

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2377
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2021

Unified Compensation Plan

2377. SHRI KUMBAKUDI SUDHAKARAN:
SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government authorities have noticed that the wild animal attacks recently reported in the hilly region of Kerala State are a menace to crops and mankind;
- (b) the status of the wild animal attack compensation policy and schemes by the Union Government for Kerala State along with the total compensation distributed in each State and in Kerala;
- (c) whether the Government has any unified nationwide compensation plan for victims of wildlife attack and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has included any schemes for compensating the loss of crops and life due to wildlife attack and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to set up Tribunals/Committee across states to address issues related to compensation for victims of wildlife attack and if so, the details therefor and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) whether the Government will review the compensation for crops also as present compensation system for crop loss is not successful and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Incidences of wild animal attacks and crop loss due to wild animals have been reported from various parts of the country including the state of Kerala.
- (b), (c) and (d) The Ministry provides financial assistance to States /Union Territories for management of wildlife under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Development of Wildlife Habitats, Project Tiger and Project Elephant. This includes funds for payment of compensation for depredation by wild animals. Funds for payment of compensation are provided by the Ministry to States/UTs at the following rates:

| S. No. | Nature of damage caused by wild animals | Amount of ex-gratia relief |
|--------|---|---|
| (a) | Death or permanent incapacitation to human beings | Rs.5 lakh |
| (b) | Grievous injury | Rs. 2 lakh |
| (c) | Minor injury | Cost of treatment upto Rs. 25000/- |
| (d) | Loss of property/crops | States /UTs may adhere to the cost norms prescribed by them |

State Governments also provide compensation for damage to crops by wild animals from their own funds. The rates of compensation paid by the States differ from State to State. Details of compensation distributed by the States are not collated by the Ministry.

Under the revamped operational guidelines of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna, States can provide add-on coverage for crop loss due to attack by wild animals.

- (e) and (f) The Ministry has issued an advisory on human-wildlife conflict to all States on 06.02.2021 which, inter alia, provides for constitution of a co-ordination committee at the State level. The functions of the committee include reviewing the quantum of ex-gratia relief, issuing guidance/instructions for expedited payments, and working towards provision of adequate funds for payment of compensation.
