

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4227
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2011
CHECK ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION
Roy Shri Arjun;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan)

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

- (a) whether the antelopes are causing loss to farms as well contributing towards environment pollution in various parts of the countries particularly in various regions of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to implement the measures to check the entry of antelopes into the fields in order to prevent the said menace;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) Reports of loss of crops by wild animals like nilgai, wild boar, monkeys etc. have been received from various States of the country including Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. However, reports of antelopes contributing to environmental pollution have not been received in the Ministry. Under Section 11 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Chief Wildlife Warden is empowered to grant permission to a person to hunt such problematic animals included in Schedule III and IV of the Act that cause damage to standing crops.

(e) The steps taken by the Central Government to prevent the loss of crops by wild animals including antelopes are:

1. Creation of a network of Protected Areas and wildlife corridors for conservation of wildlife.
2. Improvement of habitat to augment food and water availability and to reduce migration of animals from the forests to the habitations.
3. Awareness programmes are launched to sensitize the people about the Do's and Don't's in case of wild animals scare and attacks.
4. Training programmes are conducted for forest staff and police to address the problems of crop raiding by wild animals.
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 wild animal attacks.
7. Payment of ex-gratia to the people for injuries and loss of life in case of wild animal attacks.
8. Eco-development activities in villages around Protected Areas are initiated to mitigate man-animals conflicts by improving the habitats as well as elicit their cooperation in management of the Protected Areas.