

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 273
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2026

Wild Animal Attacks on Tribals

273. SHRI ESWARASAMY K:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the increasing incidents of wild animal intrusions endangering the lives of tribal residents in the Navamalai hamlet located within the Anaimalai forest region in Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps taken by the Central Government, in coordination with the State Government, to ensure safety, habitat protection and access to essential services for forest-dwelling communities facing such threats;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any national-level scheme or guidelines for relocation or rehabilitation of tribal communities affected by human-wildlife conflicts, particularly in ecologically sensitive zones; and
- (d) the details of financial or technical assistance provided to Tamil Nadu under any Central or Centrally Sponsored Scheme for ensuring safe housing and sustainable livelihoods for such affected tribal groups from wild animal threats?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) The management of wildlife including mitigation of human-animal conflicts is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration. The State Government/Union Territory Administration is the first responder in Human Wildlife Conflict situations. As informed by the State of Tamil Nadu, Navamalai hamlet is an enclave located in the core zone, Pollachi Range of Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Pollachi Division. There are 33 numbers of household from the *Malasar* Tribal community occupying the revenue *Poromboke* land. The area is surrounded by the reserve forest on three sides and Aliyar dam water on another side. Since this revenue area is located in the core zone, there has been regular wildlife movement throughout the year across the Navamalai though the increase in human wildlife conflict in Navamalai hamlet was not observed.

Rehabilitation and Resettlement of affected communities is done by the State Governments and the process of village relocation from core/ critical tiger habitat of tiger reserve is a voluntary process as per Section 38 V (5) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. The Ministry provides financial assistance to State Governments and Union Territory Administrations under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes 'Development of Wildlife Habitats' 'Project Tiger and Elephant' for management of wildlife and its habitat in the country. The activities supported also includes, habitat management, eco-development, voluntary village relocation etc., procurement of early warning systems, construction and erection of physical barriers such as barbed wire fence, solar, powered electric fence, bio-fencing, boundary walls etc. to prevent the entry of wild animals into crop fields, compensation for depredation by wild animals including cattle lifting, crop damage, loss of life and property.