

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4604
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.03.2023**

VACANT POSTS IN RPF

**4604. SHRI M.V.V. SATYANARAYANA:
SHRI SANJAY KAKA PATIL:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of attacks on trains leading to derailment or otherwise during the last five years;**
- (b) the number of vacant posts in Railway Protection Force (RPF) at present;**
- (c) the time by which these vacancies are expected to be filled and the reasons for the delay;**
- (d) whether the RPF is expected to use their manpower not only to facilitate smooth movement of passengers but to curb crime and process the mandatory legal provisions and proceedings of the Railway Act;**
- (e) if so, whether the RPF is overburdened; and**
- (f) if so, the steps being taken to ensure that the RPF is able to function efficiently in heavy loaded posts?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4604 BY SHRI M.V.V. SATYANARAYANA AND SHRI SANJAY KAKA PATIL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 29.03.2023 REGARDING VACANT POSTS IN RPF

(a): 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and, as such, State Governments are responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and maintaining law and order etc. on Railways through their law enforcement agencies viz. Government Railway Police (GRP)/District Police. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP/District Police to provide better protection and security of passenger area and passengers and for matters connected therewith.

Based on the data provided by GRP/ Police Stations, the number of cases registered in cases of attacks/sabotages on trains leading to derailment or otherwise during the last 5 years i.e. 2018 to 2022 are as under :-

Year	Number of cases registered for attacks/sabotages on trains	
	Leading to derailment	Not leading to derailment
2018	4	79
2019	0	66
2020	0	45
2021	4	55
2022	1	80

(b) & (c): Total number of vacant posts of Railway Protection Force (RPF)/Railway Protection Special Force (RPSF) personnel as on 01.01.2023 is 8817.

Arising of vacancies is an ongoing process due to retirements, promotions, deaths, resignations, etc. and the same are filled up through open recruitments and departmental promotions as per the existing rules.

(d): RPF is mandated to protect and safeguard railway property, passenger area and passengers, to remove any obstruction in the movement of railway property or passenger area and to do any other act conducive to the better protection and security of railway property, passenger area and passengers which is ensured by the legal empowerment to RPF under Railway Property (Unlawful Possession) Act 1966 (RP(UP) Act), Railway Protection Force Act 1957, Railways Act 1989, Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act 1985, The Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003. In addition, RPF takes action on immediate responder against cases of human trafficking through railways, rescue of children found in need of care and protection in contact with railways, action against transportation of illegal/ contraband item, providing assistance to the needy among others.

(e) & (f): The deployment and working conditions of RPF personnel are dynamic in nature and reviewed on regular basis and based on such review, rationalization of existing staff strength is made for optimum utilization of manpower and reasonable distribution of workload for providing security to railways and its customers.
