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Title: Need to fill up the vacant posts in the department of Railways and improve the efficiency of operation and safety measures of the Indian Railways.

SHRIMATI INGRID MCLEOD (NOMINATED): I would like to draw the kind attention of the Hon'ble Railway Minister, through this august House that a number of posts under various categories are lying vacant under various Zones of Railways for a long time, especially in the Central Railway.

In reply to a Starred Question in the Lok Sabha, the Hon'ble Railway Minister of State has admitted that 1,441 posts in the technical and 1,98,091 posts in the non-technical cadres were lying vacant.

It is needless to mention that the time lag between occurrence of vacancies, holding examinations, finalization of select panels and issue of appointment letters are adversely affecting the smooth functioning of the Indian Railways.

Filling of the vacant posts will help ease the pressure created on the over-worked Railway employees and also the unemployed youth will be included in the economic endeavour to create useful and meaningful livelihood.

Therefore, I urge upon the Hon'ble Minister of Railways to take immediate steps to fill up the above mentioned vacant posts and improve the efficiency parameter of train operations and safety measures of the Indian Railways.