GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4134. TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.08.2025

Wild Animal Attacks

4134. SMT. DHANORKAR PRATIBHA SURESH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that 25 persons were killed and many were injured/disabled in attacks by wild animals in Chandrapur district of Maharashtra during the last five months and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (b) the specific steps taken by the Government in coordination with the State Government during the last three years to reduce human-wildlife conflict along with the outcome and current status thereof;
- (c) the policies of the Government to ensure timely and adequate financial assistance to the victims of attacks by wild animals and the time by which new Anugraha Sahayata Yojana announced for Chandrapur district is likely to come into effect; and
- (d) the long-term measures being adopted by the Government to reduce conflict between wild animals and humans in the settlements in the core zone areas of Chandrapur district?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) As per the information received from the State Government of Maharashtra, 25 persons were killed and 108 persons injured by wild animals in last seven months in Chandrapur district.

In response to these events, the Government of Maharashtra has installed AI enabled cameras for safety purposes to prevent human-wildlife conflict and established Primarily Response Action Teams for swift action in the villages adjoining the core area of the Tadoba Andheri Tiger Reserve. As per Government Resolution of the Government of Maharashtra dated 03.08.2023, compensation is being provided to the victims of attack by wild animals by the state of Maharashtra. Moreover, timely

compensation to the victims of Human Wildlife Conflict are being ensured and awareness drives being conducted for stakeholders.

The Government of Maharashtra has also informed that field staff regularly patrol areas surrounding the settlements, conduct ongoing awareness sessions with villagers, and implement schemes such as the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Jan Van Vikas Yojana to mitigate human-wildlife conflict.

The important steps taken by the Government of India for protection of wildlife and to address human-animal conflicts in coordination with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations including the State of Maharashtra are as following:

- i. 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.
- ii. The Central Government provides financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes, 'Development of Wildlife Habitats' and 'Project Tiger and Elephant' for management of wildlife and its habitat including management of human-wildlife conflict in the country. The activities supported under the schemes include construction/erection of physical barriers such as solar powered electric fence, bio-fencing, boundary walls etc. to prevent the entry of wild animals into crop fields, payment of exgratia relief to the victims of human-wildlife conflicts.
- iii. An advisory on dealing with human-wildlife conflict has been issued by the Ministry in February 2021. The Ministry has also issued guidelines to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations on 3rd June, 2022 on managing human-wildlife conflicts including damage to crops.
- iv. The Ministry has also issued species-specific guidelines to deal with human-wildlife conflict situations on 21.03.2023.
- v. The Section 11 (1) (a) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, empowers the State/UT Chief Wild Life Wardens to grant permits for hunting animals falling in Schedule I of the Act, which become dangerous to human life.

Further, the Section 11 (1) (b) of the Act empowers State/UT Chief Wild Life Warden or any authorized officer to grant permits for hunting of wild animals falling under Schedule-II of the Act, if such animals have become dangerous to human life or property.