

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3385
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2009
LOCO RUNNING STAFF
Ram Shri Purnmasi

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether All India Loco Running Staff Association (AILRSA) has made any request to the railways regarding restriction of duty hour for loco running staff;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken to restrict their working hours to eight hours forthwith?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) to (c) Yes, Madam. All India Loco Running Staff Association has represented for reduction in duty hours of running staff.

In accordance with the provisions of the Railways Act 1989, running staff on Railways are classified as 'Continuous' and, as such, they are statutorily required to work for 54 hours a 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.

At present, duty hours of running staff are governed by guidelines given by Central Administrative Tribunal, Ernakulam. Accordingly, 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' save in exceptional circumstances like accidents, floods, agitations, equipment failures etc. All efforts are made to contain the duty hours within 104 hours in a fortnight.