GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2362 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2023

Wild Animal Attack

2362. SHRI N. REDDEPPA: SHRI DINESH LAL YADAV "NIRAHUA": SHRI S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN:

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

- (a) the list of violent animals which damage the crop under Wild Animal Conservation Act, 1972;
- (b) the provision for granting compensation for damage caused to crops and humans by such animals;
- (c) the amount of compensation granted by the State Governments during the last two years, State-wise;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to mitigate the damages caused to humans and crops as well as property by the wild animals including elephant as well as for the conservation of wild animals;
- (e) whether a comprehensive understanding of climate in conservation practices will help in establishing patterns of conflict and in predicting conflict between humans and wildlife; and
- (f) if so, the details of the initiatives proposed to be taken by the Government to build singular conflict mitigation programmes across various National Parks and privately owned forests and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) Wild animals are listed in Schedule I and Schedule II under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. There have been reports indicating that damage of crops by animals like Blue Bull, Wild Pig, Elephants, etc. in the States. Section 11 of the Act empowers the Chief Wild Life Warden to permit any person to hunt wild animal that has become dangerous to human life or property (including standing crops).
- (b) to (d) The States/Union Territories make ex-gratia payments for loss of livestock, crops

and human life including injuries due to human-wildlife conflicts as per the norms, which vary from State to State. The details of amount paid as ex-gratia in such cases are not collated at the level of the Ministry. However, as per the information available in the Ministry, the details of *ex-gratia* paid during last two years for victims died due to tiger attacks is as **Annexure-I**.

The important steps taken by Government for protection of wildlife and management of human-wildlife conflict are as follows:

- i. The Ministry has issued advisory on 06.02.2021 to all States/UTs to deal with human wildlife conflict situations.
- ii. The Ministry has issued Guidelines to States/UTs on 3rd June, 2022 on managing Human Wildlife conflict including damage to crops.
- iii. The Central Government provides financial assistance to State/Union Territory Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes 'Development of Wildlife Habitats and 'Project Tiger and Elephant' for management of wildlife and its habitat in the country. The activities supported under the scheme include construction/erection of physical barriers such as barbed wire fence, solar powered electric fence, biofencing using cactus, boundary walls etc. to prevent the entry of wild animals into crop fields, including *ex-gratia* payment for depredation caused by wild animals.
- iv. The Ministry has released species specific guidelines on 21.03.2023 for mitigation of Human -Elephant, -Gaur, -Leopard, -Snake, -Crocodile, Rhesus Macaque, -Wild Pig, -Bear, -Blue Bull and -Blackbuck Conflict as well as Guidelines for cross cutting issues such as cooperation between the forest and media sector in India; occupational health and safety in the context of human-wildlife conflict mitigation; crowd management in human-wildlife conflict related situations and addressing health emergencies and potential health risks arising out of human-wildlife conflict situations.
- v. Government of India has issued Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)/guidelines to manage Human-Tiger/Human-Leopard /Human-Elephant conflict.
- vi. A network of Protected Areas namely viz., National Parks, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves covering important wildlife habitats have been created all over the country under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to conserve wild animals and their habitats.
- vii. The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 provides for stringent punishment for violation of its provisions. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that is used for committing wildlife offence(s).
- viii. Alerts and advisories were issued by WCCB on poaching and illegal trade of wildlife to the concerned State and Central agencies for preventive action.
- ix. The local communities are involved in conservation measures through

eco-development activities which help the forest departments in protection of wildlife

(e) and (f) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has released the National Wild Life Action Plan (2017-2031) on 2nd October 2017. The Action Plan provides a dedicated Chapter on 'Integrating Climate Change in Wildlife Planning' and provides for priority projects to address impacts of Climate Change on wildlife.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2362 due for reply on 18.12. 2023 regarding 'Wild Animal Attack'

The details of *ex-gratia* payment for human deaths due to tiger attack, as reported by States

		(Rs. In lakhs)	
S.	State	2021	2022
No.			
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00
3	Assam	0.00	0.00
4	Bihar	5.00	30.00
5	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00
6	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00
7	Karnataka	7.50	7.50
8	Kerala	0.00	0.00
9	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	4.00
10	Maharashtra	420.00	1395.00
11	Mizoram	0.00	0.00
12	Orissa	0.00	0.00
13	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00
14	Tamil Nadu	12.00	0.00
15	Telangana	0.00	0.00
16	Uttar Pradesh	43.00	34.00
17	Uttarakhand	4.00	4.00
18	West Bengal	16.00	4.00
	Total	507.50	1478.50
