

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 26.07.2010
ANSWERED ON
DAMAGE CAUSED BY WILD ELEPHANTS .

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Shri Shantaram Naik

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :-

- (a) the number of incidents of damage caused to crop and human life by wild elephants reported during the last five years;
- (b) the areas where such incidents have taken place in Goa and the amount of the damage done;
- (c) whether the State Government of Goa has approached the Central Government to give assistance to prevent the menace;
- (d) whether there is any coordination among the State Governments of Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra in this regard; and
- (e) the details of joint action, if any, taken by the three States in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

- (a) Ministry has received report of 1767 human deaths by wild elephants during the period 2005-06 to 2009-10. It has also received report of 1,12,439 cases of crop damages during the same period.
- (b) As reported by Forest Department of Goa, 841 cases of damages by the wild elephants have taken place during 2005-06 to 2009-10 including death of 2 human beings. Most of the incidences have been reported from villages in the North Goa Forest Division like Ibrampur, Khutwal, Hassapur, Halarna, Talarna, Torxem, Revora etc. The estimated value of the loss of the crops in the damages has been to the tune of Rs.51.5 Lakhs.
- (c) No Annual Plan Operation has been received from Government of Goa for seeking financial assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Elephant to prevent the menace.
- (d)&(e) A Coordination Committee consisting of representatives of Forest Departments of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Goa has been constituted to take coordinated action to tackle the menace. The Committee meets as and when required and decides the course of action to be taken including early warning system to the neighboring States.