

Doubling of Railway Line

3715. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals from Maharashtra Government for doubling of Railway lines during 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) the funds allocated for the proposed projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal for doubling of Surat-Bhusawal line has been received from the Maharashtra Government.

(b) and (c). The line capacity utilisation of the section is 79.4%; certain line capacity works viz. improving the sectional speed and raising of the standard of interlocking to Standard-III are in progress, which will improve the sectional running. Doubling of this section will be taken up as and when the traffic requirements so warrant, subject to availability of resources.

[English]

Mine Blast

3716. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of armed forces personnel killed in Kashmir due to mine blasts during the past two years;

(b) the details thereof, rank-wise;

(c) the steps taken to prevent such attacks on armed forces; and

(d) the compensation paid to those killed in such blasts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE-RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b). The number of Army personnel killed in J&K due to mine and Improvised Explosive Devices blasts during 1994 and 1995 (till 16.12.95) is as follows :-

Officers	-	8
JCOs	-	11
Other Ranks (ORs)	-	88
Total	-	107

(c) Well chalked out Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and special drills have been laid down and are being followed to minimise casualties of the personnel operating in counter-militancy environment.

(d) Casualties occurring during counter militancy operations are treated as battle casualties and the victims/next of kins are entitled to liberalised pensionary awards as also some other benefits declared by the Government of India including benefit of compassionate employment at par with war casualties. In addition, the State Government of J&K also pays an ex-gratia amount to the next of kins personnel killed during the operations against militants.

Allotment of DDA Houses

3717. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has ordered review of all quotas and reservations in the allotment of DDA houses for journalists, freedom fighters, destitutes, etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate scheme for the allotment of DDA houses exclusively for Central Government employees; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI R.K. DHAWAN) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Heart Transplantation

3718. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the second and third transplant of heart were successfully made in July 1995, in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences;

(b) how long after the second transplant of heart was made after the first transplant; and

(c) the reasons for undertaking the second transplant so long after the first one?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The second transplant of heart was done after 11 months of the first transplant due to non-availability of donor heart.