

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1793
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2023

Human wildlife conflict in Karnataka

1793. SHRI NARAYANA KORAGAPPA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been an increase in human-animal conflict involving wild animals, viz., tigers, elephants and leopards in the State of Karnataka, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether a PAN-India common policy has been implemented to prevent the conflict, degradation of natural habitat, fringe forest areas and protected areas, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether wild animals are straying into human habitat due to increased conflict with co-existing wild animals or due to increase in wild population, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) There are no reports in the Ministry indicating increase in human-animal conflict involving wild animals, viz., tigers, elephants and leopards in the State of Karnataka.
- (b) The Ministry has issued advisories to all States for better management of situations arising out of human-wildlife conflict. The advisories recommend various measures that may be adopted by States to prevent and manage such conflicts. These include habitat improvement measures, making fodder and water available to animals inside forests, coordinated interdepartmental action, identification of conflict hot spots, adherence to Standard Operating Procedures, establishment of rapid response teams, formation of State and District level committees to review the quantum of ex-gratia relief, issuing guidance/instructions for expedited payments, and provision of adequate funds for payment of ex-gratia relief to affected persons in case of human death and injury.

Further, financial assistance is provided by the Ministry to States/Union Territories under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 'Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for management of wildlife and its habitats and for mitigation of human-wildlife conflict in and around protected areas and also for conducting awareness campaigns to sensitize and advise the general public.

- (c) As a result of concerted efforts made for protection and conservation of wildlife, the population of several wildlife species like Tigers, Elephants, Asiatic Lion, Rhino etc. in the country has increased. Increase in population of wild animals may be one of the causes of human-wildlife conflict.
