

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 370
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2024

Strategies to prevent human-animal conflicts

370. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK:

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

- (a) whether Government has assessed the number of instances of human-animal conflict, particularly in areas around the Wildlife Sanctuaries and the National Parks;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including the number of casualties in the last five years, yearwise; and
- (c) the details of the strategies adopted by Government to prevent human-animal conflicts and also the steps taken to promote conservation goals with community welfare?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

- (a) and (b) Protection and management of wildlife is primarily the responsibility of State Governments/UT Administrations. The data regarding the number of cases of attacks by wild animals are collated at the State level. The details of human deaths as reported by States in the last five years due to attacks by tigers and elephants are at **Annexure-I** and **Annexure-II**.
- (c) The important steps taken by the Government to mitigate and manage human-wildlife conflict including creation of awareness among the people to avoid such conflicts are as follows:
 - i. The Ministry has issued an advisory to State and UTs on 06.02.2021 to deal with human wildlife conflict situations.
 - ii. The Ministry has also issued guidelines to States and UTs on 03.06.2022 on managing human-wildlife conflict including damage to crops.
 - iii. The Ministry provides financial assistance to States/UTs for conservation of wildlife and its habitats under the Centrally Sponsored schemes – ‘Development of Wildlife Habitats’, ‘Project Tiger and Elephant’ which *inter-alia* include payment of ex-gratia relief for loss of life and property caused by wild animals, awareness generation, training and capacity building

programmes on human- wildlife conflict. The Ministry has enhanced the amount of ex-gratia relief in case of death or permanent incapacitation from Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 10 Lakhs due to wild animal attacks during December 2023.

- iv. The Ministry has released species-specific guidelines on 21.03.2023 for mitigation of conflicts arising from various wild animals namely Elephant, Gaur, Leopard, Snake, Crocodile, Rhesus Macaque, Wild Pig, Bear, Blue Bull and Blackbuck. Guidelines were also issued for cross cutting issues such as cooperation between the forest and media sector; occupational health and safety in the context of human-wildlife conflict mitigation; crowd management in human-wildlife conflict related situations and addressing health emergencies and potential health risks arising out of human-wildlife conflict situations.
- v. 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.
- vi. In accordance with provisions contained under Section 33 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Ministry has issued guidelines for the process of management planning for Protected Areas and other process of management planning for Protected Areas and other landscape elements. These guidelines also envisage human-wildlife conflict management.
- vii. The National Tiger Conservation Authority has issued SOPs to deal with human-tiger conflict.
- viii. Advance technology like radio collaring, E-surveillance are also used in human wildlife conflict mitigation.
- ix. The local communities are involved in conservation measures through eco-development activities.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) and (b) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question no. 370 due for reply on 25.07.2024 regarding 'Strategies to prevent human-animal conflicts'

Number of Human Deaths caused by the Tiger Attack

S. No.	State	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0	0	NR
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	NR
3	Assam	0	0	0	0	NR
4	Bihar	0	1	4	9	NR
5	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	0	3
6	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	NR
7	Karnataka	4	0	1	1	8
8	Madhya Pradesh	1	11	2	3	10
9	Maharashtra	26	25	32	82	35
10	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	NR
11	Orissa	0	0	0	0	NR
12	Rajasthan	5	0	0	0	NR
13	Tamil Nadu	0	1	3	0	1
14	Telangana	0	2	0	0	NR
15	Uttar Pradesh	8	4	11	11	25
16	Uttarakhand	2	0	1	3	NR
17	West Bengal	3	5	5	1	NR
TOTAL		49	49	59	110	82

*NR- Information not received from State.

Annexure-II

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) and (b) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question no. 370 due for reply on 25.07.2024 regarding 'Strategies to prevent human-animal conflicts'

Number of Human Deaths caused by elephant

S.No.	State	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
1	Andhra Pradesh	4	6	NR	5	6
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	2	0	0
3	Assam	75	91	63	80	74
4	Chhattisgarh	77	42	64	69	51
5	Jharkhand	84	74	133	96	87
6	Karnataka	30	26	27	29	48
7	Kerala	13	27	35	27	22
8	Maharashtra	1	NR	0	2	5
9	Meghalaya	4	6	3	3	7
10	Nagaland	0	0	2	1	1
11	Odisha	117	93	112	148	154
12	Tamil Nadu	58	57	37	43	61
13	Tripura	2	1	2	2	1
14	Uttar Pradesh	6	1	0	4	4
15	Uttarakhand	NR	NR	NR	4	8
16	West Bengal	116	47	77	97	99
Total		587	471	557	610	628

* NR- Information not received from State.

* Data also include human deaths outside Forest Area.