

(d) if not, under what circumstances?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) and (b) 40 per cent of the vacancies are filled by direct recruitment from among Diploma holders through the Railway Service Commission and 20 per cent by selection as intermediate apprentice train examiners from among skilled artisans with 3 years service who are matriculates and not more than 45 years of age. They are given training for a period of two years.

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise.

Junior Scale Officers in Mechanical Department

2307. SHRI SURAJ BHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Junior Scale Officers in Mechanical Department of Indian Railways, Railway-wise, and stream-wise viz. carriage and wagon, workshop, loco and diesel;

(b) how many posts are filled by class II officers, Railway-wise;

(c) the number of Class II officers belonging to workshop, loco and diesel wing working against the posts of Carriage and Wagon Wing and vice-versa, Railway-wise;

(d) the points/depots/divisions of Indian Railway, where the post of junior scale officer of carriage wagon wing is sanctioned at present; and

(e) how many of carriage and wagon of class II posts are manned by carriage and wagon wing persons, Railway-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIA-

MENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Identification of Backward Areas for Railway Lines

2308. SHRI N. SOUNDARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified any backward areas for construction of railway lines, where adequate traffic potential exists; and

(b) if so, the areas so identified and what is the programme of construction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) and (b) No. However, the names of places where Railway lines have been constructed or are in progress in the backward areas have been given in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1329 asked by Shri Amar Roy Pradhan on 20th March, 1980.

Decasualising Casual Labourers

2309. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to decasualise the existing Casual Labourers by absorbing them permanently into the railways.

(b) if so, whether any plan has been drawn up for this purpose by each of the zonal railways; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, along with the number of casual labourers at present with each one of the Railways and the likely date by which the decasualisation would be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN