

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3163
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2023

Man-Animal Conflict

3163. SHRI A. RAJA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that man-animal conflict has increased in various States, especially in hilly areas of Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the measures taken to ensure safety for the inhabitants in view of the increasing incidents of forest elephants entering the residential area, paddy fields and destroying the standing crops and Cheetah, leopard taking away dogs and pet animals;
- (d) whether any survey has been done about the wild animals, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of help and assistance provided to State Forest Department in trapping such animals and send them back to dense forest?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (e) Management of wildlife and human-wildlife conflict is primarily the responsibility of State Governments. Reports of human-animal conflict are received from time to time by the Ministry. The number of incidents of human-wildlife conflict varies from State to State.

The Ministry provides financial and technical assistance to States to prevent and manage human-wildlife conflict. Financial assistance is provided to State Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 'Development of Wildlife Habitats, 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for management of wildlife and human-wildlife conflict. The activities supported under these schemes include construction 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 field. Funds are also provided under the scheme for payment of compensation to victims of human-wildlife conflict.

The Ministry has also issued advisories to all States for better management of situations arising out of human-wildlife conflict. The advisories recommend various measures that may be adopted by States to prevent and manage such

conflicts. These include habitat improvement measures, making fodder and water available to animals inside forests, coordinated interdepartmental action, identification of conflict hot spots, adherence to Standard Operating Procedures, establishment of rapid response teams, formation of State and District level committees to review the quantum of ex-gratia relief, and expedited payments of compensation to affected persons.

Census of wild animals is undertaken periodically at the State level by the State Governments. As per available information, the estimated number of tigers, elephants and Asiatic lions in the country is as follows:

Name of the species	Year of population estimation	Number
Tiger	2018	2967
Elephant	2017	29964
Asiatic Lion	2020	674
