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SOUTH COAST RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION

(Affiliated to AIRF & HMS) Registered & Recognised (Regd. No.H-212)

GUNTUR DIVISION

Com.K.V.R.K. MURTHY

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Cell: 9000421763

Com. E. LAVANYA

ZWC Member

Cell: 9951281487

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Com. S. KARUNA SREE

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Cell: 7702771747

Com. K. VENKATA REDDY

Cell: 6303923656

Date 03-08-26

To

The General Secretary,
SCORLY

Sub: Request for Amendment of OSR Rules – Minimum 8 Hours Out Station Rest for Running Staff

Respected Sir,

I request your kind intervention in pursuing a long-standing and important safety issue concerning the **Out Station Rest (OSR) entitlement of Running Staff.**

At present, the OSR granted to Running Staff is linked to the duration of duty performed. Consequently, when the duty period is less than eight hours, the corresponding OSR may also be restricted to less than eight hours. This approach does not adequately consider the actual physiological and operational requirements of Running Staff for recovery from fatigue.

The nature of Running Staff duty is fundamentally different from conventional working hours. Duty may involve **night working, irregular working hours, disturbed sleep, prolonged waiting, intensive concentration, operational stress, and responsibility for safe train operation.** Therefore, the duration of duty alone cannot be considered an appropriate scientific basis for determining the minimum rest required before the next duty.

The **High Power Committee** has also recorded the demand of Staff Federations for providing a **uniform minimum of 8 hours Out Station Rest to Running Staff, irrespective of the duration of duty performed.** This principle is directly related to fatigue management and operational safety.

In view of the above, I request SCORLY to take up the matter with the Railway Board through PNM and **other appropriate forums** and pursue the following amendments:



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1. A minimum of 8 hours Out Station Rest shall be ensured to every Running Staff member, irrespective of the duration of the preceding duty.
2. The next duty shall not be booked before completion of the full 8-hour OSR.
3. OSR shall be treated as a minimum physiological recovery period and shall not be proportionately reduced merely because the preceding duty was of shorter duration.
4. The provision shall be implemented uniformly over all Zonal Railways to ensure consistency in fatigue management and safe working practices.
5. Necessary amendments may be made to the relevant Railway Board instructions and applicable HOER provisions/administrative instructions.

It is submitted that adequate rest for Running Staff is a critical safety requirement and an essential component of fatigue risk management. Providing a minimum 8-hour OSR will facilitate proper recovery, improve alertness and vigilance, and thereby contribute to the safe operation of trains.

I therefore request you to kindly consider this matter on priority and pursue the demand with the Railway Board for issuing suitable revised instructions at the earliest.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully,

(Divisional Secretary)
SCoRMU, Guntur Division