

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4452

ANSWERED ON:21.04.2015

PROTECTION OF CROPS FROM NILGAIS

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

- (a) the number of Blue bulls (Nilgais) in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether there is any scheme for protection and compensation for the damages caused to the crops due to the Blue bulls and if so, the details thereof and the expenditure incurred in this regard during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has estimated the decline in production of pulses due to destruction of crops by Blue bulls;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective measures taken in this regard;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to check the increasing number of Blue bulls by setting up fences/making a special area for them and sterilisation of the Blue bulls them and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether the Government has any proposal to provide special package to those States/areas where crop damages by Blue bulls is the highest and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

- (a) The census of Blue Bull (Nilgai) is not undertaken in the country. Therefore, the population estimate of Blue Bull (Nilgai) is not available in the Ministry.
  - (b) The Central Government provides financial assistance to the State/ 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 and management of wildlife conflict situations. The assistance provided under the Schemes during the last three years is given in Annexure. The State Governments also provide such relief from their own funds in addition to the assistance provided by Central Government for management of wildlife conflict situations.
  - (c)&(d) Ministry has not conducted any assessment of the decline in production of pulses due to destruction of crops by Blue Bulls.
  - (e) The activities for checking the wildlife conflict 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 wild life habitat of wild animals by augmenting the availability of food and water in forest areas to minimize entry of animals from forests to habitations.
- Further, the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 has enabling provisions for scientific management of wild animal populations. The Act empowers the Chief Wildlife Wardens to grant permit for population management of identified wild life without killing or poisoning or destroying any wild animals.
- This Ministry has on 24th December 2014 issued a detailed advisory to the States highlighting the legal provisions to deal with human-wildlife conflict and has also advised States to take pro-active actions to manage the situation.
- (f) This Ministry has no specific proposal to provide special package to those States/ areas where crop damages by Blue bulls is the highest. However, financial assistance is provided under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes to the States/ Union Territory Governments inter alia, to make ex-gratia payment for crop damages by wild animals.