

At present, there is no proposal for introduction of train between Delhi and Kannauj/Farrukhabad.

Animal casualties on Siliguri junction-Alipur railway line

2009. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Railways are aware of the fact that many wild animals and elephants are often killed due to collision with trains on the railway tracks from Siliguri Junction to Alipur;
- (b) if so, the details of the last three years;
- (c) whether Railways are taking any concrete steps for the safety of these animals and elephants; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) :
(a) Yes, Sir. There have been unfortunate incidents of train hits involving death of wild elephants in the past in Alipurduar Junction-Siliguri Junction-New Jalpaiguri.

(b) Details of the train hits involving elephant deaths, in the area, in last three years is as under :

Year	Number of elephants killed
2009	1
2010	11
2011 (up to 5.11.2011)	4 (out of four, two wild elephants have been killed in non-forest area)

(c) and (d) Ministry of Railways in consultation with Ministry of Environment and Forests has issued a General Advisory to Zonal Railways on 30.3.2010. The advisory prescribes guidelines for Railways and Forest officials which will help in preventing such incidences.

As a consequence of General Advisory, instructions have also been issued to sensitize Train Crew and Station Masters on a regular basis and for need based clearance of vegetation on the sides

of the track within railway land. Elephant Corridors have been identified by the forest department, where, speed restrictions have been imposed and signage boards provided, to pre-warn the train drivers. As per advice of Forest Department, Railway is also attempting to find a more lasting solution in the matter through proposal for deposit works consisting of measures such as ramps and underpasses etc. Railway is also holding regular meetings with the Forest Department of State Government of West Bengal to take remedial measures for controlling elephant casualties.

Damage due to landslide

†2010. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways are aware that there has been extensive damage in Tindharia due to landslide on 29 August, 2011, including damage to railway colony therein;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Tindharia Railway factory is also unsafe because of such landslides; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Railways for the safety of said railway factory and railway colony?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) :

(a) and (b) Railways are not aware of any landslide in Tindharia on 29 August, 2011. However, in the region, there has been an earthquake on 18th September, 2011 and landslide on 29th September, 2011. These incidents caused damage to the Railway tracks and road between Rangtong and Tindharia, to the floor/walls of Tindharia Railway factory, and damage to quarters, community hall etc. in Tindharia Railway colony.

(c) and (d) There has been some damage in Tindharia Railway factory. However, the extent of damage is not such as to render it unsafe. Urgently required repairs to the factory and colony have been carried out.

Engaging retired personnel

2011. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.