

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1902**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2018

**Damage by Wild Animals**

1902. SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:

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

- (a) the mechanism in place for compensating the loss of farmers crops damaged by wild animals;
- (b) the quantity of farmers crops damaged by wild animals per year and the arrangement being made by Government to prevent this;
- (c) whether it is a fact that farmers themselves have to bear the loss of their crops damaged by wild animals due to which they are facing heavy losses per year, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to develop any mechanism for making up the loss of farmers crops, damaged by wild animals, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

- (a) The mechanisms in place for compensating the loss of farmer's crop damaged by wild animals varies from State to State and is based on the extent of damage caused by wild animals.
- (b) The quantity of farmer's crop damaged by wild animals is not collated in the Ministry. However, the Ministry provides financial assistance to State/Union Territory Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for management of wildlife and its habitats in the country. It includes compensation for depredation by wild animals including cattle lifting, crop damage, loss of life and property. The activities supported under the Schemes *inter alia* include construction/erection of physical barriers, such as barbed wire fence, solar powered electric fence, bio-fencing using cactus, boundary walls etc. to prevent the entry of wild animals into crop fields; improvement of wildlife habitat of wild animals by augmenting the availability of food and water in forest areas to reduce the entry of animals from forests to habitations and setting up of anti-depredation squads to drive away problematic animals. State Governments also provide relief from their own funds for damage to crops by wild animals.

- (c) The burden bearing loss of crops damaged by wild animals being borne by the farmers cannot be ruled out. Ex-gratia payments are made by State Governments for damage to crops by wild animals, but the rates vary from State to State.
- (d) The responsibility for development of mechanism for making up the loss of farmer's crops damaged by the wild animals lies with the State Governments.

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