

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 116
ANSWERED ON 02.02.2024

LOCO PILOTS MOVEMENT THROUGH GIR FOREST

116 SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) to what extent perception that death of lions on railway track passing through Gir forest is routine and true;
- (b) whether it is a fact that loco pilots particularly of empty goods trains drive at high speed of 100 km per hour in Gir despite alerts issued by local forest officials about movement of lions on track;
- (c) whether loco pilots and other officials (TCs/Guards etc) have been advised sufficiently from time to time to remain cautious while driving through Gir forest, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the actions taken by the Railways on erring loco pilots and other officials?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.116 BY SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 02.02.2024 REGARDING LOCO PILOTS MOVEMENT THROUGH GIR FOREST

(a) to (d) Death of lion on railway track passing through Gir forest is not routine at all, there has been only one incidence of lion hit by trains in Gir forest in last approximately 9 years.

- There is no goods train movement in Gir Forest.
- In Visavadar – Talala (Meter Gauge) section of Gir forest, maximum sectional speed of 30 kmph is permitted due to forest area and train movement is not permitted after sunset. Permanent speed restriction of 45 kmph is imposed during night time between Rajula-Pipavav section. Besides, speed restrictions are imposed from time to time in case of identified movement of lions nearby Railway track. Loco pilots and Guards are regularly sensitized about precautions to be taken for identified animal crossing zones.
- Speed restrictions are strictly followed by loco pilots.
