



नेशनल रेल्वे मज़दूर युनियन NATIONAL RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION

(Regd. No. 1618)

Mazdoor Bhavan, Central Railway Qtrs., G-96, Bhandarkar Road, Matunga (E), Mumbai - 400 019.

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NRMU/HQ/147/2

19.03.2024

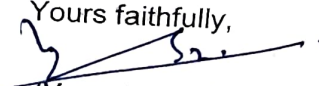
This press release is issued to all print, visual and social media fraternity with earnest request to cover the **trade union protest program of National Railway Mazdoor Union (NRMU CR/KR)** to be held on **19.03.2024** in front of **DRM/Mumbai** at 17.00 hours.

PRESS RELEASE

National Railway Mazdoor Union (NRMU), positioned as the largest trade union through secret ballot of the employees of Central Railway is an affiliate of **All India Railwaymen's Federation (AIRF)**. This union does have its glorious history of struggle, sacrifice and martyrdom to achieve the present dignified living condition and social status to all railway employees and their families. The legacy of its endeavors not only protects the workers from ulterior exploitation and injustice by using the constitutional provisions and trade union rights derived from the constitution drafted by **Maha Maanav Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar** but contemplate the strengthened valour inherited from our iconic pride of the nation, **Chathrapati Shivaji Maharaj** in all its spirit and behold his ethical stand of social dispensation on "**Sarva Dharma Samabhav**".

This protest demonstration being organised by the union today on **19.3.2024** at **CSMT** at **17.00 hours** is the fall out of the administrative apathy and callousness towards addressing the legitimate demands of the employees. The thousands of staff reaches from Mumbai, Pune, Solapur, Bhusawal & Nagpur divisions of Central Railway are expected to participate in the protest movement called by NRMU as all of them consider this as an opportunity to highlight the issues of **Scrapping of New Pension Scheme (NPS) & Restoration of Guaranteed Old Pension Scheme (OPS)**, **Filling up of thousands of vacant posts especially the very sensitive safety category posts to be used for safe and smooth day to day train movements, the deplorable condition of railway residential colonies and the non availability of medicines to serving employees and retired personals at railway hospitals.** They are up in arms created by the sense of uncertain social security, stress of discharging restless over hours of exorbitant work load, non-availability of a conducive living environment at residential colonies and the pathetic disposal of medical facilities to serving employees and retired personals. A detailed memorandum wherein the consequential effect of the issues to be resolved will be handed over to the General Manager of Central Railway with a request for his constructive intervention for a speedy redressal of the highlighted issues.

Yours faithfully,


(Venu P Nair)
General Secretary



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WHY THE PROTEST DEMONSTRATION BY NRMU (CR/KR) ON 19.03.2024

- Though due to relentless struggle of this union and federation that culminated to the Maha Morcha of NRMU held on 22.11.2022 at Mumbai more than 01.48,000 recruitments are done from January to December 2023 against the overall vacancies of about 03 lakh posts which includes the 11500 recruitments done in Central Railway, the purpose of the effort is not accomplished fully as more than 02,48,000 vacancies are still continued to be kept unfilled.
- As on 31.12.2023 in Indian Railways 02,48,000 posts are lying vacant to get filled. In Central Railway itself, it is reported that there are about 25281 vacancies to be filled. Thousands of posts are surrendered through retrograde policies of 'matching surrender, revisions of yardstick, manpower augmentation, expenditure management and pruning of the workforce to facilitate outsourcing and contractualisation.
- Maximum number of the posts vacant are in the safety categories as classified vide Board's letter dated 8.6.2022 in Engineering, Running, Electrical & Mechanical, S & T, Running and Operating Department.
- The inadequate number of staff and non-creation of posts to man the additional assets in the last decades have burdened the work force to bear unaffordable workload. The shortage of staff, materials and poor working conditions makes them helpless to render qualitative and quantitative service in operations, maintenance and upkeep of railway assets. They are also forced to commit inadvertent errors and unintentional mistakes which could lead to disastrous results. Quite often the staffs are blamed for the lapses that caused upon the accrued administrative deficiencies but they are penalized severely even without an enquiry to the cause of the incidents.
- The different directives issued in the recent past by Rly.Board for surrendering of the posts have fuelled the agony of the workers. The orders issued for rampant surrendering of 50% of the vacancies, rationalization of the manpower, restriction imposed on creation of posts, reduction of staff through work study and JA process etc., has had its negative impact which includes the stagnation of the career progression and promotional prospects of the staff.
- The retrograde policies of the government for monetization of railway assets through NMP to dole out its land and properties, it's hard push for corporatization, outsourcing and privatization has created a sense of uncertainty and anguish among the workforce. The scrapping and subsuming of the pro-labour laws into four anti worker labour codes, the threats of dismantling and discarding of the non-core railway activities, schools, hospitals, Colonies, sports infrastructures, recreation facilities and the attempts to discontinue the rights, privileges and perks have also made severe heartburn to the workers.
- This union upholding the moral and ethical responsibility act as a watchdog of social transformation challenges the dubious planning of the government to stop the privilege of affordable train journeys to the common man, abolition of various types of concessions, usage of inequitable fare fixing formulas, introduction of private operated trains etc.
- To express the anguish, concern and resentment of the workers of Central Railway against the apathy of administration to address the issues raised by NRMU (CR/KR), it has decided to hold a peaceful protest demonstration in front of DRM Mumbai on 19.03.2024 at 17.00 hours.
- Urged Hon General Manager, Central Railway to have constructive intervention to address and resolve the issues elaborately explained in the Memorandum.


(Venu P Nair)
General Secretary