

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3881**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.04.2023

**National policy on monkey menace**

3881. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that there is a need for comprehensive national policy to address the monkey menace as for want of such a policy, no concrete initiatives could be taken so far;
- (b) the total number of incidents of injuries and deaths, due to monkeys in the country, in the last five years with the district-wise breakup; and
- (c) the details of initiatives taken by Government, if any, including establishing monkey rescue centres, to meet the menace of the increasing number of monkeys in urban agglomerations and incidents on account thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a), (b) and (c) Management of wildlife and mitigation of human-wildlife conflict, is primarily the responsibility of the respective States/Union Territories. Under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Chief Wild Life Wardens of States can take measures to deal with human-wildlife conflict including problems due to monkeys.

The details of injuries and deaths due to monkeys in States are not compiled by the Ministry.

Some important initiatives taken by the Ministry to address the monkey menace in the country are as follows:

- i. Ministry provides financial assistance to State/Union Territory Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes 'Development of Wildlife Habitats, for management of wildlife and its habitat, which also includes a component on mitigation of human wildlife conflict.

- ii. The National Zoo Policy, 1998 and 'Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009', including 'Guidelines for the establishment and scientific management of zoos in India, 2008', issued by the Central Zoo Authority, facilitates establishment and scientific management of rescue centres for wild animals including monkeys.
- iii. 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 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.

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