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Title: Regarding the issues pertaining to Integral Coach Factory (ICF) in Chennai.

SHRI S.R. VIJAYA KUMAR (CHENNAI CENTRAL): Madam Speaker, Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai, the first of its kind set up in 1955, is producing various types of coaches in 500 different designs for Indian Railways and also for export. ...(*Interruptions*) It is befitting that ICF, producing 2,000 coaches per year, has rolled out the 50,000<sup>th</sup> coach in its Diamond Jubilee Year. In fiscal 2014-15, the production was 1,704 coaches, against the target of 1,696 coaches, being the highest figure in all coach factories in the country, and the target for fiscal 2015-16 is 1,950. ...(*Interruptions*) Recently, the hon. Railway Minister had unveiled the LHB (Linke Hofmann Busch) Unit coming under the Modernization and Expansion Scheme with a target of 285 coaches in 2015-16 and 600 coaches in 2016-17. No doubt, ICF's better performance is due only to better staff motivation and their dedication. ...(*Interruptions*)

Having said all these rosy things, I must bring to the notice of the House the sad plight of the staff. Drastic reduction in staff strength, no new recruitment for LHB Unit, redeployment of ICF staff in LHB Unit, etc., have created unrest among the workforce. ...(*Interruptions*) Also it is a matter of great concern that the Course Completed Act Apprentices (CCAA) of ICF for the past so many years have not been absorbed whereas in other Railways and other Central Government organizations, CCAAs of up to last year have been absorbed. ...(*Interruptions*)

Hence, I would humbly request the hon. Railway Minister to sympathetically consider the request of the CCAAs of ICF for absorption in ICF and LHB Unit or anywhere in the Production Units/Zonal Railways in the country. ...(*Interruptions*) Also, recognizing the contribution of the staff, grant of one additional increment and one free pass to all ICF staff with dependent parents may be given as a Diamond Jubilee Year gift. Thank you, Madam ...(*Interruptions*)