

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 920
ANSWERED ON 06.02.2026

RAIL CORRIDOR THROUGH GIR FOREST

920 SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether plans exist for constructing an elevated rail corridor through Gir forest to protect Asiatic lions;
- (b) if so, the current status of the project, including feasibility studies, funding and expected completion timeline;
- (c) details of measures like underpasses, speed restrictions or IT monitoring already implemented following Gujarat High Court directives; and
- (d) the coordination mechanism between Railways and Gujarat Forest Department to ensure lions' safety?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): The existing railway network passing through Gir forest area is Metre Gauge (MG) section. For the safety of wildlife, the trains are operated at slow speed in identified lion passing corridor. Also, 2 Nos. of lion's underpasses are existing and work of construction of 5 Nos. of lion's underpasses has been taken up.

In addition, work for implementation of an Artificial Intelligence based Intrusion Detection System (IDS) for monitoring lion movement has been sanctioned covering 115 Km in the Damnagar-Pipavav section of the Bhavnagar Division of Western Railway, located within the Gir National Park and Lion Wildlife Sanctuary.

The system is designed to generate alerts for Loco Pilots, Station Masters and Control Room about the movement of lions in proximity of railway tracks for taking timely preventive action.

For the Co-ordination between Railway & Forest department, review committees i.e. Circle Level Committee, Divisional Level Committee and Range Level Committee have been established. The meetings of said committees are conducted quarterly, bi-monthly and monthly respectively. The issues discussed in the meetings are resolved proactively by Railways.
