

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3544
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.08.2025

SOP for Human-Elephant Conflict

3544. SMT. JUNE MALIAH:

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted or commissioned any recent study or survey on the patterns and causes of elephant migration and conflict in jungle mahal region in West Bengal, if so, the findings thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) or national framework in place for States to follow in managing human-elephant conflict, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government is considering to launch a community-based compensation and insurance scheme for crop and livelihood losses caused by wildlife incursions in vulnerable forest-fringe areas?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

- (a) to (c) The management of wildlife including mitigation and management of human-elephant conflict (HEC) is primarily the responsibility of State Governments/UTs Administration. The State Forest Departments are working with the local people to address the HEC issues through periodic awareness campaigns to sensitize, guide and advise the general public on human-animal conflict including dissemination of information through various forms of media. Further, State Forest Departments engage with local communities to monitor the movement of elephants and to caution local people to avoid human-animal conflict, prevent damage or loss of human life, property and elephants. Further, the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 provides regulatory functions for dealing with human-wildlife situations.

In addition, Ministry has released Guidelines for Human-Elephant Conflict mitigation taking a Harmonious Coexistence Approach (2023) for addressing human-elephant conflicts. Moreover, Field Manual for Frontline Staff on Human-Elephant Conflict Management, was also released during the 16th Meeting of the Steering Committee on 29th April, 2022.

In addition to compensation schemes of the State Governments/UTs Administration, the Ministry also provides financial assistance to States/UTs under Centrally Sponsored Scheme, Project Tiger & Elephant, for ex-gratia relief, depending upon availability of funds.
