

- (v) Clean Train Station (CTS) scheme has also been prescribed for limited mechanized cleaning attention to identified trains including cleaning of toilets during their scheduled stoppages enroute at nominated stations.
- (vi) Washing of bed linen (except blanket) provided for AC passengers is done after every single use. Blankets were being cleaned at least once in two months. Prescribed washing frequency of blankets has been recently increased to minimum once in a month. To improve the quality of washing of bed linen. 59 mechanized laundries have been set up in the Railways.

Appointment of safety-related staff

†4621. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of railway employees deployed on safety-related jobs happen to be quite low, which includes Gangmen as well as Gateman;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has formulated any plan to recruit or appoint more employees to deal with the problems like cracks getting developed in railway tracks, the faults in fish plates and sabotage taking place due to shortage of employees, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) As on 01.11.2017, over Zonal Railways, total employed staff in safety categories is 6,37,137 (Provisional) which includes 2,10,055 Track Maintainer, 10,946 Gateman(Traffic) and 5,474 Gateman (Engineering).

Sanctioned posts in all categories are more than the actual operational requirement as they also include an element of Leave Reserve and Rest Giver which varies from 30% to 12.5% in safety categories.

During the period 2014-17, a total of 62,773 candidates for various Group 'C' posts including safety category and 90,534 candidates under various level-I category including safety category were empanelled through Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) and Railway Recruitment Cells (RRCs).

Further, two employment notifications have recently been issued to fill up 89,409 vacancies in safety categories. Out of these, 354 vacancies are exclusively for Technician Grade-III (Track Machine) and 35,573 vacancies are exclusively for Track Maintainers.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.