

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2834
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2002
DUTY HOURS FOR DRIVERS
SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI;SUNDER LAL TIWARI

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the maximum duty hours fixed for the Railway drivers;
- (b) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news item captioned "Neend ki Halat Mein Chaalak Ne Dehradun Express ko Mugalsarai Pahuchaya" appearing in Dainik Jagran dated September 15, 2002; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and action proposed to be taken to avoid recurrence of such incidents ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a): The working hours of drivers are regulated in accordance with provisions contained in Chapter XIV of the Railways Act, 1989. The drivers on Railways are classified as 'Continuous' and they are statutorily required to work for 54 hours per week on an average in a two weekly period of 14 days. But their rostered hours have been fixed as 52 hours per week on an average in two weeks.

(b) : Yes, Sir.

(c) : The driver of 3009 Up on 14.9.2002 had to work beyond prescribed duty hours in the aftermath of the accident of 2301 Up Rajdhani Express near Rafiganj on 9.9.2002 which resulted in disruption of traffic and also necessitated extra stoppages for 3009 Up of 14.9.2002. As norms provide for working by the crew beyond prescribed limits in exigencies of accidents, floods, agitation, equipment failures etc., no action is warranted in this case.