

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4332  
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2015  
SHORTAGE OF RAILWAY GUARDS  
Patel Shri Devji Mansingram;Sigriwal Shri Janardan Singh

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there is shortage of staff in Railways due to which certain goods trains are running without guards and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Railways have any plan to appoint people as gate counsellors or gate mitras at unmanned railway crossings on permanent basis across the country;
- (c) if so, the details of the process of their recruitment along with the required educational qualifications, other terms and condition and their wages etc.;
- (d) whether any rules are formulated for their appointment including reservation rules and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the reservation rules of the Government would be applicable in such appointments and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4332 BY SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL AND SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 20.04.2015 REGARDING SHORTAGE OF RAILWAY GUARDS

(a) Recourse to running of goods trains without guards, is permitted under the extant rules in certain situations along with measures to ensure safety. It is adopted only in exceptional situations without compromising safety.

(b) to (e) Gate counsellors or Gate Mitras are being deployed on vulnerable unmanned level crossings purely as a temporary measure on experimental basis. There is no plan to appoint people as Gate Mitra on permanent basis.