

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 240
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.01.2018**

BILL TRACKING SYSTEM

***240. SHRI C. MAHENDRAN:
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways has introduced a bill tracking system for contractors/vendors of Indian Railways and if so, the details along with the aims and objectives thereof;

(b) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government for increased use of information technology to go digital and online in order to promote transparency and efficiency in the system;

(c) whether the Government is aware of the fact that the contractors are not paying minimum wages to their employees;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the number of complaints received by the Government during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(e) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard along with the measures taken for ensuring online transfer of salaries of employees of contractors to their bank account?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COAL

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 240 BY SHRI C. MAHENDRAN AND SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 03.01.2018 REGARDING BILL TRACKING SYSTEM

(a): Yes, Madam. Indian Railways has introduced a bill tracking system for contractors/vendors. This has been done with the objective to use technology to promote transparency and efficiency in the system, time bound scrutiny and passing of claims of contractors/vendors. For tracking the claims, contractors/vendors need to register with the online IT platform of Indian Railway E-Procurement System to track the status of their bills.

(b): Indian Railways has introduced Indian Railway E-Procurement system, for procurement of goods, works and services, sale of material and leasing of assets through the process of E-Tendering and E-Auction. All the activities starting from publication of tender to acceptance of offer have been digitized. Further, an online Integrated Material Management System (IMMS) has been implemented across all Zonal Railways for procurements of Goods. All the stocking depots across Indian Railways have been interconnected which enables access to real time stock availability, details of contracts, annual requirements, rate etc. To further promote transparency in work's contracts, replies to the queries of prospective bidders are posted on Indian Railway E-Procurement System portal.

(c) to (e): No, Madam. Railways as Principal Employer ensures that the contract workers are provided facilities by the contractor as per the provisions of the Labour Laws including Contract Labour (R&A) Act, 1970 and minimum wages as notified by the Central/State Governments under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. Suitable instructions have been

issued to the Zonal Railways that the cases of violation of above laws, if any, should be dealt with in accordance with the extant provisions. Further, to ensure timely and proper payment of workers' wages, Railways have been instructed to launch campaigns to open bank accounts for contractor's workers and the contractors are also counselled to arrange payment to workers through Banks.
