

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4881

ANSWERED ON:10.05.2007

PRIORITY TO MUSLIMS IN RAILWAYS

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Meghwal Shri Kailash;Nayak Shri Ananta;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has decided to give priority to Muslims in Railway jobs as appeared in The Hindu dated April 14, 2007;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to amend the Constitution therefor; and
- (d) if not, the manner in which the Railways propose to give priority to Muslims while providing jobs?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELLU)

(a) to (d) The nodal Ministries in the matter are Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training) and Ministry of Minority Affairs. Recently on receipt of Prime Minister's New-15 Points Programme for the Welfare of Minorities, the existing instructions have been since reiterated to provide adequate employment opportunity to minorities so that there is no scope for any feeling of discrimination against them. For that, there is a provision that one member belonging to Minority community apart from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is included in the recruitment Board to over see the interest of the candidates belonging to minorities. Further, it is also ensured that no competitive examination is conducted on the occasions of festivals of Minority Communities, so that candidates belonging to these communities do not face any problem in appearing such examinations through Railway Recruitment Boards.