

(b) whether any funds were provided to the Government of Madhya Pradesh during 1994-95 and 1995-96 under these heads; and

(c) if so, the amount thereof and the details thereof?

4 THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No fund by the name of "Security Fund" exists on the Railways. However, funds for 'Security' are provided against minor head-100 under Demand No. 12-Miscellaneous Working Expenses. The sub-heads of account under this minor head are :-

- (i) 110-Railway Protection Force
- (ii) 120-Railway Protection Special Force.
- (iii) 130-Order Police
- (iv) 140-Miscellaneous Expenses.

(b) The allotment under these heads is made Railway-wise and not State-wise

(c) Does not arise

[English]

Appointments on Compassionate Ground

*96. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether a number of cases of appointment on compassionate ground are pending with the Railways for more than two years

(b) if so, the total number of such cases and the reasons therefor.

(c) the steps taken to provide employment to the dependent of the deceased railway employees and the time by which these cases are likely to be decided, and

(d) the number of such appointments made during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (d) Delays in making compassionate appointments occur due to various reasons viz the wards being minor, legal cases pending in courts and non availability of suitable vacancies

The Zonal Railway Administrations have been instructed to make all out efforts to provide compassionate appointment to all eligible persons as early as possible within the guidelines laid down for the purpose

It is, however, difficult to fix any time limit for the appointment on compassionate grounds as the same depends upon several factors like availability of suitable vacancies, availability of eligible wards etc

The number of persons appointed on compassionate grounds during the last two years and the number of cases of compassionate appointment pending for more than two years is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Late running of Trains

*97. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA :
SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the frequent late running of trains specially the long distance trains;

(b) if so, the main reasons for late running of trains in the normal circumstances; and

(c) the steps taken to monitor the running of trains on schedule?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) It has always been the endeavour of the Railways to run trains punctually. However, on certain occasions, trains get detained due to accidents, agitations/bandhs, alarm-chain-pulling, miscreant activities, fog/bad weather, equipment failures, etc. and lose punctuality. The punctuality performance of Indian Railways has shown an improvement from 87.6% in 1994-95 to 89.2% in 1995-96

The Railways are however continuously making intensive efforts to maintain running of trains to their schedules. These efforts include:

1. Setting up of special cells to monitor punctuality at the Railway Board and Zonal Headquarters' level and also nominating nodal officers to maintain the punctuality of trains and redress grievances of rail customers
2. On the Zonal Railways a punctuality meeting is held everyday by GM with the Head of Departments to identify eliminate causes leading to late running of trains. Similarly in the Divisions, A punctuality meeting is held by DRM with Branch Officers
3. Special punctuality drives are carried out periodically. During these drives running of trains is personally monitored by senior officers who travel on the locomotives of trains

Technology Mission on Dairy Development

*98. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state

(a) the year of the introduction of Technology Mission on Dairy Development.

(b) the States where this Mission has since been introduced and

(c) the development made in the dairy sector since the introduction of technology Mission in those States?