



Estd: 1953

## NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDIAN RAILWAYMEN

(Affiliated to INTUC, ITF & ILO)

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No. ITF/Solidarity/Pt.I

Dt: Mar 01<sup>st</sup>, 2014

To,  
Mr Bob Nanva  
National Secretary  
Australian Rail, Tram and Bus Industry Union (RTBU)  
Suite 210, 4-10 Goulburn St.  
Sydney, NSW 2000  
**Australia**

Dear Brother,

The National Federation of Indian Railwaymen (NFIR) representing more than 1 million workers on Indian Railways is one of the oldest and strongest federations with its presence in all the 17 Zonal Railways and 6 Production Units. NFIR is affiliated to Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC) and International Transport Workers Federation (ITF).

We have been informed that around 200 drivers went on Strike on February 25<sup>th</sup> 2014 consequently shutting down the Aurizon's operations for three days supported by 94 percent workers after the talks for pay hike that were initiated in May 2013 failed. Instead of having a negotiated settlement the Company had decided to lock out the striking drivers on February 27<sup>th</sup> 2014, which is totally unacceptable to world community of workers. The company ought to respect the drivers views such as better rostering, advance planning of shifts and better working conditions. The authoritarian action of the management amounts to suppressing the voice of freedom of the working class with iron hand by dictatorial company management. We oppose this attitude of the management in unequivocal terms.

As an ITF affiliate and staunch supporter of worker community NFIR expresses whole hearted and continuous support to the struggle by Australian Rail, Tram and Bus Industry Union (RTBU) on behalf of a strong workforce on Indian Railways.

Yours fraternally

**(M.Raghavaiah)**  
**General Secretary**