

**Surplus Employees in the Railways**

1933. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of surplus employees in the railways, category-wise and Zone-wise;

(b) whether the railways propose to retrench these employees; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) The approximate number of Surplus staff on Zonal Railways as on 31.3.1998 is as under:

Railway	Category	Surplus
Central Railway	C	36
	D	164
Eastern Railway	C	34
	D	57
Northern Railway	C	795
	D	803
Norther Eastern Railway	C	468
	D	615
Northeast Frontier Railway	C	1783
	D	390
Southern Railway	C	329
	D	363
South Central Railway	C	287
	D	153
South Eastern Railway	C	194
	D	16
Western Railway	C	284
	D	541

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Food served to the railway passengers in recycled packs**

1934. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the use of recycled packs for serving food

to the passengers at the railway stations and in trains;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any inquiry into such mal-practices being followed in serving food to the railway passengers threatening their health;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures taken to check it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (d) Recently on press report about recycling at New Delhi station, an enquiry conducted by Norther Railway revealed that unscrupulous elements and ragpickers are reported to be indulging in recycling. Railways have with the assistance of Railway Protection Force intensified their drives to curb this menace.

Steps taken/proposed to be taken include use of the biodegradable paper cups/glasses, use of good quality kulhars for serving curd in Rajdhani/Shatabdi Express trains and creating public awareness to crush such items after use.

**Demand for extension of long distance trains upto Gandhidham**

1935. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the demand for extension of long distance trains mainly Howrah-Ahmedabad, Chennai-Ahmedabad, Cochin-Ahmedabad upto Gandhidham;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken in this regard;

(d) the time by which the extension of these trains will be implemented; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Extension of 8033/8034 Howrah-Ahmedabad Express, 6045/6046 Chennai-Ahmedabad Navjeevan Express and 6337/6338 Cochin-Rajkot Express upto Gandhidham has been examined but not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

**EMU Trains operating to and from Howrah and Sealdah Stations**

1936. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of EMU trains operating to and from Howrah and Sealdah stations under Eastern and South-Eastern railways;

(b) whether it is a fact that there are very frequent disruptions of services;

(c) the main reasons thereof; and

(d) the measures contemplated to overcome this critical problem which affect several hundreds of thousands of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Eastern Railway runs 790 EMU services including 256 and 534 trains from Howrah and Sealdah respectively whereas South Eastern Railway runs 72 EMU services ex-Howrah.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, there are some cases of disruptions of services mostly due to non-railway causes such as public agitations, Rail Roko, Bandhs etc.

(d) Active liaisoning with the state government to take remedial measures besides all out efforts at both Headquarters and Divisional level are being made to ensure punctual running of these trains.

**राजस्थान में बड़ी लाइनों पर रेल दुर्घटनाएं**

1937. श्री ओंकार सिंह लखावत: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गत दो वर्षों के दौरान राजस्थान में बड़ी लाइनों पर कितनी रेल दुर्घटनाएं हुईं और इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) राज्य में बड़ी लाइन के निर्माण में जुटियों के कितने मामले रेल मंत्रालय की जानकारी में आए हैं और अब तक कितनों में जांच हुई है; और

(ग) उपर्युक्त निर्माण-कार्य में निर्माणकारी जुटियों के दोषी पाए गए व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्रवाई की गई?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राम नाईक):

(क) गाड़ी दुर्घटनाओं और उनसे संबंधित सूचना के आंकड़े जोनवार रखे जाते हैं—राज्यवार नहीं।

(ख) और (ग) राजस्थान राज्य में बड़ी लाइन रेलपथ के निर्माण में विनिर्माण संबंधी खामी के संबंध में कोई मामला रेल मंत्रालय के नोटिस में नहीं आया है, इसलिए किसी के विरुद्ध कार्रवाई करने का प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

**Extension of Broad-gauge line from Darbhanga to Raxaul**

1938. DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for the extension of broad gauge line from Darbhanga to Raxaul to complete the triangle i.e. Muzaffarpur - Raxaul - Sitamarhi - Darbhanga; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The work is included in the budget and will be taken up after the clearances have been obtained, for which action has been initiated.