

Filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and there is always a lag between occurrence of vacancies and processing the same for filling up which involves issue of notification, holding examination, finalization of select panels and issue of appointment letters.

(b) The total number of employees as on 1.4.2013 is 1311959*, of which SC employees is 219682*, ST employees is 94,879* and Persons with disability is 8814*.

*** Provisional**

(c) The number of fresh face substitutes engaged directly by the General Managers in various Railway Zones in last 3 years is 1784. General Managers on Zonal Railways have been authorized by the Ministry of Railways to engage Substitutes in exigencies of services against vacancies to the extent of 10% in Safety Category and 2% in Other Categories, in order to avoid Railway Services getting adversely affected.

MOU to start Kendriya Vidyalayas

1071. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T. : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of MoU entered into by Railways with the Ministry of HRD to start 50 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) in civil sector;

(b) whether it is a fact that nearly 45 locations have been identified for setting up of KVs; and

(c) if so, the reasons that not even a single KV has been proposed to be set up in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) Ministry of Railways have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD), Harnaut (Bihar), Cast Wheel Plant, Bela for setting up 50 new Kendriya Vidyalayas during 11th and 12th Plan periods. Pursuant thereto, Ministry of HRD has sanctioned seven new Kendriya Vidyalayas at Carriage Repair Workshop (Bihar), Railway Campus, Nanded (Maharashtra), Railway Campus,

Rangiya (Assam), Freeland Ganj Railway Colony, Dahod (Gujarat), Krishnarajapuram Diesel Loco Shed Colony, Bangalore (Karnataka), Shakurbasti, West Punjabi Bagh (Delhi). These new Kendriya Vidyalayas have become partially functional in temporary/alternative accommodation. A list of another 43 locations has been forwarded to Ministry of HRD for opening of Kendriya Vidyalayas. No proposal was received for opening Kendriya Vidyalaya in Andhra Pradesh. However, five Kendriya Vidyalayas are already running on Railway land in Andhra Pradesh.

Quality of catering in trains

1072. SHRI VEER SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of serving substandard food/eatables in the trains including Rajdhani and Shatabdi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto;

(c) the total number of complaints received since January, 2013, till date, Zone-wise;

(d) the details of action taken thereon, including cancellation of contracts; and

(e) the efforts being made by the Ministry to improve the quality of catering in running trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY) (a) and (b) It is a continuous endeavour by the Indian Railways to provide good quality hygienic food to Railway passengers. However some complaints in this regard have been reported for trains including Rajdhani/Shatabdi Express trains. In case any deficiencies/irregularities in services are found, punitive actions are taken by the railways depending upon the gravity of offence.

(c) and (d) Zone-wise details of total number of complaints received and action taken thereon since 01.01.2013 to 31.10.2013 are given in Statement (*See below*).