

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4599
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2009
NILGIRI MOUNTAIN RAILWAY
Ramasubbu Shri S.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether due to heavy rain and landslides the world heritage Nilgiri Mountain has suffered extensive damage and its services stopped several times;
- (b) if so, its impact on the visiting tourists and the amount of loss incurred as a result thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Railways in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Due to unprecedented rainfall of about 1200 mm within 48 hours between 5.11.09 to 8.11.09 in the Nilgiri Mountain region, extensive damages have taken place in the form of land slips, boulder falling and blocking the railway track, heavy breaches and washing away of bridges. Boulders had fallen over the track at 116 locations and breaches occurred at two locations. Train services were stopped from 8.11.09. Approximate cost of damage is Rs. 12.64 cr.

(c): Restoration work is in progress. Restoration of traffic in Coonoor-Udagamandalam section is targeted by Jan. 2010 and Mettupalayam-Coonoor section is targeted for restoration by May 2010.