GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2881 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.12.2018

Killing of Domestic Animals

2881. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a mass hysteria has been created by the recent rampant killings of domestic animals allegedly by wild beasts in many parts of the State of Manipur in the last few months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether his Ministry or the State authorities have found out the exact position of the situation ; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) As informed by the State Government of Manipur, in the last two months, there were reports of killing of livestock by suspected wild animals in various districts of Manipur. The Wildlife Wing of the Forest Department, Government of Manipur took a number of actions which included attending to the public complaints, inspecting the incident sites, combing the affected areas to gather the evidences, lying the traps/cages with baits etc. to control the situation. Further, a Forensic Team of expert scientist from the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun installed camera traps at various vulnerable locations and also collected the indirect and direct evidences including foot prints, pugmarks, hair samples scat etc. As per the report of the Wildlife Institute of India, there were evidence collected by them including the photos captured by the camera traps which were of domestic dogs/ free ranging dogs in all areas. These free ranging dogs were highly active during nocturnal hours. Indirect evidences were corroborated by camera. Incidents of attack on livestock in various districts were independent in nature and nothing to do with wildlife attack.

> State Government has further informed that the State Police Department was involved to keep a vigil and check against circulation of morphed photographs/videos on Social Media. The State Forest Department also issued Public notices for Do's and Dont's along with the phone numbers of Forest Officials. A Control Room with dedicated phone numbers was also established at Wildlife Head Quarters in office of Chief Wildlife Warden to receive the public complaints and for redressal.

There were no reports of such incidents after 8th December, 2018.