

RUNNING STAFF AGENDA ITEMS PLACED IN THE DC-JCM HELD ON
15/16.02.2024 - WILL BE FURTHER DISCUSSED

Crew review of Running Staff and modalities for periodic balancing of staff excess/shortage.

Staff Side has come across instructions issued by the Railway Board vide RBE No. 105/2022 dated 30th August, 2022 relating to the system for crew review of Running Staff and modalities for periodic balancing of staff excess/shortage. In the said letter of Railway Board, it has been mentioned that the Board had constituted E.D.s" Committee to examine the present system of crew review and recommend modalities vide Railway Board"s Order No. ERB-1/2022/23/07 dated 8th February 2022 and the Committee had submitted its recommendations which were deliberated and approved by the Railway Board for implementation by Zonal Railways.

In this connection, Staff Side brings to the kind notice of CRB& CEO that the Railway Ministry in the past constituted a High Power Committee as a result of negotiated settlement with the Staff Side Federations under the Chairmanship of Shri D.P. Tripathi, Former Secretary to the Government of India together with former General Managers and other high ranking Railway technocrats to review the duty hours of running and other safety categories staff of Indian Railways and submit report. The Staff Side Federations, Unions/Associations were also associated and their views were given due consideration by the HPC in the process of formulation of its report. The HPC (R&S) had submitted its report to the Railway Ministry in August, 2013 which was considered by the Railway Board and many decisions were taken for implementation by Zonal Railways.

Staff Side places below a few accepted recommendations of HPC (R&S) concerning Running Staff for appreciation:-

- A maximum limit of 125 duty hours per fortnight should be laid down for all Running Staff. This may be reviewed and brought down further to 115 hours in tandem with Vision 2020, completion of ongoing line capacity enhancement & other associated works and filling up of running staff vacancies [Para 4.3.1.3 (2)].
- The limit of stay away from Head quarters for Running Staff shall be fixed at 72 hours. It should be further brought down to 48 hours in tandem with vision 2020 (Para 4.3.2.3).
- Continuous night duty for Running Staff shall be limited to 2 nights after which they must be granted at least one full night in bed before being booked again. In case the 3rd night working is unavoidable, it may be permitted with following conditions:
 - (i) The staff has availed at least 10 hours rest before 'signing on' for duty.
 - (ii) The duty to be performed by him involving third night working should be towards HQRS.
 - (iii) On completion of the above trip, he shall be granted full headquarter rest including a full night in bed. (Para 4.3.3.3).
- The Headquarter rest of all Running Staff shall be 16 hours irrespective of the duration of his incoming trip (Para 4.3.4.3 and Para 4.3.7.3).
- The outstation rest of all Running Staff shall be 8 hours irrespective of duration of his incoming trip (Para 4.3.5.3 and Para 4.3.7.3).