## आल इंडिया स्टेशन मास्टर्स एसोसिएशन ALL INDIA STATION MASTERS' ASSOCIATION



NEW DELHI Regd. No: NDD/09

Dated: 24.01.2024

TO,

The Chairman & CEO

Railway Board,

Rail Bhavan

New Delhi

Sub: Points against closure of Eastern Railway printing press – reg.

Thankfulness is a rare quality getting eroded from the modern society built upon commercial considerations. Profit is the only motive behind some decisions even when the subject demands a comprehensive view from all directions.

ER Printing Press/Howrah has been supplying books and forms including reserved and unreserved tickets and ICV books to Railways without any hitch. Books and forms include various authorities to proceed stipulated for trains during specific signal failure situations. Closure of the Printing Press and outsourcing the books, forms, Tickets and ICV forms will expose vulnerable railway stationery to the outside people, inclinations and intentions of whom may not be always forward oriented. A Paper Line Clear Ticket or such a train passing authority in the hands of an antisocial or terrorist will be as detrimental as a grenade. ICV books or semi printed tickets has the potential to cause three times loss to Railway than the earnings through them.

It was with much thought that some non-core activities which are closely knit around the safety aspects of Railway working was retained under the railway. Printing was one such activity which has far reaching ramifications when outsourced.

The fate of staff hitherto working in the Printing Press and the 'value and price' of its machines hangs on fine threads during this time. A careful handling of the situation is required for an optimum and sustainable results. Considering the values infused by the Institution into the system over the years of its existence and the dedication of its employees, it is requested that the Eastern Railway Printing Press, Howrah may be allowed to continue to serve the Railways for some more years to come.

Thanking you

Yours truly

DHARAMVEER SINGH ARORA SECRETARY

