

are not in a position to provide adequate funds to ongoing projects to achieve satisfactory level of progress. Against this backdrop, Railways are unable to take up conversion of entire network into Broad Gauge.

Group D and C posts in railways

2315. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Group 'D' and 'C' posts in Railways, zone-wise;
- (b) the details of posts reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs;
- (c) whether reservation policy is followed in Group 'D' and Group 'C' position; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The total number of sanctioned posts in Group 'C' and Erstwhile Group 'D' in Zonal Railways as on 01.04.2014 (Provisional) is as under:

Railway	Sanctioned Strength
Central	129844
East Coast	54924
East Central	99496
Eastern	139950
North Central	83159
North Eastern	65313
Northeast Frontier	76789
Northern	176037
North Western	62329
South Central	101839
South East Central	52184
South Eastern	99733
Southern	108397

Railway	Sanctioned Strength
South Western	42672
West Central	67144
Western	119386
TOTAL	1479196*

* Provisional.

(b) to (d) As per Government of India's reservation policy, 15%, 7½ % and 27% posts, reserved for Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) respectively is followed and ensured in every category on the Railways and shortfall, wherever existing, is made good through Special Recruitment Drives/normal Recruitments through Recruitment Agencies.

Survey of new railway tracks

2316. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new railway tracks taken up by the Ministry to start survey from different States from 2001 till 2014 budget;

(b) the consideration on which the Ministry decide or priorities survey of new railway link of different States;

(c) whether the Ministry considers for taking up new railway line in those States who lag behind from other States in railway network; and

(d) the proposals received by Railways from Government of Odisha, from 2001 onwards for taking up new railway links?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) A total of 757 number of surveys for new lines have been taken up from 2001 till 2014.

(b) Surveys are taken up on the basis of demands raised by State Governments, Central Ministries, Members of Parliament and other public representatives. The demands received are scrutinized and, wherever feasible, surveys are taken up. Surveys are also taken up based on requirement of railways for last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines etc.