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Title: Need to limit the speed of trains passing through wild life sanctuaries and forests.

SHRIMATI MINATI SEN (JALPAIGURI): Hon. Speaker, Sir, railway lines passing through forest areas and sanctuaries continue to pose a real threat to wildlife.

Last year seven elephants were mowed down by a passenger train in Upper Assam before the engine derailed. An inter-city passenger train coming from Ledo to Dibrugarh hit a small herd of elephants leading to the death of at least two adult elephants and four calves. An elephant calf was fatally injured in a train accident at Mahanada Wildlife Sanctuary in West Bengal. Collision with the trains is causing death of many elephants in the 170 km stretch of metre gauge railway line passing through the forest of Mahanadi Wildlife Sanctuary and Garumara Wildlife National Park, Buxa Tiger Reserve, Chapramari, Joladapare Wildlife.

I urge upon the hon. Minister of Railways, through you, to take appropriate measures to regulate the speed of all trains while passing through forests and sanctuaries to avoid the death of wild animals.

MR. SPEAKER: Please be brief. Not much time is left.