

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3063
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2008
VACANT POSTS OF RAIL DRIVERS IN THE RAILWAYS
Bhagora Shri Mahavir

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the sanctioned and vacant posts of rail drivers in the Railways at present, Zone-wise;
- (b) the details of working hours and distance fixed for the rail drivers at present;
- (c) the details of working hours of the drivers in long distance trains;
- (d) whether the Railways propose to increase the working hours of the rail drivers due to shortage of the rail drivers;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether their working capacity is decreasing due to fatigue; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) to (g): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3063 BY SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 20.03.2008 REGARDING VACANT POSTS OF RAIL DRIVERS IN RAILWAYS.

(a) Zone-wise sanctioned and vacant posts of rail drivers in railways as on 01.01.2008 are as under:-

| Name of the Zone | Sanctioned strength | Posts vacant |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Central | 2560 | 428 |
| Eastern | 1332 | 265 |
| East Central | 2810 | 558 |
| East Coast | 1524 | 347 |
| Northern | 4003 | 879 |
| North Central | 2439 | 551 |
| North Eastern | 957 | 91 |
| Northeast Frontier | 1289 | 185 |
| North Western | 1166 | 89 |
| Southern | 1580 | 123 |
| South Central | 2830 | 222 |
| South Eastern | 2098 | 187 |
| South East Central | 2012 | 512 |
| South Western | 943 | 324 |
| Western | 2144 | 334 |
| West central | 1808 | 188 |
| Total | 31495 | 5283 |

(b) Running staff on the Indian Railways are classified as "Continuous" and they are statutorily required to work for 54 hours a week on an average in a two weekly period of 14 days. But the rostered hours of this category of employees have been fixed at 104 hours in a two weekly period of 14 days including preparatory and complementary time.

As per extant instructions, running duty at a stretch should not ordinarily exceed 10 hours from departure of the train and overall duty should not exceed 12 hours from 'signing on' to 'signing off' except in emergent circumstances like accidents, floods, agitations, equipment failures, etc.

(c) For long distance and all coaching trains, crew links are prepared which comply with the provisions of Hours of Employment Regulation (HOER) as per para (b) above.

(d) No, Sir

(e) Does not arise.

(f) No, Sir. Duty hours are as per HOER.

(g) Does not arise.