

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:155
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2011
DAMAGE TO CROPS BY WILD ANIMALS
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the incidents of killing and damage to crops and human lives by wild animals including elephants have been reported from various States of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has made any provision for providing compensation for loss of human lives and crops;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

- (a) & (b) Incidents of killing of people and damage to crops by wild animals like elephant, leopard, black bear, wild boar and blue bull etc. are reported from States/Union Territories of the country. However, the State/Union Territory-wise details of such incidents are not collated in the Ministry.
- (c) & (d) Payment of compensation to victims of wild animals is the responsibility of the concerned State/ Union Territory Governments. The Central Government only supplements/provides financial assistance to the States/ Union Territory Governments as per budget availability under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 'Project Tiger', 'Project Elephant' and 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats'.
- (e) The corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard are as follows:
 1. Improvement of habitat to augment food and water availability and to reduce migration of animals from the forests to the habitations.
 2. Creation of a network of Protected Areas and wildlife corridors for conservation of wildlife.
 3. Awareness programmes are launched to sensitize the people about the Do's and Don'ts in case of wild animals scare and attacks.
 4. Training programmes are conducted for forest staff and police to address the problems of human-wildlife conflicts.
 5. Development of necessary infrastructure and support facilities for immobilization of problematic animals through tranquilization, their translocation to the rescue centers or release back to the natural habitats.
 6. Construction of boundary walls and solar fences around the sensitive areas to prevent the wild animal attacks.
 7. Payment of ex-gratia to the people for injuries and loss of life in case of wild animal attacks.
 8. The Chief Wildlife Wardens of the State/Union Territories are empowered to permit hunting of problematic animals under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
 9. Eco-development committees in villages around Protected Areas are constituted to address to the grievances of people regarding human-wildlife conflicts, as also to elicit their cooperation in management of the Protected Areas.
 10. Involvement of the research and academic institutions and leading voluntary organizations having expertise in managing human - wildlife conflict situations.