GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 475 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2022

DEATH OF ANIMALS DUE TO TRAIN ACCIDENTS

475. SHRI ANURAG SHARMA: SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that increasing number of animals, especially elephants have got killed in train accidents over the last five years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of elephants killed during the said period; year-wise;

(c) whether the Government is taking/has taken any action in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the steps taken by the Government to prevent such incidents in future?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 475 BY SHRI ANURAG SHARMA AND SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 20.07.2022 REGARDING DEATH OF ANIMALS DUE TO TRAIN ACCIDENTS

(a) & (b) The details of elephants killed in train accidents during the last five years and current year are as under:

Year	No. of Elephants killed
2017	15
2018	26
2019	10
2020	16
2021	19
2022 (upto July, 2022)	07

(c) & (d) A number of preventive measures undertaken/being taken by Zonal Railways in coordination with Ministry of Environment and Forest for avoiding such incidences include the following:

(i) Imposition of speed restrictions in identified locations,

(ii) Provision of signage board to warn loco pilots about identified elephant corridors,

(iii) Sensitization of Train Crew and Station Masters on a regular basis,

(iv) Need based clearance of vegetation on the sides of the track within railway land,

(v) Construction of underpasses and ramps for the movement of elephants at identified locations,

(vi) Provision of fencing at isolated locations,

(vii) Forest Department staff deputed in Railway control offices to liaison with Railway and elephant trackers engaged by Forest Department for timely action by alerting station master and loco pilots,

(viii) Installation of Honey bee sound systems at locations, which are prone to crossing of elephants,

(ix) Counselling of villagers for avoiding cattle coming near track.