

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:355

ANSWERED ON:19.08.2004

MANPOWER IN RAILWAYS

Meghwal Shri Kailash;Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has failed to cut manpower in Railways despite massive computerisation and modernisation of railway network;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether C&AG has also pointed out in its report of 2002- 2003 about the necessity of modernisation with a view to rationalise the utilisation of manpower;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon;
- (e) whether the Government has worked out the excess manpower in railways;
- (f) if so, the details in this regard;
- (g) whether the Government has any proposal to bring attractive VRS for railway employees; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD)

(a) to (h): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (h) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.355 BY S/SHRI K.S. RAO AND KAILASH MEGHWAL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 19.8.2004 REGARDING MANPOWER IN RAILWAYS

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) & (f) Owing to changing pattern of traffic and absorption of advanced technology in the system, requirement of manpower gets reduced in certain areas. The manpower in such areas, therefore gets rendered surplus for a temporary period of time till they get retrained and redeployed. While above action leads to reduction of manpower in certain activities, it also leads to increased need for manpower in newer areas. There are approximately 3332 surplus staff as on 30.6.04. Since accrual of surpluses and their re-deployment is a continuous process, these figures keep varying from month to month.

(g) Yes, Sir.

(h) Special Voluntary Retirement Scheme is being introduced on the lines of existing scheme of Department of Personnel & Training for permanent Group 'C' and 'D' employees who have been declared surplus. An optee of this scheme will be entitled to receive an ex-gratia amount equal to basic pay plus Dearness Allowance @ 35 days for each completed year and 25 days for each remaining year of service. Payment of such ex-gratia would be over and above the normal retirement entitlements.