

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3463
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2022

Wildlife Protection Act 1972

3463. SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN:
SHRI SHANMUGA SUNDARAM K.:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the issues faced by the public due to the trespass of wild pigs into residential areas and the details thereof;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government in this regard for the resolution of the same;
- (c) whether the Government has any plans to remove wild boars/wild pigs from Schedule 3 of the Wildlife Protection Act and the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government will consider the proposal for change in provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to remove domesticated animals which form part of Indian culture from the wildlife category to protect the farmer's life and crop; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) and (b) Incidences of human-wildlife conflict due to wild pigs have been reported to the Ministry by some States. Management of forests and wildlife, including mitigation of human-wildlife conflict, is primarily the responsibility of States/ UTs.

The Ministry provides financial assistance to States/UTs for conservation of wildlife and its habitats under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 'Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant'. It includes compensation to be paid as ex-gratia for loss of life and property caused by wild animals. An advisory to deal with human-wildlife conflict was issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to all States/UTs on 06.02.2021. The advisory suggests that the State Chief Wild Life Wardens may utilize the Panchayati Raj Institutions and authorize the Sarpanch or any other representative of Gram Panchayat to deal with problematic wild animals under Section 11(1) (b) of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

The Ministry has also issued guidelines to States/UTs on 03.06.2022 on managing human-wildlife conflict including damage to crops. The guidelines advise States/UTs to utilize the *Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna* (PMFBY). Under the revamped operational guidelines of PMFBY, States/UTs may provide add-on coverage for crop loss due to attack by wild animals.

(c) Wild pig has significant ecological importance and contributes to the ecosystem. It is one of the main prey species for large carnivores like tigers and leopards. The Ministry has no plan to remove wild pig from the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

(d) and (e) The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 is applicable to any animal specified in Schedules I to IV of the Act and found wild in nature and to any animal specified in Schedule I, II, III or IV of the Act which is captured or kept or bred in captivity. The Act has adequate provisions for conservation and management of wild animals and captive animals.
