GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAILWAY BOARD)

New Delhi, dated 10.07.2024

No. E(NG)11/2023/RR-1/79

The General Secretary, National Federation of Indian Railwaymen, 3, Chelmsford Road, New Delhi- 110055

Sub: Filling 20% vacancies in Pay Level-1 by Course Completed Act Apprentices

Kindly refer to the issue raised in NFIR's letter NFIR/II/95/2023 dated 28.06.2024 vide point no. 6 Dear sir,

The issue of filling of 20% vacancies through delegation of powers to General Managers is deliberated regarding the subject mentioned above. by the Board comprehensively. In this regard, it is reiterated that as per Board's instructions dated 21.06.2016, 20% of the Level-1 vacancies in case of direct recruitment shall be filled giving preference to CCAAs. Subsequent to Board's instructions dated 21.06.2016, power of General Managers for engagement of CCAAs as substitutes were withdrawn in April 2017. Pursuant to the grievances received from candidates who have applied in Centralised Employment Notification (CEN RRC 01/2019), Board had constituted a Committee which inter alia examined the concerns and suggestions of Course Completed Act Apprentices (CCAAs). Based on the recommendation of the committee instructions had been issued to Zonal Railways vide letter dated 13.04.2022 to give due weightage to CCAAs trained in Railways establishments such that one third of the marks in preparation of the final merit list after conduct of CBT shall be based on marks obtained in their NCVT examinations. These candidates have also been exempted from physical efficiency test (PET).

- 2. The Uma Devi Judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court makes it clear that recruitment can be made only after a proper competition among qualified persons Similarly, ASG's opinion is unambiguous that Railway may not engage trained apprentices under the General Manager's power without any competitive examination. Policy matters are sacrosanct. Changing them for one group of people will lead to similar demands from other interest groups and due to that the Recruitment process will be severely
- 3. In view of the above, demand of delegation of power to the General Managers to induct against 20% vacancies in Level-1 in Indian Railways is not feasible by making any modification in the notified stipulations at this stage.

our's faithfully,

For Principal Executive Director

Railway Board

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDIAN RAILWAYMEN (N.F.I.R.) 3, Chelmsford Road, New Delhi

No. NFIR/II/94/2022

Dated: 16/07//2024

Copy of Railway Board's letter No. E(NG)II/2023/RR-1/79 dated 10/07/2024 addressed to General Secretary/NFIR is forwarded to the General Secretaries of affiliated Unions of NFIR for comments, if any.

C/- File No. NFIR/II/95/2023.

(Dr. M. Raghavalah) General Secretary

No of contacts of the property of the party of the party

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The General Secretary. National Federation of Indian Railwaymen, & Chelmsford Road, New Delhi- 110055

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The issue of filling of 20% vacancies through delegation of powers to General Managers is deliberated by the Board comprehensively. In this regard, it is reiterated that as per Board's instructions dated 21.06.2016, 20% of the Level-1 vacancies in case of direct recruitment shall be filled giving preference to CCAAs. Subsequent to Board's instructions dated 21.06.2016, power of General Managers for engagement of CCAAs as substitutes were withdrawn in April 2017. Pursuant to the grievances received from candidates who have applied in Centralised Employment Notification (CEN RRC-01/2019), Board had constituted a Committee which inter alia examined the concerns and suggestions of Course Completed Act Apprentices (CCAAs). Based on the recommendation of the committee instructions had been issued to Zonal Railways vide letter dated 13.04.2022 to give due weightage to CCAAs trained in Railways establishments such that one third of the marks in preparation of the final merit list after conduct of CBT shall be based on marks obtained in their NCVT examinations. These candidates have also been exempted from physical efficiency test (PET).

- 2. The Uma Devi Judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court makes it clear that recruitment can be made only after a proper competition among qualified persons. Similarly, ASG's opinion is unambiguous that Railway may not engage trained apprentices under the General Manager's power without any competitive examination. Policy matters are sacrosanct. Changing them for one group of people will lead to similar demands from other interest groups and due to that the Recruitment process will be severely compromised.
- 3. In view of the above, demand of delegation of power to the General Managers to induct against 20% vacancies in Level-1 in Indian Railways is not feasible by making any modification in the notified stipulations at this stage.

Your's faithfully,

For Principal Executive Director (IR)

Railway Board

Copy to: DDE(LR)-I for information.