

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 803**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.2022**

**Wild Elephant Attacks**

803. SHRI PRAJWAL REVANNA:  
SHRIMATI GOMATI SAI:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of public anger towards increasing number of deaths due to wild elephant attacks in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of deaths occurred due to wild elephant attacks along with the details of compensation paid to the affected families, State-wise especially in Sakleshpura, Alur, Belur Taluks of Hassan Lok Sabha constituency and Raigarh in Chhattisgarh;
- (c) whether the Government is able to find a permanent solution to the elephant menace, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of action taken by the Forest Department to install rope barricades, solar fences, digging trenches along with the funds spent for this purpose during the last three years; and
- (e) whether the Government has provided adequate permanent front line staff like forest guards, watchers and rapid response teams, anti-depredation camps to the area affected with elephant menace and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a)&(b) Human deaths have been reported from various part of the country due to elephant attack. The State-wise details of human deaths due to wild elephant attack along with the details of compensation paid, as per the information received from States, including Chhattisgarh and Karnataka are enclosed as **Annexure**. As per the information received from States of Chhattisgarh and Karnataka, the details of human deaths occurred due to elephant attack in Sakleshpura, Alur, Belur Taluks of Hassan Lok Sabha constituency and Raigarh in Chhattisgarh are as follows:

District, State	Year	No. of human deaths	Compensation paid (Rs. In Lakhs)
Sakleshpura, Alur, Belur Taluks of Hassan Lok Sabha Constituency, Karnataka	2021	15	90.00
	2022	07	30.50
Raigarh, Chhattisgarh	2021-22	05	37.50
	2022-23	04	30.00

(c)to(e) The management of wildlife including mitigation and management of human-elephant conflict (HEC) is primarily the responsibility of State Governments/UTs Administration. The state forest departments are working with the local people to address the HEC issues through periodic awareness campaigns to sensitize, guide and advise the general public on man-animal conflict, including dissemination of information through various forms of media. Further, Forest Departments are engaging with local communities as animal trackers to monitor the movement of elephants and also to caution local people to avoid human-animal conflict, prevent damage or loss of human life and elephants. As per the information received from the State of Karnataka, in addition to the permanent frontline staff, non-permanent watchers are deployed as Anti-Depredation Camps (ADC) and Rapid Response Teams whose details are given below:

RRT	5 Teams	20 Watchers
ADC	21 Teams	84 Watchers
<b>Total</b>	<b>26 Teams</b>	<b>104 Watchers</b>

A total of 74 wild elephants have been captured and rehabilitated since 2000 till date. Moreover, in addition to ongoing installation of barricade and solar fence, the State of Karnataka has constructed 9.50 km railway barricade and 14.0 km tentacle solar fence so far to mitigate human-elephant conflict.

In addition, the following measures taken by Ministry also help in mitigation of human elephant conflict:-

- (i) The Ministry provides financial and technical assistance to States/UTs under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes 'Project Elephant' for protection and conservation of elephants and their habitats in the country.
- (ii) To reduce man-elephant conflict and to avoid retaliatory killing of elephants. Compensation is provided to local communities for loss of their property and life caused by wild elephants. The Ministry has notified enhancement of ex-gratia rates related to wildlife depredation vide letter No. 14-2/2011 WL-I (part) dated 9th February, 2018.
- (iii) Various other Centrally Sponsored schemes being implemented by this Ministry contribute to the improvement in the natural habitat of elephants by augmenting water sources, planting of fodder trees, regeneration of bamboo etc. Such

schemes include Development of Wildlife Habitat and Project Tiger. The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act 2016 and the Rules made there under also provide for use of the Fund for development of wildlife habitats, including for elephants, establishment of animal rescue centres, etc. which also contribute to reduction in HEC.

- (iv) A guideline for Management of Human Elephant Conflict has been issued by the Ministry on 6.10.2017 and elephant range states have been requested for implementation of the same.
- (v) Critical elephant habitats are notified as 'Elephant Reserve' for focus and synergy in elephant conservation and to reduce conflict. The notification is carried out with the approval of Steering Committee formed in the Ministry. So far 32 Elephant Reserves have been established in 14 major elephant States.
- (vi) A field manual for frontline staff to manage Human Elephant Conflict was released during the 16th meeting of the Steering Committee on 29th April, 2022.
- (vii) The Central Project Elephant Monitoring Committee (CPEMC) had visited HEC affected areas of Chhattisgarh on 29-30 June, 2019 and has given comprehensive suggestions to deal with HEC problems.
- (viii) A Regional Workshop on Right of Passage to Elephants to mitigate human – elephant conflict (HEC) for East -Central region, involving State Forest Departments and Line Departments to mitigate HEC and also for addressing other conservation issues was conducted on 1st -2nd July, 2019 at Raipur, Chhattisgarh.

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**ANNEXURE**

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 805 RAISED BY SHRI PRAJWAL REVANNA AND SHRIMATI GOMTI SAI REGARDING 'WILD ELEPHANT ATTACK' DUE FOR REPLY ON 12.12.2022.**

**DETAILS OF HUMAN DEATHS DUE TO WILD ELEPHANT ATTACK AND  
DETAILS OF COMPENSATION PAID**

S.No.	State	2021-22	
		Human Deaths	Compensation Paid (Rs. In Lakhs)
1	Andhra Pradesh	NR	NR
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2	NR
3	Assam	63	896
4	Chhattisgarh	64	335.5
5	Jharkhand	133	462.05
6	Karnataka	17	127.5
7	Kerala	25	191.7
8	Maharashtra	0	0
9	Meghalaya	3	43.06
10	Nagaland	0	0
11	Odisha	112	486.37
12	Tamil Nadu	37	281.25
13	Tripura	2	10
14	Uttar Pradesh	0	0
15	Uttarakhand	NR	NR
16	West Bengal	77	275.14
<b>Total</b>		<b>535</b>	<b>3108.6</b>

\*NR- Information not received from State.