

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:303

ANSWERED ON:15.12.2014

VACANT POSTS IN RAILWAYS

Biju Shri Parayamparanbil Kuttappan;Mullappally Shri Ramachandran

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the budgetary allocation for safety related activities and utilisation thereof during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the reasons for mismatch between allocation and utilisation during the said period;
- (c) the number of posts of various categories including safety related posts lying vacant, Zone/Division-wise;
- (d) whether these vacant posts especially safety related have severely affected operational performance of the Railways and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Railways to fill up all the vacant posts and also to improve its safety related performance?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.303 BY SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN AND SHRI P.K. BIJU TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 15.12.2014 REGARDING VACANT POSTS IN RAILWAYS

(a) & (b) : The gross expenditure on specific safety related activities has increased over time. The table below indicates the allocation and the expenditure.

(rupees in crores)

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
	RE Actual	RE Actual	RE Actual	BE
Expenditure on safety related activities	33,499	33,107	36,540	35,782
			38,908	39,090
				43,443

(c) : The Zone-wise number of posts of various categories, including safety, lying vacant as on 1.4.2014 (provisional) is given in the following table.

Railway zone	Vacancies	Railway zone	Vacancies
1 Central	21,702	10 East Central	19,294
2 Eastern	21,615	11 East Coast	10,136
3 Northern	22,227	12 North Central	17,017
4 North Eastern	7,335	13 North Western	8,458
5 Northeast Frontier	11,528	14 South East Central	7,264
6 Southern	15,848	15 South Western	4,311
7 South Central	13,503	16 West Central	10,388
8 South Eastern	15,863	Total	2,25,863
9 Western	19,374		

(d) : No, Madam. Efficiency in operational performance is maintained by appropriate manpower planning. The efficiency parameters for train operations have shown continuous improvement over the years and there is no compromise on this.

(e) : Occurrence of vacancies and filling up the same as per requirement is a continuous process on the Railways. Empanelled candidates by Railway Recruitment Boards and Railway Recruitment Cells are as under-

Year	Empanelled candidates by
	Railway Recruitment Boards
2011-12	23,292
2012-13	28,467
2013-14	31,805
1.4.2014 to 30.9.2014	5,681
Total	89,245
Year of Notification	Empanelled candidates by
	Railway Recruitment Cells#
2006-08	58,852
2010	87,065
2012	41,068
Total	1,86,985

Most of the panels were provided in 2012-13 onwards. Written examinations have been held in the month of November 2014 for nearly 62,000 vacancies.

Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signaling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Safety devices/systems being progressively installed to prevent accidents include provision of Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), LED Signals, Vigilance Control Device (VCD). Certain safety devices/systems are under development stage and these include Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS), Train Protection and Warning System (TPWS) etc.