

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 2261
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2024

Wild Animal Attacks

2261. SHRI UTKARSH VERMA MADHUR:

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

- (a) the number of people who have lost their lives in wild animal attacks in Tiger Reserve areas in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of number of people killed in wild animal attacks in the district of Lakhimpur, Pilibhit and Bahraich situated in Dudhwa Tiger Reserve;
- (c) the details of compensation provided in case of persons killed in wild animal attacks along with the date by which it is applicable;
- (d) whether there is any plan to increase the compensation amount, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the steps taken to protect the lives of people from the wild animal attacks living in the vicinity of Tiger Reserve areas; and
- (f) the reason behind the frequency of such incidents even after many schemes formulated by Forest Department?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

- (a) As reported by States, the number of human deaths due to tiger attacks is at **Annexure-I**.
- (b), (c) & (d) In the financial year 2024-25, 16 people have lost their lives in the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve while 10 people have lost their lives at the Pilibhit Tiger Reserve till date. Human-wildlife conflict has been notified as a State disaster in the State of Uttar Pradesh, wherein a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs is provided in cases of death of the victim.

Under the Project Tiger component of the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats, the rate of *ex-gratia* was increased from Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs in December 2023, which also has the following components:

S. No.	Nature of damage caused by wild animals	Amount of <i>ex-gratia</i> relief
i.	Permanent incapacitation	Rs.10.00 lakhs
ii.	Grievous injury	Rs.2.00 lakhs
iii.	Minor injury	Cost of treatment up to Rs.25,000/- per person
iv.	Loss of property/crops	As per State/UT Government norms

(e) In so far as tigers are concerned, the Government of India, through the National Tiger Conservation Authority, has advocated a three pronged strategy to manage human-wildlife negative interactions as follows:-

- (i) **Material and logistical support:** Funding support through the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, is provided to tiger reserves for acquiring capacity in terms of infrastructure and material, to deal with tigers dispersing out of source areas. These are solicited by tiger reserves through an Annual Plan of Operation (APO) every year which stems out from an overarching Tiger Conservation Plan (TCP), mandated under Section 38 V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. *Inter alia*, activities such as payment of ex-gratia and compensation, periodic awareness campaigns to sensitize, guide and advise the general populace on man-animal conflict, dissemination of information through various forms of media, procurement of immobilization equipment, drugs, training and capacity building of forest staff to deal with conflict events are generally solicited.
- (ii) **Restricting habitat interventions:** Based on the carrying capacity of tigers in a tiger reserve, habitat interventions are restricted through an overarching TCP. In case tiger numbers are at carrying capacity levels, it is advised that habitat interventions should be limited so that there is no excessive spill over of wildlife including tigers thereby minimizing man-animal conflict. Further, in buffer areas around tiger reserves, habitat interventions are restricted such that they are sub-optimal vis-à-vis the core/critical tiger habitat areas, judicious enough to facilitate dispersal to other rich habitat areas only.
- (iii) **Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs):** The National Tiger Conservation Authority has issued following three SOPs to deal with human-animal conflict, which are available in public domain:
 - i. To deal with emergency arising due to straying of tigers in human dominated landscapes
 - ii. To deal with tiger depredation on livestock
 - iii. For active management towards rehabilitation of tigers from source areas at the landscape level.

The three SOPs *inter alia* include the issue of managing dispersing tigers, managing livestock kills so as to reduce conflict as well as relocating tigers from source areas to areas where density of tiger is low, so that conflict in rich source areas does not occur.

Also as per Tiger Conservation Plans need based and site-specific management interventions are undertaken by the tiger reserves for improving the quality of wildlife habitat and funding support for these activities is provided under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats.

(f) As reported by the States, due to initiatives of the Government, the frequency of human-wildlife negative interactions is under control and the marginal rise in some areas is on account of chance encounters with dispersing wildlife and due to right burdened forests.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2261 ON WILD ANIMAL ATTACKS DUE FOR REPLY ON 09.12.2024

DETAILS OF HUMAN DEATHS BY TIGER ATTACK AS REPORTED BY STATES

S. No.	State	2022	2023	2024 (upto 30-06-2024)
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	-	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
3	Assam	0	-	0
4	Bihar	9	-	1
5	Chhattisgarh	0	3	0
6	Jharkhand	0	-	0
7	Karnataka	1	8	1
8	Kerala	0	0	0
9	Madhya Pradesh	3	10	6
10	Maharashtra	82	35	20
11	Mizoram	0	0	-
12	Orissa	0	0	0
13	Rajasthan	0	-	0
14	Tamil Nadu	0	1	0
15	Telangana	0	-	0
16	Uttar Pradesh	11	25	10
17	Uttarakhand	3	-	6
18	West Bengal	1	-	-
	TOTAL	110	82	44
