

IRAS DAY 2013 BILASPUR CHAPTER

IRAS day 2013 was celebrated in Bilaspur, Headquarters of South East Central Railway to remember and celebrate the values and traditions which the IRAS officers cherish and are proud of. A presentation session was held which was attended by GM, SECR, Shri Navin Tandon, PHODs/ CHODs and all IRAS officers of SECR. Dr. Lakshman Chaturvedi, Vice Chancellor Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (Central University) Bilaspur graced the occasion with his presence.

Dy. FA&CAO, Shri G. Pati welcomed the VC and all the officers present on the occasion to mark the birth of the esteemed service. Dr. Chaturvedi, VC/ Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (Central University) Bilaspur, expressed his happiness at being present on this important occasion and shared his vast experiences both in India and abroad. He emphasised that honesty and ethical behaviour are essential for good governance and all management functions. These values and ethics are imbibed first from our parents, then teachers in school and university which help us throughout our careers. We have to remain constantly aware and vigilant since small acts of negligence lead to big accidents both in railways and in our lives.

Shri Ravi Nandkeolyar, FA&CAO(C) presented an informative history of the evolution of IRAS starting with the recommendations of the Acworth Committee and the need to create a separate service to manage the accounts of the Indian Railways to the present role played by the IRAS officers.

Shri Ajai Mathur, FA&CAO (F&B) presented some extremely interesting facts about the first IRAS officers Shri C.T. Venugopal, considered as the patriarch of IRAS including the views of senior IRAS officers on his unique abilities to solve knotty professional issues, cadre management, friendly, kind and human approach towards all officers of Indian Railways.

Smt Alka Mehra, FA&CAO while expressing concern on the increased expenditure without corresponding increase in earnings on IR, presented an educative talk on the need for accounting reforms in the Indian Railways to meet the challenges of funding from extra budgetary resources and sustain investor confidence. She indicated that the accounting reforms project envisages collection of costs based on Lines of business (LOBs) which would enable real time costing of coaching and freight services to improve operational efficiencies and image of Indian Railways.

Shri Navin Tandon, General Manager, congratulated IRAS officers on their birthday celebrations” and spoke about the important role played by them in maintaining the checks and balances in railway working. While agreeing that the finances of Indian Railways are grim, he mentioned that we should be optimistic and work towards improving the situation. He emphasised the need to clear proposals for enhancing earnings and encouraged IRAS officers to play a positive role.

A separate session was held to discuss professional issues attended by all accounts officers of SECR, in which open discussion was held on the problems faced by accounts officers including dealing with bottlenecks in reference to Minimum Wages Act in cleaning contracts and issues in stores procurement vis á vis Budgetary control.

Retired IRAS officers on SECR also attended the session and made valuable suggestions during the discussions.















