

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5092  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2019**

**RAIL ECO-TOURISM**

**5092. SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal for rail eco-tourism;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) the amount spent for Nilgiri Mountain Rail service and the amount of income earned during the last three years along with the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to compensate the loss being caused to this heritage service; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**

**(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)**

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

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5092 BY SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24.07.2019 REGARDING RAIL ECO-TOURISM**

**(a) and (b): Certain tourism destinations like Ooty, Munnar, Thekkady, Thenmala, Courtallam, Mudumalai, Sunderbans, Gangtok, Darjeeling, Khajuraho, Nainital, Araku Valley, Kanha, Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserves etc. are covered as part of tour packages operated by Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC).**

**(c): The amount spent for Nilgiri Mountain Rail Service and the amount of income earned by Indian Railways during the last three years is as under:**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Earnings (D In crores)</b>	<b>Expenditure (D In crores)</b>
<b>2016-17</b>	<b>1.99</b>	<b>26.74</b>
<b>2017-18</b>	<b>1.82</b>	<b>28.00</b>
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>4.23</b>	<b>29.68</b>

**(d) and (e): Nilgiri Hill Railway is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and Indian Railways operates Nilgiri Mountain Rail Service for facilitating tourists of this catchment area. Though Indian Railways incurs losses on operation of this service, travel by tourists helps tourism industry in this region and in other parts of the country by generating economic activities and jobs. There is no proposal, at this moment, to increase the fares or otherwise compensate the loss to Indian Railways per se as far as this route is concerned.**

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