GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:137 ANSWERED ON:24.02.2015 HUMAN ANIMAL CONFLICT Raajhaa Shri Anwhar

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

(a) whether the Government has issued directions to the State Governments to formulate their own policies to deal with the increasing human-animal conflict around over 650 wildlife zones in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b) The human wildlife conflict is a serious issue affecting the lives of people. Though, the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 generally prohibits hunting of the specified wild animals, it also has provisions relevant to deal with situations of human wildlife conflict. It was felt that the officers empowered by the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, in this context, were not exercising their powers sufficiently.

Therefore, the Ministry has issued an advisory to the Chief Wildlife Wardens of all the States/Union Territories, apprising them about legal provisions in the Act, to deal with the situations of human wildlife conflict, and also listing of animals under Schedule V (Vermin) in case one or more of the animals are assessed to be necessary for listing therein. Ministry has advised them to exercise the powers granted under Section 11(1)(b) of the Act empowering them to authorise hunting of identified animals in certain situations.