

Arising and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and Railways are committed to filling up vacant posts promptly as per laid down procedure. After streamlining the working of Railway Recruitment Boards, Centralized Employment Notifications in respect of about 40,000 posts have been issued to fill up vacancies, including posts of Assistant Loco Pilots and Guards. The process is presently on.

#### **Doubling of rail line from Surat to Bhusaval**

†3540. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether doubling of Tapti rail line linking Surat to Bhusaval is pending for years, and
- (b) if so, by when doubling of this line would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) On Surat-Bhusaval route, Jalgaon-Bhusaval is already a double line section. Doubling of Udhna (Surat)-Jalgaon section (306.93 km) with electrification has been included in the Budget 2008-09. The work has been taken up and 25 kms. of this section is targeted for completion during 2010-11. The balance work is expected to be completed in next 3 to 4 years subject to availability of resources.

#### **Train accidents in Tamil Nadu**

3541. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a major train accident happened near Vellore in Tamil Nadu recently in which many people lost their lives;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to prevent such accidents;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that many enquiry reports on train accidents have not been implemented in their true letter and spirit; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

**Increase in incidents of looting in trains**

†3542. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been unprecedented increase in the incidents of looting by offering intoxicating things to passengers during their journey;

(b) whether Government is taking any step to check the recurrence of such incidents;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) There is no unprecedented increase in the incidents of loot by offering drugs/intoxicants to passengers during journey. 765 cases have been reported during the year 2010 (Upto Oct.) in comparison to 947 cases reported during the year 2009.

(b) to (d) Maintenance of Law and order is a State subject and power to investigate in IPC crimes are vested with police. Prevention and detection of crime is the constitutional responsibility of the State Governments. Concerned Government Railway Police (GRP) registers the cases for investigation.

However, to provide better security to passengers in trains and in passenger areas, railway is supplementing the efforts of the state Government in controlling Crime on the Railways by deploying Railway Protection Force (RPF) staff to escort important trains in addition to trains escorted by Government Railway Police.

Following measures are being taken for the security of passengers:

1. 1275 trains are escorted by Railway Protection Force (RPF) daily on an average, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police (GRP) of different State. The train

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