

**Committee to examine representation for creating
new zonal and divisional offices**

*205. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have constituted a High Power Committee to examine representations for creation of new Zonal and Divisional Offices;
- (b) if so, whether this Committee has examined the demand to set up a Divisional Office at Surat;
- (c) how many places have been selected in this regard;
- (d) the specific details thereof; and
- (e) by when this Committee would submit its report to Government?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. A Committee of Senior Administrative Grade Officers has been constituted *vide* orders dated 25.06.2012 & 06.07.2012 to examine the large number of requests received from State Governments, elected public representatives etc. for creation of new zones and divisions on Indian Railways, including setting up of a Railway Division with headquarters at Surat. The Committee after examining all requests in accordance with the Terms of Reference is expected to submit its report by July 2013.

Vacant teaching posts of SCs/STs in Central Universities

*206. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a huge backlog of vacancies in teaching positions under SC/ST - categories remains a constant concern with half of such posts remaining unfilled in Central Universities;
- (b) if so, the details of the unfilled vacancies;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to fill the vacancies through roster-system;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and