

Grand Total of Notified Vacancies

RRB	135215
Zonal Railway (Including Level 1 & RPF/ RPSF)*	179639
TOTAL	314854

**Representation from railway union employees against
privatisation of railways**

2203. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has privatised several railway routes in the recent past, if so, the details thereof, zone-wise and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government has received requests/representations from various quarters including Railway Unions against privatising the railway routes;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with action taken/being taken by Government on such requests/representations so far; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to protect the interests of the employees of Railways while privatising such railway routes?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) No, Sir. There is no plan for privatization of railway routes. There is a proposal to outsource the commercial and on board services of a few trains and to permit private players to induct modern rakes to run trains on select routes with an objective to provide improved service delivery to passengers. However, the responsibility of train operations and safety rests with Indian Railways. There have been a few representations from Railway Staff Federations along with their affiliated Trade Unions and other Trade Unions in Zonal Railways about passenger train operation by private players. In this connection, Railway Board has interacted with both Staff Federations on multiple occasions (*i.e.* on 02.07.2019, 13.08.2019 and 09.10.2019) to sensitize them and apprise them about background & advantages of the policy. There will be no impact on the existing employees of Railways due to above proposal.

Low occupancy of trains last year

†2204. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was low passenger occupancy in many trains including Shatabdi during last year;