

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3975**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.08.2025

**Death of Wild Animals on Railway Tracks**

3975. SHRI RAJA A:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of elephants and other wild animals died on the railway tracks, especially in elephant corridors, during the last five years in the country;
- (b) whether recently three elephants were killed by speeding express train at Kharagpur-Tatanagar section in Paschim Midnapore district;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether instructions were given to train drivers to be cautious about elephants crossing in the corridors and limiting the speed; and
- (e) the details of systemic preventive measures taken, including fencing the corridors to save wild animals in future?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

- (a) to (e) As per information received from State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, a total of 79 elephant casualties due to train collisions were reported by various states between 2020-21 and 2024-25. Information on elephants and other wild animals died on the railway tracks, especially in elephant corridors are not collated in the Ministry.

As per the information received from the State of West Bengal, three elephants including a mother and calf killed on railway tracks near Banstala between Jhargarm and Banstala railway station in Kharagpur-Tatanagar railway section on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, in coordination with the Ministry of Railways, has taken several measures to prevent elephant deaths on railway tracks including conducting inter-ministerial meetings. Speed restrictions in elephant habitats, pilot projects like seismic sensor-based elephant detection, construction of underpasses, ramps, fencing, have been undertaken at various locations.

Further, the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun in consultation with the Ministry of Environment Forest, and Climate Change and other stakeholders has published

a document namely 'Eco-friendly Measures to Mitigate Impacts of Linear Infrastructure' to assist project agencies in designing linear infrastructure, including railways lines, in a manner that reduces human-animal conflicts.

Capacity building workshops for Railway officials were conducted in 2023 and 2024 at the Wildlife Institute of India to sensitize them on various aspects of elephant conservation and protection.

A comprehensive report titled "Suggested Measures to Mitigate Elephant & Other Wildlife Train Collisions on Vulnerable Railway Stretches in India" has been prepared after field surveys across 127 identified railway stretches spanning a total of 3,452.4 km. Based on the intensity of wildlife movement, 77 railway stretches covering 1,965.2 km across 14 States have been prioritized for mitigation along with site-specific interventions. The report containing the details of the identified stretches and the mitigation measures has been also shared with the State Governments and the Ministry of Railways.

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