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*My dear Railwaymen and Women,*

At the outset, I would like to convey my best wishes upon joining the Indian Railways – which is life line of the nation. We have the onerous responsibility to provide the best transportation facilities to the countrymen and give impetus to the economic growth of the country. I consider you all as my family members and as I am serving at an apex of this great organisation, I consider myself as the head of your family.

Indian Railways is the growth engine as well as the powerhouse of the country. It has assumed enormous importance in today's world not only due to the numbers associated with it, such as the number of passengers carried daily, tonnage loaded and transported, its network size, revenues generated, the sheer strength of its staff but also due to its intimate connection with every Indian citizen.

However, as is true for every dynamic system, a catalyst is required from time to time to take the momentum forward. I would like you to be that catalyst and take the Railway forward into the future and along with it, India. I would also like you to own your Railway system as one for its amelioration, progress and its leap into the future.

Leo Tolstoy said “Everyone thinks of changing the world, but no one thinks of changing himself.” We must together follow this if we wish to bring the change required in the system; this change has to come from within. Our focus must remain utmost safety of the passenger and employee and the quality of services offered to our customers.

With the above goals in mind, we must resolve to be committed in our role of sustaining the Indian Railways as the pivot of the national economy, the life-line of the nation and its binding force.

Best wishes,

Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu  
Minister of Railways