14-03-2023 Regarding Human-Animal Conflict in Kerala-Laid. MATTERS UNDER RULE-377 Muraleedharan, Shri K. Wildlife

Title: Regarding Human-Animal Conflict in Kerala-Laid.

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN (VADAKARA): State Chief Wildlife Warden of Kerala recently stated that wild tuskers alone killed 105 persons in Kerala between 2018 and 2022. Almost every day, Kerala is waking up to a new incident of human-animal conflict, mostly involving elephants, tigers, leopards, wild bores and monkeys. This has put farmers, especially in the three most-affected districts, Wayanad, Palakkad, and Idukki in a collision course with the wildlife. The wildlife population in Kerala's forests has exploded in recent years and there is no space left for them despite the "increase in forest cover". A wild-elephant has recently unleashed terror on the residents of the Dhoni village of Palakad and killed a senior citizen on July 8, 2022. On January 12, 2023, a 50-year-old farmer from Wayanad district was killed by a tiger.

Hence, I request the Government that at least some of the tigers and elephants should be captured and relocated to other forests. Solar and bio-fencing around the protected forests and wildlife sanctuaries in the State must be expedited. I request the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to send an expert team to Kerala for finding a permanent solution for human-animal conflict in the State.