GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2840 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 21.03.2022

Man-Animal Conflict

2840. SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL: SHRI AJAY NISHAD: SHRI CHANDAN SINGH: SHRI ARUN SAO: ADV. A.M. ARIFF: SHRI RANJEETSINGH HINDURAO NAIK NIMBALKAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that there has been a phenomenal increase in humanwildlife conflicts reported from different parts of the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the total number of human and livestock killed and damage of crop and property in the attack by wild animals during the years 2020-21 and 2021-22, along with the total number of people received compensation in this regard, State/UT-wise including Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra during each of the last three years;
- (c) the details of the animals categorized as the animals causing damage to the crops/predators under the Wildlife (Protection Act), 1972;
- (d) the details of the provisions for providing compensation for the damage caused to the crops, human lives and livestock by the said animals;
- (e) the steps taken to protect wildlife and check/ reduce the damage caused by wild animals to crops, human beings and properties; and
- (f) whether the Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Kerala with the aim of efficiently managing the human-wild life in the State and if so, the status thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a)and (b) The management of forest and wildlife, including mitigation of humanwildlife conflict, is primarily the responsibility of State Governments/UT Administrations. Incidences of human-wildlife conflict have been reported to the Ministry from different parts of the country. As per the records available in the Ministry, the information regarding the number of human deaths due to attacks by tigers and elephants, are given in **Annexure-I** and **Annexure-II**, respectively.

- (c) Section 2(36) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, provides for categorization of "wild animals" under Schedule I to IV based on the degree of protection required.
- (d) The Ministry provides financial assistance to States /UTs under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes Development of Wildlife Habitats, Project Tiger and Project Elephant for management of wildlife and its habitats. It includes the ex-gratia relief to be paid forloss of life or property caused by wild animals. The Ministry provides funds to States/UTs forex- gratia payment in connection with wildlife depredation as follows:

| 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) | | States /UTs may adhere to the cost norms prescribed by them. |

State Governments also provide ex-gratia relief for depredation by wild animals from their own funds. The rate of ex- gratia payment varies from State to State.

- The steps taken by Government for protection of wildlife and management of human-wildlife conflict include the following:
 - i. Financial assistance is provided by the Ministry to States/Union Territories under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 'Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for activities like creation and maintenance of water holes for wild animals in Protected Areas, soil and moisture conservation measures, establishment of anti-poaching camps, strengthening wildlife veterinary care, eradication of weeds, creation and maintenance of fire lines, deployment of Tiger Protection Force and special Tiger Protection Force etc.
 - ii. The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 and the Rules made there under also provide for use of the Fund for development of wildlife habitats, establishment of animal rescue centers, etc. which also contribute to reduction in human-animal conflict.
 - iii. Guidelines on eco-friendly measures to mitigate the impacts of linear infrastructure have been published by the Wildlife Institute of India to assist project agencies in designing linear infrastructure.
 - iv. An advisory on dealing with human-wildlife conflict has been issued by the Ministry in February 2021.
 - v. The National Tiger Conservation Authority has issued Standard Operating Procedures to deal with emergencies arising due to straying of tigers in human dominated landscapes and tiger depredation on livestock and for active management towards rehabilitation of tigers from source areas at the landscape level.

(e)

The Ministry had received requests from the State Government of Kerala for declaring wild boar as vermin in the State for a period of one year. After examining the matter, the Ministry has informed the Government of Kerala to use the provisions contained in section 11 (1) (b) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and the advisory issued by the Ministry on 06.02.2021 to deal with Human Wildlife Conflict in the State.

Annexure-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS(a) AND (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2840 DUE FOR REPLY ON 21.03.2022 REGARDING "MAN-ANIMAL CONFLICT".

| State | 2020 | 2021(upto June, 2021) |
|----------------|------|-----------------------|
| Bihar | 1 | 3 |
| Kerala | 1 | 0 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 6 | 0 |
| Maharashtra | 25 | 5 |
| Tamil Nadu | 1 | 0 |
| Telangana | 2 | 0 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 4 | 5 |
| Uttarakhand | 0 | 1 |
| West Bengal | 4 | 0 |

Details of human death due to tiger attack

Annexure-II ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) AND (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2840 DUE FOR REPLY ON 21.03.2022 REGARDING "MAN-ANIMAL CONFLICT".

| State | 2019-20 | 2020-21 |
|----------------|---------|---------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 4 | 6 |
| Assam | 75 | 91 |
| Chhattisgarh | 77 | 42 |
| Jharkhand | 84 | 74 |
| Karnataka | 29 | 23 |
| Kerala | 12 | 20 |
| Maharashtra | 1 | NR |
| Meghalaya | 4 | 6 |
| Odisha | 117 | 93 |
| Tamil Nadu | 58 | 57 |
| Tripura | 2 | 1 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 6 | 1 |
| Uttarakhand | NR | NR |
| West Bengal | 116 | 47 |

Details of human death due to elephant attack

* NR- Information not received from State