

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 649  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.12.2025**

**OVERCROWDING IN KOLKATA METRO**

**649. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINHA:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a steady increase in cases of overcrowding in Kolkata Metro and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government intends to increase the fleet of metros in Kolkata and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether it is a fact that Kolkata Metro is understaffed and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) whether the Government intends to employ more people in Kolkata Metro and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason therefor?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

**(a) to (d): Metro project in Kolkata started in 1972. The details of the Metro commissioned since then are as under:**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Metro Commissioned</b>
<b>1972 to 2014 (42 years)</b>	<b>28 km</b>
<b>2014 to 2025 (11 years)</b>	<b>45 km</b>

**Presently, four metro corridors of total 52 km are under construction in and around Kolkata out of which 20 Km is held up due to land**

**acquisition and utility shifting issues pertaining to State Government. The status of these corridors is as given below:**

<b>Name of Corridor &amp; Length (km)</b>	<b>Work Completed (km)</b>	<b>Balance Length (km)</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Joka – Esplanade (14 km)</b>	<b>7.74 km (Joka-Majerhat)</b>	<b>6.26 km (Majerhat - Esplanade)</b>	<b>Progress of Work was affected due to slow land acquisition and utility diversion issues by state authorities.</b>
<b>New Garia-Dum Dum Airport (32 km)</b>	<b>9.8 km (New Garia-Belaghata)</b>	<b>22.2 km (Belaghata-Dum Dum Airport)</b>	<b>Work progress is slow due to delay in traffic diversion permission from state authorities.</b>
<b>Noapara – Barasat (18 km)</b>	<b>6.77 km (Noapara- Jai Hind Airport)</b>	<b>11.36 km (Jai Hind Airport - Barasat)</b>	<b>Work from Jai Hind Airport to Michael Nagar is in progress. Work from New Barrackpore to Barasat (7.5 Km) is held up due to land acquisition and encroachment issues by State authorities.</b>
<b>Baranagar- Barrackpore (12.5 km)</b>	<b>Work is held up due to pending utility (water pipeline of Kolkata Municipal Corporation) shifting in the alignment by state government authorities.</b>		

**Regarding, New Garia-Dum Dum Airport project (32 km), New Garia-Belaghata (9.8 km) has been completed. The balance work from Belaghata-Dum Dum Airport(22.2 km) has been taken up. However, NOC from Kolkata police is required for temporary road traffic diversion at Chingrighata junction for launching of viaduct which is pending (since Feb, 2025) inspite of repeated chasing with State Government. The matter is still unresolved.**

**Regarding ridership Kolkata metro, after COVID, there has been a steady increase in the number of passengers travelling on Kolkata Metro from 16.89 cr passengers in 2022-23 to 20.81 cr passenger in 2024-25. To match the growing demand, the rakes deployed in Kolkata Metro have also been increased from 44 in 2022-23 to 55 at present.**

**Fleet of Metro rakes is increased based on increase in network and traffic requirements which is a continuous and ongoing process.**

### **Recruitment in Indian Railways**

**Occurrence and filling up of vacancies are continuous processes in 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 including Kolkata Metro. The vacancies are filled up primarily by placement of indents by Railways with Recruitment agencies as per operational and technological requirements.**

**As per annual calendar 2024 and 2025, recruitment of 1,20,579 vacancies has been taken up on Indian Railways including Kolkata metro.**

**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, Sub-Inspectors, Constables in Railway Protection Force (RPF), Junior Engineers (JEs)/ Depot Material Superintendent (DMS)/ Chemical & Metallurgical Assistant (CMA), 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 59,678 posts has been completed. Details are as under-**

<b>Exam</b>	<b>Candidates</b>	<b>Cities</b>	<b>Languages</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Stage CBT for the post of ALP (18,799 vacancies)</b>	<b>18,40,347</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>CBT for the post of Technician (14,298 vacancies)</b>	<b>26,99,892</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Stage CBT for the post of JE/DMS/CMA (7,951 vacancies)</b>	<b>11,01,266</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>CBT for the post of RPF-SI (452 vacancies)</b>	<b>15,35,635</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>CBT for the post of RPF-Constable (4208 vacancies)</b>	<b>45,30,288</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>CBT for Paramedical Categories (1,376 vacancies)</b>	<b>7,08,321</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Stage CBT for Non-Technical Popular Category (Graduate) (8,113 vacancies)</b>	<b>58,41,774</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Stage CBT for Non-Technical Popular Category (Under Graduate) (3,445 vacancies)</b>	<b>63,27,473</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>CBT for Ministerial &amp; Isolated categories (1,036 vacancies)</b>	<b>4,46,013</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>15</b>

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

<b>Exam</b>	<b>Candidates</b>	<b>Cities</b>	<b>Languages</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Stage CBT for the post of ALP (18,799 vacancies)</b>	<b>2,66,363</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Stage CBT for the post of JE/DMS/CMA (7,951 vacancies)</b>	<b>1,17,339</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Stage CBT for Non-Technical Popular Category (Graduate) (8,113 vacancies)</b>	<b>1,21,931</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>15</b>

**Computer Based Aptitude Test (CBAT) for the post of ALP has also been completed. Details are as under:-**

<b>Exam</b>	<b>Candidates</b>	<b>Cities</b>	<b>Languages</b>
<b>CBAT for the post of ALP (18,799 vacancies)</b>	<b>1,32,044</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>2</b>

**CBT for 32,438 vacancies for level -1 categories has commenced from 27.11.2025 in 140 cities in 15 languages. Physical efficiency Test (PET) for 4,208 vacancies of Constable (RPF) has commenced from 13.11.2025.**

**Panels for more than 23,000 candidates for various posts including the posts of Technicians, Junior Engineers, Paramedical Categories, Sub-Inspectors (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, seven Centralized Employment Notifications (CENs) for 28,463 vacancies have also been issued:**

<b>SN</b>	<b>CEN No.</b>	<b>Post Name</b>	<b>No. of Vacancies notified</b>	<b>Month of Notification</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>01/2025</b>	<b>Assistant Loco Pilots</b>	<b>9,970</b>	<b>March 2025</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>02/2025</b>	<b>Technicians</b>	<b>6,238</b>	<b>June 2025</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>03/2025</b>	<b>Para-medical</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>July 2025</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>04/2025</b>	<b>Section Controllers</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>August 2025</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>05/2025</b>	<b>Junior Engineers / Depot Material Superintendent</b>	<b>2,585</b>	<b>October 2025</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>06/2025</b>	<b>NTPC (Graduate)</b>	<b>5,810</b>	<b>October 2025</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>07/2025</b>	<b>NTPC (Under-Graduate)</b>	<b>3,058</b>	<b>October 2025</b>

**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 2004-2005 to 2013-2014 vis-à-vis during 2014-2015 to 2024-2025 is given as under:-**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Recruitments</b>
<b>2004-2005 to 2013-2014</b>	<b>4.11 lakhs</b>
<b>2014-2015 to 2024-2025</b>	<b>5.08 lakhs</b>

**Further, as a 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 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.**

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