GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2151 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.03.2025

CONTRACTUAL/CASUAL WORKERS IN RAILWAYS

2151. SHRI G M HARISH BALAYOGI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details regarding the number and positions of contractual/casual workers engaged in the Railways, especially women, zone-wise;
- (b) whether the workers appointed as contractual/casual workers in the Railways undergo any police verification especially those engaged in passenger and other security roles;
- (c) whether any contractual appointments have been made for positions that are permanent in nature and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether these contractual workers are subsequently absorbed, if so the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the details regarding the safety measures undertaken for such contractual/casual workers working in risky conditions;
- (f) the number of contractual/casual workers who faced workplace accidents during the last five years, zone-wise;
- (g) whether such contractual/casual workers are entitled to any medical benefits, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (h) whether the contractual/casual workers are provided with any social security benefits, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (h) Indian Railways (IR) executes a wide range of works for creation, repair and maintenance of its various assets including stations, coaches,

wagons, coaching depots, locomotives, tracks, etc pertaining to various departments namely Mechanical, Commercial, Electrical, Civil Engineering, Signal & Telecommunication, Medical, etc. These works are executed through its own workers and/or through outsourcing. Outsourcing is done by Railways on need basis from time to time in order to improve the services and efficiency in operation and the number of works being done through outsourcing varies from time to time according to requirement. In the General Condition of Contract for Services, 2018, Police verification has been made mandatory of all outsourced staff.

Railways as Principal Employer ensures that the outsourced workers are provided facilities by the agencies as per provisions of Labour Laws and ensure compliance with the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 and minimum wages notified by the as Central/State Governments under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, and EPF & MP Act, 1952. Compliance of the statutory provisions is ensured through conditions incorporated in the agreements made by the Railways. Suitable guidelines are available for dealing with the cases of violation of the above laws, if any, in accordance with the extant laws and guidelines.

The agency workers and their families are granted treatment in railway hospitals and dispensaries as per the extant provisions.

All the outsourced workers are covered under Employees State Insurance/Employees Compensation Act, insurance policy, provident fund and other Social Security benefits admissible under Central Labour Acts.
