

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:316

ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010

ELEPHANT DEATHS

Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Pal Shri Jagdambika

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there has been a number of incidents of killing/death of elephants due to poisoning, poaching, electrocution, fall in trenches, trapped on railway lines etc., in various States/UTs in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of elephants killed due to the above causes during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT – wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any action in the matter during the above period;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)to(e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 316 DUE FOR REPLY ON 01.12.2010 REGARDING ELEPHANT DEATHS BY SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL AND SHRI EKNATH M. GAIKWAD.

(a) & (b) Ministry has received reports of death of elephants due to reasons other than natural like poisoning, poaching, electrocution and in train accidents from several States. Number of elephant deaths as reported by the States due to reasons other than natural in the last three financial years and the current financial year is as follows:-

Number of elephant deaths due to

Year    Train Accidents    Poisoning    Electrocution    Poaching

2007-08    12    06    48    11

2008-09    08    10    43    13

2009-10    13    05    45    15

2010-11    11    0    06    04

(c), (d) & (e) Primary responsibility of the protection of elephants vests with the respective State/Union Territory Governments. The Government of India provides financial and technical support to the State/Union Territory Governments for protection of the elephants. The Central Government launched Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Project Elephant" in the year 1992 and since then financial support has been provided to the Elephant Range States. In addition to the support being given to the State Governments, the Ministry has also taken up the matter with other Ministries/Agencies like Ministry of Power and Ministry of Railways to prevent the death of elephants due to electrocution and in train accidents. The Ministry of Environment and Forests also constantly monitors such deaths and necessary advice/directives to the States are issued from time to time.