

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1890
ANSWERED ON 04.08.2023

DUTY HOURS FOR LOCO PILOTS

1890 SMT. RANJEET RANJAN:
SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) number of rail accidents that occurred in the last five years;
- (b) whether Government has a tangible plan to enforce strict adherence to the prescribed duty hours for loco pilots, considering the alarming increase in accidents caused by prolonged working hours; and
- (c) the initiatives and resources Government is allocating to expedite the filling up of the vacant loco pilot positions in different zones to alleviate the overworked conditions and potential safety risks?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

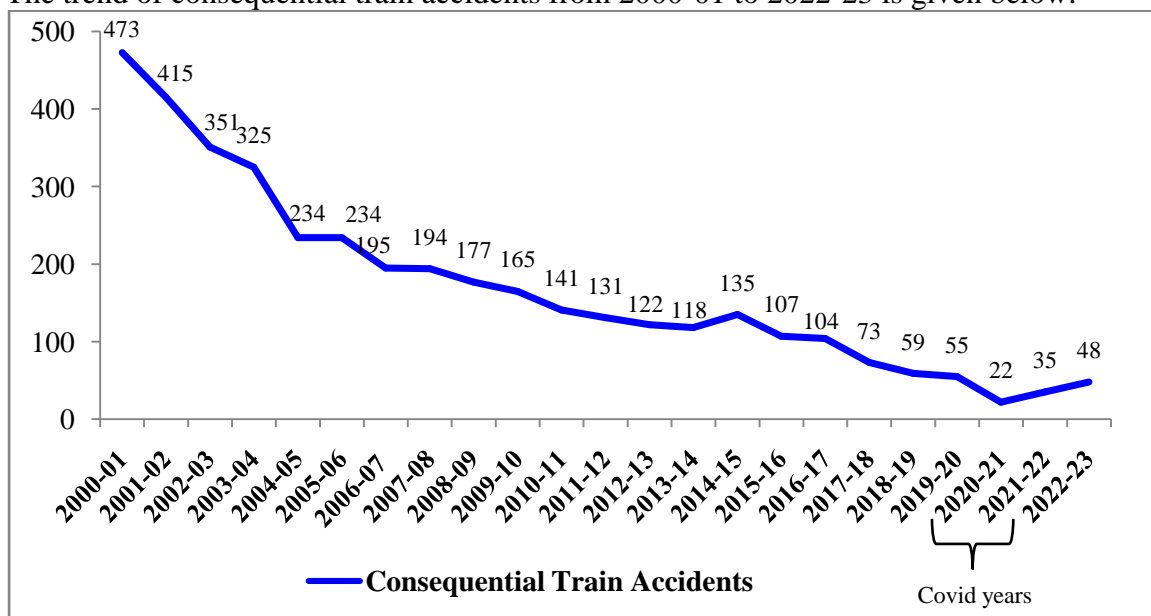
STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1890 BY SMT. RANJEET RANJAN AND SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 04.08.2023 REGARDING DUTY HOURS FOR LOCO PILOTS

(a) to (c):

1. A total of 219 consequential rail accidents have occurred in the last five years. Details are as below:

Year	No. of consequential train accidents
2018-19	59
2019-20	55
2020-21	22 (Covid Year)
2021-22	35 (Covid Year)
2022-23	48

2. The trend of consequential train accidents from 2000-01 to 2022-23 is given below:-



It may be noted from the graph above that there is a steep decline in the number of consequential train accidents from 473 in 2000-01 to 48 in 2022-23. The average number of consequential train accidents during the period, 2004-14 was 171 per annum, while the average number of consequential train accidents during the period, 2014-23 declined to 71 per annum.

3. Duty hours of running staff are prepared based upon Railway Servants (Hours of Duty and Period of Rest Rules 2005) formulated under the Railways Act 1989. This has been reiterated vide Board's letters No. E(LL)/2016/HPC/7 dated 13.10.2016 and No. E(LL)/2016/HPC/1 dated 28.11.2016 for strict implementation by Zonal Railways.
4. Occurrence and filling up of vacancies are continuous processes on Indian Railways. The vacancies are filled up primarily by placement of indents by Railways with Recruitment agencies as per operational requirements. Further, 35,373 ALP candidates have been empanelled by 21 RRBs during 2018-19 to 2022-23.