone which provides the locomotives for hauling passenger and goods trains. Heat exchanger is one of the major sections under mechanical department which looks into the maintenance of equipment related to the cooling system of the diesel engine

promptly to the senior section engineer of heat exchanger section. The senior section engineer Shri Billigeri called his juniors and discussed the reason for failure based on the complaint. Then he decided to depute Shri Rajendramani SSE and Shri Rajashekar to inspect the loco on site and give further advice. Promptly the duo boarded the next available local train from KJM to Whitefield station. They reached the station and spoke to the station master and enquired about the loco.

They had discussions with the loco pilot too who narrated the situation in detail. So the team left for the yard where the loco was available and started their investigations. They suspected that there might be leakages and hence reduced coolant in radiator which led to the engine bring forcedly shut down. This ALco loco was an old loco which did not have the coolant level indicator at the deck level. Shri Rajashekar enthusiastically as undertaken in the shed, started to climb the loco to go on to the top to physically verify the availability of coolant. Shri Rajendramani the supervisor was shocked to see that his assistant was already on the top of the loco and getting up to open the lid and check coolant level. He shouted at Rajashekar to get down but there

was sound disturbance due other locomotives located nearby. In spite of the shouting which was not heard by him, Shri Rajashekar was rising and suddenly there was a loud noise, the electrical lines tripped and Shri Rajashekar clothes caught fire and he was thrown down from at 4.5 meters height on to the adjacent gutter. In a fit of hurry and enthusiasm Shri Rajashekar had not observed the 25,000 Volts overhead electrical line (OHE) under which the loco was stabled. Normally in shed he was used to loco roof top climbing very often and OHE is not there is in shed they are not much concerned about the OHE.

Railway staff in the yard was aghast to find an employee falling down for the loco top with clothes on fire when they heard the huge sound. They rushed near to the locomotive only to find Shri Rajashekar lying in the newly built constructed concrete gutter. For few minutes Shri Rajendramani and the other railway staff were in a state of shock and were stunned. Then after some time Shri Rajendramani regained posture and called up to KJM then control room to inform about this horrible accident. As the head of the shed was all of stations, the message was passed on to me and Shri Asish Gundal as we were the two officers on duty at that time.

As usual the rail staff expected that that there was no scope of survival of Shri Rajashekar based on their previous experience. All of a sudden after few minutes there was a slight movement in the gutter and the staff leapt in joy. They immediately called upon 108 for ambulance and picked up Shri Rajashekar and put into it and left for nearest hospital i.e. VAISHNAVI Hospital at Whitefield. We both officers called on the driver and took official vehicle and based on the update, and left for the hospital. When we reached the hospital we too were shocked to see the state of Shri Rajashekar. The doctors by that time had removed the burnt cloth pieces from the body to ascertain the degree of burn injury. Shri Rajashekar was charred and in totally bad shape. The news had spread fast and many railway staff had come to the hospital to see the injured colleague. The hospital

authorities told us that the degree of burns is grave and they do not possess the required facilities for treatment and hence suggested us to shift to Saint John Hospital for treatment. Immediately Shri Rajashekar was shifted to Saint John Hospital and we too followed them. At Saint John Hospital the authorities sprung into action and suggested scanning to ascertain danger due to the fall. The scanning went on till late night and all the staff were anxiously waiting at the hospital. The doctor's team suggested that they started the treatment and should wait and watch for first few days before commenting on his health condition.

They disclosed that the patient had over 60% burns and was easily prone to infection and hence shifted to ICU. The colleagues left for their homes after the scanning and disclosure to the doctors. Doctors had told that minor fracture due to the fall will heal by themselves over a period of time and only the burn injury was grave.

After first few days when the health improved and the internal burn injuries started healing, the doctors suggested that skin grafting was essential due to heavy burn injuries. They asked for three healthy donors who could donate the skin from their thighs. On hearing from the doctors, many colleagues opted for donation but finally as only three were required Shri Rajendramani SSE, Shri Thiagarajan and Shri Sachin Keremani railway men all from KJM shed were opted for the donation. These three donors were informed about the procedure by the doctors and also told that they have to be in hospital for almost four weeks till they heal up.

As planned, the doctors at St. John hospital undertook the operation and the entire top skin was three donors was surgically removed and they were hospitalized. The team of doctors operated upon Shri Rajashekar and fixed the skin on the various parts of his body where there was no skin available due to severe burn injury. They had ensured that before this procedure the deeper burn injuries had healed.

Staff from the diesel shed and the family and friends of Shri Rajashekar regularly visited him at hospital to

enquire about his health. I too had the opportunity to visit him at hospital with my mother and colleague officers to enquire about his progress and provide moral support. Prayers were offered by his family and friends for an early recovery. After a month of hospitalisation the three donors were discharged from hospital to take some rest at home and later resume duties. After two months of the incident, Shri Rajashekar was discharged home and advised to visit hospital for check up and follow up. He underwent physiotherapy to walk on his feet again. He had lot of medical issues which were deftly handled by the medical doctors at St. John medical hospital.

He recovered and after seven months resumed his duties. On resumption he was transferred to information section so that his expertise in computers could be made use of and his movements in shed reduced. Today Shri Sachin Kiremani who is Technician II works with Carriage Repair Workshop of S.W. Railway at Hubli and Shri Rajendramani, Shri Thiagarajan and Shri Rajashekar now Technician II work at KJM.

I opted for voluntary retirement from railway service after 22 years of unblemished service to follow my passion of teaching. I was greatly surprised to see Shri Rajashekar was enthusiastically clicking snaps of the event.

Four years down the line, I first recollected by two decade association and appreciate the great organisation and the sense of discipline, dedication and service of the rail men towards their organisation. I also would like to place on record the humane service rendered by the St. John Hospital without any consideration. Railway officers from Bangalore Division as well as shed were more than happy to visit the patients to help him out and post discharged gave him a suitable posting. Above all, the act of god to save his child and his family should be remembered with due reverence. It was not humanly possible to assume that a person with such a grave accident and injuries could be restored back to lead a healthy life and continue his services to this great nation. ■

# Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

Prof. S. Balakothandapani  
Former Chief Trainer ZRTI,  
Training & Placement Officer,  
Oxford Engineering College,  
Trichy

## Introduction

Recently the importance of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) has been tremendously increased i.e. research scholars, students, entrepreneurs, businessman, startups etc in their professional fields

Intellectual property refers to creations of the mind i.e. inventions, literary and artistic works and symbols, names and images used in commerce. Intellectual property is divided into two categories. Intellectual property includes patents for inventions, trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications and the other one copyright covers literary works such as novels, poems and plays, films, more artistic works i.e. drawings, paintings, photographs and sculptures and architectural design, Rights related to copyright include those of performing artists in their performances, producers of phonograms in their recording and broadcasters in their radio and TV program

IPR are like any other property right. They allow creators or owners of patents, trademarks or copyrighted works to benefit from their own work or investment in a creation. There rights are outlined in Article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human rights which provides for the right to benefit from the protection of normal and material interests resulting from authorship of scientific, literary or artistic productions.

The importance of IPR was first



recognised in the Paris convention for the protection of Industrial property 1883 and the Berne convention for the protection of Literary and Artistic works 1886. Both treaties are administered by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO)

## Flying machine

The Wright brothers, who flew the first "flying machine" in North Carolina in 1903 are often described not merely as pioneers of flying but also of "patent trolling" in America. Early 20<sup>th</sup> century had a battery of aviation innovators, but the Wright brothers challenged them all. They claimed rights over any machine based on the principle of aerodynamics that they discovered, while their competitors claimed the theory of physics was the common property of humanities and the Wrights patent pertained only to the mechanics of their air plane itself

## Why IPR?

There are several compelling reasons. First the progress and well being of humanity rest on its capacity to create and invent new works in the areas of Technology and culture. Second the legal protection of new creations encourages the commitment of additional reasons for further innovation. Third the promotion and protection of intellectual property spurs economic growth, creates new jobs and industries and enhances the quality and enjoyment of life.

An efficient and equitable intellectual property system can help all countries to realise intellectual property potential as a catalyst for economic development

## ANALYSIS

and social and cultural well being. The intellectual property system helps strike a balance between the interests of innovators and the public interest providing an environment in which creativity and invention can flourish for the benefit of all.

## Benefits

Intellectual property rights reveal creativity and human endeavour which fuel the progress and human kind. Some examples

- The multimillion dollar film recording, publishing and software industries which bring pleasure to millions of people world which would not exist without copyright protection.
- Without the rewards provided by the patent system researches and inventors would have little incentive to do for better and more efficient products to consumers.
- Consumers would have no means to confidently buy products or services without reliable, international trade mark protection and enforcement mechanisms to discourage counterfeiting and piracy.

## Patent

A patent is an exclusive right granted for an invention, a product or process that provides a new way of doing something or that offers a new technical solution to a problem. A patent provides patent owners with protection for their inventions, Protection is granted for a limited period generally 20 years. The first patent in 1790 was signed by



President George Washington himself in favour of Samuel Hopkins for improvements in the making of pot ash and pearl ash

Patent provide incentives to individuals by recognising their creativity and offering the possibility of material reward for their

marketable inventions. These incentives encourage innovation which in turn enhances the quality of human life.

Patent protection means an invention cannot be commercially made, used, distributed or sold without the patent owners consent. Patent rights are usually enforced in courts that in most systems hold the authority to stop patent infringement. Conversely a court can also declare a patent invalid upon a successful challenge by a third party.

A Patent owner has the right to decide who may or may not use the patent invention for the period during which it is protected. Patent owners may give permission to or license other parties to use their invention on mutually agreed terms. Owners may also sell their inventions on mutually agreed terms. Owners may also sell their invention rights to someone else who then becomes the owner of the patent. Once a patent expires protection ends and the invention enters the public domain. This is also known as becoming off patent making the owner no longer holds the exclusive rights to the invention and it becomes available for commercial exploitation by others.

Patented inventions have pervaded every aspect of human life from electronic lighting (Patent held by Edison and Swan) and sewing machines (Patent held by Howe and Singer) to magnetic resonance intensity (MRS) (Patents held by Damadian) and then iPhone (Patents held by Apple).

In return for patent protection all patent owners are obliged to publicly disclose information on their inventions in order to enrich the total body of technical knowledge in the world. This ever increasing body of public knowledge promotes further creativity and innovation. Patents therefore provide not any protection for their owners but also valuable information and inspiration for future generations of researchers and inventors. The first step in security a patent is to file a patent application. The application generally contains the title of the

inventor as well as an indication of its technical field. It must include the background and description of the invention in clear language and enough detail that an individual with an average understanding of the field could use or reproduce the invention. Such descriptions are usually accompanied by visual materials, drawing plans or diagrams that describe the invention in greater detail. The application also contains various 'claims' that is information to help determine the extent of protection to be granted by the patent. An invention must in general fulfil the following conditions to be protected by a patent. It must be practical use. It must show an element of 'novelty' meaning some new characteristic that is not part of the body of existing knowledge in its particular technical field. The body of existing knowledge is called 'Prior art'. The invention must show an 'incentive step' that could not be deduced by a person with average knowledge of the technical field. Its subject matter must be accepted as 'patentable' under law. In many countries scientific theories, mathematical methods, plant or animal varieties, discoveries of natural substitutes commercial methods or methods of medical treatment (as opposed to medical products) are most generally patentable. Patents are granted by national patent offices or by the regional offices that carry out examination work for a group of countries for example the European Patent Office (EPO) and the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI). Under such regional systems an applicant requests protection for an invention in one or more countries and each country decides whether to offer patent protection within its border. The WIPO administered Patent Co-operation Training (PCT) provides for the filing of a single international patent application that has the same effect as national application filed in the designated countries. An applicant seeking protection may file an application and request protection in as many signatory states as needed.

## Geographical indication

Geographical indication in relation to goods means an indication which identifies such goods as agricultural goods, natural goods or manufactured goods. Validity for 10 years and can be renewed also

- Registered GIs
- Darjeeling Tea (first registration in India; Himachal Pradesh)
- Mysore Silk (Karnataka)
- Kutch Embroidery (Gujarat)
- Ferri (Goa)
- Bikaner Bhujia (Rajasthan)
- Tirupathi Laddu (Andhra Pradesh)
- Nagpur Orange (Maharashtra)
- Scotch Whisky (United Kingdom)
- Porto Douro (Portuguese) etc
- So far more than 250 GIs have been registered

## Conclusion

Intellectual property protection has become more and more important now a days. Highly featuring scientific and technological improvement and establishing an efficient intellectual property system have caused the difference between developed and underdeveloped countries. The intellectual property protection is mainly formed to prevent infringement of patented invention from others

Rapid growth in commercial income resulting from intellectual and artistic work made a profitable sector. New production of musical, cinema, literature works and computer software are major industries worth of billions of USD. The bosses of the major software giants like GOOGLE and Microsoft have become the richest men of the world in a very short period of time through their intellectual assets. Hence one who is not able to protect intellectual rights may face enormous financial loss. Shortly the U.S. Patent and Trademark office will issue patent number 10 million with a new patent cover design, which was unveiled on March 11, 2018.

## References

- WIPO Intellectual Property Handbook.
- Intellectual Property Rights by D.V. Madhusutan Rao, Jigjiga University, JRA and Associates. ■

# Majuli - The Largest River Island of World

**Vidyut Prakash Maurya**  
Journalist and Traveler

**M**AJULI is a sweet name and sweet place to visit. Do you know every day so many foreign tourist use to visit Majuli. Majuli is a river island in Brahmaputra river falls in Assam a north eastern Indian state. In 2016 Guinness World Record has declared Majuli as the largest river island in the world. Majuli is now a district of Assam state. It is also constituency of chief minister Shri Srabanand Sonowal.

## Cultural Capital of the Assam

Majuli has been the cultural capital of the Assamese civilization since the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Majuli is formed by Brahmaputra in the south and the Kherkutia Xuti joined by the river Subansiri in the north. Making you feel at peace with nature,



## CULTURE

Located 1100 km away from the mouth of the Brahmaputra, Majuli had an area of 1256 sq km in 1991 but due to soil erosion, it has now reduced to 875 sq km.

## Satras of Majuli

Majuli is a good learning center for neo-Vaishnavite philosophy. There are 22 Vaishnava Satras in Majuli, the first of which was established in the 15<sup>th</sup> century by Sankaradeva, the father of Assamese culture. In 15<sup>th</sup> century the first Satra was founded in Majuli. Since then sixty five Satras have come up for the propagation of ethics and socio-cultural ideals. However, at present there are only twenty two Satras exists in Majuli. The others had to be shifted to safer places due to the devastation of flood and erosion.

Some of the satras worth visiting are Auni-ati, Kamalabari, Natun Kamalabari. Uttar Kamalabari. Dakhinpat, Garamur, Samaguri Satra Etc.

## Mask Making in Satras of Majuli

Mask Making is one of the most famous traditional crafts still practiced in Majuli. It is mainly practiced by the Satras. Samaguri Satra is famous for mask making. It is worldwide acclaimed in making exquisite masks. Satradhikar Hemchandra Goswami heads Samagauri satra. He is a great artist of mask-



making field, but not a product of in any art school. Goswami's family has been making masks for over a century. Traditionally, masks were used for religious dance and drama in satras. They were conceptualized as a tool by Shri Shankaradeva to make and depict the characters of Shrimad Bhagwat to the devotees. Masks also helped to provide a physical form to the puranic characters.

## Home of Migratory Birds

It is home to many migratory birds. If you visit in winter you can see so many migratory birds. The Majuli with its fertile floodplains



and highly productive wetlands forms the ideal habitat for birds. It not only supports the resident birds but also attracts a large number of migratory birds including some uncommon species. More than 250 species of birds have been recorded on island. If you want to see

migratory birds here try to visit Majuli in the month of December and January.

### Paddy is Tradition

Majuli has a rich and diverse agricultural tradition. Here people grow as many as 100 varieties of paddy, paddy being the chief crop of island. Assam is enriched with a number of indigenous rice varieties rich in high nutrient value. Majuli has a rich tradition of cultivating particular *baodhaan* rice paddy with nearly 1000 hectares of land under this cultivation. Farming in Majuli is traditionally organic as villagers never allow us to spray the chemicals in the paddy fields.



### Handmade Pottery of Majuli

Majuli river-island has kept preserved the oldest craft on the earth - handmade pottery. The Kumhars of Salmora area in the upper region of Majuli have kept this ancient craft alive. The tradition of handmade pottery has been kept preserved only in three villages of Majuli - Barboka, Kamjan Elengi and Besamora of Salmora. The artisans' families have also kept alive the ancient barter trade system. Dr. Brojen Ch. Neog of Majuli college writes traditional Pottery has two methods - handmade and the potter's wheel. Artisans of Salmora still practice handmade pottery. Despite various challenges this ancient craft is still considered as an important income generating cottage industry of the river island. Over 600 families are dependent on this nature-friendly craft tradition. Majuli's ancient art of pottery is as old as used in ancient time at Mohanjodaro and Harappa it is not

in practice anywhere in India or else where, methods suggest a historic origin of this activity.

### Weaving on Looms

There are weaving looms where women can be seen weaving material for sarees and dhoties. You can see couple of people were weaving fabulous Assamese cloth with beautiful designs...you could buy pieces if you wanted to do so. Here you can see the making the *mekhla saree* with handmade art. These sarees are supplied to different shops. Mishing tribe of Majuli use to work on looms and they make weave cotton jackets, towels, *endi* (shawls), thick loin cloths and sometimes shirts for their men folk. Weaving is the exclusive preserve of the Mising women who start their training in this craft before they reach their teens. They also have a good knowledge of natural dyes.

Where to stay - In Majuli Vaishnav satras also offers guest accommodation where devotees and visitors can stay. There are some hotel and government accommodation also found in island. But the best place to stay at Majuli is La Maison De Ananda. You can spend here a lovely time. It is a homestay, located at the edge of Garamur village (contact - Monjit Risong Ph: +91-9957186356, 9435205539) Monjit will be a good friend and guide for you at Majuli. You can also hire scooty and bike from him. La Maison De Ananda means the house of happiness, promises to provide the best tourist accommodation on the island, which is not only an unspoilt paradise but also a treasure trove of Vaishnavite culture.

A young French architect named Jim Chauvin built his dream project



'a cane and bamboo tourist resort with the right mix of modernity and tradition' on the river island of Majuli. The guest house is built in the traditional Mising style of stilt huts made primarily of bamboo. The stilt hut has been built in such a manner that they are permanent structures. It gives the local essence of the place.

### Best Time to Visit

You can go Majuli around the year, but avoid going during rainy days. Some time ferry service closes in Brahmaputra river due to heavy rain in July and August. The best time to visit Majuli is during the Raas festival in November.

**How to reach** - Majuli can be reached from Jorhat town. Nearest railway station is Jorhat. From Jorhat town you have to come Nimati Ghat by Tata magic. From Nimati Ghat take a ferry ride in Brahmaputra river for Majuli, It takes around two hours. You can also reach Majuli by bus directly from Guwahati, capital of Assam state. Buses goes to Majuli via Tejpur and North Lakhimpur. You can also come Majuli via North Lakhimpur and Dhunaguri Ghat and take short ferry ride for Majuli. ■





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## **Customized Service** for optimized asset lifecycle and reduced TCO

Assuring the availability of your locomotive fleet is a critical part of securing your business sustainability. The customized, local rail service offerings from ABB Turbocharging increase your fleet's reliability, performance and lifetime at lowest total cost of ownership. Find out more about our unit exchange concept: [abb.com/turbocharging](https://abb.com/turbocharging)



► CENTRAL Railway ◀

## 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Anaesthesiologists

Central Railway organised 25<sup>th</sup> Annual conference of Railway Association of Indian Society of Anaesthesiologists -2019 at the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Memorial Hospital, Byculla. Dr. H. Pradeep Kumar, Director General, Railway Health Services, Railway Board was the Chief Guest and Shri Sanjeev Mittal, General Manager, Central Railway was the Guest of Honour on the occasion. Dr. Prasanna Kumar, Principal Chief Medical Director, Central Railway addressed the gathering and Dr. Meera Arora,



View of reading of souvenir

Medical Director, Byculla presented the welcome address. Dr. Vijaya Patil, Consultant Anaesthesiologist, Tata Memorial Hospital gave a key note address. Dr. Srabani Basu,

Assistant Chief Health Director, Eastern Railway also addressed the gathering on the occasion. Dr. Renuka Phutane, Assistant Chief Health Director/Byculla gave vote of thanks.

Dr. H. Pradeep Kumar and Shri Sanjeev Mittal released a souvenir "Safe Anaesthesia in Safe Hands" and RAISA news bulletin on the occasion. This was followed by scientific session where eminent doctors spoke. Doctors Scientific Association organised the conference under the aegis of Central Railway. ■

## Seminar on Open Access and Capacity Building Measures on Power



View of the seminar

Railway, South Central Railway, IRIEEN & Konkan Railway participated in the Seminar.

Central Railway being the pioneer Railway in Open Access since November 2015 has saved Rs. 2484 crore and every month saves Rs. 52 crore. Similarly, Western Railway so far saved 450 crore after switching over to Open Access. Open Access is in operation in 12 states including Maharashtra. Railway Energy Management Company Ltd. (REMCL) in co-ordination with various electrical authorities, so far achieved in saving Rs. 10,000 crore for Indian Railways.

During this Seminar, various issues like key regulatory areas of power procurement under Open Access, role of grid operators, Deviation Settlement Mechanism, Indian Power market and opportunities for power procurement optimization, scheduling, forecasting and procurement planning for Railways, present situation of power procurement for Railways, scenario of Renewable Energy in India, Potential of Renewable Energy, Integration of Renewable Energy with conventional sources, prevailing market trends for renewable energy certificates and renewable energy etc. were deliberated. The seminar was quite

Central Railway organized a seminar on Open Access and Capacity Building Measures on Power in partnership with Western Railway, Railway Energy Management Company Ltd (REMCL) and Power Trading Corporation India Ltd on 16 October, 2019. This seminar was organized to improve the knowledge of field officials and understanding the intricacies of various processes and procedures of Open Access. Shri Sanjeev Mittal, General Manager, Central Railway, Shri Anil Gupta, General Manager, Western Railway, Shri S.P. Vavre, Principal Chief Electrical Engineer (PCEE), Central Railway, Shri Sanjeev Bhutani, PCEE, Western Railway, Shri Alok Mathur, GGM, REMCL addressed this seminar. Senior Officials from Central Railway, Western Railway, South Western

## Central Railway School, Kalyan was Awarded Platinum Rated Green Campus Certification



Shri Jacob Thomas receiving the award

Central Railway School, Kalyan has been awarded with the Platinum rated Green Campus Certification by Indian Green Building Council. Shri Jacob Thomas, Principal, Central Railway School Kalyan received IGBC Platinum rated Green Campus Award on 27 Septedmber, 2019. The Award is on the efforts towards sustainability was given at Hyderabad International Convention Centre. The school scored 94 credits out of 100 in this spectacular achievement. The School caters to the educational needs of wards of railwaymen has a total strength of 1750. ■

interactive and all delegates participated in the technical discussion. This seminar will go a longway in Energy Management at cheaper rates, thus saving several crores for Indian Railways. ■

## Surprise Inspection of Ghatkopar and Kalyan by GM, CR

Shri Sanjeev Mittal, General Manager, Central Railway conducted a surprise inspection at Ghatkopar during the morning peak hours on 27 September, 2019. Shri A.K. Agarwal, Principal Chief Engineer, Shri S.K. Jain, Divisional Railway Manager, Mumbai Division, Shri R.S. Khurana, CMD, MRVC and other officials were present on the occasion. Shri Mittal, inspected the station area, foot over bridge, circulating area between suburban station and metro station. At Kalyan station, he inspected the circulating area on West and East side, booking offices, catering stalls, integrated security system, purchasing eatables at the stalls, etc. and interacted with passengers.

He also inspected whether the “no bill no payment” is in place or not. Shri Mittal also boarded the 11042 Chennai-Mumbai Express on



Shri Sanjeev Mittal interacting with the passengers

his return to CSMT. He inspected the AC coaches, Pantry Car and Sleeper Class coaches and interacted with passengers and took feed back about services. Shri S.K. Jain, showed him the renovated passenger corridor and Self Ticketing Zone at CSMT.

## Booklet for New Recruits and Handbook on Staff Welfare Released

A booklet on information for new recruits and a handbook on staff welfare activities on Central Railway was released by Shri Sanjeev Mittal, General Manager on 17 October, 2019 during a meeting with one of the recognised unions. Dr. R. Badri Narayan, Additional General Manager, Dr. A.K. Sinha, Principal Chief Personnel Officer, Shri Manoj Sharma, Chief Administrative Officer (Construction), Ms. Vinita Verma, Chief Personnel Officer (Industrial Relations) and Principal Heads of Departments of Central Railway were present on the occasion. All new recruits will be given both the booklet and handbook at the time of their appointment. All other staff on Central Railway will be provided with the handbook on welfare activities to make them aware of all the schemes available for them.



Release of booklet and Handbook by Shri Sanjeev Mittal

### ► EAST COAST Railway ◀

## ECoR Organised Divisional Committee Meeting of MPs under Khurda Road Railway Division



View of the meeting

A meeting with the Members of Parliament (MPs) in the jurisdiction of Khurda Road Railway Division on Railway issues held at Bhubaneswar on 25 September, 2019.

The Members of Parliament who attended the meeting were S/Shri Bhartruhari Mahatab, Chandra-

sekhar Sahoo, Mahesh Sahoo, Pinaki Mishra, Manjulata Mandal, Chandrani Murmu, Pramila Bisoi, Sarmistha Sethi and Dr. Rajashree Mallick. General Manager, East Coast Railway, Shri Vidya Bhushan and all senior Heads of Departments of ECoR including DRM/Khurda Road Shri Sashikant Singh attended the

meeting. Many constructive ideas, valuable advice and Public Demands on Railway issues were raised by the MPs.

These were: Issues of Development of Railway Network, Public demands reflecting Public Aspirations and Review of Working of East Coast Railway.

## 26<sup>th</sup> All India Railway RPF Hockey Tournament

The four day long 26<sup>th</sup> All India Railway Hockey Championship Trophy concluded in Bhubaneswar on 13 October, 2019. South Eastern Railway defeated North Eastern Railway by 2-0 goals and bagged the Championship Trophy.



Winning South Eastern Railway Team

Gracing the occasion, General Manager, East Coast Railway Shri Vidya Bhushan inspired the players and said that sporting activities & physical fitness will definitely help Security personnel to perform their duties successfully. General Manager

also handed over the Trophy to the Winning Team in presence of Principal Chief Security Commissioner of Railway Protection Force (RPF) Shri Raja Ram. Altogether, 7 RPF Hockey Teams from different Railway Zones of the country were participated in the Tournament.

These are Northern Railway (New Delhi), South Eastern Railway (Kolkata), Western Railway (Mumbai), North Eastern Railway (Gorakhpur), Southern Railway (Chennai), West Central Railway (Jabalpur) and Central Railway (Mumbai) were participated in this Tournament. Principal Heads of the Departments of East Coast Railway including Senior Railway Officials both from ECoR headquarters and Khurda Road Railway Division were also present on this occasion. ■

## ECoR Headquarters Team Recieved Championship Trophy



The Champion Team showing the performance

East Coast Railway Inter-Divisional Cultural Festival was concluded at Rail Auditorium, wherein ECoR's Headquarters Team emerged as Champion team. Khurda Road Division won the Runners trophy. Shri Vidya Bhushan, General Manager, East Coast Railway gave away the prizes to the winners of different competition in presence of Shri Sudhir Kumar, AGM and other Principal Head of Departments. Shri Vidya Bhushan praised the quality of the artists amongst the Railway family. He said that such healthy competitions encourages and provides a platform to showcase the quality of the in-house talents. Railway employees, spouse and their wards showcased their various hidden talents during this three-day long Cultural Festival. The festival was organised under the aegis of Central Staff Benefit fund, wherein around 200 participants participated in 28 competitions such as in Dance, Music, Cooking, Vegetable decoration, Mehendi, Rangoli, Fancy Dress competitions from Headquarters, Khurda Road Division, Sambalpur Division, Waltair Division and Mancheswar Workshop. Shri P. C. Nayak, Principal Chief Personnel Officer and President, Zonal Cultural Association presided over the function. Shri A. K. Mishra, DGM and Secretary, Zonal Cultural Association offered vote of thanks. ■

## ECoR Observed RPF Raising Day

Railway Protection Force (RPF) of East Coast Railway celebrated its 35<sup>th</sup> Raising Day at its headquarters at Bhubaneswar. The Raising Day is celebrated to commemorate the valiant efforts of RPF in various fields connected with Security. Gracing the occasion, General Manager, East Coast Railway Shri Vidya Bhushan, exchanged the salute with the RPF contingent and reviewed the parade. Addressing the RPF personnel on this occasion, General Manager advised RPF personnel to strive towards ensuring foolproof safety and security to passengers and praised their dedication while performing duties and saving Railway property and human values. He stressed that RPF should be provided with modern equipment to perform their duties more effectively. Inspector General & Principal Chief Security Commissioner of RPF/East Coast Railway Shri Raja Ram elaborated upon the the performance and activities of RPF under the jurisdiction of ECoR. He said that RPF is facing a lot of challenges while performing duties especially the safety & security of passengers and protecting Railway property, but the RPF Jawans are able to meet the challenges very courageously and with due sincerity. Sniffer Dog Show and adventurous Bike Show was performed by the RPF personnel. Addl. General Manager and all Principal Heads of the Departments of East Coast Railway were also present on this occasion. Bravery Awards & Merit Certificates with cash prizes were distributed to RPF personnel. ■



View of the Parade

## **ECoR to Intensify Action Against Unauthorised Vending in Trains and Railway Premises**

**A**s a part of Zero Tolerance Policy, East Coast Railway has launched the second phase of Special Drive to intensify strict action against unauthorised vending in Trains & in Railway premises against those who are illegally engaged in selling goods on the train and at the platforms. The first phase of Anti-Hawking Drive was started in July-2019 and has borne good results. Anticipating increased presence of hawkers on the train during the Puja vacation, East Coast Railway directed its officials including Commercial and RPF Teams to take strict action against the unauthorised hawkers. The Drive is being led by Principal Chief Security Commissioner Shri Raja Ram.



In view of Puja rush, it is generally seen that the unauthorised hawkers start selling edibles, books and toys on the trains. The number of passengers depending on Indian Railways for family tours and for vacation journeys is on the increase in the Puja season and this may prompt many hawkers to choose train as their vending place. ECoR is conducting special surprise drives to get rid of this menace. These hawkers do not have license or permit to engage in selling goods in

the train or at the platforms. ECoR had launched Special Drive in June-July, 2019 and taken action against unauthorised hawkers due to this selling by unauthorised hawking has reduced. The situation has now changed drastically and passengers can easily purchase goods from the licensed vendors on the station.

Apart from this, the threat & possibility of the presence of anti-social elements among the hawkers

also is a concern for the officials. Many chain snatchers and thieves board the train pretending to be and target the passengers. Lifting of valuables from passengers is sometimes repeated in trains and this is a matter of active concern for Railways. Most of such offences are committed by people who move around in the guise of hawkers. Railway premises and trains see an increase of garbage due to illegal hawking of various items.

The officials have also been advised to intensify action against beggars and alms-seekers boarding the train and entering the railway station premises. The beggars are being restrained/removed from the railway station premises. ECoR has also urged passengers to provide their support for eradicating unauthorised hawkings and beggars from trains by discouraging the hawkers. Public cooperation in removing hawkers will provide a better environment in trains and Stations and give a pleasant journey experience. ■

## **Waste to Energy Plant by East Coast Railway at Bhubaneswar**

✓ **Waste to Energy Plant 1<sup>st</sup> of its kind in Indian Railways & 3<sup>rd</sup> in India.**

✓ **Foundation Stone Laid by General Manager/ECoR**

In an initiative of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, East Coast Railway is going to establish a Waste to Energy Plant at Carriage Repair Workshop at Bhubaneswar. General Manager, East Coast Railway Shri Vidya Bhushan laid the foundation stone of the Plant in presence of Additional General Manager Shri Sudhir Kumar and Principal Heads of the Departments of East Coast Railway on 30 September, 2019. Lots of non-ferrous scrap is being generated in the Carriage Repair Workshop at Mancheswar, Bhubaneswar which has no efficient method of disposal. As a result, they find their way to landfills, which is environmentally hazardous. Carriage Repair

Workshop, Mancheswar has found a way for tackling this problem in a patented technology called Polycrack. It is world's first patented heterogenous catalytic process which converts multiple feed stocks into hydrocarbon liquid fuels, gas, carbon and water. This is the 1<sup>st</sup>-of-its-kind in Indian Railways and 3<sup>rd</sup> in India. Polycrack Plant can be fed with the all types of Plastic, Petroleum sludge, Un segregated MSW with moisture up to 50%, E-Waste, Automobile fluff, Organic waste including bamboo's, garden waste etc. and Jathropa fruit and palm bunch.

Polycrack has the following advantages over the conventional approach of treating solid Waste ---

- Pre-segregation of waste is not required to reform the waste. Waste as collected can be directly fed into Polycrack.

- **Phase-II of Anti-Hawking Drive Launched.**
- **ECoR seek public cooperation in tackling hawkers.**
- **Removal of illegal Hawking of Food materials will provide cleaner Stations and Cleaner Trains.**
- **Drastic decrease in number of Hawkers after first phase of Anti-Hawking Drive.**
- **Hawkers likely to be active during Puja rush season.**

- It has high tolerance to moisture hence drying of waste is not required.
- Waste is processed and reformed within 24 hours
- It is an enclosed unit hence the working environment is dust free.
- Excellent air quality surrounding the plant
- Biological decomposition is not allowed as the Waste is treated as it is received.
- The foot print of the plant is small hence the area required for installing the plant is less when compared with conventional method of processing.
- All constituents are converted in to valuable energy thereby making it zero Discharge Process.
- Gas generated in the process is reused to provide energy to the system thereby making it self reliant of its energy requirement and also bring down the operating cost.
- There is no atmospheric emission during the process unlike other conventional methods except for combustion gases which have pollutants less than the prescribed norms the world over.
- Operates around 450 degrees, making it a low temperature process when compared with other options.
- Safe and efficient system with built-in safety features enables an unskilled user to operate the machine with ease.
- Low capital cost and low operating cost
- Fully automated system requires minimum man power.

Its process is a closed loop system and does not emit any hazardous pollutants into the atmosphere. The combustible, non-condensed gases are re-used for providing energy to the entire system and thus, the only emission come from the combustion of gaseous fuels. The emissions from the combustion are found to be much less than prescribed environmental norms. This process will produce Energy in the form of Light Diesel Oil which is being used to light furnaces.

This process has been awarded with the Best innovation Gold Medal

in 2007 by Lockheed Martin, Dept. of Science & Technology, Govt. of India, FICCI; Best Innovation Gold Medal 2007; Best Innovation Gold Medal 2008; Best Innovation Gold Medal 2009; Nominated for Tech-Museum Awards 2008; Frost & Sullivan – Global Innovation and Leadership Award-2011 and IGCW-2011 – Best Green Chemistry Innovation Award.

This Waste to Energy Plant will be constructed in 4 months and the target date of commissioning of this Plant is January 2020. About 2 crores will be spent for commissioning of this Polycrack Plant.

Waste generated from Manchewar Carriage Repair Workshop, Coaching Depot at Bhubaneswar,

Railway Station will be feeder material for this plant. This plant will access 500 kg waste materials per day. Brief Description of Waste to Energy Plant :

1. Total plant installation cost : *2 crore*
2. Estimated Operational cost per annum : *25 lakh*
3. Estimated income from the by products : *10 to 12 lakh*
4. Tentative date of commissioning : *January 2020.*
5. The capacity is : *500 kg/ day*

This is the first plant in Indian Railways and third in India. The first plant is a small one with capacity of 50 kg/day. First one is at Moti Bagh, Delhi and the second one is set up by Infosys at Bangaluru. ●

► **NORTHERN Railway** ◀

**Northern Railway Honours Ten Employees through Safety Award**



Awardees with AGM and CSO

In keeping with the practice of honouring employees, whose alertness and prompt action have resulted in averting a possible accident, through Safety Awards and as recognition of meritorious services, Northern Railway honoured the services of Ten of its employees through Safety Awards at a ceremony held at Northern Railway Headquarters Office, Baroda House, New Delhi on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2019. The Awards were presented by Additional General Manager, Northern Railway, Ms. Archana Joshi. Also present on this occasion were Smt. Seema Kumar, Principal Chief Safety Officer, Northern Railway and the Principal Heads of all departments of Northern Railway.

The Ten employees who were felicitated by the Additional General

Manager for their services are:

Shri Ashish Kumar Saini, Station Master, Rahmat Nagar, Lucknow Division, Shri Prem Shankar Chabiwala, Jais, Lucknow Division, Shri Dhiraj Kumar, Chabiwala, Kanpur Bridge, Lucknow Division, Shri Muli Ram, Gangmate, Nihalgarh, Lucknow Division, Shri Rahul Kumar, Tokan Porter, Mewa Nawada, Moradabad Division, Shri Vinod Kumar Yadav, Locopilot, Roza Jn, Moradabad Division, Shri Braham Pal, Trackman, Cholang, Firozpur Division, Shri Rajbir Singh, Locopilot, Jalandhar City, Firozpur Division, Shri Rohit Panwar, Station Master, Chawa, Ambala Division & Shri Ramesh Chand, Kantewala, Sirhind, Ambala Division. The meritorious contributions of all the above named staff were highly appreciated by the Additional General Manager. ●

## **Annual Meeting with MPs Conducted in Allahabad Division of North Central Railway**

On 27 September, 2019 a meeting with Members of Parliament was held by North Central Railway on Allahabad Division. Allahabad is not only the biggest division on Indian Railways in terms of stretch of Grand-Quad Rail Section between Ghaziabad-Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhya Jn. but also in terms of number of districts and constituencies this division caters to 151 stations on Allahabad Division covers 23 districts and 20 Lok Sabha Parliamentary Constituencies of Uttar Pradesh. This annual meeting among elected representatives of people with senior officials of concerned zone and division is platform where works done by Railways are shared with concerned MPs of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and MPs take up issues of public interest and improved facilities connected to Railways. Today's meeting of Allahabad Division was attended by Rajya Sabha MPs Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad from Banda, Shri Sukhram Singh Yadav from Kanpur and Lok Sabha MPs Dr. Rita Bahuguna Joshi, MP, Allahabad, Smt Keshri Devi Patel, MP, Phoolpur, Shri R.K. Singh Patel, MP, Banda, Shri Satyadev Pachauri, MP, Kanpur, Shri Pakaudi Lal Kol, MP, Robertsganj, Shri S.P. Singh Baghel, MP, Agra, Dr. Chandra Sen Jadon, MP, Firozabad, Shri Mukesh Rajput, MP, Farukhabad besides representatives of 10 MPs. From railway side General Manager Shri Rajiv Chaudhry, all principal head of departments of NCR, DRM Allahabad Shri Amitabha and Branch Officers from Allahabad Division attended this meeting. Group of MPs nominated Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad MP from Rajya Sabha to chair the meeting.

In his welcome address Shri Rajiv Chaudhry informed that Allahabad is busiest division of Indian Railway which is running 600 trains on daily basis which is 160% of it's designed capacity. This division operates



**View of the meeting**

Vande Bharat Express the first train set of Indian Railways at average speed of 104 Km/h over NCR territory which is highest on Indian Railways. Also Rajdhani and Shatabdi trains have average speed of more than 95 Km/h which is highest among all divisions of Indian Railways. Shri Chaudhry said that after successful conduct of Kumbh -2019 efforts are being made to conduct grand Magh Mela-2020. He further added that Allahabad Division has implemented Mechanised cleaning on 8 major stations of Allahabad Division. Shri Choudhary informed MPs that to meet people's aspiration, for the first time in Indian Railways Sleeper coaches have been added in Allahabad Humsafar Express and withdrawal of flexifare. GM mentioned that hard work of Railway men ensured improvement in punctuality of trains on Allahabad Division by 20% as compared to last year. He apprised Public representatives that punctuality performance like this could be achieved by thrust on infrastructure development, removal of bottleneck and disciplined operational practices. He further informed that running of trains will further improve with completion of Govindpuri and Kanpur yard remodeling works which are planned for execution after ongoing NI work at Tundla. Commercial operation in Khurja-Bhadan section of EDFC is expected within a month time and entire section upto Pt. Deen Dayal Updhya Jn. is expected to be completed by 2021. This will

provide major capacity generation on existing system to run more passenger trains and plan to develop Kanpur, Allahabad Cheooki, Nayni as major coaching terminals are already on anvil. Shri Chaudhry said that Railway is working on plan to provide confirmed seat on demand to passengers in next 5-10 years which is also Dream of PM Shri Narendra Modi. He apprised that 1450 fresh group D employees are inducted recently, CCTV on 5 stations, WiFi on 73 stations, Coach indicator boards on 2 stations, new station buildings at Allahabad Cheoki & Subedarganj and many other developmental works have been completed on Allahabad Division in recent past. Besides items mentioned by GM Shri Chaudhry position on lifts, escalators, water vending machine, POS, ATM etc were covered in presentation. During the meeting, MPs appreciated efforts of North Central Railway in successful conduct of Kumbh 19, cleanliness improvement, punctuality performance and infrastructure development. On specific agenda discussion respective MPs took up issues pertaining to their area, stoppages of trains, new trains, improvement of available facilities, policy issues etc. Some of the important demands raised by MPs are:

1. Shatabdi train between Allahabad - Lucknow.
2. More Sleeper, First and Second AC coaches in Humsafar Express.
3. Allahabad-Haridwar Express frequency to be increased to daily.

4. Subedarganj station name to be changed on lines of Prayagraj.
5. Jhunsi, Prayaghat, Rambag, Prayag etc to be brought under Allahabad Division of NCR.
6. All passing trains to be given stoppage at Allahabad .
7. Road Under Bridge at Khathauli.
8. Mandhana elevated corridor in Kanpur.
9. More GS coaches in all trains.
10. Solution to water logging problem in RUBs.
11. Improvement in Uttar Pradesh Sampark Kranti coaches.
12. Frequency increase of Kalindi Express and more trains from Farrukhabad.
13. Saryu Express extension upto Chitrakoot.
14. PRS at Bargarh to be commissioned.
15. Up-gradation of Chitrakoot station as tourist station.
16. Stoppage of Unchahar station at Prayag Station.
17. FOB at Shankar Garh.

Besides above all representatives of MPs also submitted demands of their constituencies. ■

## **20<sup>th</sup> Bench of Railway Claims Tribunal Inaugurated at Prayagraj**



On 13 October, 2019, the 20<sup>th</sup> Bench of Railway Claims Tribunal inaugurated in Old General Manager Office of North Central Railway near Valmiki Chauraha by Justice Shri Govind Mathur, Chief Justice, Allahabad High Court, in the august presence of Justice Shri K.S. Ahluwalia, Chairman, Railway Claims Tribunal, Shri Rajiv Chaudhry, General Manager, North Central Railway, Shri Sanjiv Aggarwal, Member (Judicial), Railway Claims Tribunal, Allahabad Bench, Shri Madhusudan Rao, Principal Executive Director, Commercial Railway Board. On this occasion, the ceremonial function of installation of Member Judicial, Railway Claims Tribunal Allahabad Bench was done by Justice Shri Govind Mathur, after lighting of lamp, unveiling of plaque and cutting the ribbon of the new tribunal court room.

Prayagraj has the Central Administrative Tribunal, High Court

of Uttar Pradesh, other head offices, Headquarters of North Central Railway and Divisional Railway Manager's office Allahabad. Despite having 3 large divisions and being an important Railway zone, there was no Railway Claims Tribunal on the jurisdiction of North Central Railway. Officers and employees here often had to go to Lucknow, Gorakhpur and Ghaziabad. It was more cumbersome for those poor applicants who are resident of Prayagraj and nearby and had to travel to far away Railway Claims Tribunals. Realizing this need General Manager NCR Shri Rajiv Chaudhry had

been raising this issue at Ministry level from quite some time.

Under the current provisions Chairman of the Railway Claims Tribunal has the authority to set up a new Bench of Railway Claims Tribunal, on whose recommendation the Ministry of Railways issues a notification. Due to the efforts General manager, North Central Railway Shri Chaudhry and Principal Chief Commercial Manager Shri Mahendra Nath Ojha, Justice Shri K. S. Ahluwalia Chairman, Railway Claims Tribunal Delhi approved the opening of Allahabad Bench of Railway Claims Tribunal. In this regard, on 12 September, 2019, the Railway Minister made a formal announcement in Mumbai and the notification in the Gazette of the Government of India was issued later on 12 September, 2019.

After the notification was issued, NCR acted in mission mode under the overall guidance from its General Manager Shri Chaudhry and immediate action by team of officials from Allahabad Division led by DRM, Allahabad Shri Amitabha could make it possible to open this bench today in a month's time which a record in itself. In the old General Manager's Office complex DFCCIL office was functioning, to open new RCT bench their shifting to new office complex, renovation of building, new tribunal court room construction in a very short time was indeed a herculean task which could be achieved by relentless hard work of Railway-men who worked day and night to make this happen.

Though passengers Safety is the prime concern of Indian Railways, however incidents do happen at times and it is very important that victims and their relatives get their legitimate compensation in time. RCT bench at Prayagraj is a milestone towards ease of process and reduced cycle time for claimants from 17 districts covered under it.

In this new Bench of Railway Claims Tribunal, total 17 districts of Uttar Pradesh Banda, Bhadohi (Sant Ravidas Nagar), Chandauli, Chitrakoot, Fatehpur, Jalaun, Jaunpur, Jhansi, Kannauj, Kaushambi, Lalitpur, Mahoba, Mirzapur, Pratapgarh, Prayagraj, Sonbhadra and Varanasi are covered. Besides RCT bench, the administrative head of North Zone(technical) will also be based at Prayagraj under whose jurisdiction are RCTs at Chandigarh, Delhi, Gorakhpur and Lucknow. At present, about 6300 cases are pending in the Bench of the Railway Claims Tribunal Lucknow. After the establishment of this bench at Prayagraj, about 1900 cases related

to these 17 districts will be transferred to Allahabad Bench of which 907 cases have already been transferred. With large number of cases at Lucknow Bench, it was taking almost 4-6 years for claimant to get the compensation in event of accident, however with RCT bench at Prayagraj this time shall be reduced substantially.

During the inaugural function Member, Judicial RCT Allahabad Shri Sanjeev Aggarwal welcomed Chief Justice High Court, Allahabad, Chairman RCT, General Manager, North Central Railway and PED Commercial Railway Board.

General Manager, North Central Railway Shri Rajiv Chaudhry in his welcome address said that about 6300 cases of these 17 districts which were pending at Lucknow will now be disposed off in a speedy manner. PED / Commercial Shri Madhusudan Rao said that after the establishment of this bench, people of this area will no longer have to go to Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Ghaziabad & Bhopal and the claim cases will be settled soon.

Chairman, RCT Shri K S Ahluwalia said that RCT Allahabad bench is a step towards justice at doorstep of poor victims and their families from this area who shall be immensely benefited. He further said that General Manager, North Central Railway has great concern for common man and setting up of RCT at Allahabad in record time could be possible with sincere efforts by Shri Chaudhry.

Justice Shri Govind Mathur, CJ, High Court Allahabad in his address said that any person with vision, knowledge and energy is bound to succeed and congratulated RCT and North Central railway for fast setting up of RCT bench at Allahabad. He said that with the establishment of this bench, the victims from this area will get justice at their doorstep. He added that the Bar Association of Allahabad is the most prestigious bar in the country whose full support shall be available for speedy disposal of RCT Allahabad cases.

At the end of the program, RCT, Registrar Shri KP Yadav thanked Justice Shri Govind Mathur, CJ, High Court Allahabad and all dignitaries present on the occasion. He specifically mentioned efforts of GM, NCR and his team which was the key in setting up RCT bench at Allahabad at supersonic speed in a month's time after notification on 12 September, 2019. On this occasion DRM,

Allahabad Shri Amitabha, PCCM, NCR Shri Mahendra Nath Ojha, other Principal Head of departments of NCR, ADRM Allahabad, Shri Enamul Haque, officials from NCR and Allahabad division, members from Bar association Allahabad, Registrar High Court Allahabad, other distinguished guests from city of Prayagraj and representatives from press & electronic media were present. ■

## General Manger Reviewed Preparedness of Magh Mela-2020

A review meeting was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2019 at NCR Headquarters at Subedarganj on preparedness for next Magh Mela 2020. This meeting chaired by GM Sri Rajiv Chaudhry was attended by all principal head of departments and DRM, Allahabad Shri Amitabha with his team of branch officers. Division informed that they already had preliminary discussions with state government and Magh Mela 2020 is expected to attract more pilgrims as compared to earlier Magh Melas and it is also being termed as Mini Kumbh. Division informed that as per the plan given by state govt main bathing day of Magh Mela 2020 are as under :

Bathing Days	Date	Day
Paush Purnima	10 Jan	Friday
Makar Sankranti	15 Jan	Wednesday
Mauni Amavasya	24 Jan	Friday
Basant Panchami	30 Jan	Thursday
Maghi Purnima	09 Feb	Sunday
Mahashivratri	21 Feb	Friday

Division further informed that as per assessment given by state government approximately 1.75 crores pilgrims are expected on Mauni Amavasya in Magh Mela 2020 against 1.5 crores in Magh Mela 2018 & 3.5 crores during Kumbh 2019 on same



**Dr. Rajiv Chaudhary reviewing the preparation of Magh Mela**

bathing day. GM Shri Chaudhry advised that excepted pilgrims on other bathing days be also worked out in this proportion. Division further informed that approximately 70-75% traffic shall be Varanasi, Pratapgarh and Lucknow bound which shall have to be handled from Jhansi and Prayag Stations besides Allahabad Junction Station. DRM Allahabad Shri Amitabha listed following important infrastructure required for Magh Mela-2020:

### Allahabad Jn. Station

- Repair of Branch Washing Line on Civil Lines side of Junction station.
- Dismantling of old enclosure on City side near Line Shah Baba FOB.
- Dismantling of already closed FOB No.4.
- Dismantling of old Mela Ticket Ghar building for improved circulating area.
- Platform re-surfacing at Allahabad Station.

### Subedarganj station

- Washable apron at platform 1.
- South side Boundary Wall work completion.

### Allahabad Chheoki

- Extension of platform 1.
- Completion of balance work in enclosure.
- Balance work of Station building.

### Naini Station

- Completion of leftover work of Enclosure.
- Repairs to boundary wall.
- Widening of approach road by removing the encroachments.

GM Shri Chaudhry advised all

executive agencies to complete targeted work before start of Magh Mela. After discussion on infrastructure, operational issues were discussed in detail. Division conveyed requirement of special rakes, MEMU and DEMUs for handling Magh Mela traffic. It was decided that requirement of rakes shall be further reviewed and communicated to Railway Board for timely allotment of rakes. It was also discussed that efforts shall have to

be made to run approximately 50% of total special trains as per time table.

For successful conduct of Magh Mela 2020 division requested for additional 1000 RPF, 150 commercial staff, 450 coaching maintenance staff, 200 MEMU/ DEMU maintenance staff and 70 guards. GM assured that besides internal generation of staff balance requirement shall be met from other divisions of NCR as well as from

other zonal railways. GM Shri Chaudhry advised that railway camp be setup at prominent location in Sangam area and good exhibition stall of NCR be organized during Magh Mela period. GM further advised that review meeting on preparedness of Magh Mela 2020 should be held regularly and finer details on communication, traffic plan, accommodation of staff etc. should also be included in agenda of the meeting. ●

## **North Central Railway to Go Paperless with Formal Inauguration of e-Office in NCR Headquarters**

**I**n a paradigm shift towards paperless working e office has formally been launched on North Central Railway on 4 October, 2019 by GM Shri Rajiv Chaudhry. e-Office, a digital workplace solution is developed by RailTel an Indian Railway owned PSU for digitalization of current paper working on entire Indian Railway. This digital workplace solution aims towards drastic reduction in use of paper, enhanced transparency, increased accountability, assured data integrity & security, positive change in work culture and saving of time & human resources.

e-Office is a cloud enabled software that is hosted from RailTel Tier III certified data center. It is based on Central Secretariat Manual of e-Office Procedure (CSMeOP). To have adequate security of data two exclusive servers are provided in e-office ensuring 100% data backup. Dealing of digital file on e-office has been kept similar with that of physical file so as employees are able to adapt easily for efficient working while actual paper file shall be done away with. Currently 4 modules (File Management System (e-File), Knowledge Management System (KMS) Collaboration & Messaging Services (CAMS) & Personnel Information Management System (PIMS) will be the part of the



**Inauguration of e-office in North Central Railway by Shri Rajiv Chaudhry**

e-office system being implemented. The benefits will be visible once the system is fully put to use and manual file system is stopped. It will result in a delightful experience for the end-user, e-Office will be a milestone in Digitization of Indian Railways. It will continue to be tool to foster improved reliability, efficiency and productivity

Process for implementation on NCR started in April this year, since then registration of all 1087 users of NCR, rounds of training, creation of digital signatures, creation of files, numbering system etc. were done in phased manner for implementation of e-office on North Central Railway.

Shri Chaudhry after formal launch said that e-office is giant leap forward to digitize and achieve greater efficiency & productivity for the Indian Railways. He added that e-Office fosters paper-less culture which will not only save operational cost but also promote a green way of working.

He also commended efforts of RailTel and NCR officials under overall guidance from AGM Shri Arun Malik who were actively involved in implementing e-office and training of staff up to the Grass Root level and announced awards for implementation team. Shri Chaudhry suggested that NCR should also plan a local server for data backup pertaining to NCR which will increase speed and will ensure uninterrupted working in case of Railnet link failure. He further added that option of multiple input tools like digital writing pad etc. should also be given in e-office for increased work efficiency. RailTel Senior official Shri Deepu Shyam who was present on the occasion assured GM/NCR for incorporating these valuable inputs.

Shri Chaudhry said that after a fortnight review e-office implementation shall be done. Function was organized by DGM and Chief Manager/IT Shri Anshoo Pandey who is monitoring implementation of e-office over NCR. In first phase NCR HQ and Jhansi division are to be covered while Agra and Allahabad divisions shall be covered in Phase-II of e-office expected to be launched shortly by Railway Board. AGM Shri Arun Malik, all principal head of departments and other officials from NCR and RailTel were present on this occasion. ●

## **Use of Long Welded Rail in Point and Crossing Area of Track – A Step Towards Enhanced Track Safety**

**N**orth Central Railway maintains and operate on 53% of Delhi-Howrah and 24% of Delhi-Chennai super saturated Grand Chord routes. It also runs highest speed train of India, the Gatiman Express at 160 kmph while Vande Bharat the first train set of country has average speed of 104 kmph on NCR territory which is best on IR. All Rajdhani and Shatabdi trains on NCR territory have average speed of more than 90 KMPH which is best among all zonal railways. This massive and high-speed operation calls for a robust track structure and innovative maintenance practices to ensure safety and mobility in train operations.

As an step towards improved safety, riding quality and better maintainability one Long Welded Rail through Point & Crossing has been laid in Chamrola yard in



Gaziabad-Tundla section of North Central Railway on Allahabad Division.

Provision of continuous long welded rail in point and crossing zone has reduced number of joints in track structure making it more robust and ensuring better riding comfort through joint less movement of wheels over it. With provision of long welded rail requirement of In-situ welding in point and crossing

zone has also reduced which will further add to safety and comfort in train operations. This will also add to reliability of permanent way assets as number of glued joints will reduce which are prone to failures leading to detentions in train operation.

This pioneering and innovative work of providing jointless continuous rail in point and crossing zone of railway track has been inaugurated on 28 September, 2019 by Shri Rakesh Goyal, Additional Member, Railway Board in presence of Shri Sharad Mehta, Principal Chief Engineer, N. C. Railway, Shri B. P. Awasthi, Executive Director, Railway Board and Shri A.K. Dadariya, Chief Track Engineer, N. C. Railway. North Central railway plan to provide this item on its entire stretch based on performance and in a phased manner. ●

### ► **NORTHEAST FRONTIER Railway** ◀

## **Meeting with MPs, MLAs Representing Areas Under NFR Zone**



**Shri Sanjive Roy interacting with MPs and MLAs on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2019**

**T**he General Manager of Northeast Frontier Railway Shri Sanjive Roy along with senior officials including the Divisional Railway Managers of five divisions under N.F. Railway interacted with Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assemblies whose constituencies are served by the Divisions. The meetings were organized at Divisional Headquarters in Alipurduar on September 2; in Katihar on September



**MPs/MLAs held meeting with a team of senior railway officials led by the General Manager**

3; at N.F. Railway Headquarters, Maligaon on September 6; in Tinsukia on September 10 and at Rangiya Divisional headquarter on September 12, 2019. The meetings were organized to showcase and apprise the people's representatives of the developmental activities undertaken by Railways and to solicit their opinion and suggestions on future course of action to make railway more user-friendly.

On September 2, in Alipurduar, the meeting was attended by Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) Shri Nisith Pramanik, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) Shri John Barla, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) Dr. Jayanta Kumar Roy, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) Shri Biswajit Daimary and MLA Shri Manoj Tigga.

Eleven Members of Parliament from six Northeastern States on



**MPs from six Northeastern states held meeting with a team of senior railway officials led by Shri Sanjive Roy at Maligaon**



**Shri Sanjive Roy along with senior officials including the Divisional Railway Manager of Tinsukia Division Shri Ashish Sharma interacting with MPs in Tinsukia**

September 6, 2019 held a meeting at N.F. Railway Headquarters at Maligaon. The meeting was attended by MP (Rajya Sabha) from Mizoram Shri Ronald Sapa Tlau, MP (Rajya Sabha) from Nagaland Shri K.G. Kenye, MP (Rajya Sabha) from Meghalaya Shri Wansuk Syiem, MP (Rajya Sabha) from Assam Shri Ripun Bora, MP (Rajya Sabha) from Assam Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya, MP (Lok Sabha) from Mizoram Shri C. Lalrosanga, MP (Lok Sabha) from Assam Shri Pradyut Bordoloi, MP (Lok Sabha) from Assam Smt. Queen Ojha, MP (Lok Sabha) from Tripura Shri Rebaty Tripura, MP (Lok Sabha) from Tripura Smt Pratima Bhounik and MP (Lok Sabha) from Manipur Dr. Ranjan Singh Rajkumar. MP of Silchar Lok Sabha constituency Dr. R Roy could not attend the meeting but sent his representative.

The meeting held in Tinsukia was attended by Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) Shri Topon Kumar Gogoi, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) Shri Pradan Baruah, Member

of Parliament (Lok Sabha) Shri Tapir Gao from Arunachal Pradesh, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) and Minister of State (FPI) Shri Rameswar Teli and Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2019.

The General Manager Shri Sanjive Roy held a meeting with Members of Parliament whose constituencies are served by Rangiya Division, at Divisional headquarter on September 12, 2019 to apprise the honourable MPs about the developmental activities carried out by N.F. Railway and seek suggestions from public representatives to improve services of N.F. Railway. Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) Shri Dilip Saikia, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) Shri Pradan Baruah, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) Shri Abdul Khaleque and Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) Shri Biswajit Daimary were present in the meeting.

Detailing on the developmental activities of the Railway in Northeast,

the General Manager Shri Sanjive Roy said that Railway is continuously thriving to fulfil aspirations of the people. The General Manager highlighted the overall development of N.F. Railway. Followed by the GM's speech, Divisional Railway Managers gave brief description of various activities and achievements of the respective Divisions.

During the meetings, the MPs appreciated the efforts of Railways in providing better passenger experience and improving performance in terms of safety and punctuality and thanked the Railway Minister Shri Piyush Goyal for massive developmental works being under taken by the Indian Railways in the Northeast. The MPs also put forward various suggestions for improving connectivity in the Northeast, introduction of new trains, additional stoppages of existing trains and improving other passenger amenities including cleanliness in trains in general which the GM had assured to implement wherever feasible.



**Shri Sanjive Roy along with senior officials including the Divisional Railway Manager of Rangiya Division Shri V.A. Malegaonkar interacting with MPs**

## **N.F. Railway Disaster Management Plan Gets ISO 9001:2015 Certification**



**NFR Disaster Management Plan which got ISO 9001:2015 certification being announced by Shri Sanjive Roy**

The Zonal Disaster Management Plan of N.F. Railway received ISO 9001:2015 certification which was formally announced by Shri Sanjive Roy, General Manager, N.F. Railway at the Conference of the Senior Divisional Safety Officers (Sr.DSO) held at NF Railway Headquarter at

Maligaon on 29<sup>th</sup> August in the presence of Shri M.K. Agrawal, Principal Chief Safety Officer and other senior officials. The conference also deliberated on other crucial safety issues for smooth train operations.

The Disaster Preparedness of the

Railways has undergone drastic changes during the last 14 years since the promulgation of the Disaster Management Act in 2005 and the scope of the preparedness has become much wider to include incidences like terrorism, natural calamities etc. besides accidents. Railway Disaster Management Plans for each zone of Indian Railway were prepared following the suggestion of a High Level Committee in September, 2002 to prepare a plan enumerating the basic work-frame for organizing efficient relief operation in handling a disaster. Following this, N.F. Railway had adopted the Zonal Disaster Management Plan in 2005 which is being updated periodically. ■

## **Eleven Railway Staff Awarded for Showing Exceptional Alertness During Duty**

Eleven railway staffs from various divisions of N.F. Railway whose prompt action helped to prevent train accidents were awarded by the General Manager, N.F. Railway on 30 August, 2019. The staffs were - Shri Ajjur Rahman, Driver/TSK Division, Shri Vikram Kr. Pankaj, Track Maintainer/LMG Division, Shri Samuel Narjinery, Driver/KIR Division, Shri Pulak Roy, Gateman/APDJ Division, Shri Rameswar Ram,

Technician/C&W/NJP, Shri Samin Ch. Keot, SM/Dhekiajuli station, Mritunjay Basak, Track Maintainer/Aluabari, Shri Makhan Oraw and Sanjid Alam, Track Maintainer/KNE, Shri Girish Chandra, Driver/TSK, Shri Subhajit Paul, SM/DQL. In recognition of their meritorious service each of them were awarded with a cash award of ₹3,000 only along with a certificate issued by the General Manager, N.F. Railway. ■



**Shri Sanjive Roy felicitating the staffs during award distribution**

## **Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety Held Meeting with NFR Officials**

Shri Sailesh Kumar Pathak, Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety (CCRS) under Ministry of Civil Aviation, Govt. of India on 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2019 held discussion with senior NFR officials at Maligaon.



**Shri Sanjive Roy holding discussion with Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety (CCRS) on 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2019**

Shri Sanjive Roy, General Manager/ N.F. Railway, Shri Radhey Raman, Addl. General Manager/N.F. Railway and other senior officials were also present.

During the meeting various parameters of safe train operations

were elaborately discussed and various measures were also suggested by the CCRS. Reasons for various types of accidents that occurred recently in Indian Railways were also discussed by the CCRS.

The meeting assumes significance

in view of the fact that, Railway Electrification work and various types of developmental work is going on in full swing; which will increase the average train running speed throughout N.F. Railway. A small presentation on various measures being taken by NFR to ensure safety was also shown during the meeting by the Principal Chief Safety Officer/N.F. Railway Shri M.K. Agrawal. ■

## N.F. Railway Starts Migration to Paperless Office : E-Office Inaugurated

In a major step towards realization of the dream of Digital India and reduction and subsequent elimination of use of paper in official working in railways, the Phase One of “E-Office” in Northeast Frontier Railway was inaugurated today by General Manager, Shri Sanjive Roy. Senior Officials of N.F. Railway and RailTel were also present in the brief and simple ceremony held at the N. F. Railway headquarters at Maligaon this afternoon. At the first phase, E-Office is being implemented in N. F. Railway Headquarters and Rangiya Division. Four other divisions of N. F. Railway will be brought under the ambit of E-Office in a phased manner.

With the inauguration of “E-Office”, N.F. Railway becomes the first Indian Railway Zone of Eastern



Shri Sanjive Roy inaugurating e-Office at NFR headquarter

India to migrate to digital platform for official working. This has been implemented with the help of RailTel, a Mini-ratna PSU under the Ministry of Railways.

E-Office is cloud-enabled software that is deployed/hosted from RailTel’s Tier-III certified data

centres at Secunderabad and Gurugram. The system under Phase-I will enable paperless working in N.F. Railway Headquarter and Rangiya Division, which will help to take a giant leap towards a shift from manual filing system to E-Office in the day to day activities in a phased manner, bringing transparency and efficiency in functionality. This will also promote green way of working by introducing paperless work culture in N.F. Railway Headquarter and Rangiya Division.

RailTel has taken up the work for implementing e-Office system for Indian Railways. It is a mission mode project under the National e-governance programme of Govt. of India.

### ► NORTH WESTERN Railway ◀

## Platinum Rating to HQ Office Building, NWR, Jaipur by CII-IGBC

NWR HQ Building becomes first Government Office in Rajasthan to receive this prestigious Award

North Western Railway, Headquarter office building, Jaipur has been adjudged as “Platinum” by Indian Green Building Council/CII on 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2019. The award ceremony was conducted on 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 at NWR HQ office, Jaipur, in which Green Rating Shield was received by Shri Anand Prakash, General Manager/NWR from Shri Venkatgiri, Executive Director/CII and Shri Gemini Oberoi, Chairman CII/Jaipur Chapter. AGM/NWR and other PHODs & officers were also present. It is a matter of pride that this is the first Government office in whole Rajasthan to achieve this unique feat. Specific credit and mention goes to DRM/JP team and HQ EnHM team who worked tirelessly in a time bound manner to achieve this status. The efforts for Green rating started in year 2018, by adopting various environment friendly initiatives like water efficiency, Energy efficiency, Site & Facility Management and Health & Comfort to the occupants.

The project secured 80 points out of 86 attempted points in the various categories of works. It is worth to mention that seven establishments have achieved the Green Rating certification so far over North western Railway and five more units are on progress.

To achieve this status, various tasks such as Rain Water Harvesting (RWH), Water efficient fixtures in form of waterless- odourless urinals, water faucets, dual flush cistern in toilets, Water Metering, Waste Water Treatment & Reuse (STP), Organic Waste Converter (OWC), Waste collection & Disposal, Eco-friendly landscaping practices (use of organic fertilizers), Eco-friendly Refrigerants & Halons, Onsite Renewable Energy,



Shri Anand Prakash receiving the Award

Energy Metering, Fresh Air Ventilation, Carbon dioxide monitoring & Control System, Eco-friendly Housekeeping Chemicals, Tobacco Smoke control, Facilities for differently abled People, viz. Non-slippery Ramp with handrails, Specially designed toilets (with permanent signage), Preferred Car Parking Space (with permanent signage), Braille System in Lifts, Occupant well being facilities like Meditation, Chess, carom, library, volleyball ground etc. have been undertaken.

► **SOUTH CENTRAL Railway** ◀

**Carriage Workshop / Lallaguda Receives 'Best Establishment Award'**

Shri Ch. Malla Reddy, Minister for Labour, Employment, Women & Child Development, Government of Telangana awarded the "Best Establishment Award" to Basic Training Centre, Carriage Workshop, Lallaguda for imparting skill development training to 550 Trade Apprentices during the year 2018-19. The award was presented at a State level awareness workshop on Apprenticeship new notification and implementation programme held at Telangana Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Red Hills, Hyderabad on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2019.



Shri Ch. Malla Reddy presenting the award

Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of

India has jointly organized the "Apprenticeship Pakhawada" from 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 to 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2019. Apprenticeship Training is a course that comprises basic and practical training at the workplace,

with an Industry or establishment.

National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) has been launched by the Government of India in August, 2016. The scheme entails financial support to establishments undertaking apprenticeship programs. The main objective of this program is to create a Job-Ready workforce and Train and retain High-Quality apprentices. The financial benefits under NAPS are Sharing of cost of basic training with Basic Training Providers (BTP) up to Rs. 7500 for 3 months/500 hours or Sharing of 25% of the prescribed stipend subject to a maximum of Rs. 1500 per month per apprentice. ■

**Meeting with the MPs under Secunderabad and Hyderabad Divisions**



View of the meeting

South Central Railway conducted a meeting with the Members of Parliament belonging to both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha pertaining to Secunderabad and Hyderabad Divisions. 15 MPs from the states of Telangana and Karnataka took part in the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 at Rail Nilayam, Secunderabad. Shri Gajanan Mallya, General Manager along with Principal Heads of Departments, Divisional Railway Managers of Secunderabad and Hyderabad Divisions attended the meeting.

Shri Gajanan Mallya welcomed the dignitaries and detailed on the performance highlights of South Central Railway, various steps initiated for development of infrastructure facilities and improvement of the passenger amenities over the Zone. He also briefed MPs on various initiatives being taken up by the Zone towards green initiatives, water conservation, avoiding the use of plastic in railway premises,

conversion of conventional trains with LHB coaches for providing safe and comfortable rail journey. The Members of Parliament complimented the initiative of SCR in convening the meeting. During the course of the meeting, the Members of Parliament raised several issues related to developmental works / services in their respective constituencies. The demands raised by the Members included construction of new lines, introduction of new trains, extension of existing train services, additional stoppages to existing trains, construction of Road Over Bridges / Road Under Bridges, Foot Over Bridges and providing improved passenger amenities etc. in the jurisdiction of their constituencies.

Later, speaking to the media Shri Mallya informed that the Zone is expediting the works related to new sanctions, surveys and monitoring the progress of on-going works. New line works pertaining to MMTS Phase-II, Bhadrachalam-Kovvuru,

Krishna-Vikarabad etc. have been discussed with the Members of Parliament for improving connectivity in Telangana State. He also said that Members of Parliament of Telangana State demanded for more MMTS, DEMU, MEMU services, additional stoppages for Express services, Extension of trains, Safety works relating to Road Over Bridges, Road Under Bridges and Passengers amenities at stations. The demands raised by them are under active consideration by the Zone and the proposals relating to the demands will be sent to Railway Board.

Shri G. Kishan Reddy, Minister of State for Home Affairs and the Members of Parliament who attended the meeting are Shri Soyam Bapu Rao, Adilabad; Dr. G. Ranjith Reddy, Chevella; Shri Bandi Sanjay Kumar, Karimnagar; Shri Nama Nageswar Rao, Khammam; Smt. Malothu Kavitha, Mahabubabad; Shri A. Revanth Reddy, Malkajgiri; Shri Pothuganti Ramulu, Nagarkurnool; Shri Dharmapuri Arvind, Nizamabad; Shri Borlakunta Venkatesh Netha, Peddapalle; Shri Raja Amareshwara Naik, Raichur; Shri Bhagwanth Khuba, Bidar; Dr. Umesh G. Jadhav, Gulbarga; Dr. K. Keshava Rao (Rajya Sabha), Hyderabad; Dr. Banda Prakash (Rajya Sabha). ■

## Meeting with Members of Parliament at Vijayawada



View of the meeting

South Central Railway conducted a meeting with Members of Parliament belonging to the state of Andhra Pradesh, covering the jurisdiction of Vijayawada, Guntur and Guntakal Divisions. Total 18 Members of Parliament took part in the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 at Electrical Traction Training Centre (ETTC), Satyanarayana-puram, Vijayawada. Shri Gajanan Mallya, General Manager, SCR; Divisional Railway Managers of Vijayawada, Guntur, Guntakal, Secunderabad and Hyderabad Divisions and Principal Heads of Departments were also present during the meeting. Shri Gajanan Mallya welcomed the dignitaries and briefed them on the performance of South Central Railway and various steps initiated for development of Infrastructure facilities and improvement of the passenger amenities on the Zone. Appreciating the efforts of SCR with regard to developmental works. He also briefed MPs on various initiatives being taken up by the Zone towards

enhancing passenger amenities, green initiatives, water conservation, avoiding using of plastic in railway premises, conversion of conventional trains with Linkman Half Bosch (LHB) coaches for providing safe and comfortable rail journey etc.,

Members of Parliament Dr. B. V. Satyavathi, Anakapalle; Smt. Vanga Geetha, Kakinada; Smt. Chinta Anuradha, Amalapuram; Shri Raghu Rama Krishna Raju, Narasapuram; Shri V. Balashowry, Machilipatnam; Shri Kesineni Srinivas, Vijayawada; Shri K. Ravindra Kumar, (Rajya Sabha); Shri Nandigam Suresh, Bapatla; Shri M. Srinivasulu Reddy, Ongole; Shri Adala Prabhakara Reddy, Nellore; Shri B. Durga Prasad Rao, Tirupati; Shri L. Sri Krishna Devarayalu, Narasaraopet; Shri P. Brahmananda Reddy, Nandyal; Shri T. Rangaiah, Anantapur Shri N. Reddeppa, Chittoor; Shri K. Gorantla Madhav, Hindupur; Shri P.V. Midhun Reddy, Rajampet and Shri Y.S. Avinash Reddy, Kadapa were present in the meeting. The Members of Parliament expressed happiness on

the various rail developmental initiatives being taken up by South Central Railway and congratulated officials for taking steps towards promotion of green and clean environment. Later, speaking to the media personnel, Shri Gajanan Mallya, General Manager, SCR briefed on the achievements and performance of the Zone. He stated that all the infrastructure development projects situated in the state of Andhra Pradesh are progressing well with the active co-operation of the State Government. He informed that various ongoing rail developmental projects in the state is being accorded top priority for completion. He stated that the suggestions for improvement given by MPs will be examined. Phase-I new line works pertaining to Nadikudi – Srikalahasti for a stretch of 45 kms is planned for commissioning during the current fiscal and the whole project is targeted to be completed by 2023-24. Whereas the Kadapa – Bengaluru new line works is also set to complete by 2023-24. The Doubling and Tripling works in the state is being expedited for completion. The General Manager stressed that SCR is focusing on providing best passenger amenities and facilities at all railway stations in its jurisdiction. ●

## GM, SC Railway Conducts Inspection of Adilabad-Nanded Section

Shri Gajanan Mallya, General Manager, South Central Railway undertook extensive inspection between Adilabad – Nanded section of Nanded Division on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2019. He was accompanied by Shri K. Nagabhushana Rao, Additional Divisional Railway Manager and other Senior Railway officials of Nanded Division. Shri Mallya commenced the inspection by foot plating (travelling in engine) from Adilabad to Pimpal Khuti stations and back. He inspected the loco and safety procedures followed by Loco Pilot &



Shri Gajanan Mallya with Divisional Officials

Asst. Loco Pilot while on run. He also observed the track condition

during foot plating. The General Manager conducted a detailed inspection of Adilabad Railway Station. He inspected Station Manager's Office, Passenger amenities, entire station premises, circulating area, Rail Consumer Depot (RCD-Fuel issue point for Diesel Locomotives) and Railway Colony etc. He inaugurated Green Nursery and planted saplings to contribute towards a greener Railway. Shri Gajanan Mallya inspected Travelling Ticket Examiner's Rest Room, Combined Running Room and Relay

Room at Adilabad Railway Station. He also received representations from the local people. Shri Soyam Babu Rao, Member of Parliament, Adilabad met the General Manager and discussed the rail developmental works of his region. Shri Gajanan Mallya conducted Rear Window inspection from Adilabad to Nanded section. He inspected

safety procedures and various safety aspects of the track, curves, bridges etc. during rear window inspection. Enroute, he inspected Kinwat Railway Station and Health Unit. The General Manager also inspected Himayat Nagar Railway Station Railway Colony followed by Bhokar Railway Station.

Later, he conducted a review

meeting with Officers of Nanded Division. Shri T. Rabha, Divisional Railway Manager, Nanded Division explained the ongoing infrastructural works over the Division. Shri Mallya advised the Railway officials and authorities to improve the green environment around the Railway stations and other Railway premises. ●

## Enhance Safety Standards at Station Yards and Sidings



**S**hri Gajanan Mallya, General Manager, South Central Railway advised the officials to focus on enhancing safety standards at station yards and at private sidings to improve operational convenience. He conducted a detailed review meeting on Safety, Punctuality and Freight loading on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2019 at Rail Nilayam, Secunderabad along with Principal Heads of Departments. The Divisional Railway Managers (DRMs) of all six Divisions i.e. Secunderabad, Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Guntakal, Guntur and Nanded attended the meeting through video conference.

Shri Mallya conducted a detailed review of all the safety measures to be taken to ensure safety at yard and private siding premises. He conducted a detailed review of increase in minor incidents happening at station yards and private sidings, which are affecting the operational convenience. He advised the officials to inspect the LHS (Low Height Subways) which are getting water logged due to continuous rains thereby affecting

the traffic flow. He also stressed on improvement of Train Punctuality and Freight loading. Shri Gajanan Mallya also reviewed the issues which were raised by MPs of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana State during the meeting held recently. He advised all the DRMs and PHODs to expedite the works possible as sought by the MPs. Dr. N.V.B.K. Sai, Senior Cardiologist, SCR gave a presentation on occasion of World Heart day, and how to maintain a healthy heart by following various health means like having a healthy diet, involving physical activity, avoiding stress, quitting smoking etc. during the

meeting. Shri A.A. Phadke, In charge Additional General Manager & Principal Chief Electrical Engineer; Shri K.V. Siva Prasad, Principal Chief Engineer; Shri John Prasad, Principal Chief Commercial Manager; Dr. T.J. Prakash, Principal Chief Medical Director; Shri Arun Kumar Jain, Principal Chief Signal and Telecom Engineer were amongst the officials present. ●

## Renovated 100 Bedded RPF Barrack Inaugurated



Shri Arun Kumar and Shri Gajanan Mallya inaugurating renovated RPF 100 Bedded Barracks

**A** renovated RPF Barrack was inaugurated by Shri Arun Kumar, Director General, Railway Protection Force, New Delhi and Shri Gajanan Mallya, General Manager, South Central Railway at Railway Protection Force (RPF) Training Centre, Moula-Ali on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019. The Barrack has been renovated with modern facilities to accommodate 100 RPF Personnel attending training programmes at the Centre. The renovation of this barrack has been completed in six months period. An amount of ₹ 68 lakhs has been allocated for undertaking renovation works of this barracks. Shri N.S.R. Prasad, Divisional Railway Manager, Hyderabad Division; Shri G.M. Eswara Rao, Principal Chief Security Commissioner, SCR; Shri A.N. Sinha, Director, RPF Training Centre and other Railway and RPF Officials were present. Tree Plantations was done in front of the Barrack. ●

► **SOUTH EASTERN Railway** ◀



Shri Sanjay Kumar Mohanty holding Divisional Committee Meeting with Members of Parliament from constituencies served by Kharagpur and Adra Divisions

**Meeting with MPs of Kharagpur and Adra Divisions**

The meeting of the Divisional Committee comprising of Members of Parliament both from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha under jurisdiction of Kharagpur and Adra Divisions of South Eastern Railway was held at Kolkata 30 September, 2019. The Divisional Committee Meeting was chaired by Shri Dilip Ghosh, Member of Parliament.

The other Members of Parliament who attended the meeting were viz. Smt. Manjulata Mandal, Dr. Subhash Sarkar, Dr. Kunar Hembram, Smt. Sajda Ahmed S/Shri Sunil Kumar Mondal, Soumitra Khan, Jyotirmoy Singh Mahto, Pashupati Nath Singh, Sanjay Seth, Sisir Adhikari, and Bishweswar Tudu. These member

offered their valuable suggestions for overall development of South Eastern Railway. Shri Sanjay Kumar Mohanty, General Manager, South Eastern Railway welcomed the Members of Parliament and highlighted the services rendered by South Eastern Railway to its users in respect of passenger amenities, introduction of Mail/Express trains, running of special trains, status of ongoing projects etc. The General Manager assured all the Members of Parliament for providing passenger amenities, safety and security of passengers with effective and efficient supervision by this Railway.

Members of Parliament present on the occasion held discussions on

issues associated with new and existing train services, stoppages, extension of trains, passenger facilities, cleanliness, Road Over Bridge, expeditious completion of railway projects, drinking water facility at stations, etc. for the benefit of the passengers.

Members of Parliament exchanged their views and evaluated the performance of South Eastern Railway. They also assured cooperation for the smooth functioning of the Railway. The meeting was attended by the Divisional Railway Managers of Kharagpur & Adra and all the Principal Head of the Departments of South Eastern Railway.

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View of the Meeting

**Divisional Committee Meeting at Ranchi**

Divisional Committee Meeting of Members of Parliament from constituencies served by Ranchi and Chakradharpur Divisions of South Eastern Railway was held at Ranchi

on 24 September, 2019. Shri Jual Oram, MP presided over the meeting. General Manager, South Eastern Railway, Principal Officers of different Department and Divisional Officers

of Ranchi and Chakradharpur were present in the meeting. Suggestions on improvement of railway working and passenger amenities proposed by the members were discussed in the meeting. The MPs who attended the meeting were Shri Arjun Munda, Minister of Tribal Affairs, Govt. of India, S/Shri Sanjay Seth, Mahesh Poddar, Smt. Geeta Kora, Smt. Sarojini Hembram, Suresh Pujari, Nitesh Ganga Deb, Bishweswar Tudu, Prashanta Nanda, Samir Oraon, Jyotirmay Singh Mahato, Chandra Prakash Choudhary and Shri Bidyut Baran Mahato.

► **SOUTH WESTERN Railway** ◀

**Meeting of Divisional Members of Parliament in Bengaluru Division**

A meeting with Members of Parliament within jurisdiction of Bengaluru Division of SWR was held on 14 September, 2019 at

Divisional Railway Manager's office, Bengaluru.

As advised by Minister of Railways, Shri Piyush Goyal, all Zonal Railways

are conducting meetings with Members of Parliament to discuss the issues of public importance in order to help Railways to improve



View of the meeting

the functioning & services. The following Members of Parliament under the jurisdiction of Bengaluru Division attended the meeting : the MPs from Lok Sabha are S/Shri G.S. Basavaraj, Thumkur, S. Muniswamy, Kolar, B.N. Bachche Gowda, Chikka-ballapur, P. C. Mohan, Bengaluru Central, Tejaswi Surya, Bengaluru South, Kuruva Gorantla Madhav, Hindupur, Talari Rangaiah, Anantpur, Smt. Sumalatha Ambarish, Mandya, A Chellakumar, Krishnagiri, Dr. S. Senthil Kumar, Dharmapuri. The MPs from Rajya Sabha were G S Chandrasekhar, Syed Nasir Hussain, Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah and B.K. Hari Prasad.

Shri P.C. Mohan requested for more trains between Bengaluru and Whitefield. It was informed that 23 trains running from Bengaluru/ Yesvantpur towards Whitefield 06.00 to 12.00 hrs and 10 trains between Whitefield towards Yesvantpur/Bengaluru. The Section is saturated as of now. More services can be planned after Quadrupling. He suggested improving punctuality of train No.06570/06594 Bengaluru-Baiyyappanhalli-Whitefield MEMU for which it was informed that there is substantial improvement in the punctuality from 59% in April, 2019 to 85% in September, 2019. He demanded for 2<sup>nd</sup> Entry to whitefield Railway Station from Kadugodi Bus Stand side for which it was informed that the work of Foot Over Bridge with sky walk is in progress and is expected to be completed by March, 2020. Regarding adding 4 more coaches to train No.66512 it was clarified that an integrated rake link of three coaches will be considered on arrival of new rakes. It was informed that 22 trains running from Whitefield towards Yesvantpur/ Bengaluru in the slot of 16.00 hrs.

to 22.00 hrs. More services will be planned after Quadrupling of Bengaluru-Whitefield section.

Shri G.S. Basavaraj urged for speeding up work of Tumakuru - Rayadurga New line. It was informed that Land aquisition was submitted between 2012-18. Only 443 acres have been acquired against the requirement of 1357 acres. The acquisition of balance land is in progress. He was informed that the automatic signalling between Bengaluru and Tumakuru is in progress. For his question regarding electrification between Chikbanawara - Tumakuru it was informed that the tender is opened.

Shri Senthil Kumar demanded, to stop and pass train through Platform No. 1 at Dharmapuri Rail way station. He was informed that Efforts will be made to deal Train at Platform No.1 if there is no crossing of trains.

Regarding incomplete work at Flyover Bridge at Adhiyaman Kottai between Dharmapuri Salem it was informed that the Bridge will be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2020. Rgarding Flyover Bridge between Armed Reserve police Station - Bharathipuram, Salem main road in Dharmapuri it was informed that the work will be taken up once land

acquisition is completed. He was informed that provision of coach indication boards on PF No.1 & 2 at Dharmapuri will be examined. Regarding need for more DEMU trains between Salem to Bengaluru city / Yesvantpur via Dharmapuri in early morning hours and same between Bengaluru / Yesvantpur to Salem it was informed that the matter will be examined in consultation with Southern Railway. Introduction of more trains will be examined after Doubling and automatic signalling. Shri Tejaswi Surya raised the question of Covering Rail Over Bridges to ensure that the discharge from moving trains do not trouble road users below the bridges. He was informed that eight girder bridges have been identified for covering with sheets.

Smt. Sumalatha Ambarish sought details about Hejjala - Chamarajanagar new line project. It was informed that the land acquisition is yet to be taken up by the State Government. For her suggestion for running ladies special between Bengaluru-Mysuru during mornings and evenings it was informed that action will be initiated. She demanded two escalators at Mandya Railway station, amenities like waiting rooms, seating arrangements, toilets, drinking water, up gradation and better illumination of approach road, robust garbage disposal mechanism, expanding green cover. Shri S. Muniswamy sought the status of Rail Coach Factory at Kolar. He was informed that the proposal is being reviewed by Railway Board based on the expected requirement of coaches in the future. ■

## Initiative – Happy Fridge

**I**n order to solve the issue of food wastage and hunger, under the leadership of Shri Ajay Kumar Singh, General Manager, South Western Railway conceived the concept of 'public fridge/community fridge' at the stations over South Western Railway zone. First such public fridge was inaugurated at Hubballi station.

In continuation with this vision, Bangalore Division partners with

'Feeding India', a well-known Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) which has been serving the society through its community fridge initiatives.

Under the partnership with M/s. Feeding India, Bangalore Division will install 50 community fridges at its all major stations under the initiative, 'Happy Fridges'.

On the auspicious occasion of 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma



Gandhi, Shri Ashok Kumar Verma, Divisional Railway Manager, Bengaluru Division, has inaugurated the first such 'Happy Fridges' in Bangalore division at Bangalore City railway station.

Feeding India (FI), is a not-for-profit that has been actively working towards solving for food wastage and hunger in India over the last five years and has served over 31 million meals to the underserved so far. Through the 'Happy Fridge' programme, community fridges are placed by Bangalore Division & Feeding India in the premises of railway stations of the Division. Anyone can put their excess food in the fridge, and people in need can take food from the fridge at free of cost without compromising his/her dignity. Bangalore Division serves lakhs of passengers daily, among those passengers, significant number of in-transit migrants, poor labourers, daily wages earners, blue collar workers, missing/lost children, destitute and other socially disadvantaged groups of the society are there. As a solution to providing such people access to food, without hurting their dignity the Division partners with Feeding India to provide community fridges at railway stations under 'Happy Fridge' initiative.

Happy Fridge initiatives of the Division & feeding India will not only solve the hunger issue of

such socially disadvantaged groups but also solve the issue of wastage of food at stations.

These fridges will be manned and maintained by Feeding India volunteers, which mainly include self-motivated college students and good Samaritans. These fridges are sponsored by M/s. Elanpro.

While inaugurating the happy fridge initiative, Shri Ashok Kumar

Verma, Divisional Railway Manager, Bengaluru told, "As well as reducing food waste, the Happy Fridges encourage a spirit of sharing and can help strengthen community bonds and increase community participation by building community mutual trusts among its members. By doing so, railway will play the part of community building and national integration".

"Through the community fridges, we involve communities to re-distribute consumable, healthy food to those in need, thereby reducing food wastage and also creating a dignified means. This partnership with South Western Railway opens up a big opportunity for us to reach out to a lot more people in need of food. ●

► **WESTERN Railway** ◀

**Freight Customers Meeting Held at WR Headquarter Office**



Shri A.K. Gupta along with all PHODs at the Freight Customers meeting

A meeting of all the esteemed freight customers of Western Railway was held in September 2019 at the Headquarter office, Churchgate with 34 freight customers. The meeting was started with the welcome address by Shri Mukul Jain, Chief Commercial Manager (FM) of WR bringing to light the recent policy directives like; withdrawal of 15% Busy season surcharge (except Iron ore & POL), Supplementary charges of 5% on Two point and Mini rakes has been waived, Round trip charging of Container traffic has been introduced for distance upto 50 km (charging will be in 0-100 km slab for to & fro distance) and 25% discount in haulage of container traffic has been given for movement of Empty flats /

containers to Ports. Various issues faced by the customers were discussed and many of them were addressed in the presence of Shri A.K. Gupta, General Manager of WR, Shri R.K. Lal, Principal Chief Commercial Manager/WR, Shri Shailendra Kumar, Principal Chief Operations Manager/WR and Smt. Uma Ranade, Principal Financial Adviser/WR alongwith other Principal Head of the Departments. It was a very productive and interactive session with customers like M/s Adani, M/s Reliance, M/s IOC, M/s KRIBHCO, M/s IFCCO, Private Freight terminals Operators who discussed various issues and also shared their innovative ideas to increase rail revenue. ●

## Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineers Conference



Shri A.K. Gupta addressing the conference

Conference of Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineers of Western Railway has held at WR Headquarter office, Churchgate. The conference was attended by Sr. Officers of Signal & Telecom department and addressed by Shri A.K. Gupta, General Manager of Western Railway and Shri Rajendra Jain, Principal Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer. During the conference, performance upto July 2019 was reviewed. Shri Jain emphasized the need of maintaining punctuality and to ensure safety in train operation, positive impact on general public in the areas like passenger amenities, CCTV, functioning of WiFi at stations etc. He also insisted on increasing competency in skills of staff by way of proper training so as to maintain state-of-art Signalling & Telecom equipment. General Manager Shri Gupta insisted quality services to the passengers should be improved and all efforts should be made to ensure safe running of trains.

## Mechanical Engineers Conference

Western Railway's Sr. DMEs, CWMs & Sr. DEE/Coaching conference was held in September, 2019 at Headquarter office, Churchgate, Mumbai. The meeting was attended by Shri A.K. Gupta, General Manager of Western Railway, Shri Ashesh Agrawal, Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer of WR and Shri V.K. Tripathi, Addl. General Manager of WR. HODs, Dy. HODs of Rolling Stock department and PHODs of other Department also participated in conference.

Shri Gupta exhorted the officers to deliver the best quality of

passenger and freight service by leveraging the latest technology and improving the effectiveness of various activities in maintenance of rolling stock. The roadmap for improving reliability, safety of assets, improving passenger comfort in trains and modernization of services to the Railway customers was drawn.

After conference, 142 employees of rolling stock department were given PCME level awards for their outstanding performance during the year 2018-2019.

Efficiency shields were also awarded to Coaching Depot, Surat, Mumbai Division, Wagon Repair Depot, Gandhidham, MEMU Carshed BRCY and Mumbai Central for the best AC/TL performance.

Indore Depot, Train No. 19310 Indore-GNC Exp. was awarded for the best maintained Mail/Exp. Train.



Shri A.K. Gupta addressing at the conference

## Highest Container Loading Over Indian Railways

Western Railway proves its mettle in yet another achievement and continues to lead in various fields. In its latest feat, Western Railway has now become the highest container loading railway among all zonal railways over Indian Railways.

Western Railway achieved 7.52 MTs in container loading including Double Stack Containers in the period of April-July 2019. It is 14% more than the loading of 6.60 MTs which was achieved in the corresponding period of last year. This is Western Railway's best ever single day container loading of 55 rakes on 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2019. Western Railway surpassed its own best



A view of the Indian Railway's first ever Double Stack Dwarf Container service which was flagged from Western Railway's Rajkot station.

record of 47 rakes recorded on 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 with this new accomplishment.

This was only possible through efforts being made to increase loading substantially from Mundra Port and Pipavav Port. The container loading recorded at Mundra Port in the period of April-July 2019 is 2093 rakes which was 1782 rakes in corresponding period of last year, which is 17.5% more than last year.

Similarly, the container loading recorded this year from April-July 2019 at Pipavav Port is 768 rakes which was 739 rakes last year and is 3.9% more than last corresponding period.

Western Railway is always committed to lead and strives its best to break its own records.

## Seminar on Plastic Waste Management at Lower Parel Workshop

Western Railway in association with M/s Bisleri International Pvt. Ltd. conducted a seminar on "Plastic Waste Management" recently at Lower Parel Workshop of Mumbai Division of Western Railway. This unique initiative was aimed at spreading awareness about change in habit towards used plastic disposal under the initiative 'Bottles for Change'. More than 100 participants including Chief Works Manager and many railway officials took part in this initiative. In this seminar 'Bottles

for Change', the interactive session discussed the importance of sending plastic objects for recycling and not to treat it as waste which leads to a cleaner environment. The educational session also focused on changing the mindset of citizens towards correct disposal of plastic so that it doesn't end up in dump yards and the ocean creating pollution. Participants were also trained about the 'Bottles for Change' Mobile App through which they can submit plastic from their workplace or societies. ■



## WRWWO Organizes a Seminar on 'Skill India'

The Skill India Seminar was organized by Western Railway Women's Welfare Organization-HQ (WRWWO) in coordination with the Personnel Department of Western Railway. Smt. Archana Gupta, President of WRWWO Headquarters, Churchgate alongwith Vice President, Smt. Meena Tripathi and other Senior Members of WRWWO were also present. Around 50 students attended the event together with around 20



President, WRWWO addressing the seminar

staff. During the seminar Joint Director of National Skill Training Institute Mumbai, Shri S.P. Bhattacharjee and Administrative Officer Shri Anil Shewle enlightened the gathering on the importance of acquiring industrial & technical skills and how they open up new avenues

of employability to youngsters. It was very informative to the children, as well as staff whose children could not attend the seminar. Smt. Archana Gupta also delivered an inspiring speech to the children exhorting them to stay focused and strongly resolved to seek their goals and ambitions. Smt. Gupta told the children not to be discouraged by failures and that difficulties of every kind should be encountered and overcome. She further said that discussions as well as open mindedness to seek clarifications should be a habit with every student seeking his/her goal in life. ■

## New Food Plaza Unit 'Gourmet Times' Opened at Churchgate Station



Inauguration of Food Plaza Unit

In its initiative to provide better passenger facilities at railway stations, a new Food Plaza Unit under IRCTC's Food Track called 'Gourmet Times' was opened for passengers at Churchgate station by the IRCTC in the presence of Shri Mukul Jain, Chief Commercial Manager (Freight Marketing), Shri Alok Sharma, Chief Commercial Manager (Passenger Services) and

Shri Rahul Himalayan, Group General Manager of IRCTC. Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation is a subsidiary of the Indian Railways that handles the catering, tourism and online ticketing operations of the Indian Railways. IRCTC has awarded the license to operate and manage the Food Plaza Unit at Churchgate station to M/s Brandavan Food Products, which is an ISO 22000:2005 certified company. This Delhi based company has an experience of 20 years in the catering business and has been serving in Railway Catering since the last 10 years and at present has more than eight outlets pan India. This outlet will run under the brand name 'Gourmet Times' and will

serve North Indian, South Indian & Chinese cuisines. A host of catering facilities will be made available to the travelling public, including a cafeteria with quick service facility along with take away counter. From Domino's Pizza to Bikaji Sweets, 'Gourmet Times' has a variety of food and quality food for passengers. Passengers can also enjoy fresh juices, shakes and lassi. The food plaza has state-of-the-art equipment and modern ambience to meet growing expectations of passengers. Special care has been taken to comply with food safety standards. A digital display menu and option of digital payment makes the Food Plaza more efficient and on-the-go for a passenger who's in rush to grab a bite. ■

► **METRO Railway** ◀

**Metro Carries 9.22 lakh Passengers on Panchami and Creates an All Time Record**

Since the day of its maiden run on 24<sup>th</sup> October, 1984, during Durga Puja this year Metro Railway has created history by breaking all previous records and carried 9.22 lakh commuters on Panchami 3 October, 2019



on a single day by running 288 services.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> highest footfall was registered on the day of Sashti 4 October, 2019 on which Metro carried 9.11 lakh passengers by running 288 services.

During the Puja days i.e. from Saptami 5 to Navami 7 October, 2019 Metro ran night long services for the benefit of the pandal hoppers and on these days, 244 services

were run on each day from 13.00 hrs to 04.00 hrs of the next morning.

In the six days of Durga Puja i.e. Chaturthi to Navami, Metro Railway carried a total of 49.5 lakh passengers (which is 5.7% more than the previous year's count).

This has been possible due to proper crowd management and monitoring of the entire rush by posting officers at the stations and in the Central Control. Passenger

awareness campaign through short video films and Public Address System at the stations also helped a lot in providing smooth services.

Elaborate security arrangements were made at all Metro stations and additional number of RPF

staff and officers were posted in order to provide safety and security to the commuters.

It is also mentioned that Metro Railway also ran additional services on Saturdays, Sundays and Weekdays before Puja for the benefit of Puja shoppers. The entire arrangement of Pre-puja and Puja services of Metro Railway got wide coverage and appreciated in the Print, Electronic and Social Media of Kolkata. ●

► **RDSO** ◀

**Quarterly Meeting of Rajbhasha Committee Organized at RDSO**

Quarterly meeting of Rajbhasha was organized in RDSO on 7 August, 2019, headed by Shri O. P. Kesari, Addl. DG, RDSO, Lucknow. In this meeting Addl. Director General reviewed the official language work for quarter ending on 30 June, 2019.

On this occasion he praised the work being done in RDSO in Rajbhasha and expressed his satisfaction. Shri H.K. Raghu, Mukhya Rajbhasha Adhikari, RDSO emphasized to do the maximum



View of the meeting



ADG with other dignitaries

work in Rajbhasha. Shri Atul Kumar Verma, Director, Bridges & Structure presented a Hindi presentation on the subject 'Role of B&S Directorate

in Indian Railways'. In this meeting Rajbhasha magazine 'Manak Rashmi' was also released by Addl. Director General. ●

**Writers and Contributors** Writers are invited to contribute original general articles on subjects like **SHORT STORIES, TOURISM, HEALTH, YOGA, CINEMA, GARDENING, MEDITATION, COOKING, SPORTS, FAMOUS PLACES IN ABROAD, TREKKING** etc. in 800-1000 words/poems/quiz/puzzles. Relevant pictures along with article may be sent only on Email ID [editorindianrailways@gmail.com](mailto:editorindianrailways@gmail.com). A suitable remuneration shall be paid after its publication.

–Editor

► CLW ◀

**CLW Produced 200 Locos**

**C**hittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW) has produced 200 electric locomotives (32595) upto 15<sup>th</sup> October of the current financial year 2019-20. 163 nos of WAG-9H, 26 nos of WAP-7 & 11 nos of WAP-5 series locomotives were produced till 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2019. On 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018 itself, 184 locomotives were made. It shows an overall increase of about 10 % over the same corresponding period.



Shri Praveen Kumar flagging off the train

record numbers of latest technology electric locomotives in a year.

Shri Praveen Kumar Mishra, General Manager flagged off the 200<sup>th</sup> locomotive of WAG-9H series bearing no. 32595 from CLW in a simple ceremony accompanied with senior officers of CLW, staff & supervisors in large numbers, present on this occasion.

Shri Mishra had congratulated the entire team of loco production and appreciated their effort in successful production of 200 locomotives.

production figure in the annals of Indian Railways in manufacturing of

With this trend in production, it is expected that, CLW will be able to achieve yet another highest

► RAIL WHEEL FACTORY ◀

**Rail Wheel Factory - Production Highlights, April to September, 2019**

- Rail Wheel Factory has achieved significant jump in the production of wheelsets, wheels and axles and during the first six months of 2019-20. There has been an increase over last year of 76%, 17% and 10% in the production of wheelsets, wheel discs and axles units respectively.
- Despatches have increased by 70, 81 and 48% respectively for wheel sets, wheel discs and axles units over the same period of last year.
- Highest ever LHB axles production is continuing. 14,007 LHB axles have been produced during the first six months of 2019-20,



which is 146% of the proportionate target. This is supporting the mission of production of LHB coaches at ICF/Chennai, RCF/Kapurthala and MCF/Rae Bareli.

- Rail Wheel Factory has also achieved highest ever monthly production of 'wheelsets and loose axles' in terms of 'equated rolling stock vehicles' of 2350 in Sept 2019, when 6258 wheelsets, 456 locomotives axles, 2807 LHB coaching axles and 33 EMU coaching axles were produced.
- 6258 'wheelset assembly' production in Sep 2019 is the highest 'wheelset assembly' production in over six years and also the highest ever 'wheelset assembly' production in a month having 24 working days.

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Rate	Regular Monthly Issues		Mechanical Data Overall Size: 28 cm x 20.5 cm; Print Area: 23 cm x 16.5 cm Advertisement Material: Email or Artpull/CD
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Full Page	₹ 7,600.00	₹ 6,650.00	
Half Page	₹ 5,130.00	₹ 4,180.00	
Spread over two adjacent pages	₹ 15,000.00	₹ 13,300.00	
Spread over two adjacent pages (Special Position)	₹ 16,500.00	₹ 14,700.00	

- At least three or more advertisements regularly or alternatively come under contract rates.
- **Mode of Payment:** Demand Draft (in advance) in favour of Business Manager, Indian Railways payable at New Delhi or Cash may be deposited in Room No. 310, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi-11001.

**Payment through Cheque is not acceptable.**

► **IRCON** ◀

**IRCON Observes Swachhta Hi Seva Pakhwara**

IRCON has observed Swachhta Pakhwara from 16<sup>th</sup> August to 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2019. During the Pakhwara, an awareness drive is being run in the office premise.

As part of the initiative, Shri S.K. Chaudhary, CMD, IRCON



administered 'Swachhta hi Seva Pledge' to the officers and staff on 28 August, 2019 at the Corporate Office and cleaned the office premise along with them.

View of Swachhta Programme

► **RailTel** ◀

**RailTel Corporation of India Ltd Post Net Profit of ₹ 110 Crore during 2018-19**

RailTel Corporation of India Ltd a body behind transforming Railway stations into Digital hubs by providing public Wi-Fi at major Railway stations held its 19<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting on 27 September, 2019. Currently 4900+ stations are live with RailTel's RailWire Wi-Fi. RailTel has achieved a turnover of ₹1017 crore and posted a Profit before Tax amounting to ₹179 crore and net profit of ₹110 crore during 2018-19 on standalone basis.

Total dividend payout for the FY 2018-19 would be ₹64.20 crore (including interim dividend of ₹18 crore) which is 58.36% of PAT as approved by the shareholders in the AGM.

Chairman and Managing Director Shri Puneet Chawla, while addressing stakeholders, gave these details and apprised them of the latest developments and future plans of the company.

RailTel Corporation is a "Mini Ratna (Category-I)" PSU. It is one of

the largest neutral telecom services providers in the country owning a Pan-India optic fiber network covering all important towns & cities of the country and several rural areas. Along with a strong a reliable network of 52000+ RKM of Optic fibre RailTel has two tier III data centers as well, RailTel is at the forefront of providing nationwide Broadband Telecom & Multimedia Network in all parts of the country in addition to modernization of Train operations and administration of network systems for Indian Railways.

With its Pan India high capacity network, RailTel is working towards creating knowledge society at various fronts and has been selected for implementation of various mission-mode Govt. of India projects in the telecom field. RailTel offers a bundle of services such as MPLS-VPN, Telepresence, Leased line, Tower Co-location, Data center services etc.

► **DFCCIL** ◀

**DFCCIL Spreads the Message of Safety Through Street Plays**



DFCCIL is spreading the message of awareness to the public at large about trial run of trains on DFC tracks between Eastern DFCs 194 km Khurja – Bhadan section. Street Plays (NukkadNataks) are being organised at Schools, Panchayats, Indian Railways stations and trespassing locations at Agra, Aligarh, Hathras, Bulandshahr, Firozabad districts of Uttar Pradesh.

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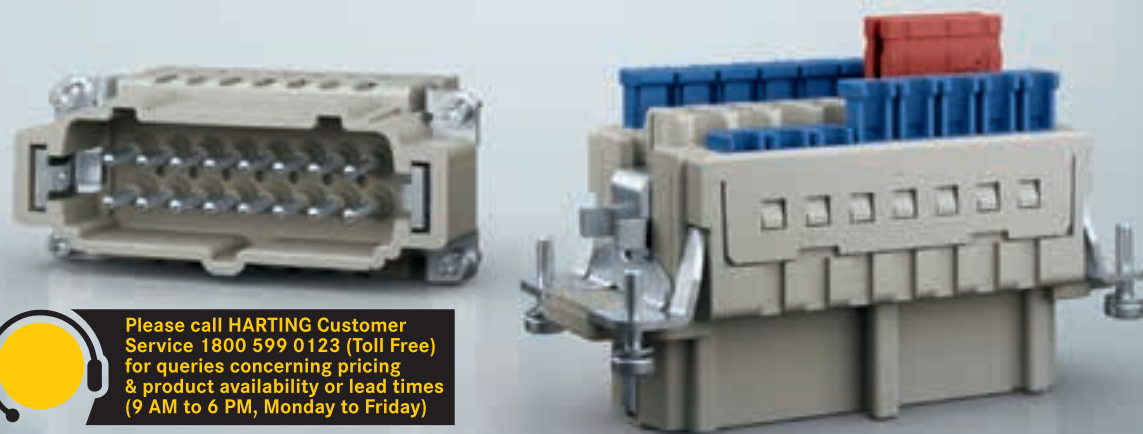
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