

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 44**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.01.2026

**Human-wildlife conflict**

44. SMT. SUNETRA AJIT PAWAR:

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

- (a) whether Government is considering to make sensor-based warning systems and thermal drones mandatory to stop human-wildlife conflict;
- (b) whether specific budgetary provisions have been made for construction of water reservoirs within forests, removal of invasive vegetation and creation of eco-bridges and underpasses in elephant corridors;
- (c) whether Government would issue guidelines to increase compensation for crop damage or loss of human life in accordance with market rates and to ensure digital payment within 48–72 hours; and
- (d) the details of sterilization operation to control the population of monkeys and dogs in urban areas and local participation initiatives such as ‘Van-Mitra’ in rural areas?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c) Protection and management of wild animals and their habitats, including management of human wildlife conflict is primarily the responsibility of the concerned States/Union Territories. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has issued an advisory on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2021 to the States/Union Territories for dealing with the Human Wildlife Conflicts which, *inter-alia*, includes identification of hotspots using GIS based MIS platform, adoption of early warning systems using scientific technology, establishment of Rapid Response Teams, developing ecologically sustainable linear infrastructure, augmentation of fodder and drinking water in forest areas, involvement of Gram Panchayat, provision for financial resources, formation of State and District level committees to review the quantum of ex-gratia relief for its expeditious payments, issuing guidance and instructions for expedited relief payments, preferably within 24 hours to the affected persons, in the case of death and injury to persons, damage to crop and livestock, etc.

The Ministry has also issued guidelines to the States/Union Territories, on managing human wildlife conflict including damage to crops, on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022, which also provides for *ex-gratia* relief payment. The Ministry has also issued species-specific guidelines to deal with human-wildlife conflict situations on 21.03.2023 for mitigation of Human Wildlife conflicts involving Elephant, Gaur, Leopard, Snake, Crocodile, Rhesus Macaque, Wild Pig, Bear, Blue Bull and Blackbuck.

The Central Government provides financial assistance to State/Union Territory Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes, 'Development of Wildlife Habitats' and 'Project Tiger and Elephant' for management of wildlife and its habitat including support for broad activities like-compensation for depredation by wild animals and construction of physical barriers such as barbed wire fence, solar powered electric fence, bio-fencing using cactus, boundary wall etc. to prevent the entry of wild animals into crop fields, capacity building and also provides ex gratia relief to the victims of human-wildlife conflicts. The States/Union Territories make ex-gratia payments for loss of livestock, crops and human life including injuries due to human-wildlife conflicts as per the norms, which vary from State to State.

(d) The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, empowers the State Chief Wild Life Wardens to grant permits for hunting animals in Schedule I of the Act, which become dangerous to human life. Further, it also 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. In addition, the Government has notified the Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023 on 10th March, 2023 under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act, 1960, which is implemented by the concerned States/Union Territories.