

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3945**  
**ANSWERED ON 27.03.2026**

**SAFETY IN RAILWAYS**

3945 SHRI SAMIRUL ISLAM:  
SHRI PRAKASH CHIK BARAIK:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of total passenger trains equipped with fire-extinguishers; and
- (b) the details of the total vacant position under the safety category?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) & (b) The design of rolling stock is done keeping in mind various safety provisions. Further modification and up-gradation of coaches to enhance fire safety is a continuous and ongoing process on Indian Railways (IR). At present, all passenger trains have been equipped with fire-extinguishers.

Further, following measures have been taken for safety including fire safety in coaches:

1. Provision of Minimum two Fire Extinguishers in all coaches over Indian Railways.
2. Fire Detection & Suppression System has been provided in fire prone areas of Power cars and Pantry cars.
3. Fire and smoke Detection system has been provided in coaches as per extant guidelines.
4. Water mist type fire extinguishers are being provided on pantry cars and power cars in phased manner.
5. Provision of emergency windows in coaches for evacuation in case of fire.
6. Use of Fire-retardant material as per global fire-retardant norms in coaches for seats/berths, panels, flooring, insulation, toilets etc for improved fire safety.
7. Use of fire retardant E-beam cable in coaches.
8. Use of different levels of protection in the form of fuses, Miniature Circuit breaker (MCBs) and Motor protection Circuit Breakers (MPCBs) in the electrical circuits to prevent the damage from electrical faults/surges.
9. Provision of Aerosol based fire suppression system in electrical cabinets.
10. Further, up-gradation of material in line with global standards is regularly being carried out with fitment of new generation material in Amrit Bharat & Vande Bharat Sleeper trains.

11. Display of "Fire Notices" for widespread information in all coaches to inform and alert passengers regarding various "Do's" and "Don'ts" to prevent fire. These include messages regarding not to carry any inflammable material, explosives, prohibition of smoking inside the coaches and penalties etc.
12. Prohibition of flame based cooking in coaches.

## **Recruitment**

Recruitment done in Indian Railways during 2004-05 to 2013-14 vis-à-vis during 2014-15 to 2025-26 is given as under: -

Period	Recruitments
2004-2005 to 2013-2014	4.11 lakh
2014-2015 to 2024-2025	5.08 lakh
2025-26 till date	42,380

Occurrence and filling up of vacancies are continuous processes 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, mechanisations and innovative practices. The vacancies are filled up primarily by placement of indents by Railways with Recruitment agencies as per operational and technological requirements.

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.

Further, as system improvement, the Ministry of Railways has introduced a system of publishing the Annual Calendar from 2024 for recruitment to various categories of Group 'C' posts. The introduction of the Annual Calendar is benefitting 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

Presently, recruitment against 1,43,086 vacancies of non-gazetted personnel has been taken up on Indian Railways as per Annual Calendar 2024 and 2025.

During January to December 2024, ten Centralized Employment Notifications (CENs) for 92,116 vacancies were notified for filling up of posts of Assistant Loco Pilots (ALPs), Technicians (including Technician Grade-I Signal), Sub-Inspectors, Constables in Railway Protection Force (RPF), Junior Engineers (JEs)/ Depot Material Superintendent (DMS)/ Chemical & Metallurgical Assistant (CMA) (including JE Signal), Paramedical Categories, Non-Technical Popular Categories (Graduate), Non-Technical Popular Categories (Under-Graduate), Ministerial & Isolated Categories and Level-1 categories such as Assistants, Track Maintainers and Pointsman.

First Stage/Single stage Computer Based Tests (CBTs) for 92,116 posts have been completed. Details are as under: -

Exam	Candidates	Cities	Languages
1st Stage CBT for the post of ALP (18,799 vacancies)	18,40,347	156	15
CBT for the post of Technician (14,298 vacancies)	26,99,892	139	15
1st Stage CBT for the post of JE/DMS/CMA (7,951 vacancies)	11,01,266	146	15
CBT for the post of RPF-SI (452 vacancies)	15,35,635	143	15
CBT for the post of RPF-Constable (4,208 vacancies)	45,30,288	147	15
CBT for Paramedical Categories (1,376 vacancies)	7,08,321	143	15
1st Stage CBT for Non-Technical Popular Categories (Graduate) (8,113 vacancies)	58,41,774	141	15
1st Stage CBT for Non-Technical Popular Categories (Under Graduate) (3,445 vacancies)	63,27,473	157	15
CBT for Ministerial & Isolated categories (1,036 vacancies)	4,46,013	139	15
CBT for level-1 posts (32,438 vacancies)	1,08,28,261	152	15
Total Candidates	3,58,59,270		

2nd stage CBTs for the posts of ALP, JE/DMS/CMA and Non-Technical Popular Categories (Graduate & Under-Graduate) have also been completed. Details are as under: -

Exam	Candidates	Cities	Languages
2nd Stage CBT for the post of ALP (18,799 vacancies)	2,66,363	112	15
2nd Stage CBT for the post of JE/DMS/CMA (7,951 vacancies)	1,17,339	118	15
2nd Stage CBT for Non-Technical Popular Categories (Graduate) (8,113 vacancies)	1,21,931	129	15
2nd Stage CBT for Non-Technical Popular Categories (Under-Graduate) (3,445 vacancies)	51,978	79	15
Total Candidates	5,57,611		

Computer Based Aptitude Test (CBAT) for the post of ALP and Non-Technical Popular Categories (Graduate) and Computer based Skill Test for the post of Non-Technical Popular Categories (Graduate and Under Graduate) and Ministerial & Isolated Categories have also been completed.

Details are as under: -

Exam	Candidates	Cities	Languages
CBAT for the post of ALP	1,32,044	84	2
Translation Test for Ministerial and Isolated Categories	1,233	8	2
CBAT for the post of Non-Technical Popular Categories (Graduate)	13,616	38	2
Computer Based Typing Skill Test (CBTST) for the post of Non-Technical Popular Categories (Graduate-level)	30,341	58	2
Computer Based Typing Skill Test (CBTST) for the post of Non-Technical Popular Categories (Under-Graduate-level)	13,145	44	2
Total Candidates	1,90,379		

Panels for more than 42,000 candidates for various posts including the posts of Technicians, Junior Engineers, Paramedical Categories, Sub-Inspectors & Constable (RPF) and Assistant Loco Pilots have been finalised. Majority of them are in safety categories.

In addition, as per Annual Calendar for the year 2025, nine Centralized Employment Notifications (CENs) for 50,970 vacancies have also been issued. Details are as under:

CEN No.	Post Name	No. of Vacancies notified	Month of Notification
01/2025	Assistant Loco Pilots	9,970	March 2025
02/2025	Technicians	6,238	June 2025
03/2025	Paramedical categories	434	July 2025
04/2025	Section Controller	368	August 2025
05/2025	Junior Engineer (JE) / Depot Material Superintendent / Chemical & Metallurgical Assistant	2,585	October 2025
06/2025	Non-Technical Popular Categories (Graduate)	5,810	October 2025
07/2025	Non-Technical Popular Categories (Under- Graduate)	3,058	October 2025
08/2025	Isolated Categories	312	December 2025
09/2025	Level-1 posts (Including Assistants, Track Maintainers and Pointsman)	22,195	December 2025
<b>Total</b>		<b>50,970</b>	

First stage/Single stage Computer Based Tests (CBTs) for 19,595 posts have been completed. Details are as under: -

Exam	Candidates	Cities	Languages
1st Stage CBT for the post of ALP (9,970 vacancies)	10,03,719	141	15

CBT for the post of Section Controller (368 vacancies)	4,33,748	131	15
1st Stage CBT for the post of JE/DMS/CMA (2,585 vacancies)	5,74,351	133	15
CBT for the post of Technician (6,238 vacancies)	8,41,525	117	15
CBT for the post of Paramedical Categories (434 vacancies)	3,19,396	106	15
<b>Total Candidates</b>	<b>31,72,739</b>		

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