

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 575**  
**ANSWERED ON 29.11.2024**

**VACANCIES IN INDIAN RAILWAYS**

575#. SHRI IMRAN PRATAPGARHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of posts vacant in Indian Railways, details thereof department-wise;
- (b) Government's plan to fill up these vacancies;
- (c) by when the process of filling up the vacancies is likely to be completed; and
- (d) whether there has been any adverse impact on passenger amenities and services due to shortage of staff in Railways?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 575 BY SHRI IMRAN PRATAPGARHI ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 29.11.2024 REGARDING VACANCIES IN INDIAN RAILWAYS**

(a) to (d): Occurrence and filling up of vacancies are continuous process on Indian Railways considering its size, spatial distribution and criticality of operation. Adequate and suitable manpower is provided to cater to the regular operations, changes in technology, mechanizations and innovative practices. The vacancies are filled up primarily by placement of indents by Railways with Recruitment agencies as per operational and technological requirements.

After easing of restrictions imposed on account of COVID 19, two major examinations involving more than 2.37 crore candidates have been conducted successfully.

<b>Exam</b>	<b>Candidates</b>	<b>Cities</b>	<b>Centres</b>	<b>Days</b>	<b>Shifts</b>
L2 - L6	1.26 cr	211	726	68	133
L-1	1.1 cr	191	551	33	99

Based on these exams, 1,30,581 candidates have been recruited in railways.

The RRB examinations are quite technical in nature entailing large scale mobilization of men and resources and training of manpower. Railway overcame all these challenges and successfully conducted the recruitment in a transparent manner following all laid down guidelines. No instance of paper leakage or similar malpractice has occurred during the entire process.

Recruitment done in Indian Railways during 2004-2014 vis-à-vis during 2014-2024 is given as under:

<b>Period</b>	<b>Recruitments</b>
2004-14	4.11 lakh
2014-24	5.02 lakh

Further, as system improvement, the Ministry of Railways has introduced a system of publishing annual calendar from 2024 for recruitment to various categories of Group 'C' posts. The introduction of annual calendar will benefit the aspirants in the following manner:

- More opportunities for candidates;
- Opportunities to those becoming eligible every year;
- Certainty of exams;
- Faster Recruitment process, Training and Appointments

Accordingly, eight Centralized Notifications (CENs) for 58,642 vacancies have been notified during January to October 2024 for filling up of posts of Assistant Loco Pilots, Technicians, Sub-Inspectors & Constables in Railway Protection Force (RPF), Junior Engineers/Depot Material Superintendents/Chemical & Metallurgical Assistants, Paramedical Categories, Non-Technical Popular Categories (Graduates) & Non-Technical Popular Categories (Under-Graduates).

The Computer Based Test is scheduled from 25.11.2024 onwards.

Further, to ensure enhanced passenger comfort and safety, following measures have been adopted:

1. More than 80% of the reserved tickets are booked online through Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) website and mobile app.
2. Physical tickets can be procured through Computerized Passenger Reservation System (PRS) counters of Indian Railways which are available all over India.
3. Authorized ticketing agents like e-ticketing agents of IRCTC, Yatri Ticket Suvidha Kendra (YTSK) have also been engaged for dispensing physical as well as e-tickets.
4. In case of unreserved ticketing, various modes including digital have been provided to facilitate booking of unreserved tickets like UTS counters, Automatic Ticket Vending Machines (ATVM) and UTS on Mobile app.
5. Jansadharan Ticket Booking Sewaks (JTBS), Yatri Ticket Suvidha Kendra (YTSK), Station Ticket Booking Agents (STBA) are also engaged for disbursing unreserved tickets.
6. To improve ticket checking process and make it more transparent and user friendly, Handheld Terminals (HHT) has been provided to ticket checking staff.

7. Surveillance is kept through CCTV cameras provided in 9572 coaches in trains & 1051 Railway Stations for enhanced security of passengers.
8. On vulnerable and identified routes/sections, trains are escorted by Railway Protection Force in addition to trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different states.

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