

(b) if so, the total number of employees in Railways at present as compared to 2014-15; and

(c) the steps that have been taken to fill up these vacant posts so that efficiency of Railways does not suffer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) The vacancies of non-gazetted staff against sanctioned strength in Railways as on 01.04.2018 were 2,61,270. Total number of employees in Railways were 12,48,101 as on 01.04.2018 as compared to 13,05,449 as on 01.04.2015.

(c) Arising and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process. Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) are regularly providing panels of successful candidates to Railways/Production Units concerned. During the last three years, a total of 66,682 candidates (including 57,851 for safety category posts) have been empanelled for various Group 'C' posts on Indian Railways through RRBs.

Three Centralized Employment Notifications (CENs) for filling up vacancies mainly in safety categories were issued in 2018:—

- (i) CEN No.01/2018 for Asst. Loco Pilots (ALPs) and Technicians. (Total 64,371 vacancies). The 1st stage Computer Based Test has been conducted from 09.08.2018 to 04.09.2018 in multiple shifts.
- (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.

#### **Accidents at unmanned level crossings**

734. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taken any steps to avert accidents at unmanned level crossings; and

(b) whether Government is contemplating to install any equipment/device to avoid such incidents in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Indian Railways (IR) have been taken proactive measures to

ensure safety and prevent accidents at Unmanned Level Crossings (UMLCs) in the form of elimination through closure/merger/grade-separator/manning etc. on Broad Gauge (BG) network in a mission mode. As on date, all the unmanned level crossings on Broad Gauge (BG) have been eliminated on IR.

#### **E-catering service of IRCTC**

735. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the expenditure incurred by IRCTC on the e-catering service *vis-a-vis* the revenue in the last three years;

(b) the details of the passengers who ordered food from the IRCTC e-catering service *vis-a-vis* the target in the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to improve the IRCTC e-catering service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) The details of the expenditure incurred by IRCTC on e-catering services *vis-a-vis* the revenue generated through e-catering and number of passengers opting for e-catering services in the last three years *vis-a-vis* the target are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) The steps taken by the Government to improve e-catering services are as under:—

- (i) E-catering services have been extended to all 408 A1 and A category stations over Indian Railways.
- (ii) Provision of a user-friendly mobile version of website for booking of meals through e-catering has been made.
- (iii) Facility to book meals through Mobile App. (Food-on-Track) or by calling number 1323 is now available.