

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:576

ANSWERED ON:20.02.2003

VACANCIES IN SAFETY CATEGORIES

CHELLAMELLA SUGUNA KUMARI;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI;KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU;M. JAGANNATH

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any backlog of vacancies in rail safety category;
- (b) if so, the number thereof including SC/ST/OBC category- wise;
- (c) the time by which these vacancies are likely to be filled-up;
- (d) whether recently the Government have taken any decision on accountability in matter of safety after the Secunderabad-Manmad Express accident;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the action taken or proposed to carry out urgent safety work and induct anti collision device?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a) to (c) : Yes, Sir. Occurrence and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and filling up is by direct recruitment or promotion of serving employees. While a few vacancies are likely to exist in this continuous process at any given point of time, the policy of the Government is to fill up the vacancies promptly. However, the information regarding the number of vacancies as on 1.1.2003 in the safety categories is being collected and will be placed on the table of the Sabha.

(d) to (f) Yes, Sir. A special meeting of General Managers of Zonal Railways on safety was recently held where various vital issues were deliberated, including the following:

- (i) Enhanced financial powers to the General Managers for faster implementation of safety works.
- (ii) Intensive supervision and control at the level of the General Managers and the Divisional Railway Managers.
- (iii) More effective and intensive inspections.
- (iv) Making safety organization more broad based as recommended by the Railway Safety Review Committee.
- (v) Empowering Safety Branch to recommend punishments on the lines of the advice given by vigilance department.
- (vi) Installation of Anti Collision Device (ACD) on successful completion of field trials.