

Shortage of manpower in RPF

595. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that shortage of manpower has crippled railway security with as many as 15,000 vacancies in the Railway Protection Force;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that out of 11,500 trains running everyday, security escorts of four to six personnel are provided to mere 3,500 trains; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Prevention and detection of crime and maintenance of Law and Order in station premises and trains is the responsibility of respective State Governments which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP). Railways, through Railway Protection Force (RPF), are supplementing the effort of State Governments in strengthening railway security.

Arising and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process. At present 12136 vacancies exist in RPF which includes 5134 newly created posts.

(c) and (d) Considering the vulnerability of the area and availability of manpower, the important trains are escorted by RPF and GRP in the affected and sensitive areas. 1275 trains are escorted by RPF daily on an average, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States.

Recruitment of project affected families by KRC

596. DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Konkan Railway Corporation (KRC) has conducted written test for the post of Accounts Assistant specially for project affected families;
- (b) if so, the outcome of the test;
- (c) whether it is a fact that some posts were filled even before results of the written test were declared and without an interview; and
- (d) whether it is also a fact that KRC has outsourced the work of this recruitment to an agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) 6 candidates have been selected as per the vacancies notified for Landlosers.