

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:198

ANSWERED ON:10.03.2015

LOSS/ DAMAGE CAUSED BY WILD ANIMALS

Nishank Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal;Patle Smt. Kamla Devi

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

- (a) whether incidents of loss of human lives and damage to standing crops by animals/wild animals have been reported from various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof separately during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) the provisions for compensation to the victims of such incidents along with the amount paid as compensation and the number of beneficiaries during the said period, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has any proposal to increase the amount of compensation and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to check human-animal conflict and destruction of crops of farmers by wild animals?

Answer

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

(a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 198 REGARDING "LOSS/DAMAGE CAUSED BY WILD ANIMALS" BY SHRIMATI KAMLA DEVI PAATLE, DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL "NISHANK" DUE FOR REPLY ON 10.03.2015:

(a) & (b) Incidences of loss of human lives and damage to standing crops by wild animals are reported in various parts of the country from time to time. However, as the management of forest and wildlife is the responsibility of State Governments, State-wise and year-wise data of such incidents are not collated in the Ministry.

(c) State Governments provide relief from their own funds as well from the assistance provided by Central Government for ex-gratia relief in respect of damage to crops and loss of human lives suffered by the victims of depredations/attacks by wild animals. The details of amount paid as compensation and details of beneficiaries are not collated in the Ministry. The Central Government provides financial assistance to the States/ Union Territory Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant', inter alia, to make payment of ex-gratia relief. The amount of ex-gratia relief eligible for assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes for payment to the victims of predation/depredation by wild animals, is as follows:

Sl. No. Nature of damage caused by wild animals Amount of ex-gratia relief

- (a) Death or permanent incapacitation Rs. 2,00,000/-
- (b) Grievous injury 30% of (a)
- (c) Minor injury Cost of treatment
- (d) Loss of property Value of loss/damage as assessed by authorized officer

(d) Steering Committee of Project Elephant, in its meeting held on 17th December, 2014 recommended to enhance the ex-gratia relief for death caused by elephant, to Rs. 3.0 lakh.

(e) The Central Government provides financial assistance to State/Union Territory Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes as mentioned at (c) above for management of wildlife and its habitats in the country. The activities supported under the Schemes inter alia include construction /erection of physical barriers, such as barbed wire fence, solar powered electric fence, bio-fencing using cactus, boundary walls etc. to prevent the entry of wild animals into crop fields; improvement of wildlife habitat of wild animals by augmenting the availability of food and water in forest areas to reduce the entry of animals from forests to habitations and setting up of anti- depredation squads to drive away problematic animals.