

(a) the total indented vacancies of Level-1 of all Zonal Railways, production units and other workshops, etc. as on 1 August, 2016, as Railways, through CEN No. 2/2018, issued notification for filling 62,907 posts in Level-1;

(b) whether it is a fact that notification for lesser vacancies has been issued, if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reasons for denying opportunities to Course Completed Act Apprentices of other Ministries against 20 per cent vacancies reserved for them; and

(d) whether Railways plan to surrender posts for which vacancies have not been notified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No vacancy *per se* was indented on 1st August, 2016. Only assessment of the vacancies was done which were existing as on 01.08.2016 and anticipated upto 31.07.2019. These vacancies were around 1,25,000 in Level-1.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Railways has decided to fill up mainly those vacancies which are connected with core work of train operations and maintenance.

(c) Instructions providing preference in filling up direct recruitment vacancies in Level-1 posts to Course Completed Act Apprentices trained in Railway Establishments have been issued in pursuance of amendment in Section 22 Sub-section (1) of the Apprentices Act, 1961.

(d) No, Sir.

#### **Stoppage of Patna Rajdhani at Buxar railway station**

2557. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would allow stoppage of 12310/12309 Patna Rajdhani at Buxar station for at least two minutes, in view of inconvenience to general public and several Members of Parliament of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar who are compelled to board this train from Mughalsarai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Rajdhani Express class of trains are long distance fast moving prestigious trains, primarily meant for connecting National capital and State capitals

running on very tight timings with limited halts enroute. Proliferation of additional stoppages will decelerate the train and delay its arrival at destination. As such, presently there is no proposal to provide stoppage of 12309/12310 New Delhi-Rajendra Nagar (T) Rajdhani Express at Buxar.

**Appointments in the office of Chief Project Director of North-Eastern Railway**

†2558. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not making appointment/posting of officers in the electrical, civil and signal departments in the office of Chief Project Director (Rail Electrification) under the North-Eastern Railway and by when regular postings on these posts would be made; and

(b) whether it does not affect the departmental work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) There is no post of Chief Project Director, Railway Electrification under North-Eastern Railway.

(b) Does not arise.

**Modernisation of Railways**

2559. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the action taken by Government to modernise Railways during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the funds sanctioned for modernisation of Railways have not been utilized as per target fixed for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) It is the continual endeavor of Indian Railways (IR) to take measures for modernization under various segments of infrastructure and services – coaches and passenger services, electric locomotives, diesel locomotives, electrification, signaling etc., of Railways. Some of the steps taken during the last three years for the same are as under:—

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.