

MoU for skill development and entrepreneurship

2189. SHRI A. U. SINGH DEO:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has signed any Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship to use the railway space and technical manpower to conduct skill development programmes;
- (b) if so, the details and salient features of the said MoU;
- (c) the extent to which shortage of technical manpower will be fulfilled on implementation of said MoU;
- (d) whether it is a fact that Railways have already been facing shortage of technical manpower; and
- (e) if so, how Railways will spare its technical manpower to conduct skill development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways will make available spareable infrastructure which are not operationally required by Railways for the time being to Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE). The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) through Directorate General of Training (DGT) and National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) would identify areas within Railway premises where MSDE will undertake skill development programmes for unemployed youth especially in rural and remote areas.

(c) The MoU is intended to provide skills to the youth of this country to enable them to find suitable employment opportunities in the country. The MoU is not intended for skilling Railway employees for enhancing their technical expertise as in house training is already being imparted to them.

(d) Railways regularly undertake recruitment for filling up of Technical vacant posts to meet its requirements. Occurrence of vacancies due to retirements and their filling up is a continuous process and some vacancies are inevitable.

(e) Railways would provide only spare infrastructure to the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, who in turn, through their authorized representatives would conduct Skill Development Programmes. Wherever Railway technical manpower can be spared beyond their normal duty hours, their services can also be made available on voluntary basis, if required.