

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1049  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2023**

**NILGIRI MOUNTAIN RAILWAY LOCOS**

**1049. SHRI A. RAJA:**

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

- (a) whether Southern Railway has any plans to shift Nilgiri Mountain Railway locos which is based on coal and furnace oil, to diesel-powered engines;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the engines are likely to increase the speed of the Mountain trains apart from reducing pollution;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) whether adequate infrastructure has been made for maintenance of these locos which have received UN heritage status, if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Steam Loco Shed presently has a holding of 09 X-Class Steam Locos out of which 02 are coal fired, 03 are Diesel Fired and 04 are Furnace-oil fired. Converting furnace oil-fired locos to Diesel-fired locos is a continuous process.**

**(c) & (d) Increasing speed of the engines is not feasible at present.**

**(e) Yes, Sir. Loco Shed/Coonor under Southern Railway has the following infrastructure for the maintenance of the locomotives operational at Nilgiri Mountain Railway (NMR) system;**

- 1. Adequate maintenance machinery is available,**
- 2. Adequate supervisory and maintenance staff are posted in the loco shed for maintenance of locos.**
- 3. Periodic Overhauling (POH) of the locomotives is done once in four years at Golden Rock Workshop/Tiruchirappally (GOC).**

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