

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1497
ANSWERED ON 10TH FEBRUARY, 2022**

DEATH OF WILD ANIMALS DUE TO ACCIDENT ON NHS

**1497. DR. KALANIDHI VEERASWAMY:
SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:**

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of increase in the number of deaths of stray animals and wild animals due to accidents on National and State Highways in the country;**
- (b) if so, the details of stray and wild animals injured and died during each of the last three years, animal and State-wise including Tamil Nadu;**
- (c) whether the Government has made any plan in this regard and if so, the details thereof along with the targets set and achieved so far;**
- (d) whether the Government has identified particular highway corridors where frequent deaths are being recorded, if so, the details of such corridors and the details of the steps taken to address the issue;**
- (e) whether the Government is providing any rehabilitation assistance to such injured animals and if so, the details of the efforts made in this regard and funds allocated and spent for the purpose during the said period;**
- (f) whether the Government proposes to introduce any scheme for stray and wild animals to protect them from road accidents and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (g) whether the Government is aware that there may be many animals dying on the highways but have gone unnoticed and if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) to (g) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways takes all steps necessary for Wildlife protection as prescribed by National Board for Wildlife, (NBWL). Major steps taken by the Ministry of Environment &

Forest (which is the nodal Ministry for Wildlife Protection) to avoid such incidents are as follows:

- 1. Ministry through its Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) namely 'Project Tiger', 'Project Elephant' and 'Development of Wildlife Habitats (DWH)' provides funds to States and UTs for carrying various activities for habitat improvement works namely restoration of natural water bodies, creation of artificial ponds, waterholes, augmenting food/fodder sources at various places within Protected Areas to minimize the human animal conflict.**
- 2. Ministry has issued advisory to States/UTs for submission of proposals for diversion within the protected areas and Eco-sensitive Zones along with animal passage plan prepared on the basis of guidelines prepared by Wildlife Institute of India, namely, Eco-friendly Measures to Mitigate Impacts of Linear Infrastructure on Wildlife. The guidelines suggest for modifications in the designs of the linear infrastructures by way of providing eco-friendly structure which will ensure safe movement of wildlife across these linear infrastructures.**
- 3. A network of Protected Areas namely viz., National Park, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves covering important wildlife habitat have been created all over the country under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to conserve wild animals and their habitats.**
- 4. Construction/erecting of physical barriers, such as barbed wire fence, solar powered electric fence, bio-fencing using cactus, boundary wall etc. to prevent the entry of wild animals into crop field.**
- 5. An advisory on handling human-wildlife conflict has been issued by the Ministry to all States on 06.02.2021 which suggests various measures that may be adopted by States for handling human-wildlife conflict. These include coordinated interdepartmental action, formation of State and district level committees, identification of conflict hot spots, adherence to Standard Operating Procedures, and establishment of rapid response teams.**
