

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3860
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2004
ABSORPTION OF RETRENCHED STEAM LOCOMOTIVE WORKERS
Jagannath Dr. M.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to absorb the five thousand retrenched steam locomotive workers recently;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the manner in which their service are likely to be utilized?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) to (c): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3860 BY DR. M. JAGANNATH TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.12.2004 REGARDING ABSORPTION OF RETRENCHED STEAM LOCOMOTIVE WORKERS.

(a) to (c) : No Steam Locomotive regular worker has been retrenched by the Ministry of Railways. With the era of steam traction coming to an end on the Indian Railways, the Steam Locomotive Workers have been re-deployed on the Indian Railways system. However, there were numerous contract labours who were engaged in coal and ash handling activities related to steam traction. These activities are no more there and therefore the contracts have been closed.

The issue of absorption/regularization of contract labours including those engaged in coal and ash handling have repeatedly been considered by the Hon'ble Courts and the Government.

Based on the various judicial pronouncements and decisions of the Government, it has been decided that such contract labours may be absorbed on the Railways subject to need and their meeting the minimum requirement of Recruitment Rules.