GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2576

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 14th DECEMBER, 2021

CROP LOSS DUE TO WILD ANIMALS

2576. SHRI SURESH KUMAR KASHYAP:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- a) whether the Government has conducted any assessment of the losses caused to the crops of farmers by the wild animals in Himachal Pradesh during the last three years;
- b) if so, the details thereof;
- c) whether any other preventive measures have been taken by the Government to safeguard crops from wild animals; and
- d) whether there is any scheme of the Government to capture such animals in large numbers and transfer them to protected forests?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a) & (b) As per the reports of the Department of Agriculture and Department of Forest, State Government of Himachal Pradesh, nosuch assessment has been made.
- (c) In order to safeguard crops damage from wild animals, theMinistry of Environment Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) provides the financial assistance to the States under Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats, "Project Tiger" and "Project Elephant" for management of Wildlife habitats in the country by erecting 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. The MoEF&CC has supported a pilot project on the immuno-contraception for controlling thepopulation of wild animals responsible for damage and destruction of crops.

Besides, state governments take preventive measures under various state schemes for safety of the crops from wild animals such as construction of elephant proof trenches, elephant proof wall, solar power fencing, chain link fencing, solar hanging fence, SMS alert system, 24x7 toll free helpline, etc.

(d) As informed by the Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), in case of single or a few animals, the Chief Wildlife Wardens of the States are empowered to take appropriate action for capture and relocation in an effective way.
