GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:856
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MAN-ANIMAL CONFLICTS
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of man-animal conflicts are on the rise in the country including Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of cases reported in the country including Karnataka, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to find out a permanent solution for this 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)&(b) The management of wild animal populations in the country is looked after by the Government of concerned State/Union Territory. Incidents of human-animal conflicts have been received in the Ministry from time to time. However, details of such conflicts are not collated in the Ministry. However, there are no reports indicating that such conflicts are on the rise in the country.

(c)to(e) The following steps have been taken by the Government to mitigate man-animal conflicts :

1. Financial assistance is provided to the State Governments under Centrally Sponsored Schemes of "Integrated Development of Wildlife habitats", "Project Tiger" and "Project Elephant" to undertake measures for improvement of wildlife habitats and to augment availability of food and water in forest areas to reduce migration of animals from the forests to human habitations.

2. A network of Protected Areas under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 has been created in the country.

3. Awareness programmes are launched by the Government to sensitize the people about the Do`s and Dont`s in case of wild animals scare and attacks.

4. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has issued guidelines to State/ Union Territory Governments for management of Human-Leopard conflicts.

5. Training programmes are conducted for forest staff and police to address the problems of human-wildlife conflicts.

6. Necessary infrastructure and support facilities are developed for immobilization of problematic animals through tranquilization, their translocation to the rescue centres or release back to the natural habitats.

7. Financial assistance is provided to the State Governments for construction of physical barriers such as boundary walls and solar fences around the sensitive areas to prevent wild animal attacks.

8. Ex-gratia relief is paid to the people for injuries and loss of life caused due to wild animal attacks.

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

10. Eco-development activities in villages around Protected Areas are carried out to address the grievances of people regarding human -wildlife conflicts, and also to elicit their cooperation in management of the Protected Areas.

11. Research and academic institutions and leading voluntary organizations having expertise in managing human -wildlife conflict situations are involved in ascertaining the causes of conflict and their possible remedies.