



East Coast Railway Officers' Association

BHUBANESWAR

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EAST COAST RAILWAY OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION, BBS HELD ON 12.03.2013 (TUESDAY) in GM's CONFERENCE HALL – "SABHA GRIHA".

General Secretary welcomed all Members to the first meeting of ECoROA during 2013. General Secretary explained that 2012 had been an eventful year in which a number of achievements were made by ECoROA on account of magnanimity exhibited by Hon'ble GM towards the issues raised by East Coast Railway Officers' Association. Some of the significant achievements were in the type of Vehicles, improving Rest House facilities including NDLS, Transport facility in New Delhi, increase in entertainment allowance, Bungalow Peons to all JA Grade Officers and Accidents Insurance for Members of ECoROA etc. It is time now for moving forward in 2013 with new agendas. General Secretary thanked all the Members present and hoped that discussions would be fruitful in the interest of all Group 'A' Officers.

Following agenda items were discussed in the meeting:-

01. Welcome of the New Members:

General Secretary welcomed the new Members i.e. Shri D.N.Jha, Chief Electrical Engineer and Shri Prem Chandra, Chief Mechanical Engineer. Bouquets were given to them by Treasurer/ECoROA Shri P.K. Das, FA&CAO(G). General Secretary also welcomed CMM-I Shri Ramakant Dash and new MD Dr. D.K. Sendha.

02. Housing for Future:

- i) President/ECoROA introduced the concept of housing for future. While most of the Group 'A' Officers will have sufficient money at the time of retirement and one house for themselves, system support is also required for safe and comfortable living Post Retirement. President/ECoROA narrated a story of a Retired Professor whose only son had gone abroad and settled there. Despite having sufficient money, the Retired Professor was not looked after and finally had to be shifted to a charitable old age home.

While the current generation is generally looking after their parents, the same may not be true 10 years from now or 20 years from now. Therefore, considering all the above, CPTM Shri Deepak Jha was requested to give presentation on housing for future.

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- ii) Shri Deepak Jha, CPTM introduced the concept which was in line with what CPO had briefly elaborated. Shri Deepak Jha also exhibited slides on the current concept and models available worldwide, specifically in India on the type of Post Retirement homes. During discussion, it was felt that the Private Developers were only giving “Lease for Life” and, therefore, the property could not be handed over to next generation once somebody expires. Considering that Group ‘A’ Officers will have to invest hard earned money in such a scheme, it was felt that it would be better if various avenues and models available for Group Housings could be researched upon and the best models selected for adoption so that willing Officers could participate in that. Large number of Members present in the meeting supported the idea
- iii) Therefore, a Committee consisting of CTPM Shri Gurucharan Ray, CSO, Shri B.P. Swain and FA&CAO/G Shri P.K. Das was constituted which will go into the various options available and present their findings/suggestions during the next ECoROA meeting which will be held in the 1st week of April’2013. All the Members were requested to give their suggestions to the Committee so that the Committee could finalise its recommendations about the model to be selected for Group Housing Scheme for future.

03. Current housing issues related to Engineering & Electrical Department:

During discussions on current housing issues related to Engineering and Electrical Departments, Members raised a number of issues which are as below:-

- i) Rail Vihar houses do not have sufficient ventilation and solution needs to be found out.
- ii) The condition of Rail Vihar houses is not good and quality of repair is also not as per the requirement. Some of the Members, like CMM-I, explained that even basic facilities like pelmet and back yard lighting were not being provided by Engineering & Electrical Departments.
- iii) Some of the Members also explained that since ‘B’ type quarters in Rail Vihar is single storied, it becomes unbearable during summer season and proper white coating/false ceiling/ any other suitable means is required for comfortable stay.

General Secretary requested Engineering and Electrical Officers present in the meeting to take care of the requirements of Colleague Officers. Since PCE and CGE were not present, their comments could not be available why positive action could not be taken in the Railway Colonies. CESE was present in the meeting and he assured to look after the requirements from the Electrical Side.

- iv) Shri P.S. Brahmanandam, Working President/ECOROA, suggested that RLDA could be approached for developing Rail Vihar. Some Members suggested that some of the ‘B’ type Quarters could be demolished for construction of Multi Storied Building.
- v) SDGM raised the issue of solar power supply to Rail Sadan as well as Railway Colonies. Some of the Members felt that hot water availability can be ensured through solar water heaters. The issue of energy efficiency of Rail

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Sadan and having light censors, so that light could be dimmed when concerned Officer is not present in the Chamber, was also discussed. CESE assured that action will be taken in near future.

04. Timely Promotion of Group 'A' Officers:

- i) Timely promotion of Group 'A' Officers was discussed. It was felt that promotion of Junior Officers (Group 'A', Junior Scale to Sr. Scale) was getting delayed in many Departments on account of vacancies not being available or not being kept available while promoting Group 'B' Officers. It was felt that PHODs/CHODs should take care of the expectations and sentiments of Junior Group 'A' Officers while dealing with promotions.
- ii) The issue of delay in promotion of Dr. B.C. Parida, Dy.CMD, was also discussed. Dr. Parida explained that he had been given "GOOD" for five continuous years during early 1990s but was never communicated. He has come to know only when his promotion has got delayed. CPO initially felt that this case was quite old and could not be taken up at this stage. However, all the Members requested CPO to consider the case sympathetically as there was no system of communicating adverse CR earlier.
- iii) General Secretary also requested CPO who is also the President of ECoROA to sympathetically consider this case and all other cases where Group 'A' Officers have been denied promotion.

05. Outstanding Agenda Items:

a) Rest House/Hotel facilities at New Delhi:

- i) During discussions, General Secretary thanked General Administration for having the arrangement with Ginger Yatri Niwas at New Delhi which was being made available to all the Officers on duty. However, Members felt that the rooms of Ginger were quite small and stuffy also as sufficient ventilation was not available. Therefore, Ginger hotel be continued till the time our own Rest House comes up. Since it may take at least 2-3 years more, there is a need to look for some better arrangement of hotel also.
- ii) General Secretary explained that 7 Officers of East Coast Railway had recently attended International Heavy Haul Conference in New Delhi and their stay arrangements were made in Hotel Janpath (Public Sector Hotel) at approximate cost of Rs.4000/- per room per day. Since there is a requirement of better accommodation in New Delhi, East Coast Railway can also go in for 1 or 2 rooms in Hotel Janpath on the subsidised rate for Govt. Officers to have better facilities. SDGM also explained that, Post 6th Pay commission; all other services are availing of good hotel facilities. All Members supported this idea unanimously.
- iii) It was, therefore, decided to request GM to approve of similar arrangement in hotel Janpath which is now available for hotel Ginger so that better accommodation is available till the time East Coast Railway's Own Rest House comes up.
- iv) CTPM raised the issue of reimbursement if some Officers stay in the accommodation being provided in Odisha Bhavan in New Delhi. This was supported by most of the Members and it was requested that General Administration may consider this issue.



b) Provision of LCD/LED TV and Refrigerator in the chamber of all SAG Officers and above:

- i) General Secretary explained that this issue had been discussed with GM and he was inclined to accept this after March once the achievements of East Coast Railway on the loading front and earning front are finalised.
- ii) It was also decided to request GM to address all ECoROA Members in Sabha Griha in 1st week of April on the achievements made during 2012-13 and future strategies for East Coast Railway in times to come.

c) Comprehensive power back up for all the Railway Colonies:

- i) During discussions, Members raised the issue of power cuts and reminded CESE about his promise to have adequate back up by 31st January for Rail Kunj. CESE explained that dedicated feeder will be made available to Rail Kunj by 31st March'2013.
- ii) General Secretary raised the issue of similar arrangement for Rail Vihar and Rail Kutir. COM also raised the issue of requirement of dedicated feeder for Rail Kutir. CESE explained that a separate work needs to be sanctioned to cover both the Colonies for which GM will be approached.

06. Dog menace in Rail Vihar Colony:

Some of the Members raised the issue of Dog menace in Rail Vihar Colony. CMD explained that the arrangement which has been done for Rail Kunj is going to be extended to Rail Vihar colony also and this problem will be controlled in near future.

07. The meeting ended with vote of thanks by Shri P.K. Das Treasurer/ECoROA.


(S.K. Pankaj)
Gen. Secy./ECoROA

Copy to:-

1. Secretary to GM for kind information of GM.
2. All PHODs/CHODs for information.
3. All SAGs/JAGs for information.
4. Secretary General /FROA, Railway Board, New Delhi.
5. President, Working President & Treasurer/ECoROA for information please.

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✓ Sr. System Manager/IT with a request to upload the Minutes on ECoR's website.