

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 849**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2023

**Elephants killed by speeding trains in Kanjikode-Podanur Sector**

849. SMT. JEBI MATHER HISHAM:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has noticed that several wild elephants lost their lives after being hit by speeding trains in Kanjikode - Podanur sector of Southern Railway, the data for last two years;
- (b) whether Government would direct Southern Railway to restrict train speed in the sector to less than 45 kmph to prevent such incidents;
- (c) whether Government will take urgent measures for the construction of watch towers at accident-prone locations, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government will have an urgent dialogue with Railways for implementing Artificial Intelligence Early Warning Systems to detect elephant movement, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) As per the information received from State of Kerala and Tamil Nadu, four elephant deaths have been reported in the Kanjikode-Podanur Sector of Southern Railways during the last two years.
- (b)to(d) Regular meetings are conducted between Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and the Ministry of Railways to discuss measures to prevent death of elephants due to train accidents including implementation of Artificial Intelligence and Early warning system, speed restrictions in vulnerable stretches and constructions of watch towers at accident prone locations. As per the information received from the State of Kerala and Tamil Nadu, two watch towers have been constructed at accident prone locations.

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