

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.585  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.11.2019**

**NEW TRAINS TO NER AND AP**

**585. SHRI PRADAN BARUAH:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the newly inaugurated Bogibeel Bridge situated in Brahmaputra River is mainly used to transport goods and commodities to the entire North East Region through the Northern bank of Assam due to short distance and less traffic, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government is planning to start a new passenger train through this route for better connectivity of people of Northern Bank of Assam as well as Arunachal Pradesh to the rest of the country, if so, the details in this regard; and**
- (c) whether huge number of wild animals falling in the path of railway tracks dies due to improper wildlife corridor in the Southern Bank of Brahmaputra River and if so, the details thereof and the corrective action taken in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**

**(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)**

- (a) & (b) In addition to freight traffic, Indian Railways is operating 3 pairs of passenger trains service via Bogibeel Bridge. However, introduction/diversion of trains is on-going process on Indian Railways.**
- (c) The trend of wild animal movement in the Southern Bank of Brahmaputra, particularly wild elephants, is observed and in consultation with Forest Department and under advice of National Green Tribunal, elephant corridors are notified in Working Time Table and speed restrictions for trains (both passenger and freight) are imposed accordingly. This step has helped bring down the cases of elephant casualty.**

**In addition to above, the following steps have been taken to arrest the skirmish incidents of elephant casualties:-**

- 1. Clearance of vegetation on the side of railway tracks on regular basis.**
- 2. Provision of Signage Boards at all elephant corridors to warn Loco Pilots.**
- 3. Sensitizing programs for Loco Pilots/Assistant Loco Pilots and Guards with the help of forest department.**
- 4. Keeping railway track free from food waste which may attract elephants.**
- 5. Imposition of six permanent speed restrictions on the Kamakhya–Goalpara Town section of Rangiya Division and 14 speed restriction on the Guwahati-Lumding-Furkating section and Dharamanagar-Agartala section of Lumding Division.**
- 6. Imposition of temporary speed restrictions on receipt of information of elephant movement from Forest Department at places apart from the identified elephant corridors. At present, there are six temporary speed restrictions from Jugijan to Lumding.**
- 7. Several number of Honey Bee Sound System are installed at manned level crossing in North East Frontier Railway System, some of which are in the South bank i.e. on the Kamakhya-Goalpara section. This acts as a repellent for elephant to move away from railway tracks.**

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