

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 715
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.02.2021

Deaths of Wild Animals

715. PROF. SAUGATA RAY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of death of a large number of wild animals including elephants due to various reasons across the country;
- (b) if so, the number of wild animal deaths during the last three years, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to identify buffer zones around wildlife sanctuaries in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government to prevent such deaths?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

- (a) and (b) The management of forests and wildlife is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State/UT Governments. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change does not maintain the data of death of wild animals. However, as per the available information, the number of tiger and elephant deaths during the last three years is given at **Annexure-I** and **II**.
- (c) and (d) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notifies Eco-Sensitive Zones around National Parks and Sanctuaries, under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for protection of environment and biodiversity. Eco-sensitive Zones have been notified for 422 Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks by the Ministry.
- (e) The steps taken by the Government to prevent such deaths are as follows:
 - i. Ministry provides funds through its Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) namely, 'Project Tiger', 'Project Elephant' and 'Development of Wildlife Habitats (DWH)' to States/UTs for carrying out various activities for habitat improvement. These include restoration of natural water bodies, creation of artificial ponds, waterholes, augmenting food/fodder sources at various places within Protected Areas.
 - ii. A network of Protected Areas viz., National Parks, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves covering important

- wildlife habitats has been created all over the country under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to conserve wild animals and their habitats.
- iii. Construction/erecting of physical barriers such as solar powered electric fence, bio-fencing using cactus, boundary wall etc. to prevent the entry of wild animals into crop field.
 - iv. To mitigate wildlife conflict along the linear infrastructures like rail tracks, roads/highways and power transmission lines passing through the Protected Areas and other wildlife rich areas, the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife has recommended that all linear infrastructure development agencies should submit wild animal passage plans based on the guidelines prepared by Wildlife Institute of India for mitigating the impact of linear infrastructure on wildlife.
 - v. The recommendations of the Task Force constituted by the Ministry for suggesting Eco-friendly measures to mitigate impacts of power transmission lines and other power transmission infrastructures on wildlife have been circulated to all States/ Union Territory Administrations.
 - vi. Ministry has issued advisory on mitigation of human elephant conflict to all the elephants range States.

Annexure-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A&B) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 715 DUE FOR REPLY ON 05.02.2021 REGARDING “DEATHS OF WILD ANIMALS”.

DETAILS OF TIGER MORTALITY 2018-2020						
State	N	UNP	US	P	Seizure	Total
Madhya Pradesh	37	0	31	14	6	88
Maharashtra	18	4	17	11	5	55
Karnataka	17	1	9	8	4	39
Uttarakhand	13	0	3	3	0	19
Tamil Nadu	10	0	9	0	0	19
Assam	0	0	8	0	4	12
Kerala	5	0	10	1	0	16
Uttar Pradesh	2	1	11	4	1	19
Rajasthan	3	0	4	5	0	12
Bihar	2	0	0	0	0	2
Chhattisgarh	0	0	1	0	2	3
West Bengal	0	0	0	2	2	4
Odisha	0	0	0	2	0	2
Andhra Pradesh	1	1	1	1	0	4
Telangana	0	0	0	0	2	2
Delhi	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	0	0	0	0	1	1
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
Haryana	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gujarat	0	0	1	0	0	1
Goa	0	0	0	4	0	4
Jharkhand	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	109	7	105	55	27	303

Year	N	UNP	US	P	Seizure	Total
2018	52	4	2	33	10	101
2019	44	3	24	15	10	96
2020	13	0	79	7	7	106
Total	109	7	105	55	27	303
N	Natural					
UNP	Unnatural not attributed to poaching (includes tigers died due to accidents, tigers eliminated in conflicts events etc.)					
US	Under Scrutiny					
P	Poaching					

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Elephant deaths during the three year

S. No.	Zones	State	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total
1	SZ	Andhra Pradesh	0	2	5	7
2	NE	Arunachal Pradesh	NR	0	0	0
3	NE	Assam	44	19	13	76
4	ER	Chhattisgarh	2	6	2	10
5	ER	Jharkhand	2	2	7	11
6	SZ	Karnataka	12	11	8	31
7	SZ	Kerala	4	8	8	20
8	SZ	Maharashtra	0	0	0	0
9	NE	Meghalaya	3	1	9	13
10	NE	Nagaland	1	4	2	7
11	ER	Odisha	14	33	13	60
12	SZ	Tamil Nadu	11	11	15	37
13	NE	Tripura	0	NR	0	0
14	NZ	Uttar Pradesh	0	3	0	3
15	NZ	Uttarakhand	8	5	0	13
16	NE	West Bengal	4	10	10	24
		Total	105	115	92	312