

(b) what was the number of permanent sanctioned posts of officers in the above mentioned years;

(c) whether due to increase in work load as well as for diversification of jobs there is actual need for more number of officer experts at present; and

(d) if so, what is hurdle in creating new permanent posts of officers and their recruitment through Union Public Service Commission?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) The staff statistics on Indian Railways are maintained as on 31st March of the Year. The group wise number of Railway officers employed on Zonal Railways, Production Units, Railway Board and other Misc. Offices for the years 1979, 1980 and 1981 was as under:—

Year	Group 'A' (Class I)	Group 'B' (Class II)
1979 . . .	5,278	4,653
1980 . . .	5,397	5,054
1981 . . .	5,492	5,671

(Note: A large number of Group 'B' officers are working against Group 'A' posts)

(b) The group-wise number of permanent posts of officers in the respective years was as under:—

Year	Group 'A' (Class I)	Group 'B' (Class II)
1979 . . .	5,960	1,520
1980 . . .	5,981	1,515
1981 . . .	6,357	1,945

(In addition, there are a large number of mp or ary and work-charged posts)

(c) No. The number of officers is based on the work-load and the requirement is periodically reviewed and sanctions accorded as necessary. There is, however, a shortage of Group 'A' officers due to rapid expansion of Railway activities and Group 'B' officers are temporarily bridging the gap. Recruitment of Group 'A' officers is being stepped up. Recruitment as also promotion to Group 'A' (Class I) posts in the organised services is made on an annual basis, the intake being decided taking into account the cadre position, vacancies anticipated to occur and the developmental requirements, etc.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Diesel Loco Shed at Nimpura

5322. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a plan to set up a diesel Loco Shed at Nimpura near Kharagpur on the South Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, in what year this plan was sanctioned;

(c) what is the estimate for this plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) The work of Diesel Loco Shed at Nimpura was sanctioned in 1980-81.

(c) The sanctioned estimated cost for this shed is Rs. 296 lakhs.

#### Congestion at Howrah Station

5323. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the South Eastern Railway coaching service face terminal difficulties at Howrah which is an Eastern Railway controlled station;