

**Elephants killed by trains**

2200. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE:

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it a fact that the number of elephants injured, killed by running trains in the entire country including North Bengal have increased in the last five years;
- (b) if so, the year-wise details thereof;
- (c) the measures taken by Railways to curb the increasing accidents; and
- (d) the loss incurred by Railways due to such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The year-wise details for elephants killed by running trains in all Zonal Railways including North Bengal are as under:

Year	Elephants killed on the railway tracks
2015	10
2016	19
2017	15
2018	26
2019 (upto November, 2019)	7

Details of elephant deaths due to train hits in North Bengal covered under Northeast Frontier Railway are as under:

Year	Elephants killed on the railway tracks
2015	4
2016	0
2017	1
2018	4
2019 (upto November, 2019)	1

(c) A number of preventive measures are taken by Zonal Railways in coordination with Ministry of Environment and Forest which include the following:

- (i) Imposition of speed restrictions in identified locations,
- (ii) Provision of signage board,
- (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.

(d) No loss incurred by Railways for such incidents. However, checking of locomotives and track after the incidents result in detention of trains.

**Survey to complete pending railway projects by 2022**

2201. SHRI VAIKO:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have undertaken a survey to complete all the pending projects running behind schedule, in a time-bound manner, by 2022;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) what are the major projects pending in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Telangana for the last ten years or more; and
- (d) by when these projects will be completed, by providing adequate funds, particularly for Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu?