

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3178
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.03.2026**

SC SUB-PLAN EXPENDITURE IN RAILWAYS

3178. DR. D RAVI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Scheduled Caste persons employed, trained and promoted by the Railways during the last two years;**
- (b) the details of SC Sub-Plan expenditure on railway infrastructure, station redevelopment and connectivity in SC-dominated areas;**
- (c) whether any special skill development/apprenticeship programmes have been launched for SC youth and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to improve safety, housing and social security of Scheduled Caste railway employees?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): The extant provision of providing 15% reservation for Scheduled Caste persons, in recruitments as well as promotions are followed in Indian Railways.

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.

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, 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 92,116 posts has 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 post (32438 vacancies)	1,08,28,261	152	15

Total Candidates	3,58,59,270		
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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) (3445 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 (18,799 vacancies)	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	30,341	58	2

Skill Test (CBTST) for the post of Non-Technical Popular Categories (Graduate-level)			
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 41,000 candidates for various posts including the posts of Technicians, Junior Engineers, Paramedical Categories, Sub-Inspectors & Constable (RPF) and Assistant Loco Pilots have been finalised.

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	Technician	6,238	June 2025
03/2025	Paramedical categories	434	July 2025
04/2025	Section Controller	368	August 2025
05/2025	Junior Engineer/ Depot Material Superintendent	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	22,195	December 2025

First stage/Single stage Computer Based Tests (CBTs) for 2953 posts has been completed. Details are as under: -

EXAM	Candidates	Cities	Languages
CBT for the post of Section Controller (368 vacancies)	4,33,748	131	15
1st Stage CBT for the post of JE/DMS (2585 vacancies)	5,74,351	133	15
Total Candidates	10,08,099		

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: -

Period	Recruitments	
	Total	SC category
2004-2005 to 2013-2014	4.11 lakh	64,224
2014-2015 to 2024-2025	5.08 lakh	79,115

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

The total number of employees promoted and Scheduled Caste employees promoted amongst them in Indian Railways during the last two years are as under:

Year	Total employees promoted	Number of Scheduled Caste employees promoted	Percentage of Scheduled Caste employees promoted
2024	121820	20887	17.15%
2025	136270	23383	17.16%

Indian Railways has a comprehensive training ecosystem with training centres across Zonal Railways and Production Units to provide skilling, re-skilling and up-skilling to employees at various stages of their careers. Irrespective of their category (SC/ST/OBC/General etc), all newly recruited or promoted employees undergo the same structured training framework at various stages of their careers. This includes Induction Training, for fresh recruits, Promotional Training, Refresher Training and Specialized Training, relevant to their respective fields of work. The training standards and opportunities are uniform for all employees, ensuring parity in skill development and capacity building across categories. Additionally, Indian Railways conducts Apprenticeship Training under the Apprentices Act, 1961 at units such as Production Units, Workshops, Loco Sheds, and Carriage & Wagon Depots, where reservation for SC/STs is provided as per rules, enabling youth to acquire skills and enhance employability.

Ministry of Railway is contributing to the socio and economic development of Schedule Caste communities by undertaking projects on pan India basis. The Amrit Bharat Station Scheme for redevelopment of stations with a long-term approach has been launched by Ministry of Railway. The scheme involves preparation of master plans and their implementation in phases to improve the stations like Improvement of access to station and circulating areas, Integration of station with both sides of city, Improvement of station building, Improvement of waiting halls, toilets, sitting arrangement, water booths, Provision of wider foot over bridge/air concourse commensurate with passenger traffic, Provision of lift/escalators/ramp, Improvement / Provision of platform surface and cover over platforms, Provision of kiosks for local products

through schemes like 'One Station One Product', Parking areas, Multimodal integration, Amenities for Divyangjans, Better passenger information systems, Provision of executive lounges, nominated spaces for business meetings, landscaping, etc. keeping in view the necessity at each station.

The scheme also envisages sustainable and environment friendly solutions, provision of ballastless tracks etc. as per necessity, phasing and feasibility and creation of city centre at the station in the long term.

So far, 1,337 stations have been identified for development under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme. Development works at railway stations under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme have been taken up at a good pace. Till now, works have been completed at 180 stations. The works at other stations have also been taken up at good pace and works in progress.

Further, development / redevelopment / upgradation / modernisation of stations on Indian Railways is a continuous and ongoing process and works in this regard are undertaken as per requirement, subject to inter-se priority and availability of funds. Development / redevelopment / upgradation / modernisation of a station is carried out based on category of station/condition/traffic handled etc.

Further, development / upgradation / modernisation of stations including Amrit Bharat Station Scheme is generally funded under Plan Head-53 'Customer Amenities'. The details of allocation and expenditure under Plan Head-53 are maintained Zonal Railway-wise and not work-wise or station-wise or state-wise. The fund allocation of ₹ 12,120 crore has been made for the financial year 2025-26 under Plan Head-53 and expenditure (up to January, 2026) of ₹ 10,657 crore has been incurred so far.

Railways' safety guidelines and welfare policies apply equally to Schedule Caste employees as per extant guidelines. In Housing, reservation of the 10% of Type I and Type II and 5% in Type III and IV railway quarters are made in favour of Schedule Caste employees in all areas where the number of quarters is 50 or more.
