

States/UTs	2003	2004	2005	2006*
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	
Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	
Manipur	0	0	0	
Meghalaya	0	0	0	
Mizoram	0	0	0	
Nagaland	0	0	0	
Sikkim	0	0	0	
Tripura	0	0	0	
TOTAL:	225	134	66	548

*Date as on 24th November, 2006.

Brain drain from Railways

**144. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the brilliant and competent officers of Railways are leaving Railways in order to join the private sector companies;

(b) whether major projects like dedicated freight corridor are likely to be affected by this brain drain;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Railways to prevent such exodus;

(d) whether Railways have lowered the age limit for the Divisional Railway Manager from 52 years to 50 years; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) There are a few instances of Railway officers who have resigned/taken voluntary retirement from Railway service for personal reasons. As per available records, three officers have been allowed by the Government during the last 2 years and 10 months to take up commercial employment. However,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

this is a normal phenomenon and cannot be termed as an exodus or a brain drain.

(b) Indian Railways have a large pool of competent officers and no project is likely to be affected due to resignation/voluntary retirement of a few Railway officers.

(c) Officers have the option to seek voluntary retirement/resignation within the Service Rules by giving a notice to the effect. Railway officers resigning/seeking voluntary retirement is a normal process and this cannot be termed as an exodus requiring preventive measures.

(d) No, Sir. The present age limit for Divisional Railway Managers (DRMs) is 52 years.

(e) Does not arise.

Pesticide contents in cola drinks

*145. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the products of Coca-Cola and Pepsi-Cola contain pesticides which are harmful for human consumption;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against cola companies for manufacturing such harmful drinks;

(c) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has fixed any norms for the manufacturing of cola drinks and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the cola drinks, available in the market, meet BIS standards; and

(e) if not, the action taken to stop the manufacturing/marketing of such harmful products?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (e) The products Coca-Cola and Pepsi Cola are covered under the Standards of Carbonated Water, prescribed under the PFA Rules, 1955. The standards for carbonated water under the PFA Rules do not prescribe any limits for total pesticide residues. However, water used in the manufacture of carbonated water is required to conform to the standards