

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION No. \*267**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.01.2019

**Death of wild animals in rail and road accidents**

\*267. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

- (a) the number of death of wild animals in road and rail accidents in the country during the last three years;
- (b) whether recently some lions in Gujarat were killed by a speeding train;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any enquiry has been ordered to find out lapses on the part of forest officials or Railways for train not slowing down in the vulnerable areas;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) details of measures taken in the past and proposed to be taken to avoid death of wild animals in accidents?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

(a),(b), (c),           A statement is laid on the Table of the House.  
(d), (e) and (f)

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*267 REGARDING “DEATH OF WILD ANIMALS IN RAIL AND ROAD ACCIDENTS” BY DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY DUE FOR REPLY ON 07.01.2019.**

- (a) The number of death of wild animals in road and rail accidents in the country are not collated by the Ministry. However, as per information collected from the states the number of death of elephants, lion and tigers in road/rail accidents in the country as available with the Ministry during the last three years are given at **Annexure I, Annexure II and Annexure III.**
- (b)&(c) Yes, Sir. As informed by the state Government of Gujarat, 3 lions including two male and one female were killed in rail accident on railways track near Borala village of Savarkundla Taluka of Amreli District on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018.
- (d) & (e) Enquiry has been conducted by the state government. Concerned trackers, looking after the area where accident took place has been removed from the contract service. Concerned Forester and Beat Guard have been issued show cause notice.
- (f) The important measures taken by the Government to avoid death of wild animals in accidents are as follows:
- i. Wildlife institute of India in consultation with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, National Highway Authority, National Tiger Conservation Authority and World Bank Group has published a document namely ‘Eco-friendly Measures to Mitigate Impacts of Linear Infrastructure’ to assist the project agencies of linear infrastructure in designing the linear infrastructure in a manner which will reduce human-animal conflicts in the areas where these linear infrastructures are passing through Protected Areas and other wildlife areas.
  - ii. A general advisory has been issued jointly by Ministry of Railways (MoRs) and Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) on 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2010 to the General Managers of NF, East Cost and Southern Railways with a request to implement the suggested measures.
  - iii. The Ministry vide the D.O. letter of DGF&SS dated 28th December, 2016 has requested all the CWLW of the PE states to implement the precautionary measures to Minimize Death of Elephant due to train accidents.
  - iv. Protected Areas, viz., National Parks, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves covering important wildlife habitats have been created all over the country under the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to conserve wild animals and their habitats. Improvement of Protected Areas (PAs), including Elephant Reserves and Corridors is carried out regularly so that enough food and shelter is available for wild animals.
  - v. Regular and extensive patrolling by frontline field staff of the State

Forest Departments is done so that wild animals can be retained in their habitat.

- vi. SOP has been issued to manage tigers dispersing out in human dominated landscapes to safeguard humans as well as tigers besides reducing exposure of tigers to linear infrastructure.
- vii. The Social Forestry Division, Amreli, Gujarat has erected 80.80 km. chain link fencing on both side of railway track passing through lion movement area.
- viii. Adequate numbers of trackers has been deployed for day-night patrolling to watch lion movement around railway track.

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## Annexure-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*267 REGARDING “DEATH OF WILD ANIMALS IN RAIL AND ROAD ACCIDENTS” BY DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY DUE FOR REPLY ON 07.01.2019.

### ELEPHANT CASUALTIES IN TRAIN ACCIDENTS DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS

S. No.	State	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
1	Assam	3	10	14
2	West Bengal	5	3	2
3	Tamil Nadu	0	2	0
4	Jharkhand	0	2	0
5	Kerala	0	2	0
6	Odisha	1	0	2
7	Tripura	0	0	0
8	Uttarakhand	0	2	NR
9	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0
10	Karnataka	0	0	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>19</b>

## Annexure-II

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*267 REGARDING “DEATH OF WILD ANIMALS IN RAIL AND ROAD ACCIDENTS” BY DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY DUE FOR REPLY ON 07.01.2019.**

### **THE DETAILS OF DEATHS OF LIONS IN ROAD AND RAIL ACCIDENT DURING LAST THREE YEARS**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>By Road Accident</b>	<b>By Rail Accidents</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	2016	0	0	0
2	2017	1	1	2
3	2018	3	0	3
	Total	4	1	5

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**TIGER DEATH IN ROAD AND TRAIN ACCIDENTS DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Road</b>	<b>Train</b>	<b>Total</b>
2016	2	3	5
2017	1	2	3
2018	0	3	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>

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