

## 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference at Dharwad on 19-20 December 2009.

Press conference was held on 17.12.09 at Hubli. 12 members from press and 2 TV reporters were present. Mr. K.R.Shalvadi welcomed all the guests. Shri S.K.Vaidya introduced all the members of the association and gave the details of the conference to be held at Dharwad on 19 and 20<sup>th</sup> of December 2009. Press note was released by Shri W.S.Bhome President. Shri M.A.Karlekar replied the queries of the press and spoke about the problems unsettled after 6th CPC. The report appeared in the local papers and the Times of India.

Pensioners' day was celebrated at the same venue. 2 minute silence was observed and homage was paid to Shri Nakara. Many members from the branch were present. Shri. R. R. Hombal, President of All India Railway Men's Federation gave the details of the progress of the medical allowance.

CWC Meeting: As per notice CWC of the Association was held at 10 hrs on 19. 12. 09 at South Western Railway Community Hall, Dharwad. About 50 branch secretaries and all CWC members were present. After welcoming all the delegates the notice issued for holding CWC was read out. 2 minute silence was observed to pay homage to the departed activists and the members who lost their lives for the nation. Report of the last CWC which was held on 11.6.08 was read out and approved unanimously. Self introduction of all CWC members was done by themselves.

Organisational issues were discussed in detail. The efforts taken by all Organisational secretaries for increasing the membership and branches were appreciated by one and all. The issue of enrolling the retirees during this year was discussed and all branch secretaries were requested to take special efforts especially BSNL retirees. It was also suggested to increase the number of organisational secretaries so that they can cover the negated part. The work of the CWC was suspended for the inaugural ceremony which was to be held immediately.

Shri V.G.Kulkarni, Chairman, reception committee welcomed all the guests. After paying the homage to the departed members by observing silence for two minutes, a swagat geet was sung, by Smt. Geeta Umachgi Deep Prajwalan was done at the hands of the guests and the portrait of Shri M. H. Tadamari was garlanded by the Chief Guest. Shri Adesh Sharma, Divisional Railway Manager Hubli Division, Hubli inaugurated the function. He appreciated the efforts taken by pensioners association in solving the problems of the pensioners and assured for the help to the pensioners. Shri M.A. Karlekar gave the details and working of the association. Shri S.P. Desai, President Railway Pensioners Association, Dharwad and Retd. Chief Engineer ( Electrical ) C. Railway and Shri. R.R. Hombal, Railway Pensioners Association, Hubli were the guests of honour, Shri Sham Sunder, President BCPC, was also present, gave the details of the problems of pensioners, being dealt at Delhi. After vote of thanks a lunch was served which was appreciated by all.

At 3.00 o'clock in the afternoon regular work of CWC was continued. Shri Bamne, Tech. advisor, gave the description and working of our website and requested the secretaries to register names and addresses of all office bearers on the website. He described the efforts taken by him for settling the arrears to be paid to pensioners by banks etc, and requested the secretaries to make use of calculators provided on the website for arrears calculation. He also suggested to use e-mail for writing the letters. Shri B.P. Kamble, G.S., Confederation of Central Govt. employees and workers and pensioners Pune, gave the details of working of CGHS, and replied to the queries of the members to their satisfaction. Problems of BSNL were discussed. Shri. Shreepad Deshpande gave the details of the efforts taken including the programme arranged at Delhi for solving the 50 % D. A. merger of BSNL Retirees. Shri. J.T. Sali from Jalgaon who accompanied Shri. Deshpande also gave his report on Delhi visit. Problems of BSNL retirees were discussed with Shri Shamsunderji who was present and requested to make efforts at Delhi for getting problems solved. Discussion was held for

increasing the organising secretaries so that expansion of the association can be taken, but the decision on this matter was deferred to be decided in AGM to be held on 20th. The election of the office bearers was also discussed and the probable names were finalised which were accepted by the AGM. As the time was getting short, the proceedings of the CWC were wound up. And it was decided to discuss the pending points in the open session. There was a very good light program of music in which Marathi and Kannada songs were sung. The delicious dinner was arranged, and the program of CWC came to end.

Open session of the association started on 20.12.09 at about 0900 hrs in the morning, Shri. Karlekar, G.S. welcomed the decision of the Dharwad branch for holding this years AGM at Dharwad in the memory of Shri M.H. Tadamari who had a desire to have AGM at Dharwad.



Shri. Karlekar, G.S. presented the annual report, for the year April 2008 to March 2009 and further extended period from April 2009 to October 2009. This was approved after a brief discussion.



Income and Expenditure Account for the year 1.4.08 to 31.3.09 and budget for the year 1.4.09 to 31.3.10 was presented by our treasurer Shri L.B. Patade, which was approved unanimously. As the opening of the AGM program was to be held at 1100 hrs, the discussion was deferred. Opening of the Annual conference started with the garlanding the portrait of Shri M.H.Tadamari ex secretary Dharwad branch at the hands of the chief guest. After Deep Prajwalan regular discussion started. Shri N.P. Bhat, retd. Chief Commissioner of Income Tax was the chief guest and Shri B. Sadashivrao, president of Karnataka P&T pensioners association was the guest of honour.



Shri W.S. Bhome read out the program of the open session. Welcome address was delivered by the chairman of the reception committee, which was followed by the garlanding and presenting the bouquets to the dignitaries. Introduction of the chief guests and guest of honour was done Shri N.P. Bhat in his presidential address asked the pensioners to keep in mind the following points. 1. Pension is a right and not an obligation, hence they have to fight for getting this right. 2. We have to try to get CGHS facilities extended up to small towns. 3. He proposed to have socio economic survey of all the pensioners and families living in the area. And try to submit the report to the govt. 4. We the pensioners should have the social duties and obligations fulfilled. 5. We should demand the govt. to provide the employment for the children of pensioners and help them in getting the jobs .6. Pensioners can join the existing organisations like senior citizen associations, consumer forum to safeguard their interests and objectives. 7. They should join any organisation or institute and try to make best use of their time. Shri B. Sadashivrao chairman CCCGPA, Karnataka gave the salient features of the recommendations which have been accepted only because of our pressure and unity. He advised to take care of the health, periodical medical check up to take balanced and nutritious diet, to have a joint account, make nomination for life time arrears make a will etc.

After this senior citizens above 80 years were felicitated. Best branch awards were awarded at the hands of the Chief Guest to the following branches. Akola Branch, Pimpri Chinchwad branch, Dharwad branch for their excellent work done during the year 2008-2009. Velankar awards were also awarded at the hands of the Chief Guest to following recipients. Shri L.B. Patade, Shri S.K. Josh, Shri. Bhome President and Shri M.A. Karlekar replied to the address of the chief guest. Meeting was adjourned for the lunch. After lunch following resolutions were passed. 1. Life member is a member of this association viz. AICGPA and not of a particular branch. Therefore if a life member has to shift his residence by one reason or the other in such cases member on transfer should obtain the



membership certificate from parent branch and make over to new branch, and the new branch will enrol him as a member of that branch. 2. In Karnataka the concession in K.S.R.T.C buses should be increased from 25% to 50%. 3. The concession in railway fare should be made equal to 50 % for senior citizens as well as ladies. 4. 50% merger of D.A. in pay of BSNL staff 5. Medical allowance to be increased to Rs. 1000/- from Rs. 100/-. 6. Commutation should be restored after 12 years instead of 15 years. Thereafter every branch secretary was asked to give to the house their problems, working of the branch and measures for increasing the membership Regarding Org. Secretaries it was decided to maintain the status quo and the decision is to be taken in coming CWC meeting. In the end Genral Secretary thanked Dharwad branch for making good arrangements.