

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1823
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2023

Human-wildlife conflict in the country

1823. DR. DHARMASTHALA VEERENDRA HEGGADE:

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

- (a) whether incidents of human-wildlife conflict have been reported from different parts of the country during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details of human death due to man-animal conflict in the country, including Karnataka, during the last three years;
- (c) the steps taken by Government for protection of wildlife and management of human-wildlife conflict; and
- (d) whether Government has sanctioned any amount under the 'Development of Wildlife Habitats (DWH)' for mitigation of human-wildlife conflict in Karnataka, if so, the details thereof during the last three years?

ANSWER

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

- (a) and (b) Incidences of human-wildlife conflict have been reported from various parts of the country. As per available reports in the Ministry, details of human deaths due to elephant and tigers including in the state of Karnataka during last three years are given at **Annexure-I** and **Annexure II**.
- (c) Some of the important steps taken by Government for protection of wildlife and management of human-wildlife conflict are as follows:
 - i. A network of Protected Areas namely viz., National Parks, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves covering important wildlife habitats have been created all over the country under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to conserve wild animals and their habitats.
 - ii. The Central Government provides financial assistance to State/Union Territory Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes 'Development of Wildlife Habitats, 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for management of wildlife and its habitat in the country.

- iii. The activities supported under the scheme include construction/erection of physical barriers such as barbed wire fence, solar powered electric fence, bio-fencing using cactus, boundary walls etc. to prevent the entry of wild animals into crop fields.
 - iv. An advisory on dealing with human-wildlife conflict has been issued by the Ministry in February 2021. The advisory recommends coordinated inter departmental 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 suitable portion of ex-gratia relief to be paid within 24 hours to the affected persons in the case of death and injury to persons.
 - v. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has also issued Guidelines to States/UTs on 3rd June, 2022 on managing Human Wildlife conflicts including damage to crops. It includes promotion of crops in forest fringe areas which are unpalatable to wild animals, agro forestry models which include cash crops like chillies, lemon grass, khus grass etc. suitably mixed with tree/shrub species. It also includes preparation and implementation of comprehensive long-term plan for alternate cropping by the state Agriculture/Horticulture Department under different schemes in vulnerable areas.
 - vi. The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 provides regulatory functions for dealing with human wildlife conflict situations.
- (d) The Central Government has released Rs. 2581.765 lakhs to the State Government of Karnataka from 2019-20 to 2021-22 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme - 'Development of Wildlife Habitat (DWH)' for protection and management of wildlife and its habitat including for mitigation of human wildlife conflict for activities such as creation and maintenance of water holes, elephant proof trenches, solar powered and chain link fences, planting of fodder crops for wildlife, removal of invasive alien species, rapid response teams, awareness generation activities etc.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) and (b) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1823 due for reply on 16.03.2023 regarding “Human-wildlife conflict in the country”.

Number of Human Deaths caused by elephant

S. No.	State	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
1	Andhra Pradesh	4	6	NR
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	2
3	Assam	75	91	63
4	Chhattisgarh	77	42	64
5	Jharkhand	84	74	133
6	Karnataka	29	23	17
7	Kerala	12	20	25
8	Maharashtra	1	NR	0
9	Meghalaya	4	6	3
10	Odisha	117	93	112
11	Tamil Nadu	58	57	37
12	Tripura	2	1	2
13	Uttar Pradesh	6	1	0
14	West Bengal	116	47	77

*NR-Information not received from State.

Annexure-II

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) and (b) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1823 due for reply on 16.03.2023 regarding “Human-wildlife conflict in the country”.

Details of Human death by tiger attack in tiger reserves in the States

S. No.	State	2020	2021	2022
1	Bihar	1	4	2
2	Karnataka	0	1	1
3	Kerala	1	0	0
4	Madhya Pradesh	6	0	1
5	Maharashtra	25	32	84
6	Tamil Nadu	1	3	0
7	Telangana	2	0	0
8	Uttar Pradesh	4	11	14
9	Uttarakhand	0	1	3
10	West Bengal	4	5	1
