

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 287
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 27.03.2025

Human-animal conflict in Kerala

287*. SMT. P. T. USHA:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of increasing human-animal conflict in Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details of the total number of human lives lost in the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the steps being taken to prevent the human-animal conflict and the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has further decided to enhance the quantum of compensation to the families of the deceased and injured; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *287 REGARDING “HUMAN ANIMAL CONFLICT IN KERALA” BY SMT. P. T. USHA FOR REPLY ON 27.03.2025.

- (a) and (b) Incidences of human-wildlife conflict have been reported from various parts of the country including Kerala. As per the information received from the State Government of Kerala, the total number of human deaths due to human-wild animal conflict in Kerala during the last three years and the current year is furnished below:

Year	Elephant	Wild pig	Gaur	Tiger	Snake	Others	Total
2021-22	35	6	3	1	65	3	113
2022-23	27	7	1	1	48	5	89
2023-24	22	11	4	1	34	4	76
2024-2025	19	11	1	1	33	1	66
Total	103	35	9	4	180	13	344

- (c) The important steps taken by Government for protection of wildlife and to address human-wildlife conflict include the following:
- i. The Central Government provides financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes, ‘Development of Wildlife Habitats’ and ‘Project Tiger and Elephant’ for management of wildlife and its habitat including management of human-wildlife conflict in the country. The activities supported under the schemes include construction/erection of physical barriers such as solar powered electric fence, bio-fencing, boundary walls etc. to prevent the entry of wild animals into crop fields, payment of ex-gratia relief to the victims of human-wildlife conflicts.
 - ii. An advisory on dealing with human-wildlife conflict has been issued by the Ministry in February 2021. The Ministry has also issued guidelines to States/UTs on 3rd June, 2022 on managing human-wildlife conflicts including damage to crops.
 - iii. The Ministry has also issued species-specific guidelines to deal with human-wildlife conflict situations on 21.03.2023.
 - iv. The Section 11 (1) (a) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, empowers the State Chief Wild Life Wardens to grant permits for hunting animals falling in Schedule I of the Act, which become dangerous to human life. Further, the Section 11 (1) (b) of the Act empowers State Chief Wild Life Warden or any authorized officer to grant permits for hunting of wild animals falling under Schedule-II of the Act, if such animals have become dangerous to human life or property.
 - v. A network of protected areas namely, National Parks, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves covering important wildlife habitat 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 landscape elements.

(d) and (e) The Ministry has enhanced the amount of ex-gratia relief payable in case of death or permanent incapacitation due to wild animal attacks from Rs. 5 lakhs to 10 lakhs under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme- Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats during December 2023.
