

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4107

ANSWERED ON:19.12.2011

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 elephants, leopard, black bear, wild boar and blue bulls 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. However, subject to availability of budget, the Central Government supplements/provides financial assistance to the State/Union Territory Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of "Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats", "Project Elephant" and "Project Tiger" to make payment of ex-gratia relief to the victims of wild animals.

(e) The Government has taken following measures to mitigate the problem of human-wildlife conflict in the country:

(i) Measures are taken for improvement of wildlife habitat, viz., to augment the availability of food and water in the forests, so that the animals do not venture out of forests.

(ii) Creation of a network of Protected Areas and Wildlife Corridors for conservation of wildlife.

(iii) Awareness programmes are conducted to sensitize the people about the Do's and Don'ts in case of wild animals scare and attacks.

(iv) Training programmes are conducted for forest staff and police to address the problem of human-wildlife conflict.

(v) Development of necessary infrastructure and support facilities for immobilization of problematic animals through tranquilization, their translocation to the rescue centres or release back to the natural habitats.

(vi) Construction of physical barriers, e.g., elephant proof trenches, boundary walls and solar powered electric fences around the sensitive areas to prevent the wild animal attacks.

(vii) Payment of ex-gratia to people for injuries, loss of life or property including crop damage caused by wild animals.

(viii) The Chief Wildlife Wardens of States/Union Territories are empowered to permit hunting of problematic animals under the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

(ix) Eco-development committees in villages around Protected Areas are constituted to address the grievance of people regarding human-wildlife conflict, and also to elicit their cooperation in management of the Protected Areas.

(x) Involvement of the research and academic institutions and leading voluntary organizations having expertise in managing human-wildlife conflict situations.

