

1	2	3	4
6	Padrauna-Kushinagar-Gorakhpur (Sardar Nagar) 64 km	2017-18	Project has been included in the Budget subject to requisite approval.
7	Etah-Kasganj 29 km	2017-18	Project has been included in the Budget subject to requisite approval.

Completion of Railway project requires number of clearances from various Ministries and Departments of State/Central Governments. These, *inter alia*, include clearances inherent to land acquisition, statutory clearance and shifting of utilities etc, which are part of project execution. As many factors responsible for completion of a project are beyond the control of Ministry of Railways, it is not feasible to fix time frame for completion of all projects.

Empowering railway protection force

†729. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is seriously contemplating to further empower Railway Protection Force;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps in this direction; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) A proposal has been initiated for amendment in the Railways Act, 1989 which *inter alia* envisages empowerment of the Railway Protection Force to deal with cases of theft of passengers' belongings and to initiate legal action against accused persons apprehended for outraging modesty of women passengers. After completion of inter-Ministerial consultations, proposal has been forwarded to the Cabinet Secretariat for approval.

Vacancies in maintenance and inspection wings of railways

730. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are more than 60 per cent vacancies in the Maintenance and Inspection Wings of Railways;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of sanctioned posts, Zone/State-wise and the number of existing vacancies; and

(d) whether Government has any plan to fill up these vacancies at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Sanctioned Strength, On-roll Strength and Vacancy in Group 'C' and erstwhile Group 'D' posts on Indian Railways as on 01.12.2018 is as under:—

Zonal Railways	Sanctioned Strength	On-roll Strength	Vacancy
Central	124800	100642	24158
East Coast	55038	46114	8924
East Central	96678	78516	18162
Eastern	129930	109057	20873
Metro	4836	4027	809
North Central	82868	64012	18856
North Eastern	62850	48949	13901
Northeast Frontier	73555	57831	15724
Northern	171667	135660	36007
North Western	61492	45523	15969
South Central	96615	78700	17915
South East Central	54178	45491	8687
South Eastern	98436	82566	15870
Southern	103184	84276	18908
South Western	41540	35297	6243
West Central	65080	53516	11564
Western	114348	92664	21684
Total (Zonal Railways)	1437095	1162841	274254
Production Units	48069	41477	6592
Others	21274	16390	4879
TOTAL	1506438	1220708	285725

(d) Yes, Sir. Three Centralized Employment Notifications (CENs) for filling up vacancies were issued in 2018:—

- (i) CEN No.01/2018 for Asst. Loco Pilots (ALPs) and Technicians. (Total 64,371 vacancies). The 2nd stage Computer Based Test has been conducted from 21.01.2019 to 23.01.2019.
- (ii) CEN No.02/2018 for 62,907 vacancies in Level-1 (erstwhile Group 'D') posts. Computer Based Test has been conducted from 17.09.2018 to 17.12.2018 in multiple shifts.
- (iii) CEN No.03/2018 has been published on 29.12.2018 for filling up of 13,487 vacancies for the posts of Junior Engineers and others. The last date for online registration was 31.01.2019.

Redressal of cases and online filing of FIRs

731. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to allow railway passengers to file online, FIRs on railway crimes, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that redressal rate of crimes registered with Railway Police is very low, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of cases filed in Railway Police Stations, Zone/State-wise and number of cases resolved as well as number of cases pending, during last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Policing on Railways being a State subject, prevention of crime, registration of cases (FIRs), their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP)/ District Police. Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP to provide better protection and security of passenger area and passengers.

The issue of filing of FIRs online by Railway passengers was deliberated during the recent All India Conference on Railway Security held on 16.01.2019 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. However, Policing on Railways being a State subject, the issue to allow Railway passengers to file online FIRs on railway crimes, comes under the purview of concerned State Governments.

Further, cases of Indian Penal Code (IPC) crimes in Railways are registered and investigated by the concerned Government Railway Police. Railways does not maintain