GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. *179 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.12.2017

Transgression of Wild Animals into Human Settlements

*179. SHRI M. CHANDRAKASI:

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

- (a) whether incidence of transgression of wild animals into human settlements has shown an increasing trend and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether wild animals come out of forests in search of food and water due to its scarcity in forests and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details regarding availability of food and water in reserved/protected forests in the country as compared to that in sanctuaries/national parks; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken to prevent man-animal conflicts due to food and water scarcity in forest areas?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a), (b), (c) and (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c) and (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*179 REGARDING "TRANSGRESSION OF WILD ANIMALS INTO HUMAN SETTLEMENTS" BY SHRI M. CHANDRAKASI DUE FOR REPLY ON 29.12.2017

- (a) Incidents of movement of wild animals into human settlements have been reported to the Ministry. However, no specific increasing trend in such movement is collated in the Ministry.
- (b) Wild animals occasionally move out of forest areas and enter into human habitations due to various reasons, like- their migratory nature, availability of palatable food outside forest areas, scarcity of food and water within the forests, degraded & fragmented habitats, age and territorial fights etc.
- (c) The management of National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries and other Protected Areas is carried out by the concerned State/Union Territory Forest Department wherein they take adequate steps to develop and augment fodder and water resources for the wild animals. The details regarding comparison of availability of food and water in reserved/protected forests in the country to that in National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries is not maintained at the level of MoEF&CC.
- (d) The Government has taken following remedial measures to prevent mananimal conflicts due to food and water scarcity in forest areas:
 - (i) Ministry through its Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) namely 'Project Tiger', 'Project Elephant' and 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (IDWH)' provides funds to States and UTs for carrying various activities for habitat improvement works namely restoration of natural water bodies, creation of artificial ponds, waterholes, augmenting food/fodder sources at various places within Protected Areas to minimize the human animal conflict.
 - (ii) Ministry has also formulated a scheme 'Augmentation of Fodder & Water Scheme in Protected Areas/Forest Areas' under central component of the fund managed by Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA). The scheme is primarily for augmentation of fodder and water sources for wild herbivores within the Protected Area/Forests where degraded habitat is known to be the cause of significant human-wildlife conflict.
 - (iii) The Ministry has issued guidelines in context of human-wildlife conflict to the Chief Wildlife Wardens of all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations dated 24th December, 2014 and 1st June, 2015.
