

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Railways is considering to introduce bullet train between Alwar district in Rajasthan and Delhi; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Indian Railways do not run trains on State-wise basis. However, during the period 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19, Indian Railways have introduced 02 pairs, 11 pairs and 11 pairs of train services respectively, serving the stations located in the State of Rajasthan *i.e.* in all 24 pairs of train services during 2016-2019.

(b) and (c) A Bullet Train Project, Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) of 508 km. length has been sanctioned by the Government at an estimated cost of ₹1,08,000 crore.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. As of now, only MAHSR project has been sanctioned by the Government.

Staff strength in railways

3937. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that operations of trains are in a fix due to the lack of sufficient number of employees in Railways, if so, the steps taken to solve the issues;

(b) the details of recruitment conducted in Southern Railways during the period 2014-19, category and division-wise details thereof; and

(c) the details of total staff strength, filled and vacant, of different categories in Thiruvananthapuram and Palakkadu Divisions?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Sanctioned posts in all categories are more than the actual operational requirement because they include an element of Leave Reserve and Rest Givers. In addition, a lag in recruitment due to cycle of retirements, promotion, placing of indent for new recruitment cycle, various stages of recruitment, is also considered. Thus, operational requirements of Railways are duly taken care of.

(b) The details of Division/Work-shop/Headquarter-wise recruitment made in Southern Railway during the period 2014-19 is as under:—

Division/Workshop/ Headquarter	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Chennai	1562	2069	1336	780	373
Trichy	628	832	537	314	108
Madurai	523	693	447	261	102
Salem	803	1064	687	429	121
Palghat	473	626	404	236	126
Trivendrum	642	850	549	320	136
CW Perambur	348	461	298	174	101
LW Perambur	90	119	77	45	41
Elect. Shop Perambur	4	5	3	2	3
Workshop/Golden Rock	476	630	405	237	106
S&T Podanur	54	72	46	27	22
EWS Arakkonam	0	0	2	2	
Headquarters	171	227	147	56	39
TOTAL	5774	7648	4938	2883	1281

(c) Details of total staff strength, filled and vacant in Thiruvananthapuram and Palakkadu Divisions of Southern Railway is as under:—

Division	Sanctioned Strength	Filled (On-roll)	Vacancies
Thiruvananthapuram	11099	9075	2024
Palakkadu	7908	6349	1559

Note:- During 2017-18, 1,51,843 vacancies and in 2019, 1,42,577 vacancies have been notified for filling up in Indian Railways.

Electrification of railway lines in Kerala

3938. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of electrification of railway lines and achievement made so far;