

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2150
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.08.2026

Mitigating heat impact on wildlife

2150. SMT. RANJEET RANJAN:

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

- (a) the State/UT-wise, year-wise and species-wise details of wildlife deaths linked to heat waves, heat stress, dehydration or water scarcity, since 2021;
- (b) the State/UT-wise number of incidents of mass mortality or distress among wild animals and birds attributed to extreme heat conditions, since 2021;
- (c) the measures taken to provide water sources, habitat management and emergency response mechanisms for wildlife during periods of extreme heat; and
- (d) whether Government has formulated any national strategy to mitigate the impact of climate change and heat waves on wildlife and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): The protection, conservation and management of wildlife and its habitats are primarily the responsibility of the respective State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, which also includes the collation of data pertaining to wild animal mortality events. As per information received from the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, no incidents of mass mortality or distress among wild animals due to extreme heat conditions have been reported.

(c) and (d): Management of wildlife and its habitats is undertaken in accordance with the approved Management Plan, Tiger Conservation Plan or Working Plan, as applicable. These plans include specific provisions for water and habitat management, along with suitable interventions to address pinch periods. To enable these efforts, this Ministry, has issued guidelines for preparation of Management Plans under Section 33 and Tiger Conservation Plans under Section 38V of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. Financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for implementation of these plans under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Development of Wildlife Habitats, and Project Tiger and Elephant.

Further, this Ministry has also issued an advisory to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to enhance preparedness and strengthen measures for managing the impacts of heat waves on wildlife and their habitats.
