

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4279
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.03.2025**

PERIODICAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION FOR LOCO PILOTS

4279. SHRI S VENKATESAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the maximum speed of trains in the Country;**
- (b) whether average speed of train is increasing year by year, if so, the details of average speed for the last five years;**
- (c) the details of the norm for PME (Periodical Medical Examination) for loco pilots operating high-speed trains and number of trains coming under this category along with details of names of trains with numbers; and**
- (d) the details of the number of loco pilots of High speed trains getting PME every year along with intervals during the last five years; and**
- (e) whether only pilots getting PME are allowed to operate the trains with high speed and only after any deviations noticed and action taken, if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) and (b) Speed of train services is dependent on various factors like Maximum Permissible speed and gradient of the sections enroute, speed potential of rolling stock/Loco, availability of path, maintenance corridor blocks, permanent and temporary speed restrictions, signalling system, number of stoppages etc. Accordingly, train services are being charted at

the Maximum Permissible speed of section enroute, so as to ensure optimal utilisation of available resources.

(c) to (e) Periodic Medical Examination (PME) for Loco Pilots is carried out at a periodicity defined on the basis of age. PME is carefully monitored as per the defined policy across Zonal Railways to ensure continued fitness of Loco Pilots to discharge their duties safely. The established guidelines for PME (Periodical Medical examination) of Loco Pilots are as follows:

- **They are to be medically re-examined at the end of every four-year period from the date of appointment until they attain the age of 45 years.**
- **Thereafter, re-examinations are mandated every two years until the age of 55 years, and annually beyond 55 until retirement.**
- **If a loco pilot has undergone a periodic medical examination within two years prior to reaching the age of 45, then the next examination is scheduled two years from the date of the last examination.**
- **On the other hand, if the examination was conducted earlier than two years before attaining 45, then the next examination shall be on the day the employee turns 45, with subsequent examinations following a two-year interval until 55 years, and then annually thereafter.**
