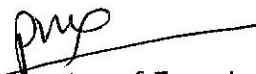


O.O. No. 02/WL/2016

Dated: 21.09.2016

General Advisory for mitigation of death of Elephants by train accidents under South-Eastern Railway in West Bengal.

1. Forest Department (FD) and SE Rly. Officers will coordinate regular monitoring of elephant movements near railway tracks along forest areas. The Divisional Forest Officer, Kharagpur Division would be the Nodal Officer for Kharagpur Railway Division and the Divisional Forest Officer, Panchet Division, Bishnupur would be the Nodal Officer for the Adra Railway Division. The Nodal Officers would procure and provide the list of the vulnerable forest areas, obtained from respective Divisional Forest Officers with Map and mention of Rail Pillar No. which are along rail tracks Division-wise to the respective DRM of Rail.
2. On request from Forest Department through Nodal Officers curtailment of velocity of trains (25km/hour) during elephant movement periods in areas specified has to be imposed by Rail to reduce accidents from sunset to sunrise. The withdrawal request when elephant move out of the vulnerable spots again has to be communicated by Nodal Officers to DRM office promptly.
3. The Divisional Forest Officers, in whose jurisdiction rails tracks pass would ensure clear visibility round the year on both sides of the rail track.
4. Railway in consultation with Forest Department shall put up proper signages along rail tracks at vulnerable points to ensure caution to locomotive driver.
5. Rail would organize awareness programmes for locomotive drivers, cabin crew, guards etc. with help of Forest Department.
6. Clearance of vegetation on the sides of railway tracks immediately preceding forest area and along with appropriate luminescent signages for pre-warning the train drivers to be ensured by Rail.
7. The sensitive sections of railway tracks should be illuminated through solar lights by the Rail.
8. In coordination with the Railway Authorities, Forest Department would ensure cleanliness along the railway track passing through forests for keeping it free from food waste from pantry and prevent water accumulation so that no elephant is attracted towards rail track.
9. Forest Department would help in organizing elephant/wildlife sensitization workshops for Railway personnel and providing information brochure in English / local vernacular in elephant sensitive zones to local rail staff would be ensured mutually by the Nodal Officers.


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife
& Chief Wildlife Warden, West Bengal.